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TANZANIA

TUESDAY 14 SEPTEMBER, 2021

National Pg 3
Climate change in Usambara Mountains



National Pg 4
Police nab 16 illegal immigrants



National Pg 5
Royal Tour documentary lures agencies



PM directs ban of plastic yarns

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu, Morogoro

THE Ministry of Agriculture is readying a policy statement banning the production and use of plastic yarns in a bid to promote sisal yarns.

Deputy Minister Hussein Bashe (pictured) made this declaration at the second sisal stakeholders meeting held yesterday at the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI) Ilonga Centre in Kilosa district of Morogoro region.

The Ministry for Industries and Trade shall work with the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) to control plastic yarn from the production state to entering markets sites, he said in the speech which he said was prepared for the prime minister.

Similarly the National Environmental Management Council (NEMC) has been directed to prepare regulations prohibiting the use of plastic yarns as they are hazardous to the environment and do not provide government revenues.

When visiting Amboni sisal yarns factory at Pangani district in Tanga region back in January, the premier was told that one of the challenges facing sisal yarn producers is the flooding of plastic yarns in the market.



Challenges facing the sisal farming include the lack of capital for smallholder farming and the invasion of elephants

Bashe recalled that the premier was told that plastic yarns are produced by ghost plastic yarn factories which are nowhere to be seen, that they are sold without the TBS standard quality mark and pay no taxes.

After working through the problem, it has been realized that the banning of plastic yarn will not touch off any shortage of yarns as there are adequate stocks of sisal yarns, he stated.

The premier's directives also touch the Tanzania Sisal Board, TARI and district councils who need to work hard and ensure that production of sisal fibers increases from the current 37,000 metric tons to 120,000 metric tons in 2025.

The board needs to establish office at TARI-Ilonga so that it works with TARI to set up sisal nurseries for multiplication and dissemination of seedlings to the farmers, the speech affirmed.

TARI director general Dr Geoffrey Mkamilo said that the institute will implement the directives with regard to sisal nurseries for dissemination of improved sisal seedlings to farmers.

TARI Mlingano centre director Dr. Catherine Senkoro delivered a talk on research and production of sisal, explaining

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Samia: Organise the small traders, don't crush them



Following their presidential appointments as announced on Sunday, it's time for these officials to take the Public Leadership Integrity Oath shortly after President Samia Suluhu Hassan swore them in at Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday. From: Works and Transport minister Prof Makame Mbarawa, Energy minister January Makamba, Information, Communications and Information Technology minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji, Defence and National Service minister Dr Stergomena Tax, and Attorney General Dr Eliezer Feleshi

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday directed regional commissioners to ensure that they properly control small traders, popularly known as 'machinga', and organise them so that they conduct their activities properly.

She however demanded that leaders implement the exercise in an appropriate manner without harassing the traders.

Speaking during the swearing-in of newly appointed ministers at the State House in Chamwino yesterday, President Samia said the government has provided a huge opportunity for petty traders to pursue income generating activities.

"They have been putting their wares everywhere, placing their goods in front of traders' shops," which she said ought to be controlled.

The situation pushes shop owners to offload their goods to 'machingas' to sell, whereas they are supposed to pay taxes and the vendors don't pay any taxes, the president noted, urging regional commissioners to take measures to organize the group without fueling chaos or confiscation of their wares.

The petty traders need to adhere to the country's laws and regulations and always

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AfDB inks 709bn/- in Msalato airport loan

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has signed a contract for the construction of Msalato International Airport in Dodoma with Sinohydro Corporation under a joint venture with other two Chinese contractors.

This follows a financial agreement between the African Development Bank (AfDB) and the government to provide US\$329.47m (709bn/-) in loans for the construction of the airport, where the government will provide 127bn/- to meet the total costs.

The project is to be implemented by Sinohydro Corporation under the supervision of the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS).

TANROADS Chief Executive Officer Rogatus Mativila said the construction of the long-awaited airport will be done in two phases, the first scheduled to be completed within 36

months and involving the construction of a runway and the terminal.

Initial cost of construction is put at 165.6bn/- before value-added tax (VAT) and will be undertaken by Sinohydro Corporation working with Beijing Sinoaero Construction Engineering Co. plus China Jiangxi International Economic and Technical Cooperation Co.

Upon completion of the project, the airport will ease transport for people and goods in and outside Dodoma city and the entire central zone, enhance tourism, pushing development activities and job creation, he stated.

"This milestone project on completion will change Dodoma economically," he said, noting that the airport will have capacity for 1.5m passengers transiting annually.

The construction of the second phase will

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Universal health coverage draft now ready - minister

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government is expected to table the Universal Health Coverage (UHC) bill in the coming parliamentary sitting in November after concluding the drafting process.

Dr Dorothy Gwajima, the minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, told journalists after inspecting hospital equipment at Mwananyamala referral hospital in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the bill was scheduled to be tabled during the just ended sitting but it had to be shelved.

She said that around 140bn/- has been set aside to serve needy patients on the much awaited universal health coverage, with Medical Stores Department (MSD) complementing these initiatives.

Universal health coverage is a programme that the government has been working on for a long time and now it has come to the final stage. The ministry has finished its work and was moving to table the bill in the next parliamentary meeting, she said.

The government strives to expand health insurance coverage to at least 50 percent

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Samia: Organise the small traders, don't crush them

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follow directives issued by districts and regional officials, she stated.

On the newly appointed ministers, the president asked them as well as those already in their positions to go and work hard to deliver the best to the community, insisting that assessment of what ministers do was a continuous exercise.

She explained changes to the former Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports where Information was hived off to be attached to the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology.

The reason is to make it more efficient, focusing on Culture, Arts and Sports rather than overly concentrating on Information, thus all 'information' spheres shall now be under one ministry, the president underlined.

The move is also intended to address a gap that has been complained about by stakeholders for many years, she said, expressing satisfaction that with the changes, the ICT portfolio is now complete, urging the newly appointed minister, Dr Ashatu Kijaji, to prepare well to ensure that she manages the ministry well.

Changes in the Defence and National Service portfolio were partly intended to break the myth that the position can be led only by men.

"There is a long-time myth that this ministry should be led by a man without recognizing that a minister does not handle heavy military equipment. The minister's job is to oversee policy coordination and administration," the president declared.

Samia expressed confidence on the appointee, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax, saying she has wide experience and great scope embedded in her work as executive secretary of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

"Every time we went to SADC she was in charge of all security matters in the region and she had great scope in East Africa, so this experience she

gained in the defense sector will and help us a lot especially the CDF (Chief of Defence Forces)," she said.

The newly appointed cabinet ministers must go and deliver because what Tanzanians want are positive outcomes, the president underlined.

"It is not that you are smarter than others; no, we want you to go and work as we will assess you through your practical work. What I want is only the outcome and nothing else," she stressed, telling the ministers not to hesitate to make changes in various matters in the ministries for the right outcomes.

She reminded the State House audience that during the six months she has been in office she was studying how ministers and various agencies were operating, and they were also studying her style of leadership.

She said some ministers took her quieter approach as a weakness and started doing what pleased them most, while others used the calm as an opportunity to showcase their abilities.

She remarked that, as vice president, she learnt many things about how government works but did not have the chance to learn sufficiently on inside operations, which she has made up in the past six months.

"Now I know the flow, how to go with you," she quipped, hinting that plenty still needs to be done to change habits and practices in ministerial offices, taking up basics of leadership where an axiom says there are two leadership styles, of carrots and sticks.

"I have chosen mine. As we go forward, the government will be based more on strong action and not noises," she asserted.

"There is a long-time myth that this ministry should be led by a man without recognizing that a minister does not handle heavy military equipment. The minister's job is to oversee policy coordination and administration"



Tanzania National Parks (Tanapa) tourism official Fred Shirima (R) pictured yesterday briefing Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister Mary Masanja (2nd-L) and Dr Stefan Oswald (L), Director for Sub-Saharan Africa in Germany's Development and Economic Cooperation ministry, on the history of conservation in the Serengeti National Park. Second right is Serengeti district commissioner Dr Vincent Mashinji. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

AfDB inks 709bn/- in Msalato airport loan

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depend on the demand, scheduled within 20 years after the completion of the first phase, he stated.

The newly appointed Minister for Works and Transport, Prof Makame Mbarawa who witnessed the signing said the main task of the government is to ensure the project is completed on time and to the expected standards.

He urged Tanroads to ensure construction of the runway goes along with construction of the

terminal in order for the port to be operational once completed.

He expressed gratitude to AfDB for continued support in many construction projects in the country "The government acknowledges the good work done by AfDB in supporting projects in the country," he said

Similarly, the minister applauded Sinohydro for the notable work it is doing in the country, saying that is what is expected of the contractor for the Msalato project.

Regional Commissioner Anthony Mtaka on his part said the signing of the construction pact an indication that the government is keeping its promises.

"This is good news for Dodoma residents who have always wondered why the project was taking too long to get off the ground," he said, noting that upon completion, it will open up the region to external reach more easily.

Selemani Kakoso, the chairman of the parliamentary

committee for Infrastructure Development, thanked the government for commitment to work to bring to fruition this project, urging Tanroads to strongly supervise the work as Tanzanians expect nothing but quality work.

"Today's signing has ended the rumors that the project was canceled after the death of former president John Magufuli," he stated, affirming that this will help strengthen the area residents' faith in government promises and projections.



Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Liberata Mulamula (R) hosts Mussa Hassan Zungu, Chairman of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security Committee, for talks in her Dar es Salaam office yesterday. Photo: Foreign ministry

By Getrude Mbago

US government has expressed commitment to continue supporting the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) to enable it carry out innovative researches that will help reduce disease burden in the country.

The US government is currently supporting 35 ongoing research projects at MUHAS worth US\$11.63million (27bn/-).

Dr Donald Wright, US ambassador to Tanzania made the pledge in Dar es Salaam yesterday when he visited the varsity to oversee various research projects.

"We will continue strengthening our partnerships with MUHAS and other organisations in Tanzania to further support various initiatives meant to improve health outcomes and boost economic growth among

US govt to continue supporting MUHAS on innovative research

others," he said.

Dr Wright said his government recognises how important research is in the health sector and he is committed to ensuring that the US's partnership remains strong for sustainable development.

MUHAS director of research, Prof Bruno Sunguya said the university through various researchers has invested in conducting studies in communicable and non-communicable diseases which have always been bringing out positive outcomes and thus helping policy makers to take right decisions.

He said that to date the varsity has

115 ongoing research projects and programmes working with more than 90 international and local collaborating institutions producing between 450 and 500 scientific papers in reputable international journals annually.

"The university has continued to grow and expand its teaching and research environment while taking a leading role in providing consulting services and advice to our government and international community on various areas aimed to improve health care," he said.

Acting Vice Chancellor, Prof Apolinary Kamuhabwa said the university will continue to be a

reliable national hub for research output, supporting policies and guidelines development.

He said research conducted at MUHAS addresses priority areas in line with the country's development vision of 2025 and the Global Sustainable Goals (SDGs).

"We will continue investing in research so as to provide permanent solutions to various health challenges facing the public," he said.

He noted researches conducted at MUHAS help the government to create strong health systems that are critical for achieving the national goals of addressing disease burden.

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that currently, the institute is working to raise production levels from 0.5m seedlings to 5m seedlings per annum, noting that when production infrastructures improve, TARI will be able to produce more than 10m seedlings per annum.

Regional Commissioner Martin Shigela said that so far the president has revoked title deeds of eleven abandoned farms, some of which will be used for new investments

and others handed out to farmers and livestock keepers. He also urged farmers to venture into cultivating sisal.

TSB chairperson Mariam Nkumbi said it is possible to attain the goal of 120,000 metric tons production per annum as 41 districts in 16 regions have the potential for sisal farming.

Challenges facing the sisal farming include the lack of capital for smallholder farming and the invasion of elephants, she added.

Universal health coverage draft now ready - minister

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of medical needs in the effort to achieve universal health coverage, she stated.

The Medical Stores Department (MSD) has meanwhile come up with a programme to directly link with drugs manufactures in a negotiated deal making hospitals across the country purchase key health equipment and drugs at lower prices.

MSD Director General Maj. Gen. Dr Gabriel Mhidize said at the event that MSD has already delivered equipment such clinical chemistry analyser, hematology analyzer, full blood picture counting and urine analysis equipment to Mwananyamala referral hospital.

Their prices were diminished to nearly a half of its original quotation following the new arrangement, he stated.

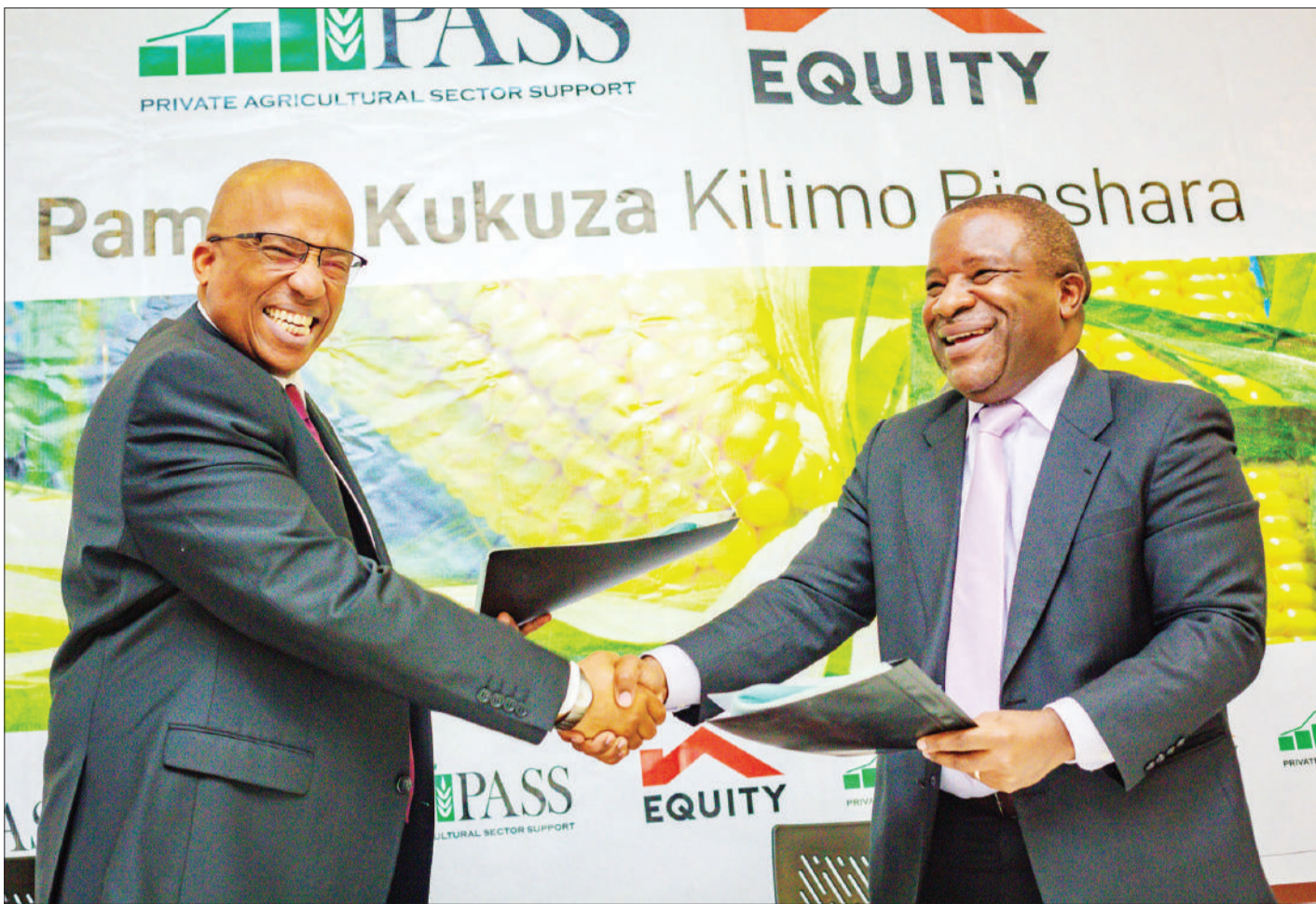
"We have started with local manufactures. We believe this will

help because we want to roll out to all hospitals across the country as the government is now constructing hospitals, but also readying to roll out universal health coverage," he said.

The new programme aims at getting rid of middle-men inflating prices, he said, illustrating that a hematology analysis machine was bought at 50m/- but Mwananyamala hospital has lately purchased one such machine for 14m/-.

Briefing journalist after inspecting the machines, the minister said the new programme is part of reforms on service delivery in the health sector. It will be rolled out in procurement of drugs and reagents to improve service delivery and ensure availability of drug supplies in most hospitals.

The programme will be rolled out on other medical services such as dialysis to ensure that the services are available at more friendly prices, she added.



Equity Bank (T) managing director Robert Kiboti (L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday exchanging documents with his Private Agricultural Sector Support (PASS) Trust counterpart, Yohane Kaduma, opening the way for the bank to issue capacity building loans to agribusinesses seeking to boost productivity. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

India's envoy pleased by ITCoEICT operations

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binnaya Srikanta Pradhan has expressed his pleasure by the Indian-Tanzania College of Excellence Information and Communication Technologies (ITCoEICT) at Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT).

He said he was pleased with the ITCoEICT following its decision to increase the number of private stakeholders - Siemens and Huawei and pledged to continue strengthening it via training of DIT experts.

The envoy made the remarks at the weekend during his visit at DIT to follow up the progress if ITCoEICT that was

established in collaboration of India and Tanzania.

"I hail DIT officials for their decision to strengthen technology, there is need to enhance plans to assist the development of Tanzanians," he said.

For his part, DIT Principal Prof Preksedis Ndomba said the ITCoEICT is supposed to enable people in various sectors including health and others through online medical treatment.

Prof Ndomba said in order to make that a success, DIT was working together with the country's Referral Hospitals countrywide under the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children.

"We thank the Government of India for

assisting us with equipment for training, as this is important in boosting technology," he said.

For his part the ITCoEICT Director at DIT, Dr Kennedy Alila said DIT officially started in 2009 after being inaugurated by former President, Jakaya Kikwete and so far the project has provided training to 500 tutors from Mwanza, Mbeya and Dar es Salaam regions.

He added that the centre engages itself in research issues by assisting various institutions including the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), University of Dodoma (UDOM) and the National Institute of Transport (NIT) and stressed that the centre is national in its operations and does not cater for DIT alone.

Climate change threatens biodiversity in Eastern Arc Mountains of Tanzania

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

Scientists predict an increase in temperatures and precipitation to be altered in most regions of Tanzania as a result of climate change over the next half-century.

A recent study conducted by local and foreign scientists says that temperatures have increased by 0.58C in the Usambara Mountains over the last 30 years. The Usambara Mountains are within Muheza, Korogwe and Lushoto districts in Tanga region.

"Although a half-degree increase in temperature over 30-years may seem quite small, its impacts on bird species and populations are extremely disturbing," said Dr William Newmark from Natural History Museum of Utah in the United States of America (USA) who participated in the study.

Between 2018 and 2021, the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) in collaboration with Amani Friends of Nature, University of Dar es Salaam, Commission for Science and Technology, Tanzania Forest Conservation Group, and the Natural History Museum of Utah (USA) implemented a project with financial support from the JRS Biodiversity Foundation to assess the impact of climate change on flowering-pollinating birds and butterflies in Usambara and Uluguru mountains.

As part of the project a resurvey of birds was conducted along an elevation gradient that extended from 300m to 2100m in the Usambara Mountains that had been originally surveyed 39 years previously.

This resurvey revealed that the elevational ranges of most bird species have shifted upslope over the last four decades to avoid hotter environments, Dr Newmark said.

However the upslope shift of most species has not kept pace with rising temperatures. And even more disturbing is that elevational ranges of most species have contracted. This is due to the inability of many bird species to cross forest gaps.

Forests in the Usambara Mountains are highly fragmented and are separated by gaps that are too large for most forest birds to cross.

Additional research in the Usambara Mountains also revealed that both population growth rates and number of births have declined for more than two-thirds of all bird species over the last 30 years and this decline is associated with increasing temperature for nearly one-third of all species.

Scientists recommend that establishing corridors by regenerating forest between the largest and closest forest fragments in the Eastern Arc Mountains of Tanzania is critical to permitting species to more readily shift their elevational range upslope.

Regenerating corridors among fragments will also effectively enlarge fragments and thus increase population size of species which in turn will decrease extinction risks for species. Establishing corridors will require both government and local support and involvement. Yet to maximize the benefit

of these corridors, this must be done over the next decade.

In the Uluguru mountains in Morogoro region, TAWIRI scientists have established a baseline for assessing future impacts of climate change on flower-pollinating butterflies by documenting species numbers and their abundance along an elevational gradient.

According to Dr Devolent Mtui, "this is the most comprehensive elevational survey of butterflies conducted to date in any of the 12 Eastern Arc Mountains blocks in Tanzania."

TAWIRI scientists also noted problems associated with human-caused fires at upper elevations. Climate change has been linked to an increased incidence of fires on Mount Kilimanjaro which has resulted in changes in plant species composition and a downward shift in the upper forest boundary.

Similar climate-induced changes in the incidence of fires in the Uluguru Mountains could adversely impact butterflies and birds through changes in vegetation, says Dr Mtui from TAWIRI.

Summons to appear (O.V.R 20 (1) of CPC) (Substituted Service)
IN THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA (LAND DIVISION) DAR ES SALAAM
MISC LAND APPLICATION NO 226 OF 2021
A & M ENGINEERING LIMITED..... APPLICANT
VERSUS
NMB PLC & OTHERS..... RESPONDENT
TO: MANAGING DIRECTOR - MAYO (1999) CO. LTD PLOT NO. 45 MANDELA EXPRESS WAY DAR ES SALAAM
TO: MANAGING DIRECTOR - YASH INTERNATIONAL LTD PLOT NO. 45 MANDELA EXPRESS DAR ES SALAAM
WHEREAS: The above named APPLICANT has instituted the APPLICATION against you, you are hereby summoned to appear in this court in person or by advocate or agent duly authorized on 16th day of SEPTEMBER, 2021 at 09:00 AM before Hon. DR. T. MWENESHOHA JUDGE (Chamber No. 06) in the morning to answer the said APPLICATION and you are directed to produce on that day all the documents upon which you intend to rely in support of your DEFENCE.
TAKEN NOTICE that in default of your appearance on that day the APPLICATION will be heard and determined in your absence. GIVEN UNDER MY hand and the seal of this Court, this 9th day of September, 2021.



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National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai makes remarks in Dodoma city at the weekend during the launch of an agenda roadmap on premature babies hosted by Vodacom Tanzania Foundation in partnership with Doris Mollie Foundation. The foundation has for over a decade fought to improve public health in the country by using mobile technology chiefly to reduce maternal and neonatal deaths. To the Speaker's left is Dodoma regional commissioner Anthony Mtaka. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TCCIA introduces new executive director

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industry and Agriculture (TCCIA) has got a new Executive Director, Judith Karangi, whom the Board of Directors described as a competent leader posed to transform the institution.

Introducing the TCCIA new boss to members of staff in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the TCCIA President, Paul Koyi said Karangi was expected to transform the chamber and meet expectations of all members in trade, industries and agriculture.

"We are very confident and optimistic that under your leadership, things will move quickly yet benefiting the members and Tanzanians in general," Koyi said, noting that the Chamber has a great role play in making Tanzania an industrialised country by 2025.

He called on TCCIA members of staff and all stakeholders to give the new executive director maximum support and cooperation to meet the chamber's set goals and obligations for betterment of Tanzanians.

"We are committed to see TCCIA

continues to grow and flourish. It is my optimism that the new executive director will move the chamber to another promising level," the president explained.

Speaking at the occasion, Karangi thanked the board of directors for having confidence in her and promised to work hard to make the chamber shine while contributing significantly to national economic growth.

"I am optimistic that the confidence you have vested in me meant a lot and what I can promise you is results. I will work very hard

using my skills and experience to meet your expectations," she said.

Earlier, TCCIA Board Director, Dr Saidi Mtemi Kingu called on the business community to work closely with the new executive director, saying that she was the right person to transform the institution.

"I would like to take this opportunity to allay fears among members of the community that TCCIA has recruited a person of integrity and who is competent and capable to transform the institution," Dr Kingu said.

Police hold 16 Ethiopian nationals for illegal entry

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

SIXTEEN Ethiopians including 16 children have been arrested for entering the country without legal documents.

Police also arrested a 30-year-old man Yohana Adam of Kasumulu township in Kyela District for allegedly transporting the illegal immigrants to neighbouring Malawi.

Mbeya Regional Police Commander Ulrich Matei said here yesterday that the aliens were arrested on Sunday at Number One Village in Isongole Ward, Rungwe District.

He said the men were being transported in a Toyota Noah van with registration number T.351 DBD which was driven by their host Adam while calling on the six other accomplices who are yet to be exposed to surrender before being discovered by the authorities.

"There are six people who are cooperating with this trafficker in the work, I want them to surrender before we follow them, this business has a very serious impact on our nation," he insisted.

Matei identified the arrested migrants as Adson Tagala (18), Adino Ozrey (18), Abduke Tibeso (25), Adam Kibromo (25) and Tamar Mohamed (20) as the only youths in the convoy and the rest are children.

He also named the children arrested in the convoy as Molukan Adana (15), Shetu Yonas (13), Tamarigid Yadere (11) Erimia

Makneko (15), Joseph Ganamo (13), Falack Kabson (17), and Tigabo Maalasa (15), Yonas Fikerey (14), Masala Adana (15), Tashari Tamaske (14) and Thomascan Tashara (17).

The RPC noted that the migrants were being transported by their host from Kenya to South Africa via Malawi via the Kasumulu border in Kyela district.

He therefore urged motorists in the country, especially young people, to stop the practice of smuggling illegal immigrants, claiming that it was a criminal offense under the law and that the punishment was confiscation of a car and a fine.

However, he called on the people of that constituency to co-operate with the police to eradicate such crime by providing confidential information about the criminals, including those smuggling illegal immigrants.



There are six people who are cooperating with this trafficker in the work, I want them to surrender before we follow them, this business has a very serious impact on our nation



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

No.	Reference no.	Description of work	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-21-08-07	PROVISIONING OF ENTERPRISE HOSTED IT SERVICES AND SKILLS FOR SUSTAINED OPERATIONAL IT CONTINUITY IN TANZANIA AND INTERNATIONALLY	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Established and fully Operational Data Center Hosting facilities within Dar es Salaam, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Highly Secure monitored and managed building and facilities with existing on site reserves of Fuel and Power generation. Existing highly redundant Climate Controlled management systems. Proven record of accomplishment of existing capacity sustaining Countrywide and International Enterprise IT Services on a 99.988% uptime for a minimum of 12 months without exception. Existing services continuity failover systems, adequately resourced for self-sustainment of at least 120 hours of uninterrupted IT services without National Power or Fuel supplies. Proven record of accomplishment of the provisioning of IT Enterprise Resources Hosting hardware equipment adequately sized and scalable for sustainable IT services at 99.988% uptime on a 24/7 operational basis. Existing Centralized IT Cloud services provisioning throughout Tanzania for Mining. Professionally skilled resources with a minimum of 6-8 years referable in country and International Mining support across the Enterprise Resources platform on the following platforms: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Microsoft Services Stack - On-premise/Cloud - MSAD , AZURE , Exchange, 0365, NPS/DHCP/SCCM/SCEP VMWare - ESX/Vsphere , SRM , SRA Database maintenance , management and operation support for MSSQL , Oracle databases Cisco WAN/WILAN and UCM , maintenance , management and operation support for ISR/ASR, Catalyst , Aironet, Unified Communications/WEBEX , ASA/Firepower platforms Global Wide Area Networks - maintenance, management and operation support for MPLS, Checkpoint wrapped IPSEC global networks, Vendor/Technical management Cloud Services - Deployed on multiple platforms Azure/AWS eg. , for key business applications and functions like ERP, MDM , HR/Payroll, and other operationally critical platforms Physical Infrastructure - Deployments of compute and storage environments on DELL/EMC/HP/Stratus/Brocade, 1st and 2nd line support with vendor and parts management Structured Cabling - maintenance , management and operation support of deployed copper and fiber networks for distribution and access layer connectivity Cyber Security - 24/7 monitoring and management of incidents and resolutions. In dept understanding of SYSLOG/SPLUNK and network tracing/client identification for remediation and action Wireless Infrastructure/Communications - maintenance, management and operation support for deployed P2P Radio systems (Licensed/Unlicensed) , Digital Radio Backbones (Motorola) and infrastructure based operational platforms PIT/Underground.

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

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

Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by latest close of business on the **18 Sept 2021**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote reference number in the subject line of your email.

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

For and on behalf of BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

216457401



BARRICK

BULYANHULU

Advertisement

BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

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

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

BGML, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified Fuel Management System Manufacturers/Agents interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision of the below goods/services

No.	Reference no.	Description of goods/services to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
1	BUL-21-08-01	Design, Manufacture, Supply and Install hardware and software for a Fuel Management System (FMS) able to manage Diesel Stock and Consumption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Evidence of suitable HSE, OSHA compliance and site safety program • Certified ISO 1400, relative to design, manufacture and installation of materials used in management and distribution of petroleum products. • Traceable references of similar projects successfully executed both in scale and scope. • Not less than five (5) years traceable experience with development and installation of Fuel Management systems particularly in the mining industry with monthly consumption >2 000 000 litres of diesel fuel per month. • Capacity to Engineer develop and implement site specific FMS software which must be integrated into the Barrick AME group of companies. • Evidence of suitable resources availability - equipment, systems and qualified personnel (Engineers, Technicians and Installers)

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

- Company profile(s) with tracked experience in design, manufacture and Installation of Fuel Management Systems;
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business licence, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.;
- Summary of Court proceedings (pending and completed), Court Judgements and/or insolvency / bankruptcy proceedings, if any, during the last 3 years;
- A written statement indicating Tanzanian ownership percentage, Tanzanian management and below management employment percentage to determine classification as an Indigenous Tanzanian Company as per the Local Content Regulation, 2018;
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registrations as required;
- Indicate the above Reference number (BUL-21-08-01) and description on your Expression of interest submission;
- BGML reserves the right to invite any other supplier/s which did not submit an EOI submission;
- Local Content plan approval letter from the Mining Commissioner or acknowledgement letter of submission

Kindly send your response by email to bulytender@barrick.com by latest close of business on the **20th Sept, 2021**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote reference number in the subject line of your email.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of Barrick-Bulyanhulu Gold Mine.

For and on behalf of BULYANHULU GOLD MINE LIMITED

216457401

THE INAUGURAL TCB BUSINESS FORUM FOR WOMEN IN DODOMA



Dodoma Regional Commissioner Anthony Mtaka (2nd left) being briefed about women exhibitors before he graced the launching of the inaugural TCB Business Forum for Women in Dodoma mid last week.



Among keynote speakers at the TCB Women Business Forum on Wednesday in Dodoma last week was the bank's Director for Legal Services and Company Secretary, Ms Mystica Ngongi.



The CEO of Tanzania Commercial Bank (TCB), Mr Sabasaba Moshingi, stresses a point when addressing participants at the TCB Women Business Forum, which is a platform for mostly empowering women entrepreneurs.



The Chief Executive Officer of TCB, Mr Sabasaba Moshingi, shake hands with disabled entrepreneur Pauleta after handing over to her a freezer the bank donated to support expansion of the small business she runs in Dodoma.



The Dodoma Regional Commissioner, Mr Anthony Mtaka (2nd left), in a group photo with senior officials of Tanzania Commercial Bank and some women leaders after the official launch of the bank's platform to empower women economically. Second right is CEO Sabasaba Moshingi.



The TCB Business Forum for Women, which was held on September 8 in Dodoma, was closed by the Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister's Office (Persons with Disability), Ms Ummu Hamisi Nderiananga.



RC Anthony Mtaka addresses the forum's participants. He commended TCB for the Business Forum for Women idea saying it will lead to their financial liberty.



Themed: "The Role of Women in the Growth and Development of the National Economy" the inaugural TCB Business Forum for Women was attended by about 300 participants mostly women entrepreneurs.

President Samia's documentary attracts 30-plus travel agencies

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan's documentary meant to promote Tanzania's tourist attractions has attracted more than 30 travel agencies representing thousands of adventure travelers from across the United States of America, France, and Lithuania.

The Kilimanjaro International Tourism & Safaris (KITS) Chief Operating Officer, Francis Malugu revealed yesterday in Dar es Salaam that his company's decision to attract travel agencies from the US and around the world came up after learning that the Tanzania Head of State was personally performing the act of promoting country's numerous tourism attractions through the Royal Tour documentary.

He said already the owners and top executives of these tour agencies have confirmed that they will arrive in the country for an up close and personal familiarization of "Destination Tanzania Tourism" scheduled to take place this year from November 23rd to 30th.

He said the core business of KITS was to find and bring tourists to Tanzania—a value-proposition that is constantly being challenged by the Tanzania's competitors across its several borders.

He further explained that the President's decision to personally lead in the Royal Tour documentary project has made a lot of things easier for the tourism sector and its many stakeholders.

Malugu added that upon learning about the Royal Tour initiative earlier on, KITS strategically approached a number of tour agencies in their respective industrial associations.

He said as a result, more than 30 tour agencies responded positively, which means that thousands of travelers are expected to choose Tanzania as their preferred African safari destination country.

"KITS continues to inform and influence more US tour agencies to sell Destination Tanzania Tourism by leveraging the Royal Tour documentary expected to showcase the Tanzania President giving a welcoming tour to the country," he said.

He hailed President Samia's decision to record a documentary saying it will help to promote the nation tourism attractions and

stimulate the economy from the sector that has been severely affected by the global COVID 19 pandemic.

Furthermore, the move is in line with the government's goal to increase number of tourists visiting the country annually, which in turn, will boost revenues for tourism dependent communities, businesses, and the national economy in general.

Malugu said that KITS continues leveraging the expected benefits of the Royal Tour documentary by participating in the Top Resa show in Paris in October this year, to be followed by two Travel Adventure Shows that will also be held in October this year in Atlanta, Georgia and San Francisco, California as well as the National Tour Association (NTA) Annual Convention in Cleveland-Ohio that will attract 2,300 tour agencies across the United States and Canada.

The Officer thanked the Tanzanian Embassy in the US, Tanzania Tourism Board (TTB), Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA), Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) and Tanzania Investment Center (TIC) for their collaboration that has led to the achievements that have already been recorded.

According to him, the on-going recording of the Royal Tour documentary shows that the government target is to receive 5 million tourists and collecting US\$ 6 billion in tourism revenues by 2025 is conceivably achievable despite the current global pandemic challenge.

Elaborating more, Malugu said the documentary will put the country on the world map occupying a special place as a tourism hotspot. This alone will stimulate country's economy through an increase in tourists, foreign direct investment and local business earnings. "I call on the Tanzania Ambassador in the US, Elsie Kanza to invite influential members of the Tanzanian diaspora to participate in or witness the launching of the Royal Tour documentary by President Samia Suluhu Hassan when she arrives in the US in November this year," she explained.

Malugu noted that the outcome of the travel agencies' visit to Tanzania upholds the efforts of the government to influence its diaspora to play an enabling role in promoting Tanzania tourism and foreign attract investments in the country.



Hamza Mngia (L), a sunflower farmer from Kiteto District, briefs Manyara Regional Cooperative Union registrar Venance Msafiri (in jacket) during the 15th anniversary of the National Network of Farmers' Groups in Babati yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Have valid businesses to access municipal loans, young entrepreneurs in Dar advised

By Isack Yohana, TUDARCO

YOUNG entrepreneurs in Dar es Salaam have been urged to have businesses which are already operational as one of the requirements to be granted municipal loans as a way of avoiding bad debts.

Vingunguti ward Community Development officer Dominica Balama made this statement over the weekend in a meeting to evaluate the development and challenges faced by youth under the coordination of the non-government sector Counseling and Family Life Organization (CAFLO).

"Before we give you a loan we have to come and look at the activities you are doing and if you do not have a valid business then it will be difficult to get a

loan," he advised.

He also said that the demand for loans is high compared to the amount of money allocated, though other groups are reluctant to repay, while calling on the debtors to undertake sustainable projects and to take advantage of the various opportunities available to get rid of those arrears economically.

"Statistics shows that for the year 2019/2020 the council issued loans worth more than 4-billion shillings for 352 youth groups," he stated.

For his part, CAFLO Director Emmanuel Ngazi highlighted that so far 37 platforms have been created with more than 700 young people and some of them have successfully secured loan provided by the council.

"The goal of CAFLO is that we want these platforms to be exemplary, capable of turning challenges into opportunities for everyone to make progress," he stated.

Balama added that this has also permitted some of the youth in vingunguti, Mnyamani, Buguruni, Tabata and Kipawa wards to start income-generating projects which has also helped them to successfully get rid of their debts.

One of the youth from Vingunguti ward, Sheila Hashimu said she has been able to buy a motorcycle, making bags and decorating ceremonial halls. She has been able to pay off the amount she borrowed thanks to the capacity building and self-awareness training she received from CAFLO.

Eight CCM parents' wing-owned secondary schools closed down

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

EIGHT out of 58 secondary schools owned by the ruling CCM parents' wing have been closed due to various challenges including lack of students, while 25 are in need of improvement.

National secretary of the CCM parents' wing Gilbert Kalima revealed this when speaking to party leaders in Shinyanga region during a one-day working visit to Kahama Municipal Council.

He said the wing has a total of 58

secondary schools nationwide with 50 active schools, eight schools closed due to lack of students and dilapidated infrastructure, and out of those 58 schools, 25 are in need of improvement.

He said there is great need to improve the schools to ensure they provide quality education to existing students, while calling on community leaders where the schools are available to closely monitor the problems of the schools and seek joint solutions.

"When I was appointed, one of the

responsibilities I was given was to ensure that all schools are stable and provide education as intended and that is why I have started a follow-up visit to find out the true condition of our schools," he intoned.

Earlier, Kahama District secretary of the party wing Regina Ndulu said, Wigehe Secondary School has 17 students, seven males, and 10 females while Form Two has no students at all.

He said that Form One has four students, three female and one male, Form Three with three students, two male and one female students and Form Four with 10 students, four males, and six females.

"There are five teachers at the school, all of whom are volunteers except for the headmaster, one woman, and four men," he mentioned, while noting that the project has led to conflicts between the headmaster and some teachers of the school to the point that each has been collecting money and accumulating it in the pocket instead of submitting it to the school accountant.

School headmaster Revocatus Paschal said when he started working in January this year the school had six students and took the responsibility of adding students by taking some students from Magfuli Chato Secondary School which now makes a total of 17 students.



Africa Sustainable Investment and Infrastructure Program

WWF Tanzania Country Office
Plot 252, Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki
Rd, Mikocheni
P O Box 63117
Dar es Salaam
Tanzania

Tel: 255 22 2700077
Fax: 255 22 2775535
tzrep@wwftz.org
www.wwftz.org

CONSULTANCY TO UNDERSTAND THE ROLE OF NATURE BASED SOLUTIONS IN SUSTAINABLE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT FOR ADDRESSING BIODIVERSITY LOSS AND CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS IN THE WATER TOWER LANDSCAPE.

Background

The World-Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Tanzania Office (WWF-TCO) is implementing African Sustainable Investment and Infrastructure Program (ASI) as part of regional program which covers Kenya, Madagascar and China aiming at promoting sustainable investment and infrastructure development for the purpose of safeguarding ecosystems. The program aims at supporting the governments to adopt and implement sustainable investment and infrastructure legislations, policies and plans, supporting countries financial institutions to adopt and implement green finance principles and policies as well as supporting local communities and NGOs in monitoring developments (implementations of policies) and piloting sustainable initiatives which includes the Nature Based Solutions (Nbs) and Bankable Solutions Projects in the course of safeguarding the ecosystem for nature and people. The five-year program (2021-2025) is implemented in WWF priority landscapes of Water Tower and Ruvuma landscapes. WWF -TCO seeks to recruit a consultant or a team of consultants to understand the role of NbS in sustainable infrastructure development for addressing biodiversity loss and climate change impacts in the Water Tower Landscape.

Objective of the consultancy

To understand the role of NbS in sustainable infrastructure development for addressing biodiversity loss and climate change impacts in the Water Tower Landscape. Specifically, the consultant should: -

- Document the existing NbS for sustainable infrastructures in the Water Towers Landscape
- Identify the NbS which are bankable solutions in the Water Tower Landscape
- Suggest methods and approaches for upscaling the communities NbS and develop strategy for capacity building to local communities, CBOs and CSOs on understanding and using NbS to offset biodiversity loss and mitigate climate change
- Making consultations with the key potential NbS and infrastructure stakeholders
- In collaboration with WWF, sharing the findings of the results with partners and stakeholder to validate the consultancy findings

Application procedure & Submission of Applications

All interested applicants may get the detailed ToR on WWF websites at https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/ and also, send your full proposal (technical & financial) through procurement email at procurement@wwftz.org only softcopy proposals are accepted, please, addressed to;

Secretary, Procurement Committee
WWF Tanzania
Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Road Plot 252, Mikocheni
P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077 Fax: +255 22 277 5535;
website. www.wwf.or.tz

Please send a 1-page application letter outlining your expertise and relevant experience about this consultancy.

Submit a concise 2 – 4 pages technical proposal highlighting the proposed approach, methodologies, brief work schedule, team composition and timings of the process. A brief financial proposal, clearly specifying the time professional fees, and proposed implementation costs. A 2 - 3-page CV of lead should also be attached.

All applications should reach us by or before 10.00am Tanzania local time on **Thursday, 30th September 2021**

Evaluation of the consultancy applications will be done based on WWF procurement guidelines and that WWF Tanzania is not bound to accept any lowest or highest proposal/bid

Only candidates will be contacted

DRC DANISH
REFUGEE
COUNCIL

TENDER NOTICE

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) intends to Conduct Endline evaluation for project

Therefore, the Danish Refugee Council in Kibondo request the consultants to submit their prices for the above services.

The bidding documents can be collected at the Danish Refugee Council Office in Kibondo from 14th September, 2021 during the working days and hours. 8:00 Am to 4:30 Pm in the following address: Old IRC Road Area, Kibondo. You can call on: +25562 7423991 or through email jean.kabore@drc.ngo to receive the soft copy by email.

The closing date for the submission of the bids is 27th September, 2021 at 4:30 Pm.
The ITB will be opened on 28th September, 2021 at 10:00 AM at DRC Kibondo Office, PO Box 177 Kibondo by the DRC Tender Opening Committee.

You can return your bid form through RFQ.TZA@drc.ngo

OR DIRECT TO THE DRC OFFICE otherwise is void

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Sanlam Tanzania director Khamis Suleiman, Selcom Tanzania managing director Sameer Hirji, PUMA Energy Tanzania managing director Dominic Dhanah and TanManagement Insurance Brokers Limited managing director Mohammed Jaffer display copies of an agreement they signed in Dar es Salaam yesterday related to the launch of Life Accident Insurance services in the country. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Unique fuel-embedded life insurance service launched

By Guardian Reporter

FOUR players in the insurance, financial technology services and energy sectors have jointly introduced an insurance product of its kind to be offered to customers paying for fuel through using their firms' cards.

Under the plan, customers paying for fuel (minimum of 10,000/-) at Puma energy stations will automatically receive life insurance cover from Sanlam, valid for seven days. To benefit from the life insurance cover, buyers must make payments using Selcom Pay Mastercard QR or Puma card.

"The cover aims to add value to the purchase of fuel from all Puma energy stations across the country. It will also pave the way for others in the efforts of reaching the government insurance penetration targets by 2028," said Khamis Suleiman, chief executive officer of Sanlam Tanzania.

Speaking during the launch of the insurance scheme in Dar es Salaam yesterday he said the cover is underwritten by the insurance firm in partnership with TanManagement Insurance Brokers Limited, Selcom Tanzania, and Puma Energy.

Suleiman added: "We are translating the ministry of finance directive by action to ensure we meet the target set of having approximately 50 percent of the adult population with at least one insurance policy and increase the penetration rate to 5 percent of the GDP."

According to him, other benefits which will be received under the scheme include poverty alleviation and creation of wealth through claims payment for those with bad fortunes. The process flow assists clients who regularly purchase fuel at selected stations to cover themselves with life insurance whilst paying through their digital wallets, he said noting the move reduces the use of hard cash and

promote overall financial inclusion.

Dominic Dhanah, Managing Director of Puma Energy Tanzania said being the leading oil marketing company and the industry leader in embracing digital solutions to its customers, the firm strives to partner with like-minded companies to create more value for its customers.

"This scheme offers our customers an added value and is keeping in line with the company's brand purpose of 'energizing communities' to drive growth and prosperity," said Dhanah.

Executive Director of Selcom Tanzania, Sameer Hirji said: "As a leader in the payment technology services, the company continues to bridge the digital divide in the market. The initiative makes use of cutting-edge technology to ensure that we achieve the goal of the insurance service reaching out to as many as possible. We bring to the table a database of customers from a micro level, which allows us to introduce our partners' initiatives to this customer base at no extra cost."

He said the partnership reaffirms the role that industry leaders need to play in guaranteeing social protection and improved welfare of customers, and the general public.

The partnership is targeting to issue over 6,000 insurance policies per day through this initiative, he added.

Mohammed Jaffer, Group CEO of TanManagement Insurance Brokers Limited said that plans are to extend the new insurance scheme throughout other registered fuel stations and in time also target other areas where value can be added.

He said: "Insurance has to be made part of our daily lives, whether, by direct purchase or value addition, it is one of the most basic requirements in this day and age to have at least one form of insurance and our target is to ensure we get this to Tanzanians through these innovative delivery methods of value addition."

Construction of Kadashi health centre stalls, putting pregnant women at risk

By Guardian Correspondent, Kwimba

THE construction of Kadashi Health Center in Kwimba District, Mwanza Region has been stalled for nine years, forcing pregnant women in the area to travel more than 50km to look for monthly antenatal clinic services.

Restuta Balele of Maligisu ward said for more than nine years, they have been struggling to walk more than 50 kilometers to seek health care while mothers are terrified of carrying a baby.

She said the construction of Kadashi hospital has taken a long time and worries them when they are sick. Pregnant women fail to go to the hospital to attend clinics, get health education for maternity at the end of the day; they end up giving birth without help or advice from health professionals.

Patrick Gervas of Kadashi village said many patients lost their lives on the way to a remote hospital due to a delayed construction of the facility, which began in 2012 for not being completed on a timely manner.

"In fact, we face a lot of problems when we take patients to the hospital and some end up dying. Pregnant women are the ones who fail and stay at home without the health professionals who are available in the hospital but why doesn't the government complete the construction of this health centre? We're tired and we're very anxious to see this facility operate. We're not getting any education on health issues, especially reproductive health, it really hurts us," said Gervas.

He asked for government intervention to resume and speed up the construction of the health facility to improve health service delivery in the area.

CCM regional chairman, Anthony Diallo said the procurement system used in the construction of the center should be reformed as it provides an opportunity for embezzlement while Mwanza Regional Commissioner Eng. Robert Gabriel warned officials involved in obstructing the project and promised to take legal action.

GLOBAL PROGRAMS

Affiliate of the University of California, San Francisco

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

Job Opportunity – Project Support Officer

Location: Dar es Salaam
Application deadline: September 22, 2021
Start date: October 18, 2021

Background:
The University of California San Francisco (UCSF) is engaged in a five-year Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention- Tanzania (CDC-Tanzania) to provide strategic information and health information systems (HIS) technical assistance to the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MOHCDGEC) as well as the United States' President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and their implementing partners (IPs).

UCSF is recruiting an individual through our affiliated international NGO 'Global Programs' to serve as a Project Support Officer for our Dar es Salaam office. This is a full-time 12-month position with the possibility of extension subject to continued funding. The position reports to the Finance and Operations Manager and is expected to start on October 18, 2021.

Main duties and responsibilities:
The incumbent will be responsible for providing administrative, operations, human resources, and logistical support to the organization. S/he will support office operations and procurement, provide logistical support for meetings, trainings, and field activities, and collaborate with the San Francisco-based Global Programs Operations team to support human resources needs.

Specific responsibilities include:

- Support office and facilities management including routine maintenance of office equipment. Maintain and order office supplies.
- Coordinate procurement.
- Serve as point person for office IT support needs.
- Coordinate fit-out of new office space and move from current office to new office in November.
- Disseminate any administrative policies and SOPs to staff.
- Serve as liaison with Global Operations Team in San Francisco.
- Organize meetings, workshops, and conference calls.
- Collaborate with finance team to arrange for travel and accommodation for staff and visitors, as needed.
- Provide logistical support to field activities, as needed.
- Coordinate on-boarding of new employees.
- Ensure HR documents are filed and maintained in a confidential manner.
- Track asset inventory for program reporting and

insurance purposes.

- Support UCSF-Global Programs finance team as required.
- Control access to the office for visitors and guests.
- Periodic travel (10% or less) within Tanzania may be required.
- Ensure reception area is clean and neat and overall office environment is safe, clean, and organized.
- Direct visitors by maintaining employee and department directories.
- Organize courier deliveries.

Experience, skills, and minimum required qualifications:

- Ordinary Diploma (NTA level 6 or above) in Public Administration (ODPA) or Secretarial Studies from any recognized institution.
- 3-5 years' experience in office administration, preferably in non-profit and/or PEPFAR organizations.
- Strong computer skills, particularly with the Microsoft Office Suite, including Teams, as well as Zoom.
- Must be able to set up and maintain moderately complex filing systems and records.
- Excellent communication, organizational, and interpersonal skills.
- Ability to work professionally and collaboratively in a multi-cultural, internationally based team setting.
- Fluency in oral and written English and Kiswahili are required.

Other desired skills/qualities:

- Ability to prioritize and multi-task.
- Ability to work flexible hours, including some evenings as required (in order to liaise with colleagues abroad).
- Ability to travel in-country to support project activities, pending the uplifting of COVID-19 related travel restrictions.


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

All applications must include the following:

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

Applications and supporting documents should be sent via e-mail to info.tanzania@ucglobalprograms.org and must be received by September 22, 2021.

NOTE: Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.



REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR
MINISTRY OF HEALTH, SOCIAL WELFARE,
ELDER, GENDER AND CHILDREN

P.O. BOX 236
MNAZIMMOJA-ZANZIBAR
Email: info@mohz.com

Tel: +255-21-2233454
Fax: +255-24-2231987
Date 12th September, 2021

**REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
FOR CONDUCTING A MID TERM REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION TO END
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN FOR MINISTRY OF HEALTH, SOCIAL
WELFARE, ELDERLY GENDER AND CHILDREN, ZANZIBAR.**

- The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar through its Ministry of Health, Social Welfare, Elderly Gender and Children recognizes that addressing violence against women and children is critical for the country to achieve continued national growth and to poverty reduction in line with the Vision 2025 and 2030 Agenda. It is intended that part for proceeds of the funds will be used to cover eligible payment under the contract for the **Consultancy Services for Conducting a Mid Term review of the National Plan of Action to end violence against women and children for Ministry of Health, Social Welfare, Elderly Gender and Children, Zanzibar**. The main services earmarked to be provided through this plans include: -
 - Lot No. 1: Lead consultancy service (one (1) post)
 - Lot No. 2: Co-consultancy services (one (1) post)

Note: Each Lot will be considered for only one bidder that are mentioned above: -
- The duration of the consultancy package for the Consultancy services will be 30 working days.
- The Principal Secretary, Ministry of Health, Social Welfare, Elderly, Gender and Children now invites eligible consultancy firms to indicate their interest in providing the above-mentioned services. Interested Consultants must provide information evidencing that they are qualified to perform these services (Curriculum vitae, Professional qualification and working experience, etc.). Consultants may associate to enhance their qualifications.
- Interested Consultants may obtain further information on the assignment at the address below from 09:00 to 15:30 hours local time, from Monday to Friday inclusive except on public holidays or E-Mail: procurementmgt@mohz.go.tz or farhatsalum83@gmail.com
- The deadline for the submission of expressions of interest is **10:30 hours** local time on **Wednesday 22th September, 2021**. The Expressions of Interest should be clearly addressed to The Principal Secretary, Ministry of Health, Social welfare, Elderly Gender and Children, P.O. Box 236, Zanzibar and marked **'EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR CONDUCTING A MID TERM REVIEW OF THE NATIONAL PLAN OF ACTION TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN AND CHILDREN FOR MINISTRY OF HEALTH, SOCIAL WELFARE, ELDERLY GENDER AND CHILDREN, ZANZIBAR**.
- The address for submission of Expressions of Interests is:

**The Secretary,
Ministerial Tender Board,
Ministry of Health, Social Welfare, Elderly, Gender and Children
at the office of Procurement and Disposal Management Unit
P.O Box 236,
ZANZIBAR.**

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EAC must surely be relieved with Tanzania having ratified AfCFTA

TOP officials of the East African Community (EAC) were having one of their best weekends in years as Tanzanian legislators came together to debate - and then ratify - the African Continental Free Trade Area Agreement (AfCFTA).

EAC Secretary General Dr Peter Mathuki said in a statement that adopting and rapidly starting to implement the pact would ease the work of the community itself, as it blends especially well with the East African Common Market projection.

It has been dogged for years by inter-state competition, even bad blood. Some of that is being resolved lately but having the partner states ratifying a law superior to their own is reassuring, since no partner state will have a veto on AfCFTA content, or change details afterwards.

Dr Mathuki was of the view that East Africans will access a large continental market and increase the regional bloc's exports to African countries beyond it, which is easy to figure out but not easy to accede to, as could also have been said of the common market itself.

He accordingly also praised Burundi, which ratified AfCFTA on June 17 and a slightly belated three-month hiatus was needed before Tanzania followed suit last Thursday. Highlighting these advantages, the EAC said adherence to the pact will significantly uplift the movement of people across Africa, advance trade and development aspirations and ultimately put the region in a better position to trade more with the rest of the world.

It is true but, to be honest, not evidently the most substantive factor in this context.

The real impact of AfCFTA when universally adopted by African countries is that it makes trade rules predictable, and to which one can easily fit investment rules.

African people have suffered for decades on end by economic lockdowns engineered and even ordered by radical governments espousing an ideology of liberation.

The impact here is that, as years go by, others get richer across the world and we stagnate - or even get

all the poorer.

The most crucial issue was to restrict the flow of goods into local markets, so that producers in whom government has a stake may prosper. The debate on the pros and cons of all this can't be finished on paper, but by such agreements.

What the EAC is doing at the moment is to harmonise the regional bloc's trading rules and institutions with what is envisaged in AfCFTA.

In this case, the EAC Secretariat has initiated a number of steps towards implementing AfCFTA terms, where ratification by Burundi and Tanzania expedites the feasibility of the initiative, that is, the implementation of the agreement.

Only South Sudan is yet to ratify the pact, which it has already signed. This means that EAC working groups can prepare tariff offers which conform to AfCFTA modalities in addition to schedules of liberalising trade in services. This was on the cards but it can now move forward.

Other spheres of integration efforts are visibly being boosted by adherence to AfCFTA by the quasi-totality of the membership, and in a manner that looks like it is irreversible - and not subject to restoration of local prerogatives as in Tanzania's withdrawal from COMESA.

COMESA, the acronym for the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa, is a regional economic community with member states stretching from Tunisia to Eswatini. It was formed in December 1994, replacing a preferential trade area which had existed since 1981.

The EAC Secretariat can thus comfortably prepare a draft strategy for the implementation of the AfCFTA agreement, which takes into account the need for capacity building.

Dr Mathuki says this is under consideration by the EAC partner states. However, without ratification, operationalisation or implementation will stall. That was always the case when integration touches on prerogatives of regulatory authorities - and who would benefit from such a scenario?

We must stare the facts in the face on the Covid-19 vaccination issue

SENIOR officials in the central government and regional administration are gearing up for a week-long vaccination drive where national and local leaders will seek to sensitise people to go to vaccination centres and protect themselves against severe effects of Covid-19 infection.

Well and good - only that, a common problem with such drives is that they battle not against lack of information but lack of faith, or oblivion to danger, which takes time to change.

Campaigns usually come in two types, and it is important to figure out where this type of campaign lies, that is, whether it is geared at helping an individual in his or her own interest, and whether it is geared at helping the public authorities do this or that.

This campaign is chiefly directed at helping individuals take care of their own health. But some are not convinced, so they show affinity to believable and unforeseen dangers being told left and right.

To show that there is a battle of faith and often takes the form of organisational disputes, some people - including those in positions of leadership - find it hard to alter their stands or perceptions.

Global radicalism fuels skepticism, where the main culprit is always the 'one per cent' richest part of the world. The critics, dominating portions of the internet, say the 'pandemic' and then the vaccines are parts of an operation with a sinister motive.

When President Samia Suluhu Hassan reminds the nation that we have taken jabs all our lives - polio at the start, yellow fever when one travels, and now there is an anti-malaria vaccine being tested - she is talking to those who haven't been won to conspiracy theories.

However, when there is a wave of deaths across a section of the population, many adherents or admirers of conspiracy theories change boots and rush to vaccinate. Among them are seniors as well as those above 30 years and below 50 years, though many with some hesitation.

In that case the government would be right to repeat and explain its message on the ease of catching the dangerously impairing and often fatal flu, and ensure that there are enough doses of the Covid-19 vaccine available if not always at each vaccination centre then at least in regional head offices, for ease of supply when the stock runs low.

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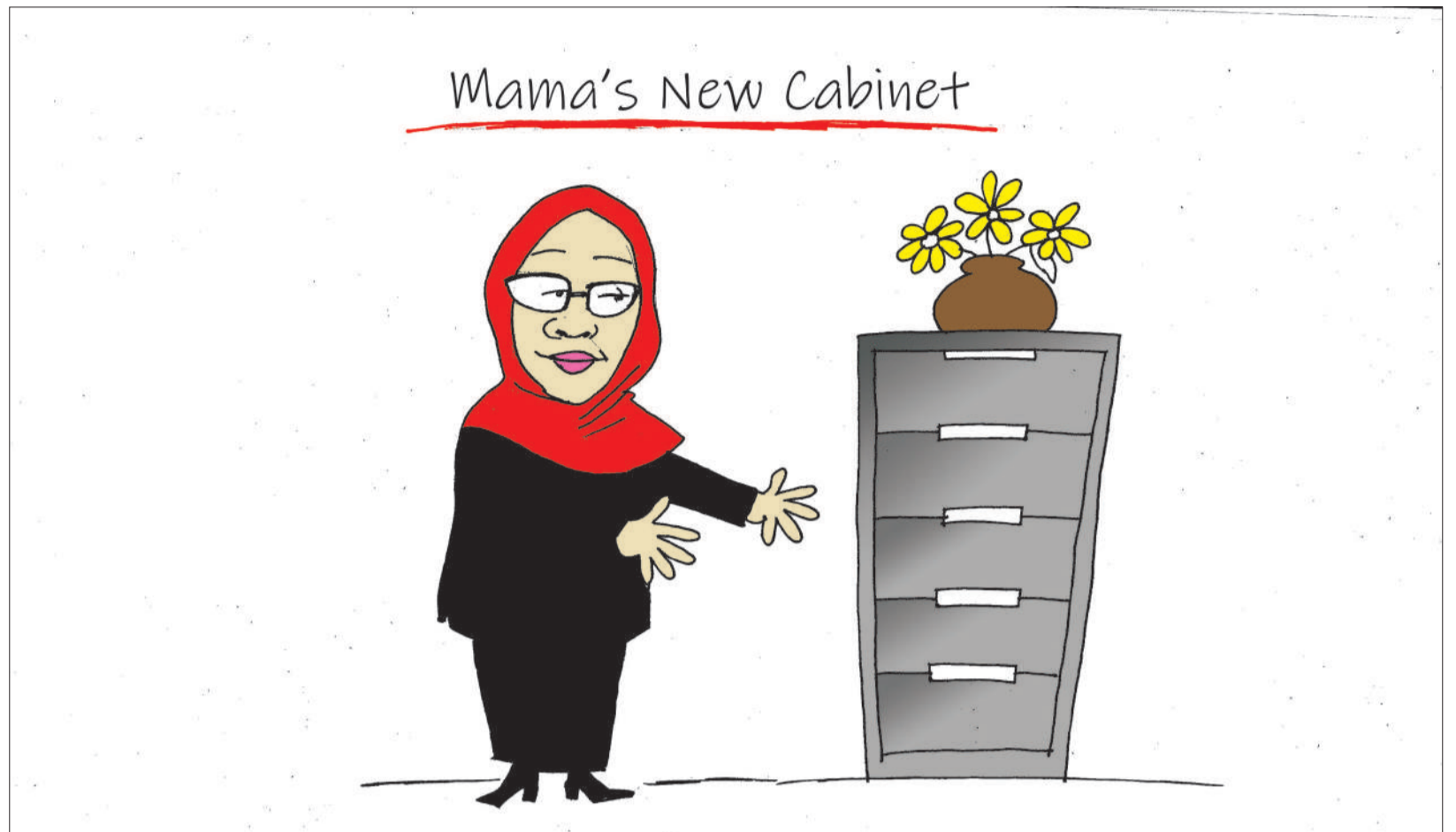
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By Special Correspondent

Mary's Meal reaches more than two million children in Africa

EVERY year there are dreams of starting up non-profit organisations that will benefit citizens and mobilise them towards a better reality.

Among the organisations, which include those central to children and their overall well-being, is Mary's Meals - which has worked hard to ensure that children in 19 countries have access to nutritional meals at school.

The organisation started a school feeding programme in Malawi - at the end of 2002 - meant principally to bring vital meals to around 200 children in two schools while they learned.

Now more than 30 per cent of the primary school population of Malawi, about 1,043,455 children, enjoys the nutritious meals, served in schools by local volunteers determined to help the next generation to build a brighter future.

A staggering 335,143 children in Zambia are served meals in schools each day, while 125,414 in Kenya and 144,208 in Liberia are fed Mary's Meals every day.

This is a major milestone as Mary's Meals now has 2 million reasons to celebrate, as it has reached more than two million children across a multitude of countries.

Just six years after reaching the major milestone of feeding one million children each day, Mary's Meals has announced an even more incredible achievement.

The international school feeding charity is now reaching more than two million children in 19 countries with life-changing meals every school day, thanks to an impressive grassroots movement taking action all over the globe.

The school's landmark achievement of Mary's Meals feeding two million children every school day was officially announced and celebrated recently in Turkana.

Now, Turkana is a remote desert region in Kenya, where communities serve the much-needed daily meals to children attending early childhood development centres.

The virtual event was open to all and featured reflections from the charity's founder, Magnus MacFarlane-Barrow, as well as highlights from the celebrations in Kenya and contributions from hundreds of members of the Mary's Meals global family.

MacFarlane-Barrow, founder and CEO of Mary's Meals, said: "Today we celebrate an amazing moment in the Mary's Meals story. Today, two million children ate Mary's Meals in a place of education."

"When we set out on this path nearly 30 years ago, we were overwhelmed by people's goodness in donating - and that's been the story ever since. I thank you with all my heart on behalf of each of those children, for every bit of hard work,



for every gift given, for all those unique things each person brings to this enormous Mary's Meals' table. Thank you, and please let's keep going forward.

"For every one of those children that ate today, many more are still waiting for Mary's Meals to come to their school, so we go on. But this happy day shows us that this vision of ours is possible."

The charity had humble beginnings, to say the least: a one-off good deed from a shed in the Highlands of Scotland eventually led to a small school feeding programme in Malawi, as noted above.

Serving daily meals in a place of education helps even the most vulnerable children to attend school and concentrate on lessons, which gives them the freedom to learn and the chance to fulfil their potential.

MacFarlane-Barrow often states that the charity's impressive growth is fuelled by countless acts of kindness from people from all walks of life.

The growing global movement - which now has fundraising affiliates in more than 15 countries - has allowed the school feeding programme to expand and continue reaching out to children in the greatest areas of need, often working with local partner organisations in more remote or challenging areas.

Mary's Meals not only feeds huge numbers of children attending government-run schools in Africa but also brings daily meals to children finding hope in non-formal education centres in India; and the sons and daughters of vulnerable migrant workers in Thailand.

Others include young people engaging in education while awaiting trial in prisons in Niger and Madagascar; children affected by the

ongoing conflict in Syria - through feeding programmes in Aleppo and neighbouring Lebanon; and many thousands of young learners in Haiti, which has been plagued by years of political unrest and damage from natural disasters.

Mary's Meals recently published a five-year impact study showing promising results in reducing child hunger, giving children energy, improving children's wellbeing and helping more children to access education.

The charity believes that a steady supply of food in school is changing the story for young people who might otherwise be working or begging for their next meal or too worried about hunger to engage in lessons.

And this latest milestone has prompted changes to another story - the founder's bestselling book *The Shed That Fed A Million Children*. This has been fully updated with a new preface, chapter and epilogue and is expected to be published by HarperCollins (in English) this September 30.

The new material charts the journey of the last six years - since the announcement that Mary's Meals was feeding one million children each school day - and includes reflections on the way the global Covid-19 pandemic has played out for the charity and its partners, and the communities serving the meals.

MacFarlane-Barrow also gives a harrowing account of conversations with a close colleague working on the front line in Tigray, Ethiopia, to bring assistance and comfort to those fleeing violence across the region.

Mary's Meals is a simple idea that works. The charity provides one daily meal in a place of learning in

order to attract chronically poor children into the classroom, where they receive an education that can, in the future, be their ladder out of poverty.

Mary's Meals feeds hungry children every school day across four continents: in Malawi, Liberia, Kenya, Zambia, Haiti, India, Syria, Lebanon, Ethiopia, Thailand, Myanmar, Uganda, South Sudan, Niger, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Benin, Ecuador and Romania.

When schools closed in the wake of the Covid-19 pandemic, Mary's Meals continued to reach almost every child enrolled in its school feeding programmes through community distributions of food parcels and essential hygiene items.

Ensuring that its work didn't stop at the challenging time enabled parents or guardians to cook daily meals for the children at home in their temporary places of education, reducing household hunger and fear.

The average global cost to feed a child with Mary's Meals for a whole school year is just £15.90 or US\$21.00 or euros 18.30.

Also for the record: The Mary's Meals campaign was born in late 2002 when MacFarlane-Barrow visited Malawi during a famine and met a mother dying from AIDS. When he asked the woman's eldest son Edward what his dreams were in life, he replied simply: "I want to have enough food to eat and to go to school one day."

Mary's Meals is committed to spending at least 93 per cent of donations directly on its charitable activities. This is only possible because most of the charity's work is done by an army of dedicated volunteers - including more than 80,000 in Malawi alone.

Court ruling that media are liable for Facebook comments on stories: Implication for publishers

By Special Correspondents

THE Australian High Court has just ruled that a publisher can be held responsible for defamatory comments which readers leave on Facebook pages. It's a decision that could have far-reaching consequences for social media users throughout that country.

This decision may mean that anyone who runs a social media page can theoretically be sued over disparaging comments posted by readers or random group members - even if one isn't aware of the comment.

In other words, if you post content on your social media page and encourage or invite comments - and people post defamatory comments there - you're legally "publisher" of those comments and can be sued, thanks to the ruling.

The case in question focused on Facebook, but the implications are not Facebook-specific. It can apply equally to Twitter, Instagram and other social media too - or websites (such as The Conversation) that have comments sections.

Facebook and Instagram page administrators can turn off comments altogether, and Twitter allows one to restrict one's comments so that only certain people can post to it.

The ruling may inspire many social media account managers to make greater use of these features and tightly restrict comments - or, where possible, switch them off completely.

The case centres on former Don Dale Youth Detention Centre inmate Dylan Voller, who you might remember as the young man wearing the spit hood in a Four Corners report on conditions in Australia's Northern Territory juvenile justice system.

Three media companies published stories about Voller to their Facebook pages, and readers left comments underneath those posts. The media stories themselves were not defamatory but Voller alleged that some of those reader comments were, so he sued.

But Voller didn't sue the commenters; he sued the media outlets that ran the Facebook pages, arguing that they were "publishers" of the comments.

The case centred on whether or not the media companies could be defined as "publishers" of comments by readers and other "third party users".

In 2019, Australia's Supreme Court of New South



Wales ruled in Voller's favour. Justice Rothman held that the media companies were indeed "publishers" of the comments from third-party users and were therefore responsible for them.

The media companies appealed, but last year the New South Wales Court of Appeal again ruled in Voller's favour. In other words, the Court of Appeal agreed that the media outlets were "publishers" of comments by random readers on their Facebook pages.

The decision sent shockwaves through the Australian media, which field countless comments on their social media pages every day. The media publishers appealed to the High Court, which brings us to where we are now.

The High Court decided thus: "The Court of Appeal was correct to hold that the acts of the appellants in facilitating, encouraging and thereby assisting the posting of comments by the third-party Facebook users rendered them publish-

ers of those comments. The appeals should be dismissed with costs."

Five judges ruled in favour of Voller and two dissented. Essentially, Voller has won: that the media companies are indeed "publishers" and the media companies have to pay his legal costs.

But the ruling doesn't mark the end of the line for this case. Now that it has been established the media companies are publishers of the comments, Voller's defamation case can start in earnest. In other words, it's still yet to be decided whether or not the comments were in fact defamatory and what defences the media publishers might have under defamation law.

You might be wondering: can the person who posted the comment also be held responsible for the comment, under defamation law?

The answer is yes, it is possible. But from the perspective

of someone suing, it might not be worth going after an individual social media user or a troll, especially if they are using a pseudonym. A plaintiff is more likely to want to go after the media company itself as the publisher, with their deeper pockets.

The ruling may mean that if you post something to a social-media platform and encourage or invite third-party comments, you could be liable for any comments that follow. So it could affect individuals, online community groups, neighbourhood Facebook pages, the local P&C (parents and citizens) Facebook page, and so on.

One of the interesting things about the Voller case is that his legal team sued straight away - they didn't issue a concerns notice first (which is basically a legal letter sent to the person or organisation alleged to have made the defamatory comments, giving them a chance to respond).

That wouldn't be allowed now. Under new defamation laws that came into effect this July in NSW, Victoria, South Australia Queensland and the ACT, plaintiffs must now serve a concerns notice on each defendant and wait for at least a fortnight before suing.

Those same reforms also introduced what is called a "serious harm threshold". Under this rule, the plaintiff has to prove that they have, in fact, suffered (or are likely to suffer) serious harm to their reputation as a result of the published comments.

This clause is meant to rule out trivial defamation cases because, while it's true that anyone can cause serious harm to a person's reputation on social media, there is also a lot of banter and to-ing and fro-ing which might be offensive but might not cause serious harm to a reputation. This may give some protection to administrators of social media pages in future, particularly private individuals.

• A What's New In Publishing/The Conversation dispatch. David Rolph is Professor of Law at Australia's University of Sydney.

New technologies give impetus to water conservancy projects in China

By Wang Hao

CHINA has constantly improved its ability to safeguard against floods and droughts by applying new technologies to water conservancy projects, including data-based automatic hydrological monitoring, forecasting and warning systems that help governments evacuate residents in time to avoid risks.

In recent years, China's Ministry of Water Resources (MWR) has vigorously promoted the construction of smart water conservancy projects, boosting in-depth integration of 5G, the Internet of Things (IoT), big data, artificial intelligence (AI) and other new technologies in flood control and drought relief, river basin management, and management of water conservancy projects.

The Huaihe River Commission of the MWR recently simulated water regulation and coordination measures at various water conservancy projects in rain of different intensities using digital maps.

Before that, the commission used laser radar installed on helicopters to collect accurate data on the watercourses of the Huaihe River, one of China's major waterways running through the country's eastern regions,

and scan important flood control facilities on the river, including the Wangjiaba hydrological station and the Linhuaigang Flood Control Project.

Digital scenarios created based on natural geological conditions, historical data, and water conservancy models of rivers and with digital twin technology can help with flood forecasting and flood control plan formulation, supporting drainage basins of rivers in carrying out flood forecasting, early warning, drill, and making disaster prevention and relief plans, said Liu Zhiyu, deputy director of the information center of the MWR.

China has more than 98,000 reservoirs, over 100,000 sluices, and 9.31 million water supply projects distributed across rural areas. The use of new technologies can effectively enhance the country's management of water conservancy projects.

"The tap water network of Shanghe county runs for over 2,100 kilometers, and many parts of it are underground pipelines. It used to be troubled by frequent leakage and unstable hydraulic pressure," said Li Zhao, director of the water supply service center of Shanghe county, Jinan city, east China's Shandong province.

With 948 water meters installed on water mains of villag-

es, 146,000 smart water meters, and monitor cameras fixed at 183 spots, problems in the management and maintenance of the water network have been effectively solved.

"Every household has a smart ultrasonic water meter that can transmit data remotely through 4G network. The cameras can automatically monitor reservoirs, waterworks and pipelines," said Li, adding that people can now check information about their water quality, consumption, and bills and report problems about water supply via mobile phone.

A digital platform for flood control and disaster reduction has played an important role in bracing east China's Zhejiang province for Typhoon In-Fa, known in China as Yanhua, which made landfall in Zhejiang province on July 25.

In an effort to formulate plans as soon as possible for tasks such as eliminating risks and reinforcing the seawalls stretching 2,014 kilometers, preventing water-logging in coastal cities, and relocating residents that might be affected to safer areas, staff members of the bureau of water resources of Zhejiang province were still working in the small hours of July 24.

As icons of coastlines, rivers, and reservoirs flickered and figures representing precipita-

tion, water level, and water flow changed, risk prompts, warnings and forecasts of risks, such as gaps in seawalls and mountain torrents, were sent out frequently by the digital platform.

"Based on data collected by hydrological stations and calculations and analyses conducted by smart platforms, we can take targeted measures to deal with problems. In the past, we could only work out one plan during an entire morning, while now we can make more than 50 plans a day," said Chen Zhigang, an official with the flood and drought disaster prevention department of the bureau of water resources of Zhejiang province.

Since the start of this year's flood season, departments of water resources at all levels in China have been closely monitoring the rain situation across the country. Through a mountain flood disaster monitoring and early warning system, they have accumulatively sent more than 31 million early warning text messages to people in charge of flood control and 740 million messages to residents living in areas threatened by potential hazards, effectively safeguarding the safety of people's life and property.

As of August 15, 3,103 large and medium-sized reservoirs in the country had stored 78.6 bil-

lion cubic meters of floodwater, avoiding flooding for 936 townships and about 820,000 hectares of farmland and relo-

cation of 6.5 million people.

People's Daily

EMBASSY OF IRELAND DAR ES SALAAM

Available Vacancies (1)

The goal of the Embassy of Ireland is to promote Ireland's values and interests in Tanzania and across the Great Lakes sub-region, in line with Ireland's commitment to delivering the Sustainable Development Goals. Through the promotion of Ireland's values, the Embassy seeks to contribute to a fairer, more just, secure and sustainable society in Tanzania with a specific focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

The Embassy of Ireland is seeking to recruit a **highly motivated and dynamic individual** to join a growing team in the position of **Programme Manager – Sexual and Reproductive Health and Nutrition**.

Position details:

- Programme Manager – Sexual and Reproductive Health and Nutrition (Full-time based at the Embassy of Ireland, Dar es Salaam).
- Starting in November 2021. Contract will be offered on a three-year renewable basis.
- Competitive salary plus benefits.
- The role offers opportunities for training and for travel within Tanzania and occasional international travel.

Programme Manager – Sexual and Reproductive Health and Nutrition

Under the direction of the Deputy Head of Development Cooperation, the Programme Manager – Sexual and Reproductive Health and Nutrition will manage the Embassy's portfolio relating to sexual and reproductive health & rights and nutrition.

Minimum qualifications and skills requirements:

Essential:

- A post-graduate qualification in development management or related discipline relevant to the requirements of this post.
- A minimum of three years' relevant experience working in a field related to reproductive health and/or nutrition.
- A proven capacity for delivering timely results and taking responsibility for quality outcomes.
- A sound understanding of key concepts relating to sexual and reproductive health and nutrition.
- Interpersonal skills to form effective working relationships with people at all levels and the ability to work independently and as part of a team.
- A demonstrated ability to engage in complex policy discussions.
- Excellent communication skills including fluent written and verbal English and Kiswahili languages.

Desirable:

- At least two years working in a senior level with a Tanzania-based national or international organisation.
- A sound understanding of the political, economic, social and cultural environments impacting on Tanzania, including a clear understanding of the relevant Tanzanian policies and institutional frameworks.
- A proven ability to analyse and interpret quantitative data
- Experience working in or closely with sexual and reproductive health and/or nutrition in Tanzania at clinical and/or policy levels.

The successful candidate must have a legal entitlement to live and work in Tanzania prior to recruitment.

How to Apply:

Applicants should visit <https://www.dfa.ie/irish-embassy/tanzania/about-us/job-opportunities/> to access the full application. Completed application forms should be sent via e-mail to embassydarjobs@dfa.ie, clearly indicating the position being applied for in the subject.

Applications that do not bear the position in the subject line will be automatically disregarded.

Applications must be received before 18:00hrs on Monday 04 October 2021.

No applications will be accepted after this deadline. Please note that only short listed applicants will be contacted.

Please note that canvassing will disqualify applicants.

The Irish Embassy in Tanzania is an equal opportunities employer.

Applicants should note the following points in respect of the application process:

Data Protection Note:

When your application form is received, we create a record in your name, which contains much of the personal information you have supplied. This personal record is used solely in processing your candidature. Such information held is subject to the rights and obligations set out in the Data Protection Acts, 1988 and 2003 and The General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and subject to the provisions of the Freedom of Information Act, 2014 applications will be treated in strict confidence.

By submitting information electronically, parties accept that data may not be fully secure. Parties may alternatively send their submissions by post to the address outlined above. Any personal information submitted to us will only be used for its intended purposes and will be destroyed when no longer needed. Any other processing or disclosure of personal data is not allowed other than in the exceptional circumstances provided for under the Data Protection Acts.

Security Clearance for Local Staff:

Police vetting will be sought in respect of individuals who come under consideration for appointment. Enquiries may also be made with the police force of any country in which the applicant under consideration for appointment resided. If unsuccessful this information will be destroyed. If the applicant subsequently comes under consideration for another position they will be required to supply this information again.



The Three Gorges Dam in central China's Hubei province opens three spillways to discharge floodwater, allowing the passage of the first flood of China's Yangtze River this year, Sept. 7, 2021. File photo

Indifference, not hostility, main barrier to building trust in news

By Marcela Kunova

TRUST in news seems to be steadily declining all over the world. Although the Covid-19 pandemic has reminded the public of the importance of quality journalism, many people are still skeptical, even cynical, about the media.

The trouble is that, if swaths of the population stop paying attention to trustworthy sources of information, we lose that kind of shared reality that helps us maintain a healthy dialogue about topics that matter.

But who exactly does not trust the news and why? This is what the Trust in News Project, a three-year initiative by the Reuters Institute for the Study of Journalism (RISJ), financed by Facebook, set to find out.

Its recently released third report: 'Overcoming indifference: What attitudes towards news tell us about building trust' brings data from surveys in Brazil, India, the UK and the US.

Project leader and RISJ senior research fellow Benjamin Toff told Journalism.co.uk that he was genuinely surprised by how often people held fairly negative views about how journalists do their jobs.

He said: "A very sizeable 25 - 40 per cent in all four countries said they believed news organisations 'very often' did things like try to manipulate the public or got paid by their sources while majorities believed that news organisations tried to cover up their own mistakes. I knew cynicism about the press was widespread, but I was still taken aback by these numbers."

One of the most important, if unsurprising, findings of the study is that people are more trusting of news sources they themselves use and less so of those they do not. The more surprising fact is that this also applies to social media.

Many experts have suggested that social platforms, especially Facebook, play an important role in spreading misinformation and are the least trusted sources of news. Even in its first transparency report, the platform acknowledged its difficulties to curb misleading content. Should we be worried?

"It may seem counterintuitive that news found on social media and messaging apps (especially Facebook or WhatsApp) is so much less trusted compared to specific news brands," says Toff.

The answer is that low trust in news on platforms is often not driven by those who are using those platforms but by those not using them for news.

News brands seem to be more important to people than the platform - the report shows that those following their trusted brands on social media do not trust them any less than those accessing them offline.

However, Toff admits that the survey did not look at

how relying on social media for news can impact people's ability to differentiate between news brands - and the trust they put in them - over the years.

In the UK, 78 per cent say they trust news somewhat or completely, which sounds pretty encouraging. But what about the remaining one-fifth of the population?

Those who trust news the least tend to be older, less educated, less interested in politics and live in rural areas. Interestingly, compared to other countries, a smaller percentage of people said it is important for them to know a journalist's gender, religion, race or political affiliation.

At first glance, this sounds counterintuitive, as we keep on hearing that we need to diversify our newsrooms to gain audiences' trust, especially among marginalised and underrepresented groups.

"What I think these results point to are the limits of symbolic representation alone," says Toff.

He elaborates: "Simply disclosing how your newsroom looks more like the public probably isn't enough on its own to persuade most people to be more trusting. That requires connecting with news audiences in other ways that involve the substance and quality of the journalism itself."

"Your average news consumer may not pay a whole lot of attention to the demographic backgrounds of journalists when making decisions around what news to trust. However, that does not diminish the importance of diversifying newsrooms so they are more reflective and representative of the communities they seek to serve. Doing so matters for improving the quality of the journalism on offer. People are more likely to pay attention to that than to the people behind the bylines."

Toff noted further that these are, after all, survey results and responses do at least partially reflect social norms and ideas about its being wrong to judge people, including journalists, on the basis of their race, religion or gender. But in reality, the public may be much quicker to



make these judgements than they let on.

"And that has implications for both building trust but also losing trust when it comes to audiences who have their own prejudices about what a journalist looks like," he added.

One of the problems is that UK journalists seem less involved in their communities. Among the four countries, the smallest percentage of people in the UK said they have ever known or talked to a journalist and over three-quarters said they had never interacted with one.

Although some data suggests that there is a correlation between having interacted with a journalist and trusting the media, it is hard to say whether that alone can help build trust. Toff says that it is possible that higher rates of trust among the class of people who have spoken to, or know a journalist, might have more to do with who those people are rather than anything causal about those interactions.

Million-dollar question: how to gain trust?

So now that we have a better idea of the problem, how can we tackle the lack of trust in news?

First, Toff said that individual journalists seeking to improve trust in their work need to be mindful about whose trust they want to gain. Not all news audiences distrust the news for the same reason, so tailor your approach to their needs, preferences and world views.

People who are generally untrusting towards all or most brands are probably just not that interested in news, and especially news about political affairs. They are not looking for loads of detail about editorial practices or disclosures about processes. Your olive branch should be one of trying to establish relevance to their lives.

Other audiences might be deeply engaged in, but selectively critical of, particular news brands. They will be the hardest to win over,

and so you might need to go to greater lengths to show that you are a trustworthy news source.

"Building trust with such readers or viewers or listeners starts with making a stronger case for why the journalism you are offering matters, what difference the reporting makes to their daily struggles, and what defines your organisation as distinctive compared to all the other sources of information they may encounter online," says Toff.

Much of this is beyond what journalists can do alone in their own work. But it is possible that as more people are exposed to stories that matter to them, the more they become interested and ultimately warm up to your reporting. After all, if you want to win someone's trust, you need to first register with them by starting to pay attention to their needs.

Hong Kong

UNTIL two weeks ago, Zemari Ahmadi, an electrician in Kabul, had been helping the Americans who in late 2001 invaded Afghanistan, toppled the Taliban government and occupied the country.

On Aug 29, a day before the United States withdrew its last forces from Afghanistan, Ahmadi, 43, had just parked his Toyota at home after dropping off some friends or workmates. He had returned from his US employer's office, where he had worked since 2006. His family, mostly children, rushed out to greet him, when a drone strike launched by the US forces hit them. Ten of them, the youngest, 2, died, according to reports by New York Magazine and CNN.

US intelligence and the military said they were targeting a suspect suicide bomber. The US works hard to avoid civilian casualties, said John Kirby, a Pentagon spokesman, on Aug 30.

However, facts suggest otherwise. Research by Brown University in the US said that by April more than 71,000 Afghan and Pakistani civilians were estimated to have died as a direct result of the war.

And nearly 33,000 children were killed and maimed in Afghanistan during the 20-year war, or one child every five hours, according to the international humanitarian organization Save the Children.

In an interview with Spanish radio aired on Sept 1, Pope Francis questioned the West's 20-year involvement in Afghanistan as an outsider's attempt to impose democracy.

"It is necessary to put an end to the irresponsible pol-

Cost of war: Misery on a grand scale



icy of intervening from outside and building democracy in other countries, ignoring the traditions of the peoples," he said.

Between 184,382 and 207,156 Iraqi civilians were killed by direct violence after the US-led invasion of Iraq in 2003 on the grounds that the country was developing weapons of mass destruction, which turned out to be false.

In Mosul, northern Iraq, Ali al-Saadi found it beyond his imagination that the Sept 11 terrorist attacks in a place so far away would leave his home in ruins, friends dead or injured and his child maimed.

"My house was destroyed, and I have a child who was disabled during the bombardment when my house fell on us," he said.

The bombardment carried out by the US-led coalition in 2016 and 2017 left the old city in ruins.

Over the past 20 years the wars and military actions carried out by the US and its allies have inflicted immense human suffering in Central and West Asia but have failed to eliminate terrorism. Instead, analysts say, terrorist groups have flourished.

For Iraq, chaos caused by the US-led in-

vasion not only encouraged terrorism to continue in the country, but also forced it to cross borders and become a regional issue, said Hashim al-Shamma, a political researcher at the Iraqi Center for Legal Development, a nongovernmental organization.

"Under the slogan of combating terrorism, the United States is trying to extend its control all over the world," al-Shamma said.

In Syria, the US entered the country without the consent of the Syrian government in 2014, but its presence has singularly failed to end a civil war.

'Long and complex'

"The war has been long and complex and horrific and unsuccessful," said Catherine Lutz, co-director of the Costs of War project and a professor of international and public affairs at Brown University.

The project estimated the toll from US-led war in the name of fighting terrorism at 897,000 to 929,000 killed as a direct result, whether by bombs, bullets or fire. They included only 7,073 US military and 8,189 US contractors but 375,505 civilians. Others include opposition fighters, journalists and

humanitarian aid workers.

"The deaths we tallied are likely a vast undercount of the true toll these wars have taken on human life," said Neta Crawford, a co-founder of the project and a professor of political science at Boston University.

"It's critical we properly account for the vast and varied consequences of the many US wars and counterterrorism operations since 9/11 as we pause and reflect on all of the lives lost."

Not all perceived global problems are susceptible to amelioration through the use of military force, which often only deepen the problems, said Professor Tom Plate, a distinguished scholar of Asian and Pacific studies at Loyola Marymount University.

After a four-day trip to Afghanistan recently, Peter Maurer, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, said: "The scars of war last generations. Destroyed buildings can one day be rebuilt, but shattered limbs do not regrow. Children relive trauma long after the bomb blasts subside. Family members killed leave a permanent void. War shatters bodies and souls."

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

Rescuers pull villagers from flood waters in Xinyang city in China's Henan Province.

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAUYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI (MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

UAE-based development firm donates \$100,000 to fight tropical diseases

DUBAI, UAE

GLOBESIGHT, a global development firm working on solutions to pressing social issues, has donated \$100,000 to The Reach Campaign, an awareness and fundraising initiative, which aims to end two neglected tropical diseases (NTDs), river blindness and lymphatic filariasis

Donation from The Reach Campaign goes towards the Reaching the Last Mile Fund (RLMF), which offers a proof of concept for the elimination of the two diseases in Sub-Saharan Africa. RLMF is a 10-year, \$100 million initiative launched in 2017 by His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, and several supporters, including The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

The RLMF delivers preventative treatment for NTDs and focuses on

ways to accelerate progress towards elimination - from investing in disease mapping efforts, to supporting advanced lab facilities and cross-border collaborations.

According to reports, river blindness and lymphatic filariasis disproportionately affect the world's poorest people. Over 200 million people globally require treatment for river blindness, one of the leading causes of preventable blindness, while over 850 million people are at risk of lymphatic filariasis

Globesight's donation represents the first contribution as part of the Reach Giving Circle, which consists of a collection of philanthropists who are dedicated to ending NTDs and empowering people to live healthy and dignified lives.

The \$100,000 contribution can either protect 200,000 people from contracting river blindness and lymphatic filariasis for a full year or 3,000 people over their en-



tire life from the aforementioned NTDs.

Taufiq Rahim, Globesight's president, said: "We are proud to be supporting Reach through this commit-

ment at a time when the world's attention and funding for fighting to end neglected tropical diseases is under threat. It is also important for the private sector to step

up and we hope that our contribution to the Reach reinforces that call to action."

Nassar Al Mubarak, managing director of The Reach Campaign, added: "NTDs affect around 1.5 billion people worldwide - these diseases are not only preventable, but eliminating them will have widespread benefits amongst communities. Often, the children of adults who have contracted one of the diseases will have to drop out of school to become primary caregivers, impacting the entire family and trapping families in a cycle of poverty. Our hope is that through eliminating them, we can empower some of the most vulnerable communities to live a healthier and more productive life."

"We are thankful for Globesight's contribution to The Reach Campaign - their generosity advances our efforts and ultimately helps some of the most vulnerable populations across the globe," he added.

Globesight, headquartered between Dubai and New York, has also provided oxygen and ventilators to vulnerable communities impacted by the COVID-19 crisis in India and Uganda, contributing to COVAX to drive vaccine equity forward, and providing humanitarian aid in times of tragedy such as the Global Aid for Lebanon Campaign.

BRI brings hearts of Ugandan, Chinese young people closer

KAMPALA

THE China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is famous for its infrastructure construction, but it has also subtly enhanced exchanges between people of different backgrounds.

On the scenic shores of River Nile, the world's longest river, a Chinese construction technician and a Ugandan teacher found love, and their love has bared fruit, baby Kyle.

Baby Kyle, born on Aug. 11, is a new generation of children that signifies the people-to-people relations between China and Africa, brought forward by the BRI. Announced in 2013 by

China, the BRI, aims to build trade and infrastructure networks connecting Asia with Europe and Africa. The initiative comprises the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road.

In Uganda, the Chinese-constructed Isimba Hydro Power Plant, a 566-million-U.S. dollar project by Sinohydro Corporation Ltd., is one of the key BRI energy infrastructure projects in the east African country.

During the construction of the 183 megawatts power plant, Betty Nabukeera, a local teacher, and Liu Qi, a Chinese construction technician at Sinohydro fell in love. In their house, the excitement about their new baby

is visible, as Nabukeera carries the baby, Liu is preparing milk in the kitchen. Liu also cooks for his young family whenever Nabukeera is not able.

In November last year, Liu and Nabukeera held a wedding ceremony.

Before the wedding, Liu had to fulfil the traditional practice of paying dowry to Nabukeera's family before he was allowed to proceed to the wedding ceremony.

Liu told Xinhua in a recent interview that he gladly paid the dowry because he was determined to marry his love, Nabukeera.

Five years before their marriage, Nabukeera and

Liu met at a roadside, as Liu was supervising construction works on a road leading to the power plant. They exchanged pleasantries and telephone numbers promising to keep in touch.

"I wanted to learn English, so I asked her to buy me a local sixth grade English textbook, and then I often sent the pictures (in the book) to ask her how to read and what do they mean. Later, after around three months, my English level improved very much," Liu said.

Through continued interactions, they developed feelings for each other.

When Liu communicated to his parents back in Xiantao of China's Hubei Prov-

ince about his love, her mother was a bit upset.

Liu's parents disagreed at first, concerning about cultural background, which made himself questioning the relationship with Nabukeera.

"At that time, I also wanted to give up. I told Nabukeera, I will support you, so you can leave me. She flatly refused, and told me she was serious," Liu recalled and occasionally smiled at Nabukeera.

In 2016, Liu got life-threatening Malaria.

"She often called me and asked about my condition. Sometimes, she would call friends to bring me food, such as fish, jackfruit, and

bananas. Sometimes she came to visit me too," Liu said.

Liu returned to China for vacation in 2018.

"I felt like I had lost something. I wanted to go back to Uganda. I had a showdown with my family and said that I must go back to find her."

When Liu returned to Uganda, the first thing he did was to enroll Nabukeera at the Confucius Institute at Makerere University. To help Nabukeera pass the Chinese language test, Liu taught her for one hour every day.

Nabukeera successfully passed the Chinese level-three test, and she can now use Chinese for simple communication.

Since then, Liu's parents started to change their attitude and occasionally have a video chat with their future daughter-in-law.

"We miss you, when will you come to China?" Nabukeera said that is what her future parents-in-law often ask.

She said her parents told her that as long as she is happy with the relationship, they would not stop her.

Nabukeera has since got a job at Sinohydro and is responsible for coordination and communication with the communities in the neighborhood of the power plant. Liu has also been promoted to a technical professional.

Covid-19 is reversing gains in the fight against HIV, TB and malaria

By Special Correspondent

THE Covid-19 pandemic has hindered progress on the treatment for HIV, tuberculosis (TB), and malaria, according to Global Fund, a Geneva-based partnership of governments, civil society, technical agencies, and private sector bodies working on the three diseases, which have a high prevalence in Africa.

In many countries, Covid-19 has overpowered health systems and resources have been diverted from fighting HIV, TB, and malaria to dealing with the pandemic, says Global Fund, in its latest annual report. This is the first time since 2002 when the fund was established, that key prevention and testing services have declined compared to the previous year.

"The impact of Covid-19 in the fight against HIV, TB, and malaria and the communities we support has been devastating," the fund's executive director, Peter Sands, says in the report.

The Global Fund mobilizes and invests more than \$4 billion annually to support to HIV, TB, and malaria programs in more than 100 countries, including 53 in Africa.

The three diseases are common in Africa and they kill hundreds of thousands in the region every year, with the continent having the highest number of cases of HIV and malaria globally and the second-highest for TB.

With the onset of the pandemic, the continent's already insufficient medical resources were further stretched, leading to disrupted access to medical information and services for people. Many countries were effected lockdowns, which also disrupted provision of medical services.

For TB, the report says, the number of people who were treated for its drug-resistant type fell by 19% in

2020 compared to 2019; it reduced by 37% for those on treatment for extensively drug-resistant TB; and 16% for HIV-positive TB patients on antiretroviral treatment as well as TB treatment.

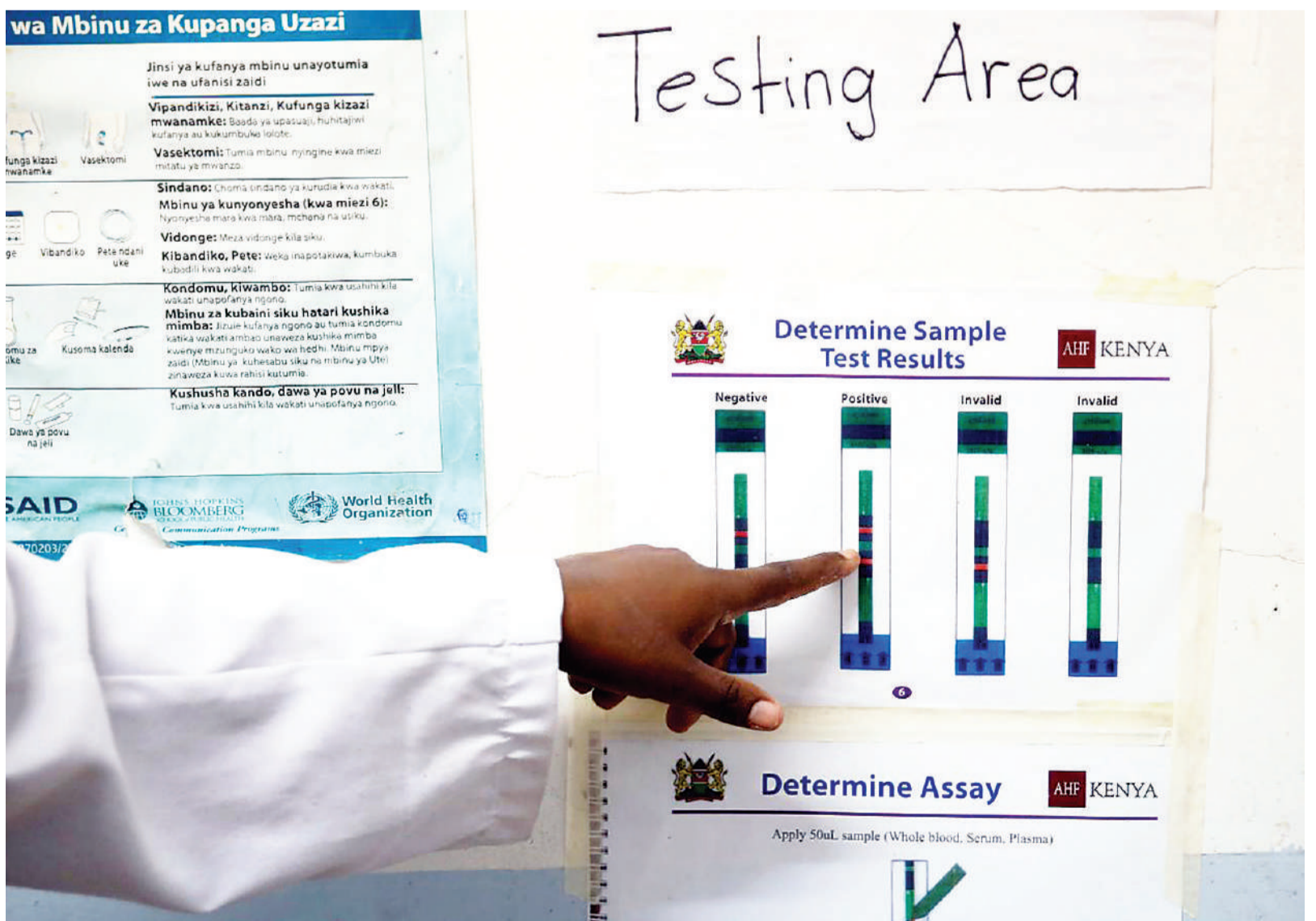
For HIV, the report adds, while the number of HIV-positive people receiving antiretroviral treatment increased by 9%, people served by HIV prevention programs and services declined by 11%, and HIV tests declined by 22%.

Malaria was less impacted. Suspected cases of malaria tested reduced by only 4.3%, the report says, with the low figure likely due to rapid adaptation of malaria services.

Despite these setbacks, Sands says, Covid-19 has spurred innovation in fighting the three diseases, such as Nigeria taking advantage of the opportunity of people going to health clinics for Covid-19 tests to test them for HIV as well, and community health workers and volunteers in many countries changing from central distributions of mosquito nets to delivering them door to door.

"The fight against Covid-19 should be a catalyst to finish the unfinished fights against HIV, TB and malaria," Sands says. "If we can continue to innovate and collaborate - at global, national and local levels - we can end HIV, TB and malaria, beat Covid-19 and build a much stronger foundation for pandemic preparedness and response."

Yacine Djibo, founder and Executive Director of Speak Up Africa, a Dakar-based policy and advocacy organization for issues such as malaria and neglected tropical diseases, says Global Fund's findings show the urgency to step up investment and collaboration to ensure that essential services and operations continue to protect the lives of people affected by malaria, HIV and TB, and other diseases.



Julia Waruguru, an HIV adherence counselor points to a poster of test results to a woman who was tested for HIV at the IOM treatment centre in Eastleigh, Nairobi, Kenya.

Cultivate habit of visiting national parks, Tanzanian students advised

By Correspondent James Lanka, Arusha

TANZANIAN students have been urged to inculcate a habit of visiting tourist destinations for sustainable domestic tourism.

Founder and director of the Moshi-based Udzungwa Mountains College Trust (UMCTO) Edgardo Welelo made the call here over the weekend when he accompanied students who visited the Arusha Na-

tional Park.

The visit, which involved students who are pursuing different tourism courses at the college, was meant to promote domestic tourism as well as improving their knowledge on tourism.

He said it's high time for students countrywide to imbibe a habit of visiting thrilling tourist destinations including game safaris.

"Tanzania has number national

parcs, but they're mostly visited by foreigners.

This trend is unhealthy to our tourism industry...it's time our students to develop a culture of visiting our national heritage," he said.

Nickson Mbise, one of the students said that, apart from enjoying the majesty of TANAPA, he has learnt different behaviours of different wild animals and birds that are found at the park.

"This trip means a lot to me as I learnt practically different behaviours of wild animals and birds that are found at this beautiful national park, and my appeal to my fellow students is to visit our tourism destinations," he insisted.

Udzungwa Mountains College was founded by a tourism stakeholder, Edgardo Welelo in 2008 after his visitation of Udzungwa Mountains National Park located in Morogoro.

When will the pandemic end? Here's scientists' 6-month outlook

By Bloomberg

FOR anyone hoping to see light at the end of the COVID-19 tunnel over the next three to six months, scientists have some bad news: Brace for more of what we've already been through.

Outbreaks will close schools and cancel classes. Vaccinated nursing home residents will face renewed fears of infection. Workers will weigh the danger of returning to the office as hospitals are overwhelmed, once again.

Almost everyone will be either infected or vaccinated before the pandemic ends, experts agree. Maybe both. An unlucky few will contract the virus more than once. The race between the waves of transmission that lead to new variants and the battle to get the globe inoculated won't be over until the coronavirus has touched all of us.

"I see these continued surges occurring throughout the world," said Michael Osterholm, director of the Center for Infectious Disease Research and Policy at the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, and an adviser to US President Joe Biden. "Then it will drop, potentially somewhat precipitously," he said. "And then I think we very easily could see another surge in the fall and winter" of this year, he added.

With billions of people around the world yet to be vaccinated and little chance now of eliminating the virus, we can expect more outbreaks in classrooms, on public transport and in workplaces over the coming months, as economies push ahead with reopening. Even as immunization rates rise, there will always be people who are vulnerable to the virus: Newborn babies, people who can't or won't get inoculated, and those who get vaccinated but suffer breakthrough infections as their protection levels ebb.

The next few months will be rough. One key danger is if a vaccine-resistant variant develops, although it is not the only risk ahead. In the coming months, Bloomberg will explore the pandemic's long-term impact on economies and markets, the pharmaceutical industry, travel and more.

"We're going to see hills and valleys, at least for the next several years as we get more vaccine out. That's going to help. But the challenge is going to be: How big will the hills and valleys be, in terms of their distance?" Osterholm said. "We don't know. But I can just tell you, this is a coronavirus forest fire that will not stop until it finds all the human wood that it can burn."

COVID-19 COMPARED TO OTHER PANDEMICS

The five well-documented influenza pandemics of the past 130 years offer some blueprint for how COVID-19 might play out, according to Lone Simonsen, an epidemiologist and professor of population health sciences at Roskilde University in Denmark. She is an expert on the ebb and flow of such

events.

While the longest global flu outbreak lasted five years, they mostly consisted of two to four waves of infection over an average of two or three years, she said. COVID-19 is already shaping up to be among the more severe pandemics, as its second year concludes with the world in the middle of a third wave – and no end in sight.

It's possible that the virus known as SARS-CoV-2 won't follow the path set by the pandemics of the past. After all, it is a different, novel and potentially more transmissible pathogen. And with a death toll of more than 4.6 million people so far, it's already more than twice as deadly as any outbreak since the 1918 Spanish flu.

Despite brutal initial waves and relatively high vaccination rates, countries including the US, UK, Russia and Israel are flirting with record numbers of cases. Immunization is helping to moderate incidences of severe cases and deaths, but surging infections mean the virus is reaching the young and others who remain unvaccinated, leading to rising rates of serious disease in those groups.

Nations where vaccination has been sparse – including Malaysia, Mexico, Iran and Australia – are in the midst of their biggest outbreaks yet, fueled by the contagious delta strain. With the virus still spreading out of control in vast swathes of the planet, another novel variant could quite feasibly emerge.

History shows the commonly held belief that viruses automatically get milder over time – to avoid completely wiping out their host population – is wrong, according to Simonsen. Although new mutations aren't always more severe than their predecessors,



A miner receives a COVID-19 vaccine at Anglo American Platinum Ltd's Tumela mine in Amandelbult, South Africa, Aug 12, 2021. (WALDO SWIEGERS / BLOOMBERG)

"pandemics can in fact get more deadly during the pandemic period, as the virus is adapting to its new host," she said.

Early in the COVID-19 outbreak, there was good reason to hope that vaccines would provide long-term protection, much like childhood shots that stop diseases such as polio.

Coronaviruses have a "proof-reading" mechanism that fixes the in-born errors caused when the virus replicates, reducing the likelihood of variants emerging when the virus is transmitted from one person to another.

The number of global cases has been so vast, however, that mutations are occurring anyway.

"With the pandemic, we have

this enormous force of infection," said Kanta Subbarao, director of the WHO Collaborating Center for Reference and Research on Influenza at the Peter Doherty Institute for Infection and Immunity in Melbourne. "That has counterbalanced the ability of the virus to proof-read."

As a result, COVID-19 could be like the flu, requiring regular vaccine top-ups to remain effective as the virus evolves.

Some researchers say SARS-CoV-2 is poised to become completely resistant to the first generation of vaccines. A study from Japan, which has yet to be published or peer-reviewed, suggests that potentially dangerous mutations in the delta variant are al-

ready being picked up in a global database used to track such developments. Reports of current strains breaking through vaccinations or triggering higher fatality rates have not held up to rigorous scrutiny thus far.

"This is a scenario we hope won't happen," Simonsen said. "My God, we would have to do it all again."

Other even grimmer possibilities for the coming months include the emergence of a novel influenza virus or another coronavirus making the leap from animals into humans.

"As long as there are animal reservoirs of coronavirus there is still the possibility that another zoonotic coronavirus could emerge in the future," Subbarao said.

"There is that in the background, the risk of still dealing with this one when another one emerges."

HOW WILL COVID-19 END?
What seems clear is that the pandemic will not be over in six months. Experts generally agree that the current outbreak will be tamed once most people – perhaps 90 percent to 95 percent of the global population – have a degree of immunity thanks to immunization or previous infection.

The key element should be vaccination, they say.

"Without vaccination, one is like a sitting duck, because the virus will spread widely and find most everybody this autumn and winter," said Simonsen.

More than 5.66 billion doses of vaccine have been administered around the world, according to Bloomberg's vaccine tracker. But the success of rollouts in some regions, such as the European Union and North America, masks the failure in others. Most countries in Africa have only given enough vaccine to cover less than 5 percent of their populations with a two-dose shot. India has administered enough to cover only about 26 percent.

The pandemic will end at different times in different places, just as previous outbreaks have, said Erica Charters, associate professor of the history of medicine at Oxford University and the coordinator of a project on how epidemics end. Governments will have to decide how much of the disease they are comfortable living with, she said.

Approaches vary. While some countries are still shooting for zero COVID-19 cases, the world is unlikely to eradicate the virus completely.

Nations like Denmark and Singapore, which have managed to keep cases relatively contained, are already moving toward a post-pandemic future with fewer safety restrictions. Others, such as the US and UK, are opening up even as infection numbers near records. Meanwhile, New Zealand has vowed to keep vigilantly working to eliminate the virus locally. As a result, they are likely to be among the last places to leave behind the disruption wrought by walling out the pandemic.

"The end process is not going to be uniform," Charters said. The pandemic "is a biological phenomenon, but it's also a political and social phenomenon."

"Even now we have different approaches to it."

It's likely to be messy, leaving a lasting legacy for years to come. Until then, most of us will need to brace for many more months in the pandemic's grip.

"We have to approach it with our eyes wide open and with a great deal of humility," Osterholm said. "Anybody that thinks we're going to be over this in the next few days or a few months is sorely mistaken."

Agencies



Employees bury a COVID-19 victim at the Fairy Park memorial park in Meru, Selangor, Malaysia, on Aug 30, 2021. File photo

RADIO One

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



Radio One



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Equity Bank ready to lend 30pc of loan portfolio to agribusiness

By Smart Money Reporter

IN a major shift on how banks avoid lending to the agriculture sector due to risks, Equity Bank Tanzania is targeting to give at least 30 percent of its loan portfolio to the sector.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam this week during a memorandum of understanding with PASS Trust to provide financing to agribusiness enterprises, Equity Bank Tanzania's Managing Director, Robert Kiboti said Agriculture being the backbone of the country's economy has a lot of potential to unleash.

"At Equity Bank, agriculture is our priority area, and we are targeting agriculture loans to read at 30 percent of our general loan portfolio. We are delighted to join forces with PASS Trust to facilitate access to agricultural financing by agribusiness entrepreneurs in Tanzania," Kiboti said.

He pointed out that the regional bank's mission is to ensure that a wide range of agribusiness small and medium enterprises have access to financial solutions at all value chain stages, from production to the market places.

"On the other hand, PASS Trust's objective is to facilitate access to financial and business development services for agribusiness entrepreneurs in Tanzania. These combined missions will undoubtedly bring out the best results as far as access to finance for agribusinesses is concerned," he noted.

Kiboti added that Agriculture is an important sector for the country's economy, with over 75 percent of the working population relying on the industry for food security while also contributing up to 27 percent of gross domestic product and 30 percent of foreign currency earnings.

"It is, therefore, crucial for us to continue providing financial platforms that will see more agri-SMEs access affordable financial support that will ultimately contribute to the transformation of agriculture, the economy, and lives of Tanzanians," the Equity Bank MD added.

Among other things, the MoU with Private Agricultural Sector Support Trust to allow the bank to disburse loans to agribusinesses in the country to build capaci-



Equity Bank Tanzania's managing director, Robert Kiboti (L) and PASS Trust managing director, Yohane Kaduma pictured in Dar es Salaam a memorandum of understanding on collaboration. Photo courtesy of Equity Bank

ties and increase productivity. The targeted agribusiness entrepreneurs include individuals, Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), large enterprises, Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs), and associations which will receive low-cost loans backed by the PASS Trust Credit Guarantee Scheme.

In remarks at the signing ceremony, PASS Trust Managing Director, Yohane Kaduma hailed the enhanced partnership with Equity Bank terming it as an excellent opportunity for agribusiness entrepreneurs in the country.

"The entry of Equity Bank into PASS' pool of collaborating financial institutions brings to 14 the number

of banks that PASS Trust is working with in enabling access to agricultural credit through the PASS Guarantee Scheme," Kaduma said.

"And we invite even more financial institutions to join this pool of PASS' collaborating banks so that many more Tanzanians engaged in agribusiness can be able to access credit and increase productivity," Kaduma added while stressing that PASS Trust wants to continue working as a bridge and catalyst in spearheading access to affordable loans to agribusiness entrepreneurs.

In this operating agreement with Equity Bank, PASS will provide between 20-60 percent credit guarantee

to top up inadequate collateral to enable clients to get financing. Women-led agricultural projects will benefit with up to an 80 percent. Over 1.7 million agribusiness entrepreneurs have benefited from the PASS credit guarantee scheme since its inception in the year 2000.

Since 2017, the PASS Trust supported the total value of loans amounting to 6.7bn/- with a credit guarantee commitment of 2.6bn/- under the agricultural value chain. The total credit guarantee fund deposited by PASS Trust at Equity Bank to benefit agricultural entrepreneurs is USD 1.0 million or an equivalent to 2.3bn/-.

Gold miners commit to climate risk reporting

PARIS

The World Gold Council's (WGC) members, 33 of the world's gold mining companies, have committed to reporting their positions and progress on climate-related risks. This is in line with the recommendations of Taskforce for Climate-related Financial Disclosures (TCFD).

The TCFD recommendations and reporting framework is now widely recognised as the preferred method for embedding climate change into the governance, strategy and risk management systems of organisations, and the means by which they disclose comprehensive and high-quality information on these factors to investors and stakeholders.

This unified approach on climate-related reporting further clarifies the commitments already embedded in the WGC's

Responsible Gold Mining Principles (RGMPs) which require companies to take action to combat climate change and report in line with accepted standards. The RGMPs, launched in 2019, represent a framework that sets out clear expectations for consumers, investors and industry stakeholders as to what constitutes responsible gold mining.

All WGC members have committed to a three-year implementation timeline, and third-party assurance and public disclosure on that assurance. The new commitment to report via TCFD offers clearer definition of how Principles 10.3 ('Combating climate change') and 10.4 ('Energy efficiency and reporting') will be implemented.

Randy Smallwood, chair of the WGC is delighted that the World Gold Council membership has unanimously agreed to

adopt TCFD reporting. "Making progress on climate change is a vital aspect of the gold mining sector's commitment to responsible mining," he says.

"TCFD-aligned reporting combined with the implementation of the RGMPs will further demonstrate to investors, consumers and other stakeholders, gold mining's ability to make a positive and demonstrable contribution to social and environmental progress," he adds.

Terry Heymann, WGC believes climate change is the biggest threat of the 21st century and all industries need to show progress in responding to this. "Investors are keen to better understand how their investments are being made climate-resilient in the face of a myriad of climate challenges and the gold industry is eager to show how it is adapting to these challenges."



Randy Smallwood, chair of the World Gold Council.

This includes reducing GHG emissions. "Through our own research over the last few years, we have been able to gather substantial evidence that the gold mining sector is in a strong position to reduce emissions in line with Paris Agreement targets," he expands.

He says there is still much work to be done to reduce the emissions generated by the industry, there has been good progress.

"Having our member companies commit to reporting via TCFD will help further demonstrate the industry's determination to address climate-related risks and report on its progress in a clear and transparent way."

Rollout of digital vaccination certificates imminent

PRETORIA

WITHIN a week all vaccinated South Africans will be eligible for a digital vaccination certificate. The statement was made during the minister of health's virtual meeting on the SA response to the Covid-19 pandemic recently.

Dr Joe Phaahla said the department is aware of the debate around the vaccination passport which is required by some countries for international travel. South Africa still requires only a less than 72 hours PCR COVID-19 test for travelling. "We have, however, commenced with the development of a digital vaccination certificate to confirm that a person has been vaccinated," he said.

The certificate is protected from fraud and can be uploaded on your smartphone and is printable. This initiative is in line with

the World Health Organisation (WHO) initiated vaccination certificate attempting to standardise vaccination proof in the world. Vaccination campaign

Giving feedback on the vaccination campaign, the minister said there has been a steady momentum but it needs to gather more speed. Workplace vaccinations are also playing a major role in the campaign. "Our total vaccinations yesterday was 220,550 doses administered which is still far short of the 300,000 target especially if we consider that the number includes second doses of Pfizer," he said.

The total dose administered reached 14,367,151 yesterday, with 10,510,378 individuals vaccinated with at least one dose constituting 26.41% of the adult population and 7,021,256 people were fully vaccinated which is 17.64% of all adults.



SA health minister, Dr Joe Phaahla.



"We still need to reach 18m more adults to achieve 70% coverage of all adults with at least one dose by December. When we get more J&J vaccines we will be able to increase full vaccinations by a single dose," the minister said. The minister reported that the country is "steadily getting out of the grip of the third wave driven by the Delta variant."

Nationally there has been a 24% drop in new cases compared to seven days before. Hospitalisation over the seven days has also gone down by 10%. In the last 24 hours the 6,270 total new cases are consistent with a downward trend of new infections. The positivity rate has come down from the highest level of 35% in mid-July to 12% yesterday.

TanGold scores big with 90pc gold recovery at Buckreef Gold Project

By Smart Money Reporter

IN a major development of the Buckreef Gold Project in Geita, a 90 percent gold recovery was attained at the oxide test plant of the Buckreef Gold Company Limited.

In a statement last week, Tanzanian Gold Corporation which is operating the Buckreef Gold Project jointly with State Mining Corporation said the higher gold recoveries increase revenue per tonne and lower costs per gold ounce versus lower gold recovery rates.

"The focus of the oxide test plant in the final two months was on recovery rates utilizing similar retention time and grind size design parameters as the 15 tonne per hour (360 tonnes per day (tpd)) and 40+ tph (960+ tpd) expansions," the statement said.

The results of the gold recovery tests are above the gold recovery rates previously achieved at the oxide test plant, when the goal was to maximize gold production versus maximizing gold recovery rates. These higher gold recovery rates provide increased confidence in an already robust oxide mine plan, the report noted.

The statement further added that another milestone was that the grindability of 85 percent passing 75µ (microns) screen aperture and retention times averaging 33 hours significantly improve gold recovery. The test plant studies are now complete for the oxide mill feed, the company stated.

Commenting on the development, TanGold CEO, Stephen Mallowney said, "The results of the focused oxide test plant aimed at maximizing recovery of the oxide mill feed have conclusively demonstrated 90 percent gold recoveries. I am delighted with the results and look forward to the finalization and commissioning of the 15 tons per hour (360 tpd) operation," Mallowney noted.

The laboratory pulverized the solid sample and took 50g sub sample for analysis. The rest of the sample is packed as a 'reject sample' and returned to site for quality checks. Twenty samples were selected for re-assay at the second lab (SGS - Mwanza).

Tanzanian Gold Corporation along with its joint venture partner, Stamico is building a significant gold project at Buckreef in Tanzania that is based on



TanGold CEO Stephen Mallowney.

an expanded mineral resource base and the treatment of its mineable two standalone plants.

Measured Mineral Resource now stands at 19.98MT at 1.99g/t gold containing 1,281,161 ounces of gold and Indicated Mineral Resource now stand at 15.89MT at 1.48g/t gold containing 755,119 ounces of gold for a combined tonnage of 35.88MT at 1.77g/t

gold containing 2,036,280 ounces of gold.

"The Buckreef Project also contains an Inferred Mineral Resource of 17.8MT at 1.11g/t gold for contained gold of 635,540 ounces of gold. The company is actively investigating and assessing multiple exploration targets on its property," the statement noted.



Egyptian international co-operation minister, Rania Al Mashat.

Egypt plans to connect 60 million people with high-speed internet

CAIRO

EGYPT, the Arab world's most populous nation, will connect more than 60 million people living in rural areas with high-speed internet, according to the country's communications and information technology minister.

"We want to improve internet connectivity for 60 million Egyptians living in about 4,500 villages by upgrading broadband infrastructure," Amr Talaat said at the International Co-operation Forum in the capital Cairo.

"We plan to invest more than \$360 million to connect one million households with fibre-optic cables that will ensure youth can access the internet and thus the knowledge, training, and career opportunities offered by the digital world," he said. Internet penetration in Egypt was 57.3 per cent in January 2021, according to Data Reportal. The country of 103.3 million had 95.75 million mobile phone users. Greater connectivity in Egypt will also help the country's booming e-commerce sector and mobile economy. The country has invested more than \$2 billion to increase average internet speeds in major cities to 42.5 megabytes per second from 6.5 megabytes per second, in two years.

"Africa is considered the youngest continent on the planet, with about 60 per cent of its population under the age of 25. There is no more urgent or important topic than youth empowerment, entrepreneurship, and digital innovation," said Rania Al Mashat, the country's minister of international co-operation. "Creating a framework to support the young is vital; Africa's future depends on it," she said.

Separately at the forum, Egyptian leaders stressed the importance of implementing agri-tech solutions to guarantee the continent's food security. Ensuring food security is particularly important for Egypt, which is the biggest wheat importer in the world.

"The work we have done with the World Food Programme, and how we have been able to work with farmers to move from more traditional ways of farming, from diesel-powered irrigation to solar, is a great example of co-ordination between local agencies and international partners," Ms Al Mashat said. Calls for greater innovation in food security in Africa comes amid concerns that more than 100 million people on the continent face catastrophic levels of food insecurity, exacerbated by the impact of the Covid 19 pandemic.

'Security should allow new gas megaproject schedule'

MAPUTO

The increasing security in Cabo Delgado should make it possible to resume contacts and draw up a new schedule for the Rovuma gas megaproject, Mozambican Minister of Mineral Resources and Energy Max Tonela said on Friday. The project was halted in March due to armed violence caused by insurgents.

"The teams are on stand-by and it was necessary to demobilise several contracts to mitigate or minimise costs during the interruption period," Tonela told journalists during a visit to the province. "What we are going to do, following the normalisation of the security situation, is to resume contacts to draw up the new schedule, but that will be done in due time," he said.

The resumption of projects will happen as soon as security conditions and long-term stability are assured, the minister also said, in line with what has been announced by stakeholders since March.

Asked by journalists about whether the increase in security corresponds to a safe perimeter around the gas projects, Tonela said that tranquillity

should reach the entire province, without limits.

"The aim of the government is for there to be security in all areas affected by terrorist activity and that is also the perspective we have with the [companies] concessionaires of the gas projects," that is, to allow the populations to return and benefit from the projects, he said.

The Area 1 megaproject, led by French oil company Total, the largest private investment in Africa (some €20 billion), is under construction and was scheduled to begin in 2024 before it was suspended in March. Armed groups have terrorised Cabo Delgado province since 2017, with some attacks claimed by the extremist group Islamic State.

The conflict has led to more than 3,100 deaths, according to the ACLED conflict registration project, and more than 817,000 displaced people, according to Mozambican authorities. Since July, an offensive by government troops with support from Rwanda has allowed for increased security, recovering several areas where there was a rebel presence, including the town of Mocimboa da Praia, which had been occupied since August 2020.



Mozambican Mineral Resources and Energy minister, Max Tonela.

Eight in 10 African countries 'to miss key vaccine target'

BRAZAVILLE

EIGHT in 10 African countries are on course to miss a key target of vaccinating their most vulnerable people by the end of this month, the World Health Organisation has warned.

The UN health agency blames this partly on the "deeply disturbing" lack of Covid-19 vaccine supplies compared to the rich world. But although deliveries are speeding up from Covax - a WHO-led initiative to provide vaccines to poor countries - and the African Union, some countries are moving too slowly to distribute supplies, the WHO said.

WHO chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus wants the most vulnerable 10 per cent of every country's population vaccinated this month, in what he has described as a "sprint to September." Nine African countries have already met the target, including Morocco, Tunisia and South Africa. Three others are on course to do so by the end of the month.

This leaves 42 out of 54 countries unlikely to reach the target, although two could yet do so, if they speed up the distribution of vaccines, the WHO said. "Vaccine hoarding has held Africa back and we urgently need more vaccines," said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, the WHO's regional director for Africa.

"But as more doses arrive, African countries must zero in and drive forward precise plans to rapidly vaccinate the millions of people who still face a grave threat from Covid-19." Wealthy countries were widely condemned for hoarding early vaccine supplies as they raced to immunise their own populations. The WHO has criticised rich nations for using spare doses as boosters instead of donating them.

Only three per cent of Africa's population is fully vaccinated, compared to more than half of people in the UK, US and EU. There was further criticism when it emerged that people vaccinated with an Indian-made version of the AstraZeneca vaccine, widely used by Covax, might not be allowed to travel to Europe.

But the tide is starting to turn as Covax deliveries accelerate. Africa received more doses in August than in the previous four months combined. Further doses are being shipped via the AU, which has received donations from the US government. France announced this week that it would send 10 million AstraZeneca and Pfizer doses to Africa.

It means attention is turning to the domestic pace of vaccinations in Africa, which the WHO described as too slow in many countries. There are 26 African countries which have distributed less than half of their vaccine stock, the WHO said.

The UN agency faulted some nations for failing to update their vaccination plans or reviewing their progress to find improvements. "Recent rises in vaccine shipments and commitments shows that a fairer, more just global distribution of vaccines looks possible," said Dr Moeti.

UNCTAD says more African and Oceania countries depend on commodity exports

By Smart Money Reporter

COMMODITY dependence increased over the last decade from 93 countries in 2008/9 to 101 in 2018/19 with Africa and Oceania reading the pack, a report by United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's State of Commodity Dependence 2021 released last week.

The report said nominal value of world commodity exports reached US\$4.38 trillion in 2018/19, a 20 percent increase compared with 2008/9. "Commodity dependence makes countries more vulnerable to negative economic shocks," said UNCTAD's commodities head, Janvier Nkurunziza.

UNCTAD considers a country to be commodity export dependent when more than 60 percent of its total merchandise exports are composed of commodities. Most countries that were dependent on commodities in 2008/9 remained so in 2018/19, highlighting the persistence of this phenomenon.

Moreover, commodity dependence tends to mainly affect developing countries, with 87 of them being considered commodity dependent in 2018/19. "Commodity dependence can have a negative impact on export and fiscal revenues and adversely affect a country's economic development," Nkurunziza said.

Out of the 101 commodity-dependent countries in 2018-2019, 38 relied on agricultural product exports, 32 on mining exports and 31 on fuels. Commodity export dependence in Africa and Oceania is particularly noteworthy, with more than three quarters of countries in both regions relying on commodity exports for more than 70 percent of their total merchandise export revenues, the report said.

"It's especially high in Middle Africa and Western Africa, where it's pegged at about 95 percent. In both of these sub-regions, all countries were commodity dependent in 2018/19, except the Central African Republic," the UNCTAD report stated.

In South America, at least 12 countries had a level of commodity dependence greater than 60 percent in 2018/19, and for three quarters of them, the share of commodity exports out of



United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's commodities head, Janvier Nkurunziza.

merchandise exports exceeded 80 percent.

Central Asia was the sub-region with the highest level of commodity dependence in Asia, with an average share of commodity exports out of merchandise exports higher than 85 percent during the period. All five countries in the sub-region were considered commodity export dependent in 2018/19.

Statistical profiles for 195 member states
The 2021 issue is the fifth edition of the "UNCTAD State of Commodity Dependence" series. It provides statistical overviews and individual profiles with commodity-related information for all 195 UNCTAD member states.

The detailed statistics are crucial for a comprehensive analysis of the causes and consequences of commodity dependence and contribute to the policy debate about the measures necessary to address it in the short and long terms.

The statistical report also includes a set of indicators on technology for each economy, reflecting the topic discussed in UNCTAD's Commodities and Development Report 2021 released in July 2021. The latter report urged

developing countries whose economies depend on commodities to enhance their technological capacities to escape the commodity trap that leaves most of their populations poor and vulnerable.

It warned that most of the countries are likely to remain trapped for the foreseeable future unless they go through a process of technology-enabled structural transformation. The statistics on commodity dependence across UNCTAD member states will inform discussions at the Global Commodities Forum scheduled for 13 to 15 September.

The precursor to UNCTAD's 15th quadrennial conference slated for 3 to 7 October will help frame international policy discussions on commodities, especially on challenges and opportunities for developing countries and particularly commodity-dependent ones. It will feature four thematic sessions and a high-level roundtable bringing together experts, policymakers, high-level political and institutional representatives from all regions of the world.

The world's shippers are earning the most money since year 2008

LONDON

THE global shipping industry is getting its biggest payday since 2008 as the combination of booming demand for goods and a global supply chain that's collapsing under the weight of Covid-19 drives freight prices ever higher.

Whether its giant container ships stacked high with 40-foot steel boxes, bulk carriers whose cavernous holds house thousands of tons of coal, or specialized vessels designed to pack in cars and trucks, earnings are soaring for ships of almost every type.

With the merchant fleet hauling about 80% of world trade, the surge reaches into every corner of the economy. The boom back in 2008 brought with it a huge wave of new vessel orders, but the rally was quickly undone by a demand collapse when a financial crisis triggered the deepest global recession in decades.

This boom's causes are twofold – an economic reopening after Covid that has spurred surging demand for goods and raw materials. Alongside that, the virus continues to cause disruption in global supply chains, choking up ports and delaying vessels, all of which is limiting how many are available to haul goods across oceans. That's left the majority of the shipping sector with bumper earnings in recent months.

The bonanza is centered around container shipping – where rates are spiraling ever higher to new records, but it is by no means limited to it. The shipping industry is posting its strongest daily earnings since 2008, according to Clarkson Research Services Ltd., part of the world's biggest shipbroker. The only laggards are the oil and gas tanker markets, where more bearish forces are at play.

"I'm not really sure the perfect storm covers it – this is just spectacular," said Peter Sand, chief shipping analyst at trade group Bimco. "It's a perfect spillover of a red-hot container shipping market to some of the other sectors."

Container shipping remains the star. It now costs \$14,287 to haul a 40-foot steel box from China to Europe. That's up more than 500% on a year earlier and is pushing up the cost of transport everything from toys to bicycles to coffee.

Those gains are already showing in the earnings of A.P. Moller-Maersk A/S, the world's largest container line, which hiked its estimated profits this year by almost \$5 billion last month. In a sign of just how profitable the industry has become, CMA CGM SA – the world's third largest carrier – said it is freezing its spot rates to preserve long-term client relationships. In other words, the company is turning away profit.

Other sectors

While the demand for retail goods is lifting container markets, a recovering global economy is also churning through more raw materials – boosting the revenues of bulk ships that carry industrial commodities. In that sector, earnings recently hit an 11-year high and are showing little sign of abating down the line with consumption expected to remain firm for the rest of the year.

"Strong demand for natural resources combined with Covid-related logistical disruptions" are supporting spot and future freight rates, Ted Petrone, vice chairman at Navios Maritime Holdings, which owns a fleet of bulk carriers, said on an earnings call last week. "Supply and demand fundamentals going forward remain extremely positive."

VIEW FROM THE TOP

How social media are powering Africa's small businesses

NAIROBI

AN independent study aimed at exploring the impact of the digital economy on small and medium-sized businesses, was recently conducted in eight African countries – Kenya, Senegal, Côte d'Ivoire, DR Congo, South Africa, Nigeria, Ghana and Mauritius.

The survey explored the adoption and use of social media and messaging platforms; value to SMBs; barriers to usage; and the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic. The focus was on the Facebook company technologies, being Facebook app, Instagram, Whatsapp and Messenger.

The report shows that surveyed SMBs that use the Facebook apps have younger employees with an average share of 45 percent of employees under 30.

Additionally, SMBs using Facebook apps reported a higher frequency of being owned by women, while SMBs in the manufacturing sector ranked the ability to access new foreign markets as the most beneficial advantage of the apps. The survey finds that social media platforms are powerful catalysts in the formation and growth of new SMBs. Some 73 percent of surveyed SMBs report using social media.

Of the surveyed SMBs that use the Facebook apps, 84 percent report that the apps have been important in the growth of the business, 77 percent say the business is stronger today because of the apps, and 55 percent believe that the apps helped them to start the business. Surveyed SMBs report that the apps are most useful in lowering barriers to entry, accessing markets, raising brand awareness, connecting with customers, increasing revenues and reducing costs.

Expansion

Luxe Nails Parlour is a nail salon business in Nairobi, Kenya that was founded by Jacquey Njue in 2014. The business delivers pedicure, manicure, nail art, nail overlays, acrylic extensions, gel nail extensions, dip system nails and gel polish and has

recently launched some post-salon nail care products.

Using Facebook and Instagram, Ms Njue has grown the business and increased her customer acquisition to about 50 people daily. Some 70 percent of her customer conversion comes from people who found the business on Instagram or Facebook. She has expanded from a small kiosk in Juja, Kiambu County, to a leading nail salon in Nairobi and has hired over 11 employees.

"When you know you have to put food on the table for over 15 families, you have to keep that traffic flowing through your doors. Knowing that potential clients are somewhere, browsing through their phone or PC, waiting to find your services makes it easier.

All these can only be attributed to using Facebook and its family of apps. Removing them from my business in this digital era means the business would probably slow down," Ms Njue says.

In his comments on the report, Kojo Boakye, director of Africa Public Policy at Facebook said, "84 percent of surveyed SMBs reported that Facebook apps have been important for their business growth. This reinforces our commitment to providing the access and skills that help people use Facebook apps to increase employment opportunities, incomes, gender equity, and trade."

"Facebook apps are the social media platforms with the biggest number of users in Uganda; this has helped businesses to reach more potential clients in Uganda. It also gives businesses the opportunity to push content with both visual and vocal stimulus hence giving them an affordable avenue to push their products. The apps have also created a platform for businesses to interact with the clients in real time, therefore improving customer experience," Neville I. Igasira, an e-commerce business consultant at Creative Mode Uganda in Kampala, told Business Daily.

Igasira, who is the former chief marketing officer Jumia Uganda and Lead at Jumia



A Nairobi business woman selling her merchandise through social media.

Food Uganda, says: "Digital platforms play a very big role in business operations, as they have created an avenue to tap into data and information about their clients to help them make better decisions such as what their clients want, where they stay and what improvements to make."

"Digital platforms are enabling economic development in Africa in many ways, such as job creation, through jobs such as digital analysts, digital marketing and supporting businesses through better logistics platforms and new payment methods like cashless payments," Igasira observes.

Digital tools

The survey establishes a link between digital tools and business resilience during the Covid-19 pandemic. Sixty-five

percent of surveyed SMBs report that they have increased the use of social media and online messaging during the Covid-19 pandemic to communicate with customers, operate remotely, raise capital and make sales. Over half of the surveyed SMBs in five of the eight countries report that social media helped the business to stay open.

The report finds evidence that social media platforms are powerful catalysts in the formation and growth of new SMBs, and shows that SMBs that use digital tools such as the Facebook apps (Facebook, WhatsApp, Instagram and Facebook Messenger), are the vehicles for realising Africa's three latent opportunities: Leveraging Africa's competitive advantage of an extremely young population;

bringing more women into formal economic activity; and diversifying and expanding intra-African trade.

The purpose of this report was to investigate how these three opportunities are being enabled by the growth of Africa's digital economy. The report argues that SMBs are the vehicle to achieve these three opportunities.

The African continent is heavily reliant on its SMBs, which are the backbone of the economy. A 2019 report by International Labour Organisation titled Small Matters: Global evidence on the contribution to employment by the self-employed, micro-enterprises and SMEs, indicates that SMBs contribute a remarkable 95 percent of total employment on the African continent.

According to the Genesis report, this is significantly higher than in developed and other developing regions. In many parts of Africa, the SMB economy is the economy. According to the report, there is evidence that SMBs who use digital tools are helping to unlock the three opportunities in youth employment, gender equity, and diversification and trade.

The report observes that digitally empowered SMBs are unlocking Africa's youth opportunity. Surveyed SMBs that report using the Facebook apps have, on average, a business-owner age of 36 years compared with 41 years for surveyed SMBs that do not use the apps. They also employ a significantly larger proportion of people under the age of 30 (45 percent), when compared with surveyed SMBs that report not using social media (37 percent).

WORLD

Afghan expert terms US-led war on terror in Afghanistan as total failure

KABUL

AN Afghan expert has described the so-called U.S.-led war on terror in Afghanistan as a total failure that has plunged the war-torn country into turmoil.

"No doubt, the U.S.-led war on terror in Afghanistan has utterly failed and the American forces have been defeated, of course (it's a humiliating defeat)," Abu Muslim Khorasani, a professor of Rana University in Afghanistan said on Saturday.

The professor made the comments as the United States is marking the 20th anniversary of the 9/11 terror attacks in the country.

"The current situation in Afghanistan -- uncertainty, poverty, unemployment and thousands of Afghans rushing to fled their country along with the U.S. and allied forces in August -- clearly demonstrated the outcome of the so-called U.S. war on terror as nothing but turmoil," Khorasani told Xinhua.

According to the United States, more than 120,000 foreigners and Afghans who cooperated with U.S. forces and foreign companies over the past 20 years in Afghanistan were evacuated by the U.S. and its allies from Aug. 15 to Aug. 31 via Kabul international airport, and countless more have missed their flights.

Khorasani listed reasons for the failure of the U.S.-led war on terror, and explained that what's important is "the disharmony among the Pentagon, the Department of State and intelligence services" since the early days of its invasion of Afghanistan in 2001.

Another reason is the lack of a comprehensive policy and U.S. double standards towards Afghanistan, the expert added.

Khorasani continued to say that the legacy of the 20-year presence of the United States in Afghanistan is nothing more than an uncertain future for Afghans.

While commenting on the U.S. inva-



A member of Taliban stands guard at a security checkpoint in Kandahar city, Afghanistan, on Saturday. (Xinhua)

sion of Afghanistan, the expert noted that "when Washington decided to invade Afghanistan out of its own national interests, it did so in late 2001; when its interests required it to leave Afghanistan, it left the country behind as well."

"The U.S. invasion of Afghanistan was not meant to ensure Afghanistan's interests. Under the pretext of destroying terrorists, it invaded Afghanistan. Obviously, Washington attacked Afghanistan to seek its own interests in the region," Khorasani said.

"If the U.S. objective were to ensure Afghanistan's interests and bring peace and prosperity to Afghans, Washington would never have pulled out irresponsibly," the expert observed.

The Afghan scholar believed that the U.S. intervention in terms of military, political and culture in the internal affairs of Islamic countries could be the main reason for emerging anti-U.S. extremists and in general anti-West groups. **Agencies**

With economies on the brink, Southeast Asia chooses to reopen

By Bloomberg

EVEN as they struggle with one of the world's worst COVID-19 outbreaks, nations across Southeast Asia are slowly realizing that they can no longer afford the economy-crippling restrictions needed to squash it.

On the factory floors of Vietnam and Malaysia, in the barbershops of Manila or office towers of Singapore, regulators are pushing forward with plans to reopen, seeking to balance containing the virus with keeping people and money moving.

That's leading to a range of experiments including military-delivered food, sequestered workers, micro-lockdowns and vaccinated-only access to restaurants and offices.

In contrast to Europe and the US, which have already moved down the reopening path, the region's low vaccination rates leave it among the world's most vulnerable to the Delta variant. But with state finances stretched by previous rounds of stimulus and dwindling monetary policy firepower, lockdowns are becoming less tenable by the day.

"It's a tricky balance between lives and livelihoods," said Krystal Tan, Australia & New Zealand Banking Group Ltd. economist, noting that even Singapore has struggled with infection spikes despite having a world-leading vaccination rate. The risks of stop-start re-openings are higher in the rest of the region, where coverage is considerably lower, Tan said.

Southeast Asia's factory shutdowns have rippled across the world to create supply chain hiccups, with automakers including Toyota Motor Corp slashing production and clothing retailer Abercrombie & Fitch Co warning the situation is "out of control."

The daily death rate in many Southeast Asian countries has surpassed the global average, helping push them to bottom spots of the Bloomberg's COVID-19 Resilience Ranking.

Yet officials are increasingly worried about what it means economically if restrictions linger too long despite slow inoculations. Malaysia cut its 2021 growth forecast in half to 3-4 percent as daily cases hit records. Thailand's hoped-for



Workers assemble medical ventilators, which will be used by COVID-19 novel coronavirus patients, at a Vingroup production facility in Hanoi on Aug 3, 2020. AFP

rebound on a critical tourism revival is swiftly vanishing.

"Pipe dream"

Even where the outlook appears impressive - Vietnam is set to grow 6 percent this year and Singapore officials see theirs as high as 7 percent - there's increasing pressure to address global supply-chain blockages and to avoid dampening foreign investor appetite for the dynamic region.

According to Oversea-Chinese Banking Corp economist Wellian Wiranto, Southeast Asian nations are being worn down both by the economic costs from successive rounds of lockdowns and an increasing sense of exhaustion among their populations as the crisis drags on.

"Any hope of a broad border reopening that can facilitate trade and tourism flow across various Asean countries is going to remain a distant pipe dream," Wiranto said.

When it comes to impacts on global supply chains, the stakes have been among the highest in Vietnam, where increasingly stringent lockdowns have exacted a high cost for manufacturers and exporters while failing to halt the spread of the Delta variant.

The country's trade ministry warned this month that it risks losing overseas customers because of tough restrictions that have shuttered factories. The European Chamber of Commerce in Vietnam

estimated that 18 percent of its members have relocated part of their production to other countries to ensure their supply chains are protected, with more expected to follow.

Endemic shift

Patience among the public is wearing thin across the region, especially as they've battled the virus for longer than most of the world. In Malaysia, the social angst helped force regime change after extended lockdowns fueled job losses but failed to reduce cases.

Street protests against the Thai government that predate COVID-19 have evolved into pandemic-related rallies. The plight of the working poor in Vietnam - away from promising middle-class jobs for multinational companies - is increasing pressure on the government to re-open.

In Singapore and the Philippines, businesses are becoming more vocal about difficulties in long-term planning due to the lack of certainty around government policies.

As a result, there is now a growing shift in Southeast Asia to treat COVID-19 as endemic, with the likes of Malaysia, Indonesia and Thailand emulating Singapore's strategy to learn to "live with the virus."

Indonesia, the region's biggest economy, is focused on the long game. Min-

isters are attempting to cement rules like a years-long mask mandate rather than implementing on-and-off mobility curbs. They're also rolling out "road maps" for specific areas like offices and schools in order to outline more permanent rules in the new normal.

Reporting the number of daily cases is now becoming less important than their severity. This is especially true for the two most-vaccinated in Southeast Asia - Singapore, which ranks among the world's best above 80 percent, and Malaysia, with about half the population fully inoculated.

Targeted lockdowns

In place of national or regional lockdowns, the Philippines is looking to apply mobility curbs in more targeted zones - down to the street or even house. Vietnam, too, is testing this strategy, with Hanoi instituting travel checkpoints as officials vary restrictions based on virus risk in different areas of the city.

Only those with vaccine cards can enter malls and places of worship in Jakarta, or head to the cinemas in Malaysia. Restaurants in Singapore are required to check the vaccination status of diners. In Manila, officials are considering "vaccine bubbles" for workplaces and public transport.

While this strategy may reduce the damage to the broader economy, the risk is that an unequal distribution of vaccines - in Malaysia, for instance, to economically vital states rather than poorer areas - may unfairly disadvantage lower-income residents. **Agencies**

Egypt opens 33rd edition of international agricultural expo for Africa and Mideast

CAIRO

EGYPT opened on Sunday the 33rd edition of the Sahara expo, the International Agricultural Exhibition for Africa and the Middle East, at the Egypt International Exhibition Center.

Under the auspices of the Egyptian Ministry of Culture and Land Reclamation, the four-day expo is sponsored by a number of Egyptian national banks and investors, gathering dozens of exhibitors mainly from Egypt, China, Russia, Italy, the Netherlands, Jordan and Lebanon.

"You might have noticed that the whole world has started to focus on the agriculture sector due to the belief in its importance especially amid the COVID-19 pandemic," Egyptian Agriculture Minister El-Sayed el-Quseir told a press conference after inaugurating the expo, noting that the sector is flexible and shock-absorbing with a fast growth rate.

Agriculture constitutes about 15 percent of Egypt's GDP and more than 25 percent of employment in the most populous Arab country, Quseir said, stressing that Egypt currently exports more than 350 kinds of agricultural products to over 150 countries across the world.

Exhibitors featured a variety of products related to the agricultural field, including chemicals, fertilizers, pesticides, seeds, seedlings, as well as machinery, including tractors, loaders, irrigation systems and spare parts.

One of the Egyptian exhibitors, Univest Agri Systems, displayed part of a center-pivot irrigator with all its metal parts made in Egypt. "We're the first purely Egyptian manufacturer of pivot irrigation systems in the country," said Moemen Zaki, vice president of Univest Agri Systems for product and system development.

"Our focus on the agricultural sector is very important because it coincides with the country's policy to save water and restructure the irrigation system," the Egyptian businessman told Xinhua.

Italian company Greenhas Group also featured some of its innovative fertilizers and bio-stimulants with an eye on expanding its business in the Middle East and North Africa. Agostino Giambelli, marketing and sales director of the group, said it was the company's first time to take part in the Sahara expo, with the hope to support its distributors in Egypt. **Xinhua**

Countries along the Belt and Road seek business opportunities at China-ASEAN Expo

NANNING

THE 18th China-ASEAN Expo and China-ASEAN Business and Investment Summit kicked off Friday in Nanning, capital of south China's Guangxi Zhuang Autonomous Region, highlighting the building of a closer China-ASEAN community with a shared future.

Themed "Sharing opportunities created by the new land-sea corridor, building the China-ASEAN community with a shared future," this year's expo aims to deepen all-round cooperation in trade, economy, and other fields between China and ASEAN and consolidate the high-level dialogue platform.

With a total exhibition area of 102,000 square meters, the expo, held both online and offline, has attracted enterprises from more than 40 countries and regions. **Xinhua**

Russia-Belarus political integration possible in theory, but not now - Kremlin spokesman

MOSCOW

POLITICAL integration of Russia and Belarus is possible theoretically but not now, Russian presidential press secretary Dmitry Peskov said in an interview with Belarus' ONT television channel on Sunday.

When asked to comment on an opinion that after agreeing 28 union programs, Moscow and Minsk left a political card "in cold storage" to "be played later," the Kremlin spokesman said,

"There is nothing in cold storage now." He recalled that the two countries' presidents, Vladimir Putin of Russia and Alexander Lukashenko of Belarus, had spoken "quite in detail about the myth of further political integration" after their talks in Moscow on September 9.

"Political integration is out of the question at the moment. It is possible theoretically, if it is in the interests of the two countries," he said, adding that "no one is planning" political integration today because the countries are now yet ready for this level of integration. "So, there is nothing in cold storage," he repeated.

"Now, we are interested in implementing the 28 programs and both countries will benefit from it. So far, nothing more is needed," he said.

According to the Kremlin spokesman, the signing of 28 union programs does not mean their immediate implementation. **Agencies**

China endeavours to achieve comprehensive progress in human rights

THE State Council Information Office of China released the country's fourth national human rights action plan on Sept. 9. Titled "Human Rights Action Plan of China (2021-2025)", the document is considered a milestone in China's human rights development history and marks a new stage of the country's human rights cause.

Enabling people to fully enjoy human rights is a shared goal of human societies. The 100-year history of the Communist Party of China (CPC) is a glorious process of striving for people's liberation, safeguarding people's rights, and

promoting the well-rounded development of the individual.

The CPC always puts people first and applies the principle of universality of human rights in the context of China's national conditions. It regards the rights to subsistence and development as the primary and fundamental human rights and believes that living a life of contentment is the ultimate human right. It promotes the well-rounded development of the individual and strives to give every person a stronger sense of gain, happiness, and security.

The party has pioneered a social-

ist path with Chinese characteristics for human rights protection, created a miracle of respecting and protecting human rights and contributed significantly to global human rights progress.

Actively responding to the initiatives of the international community on human rights protection, China has already made and implemented three national human rights action plans since 2009, under which the country has continuously improved people's living standards, better safeguarded people's rights, perfected policies, laws, and measures for protect-

ing rights and interests of special groups, further strengthened legal protection for human rights, and fully participated in global human rights governance, making important contributions to the world's human rights cause.

China is one of the few countries in the world that have made several consecutive action plans for human rights protection. The country has integrated its national human rights action plans with its national development plans.

There is no end to improving human rights. As China embarked on its new journey toward a modern

socialist country, it has also witnessed a new chapter of human rights protection.

China has entered a stage of high-quality economic development and enjoys more favorable conditions for advancing the cause of human rights. At the same time, the principal contradiction facing Chinese society has experienced a historic shift that affects the whole landscape, while the Chinese people's expectations for a better life as well as human rights protection have been elevated constantly.

The "Human Rights Action Plan of China (2021-2025)" sets the ob-

jectives and tasks of respecting, protecting, and promoting human rights between 2021 and 2025 based on an accurate grasp of the characteristics and requirements of the country's new development stage of building a modern socialist country, the principle of respecting and protecting human rights, which has been included in China's constitution as a guiding principle, and the spirit embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights conventions, in a bid to achieve comprehensive progress in human rights. **People's Daily**

Russia to vote against IAEA resolution condemning Iran if it put to vote – diplomat

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will vote against a draft resolution condemning Iran if it is put to the vote at the Board of Governors of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), Russia's Permanent Representative to the Vienna-based international organizations Mikhail Ulyanov said on Friday.

"There should be no illusion. If a draft resolution on Iran is tabled in the IAEA Board of Governors, Russia will vote against," he wrote on his Twitter account. "There is no need for a resolution which would be not only senseless but extremely detrimental. Let's better count on diplomacy."

Ulyanov said on March 4 that the United Kingdom, France, and Germany had officially refused to put their draft resolution criticizing Iran for voting by the IAEA Board of Governors. According to the Iranian foreign ministry, the draft was abandoned thanks to the efforts of Iran, Russia, and China.

The Joint Commission of the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action (JCPOA) has had several offline meetings in Vienna since April to find ways to restore the nuclear deal in its original form. The sides discuss prospects for the United States' possible return to the deal, steps needed to ensure full compliance with the deal's terms by Iran, and issues of lifting the anti-Iranian sanctions.



German front-runner stands firm as Merkel heir struggles

By Bloomberg

TWO weeks before Germany goes to the polls in a watershed election, center-left front-runner Olaf Scholz fended off attacks over his track record as finance minister to consolidate his position as the most likely successor to Chancellor Angela Merkel.

Scholz's rival from Merkel's conservative bloc, Armin Laschet, tried to use the second of three televised debates on Sunday night to get back in the race, dredging up controversies involving the Social Democrats' candidate and highlighting a raid last week on the finance ministry.

A snap Infratest-dimap poll of 1,500 viewers for ARD suggested those hardball tactics had failed: 41 percent of respondents judged Scholz the winner with just 27 percent favoring Laschet.

Annalena Baerbock, the Greens' candidate, was seen as the best performer by 25 percent. A separate poll by Forschungsgruppe Wahlen had Scholz leading Baerbock by 32 percent to 26 percent, with Laschet on 20 percent.

Laschet, the state premier of North Rhine Westphalia, had been a strong favorite to retain the chancellorship for the Christian Democrats after clinching the conservatives' nomination in April.

But his campaign has been undermined by a high-profile gaffe during Germany's summer floods and a persistent struggle to energize his party.

He was back on TV first thing Monday, answering questions from a voter on ARD. As well as reiterating an appeal for more Germans to get vaccinated against COVID-19, he pledged to speed up planning approvals and slash bureaucracy.

"This is generally a problem for us in Germany that many things take far too long," Laschet said. "We simply have to get faster."



Chancellor Angela Merkel



Election campaign posters of the Christian Union parties show Chancellor candidate Armin Laschet (left) with the slogan "Determined for Germany" and the Social Democratic Chancellor candidate Olaf Scholz with the slogan "Chancellor for Germany - Whoever wants Scholz votes the SPD" at a street Germany on Sunday. AP

As Laschet dragged the CDU/CSU down to its lowest polling numbers on record, Scholz led the Social Democrats into pole position with a pitch to the moderates who had underpinned Merkel's four successive election victories. Scholz's SPD held a six percentage-point advantage over the conservative bloc in an Insa poll for Bild am Sonntag released Sunday.

The decision of German prosecutors to search the finance ministry on Thursday - part of a probe into efforts to combat money laundering - introduced an element of uncertainty into the final days of the campaign.

Laschet sought to take advantage, also bringing up the collapse of Wirecard AG on Scholz's watch and the Cum-Ex scandal from his days as mayor of Hamburg.

"If my finance minister worked like you, we would have a serious problem," Laschet told Scholz in the 90-minute debate aired by public broadcasters ARD and ZDF.

Scholz struck a statesmanlike tone as he parried Laschet's attacks, arguing that he had enlarged the ministry's special unit against money laundering.

Scholz has transformed his profile in Germany over the past 18 months as the public face of a vast aid program that helped to keep the economy afloat during the pandemic and he took a cautious line on the country's finances. He said there is no room to cut taxes for companies and that the wealthiest Germans should pay more to help fund schools and the police. Again, Laschet attacked his rival's proposal.

"Raising taxes would be the wrong

move in this phase of our economy," the conservative said.

Another recurring theme was the question of which parties will join the next governing coalition. Laschet took Scholz to task for his refusal to rule out a pact with the Left party, which emerged from the former East German Communist party.

Laschet has come under pressure within his party because of his weak performance in the polls and at one point in the debate he appeared to lose his train of thought. "What was the question again?" he asked.

DPRK test-fires newly-developed long-range cruise missiles

PYONGYANG

THE Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) successfully test-fired new type of long-range cruise missiles on Saturday and Sunday, the Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported on Monday.

The launched long-range cruise missiles traveled for 7,580 seconds along oval and pattern-8 flight orbits in the air above the territorial land and waters of the DPRK and hit targets 1,500 km away, the report said.

The development of this weapon system "holds strategic significance of possessing another effective deterrence means for more reliably guaranteeing the security of our state and strongly containing the military maneuvers of the hostile forces against the DPRK," the report noted.

The development of the long-range cruise missile "has been pushed forward according to the scientific and reliable weapon system development process for the past two years" and detailed tests of missile parts, scores of engine ground thrust tests, various flight tests, control and guidance tests, warhead power tests, etc. were conducted with success, according to the report.

"In all, the efficiency and practicality of the weapon system operation was confirmed to be excellent," the KCNA said.

Pak Jong Chon, member of the Presidium of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, watched the test-launches with some leading officials and scientists in the field of the national defence science, it added.

Pak stressed the need for the field of the national defence science to go all out to increase the defence capabilities, the war deterrence of the country and keep making achievements in meeting the grand and long-term targets of securing war deterrence, the report said. *Xinhua*

Israeli fighter jets 'strike Hamas posts after Gaza rocket attacks'

GAZA

ISRAELI fighter jets early yesterday attacked several military posts and facilities that belong to the armed wing of the Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamas) in the Gaza Strip, but no injuries were reported, according to security sources.

The sources said that the Israeli fighter jets struck by air-to-ground missiles five different military posts and facilities in the northern, central, and southern Gaza Strip for a third day in a row in response to rockets fired towards Israel.

Unknown militants have been firing rockets from the Gaza Strip towards Israel since Friday night. Three rockets were fired towards Israel. The last one was on Sunday night, which had lightly injured at least five Israelis, said the sources.

No one claimed responsibility for launching the three rockets over the past three days towards Israel. However, an Israeli army spokesman said in a statement that Hamas, which rules the Gaza Strip, "is fully responsible for the rocket attacks."

Hamas-run al-Aqsa television said that eyewitnesses heard the buzz of Israeli army drones and fighter jets, and then several explosions were heard all over the Gaza Strip after striking military posts belonging to the movement.

Early on Saturday and Sunday, Israeli fighter jets attacked military posts and facilities that belonged to Hamas in the northern and central Gaza Strip according to the sources, which added that no injuries or damage were reported.

An Israeli army spokesman said in two separate statements on Saturday and Sunday that Israeli fighter jets attacked posts that were used for manufacturing homemade rockets in addition to attacking weapons caches in the Strip.

The spokesman held Hamas, which has been ruling the Strip since 2007, is responsible for any attack that is carried out against civilians in Israel and that Israel would immediately respond.

Chinese night-time economy shines with vitality



A nightlife festival kicks off in Shanghai, June 5, 2021. File photo

By Lin Lili, Zhou Haixiang

NIGHT-TIME economy, now a significant part of urban commerce, demonstrating a city's characters and dynamism, is also an important barometer for a city's economic vitality.

A report issued by the Ministry of Commerce this July said that 60 percent of consumption took place at night. The turnover of some major shopping malls between 6:00 pm and 10:00 pm accounted for over half of their daily sales volume.

Statistics showed the Chinese night-time economy exceeded 30 trillion yuan (\$4.64 trillion) in 2020 and is expected to expand to 36 trillion yuan this year.

At the 2021 Beijing Catering Brand Conference held during the just-concluded China International Fair for Trade in Services, the Beijing Municipal Commerce Bureau announced the operation of 10 featured night markets in Beijing and launched a dynamic map for the capital's consumer services for better development of the night-time economy. It marked a second time for the Bureau to announce featured night markets in the city.

Many Chinese cities have developed mature business models of the night-time economy. For instance, a batch of nightlife areas have been built in Shanghai, which are international and trendy and feature Shanghai's local characters. Xi'an in the northwest province of Shaanxi launched a series of night tour activities to build the culture of the Tang Dynasty (618-907), during which Xi'an

was the capital, into a signature of its tourism.

Besides, cities in China have also tailored their own "golden signboards" for night-time economy, such as the light shows above the Yangtze River in Hubei's Wuhan, and the scenic belt featuring the Qinhuai River and Fuzimiao, or what's known as the Confucius Temple, in Nanjing, east China's Jiangsu province.

The night-time economy covers a wide range of businesses and diverse consumption scenarios, including business types that hold dear both day and night operation, such as restaurants and malls, as well as those that generally welcome only late-night customers, such as pubs and karaoke bars.

In addition, the night-time economy is also seeping into the culture and sports sectors, building a series of featured products related to fitness, concerts, art exhibitions, and late-night book stores.

As residents' living standards embrace a constant rise, more and more consumers start to value cultural consumption that can delight themselves, broaden their horizons, and build their bodies. To cater to the upgrading demand of consumers, local authorities are working to improve the quality of the night-time economy.

In April this year, Tianjin municipality issued a plan on night-time economy development to expand night-time consumption scenarios

and improve the performance of demonstration nightlife areas. It said the city would support art performances, music festivals, immersive theaters, and talk shows in nightlife areas.

In May, Jiangsu province's Suzhou issued cash coupons to consumers to boost consumption in theaters, book stores, and gyms and better meet residents' demand for high-quality night-time consumption.

In June, 30 physical book stores in Shanghai jointly launched a night-time reading campaign covering themed book exhibitions, cultural lectures, book launches, and family activities. It has significantly vitalized the cultural and tourism industry and brought book aroma to the night-time economy.

"China enjoys huge market potential in the development of the night-time economy. The traditional business forms such as catering, shopping, and night tours are far from enough for the demand of consumers, while the leisure, culture, and health sectors are gradually becoming important parts of the night-time economy," said Dai Bin, president of China Tourism Academy.

He added that Chinese cities should create new night-time economy businesses, services, and products to further advance the night-time economy.

People's Daily

Vietnam looks to resume flights, biggest city to keep virus curbs

YANGON

VIETNAM'S coronavirus outbreak epicenter Ho Chi Minh City will extend its restrictions, state media reported yesterday, as the capital Hanoi and several provinces sought an easing of curbs and the aviation authority proposed domestic flights resume.

"Overall, Ho Chi Minh City will still be under restrictions for another two weeks," state-run Dan Tri newspaper quoted city vice-chairman Duong Anh Duc as saying.

"Although in some districts of the city where the virus is being kept at bay, restaurants are allowed to open for takeaways and people can go out for food."

Vietnam has recorded more than 610,000 infections and 15,000 deaths, the majority of those since May. Business hub Ho Chi Minh City accounts for half of those infections and 80 percent of fatalities.

Although more than 1 million vaccine shots have been administered daily of late, Vietnam vaccination rate of 5.2 percent of its 98 million population is one of the region's lowest. Meanwhile, the civil aviation authority has proposed to the transport ministry a resumption of domestic flights in three phases, state-run Nguoi Lao Dong newspaper reported, after a months-long suspension.

In another development, Vietnam's Phu Quoc Island will be the country's first tourist destination reopened to fully-vaccinated foreign visitors beginning in November, according to the government website, which cited the tourism administration.

Prime Minister Pham Minh Chinh approved the plan on a pilot basis, according to the government website. Foreign travelers will be required to have received their second vaccine shot at least 14 days before traveling to the island in the southern province of Kien Giang and no more than 12 months ahead of arrival.

International tourists must register negative for COVID-19 with a PCR test within 72 hours ahead of departing on the trip, it said.

Australia

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison asked the whole country to "continue to press forward" for COVID-19 vaccination targets as the country battles the third wave of infections. Under Morrison's pathway out of the pandemic, Australia will start to reopen in phases when 70 percent of adults are fully vaccinated.

"I encourage everybody from tomorrow over 12s, 12 to 15-year-olds will be able to get the vaccine," he said in a press conference on Sunday afternoon.

"So we now need to continue to surge forward in these final weeks and months of the programme to get us to those vaccination targets set out in the national plan."

Australia's New South Wales state, the epicenter of the country's worst coronavirus outbreak, on Monday reported 1,257 locally acquired cases, down slightly from 1,262 a day earlier.

Seven additional deaths were registered in the state, taking the total number of deaths in the latest outbreak to 184. Hospitals in Australia's most populous state risk being overwhelmed by COVID-19 cases by the end of the year if the government's reopening plan is executed, according to a modeling from public health body OzSAGE, released Monday. *Agencies*

SPORT

Dar to host Africa amputee football championships in November



Players making Tanzania's Amputee Football team, 'Tembo Warriors', pictured after taking part in training in Dar es Salaam to prepare for the 2019 Cup of African Nations Amputee Football (CANAF), which took place in Angola. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA AMPUTEE FOOTBALL FEDERATION

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Amputee Football Federation (TAFF) has said preparations for the coming Africa Amputee Football Championships, which the country will host in November, are going on very well.

The Africa Amputee Football Championships, which will be used as qualifiers for the 2022 World Cup which will take place in Turkey, will be held from November 25-December 5 at Uhuru Stadium and Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Speaking yesterday, TAFF secretary-general, Moses Mabula, said 15 teams are expected to compete at the championships.

Mabula disclosed: "All preparations for the coming Africa Amputee Football Championships are going on very well and 15 teams will compete."

"Currently, we have intensified our hunt for sponsors of the championships," he said.

He said national amputee soccer team head coach, Salvatory Edward, is expected to name the players who will inter nonresidential camp at Dar es Salaam University College of Education (DUCE) this week.

The TAFF official mentioned countries, which will compete at the championships, are Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia, Angola, Nigeria, Liberia, and Sierra Leone.

Cameroon, Ghana, Gambia, Egypt, Morocco, Zanzibar, and hosts, Mainland

Tanzania, complete the list.

Angola is the Amputee Football World Cup's defending champions.

The previous edition of the Amputee Football World Cup tournament was held in Mexico in 2018.

The Turkish national amputee team was the runners-up, they lost to Angola in a penalty shootout.

Amputee football is a sport for people with disabilities played with seven players on each team (six outfield players and one goalkeeper).

Outfield players have lower extremity amputations, and goalkeepers have an upper extremity amputation.

Outfield players use loft strand (forearm) crutches and play without their prostheses.

The game was created by Don Bennett, who was inspired by his accidental kick of basketballs on a crutch in 1982. In 1985, it became international with the help of soccer coach, Bill Barry.

An amputee is defined as someone who is 'abbreviated' at or near the ankle or wrist.

Outfield players may have two feet but only one hand, whereas goalkeepers may have two feet but only one hand.

The game is played with metal crutches and without prostheses, the only exception being that bi-lateral amputees may play with a prosthesis.

Players may not use crutches to advance, control or block the ball. Such an action will be penalized in the same way as a handball infringement. However, incidental contact between crutch and ball is tolerated.

Players may not use their residual limbs to voluntarily advance, control or block the ball.

Such an action will be penalized in the same way as a handball infringement.

However, incidental contact between residual limb and ball is tolerated. Shin pads must be worn.

The use of a crutch against a player will lead to ejection from the game and a penalty kick for the opposing team. The pitch measures a maximum of 70 x 60 meters.

Ruvu Shooting seeks Mainland Premier League top-three finish

By Isack Yohana, TUDARCO

COAST Region's Ruvu Shooting has said it is gearing up to be one of the sides which will finish in one of the top three positions in the 2021/22 Mainland Premier League.

Ruvu Shooting's information officer, Masau Bwire, said that the team is well prepared ready to hold sway in the Mainland Premier League.

Bwire (pictured) revealed Ruvu Shooting's coach assured that the team will competently battle for one of the top three positions due to registration they have done.

The official stated the side's newly recruited players, have been brought in based on the coach's recommendations.

The side finished 11th in the previous season's Mainland Premier League having notched a total of 41 points in 34 matches they played.

2021/22 Mainland Premier League is expected to kick off this September with various matches taking place.

Participating clubs are about to conclude preparations for the domestic top-flight.

Ruvu Shooting will be away to Dodoma Jiji FC in the first clash, which will take place at Jamhuri Stadium on September 28.

Mara's Biashara United FC will be Ruvu Shooting's next opponents in the league with the two sides facing each other on October 1.



SPORTS

Making sense out of Gomes' partial sidelining, for one Thierry Hitimana

By Correspondent John Kimbute

STRANGE things are happening in African soccer on account of a pointless war of licensing, where African soccer bosses do not wish to be underdogs in European soccer and wish that African soccer is being organized or played by their standards and modes of certification.

That sort of narcissism is causing plenty of headaches in African football over the past year or so, and now it has come to local champions Simba SC to make an unclear reshuffle of their technical bench.

Thierry Hitimana is on the bench not because the club trusts that he can lead the side, rather, Didier Gomes has to arrange his papers.

It is a story that is hard to get the sense involved, for it does not have a technical thread other than drama, a game of recognition that is unrelated to standards or game specifics.

Were it that there is a difference of rules, for instance, the contrast in coaching techniques between boxing and kick-boxing, that would be factually valid, but there is nothing technical in the dispute.

What is missing is that Gomes does not have an African certification based on the Confederation of African Football (CAF) but from UEFA in Europe.

Trying to check the itinerary of the new member of the technical bench at Msimbazi Street outfit - for he isn't the coach, definitely, despite what some local media outlets were screaming - one finds some data or pieces of memory that are somewhat revealing of the logic of the CAF coaching recognition condition, in the sense that to CAF the local champions now have a qualified technical fellow at the bench.

The new fellow recognized by CAF as a registered or qualified coach was on the news last year, that on November 18, 2020, the Mainland Premier League side, Namungo FC, sacked head coach Thierry Hitimana.

The reason was poor results or at least that is what the club felt was the case, with the coach said to be a former midfielder for Rayon Sports in Rwanda.

There is no doubt that there is a contribution he can make either in training or even in a suggestion or two as regards techniques to be used, but the point is that the club champions was fired on Wednesday for what the club called



Simba SC's head coach, Didier Gomes da Rosa.

'poor performance' in the ongoing 2020/21 league.

In other words, it is unlikely he can compete with Gomes, on his CV.

The short write-ups available say that Didier Gomes Da Rosa (born 10 October 1969) is a French football manager and former player, formerly coaching El Merreikh of Sudan, and at one point replaced Patrice Neveu as coach of Guinea's leading side, AC Horoya, while the other coach is also a Frenchman like himself.

As a former player who developed his skills in France and went through coaching in the same zone, the logic of having to start a course of coaching by African soccer technicians is simply zero.

Still, Gomes fell foul of AFC panels as one among more than 20 coaches of the clubs awaited for the continental championships this season.

A write-up said that a total of 21 coaches, counting Africans, Europeans and Brazilians, have been de-

clared unfit to be on the bench and lead teams engaged in CAF Interclub competitions this season, as they do not hold an appropriate coaching license.

There is a CAF club licensing system, where it is unclear how it licenses a club but goes after the coach for his license - a necessary ambiguity to fit in the source of the certificate.

Head coaches of clubs in the CAF Champions League and CAF Confederation Cup must have the 'CAF A' coaching license. Simply the stamp, that is.

One write-up was even amusing when it said that CAF 'has raised its standards for a coach to be admitted to the club's bench,' that is, by introducing the licensing requirements.

Evidently 'raising' means lifting the standards, and in the local context, it means sidelining Gomes as he doesn't meet standards that have been attained by Hitimana.

Sounds somewhat amusing definitely, but that is what nationalism or Africanism, as opposed to professionalism, is all about; CAF detests being a UEFA appendage, the same Young Africans SC, alias Yanga, had proclaimed in the past season they 'won't be carried by their archivals.'

It is altogether evident that the implementation of the 'CAF A' license and some other 'PRO license' would be valid simply as a method of harmonizing coaching standards at the local level.

But when someone has a coaching license from a UEFA member state, chances of being of poorer quality than a CAF member state are nil, in which case recognition would more or less be automatic.

At the same time, the wish that the so-called club licensing system will enable Africa-trained coaches to be given such responsibilities more easily is foolhardy, for it amounts to saying Simba SC now trusts Hitimana, not Gomes.



Mtibwa Sugar's striker, Salum Kihimbwa (L), dribbles past Dar es Salaam's Transit Camp FC player when the sides met in the Premier League's promotion/relegation playoffs' clash, which took place at Jamhuri Stadium in Morogoro last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF MTIBWA SUGAR

Last season woes spur Mtibwa Sugar SC to reinforcement

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

AFTER performing poorly for almost two years and surviving relegation, Mtibwa Sugar SC information officer, Tobias Kifaru, says said the team's management had assessed the situation and seek remedy.

Kifaru makes it clear that they have been forced to sign experienced players, as well as promote four players from the club's youth team, which won the 2020/21 U-20 Premier League title last season.

"After surviving relegation for almost two seasons we have decided to make a move towards next season and sign experienced players who know our league and promote three youngsters who have won three consecutive 2020/21 U-20 Premier League top honours, who will show their sparks next season."

Kifaru said Mtibwa Sugar SC was last weekend set to start their journey back to Morogoro after setting up camp in Dar es Salaam where they had been using the city's shores to restore their fitness.

The official revealed: "We have been here for 10 days in Dar es Salaam practicing, and Mtibwa Sugar has for almost two years attending drills on the city's shores to get the players back to a competitive state before the start of next season."

He disclosed: "The presence of midfielder, Said Ndemla, fullback, Abdi Banda, and center-half, Ibrahim Ame, in our side will help other players, especially those who are inexperienced."

Kifaru revealed: "The experienced players' presence will as well as smoothen their team's coaches' task, as the squad's dressing room will greatly need their experience." He stated: "Their presence within our team, apart from the benefits I outlined at the outset, will help these players earn call-up national team as well as landing opportunity to play football outside Tanzania."

Mtibwa Sugar recently brought back Rwandan coach, Thierry Hitimana, to take charge of the outfit's

technical bench in the 2021/22 season. In a strange turn of events, Hitimana opted to join Simba SC and he is now in Arusha with the side shaping up for the coming season.

According to Mtibwa Sugar's leadership, the squad is lately seeking a new head coach that will take charge of the outfit.

Kifaru earlier disclosed: "I have no information about Hitimana joining Simba SC at the moment, I know he is in the country and he is training with our players, if there is any information I will let you know but for now I have no such information."

Competitive' Bayern head into Europe boosted by Leipzig reinforcements

MUNICH

BAYERN Munich start their Champions League campaign Tuesday with a mouth-watering clash at Barcelona as the Bavarian giants confidently head into Europe having plundered reinforcements from Bundesliga rivals RB Leipzig.

While Paris Saint-Germain snapped up stars like Lionel Messi and Sergio Ramos and Manchester United finally signed Jadon Sancho, Bundesliga champions Bayern raided last season's German runners-up RB Leipzig for talent.

Bayern head into Europe buoyed by results, with 10 points from their first four league games, and confident in their current squad despite no big-name signing this summer.

"We are very, very well positioned - we have possibilities and options. We are definitely competitive," Bayern CEO Oliver Kahn insisted last week.

France defender Dayot Upamecano was signed for 42.5 million (\$50 million) from RB Leipzig, as was versatile Austria midfielder Marcel Sabitzer, at a bargain price of around 16 million euros, as Bayern's main recruits for this season.

- 'We don't force anyone' -

Ironically, Sabitzer made his Bayern debut off the bench in Saturday's 4-1 win at Leipzig, where he began the season as club captain.

Bayern also reportedly paid Leipzig around 20 million euros to bring the 34-year-old Julian Nagelsmann to Munich as head coach on a five-year contract after two successful years in Saxony.

Kahn rejects the notion that Bayern deliberately set out to weaken Leipzig, who have lost three of their first four league games.

"We always have a clear idea of the players and coaches we think are good," said Kahn. "When an opportunity arises, we try to make it possible."

"That has nothing to do with weakening an opponent. We don't force anyone to come to FC Bayern."

Nagelsmann says the squad he has inherited is "more than enough" as he predicts using a core group of 14 to 15 players for "90 per cent" of matches this term.

Bayern have drawn Dynamo Kiev, Benfica and Barca in their Champi-

ons League group.

Tuesday's clash at Camp Nou will be the first time Bayern have faced Barcelona since the unforgettable 8-2 thrashing the Germans handed out in a one-off Champions League quarter-final in 2019/20.

Bayern have retained seven of the side which started the historic rout in Lisbon.

They certainly possess the firepower to become European champions for the seventh time in the club's history.

With Upamecano anchoring the defence, Bayern boast the core of the Germany team's midfield and attack, with the addition of Robert Lewandowski, voted the Best FIFA Men's Player in 2020, up front.

Joshua Kimmich and Leon Goretzka form a formidable midfield partnership with Serge Gnabry and Leroy Sane on the wings and Thomas Mueller in attacking midfield.

- Ready-made replacement -
Lewandowski, 33, and Mueller, 31, are approaching the twilight of their careers, yet both are in peak form.

Having scored a record 41 times during the 2020/21 Bundesliga campaign, Lewandowski has already scored six goals in four league games this season, including a hat-trick against Hertha Berlin and a penalty on Saturday at Leipzig.

Mueller earned a Germany recall with a constant supply of assists, setting up many of the chances Lewandowski finishes.

Bayern will need a new striker in the coming seasons.

They could well join the race to sign Borussia Dortmund striker Erling Haaland, whose contract reportedly has a release clause which becomes active in 2022.

However, Bayern have a ready-made replacement for Mueller in 18-year-old Jamal Musiala.

Already a full Germany international, Musiala scored Bayern's third in Leipzig to claim his eighth Bundesliga goal in 31 appearances.

Mueller rates Musiala as a "special talent" who "works hard", while Nagelsmann says the teenager is "already extraordinary".

"Yeah... he can have it - someday," Mueller said with a smile when asked about Musiala taking his shirt for club and country.

Solskjaer says Ronaldo won't play every game

LONDON

OLE Gunnar Solskjaer has said Cristiano Ronaldo will have to be carefully managed after his return to Manchester United and that he told the forward he can not expect to play in every game.

Ronaldo marked his comeback with two goals in the 4-1 win over Newcastle on Saturday.

United are back in action on Tuesday against Young Boys in the Champions League and Solskjaer said Ronaldo will be assessed before the Norwegian picks his team.

"It's not impossible to leave him out," Solskjaer said. "He is 36. Mason [Greenwood] is 19 so it's the same, I have to manage his minutes and I have to manage a 36-year-old's minutes as well."

"The other thing with Cristiano is that he looks after himself so much so I know he will recover quickly. Of course, it's important that we get everyone up and running and to get him up and running."

Jesse Lingard put himself in contention for a start against Young Boys after coming off the bench to score the fourth against Newcastle.

The England midfielder impressed during a loan spell at West Ham last season but Solskjaer said he was kept at Old Trafford over the summer to play a key role in the coming campaign.

"Jesse has had his hard times and he is a lovely boy, or man now," he added.

"He was allowed to go out [on loan]. I could have kept him because I know how good a player he is but he showed everyone with West Ham and England what kind of player he is."

"He is a Man United fan. He has grown up with the Man United kit on himself since he was a baby so

I am so pleased for him and he is a top top player and person."

Meanwhile, Sir Alex Ferguson has revealed his role in ensuring Cristiano Ronaldo returned to Manchester United rather than joining rivals Manchester City.

Ronaldo made his second debut for United on Saturday and scored twice against Newcastle United in a 4-1 win.

Speaking to Viaplay ahead of the game, Ferguson said he contributed as he didn't want Ronaldo playing for City.

"I'm excited like everyone else, there was anticipation all day yesterday and waking up in the morning, I speak for all supporters - it's a great day for Manchester United," Ferguson said.

"A lot of people played their part [in bringing Ronaldo back] and I contributed knowing that really Cristiano wanted to come here and that was important. It worked very well."

"I wouldn't say it's emotional but it's exciting for me and a relief because I couldn't imagine him playing for Man City, I don't think anyone could."

"That's why we took steps to make sure he came here and the club then followed in very well and I spoke to the Glazers and it was done. I think he will make an impact on the young players in particular, he's got the experience to handle the occasion."

Ronaldo spent six seasons at Old Trafford between 2003 and 2009. While with the club he won eight major trophies and scored 118 goals.

The Portugal international appeared to be close to joining City at the end of the summer transfer window but instead signed a two-year deal with United from Juventus.

(Agencies)

Griezmann's Atletico return happened just as Barca needed him most

By Sid Lowe, ESPN Spain writer

THE time was 23:59:40. There were 20 seconds of the transfer window to go when Atletico Madrid completed the deal that brought Antoine Griezmann "home" from Barcelona, or so it goes. It was late, anyway. Too late, some said. Just in time, though LaLiga said. At 1 a.m., they released a statement insisting the deal had been registered in their system - and, yes, it really is called LaLiga Manager - before the deadline. There had been no extension, no holding back time. At 1:22 a.m., half an hour after confirming that Saul Niguez was going to Chelsea, Atletico finally announced the signing. Welcome back, Antoine.

It is what he wanted. Well, sort of.

This wasn't what Griezmann had planned, and not the way he'd imagined it when he signed two years before, but it was the best way out. It shouldn't have come to this, even though it was always possible that it would, right from the very start. And having come to this, having reached this point, he needed a way out. They all did.

This was what Barcelona wanted, too; more than what they wanted, it was what they needed. And once the club had decided that it was better to let go, he was sure - in so much as he was sure of anything - that he wanted to go back to Atletico, to a place where he would feel wanted, one where the team might even be better than the one he is leaving.

Quite how wanted at this point remains to be seen. Some fans will have doubts, of course, burned by the way he left in the first place. And yet, wounds heal with goals and the generosity he's never lacked, and Atletico know better than anyone how good he can be. It's not like things went badly the last time they took a striker from Barcelona for free, either. The last two times, in fact.

And one thing's for sure: Diego Simeone knows. Supposedly un sentimental, Atletico's manager does have a nostalgic streak that often sees him go back to those he knows, and he wanted Griezmann back, convincing him to return to a family where he had felt so much part of it. There was comfort there, waiting.

At the Camp Nou, somehow, he never really did. Even at his presentation, he was saying: "If I have to say sorry, I will do it on the pitch." After his departure, he published a note to fans saying thanks for the support he hadn't always felt; saying he was "proud" to have been one of them, which somehow he never really was either; and admitting that he was leaving "sad" at not having been able to enjoy them more "in the stands," a remark that was probably about more than just the wide, empty spaces the pandemic brought.

Griezmann never entirely found his place at Barcelona, certainly not like he'd imagined or like he had at Atletico. Now he leaves just as he might have done when, at last, the conditions could have suited him. Except, of course, that the economic conditions had become dramatic, eclipsing all else, and a lot has been lost along the way.

Griezmann arrived at Barcelona for €120 million plus add-ons. He departs for free, on a two-year loan. A clause in the agreement means that if he plays more than 50% of the games in his second season, Atletico will be obliged to pay €40m to finance a permanent move, although those kinds of non-negotiable deals have a habit of becoming negotiable after all.

That's how desperate it has become for Barcelona, even with Lionel Messi leaving. There is no fee for at least two years, but Barcelona still had €72m in amortisation remaining on Griezmann's signing and letting him go will save them a total figure, once bonuses are factored in, not that far off €20m a year. In all, it may be worth €100m to them.

They may also believe that they've finally cut their losses in purely footballing terms, that it was time to let go. His departure certainly has been largely un lamented, except as an expression of the gravity of the crisis at the Camp Nou. The Barcelona president Joan Laporta said this week that Griezmann was "not the player we needed," just at the point at which he might have been. Laporta also said "he could have given more." That was opportunistic - self-justifying, too - but not entirely unjust.

Griezmann leaves having scored 35 goals and provided 19 assists in 102 games. There have been important goals too: he opened the scoring 19 times, and nine times his goals put Barcelona in the



Antoine Griezmann

lead. He's not failed, exactly. But he has not been a success either - not really. At least not an unqualified one. It's not that bad, but it's not that good. Not as good as it should have been.

This is a player, it is sometimes forgotten, that came as one of the very best in the world, a man who that summer became a world champion. Who genuinely was a candidate for Ballon d'Or. During his deliberations, when he was trying to decide whether to join Barcelona, his thought process broadcast on a documentary called "The Decision," an obsession was revealed: to win the Champions League. He had lost a final and, he clearly feared, a one-off opportunity with Atletico; at Barcelona, he would get another chance.

He didn't.

In "The Decision," Griezmann's sister tells him that any successes he has at Atletico would be his; any he has at Barcelona would be Messi's. But he doesn't even have much success to share. In the two years he was there, European elimination has come with an 8-2 defeat against Bayern and a 5-1 aggregate loss against PSG. He has won just one trophy: the Copa del Rey. The team he left behind are league champions and that Messi question has always been there, that sense of place, of fit.

When Griezmann scored his first Barcelona goal, he threw confetti in the air, imitating LeBron James. He said of his goal, a lovely curler into the net, that "I had seen Messi do it." It has always felt like at some level, there was something in that phrase.

That day, Messi was watching from the stands, but most other days Griezmann would have to find accommodation alongside him. He had joined maybe the only club in the world where the man playing in his position - off the

right, off the front - was better than him, maybe the best player there has ever been.

Griezmann had also joined the club a year late, having originally turned them down - and in turning them down in that documentary. He had joined them for a huge fee, and he'd done so instead of Neymar, the man Messi kept saying he wanted. "If we hadn't signed Griezmann, we would have signed Neymar," Eric Abidal would say.

Griezmann came apologetically, aware that he had to make it up to them, but he didn't entirely succeed in doing so. He scored 15 and 20 goals - lower than in any of his seasons at Atletico, and while playing in a far more offensive team.

Some are gorgeous, genuinely off the scale brilliant, but few stand-out as huge moments, although it would be unfair to overlook his opener in the cup final.

More than that, beyond the goals, the stats, and the metrics by which to measure him there's something less tangible, the inescapable feeling that he didn't really fit. That Griezmann was good, yeah, and there could be no faulting his attitude, but he was not that good. He was never truly able to find himself, right to the end, and didn't get all that much help in doing so. And he knew it - all too well.

Griezmann not unjustly told Jorge Valdano in one interview: "I have had three managers in a year-and-a-half here." When he was asked if he might not play better on the right in one press conference, he replied: "that's a good question." At one international get-together, he noted: "Deschamps knows where to play me." The "unlike Barcelona" part didn't need saying.

Well-liked at Barcelona, Griezmann seemed to lack the personality to im-

pose himself. One manager effectively told him he had to get on with it; just do it. No more excuses. Another tried to bring him more into the play, to get him to step up. "He's not a 'crack' [great]," El Pais recently quoted a director as saying privately, which might have been fine, but he was supposed to be.

And now, with Messi going, perhaps he could become one, responsibility his, the reward, too.

Initially, Barcelona had seen his departure as a way of holding onto Messi. Both together was economically unsustainable. Same dared to dream of a fee in three figures, though there were no offers at that stage of the summer.

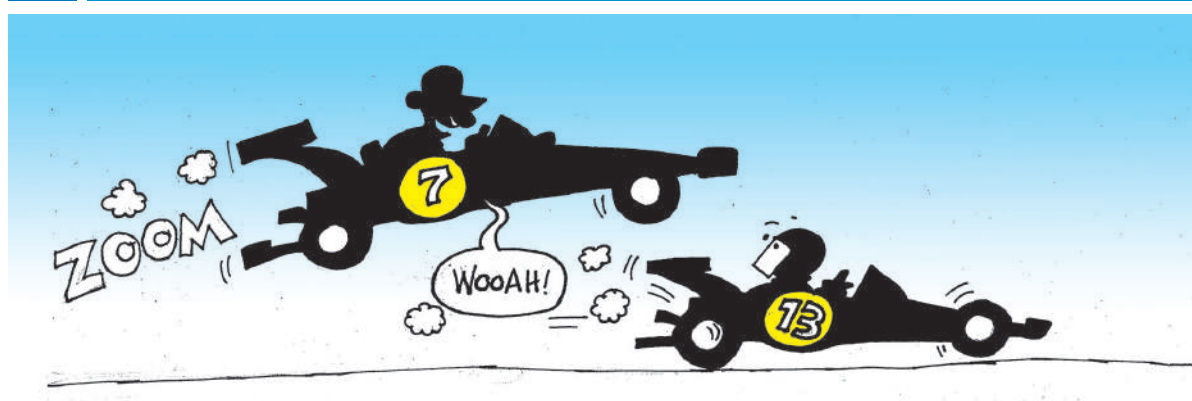
They had said as early as mid-July that they were open to him leaving. A swap deal with Saul was looked into, but fell down. They had tried to push him out, a state of affairs he had come to accept. And then Messi left, leaving him behind.

It's Antoine's time, some suggested within the club. "Now, Antoine will surely be more important," said manager Ronald Koeman. "It's possible that he occupies Leo's position. This will give more freedom to the team, and to himself. It could be an advantage for him."

Now, he's gone. If it is an opportunity lost, that's because it is also an opportunity that may have already passed. And, well, as the old line has it: it's the economy, stupid. Messi's departure alone was not enough, but nor was it everything.

While Memphis Depay seemed not to care what or who had gone before, determined to take control, to step centre-stage and fill that void, Griezmann hadn't yet managed a shot on target. Summer thoughts had turned elsewhere, something had already been broken, didn't feel quite right - if it ever had. And then home called. Late, but it did.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Griezmann's Atletico return happened just as Barca needed him most

Dar company boosts Diplomatic Charity Golf Tournament

By Guardian Reporter

DAR ES SALAAM's Fly Dubai agency has sought to boost efforts to promote golf, handing over three return air tickets as a motivational prize for this year's Diplomatic Golf Tournament winners.

The donation took place in Dar es Salaam yesterday ahead of the two-day event that will take place at Kilimanjaro Golf Wildlife Estate (Kiligolf) course at Usa River in Arusha from September 24-25.

Reinafrida Rwezaura, the coordinator of the tournament that is organized by Songea Mississippi Foundation (SOMI), thanked the air ticketing agency for the timely support.

"We thank you very much for the donation and coming on board to join other sponsors for the much-anticipated event," Reinafrida noted.

"We will award two business class tickets to the would-be winners in both men and women disciplines and the other economy class ticket will go to the would-be lucky winner," the official stated.

She called upon other firms to show up and support the event that attracts diplomatic golf players to compete in the charity event aimed at helping vulnerable children in Songea.

Barani Peters, Sales Manager of Fly Dubai agency, had, on the other hand, said that his agency feels happy to be associated with the biggest event in the golfing calendar of events in the country.

He had also promised continued support, looking for a long partnership with the tournament organizers.

Apart from helping the needy community, the event is also aimed at promoting the sport as well as fostering relationships among diplomatic golf players in the country.

More than 150 participants from various countries, among others are expected to compete in the 18-hole event.

The tournament's other sponsors include Insignia Limited, Gran Melia, CRDB Bank Plc, Jibu Water, and Lemala.



Reinafrida Rwezaura, the coordinator of this year's Diplomatic Charity Golf tournament (L), receives dummy flight tickets from Barani Peters, Sales Manager of Fly Dubai agency, to be awarded to the tournament's winners to visit Dubai. The tournament will take place at the Kili Golf course in Arusha from September 24-25. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Msoji Kitaani (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 5SPORTS (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 5SELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)

NIRVANA

Nirvana explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

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

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM



Alliance Caravans' cricketer, Kassim Nassoro (R), receives the Colourflex Man of the Match award from Petrofuel's Chief Managing Director, Satish Kumar, shortly after the former's side locked horns with Horizon Annadil Burhani in this season's Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup tie in the city on Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CARAVANS CRICKET CLUB

Yanga now seeks to turn tables on Rivers United FC



Tanzania's Yanga striker, Yacouba Songne (R), dribbles past Nigeria's Rivers United FC defender when the sides met in this season's CAF Champions League preliminary round's first leg match, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S Yanga head coach, Nasreddine Nabi, says he is confident his charges will turn the tables in Nigeria when they face Rivers United FC in the 2021/22 CAF Champions League preliminary round second leg, slated for Sunday.

The two teams played in the show-down's first leg at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday and the visitors won 1-0 courtesy of a goal scored by Moses Omdumuke in the 51st minute of the tie.

Speaking after the game, Nabi blamed the defeat on poor pre-season preparations, saying they did not have enough time to prepare for the game.

He also had no kind words for his charges for failing to utilize the plenty of scoring opportunities they created.

Nabi disclosed: "We created seven scoring chances but failed to use

them, but the main problem I think is that we did not prepare well."

"Our pre-season was not good, we had only 21 days to prepare and, in those days, some of our players were with their respective countries' national teams while our opponents had six weeks of preparations," he said.

The Tunisian gaffer said he expects a tougher second leg when the two sides clash on September 19 in Nigeria but asked his charges to believe that they are capable of winning the return match.

"In football, if you cannot believe in winning you can't win, we have to believe that we can win away," he said.

The coach also said he made some changes which helped his side stabilize against Rivers United FC, especially in the second half.

"I had to bring in Yusuph Athuman and Said Ntibanzokiza, they came into the game with new en-

ergy, and the tempo of the game changed, only that we could not score," he said.

Nabi's remarks were also shared by Yanga's Competitions Director, Thabit Kandoro, who said they will win in Port Harcourt in Nigeria.

"We can overturn the results in Nigeria, at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, we created more than six scoring chances only that we failed to utilize them. I think in Nigeria, Yanga will be a better side and win the game to progress to the next round," he said.

Rivers United FC head coach, Stanley Eguma, was quoted warning his charges that the battle is not over as he expects Yanga to come flat out, seeking to come out victorious in the second leg.

"We need to do more at home if we are to go through. We will not sit back and defend the one goal we scored," he said.

Alliance Caravans thrash Horizon Annadil Burhani in Caravans T20 Cup opening tie

By Guardian Reporter

THE opening week of the 2021 Petrofuel Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Caravans T20 Cup took place at Leaders Club, Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club and Annadil Burhani Cricket Grounds over the weekend, with exciting duels getting the showdown underway.

One of the weekend's fixtures pitted hosts, Alliance Caravans, against Horizon Annadil Burhani at Leaders Club venue and the former cruised to a three-wicket victory.

Horizon Annadil Burhani won the toss, elected to bat first and a formidable 70-run partnership between Abbas Adamji (58 runs) and Mufaddal Seifuddin (23 runs) helped the team register 142 runs for the loss of eight wickets in 20 overs.

Middle-order cricketer, Firoz Hatim Dahodwala, finished the innings with the bat in hand, scoring 23 runs not out which included three fours.

In return, Alliance Caravans managed to win the match in the last over of the game after a shaky start.

For Caravans, the experienced Kassim Nassoro managed to score 50 runs in 37 deliveries, earning himself the Colourflex Man of the Match award.

However, it was the club's assistant skipper, Manoj Kumar, who played a pivotal role in taking four wickets and giving away 27 runs in four overs.

In-form Jitin Pratap Singh chipped in with three wickets, giving away 30 runs in four overs for Alliance Caravans.

Kumar's exploits including dismissing the dangerous Abbas, Kumar, moreover, scored 17 crucial runs in nine deliveries, which earned him the NGK Moment of the Match award.

Other notable performances included a five-wicket haul by Horizon Annadil Burhani's Aliasghar Jafferji and a spirited batting performance by Alliance Caravans' youngster, Wilbert Martin.

Elsewhere, the entertaining Harab Motors Pak Stars recorded a victory in two outings, beating Kaon Lions and FMED Upanga.

The two successive victories have placed Harab Motors Pak Stars comfortably at the top of Group A after the opening week.

Their overall dominance resulted in their explosive batsman, Nisar Ahmed, receiving the TATA Orange Cap, and their youngster, Paford Anacet, was presented with the Petrofuel Purple Cap.

Group B was dominated by Honest Logistics SKLPSC, who won their two games against Horizon Annadil Burhani and Balakrishna Strikers.

Other matches ended with wins for FMED Upanga, Aurobindo Aga Khan SC, and Aruti Aces against Kaon Lions, Balakrishna Strikers, and NTS Bosch Gymkhana respectively.

The DC Caravans T20 Cup has been held annually since 2015, involving top cricketers from all over the country.

Petrofuel Limited is the title sponsor of this year's tournament and is joined by Colourflex, TATA International, and Pepsi as the co-sponsors.

This year's tournament features the top 10 teams in the country playing under the franchise model with each team being backed by top corporates in the country.

The teams include Aurobindo AKSC, Horizon Teleports Annadil Burhani, Honest Logistics SKLPSC, Balakrishna Strikers, and hosts, Alliance Caravans.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

