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JPM rules out mass removals, transfers



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Mwinyi swears in Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdalla (R) at Zanzibar State House yesterday. Abdalla has taken over from Ambassador Seif Ali Iddi (78). Photo: Zanzibar State House

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli has dispelled fears among senior government officials worrying over a new spate of appointments upon the start of his second mandate.

The president made assuring remarks yesterday when swearing in Prof Adelardus Kilangi as Attorney General.

The swearing in event at the Chamwino State House was attended by Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan and top government officials.

He said he does not expect to make changes, except in the case of retirement or under-performance in execution of duties.

"Regional and district commissioners, regional and district administrative secretaries, local council directors, heads of government departments and institutions and others just do your work. I'm not removing anyone from his position, unless he bungles the job himself or retires," he declared.

He said Tanzanians have high hopes on him and want to see the government get good representation in various legal issues.

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Coronavirus upfront in Biden transition plans

WASHINGTON DC

US President-elect Joe Biden (pictured) is to make tackling the coronavirus pandemic his top priority following his win over Donald Trump, his team says.

Announcing the first steps in his transition plan, his team said there would be more testing and Americans would be asked to wear masks.

On Monday, Biden is expected to name a 12-member coronavirus task force.

His win remains a projection as key states still count votes, with the outgoing president not planning to concede, his campaign says. Trump is launching legal challenges to the results in several key states.

He has made unsubstantiated claims of electoral fraud, but election officials say there is no evidence that the vote was rigged against him.

Biden is forging ahead with his plans for assuming power in January after major US networks called the election in his favour on Saturday.

That reportedly also includes a slew of

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'Human-wildlife conflicts claim 100 lives annually'

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

At least 100 people die every year and more than 5,000 hectares of land destroyed countrywide due to human-wildlife conflicts in reserve areas surrounded by human settlements.

Mabula Nyanda, the Acting Commissioner for the Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA), underlined this observation here yesterday on the sidelines of a four-day meeting of TAWA headquarters officials and heads of various reserve centres.

Without going into details, Nyanda said that studies have shown that every year human-wildlife conflicts claim people's lives in villages surrounding reserve areas.

Incidents of wildlife killing people and destroying crops was now serious, thus TAWA is moving to provide education to people living in the proximity of reserved areas.

"This came after realizing that the majority of people have limited education on conservation issues, hence contributing to the increasing number of human-wildlife conflicts, which in turn

claim people's lives," he said.

"We've already developed effective human-wildlife conflict mitigation strategies for wildlife control while mobilizing to provide education to people residing in the reserve's peripherials to protect themselves from wildlife," he said.

"We're determined to educate the people in concerned areas on how to avoid wild animals including lions and elephants, the main destructive species for human lives and crops respectively," he specified.

He said elephants have been attacking and even killing people as villagers don't know how to live with the animals as they cultivate elephant-friendly crops like water melons. They also follow and shout at them whenever they sight them.

"There are people who live close to reserve area but do not know anything about wildlife. They go on with their lives ignorant about the existence of elephants in their vicinity who can invade their settlements, attack them and

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UDOM app unplugs rural internet gaps

By Getrude Mbago

UNIVERSITY of Dodoma (UDOM) assistant lecturer Jabhera Matogoro has come up with television white space technology (TVWS) that provides affordable communication to address the internet gap in rural areas.

"The new technology has been tested in Kondoa District, Dodoma Region and it proved to be effective and the idea is to roll it across the country," said Matogoro, of the College of

Informatics and Virtual Education. Despite the increase in internet users, studies show that there is still a large Internet gap between rural and urban areas, he said.

"So, to address this challenge, we used TV White Space equipment as a community network solution to bridge the identified access gap between rural and urban areas," he said in a statement.

"We started working on TV white space (TVWS) concepts in 2014, and then in 2017 we undertook

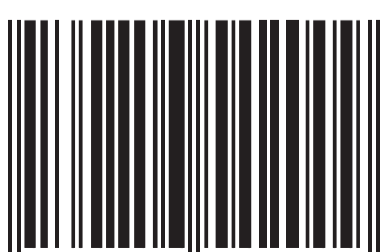
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The Guardian Nipashe

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The Guardian and Nipashe welcome you to send congratulatory Messages to President Dr. John Pombe Magufuli and Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan on their re - election

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UDOM app unplugs rural internet gaps

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experimental spectrum measurement to understand how the ultra-high frequency (UHF) spectrum band is being utilized, especially after shifting from analogue to digital.

"In early 2018, a two-member team visited Kondoa District to engage the community in setting up a community network to connect the unconnected in the district," he explained.

The goal is to reach 20 million people within the next five years, as the team conducted a sensitization and awareness workshop with community members around Kondoa so that they own the project, to sustain it in the future, he elaborated.

Ultra High Frequency (UHF) is electromagnetic radiation, usually between 300 MHz and 3 GHz (3,000 MHz). Due to its short wavelength, UHF has strong directivity and it has small area of coverage from a point of emission, and is commonly used for television signals, on the basis of an internet write up.

"A measurement study showed that there is a huge potential for using the UHF spectrum band, especially in rural areas where no transmission is currently available. The installed wireless link achieved an internet speed of 4.53 megabytes per second and 4.83 MBPS for downloading and uploading, respectively."

He further said: "We started the community network initiative because we believe it is among feasible solutions to connect the unconnected. Kondoa Community Network (KCN) is piloting the use of TVWS for community networks and addressing the current internet gap."

A number of initiatives have been undertaken by various stakeholders to connect the unconnected using traditional approaches, he said.

"However, half of Tanzania's population remains unconnected. We believe that a community network initiative and the use of unused UHF spectrum will be a feasible solution to address internet connectivity issues."

Matogoro graduated with an MSc in Computer Science from UDOM November, 2011 and earlier obtained a BSc in Computer Science in 2008 from UDSM.

After his first degree he joined the University of Dar es Salaam Computing Centre (UCC) as instructor and in September, 2009 he joined UDOM as computer programmer and system analyst.

The innovator has worked as coordinator at the Microsoft Innovation Centre, technical manager at the Dodoma internet exchange point and is interim secretary for the global NGO, Information Security Operations Center (ISOC) Tanzania Chapter.



Bishop Augustine Shao of the Catholic Church's Zanzibar Diocese congratulates Form IV leaver Shadya Lusekelo Lucas of Francis Maria Libermann School at graduation ceremony held at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Martin Kabemba

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hence he called on the AG to ensure he properly supervises government cases by ably defending government interests and protecting its assets.

"Tanzanians hate to see their government losing cases. Go and work hard, defend Tanzanians especially the poor, protect government assets and fast. You have already done a good job in your first period, I want you now to do even better," he affirmed.

Dr Magufuli was sworn in by Chief Justice Prof Ibrahim Juma on

JPM rules out mass removals, transfers

Thursday to kick start his second term, and immediately exercised his constitutional mandate under Article 59 of the Constitution to make the appointment in question.

Article 59 (3) provides that the Attorney-General shall be the adviser of the government of the United Republic on all matters of law.

He also discharges functions pertaining to or connected with law

referred or assigned to him by the president, by the constitution or by any law.

Article 59 (5) says the Attorney-General shall be a member of Parliament by virtue of office, and shall hold office until his appointment is revoked by the president, or immediately before the president elect assumes office.

Prof Kilangi was appointed by the

president as AG on February 1, 2018, succeeding George Masaju, who is currently Judge of the High Court. He becomes the ninth AG in the position created in 1964.

The first holder of the position was Roland Brown, from 1964 to 1965. Other AGs were Judge Mark Bomani (1965-1976), Judge Joseph Warioba (1976-1985) and Justice Damian Lubuva (1985-1993).

Others are Andrew Chenge (1993-2005), Johnson Mwanyika (2005-2009), Judge Frederick Werema (2009-2014), followed by Judge George Masaju (2014 - 2018) and Prof. Adelardus Kilangi (February 1, 2018 - to date).

Prof Kilangi was a member of the African Union Commission on International Law, serving as president of the commission from 2012 to 2014.

Earlier he was also a director at St. Augustine University of Tanzania, professor of international law, legal theory, and mining law

He previously taught law at the Ruaha University College, Tumaini University, Dar es Salaam campus and at the Open University of Tanzania.

At one time he was country programme manager for the Southern African Aids Trust, and programme officer for the Danish International Development Agency (DANIDA) locally, and legal advisor to the Danish Embassy in Dar es Salaam.



President John Magufuli swears in newly reappointed Attorney General Prof Adelardus Kilangi (R) at State House at Chamwino in Dodoma Region yesterday. Photo: State House

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executive orders - written orders issued by the president to the federal government that do not require congressional approval - aimed at reversing controversial Trump policies.

Media reports say Biden will rejoin the Paris climate agreement, which the US officially left on Wednesday. He will reverse the decision to withdraw from the World Health Organization and he will end the travel ban on citizens from seven mostly Muslim countries

He will reinstate an Obama-era policy of granting immigration status to undocumented migrants who entered the US as children

In his first speech as president-elect on Saturday, Biden said it was "time to heal" the US and vowed "not to divide but to unify" the country. Addressing Trump supporters directly, he said: "We have to stop treating our opponents as enemies."

Coronavirus upfront in Biden transition plans

He and Vice-President-elect Kamala Harris have launched a website for the transition, saying the team will also focus on the economy, tackling racism and climate change.

The projected election result means Trump becomes the first one-term president since the 1990s.

Meanwhile, the General Services Administration, a government agency tasked with recognising the president-elect and beginning the transition process, has so far not done so.

Its administrator Emily Murphy, who was appointed by Trump, has given no indication when this could happen. Until then, Biden's transition team cannot access government funds or communicate with the federal agencies it will be staffing.

Media reports suggested senior Republicans remained divided over

how to react to Biden's victory, with some refusing to publicly acknowledge the result of the ballot.

The Republican leader in the House of Representatives, Kevin McCarthy, told Fox News that all recounts and legal challenges should be completed, adding: "Then and only then, America will decide who won the race."

But former Republican President George W Bush congratulated Biden on his victory, saying the American people could have confidence that the election has been fundamentally fair and that its outcome was clear. He also congratulated Trump on a hard-fought campaign.

The president-elect is vowing a major shift in the way the White House approaches coronavirus after Trump repeatedly downplayed its gravity and resisted public health measures

including wearing masks and social distancing.

The Biden team has said it will ensure all Americans have access to regular and free testing and provide "clear, consistent, evidence-based guidance". The task force will be led by former surgeon-general Vivek Murthy and a former commissioner of the Food and Drug Administration, David Kessler.

Biden also wants rules mandating the wearing of masks across the country, which he says will save thousands of lives. He plans to call on every American to wear a mask when they are around people outside their own household and wants state governors and local authorities to make this obligatory.

The president-elect has regularly appeared in public wearing a mask while Trump has largely avoided doing so.

'Human-wildlife conflicts claim 100 lives annually'

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destroy their crops," he said.

A report issued last year by former Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Prof Adolf Mkennda, said that from July 2018 to July 2019, at least 96 people were killed and 90 others were wounded by wild animals that raided farms and residential areas across the country. Wild animals destroyed 13,644 hectares of farm crops compared to 637 hectares of farm crops destroyed in 2017-2018, showing that the problem was taking wider proportions.

The number of people killed and wounded by wild animals was on the rise compared to previous years, as wild animals killed 39 people and wounded 37 others from July 2017 to July 2018 across the country.

Elephants, lions, hippos and crocodiles are the leading killers, the report noted.

Most of the victims were killed by animals who invaded residential areas and others were killed after they encroached wildlife corridors, as the successful anti-poaching drive has resulted in an increase of animals like elephants that are now invading farms

and residential areas, wreaking havoc on villagers.

Commenting on measures to stamp out corruption, the TAWA official said: the agency had mobilized resources to tackle corruption by holding to account heads of reserve centres who failed to submit reports on the problem in time.

It was a shame for a big institution like TAWA to be involved in corruption, he declared, asserting that after bribes were reported in various reserve centres, TAWA took steps against unfaithful wardens, including occasioning their dismissal. It has now started training all heads of the centres to educate their wardens as well, he elaborated.

"If you, as head of a reserve centre do not report corruption under your charge, and if we at headquarters come to know about it, we shall start with you. We are tired of dismissing those in the lower ranks," he asserted.

Henock Msocha, the TAWA Acting Assistant Commissioner for the South East Zone, said the agency is working to enhance cooperation in the anti-poaching thrust by applying knowledge gathered from the meeting on the issue.

SUMA JKT sets up 1bn/- iron sheet factory in Dodoma city

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE National Service economic wing (SUMA-JKT) is putting final touches to an iron sheets and nails manufacturing factory in Dodoma Region.

The 1bn/- worth investment in Medeli East Avenue at the heart of capital city has been designed to manufacture high quality, but affordable iron sheets for Tanzanians.

Construction for the plant which is currently at 85 per cent complete 450m/- had already been spent and the project is expected to be completed by the end of this month, if all goes well.

However, the economic wing has already ordered high technological machines from China, to be installed at the plant in order to ensure the plant meet recommended high quality and standards products

In his brief remarks yesterday after a brief tour to inspect the ongoing progress of the project, chairperson for the National Service's strategic committee on agriculture, livestock and fisheries development, Col. Hassan Mabena said: "This initiative is part of our efforts to join hands with the government's industrialisation agenda."

The new facility will spur economic status and activities in the central zone regions by creating direct and indirect employment opportunities.

He said funds for the implementation of the project had been raised from the economic wing internal sources, revealing that more agro-processing factories are in the pipeline.

Project supervisor, Major Erasto Tesha said that the project incorporates construction of three major blocks under the same investment centre.



CRDB Bank Plc managing director and CEO Abdulmajid Nsekela (2nd-L, foreground) pictured in Dodoma city yesterday symbolically presenting 400 bags to National Assembly Job Ndugai for distribution to legislators, with the 12th Parliament scheduled to go into session beginning today. Looking on are Clerk of National Assembly Stephen Kigaigai (R) and the bank's director of corporate affairs and public relations, Tully Mwambapa (L). Photo courtesy of National Assembly

'October inflation stagnates at 3.3 pc'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE annual headline inflation rate for October, 2020 has stagnated at 3.1 per cent as it was recorded in September 2020, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said yesterday.

Releasing the statistics yesterday, the director of population census and social statistics, Ruth Davison said the stagnation of the headline inflation explains that the speed of price change for commodities for the year ended October, 2020 remained constant as that recorded for the year ended September, 2020.

"Annual headline inflation rate for the month of October, 2020 to be the same as that recorded in September, 2020 is mainly attributed to the decrease and increase of prices for food and non food items for the year ended October 2020 compared to prices recorded for the month of October, 2019," she said.

She named some food items that showed price decrease as for the month of October, 2020 compared to October 2019 as rice by 4.2 per cent, maize grain (12.4) maize flour (3.2) wheat flour (0.9) sorghum flour (0.8) cassava flour (1.4), fresh cassava (2.5), sweet potatoes (5.4) and cooking bananas (6.3).

On the other hand, some of non-food

items that shows a price increase for the month of October, 2020 compared to prices for the month of October 2019 includes, clothing by 2.2 percent, gas (6.6) charcoal (8.8), repair of travelling goods like motor vehicles (8.3) and furniture's (1.4).

She said non-alcoholic beverages inflation rate for the month of October, 2020 has stagnated at 3.4 per cent as it was recorded in September, 2020.

In comparison with other East African countries of Kenya and Uganda, she said the annual inflation rate in Kenya for the year ended October, 2020 has decreased to 4.84 percent to 4.20 percent for the year ended September, 2020.

For Uganda the annual headline inflation rate for the year ended October, 2020 has stagnated at 4.5 per cent as that recorded for the year ended October, 2020.

She said non-alcoholic beverages inflation rate for the month of October, 2020 has stagnated at 3.4 per cent as it was recorded in September, 2020

Hold high hopes in new govt - Zanzibar Second VP

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE newly appointed Zanzibar Second Vice President, Hemed, Suleiman Abdullah has said Zanzibaris should have high hopes in the new government that will be accountable in pursuit for their development.

He said the accountability, under Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi leadership would entail the exclusion of officials who embrace immorality, embezzlers of

public funds and negligent.

Abdulla told reporters here at the weekend that leaders, public officials and the people of Zanzibar should understand that the pace for the provision of basic social services and community development and economic growth would depend on close cooperation between the government and the people.

He praised President Mwinyi for the trust on him for the heavy responsibilities

given and which, he added, he would do his level best to implement to satisfy Zanzibaris' yearnings for better life.

Abdulla assured the people of Zanzibar that as the government's main administrator, he would not be ready to see negligence of any kind by government officials.

Abdulla was appointed on Sunday as the Isles' Second Vice President.

According to Chief Secretary of the Revolutionary government of Zanzibar,

Dr Abdulhamid Yahya Mzee, President Mwinyi made the appointment as per the section 39 (1) of Zanzibar's Constitution of 1984.


The law required the newly elected President to appoint leaders within seven days after swearing in.

Before his appointment, Hemed Suleiman Abdullah was the Pemba South Regional Commissioner and his appointment started with immediate effect yesterday.



The law required the newly elected President to appoint leaders within seven days after swearing in

RE: THE LAND ACT NO. 4 OF 1999
LOSS OF ORIGINAL LETTER OF OFFER
LOSS OF ORIGINAL LETTER OF OFFER OF
REF. NO. LD/2237/12/MHKV
REGISTERED OWNER: HABIB MAULID
P.O. Box 3417
DAR ES SALAAM.
LAND: PLOT NO. 472 BLOCK 'B'
MIKOCHENI AREA IN KINONDONI
MUNICIPALITY
DAR ES SALAAM CITY.
APPLICANT: HEMED MAULID YUSUPH,
P.O. Box 3417
DAR ES SALAAM.
TAKE NOTICE that the ORIGINAL LETTER OF
OFFER to the land described above is said to
be lost and that I intend to issue a CERTIFIED
TRUE COPY OF THE ORIGINAL LETTER OF
OFFER in lieu thereof unless cause to the
contrary is shown within one month from the
date of this publication.
THE ORIGINAL LETTER OF OFFER if found,
should be delivered to the office of the
Kinondoni Municipal Director of P.O. Box
31902, DAR ES SALAAM.
Gillian S. Lubiano
REGISTERED OFFICER
KINONDONI MUNICIPAL COUNCIL



QUOTATION NO. TRA SACCOS/2020/01
QUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
FOR PURCHASE OF LANDED PROPERTY (LAND & BUILDING) IN DAR ES SALAAM

Date: 9th November, 2020

1.0 TRA SACCOS LTD is a registered Savings and Credit Co-operative Society established under the current governing Co-operative Societies Act No. 06 of 2013. The main objective of TRA SACCOS LTD as an employee-based SACCOS is to mobilize savings from members and in return provide credit facilities.

TRA SACCOS LTD during FY 2020, as part of its improvement of services set aside budget with intention to acquire its own landed property (Land & Building) for the establishment of Head Quarter Offices in Dar es Salaam city. TRA SACCOS LTD invites Landowners/Agents to submit bids for selling their landed properties from listed locations in Dar es Salaam city.

2.0 The prospective property shall have the following attributes: -

FACTORS	DESCRIPTION
1. Location and Locality	Along Morogoro Road (Between Ubungo and Fire), Shekiango Road (Sinza and Kijitonyama Areas), Old Bagamoyo Road in Mikochei Area, Sam Nujoma Road (Between Ubungo and Mwenge) and Kinondoni area (Along Kawawa Road from Magomeni to Morocco) The plots should be: - ✓ Within 100m from Main Road, ✓ Within the surveyed area, ✓ Medium density, ✓ Free from any environmental hazards,
2. Size	Between 700sqm and above
3. Services	Accessible and serviced with Water and Electricity
4. Ownership and Tenure	Long term Right of Occupancy, unexpired Certificate of Title free from any encumbrances
5. Planning Regulations	Land use zoned for Office/Commercial purposes

3.0 Sealed proposals from Land Owners/Agents of landed properties intending to sell their properties shall submit the documents with the following information: -
i) Full names and address of occupier
ii) Location and Locality of the premises
iii) Plot dimensions
iv) Services/Facilities available
v) Ownership (attach copy Title Deed),
vi) Photocopy of owner's ID. (Passport or National ID)
vii) Asking Price (In TANZANIA SHILLINGS VAT INCLUSIVE)
viii) Any other relevant information

4.0 Note: All Legal fees such as land rent, property tax, service charges, agent fees and transfer costs shall be incurred by land owner,

5.0 Sealed Proposals Marked "TENDER FOR PURCHASE OF LANDED PROPERTY IN DAR ES SALAAM" must be submitted to the address (1) below on or before 1st December, 2020 at 10.00 hours. Late proposals will be rejected. Proposals will be opened in the presence of prospective Landowners/Agents representatives who choose to attend at the address (2) below immediately after 10.00 hours on 1st December, 2020.

6.0 Electronic, faxed and late tender will be rejected and shall not be considered for evaluation.

Address
TRA SACCOS Board,
TRA SACCOS LTD,
P.O Box 63225,
Dar es Salaam
5th Floor - Mariam Towers Building Shaurimoyo
Simu: +255 712494312, +255 765986455, +255 684 557070

Board Chairperson
TRA SACCOS LTD

Employment Opportunity

Our client is a locally registered company dealing with the exploration and production of oil and gas, with operations in Tanzania. In line with its strategy to expand its operations in Tanzania, our client is looking to recruit dynamic and competent Tanzanians with outstanding integrity and good record of enforcing accountability, governance, internal controls and risk management in order to ensure compliance as well as the sustainability of the company. We are inviting interested and qualified individuals to apply for the position of Chief Accountant and Business Analyst, both based in Dar es Salaam.

1. Chief Accountant (Ref: DES/CA/10-20)
Job Purpose
The Chief Accountant is in-charge of both financial and management accounting activities, including monitoring financial position, preparing performance reports, observing internal control, and ensuring compliance with statutory requirements.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

- Developing and maintaining accounting processes and procedures;
- Managing of assets and liabilities i.e. general accounting, tax accounting, accounts payable and accounts receivable;
- Adhering to tax, legal and other statutory requirements in handling financial transactions;
- Ensuring integrity of the general ledger by maintaining a strong framework of internal controls;
- Monitoring financial position and cashflows to optimize cash, bank balances and financial investments;
- Preparing and submitting monthly financial reports to the Group;
- Reviewing and recommending changes if any to existing accounting procedures;
- Responding to accounting inquiries from management in a timely fashion; and
- Maintaining good working relationships with external auditors and representatives from the revenue authority.

Pers on Specifications

- Bachelor's degree in Accounting, Finance, Economics, Business Administration or equivalent;
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA);
- 5 years relevant working experience at a senior level;
- Demonstrated experience effectively managing a team and engaging with multiple stakeholders.

2. Business Analyst (Ref: DES/BA/10-20)
Job Purpose
The Business Analyst is responsible for analysing, reporting and developing insights on financial performance and compliance with operational procedures and policies. In addition, the Analyst is required to use data to develop financial models and reports that guide management in making sound and timely decision.

Key Duties and Responsibilities

- Leading the budgeting process through consultation with the relevant budget holders;
- Performing detailed budget variance analysis, including tracking activities, identify problem root cause, outlining solutions, preparing reports and recommending changes;
- Designing and implementing new reporting format enabling better monitoring of costs and more reliable financial information;
- Improving processes by studying current practices and designing modifications;
- Recommend controls by identifying problems and writing improved procedures;
- Determining internal audit scope, developing annual plans and present audit results;
- Identifying risk areas and develop mitigating strategies; and
- Identifying economic/industry trends in oil and gas; scanning competitive landscape; developing insights and recommendations to management.

Pers on Specifications

- Master's degree in Accounting, Finance, Economics, Business Administration or equivalent;
- 5 years relevant working experience at a senior level;
- Demonstrated experience effectively managing a team and engaging with multiple stakeholders.
- Excellent communication skills;
- High proficiency in MS Excel and analysis of financial and business information.

If you believe you are the right candidate for this position, kindly submit your application with a detailed CV, photocopies of academic certificate, and names of three referees with their contacts. To apply, kindly log onto our e-recruitment platform via <https://apply.workable.com/deloitte-eastafrica/>. Applications deadline is 13 November 2020. All applications MUST be submitted through the e-recruitment portal. Email or hard copy applications will not be accepted.

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'Support the fight against corruption'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr Aloyce Nzuki has called on workers in the ministry to support the fight against corruption, saying as public servants they ought to set example.

He said by so doing, they will be able to carry out their duties as expected and serve members of the public in accordance with the law. The PS made the statement while officiating at the opening of a one-day capacity building training for over 130 workers from different departments and sections in the ministry.

He reminded them that corruption is one of the vices that the fifth phase government is doing all it takes to deal with.

"Corruption is the biggest enemy to provision of justice and as you all know the government does not tolerate any corruption activities" said Dr Nzuki.

According to the PS, the training was convened for capacity building in various areas like document filing and file use of different government documents.

Some six presentations were to be made at the meeting including the procedures and use files, storage of government documents, government guidelines and procedures introduced in 2020, ethics in public service, national security law, corruption and education on non-communicable diseases.

The three main 2020 government procedures and guidelines include specific paper for government official letters, how to write government documents and public service identification guide.

Dr Nzuki explained that some ministry officials who do not understand on proper use of files, documentation and security of the files.

"Due to improper storage of files

some information that are not intended for all people get to the wrong audience" he said, adding that it is an area that needs serious attention.

He expressed hope that through the training, workers in the ministry will be able to air out some of the key challenges they face as far as storage, filing and documentation of files are concerned and help reduce lose of files and documents.

He called on the participants to strong adhere to the training since it will help them improve on their daily performance and strengthen the ministry's performance.

The PS urged them to work diligently, saying by so doing they will meet the huge expectations of the government. "We have a big task to improve services to the people since by the name itself we are called public servants, we have to serve the public that through their taxes we get paid salaries and government provide services," he noted.

He also challenged the workers to have a routine health checkups, regularly do exercise and be watchful on the kind of food they eat in effort to control non-communicable diseases.



We have a big task to improve services to the people since by the name itself we are called public servants, we have to serve the public that through their taxes we get paid salaries and government provide services



Kahama district commissioner Anamringi Macha addresses members of the business community at a meeting organised by NMB Bank Plc, the focus being on ways to improve working relations between the two parties for the benefit of both. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

AVOCADO growers in Njombe Region have appealed to the government's intervention in reducing the cost of inputs they use to enable them benefit from the crop that was now widely being grown in the region.

Elijius Wela, an avocado farmer and director of Madebe company that deals in transplanting crop seedlings from seedbeds to farms told reporters at his farm that for many farmers the main challenge they face was the cost of inputs and were asking for the government to intervene by adequate subsidy to spur the region's economic growth.

He said the people have been well mobilized in taking up avocado growing due to its commercial demand

Avocado growers want govt's intervention over input costs

and has helped many farmers.

"True, avocado pays, because from one well attended acre of the crop, and after the trees thereof attain seven years, a farmer can get not less than 20m/-. but we nonetheless thank the government for its encouragement to cultivate a crop that has high demand in the world market," Wela added.

Baraka Muyamba and Jiskaka Mwalyeo, workers at an avocado seed farm in Kifanya village in Njombe District owned by Madebe company said, apart from the work at the farm, they have been much attracted by the

cultivation of avocado due to its big profit. "To start with, the company has provided us with employment and I have personally been attracted by the cultivation of the crop, but we still continue to get more knowledge," said Baraka Muyamba.

His companion, Jiskaka Mwalyeo said: "I'm here doing grafting work and I must say that the crop grows well in Njombe Region and I now have a 60-acre farm being prepared in Mbeya and some farms are still forest areas that have been lined up for avocado growing."

Make a Forest Develop Best (MADEBE) Company Ltd manager, Sadam Fundikila said the company deals in the provision of various agriculture services especially in avocado farming, and has been of great assistance to the residents of Kifanya village as it employs 200 casual labourers and five others on permanent basis.

"Apart from our provision of services on fruits and forest products we have also established an avocado farming group that will solely deal in avocado growing," Fundikila said.

NIT instructors receive IATA short-term course

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Institute of Transport (NIT) has managed to procure short term training course for its instructors, from the International Air Transport Association (IATA).

The course begun on September 28 and ended November 4 this year and was aimed to facility the instructors to be able attain international standards in regard to instruction.

One NIT instructors who benefited from the course included pilots from Air Tanzania Ltd (ATCL), Precision Air, Government Aircraft Agency, officials from the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) and lecturers from NIT's main technological school.

He said the course included quality management system for civil aviation, instruction techniques, safety management system for civil aviation, human factors, aviation internal auditor crew resource management and implementation.

"About 150 instructors and other experts benefitted from the training courses conducted at NIT, this was a great achievement," he said. Speaking to reporters at closing ceremony of the training courses at NIT main campus at Mabibo at the weekend, the head of NIT's main technological school Denis Mwangeni said: "We have completed IATA's short term course, and now our instructors have some wide

knowledge in all essential areas of their activities."

Mwangeni also said that NIT is already IATA recognised centre for teaching four courses that include airline customer service, airport operations fundamentals, global distribution systems fares and ticketing-amadeus.

He said NIT's aim at increasing IATA courses to satisfy the expanding needs in the aviation sector that was fast growing in the country. "In addition NIT will start offering both degrees and diploma courses on avionics including short courses on aircraft mechanics," he said.

Speaking during the closing ceremony of the IATA course, IATA instructor from Houston, USA Andre Aurelien told NIT instructors who received training that the main thing to take into consideration was safety. An ARCL pilot, Hilal Fuad who benefited from the training said: "NIT made a very good decision to come up with such course because it provides in-depth skills and knowledge in regard to the aviation sector."

NIT reactor, Prof Zacharia Mganilwa said the institute was finalising the process for all procedures for establishing pilots' training courses during the coming academic year.

In addition, NIT received USD 21.25 million (about 47bn/-) from the government as loan from the World Bank to strengthen air transport courses in the country.

Related story in Business Section



EXPRESSION OF INTEREST OUTSOURCING OF MATERIAL HANDLING

MBEYA CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED (MCCL) is a subsidiary of the LafargeHolcim Group with its industrial operations based in Songwe, Plot No. 1 Industrial Area, Mbeya. MCCL now invites all interested companies to participate in expression of interest for provision of material handling services at MCC company site.

Scope of material handling includes, internal movements of raw materials, fuels, semi finished and finished products. Cleaning and clearing of stockpiles inside the plant. Nature of material includes Pozzolana, Clay, Gypsum, Sandstone, Coal, Rice husks and clinker.

Interested companies should be able to provide but not limited to the required equipment listed: Excavator, Wheel loader, Bull Dozer, Dump trucks, Tele handler, Crane and rock breaker.

Interested companies meeting following minimum requirements should respond to this EO:

5

- Contractor shall have a minimum of three (03) years' experience in provision of material handling services and or rental of mobile equipment and lifting equipment.
- Positive net worth in each of the immediately preceding two financial years.
- Suitable HSE, Social and Quality policy.

Interested Companies are requested to submit the following documents while responding to this EO:

- Letter of interest clearly indicating the project reference, and years of experience in similar services.
- List of current Equipment (MHE - Mobile Heavy Equipment) owned with condition status.
- Registration details of the fleet of MHE with age, make, capacity (Copies of registration cards).

Interested companies that meet the minimum requirements and have the capacity to undertake the works mentioned above should express their interest by sending together with a copy of their Contractor Registration Certificate, an email to mcc.tender@lafargeholcim.com on or before 17:00 hours East African Time (EAT), on 19th November 2020.

Companies satisfactorily meeting the above minimum requirements will receive a detailed pre-qualification questionnaire for further evaluation by Company.

Note: Only shortlisted companies/contractors shall receive call for Invitation for tender



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Secrecy hampering fight against GBV in Zanzibar - activists

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR-based human rights activists have cited culture of secrecy as one of the challenges that make gender-based violence (GBV) war to fail with some cases being removed from court.

They were speaking here at the stakeholders meeting that involved human rights defenders in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Mohamed Khatib described the culture of secrecy as a thorn that ruins the fight against GBV in the Island, whereby incidences are either resolved at family level or quashed by corruption orchestrated by family members, police or other law enforcement agencies.

Khatib, who is also the Tanzania Media Women's Association (Tamwa, Zanzibar) monitoring and evaluation officer said that most of GBV incidents are committed by family members—parents, guardians and relatives.

"Majority of violence related cases ends up without getting concrete solution, sometimes the victims or their families have been keeping quiet on this, the surrounding communities are also not ready to provide cooperation when it comes across acts of abuse," he said.

Khatib said that violence against women and children remains one of the most serious human rights violations in the country which calls for determined efforts to curb it.

"Let us all together protect our children, let us fight violence against women and children by making sure we provide the required cooperation to the law enforcement agencies, parents should also support their children to enable their children to provide evidence in court for them to access justice," he said.

He also said that some parents end up negotiating with suspects of violence thus killing the whole case.

He stressed on the need for more education and awareness programmes especially to under-served communities in various parts in the country.

One of the parents whose child was

abducted and raped (name withheld), said if it was not for his personal efforts, his case could not have reached the court.

"I remember at the time when my case was at its initial stages, at one of the police stations in the Southern Region of Unguja, the police officers wanted to dismiss the case," he said.

He further said "I didn't go back, I decided to go to the District Commissioner and then the case was revived and taken to court and eventually the accused was sentenced five years in prison."

He called on the community to stop being softened with bribes when their children are subjected to such violent acts because by doing so, it degrades even further the child's dignity.

Another victim (name withheld) whose child was raped, said his child's case took longer time at the police station, which he claimed was also going to be dismissed.

"After feeling that things are not normal at the police station, I decided to seek help from a lawyer, a move which seemed to annoy the police officers but I was not ready to back out," the victim said.

The case file is already in the office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) pending for the date to be sent to the court.



I remember at the time when my case was at its initial stages, at one of the police stations in the Southern Region of Unguja, the police officers wanted to dismiss the case



Tigo Tanzania managing director Simon Karikari (C) takes part in an annual Colour Festival sponsored by the mobile phone service provider and held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Morogoro launches ultra-modern commuter bus stand worth 767m/-

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa,

Morogoro

AUTHORITIES in Morogoro has launched ultra-modern commuter bus stand at Kaloleni worth 767.6m/-, making the municipality with three facilities of the same status.

Speaking at the launch of the facility, Morogoro District Commissioner, Bakari Msulwa said the new bus stop is part of the municipal's efforts to transform the municipality to gain

city status.

DC Msulwa described the construction of the commuter bus stand as key in face-lifting the municipality, which is eyeing towards attaining city status.

"Morogoro has been a municipality for more than 30 years, which is a long time, that's why we're working hard to ensure that we meet the required standards for us to become a city," the DC said.

He however asked users of the inaugurated facility to maintain it for the benefit of the general public.

Msulwa also urged commuter bus drivers and the general public to be responsible in maintaining the stand's infrastructure.

"We want to see this facility benefit individuals economically and the government too," he stressed.

Municipal Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURAO) manager, Mneke James said the commuter bus stand has been completed by 100 per cent and has the capacity of accommodating 50 commuter buses at a go.

Once start operating, he said that

the facility will be able to generate 3m/- per month and will provide opportunities for traders to do businesses in the area.

Construction of commuter bus stand at Kaloleni in the municipality started October, last year and was to be executed by the Dar es Salaam-based Fast Construction Ltd, but the tender was terminated after the firm had terminated the contract and the task was given to Nadra Engineering Construction Ltd, which accomplished the project.

Health experts, researchers meet to see ways to handle non-communicable diseases

By Guardian Reporter

CHIEF Medical Officer, Dr Abel Makubi has called on health institutions and researchers to invest in scientific research to enable the people protect themselves against non-communicable diseases that are said to be increasing in the country and becoming fatal.

He made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday when opening the second scientific conference to mark the Prevention and Control of Non-communicable Diseases Week saying the diseases have been affecting virtually every person with others losing their lives.

The conference themed: "Strengthening Health Systems to Prevent Non-Communicable diseases" saw the submission of more than 200 researches via speeches and placards.

Dr Makubi said the diseases have greatly affected the nation through loss of its knowhow.

"The diseases cause severe dependency and sufferers failing to treat themselves as well as causing a great burden to the entire health system due to many of them staying in hospitals for long time," he said.

Dr Makubi said national statistics for 2017 showed the diseases contribute to 33 per cent of all deaths out of the 134,600 cases reported.

"Many of these deaths were attributed to heart diseases and blood pressure (13 per cent), diabetes (two per cent), cancer (seven per cent) and accidents (11 per cent)," he said.

He said the situation was not acceptable at all and they have assembled for self-evaluation and plan joint strategies to tackle the challenge.

"We like to get your recommendations that are implementable for them to reach all stakeholders," he added.

Muhimbili Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) Deputy Principal who deals on Professional, Research and Advice issues, Prof Appolinary Kamuhabwa said the conference aims at working together on issues of various researches that had been done.

He said they will share the results thereof in order to control non-communicable diseases.

"Many of these deaths were attributed to heart diseases and blood pressure (13 per cent), diabetes (two per cent), cancer (seven per cent) and accidents (11 per cent)"



Domestic tourists quench their thirst, most with coconut juice, at Magoroto Forest Estate in Muheza District, Tanga Region, at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

Contractors urged to be more professional

By Special Correspondent, Songea

RUVUMA Regional Manager of Tanzania Building Agency (TBA) Elias Tilya has urged contractors to observe professionalism when executing government projects.

Tilya told newsmen here at the weekend as he was enumerating accomplishment by his office during the Financial Year 2019/2020.

He said they have been dealing with unfaithful contractors who refurbished buildings belonging to the government and its institutions, the situation that has contributed to delays in the completion of the projects.

"You pay a contractor to complete work on project 'X', he takes the money and diverts it to another project of his own. Such situation has been delaying the completion of the projects, the situation that sometimes necessitate the suspension of the project and given to another contractor," he said.

He said as for now the building for the Nyasa District Commissioner has been completed and was being utilized, as well as the office building of Madaba District Executive Director.

Tilya said construction work of the administrative building for Nyasa District Executive director, whose contractor was SUMA JKT and of which TBA was the supervisor was proceeding well.

He said another project which TBA is supervising is the refurbishment of water laboratory for Nyasa River Basin, but work stopped due to technical reasons in the contract agreement, but later work resumed under another contractor -Intercity Company based in Dar es Salaam.

He added: "Another challenge we have been facing is lack of building materials from many shops needed as per contract agreements of the projects, the situation that forced us to procure the same from outside the region causing more delays of the projects."

"You pay a contractor to complete work on project 'X', he takes the money and diverts it to another project of his own. Such situation has been delaying the completion of the projects, the situation that sometimes necessitate the suspension of the project and given to another contractor"

'Pemba vigilant in averting violence'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Social Welfare office in Wete District, Pemba has said that some 57 violence cases have been reported at the office in the period between July and September, this year.

The situation calls for more coordinated efforts to fight violence against women and children.

Speaking during the stakeholders meeting held here yesterday, Khadija Mwadini Haji, Wete District planning officer said that violence actions have adversely affected communities in the Isles but authorities and stakeholders have been working hard to fight the vice.

She said that the cases include lack of proper parenting, rape, defiling, human trafficking and abandonment.

"Among the 57 cases, 34 of them have been resolved, six are on process, two cases have been sent to court and others are in police. This is a very huge challenge as we have also found out that majority of children do not receive good care, they are either neglected by their parents or having single parent which is hard for them to get all the basic needs on time," she said.

"In our interrogations and investigation, we also found that majority of fathers have been skipping their responsibilities by not taking care of their children, in solving the cases, social welfare officers have been facing several challenges to find the fathers because others do not have jobs or any income generating activities to enable them feed their children," she asserted.

Siti Suleiman Juma, member of the Anti-violence committee urged the general public to support the fight against violence against women and children which include reporting incidents of rape, beating and other related incidents of abuse.

"I have been witnessing children attending various events such as public rallies, marriage celebrations and other occasions which are not suitable for them. In these events, some children

are reportedly being abused, so we should put closer eye to our children," she said.

Hamad Salim also a member of the committee from Kadhi court in Wete said that in the period between July and September, this year, the court received 19 cases which include those of divorce, children bearing challenges and other cases of violence.

For her part, coordinator of the Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA)-Pemba Fathiya Mussa Said hinted on the note that discrimination and violence was not only confined to women but also children as well a situation which needs combined efforts to ensure that the children lives safely and attain their life dreams.

She wanted the committee to invest much of its efforts in educating the public on the impacts of violence which also include capacitating children with essential skills which would enable them to be part of the fight.

"We have several platforms to disseminate the information, let us use the media and other networks to educate the impacts of violence in our communities," she added.



I have been witnessing children attending various events such as public rallies, marriage celebrations and other occasions which are not suitable for them



The rehabilitation of this Tanga city street has stalled for quite some time, seriously inconveniencing road users. Correspondent Oscar Kasimiri's roving camera captured this scene yesterday.

By Guardian Correspondent, Songea

TANZANIA Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) in Ruvuma Region has in the period of July to September this year rescued more than 107.4m/- from various investigations it had been conducting on graft.

Hamza Mwenda, Ruvuma Region PCCB Head told reporters here recently that the achievement was made possible through collaboration with various stakeholders.

He said 488,000/- was from repayment of Mbinga Community Bank (MCB) loans, the money of which was paid to the PCCB Director's Account in

PCCB in Ruvuma 'saves' 107.4m/- in three months

the Bank of Tanzania (BoT). He said another 94,420,845/= was rescued from various ongoing investigations in various Saving and Credit Cooperative Societies (SACCOS) in Songea Region, and 1,436,000/= was repayment of Muungano SACCOS loans in Namtumbo District. Mwenda said 2,465,000/- was

repayment of Mbinga Teachers SACCOS loans and 1,779,000/- repayment of Mbinga Directorate SACCOS loans that had been deposited in relative cooperative societies.

He explained that 5,890,000/- was money rescued in Nyasa District from a fictitious loan to one Ufunuo Chirwa from a Maboto Institution

official as the creditor was required to pay 4,000,000/= but the figure was dishonestly increased to 9,890,000/=.

Mwenda appealed to the people to continue working together with the bureau in the fight against graft through reproving and deliberate acts in reporting all incidents of corruption to the bureau.



NBC Bank managing director Theobald Sabi (R) looks on as student Emmanuel Abel of Dar es Salaam's Ghome Secondary School continues with a science experiment, done at the weekend as part of a graduation ceremony. Second right is the school's director, Dr Emmanuel Malangalila. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

CCM in Manyara Region set to elect aspirants for councils' top positions

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

CCM Executive Committee in Manyara Region has convened members to recommend three names from among several aspirants vying for chairman and vice chairman positions for each of the seven local and urban councils in the region.

This was revealed here yesterday by Jacob Siay, the region's CCM's Publicity Secretary as he enlightened on the process, saying for regional level, the process will be done in two days in Babati town.

He said after the party's Regional Executive Committee recommended three names for chairmanship for each district, the same would be referred to the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the National Executive Committee (NEC) in Dodoma for nomination.

Siay said thereafter the CCM Central Committee will return three names that will eventually be voted by CCM Councillors-elect to get one name for each local council.

"Various councillors-elect have come forward to collect nomination forms for contesting chairmanship in five district councils of Babati, Simanjiro,

Kiteto, Hanang' and Mbulu and two urban councils for Babati and Mbulu," he said.

In regard to Simanjiro District Council, he said there are five aspirants for chairman and two for vice chairman, whereas in Mbulu District six people were vying for chairman and five for vice chairman.

He added that Hanang District has nine aspirants for chairman and five for vice chairman while Kiteto District has nine vying for chairman and four for vice chairman.

In regard to Mbulu Town Council, he said there are four aspiring for chairmanship and three for vice chairmanship, whereas Babati Town Council has six vying for chairmanship and two for vice chairmanship.

"Various councillors-elect have come forward to collect nomination forms for contesting chairmanship in five district councils of Babati, Simanjiro, Kiteto, Hanang' and Mbulu and two urban councils for Babati and Mbulu"

Come up with rain water harvesting strategy, NWB told

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

PERMANENT Secretary in the Ministry of Water Anthony Sanga has directed the National Water Board (NWB) to come up with a special strategy on rain water harvesting for future use.

Sanga made the directives over the

weekend while inaugurating the 13th meeting of the board.

According to him, Tanzania is blessed with plenty of rains annually, which if well used, will be able to increase access of water and thus fight water blues hitting dwellers in various parts of the country. "The water board should fast-track the process and make

sure that it comes up with a strong and innovative strategy to harvest rain water countrywide, it is high time now that we invest in efforts and ensure that we don't lose rain water," he said.

The PS said that the government has done a lot in ensuring that water sources are protected.

He said that the current major focus

should be in the construction and improvement of water wells and dams across the country to enable sufficient supply of water.

For his part, NWB chairman Prof Hamisi Nkatagu said that the board is well prepared to ensure that the country has sufficient water both in urban and rural areas.

"We will arrange a meeting to discuss the issue we will also invite a water resource expert to guide us well on how to implement the strategy, so all the directives issued by the Permanent Secretary will be implemented, we will work to come up with modern technologies to support rain water harvesting," he said.

Reports show that, only 57 percent of Tanzania's population has access to an improved source of safe water, and only 34 percent of population has access to improved sanitation. Under these circumstances, the poor, particularly women and girls spend a significant amount of time travelling long distances to collect water.

The Guardian

TUESDAY 10 NOVEMBER 2020

Taking A New Look
At The News
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Palm oil production in Tanzania should follow a more sustainable path forward

PALM oil production continues to grow steadily throughout the world. "Production has been doubling worldwide every 10 years during the past 40 years," says Thomas Mielke, CEO of the market analysis firm Oil World. "Palm oil has become the most important vegetable oil worldwide."

That's because it's cheap, and there are more uses for it all the time. It's in all kinds of packaged food, from crackers to ice cream to instant noodles, and the rapidly growing consumption of processed foods globally is a big reason for the exploding demand. It's also used in soap and cosmetics, in biodiesel, and as a mineral oil replacement. And because it is a very productive crop, impacts on land use could be even greater if the world were to try to replace palm with a different vegetable oil.

Palm oil is an edible vegetable oil derived from the reddish pulp of the fruit of the oil palms, primarily the African oil palm. The use of palm oil in food products has attracted the concern of environmental groups; the high oil yield of the trees has encouraged wider cultivation, leading to the clearing of forests in parts of world to make space for oil-palm monoculture.

Humans used oil palms as far back as 5,000 years. Palm oil from has long been recognized in African countries, and is widely used as a cooking oil. Palm oil became a highly sought-after commodity by British traders for use as an industrial lubricant for machinery during Britain's Industrial Revolution.

The Prisons Department has started processing palm oil at its recently-completed plant in Bagamoyo, Coast Region, in a bid to help the country cut dependency on imported edible oil which stands at 60 per cent.

The plant has a capacity to produce 2000 litres of palm oil and 1000 litres of palm nut oil per day.

The plant had already begun to produce 300 litres of palm oil per day for the domestic market, mainly for use by Prisons officers and inmates as well as soap-making in small and medium

industries.

The plant, located at Kimbiji, whose construction was completed last December, is operated by Prisons officials working with inmates through rehabilitation programmes the department operates. So far around 200 acres of land has been allocated at Kimbiji for palm tree farming so that the plant obtains raw materials for palm oil and palm nut oil production.

The demand of palm oil and palm nuts oil is huge in the market. In a bid to increase production, the department plans to build another plant at Kwitanga in Kigoma Region whose feasibility study is underway. A wide ranging shortage of edible oil was felt last year after six local refineries suspended production of the commodity for lack of unrefined oil.

Since then, the government has been seeking investments in edible oil processing to help bridge a supply gap of 320,000 tonnes.

Tanzania's annual demand for edible oil stands at 500,000 tonnes, whereas the country can supply around 180,000 tonnes and is thus compelled to import 320,000 tonnes annually. With demand forecast to rise from 500,000 at present to 700,000 tonnes by 2030, there is a growing market for investors the product for the foreseeable future.

In indeed we commend the government's decision to disburse about 1.4bn/- to Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) as budget support to increase production. Among other things, the money is also intended to support the state-owned institution to research and produce enough palm oil seedlings to farmers and inculcate in extension officers and farmers agronomic skills to cultivate the cash crop professionally.

The focus was to produce 5,000,000 seedlings annually. Centre, however, said there was a need for the government to think of increasing relevant budget allocations to have the much-needed strategy to fetch intended results. As of June 20, this year, the centre had already produced 1,805,868 seedlings, which sufficed to cover 36,117 acres.

Scientific literacy is a prerequisite for effective democratic processes

WORLD Science Day for Peace and Development is an international day that highlights the important role that science has in society and is celebrated each year on November 10. It also highlights the need to engage the wider public in debates on emerging scientific issues. World Science Day was proclaimed by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 2001 and celebrated for the first time in 2002.

By linking science more closely with society, World Science Day aims to ensure that citizens are kept informed of developments in science. It also underscores the role scientists play in broadening our understanding of the planet we call home and in making our societies more sustainable.

The objectives of World Science Day for Peace and Development are to: Strengthen public awareness on the role of science for peaceful and sustainable societies; promote national and international solidarity for shared science between countries; renew national and international commitment for the use of science for the benefit of societies; draw attention to the challenges faced by science and raising support for the scientific endeavour.

Individuals and institutions around the world are encouraged to organise an event or activity on World Science Day, including government officials, students, the media and school pupils. World Science Day for Peace and Development has generated many concrete projects, programmes and funding for science around the world.

It has also helped foster cooperation between scientists living in regions marred by conflict, one example being the UNESCO-supported creation of the Israeli-Palestinian Science Organisation (IPSO).

The impact of science on people's daily life and its profound societal implications, including those of an ethical nature, make scientific literacy a prerequisite for effective democratic processes. At the World Conference on Science in Budapest, Hungary, in July 1999, which had been co-organised by UNESCO and the International Council for Science (now the International Science Council), many delegates voiced support for greater public awareness of science. The delegations of Ethiopia and Malawi, together with the British Association for the Advancement of Science, proposed that a World Science Day or World Science Week be created.

Subsequently, the action plan adopted by delegates to the World Conference on Science, entitled Science Agenda-Framework for Action, called for an international programme to promote broad-based scientific literacy and culture. UNESCO's Executive Board, which meets twice a year, was responsive to these calls, recommending at its session (Paris, October 1999) that a feasibility study be undertaken on a Science Day for Peace and Development.

The feasibility study encompassed a broad consultation with stakeholders and was approved by UNESCO's Executive Board in October 2000 before being endorsed by the UNESCO General Conference (Paris, October-November 2001).

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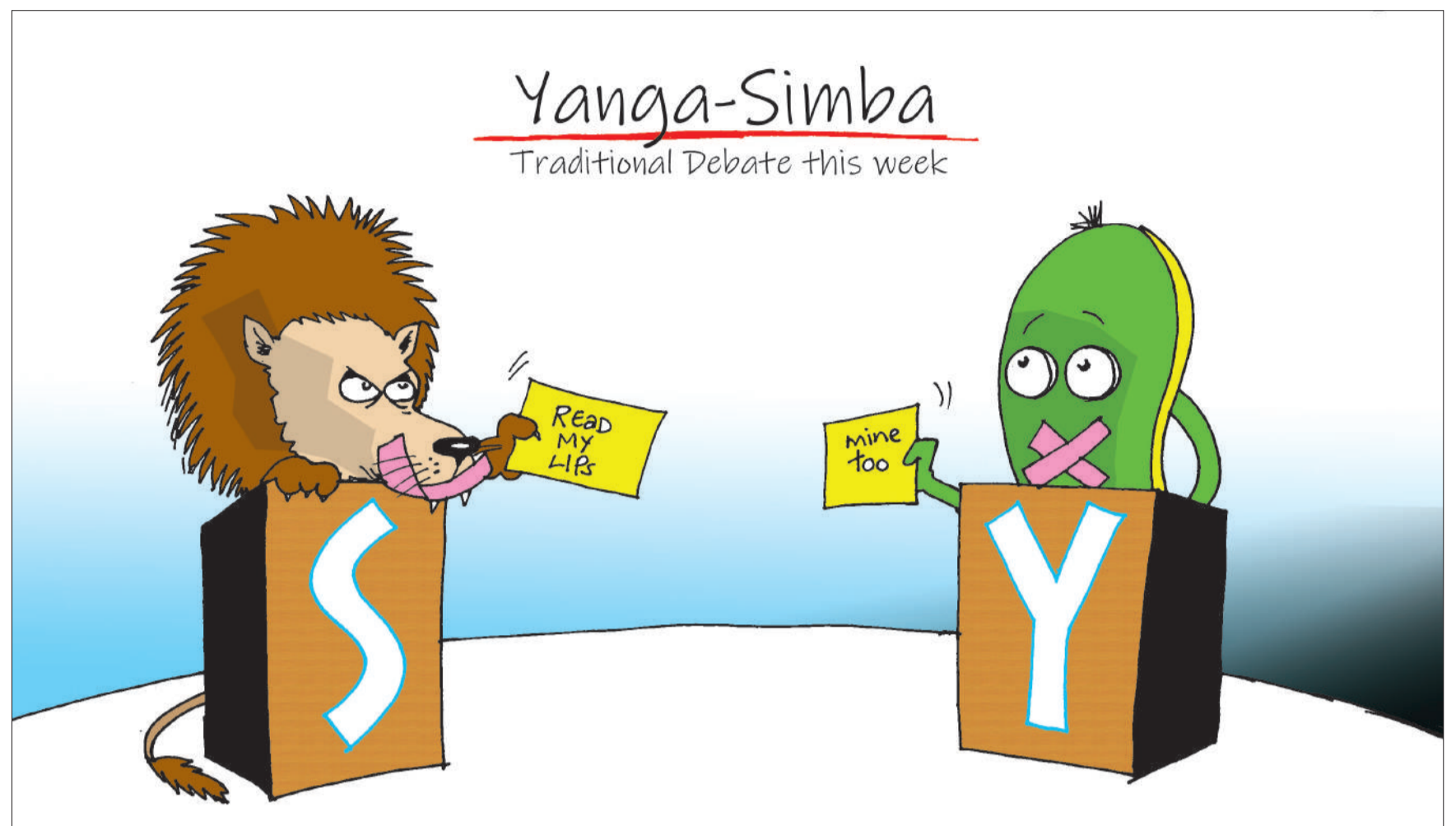
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SA judiciary under attack from outside and within

By Professor Balhazar

CAN we continue to be complacent about the legitimacy of the judiciary, in particular, and the legal system in general? A number of unrelated incidents over the past few weeks provide real cause for concern.

Let us start with Jacob Zuma and his continuing efforts to evade any accountability for State Capture. Despite more than 30 witnesses testifying before the Zondo Commission about his involvement, Zuma shows no intention of providing his version of events.

His Stalingrad legal strategy is alive and well. It now focuses on the integrity of the chair of the commission, Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo. This is the same judge about whom Zuma, as president, lodged no objection when the Chief Justice appointed Justice Zondo to chair the commission and is the same judge that Zuma elevated to the position of Deputy Chief Justice. Suddenly, the same Zuma casts aspersions on the character of Justice Zondo as soon as the judge seeks to hold him accountable to the very commission that he appointed, admittedly most reluctantly.

We must always remember that the nefarious rent-seeking and widespread corruption that dominated a decade cost South Africa billions that should have been employed to transform the lives of millions who continue to live on

By Sam Ikela

A PART from the obvious impact of months of lockdown regulations on business turnover and profitability, one of the biggest challenges that faced organisations during the first few months of Covid-19 was a complete lack of data.

The world has never faced a situation quite like this, and given the significant dependence of businesses on data for strategy development and decision-making, most companies found themselves having to 'shoot from the hip' given that there was now a structural break in their data flows, and they had no access to any particularly relevant customer, industry or economic data to analyse and inform their decisions.

Nine months later, some data is available.

The question now is: How can businesses leverage the Covid-19-related data they have access to in a way that enhances their effectiveness and growth? Perhaps more importantly, businesses need to be considering how they can apply the available data to rethink the way they do business in an operating environment that is likely to be very different from what it was up until the end of 2019.

A good example of this is digitisation.

the margins rather than be used to fill offshore bank accounts and purchase properties and fancy cars.

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That the man who presided over the country during this perversity refuses to provide his version of events and instead directs ad hominem attacks against the industrious second-most senior judge in the country is bad enough. That it is aided and abetted by others who advise him and is given oxygen in the media compounds the disgrace.

But the Deputy Chief Justice is not the only target. In a lengthy interview given, admittedly, to a little-known media outlet, the Judge President of the Western Cape High Court, John Hlophe, accuses Chief Justice Mogoeng Mogoeng of rank dishonesty by ensuring that judges Patricia Goliath and Mushtaq Parker's complaint would be lodged against the Judge President before the Judicial Service Commission.

The essence of the Hlophe accusation is this - the Chief Justice ensures that Judge Goliath brings a complaint against the Judge President on the basis of a fictitious assault by the latter on Judge Parker, whom Judge Hlophe now states has recanted. That a senior judge can accuse the Chief Justice of orchestrating a fake complaint is astounding, but it appears that not even so egregious an accusation against the most senior judge in the country is visited by any reaction.

All in a day's work!

And that leads to the depressing lack of accountability that exists generally within the legal system. Last week, that most commendable of publications, GroundUp, reported about attorney Lesley Ramulifho who is alleged to have stolen millions of rand from lottery grants that were intended for development.

On the basis of the evidence presented by GroundUp to the Legal Practice Council, there was, at the very least, a powerful prima facie case against Ramulifho which required a proper inquiry by the council. But the response was that there was no misconduct. One wonders whether the council can let us know: if this case is not worthy of a disciplinary inquiry, then what would trigger an inquiry? The summary refusal to hold an inquiry in this case is a disgrace and confirms that, if this is the policy of the council, then accountability is almost non-existent in the profession.

Talking of GroundUp, it reported recently on the tardy performance of Judge Nathan Erasmus of the Western Cape High Court in connection with an excessively delayed delivery of a judgment. The ink was scarcely dry on the report when the Supreme Court of Appeal (SCA) rebuked the judge for yet another similar act of judicial negligence. When Judge Erasmus granted an order on 29 April 2019, reasons were requested by one of the parties. The rest of the saga is set out by Judge Ashton Schippers on behalf of a unanimous Bench of the SCA:

"The reasons for the order were given orally by Erasmus J - more than three months later, on 20 August 2019. The reason given for this delay was simply that for 'some or other reason there were crossed lines'. The judge granted the parties permission to record the reasons given in court. This recording was transcribed and given to the judge to assist him in providing the reasons in written form, in accordance with rule 49 of the Uniform Rules of Court. However, the judge's registrar enquired of the attorney representing the Pepkor entities whether the unedited transcript of the reasons could be circulated, to which they consented. Erasmus J did not furnish written reasons and the unedited transcript of the oral reasons, utilised in the application for leave to appeal, constitutes the reasons for the order issued on 26 April 2019 (the transcript)."

Yet again it is highly doubtful whether any action will be taken against conduct that reflects very poorly on the performance of the judiciary; indeed it calls into question the reliability of the statistics produced annually by the Office of the Chief Justice showing the extent of judicial efficiency. But you can take a safe bet - as with the other cases documented in this column, accountability will not be enforced.

Sadly, the principle of accountability and hence concomitant disciplinary action and concern for the preservation of legitimacy of the profession are distant cousins who rarely if ever meet.

Defining post-COVID-19 success

Irrespective of the industry in which any business operates, or the type of customers it serves, over the past few months, virtually every organisation in the world has learnt some very valuable lessons about the need to digitise as many of its operations as possible.

Covid-19 has also provided very useful lessons about the importance of tailoring the customer experience to what the individual actually wants or, at least, is most comfortable with.

These are extremely valuable insights, and businesses would be well advised to recognise them as such, and thoroughly analyse them to plot their growth journeys in the months and years ahead.

Namibia's national lockdown regulations forced a widespread strategic refocus for the vast majority of businesses in the country. Most became almost exclusively focused on survival and avoiding loss, whether of money, customers or staff.

As the economy gradually bounces back into motion, that focus has to change again, and most businesses now have the data they need to drive this shift from survival back to growth.

For most organisations, that return to sustainable growth is unlikely to come about by simply going back to doing

things the same way they were before the pandemic. The world is a different place now, and businesses need to think, strategise and operate differently to succeed in it.

Interestingly, one of the main lessons to come out of Covid-19 is that it is possible, and indeed essential, to constantly be critically assessing whether there are other ways of doing business, or at least leveraging your assets and brand equity to expand your operations and grow your market. Gyms are a case in point. Before Covid-19, few, if any, gyms had considered that there may be business opportunities in digitising their offering. The gym business model was based, almost entirely, on getting feet through the door of a physical building.

When Covid-19 struck, and social distancing regulations meant gyms were some of the businesses that were forced to stay closed the longest, the shortcomings of this model were laid bare.

To survive, gyms had to quickly rethink their business models, and most realised there were opportunities to continue operating online, in the process, keeping their brands top of mind, and even going some way towards meeting their contractual obligations to their members.

It would be folly for these gyms to

simply cast these augmented member offerings aside now that they are once again able to open their doors - especially given that it is bound to take some time for attendance numbers to rise to what they were last year.

Instead, they have a unique opportunity to incorporate the crisis lessons and leverage the associated member behaviour data to significantly enhance their customer value proposition going forward.

And this is where the Covid-19 data that businesses have been able to gather through the course of a very challenging 2020 has the potential to be a massive game changer for many of these organisations. But for this data to be such a growth catalyst, the perspective of businesses must change.

Instead of approaching data analysis from a 'prevention of future loss' angle in which they merely try to cope with the new normal, businesses need to invest time and resources into finding ways to leverage this valuable customer, employee and operational data to define that new normal for themselves - one that allows them to expand and enhance their operations to catalyse and secure maximum growth, success and, of course, resilience into the future.

Aspirin may prove cheap, effective way to save lives and prevent lasting damage

By Markham Heid

BACK in April, when the first wave of Covid-19 was crashing across the United States, Michael Mazzeffi received an email from one of his colleagues at the University of Maryland Medical Centre.

"One of our surgeons says that when he was drawing blood out of a patient, it literally clotted within five seconds. It was pretty clear early on that patients with severe Covid-19 had clotting disorders and that their blood was super coagulable," says Mazzeffi, who is chief of the division of critical care anesthesiology.

Clinicians around the world noticed this same clotting phenomenon. By mid-summer, autopsies of people who had died from Covid-19 revealed that their vasculature and organs were often suffused with clots and coagulated blood.

"What we saw in the Covid-19 ICU is that a lot of the patients would start developing a lot of clotting, and this high burden would lead to multi-organ failure and eventually death," says Jonathan Chow, MD, an assistant professor of anaesthesiology at the University of Maryland School of Medicine.

Because clotting seemed to be a signature of severe or damaging Covid-19, Chow and Mazzeffi started to discuss whether aspirin - a blood-thinning drug that can block the formation of clots - could help improve outcomes.

"Aspirin is a very potent antiplatelet agent," Chow explains, adding: "As soon as aspirin interacts with a platelet, that platelet becomes inactivated and can no longer participate in the clot-generating process."

Platelets are blood-cell fragments that, when activated, will clump together to form clots, he says.

For a study published on October 21 in the journal *Anaesthesia and Analgesia*, Chow and Mazzeffi - along with a multi-university team of researchers - examined the effects of aspirin among people hospitalised with Covid-19.

After adjusting their data to account for age, BMI, race, pre-existing conditions and other variables that could muddy their conclusions, they determined that the risk of death or ICU admission was almost halved among people who got aspirin compared to those who did not.

"This is now the second study linking blood thinners of some kind with improved outcomes," Mazzeffi says, adding: "I think it's driving home the point that an important part of the disease's process is clotting in the organs and that intervening in those pathways is something we should focus on."

What this research tells us about the virus

SARS-CoV-2 is a respiratory virus, and the illness it causes is often described as primarily respiratory in nature. But that's turning out to be an oversimplification - especially for those who develop severe Covid-19 or symptoms that persist long after the initial infection has passed.

"It's a whole-body virus. It affects the kidneys, the brain, the blood vessels and the heart. So it's not



just a respiratory virus," says Girish Nadkarni, a doctor of internal medicine at the Mount Sinai Hospital in New York City.

In July, Nadkarni and colleagues published a study in the *Journal of the American College of Cardiology* that looked at the effect of anticoagulant drugs on outcomes among hospitalised Covid-19 patients.

Like the aspirin study that would follow a few months later, Nadkarni's study found that

anticoagulants significantly reduced the risk of death among certain groups of people with Covid-19.

"We found that both prophylactic and therapeutic doses of anticoagulation led to a lower risk of intubation and mortality," he summarises.

Both his research and the aspirin study support the idea that, contrary to early assumptions, Covid-19 may be best character-

ised as a blood-vessel disease.

Follow-up work and confirmation studies are needed. But Nadkarni says that the idea that a blood-thinning drug like aspirin could protect people from Covid-19 is credible.

"Aspirin and anticoagulant drugs both prevent clots, albeit in slightly different ways," he explains. While aspirin shuts off the clot-forming activity of platelets, anticoagulant drugs act on clotting factors, which are pro-

teins in the blood that help control the rate of bleeding.

Many common and lethal illnesses - including diabetes, heart disease, and several others that are associated with a heightened risk for severe Covid-19 - also promote blood coagulation and clotting, Nadkarni notes.

And along with helping to prevent clots, aspirin also combats inflammation - which is implicated in a wide range of medical conditions. Together, these anti-clotting and anti-inflammation benefits explain why plain old aspirin is such a widely deployed drug - and also why it may eventually prove helpful in treating Covid-19.

"The fact that SARS-CoV-2 creates this hyper-coagulable state is really fascinating because few other respiratory viruses do that to the same degree," says Mazzeffi.

He explains that there are specialised blood cells, called endothelial cells, that line the arteries, veins and other blood-transporting vessels.

"These endothelial cells maintain vascular integrity and help keep blood flow normal. SARS-CoV-2 affects those cells and causes inflammation that may cause those cells to express things that cause clotting," he adds.

The coronavirus and the disease states it causes are complex, he adds. But aspirin may turn out to be a cheap and effective way to save lives and prevent lasting damage.

Should at-risk people take aspirin?

Doctors are usually hesitant to recommend a treatment that does not have a large body of evidence to support it. But Mazzeffi says that aspirin is such a familiar drug and its risks and safety profile are so well established that people exposed to the coronavirus may want to consider taking it in low doses.

"The good thing about aspirin is that it's one of the best-studied drugs in the history of the Earth," he says, adding: "We know it's not safe for everyone, but it is taken by literally hundreds of millions of patients, and it has a great safety record."

The greatest risk associated with aspirin is gastrointestinal bleeding: "If you have a history of peptic ulcers or bleeding from the stomach, then it may not be safe," according to Mazzeffi.

Also, his study didn't look at the effects of aspirin among children with SARS-CoV-2 - a group that already seems to be at low risk for severe Covid-19-related complications. "People shouldn't be popping aspirin in children," he says.

But for most adults, taking a single low-dose (81 mg) aspirin pill each day for a period of a few weeks may be a low-risk, high-reward proposition.

"If someone becomes ill with SARS-CoV-2 and the doctor says it's safe for them to take aspirin, I think it's reasonable for them to take it," Mazzeffi says.

Elemental

25 young African agripreneurs for 'boot camp' in AfDB competition

ABIDJAN

TWENTY-FIVE young African agripreneurs have advanced to the "boot camp" final round of the African Development Bank's AgriPitch competition, stepping closer to a share of \$120,000 in seed funding prizes, training and other benefits.

The final round offers young entrepreneurs in Africa's agricultural sector the opportunity to pitch their agribusiness proposals online to a panel of experts and investors who will select the winners.

AgriPitch organisers received more than 2,500 applications and evaluated 605 proposals from 30 countries. The finalists, from 12 African nations, submitted promising proposals that best embraced the 2020 theme of "Driving Sustainable Nutrition and Gender Inclusivity in Africa's Agri-Food Systems: Youth Agripreneurs Seize the Decade".

Finalists, all aged under 35, were selected under the competition's "Start Up", "Mature Business" and "Women-Empowered Business" categories.

"It is encouraging to see that almost 62 per cent of all AgriPitch 2020 applicants self-described as being women-led businesses or having women make up at least 50 per cent of their management," said Wambui Gichuri, the bank's Acting Vice President for Agriculture, Human and Social Development.

"Word is spreading that AgriPitch is the competition where all qualified agripreneurs can get the training and support to grow their businesses," she added.

AgriPitch is part of the African Development Bank's fourth African Youth Agripreneurs Forum (AYAF) - one of the continent's most exciting platforms for African youth in the agriculture start-up scene - which kicked off online on November



3 and runs through to the AgriPitch winners' ceremony on November 17.

The finalists are now enrolled in the

AYAF/AgriPitch online training platform, according to Edson Mpyisi, Coordinator of the Bank's Enable Youth Programme

responsible for the event.

"In this two-week-long business development boot camp, AgriPitch com-

petitors can attend virtual sessions on product development, revenue channel identification, logistics, marketing, busi-

ness management, investment readiness, financing and other issues, led by trainers and coaches," Mpyisi said.

"The cash prizes may be the most ever awarded at AgriPitch, and the skills offered to all the finalists are invaluable," he added.

In collaboration with partners, including UN Women, the African Leaders for Nutrition and the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa initiative, this year's AYAF and AgriPitch competition selected finalists from Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Nigeria, Benin, Cameroon, Mozambique, Guinea, Malawi, Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.

The finalists get automatic access to the AYAF webinar series. The public can also register for the webinars, which feature speakers with expertise from across the development, nutrition, gender and agriculture sectors.

The first session - on November 3 - addressed policies for sustainable nutrition and gender inclusivity. The remaining webinars are scheduled for November 10 (Empowering youth and women in agricultural value chains to address nutrition) and November 17 (Strategic partnerships for equity in agriculture: Financing women, youth and nutrition).

The AgriPitch finals and winners' ceremony will be held on November 16 and 17, respectively.

In addition to receiving seed funding prizes and post-competition mentoring, AgriPitch winners will be invited for the AYAF online DealRoom, which connects expansion-ready, youth-led African businesses with global investors.

Companies selected for the AgriPitch Competition shortlist, but which didn't make it to the competition, also qualify to join the AYAF/AgriPitch online DealRoom.

AfDB

Is Africa's biggest oil producer finally within reach of a new oil law?

By NJ Ayuk

THIS week will see the African Energy Chamber (AEC) publish a report outlining its short-term predictions for the continent. That report, Africa Energy Outlook 2021, identifies Nigeria as the country with the most potential for increasing hydrocarbon production. But it also points out that Nigeria faced certain challenges with respect to realising this potential.

Of course, some of the challenges have their roots in the events of 2020 - the coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic, the dramatic fall in global energy demand, and the oil price war between Russia and Saudi Arabia that briefly sent crude prices into negative territory.

However, Nigeria is also facing a number of ongoing challenges. One of these is the need for a new oil and gas regulatory regime.

Africa Energy Outlook 2021 notes that the Nigerian government has been working for years to meet this need.

So far, all of its attempts have failed. In 2018, for example, members of the Senate voted to approve legislation known as the Petroleum Industry Governance Bill (PIGB), only to have President Muhammadu Buhari veto its version of the bill and send it back to the floor.

Buhari's administration has not given up, though. Earlier this year, the president declared that his administration was determined to draft a new version of the oil and gas law and secure its passage through both houses of the National Assembly before the end of the year.

Signs of progress ... But how much?

The AEC's report expresses some doubt about Buhari's ability to get that far with the new Petroleum Industry Bill (PIB). I see this skepticism as understandable, given that Nigeria has been trying - and failing - for nearly two decades to effect change on this front.

But I also want to point out that it has made some genuine progress this year. First, the government completed the draft version of the bill and submitted it to the National Assembly in August.

Second, the government secured pledges from both houses of the legislature to expedite discussions on the bill so that it can be passed before the end of the year.

Third, the bill passed its first reading

in the House of Representatives and the Senate on September 30.

Fourth, the bill passed its second reading in the House of Representatives and the Senate on October 20.

Fifth ... Well, is it reasonable to list a fifth sign of progress? Perhaps not. Almost immediately after the bill passed its second reading, Nigeria's Senate suspended plenary sessions until November 24 so that it could focus exclusively on drawing up the federal budget for next year.

Additionally, it gave the relevant Senate committees eight weeks to make the required legislative inputs into the bill. Because of these developments, the timeline for securing passage for the bill has shifted.

Short on Time

As I mentioned previously, President Buhari has said he wants to sign the PIB into law before the end of this year. But if the Senate continues to focus exclusively on the budget until November 24, it will have just over a month to meet that deadline - or even less, if the committees take the full eight weeks allotted to them for making legislative inputs.

Either way, it will have a great deal to do in a short time. It will have to wrap up committee discussions, pass the new oil and gas bill in its third reading, secure the assent of both the House of Representatives and the Senate to the final version of the legislation, and then send it to the president for signature within just a few weeks.

In theory, the PIB could lose momentum at any of these stages. If the committee discussions run for the full eight weeks, they will end on December 15, leaving very little time before the end of the year.

If legislators propose amendments during the third reading, they may need extra time to debate and vote on their proposals. If the House of Representatives and the Senate turn out different versions of the bill and are unable to come to terms quickly, the initiative could stall.

If President Buhari takes exception to any changes made during earlier steps in the legislative process, he could veto the bill. If any of these things happen, the government may find itself ending 2020 without a new oil and gas law in place.

More than Money

But would that really be such a bad thing? Yes, I think it would. For years now, uncertainty about the legal regime has been discouraging companies from making commitments to the



West African state's oil and gas industry.

According to Nigeria's Department of Petroleum Resources (DPR), the repeated failure of attempts to adopt a new oil and gas law costs the country about US\$15 billion each year in lost investments.

It is therefore reasonable for President Buhari and his government to seek passage for the PIB as soon as possible. After all, Nigeria can ill afford to keep losing so much money - especially at a time when its oil and gas industry is under extra strain owing to the extraordinary events of 2020.

But it's not just about the money. I believe that there is an objective need for reform - and that the PIB can meet that need. Nigeria's oil and gas sector has earned the reputation of being corrupt, non-transparent and inefficient.

This reputation drives potential investors away, thereby depriving the country of money - and, what's more, depriving it of jobs - in both the industry itself and in related sectors such as construction and transportation - and also of opportunities for partnerships, training, technology transfer, and other things that help support and amplify economic growth.

In other words, without the PIB, Nigeria can't use its vast oil and gas reserves to optimal effect!

Needed Reforms

The PIB does try to address the deficiencies of the current system. For example, it calls for the dismantling of state-run the Nigerian National Petroleum Corp. (NNPC) and the dividing of its functions up among three separate entities.

The bill provides for NNPC's regulatory and administrative functions to be transferred to two new government agencies: one to supervise upstream operations and another to supervise midstream and downstream operations, including domestic gasification programmes.

At the same time, it assigns the company's commercial functions to a new entity that will be known as NNPC Corp. This one change has the potential to make a big difference.

With respect to transparency and efficiency, the bill draws a clear line between Nigeria's need to monitor and regulate the companies that work in the oil and gas sector and its need to have the capacity to develop its own resources. It also calls for NNPC Corp. to be audited annually by an independent company - rather unlike the current version of NNPC, which has come under fire in the past for its less-than-transparent accounting practices.

And, with respect to corruption, the bill establishes NNPC Corp. as a purely commercial entity with no access to the federal budget - and, therefore, fewer opportunities to function either as an instrument of state policy or as a shady space in which government officials can move money around for their own purposes.

Of course, these aren't the only good things that the bill could do. For example, it also contains provisions that might settle investors' questions about the Deep Offshore and Inland Basin Production Sharing Contract Act, a controversial piece of legislation that some energy companies have described as little more than a revenue grab.

Additionally, it eliminates two state bodies that haven't been doing the best job at monitoring the downstream fuel sector: the Petroleum Products Pricing Regulatory Agency (PPPRA), which oversees fuel pricing, supplies and distribution, and the Petroleum Equalisation Fund (PEF), which distributes cash with the aim of making motor fuel prices uniform throughout the country.

Moreover, the bill puts a single agency - the new midstream and downstream agency mentioned above - in charge of domestic gasification initiatives.

This makes sense, given that gasification depends on the construction and expansion of transportation and distri-

bution networks. It could also help coordinate the process by putting all activities under a single umbrella.

Don't stop pushing

There are other attractive features to the PIB, but I don't have the time or space to list them all here. I do want to emphasize, though, that I think Nigeria needs this new law, both in general and with the particular details included in the government's draft version.

President Buhari is therefore right to push the National Assembly to pass it as quickly as possible - and he should keep pushing, even if legislators miss his December 31 deadline.

In other words, the president should hold members of the National Assembly to the commitment they made earlier this year to accelerate this process!

If he does, he should see the bill pass soon - and once it takes effect, it can lay the foundation for a more efficient, less corrupt and more transparent oil and gas sector in Nigeria. And, equally importantly, Nigeria can start capitalising fully on its oil and gas resources.

An African Energy Chamber dispatch filed from Johannesburg. NJ Ayuk is the AEC's Executive Chairman.

Kidnapping in South Africa: Rely on data not social media

BY LIZETTE LANCASTER

FEW crimes strike fear into South Africans as much as the kidnapping of children. Video images of young children being grabbed by strangers feed into these concerns. Recently, social media has been flooded by alleged kidnapping incidents.

The number of social media posts was so overwhelming that the Gauteng police 'noted with concern the continued peddling of fake news relating to human trafficking and/or kidnapping of women and children; and are cautioning the public against the incessant promotion and distribution of such malicious untruths.' They found that many were unsubstantiated, or old cases that were reposted. The question remains, what risk do women and children face?

In South African law, kidnapping is regarded as the unlawful and intentional deprivation of a person's freedom of movement or, if such a person is a child, the unlawful intentional deprivation of a parent of control over the child.

This should not be confused with abduction. In South Africa, abduction is the unlawful and intentional removal of an unmarried minor from the control of his or her parents or guardian in order to enable someone to marry him or her or to have sexual intercourse with him or her. This is a crime against the legal guardian and not the minor, irrespective of consent provided.

Many social media posts on kidnapping were unsubstantiated, or old cases that were reposted.

The recently released South African Police Service (SAPS) crime statistics for the period 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020 provide some insight into the nature and extent of kidnapping. The figures highlight a substantial 133%



increase in cases reported to the police since 2010/2011 - up from 2 839 that year to 6 632 in 2019/20.

The growth in the past year alone was 16% nationally with 930 more cases recorded compared to the previous year. While an escalation occurred across all provinces, the increases of 78% in the Free State and 37% in KwaZulu-Natal are especially concerning.

As with most crime, the risk is not spread evenly. One third of kidnappings occurred in Gauteng and 21.5% in KwaZulu-Natal, which are the country's most populous provinces. The remaining 45% are fairly proportionately distributed across the other provinces. Most importantly, half of all kidnappings are recorded in only 9% of police station areas.

In 2018/19, 463 abduction cases were re-

corded by the SAPS. This figure was not released for the 2019/20 financial year and no further detail is available.

Young children are most likely to be kidnapped by a legal guardian during custody disputes.

Kidnappings occur for various reasons. The SAPS Crime Registrar's office researches the circumstances behind kidnappings based on a random sample of dockets from different provinces. When the case file includes sufficient information, an analysis of the incidents is undertaken. For 2019/2020, a sample of 3 024 dockets were selected where a motive was clear. Figure 1 provides a breakdown of the overall causes attributed to the kidnappings.

Kidnapping for ransom and extortion

combined contributed less than 5% of the sample. More than a quarter (27%) involved kidnapping with the intention to commit a sexual offence. This is a large and worrying proportion. While the SAPS' data show that 45% of the total number of sexual offence complaints investigated are against children, there is no indication of the proportion that also involved kidnapping.

The available data indicates that young children are most likely to be kidnapped by a legal guardian during custody disputes. Cases also occur when one guardian fails to ask permission to take a child from the other guardian. The police publish information on active missing cases. Some date back to 2014. It is uncertain how up to date or complete the list is, but it seems that of the over 1 033

cases listed, 83% were adults (over 18), 13% were between 10 and 18 years and 3.5% were under 10 years.

The single biggest cause of kidnapping (46%) is related to armed robberies (including hijackings). Police analysis suggests that the likely victims are adults who are taken to ensure tracking devices aren't activated or to access cash from the victim's bank cards. The 43% increase in aggravated robbery numbers since 2010/11 is a likely contributor to the 133% increase in kidnappings over the same period.

The increase in aggravated robbery likely contributed to the rise in kidnappings over the same period.

It is also significant that human trafficking motives were found in only 16 of the 3 024 kidnapping cases. However trafficking in people is often dealt with under different legislation and not necessarily classified as kidnapping. The exact numbers in human trafficking are therefore difficult to quantify.

The data also indicates that the risk of children being kidnapped is relatively low. It is important that children and guardians remain aware of the risks and how to boost their safety. South Africans can also play their part by ensuring they only share accurate information by reputable missing persons platforms. The last thing a crime-weary public and the police need is to be inundated by false reports fuelling widespread fear and panic.

However, the ever-increasing problem of robbery needs to be urgently addressed by police. Getting this right will reduce a significant proportion of kidnappings.

Agencies

African scientists pledge to support sustainability agenda

By Special Correspondent

SCIENTISTS drawn from the Sub-Saharan African region on Saturday pledged support for evidence-based policy-making aimed at advancing sustainable development in the continent.

The scientists in a communique released in Nairobi at the end of a two-day virtual summit said that strategic ap-

plication of research and data is key to tackling poverty, food insecurity, disease and climatic shocks in Africa.

"It is critical for the scientific community to pay attention to the needs of decision-makers and produce evidence that meets their policy needs," said Eliya Zulu, the executive director of Nairobi-based African Institute for Development Policy (AFIDEP).

More than 400 African scientists attended the virtual conference dubbed "Strengthening the think-tank role of researchers in supporting government decision making for better development outcomes".

The scientists shared knowledge and best practices that can be harnessed to influence development of policies that advance inclusive growth,

peace and stability in the continent.

Zulu said the conference that was convened by AFIDEP and African Academy of Sciences (AAS) injected fresh impetus on data-driven policy interventions to address Africa's under-development, health and ecological challenges.

"This is the only way the research that we do can impact communities and transform

lives," said Zulu, adding that capacity building for African scientists is key to enhancing their contribution to the continent's sustainability agenda.

Tom Kariuki, director of programs at the AAS affiliated Alliance for Accelerating Excellence in Science in Africa (AESIA) said that adequate funding for scientific research is key to transforming liveli-

hoods amid COVID-19 related

challenges.

"We need to prioritize funding for scientific research on fields that promote sustainability in the continent. The new research priorities should address challenges that have arisen due to the COVID-19 pandemic," said Kariuki.

He said that access to research grants, training, mentorship and networking will enhance the capacity of Af-

rican scientists to influence development outcomes in the continent.

Isayvani Naicker, director of strategy and partnerships at AAS said that Africa has the potential to become a hub for ground-breaking scientific research subject to the establishment of conducive policies, adequate funding and training.

China aids African women and children in fighting pandemic

BEIJING

ALL anti-COVID-19 medical supplies donated by the Chinese government to women, children and the youth in 53 African countries through the Organisation of African First Ladies for Development (OAFILD) have been smoothly delivered, a Foreign Ministry spokesperson said on Friday.

Spokesperson Wang Wenbin told a daily press briefing that China has overcome difficulties such as restricted international transport to ship all supplies to African countries within four months.

The efforts have been hailed by African governments and people, saying that the assistance will better enable African women, children and youth to fight COVID-19, and that mutual assistance, solidarity and cooperation is of vital importance to winning this battle, according to Wang.

China and Africa have been voicing support for each other and tiding over difficulties together since the pandemic broke out, Wang said, adding that China has provided a large quantity of urgently needed anti-COVID-19 materials for the African Union and African countries through various channels in a timely manner, held six anti-epidemic expert video conferences with Africa to share experience, and dispatched medical expert teams to 15 African countries.

"China also pledged to provide Chinese vaccines to African and other developing countries on a priority basis when they become available for deployment," he said, adding that China will always work with African countries to promote the China-Africa community with a shared future.



SADC initiative stresses need for vigilance against malaria



By Special Correspondent

THE newly appointed Chairperson of the SADC elimination 8 health minister's council, Dr Zweli Mkhize, has called on communities to remain vigilant in the fight against malaria, while battling the COVID-19 pandemic.

Dr Mkhize (pictured), who was appointed as the SADC E8 Health Minister's Council Chairperson for a two-year term on Thursday, made the call during a webinar to mark SADC Malaria Day last Friday.

The Elimination Eight Initiative (E8) is a coalition of eight countries working across national borders to eliminate malaria in southern Africa by 2030.

The Minister's call comes as the world continues to battle the COVID-19 pandemic, the symptoms of which mimic those of malaria.

"COVID-19 has complicated issues of public health and malaria has not been spared of the disruption that has come

from this unprecedented pandemic, what is key for the public is to realise that malaria may very well mimic COVID-19 symptoms.

"It is therefore imperative that when one experiences flu-like symptoms, one seeks medical attention. It is critical that patients take note of their signs and symptoms, and give detailed information of their travel history," said the minister.

In light of this, Dr Mkhize reminded communities of malaria symptoms, which include fever, headache, chills and vomiting.

In addition, the minister clarified conflicting messages with regards to mitigation measures for malaria and COVID-19.

"Whilst we encourage the closing of windows at night and the use of fans for malaria, the opposite is encouraged for COVID-19. That is to ensure that particles of COVID-19 in the air do not remain. The new normal demands that we apply our minds and adjust to the presence of COVID-19, which is wreaking havoc in our communities and economy in ways that malaria never has.

"Let us take the necessary precautions, as we battle with both pandemics and balance the mitigation measures accordingly," he said.

According to a 2019 World Health Organisation report, malaria cases decreased globally from an estimated 251 million in 2010 to 228 million in 2018, which is a nine percent decline.

"Most cases, which were around 213 in 2018, were estimated to have occurred in the WHO afro region, which is 92% of the cases. This gives you a sense of the responsibility that we, as the African members States, carry to actually fight and eliminate this problem," said Dr Mkhize.

With this year's theme for SADC Malaria Day focused on community involvement, the Minister urged communities to take the necessary precautions. "It is therefore important to remind communities at risk and travellers to endemic areas that malaria is a life threatening disease caused by parasites that are transmitted to people through the bites of infected mosquitoes, which generally bite at night.

"Our message to communities is to take the necessary precautions to prevent contracting the disease and seek treatment as early as possible when they experience signs and symptoms. Malaria is a preventable and curable disease, if detected early and treatment started promptly," Dr Mkhize said.

Global warming poses threat to Africa's people and plants, Greenpeace warns

By Guardian Reporter

AFRICA faces a future of heat waves, droughts and floods and could lose many of its endemic species due to climate change, a Greenpeace study shows.

The continent could warm by an average of 2°C-6°C by the end of this century, largely due to warming caused by man-made greenhouse gas emissions, Greenpeace Research Laboratories said in a report released on Monday.

That will result in more frequent heatwaves across the continent, less rain in southern and northern Africa and more precipitation in central and East Africa. With more than half the world's poor living on the continent, it is expected to be among the world's hardest-hit regions

by climate change as people have few resources to adjust and cope.

"Science shows there is very little that is natural in the disasters striking our continent," Greenpeace Africa programme director Melitta Steele said.

Depending on how hot it gets, the inhabitants of Lagos, Abidjan, Luanda and Kinshasa – four of the continent's biggest cities – could begin experiencing heat stress due to periods of elevated temperatures, the study reads. Only Khartoum in Sudan is in danger now from this phenomenon, which causes people's core temperature to rise due to external factors.

Some projections show SA's unique Cape Floral region, accounting for one-fifth of the

continent's plant biodiversity, could lose more than a third of its 5,682 plant species, the report reads. Many plant species could also disappear from Ethiopia's Bale Mountains.

Still, other studies project less severe temperature rises. The World Meteorological Organisation predicted a 2°C rise in temperature by 2100 from pre-industrial times in its first report on climate in Africa released in October.

"It is very clear that global heating acts as a threat multiplier, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities such as poverty and inequality by driving extreme weather events," Greenpeace said in the report. "The African continent is highly vulnerable to the impacts of global heating."



Americans have just no idea how they are catching the coronavirus

By Sarah Mervosh and Lucy Tompkins

WHEN the coronavirus first erupted in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, in the spring, Mayor Paul TenHaken arrived at work each morning with a clear mission: Stop the outbreak at the pork plant. Hundreds of employees, chopping meat shoulder to shoulder, had gotten sick in what was then the largest US virus cluster.

That outbreak was extinguished months ago, and these days, when he heads into City Hall, the situation is far more nebulous. The virus has spread all over town.

"You can swing a cat and hit someone who has got it," said TenHaken, who had to reschedule his own meetings to Zoom this past week after his assistant tested positive for the virus.

As the coronavirus soars across the US, charting a single-day record of 99,155 new cases late last week and surpassing nine million cases nationwide, tracing the path of the pandemic in the country is no longer simply challenging. It has become nearly impossible.

Gone are the days when Americans could easily understand the virus by tracking rising case numbers back to distinct or separate sources - the crowded factory, the troubled nursing home, or the rowdy bar. Now, there are so many cases, in so many places, that many people are coming to a frightening conclusion: They have no idea where the virus is spreading.

"It's just kind of everywhere," said Crystal Watson, a senior scholar at the Centre for Health Security at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health, who estimated that tracing coronavirus cases becomes difficult once the virus spreads to more than ten cases per 100,000 people.

In some of the hardest-hit spots in the US, the virus is spreading at ten to 20 times that rate, and even health officials have all but given up trying to figure out who is giving the virus to whom.

There have been periods earlier in the pandemic when infections spread beyond large, well-understood clusters in prisons, business meetings and dinner parties, tearing through communities in ways that were nearly impossible to keep track of.

But, for the most part, that experience was isolated to hard-hit places like New York City in the spring and portions of the Sun Belt in the summer.

This time, the diffuse, chaotic spread is happening in many places at once. Infections are rising in 41 states, the country is recording an average of more than 79,000 new cases each day, and more Americans say they feel left to do their own lonely detective work.

"I was so careful," said Denny Taylor (45), who said he had taken exacting precautions - wearing a mask, getting groceries delivered - before he became the first in his family and among his co-workers to test positive for the virus. Lying in a hospital bed in Omaha, Nebraska, this past week, he said he still had no idea where he caught it.

Uncovering the path of transmission from person to person, known as contact tracing, is seen as a key tool for containing the spread of the coronavirus. Within a day or two of testing positive, residents in many communities can expect to get a phone call from a trained contact tracer, who conducts a detailed interview before beginning the painstaking process of tracking down each new person who may have been exposed.

"We were pretty successful, and we were very proud of how the case numbers went down," said Dr Sehyo Yune, who supervised a team of contact tracers in Massachusetts this spring. It was one of several strategies that helped tamp down earlier outbreaks in places like Massachusetts, New York and Washington, DC.

But as cases skyrocket again in many states,



many health officials have conceded that interviewing patients and dutifully calling each contact will not be enough to slow the outbreak.

"Contact tracing is not going to save us," said Dr Ogechika Alozie, chief medical officer at Del Sol Medical Centre in El Paso, Texas, where hospitalisations in the county have soared by more than 400 per cent and officials issued a new order for residents to stay at home.

The problem, of course, is that failing to fully track the virus makes it much harder to get a sense of where the virus is flourishing and how to get ahead of new outbreaks. But once an area spins out of control, trying to trace back each chain of transmission can feel like scooping cupfuls of water from a flood.

In some places, overwhelmed health officials have abandoned any pretence of keeping up.

In North Dakota, state officials announced that they could no longer have one-on-one conversations with everyone who may have been exposed.

Aside from situations involving schools and healthcare facilities, people who test positive were advised to notify their own contacts, leaving residents largely on their own to follow the trail of the outbreak.

In Philadelphia, where cases recently spiked to more than 300 per day, city officials acknowledged that they now must leave some cases untracked. They said most people are catching the virus through family and friends.

"We weren't supposed to get to this point," said Dr Arnold Monto, a professor of epidemiology at the University of Michigan, adding that the process of tracking cases and notifying people who may have been exposed is a gold standard of disease prevention but impractical after a certain level of

infection.

"If you have five clusters going on at the same time, it's hard to say where it came from," he noted.

When a first major outbreak hit Grand Forks, North Dakota, in April, the problem was clear: more than 150 employees of a wind turbine blade factory were infected. The factory shut its doors for several weeks, and public health officials tested and contact-traced each case.

For the rest of the summer, Grand Forks, a college town of 56,000 on the border with Minnesota, saw almost no new infections. An uptick in August was quickly tied to students at the University of North Dakota and largely contained.

Now, though, any sense of control has vanished. Active cases of Covid-19 have quadrupled since the beginning of October to 912 in Grand Forks County, and about half the people contacted by the health department say they are not sure how they became infected.

"People are realising that you can get it anywhere," said Kaillee Leingang, a 21-year-old nursing student who also works for the state as a contact tracer in Grand Forks.

Even Leingang has fallen ill, along with several of her colleagues. She traces her case to her parents, who first started showing symptoms. Beyond that, the trail goes cold.

"They have no idea," she said, when asked where her parents came in contact with the virus.

Leingang, isolating at her home with her cat, feels sicker by the day. Dishes have piled up in the sink - she is too weak to stand long enough to wash them. But she is still working, calling at least 50 people a day to notify them that their tests came back positive, although her job is no longer to track who else they may have infected.

"With the high number of cases right now, our team can't afford to have somebody not work," she said.

In earlier, quieter periods of the pandemic, the virus spread with some degree of certainty. In all but the hardest-hit cities, people could ask a common question - "Where did you get it?" - and often find tangible answers.

A popular college bar in East Lansing, Michigan - Harper's Restaurant and Brewpub - became a hot spot this summer after dozens of people piled into it, drinking and dancing in close quarters. At least 192 people - 146 people at the bar and 46 people with ties to those at the bar - were infected. Afterwards, Governor Gretchen Whitmer shut down indoor dining in bars in parts of the state.

In Ingham County, which includes much of East Lansing, it is far harder to tell where the virus is spreading now. More than 2,700 of the county's 4,700 reported cases over the course of the pandemic have come since the beginning of September.

Much of the new spread may be tied to students at Michigan State University, where students are living off campus and taking classes online. But every day, employers and residents call the Health Department to report random cases that defy easy explanation.

"It's just a hodgepodge," said Linda Vail, the Ingham County health officer.

Heidi Stevens, one of the newly infected, considers her case a mystery. As a columnist at The Chicago Tribune, Stevens works from home. Her children attend school online. She wears a mask when she goes for a run, and she has not had a haircut since January.

So when she got a precautionary test a few weeks ago, with the hopes of inviting friends over to have cake for her daughter's 15th birthday, she was shocked to learn that she was Covid-19 positive.

"I would drive myself crazy if I tried to really nail it down," said Stevens (46), who was hospitalised for three days and still wakes up with headaches.

Did she pick up an infected apple at the grocery store and somehow touch her eye? Should she have been wearing a face shield, in addition to her mask? The possibilities feel endless. "It's just out there," she said.

• **Mitch Smith and Frances Robles contributed reporting to this NYT dispatch.**

Bird banders devote themselves to study of migratory birds in E China's Jiangxi

By Dai Linfeng,

AS the inky night tinted the ridges and peaks with a shade of iron, bird banders were still working in a bird sanctuary in Suichuan county, Ji'an, East China's Jiangxi Province.

Seeing a bird swoop down, Zeng Xiangpeng, a bird bander of the nature reserve, sprang up immediately and trotted towards it.

It was wryneck, a kind of woodpecker that eats ants, Zeng explained. The man disclosed that when he first came to the nature reserve in 2017, he was baffled by the little bird which is about the size of a palm.

The bird can wriggle its neck like a snake and turn its head almost 360 degrees, Zeng added.

Zeng dug deep into illustrated books available to search for information about the bird, but he still failed to figure out what kind of bird it was. The next day he finally knew the name of the bird after asking Zhong Pinghua, a consultant of the management bureau

of the bird sanctuary. Zhong told him that wriggling their necks is a stress response of wrynecks when they are frightened.

"Zhong is like an encyclopedia. You can always find the answer from him," Zeng said.

Zeng started to learn to distinguish birds when he was a freshman in Jiangxi Environmental Engineering Vocational College. And Zhong was his teacher then.

Talking about the change of their relationship from teacher and student to colleagues, Zhong said it is a relay of youth.

"We attach a metal ring with a unique number to a migratory bird and then free it. We expect to reveal the migration patterns of birds through follow-up investigation and tracking. This method is called bird banding in academia," Zhong explained.

Two generations of bird banders have worked earnestly in the bird sanctuary over the past 18 years, accumulatively banding 34,516 migratory birds of 210 species, 49 families, and 15 orders, Zhong said, noting that their work



Birds rest in a tree in a yard in Suichuan, East China's Jiangxi Province on June 12. (File photo)

covered about one seventh of the bird species in China.

In September 2002, a group of experts from the national bird

banding center of China came to Suichuan county for investi-

gation. Zhong served as a guide for them. During the investigation trip, an old expert with grey temples taught Zhong everything he knew, showing him how to remove trapped birds, measure them, and attach rings to them.

In 2005, the research group of the national bird banding center, based on massive bird banding data, confirmed the geographical location, main species of migratory birds, and the optimum time for banding in the passage of migratory birds in Suichuan county.

A certifying commission headed by academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering Ma Jianzhang and made up of ten experts from such organizations as China Ornithological Society and Sun Yet-sen University reached a consensus that the passage of migratory birds in Suichuan county is one of the important passages for bird migration in China and also an important resting area for migratory birds in the middle and lower reaches of the Yangtze River.

As new progress is made in sci-

ence and technology with each passing day, bird banding is also increasingly empowered by technologies.

In 2018, the bird sanctuary of Suichuan county for the first time installed satellite trackers on 16 migratory birds to get information about the migration routes of birds in a real-time manner.

According to Zeng, there are 2,165 species of vascular plants, 784 species of insects, and 280 species of macro fungi in the bird sanctuary, which could provide adequate food for migratory birds. Although concentrated work on bird banding only last for about 50 days every year, banders work in the area 365 days a year, Zeng said.

So far, the bird sanctuary has witnessed an increase in the species of migratory birds for eight years in a row, and enriched the record of bird distribution in Jiangxi Province with the discovery of four new species including white-tailed robin and black shrike.

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NIT runs IATA-approved courses for Tanzanian aviation instructors

By Smart Money Reporter

IN order to ensure that local aviation instructors are globally recognised, National Institute of Transport conducted six brush-up short courses accredited by International Air Transport Association.

The short courses which were conducted between September and November this year, were attended by external instructors from Air Tanzania Company Limited, Precision Air, Tanzania Government Flight Agency, Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority, among others.

Addressing the media during the closing ceremony of the courses held at NIT Mabibo Campus in Dar es Salaam last week, Principal of School of Aviation Technology, Denis Mwaenzi said by offering IATA approved courses, the NIT is providing an opportunity for Tanzanians to get

qualification recognised globally.

Mwaenzi further noted that the move is an opportunity for locals to secure employment in any leading global airline after attaining such IATA accredited courses. He named the courses as Quality Management System for Civil Aviation, Instruction Techniques, Safety Management System for Civil Aviation, Human Factors in Ground Operations, Aviation and Internal Auditor and Crew Resource Management Implementation. In total, 150 local aviation experts have undergone the NIT offered IATA recognised short courses.

NIT which was earlier this year accredited by IATA as a centre to offer four short courses (airline customer service, airline marketing, airport operation fundamental and global distribution system fares and ticketing -Amadeus), is targeting to produce skilled



NIT deputy rector Dr Prosper Mgaya (L) shakes hands with IATA Instructor from Houston in the US, Andre Aurelien, shortly after concluding a training course at a ceremony held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend.

human capital in the said aviation disciplines. He also invited qualified locals seeking the four courses to visit NIT or its website (www.nit.ac.tz) for more information. He explained that the institute's objective is to expand the centre by adding more IATA approved courses to meet the needs of the country's rapidly growing aviation industry.

"Apart from offering the IATA courses, NIT is also planning to establish Bachelor's Degree in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering (Avionics) and Diploma in Aircraft Maintenance Engineering together with engineering short courses to prepare unlicensed engineers sit for exams this year," he said.

Speaking at the same event, an IATA Instructor from Houston, Texas in the US, Andre Aurelien told the instructors who graduated that commitment is the best thing when it comes to safety in aviation industry.

On his part, NIT Deputy Rector-Academic, Research and Consultancy, Dr Prosper Mgaya said, "ATCL, Precision Air and other airlines should be the main beneficiaries of these

courses because they are operating on the ground. However, we are inviting other airlines to bring their employees and managers to attend these IATA accredited courses at NIT."

One of beneficiaries who received a training of trainers' course for IATA, Captain Hilal Fuad who works with ATCL said: "NIT has made a very good decision to start offering IATA courses because it offers in-depth knowledge and insights of the global air travel industry hence equipping us with IATA accepted qualifications which widen our scope of seeking opportunities."

Another beneficiary of the courses, Captain Benjamin Maluli of Precision Air backed his peer's arguments saying, "The IATA professional courses are the best choices for aspirants who are in the industry or who want to join the industry."

NIT Rector Professor Zacharia Mganilwa recently said that the institute is in final stage to accomplish all the requirements and procedures to start pilots training programs in the next academic year.

DLS Associates unveils ONA online property auction offers

By Smart Money Reporter

A new online auction for real estate dubbed 'ONA' has been launched in Dar es Salaam to enable local customers sell their property to the global market.

DLS Associates said in a statement yesterday that the launching of ONA Online Auctions offers both buyers and sellers the best market place for auctioneers, brokers, real estate agents, individuals, corporate bodies and micro-financiers.

ONA Online Auctions' Managing Director, Fredy Julius said in Dar es Salaam during the launch that the online platform is aimed at addressing several challenges facing the real estate industry currently.

"We are very pleased to be able

to introduce a top quality platform which will provide solutions to real estate auctions in the country. ONA Online Auctions aims at increasing bidders' participation in the auctions by high margin compared to the tradition auctions as the requirement of physical presence is no longer needed," said Julius.

He explained that the online platform is the first of its kind in the local market where direct sales and other services are conducted digitally. "The platform offers direct buying and selling of real estate properties; and auctioning real estate properties," he added.

The new online platform is available for access globally through our website www.ona.co.tz and

while a mobile application called ONA downloadable from both Google Play store and Apple store is also available.

"It is quick and simple to register as a user on the auctions platform. The registered users will have access to a wide variety of properties available for sale and auction. The sellers will be required to submit new properties and filling out all the necessary information required to authenticate the sale of such properties," the ONA Online Auctions MD noted.

Apart from accessing global customers, the platform also provides a safe, secured and efficient real estate transactions access and saves time compared to traditional auctions.



ONA Online Auctions' managing director Fredy Julius makes a presentation during at the platform's official launch in Dar es Salaam last week.

Tanzania finalising permit for its first rare-earth metals

By Fumbuka Ng'wanakilala, Bloomberg

TANZANIA is in the final stages of approving a permit for the country's first rare earths mine to Australian company Peak Resources Limited as the government seeks a bigger share of revenue from natural resources.

The state is also finalising a gold-mining license for another Australian company, OreCorp Ltd, at the Nyanzaga project in the northwest of the country, according to Mining Minister Doto Biteko. The East African nation is Africa's fourth-biggest producer of the precious metal and plans to increase mineral earnings by at least a third during the next three years. It also has vast deposits of coal, rare-earth metals, iron ore and gemstones.

"The government is in the final stages of awarding a special mining license to PR NG Minerals for its Ngualla Rare Earth Project," Biteko said in an emailed response to questions. The company is a subsidiary of Australia-listed Peak Resources.

Rare earths are used in components for electric vehicles, smart phones, renewable energy equipment and defense applications. Gold mining, now Tanzania's leading foreign-exchange earner, is recovering following a slump after a crackdown on smuggling and a drawn-out dispute between the government and a unit of Barrick Gold Corp. froze exports.

The government intends to increase mining revenue to 70.1 billion shillings in 2023-24, from a projected 52.67 billion shillings in the current fiscal period. Tanzania will "increase revenues from the mining sector by 33%" by boosting production and exports, curbing smuggling and ensuring closer supervision of the industry, Biteko said.



Former minerals minister Doto Biteko.

Last month the government received its first cash dividend of \$40 million from a 16% stake in a joint venture with Barrick. Tanzania plans to use the Barrick partnership as a model when

negotiating joint-ownership deals with all major mining companies, including with AngloGold Ashanti, in line with mining laws passed in 2017, he said.

Decision on new WTO boss postponed till further notice

GENEVA

THE World Trade Organisation has cancelled a key meeting that was supposed to be held today, November 9, during which Africa's Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala would be appointed as the body's next director-general.

The special meeting of the trade body's general council had been convened to take a formal decision on the appointment of the next chief of the organization to replace Roberto Azevedo who stepped down before completing his term.

The meeting would happen during the period the United States was conducting its presidential election, which saw Democrat Joe Biden secure a ticket to the White House. The US President Donald Trump's administration had opposed the appointment of Okonjo-Iweala in the final acts despite securing the backing of all other WTO members.

A WTO document obtained by The New Times said that "for reasons including the health situation and current events, delegations will not be in a position to take a formal decision on 9 November." Some delegates in Geneva where WTO has its headquarters point to the US election as a significant event that could determine the next move, waiting for the new president, Joe Biden, to make it to the White House.



WTO's direct general-elect, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala.

The US under the Trump administration has made it hard for the international trade body to perform its duties, including blocking the appointment of new judges to the organisation's appeals body. Ambassador David Walker, the chair of the general council informed members that the meeting was postponed until further notice, during which time he would continue undertaking consultations with delegations.

BoA Tanzania chief pledges better services after Safest Bank Award

By Smart Money Reporter

AFTER being named as second Safest Bank in Africa by New York based Global Finance magazine, Bank of Africa - BMCE Group, CEO of the regional bank has said the recognition only encourages them to work hard in serving clients.

Bank of Africa Tanzania's acting Managing Director, Wasia Mushi said in Dar es Salaam this week that the global award also strengthens customers' confidence in the pan Africa bank hence promised to work even harder and deliver.

"As a subsidiary of Bank of Africa BMCE Group, Tanzania enjoys the synergy and benefits from technological resources, management expertise and financial resources of its holding company," Mushi said.

Underscoring the confidence on the growth potential of the Tanzanian market, the shareholders of Bank of Africa Tanzania have invested over 70bn/- in the country over the past 13 years.

He noted that the investment has been channelled towards growing their branch network and developing innovative products and alternative channels with the ultimate aim of bringing affordable and convenient services to their customers.

According to Global Finance, the winners were selected through an evaluation of long-term foreign currency ratings—from Moody's, Standard & Poor's and Fitch—of the largest banks worldwide.

Publisher and editorial director of Global Finance, Joseph Giarraputo said for most of 2020, the world has been ravaged by the coronavirus pandemic which resulted in a steep drop in economic activity and, in some cases, serious social unrest.

"Surprisingly however, the relative position of the world's largest banks on Global Fi-



Bank of Africa Tanzania acting managing director, Wasia Mushi.

nance's World's Safest Banks 2020 lists has been mostly stable. One can only speculate on when, or if, the changes will come. In the meantime, the rankings will be used by companies, investors and individuals to gauge the relative safety of the banks with which they choose to do business," Giarraputo said.

With a network of 25 branches across 10 regions in Tanzania, Bank of Africa is among the top 10 banks in the local market with extensive footprint across the country. As of the third quarter of 2020, BoA Tanzania grew its total balance sheet size by 23 percent with impressive profitability which defied the global coronavirus outbreak.

"As at the end of last quarter, the bank recorded a pre-tax profit of 5.4bn/-. We are confident that with all the government initiatives to create conducive business environment and strong support from our customers, BoA Tanzania will end

the year with more impressive results compared to last year," Mushi added.

Bank of Africa Group has been operational for 35 years now with 600 branches present in 18 African countries and a total asset base of 8.5 billion euros as of 2019 that keeps growing year on year. The Pan African banking group keeps a constant support of its 18 strategic business operations which include BoA Tanzania.

Geita, Shinyanga and Tabora business community want more NMB products



NMB's western zone manager, Sospeter Magese, addresses a past Business Club meeting.

By Smart Money Reporter

PRODUCTS and services being offered by NMB Bank Plc to the business community should be increased including convening business club meetings which help address crucial issues relating to business growth.

Private sector representatives from Geita, Shinyanga and Tabora said through NMB Business Club meetings they have been able to communicate with banking experts challenges that are facing them and devise solutions together.

Addressing the meeting on behalf of his peers, Kahama NMB Business Club Chairman, Azan Said said the bank's decision to organise such meetings gives

them confidence in its products and services. "The confidence that we have in the bank makes us continue to work in partnership with you in developing our businesses," Said said.

He pointed out that through the arrangement, common solutions agreed between the parties has led to rapid business growth which has in turn enabled them to service their loans on schedule to avoid penalties.

Another businessman from Geita, Haji Nasoro also commended NMB management for consulting with its customers saying such a move has led to improved products and services by the bank. "Because of these regular meetings, NMB loans to businesses have improved greatly which has assisted us grow bigger," Nasoro said.

NMB's Western Zone Manager, Sospeter Magese assured the business community in the country that the bank will continue giving them

better services and products based on their feedback. "NMB's majority shareholders are its customers led by Treasury hence we will make sure that we offer you the best of services," Magese said adding that the market's largest bank is also expanding its branch network while also investing in digital platforms.

Seconding Magese's observations, NMB's Senior Business Manager, Loelia Kibassa dared the private sector including small business owners to exploit the bank's products and services to grow their businesses.

"In order to have easy access to our loans, business people must cultivate a culture of keeping records but also depositing money from their businesses with NMB," Kibassa said adding that the Dar es Salaam based lender gives loans ranging from 500,000/- to 5bn/-.

Safaricom profit drops 6 per cent to Sh33bn on free M-Pesa transactions

NAIROBI

SAFARICOM half-year net profit fell six percent to Sh33.07 billion with M-Pesa revenue dropping the most on account of free transactions to support customers during Covid-19 period.

The results, covering between April and September also saw voice and messaging revenue dip in the period that coincided with rising Covid-19 infections that forced the state to enforce disruptive measures such as curfew and ban on social gatherings.

M-Pesa revenue dropped by Sh6.08 billion while voice and messaging revenues dipped by Sh2.79 billion and Sh0.53 billion respectively, contributing to a drop in service revenue. CEO Peter Ndegwa on Monday described the performance as "good" given the massive disruption that the infectious virus has had on households and businesses.

"It has been a good half-year and we are seeing improvement in the second half. However, we know Covid-19 disruption is not over given the resurgence in infections," said Mr Ndegwa. "Our business has proved to be resilient despite tough operating conditions. There is no doubt that Covid-19 has dealt a huge blow to many people not just in Kenya, but across the globe."

M-Pesa revenue dropped by 14.5 percent to Sh35.89 billion despite the value of transactions rising by 32.9 percent to Sh9.47 trillion. The drop was on account of the decision to zero-rate fees on transactions of Sh1,000 and below to reduce cash handling in Covid-19 environment.

"We have seen increased activity in the M-Pesa eco-system as customers take advantage of the free fees on person to person and Lipa na M-Pesa transactions below Sh1,000 and M-Pesa wallet to bank and bank to wallet transfers," said the telco.

However, the telco benefitted from the increased number of people who were working from home to lower risks of contracting the infectious virus. Mobile data revenue grew by 14.1 percent to Sh22.23 billion while fibre to home revenues rose by 47.2 percent to Sh1.64 billion.

Safaricom says that uncertainties still persist for the full year given the recent surge in infections, the continued zero-rating of M-Pesa transactions of Sh1,000 and how customers will react when charges are reinstated. The telco says it expects earnings before interest and taxes to be in the range of between Sh91 billion and Sh94 billion, a decline of 10.5 percent to 7.5 percent.



Safaricom CEO Peter Ndegwa.

SA stocks rise as Joe Biden win amps up risk appetite

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa's main stock gauge joined global peers in rising for a sixth consecutive day Monday, as investors cheered the optimism about the outlook under a Joe Biden US presidency.

The FTSE/JSE Africa All Shares Index rose as much as 1.4% to the highest intraday level since August 27, and was up 1% as of 9:48 a.m. in Johannesburg, as risk-on sentiment helped boost 101 of the 141 listed companies.

"The Joe Biden win saw risk assets gain momentum, with markets banking on more stability, while a divided congress will still ensure low interest rates for longer and potential fiscal stimulus," Bianca Botes, executive director at Peregrine Treasury Solutions, said in an emailed report.

Diversified miners Anglo American and BHP lift the gauge for resource stocks for a third day, up 1.8% to a two-week high. Anglo American +3.3% after Morgan Stanley upgraded the company to overweight, citing potential for significant Ebitda increases of about 29% if current commodity prices remain in to 2021.

Impala Platinum extends gains for a sixth day, up +1.2%. BHP +2.4%, Gold Fields +1.3%, Northam Platinum +1.4%, Glencore +2.6%, Exxaro Resources +1.7%, African Rainbow Minerals +2.1%. Gains in the rand lift the index for bank stocks up 2.4%.

FirstRand +2.9%, Standard Bank +1.8%, Absa +1.4%, Nedbank +1.8%, Investec +1.7%, Capitec +0.2%. Food and drug sellers +1.9%, while general retailers up 1.3%. Shoprite +2.2%, Clicks +1.6%, Spar +1%, Bid Corp +0.4%, Pick n Pay +1.4%, Dis-Chem +2.2%.

Mr Price +2.5%, Woolworths +1.6%, Foschini +1.5%, Truworths International +2.4%, Motus Holdings +3.4%, Pepkor +1.8%. Life Healthcare drags the index for health care stocks down as much as 9.5%, the biggest decline since March 23.

Life Healthcare drops 20%, the biggest drop on record, after the company was named among those set to be deleted from the MCSI indexes from Tuesday. Foreigners were net buyers of South African stocks for a second day Friday, halting, purchasing R666 million worth of shares, according to exchange operator JSE Ltd.

Climate change forces villagers to relocate in Mkuranga District



A woman collecting seashells next to the new seawall built along Barack Obama Road in Dar es Salaam to protect the road against rising sea waves.

By Jennifer Gilla

SOME 110 kilometers south east of Dar es Salaam is located Mdimni village in Mkuranga District of Coast Region.

The coastal villager's main economic activity is farming and fishing with major crops being maize, paddy rice and millet. As one enters the village from the southern part, it is fascinating because of its unique landscape, grass thatched mud houses which are well arranged in two straight lines with a main road cutting across.

Not only that, the hospitality and humour of villagers will also make one feel like being at home because of their welcoming culture.

To the north, the village borders the Indian Ocean, which has become a nightmare to residents in recent years as they are now leading almost a nomadic life. For the past 17 years, the villagers have been forced to relocate and move southwards by surging Indian Ocean waters as climate change leads to rising sea levels. "It's been a regular threat in recent years for the ocean waters to flood our homes and force us to relocate," said 65 year old Mzee Selemani who has been living in the area since his birth.

Mzee Selemani remembers an encounter when raging sea waters almost drowned him while sleeping at night some years back.

"It was in 2003 on Saturday, we were getting ready to move but since our house roofing was not done, we decided to stay for a night, it was a bad decision because my family was almost drowned," he noted.

He was lucky to be rescued alongside his seven year-old son, who fortunately woke up to answer to the call of nature when he met the rising sea tide.

"He yelled and woke us up after witnessing the horror wave which ultimately saved our lives," the veteran fisherman added. Mzee Selemani is one of the villages' 1,390 residents who have been victims of rising sea level of the Indian Ocean for the past 25 years.

His neighbor, Latifa Mbonde, who is a fisherwoman, said her family was forced to leave their original home because of rising seas waves, some years back.

Apart from forcing her family to relocate, Mbonde also lost several

hectares of paddy rice where her family used to harvest 50 bags of 100kgs each with a market price of 2m/-.

"Of course we had good life and we managed to build a family house, but in 2005 things changed after being invaded by sea waves which destroyed the house and the farm," she said her eyes in tears as her family struggled to resettle.

The 50-year-old grandmother said she started fishing in 2009 after her husband died and life became difficult. Due to poor fishing methods, she only managed to catch shrimp that live near beaches and earn a paltry 5,000/- each day.

Seeing the regular threat being faced from rising seas waves, some villagers decided to leave the area to new places. One such person is Diba Kisagulu who moved to Bonde la Ndege in 2003 following destruction of his home and five hectare paddy rice farm.

Kisagulu moved to a cashew nut farm owned by his late father but was abandoned for many years. "Thanks to my father's wisdom we are now living here growing cashew nuts, maize which we sell and earn a living," he said.

Mdimni village Chairman, Kadam Saidi backed his fellow villagers by saying that life along the beach front has been a horror experience for many residents.

Saidi said their original village has moved almost two kilometers away with some 2,000 hectares of farmland abandoned. "In 1990s, our parents used to live in areas close to the seas which we now call Jangwa la Ndege (a birds sanctuary) but we have since moved up here due to rising sea waters," he noted.

He said a combination of rising sea waters has also caused salty soils which are not good for cultivation hence forcing villagers to abandon 2,000ha of prime land.

400 left the village

According to the village Chairman, census conducted last year indicated that the village is now left with 1,390 villagers from the original 1,800 who were there before relocating.

"Over 400 villagers have left to other safe places because of raging sea waters," the father of three said adding that some residents have gone to suburbs of Dar es Salaam such as Kitemvule where they are working in factories.

One such resident is Ramadhani Saidi who left in 2014 following Jangwa la Ndege's destruction. "I left the area where we were cultivating cashew nuts and millet while fishing as well because of raging sea waters," he said adding that life is difficult waiting for a paltry monthly salary compared to doing business and cultivating crops.

Help from environmental stakeholders

Despite such challenges there are activist groups which are trying to help residents of villages suffering effects of climate change by counseling them on mitigation measures.

One such not for profit organization is TCCI-Mazingira whose Vice Chairman, Salum Kigungo said they are sensitizing communities at Mdimni village about the effect of climate change and how to mitigate them.

"We advise them to plant mangroves to protect the environment for fish breeding but also to control sea waves," said Kigungo who noted that many villagers are heeding the advice given to them.

He said the NGO also targets schools to teach children how to start taking measures to protect the environment by avoiding destructive practices such as deforestation.

District Commissioner speaks

Not only NGOs are supporting community efforts to curb effects of climate change but also the government through Mkuranga District Commissioner's office.

The DC Philbert Sanga has issued an order to all villagers to relocate to higher ground. "We have instructed the villagers to find suitable places and move while we find a solution to challenges of climate change effects," said Sanga who also blamed communities for contributing to the challenge.

NEMC

The country's environmental conservation watchdog, the National Environmental Management Council, has also moved to assist.

NEMC's acting Manager for Swamps, Fredrick Mulinda said they have not heard about the particular Mdimni villagers crisis but acknowledged that communities along the Indian Ocean coastline are being impacted by climate change effects.

"As a nation, we signed an agreement with United Nations Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) to help us with funding from the Adaptation Fund, to take mitigation measures against impacts of climate change on communities," Mulinda said while promising to include many villages in Coast Region to help them with projects to mitigate against rising sea waves.

A report by the International Organization for Migration (IOM) concurs with findings by the Intergovernmental Panel for Climate Change (IPCC) in 1990 which said that by 2020, there will be 200 million migrants, displaced by effects of climate change. Other impacts of the changing weather pattern include erosion, soil salinity which is affecting agriculture production and regular flooding caused by rising sea waves.

Meanwhile, a report by the second group of the IPCC of 2007, estimates that sub-Saharan Africa, including Tanzania, will have its rain-fed agriculture yields

From women to migrants: What does a Biden win mean for Africa?

NEW YORK

DEMOCRAT Joe Biden's victory in the U.S. presidential election is set to affect Africa's 1.3 billion people on issues ranging from climate change and immigration to women's health and human rights, according to academics and analysts.

Under the Trump administration, the United States pulled out of the landmark Paris climate accord, issued travel bans on Muslim-majority nations, and cut aid to charities providing reproductive health services that included abortion advice. The Thomson Reuters Foundation asked activists, academics and analysts how a Biden administration could impact Africa's 54 nations.

David Kode, head of advocacy, Civicus

"Civil society groups in Africa have observed how President Trump's attacks on the media and his violent reprisal of Black Lives Matter protests exhibit similar tendencies of Africa's worst authoritarian leaders.

A Biden presidency will certainly be a welcome relief for Africa as civil society will be able to count on a Biden administration to denounce African leaders who violate the rights of their people and exert pressure on them to uphold international law.

A practical way will be for the United States to re-join the U.N. Human Rights Council, which civil society holds in high esteem, but authoritarian leaders have increasingly trod on over the last four years."

Nigel Tricks, East Africa director, Norwegian Refugee Council

"The new U.S. government should prioritise efforts in leading global action to protect millions of people seeking refuge, particularly from those African countries ridden by deadly conflict or the devastation of a changing climate.

As African countries continue to take up more than their fair share of the global duty in welcoming women, children, and men fleeing their homes, the wider international community - led by the United States - has not matched their efforts.

We would like to see the U.S. government taking a lead in ensuring these host countries have the necessary financial support to ease the load of hosting many millions of refugees, as well as the political engagement that can lead to more durable solutions that help people rebuild their lives."

Victor Rasugu, executive director, Network for Adolescents and Youth of Africa

"The United States is the single largest family planning donor in the world and thus plays a major role in reproductive health care in Kenya. Trump's (so-called) global gag rule was and continues to be an onslaught on the reproductive health and rights of women. The decision deprived individuals, especially women of reproductive age, of the right to body autonomy.

A win for Joe Biden brings back hope and sanity in the management of the healthcare systems ... Countries like Kenya will once again be free to offer the reproductive health continuum of care to its populace without being whipped into a certain policy direction that they are not party to."

Aissatou Diouf, West Africa coordinator, Climate Action Network

"The Trump administration has refused to act to mitigate the effects of climate change, and has blocked international climate negotiations for ambitious climate action. Donald Trump's decision to withhold \$2 billion of the \$3 billion pledged by his predecessor has contributed to a huge shortfall at the Green Climate Fund - a contribution that would have enabled countries most affected by climate change, such as African countries, to implement policies to strengthen the resilience of their frontline communities.

A Biden administration would need to take the lead on climate change and make climate change a global priority. We expect the United States would re-join the Paris Agreement, and step up its efforts and also contribute to the Green Climate Fund."

Isa Sanusi, spokesman, Amnesty International

"President Donald Trump's expansion of the immigrant visa ban that includes Nigeria and other countries with vulnerable populations fleeing persecution was unacceptable.

The ban is discriminatory - and with it the United States is setting a dangerous precedent. It has closed the door for people fleeing persecution and also for those who are seeking new opportunities.

Applying the ban on people from select countries, some of them facing crisis, is contrary to the values of the United States. It is our hope that all these discriminatory measures will be removed and more migrant friendly policies will be introduced."

VIEW FROM THE TOP



US president-elect Joe Biden.

Peace and security are key essential enablers of development

By Martin Gabone

NO state can develop or sustainably grow economically without peaceful coexistence among its citizens, and also neighbours with which the country shares common boundaries.

Peace and security are essential factors for human beings to develop and succeed in life. A peaceful and secure environment is critical to every society since it determines all aspects of economic and social development activities and is also a necessary factor to realize of human rights.

We should also remember that the world in which we live, has become increasingly more complex, with new security threats emerging not just on a daily basis but every other minute. As a result, governments are investing in mitigation measures such as counter-terrorism, counter-insurgency but also engage in multilateral peace-keeping and reconstruction operations of war ravaged nations.

The fastest developing nations are among those with the best security structures or infrastructure which guarantees their citizens peace and tranquility to thrive and develop as individuals

but also a nation.

In this aspect, Tanzania has been a role model not only in Africa but also globally, which has led to enormous development and sustainable economic development for many years. One key element which has contributed to peace and calm is the fact that Tanzania is among the few countries in the world with a united population and political stability.

It's because of such stability that the country was earlier this year named by World Bank as having graduated from least developed country into a lower middle income economy. This milestone has been achieved because of increased production, improved trade and investments across all sectors done by both the public and private sectors.

Thus, the nation's prevailing peace and stability for many decades, have contributed immensely to development and growth which in turn leads to improved standards of living among the majority of the people.

Of particular interest in this regard, is how local communities are playing a key role in matters of global status notably the World Bank's recent confession that Tanzania has made significant



progress economically in the past five years.

But with achievements made, it is also worth noting that as Tanzanians, we have responsibility nurture and guard our hard won national treasures which include unity, peace and stability which have contributed significantly towards our

global recognition.

As former President Benjamin William Mkapa said, "I believe that the majority of Tanzanians are patriotic people of integrity, ready to come together to fight any vices," our nation has become of age and what we need now is jealously guard against any divisive elements that may come from both internal and foreign interest groups and individuals.

Peace and security which are needed for sustainable economic growth and development of the nation, can also be safeguarded by ensuring that there is rule of law. The rule of laws helps our nation attract foreign direct investment need to develop the economy rapidly. It is therefore advisable that leaders of all political parties should work together with their supporters to safeguard peace and calm, law and order needed to continue our sustained economic growth as we head towards a proper middle income economy probably before 2025.

Strengthening the role that local communities play in this equation is important because integration of peace and security for nation building is an important milestone that needs to be sustained. It is therefore important that the

government continues its noble duty of ensuring that it fosters responsible and transparent approach in dealing how our natural resources are shared.

Mismanagement and greedy consumption of our natural resources can be a dangerous factor that may lead to disruption of peace and stability because the majority may feel that their rights are being violated.

We have seen many resource rich countries in Africa having internal conflicts or utmost civil wars that have been prompted by a group of people who feel that they have been marginalised taking up arms.

Fortunately, our nation under the distinguished leadership of President John Pombe Magufuli has successfully managed to end mismanagement of our resources by a clique of elites who are in public or private sector positions that allow them to easily access such resources and make final decisions on how to utilise them.

NB: **Martin Gabone (pictured) is a business consultant and social economic commentator. The views expressed in this article are his own.**

WORLD

AMERICA'S CHOICE 2020: Biden to launch virus task force, Trump plans protest rallies

WASHINGTON/WILMINGTON

US President-elect Joe Biden was expected to convene a coronavirus task force later yesterday to examine the No. 1 problem confronting him when he takes office in January, while President Donald Trump pursues several long-shot gambits to hold on to his job.

Biden was due to meet with an advisory board led by former Surgeon General Vivek Murthy and former Food and Drug Administration Commissioner David Kessler to examine how best to tame a pandemic that has killed more than 237,000 Americans.

The Democratic former vice-president was then expected to give remarks in Wilmington, Delaware, about his plans for tackling COVID-19 and rebuilding the economy. He spent much of the campaign criticizing Trump's handling of the crises and has vowed to listen to scientists to guide his own approach.

Trump has frequently clashed with top health officials over the pandem-

ic. Vice-President Mike Pence is due to meet with the White House coronavirus task force on Monday for the first time since Oct 20.

Biden clinched the presidency on Saturday, four days after the Nov 3 election, clearing the threshold of 270 Electoral College votes needed to win the White House. He beat Trump by more than 4 million votes nationwide, making Trump the first president to lose re-election since 1992.

But Trump has not acknowledged defeat and has launched an array of lawsuits to press claims of election fraud for which he has produced no evidence. State officials say they are not aware of any significant irregularities.

Trump had no public events scheduled for yesterday, and he has not spoken in public since Thursday. As part of a public campaign to question the election results, he is planning to hold rallies to build support for his fight over the outcome, campaign spokesman Tim Murtaugh said.

Biden's advisers are moving ahead



US President-elect Joe Biden and Vice-President-elect Kamala Harris stand onstage after delivering remarks in Wilmington, Delaware, on Nov Saturday, after being declared the winners of the presidential election. (AFP)

even still, also considering candidates for top Cabinet posts. But the transition cannot shift into high gear until the US General Services Administration, which oversees federal property, certifies the winner.

Emily Murphy, the Trump appointee who runs the agency, has not given the go-ahead for the transition to begin. A GSA spokeswoman gave no timetable for the decision.

Until then, the GSA can continue providing Biden's team with offices, computers and background checks for security clearances, but they cannot yet enter federal agencies or access federal funds set aside for the transition.

The Biden campaign on Sunday pressed the agency to move ahead.

"America's national security and economic interests depend on the federal government signaling clearly and swiftly that the United States government will respect the will of the American people and engage in a smooth and peaceful transfer of power," the campaign said in a statement.

Rallies and recounts

Trump, however, has shown no signs he will engage in a transition.

Murtaugh said Trump will hold a series of rallies to build support for the legal fights challenging the outcome, though Murtaugh did not say when and where they would take place.

Trump will seek to back up his as yet unsubstantiated accusations of voting fraud by high-

lighting obituaries of dead people the campaign said voted in the election, Murtaugh said.

Trump also announced teams to pursue recounts in several states. Experts said that effort, like his lawsuits, are unlikely to meet with success. "The chances of a recount flipping tens of thousands of votes across multiple states in his favor are outside anything we have seen in American history," William Antholis, director of the University of Virginia's Miller Center think tank, wrote in an essay on Sunday.

Leaders from across the globe have offered their congratulations to Biden, including some Trump allies, but many of Trump's fellow Republicans have yet to recognize the Democrat's victory.

Republican attorneys general from Louisiana, Kentucky, Missouri and Oklahoma said they will take legal action on Monday to help the Trump campaign challenge how Pennsylvania has handled mail ballots, a popular option this year for voters seeking to avoid coronavirus exposure at crowded polling locations. It was not clear how they would help Trump's legal team, which is headed by David Bossie, a seasoned political activist but not a lawyer.

Pennsylvania, the state that clinched Biden's victory on Saturday, has been one of the most hotly contested battlegrounds of the election.

Trump has repeatedly criticized mail voting as insecure, though he himself has voted that way in past elections and election experts say it is as reliable as other methods.

Agencies

China boosts multinational firms' growth amid pandemic

BEIJING

AS the world economy grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic, affected multinational firms are getting a boost in China, one of the world's largest consumer markets, which has helped instill hope in the recovery of global economy.

The latest earnings results of many world-renowned brands like Estee Lauder, the Coca-Cola Co and Daimler AG, have shown stronger-than-expected quarterly growth in the Chinese market, which has highlighted the globe's biggest developing country as a stable, if not growing, source of revenue for international companies facing economic upheavals caused by the pandemic.

"This was another extraordinary quarter for Chinese consumer consumption," Estee Lauder Chief Executive Fabrizio Freda said on the company's quarterly earnings call last week.

"We estimate that the total Chinese consumer consumption was about plus 20 percent, and we were plus 28 percent to plus 30 percent range," said the chief executive of the US cosmetic giant.

According to the Center for Sys-

tems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University, global COVID-19 cases have topped 50 million on Sunday. A long list of countries including France, Germany, Portugal, Kenya and Britain have ramped up measures to contain a second wave of the disease.

While necessary and effective for curbing infections, those restrictions on social gatherings and tourist activities have taken a heavy toll on global consumer market.

However, standing in contrast to the slumping global economy, China has basically brought the pandemic under control and got its economy back on track after months of resolute and effective struggle.

Coca-Cola said it still expects to see growth in the Chinese market this year, even as the closures of restaurants, bars in large part of the world were set to drag down its global sales volume.

In its third quarter earnings reports, the company posted a 4 percent decline in global sales volume. Its sale in Asia also fell 4 percent, "primarily due to coronavirus-related restrictions in India and Japan," which however was partially



This undated file photo shows Shanghai's city view.

offset by "solid growth" in China.

The struggling automotive sector also saw a revival of sales in the Chinese market.

With the recovery in premium-car sales in China, Daimler AG, a German multinational automotive corporation, reported 24 percent

yearly sales growth and record unit sales for Mercedes-Benz in the September quarter, with an 8 percent decline globally.

On Friday, Japan's two biggest car manufacturers, Toyota Motor and Honda Motor also more than doubled their profit forecasts,

saying the recovering demand in China is helping offset weaker performance worldwide.

"China is a very dynamic market," Freda said. "We continue to invest in the vibrant opportunity of our second home market."

Xinhua

Russian cabinet reshuffle: 5 ministers replaced, another deputy PM added

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has conducted a major government reshuffle since its present line-up was appointed in January.

Five ministers are leaving their posts at once, while the State Duma, lower house of parliament, is yet to approve the nominees, who will replace them under the new law.

Alexander Novak, who has headed the Energy Ministry since 2012, may become the tenth Deputy of Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin.

Earlier yesterday, Putin signed the decree establishing the position of a new Deputy Prime Minister. At the Energy Ministry Novak is to be replaced by the general director of RusHydro Nikolai Shulginov - the Prime Minister has already submitted his candidacy to the lower house of parliament.

Vladimir Yakushev, who has headed the Construction Ministry since 2018, has been appointed Presidential Plenipotentiary Envoy to the Urals Federal District instead of Nikolai Tsukanov, who has held this post for almost the same period of time.

Prime Minister submitted the candidacy of Irek Fayzullin for the post of Construction Minister. Until now, Fayzullin has been first deputy of Yakushev.

The Minister for the Development of the Far East and the Arctic, Alexander Kozlov, will become new Natural Resources and Environment Minister, if approved by the lower house of parliament. However, outgoing ministers of Natural Resources and Transport Evgeny Dietrich have not received new appointments yet.

Vitaly Savelyev, CEO of Aeroflot airline may become new Transport Minister. He has been in charge of the national carrier since 2009, and in 2018 his powers were extended for another five years.

Mishustin also proposed appointing Aleksey Chekunkov, who previously headed the Far East and Arctic Development Fund (part of the VEB.RF Group), as the head of the Ministry for the Development of the Russian Far East.

Iran's oil industry will not yield to US sanctions, minister says

DUBAI

IRAN'S oil industry will not succumb to sanctions imposed by the United States, the oil minister said yesterday in comments carried by the ministry's SHANA news agency.

Tensions between Washington and Tehran have soared since President Donald Trump withdrew in 2018 from Iran's nuclear accord with six powers and reimposed US sanctions that have squeezed the Islamic Republic's economy.

"Neither are we afraid of sanctions nor does it affect our work, it only strengthens our determination to serve our people," said.

As part of the Trump administration's increasing economic pressure on Iran, Washington last month imposed sanctions on Iran's Oil Ministry alongside other entities. Zanganeh was blacklisted by the US Treasury Department.

"These sanctions are a kind of revenge," the minister said. "There is nothing left for the United States to sanction ... the only thing left is probably our services section, like our staff working at the kitchen."

US President-elect Joe Biden, a Democrat who was vice president under President Barack Obama when Iran's nuclear deal was reached, has pledged to rejoin the accord if Iran returns to compliance with it.

In retaliation for Washington's "maximum pressure" policy, Tehran has gradually reduced its commitments to the accord. But Iran has said those steps were reversible if Tehran's interests were respected.

Iranian President Hassan Rouhani said on Sunday the next US administration should use the opportunity to compensate for Trump's mistakes.

Agencies



Oil Minister Bijan Zanganeh

Erdogan's son-in-law quits as finance minister after lira slide

ANKARA

TURKISH Finance Minister Berat Albayrak said on Sunday he was resigning for health reasons, the second surprise departure of a top economic policymaker in two days after the central bank chief was ousted.

The upheaval follows a 30 percent slide in the lira to record lows this year amid the coronavirus pandemic as investors worried about falling forex reserves and the central bank's ability to tackle double-digit inflation.

Albayrak's resignation, announced in an Instagram state-

ment confirmed by an official, came a day after father-in-law President Tayyip Erdogan replaced the central bank governor with a former minister whose policies are seen to be at odds with Albayrak (pictured).

"I have decided that I cannot continue as a minister, which I have been carrying out for nearly five years, due to health problems," the statement said. Albayrak became finance minister two years ago after serving as energy minister.

Two sources at the presidency could neither confirm nor deny the statement when reached by Reuters, but a Fi-

nance Ministry official confirmed its authenticity.

Albayrak, 42, was appointed energy minister in 2015 and shifted to finance after Erdogan was re-elected with sweeping new executive powers in 2018.

During his tenure as finance, Turkey's economy was hit by two bad slumps, double-digit inflation and high unemployment. The lira has lost around 45 percent against the US dollar since his appointment and is the worst performer in emerging markets this year.

LIRA RALLIES



Erdogan, who appointed former finance minister Naci Agbal as the new central bank governor on Saturday, would need to approve the resignation.

The departure of Turkey's top two economic policymakers boosted the lira, which firmed 2 percent to 8.3600 against the US dollar at 1904 GMT, and set the stage for a sharp rate rise, analysts said.

Agbal "might do a better job in getting approval for a rate hike" given his former experience with the government and ruling party, said Selva Demiralp, director of the Koc

University-TUSIAD Economic Research Forum.

"Absent a rate hike, I am afraid the financial crisis will only get worse with the depreciation in the lira that increases the external debt, triggering bankruptcies."

On Sunday, Agbal held a meeting with senior executives in the banking sector to discuss macroeconomic expectations and exchange views on policy, said a sector official, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Analysts at Goldman Sachs and TD Bank expect a monetary tightening of at least 600 basis points from a 10.25 per-

cent policy rate now.

Deputy Transport Minister Omer Fatih Sayan said on Twitter he hoped Albayrak's resignation would be rejected, adding "our country, our people and our community need you".

Mehmet Mus, the deputy parliamentary group chairman for the ruling AK Party, said Albayrak had taken important steps to strengthen the economy and that he hoped Erdogan would not accept the resignation.

"We personally witnessed his diligent work. If our president sees fit, I hope he continues at his post," Mus said on Twitter.

Agencies

SPORT

Kenya to field nine athletes in 2020 NBC Marathon

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadoda

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) has announced nine Kenyan elite athletes who will compete at the coming National Bank of Commerce (NBC) Marathon which is to take place in Dodoma later this month.

Tullo Chambo, AT information officer, said out of the elite athletes, Judith Cheronno and Esther Chesang Kakuri will compete in 21km race of women category.

Euliter Jepchirchir Tanui and Isgh Cheruto will compete in women's 42km race.

Male Kenyan athletes who will compete at the event are Edward Kibet Kipro, Elijah Kibiwot Cheruiyot who will compete in men's 21km race.

Rubein Kipkembo, Abraham Kipkosgei Too and Wilson Kipro Tuitok, will compete in men's 42km race.

"We have nine elite athletes from Kenya who will compete at the NBC Marathon slated for November 22 in Dodoma, it promises to be one of the best events," he said.

The nine elite Kenyan athletes join five others from Uganda who will also compete at the marathon.

Ugandan athletes who will compete at the event are Philip Kiplimo, Vincent Chelimo and Julius Ochieng who will compete in men's 42km race, while Doreen Chemutai and Mely Chelimo are to compete in 21km.

The 2020 NBC Marathon is expected to attract mammoth athletes of all ages and it is recognized by World Athletics (WA), seeking to raise money for the fight against cervical cancer in the country.

The AT signed a five-year agreement with the bank to raise money which will be used at Ocean Road Center.

Weusi artistes to spice up 2020 CRDB Taifa Cup tournament

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S popular Hip Hop musician, Joh Makini and his Weusi Group will spice up the 2020 CRDB Taifa Cup tournament which will take place in Dodoma from November 12-21.

In a statement issued by the institution in Dar es Salaam yesterday, CRDB Bank Plc said in conjunction with Tanzania Basketball Federation (TBF), they have invited Joh Makini and Weusi to continue years of good relations between Hip Hop and the game of basketball.

The CRDB, the competition's main sponsors with 200m/- wall chest, said other partners for the annual event include Mayfair Insurance, Cool Blue and Azam TV who will beam the entire competition live through Azam Sports 2 channel.

"For more than two decades, basketball has had closer links with Hip Hop music and has witnessed close collaboration between players of the two parties," the bank's statement said.

Real Hip Hop and basketball links, the institution noted, started in 1970s when musician Big Bank Hank of Sugarhill Gang was frequently seen watching New York Knicks games in the USA's NBA League on live television.

The Hip Hop and basketball close relations continued till in 1990s when Michigan Wolverines in the US which was popularly known as Fab Five started dressing like Hip

Hop musicians.

Later big names in basketball such as Shaquille O'Neal started playing Hip Hop music in collaboration with leading musicians like Lil Bow Wow.

Commenting on the collaboration with CRDB and TBF through the tournament, Makini said it is a dream come true, noting he expects to lure more people to come and watch the game while his Weusi Group play popular hit songs.

Through a slogan, 'Ni zaidi ya game, ni maisha,' which casually means 'It's more than a game, it's life' the Weusi Hip Hop mogul said: "We have witnessed many basketball players globally become rich because of their taking part in the game."

He disclosed Tanzanian basketball star, Hasheem Thabit, also made his fortune from US basketball outfits.

"People like Hasheem have successfully marketed our country's name abroad because of their success in the US basketball competitions hence I urge those who will take part in the tournament in Dodoma to take it seriously," Makini added.

The nine-day competition will feature 24 male teams and 12 female teams and apart from prize money for the winning teams, CRDB will also offer scholarships to best performing individuals to help them complete their university education.



Joh Makini

Ngorongoro Heroes edge Sudan in friendly

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIA'S national U-20 football team, Ngorongoro Heroes, posted 2-1 win over Sudan's national U-20 squad in an international friendly duel, which took place at Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

The two teams used the clash to shape up for this season's CECAFA U-20 competition.

Ngorongoro Heroes scored their first goal on the 30th minute through midfielder Khefflin Salum Hamdoun.

The youngster, also the squad's skipper, pounced on a rebound a few meters from Sudan U-20 side's area and cracked a shot that went straight into the net.

Winger Tepsit Evans put Ngorongoro Heroes

2-0 up on the 36th minute through a penalty kick that the hosts were awarded after one of the visitors' defenders had blocked the ball with his hand within the area.

The two goal scorers have been roped in by Vodacom Premier League club, Azam FC.

Evans lately features for Vodacom Premier League club, Mbeya's Ifetu FC, on loan, Hamdoun is playing for his parent club.

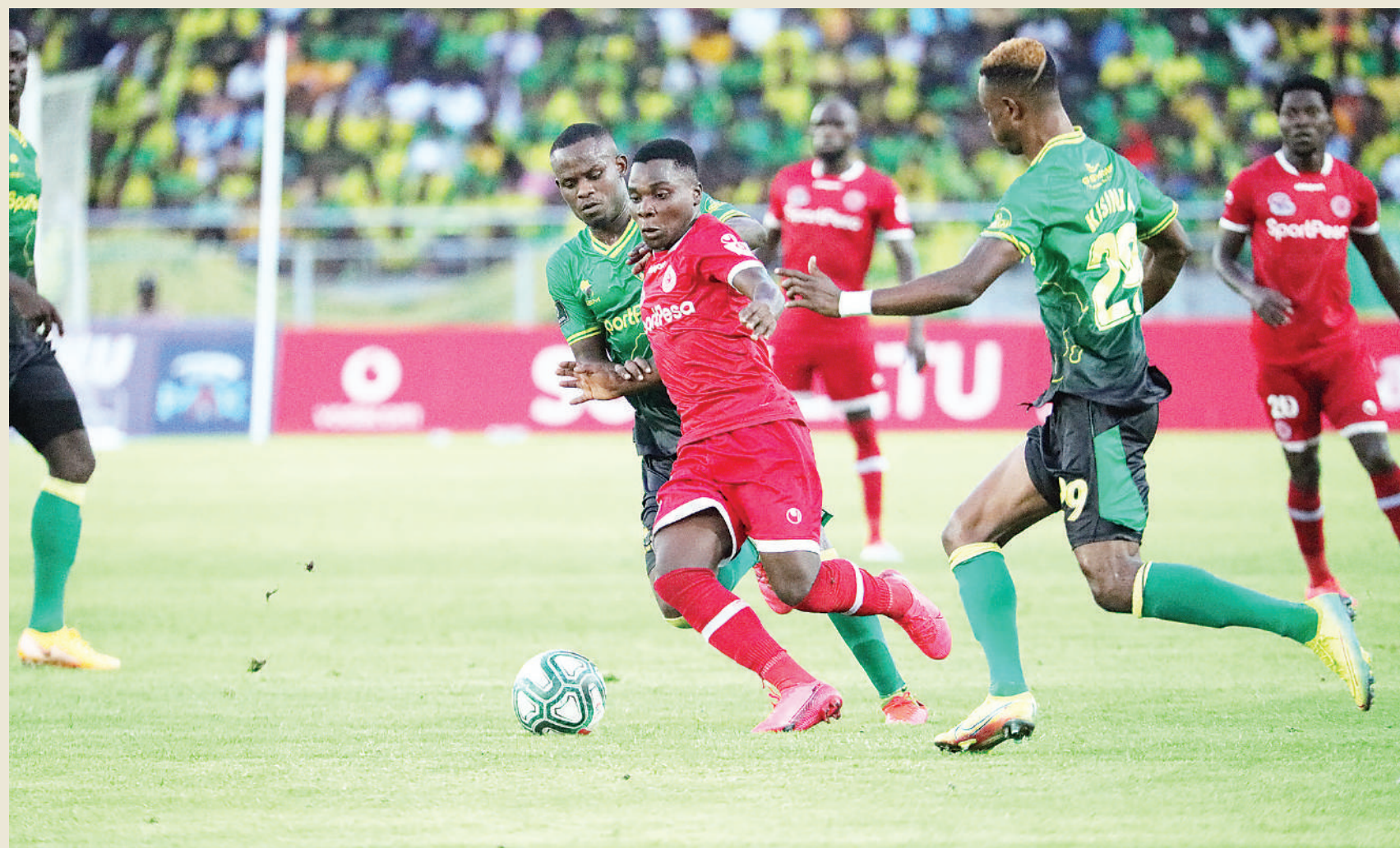
The visitors pulled a goal back on the 64th minute of the game via Abdelkarim Abdelrahman.

Ngorongoro Heroes later kept Sudan U-20 squad in check to snatch the victory.

The Tanzania U-20 team will take part in a second friendly match against Sudan U-20 team on Tuesday to stay in great shape.

SPORTS

Who should fans wait for in assessing derby result, the coach or top officials?



Simba SC winger, Luis Miquissone (C), negotiates his way past Yanga's wingers, Farid Mussa (L) and Tuisila Kisinda, when the clubs locked horns in a Vodacom Premier League (VPL) clash held at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. The teams settled for 1-1 draw. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

RESULTS of the city derby between traditional archrivals Simba SC and Young Africans SC (Yanga) have predictably brought out more soul searching and recriminations from the Msimbazi Street-based Simba SC as they were, for all intents and purposes, the derby favourites.

Psychologically, nonetheless, it is well known that when a side is visibly favoured to win, it tends to play at lower than its actual potential, for a simple reason.

Reaching one's potential requires an element of dread, fear, anxiety, a rise in the adrenalin push.

It was thus predictable that Yanga would yield more of that adrenalin than Simba SC as the former were visible underdogs - though not rank underdogs as they perceptibly looked one or two derbies previously.

Surprisingly enough, the Jangwani Street-based Yanga have a way of rising from the 'ashes' and put up spirited soccer when it is an archrivals' encounter, whatever was the run of their latest premier league series of matches, land in a sense this is also what happened this time round.

The difference is that in previous derbies the distance between the two sides in preliminary matches was relatively wide, unlike this time.

The results of the derby more or less corrected midweek earlier matches where Yanga had a goalless draw and Simba SC a 2-0 win over what looked like a more experienced side than the Yanga opponents, in which case emerging favorites.

And then Simba are structural favorites by virtue of registration and facilitation in comparison with other premier league sides, despite that Yanga are still a shoulder higher than the rest, with the possible exception of Azam FC, and even so a bit grudgingly.

So it can be understood if top officials with the Msimbazi Street side would not stand at something less than outright win in the derby.

The problem that comes up is the division of labour in the wake of a drawn-out draw match, who is thus charged with explanation of what took place, for the issue is not the 'truth' of what happened but the role that each stakeholder holds in the club.

For one thing there is no singular 'truth' that suffices to explain the match result, for all explanation is an opinion, and that is constructed from the viewpoint of viewing this or that moment in the game, and making it the point of departure.

If it is a player who failed to hold an opponent, a forward who went on to score, or the forward who was held by a defender, altogether each aspect of the same moment in the game becomes a different story, depending on how a narrative is built. That is why there is a problem of roles or apportioning of tasks at the club, and looking at the matter a bit closely, it seems that the problem is a sort of failure on the part of the Msimbazi Street club side to learn professional ways of managing a club.

That is not surprising as there is that element of a cooperative society and a club sponsor who has been given a fixed position in a sort of rearrangement, but then the supposed share sale was done at the club rather than having placed the club - and other clubs for that matter - on the stock exchange. In that context even the share sale is a sort of stabilization of sponsorship.

In the Jangwani Street outfit business model tradition still holds sway, while Msimbazi Street outfit prides itself with a sort

of modernity.

But old attitudes die hard, namely that top officials relate to the media and to the fans in the same manner as a cooperatively-run amateur outfit.

In that kind of circumstance there was a lot of voluntary explanation to make since the side's performance was not up to standard by club expectations.

Listening to remarks made for instance by don Zacharia Hanspoppe, singling out two or three players as having played below capacity, the question comes to mind as to whether he was helping the coach or sidelining him.

He was giving a version of things that may be technically right but inappropriate, as it not possible to separate sentiment from technique in assessing the game, and worse, in assessing the players.

The issue is why a top official wish to make the coach a pariah, or burden him, unnecessarily.

The reason is that after the senior club official has spoken, no other review of the match was needed by whatever section of the fans from the coach, as the whole fan base was now locked in discussion whether that assessment was right, and if so, what went wrong.

The first 'what went wrong' had already been answered, that players 'X, Y and Z' did not play up to standard, an observation that opens a can of worms as to whether the coach erred in playing them, or he should be given directives on coaching and on the line up. Or it is an intimation of what the club needs to do in the short transfer window - not far off now.

TOC seeks to improve efficiency ahead of election

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) is expected to conduct elections in Dodoma on December 12.

Filbert Bayi, TOC Secretary General, said that all arrangements for the election have been finalized.

The 1975 Commonwealth Games' 1500m gold medal winner disclosed that unlike in the committee's previous elections, only 13 members will be elected in the body's executive committee from 20 members.

According to the official, the idea behind the reduction is to increase efficiency and promote democracy within the committee in accordance with the constitutional amendments.

The committee holds election after every four years, involving members from both Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.

He said forms for the TOC leadership aspirants will be issued at the committee's offices in Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar from last Sunday to November 20.

He added that those wishing to contest for the TOC's presidential post should each pay a non-refundable fee amounting to 250,000/-.

The would-be aspirants for the posts of vice-president, secretary general, assistant secretary, treasurer, and assistant treasurer would also pay the same amount.

Those wishing to become members in



TOC Secretary General, Filbert Bayi.

the TOC executive committee will each pay 200,000/-.

Bayi said the aspirants should be endorsed by their respective sports governing bodies.

The Olympic sports associations are eligible voters in the TOC elections as members of the executive committee whose terms of leadership come to end will not vote as per the TOC constitutional amendment.

He said November 20 has been set as the deadline for returning the forms.

Lloyd Nchunga, a lawyer that is part of three officials selected to supervise the TOC elections, said that the

campaign shall start after the aspirants are cleared to contest.

He disclosed: "The campaign shall start after the aspirants' endorsement and will end up the evening before the elections. Other members of the electoral committee tasked with supervising the elections include a lawyer from Zanzibar, Abdallah Mohammed and Harrison Chaulo."

Nchunga said the screening for the Mainland Tanzania candidates will be held on November 27 while that of Zanzibar will take place on November 29.

The TOC coordinates for all of the country's Olympic sportsmen and women ahead of their participation in either the Olympic Games or the Commonwealth games.

Officials from the Olympic sports associations are eligible voters and their number in the participation of the elections will depend on their eligibility, among others being active, pay their international affiliation's membership as well as having an address office.

Meanwhile, Bayi said that TOC election shall go parallel with that of the Tanzania Olympians Association (TOA), given the TOC is TOA patron.

The elections will be supervised by the TOC's executive committee.

Bayi said those eligible to contest in TOA's elections are people that managed to compete in the Olympic Games for three times during the games held in London 2012, Rio de Janeiro in 2016 and Tokyo 2020 (despite being pushed back to next year, they will be still regarded as participants).

Mwinga Mwanjala, TOA's secretary general, said there are about 80 Olympians represented by TOA, which also produces voters for TOC's elections.

Mwanjala said those wishing to contest for higher posts will each have to pay 15,000/- while those who would go for the executive committee posts will each pay 10,000/-.

Aga Khan B cricket team clinch 2020 Kazim Nasser Div A1 trophy

SPORT

Man City, Liverpool flaws and fatigue boost Premier League title rivals

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Aga Khan B cricket team pose for picture with a trophy shortly after the 2020 Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML)'s Division A1 final, which saw the squad confront Union SC at Annadil Burhani ground in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Aga Khan B cricket team emerged as champions with victory over Union SC. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

In response Union SC were disappointingly bowled out for 66 runs in 21.1 overs, losing out on lifting their first trophy this year.

Opener Danish Unia and Dhanani were the players with a performance worth writing home about in the fruitless chase, with the rest putting below par performance. They showcased intention to get off to an impressive start after opener Unia had scored 18 runs which consisted of two boundaries.

A brief spell by fellow opener Kakonzi to a great extent weakened the team's resolve, given the all-rounder is among the side's key performers particularly in tough matches.

Kakonzi could only notch two runs before he was dismissed by Aga Khan B team's Aiman Khan.

They were later dealt blow after two other top order batsmen Ali Sumar and Seif Khalifa also made their way back to the pavilion in quick succession.

Union SC failed to recover thereafter following yet more early exits of experienced performers, Zaidi, Shiraz Shokat and Hasnain Damji.

There was little skipper Sameer Mussa could do to help the squad turn tables on their opponents, he as well had a brief spell, registering four runs.

Aga Khan B squad's Prem Bajaria ended with an impressive bowling figure, given he took four wickets and gave away 10 runs in six overs. Mehta and Jasani had no mercy for Union SC, unleashing a barrage of tricky deliveries and finishing with three wickets and two wickets respectively.

Aga Khan B squad's skipper Jasani said: "It has been a very good tournament and very competitive one. We have had a very young team and it was my first opportunity to captain the side so I'm pleased that it turned out well."

"We are now putting our focus on the KNML Division A final against Caravans and the Caravans Cup Qualifier 2 match against Gymkhana. We want to do a treble this year and we are in a good position to do so. As for this victory I dedicate it to my inspiration and mentor, Ayaz Jasani."

Tanzania U-17 women squad wallops South Africa in COSAFA U-17 Women Championship

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIA'S national U-17 women football side cruised to a resounding 6-1 victory over South Africa's U-17 women squad in the COSAFA U-17 Women Championship's clash, which took place in South Africa last weekend.

It was the third game for the Tanzania U-17 women team, with the team notching victory in two matches and loss in one. They had opened their campaign impressively, cruising to victory over Comoros Islands, the former later conceded loss to Zambia in the following duel.

Aisha Masaka, Tanzania U-17 women squad's skillful forward, had a great game, slotting in five goals.

Aisha has been a great performer in the competition, she was unstoppable every time she reached South Africa's U-17 women's area.

She scored the goals on the 21st minute, 23rd minute, 39th minute, 44th minute and 89th minute. The visitors' first goal was scored by Mwamvua Haruna on the 18th minute of the game, making it six goals for them.

South Africa U-17 women team's consolation was an own goal by Tanzania U-17 women squad's Noela Luhala on the 79th minute of the game, which took place at Oval Stadium.

Aisha was presented with the best player of the match honour. The Tanzania U-17 Tanzania U-17 women squad has now registered six points from three games, with the tournament still in groups' stage.

Meanwhile, Zimbabwe rallied late on to claim a 3-2 victory over Comoros Islands in a sensational comeback that saw them score three goals in the final 13 minutes.

Zimbabwe had been defeated 7-0 by South Africa in their opener, and looked on course for a second loss after Nussirat Mistoihi and Dalila Mohamed put Comoros 2-0 up in the first half.

Zimbabwe won a penalty just seconds before the break, and, when Bethel Kondo saw her effort saved by Comoros goalkeeper Amina Said, it looked as though it would not be their day.



Tanzania U-17 women soccer squad's defender, Protasia Mbunda, (L), negotiates her way past a South Africa women U-17 squad's player when the sides met in a 2020 COSAFA U-17 Women Championship's match, which took place in South Africa last weekend.

By Guardian Reporter

Aga Khan B cricket team have lifted this year's Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML)'s Division A1 silverware, posting a 73-run drubbing of Union SC in the final played Annadil Burhani oval in Dar es Salaam last Saturday.

It was the first piece of silverware of the final's eventual winners, they are now looking forward to

successfully contest for more titles in regional club competitions.

Youngster Dhruvit Mehta showcased scintillating batting displays as Aga Khan B side went on to tame Union SC on Saturday.

Aga Khan B side's cricketers were skittled for 139 runs in 30 overs once they were presented with an opportunity to bat first.

Opener Mehta led from the front, notching 32 runs and blasting three fours, making up for below par performance by fellow opener, Akbar Khan, that succumbed to an early exit with just a run. Experienced batsman, John Zablon, and youthful Aarsalaan Premji came on to boost Aga Khan B squad's total, scoring 23 runs and 24 runs respectively.

Captain Aahil Jasani and Alhaj Sadick saw to

it Aga Khan B squad's quest for finishing the innings with an imposing score is still on, given they posted 17 runs and 17 runs not out respectively. The Aga Khan B squad's low order batsmen's quick dismissals hindered their efforts to end with a much more impressive score.

Senior players, Shaheed Dhanani and Sameer Zaidi, ended with impressive figures during the Union SC bowling spell, as the duo posted three wickets apiece.

Dhanani gave away 25 runs in three over, posting an economy rate of 8.33, Zaidi gave away 19 runs in for overs.

Leg spinner Athuman Kakonzi was equally impressive, given he took two wickets and gave away 14 runs in six overs.

Junior golfer Aalaan Somji lifts Open Diplomatic golf tournament silverware

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu

ARUSHA Gymkhana Club (AGC) golfer, Aalaan Somji, carded impressive 45 stable ford points to beat a strong field of over 120 golfers from different countries to the trophy in this year's Open Diplomatic golf tournament, which took place at the Kili golf course in the region last weekend.

The competition brought together golfers from Kenya, Uganda, USA, France, Canada, England, Zimbabwe, Germany, Malawi, Sweden, Spain, Netherland, India, South as well as hosts Tanzania.

"It feels awesome, it is my biggest win. I thank my father who helped me enjoy this achievement, it definitely gives me more confidence. I'm just happy with the way I played out," a joyous Somji said.

He complimented the tournament's organizers and also appealed to other girls to participate in golf.

Ministry for Foreign Affairs and East Africa Cooperation and Zanzibar Tourism Board are brainstorm of the second edition of the Open Diplomatic golf tournament.

The tournament's organizers said the showpiece will from next year be a two-day event.

The CRDB, Tanfoam, Basil & Alred, Jibu Water, Kilivilla, Siringit, House of Gems, Manta resorts, Lemala, MMI, European Business Group Tanzania, Centre for Foreign Relations (CFR), Vodacom and DSTV sponsored the tournament, which involved male and female golfers.

Diplomats, Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), and other golfers from East African Community (EAC) and beyond took part in the competition.

Former Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Damas Ndumbaro, who masterminded the unique tournament, expressed delight at the progress made by the tournament.

The event had, among others, raised

about 6m/- to support Songea Mississippi Foundation (So-MI), with golfer Nathan Mpangala, who represented the institution, receiving a dummy cheque during presentation ceremony.

Ndumbaro complimented the Kili golf course's personnel for making the course playable, and appreciated wonderful support from the hosts.

Kenyan Maryanne Mugo, who also impressed with 41 points to finish second in the ladies' category, was Somji's closest challenger.

The event saw Simon Traver score 38 points to emerge as Division A winner, Prabvir Singh recorded 36 points to end second, the third spot went to Simran Singh with 34 points.

Tejinor Singh Bausal laid his hands on the Division B silverware, David

Nolan was second and Kelly Kariuki took the third place, while Division C top honor went to Abbas Lalji, followed by Stephen Chuwalo in the second spot, the third spot was won by Robert Daniel.

Tanzania Golf Union (TGU) Chairman Chris Martin took senior category's top prize, while the junior category's prize went to Mohamed Asad.

Four golfers also won the nearest to the pin prize. They are Edmund Mdolwa at hole no. 3, Martin at hole no. 7 while Lugalo Golf Club's skipper, Japhet Masai, and the club's golfer, Neema Olomi, went on to win the award at holes no. 15 and 18 respectively. Gulu Charma won the tournament's longest drive prize.



The 2020 Open Diplomatic Golf tournament's overall winner, Aalaan Somji (L), hands over a dummy cheque of 5m/- to Nathan Mpangala on behalf of Ruvuma's Songea Mississippi Foundation in Arusha last weekend. The funds were raised by golfers who competed in the tournament, which took place in the region the same weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Kenya drivers steal show at 2020 Guru Nanak Rally

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

OVER 20 rally teams from across East Africa headed to Monduli, Arusha to light up the 2020 Guru Nanak Rally which raved off in Monduli District from Saturday to Sunday.

The race ended with the top two positions going to Kenya's teams.

Filmico Racing team from Kenya with driver Karan Patel and co-driver Tauseef Khan won the race by a total of one hour, seven minutes and 36 seconds in all four rounds using Ford Fiesta Model car.

The second place was also snatched by a Kenyan team, Ian Duncan Rally team, with driver Ian Duncan and co-driver Tej Sehmi who came up hot on heels of the race's winners, using one hour, nine minutes and eight seconds in all four rounds through the use Nissan Patrol model car.

Tanzanian team, Birdi Rally, with driver Randeep Singh Birdi and co-driver Zubayr Piredina closed up the top three spots with their Mitsubishi Lancer Evolution IX. they used a total of one hour, 12 minutes and 13 seconds in the four rounds.

Apparently, this year's Guru Nanak Motor Rally is the first ever sporting event to feature teams from outside Tanzania after the resumption of sporting activities, which had for three months been put on hold because of the coronavirus outbreak. The drivers from Kenya and Uganda have been regularly participating in the motorsports event staged in Arusha.

Organized by the Arusha Motor Sports Club (AMSC), the Guru Nanak Rally has attracted 21 teams from Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania with the racing event raised dust in the remote landscapes of Monduli on Sunday.

Of the 21 cars competed in the rugged terrain, different varieties of Subaru Imprezza vehicles dominate the lineup, with eight such vehicles being enlisted, followed by Mitsubishi Evos team, with seven entries.

There were also some very rare wheels, including the single entry of Skoda Proto from the Hari Singh Rally team, this is also a hybrid team with the driver, Gurjit Dhani from Tanzania and navigator Riyaz Ismail from Kenya.

Among the special cars was a Porsche 911 driven by legendary Jayant Shah and Shahil Haria from the A-to-Z team of Arusha finished on 10th spot and a modern Ford Fiesta driven by the newly crowned champions Karan Patel and Tauseef Khan from the Filmico team of Kenya.

The three were the only non-Japanese cars in the rally. The only large truck to participate in the racing event was the Nissan Patrol 4WD which was driven by the Kenyan Ian Duncan rally team, carrying the entry number seven who finished on second spot.

Uganda's sole entry came in the form of the Moil Rally team of Yassin Nassar and Ali Katumba who race in Subaru Imprezza GVB 15 numbered 9 on the door and bonnet who finished 13th.

TONIGHT @ 9:00

NIRVANA

EATV TUESDAY

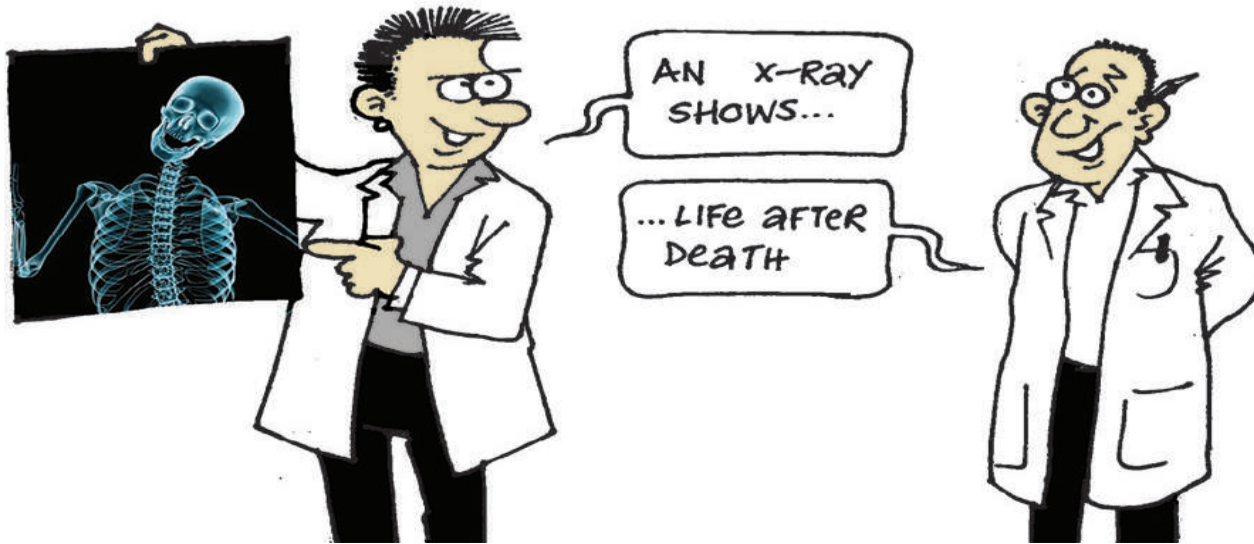
11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Msoi Kilaani (r)
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi
14:30 BBall Kings Highlights (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 SSPORTS (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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Flexibles by David Chikoko



AN X-RAY SHOWS...

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