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## Somalia rejects Kenya's call for talks over its maritime claims

NEW YORK

SOMALIA President Mohamed Farmaajo has used his inaugural address to the United Nations to reject Kenya's call for talks on the maritime boundary dispute.

President Uhuru Kenyatta had earlier said he was open to anything, though emphasising on dialogue as the best way to find a solution.

"I have always believed and stood my ground that dialogue is the best and amicable way for finding the best and positive solution. This brings us together as opposed to a conflict that pushes away from each other," Kenyatta said.

The Somali government is contending the maritime boundary over the Indian Ocean.

Farmaajo said on Thursday that the matter was in court and that the International Court of Justice (ICJ) should be the ultimate arbiter because talks between the two countries have collapsed completely.

He said as bilateral negotiations did not achieve an agreement for peaceful cohesion in 2014 and in conformity with international law, Somalia instituted



**Somalia, a member of the United Nations and a party to the statute of the court, is committed to see through the judicial settlement process, Farmaajo said.**

proceedings before the ICJ, the referral authority of the United Nations.

"We are very pleased that the court found that it had jurisdiction to resolve the dispute and that is scheduled for the final hearing for the merit case in November," he said.

Somalia, a member of the United Nations and a party to the statute of the

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# Procurement flaws cost govt over 4bn/-

**THE** total value of investigated tenders and contracts was 375.05bn/-. These investigations however managed to save 3.39bn/- from being misappropriated by unscrupulous bidders and government officials

By Guardian Reporter

**T**HE government incurred losses amounting to 4.36bn/- from fees that were due from bidders as well as changes in project designs that led to abandonment of some works and already procured goods, on the basis of an investigation by the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) for the financial year 2018/19.

PPRA Board of Directors chairman, Dr Matern Lumbanga told journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday that PPRA conducted five investigations in five public entities involving 13 tenders and contracts. The public entities were Nkasi District Council, Bank of Tanzania (BoT), Tanzania Airports Authority (TAA), Tanzania Rural Roads Agency and Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

"The total value of investigated tenders and contracts was 375.05bn/-. These investigations however managed to save 3.39bn/- from being misappropriated by unscrupulous bidders and government officials," he said.

Assessment of corruption indicators in procurement showed that a total of 131 contracts from 39 public entities had corruption red flag scores. The contracts were implemented by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, Tanzania Railways Corporation, Tanzania Ports Authority, Tanzania Bureau of Standards as well as Singida Water and Sanitation Authority.

Others were Wanging'ombe Water and Sanitation Authority, Kigamboni Municipal Council, Ubungo Municipal Council and Kahama Town Council.

Dr Lumbanga asserted that in relation to compliance and value for money audits, PPRA audited 7,738 procurement contracts worth 9.122trn/- involving 104 public entities whereby 43 were ministries, departments and authorities (MDAs), 28 local government authorities and 33 public agencies. Five others were branches of public agencies with delegated powers.

Among the audited entities, 18 public en-



**Six public entities had poor compliance level as they scored below 60 per cent. These are VETA, Agricultural Seed Agency, Kaliua District Council, NIMR, Nsimbo District Council and Centre for Foreign Relations**

tities whose procurement volumes were 20bn/- or above accounted for 96.3 per cent of all audited contracts. The audit indicated an overall average compliance level of 76 per cent as compared to 74 per cent achieved the previous financial year. However, the recorded compliance level was below the target of 80 per cent which had been set by PPRA, he stated.

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Dar es Salaam residents walk casually close to the site of the construction of the Ubungo Interchange at the roundabout of the Morogoro Road/Mandela Road intersection, as captured yesterday afternoon. Much to the surprise of motorists and the larger public, the ongoing implementation of the multi-million-shilling project has greatly eased movement of traffic in the area instead of standing as an impediment as would ordinarily be expected.. Photo: John Badi.

## CSOs report card on JPM's performance

By Francis Kajubi

**T**HE Civil Society Organisations (CSO) yesterday gave their review of President John Magufuli's performance so far, outlining limited political space and fading human rights among letdowns on one hand and economic reforms and free basic education as achievements on the other.

Speaking to reporters in Dar es Salaam ahead of the civic polls in November and general elections next year, executives of the CSOs cited recent amendments in various laws including the passing of the Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) No. 3 Bill of 2019 in June which among other things restricts the registration and operations of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) as a setback to Tanzania's civil liberties and freedoms.



**We want elections that can lead to positive results by politicians' adoption of their voters' priorities economically, socially and politically**

The CSOs gave the report card based on the manifesto they unveiled before the 2015 general elections, ahead of the launch of a new CSOs manifesto before the civic polls and the general elections later.

Onesmo Olungurumwa, the country coordinator for the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) said that the CSOs Election Manifesto 2019/20 shall be unveiled with the slogan 'The kind of Tanzania we need.'

"The second CSOs Election Manifesto purposely targets at giving guidelines on how political parties, the National Elections Commission, politicians, the security forces, the government itself, CSOs and citizens in general in what manner they should conduct themselves in elections," he said.

"We want elections that can lead to positive results by politicians' adoption of their voters' priorities economically, socially and politically," the coordinator said.

He said the new manifesto contains ten areas of priority that carry forward

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## Online broadcasters slapped with TCRA fines, suspension

By Henry Mwangonde

**T**HE Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA) yesterday suspended one critical online television station for six months and ordered two others to pay 5m/- each for violating the Electronic and Postal Communications (Online Content) Regulations, 2018.

The regulator through its content committee banned Kwanza online television for six months



for airing a story that is said to be sensational and aimed at misleading the public, and fined Ayo and Watetezi Television 5m/- each for not posting their online content policy on their channel.

"The regulations require license holders to streamline contents to abide to online broadcasting laws as well as journalism ethics which Kwanza television went against," said the committee chairman, Joseph Mapunda.

In the decision, the committee said Kwanza

Television aired a story with the headline 'Dr Gwajima apata ajali' in which they were referring to the Deputy Permanent Secretary, in the Ministry of State and Local Government-responsible for Health, Dr Dorothy Gwajima but never mentioned her first name in the whole story.

According to the committee, the story was misleading in the sense that Gwajima is a well

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court, is committed to see through the judicial settlement process, Farmaajo said.

Somalia, he said, will comply with the court's final judgement and accept the outcome on the boundary that is delimited by the court.

The firm-talking president noted that as a matter of international law, the court's judgement will be binding on Kenya as well.

"We trust that when that judgement will be issued and the boundary established, a lasting settlement of this long-lasting dispute will finally be achieved. We will abide by the court ruling," he reiterated.

This was the first time Farmaajo was addressing the UN General Assembly after his election in 2017. It appeared that podium which was full of citizens of Somalia offered the best opportunity for him to play both domestic and regional politics on the maritime row.

Domestically, many Somalis had been questioning his commitment to defending Somalia's territorial integrity, especially after holding the much-publicised meeting with President Kenyatta.

The Somali leader also rejected the African Union's push for dialogue, touted as African solutions for African problems.

Farmaajo got the crowds' support when he said that the AU had no capacity and is not empowered to intervene in the case that is before the UN court.

But Kenyatta said that the AU Peace and Security Council during the September 2019 meeting had given the AU a go-ahead to engage and negotiate.

The AU chairman, Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi, had brokered talks between the two leaders on Tuesday evening on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly convention in New York in which Somalia and Kenya said was the first step to normalise relations.

In the first face-to-face meeting since March, the two leaders agreed to thaw frosty relations as they fight over the flow maritime boundary.

Farmaajo acknowledged that the meeting was "very fruitful" though he would not withdraw the case from court.

"We agreed to restore our good relationships in strengthening diplomatic and political cooperation and leave the maritime dispute to be resolved by the International Court of Justice," he said.

Somalia is committed to maintaining a good relationship with Kenya provided that the boundary is solved in court, he affirmed.

"I would like to further report that the 74th United Nations General Assembly meeting was very fruitful and we will continue to be very good friends," Farmaajo said during his address.

Analysts said the decision to accept ICJ judgement when it is given is believed to be politically motivated and may impact the 2021 elections run.

"If he accepts to go the dialogue way, he might lose the 2021 presidential election. There are forces behind this and it is not politically sound for him to accept dialogue. It will not go well with the people of Somalia who are mounting pressure on him to take Kenyans to court," said a source privy to this information in his government.

## African first ladies take campaign against rape, child marriage to UN

New York

Africa's first ladies, led by Sierra Leone's Fatima Maada Bio, have taken their crusade against early child marriage and sexual violence against women and girls before a global stage in a passionate appeal for international support for their "Hands Off Our Girls!" campaign.

In a no-holds barred conversation organised on the sidelines of the UN General Assembly here on Wednesday, Bio flanked by her husband President Julius Bio, spoke on the need to "lift the lid of silence" taboo and stigma surrounding rape and early marriage in Sierra Leone and other parts of the continent.

The high-level meeting was organised to rally support for the end of early marriage and rape in Africa, a movement which the Bios have spearheaded.

This year's General Assembly has been dominated by delivery of the 17 global sustainable development goals, of which number 5 is Gender Equality.

In brief opening remarks, African Development Bank (AfDB) President Akinwumi Adesina spoke out forcefully against all forms of early marriage and said the economic empowerment of women was a critical tool in efforts to end the vicious cycle of marginalisation and gender imbalance.

"That's why AfDB is raising \$3 bil-

lion to support women," Adesina said, referring to the bank's Affirmative Finance Action for Women In Africa (AFAWA) initiative.

"Early marriage is not only a human rights abuse but is also an economic issue," Rachel Yates, Executive Director of Girls Not Brides, said.

Sharing intimate personal details, Maada Bio recounted her personal story of running away from an arranged marriage to an older man in her early teens. Aided by an older sister, she took a flight out of her native Sierra Leone to the UK - without her father's knowledge or permission.

"I come from a family where girls are married at 12 years," she said, adding that three months later from the safety of the UK, her resolve was set: "From that moment I vowed that I would not see a child being abused."

President Bio, responding to a question on how deeply set cultural mindsets could be changed, said it would take patience and persistence: "We have to leave some aspects of culture behind. We have to establish institutions and cascade our campaigns down across the entire country."

Sierra Leone has one of the highest incidences of rape and sexual assault on the continent. In February, President Bio declared a state of emergency owing to the high incidence of rape.

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some of the priorities of the 2014/15 manifesto like adoption of a new constitution.

CSOs play a key role when it comes to setting public awareness on civil liberties, encouraging voters' registration and preparation of reports and monitoring the polls process, he stated.

Deus Kibamba, executive director for the Tanzania Citizens Information Bureau,

said that for the past 50 years CSOs have been contributing much on defending civil liberties, offering social services and legal assistance to common people.

"Civil society organisations have been also offering awareness campaigns upon voters during local government and general elections and have been monitoring elections. The main purpose of the manifesto is to help Tanzanians identify their priorities and thus elect repre-

sentatives who can serve them well," the director noted.

He said the manifesto is intended at helping political parties prepare their own party manifestos in line with the citizens' priorities. The manifesto will also help the party and elected representatives obtaining seats in the coming general elections "understand the social, democratic and economic demands of the public."

The manifesto also contains guidelines for the CSOs them-

selves, that they need to comply with in their monitoring activities during elections, he stated.

Clemence Mwombeki, managing director for Door of Hope Tanzania, said that the 2014/15 CSOs Election Manifesto had priorities that covered national economy policy, tabling and passing of the new constitution draft, safeguarding of public goods, good governance and human rights.

"There have been improvements in the past four years in

the health sector and education, with the introduction of free primary and ordinary level education as we proposed in the 2014/15 Manifesto. There are also improvements in protection and safeguarding of public goods and implementation of major projects," he elaborated.

On the other hand draconian laws have been introduced that pose restrictions to press freedom and online services providers, the activist underlined.



Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan speaks on Thursday at a tourism exhibition festival being held at a Zanzibar hotel. Photo: VPO.

## Procurement flaws cost Govt over 4bn/-

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PPRA conducted value for money audits on 290 procurement contracts worth 8.47trn/- . The audited contracts comprised buildings, roads, bridges and civil works worth 996.82bn/-, electrical works worth 25.85bn/-, railway construction works worth 7.22trn/-, water supply and irrigation schemes valued at 60.11bn/-, procurement of goods worth 124.84bn/- and consultant ser-

vices billed at 48.24bn/-.

Out of the 290 audited contracts, 239 contracts worth 8.41trn/- were assessed to have satisfactory performance, 49 contracts worth 70.56bn/- were assessed to have fair performance and two contracts worth 95.32bn/- had poor performance.

"The projects with poor performance related to excavation pits in backfilling solid waste at Busoka dumping site in Kaha-

ma and supply of electromagnetic meters at Kashwasa," he said.

Results revealed that 60 per cent of public entities and three branches with delegate powers among audited public entities achieved fair compliance level ranging from 60 to 79 per cent, while 36 public entities and two branches with delegation powers achieved satisfactory compliance level with a score of 80 per cent or above.

"Six public entities had poor compliance level as they scored below 60 per cent. These are VETA, Agricultural Seed Agency, Kaliua District Council, NIMR, Nsimbo District Council and Center for Foreign Relations. The Minister for Finance and Planning, Dr Philip Mpango, directed PCCB to take serious measures on those who facilitated the losses that the government had incurred.

"Heads of departments in

the respective entities have to reconsider themselves if they surely fit in their positions. I instruct them to temporary suspend procurement officers and accounting officers to cede place for further investigations on them. The loss that they have caused has to be refunded by the respective entities or the persons who were in charge. PCCB you have to handle this matter very seriously," the minister emphasized.



Constitutional and Legal Affairs minister Dr Augustine Mahiga speaks in Dar es Salaam yesterday during a dialogue on changes in Tanzania's inheritance law organised by the Tanzania chapter of Women in Law and Development Africa (WILDAF). Others are WILDAF chairperson Naomi Kaihula (R), founder Dr Judith Odunga (2nd-L) and director Anna Kulaya.. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msaia

## Online broadcasters slapped with TCRA fines, suspension

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known name in Tanzania and hence, by not mentioning the first name, the reader could easily refer to Bishop Josephat Gwajima as the accident person, which was not the case.

In their defense when summoned by the committee, Mapunda said Kwanza online television officials denied to have violated any law saying the story was qualified for broadcasting.

For Ayo and Watetezi television channels, the committee said the two online platforms since their establishment have never posted their online content policy, hence violating the Electronic and Postal Communication (EPOCA) law and its regulations.

The committee also said upon summoning the owners of Ayo Television and Watetezi TV they denied violating any law saying their television outlets operate through YouTube which provides readymade regulations for a user.

Apart from the fines the two online platforms have been warned to ensure that they post the content policy as stipulated in the regulations.

## Confusion over Mugabe's burial leaves incomplete mausoleum

HARARE

THE last-minute decision by the family of Zimbabwe's former President Robert Mugabe that he would be buried at his home village in Zvimba instead of the National Heroes Acre in the capital Harare has left the government wondering what to do with the incomplete mausoleum.

Zimbabwe announced on Thursday that the decision to inter the body of the ex-president at his home village was reached as requested by his family, leaving idle special mausoleum that was already under construction.

The government said the family of the former leader, who died in Singapore on

September 6 aged 95, "has expressed its desire to proceed with his burial in Zvimba". "Government is cooperating with the Mugabe family in their new position," government spokesman Nick Mangwana said in a statement.

Tensions erupted after the government proposed a burial at the National Heroes Acre in the capital Harare while the family insisted on a private ceremony in Mugabe's homestead.

The family gave no reason for the change of plans. It had previously agreed to have his body entombed at the shrine where preparations for a special mausoleum were already in progress.

"I knew there were discussions, re-

thinking and so forth," Mugabe's nephew and family spokesman Leo Mugabe told AFP but stated no reason for the new plans.

He said the burial would be private and restricted to family members. Many in Mugabe's family are bitter over his ouster nearly two years ago and the role played by his deputy and successor Emmerson Mnangagwa, who was elected president after Mugabe was toppled.

Mugabe's nephew Walter Chidakwa said Mugabe died a "sad" man.

The body will be taken from his Harare mansion on Friday for the village, which lies about 90 kilometres (55 miles) west

of Harare.

"Burial is likely to be on Saturday," said Leo Mugabe.

Government said "all the necessary support" will be provided "to give the late former president a fitting burial as led by the family."

The former guerrilla leader, who came to power at the end of white minority rule in 1980 and ruled Zimbabwe uninterrupted for 37 years and seven months, died of prostate cancer, according to Mnangagwa.

He was toppled on November 2017 in a military-backed coup, ending an increasingly iron-fisted rule marked by political oppression and economic ruin.

## Light-for-education programme seeks to make sure nomadic children study hard

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Monduli

A NEW initiative that encourages parents in remote nomadic Maasai communities to send their children to school in exchange for well-lit homes at night has been launched with the hope of keeping more children in school.

Dubbed 'Solar Cow', the project implemented by a South Korean organization Yolk Electronics Nutrients which first started in remote Pokot area of neighbouring Kenya is now causing sensation in Monduli District, Arusha Region.

It targets the nomadic livestock herders that have for decades not been taking formal education seriously for their children.

"Solar Cow rewards parents with free access to electricity in exchange for sending their children to school," the organisation's Executive Officer, Sung Un Chang stated during the project launch in Monduli at the weekend.

The project, which is translated as supplying 'milk from the sun' through a 'Solar Cow', is supported by the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)

Now, a remote school in Monduli District becomes the country's first beneficiary of the innovative 'Solar Cow' project which makes young children light up homes at night by simply attending classes during the day.

Losimingori Primary School, located in the windswept, Losimingori village mapped within the drought-infested Lepurko Ward of Monduli District becomes the first institution in Tanzania to get the Solar Cow project.

A Solar Cow is essentially a solar system, in school which taps the sun's energy to charge portable power banks shaped like milk bottles. These are then supplied to all pupils attending class, to take them home together with LED bulbs to light up their houses at night and charge parents' mobile phones.

"In the morning, children can plug the Power Milk into the Solar Cow and study at school while waiting for it to be charged. The Power Milk that children bring it home after the school day will be good incentive to parents to send the children to the school rather than the workplace," explained Sung Un Chang.

In this project, Yolk partners up with schools in rural areas without access to electricity and install solar-powered charging stations in a steel frame of a cow, thus the name, Solar Cow, inside the school area.

Students come in the morning and charge their Power Milk through Solar Cow, so that after class, they go home with a fully charged power source that serves the entire household. Education is what takes place while they are waiting



Pupils of Monduli District's Losimingori Primary School relax on desks outside their classrooms yesterday as South Korean 'friends' launched a 'solar cow' project at school - reportedly the first such initiative in Tanzania. The award-winning solar cow project is based on a cow-shaped charging station that uses solar energy to replenish energy. Photo: Correspondent Marc Nkwame

for Power Milk to be charged.

"The Power Milk contains enough capacity to meet most needs for electricity for the average local household: charging cell phones and powering a flashlight, a radio, or other gadgets," added the Losimingori School Headmistress Tunu Kassim Tamra.

Her school has 529 pupils, among them 298 girls and 231 boys, which mean some 530 rechargeable bulbs and connected power banks will be distributed across the landscape to light up homes by simply allowing pupils to attend school.

The gadgets are supposed to

help families save up to 20 percent of their average monthly income that they could have spent for electricity or other sources of light.

Village Chairman Leskar Mbengo revealed that, sometimes people walk up to ten kilometres to the nearest shop in order

to charge their phones but with portable solar-powered banks, this can be done at home.

"It is not just a matter of lighting up homes and charging phones, but the incentive encourage parents to ensure that children attend school because it is the only way to get power at homes," said

Mwalimu Jonas Shayo who was speaking on behalf of the District Education Officer.

He also pointed out that, the Solar Cow gadgets are also educational, assisting to teach science among pupils who now get to learn how solar energy works.

## Alternative charcoal project seeks to end deforestation

By Aisia Rweyemamu

THE winners of Champions of Alternatives Charcoal in the country have benefited from a special training on briquettes quality management that aims to scale up their production and sales by 400 per cent.

The champion of alternative to charcoal project was initiated by the Vice President's office in 2017, funded by Shell Exploration and Production Tanzania and implemented by the Institute of Management and Entrepreneurship Development (IMED).

The two day quality management training aimed at enabling the winners to consistently meet quality, safety and environmental standard which are per-requisite for sustainable scaling up.

Speaking at the sideline of the training yesterday the Director for IMED Dr. Donath Olomi said they empower selected companies to scale up production by a factor of simultaneously compliment the government's industrialization drive and the need to reduce the rate of deforestation.

"Through the project we are promoting environmental conservation and use of alternative energy as ways of fighting climate change in the country", said Dr Olomi.

The Director explained that the institute is providing acceleration services which entail business and technical skilling, coaching to establish and maintain important business systems and practices and linkage to services and support agencies.

Dr Olomi said the three winner's company namely Kuja na Kushoka Tols Manu-

factures from Tabora, Space Engendering from Dar es Salaam and Mena Wood Briquette from Mafinga have already made a number of strides since the project started.

Speaking during the training, the first winner of the challenge, Leonard Kushoka the Director for Kuja na Kushoka tools manufactures group company said that the project has facilitated him to establish a distribution Centre at Ubungo and is supplying briquetting machines to women and youth groups.

"We have also acquired briquette markets in refugee camps in Kigoma", the Director said. They are producing briquettes, briquetting machine, and improved cook stove and tobacco driers.

Ezra Mahenge the Manager for Mena Wood Briquettes-Mafinga, the third winner

said that the managed to install improved institutional cook stoves at University of Dodoma cafeterias which are now using the briquette.

For his part the third winner Space and Engineering representative Neema Matema said through the project they acquired a large briquette drier which it is substantially expanding production.

Neema urged the community to use that alternative energy because it is environmental friendly and cheap compared to wood charcoal.

She said one kg of carbonated charcoal they produced is 500/- while the wood charcoal cost 1000/- per kg.

However, the training is facilitated by the briquettes experts and officials from Tanzania Bureau of Standard (TBS), Occupa-

tional Safety and Health Authority (OSHA) and Tanzania Industrial Research and Development Organization (TIRDO)

For his part the Industrial Hygiene Inspector from OSHA, Engineer Richard Mgambwa from OSHA has reminded the trainees to obtain the Certificate of Compliance with the OSHA Chief Inspector.

He told them to register their work place with OSHA as required by the Occupational Safety and Health Authority Act, 2003 section 16(2) that 'the registration of a work place should be done before commencement of any business operation.

Joseph Ismail a Senior Standard Officer from TBS challenged the briquettes producers to adhere to the standards and quality set by TBS during their productions.

## Finance management college must have digital economy courses - call

By Correspondent James Kandoya

FINANCE and Planning Minister Dr Philip Mpango yesterday challenged Tanzania's learning institutions offering courses in finance management to introduce digital economy subjects to enable graduates cope with the global trends.

Speaking while launching a new governing council of the Dar es Salaam Institute of Finance Management (IFM), Dr Mpango said the global economy is fast turning digital and Tanzanian financial experts ought to understand the new dynamics lest they be left behind.

"The rest of the world has embraced digital economy driven by digital currency; to cope with these changes we need experts with thorough knowledge to help the country control its operations and potential loss of revenue," he said.

The minister said there was no way out the country can distance from the digital economy adding that it was therefore necessary for the institute to embark on offering training on it.

He said training should move concurrently with review of account and books of records, account and auditing, banking and insurance courses, Capital and market securities.

Besides that, Dr Mpango said the all the training and research must focus on innovation to enhance youth's abilities to be part and operate the new ongoing digital economy system.

According to the minister, the training

given must also resonate with government target of becoming the middle income economy country by 2025.

"While offering degrees in different courses, the institute governing council must also self evaluate if the knowledge offered and the graduates can contribute to the country vision of becoming industrial economy by 2025," he said.

For his part, the new IFM Governing Council Board Chairman (2019-2022), Ambassador Dr Benson Banna said that it had embarked to ensure that the institute becomes the employee choice.

Dr Mpango said the institute would be very much happy to see more of its students register and qualify to be awarded certificates from the Association of Certified Chartered Accountants (ACCA).

He however, highlighted the need for the government to employ finance and accounting experts downwards up to ward levels to strengthen accounting and auditing.

"Once we have graduates in accounts and finance at ward level, it will simplify the duty of the Control Auditor General (CAG) in conducting accounting auditing," he said

IFM Rector Prof Thadeus Satta said since its inception, the institute registered huge remarkably success including increase in number of course from 2 in 1972 to 33 courses.

He said apart from that, the number of students enrolled increased from 72 to 10,829 in 1972 and 2018/2019 academic years respectively saying the institute will improve researches and publications.



Institute of Management and Entrepreneur Development (IMED) director Dr Donath Olomi has a word in Dar es Salaam yesterday with winners of the 2018 Charcoal Alternatives Challenge champions who have just completed two-day training on briquette quality management. The idea was initiated by the Vice President's Office and is funded by Shell Exploration and Production Tanzania and implemented by IMED. Photo: John Badi

## Investing in livestock will benefit smallholder farmers, says ANSAF

By Correspondent James

Kandoya

The Agricultural Non State Actors Forum (ANSAF) has said the government has to increased investment in livestock if the country is to unlock the potential of agriculture sector and attain sustainable livelihoods among smallholder farmers.

ANSAF Executive Director Audax Rukonge told the Guardian in an interview at the weekend that public investment in livestock has been low, sporadic and lacked continuity in turn there have been few private investors who are willing to invest in the sector.

The government plans to spend a total of 33.1 trn/- (USD 14.3 billion) in this financial year 2019/20, equivalent to 1.9 per cent of the current budget. Of that, 20.9 trn/- (USD 9.08 billion) will be allocated to recurrent expenditures, while development expenditure is expected to reach 12.2 trn/- (USD 5.3 billion).

Rukonge said with clear and initial capital investment

through public strategies, the livestock sector can be self-sustaining in the medium and long-term.

"The presence and willingness of the private sector could be one of the opportunities to leverage resources and optimize results. It is evident now more than ever that is time to recognize the untapped opportunities the livestock sector presents for the country," he said.

He said it was estimated that without the current population of livestock, Tanzania would incur an annual bill of 18-19 trn/- to meet the growing demand of livestock products.

According to him, more work needs to be done to meet growing demands.

He further advised that strong emphasis should be on more investment in key strategic areas such as livestock inputs, extension services, livestock value chains development such as dairy, hides and skins.

Rukonge hinted that the move should move concurrently with review of the balance between the recurrent and development budget so

as to support more investments and unlock the potential within the sector.

On March 11, this year, the government launched the Tanzania Livestock Master Plan (TLMP) which was expected to spend about 1.4 trn/- in the course of implementing it for a period of five years.

The TLMP is geared to address all challenges facing the sectors and hence achieve the Tanzania Development Vision (TDV) 2025.

One of the TDV goals is that by year 2025 there should be a livestock sector, which, to a large extent shall be commercially run, modern and sustainable using improved and highly productive livestock to ensure food security, improved income for households and the nation while conserving the environment.

The Minister of Livestock and Fisheries, Luhaga Mpina said that at the launching ceremony of the TLMP held in Dar es Salaam that about 64 percent of the 1.4 trillion will come from the private sector while government contribution is about 36 percent.



Mourners including The Guardian Limited staff pay their last respects yesterday to Gabriel Gaudens Mgunda, until his death in Dar es Salaam on Thursday one of the main distributors of The Guardian and Nipashe newspapers. This was at the city's Kimara Mwisho Catholic church. The body was later transported to Morogoro Region for burial. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## TBS challenges manufacturers on quality certification

By Correspondent Felix Andrew,

Songea

THE Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) has called on manufacturers whose products meet required standards to apply for certification—a service it offers free of charge, warning those who resort to shortcuts.

Speaking in Songea town, Ruvuma Region yesterday at a

consultative meeting between the government and the business community which aimed to identify various challenges facing the latter, TBS director general Dr Athuman Ngenya said only quality of product guarantees certification and not bribes or any other amount of enticement and lobbying.

The one-day event involved participants from Southern Zone Regions which are Ruvuma, Mtwara, and Lindi.

Dr Ngenya told participants about the new changes in financial act of the year 2019 which has enabled the bureau to implement two new roles.

He said due to changes, the roles of food control and cosmetics which earlier was done by the former TFDA will now be under TBS.

TBS has assumed the responsibility for registering premises for new applicants using a harmonized system

which observes safety and quality requirements for food and cosmetics products.

Other roles is to issue licenses or TBS certificates for imported food and cosmetics.

He urged SMEs who want to certify their products to channel their application through Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) for free of charge.

He said after channeling their request and follow all

required procedures they will get quality license for free of charge that would enable to market their products at any market.

He said once their goods are certified, it would enable manufacturers to sell at any market, whether local or foreign.

According to him, they will continue to provide education awareness to the entire manufacturers on the best practices governing the production of

sensitive products.

Apart from traders, the meeting also attracted Regional Commissioners, Ministers, Deputy Ministers, District Commissioners from the said regions and other officials in investment department and regulatory authorities.

The directives to conduct consultative meetings in various regions was issued early June this year by President Dr John Magufuli, when he met

traders at State House in Dar es Salaam.

The government embarked on harmonization of the roles played by regulatory bodies aimed at addressing the challenges impeding business in the country.

Tanzania's parliament has approved Finance Bill of 2019 which will see harmonization of regulatory bodies' roles which were overlapping or more less the same.



Mazaka Resources Pty projects director Dr Joas Kabete pictured yesterday making a presentation at the Tanzania Geological Society festival now in progress at the University of Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Africa needs to modernise its grid to ease power problems

JOHANNESBURG

ELECTRIFICATION is an on-going and foundational investment, and a necessary one to realize all modern-day development objectives. Despite bullish policies, the fact remains that over 640 million Africans lack access to electricity.

The effect of this is apparent. It impedes economic growth; it inhibits the advancements of self-reliant local communities, and it threatens national security. African governments are beginning to rethink their electrification plans. Grid modernisation, specifically the deployment of microgrids in rural areas, provides a promising strategy.

Attempting to replicate the centralized utility models implemented in the U.S. and Europe has not succeeded in improving energy access across the continent. Despite this, it seems many governments and utili-

ties wrongly maintain the position that the expansion of the traditional grid infrastructure is the solution.

In areas where communities have access to the central grid, they still have to supplement the intermittency of the power with diesel generators. On the flip side, the utilities are financially strained because they are unable to collect revenues from their customers.

The low rate of revenue collection is due to the unsustainable tariffs the providers impose on customers as a result of the political pressure exerted on them. This results in the utilities being unable to finance upgrades in infrastructure, further exacerbating the issues.

Those who favor the expansion of the central grid as the most effective means of increasing rates of electrification face the challenge of reconciling two contradicting

positions. The first position is that increasing access requires lowering tariffs. The second position is that lowering tariffs will intensify the financial stress utilities are currently under. Neither of these positions is sustainable. The incorporation of microgrids into a hybrid system of electrification is the best solution.

Microgrids are small-scale power grids that run on a combination of solar, wind, or biomass or fossil fuels to provide reliable power.

They operate either independently from the main grid or can be synched to it at the same voltage to shift the energy and respond to peaks and troughs in supply and demand.

This ensures there is no interruption in power supply, allowing communities to be more energy independent by cutting costs and providing reliable energy access.

The off-grid solar lighting market is thriving thanks to the falling prices of renewable energy equipment.

The solar lighting market has been further bolstered by widespread deployment of pay-as-you-go (PAYGO) payment systems that utilize mobile-money technology.

These solar devices provide sufficient generation for low consumption needs like household lighting, charging cell phones, and the use of small household appliances. Despite its attractiveness to householders, off-grid solar lighting is currently not scalable.

The deployment of microgrids will be necessary to provide the adequate output required to power commercial businesses, hospitals, schools.

Demand for electricity from small industry and business, which is classified as the productive use of energy will determine the success of microgrids; without this demand, the deployment of microgrids will not be financially viable.

## Govt will act on laws denying children and widows, inheritance, says minister Mahiga

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has pledged to continue addressing challenges facing women especially widows and children in inheritance matters, promising to amend customary laws that deny justice to a section of society.

The promise was made yesterday in Dar es Salaam by the Minister for Justice and Constitution Affairs, Dr. Augustino Mahiga at the opening of a dialogue on inheritance and customary laws.

The dialogue was organized by Women in Law and Development Africa (WiLDAF). The meeting was part of WiLDAF Annual General Meeting (AGM) which was attended by the organization's members from across the country.

Dr. Mahiga said if there are problems in different laws, but noted that the government was more than ready to collaborate with non-state actors and other stakeholders, get their opinions in order to reshape discriminatory laws and ensure justice for all.

"It's true that customary law of 1963 originate from our own cultures and traditions. I appeal to stakeholders and activists to continue sensitizing communities to change their attitudes and allow widows and children get their rights in the distribution of inheritance wealth," he said

Expounding, Dr. Mahiga said government will continue taking affirmative actions to change oppressive laws, saying that non-state actors have the obligation to continue educating the society to "respect dignity of everybody around the society to avoid conflicts in a society."

Minister Mahiga showered praises on WiLDAF for organizing task force, dubbed KIKUHAMI which advocates for the protection of women and child rights and changes of discriminatory customary laws.

"I know that KIKUHAMI is doing excellent job to sensitize society and members of Parliament and create good environment for women rights when it comes to land matters," said Dr Mahiga

On her part, WiLDAF Executive Director, Anna Kulaya applauded the government for accepting alternative inheritance law drafted by KIKUHAMI and activists—a document which could serve as constructive input in drafting gender-sensitive inheritance law by the government.

WiLDAF founder, Dr. Judith Odunga said non-state actors were ready work closely with the government to present constructive opinions and views for the abolition of oppressive laws, which discriminates against women.

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**Usikate tamaa, endelea kubashiri na kuongeza jitihada katika tafiti zako na maajabu yatatokea**

### UTAFITI NI CHANZO CHA FAMASIA JUSTIN KUJISHINDIA TSH 19,748,049.57

Katika dondo za kubashiri na kiasi kidogo na kushinda kiasi kikubwa, Justin Ndhahani anashauri tafiti ndiyo chanzo cha kuweza kubadilisha dau lake la Tsh 890 na kuwa ushindi wa Tsh 19,748,049.57 na betPawa.

Famasia huyu ambaye ni shabiki wa mpira aliweka mkeka wenye mechi 23, ambayo ilikua moja ya njia ya kujishindia kiasi kikubwa hapa betPawa kulingana na kutoa bonasi kubwa zaidi za ushindi hapa Tanzania kuanzia mechi tatu na kuendelea.

Ushindi wa Justin mkazi wa Dar es Salaam ulitokana na bonasi kubwa ya ushindi wa

115% za mechi 23 alizobashiri sahihi, bonasi hizi za ushindi zinafika hadi 250% endapo mteja atabashiri mechi 30 na kupata zote sahihi.

#### Justin alibashiri vipi mkeka wake?

"Usikate tamaa, endelea kubashiri na kuongeza jitihada katika tafiti zako na maajabu yatatokea", ndiyo falsafa na bashiri za Justin zilizopelekea ushindi wake mkubwa kama ushahidi wa juhudi za tafiti zake.

Machaguo kutoka ligi maarufu za bara la Ulaya kama Premier League, La Liga, Bundesliga na Serie A ziliunganishwa na machaguo kutoka ligi zisizofahamika sana kama

Denmark, Czech Republic na Norway.

Ushindi wa bashiri zake kutoka masoko mbalimbali pia ulikua ushahidi wa mtazamo wake bora katika kubashiri. Na pia katika uchaguzi wa timu ya ushindi (1X2), uchaguzi wa magoli kadhaa katika soko la over/under, ulipeleka mafanikio yake.

#### Historia ya Justin na betPawa

"Nimefahamu kuhusu betPawa kutoka kwa rafiki yangu Tony. Akanieleza na kunishauri nianze kubashiri kupitia betPawa."

"Sina muda mrefu sana hapa betPawa, nadhani nina kama miezi 3-5. Lakini tayari

naipenda betPawa na pia nilijaribu kununua tiketi za Jackpot. Kwakweli Jackpot yenu ni ya haki na bei nafuu."

"Kubashiri sio kosa. Ukibashiri kwa kuzingatia na kutokukata tamaa, mchezo huu wa bahati utakupeleka sehemu zenye mafanikio."

"Nataka kumiliki famasi yangu hapo baadaye, na hiki kiasi nilichoshinda nitakifanyia kitu ambacho kitazalisha zaidi na kunifanya nije kuwa mmiliki wa famasi yenye ubora."

**Je unataka kushinda kiasi kikubwa kama Justin? Jisajili na betPawa.**

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## Maendeleo Bank issues 2bn/- loans for upgrading of houses

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

MAENDELEO Bank Plc has issued a total of 2bn/- for more than 600 low-income earners in Dar es Salaam for upgrading of houses in a mortgage programme.

The bank's Managing Director Ibrahim Mwangalaba told The Guardian recently in an interview that the loans were issued through Micro Housing Loan since 2018 to September this year to help people stay in good houses.

"Customers willing to access Micro Housing Loan, we provide loans and building materials to people in accordance with their needs because we want them improve their houses," he noted.

This is new loan package designed to support low income earners in all areas where they are to stay in a conducive environment, help government to improve housing in Tanzania with emphasis on durability of the houses, standard of Hygiene, comfort and convenience of the houses, affordability and capacity building.

People keen to access loans or building materials for house improvement the minimum loans ranging from 500,000/- to 30m/- per person and the interest rate charged on it in accordance with their needs.

Also the bank issue loans to people who want to connect electricity, solar power in their houses and water well drilling to help them improve their residence.

"As bank we want to see all houses of

low-income earners has good plastering, floor, best iron roofing materials, windows, doors, have good toilet facilities, connecting to electricity or solar power and other issues," he said.

Highlighting on Micro Housing Loan, he said this is very unique product introduced for better housing for better healthy to the communities.

"We have decided to come up with this package after conducting a research in Dar es Salaam and discovered that majority of people are low-income people but they don't have enough funds to improve their houses although they want to live in best houses," he noted.

The houses that they have is not durable, has rough floor, majority lack toilet facilities, their houses require constant repair particularly of the roof while the remain houses has rough floor that attract insects because they don't have enough funds for house improvement or build a new one.

"As I speak to you, since we have begun to issue micro housing loan in Dar es Salaam more people have begun to improve their houses and even connect electricity and install solar power," he lauded.

Established in 2013, the bank is owned by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania-Eastern and Coastal Diocese. Maendeleo was registered as a limited company in February 2011 before changing to a public limited company in June 2013 when it was listed at Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange's Enterprise Growth Market window.



A vendor hunts for customers for skull caps at Ilala Mchikichini in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: John Badi

## Musoma Rural MP says he'll pay allowances for volunteer teachers

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

MUSOMA Rural MP, Prof Sospeter Muhongo has pledged to pay allowances to volunteering teachers for four secondary schools for two years starting in 2019.

The secondary schools are Nyanja, Kiriba, Nyakatende and

Bugwema with monthly contributions of 50,000/- per school as a springboard for raising the level of education in the constituency.

The MP said that apart from him, parents have also decided to donate the allowances at different rates from 400/- to 1,000/- per month to get their children

fully educated.

"As the government continues to employ teachers, we have come to have this strategy, especially considering these schools are our own, we have to serve them for the development of our children," said Prof Muhongo.

He cited out Bukima Secondary, that lacks form one to form

four Science teachers.

The former cabinet minister said there are three teachers volunteering for Physics subject, Chemistry three where two are volunteers.

"There are two volunteering teachers for Mathematics and Biology and two teachers. At this school, parents have agreed

to donate 1,000/- monthly," he said.

He also referred to Nyanja Secondary, saying that form one to four there are only two Physics teachers, two for Chemistry and one for both Mathematics and Biology.

"At this school the parents have agreed to each contrib-

ute 900/- per month, and that at Kiriba Secondary level, from form one to four," he said.

The MP said, the Chemistry subject has two teachers, two Mathematics teachers and two Biology teachers, with each parent contributing 1,000 per month.

As for Nyakatende Secondary,

Prof. Muhongo said, from form one to four, there are three Physics teachers including one volunteer; Chemistry three and one volunteer.

"There are two mathematicians and a biology teacher at Nyakatende secondary school, and each parent agreed to contribute 400/- a month," he said.

## We have landed 25.9bn/- for Pangani River water project - deputy minister

By Guardian Correspondent,

Pangani

DEPUTY Minister for Water, Jumaa Awesso has said that the government has secured 25.9bn/- for implementation of massive water project that would draw water from Pangani River which crosses the Township as it empties into the Indian Ocean.

Speaking in Pangani at the weekend, Awesso, who is also the Pangani constituency legislator, said that the project would end that he termed as the chronic water supply problem in the township, whose origin dates back to the 15th Century.

The Deputy Minister who said that the project is part of the 22 water projects to be implemented through a massive loan from India would also supply water to parts of Muheza District and supplement water supply in the

Tanga City.

Reacting to calls for a permanent solution for the water shortage problem in the district, the Deputy Minister further said that the government has also financed a Sh 575 project that is expected to help in reducing the water problem in the township.

He further revealed that monies for implementation of four water project in the district has been set aside and called on the officials in his ministry speed up provision of certificates to commence the implementation of the projects.

Awesso said the projects are located in Bushiri, Mbulizaga, Mikocheni/Mkwaja and Mwera/Ushongo.

He appealed to water engineers to make sure that they visited project sites to satisfy themselves with the implementation speed and work quality.



**Reacting to calls for a permanent solution for the water shortage problem in the district, the Deputy Minister further said that the government has also financed a Sh 575 project that is expected to help in reducing the water problem in the township**



It's roaring business in garlic near the Mkunguni Street/Bonde Street intersection in Dar es Salaam's sprawling Kariakoo market zone, as found yesterday. Photo: John Badi

## Bank highlights tailor-made products for construction sector

By Guardian Reporter

BANK OF AFRICA - TANZANIA has expressed its solid commitment to work shoulder to shoulder with the construction sector and enable contractors to complete projects assigned to them efficiently.

The bank has also emphasized its intention to continue offering tailor-made banking products for this fast-growing sector in the country.

Commenting on the products designed for the sector, Bank of Africa -Tanzania Trade Finance manager Maximilian

Mwita listed the key products as Letters of Credit, Bid Bond and Asset Finance.

"As a multinational bank, Bank of Africa -Tanzania has a number of products that suit the needs of businesses in different sectors of the economy including construction. We are well prepared and

ready to work with contractors to enable them reach their goals," he said. Letter of credit offers guarantee to its holders and enable them to ship construction equipment from suppliers and pay only when satisfied with the shipping, he said.

Bid bond is another product

he mentioned targeting contractors, as it guarantees contractors better chance of winning a tender and smooth implementation of the project if a contractor qualifies in the bidding process. The bank would be there to finance the project before the contractor is paid, the manager explained.

The bank has another tailor-made service, Asset Finance which enables contractors to purchase the equipment required in the implementation of their projects.

Bank of Africa -Tanzania is well aligned to work in line with the speed of the fifth phase gov-

ernment which to a great extent has invested in huge construction projects.

"We are well aligned to make sure that all the projects implemented by our clients are implemented with great success as we have right financial solution for them," he declared.

## Refinitiv announces having forged partnership with Bank of Tanzania

JOHANNESBURG

GLOBAL financial market participants will now have real-time connection to the Tanzanian market following the on-boarding of Refinitiv's Market Tracker by the Bank of Tanzania.

Market Tracker is a post-trade services surveillance tool that Refinitiv offers to all Central Banks for free. Central Banks are required to monitor markets and transaction flows in order to understand the impact of monetary policies, to meet prudential and supervisory requirements and to support their national economies. To gain insights, Central Banks require Commercial Banks to regularly report transactions with increased efficiency and detail.

To assist Central Banks with this, Refinitiv's Market Tracker solution sends real time FX and Money Market inter-bank trade data from the respective Commercial Banks to the Central Bank, giving transparency to inter-bank and market rates, and enabling the Central Bank to make better monetary policy decisions.

Refinitiv's Market Tracker is available in both app and desktop format providing an intuitive, ease of access and instant and transparent connection. The Bank of Tanzania will now have access to comprehensive financial analysis and data of the trading activities taking place in the market.

"Refinitiv continues to strengthen its content and coverage for the Emerging and Frontier Markets (EFM). Our market-leading global coverage encompasses companies trading in over 125 markets representing more than 95% of the world's market cap including the fast growing EFM," said Stuart Brown, Global Head of Emerg-

ing and Frontier Markets at Refinitiv.

"Our partnership with the Bank of Tanzania is further proof of the increasing financial markets transparency that Refinitiv tools have been promoting in EFM for over 150 years. The Bank of Tanzania will now have deep and varied pools of liquidity, global professional networks and expert support for high visibility market surveillance. Through Market Tracker, the bank will be able to consolidate and analyse data from the reporting banks in real-time and with accuracy," Brown added.

"Our partnership with the Bank of Tanzania is a great success story for us in Tanzania and East Africa. The IMF predicts that Tanzania's economic forecast will range at 4% for 2019 and the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange PLC reported vibrant trading activities in the market with a market cap of +/- \$8.4m.

Market Tracker will add sophistication, automation and transparency to the market, further allowing for Tanzania's trading activities to scale," said Nadim Najjar, Managing Director for Middle East and Africa at Refinitiv.

Using Eikon, global financial markets have access to historical and real-time data that is accurate, timeous, and trusted; with content from more than 400 exchanges and OTC-traded markets and over 70 direct exchange feeds, delivered via Elektron low latency data feeds.

Refinitiv's partnership with the Bank of Tanzania adds to the increasing number of Central Banks currently using Market Tracker in Emerging and Frontier Markets; including Uganda, Malawi, Rwanda, Nigeria, Vietnam, Tunisia, Kenya and Morocco to name a few.



TGNP board chairperson Asseny Muro (C) displays the agency's Women Elections Manifesto at the climax of its 14th gender festival in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The others include chief guest Julius Mbilinyi (2nd-R) from the Health, Community Development, Elderly, Gender and Children ministry and TGNP executive director Lilian Liundi (2nd-L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Family planning key in improving economic wellbeing of families and communities

By Correspondent Kenneth Simbaya

ON Thursday this week the world marked World Contraception Day (WCD) which takes place on September 26th every year, since 2007, the day is used to raise awareness on the importance of contraceptives as a tool for family planning among others.

It is important to underscore the importance of contraception as a family planning method, in fostering development and ending maternal and newborn deaths, in addition to contributing to better health, family planning is an essential component of sustainable development and poverty alleviation.

Among the people I spoke to was Halima Sharif, country director John Hopkins centre for communication programmes, that implements a project called The Advance Family Planning Project in Tanzania. She told me that, "When marking the world contraception day we call upon local leaders to ensure contraceptive are available throughout the year in all health facilities." What a powerful call.

Why? Because, improving access to contraceptives improves health, choices and prosperity for all. Above all contraception is everyone's responsibility, contraceptives saves lives.

Contraception provides women with opportunity to take care of children they already have without worrying about another pregnancy. According to Dr Daimon Lugano, UMATI executive director, as we are commemorating WCD, it is critical to emphasize on right based service delivery, so that every pregnancy is wanted by both partners.

For instance, It makes very little sense to talk about ending maternal mortality without addressing the issue of family planning. The reason is simple, chances of getting unwanted pregnancies is high to a woman or a girl who is not using contraception. And public health experts tell us that, there is a connection between unwanted pregnancy and unsafe abortion, unsafe abortion contributes significantly to a country's maternal deaths burden, unwanted pregnancy can happen in short time frames after the previous pregnancy if a

woman isn't using contraception. Again public health experts warn that too close pregnancy poses great risk to the mother and the intended newborn.

An unintended pregnancy may be an unwanted pregnancy (did not want to be pregnant at all) or a mistimed pregnancy (pregnancy occurred earlier than wanted), and the term is used interchangeably with unplanned pregnancy. Pregnancy intent is an important determinant of both short- and long-term maternal health positive outcomes.

Tanzania has made great strides on ensuring that women of reproductive age can access family planning services without any challenge. There have been budget increase for financing family planning commodities and services. There is ample evidence that, more women and girls than ever who want to avoid or delay a pregnancy, are voluntarily using modern contraceptives in Tanzania, thanks to government efforts as well other implementing partners like Pathfinder International, UMATI, Population Services International, EngenderHealth, Marie Stopes, Advance Family Planning, Amref Health Africa and many others for tirelessly raising awareness on the importance of family planning and some of you offering services and commodities, as you complement government efforts.

However challenges to be addressed are still there. Reproductive health challenges in Tanzania include frequent contraceptive stock outs, persistent stigma surrounding contraceptive use, and a lack of available contraceptive options and sex education for young women and girls. As a result, 27% of adolescents in Tanzania are either pregnant or have already given birth by age 18, according to Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey 2015/16.

Despite the progress, too many women who want to use contraception can't, and too many women are dying in childbirth. Here in Tanzania, an estimated 1 million women face an unintended pregnancy every year. (source: Guttmacher) And More than 20 Tanzanian women die each day from complications in pregnancy and childbirth. (Source: UN/World Bank). "Tanzania is among the

sub-Saharan countries with high maternal morbidity and mortality. Maternal mortality ratio is 556 deaths/100,000 live births (Tanzania Demographic Health Survey (TDHS), 2015-16). Despite being proved to lower maternal mortality rate (MMR), Family Planning use is low, the unmet need for FP among the married women stands at 22%. The contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) among married women is low at 38% for all methods, and 32% for modern contraceptives. The total fertility rate (TFR) in the country is 5.2 live births per woman." According to Dr Lugano.

In sub-Saharan Africa, 40% girls and young women want to use contraception but can't access it, girls aged 15-19 account for 16% of all births each year, an estimated 2.2 million unintended pregnancies, and 25% of all unsafe abortions. Complications resulting from pregnancy and childbirth are a leading cause of death for this age group. About 70,000 adolescent girls die annually in developing countries from pregnancy related complications. For a girl under 15, the risk of maternal mortality is double that of a woman over 20 years

Due to unmet needs for family planning, many women and girls in Tanzania give birth when they are too young, and most women give birth to children too close after the previous birth. This endangers the life of both the mother and the would be baby.

Dr Lugano recommended that More community centered approaches should be adopted to address all the major causes of maternal mortality in Tanzania, as it has been witnessed in Uturo village in Mbarali district, Mbeya region; It alleged that Uturo village has made history for not having a single maternal death for the past 20 years basically due to initiatives from the native community members.

From a development perspective, Although it seems intuitive that helping women avoid unwanted pregnancies would improve their economic well-being, there some barriers that stand on women and girls' way when it comes to using contraception to plan their life, despite ample evidence that demonstrate that, fam-

ily planning in addition to contributing to better health, family planning is an essential component of sustainable development and poverty alleviation. Stock out, financial constraints, misconception regarding modern contraception, health providers attitude towards adolescent and young girls who want to use contraceptives, religious beliefs, distance and contraception nuisances are some of the barriers/challenges leading to some women and girls not using contraception.

As a result, Tanzania population has been growing rapidly, with a birth rate of 37.25 births per 1000. No doubt that this put a heavy strain on the government, as the government has to make sure that the increase in population matches infrastructures, classrooms, healthcare providers, teachers etc. Something which most developing countries fail to match.

Borrowing a leaf from James Gribble and Maura Graff's article (all from Population Reference Bureau) Family planning is widely recognized as one of the most cost-effective health interventions. Decades of research have demonstrated that modest investments in family planning can save lives and dramatically improve maternal and child health. There is a growing push in the development community to reprioritize family planning because of the cross-cutting role it plays in achieving broader development goals, including Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and poverty reduction. Families who received family planning services experience health benefits in addition to larger incomes, greater accumulation of wealth, and higher levels of education.

Women who use family planning have fewer children than similar women who don't use any

method of family planning, hence having better nutritional status with their children having a higher average weight and body mass index. No wonder African Heads of States agreed on Maputo Protocol. Maputo Protocol according to International Planned Parenthood Federation Africa Region (IPPFAR) guarantees the respect and promotion of women and girls' rights to health, including Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights. Giving them women and girls choice to control their fertility, decide on number, timing and spacing of pregnancies and to choose a method of contraception.

Public Health experts, believes that, expanding access to family planning to women with an unmet need would reduce maternal mortality by up to one-third, avert unintended pregnancies, which would prevent the deaths of many women from related complications and when women space their births by at least three years, newborns are twice as likely to survive their first year, and children are 35% more likely to reach their fifth birthday.

Tanzania must build on its remarkable achievement in reducing child deaths, and on the momentum generated by the Sharpened One Plan in 2014 to expand access to modern family planning especially in Western and Lake zones and especially among adolescents

"As we mark the world contraceptive day, we need to do some reflection. We need to look at Tanzania's high teenage pregnancy rate where 27 out of every 100 girls aged 15-19 years are either pregnant or have a child. We need to ensure this age group gets access to contraceptive information, services and supplies. We also call upon lo-

cal leaders to ensure contraceptives are available throughout the year in all health facilities" emphasized Halima Sharif

"It is so important that we remember that even if a women survives a critical delivery today, her likelihood of having a high unwanted pregnancy within a year is high and in addition the likelihood of dying in delivery increases when spacing is not thought through. We must find solutions on how to integrate contraception into everything related to reproductive health, solutions that increases access to comprehensive and high quality services - because it is any woman's human right," Ulla Muller, once told me. Muller was then working as Regional Director Southern Africa Marie Stopes International (MSI).

I find Muller's remarks still relevant today. Contraceptive is a human right and unfettered access to a variety of contraceptive services is one way that we can ensure that no one is forced to start a family before they are ready.

27% of teenagers in Tanzania are either pregnant or have a child. For many, this caused a major disruption in their schooling career that will have knock on effects for the rest of their lives. The responsibility and cost of raising a child will affect their ambitions hugely. In many cases, the baby will become the problem of a parent or a grandparent, thus creating a greater financial burden on those individuals. Similarly, married women also succumb to unwanted or unplanned pregnancies. In this day and age, improper or non-existent family planning means that one cannot provide for children efficiently, leaving them with sub-standard educations and an unfair chance in life.



Katarina Aloyce (2nd-L), a mini-grid and energy efficiency officer with the Tanzania Traditional Energy Development (TaTEDO), pictured on Thursday explaining the benefits of using renewable stoves to visitors. This was at the TaTEDO pavilion at the 14th gender festival of the Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP) now in progress in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Guardian Photographer

## Raising awareness a threat posed by nuclear weapons must continue

**N**UCLEAR power is the use of nuclear reactions that release nuclear energy to generate heat, which most frequently is then used in steam turbines to produce electricity in a nuclear power plant. Nuclear power can be obtained from nuclear fission, nuclear decay and nuclear fusion reactions. Presently, the vast majority of electricity from nuclear power is produced by nuclear fission of uranium and plutonium. Nuclear decay processes are used in niche applications such as radioisotope thermoelectric generators. Generating electricity from fusion power remains at the focus of international research.

Nuclear power has one of the lowest levels of fatalities per unit of energy generated compared to other energy sources. Coal, petroleum, natural gas and hydroelectricity each have caused a greater number of fatalities per unit of energy, due to air pollution and accidents.

Since its commercialization in the 1970s, nuclear power has prevented about 1.84 million air pollution-related deaths and the emission of about 64 billion tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent that would have otherwise resulted from the burning of fossil fuels. Accidents in nuclear power plants include the Chernobyl disaster in the Soviet Union in 1986, the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear disaster in Japan in 2011, and the more contained Three Mile Island accident in the United States in 1979. There have also been some nuclear submarine accidents.

There is a debate about nuclear power. Proponents, such as the World Nuclear Association and Environmentalists for Nuclear Energy, contend that nuclear power is a safe, sustainable energy source that reduces carbon emissions. Nuclear power opponents, such

as Greenpeace and NIRS, contend that nuclear power poses many threats to people and the environment.

Collaboration on research and development towards greater efficiency, safety and recycling of spent fuel in future generation IV reactors presently includes Euratom and the co-operation of more than 10 permanent member countries globally.

The General Assembly declared the International Day in December 2013, in its resolution as a follow-up to the high-level meeting of the General Assembly on nuclear disarmament held on 26 September 2013, in New York.

This was the latest in a series of efforts by the General Assembly to raise public awareness and to seek deeper engagement on nuclear disarmament matters. In 2009, the General Assembly had declared 29 August as the International Day against Nuclear Tests.

In resolution 68/32, the General Assembly called for the "urgent commencement of negotiations in the Conference on Disarmament of a comprehensive convention on nuclear weapons to prohibit their possession, development, production, acquisition, testing, stockpiling, transfer and use or threat of use, and to provide for their destruction."

In 2014, in its resolution 69/58, the General Assembly further expressed its desire to commemorate the Day, and requested the Secretary-General and the President of the General Assembly to make all arrangements necessary to commemorate and promote it, including by convening an annual meeting of the Assembly to commemorate the International Day and to provide a platform for the promotion of these activities. The General Assembly repeated these requests and call in subsequent years in its resolutions.

## Has designation of World Tourism Day really lived up to expectations globally

**O**VER the past six decades, tourism has experienced continued expansion and diversification, and it has become one of the fastest growing and most important economic sectors in the world, benefiting destinations and communities worldwide. International tourist arrivals worldwide have grown from 25 million in 1950 to nearly 1.3 billion today. Similarly, international tourism revenues earned by destinations around the world have grown from 2 billion US dollars in 1950 to 1260 trillion in 2015. The sector represents an estimated 10 per cent of the world's GDP and 1 in 10 jobs globally.

The UN World Tourism Organization expects that tourism will continue to grow at an average of 3 per cent annually until 2030. This growth reflects the progressive expansion of access to tourism thanks to the decline in the price of transport, especially air transport, and growing middle classes worldwide.

The recognition of the right to holidays in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and the improved adoption of labour rights in many countries, have also supported the coming of age of tourism. These factors also serve as a backdrop for the resilience shown by tourism in recent years. The sector has experienced almost uninterrupted growth despite challenges such as the global economic crisis, natural disasters and pandemics.

Many people around celebrate the United Nations' World Tourism Day, which is on September 27 each year.

The day aims to foster awareness among the international community of the importance of tourism and its social, cultural, political and economic values. World Tourism Day recognizes the importance of tourists and the tourism industry across the globe.

The United Nations' World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) invites people worldwide to participate in World Tourism Day on September 27 every year. Many tourism enterprises and organizations, as well as government agencies with a special interest in tourism, celebrate the event with various special events and festivities.

Different types of competitions, such as photo competitions promoting tourism, as well as tourism award presentations in areas such as ecotourism, are held on World Tourism Day.

Other activities include free entries, discounts or special offers for the general public to any site of tourism interest. Government and community leaders, as tourism business representatives, may make public announcements or offer special tours or fares to promote both their region. Tourism has experienced continued growth and deeper diversification to become one of the fastest growing economic sectors in the world. Modern tourism is closely linked to development and includes more new destinations for tourists. These dynamics turned tourism into a key driver for socio-economic progress. Tourism has become one of the major players in international commerce, and represents at the same time one of the main income sources for many developing countries.

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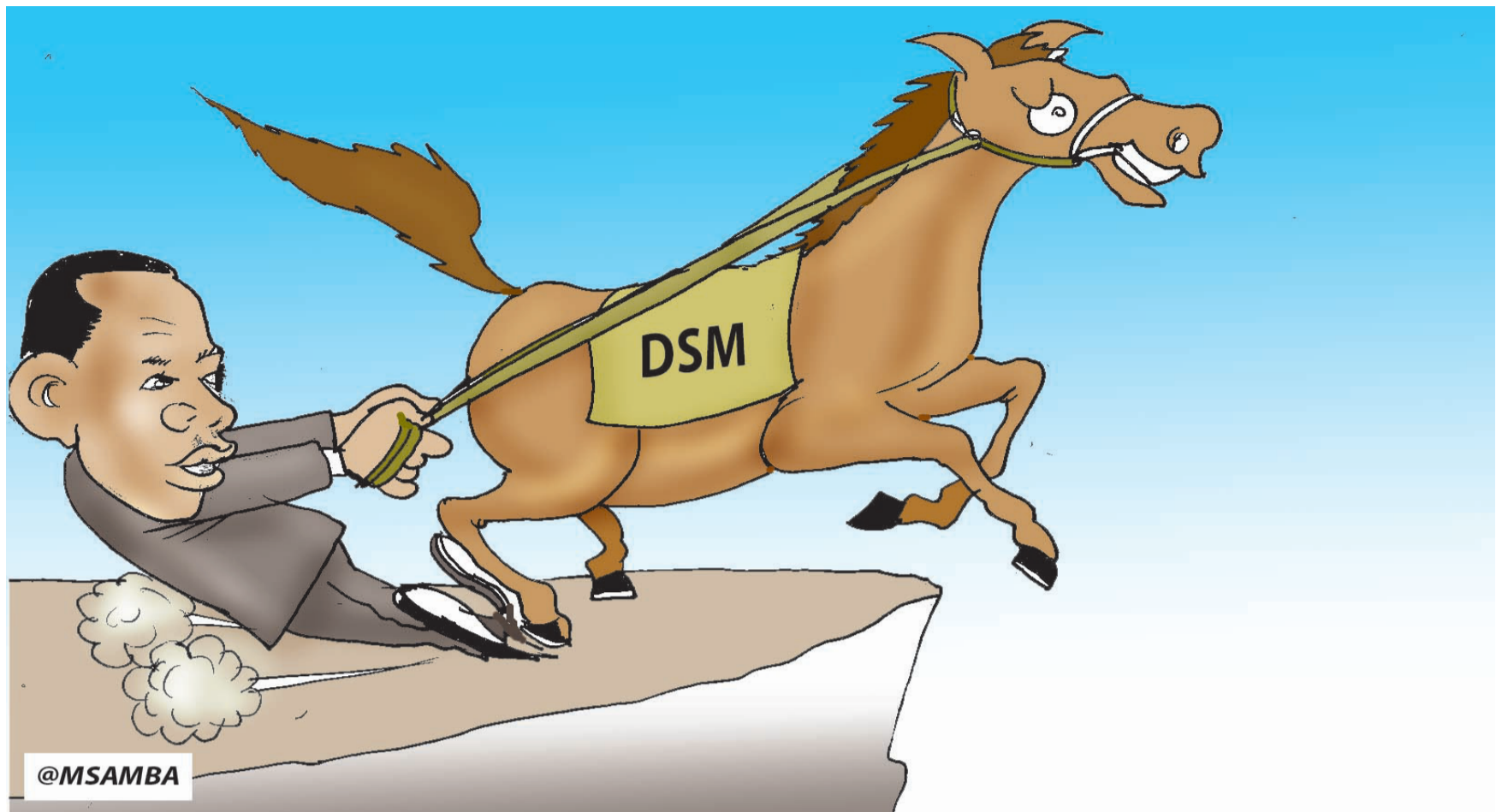
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## What it takes to be elected president of 'colossus' Nigeria

By Ayuba Buba Kinafa

**R**EPORTS in some national dailies quoted one chief from the Southeast as saying that Ndigbo will cease to be Nigerians if denied 2023 presidency. Many Nigerians were surprised with what he said especially because people view the Ndigbo like any other tribe in Nigeria and would hate to see them take by sacrifice or threat, what they can get through strategy especially where there is no evidence that they were denied the right to compete. They have produced many presidential candidates since the return to democracy.

The Igbo man used his intelligence, worked hard and hustled without any threat to be the first president of Nigeria. To be vice president, executive secretary of the Commonwealth and many other high-profile positions. Nobody uses threats to be elected President.

In a remark to visiting dignitaries from Ogun State recently, former president, Olusegun Obasanjo, told them that one must work hard to be president. Simple! Incidentally, hard work is a quality Ndigbos are recognised with. Why then should they threaten the corporate existence of Nigeria? Is it the failure or refusal to accept that certain qualities are required for one to be elected president? An attempt is hereby made to elucidate some of the qualities that made Late Dr. Nnamdi Azikwe among others, to emerge the president of Nigeria in the First Republic.

In addition to hard work, honor, integrity, trustworthiness, believe in and passion for the project: Nigeria, and appeal to the general public are some of the ingredients needed for one to be president. All our leaders from Late Nnamdi Azikwe to PMB were and are men of honor and integrity, and they do not come from the same ethnic group or heritage.

Former US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice, deriding the behavior of some Americans, said "Integrity and sense of humility are the greatest assets of a good Leader" She went on to say "Arrogance is a recipe for disaster." Studies by Lawler, Vroom, Skinner and other behavioral scientists (1999-2007) revealed that people use arrogance and inaccessibility to shroud criminality,



President of Nigeria Muhammadu Buhari

corruption, incompetence, some hidden dark under belly and secrete family history. Hitler used arrogance, inaccessibility, and intimidation to cover up his Austrian origin. Further research studies have shown that arrogant and inaccessible leaders from Genghis Khan, Nebuchadnezzar, King Louis (XVI) and Hitler, ended in disaster while some lost elections or were jailed. In PMB's case, his victory in 2015 and reelection in 2019 reminded Nigerians that integrity is power. PMB's trustworthiness, high sense of humour, accessibility, empathy, stands out.

Nigeria is a geopolitical amalgam with no inherited single aristocracy as is the case in England, Saudi Arabia and Thailand where the royal family in each country is the soul of the nation. Nigeria is a multi-ethnic, multi-tribal, multi-cultural and multi-religious society where each is promoting its culture and royalty into an alpha male. Of recent, a governor has banned the use of English as a medium of communication in the state house of assembly. The country, a melting pot like the USA, has no single natural leader individually or ethnically. Even the Kanuris, who built the largest empire in Africa that was foster mother to all empires and kingdoms in Nigeria, created the Nubian republics, the custodians of the Chad-Basin civilisation that competed with the Greek, Roman, Egyptian, Persian, Chinese, Indian civilisations, have never claimed automatic leadership, or forcibly demanded leadership.

Nigerian leaders have come from various tribes, ethnic groups and zones. The likes of Zik and PMB are everywhere in Nigeria. No zone or ethnic group has the monopoly of Mr. Integrity.

The most important thing is to understand and appreciate that leadership is a willing submission of the people to some one that will reflect values the people want him or her to reflect. It is a gift from the people under God's guidance to some one of their choice. That is why political parties are formed to provide choice to the people. You do not have to threaten or beat drums of war. All you need is to scout and hunt for someone that will reflect the values Nigerians want him or her to reflect.

Suffice to mention that honor, integrity, trustworthiness, accessibility, level mindedness, love for Nigeria and hard work are not restricted to the office of the president alone. They are required at the state, local government, traditional and the corporate world. In Gombe State for example, the people were opportune to have the likes of Sen. Mohammad Danjuma Goje and of recent Alhaji Mohammad Inuwa Yahya. Goje has proven beyond any doubt to the people that reposed confidence in him and gave him the office of public trust of his honor, integrity and love for the citizens. Contrary to the past administration's sinister secrecy and exclusiveness, the present leadership's level mindedness, openness, transparency, accessibility have engaged the citizens into a statewide productive conversation not only on who we are, what we are, where we are, where we want to go, where and how we want to start, but also the challenges the state faces.

Reports in some national dailies quoted one chief from the Southeast as saying that Ndigbo will cease to be Nigerians if denied 2023 presidency. Many Nigerians were surprised with what he said especially because

people view the Ndigbo like any other tribe in Nigeria and would hate to see them take by sacrifice or threat, what they can get through strategy especially where there is no evidence that they were denied the right to compete. They have produced many presidential candidates since the return to democracy.

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# Chinese people have seen rapid changes - and this is why...

ROME

“YOU fear what you don't know,” said Italian sinologist Federico Masini. “So the best way to avoid any kind of fears by Italians or by any other Westerners about China and the other way around is to increase mutual knowledge.”

Chinese people's life has experienced rapid and great changes over the years, Italian sinologist Federico Masini has said.

“I began to study Chinese in 1976,” Masini, an Italian director of the Confucius Institute as well as a Chinese language and literature professor at La Sapienza University in Rome, told Xinhua in an interview. “I was still in high school at that time, when I developed such an interest in Chinese language, culture and mostly philosophy.”

To have a knowledge of what the real China is, Masini started to study in Beijing in 1982 and later worked in the Italian Embassy in China for several years, during which he witnessed dramatic changes in the country.

“The main difference was in terms of people's pace of life,” he said, adding that the Chinese people used to “have a very quiet and calm pace of life in comparison with what we had in Europe and in the United States.”

“Now it is exactly the other way around when you travel from Italy to China,” Masini said. “Now you have the feeling of a country that is running much faster than we are in Europe.”

“Societies are always changing, but what's different is the speed of this change. What I have seen is the rapid and great changes in Chinese people's life in material and spiritual terms,” he said.

However, Masini said economic development is not the only index to measure the development of a country, and what he values more is people's life expectancy and quality.

“Fifty years ago, the lifespan of a Chinese was much, much shorter than what it is now,” he said.

Masini's point was made based on facts. According to data from the World Bank, Chinese people's life expectancy at birth has reached 76 years in 2017, compared to just 44 years in 1960.

“Society and economics were made by people, if we want to measure how China has developed in the last decades, I think this is the first thing we have to consider,” Masini added.

Masini also stressed the importance of scientific and cultural development for China. He believed that China has grown so fast because it realized the importance of “zhishifenzi,” which means intellectuals in Chinese.

When it comes to some misunderstandings about China on the part of people from other countries, Masini said that “part of the problem was made by the fact that China was separated from the rest of the world. But this has changed a lot.”

“You fear what you don't know,” said Masini. “So the best way to avoid any kind of fears by Italians or by any other Westerners about China and the other way around is to increase mutual knowledge.”

“If we work together to promote the understanding and exchanges among young people, this will be the best way to prevent any kind of confrontation,” he said.

Referring to the future of China, Masini told Xinhua that “I'm optimistic. Everybody should be optimistic.”

China officially the People's Republic of China is a country in East Asia and the world's most populous country, with a population of around 1.404 billion in 2017. It is the third or fourth largest country by total area. Governed by the Communist Party of China, the state exercises jurisdiction over 22 provinces, five autonomous regions, four direct-controlled municipalities (Beijing, Tianjin, Shanghai, and Chongqing), and the special administrative regions of Hong Kong and Macau.

China emerged as one of the world's first civilizations, in the fertile basin of the Yellow River in the North China Plain. For millennia, China's political system was based on hereditary monarchies, or dynasties, beginning with the semi-legendary Xia dynasty in 21st century BCE. Since then, China has expanded, fractured, and re-united numerous times. In the 3rd century BCE, the Qin reunited core China and established the first Chinese empire. The succeeding Han dynasty, which

ruled from 206 BCE until 220 CE, saw some of the most advanced technology at that time, including papermaking and the compass, along with agricultural and medical improvements. The invention of gunpowder and movable type in the Tang dynasty (618-907) and Northern Song (960-1127) completed the Four Great Inventions. Tang culture spread widely in Asia, as the new Silk Route brought traders to as far as Mesopotamia and the Horn of Africa. Dynastic rule ended in 1912 with the Xinhai Revolution, when the Republic of China (ROC) replaced the Qing dynasty. China as a whole was ravaged by Japan during World War II. The subsequent Chinese Civil War resulted in a division of territory in 1949, when the Communist Party of China established the People's Republic of China, a unitary one-party sovereign state, on mainland China while the Kuomintang-led nationalist government retreated to the island of Taiwan. The political status of Taiwan remains disputed.

Since the introduction of economic reforms in 1978, China's economy has been one of the world's fastest-growing with annual growth rates consistently above 6 percent.[23] According to the World Bank, China's GDP grew from \$150 billion in 1978 to \$12.24 trillion by 2017. According to official data, China's GDP in 2018 was 90 trillion Yuan (\$13.28 trillion). Since 2010, China has been the world's second-largest economy by nominal GDP[26] and since 2014, the largest economy in the world by purchasing power parity (PPP). China is also the world's largest exporter and second-largest importer of goods. China is a recognized nuclear weapons state and has the world's largest standing army and second-largest defense budget. The PRC is a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council as it replaced the ROC in 1971, as well as an active global partner of ASEAN Plus mechanism. China is also a leading member of numerous formal and informal multilateral organizations, including the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO), WTO, APEC, BRICS, the BCIM, and the G20. China has been characterized as an emerging superpower, mainly because of its massive population, economy, and military.

The word “China” has been used in English since the 16th century. It is not a word used by the Chinese themselves. It has been traced through Portuguese, Malay, and Persian back to the Sanskrit word Cīna, used in ancient India.

“China” appears in Richard Eden's 1555 translation[1] of the 1516 journal of the Portuguese explorer Duarte Barbosa. Barbosa's usage was derived from Persian Chīn (چین), which was in turn derived from Sanskrit Cīna (चीन). [40] Cīna was first used in early Hindu scripture, including the Mahābhārata (5th century BCE) and the Laws of Manu (2nd century BCE). In 1655, Martino Martini suggested that the word China is derived ultimately from the name of the Qin dynasty (221-206 BCE). Although this derivation is still given in various sources, it is complicated by the fact that the Sanskrit word appears in pre-Qin literature. The word may have originally referred to a state such as Yelang. Later, the meaning transferred to China as a whole. The origin of the Sanskrit word is still a matter of debate, according to the Oxford English Dictionary.

The official name of the modern state is the “People's Republic of China.” The shorter form is “China” a term which developed under the Western Zhou dynasty in reference to its royal demesne. It was then applied to the area around Luoyi (present-day Luoyang) during the Eastern Zhou and then to China's Central Plain before being used as an occasional synonym for the state under the Qing. It was often used as a cultural concept to distinguish the Huaxia people from perceived “barbarians”. The name Zhongguo is also translated as “Middle Kingdom” in English.

Archaeological evidence suggests that early hominids inhabited China between 2.24 million and 250,000 years ago.[49] The hominid fossils of Peking Man, a Homo erectus who used fire, were discovered in a cave at Zhoukoudian near Beijing; they have been dated to between 680,000 and 780,000 years ago. The fossilized teeth of Homo sapiens (dated to 125,000-80,000 years ago) have been discovered in Fuyan Cave in Dao Coun-



Photo taken on Nov. 2, 2018 shows the night view of a high-way interchange in Shanghai, east China. The first China International Import Expo (CIIE) will be held on November 5-10 in Shanghai. (Xinhua/Li He)

ty, Hunan. Chinese proto-writing existed in Jiahu around 7000 BCE, Damaidi around 6000 BCE, Dadiwan from 5800-5400 BCE, and Banpo dating from the 5th millennium BCE. Some scholars have suggested that the Jiahu symbols (7th millennium BCE) constituted the earliest Chinese writing system.

## Early dynastic rule

According to Chinese tradition, the first dynasty was the Xia, which emerged around 2100 BCE. The dynasty was considered mythical by historians until scientific excavations found early Bronze Age sites at Erlitou, Henan in 1959. It remains unclear whether these sites are the remains of the Xia dynasty or of another culture from the same period. The succeeding Shang dynasty is the earliest to be confirmed by contemporary records. The Shang ruled the plain of the Yellow River in eastern China from the 17th to the 11th century BCE. Their oracle bone script (from c.1500 BCE) represents the oldest form of Chinese writing yet found, and is a direct ancestor of modern Chinese characters.

The Shang was conquered by the Zhou, who ruled between the 11th and 5th centuries BCE, though centralized authority was slowly eroded by feudal warlords. Some principalities eventually emerged from the weakened Zhou, no longer fully obeyed the Zhou king and continually waged war with each other in the 300-year Spring and Autumn period. By the time of the Warring States period of the 5th-3rd centuries BCE, there were only seven powerful states left.

The Warring States period ended in 221 BCE after the state of Qin conquered the other six kingdoms, reunited China and established the dominant order of totalitarian autocracy. King Zheng of Qin proclaimed himself the First Emperor of the Qin dynasty. He enacted Qin's legalist reforms throughout China, notably the forced standardization of Chinese characters, measurements, road widths (i.e., cart axles' length), and currency. His dynasty also conquered the Yue tribes in Guangxi, Guangdong, and Vietnam. The Qin dynasty lasted only fifteen years, falling soon after the First Emperor's death, as his harsh authoritarian policies led to widespread rebellion.

Following a widespread civil war during which the imperial library at Xianyang was burned, the Han dynasty emerged to rule China between 206 BCE and CE 220, creating a cultural identity among its populace still remem-

bered in the ethnonym of the Han Chinese. The Han expanded the empire's territory considerably, with military campaigns reaching Central Asia, Mongolia, South Korea, and Yunnan, and the recovery of Guangdong and northern Vietnam from Nanyue. Han involvement in Central Asia and Sogdiana helped establish the land route of the Silk Road, replacing the earlier path over the Himalayas to India. Han China gradually became the largest economy of the ancient world. Despite the Han's initial decentralization and the official abandonment of the Qin philosophy of Legalism in favor of Confucianism, Qin's legalist institutions and policies continued to be employed by the Han government and its successors.

After the end of the Han dynasty, a period of strife known as Three Kingdoms followed, and central figures were later immortalized in one of the Four Classics of Chinese literature. At its end, Wei was swiftly overthrown by the Jin dynasty. The Jin fell to civil war upon the ascension of a developmentally-disabled emperor; the Five Barbarians then invaded and ruled northern China as the Sixteen States. The Xianbei unified them as the Northern Wei, whose Emperor Xiaowen reversed his predecessors' apartheid policies and enforced a drastic sinification on his subjects, largely integrating them into Chinese culture. In the south, the general Liu Yu secured the abdication of the Jin in favor of the Liu Song. The various successors of these states became known as the Northern and Southern dynasties, with the two areas finally reunited by the Sui in 581. The Sui restored the Han to power through China, reformed its agriculture, economy and imperial examination system, constructed the Grand Canal, and patronized Buddhism. However, they fell quickly when their conscription for public works and a failed war in northern Korea provoked widespread unrest.

Under the succeeding Tang and Song dynasties, Chinese economy, technology, and culture entered a golden age. The Tang Empire returned control of the Western Regions and the Silk Road, and made the capital Chang'an a cosmopolitan urban center. However, it was devastated and weakened by the An Shi Rebellion in the 8th century. In 907, the Tang disintegrated completely when the local military governors became ungovernable. The Song dynasty ended the separatist situation in 960, leading to a balance of power between the Song and

Khitan Liao. The Song was the first government in world history to issue paper money and the first Chinese polity to establish a permanent standing navy which was supported by the developed shipbuilding industry along with the sea trade.

Between the 10th and 11th centuries, the population of China doubled in size to around 100 million people, mostly because of the expansion of rice cultivation in central and southern China, and the production of abundant food surpluses. The Song dynasty also saw a revival of Confucianism, in response to the growth of Buddhism during the Tang, and a flourishing of philosophy and the arts, as landscape art and porcelain were brought to new levels of maturity and complexity. However, the military weakness of the Song army was observed by the Jurchen Jin dynasty. In 1127, Emperor Huizong of Song and the capital Bianjing were captured during the Jin-Song Wars. The remnants of the Song retreated to southern China.

The 13th century brought the Mongol conquest of China. In 1271, the Mongol leader Kublai Khan established the Yuan dynasty; the Yuan conquered the last remnant of the Song dynasty in 1279.

Before the Mongol invasion, the population of Song China was 120 million citizens; this was reduced to 60 million by the time of the census in 1300. A peasant named Zhu Yuanzhang overthrew the Yuan in 1368 and founded the Ming dynasty as the Hongwu Emperor. Under the Ming dynasty, China enjoyed another golden age, developing one of the strongest navies in the world and a rich and prosperous economy amid a flourishing of art and culture. It was during this period that admiral Zheng He led the Ming treasure voyages throughout the Indian Ocean, reaching as far as East Africa.

In the early years of the Ming dynasty, China's capital was moved from Nanjing to Beijing. With the budding of capitalism, philosophers such as Wang Yangming further critiqued and expanded Neo-Confucianism with concepts of individualism and equality of four occupations. The scholar-official stratum became a supporting force of industry and commerce in the tax boycott movements, which, together with the famines and defense against Japanese invasions of Korea (1592-1598) and Manchu invasions led to an exhausted treasury.

In 1644, Beijing was captured by a coalition of peasant rebel forces led by Li Zicheng. The

Chongzhen Emperor committed suicide when the city fell. The Manchu Qing dynasty, then allied with Ming dynasty general Wu Sangui, overthrew Li's short-lived Shun dynasty and subsequently seized control of Beijing, which became the new capital of the Qing dynasty.

## Late imperial

The Qing dynasty, which lasted from 1644 until 1912, was the last imperial dynasty of China. Its conquest of the Ming (1618-1683) cost 25 million lives and the economy of China shrank drastically. After the Southern Ming ended, the further conquest of the Dzungar Khanate added Mongolia, Tibet and Xinjiang to the empire. The centralized autocracy was strengthened to crack down on anti-Qing sentiment with the policy of valuing agriculture and restraining commerce, the Haijin (“sea ban”), and ideological control as represented by the literary inquisition, causing social and technological stagnation. In the mid-19th century, the dynasty experienced Western imperialism in the Opium Wars with Britain and France. China was forced to pay compensation, open treaty ports, allow extraterritoriality for foreign nationals, and cede Hong Kong to the British under the 1842 Treaty of Nanking, the first of the Unequal Treaties. The First Sino-Japanese War (1894-95) resulted in Qing China's loss of influence in the Korean Peninsula, as well as the cession of Taiwan to Japan.

The Qing dynasty also began experiencing internal unrest in which tens of millions of people died, especially in the White Lotus Rebellion, the failed Taiping Rebellion that ravaged southern China in the 1850s and 1860s and the Dungan Revolt (1862-77) in the northwest. The initial success of the Self-Strengthening Movement of the 1860s was frustrated by a series of military defeats in the 1880s and 1890s.

In the 19th century, the great Chinese diaspora began. Losses due to emigration were added to by conflicts and catastrophes such as the Northern Chinese Famine of 1876-79, in which between 9 and 13 million people died. The Guangxu Emperor drafted a reform plan in 1898 to establish a modern constitutional monarchy, but these plans were thwarted by the Empress Dowager Cixi.

The ill-fated anti-foreign Boxer Rebellion of 1899-1901 further weakened the dynasty. Although Cixi sponsored a program of reforms, the Xinhai Revolution of 1911-12 brought an end to the Qing dynasty and established the Republic of China.

# Food security for Africa: An urgent global challenge

By Special Correspondent

FOOD insecurity is still a major global concern as 1 billion people are suffering from starvation, under- and malnutrition, and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) has concluded that we are still far from reaching millennium development goal (MDG) number 1: to halve extreme poverty and hunger by 2015. In sub-Saharan Africa, the number of people suffering from hunger is estimated at 239 million, and this figure could increase in the near future.

There are many examples of food insecurity in sub-Saharan Africa, some of them having reached catastrophic dimensions, for example, in the Horn of Africa or southern Madagascar. Food insecurity is not just about insufficient food production, availability, and intake, it is also about the poor quality or nutritional value of the food. The detrimental situation of women and children is particularly serious, as well as the situation among female teenagers, who receive less food than their male counterparts in the same households.

Soaring food prices and food riots are among the many symptoms of the prevailing food crisis and insecurity. Climate change and weather vagaries, present and forecast, are generally compounding food insecurity and drastically changing farming activities, as diagnosed by the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research (CGIAR) in June 2011.

The key cause of food insecurity is inadequate food production. Since the global food crisis of 2007-2008, there has been an increasing awareness throughout the world that we must produce more and better food; and we should not be derailed from this goal, despite some relief brought by the good cereal harvests in 2011-2012. This is particularly true in sub-Saharan Africa, which needs and wants to make its own green revolution.

The African challenge indeed is key to mitigating food insecurity in the world. Commitments were made by the heads of states and governments of the African Union to double the part of their domestic budgets devoted to agriculture in 2010-2011, so as to reach 10%. Technical solutions exist and there are indeed, throughout Africa, good examples of higher-yielding and sustainable agriculture. But good practices have to spread throughout the continent, while at the same time social and economic measures, as well as political will, are indispensable ingredients of Africa's green revolution. It is also necessary that international donors fulfil their commitment to help African farmers and rural communities and protect them against unfair trade, competition, and dumping of cheap agrifood products from overseas.

## Hunger: A global shame

Far from reaching millennium development goal number 1: to halve extreme poverty and hunger by 2015

On September 14, 2010, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) published its estimates concerning the number of people suffering from hunger in 2010: 925 million. This figure was below the 1,020 billion in 2009, but it was higher than the number reached before the 2008 global food crisis. The 2010 figure corresponded to 13.5% of the world population, while the 2015 objective (millennium development goal (MDG) number 1) was 8%. The FAO concluded that we were still far from achieving MDG 1, that is, halving the number of hungry people worldwide by 2015 [1].

In 2010, the regional distribution of people suffering from hunger was the following: 578 million in the Asia Pacific region; 239 million in sub-Saharan Africa; 53 million in Latin America and the Caribbean; 37 million in North Africa; and 19 million in developed countries [1].

Olivier de Schutter, special rapporteur of the United Nations on the right to food, stated: 'If most poor countries are still very vulnerable, it is because their food security depends too much on food imports whose prices are increasingly high and volatile'. Since the 2008 food crisis, it is indeed true that volatility of food prices has become an important feature of the global situation. That is why, according to Olivier de Schutter, the international community should respond rapidly 'by adopting regulation measures and by designing a global governance of commodity and food stocks,



based on a more transparent management of the stocks every country keeps'. This crucial issue of market stability was the focus of a meeting organized by the FAO on 24 September 2010. The regulation of the markets of agricultural commodities was also a key subject of the G20 meeting organized by France in Paris in February 2011 [1].

Unfortunately, more action is needed rather than general statements, and international cooperation and solidarity must prevail over selfish national interests if we really want to eradicate such a global shame as the starvation and undernutrition of billions of people. For instance, the pledges made in LAquila (Italy) in 2008 are far from becoming a reality. During that G8 meeting, heads of states and governments made the commitment to gather US \$22 billion (€16.8 billion) over 3 years in order to struggle against food insecurity. Also at that time, all the countries present stressed the need to increase the proportion of agriculture-oriented investments in public aid for development, which fell from 17% in 1980 down to 3.8% in 2006, and thereafter rose to around 5%. All of these commitments are far from becoming a reality. A US\$900 million 'global program for food security' was announced only on April 22, 2010. It is funded by the United States, Canada, Spain, and South Korea, and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation also joined the program. On June 23, 2010, an amount of US\$224 million was allocated to the first five beneficiaries: Bangladesh, Haiti, Rwanda, Sierra Leone, and Togo [1].

The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation is bringing its expertise more than funds (US\$30 million). As stressed by Bill Gates, the Foundation has accumulated unique experience while disbursing US\$1.5 billion over 4 years (2006-2009) for activities aimed at improving food security. This area of action has become, according to Bill Gates, the other global priority urgency, 'just after health'. He added that the solution was to assist small farmers 'to increase their productivity, to find outlets and to adopt new agricultural techniques'. Bill Gates is convinced that food security is more complex than aid to healthcare, because in that case, one needs the cooperation of local governments. Food insecurity often prevails where public infrastructures are corrupted and very backward. Bill Gates recognized that the endeavour is huge: out of the 1 billion people who live with US\$1 or even less per day, 75% are in rural areas; and the US\$900 million devoted to the 'global program for food security' represent the equivalent of 1 or 2 days of subsistence for every person among the extremely poor [4].

In sub-Saharan Africa, food insecurity is a major concern, as shown by the following very disturbing examples.

## The Horn of Africa

Around 12 million people were suffering from starvation in the Horn of Africa (Somalia, Ethiopia, northeastern Kenya), stricken by the worst drought in

the past 60 years, announced the FAO on July 12, 2011. A few days before, the WFP had estimated that, in this region, 10 million people needed food assistance. The Secretary-General of the United Nations called an emergency meeting with all directors of the United Nations agencies and requested member states for a more generous attitude regarding their help to the countries suffering from starvation. In fact, less than half of the US\$1.6 billion (€1.14 billion) needed for the assistance programme to be carried out in that region had been collected.

In northeastern Kenya, around Wajir, capital of that province, near the border with Ethiopia and Somalia, drought has been particularly severe. Trucks filled with water were brought there once a week from a neighbouring community in order to meet minimum needs for drinking water. Fifty kilometres from Wajir, in the city of Griftu, rainfall volume has been about 60% to 70% lower than the average for 15 years. While in October 2010, 50 children had been treated due to malnutrition, this increased to 700 in July 2011 [6].

Drought is not exceptional in the Horn of Africa, but 2011 was different: recurrent droughts were more frequent since the 2009 episode and plant regrowth was almost impossible. Nomadic cattle herders had to seek for farther pastures, sometimes several hundred kilometres away. They often left their families behind them without any resources. For other livestock herders, it was already too late: animals died from starvation, and their owners tried to sell them at a very low price before death occurred [6].

Another consequence of the very severe drought was the spike in food prices. In Wajir, the price of rice (the staple food of the local population) rose from 60 to 80 shillings (€0.64) per kilogram in 3 months, while the price of sugar doubled. The purchasing power of people has almost become nil [6].

Development associations stated that they had warned local authorities since June 2010 about the risk of a major reduction in rainfall. They said that nothing had been done, thinking that the situation would improve. Many were those who underlined the lack of investment and long-term planning by the Kenyan government for the northeast of the country. They had, nevertheless, solutions in mind: limitation of the installation of sedentary people on land traditionally used by herders; convince livestock herders to sell their animals earlier, to reduce the size of their herds and flocks so as to make them more economically viable; and advocate for a diversi-

fication of their activities. But the central government seemed to focus on short-term solutions [6].

Although not as dramatic as in northeastern Kenya, the lack of rainfall or much scarcer rains have affected the region southeast of Nairobi. Maize harvests have been drastically reduced and about 400 farmers have grown cassava instead of the usual crop; they were to reap their first harvest in 2011. Cassava needs less water than maize, as well as fewer pesticides. In order to avoid poisoning by cyanide (in the tubers), selected harmless varieties are distributed to farmers by the Kenya Agricultural Research Institute (KARI); the project is funded by the European Union. Another group of 560 farmers in the village of Mbuvo, south of Nairobi, were harvesting their first crop of cassava by the end of July 2011. They formed a cooperative in charge of collecting, weighing, washing, and peeling the tubers of cassava, before transforming them into a white powder that is dried on large wooden mats. The derived products are cassava flour, chips, animal feed, and meals made with cassava leaves. The cooperative's objective was to cultivate 300 hectares in 2012 thanks to the use of machinery, and later on, to export the products to southern Sudan, Germany, and the United Kingdom [7].

In addition to cassava, KARI has been supporting the cultivation of another traditional crop, sorghum, which is also tolerant to drought. In 2011, about 3,000 farmers were selling their production to local brewers. Food security has become a top priority and KARI's research and extension work aimed at finding appropriate solutions in close collaboration with the farmers, particularly those working in a drought-prone environment.

On July 20, 2011, 'The United Nations declared that famine existed in two regions of southern Somalia: southern Bakool and Lower Shabelle,' as stated by the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs for Somalia.

Both areas are controlled by Shebab insurgents. Famine is declared when over 30% of children suffer acute malnutrition, the mortality rate reaches two adults or four children per day per 10,000 people and the population has access to much less than 2,100kcal of food per day. Across Somalia, nearly half of the population, 3.7 million people, were in crisis, of whom an estimated 2.8 million people were in the south,' the United Nations' statement read. 'Consecutive droughts have affected the country in the last few years, while the ongoing conflict has made it extremely difficult for

agencies to operate and access communities in the south of the country,' it added.

The relief agency Oxfam has been urging donors to provide the US\$800 million desperately needed to help 10 million hungry people in the Horn of Africa. Of the estimated US\$1 billion needed to stave off a major humanitarian catastrophe, Oxfam stated that only around US\$200 million in new money had so far been provided. Over the 2 weeks before the United Nations' statement, the United Kingdom had pledged an estimated US\$145 million (almost 15% of what was needed), the European Union around US\$8 million, Spain nearly US\$10 million, and Germany around US\$8.5 million.

United Nations' officials warned that unless urgent action were taken, the areas afflicted by famine would expand, that is to all eight regions of southern Somalia, within 2 months, due to poor harvests and infectious disease outbreaks. Famine implied that at least 20% of households faced extreme food shortages, with limited ability to cope. Malnutrition rates in Somalia were the highest in the world, with peaks of 50% in certain areas of southern Somalia. Consequently, 'every day of delay in assistance was literally a matter of life and death for children and their families in the famine-affected areas,' said Mark Bowden, the United Nations humanitarian coordinator for Somalia.

Thousands of Somalis had fled to seek refuge in neighbouring Ethiopia and Kenya. In the latter country, they were streaming into overcrowded camps hosting some 380,000 people, more than four times their original capacity. On July 19, 2011, the United Nations refugee agency stated that death rates among refugees arriving in Ethiopia's Dolo Ado area had reached 7.4 deaths per 10,000 in June 2011, 15 times more than the baseline rate in sub-Saharan Africa.

Soaring world food prices had made matters worse. In Somalia, the cost of sorghum, the local staple, had risen 240% since October 2010. In Kenya, the price of maize had tripled. Food hoarding had been reportedly aggravating shortages, even when rain had been plentiful. Parts of Kenya had a bumper harvest, leaving non-governmental organizations (NGOs) to wonder why the government's strategic grain reserves were so low. An estimated 3.5 million Kenyans were in urgent need of food. So were 533,000 refugees in the overcrowded Dadaab camp near the border with Somalia (as of July 14, 2011).

Who is to blame? An oscillation in the climate in the form of La Niña, a cooling of the surface temperatures across the equatorial eastern-central Pacific, causing big changes in airflow and weather patterns, is likely to have contributed to the droughts. But Jane Cocking, Oxfam's humanitarian director, stated that 'this is a preventable disaster and solutions are possible'. The worst-affected areas were also the poorest in the region. Long-term investment could have made villages and towns more resilient.

Food quality and gender inequality

In sub-Saharan Africa (and South Asia), a high proportion of female teenagers aged between 15 and 19 years are suffering from anaemia (the highest rate of 68% is registered in Mali) and weight insufficiency (47% in India), while male teenagers of the same age are suffering less from these ailments. This is one of the numerical disparities between the sexes revealed by UNICEF, published on February 25, 2011 and devoted to teenagers [8].

To elucidate the reasons for these disparities in the area of nutrition, an international group of researchers and nutritionists has decided to study the eating habits of more than 2,000 teenagers aged between 13 and 17 years in the south of Ethiopia, and this independently from UNICEF. Ethiopia is one of the poorest

countries in the world, where more than 50% of the population was less than 18 years old in 2009 and where 85% of teenagers were living in rural areas. Over 5 years,

Tefera Belachew (University of Jimma, Ethiopia) and colleagues have interviewed families about their food habits and their health. Their study, published in January 2011, has shown that the health of boys and girls was similar in normal situations, but differed when access to healthy food becomes difficult [8].

Among the teenagers interviewed, about 25% of the females have been confronted with food insecurity, compared with 16% of the males. As a direct consequence, girls suffer more from general weakness and pathologies. Boys were generally fed first and received food of better quality. Pieter Van Dooren of the Institute of Tropical Medicine in Antwerp, Belgium, stated that 'in an Ethiopian family, the boy is often perceived as having a more important economic and religious role to play; people tend to believe that he will be more productive and more able to manage the household in case of crisis'. Roland Kupka, a nutritionist working for UNICEF in West Africa, also stated: 'In a context of food insecurity, the social status of women raises many problems. Men should receive the best food, while women eat leftovers, and generally food of lesser quality'. These statements underline the detrimental situation of women who play a key role in the country's economy, especially in rural areas: 45% of Ethiopia's workers who cultivate land are women [8].

## Impact of climate change

Climate change and global warming are considered major threats to agriculture and food production. In 2007, the United Nations predicted that 'zones struck by drought in sub-Saharan Africa might increase from 60 million to 90 million hectares from now to 2060...' and that 'the number of people suffering from malnutrition might increase up to 600 million from now to 2080'. On 1 February 2008, the journal Science published forecasts of Stanford University, California, which predicted that South Africa could lose more than 30% of its maize production from now to 2030 [16].

Catastrophic floods and severe droughts are inflicting heavy damage to sub-Saharan Africa's ecosystems and agroecosystems, threatening the lives of tens of millions of people. For instance, on August 25, 2008, the United Nations' humanitarian coordination in Chad announced that about 30,000 persons had been affected by floods in the south of the country. In Ethiopia, according to the Red Cross, 75,000 persons were severely hit by drought. It is not easy to correlate these events with climate change, but they enable the experts to forecast the dangers and threats of climate change in Africa, which produces only 5% of the world's emissions of greenhouse-effect gases [17].

Amidst the debates on climate change, Africa is 'the forgotten continent', as stated by Yvo Boer, Secretary-General of the United Nations Convention on Climate Change, in Accra (Ghana), during an international conference on the follow-up to the Kyoto Protocol, which ended on August 27, 2008. According to Ghana's president, John Kufuor, Africa was already suffering from 'climate shocks': in his country, rainfall has decreased by 20% over the past 30 years. This rainfall decrease has been confirmed, on a greater scale, by German and African scientists during a symposium held in Ouagadougou (Burkina Faso) on August 26, 2008: the rainfall season in West Africa starts 30 days later than 40 years ago. According to the research programme Glawo, which was the subject of the Ouagadougou seminar, a 'considerable warming' was expected in Africa as well as a 'remarkable' reduction in rainfall in sub-Saharan Africa and along the southern rim of the Mediterranean from now to 2050.

## At the UN, Somalia's President spotlights his nation's progress, while cautioning eradication of terrorism will not be easy at all

MOGADISHU

SOMALIA is "the perfect example of the success of the multilateral system," President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed told the UN General Assembly on Thursday, while acknowledging that the Horn of Africa country still needed international and regional support and cooperation, particularly to deal with threats from Al-Shabab.

Somalia's progress towards reconstruction was moving ahead, but Mr. Mohamed said "one cannot remain deaf and blind" pockets of global discontent and the effects of poverty, inequality and unfair globalization.

He noted that Somalia played a leading role in the socio-economic development of the Horn of Africa and expressed confidence that cooperation among countries in the region would only strengthen political stability and social and cultural connectivity.

He went on to express his country's pride after the success of the regional elections in some of the Federated States ahead of the 2021 presidential and legislative elections.

And while he called Somalia "historic" example of reform, resilience and commitment to progress and reconstruction, he cautioned that despite tangible progress, the country still faced many challenges, first and foremost those related to security, on which "everything depends".

"With the help of our international partners, we are striving to rid ourselves of the last pockets of violent extremism and terrorism," he said, stressing that the task would not be easy, especially given the "violence, cowardice and opportunistic guerilla tactics of Al Shabab."

But Mr. Mohamed said he is confident that with the help of the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and other partners, his country will regain stability, which was in the interest of the region and the world.

Turning to one of the key issues before Member States, climate change, he said Somalia which had the longest coastline on the African continent, was already experiencing the effects of rising waters and temperatures. Somalia was also impacted by land degradation, long-term drought and deforestation.

Mr. Mohamed reiterated his commitment to the Paris Agreement, but also to Security Council resolution 751 (1992), which called on all States to take the necessary measures to prevent the direct and indirect import and export of Somali coal.

"It may not save the environment, but it will definitely deprive terrorists of a source of fund-

ing," he said.

Somalia officially the Federal Republic of Somalia is a sovereign state with its territory located in the Horn of Africa. It is bordered by Ethiopia to the west, Djibouti to the northwest, the Gulf of Aden to the north, the Guardafui Channel and Indian Ocean to the east, and Kenya to the southwest. It is separated from Socotra by the Guardafui Channel in the northeast. Somalia has the longest coastline on Africa's mainland, and its terrain consists mainly of plateaus, plains and highlands. Climatically, hot conditions prevail year-round, with periodic monsoon winds and irregular rainfall.

In terms of culture, religion, ethnicity and linguistics, it has been described as the "only" and the "most" homogeneous country in Africa. Somalia has an estimated population of around 14.3 million. Around 85 per cent of its residents are ethnic Somalis, who have historically inhabited the northern part of the country. Ethnic minorities are largely concentrated in the southern regions. The official languages of Somalia are Somali and Arabic, both of which belong to the Afroasiatic family. Most people in the country are Muslim, with the majority being Sunni.

In antiquity, Somalia was an important commercial centre. It is among the most probable locations of the fabled ancient Land of Punt. During the Middle Ages, several powerful Somali empires dominated the regional trade, including the Ajuran Empire, the Adal Sultanate, the Warsangali Sultanate, and the Sultanate of the Geledi.

In the late 19th century, through a succession of treaties with these kingdoms, the British and Italian empires gained control of parts of the coast and established the colonies of British Somaliland and Italian Somaliland. In the interior, Mohammed Abdullah Hassan's movement repelled the British Empire four times and forced it to retreat to the coastal region, before succumbing to defeat in 1920 by British airpower. The toponym Somalia was coined by the Italian explorer Luigi Robecchi Bricchetti (1855-1926). Italy acquired full control of the northeastern, central and southern parts of the area after successfully waging the so-called Campaign of the Sultanates against the ruling Majeerteen Sultanate and Sultanate of Hobyo. Italian occupation lasted until 1941, yielding to British military administration. British Somaliland would remain a protectorate, while Italian Somaliland in 1949 became a United Nations Trusteeship under Italian administration, the Trust Territory of Somaliland. In 1960, the two regions united to form the independent Somali Republic under a civilian government.



President Mohamed Abdullahi Mohamed

The Supreme Revolutionary Council seized power in 1969 and established the Somali Democratic Republic. Led by Mohamed Siad Barre, this government later collapsed in 1991 as the Somali Civil War broke out. Various armed factions began competing for influence in the power vacuum, particularly in the south. During this period, due to the absence of a central government, Somalia was a "failed state", and residents returned to customary and religious law in most regions. A few autonomous regions, including the Somaliland and Puntland administrations, emerged in the north. The early 2000s saw the creation of fledgling interim federal administrations. The Transitional National Government (TNG) was established in 2000, followed by the formation of the Transitional Federal Government (TFG) in 2004, which re-established national institutions such as the military.[5][5][29] In 2006, the TFG, assisted by Ethiopian troops, assumed control of most of the nation's southern conflict zones from the newly formed Islamic Courts Union (ICU). The ICU subsequently splintered into more radical groups such as Al-Shabaab, which battled the TFG and its AMISOM allies for control of the region.

By mid-2012, the insurgents had lost most of the territory that they had seized. In 2011-2012, a political process providing benchmarks for the establishment of permanent democratic institutions was launched. Within this administrative framework a new provisional constitution was passed in August 2012, which reformed Somalia as a federation. Following the end of the TFG's interim mandate the same month, the Federal Government of Somalia, the first permanent central government in the country since the start of the civil war, was formed and a period of reconstruction began in Mogadishu. Somalia has maintained an informal economy, mainly

based on livestock, remittances from Somalis working abroad, and telecommunications.

### Prehistory

Somalia has been inhabited since at least the Paleolithic. During the Stone Age, the Doiran and Hargeisan cultures flourished here. The oldest evidence of burial customs in the Horn of Africa comes from cemeteries in Somalia dating back to the 4th millennium BCE. The stone implements from the Jalelo site in the north were also characterized in 1909 as important artefacts demonstrating the archaeological universality during the Paleolithic between the East and the West.

According to linguists, the first Afroasiatic-speaking populations arrived in the region during the ensuing Neolithic period from the family's proposed urheimat ("original homeland") in the Nile Valley, or the Near East.

The Laas Geel complex on the outskirts of Hargeisa in northwestern Somalia dates back around 5,000 years, and has rock art depicting both wild animals and decorated cows. Other cave paintings are found in the northern Dhambalin region, which feature one of the earliest known depictions of a hunter on horseback. The rock art is in the distinctive Ethiopian-Arabian style, dated to 1,000 to 3,000 BCE. Additionally, between the towns of Las Khorey and El Ayo in northern Somalia lies Karinhegane, the site of numerous cave paintings of real and mythical animals. Each painting has an inscription below it, which collectively have been estimated to be around 2,500 years old.

Ancient pyramidal structures, mausoleums, ruined cities and stone walls, such as the Wargaade Wall, are evidence of an old civilization that once thrived in the Somali peninsula. This civilization enjoyed a trading relationship with ancient Egypt and Mycenaean Greece since the second millennium

BCE, supporting the hypothesis that Somalia or adjacent regions were the location of the ancient Land of Punt. The Puntites traded myrrh, spices, gold, ebony, short-horned cattle, ivory and frankincense with the Egyptians, Phoenicians, Babylonians, Indians, Chinese and Romans through their commercial ports. An Egyptian expedition sent to Punt by the 18th dynasty Queen Hatshepsut is recorded on the temple reliefs at Deir el-Bahari, during the reign of the Puntite King Parahu and Queen Ati. In 2015, isotopic analysis of ancient baboon mummies from Punt that had been brought to Egypt as gifts indicated that the specimens likely originated from an area encompassing eastern Somalia and the Eritrea-Ethiopia corridor.

In the classical era, the Macrobian, who may have been ancestral to Somalis, established a powerful tribal kingdom that ruled large parts of modern Somalia. They were reputed for their longevity and wealth, and were said to be the "tallest and handsomest of all men". The Macrobian were warrior herders and seafarers. According to Herodotus' account, the Persian Emperor Cambyses II, upon his conquest of Egypt (525 BC), sent ambassadors to Macrobia, bringing luxury gifts for the Macrobian king to entice his submission.

The Macrobian ruler, who was elected based on his stature and beauty, replied instead with a challenge for his Persian counterpart in the form of an unstrung bow: if the Persians could manage to draw it, they would have the right to invade his country; but until then, they should thank the gods that the Macrobian never decided to invade their empire. The Macrobian were a regional power reputed for their advanced architecture and gold wealth, which was so plentiful that they shackled their prisoners in golden chains.

## South Sudan 'heading towards lasting peace and stability', VP assures UN General Assembly

JUBA

THROUGH the cooperation of the leaders of South Sudan, First Vice-President Taban Deng Gai told the United Nations General Assembly yesterday that his country could become "a beacon of hope and peace".

"Last year, I stood here representing a country many skeptics had considered was on the brink of deteriorating into violent conflict," said Taban Deng Gai, adding that now, "South Sudan is heading towards lasting peace and stability".

He credited success in the ongoing implementation of the 2018 Revitalized Peace Agreement to the engagement of different parties, and urged the international community to support efforts to bring non-signatories "on board".

Mr. Gai told the Assembly that a face-to-face meeting between President Salva Kiir and Rick

Machar earlier this month offered an opportunity to deliberate issues and pave the way for the new Government of National Unity by 12 November.

"The Transnational Government of National Unity will continue to consolidate peace including preparations for elections at the end of the Transitional Period", he said, calling upon UN Member States "to extend much needed support for the new incoming Government".

### Security situation

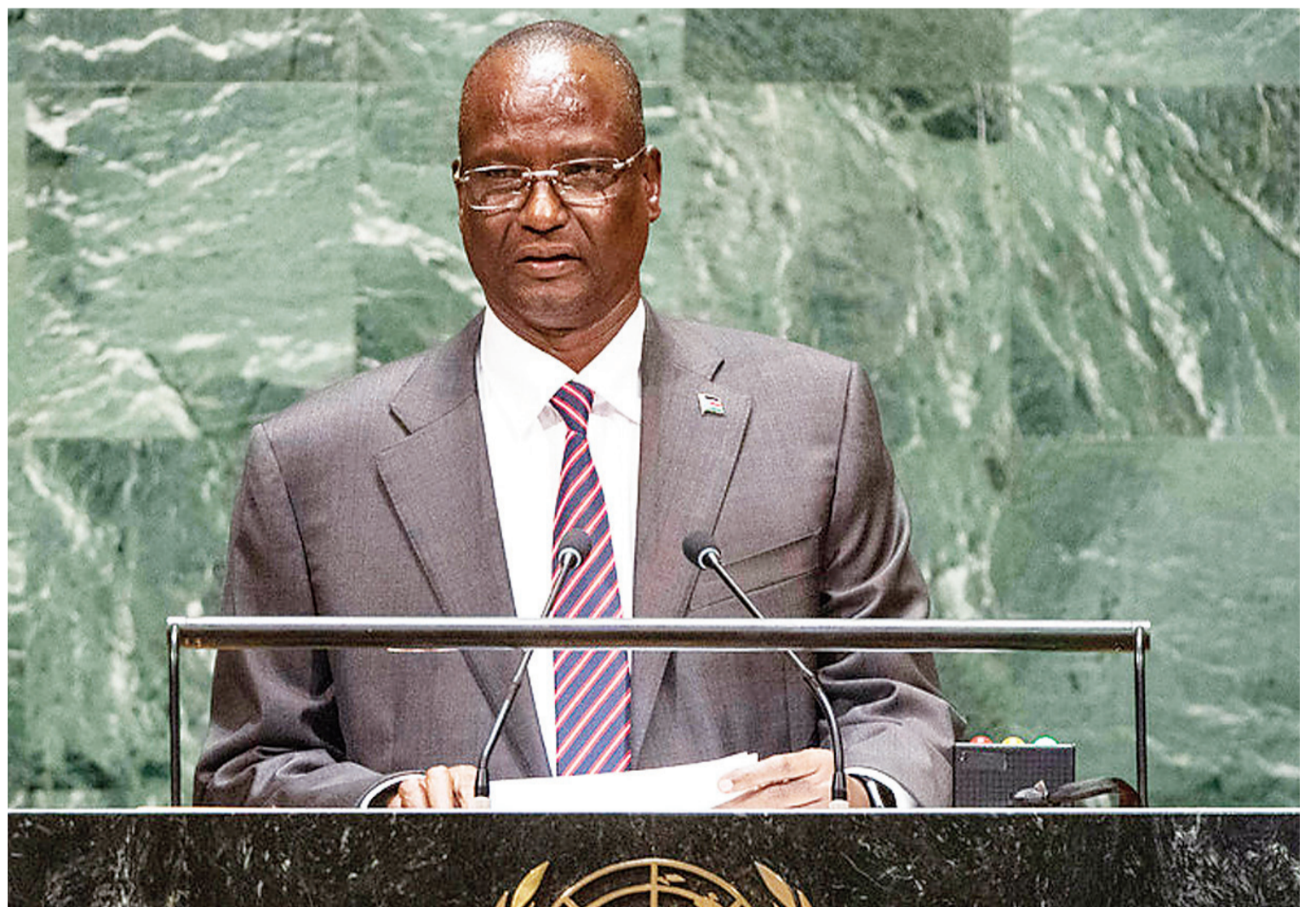
As the Government and parties to the peace accord had worked diligently to implement its provisions, Mr. Gai said, the country's overall security situation is stable.

He elaborated on several peace initiatives under way, including dialogues at grassroots, regional and national levels, which have made "significant

strides towards reconciliation and healing" among the country's diverse communities. To consolidate peace on the ground, ensure democracy and accountability and fight impunity, Mr. Gai believed in a "complementary three-track approach" that included people-to-people peace initiatives, national dialogue and the implementation of the Peace Agreement.

Turning to Abyei, Mr. Gai said his Government is "gravely concerned" about the security situation there and urged the Secretary-General to quickly appoint the UN Interim Security Force's (UNISFA) Civilian Deputy Head.

As Mr. Gai congratulated neighbouring Sudan for its ability to amicably resolve the political impasse "that many feared would get out of hand." He drew a round of applause when he said: "We are one people in two independent countries united through our historical, cultural and social ties".



South Sudan's, First Vice-President, Taban Deng Gai

## National elections commission secrecy promotes fake news

By Joseph Hanlon

THE National Elections Commission (CNE) has become less transparent. It hardly uses Facebook and does not use its website. Few details have been released about party finance, except to tell parties that Deliberacao nº 58/CNE/2014, de 9 de Julho is being

followed.

This has created space for fake news, attributed to a senior figure in the CNE, that a change was made to the distribution of money. The change was said to be that after the money was divided in thirds for the three elections, the money for AP and AR elections was divided next by constituen-

cies (11 provinces plus Africa plus Europe for AR, 10 provinces for AP). It was claimed that only then was it divided by candidates. The system would have shared the same amount of money to parties in small constituencies such as Africa, with only one seat in the AR, as to Nampula with 45. This would have violated the law saying there

should be equalities in money for candidates. It also would have given \$14,000 more to each of the three biggest parties, while taking \$12,000 from PARESO and other amounts from some of the smaller parties. We asked CNE for clarification, but none was forthcoming. So we asked parties how much money they had been given in the

first tranche, and calculated backwards to see which method was used. And we found that the CNE has distributed the money correctly and followed the law. The other report was wrong - fake news. But the CNE would not help us refute fake news that was falsely reporting CNE actions. Instead, we had to do the calculation to show that the

CNE did the right thing.

Mozambique officially the Republic of Mozambique Chichewa: Mozambiki, Swahili: Msumbiji, Tsonga: Muzambhiki), is a country located in Southeast Africa bordered by the Indian Ocean to the east, Tanzania to the north, Malawi and Zambia to the north-west, Zimbabwe to the west, and

Eswatini (Swaziland) and South Africa to the southwest. The sovereign state is separated from the Comoros, Mayotte and Madagascar by the Mozambique Channel to the east. The capital of Mozambique is Maputo (formerly known as "Lourenço Marques" from 1876 to 1976) while Matola is the largest city, being a suburb of Maputo.

# Just how to ensure the media's survival and continued growth...

By Warren Fernandez

THE poster boy for robust health in the media industry used to have decidedly Indian features. Even as their counterparts elsewhere languished, Indian media houses were once busy launching new titles, snapping up journalists and boosting orders for newsprint, bucking global trends several years ago.

Today, sadly, a pall appears to have settled over many of these newsrooms. "We need to change... We are playing catch-up now," one top Indian editor told me at a dinner last Wednesday on the sidelines of the WAN-IFRA (World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers) India Conference.

He says lacklustre advertising during recent festive seasons has taken a toll on print advertising revenues, as circulations slide. Like many others, he laments how copies of most papers are sold for a few rupees at newsstands, with prices held down by the industry's market leaders' strategy to maintain their dominance.

Worse, hardly anyone charges for content online, while digital advertising is small and mostly soaked up by the technology giants, so there is scarcely any revenue coming in from online operations despite growing audiences.

The result: Newsrooms feeling starved of editorial resources and facing mounting commercial pressures from advertisers, sponsors as well as governments not averse to withholding advertising to focus editorial minds. Media credibility ends up being hit, even amid a growing proliferation of fake news all round.

"Sooner or later, we are going to have to find a new revenue model," added another editor, pointing to tentative talk of experimenting with paywalls at some publications, just as media organisations around the world have been doing in recent years.

These Indian anxieties are symptomatic of a global phenomenon, with the impact of disruption in the media industry coming lately to this country.

Elsewhere, media leaders at similar events have long lamented the triple challenges facing the industry: growing threats to media freedom, the existential question of media viability and the pressing need for innovation in newsrooms. All three issues are now inextricably linked, equal sides of a trilemma that have to be tackled together.

Without a viable plan to sustain their newsrooms into the future, fervent debates on media freedoms will be academic discussions. And, clearly, any plan to ensure the survival and continued growth of the media entails a need for innovation and transformation on both the editorial and business fronts.

These challenges were summed up starkly by Juan Señor, president of Innovation Media Consulting at a WAN-IFRA conference held in Singapore in May.

He pointed to the phenomenon of



newsrooms repenting for the folly of their "original sin" of giving away costly-to-produce content for free in the vain hope that doing so would draw audiences - and advertisers would follow. New digital revenues might then make up for the decline in print readerships and revenues.

It did not happen - or rather, did not happen fast and far enough. While some news groups - including this newspaper - have seen significant growth in both digital readership and revenues, these increases have come off a low base and so are not quite enough to make up for the print shortfall.

Besides, the bulk of digital advertising has been hoovered up by the likes of Facebook and Google riding on the backs on media groups which produce the content they amalgamate to draw audiences while insisting that they bear no responsibility for the content on their platforms.

Today, just about every media group is dabbling with paywalls and digital subscriptions, moving from "advertising revenue to reader revenue", noted Señor.

"If you are not producing content you can charge for, you should get out of this business," he declared, adding: "If you have no digital business, you have no future... Money is made where content is viewed."

Despite the stark warnings, he insisted that he was optimistic about the future of journalism. Fake news, Señor contended, "will save journalism". He said declines in trust amid the welter of fake content would drive audiences to seek out credible voices for reliable content and these would pay for quality content they could count on.

"Newsrooms will have to move from the idea of being print or digital first to journalism first," he concluded, arguing that paying audiences would gravi-

tate to news organisations able to offer engaging, quality and insightful content as well as value-added services from events, business intelligence or investment tips, memberships, customised newsletters, books and even customer references and retail services.

A study on media viability published in May by the DW Akademie, a German media-related think-tank, draws a similar conclusion: "Media outlets are confronted with a sobering truth: They can no longer sustain themselves on advertising revenue alone."

Instead, they will have to have a range of revenues, spread across a variety of sources, to prevent over-reliance on any particular source of funds.

"The financial constraints are affecting the overall quality of journalism and the independence of journalists," the report says.

It notes: "In short, independent, high-quality journalism depends on a viable media sector. It requires a variety of sources - from money and infrastructure to community support and strategic alliances."

"Those who wish to impose restrictions on free media and manipulate the public debate often prey on imbalances or weaknesses in the media system. They often use economic means to set their agendas or limit access to information. Therefore, viable media are crucial players in the protection of freedom of expression as a whole."

Perhaps the most comprehensive study done to date on how best to secure the future of qual-

ity journalism was that undertaken recently by an independent commission in the United Kingdom led by former journalist-turned-academic Dame Frances Cairncross. In February it published a 160-page report entitled: "The Cairncross Review: A Sustainable Future For Journalism".

In a recent interview over the phone, she told me that her commission began by asking themselves some fundamental questions: Why should anyone care if media organisations survive? What would happen if they did not? Why should public funds be used to support them?

They figured that there was no compelling reason for taxpayers' money to be used to fund gossip and lifestyle columns, concert reviews or sports reports. "If people want these, they will have to pay for them," Cairncross says.

But, she is quick to add: "It is very important that a healthy democracy has ways in which individuals can follow what their elected representatives are doing on their behalf. And have trained intermediaries, which we call journalists, who can question those representatives and the institutions that they stand for so that we have questions being aired and their replies made available for people to read."

Cairncross sums this up as "public interest journalism", namely, the reporting on the "machinery of government and how well it is working", from the courts and legislature to local and state councils to school and statutory boards.

The public submissions and research which her commission compiled make clear that "a dearth of public interest news and

information, especially reporting of public authorities, can have dire democratic consequences".

Indeed, the presence of a printed newspaper widely available to the community, backed by a professional newsroom, often helps to focus minds on the need to be open and above board in public affairs, she notes, calling for further studies into this.

Studies show that without societal support, public interest news risks being crowded out by reports that draw wider audiences for their ability to shock and awe. Fake news also tends to spread faster and further for similar reasons.

How best to support public interest journalism? The commission made nine proposals in its report, submitted to the British government then led by Prime Minister Theresa May. Cairncross says whether the new government under PM Boris Johnson, a former journalist himself, will pursue them remains to be seen.

Yet, the ideas are of wider interest, since they might apply to other countries as well. First, the commission proposed a rebalancing of the relationship between publishers and online platforms, with codes of conduct drawn up and overseen by media regulators to govern the commercial relationships between media publishers and technology platforms.

Two: Investigating the online advertising market to study if it is working competitively and, if not, what should be done about it. Three: Setting up a news quality obligation that would require and regulate online platforms' commitment to delivering qual-

ity news.

Four: Boosting media literacy, with government agencies working with media players to help audiences navigate the increasingly complex information landscape, especially amid the proliferation of fake news.

Five: Helping local publishers which are most vulnerable, for example, through the state-funded BBC's sharing of some of its local content as well as technical expertise.

Six: Setting up an innovation fund with government support to boost innovation within media organisations.

Seven: Offering new forms of tax relief to media organisations, such as by extending zero-rating for value-added taxes to digital newspapers and magazines, or tax reliefs similar to those given to charities or film and other creative industries.

Eight: Funding public interest news with grants and sponsorship for local reporting and quality journalism projects.

Nine: Setting up an independent Institute for Public Interest News with a mission and mandate to ensure the sustainability of public interest news, including the implementation of the above proposals.

The report concluded: "Ultimately, the biggest challenge facing the sustainability of high-quality journalism and the press may be the same as that facing the sustainability of many areas of life: The digital revolution means that people have more claims on their attention than ever before."

"Moreover, the stories that they want to read may not always be the ones that they ought to read in order to ensure that a democracy can hold its public servants to account."

"This review has therefore dwelt on what it considers to be the most significant functions of journalism - ensuring public accountability and investigating possible wrongdoing. And whereas new business models may continue to support good journalism in many forms, they may not always support public interest news... so, this review proposes that most energy be given to the provision of public interest news."

"This will require new sources of funding, removed from government control. It will need institutional and financial structures that combine a guarantee of independence with adequate support."

"That will be a difficult combination to secure, but the future of a healthy democracy depends on it."

**Warren Fernandez is Editor-in-Chief of The Straits Times and President of the World Editors Forum.**

## South African youth choir lands record deal with Simon Conwell

By Vusi Ndaba

THE success of the Ndlovu Youth Choir and revelations about Justin Trudeau's predilection for blackface give us cause to reflect on a dark history of entertainment and how far we still have to go.

It's been a difficult few weeks for South Africa on many fronts, the lowlights being continuing violence against women and children and the shame of renewed attacks on fellow Africans. In this environment of negativity, the success of the Ndlovu Youth Choir was a shining light in media coverage.

And, indeed, the choir members deserve all the praise and congratulations heaped on them for reaching the finals of the highly competitive America's Got Talent TV show. On the face of it, and according to much, if not all, of the coverage, the choir represented Africa well and we should be proud of them.

I had never heard of the Ndlovu Youth Choir until their recent success. I'm also not a fan of talent search programmes like America's Got Talent, Idols and The Voice.

Among the reasons for my lack of interest is that these shows often sacrifice the search for true talent in favour of

cheap theatrics and talent-grabbing. Add to that the caricaturing of judges' personalities and the contestants' backstories, and the result is a very manufactured, Hollywood-style reality show that ultimately is more about clashes between stereotypes than the search for talent. It is exactly this promotion of caricatures and stereotypes that brought on my unease when I first heard of the choir's success at the initial stages of this year's competition.

By the time the choir had reached the final, the momentum of the story, the reporting and the social media hype around it meant I could no longer take only a passing interest. I had to see for myself what the sensation was about and, of course, I had to confirm whether my misgivings were justified.

What I found was a very talented and highly organised group of youngsters fearlessly giving it their all on an international stage. Mesmerising, professional, uncovering, these youths deserved every gesture of praise directed at them. But I also discovered that my fears were, indeed, valid.

"Ndlovu Youth Choir Bring African Dreams to America" is the title of the audition video. "Is this your first time in America? What does this mean to you?"

the judge prompts the youngster. "For me, this is a dream come true!" he responds to rapturous applause.

"Our dream is to let people around the world know that just because you're born into poverty it doesn't mean that you are poverty," pontificates the conductor, who whether through design or historic accident embodies the white messiah trope.

"My African Dream", "Waka Waka (It's time for Africa)" and Toto's "Africa" all served to lean heavily on the stereotype of the poor African children, a stereotype that has its genesis in the aid campaigns of the 1980s but whose legacy remains today in many Western countries where images of Africans are almost always in the context of poverty and the need for charity. Even when they sang Coldplay's "A Beautiful Day" the improvised lyric "see Africa in front of you" was smuggled in.

And so, through no fault of their own, the children came to be not a ground-breaking movement, but a typical pandering to the appetites of American audiences for exotic

acts and tired tropes and generalisations of Africa and Africans, reminding us of a sordid and painful history of black entertainment.

The choir joins an illustrious cast of performers whose love for their craft is poisoned by the imbalances, inequalities and racial prejudices of the paying audience. Josephine Baker, Bill "Bojangles" Robinson and many, many more had to sing and dance for their dinners, as most entertainers do, but unlike many entertainers they were also forced to caricature their "race", often in the most demeaning ways such as a having to wear or eat bananas on stage or wear blackface in case their faces weren't black enough.

Enter stage: Justin Trudeau, Canadian Prime Minister, in blackface to remind us that this is not the ancient history of a bygone era but a current phenomenon - and that it is not limited to a few dyed-in-the-wool racists in obscure physical and virtual locations but can reach the head of a relatively progressive country whose privileges have not served to instil a sense of abomination with regard

to extreme racialisation. At least on three occasions in his past, the G7 leader has been the composer, director and principal performer in his own minstrel shows.

We're only beginning to deal with the dark history of Africans being forced to entertain European and North American audiences in ways that strip them of their dignity, not only as entertainers but as people.

Our common psyche is still processing the horrific treatment of Africans as circus animals, as embodied in history by Saartjie Baartman, who suffered a life of sexual abuse on an industrial scale, all in the name of entertainment.

The choir made it all the way to the final but did not win. It could not win. There is no manufactured story compelling enough to square the circle of a show called America's Got Talent being won by an African choir. All the Ndlovu Youth Choir did was make the American audience feel good about itself, as they would while donating to some obscure African charity, without the need

to reflect on the role they as individuals and communities play in sustaining those inequalities.

In her poem "I know why the caged bird sings", published in 1983, Maya Angelou compares the sweet song of the free bird with the "fearful shrill" of the caged bird, reminding us that the burdens of captivity cannot be escaped by the well-intentioned entertainer.

Perhaps even more forcefully, Aimé Césaire writes: "Beware, my body and my soul, beware above all of crossing your arms and assuming the sterile attitude of the spectator, for life is not a spectacle, a sea of griefs is not a proscenium, and a man who wails is not a dancing bear."

For the choir, they are caged by the stereotypes they must conform to and by an indifferent audience. True freedom will be attained when they can perform any song about any subject, as a white youngster from any American city would be able to, with the comfort of knowing that they will be judged solely on their immense talent.

## BUSINESS



Wind turbines turn in a canola field in Western Cape Province, South Africa.

SUBSTITUTION

## South Africa's renewables sector growth can well be driven by coal's collapse

CAPE TOWN

This month, the official opposition in parliament, the Democratic Alliance, published an alert warning that coal stocks were running out and blackouts were inevitable. State-owned utility Eskom derives more than 90 per cent of its generating capacity from coal, and previous shortages have plunged the country into rolling power cuts countrywide.

"We must ease the licencing requirements for small scale renewable generation and allow municipalities to procure energy directly from IPPs," says Kevin Mileham, the Democratic Alliance shadow minister of mineral resources and energy. "Only in this way will South Africa's economy stand any chance of recovery."

Eskom is now scrambling to secure coal contracts to keep its power stations running. Although the country has plenty of coal, inept management and corruption at the utility resulted in many contracts lapsing. Now a new board is trying to reverse the deterioration of coal stocks.

South Africa has vast reserves of the carbon-based material, enough to supply Eskom for 200 years, according to the company's website. The country does have renewables with about 112 wind, photovoltaic solar and concentrated thermal solar plants. Small scale hydro and biogas stations are also part of the renewable mix. The first of these was opened in 2011 when the government held a series of open auctions to private energy companies to build, manage and own these plants.

At the time, Eskom had begun work on two mega coal plants, but the principal funder the World Bank insisted that renewables be introduced to the South African grid to lessen coal dependency. However, Eskom has struggled to complete the construction of the two coal plants and building costs have soared. So has Eskom's debt, to almost US\$30 billion.

Electricity prices have increased more than 400 per cent, threatening the country's mining and industrial sector. Mining and energy minister Gwede Mantashe admitted in parliament recently that energy-dependent heavy industry was in trouble because of electricity prices. "The reality of the matter is that we have to reduce the price of electricity," Mr Mantashe said. "It is killing manufacturing, it is killing mining, and it is killing furnaces."

However, Mr Mantashe also wants to renegotiate the original agreements with renewable providers. Many of these were signed more than a decade ago, when wind and solar were a lot costlier. Eskom claims it is paying independent power producers (IPP)

around 14 US cents per kilowatt hour (kWh). The tariff charged to Eskom's end users is only around 6 cents kWh.

According to Eskom's latest financial results, IPPs now account for 25 per cent of Eskom's operating costs, while producing only five per cent of the country's electricity. Eskom has therefore resisted adding new renewable generation to the power grid.

Energy experts have largely rejected Eskom laying the blame on renewables, and want it to licence even more projects, pointing to its expanding use in other African countries. "If Ethiopia can attract solar PV bids at US 2.5 cents per kWh, so should South Africa," says Anton Eberhard, an energy analyst and professor Emeritus at the University of Cape Town. "That's one third Eskom's average price."

Mr Eberhard says there is no excuse in delaying further rounds of renewable auctions. "South Africa urgently needs to contract more power to keep the lights on and, at these prices, Eskom will actually save money."

Eskom itself may have no choice but to embrace change. Banks in South Africa and abroad have stopped funding coal mines. Even the state-owned Development Bank of South Africa, which provides loans for large capital projects is urging greater reliance on renewables. "Any business leader who says there isn't a business case for renewables simply doesn't understand economics," says Mark Swilling the chairman of the Development Bank of South Africa, speaking at the Financing the Future conference in Cape Town this month.

Mining companies are also adapting by selling up existing operations. In September Bloomberg reported that Sasol, the coal-to-liquid fuel specialist was selling its \$1.4bn coal mining business.

Meanwhile the world's biggest producers of coal including BHP and Rio Tinto of Australia, and London listed Anglo American among others are winding down coal operations. South32, one of the largest coal producers in South Africa, has offered to sell its coal business for a token one dollar.

Internationally, South African exports of around 73 million tonnes of coal a year was also in decline as its major markets such as India reduce consumption in favour of renewables. "The global seaborne coal trade is set to go into permanent decline," says Simon Nicholas, an energy finance analyst for the Institute for Energy Economics and Financial Analysis based in the US. "South Africa will see increased competition in markets around the world from other major thermal-coal exporters such as Indonesia, Australia and Russia."

IMPRESSIVE

## SGA Security celebrating its 35th year by recognising loyal workers

By Guardian Reporter

PRIVATE security firm, SGA Security Limited marked its 35th birthday of operations in the country this week by recognising some of its longest serving staff and giving back to the community.

The company rewarded some of its longest serving employees while holding a seminar for its corporate customers on modern ways of combating security challenges. The event was attended by over 80 security managers of the leading companies and banks in the country.

Speaking during the event, SGA Managing Director, Eric Sambu said that the company is giving back to the society to mark its success in the country. Sambu said SGA has conducted free safety and security awareness trainings in 12 schools in Dar es Salaam, covering over 2,000 pupils as part of its CSR. The awareness covered fire, first aid, environment, health, and general security.

The company which currently employs over 5,800 people, making it one of the largest security companies in the country, has created a 'Club 20' whose members are employees who have served the company for more than 20 years. As part of the celebration, the company recognised over 16 longest serving employees who proceeded for retirement.

"SGA was the first company to operate as a private security company in Tanzania and it has proven that taking care of staff in the key to succeeding in security business," Sambu said.

"With a workforce of over 18,000 in the group, key in our mission and values, is the people. We invest heavily in training and we ensure that we pay above the market rates to motivate and retain our key resources", he added.



SGA Security managing director Eric Sambu (L) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the firm's 35th anniversary of service in Tanzania. He is with customers and communication Manager Aikande Makere. Photo courtesy of SGA

He explained that the company is celebrating its 35th anniversary in the country and has witnessed tremendous growth, especially in the last five years, due to reforms in its internal processes.

The SGA Managing Director further noted that the key to their success has been employees who he termed as loyal, honest and diligent in performance of their duties.

"The recent happenings in the local business environment has provided us with a learning opportunity and a chance to empower all our employees at all levels to align all our operations to focus on the customer requirements, as dictated by the new status," he stated.

"We are continuously reengineering our processes, investing in technology and people to ensure that we get it right always," he added.

The company has maintained its ISO certification on Quality Management System since 2001 and has just been certified with Occupational Health and Safety ISO 45001 Standard and SGA is in the final stages of acquiring ISO 18788 on Security Management Operations System, a first for any security company operating in Tanzania.

"With a fleet of 224 vehicles and 12 established regional bases with fully-fledged control rooms and motivated personnel to man all these,

we have the necessary infrastructure to support all customers anywhere in the country," Sambu bragged.

Seconding his boss, SGA Human Resources Manager, Ebenezer Kaale said the bulk of the longest serving employees are working in their cash in transit department, a critical department demanding high levels of integrity and professionalism.

"With huge success in cash operations, where the company commands over 90 percent of the market, employees take full credit for this achievement, which is the reason for this celebration," Kaale said.

SGA Customer Relations Manager, Aikande Makere

explained that the company's work will be easy when the points of contacts are up to date with the latest skills to tackle the ever-dynamic security challenges.

"SGA prides itself with high retention of its customers due to its ability to tailor made services to suit unique requirements of its customers," Makere said while pointing out that the secret behind the company's success is empowering employees through regular skills upgrading.

With over 80 employees having worked for more than 20 years, in an industry known for high turnover, the company has also earned praises from senior police officials.

COMPETITIVENESS

## Flavoured beer gets young drinkers back

NAIROBI

For the old generation, beer is beer. However, for drinkers in their 20s and 30s, beer is a beverage that ought to not necessarily have a dense and harsh mouthfeel. It may be brownish but taste like ginger or mango, be gluten-free or even be easily mixed with whisky.

And it is this new generation of beer drinkers that brewers are targeting. Their palates may not be as experienced to pick the best beers but they are pushing demand for alcohol with premium flavour and subtle aroma.

At a beer festival in Nairobi two weeks ago, there were over 35 types of beers and ciders, attracting thousands of young drinkers. "This was the second Nairobi Beer Festival, an annual event that celebrates the beer industry. We had over 2,500 people attending compared to last year's 1,800 people. Every year, the number keeps growing," said Noam Orr, of Baraka Events that was a partner event organiser.

The future of beer consumption is expected to be more fragmented and individualised, prompting brewers to introduce flavours that cater for the ever-adventurous drinkers. In the beer festival, there was everything from different types of Tuskers to others like Tuborg, Carlsberg, Amstel, Desperados, a tequila-flavoured beer, Alska Cider and Kenyan Originals Cider.

Craft brews available included Sierra, Big Five Breweries and 254 Beer. 254 Beer is a new craft brew set to be launched in the Kenyan market. "We are not yet available in the market as we are still conducting research," said Gerald Bukhala, the marketing and operations manager of the soon-to-be new entrant which had pitched tent at the Nairobi's Westlands venue for Kenyans to have a taste.

So why is beer still enjoying popularity, even among the young?



A model admires a TuskerPremiumAle bottle after its launch in Nairobi recently.

Whisky, gin or cognac may seem fashionable to these young drinkers but Gerald said beer is still on demand because it allows drinkers to gradually progress from one bottle to the next.

"Unlike other types of alcoholic drinks, when you drink beer, it takes you on a gradual journey, bottle by bottle. It's not a drink that will lead you to wake up the following morning with bits of your memory from the previous night missing," he said.

Mark Maina, the shopper manager, premium beer, EABL attributes heritage as a factor that has made beer

to stand the test of time. "We grew up seeing our fathers, uncles and their friends drinking beer. Our first interaction with alcohol growing up was beer and for a long time in Kenya, alcohol has been pseudonymous with beer. The entrance of spirits, wine and other alcoholic drinks is quite recent and beer just speaks to the larger demographic of the Kenyan population," he said.

"The fact that beer is also the common first drink that introduces people to alcohol makes it a timeless drink," he added. On average, the alcohol by volume (ABV) in

beer is between four to 10 percent, which makes it less harsh, more palatable, and an easier drink compared to others, Mark said.

With a growing beer market, international brands and craft brewers are set to expand their market presence through local subsidiaries and distributors, to target the rising population of millennials with varying tastes and preferences. Already, craft beer has found space in five-star restaurants, unlike before.

Despite the availability of many brands in bars and restaurants, and the fight to retain consumers and gain a competitive advantage, Gerald of 254 Beer believes there is room for more players as beer is becoming more diverse.

"Our target is all beer enthusiasts and curious beer lovers who want to experiment with new flavours and we believe there is a positive outlook to where beer can go. Craft beer is pegged on quality as opposed to quantity and that what makes it different. We have 27 different types of craft beer. We believe there's a beer for everyone, and this is how we plan to stand against other established brands," he said. A challenge that Gerald mentions they face is introducing craft beer to traditional beer drinkers.

"While doing tastings, I have found that there is a group of people who are a bit sceptical of craft beer and this is only because they are used to their go-to drinks and are not sure whether they

will like the new flavours that craft beers offer. During the tastings, we share all the necessary information about our processes and once the guests have a taste, some end up liking it," said Gerald.

Swiss cider  
Christopher Rich, a Swedish importer who has been in the business for three years, brought the light and fruity cider called Ålska into the Kenyan market, as an alternative alcohol for women in Nairobi.

"At the time, I realised there weren't many options for women who did not like beer at clubs. The prices of wine by the glass in Nairobi clubs was high and this cider bridges this gap," he said, adding that his stay and doing business in Nairobi has proven Kenya to be a beer-drinking nation.

"Someone who drinks whiskies and spirits in Kenya is considered more of an alcohol lover as opposed to someone who drinks beer. So the perception of beer is that it is not such a bad thing and this is because beer was the predominant drink in Kenya for a very long time," he said.

As an importer, his biggest challenge, just like the many who bring in craft beers from around the world, package them in Kenya, is the high taxes that he has to pass onto his customers.

"As much as I would wish to sell a can of 500ml beer at a favourable cost the taxation cost is a huge hindrance," he said. The cider is sold in local supermarkets for about Sh400 a can, just like most premium brands.

## STRATEGY

# How we can win battle against treatment-resistant malaria

By Dr Nathan Mulure

The history of resistance to antimalarials in Africa is not a happy one. At one time, chloroquine was the leading recommended treatment against malaria. Resistance to this medicine first emerged in Southeast Asia in the late 1950s, and then spread to Africa over the next 30 years, devastating the fight against the disease.

The same fate followed for successor antimalarials such as sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine and mefloquine - the malaria parasite developed resistance, treatment frequently failed, and death rates spiraled in the 1980s and 1990s.

Since then, the introduction of the latest generation of antimalarials, artemisinin combination therapies (ACTs) - originally developed by Novartis - has given us effective treatment again. With combination therapies, the probability of resistance is greatly reduced, as the parasite must simultaneously develop resistance to two drugs.

Together with big investments in prevention tools like bed-nets, we now have malaria on the run. So much so that the World Health



Artemisinin combination therapies from Novartis are also said to failing to treat Malaria effectively.

Organization has developed targets stating that we can eliminate malaria in many countries - including Tanzania and Kenya - by 2030.

However, getting to these ambitious targets is not going to be plain sailing. A new study has suggested malaria resistant to ACTs was spreading faster than expected in Southeast Asia. The researchers said the findings raise

the "terrifying prospect" that drug resistance could spread to Africa. This fear is in line with the results of a Novartis-commissioned survey called Malaria Futures for Africa which surveyed African leaders in the fight against malaria in 15 countries.

Some of those interviewed expressed concerns that resistance to ACTs could spread to Africa. One interviewee made the point that

vastly increased trade between Asia and Africa makes it more likely that resistance could spread at an even faster rate than in the past.

So what can we do? The first step is to tackle the problem at its source, in Southeast Asia, through to finishing the job of malaria elimination in those countries affected by ACT resistance. This is happening but will take time.

In Africa, we need to make sure we are monitoring effectively to discover resistance as soon as it emerges, and ideally only give ACTs to patients who have had a test to make sure they have malaria as using antimalarials unnecessarily can often lead to resistance.

As they lack previous exposure to malaria, children are less able to fight the parasite and thus worse hit when infected - they get more ill, and are much more likely to die than adults. Compounding this, recent studies say only a minority of children are getting proper diagnosis and the right treatment.

We also need continued investment in R&D for new antimalarials that are ready for use if and when resistance becomes widespread. This investment must happen now, as it takes many years to put new treatments through the various tests and trials needed to make them available to the public. Needless to say, malaria resistance can also develop de novo here in Africa, therefore, we must remain ever vigilant.

As children are especially vulnerable, Novartis led the way

in creating the first child-friendly ACT in 2009. A decade on, the company has distributed over 370 million child treatments in sub-Saharan Africa at no-profit. Novartis is working with partners to start a research program to extend current treatments for use in babies weighing under 5kg - one of the most vulnerable groups.

The company is also working with the Medicines for Malaria Venture, a not-for-profit product development partnership, to develop two new antimalarials - medicines which may offer the simplicity and impact of a single dose cure. If successful in clinical trials, these will be critical additional tools if resistance starts becoming widespread in Africa.

We also need to think about better prevention tools - in particular, the need for new insecticides, as mosquitoes have become resistant to many of those commonly now used. Malaria has been a foe of

mankind for millennia. It is a very wily parasite, which has shown an astonishing ability to defend itself against modern science. But we have made great strides in defeating it over the last few decades.

Many countries have already eliminated malaria from within their borders. Recently, the World Health Organization declared Egypt and Algeria malaria free. Several years ago, Sri Lanka, a country once ravaged by malaria, managed to eliminate the disease.

However, there is still much work to do as many countries have yet to make significant strides towards elimination. Indications are that coordinated efforts from partners in all sectors need to be deployed. With sufficient investment and political will, we can make malaria a memory for our grandchildren.

NB: Nathan Mulure is Head of the East and Southern Africa Cluster for Novartis Social Business.

## FITNESS

## What we've achieved at the gym

NAIROBI

Sticking to an exercise regime year in, year out can be hard. Most people drop out of gyms after months or years.

Others religiously exercise but never lose the weight that they hoped to. BDLife talked to three fitness enthusiasts on what they have achieved so far by going to the gym.

Durane Muriithi  
"Believe it or not, I started working out because of idleness. This was about a year after finishing high school back in 2015. My friend and I decided to kill time in the gym before joining campus. Who would have thought that bodybuilding would become a lifestyle? I've been committed ever since. My current weight is at 84 kgs. I started at 63 kgs. I go to the gym five days a week, mostly in the evenings.

My favourite workouts involve exercising the chest and arms. When I started exercising, my appetite increased. Before, I would eat the standard three meals a day. Now, I eat four or five solid meals a day, which must have carbohydrates, protein, vitamins and healthy fats. Additionally, I drink a minimum of two litres of water a day.

I cut down on sugars and junk foods, but not entirely. I cut down on alcohol intake as well. I am very particular with what I allow inside my body.

Clothes from five years ago don't fit well. I had to get a few sizes bigger and give away the old ones. My physical appearance changed as I've gained muscle. Mentally, I feel better. I am more confident.

There is no better feeling than someone telling me, 'you were the reason I started working out', 'because of you I didn't give up', or 'I want to look like you.' Such comments motivate me to keep doing what I'm doing.

Exercising allows one to let off stress from work, school or relationships. It also helps with weight loss and muscle gain, depending on your goal, and can reduce risk of chronic diseases.



A gym in Westlands, Nairobi.

Nothing worthwhile ever comes easy. It isn't easy to lose weight and it isn't easy to build muscle. Be patient, disciplined and committed. As at the end of the day, great things take time. Having started exercising young, I hope to sustain working out into my 50s."

Christine Ekuam  
"I'm a marketer and a student. I started going to the gym in July to get mental clarity. I was at a point where I was tired and unmotivated to do the bare minimum. So I decided to find something that would improve my overall well-being. I weighed 66 kgs when I started and I have since lost five kgs.

I prefer to work out in the morning from 5.30am. I believe that starting the day with a good workout, makes you feel energetic throughout. I also make a point of going to the gym three to four times a week. The treadmill

is my absolute favourite in the gym.

For dietary change, I reduced my portions and stopped taking dairy. I eat more fruits and vegetables since I started working out. The gym has greatly helped with increasing my energy levels, which in turn makes me perform my daily tasks better.

I started noticing the physical changes too. Other people did as well and complemented me, something that greatly boosted my confidence. I generally feel healthier and happier. It is a bit challenging at first, but once you get the hang of it, your physical and mental health will improve drastically."

Handa Patrick  
"I work as a media manager. I've been going to the gym consistently since high school. At first, my goal was to be fit to play rugby. But my

perception has evolved over the years. I used to weigh 78 kgs. I've built a lot of muscle over the years, now I am 91 kgs.

I prefer working out in the morning because I believe it is the best way to kick-start the day. Evening exercises make me tired. I find it easier to wake up early and work out, than look in the mirror each day and not like the excess weight or fats.

I'm at the gym at least three times a week. My favourite exercises are squats as they really help with the core muscles. Since I started going to the gym, I avoid unhealthy foods. Also, I sleep early so that I can get ample time for muscle recovery.

Physically, I am in good shape, which I believe it is one step closer to confidence. Mentally, working out has taught me to never give up and to push boundaries in all that I do. Emotionally,

I am able to release tension through working out. For me, the gym has more than just physical benefits - it is therapeutic.

The gym can help you discipline yourself in whatever you want to achieve and give you a very strong mind set. Once you treat your body well, it will treat you even better. I'm in my 20s and I hope to sustain exercising into my 50s because it is a lifestyle to me.

It reduces chances of getting chronic diseases when old by improving insulin sensitivity, cardiovascular fitness and body composition, yet decrease blood pressure and fat levels. Who doesn't want to look good in their 50s? My dad for example, has that drive to work out even in his 50s, he takes gym as an avenue to stay disciplined and young. When you look good, you feel good."

## PARTNERSHIP

## UN Alliance of Civilisations and Turkish Airlines ink pact to boost co-existence culture

By Guardian Reporter

AN agreement to bridge the global divide through promotion of a culture of peace and co-existence among global communities has been signed between Turkish Airlines and United Nations Alliance of Civilisations (UNAOC).

In a statement this week, Turkish Airlines said under the deal it plans to draw the eyes of the international community to a global mission with UNAOC, the organization based in New York with a mission statement of bridging divides and promoting a culture of peace among people and nations.

Through a joint project under the name of 'Sport for Peace Awards', the deal will use the unifying effect of sport and its power of inspiring and bringing people together from all around the world for promoting more inclusive and peaceful societies as a driving force.

During the project, an award ceremony will be held for the sport for peace and development initiatives selected by an international jury to promote international recognition and visibility, while prominent names from sports, art and business worlds along with opinion leaders will be brought together to draw the eyes of the world to global opportunities and challenges.

During the signing ceremony of the strategic cooperation which was witnessed by Turkish President, Recep Tayyip Erdoğan and the United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres, Turkish Airlines Chairman of the board and the executive committee, İker Ayçi said the deal will enable visibility of the UNAOC as the airline flies passengers to 316 destinations in 126 countries.

"These connections are more than just

passageways for the transportation sector. As the flag carrier airline that utilizes Turkey's unique geography that bridges the East and the West and brings them together on an intersection point for centuries, we reach different communities and build bridges between different societies and civilizations with these connections along with our numerous collaborations with prominent brands, organizations and NGOs," Ayçi said.

"We see this as a highly significant mission assigned us by this unique geography where we breathe in over the centuries. In order to properly carry out this mission and to further strengthen our capability in this regard, we continue to work on various projects by dwelling on more innovative and far-reaching options more particularly," the Turkish Airlines Board Chairman.

He said following meetings with UNAOC during the past months, the Istanbul based airliner reached a significant collaboration agreement for an important project that will be highly beneficial to mankind.

United Nations Alliance of Civilisations High Representative, Miguel Ángel Moratinos who signed on behalf of the world body said Turkish Airlines, which has been accepted as a permanent supporter of sports both on local and international scale, is an ideal partner of UNAOC.

"We strongly believe that sports have a strong unifying power on different societies and communities from all around the world. From this point of view, we are sure that this strong feature of sports will enable us to reach the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the 2030 Agenda to provide an important added value to the world peace via this valuable project," Moratinos said.



Turkish Airlines Board Chair, İker Ayçi (L) and UNAOC High Representative, Miguel Moratinos signing a collaboration agreement in New York earlier this week. Witnessing the event behind them are Turkish President, Recep Erdoğan (L) and United Nations Secretary-General, António Guterres.

CREATIVITY

# How Sydney's first hummus bar is spreading message of peace



Yoash Dvir founded Simply Hummus after finding success at Sydney's vegan market.

SYDNEY

Peace on a plate. That's what Yoash Dvir is serving up at his hummus bar in Sydney, the first eatery of its kind in the Australian city. "I have an Israeli salad, a Lebanese-style hummus with Lebanese tahini, we serve Turkish coffee, one of my best clients is Egyptian and we're friendly with everyone, especially the Syrian restaurants up the road," says Dvir, as he shows me around Simply Hummus in the city's upscale Darlinghurst district. The tiny venue is as simple as the name suggests - it's decked out with lanterns and fairy lights, and a small cluster of tables has been squeezed into the narrow space.

Dvir, 40, grew up near Tel Aviv, but moved to Australia after his wife, a tech expert, was seconded to Sydney about two years ago from New York, where they had been living. Upon their arrival Down Under, Dvir, a former lawyer, spotted a gap in the foodie landscape.

"There was no hummus bar, and as a businessman I thought it was a good opportunity," he explains. "In the Middle East there are a lot of hummus places, so I said 'let's open one.'" Dvir knows many other Middle Easterners who shared his dream. "I talked about it for a year before I did it," he says. "Everyone said someone should open a hummus bar. I was that someone."

He happily admits he was not much more than his wife's sous chef in the kitchen at home prior to this new venture, but he soon set about finding a recipe he liked, testing it at some of the city's popular weekend markets, including Sydney Vegan Market.

"I had never cooked hummus before, so I started looking for recipes. I bought a book about hummus and started cooking. I found some recipes I liked, and after 40 iterations I got the recipe and concept I have today."

While everyone has a different idea of what makes a good chickpea paste, Dvir has opted for a chunkier version of the dish he's used to. "The texture we have here is more of the Lebanese kind - it's more 'liquidy'

and chunky, not so smooth. In the Middle East you get it very smooth, very liquidy, but it's also much heavier." But Australians don't like heavy dips, he says. "It needs to be light and easy for them."

By catering to this market, he hopes his customers will help him realise his next dream of expanding the business.

"I want more," he says confidently. "Melbourne is a great spot, Brisbane is a great spot, Cairns is a great spot - it's hot all year round up there and hummus is a great thing to eat with a cold drink." His next destination, however, will be Bondi for the summer, when he'll serve hummus at lunch only throughout the season.

Thankfully, so far, interest in Dvir's humble hummus bar has exceeded his early expectations, and while he's proud to be the first entrepreneur to dip his feet into the market, he says his success has been a case of trial and error.

"I didn't know how much hummus I would need when I first started. In the beginning I cooked, and because no one knows about

you it's best to keep a little bit on hand and if you run out, you run out," he explains. "I cook chickpeas, but I don't blend them as hummus. We do it to order, blending 12 to 15 dishes at a time."

Every day is different, so Dvir says it's tough to estimate how much stock he might go through. During his stints at the vegan market, for example, 700 bowls of falafel flew off the stall table in one day. That's a whopping 15 kilograms of chickpeas.

"The tahini, I get from the Lebanese guys at Auburn [a district of Sydney], and how much I use depends on the day. The markets showed me how to take the small cooking at home and take it to mass production."

And while he can take the credit for being the first to open a dedicated hummus bar in the harbour city, Dvir says he'd welcome others to join him. "I would be happy to see more of them popping up. The thing is, I am the first one and no one can take that away from me."

EXPANSION

# 'Serious' space programme lures leading US firm to UAE

ABU DHABI

A world-leading space company is opening its first office in Abu Dhabi after being lured to the UAE by the country's ambitious cosmic exploration programme.

NanoRacks, a Houston firm which offers commercial private satellite launch and research services, is to open a base on Al Maryah Island, as part of the new Hub71 initiative which is designed to offer a home to technology companies.

The company was involved with a partnership with the Mohammed bin Rashid Space Centre in which Emirati students were offered the chance to have their experiments in microgravity carried out in space.

The company chief executive, Jeffrey Manber, said the UAE's space plans, which hit a major milestone this week when Hazza Al Mansouri became the first Emirati in space, had helped persuade NanoRacks to move into Abu Dhabi.

"They are serious about becoming a space-faring nation," Mr Manber told The New York Times. "I also like the fact, to be candid, that

they comfortably work with Russia, they comfortably work with China and they comfortably work with the United States and the European Space Agency. I think that is a model for the future."

The company is also attracted by what it sees as a growing space sector in the UAE and the wider region, and will offer comprehensive technical support to customers. The Hub71 initiative is aiming to become home to over 100 technology start-ups by 2021, with the plan forming part of Abu Dhabi's wider Ghadan 21 economic reform package designed to lessen the emirates' economic dependence on oil.

Last November, NanoRacks helped launch a CubeSat, a type of miniature satellite which was developed and built by students at Khalifa University. NanoRacks has also partnered with the UAE on a project to grow an Emirati palm tree in space.

"The teams in the UAE, especially the Space Agency, have been excellent partners as NanoRacks develops in the region, and we're beyond excited to grow with the

nation as space exploration becomes a part of the local DNA," said Allen Herbert, the firm's vice president of business development and strategy.

"NanoRacks mission is to make the wonders of space accessible to everyone around the world, and we can't wait to explore the universe with the incredible institutions, agencies, companies, and students in the region."

"Our work in the region is just getting started. Over the next few months, we plan to have a lot of exciting announcements, including new customers, partnerships, and programmes." Among the companies which have already announced joining Hub71 is WeWork, a US office space rental firm which plans to assist tech companies and academics early next year.

"It's very exciting to have our first US space tech company on board," said Mahmoud Adi, head of Hub71. "Hub71 aims to be home to globally enduring tech companies like NanoRacks who are eager to capitalise on the regions' commercial opportunities."



**ISIDINGO** MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

ITV

SATURDAY 28 Sept		SUNDAY 29 Sept		MONDAY 30 Sept		TUESDAY 01 Oct		WEDNESDAY 02 Oct		THURSDAY 03 Oct		FRIDAY 04 Oct	
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha	6:40	Kumekucha
7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari
8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera
9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu
10:00	Mjue Zaidi rpt	10:00	Mjue Zaidi rpt	10:00	Mjue Zaidi rpt	10:00	Mjue Zaidi rpt	10:00	Mjue Zaidi rpt	10:00	Mjue Zaidi rpt	10:00	Mjue Zaidi rpt
10:45	Uwazi wako rpt	10:45	Uwazi wako rpt	10:45	Uwazi wako rpt	10:45	Uwazi wako rpt	10:45	Uwazi wako rpt	10:45	Uwazi wako rpt	10:45	Uwazi wako rpt
11:15	Shamba lulu rpt	11:15	Shamba lulu rpt	11:15	Shamba lulu rpt	11:15	Shamba lulu rpt	11:15	Shamba lulu rpt	11:15	Shamba lulu rpt	11:15	Shamba lulu rpt
11:45	Series rpt: The Slingshot	11:45	Series rpt: The Slingshot	11:45	Series rpt: The Slingshot	11:45	Series rpt: The Slingshot	11:45	Series rpt: The Slingshot	11:45	Series rpt: The Slingshot	11:45	Series rpt: The Slingshot
14:00	Kesho leo rpt	14:00	Kesho leo rpt	14:00	Kesho leo rpt	14:00	Kesho leo rpt	14:00	Kesho leo rpt	14:00	Kesho leo rpt	14:00	Kesho leo rpt
14:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	14:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	14:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	14:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	14:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	14:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	14:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo
15:00	Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	15:00	Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	15:00	Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	15:00	Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	15:00	Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	15:00	Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	15:00	Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
15:15	Igizo: Utezezi rpt	15:15	Igizo: Utezezi rpt	15:15	Igizo: Utezezi rpt	15:15	Igizo: Utezezi rpt	15:15	Igizo: Utezezi rpt	15:15	Igizo: Utezezi rpt	15:15	Igizo: Utezezi rpt
16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania
17:00	Shamsham za Pwani	17:00	Shamsham za Pwani	17:00	Shamsham za Pwani	17:00	Shamsham za Pwani	17:00	Shamsham za Pwani	17:00	Shamsham za Pwani	17:00	Shamsham za Pwani
18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi
18:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	18:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	18:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	18:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	18:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	18:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo	18:30	Igizo rpt: Pigo la moyo
19:00	Sanaa na wasanii	19:00	Sanaa na wasanii	19:00	Sanaa na wasanii	19:00	Sanaa na wasanii	19:00	Sanaa na wasanii	19:00	Sanaa na wasanii	19:00	Sanaa na wasanii
19:30	Jungu Kuu	19:30	Jungu Kuu	19:30	Jungu Kuu	19:30	Jungu Kuu	19:30	Jungu Kuu	19:30	Jungu Kuu	19:30	Jungu Kuu
20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari
21:00	Shangweka	21:00	Shangweka	21:00	Shangweka	21:00	Shangweka	21:00	Shangweka	21:00	Shangweka	21:00	Shangweka
21:30	Kesho leo	21:30	Kesho leo	21:30	Kesho leo	21:30	Kesho leo	21:30	Kesho leo	21:30	Kesho leo	21:30	Kesho leo
22:15	Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja	22:15	Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja	22:15	Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja	22:15	Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja	22:15	Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja	22:15	Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja	22:15	Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja
22:15	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:15	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:15	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:15	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:15	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:15	Hawavumi lakini wamo	22:15	Hawavumi lakini wamo
23:00	Isidingo rpt	23:00	Isidingo rpt	23:00	Isidingo rpt	23:00	Isidingo rpt	23:00	Isidingo rpt	23:00	Isidingo rpt	23:00	Isidingo rpt
01:30	CNN International	01:30	CNN International	01:30	CNN International	01:30	CNN International	01:30	CNN International	01:30	CNN International	01:30	CNN International
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7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari	7:00	Habari
8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera	8:00	Al Jazeera
9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu	9:00	Watoto wetu
10:00	Isidingo	10:00	Isidingo	10:00	Isidingo	10:00	Isidingo	10:00	Isidingo	10:00	Isidingo	10:00	Isidingo
11:45	Aibu Yako	11:45	Aibu Yako	11:45	Aibu Yako	11:45	Aibu Yako	11:45	Aibu Yako	11:45	Aibu Yako	11:45	Aibu Yako
11:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	11:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	11:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	11:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	11:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	11:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	11:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt
12:50	Bongo Movie rpt: Friends	12:50	Bongo Movie rpt: Friends	12:50	Bongo Movie rpt: Friends	12:50	Bongo Movie rpt: Friends	12:50	Bongo Movie rpt: Friends	12:50	Bongo Movie rpt: Friends	12:50	Bongo Movie rpt: Friends
14:00	Tamasha la Michezo	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo	14:00	Tamasha la Michezo
15:00	Mwangaza	15:00	Mwangaza	15:00	Mwangaza	15:00	Mwangaza	15:00	Mwangaza	15:00	Mwangaza	15:00	Mwangaza
16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania	16:00	Mr Tanzania
16:45	Igizo: Utezezi	16:45	Igizo: Utezezi	16:45	Igizo: Utezezi	16:45	Igizo: Utezezi	16:45	Igizo: Utezezi	16:45	Igizo: Utezezi	16:45	Igizo: Utezezi
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18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu	18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi	18:15	Mapishi
18:30	Mizengwe rpt	18:30	Mizengwe rpt	18:30	Mizengwe rpt	18:30	Mizengwe rpt	18:30	Mizengwe rpt	18:30	Mizengwe rpt	18:30	Mizengwe rpt
18:45	Matukio ya wiki	18:45	Matukio ya wiki	18:45	Matukio ya wiki	18:45	Matukio ya wiki	18:45	Matukio ya wiki	18:45	Matukio ya wiki	18:45	Matukio ya wiki
19:30	Igizo: Pigo la moyo	19:30	Igizo: Pigo la moyo	19:30	Igizo: Pigo la moyo	19:30	Igizo: Pigo la moyo	19:30	Igizo: Pigo la moyo	19:30	Igizo: Pigo la moyo	19:30	Igizo: Pigo la moyo
20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari	20:00	Habari
21:05	Biko	21:05	Biko	21:05	Biko	21:05	Biko	21:05	Biko	21:05	Biko	21:05	Biko
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21:30	Mjue Zaidi	21:30	Mjue Zaidi	21:30	Mjue Zaidi	21:30	Mjue Zaidi	21:30	Mjue Zaidi	21:30	Mjue Zaidi	21:30	Mjue Zaidi
22:15	Bongo Movie: Lerato	22:15	Bongo Movie: Lerato	22:15	Bongo Movie: Lerato	22:15	Bongo Movie: Lerato	22:15	Bongo Movie: Lerato	22:15	Bongo Movie: Lerato	22:15	Bongo Movie: Lerato
00:30	Series rpt: The Slingshot	00:30	Series rpt: The Slingshot	00:30	Series rpt: The Slingshot	00:30	Series rpt: The Slingshot	00:30	Series rpt: The Slingshot	00:30	Series rpt: The Slingshot	00:30	Series rpt: The Slingshot
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI	6:00	HABARI
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7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI	7:30	HABARI
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## WORLD

# Democrats appeal for more witnesses to come forward about Trump-Ukraine matter

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATS are urging people who might have more information about President Donald Trump's effort to persuade Ukraine to investigate political rival Joe Biden to come forward as Trump struggles to contain the fallout from the scandal.

A whistleblower report, released on Thursday, said Trump not only abused his office in attempting to solicit Ukraine's interference in the 2020 U.S. election for his political benefit, but that the White House tried to "lock down" evidence about that conduct.

At issue is a July 25 phone call that Trump had with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to congratulate him on his election victory.

In the call, according to a summary released by the Trump administration on Wednesday, Trump asked Zelenskyy to investigate Biden and his son Hunter, who worked for a Ukrainian gas company for several years.

Trump has repeatedly suggested wrongdoing by Biden and his son but has offered no evidence to back up the assertion.

Biden, a former vice president, is a leading contender in the Democratic race to take on Trump in the 2020 presidential election.

A growing number of Democrats say

the call was an abuse of Trump's position and want to see him impeached. But the chances of the Republican president being removed from office look slim since his party controls the Senate where an impeachment trial would be held.

Democrat Adam Schiff, who chairs the House of Representatives Intelligence Committee and is one of Trump's biggest opponents, called for more people to come forward who have knowledge of the Ukraine case.

"I'm hoping that these witnesses will choose to cooperate, will volunteer. But I have to say I am deeply worried now that the president, on the eve of our hearing or during our hearing, was threatening these witnesses," Schiff told CNN on Thursday.

Schiff spoke after Trump said he wanted to know who provided information to the whistleblower, according to an audio recording provided to the Los Angeles Times by an attendee.

"I want to know who's the person, who's the person who gave the whistleblower the information. Because that's close to a spy," Trump can be heard saying on the recording, made during his remarks in New York on Thursday to staff from the U.S. mission to the United Nations.

"You know what we used to do in the old days when we were smart?"



U.S. House Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff (D-CA) speaks as Joseph Maguire, acting director of national intelligence, testifies during a House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, on Capitol Hill in Washington, U.S., on Thursday. REUTERS

Right? The spies and treason, we used to handle it a little differently than we do now," Trump said. The White House did not dispute the comments.

"Threats of violence from the leader of our country have a chilling effect on the entire whistleblower process, with grave consequences for our democracy and national security," said a joint statement on Thursday night by three Democratic House committee chairmen - Schiff, Eliot Engel of Foreign Affairs and Elijah Cummings of Oversight.

## 'HERE WE GO AGAIN'

"It's another witch hunt. Here we go again," Trump told reporters on Thursday, assailing House Speaker Nancy Pelosi's Democrats for launching an impeachment inquiry into him this week.

Trump and his Republican allies say he was simply leaning on Zelenskyy to carry out his own campaign promise to root out corruption in Ukraine.

Still, Trump's political allies are worried, given that the impeachment inquiry will likely lead to weeks or months of negative media coverage of Trump and distract from his re-election bid.

The inquiry is casting a new pall over his presidency just months after he emerged from the dark cloud cast by Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into whether he colluded with Russia in the 2016 election.

Three U.S. House committees said they would issue subpoenas to the White House and State Department as soon as Friday if the Trump administration misses a deadline to send a wide range of documents related to its dealings with Ukraine.

The House Foreign Affairs, Intelligence and Oversight committees launched an investigation into the matter early this month, before news broke about the whistleblower complaint that helped lead Pelosi to announce the formal impeachment investigation.

In a letter on Sept. 9, the chairmen of the three committees set a Sept. 26 deadline for the documents to be handed over, and threatened to issue subpoenas if their request was not met.

Schiff set a Friday deadline for Attorney General William Barr to hand over a range of materials, including a legal opinion or analysis related to the whistleblower complaint and Justice Department communications and correspondent about the complaint.

Agencies

# China promises all-out efforts to protect African countries' interests

UNITED NATIONS

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said on Thursday that China will make all-out efforts to "do whatever the African brothers expect from us and whatever is in their interests."

The world today faces major changes unseen in a century, and the most important change is that a large number of developing countries, including China and those in Africa, have been on the fast track of development, Wang said.

China has stood firmly with its African brothers all along, Wang said during a meeting with the foreign ministers of Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea and South Africa -- members of the United Nations (UN) Security Council, and Niger and Tunisia, incoming members of the UN Security Council, on the sidelines of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly high-level events week.

Wang said reflecting Africa's appeals, addressing its concerns and safeguarding its interests are the central focus of China's work on the council as African countries are the most important and most trusted



Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi (C) meets with the foreign ministers of Cote d'Ivoire, Equatorial Guinea and South Africa -- members of the United Nations (UN) Security Council, and Niger and Tunisia, incoming members of the UN Security Council, on the sidelines of the 74th session of the UN General Assembly high-level events week at the UN headquarters in New York, on Thursday. (Xinhua)

partners of China since the first day that China joined the council.

In the face of the new situation, China is ready to work with African countries at the Security Council to strengthen solidarity and coordination, and safeguard common interests, Wang said, adding that together the countries will make new and greater contributions to world peace and development.

Wang said important consensus was reached at the meeting as all parties are supportive of safeguard-

ing multilateralism, strengthening the authority and role of the United Nations, upholding the purposes and principles of the UN Charter, and opposing unilateralism and bullying.

"We have all agreed to enhance mutual support and cooperation between China and Africa in UN and Security Council affairs, and safeguard the common interests of China, Africa and other developing countries," said Wang.

It is supported by all that African

countries should solve African issues in the African way and the UN should provide financial support for independent peace operations in Africa, according to Wang.

He added that the concept of "cooperation for development and development for peace" is also supported by all, which will help African countries achieve independent and sustainable development.

Wang stressed that all parties at the meeting are firmly committed to safeguarding the legitimate rights

and interests of developing countries, and opposing any country creating obstacles for developing countries or depriving them of the right to development.

The foreign ministers of the African countries who attended the meeting extended congratulations on the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China.

They said Africa-China relations are based on equality and mutual respect, and Africa and China have always been each other's most reliable partner.

Africa appreciates that China, as a permanent member of the UN Security Council, has played an important and positive role in African affairs, effectively promoted the fair and reasonable settlement of African issues, and made great contributions to safeguarding African interests and boosting peace and security in Africa, they noted.

At present, Africa faces the threat of terrorism and extremism, the ministers pointed out, adding that only by addressing security issues can Africa truly achieve long-term peaceful development. Xinhua

# Prince Harry walks through Angola mine field, echoing Diana

JOHANNESBURG

A BODY armor-wearing Prince Harry yesterday followed in the footsteps of his late mother, Princess Diana, whose walk through an active mine field in Angola years ago helped to lead to a global ban on the deadly weapons.

The prince walked through a mine field and was set to visit the spot where Diana was famously photographed on a similar walk during her own Africa visit in 1997. That field in Huambo is now a busy street. The southern African nation is now years past a grinding civil war and hopes to be land mine-free by 2025.

"Land mines are an unhealed scar of war," Prince Harry said in the town of Dirico. "By clearing the land mines we can help this community find peace, and with peace comes opportunity."

The Angola country director for mine-clearing organization The HALO Trust said Diana's visit is still very much discussed today in Huambo after people were struck by her warmth and willingness to acknowledge their devastating 27-year conflict.

"The main impact of Diana's walk in 1997 was the level of global exposure it provided for land mines not only in Angola but the world," Ralph Legg said. She was a great advocate for a land mine ban, and "her willingness to visit an actual mine field, to place herself right in that context, provided great impetus and gave it a great boost."

The international ban on anti-personnel mines was signed that year and entered into force two years later. So far 164 countries have signed on. "More than 48 million stockpiled mines have been destroyed and 31 countries have been completely cleared of land mines," The HALO Trust said, while production of the weapons has almost dried up.

Prince Harry on his visit also remotely detonated a mine, met with mine-clearing teams and was visiting the orthopedic hospital his mother visited for her meetings with mine victims.

"I think that will be a very poignant moment of coming full circle," Legg said. "Very striking once people compare those images from the two visits to see how far Angola has come."

The world, however, is hardly free of mines, and Legg said Angola itself still has about 650 mine fields left to clear. Some countries that remain heavily mined include Afghanistan, Syria and Yemen.

Angola now hopes to turn some of its mine-free areas into sites for wildlife conservation and ecotourism. The prince will unveil a project meant to protect wildlife corridors near the sprawling Okavango Delta, a rare inland delta in neighboring Botswana that doesn't flow into a sea or ocean and is home to several endangered species.

Harry's first official family tour with his wife, Meghan, the Duchess of Sussex, and their baby, Archie, will continue with stops in Malawi and further events in South Africa with a focus on issues including mental health and women's empowerment.



Britain's Prince Harry walks through a minefield in Dirico, Angola, yesterday, during a visit to see the work of landmine clearance charity the Halo Trust, on day five of the royal tour of Africa. (AP)

# ROK fires warning shots then fixes drifting DPRK boat

SEOUL

THE Republic of Korea (ROK)'s military fired warning shots toward a Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)'s boat crossing their sea border then it sent a navy mechanic to repair the drifting boat's engine so it could go home, an official said yesterday.

Seoul's Joint Chiefs of Staff said it was the first time ROK fired warning shots toward a DPRK vessel under the government of President Moon Jae-in, who took office in May 2017 and has pursued diplomatic engagement with the DPRK.

The wooden boat with four crewmembers returned to the DPRK on Thursday evening, hours after it had entered ROK waters near the western border island of Yeonpyeong.

Agencies

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Thursday called on the international community to provide "adequate, predictable, sustainable funding" to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In his remarks at the High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development, the secretary-general said financing is the test of seriousness of the ambition to achieve the SDGs and address the climate emergency.

Declining levels of Official Development Assistance and rising levels of debt are limiting spending on the Goals, Guterres said, adding that almost one-third of the world's least de-

# UN chief asks for better financing systems for SDGs

veloped countries are currently in -- or at high risk of -- debt distress, and heavily-indebted small island developing states, wrestling with the sky-high costs of climate-related devastation, also are a special concern.

"At the same time, it is true that we have promising news to build on," he said. For example, financial markets are increasingly integrating sustainability in the way they carry out their activities. Various investors, insurers and stock exchanges have adopted social responsibility and sustainable principles.

Several financial institutions have



already started to implement the recommendations of the Task Force on Financial Disclosure, said Guterres, urging every single company to do so

urgently. "This, too, can promote the shift to sustainability."

The UN chief suggested a roadmap for Financing the 2030 Agenda. The first is to align the international financing system behind the SDGs. "That means removing the disincentives to long-term financing, and encouraging the financial industry to take full account of the true risks of unsustainable practices," he said.

Second, Guterres called for more support to individual countries as they mobilize domestic resources for financing their sustainable development strategies. The UN system stands

ready to support the development and implementation of Integrated National Financing Frameworks, in line with countries' commitments, he said.

"Third, we need to address the exclusion from financial services that has afflicted so many people," Guterres said, adding that the fourth step is that international cooperation is an imperative.

According to the secretary-general, collaboration is crucial in cracking down on tax avoidance, tax evasion, corruption and illicit financial flows that deprive developing countries of tens of billions of dollars of potential resources for their development every

year.

Cooperation will also be necessary in addressing the new challenge of taxing the digital economy, he added.

Guterres added multilateral development banks can play a key role in bringing public and private finance together, in de-risking private financing for critical projects, and in funding for infrastructure, especially in countries that cannot attract sufficient private investment.

"We need to find ways for big money to flow to small projects," he said.

The meeting was the UN General Assembly's first High-Level Dialogue on Financing for Development since the adoption of the Addis Ababa Action Agenda.





# Flourishing night-time economy in China vitalises cities



Qiyimen echoes Yingwuzhou Yangtze River Bridge in Wuhan, Hubei Province, presenting a magnificent picture on Sept. 3, 2019. Photo by Zhao Guangliang

AS night falls, night-time economy flourishes across China, with diversified regional characteristics.

A museum in Suzhou in east China's Jiangsu Province comes to life when people line up to wait for the opening of an evening exhibition; Shanghai's most famous classical garden Yuyuan Garden draws numerous visitors as a night fair kicks off; Shahe in north China's Hebei Province turns into a wonderland as a captivating light festival begins.

China's night-time economy has evolved from night markets to consumption on food, sight-seeing, shopping, sports, exhibitions and performances, providing more possibilities for people to enjoy their nighttime.

For some time, the night-time economy has become a hot topic and a crucial indicator of urban vitality. Chinese cities have introduced policies and measures to encourage and support the development of the night-time economy, which stimulates rel-

evant sectors to continuously innovate business forms and models.

The prosperity of the night-time economy expands service types, satisfying consumers' demand for high-quality and diversified products and services. In traditional farming society, people worked from sunrise to sunset. Nowadays, they live a modern life when every minute counts and nighttime has been extended and more colorful.

Therefore, it is common now

that 24-hour convenience stores open at almost every corner of the city, becoming power stations for people who stay up late, running hours of public transportation is extended so that people needn't worry about returning home late, ball games and running activities are held at night so that people who are busy during the day find time for physical exercise as well.

The consumption pattern and lifestyle shaped by the night economy are becoming a vivid

display of the efforts made to meet people's needs for a better life.

Night-time economy is known as the source of new vitality of China's economy. According to data, night-time economy, which mainly focuses on service consumption, accounts for a rapidly increasing proportion of urban GDP. Night consumption in Beijing, Shanghai, Shenzhen, Guangzhou and Hangzhou accounts for about half of its daily consumption and is gradually rising.

From the perspective of improving the level of urban development, the beautiful scenery created by the night-time economy not only becomes a brand new name card for the city, but also creates jobs and brings industrial development opportunities. From the perspective of stimulating domestic demand and promoting consumption, the night economy is not only a potential market for urban consumption, but also a new driving force for economic development.

To build a better life is the eternal theme of urban development. While keeping on lighting up the night-time economy across China, cities also need to take every efforts in the management of the night-time economy, so that the majority of residents can enjoy higher quality, healthier and safer products and services. Only when it combines vitality and order, can the night-time economy keep shining and promise a better city life.

People's Daily



Night view of the Lujiazui, Shanghai. Photo by Wang Gang

## China remains attractive to investors as business environment improves

CHINA'S efforts to accelerate the building of a top-ranking business environment that features internationalization, the rule of law and convenience have yielded many more fruits, significantly benefiting domestic and overseas enterprises, while laying a solid foundation for high-quality economic development.

A technology company based in northwest China's Ningxia Hui Autonomous Region is a beneficiary of the improved business environment. This year, the company enjoys a tax reduction of about one million, according to Li Junhua, general manager of the company.

The money could be used to build a digital factory, hire a high caliber of talents or shorten the research and development cycle by 30 percent, Li disclosed.

Thomas Henningson, sales director of Vorwerk China, said the household appliance company has started the extension project of its plant in Qingpu district, Shanghai, as it aims to establish a foothold in China.

"At the First China International Import Expo (CIIE), we fully displayed our robot technology then. This time, we have already prepared new exhibits prior to the 100-day countdown to the second CIIE," he said.

In the Doing Business 2019, a report released by the World Bank, China ranked 46th globally for ease of doing business, becoming one of the economies realizing the most significant improvement in terms of business environment.

The country was among the top 20 most-innovative economies, ranking 17th in the Global Innovation Index 2018 released by the World Intellectual Property Organization.

Through simplifying approval procedures and expedit-



Visitors watch a band consists of robotic arms at the 2019 World Robot Conference on Aug. 25, 2019. Photo by Chen Xiaogeng

ing the use of the internet in government affairs, the country has improved the efficiency for establishing a business, application and installation for water and electricity facilities and real estate registration by more than 50 percent.

Improvement in the quality and efficiency of government services has greatly benefited both domestic and foreign business owners in China. In the first half of this year, over 19,400 new companies were set up on an average day.

Cui Liang, manager of an agriculture technology in Beijing who applied for a business license from Chaoyang district government

days earlier, said he submitted his application for a business license, official seal and invoice at 2:30 p.m., and received them all at 5:15 p.m. on the same day. "The efficiency is unbelievably high," he exclaimed.

Uzbek entrepreneur Erik had the same experience as Cui did while he was setting up an e-commerce company in Shanghai not long ago. "I used to establish companies in other countries, but just know that it's so convenient to register a company and pay relevant taxes in China."

China has made great efforts to ensure fairer competition and

enhance the rule of law in the Chinese market.

The country adopted its Foreign Investment Law, ensuring that companies from both home and abroad are treated as equals and compete on a level playing field. It also completed revision of its first e-commerce law and a regulation on patent agencies.

Besides, the Supreme People's Court of China opened its Intellectual Property Court to strengthen protection of intellectual property rights (IPR).

Zhu Honglan, vice president at A.O. Smith (China) Water Heater Co. Ltd., said when a company in

Zhongshan, south China's Guangdong province, infringed on Smith's products, it was held to account by a local court and compensated Smith according to law.

"I really feel that the Chinese government takes an impartial position on safeguarding legitimate rights and interests of foreign companies," Zhu added.

"I can see that China is strengthening IPR protection," said Lu Zhou, deputy general manager of Feitian Technologies, a leading global provider of cyber security products and solutions in China.

He said the technical investigation department under the Intel-

lectual Property Court in Beijing is a good practice to guarantee impartiality of trials.

China has taken a raft of measures to reduce business burdens. The government has tightened its belt to allow more benefits to the enterprises.

In January 2019, the general-benefit tax cut policies for small and micro businesses was put into effect. In April, the country cut the rates of value added tax (VAT) in manufacturing. In May, it reduced the social insurance contribution rates, and in July, it lowered fees for real estate registration.

People's Daily

## China attaches high importance to ecological progress while developing economy

AS China steps up its conservation efforts, the world is seeing a China with more blue skies, lush mountains and lucid waters.

According to a report on China's air quality improvement issued by the country's Ministry of Ecology and Environment, the total emission of major air pollutants in 2018 has been significantly reduced from 2013 while the GDP of China surged during this period.

In addition, the average density of PM2.5 in Beijing-Tianjin-Hebei, Yangtze River Delta and Pearl River Delta areas decreased by 48%, 39% and 32% respectively compared with that of 2013.

The Guanting Reservoir National Wetland Park located in the junction of Huailai county, Hebei province and Yanqing district, Beijing is one of the beneficiaries of China's ecological progress.

The reservoir was once eliminated from the list of sources of drinking water for Beijing 22 years ago because of water pollution. Thanks to China's ecological efforts, the reservoir is now home to flocks of birds and surrounded by massive reeds. According to the master plan of Beijing, the reservoir will once again serve as a drinking water source of Beijing



Magnificent view of flocks of migratory birds gliding over the beach at Tiaozini wetland, a World Natural Heritage in Dongtai, Jiangsu Province on Sept. 14, 2019. Autumn is rush hour for migratory birds to rest here on their flyways. Photo by Sun Jialu

by 2035.

The Guanting Reservoir National Wetland Park was implemented as a prioritized project by Huailai county since 2017. Dai Fuqiang, a local villager who runs a restaurant there told People's Daily that the fascinating sceneries of the wetland park have attracted many visitors, thus prospering his restaurant.

Data from NASA satellites indicated that China contributed

at least 25 percent to the world's newly added green leaf area between 2000 and 2017, the largest share among all countries. So far, the country has set up a total of 2,750 nature reserves.

Apart from promoting ecological treatment, China is also greening its industry.

The world's largest waterborne paint manufacturing base has been built by a Chinese paint manufacturer in Xushui district,

Baoding of Hebei province, which is adjacent to China's Xiong'an New Area - a national-level new area that aims to serve as a new engine for modern economic system.

The paint plant, built by China's Chongyang Group, plans to produce 1.25 million tons of water paint on a yearly basis. Waterborne paint, which uses water as diluents, is a substitution of traditional solvent-based paint, and can significantly reduce the emission of volatile or-

ganic compounds (VOC).

"Compared with traditional paint factories with the same size, this plant can cut VOC emission by 1 million tons each year," said Hu Zhongyuan, chief technical engineer of the plant, adding that both the production and sales of the water paint produced by the factory doubled each year since 2015.

Taiyuan Iron and Steel Group in Shanxi is also making efforts to green its factory. Thanks to an up-



17 units of wind turbines rotating slowly at Jintang wind farm in Dinghai district, Zhoushan on Aug. 11, 2019 Photo by Yao Feng

started upgrading projects, vowing to make the sky bluer.

Jingde county in eastern China's Anhui province has 69.2 percent of its land covered by forests, and the annual PM2.5 density stays at 27 microgram per cubic meter. It is a result of constant and effective ecological and environmental management, as well as a development philosophy the county has adopted in recent years to center on the health industry.

"Jingde county, fostering new growth points with local ecological resources, is seeing sound development momentum," said Zhou Mi, Party chief of Jingde county and member of the standing committee of the Communist Party of China Xuancheng municipal committee.

Zheng Xinli, executive president of the China Association of Policy Science disclosed at a session held by China Council for International Cooperation on Environment and Development that the output of China's green economy was about 6 trillion yuan in 2018.

The  
Guardian

# SPORT



This combination photo shows actress-singer Jennifer Lopez performing at the Directv Super Saturday Night in Minneapolis on Feb. 3, 2018, left, and Shakira performing at Madison Square Garden in New York on Aug. 10, 2018. The NFL, Pepsi and Roc Nation announced Thursday, Sept. 26, 2019, that Lopez and Shakira will perform at the 2020 Pepsi Super Bowl Halftime Show on Feb. 2, 2020 at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Fla. (Photo: AP)

## J. Lo, Shakira to perform at Super Bowl halftime show

NEW YORK

JENNIFER Lopez and Shakira are going to bring the heat to the 2020 Pepsi Super Bowl Halftime Show.

NFL, Pepsi and Roc Nation announced Thursday that the superstar performers, who have released music in Spanish and English since the 1990s, will perform on Feb. 2 at Hard Rock Stadium in Miami Gardens, Florida.

Lopez and Shakira both posted a photo of them standing side by side on social media to announce the news. "Going to see the world on fire," Lopez wrote.

"It doesn't get any bigger than this! So excited about getting on that #SuperBowlLIV #PepsiHalftime stage!" Shakira wrote.

Both Lopez and Shakira have had major success the pop and Latin charts over the years with multiple hit songs and albums. Lopez released her multi-hit debut in 1999 and topped the Billboard Hot 100 chart with songs like "If You Had My Love," "All I Have" and the remixes of "I'm Real" and "Ain't It Funny."

Lopez recently wrapped up a tour to celebrate her 50th birthday, and her latest movie, "Hustlers," has been a box-office hit and has even earned her Oscar buzz.

Shakira released her first album in 1991 and crossed over with 2001's "Laundry Service," which featured the hits "Whenever, Wherever" and "Underneath Your Clothes."

The singer topped the Hot 100 chart with the Wyclef Jean-assisted anthem "Hips Don't Lie." Shakira has won 11 Latin Grammys and three Grammys.

"These two remarkable artists are setting a new precedent for what this show can become, and we're confident that this will be an incredible performance for the ages," Todd Kaplan, Pepsi's vice president of marketing, said in a statement.

Jay-Z's Roc Nation company is co-producing the halftime show. The big game and halftime show will air live on Fox and broadcast in 180 countries.

AP

## NBA camps set to open, and contenders are everywhere

BY TIM REYNOLDS FAREWELL, OFFSEASON.

A new NBA year is here. On Friday, the first five teams will hold media days, the NBA's annual day-before-camp-begins ritual. Anthony Davis, LeBron James and the Los Angeles Lakers will discuss a season of enormous expectations. So will James Harden and Russell Westbrook in Houston, along with Kyrie Irving and Kevin Durant in Brooklyn.

Sacramento and Indiana also open Friday. NBA champion Toronto has media day Saturday, the title-chasing Los Angeles Clippers on Sunday and the rest of the NBA on Monday. And while most teams typically enter a season with high hopes, this year seems as wide-open in terms of the total of realistic championship contenders as any in a long time.

"I talked to at least seven GMs over the summer that really feel that they're going to go for it," Washington general manager Tommy Sheppard said Thursday.

There might even be more.

Over the last 14 seasons, only 10 franchises – Toronto, Golden State, Cleveland, Miami, San Antonio, Oklahoma City, Dallas, the Lakers, Boston and Orlando – have reached the NBA Finals.

This season, there might be at least 10 with a legitimate chance of getting there.

The Clippers, with Paul George and reigning NBA Finals MVP Kawhi Leonard, are atop most lists. The Lakers, who haven't even been to the playoffs since 2012, also seem likely to contend with James and Davis leading the charge. Denver brings most of its team that won 54 games back. Utah figures to be better and has a budding star in Donovan Mitchell. Philadelphia, Milwaukee, Boston and Brooklyn may be atop the East.

And then there's last year's finalists – the Warriors and Raptors, neither of whom expect to fall too far in the standings despite

losing the likes of Durant and Leonard.

"I'd rather be the favorite again, to be honest with you," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said.

They're not. Most sports books have given that role to the Clippers or Lakers. But the Warriors are still a popular pick among bettors, and in Las Vegas, the odds are showing that the general belief is that plenty of teams have a real chance of being the last club standing when the Larry O'Brien Trophy gets handed out in June.

"I don't know if it's a bettors' delight, but I would definitely say it's a bookmakers' delight," said Nick Bogdanovich, the director of trading for bookmaker William Hill US. "You want parity. That's why the NFL has been so good to bookmakers over the last 25 years; there's parity. This year, the NBA is definitely much more open."

On William Hill's current books, the Lakers – always very popular among Las Vegas bettors, since the city has tons of their fans – and the Clippers are co-favored at 7-2. There are eight teams at odds of no more than 15-1, which is roughly where eventual champion Toronto was at this time last season.

"That means eight teams seem to have a really good puncher's chance," Bogdanovich said.

Even some of the teams not in that mix figure to carry hope into the new year.

For the first time in nine years, Oklahoma City isn't one of the 10 teams with the shortest preseason odds in Vegas. The Thunder now are among the longest of long shots on the Vegas books – understandable, after trading Westbrook to Houston, George to the Clippers and starting to stockpile tons of future draft picks in a clear sign that a rebuild is beginning.

AP

## Lack of experience proves costly for Mtibwa Sugar-coach

BY CORRESPONDENT JOSEPH MCHEKA-DONA

MOROGORO'S Mtibwa Sugar have attributed their poor form in the ongoing Vodacom Premier League to lack of experience by most of their players.

Mtibwa Sugar have started the 2019/20 Vodacom Premier League on a bad note as they have so far collected a single point from a possible 12.

The Morogoro based side on Wednesday lost 3-1 at home to Mbeya's Prisons.

Mtibwa Sugar had, prior to the loss, succumbed to defeats to Lipuli FC of Iringa and the league's defending champions, Simba.

Mtibwa opened their campaign in the domestic top flight with 3-1 loss to Lipuli FC in Iringa.

The Morogoro team went on to suffer 2-1 loss to Simba at the Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The squad, thereafter, managed a barren draw with Dar es Salaam's JKT Tanzania to register the only point in the games they have taken part in.

On Wednesday at Jamhuri Stadium in Morogoro, Prisons' defender, Benjamin Asukile, drilled in the outfit's first goal on the 13th minute.

Samson Mbangula made it 2-0 for the Mbeya squad on the 34th minute, Mtibwa Sugar pulled a goal back via Issa Kaija on the 56th minute.

Forward Jeremiah Juma netted the third for Prisons on the 90th minute.

Mtibwa Sugar assistant coach, Patrick Mwangata, said his players are playing well only that they are lacking experience. He also pointed out luck is not on their side.

He said the club has promoted many players from their U-20 side and it will, for that matter, take some time for them to gel.

"To me it is work in progress, we have good players who are



Mtibwa Sugar forward, Ismail Muhesa (R), challenges Prisons' defender, Jumanne Eifadhil, in the Vodacom Premier League clash between the two teams that took place at the Jamhuri Stadium in Morogoro mid this week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MTIBWA SUGAR

playing well only that they are not experienced and others are new, as you know, it took time for new players to gel, I'm sure we will bounce back soon," he said.

Mwangata is lately heading Mtibwa Sugar's technical bench on behalf of head coach Zubeir Katwila, who is with the national U-20 soccer team, Ngorongoro Heroes, which is taking part in CECAFA U-20 Championship in Uganda.

Mwangata noted he is looking forward to improved performance when Mtibwa Sugar face Mbeya City FC next week.

"I am sure in our next game against Mbeya City FC, the team will do well, I have seen the problems and we will work on them," he said.

In other games played on Wednesday KMC FC registered their first win in the Vodacom

Premier League by beating Namungo FC at Azam Complex.

The only goal of the match was scored by striker Hassan Kabunda on the 39th minute of the game.

Speaking after the game, KMC FC head coach Jackson Mayanja hailed his players for sticking to their game plan.

He said the results against Namungo FC will motivate KMC FC to do well in their coming games, starting with a match against Ndanda FC next week.

"My players played well and I salute them for the good performance, we are now looking forward to better results in our coming games," he said.

The loss is the first for Lindi's Namungo FC, the newly promoted outfit in the domestic top flight.

Namungo FC head coach Thierri Hitimana said his players

played well against KMC FC only that they did not find the latter's back of the net.

He promised that his side is looking side to their next game against Azam FC.

Mwadui FC also drew one all with Alliance of Mwanza and Singida United and Mbao FC recorded a goalless draw in Singida.

"The Wednesday results is not what we expected, but I am happy that we played well and I am sure we will do well in our next game," the Namungo FC head coach said.

In Wednesday's other matches' results JKT Tanzania beat Biashara United 1-0 at Karume Stadium in Musoma.

Forward Mohamed Rashid drilled in the only goal on the 16th minute. Ruvi Shooting posted 1-1 draw with Coastal Union.

## Tanzania Prisons delighted by victory over Mtibwa Sugar



Prisons' supporters cheer the team during the outfit's Vodacom Premier League match against Mtibwa Sugar played in Morogoro mid this week. Prisons won 3-1. PHOTO: MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

BY CORRESPONDENT MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA, MOROGORO

VODACOM Premier League side, Mbeya's Prisons, have expressed delight in a victory the team recorded in the league's clash with Mtibwa Sugar in Morogoro mid this week.

Prisons' coach, Mohamed Adolph, said his team planned to post victory in Morogoro, since every player fought tirelessly with a view to meeting their target.

He disclosed his team never took Mtibwa Sugar for granted as one can hardly predict

results of a match.

"The squad is committed to perform well, since players worked on all techniques and tactics in defending and attacking, executing short, long and penetration passes," the tactician pointed out.

Prisons' fullback Benjamin Asukile netted the first goal for the squad on the 13th minute, Samson Mbangula recorded the second for the team on the 36th minute.

In the second stanza, Mtibwa Sugar regrouped and pulled a goal back on the 59th minute via Issa Kaija.

The situation forced Prisons to come out with all guns blazing, the Mbeya squad bagged the third on the 90th minute via forward Jeremiah Juma.

The results have seen Mtibwa Sugar succumbed to a third defeat in four matches. The Morogoro squad has only one point.

Mtibwa Sugar's coach, Patrick Mwangata, said he has spotted his squad's defensive weaknesses.

He promised the squad needs intensive training with a view to turning its fortunes around in the domestic top flight.



## SPORT

## Spurs and Chelsea seek home comforts as top two threaten to pull away

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



This season's GP Gymkhana Shield tournament's participating teams' skippers in a group picture after the event's launch in Dar es Salaam on July 6. Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) Cricket Section has organized the competition. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NIKHIL PUJARA

## GP Gymkhana Shield 2019 tourney title race heads into final stretch

By Guardian Reporter

AFTER 12 weeks of entertaining displays in this season's GP Gymkhana Shield tournament, the event heads into the last game slated for Sunday in Dar es Salaam.

Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) oval will play host to the match.

Ashish Nagewadia, DGC Cricket Section captain and the tournament's organizing committee chairman, said that this year's edition has by far been most successful and the most entertaining.

With 20 teams taking part in the competition, over 10,000 runs, 550 plus wickets, 1000 plus boundaries and two fine centuries were scored during the course of the tournament.

The competition, sponsored by General Petroleum and Premium Refineries, has been attended by over 2000 cricket followers in the city in the last 12 weeks.

"This event does not only bring new talent in cricket, it also unites 20 communities who all come together to enjoy a cricketing festival at Gymkhana," he disclosed.

"The DGC Cricket Section has been at the heart of the sport's development in Tanzania," he added.

"We have every year been delivering greater success and better playing conditions for the players."

"All this is possible because the wider cricket community has witnessed the development and growth of the competition first hand."

"Starting from four teams in the maiden tournament to having 20 teams participating in it presently is a massive achievement."

This year's tournament's second match of the last four stage is set to take place today, with the competition's defending champions, Caravans, coming up against the tournament's surprise package, Lions Cricket Club.

The final, pitting winners of today's last four clash against Ismaili Community, who emerged as winners of the first of the last four stage's clashes, will be played tomorrow at 1300hrs.

"Prior to that, we shall be hosting a Pro 10 exhibition match for the crowd to enjoy some power hitting from the star players of the tournament," the DGC Cricket Section captain noted.

"The two teams will be captained by Bhavesh Govind and Arun Dagar and we look forward to some power hitting and cricket entertainment."

The GP Gymkhana Shield 2019 tournament is co-sponsored by Asar Limited, SBC Tanzania, Mgen Tanzania, Sayona Drinks, I&M Bank, JayKey Trading and AFRO TURK.

## Yanga, Azam FC need to enjoy moment, believe

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

YOUNG Africans (Yanga) and Azam FC's qualification to the next round of this season's CAF competitions are resting on a knife-edge.

The two Tanzania's representatives failed to make the most out of home advantage in the first leg matches of the first round played two weeks ago.

Yanga were frustrated to a one-all draw by visiting Zambian side Zesco United during their first leg tie of the CAF Champions League first round match played at National Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Azam were beaten 1-0 by Zimbabwe newbies, Triangle United, in the CAF Confederation Cup's first leg encounter at Azam Complex in the city.

Though Yanga and Azam FC appear to be holding onto hope, both teams know they have their work cut out as they must produce some magic in the crunch return legs for them to sail through.

On Saturday, Azam FC must secure a convincing away win against the Zimbabwean in Bulawayo to progress to the playoffs.

Many see it as a 'mission impossible', however Azam FC head coach, Etienne Ndayiragije, has chosen to remain upbeat about his team chances of progressing to the playoffs.

"We still have a big chance of progressing. I will go back and re-watch the match, identify weakness and areas of improvement and their game plan," he said in a post-match interview after the first leg.

"The return leg will be played in a natural pitch, which is wider, if they open up we will have chances," the tactician noted.

Needing goals to progress Ndayiragije has no choice but to deploy an offensive approach, try to score while avoid conceding.

The negative result in the first leg obviously makes it more difficult, but the as Ndayiragije bravely puts it, the tie is still open.

It may sound too optimistic but with nothing to lose, Azam

FC will feel more freedom to play.

The fact that Azam FC had no shot on target in the first leg despite dominating possession proves it was actually a deserved away win for Triangle United, much as it was a typical smash and grab victory.

Azam need to find some answers in the second leg and get some players who can attack in a manner which is not shooting randomly.

Unlike Azam FC, Yanga will secure progression to the CAF Champions League's groups' stage with either at least a 2-2 scoring draw or a win in Ndola.

However, Yanga head coach

Mwinyi Zahera has to do without the services of Congolese striker, David Molinga, due to late registration.

It is not an unfamiliar situation to Yanga. They managed to come back from unpromising circumstances against Township Rollers of Botswana in the tournament's preliminary round.

Many thoughts Yanga would not make it to the first round after they had allowed Township Rollers to take vital away goal to Botswana.

Zahera, though, inspired his boys to an unexpected 1-0 victory in the return leg in Gaborone to set a date with Zesco

United.

However, victory in Ndola will be Yanga's greatest escape yet. Zesco United have a formidable home record where even Africa's elite clubs have come back with their tail firmly tucked between their legs.

Much as Zahera says the tie is not out of reach, he saw enough, especially in the second half to know that Zesco United are capable of sewing this up very quickly indeed.

His opposite number and coincidentally his predecessor, George Lwandamina did not even bother to hide the obvious boasting that they will use the home ground advantage to eliminate Yanga.

"I know they have a good away record and even when I was there, we used to win much away from home but we have never lost there [Ndola]," he said.

In case the Mainland Tanzania Premier League record champions fail to overcome Zesco United, they will take part in playoffs to seek qualification for the CAF Confederation Cup's groups' stage.

Yanga will meet one of the winners of the CAF Confederation Cup's first round to fight for a place in the group stage.



Yanga

## Azam FC, Yanga face tricky return leg matches in CAF competitions

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S representatives in this season's Confederation of African Football (CAF) tournaments Yanga and Azam FC will be in crucial away assignments today when they face Zesco of Zambia and Triangle FC of Zimbabwe respectively.

Yanga will face Zesco in CAF Champions League's first round in Ndola, Zambia while Azam FC will have a much tougher assignment against Triangle FC in Bulawayo in the CAF Confederation Cup's first round.

The two games are extremely crucial for Azam and Yanga as, in the first leg clashes, played in Dar es Salaam two weeks ago, the two outfits registered less satisfactory results.

Yanga drew one all with Zesco at the National Stadium while Azam lost 1-0 to Triangle FC at Azam Complex.

For Yanga to proceed to CAF Champions League's groups' stage, they must either notch a 2-2 draw with Zesco or come out with victory.

Azam FC need to settle for nothing short of a win. Speaking from Zambia, Yanga SC head coach Mwinyi Zahera said his charges are well prepared for the game.

He pointed out the team's aim is to proceed to the group stages of CAF Champions League.

He said morale in the side's camp is high and he is confident they will post good results in Ndola.

"The team is in good shape and I'm very sure of good results here, I'm saying so as

all of my players have been following the instructions and we also have rectified the problems which we observed in our first game," he said.

Yanga have a history of winning away from home as evidenced recently when they beat the Botswana's Township Rollers 1-0 in Gaborone to reach the first round.

However, Zesco United head coach, George Lwandamina, is reported to have said his side is aiming at continuing their good home run when they host Yanga.

Lwandamina, who had served as Yanga's head coach in the 2018/19 season, said his charges are ready for the encounter.

The Ndola giants have an impeccable home record as they have won majority of their competitive games at their backyard. "We are ready for the game against Yan-

ga, it won't be an easy match, but we are well prepared for them, our aim is to progress to the groups' stage," he disclosed to the Zambia press.

Aggregate winners will book a place in groups' stage of the CAF Champions League.

Losers will take part in playoffs to seek progression to the CAF Confederation Cup's groups' stage.

Azam FC through the outfit's information officer Jaffar Maganga said although Triangle United have a history of being stubborn at home, his team is ready for today's encounter and they are looking at nothing short of a win.

He said all of the players are in good shape and they are just waiting for the game.

## Arusha Football Club in dire straits

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

ARUSHA Football Club (AFC) is stuck in Mwanza without a single cent and no means of transport to bring them back home where they are to play against Transcamp FC at Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium today.

The broke AFC team playing in the First Division League (FDL) had travelled to Mwanza last week where they played against Gwambina FC in Misungwi, and got beaten 3-0.

The Arusha team later on went to face the Pamba FC at Nyamagana Stadium in Mwanza and received another 2-1 thrashing.

However now after completing

the matches, the team was supposed to return to Arusha and face Transcamp FC but, as it happens, they are stuck in Misungwi.

The 24 team members have also been chucked out of their hotel rooms, for failing to settle their bills and are currently reported to be hungry with nothing to eat.

The AFC team manager, Omar Muhomba, affirmed their predicament, appealing to Arusha residents to come to their rescue so that the team may be able to travel back home for the weekend match as hours tick.

Just jetted from Dar es Salaam, the army team of Transcamp seem to be ready for their match against AFC.

The hosts are somehow

nowhere to be seen, being held ransom in the Lake Zone with astounding bills yet to be settled and without means of transport to take them to Arusha.

The AFC coach, Ulimboka Mwakwingwe, also admitted that the team is in dire straits and need help, especially because if they miss their Saturday match against Transcamp, they will be demoted to the Second Division League (SDL).

"It is a shame for Arusha, such a popular region to have a team which is loitering and begging in Mwanza," Mwakwingwe said.

He appealed to Arusha residents to treat the issue as an emergency, because the situation is really bad.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

SHOST, WHO IS THE COOL GUY?



HE IS AN INVESTOR

