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TANZANIA

THURSDAY 1 AUGUST, 2019

National Pg 3
Rufiji hydro-power project



National Pg 4
Switzerland, UN Women seal pact



National Pg 5
SADC convenes meeting on EDF



National Pg 6
Zanzibar to promote tourist destinations



MV Umoja leaves Mwanza Port for Port Bell in Uganda on Tuesday loaded with 19 wagons stocked with relief food meant for World Food Programme operations in South Sudan. This was shortly after the launch of a central corridor transport system linking Tanzania to Uganda and South Sudan. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TNBC happy with reforms in conduct of business

The government will continue to use stakeholders' forums to communicate reforms currently being implemented and to highlight which reforms are and would have the highest impact on the private sector, the minister underlined

By Henry Mwangonde

THE private sector has expressed satisfaction with reforms made by the government recently to enhance ease of doing business in the country as recommended in the Blueprint whose implementation began last year.

Presenting a report on the status of implementation of reforms highlighted in the Blueprint, Prof Lucian Msambichaka said among positive reforms is the role redefining of the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) and the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA).

This followed as the government folded

up the Tanzania Foods and Drugs Authority (TFDA), a move that has reduced the number of permits, inspection requirements and fees that investors had to apply for.

"The reforms have brought a positive impact to both the private sector and the government. The private sector has been able to significantly reduce compliance costs and in turn increase productivity. On the other hand, the government has observed an increase in compliance and in some instances, revenue," said Prof Msambichaka.

The veteran UDSM economist was tasked to evaluate the changes as part of Tanzania

TURN TO PAGE 2



Alarm as one Ebola patient dies close to Rwanda border

GOMA

A PATIENT who on Tuesday tested positive to Ebola in a Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) city bordering Rwanda died yesterday, raising fears the deadly illness could spread.

The case was confirmed in Goma, home to two million people near the border with Rwanda, authorities said.

The head of the government's response team, Jean Jacques Muyembe confirmed that the man died yesterday morning.

He had been in Ituri province doing some artisanal mining, but travelled to the outskirts of Goma where he was admitted to hospital on 13 July after falling ill.

More than 1,600 people have died of Ebola in DRC since the outbreak began in August

TURN TO PAGE 2

MNH begins surgery for children hard of hearing

By Guardian Reporter

THE Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) has for the first time started performing cochlea implant surgery to children born with impaired hearing, urging parents with such patients to take them for the procedure before the age of six.

Dr Edwin Liyombo, head of the Otorhinolaryngology Department at MNH said that earlier, the hospital was able to conduct the surgery on children with partial hearing impairments.

"This surgery costs about 60m/- to 100m/- for treatment abroad and patients are required to return to hospital at least three times after surgery, he stated.

The exercise which will continue for the whole week will see Tanzanian surgeons at MNH conduct the exercise on their own for about 80 to

90percent after a learning session with foreign surgeons.

A cochlear implant (CI) is a surgically implanted electronic device that provides a sense of sound to a person who is profoundly deaf or severely hard of hearing in both ears.

Dr Liyombo said from 2003 when the government started sending kids abroad for cochlea surgeries only 50 have managed to get the service while MNH has conducted 21 surgeries in one year.

"The cost of maintain the life for someone who is deaf and dumb is very high, therefore as a hospital we are trying all we can to at least assist where we can," the top medic noted.

Earlier, children were referred to India and elsewhere, where for a single child to undergo such surgery the costs could reach 100m/- but at

TURN TO PAGE 2

VP: Environment laws good, but little action

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DESPITE Tanzania having a world class legal framework on environmental management, more needs to be done on the ground to cut degradation mostly by human activities, Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan has declared.

Officiating at the opening of the green growth platform on promoting forest management for sustainable water resources here yesterday, she said little action to enforce the good laws costs the country dearly.

She stated that stakeholders in the sector have held countless meetings to discuss how to improve

environment matters yet nothing tangible has been achieved so far.

The platform brought together representatives of the government, the private sector, civil society, training and research institutions as well as development partners. The event was organized by Uongozi Institute, the sixth Green Growth Platform (GGP) that it annually holds.

The VP who is the patron of the platform urged the gathering to critically analyze issues of environment and come up with measures to improve the situation.

"I will henceforth cease being the patron of

TURN TO PAGE 2

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TNBC happy with reforms in the conduct of business

FROM PAGE 1

National Business Council (TNBC) working groups.

Some of the reforms have been highlighted in the Blueprint which proposes to improve the business environment through reduction of regulatory burdens and risks faced by businesses in seeking to comply with regulations.

The TNBC was established under Presidential Circular No. 1 of 2001 and tasked with fostering public and private sector dialogue on issues of economic policy. In November 2018, Chief Secretary John Kijazi launched the TNBC working groups tasked with scientifically informing policy makers on the best way of implementing business enabling environmental reforms through public-private dialogue.

The working groups have resolved to benchmark the status of reform implementation and to communicate what has been done so far by the government to improve the business environment with key stakeholders and the broader public, the don noted.

In his remarks, the minister for Trade and Investment, Innocent Bashungwa reaffirmed the government's commitment to implementing the Blueprint.

"The government believes in a private sector driven economy as this is essential to achieving middle income economy ambitions," said Bashungwa.

The government will continue to use stakeholders' forums to communicate reforms currently being implemented and to highlight which reforms are and would have the highest impact on the private sector, the minister underlined.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa chairs a meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday following President John Magufuli's recent directive relating to the implementation of the Rufiji River hydro-electric power project. Photo: PMO

TRA collects 15.9trn/- out of targeted 18trn/-

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has collected 15.9trn/- out of the targeted 18trn/- for the financial year 2018/19 which ended June 30th this year.

In the same year, during the fourth quarter from March to June 2019 the tax man collected 1.1trn/-, 1.2trn/- and 1.5trn/- for second and third quarter respectively.

The effectiveness in the collection has been attributed to the Electronic Tax Stamps (ETS) phase one.

TRA announced 1st August this year as the effective date for the implementation of phase two of the ETS to carbonated and soft drinks manufacturing companies.

According to TRA the ETS second phase shall also apply to products such as sweetened or flavored waters and other non-alcoholic beverages, with the exclusion of fruit vegetable juice.

In a public notice published in newspapers, TRA said the aforementioned date is announced

in advance in accordance with the provisions of regulations 29 of the ETS regulations 2018 and that it includes all locally produced and imported products.

Earlier this month that it was in the final stages of rolling out the second phase ETS.

The decision to roll out the ETS and ending physical stamps, stems from incidents of tax evasion and counterfeiting.

The government of Tanzania through TRA started the first phase of ETS system on wines, spirits and cigarettes in January, this year. The system was fully rolled out for all alcoholic drinks, cigarettes and bottled water on June 15, this year.

A Swiss firm, Société Industrielle et Commerciale de Produits Alimentaires (SICPA) won the tender and subsequently signed a contract with TRA for supply, installation and provision of supporting software and hardware for ETS management system.

ETS is meant to replace the hitherto paper-based tax stamps initially

attached to cigarettes, wines and spirits. The old system was prone to cheating of taxes through under declaration, among other malpractices.

The ETS management system automatically stamps the products at the end of the production line and submits the count in real time through a system to TRA.

Available data indicates that since ETS was implemented during the first phase on tobacco and alcoholic drinks starting January, this year, collection for excise duty on locally produced spirits increased by 22.7 per cent.

TRA indicates in the data that excise duty from the spirits increased from 18.5bn/- between January and March 2018 compared to 22.7bn/- which was recorded between January and March, 2019

TRA announced 1st August this year as the effective date for the implementation of phase two of the ETS to carbonated and soft drinks manufacturing companies

VP: Environment laws good, but little action

FROM PAGE 1

this platform if recommendations for the sustainable use of forests and water resources are not implemented," the VP intoned.

It is needless to continue holding seminars and workshops on environmental matters if resolutions of such gatherings are just kept in shelves, she emphasized.

She also lamented the lack of coordinated efforts by different stakeholders, noting that much as there are many groups of people working on environmental issues, "they do not have a common point to know who is doing what in the struggle."

The aim of the government is to put in place sustainable development in line with Vision 2025 development platform and the second five year plan, both aimed at creating an inclusive national economy. Forest and water are some of key sectors in achieving this goal, she emphasized.

"Forest and water resources will be at the verge of extinction if we fail to protect them, hence every Tanzanian should take up responsibility in safeguarding them for the benefit of current and future generations," she told participants.

She reminded the meeting that the Ministry of Natural Resources and

Tourism in 2015 indicated that the nation was losing 372,816 hectares of forest cover annually by wood harvesting and expansion of farming activities, chiefly.

Research at the Sokoine University of Agriculture in 2017 showed that deforestation had reached 469,420 hectares per year, equivalent to an increase of 100,000 hectares in two years, she said.

"The current figures show that the contribution of water and forest sectors to the national economy stands at four to five per cent per year. This is too low and does not reflect the reality as to the importance of the resources for the betterment of lives," she stated.

George Simbachawene, the minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), asserted that protection of forest and water resources was a key policy and governance issue.

He echoed the VP's concerns, saying that experts can't keep holding seminars but go to the field and help the rural population understand and take adequate action on environmental matters.

Uongozi Institute Chief Executive Officer, Prof. Joseph Semboja affirmed that the platform was meant to discuss how forest and water resources can be managed more sustainably.

During the meeting, basic principles as well as policy and institutional frameworks, capacity requirements, good practices and experiences on the issue would be explored.

"Forestry and water sectors are interdependent and reinforce each other. To increase efficiency, it is important to integrate forest and water policies, strategies and institutional mechanisms," the conference organizer added.

CLARIFICATION

There was a typing error in the FEES AND CHARGES section of the report on the condition of Visionfund Tanzania Microfinance Bank Limited, as published on Page 9 of yesterday's issue of The Guardian: three times appearing as 29-Jun-19 instead of 29-July-19. We regret the error and apologise for any inconvenience it will have caused. - Editor.



Zanzibar Second Vice President Seif Ali Idd opens a water tap to inaugurate a water supply project at Mahonda Police Barracks in Unguja South Region yesterday. Looking on (3rd-L, foreground) is Home Affairs deputy minister Hamad Masau. Photo courtesy of Home Affairs ministry

MNH begins surgery for children hard of hearing

FROM PAGE 1

MNH it costs 33m/-.

MNH conducted the first ever cochlear implant surgery to five children in June last year making Tanzania the second country in East and Central Africa to conduct such surgeries after Kenya.

Data shows that in every 1000 births worldwide two are deaf and dumb while in Tanzania out of the 1.2m to 1.4m children born every year about 200 have hearing complications.

The national hospital is planning to carry out a screening process to children below one year as an intervention initiative as it is believed

that if carried at a tender age cochlear implants perform better.

MNH launched the service last year with intent to improve the quality of its services and save the country plenty of money that was used to ferry patients outside.

Every year the government was setting aside 1.2bn/- to support patients

to seek the service elsewhere, while at present they will just be making contributions or use their health insurance card.

The government sent several surgeons to India and Egypt for three months specialized training to perfect their abilities in conducting this type of surgery, the department head added.

Alarm as one Ebola patient dies close to Rwanda border

FROM PAGE 1

last year but those have been in more remote areas.

The World Health Organization (WHO) last week called the current outbreak a global health emergency.

It is the highest level of alarm the WHO can sound and has only been used four times previously - including the Ebola epidemic that devastated parts of West Africa from 2014 to 2016, and killed more than 11,000 people.

Ebola is affecting two provinces of Congo - North Kivu and Ituri. Goma is the capital of North Kivu and lies just across the border from the Rwandan city of Gisenyi.

Until now, the virus has been mostly contained to more remote areas, mostly around Beni and Butembo, to the north of Goma.

A priest in Goma died from Ebola earlier this month. WHO called it a "game-changer," but until yesterday there had not been any further confirmed cases in the city.

Goma is a transport hub so the latest case is of particular concern, as it is far harder to isolate patients and trace contacts in major cities, where highly mobile large populations are living in close proximity.

There are fears the illness could spread into Rwanda as Goma adjoins the city of Gisenyi on the Rwandan side, and people travel between the two places every day.

Although Rwanda has not yet had any confirmed cases, it has set up an Ebola treatment centre and is preparing 23 isolation centres in case of any infections. "Rwanda has made a significant investment in Ebola preparedness," WHO Director General Dr Tedros Ghebreyesus said last week.

"But as long as the outbreak continues in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, there is a very real risk of

spread to neighbouring countries."

More than 2,500 people have been infected and two-thirds of them have died.

It took 224 days for the number of cases to reach 1,000 but just a further 71 days to reach 2,000.

There is an Ebola vaccine which is 99 per cent effective and it has been administered on more than 161,000 people.

However, not everybody is vaccinated - only those who come into direct contact with an Ebola patient, and people who come into contact with them.

And some of those people refuse to take it. People give a variety of reasons for not taking it: they don't want to put any external liquid in their body; they have a religion that doesn't want them to take vaccines; they don't believe in Ebola or because they think they don't need it.

The vaccine, made by Merck, was developed during the epidemic in West Africa and has been available throughout the latest outbreak.

It has proven effective but is in relatively short supply so WHO recommended a second vaccine made by Johnson & Johnson to complement it. But the then DRC Health Minister Oly Ilunga complained that the Congolese were being treated as "subjects of experimentation," Reuters reported, and he resigned over the issue.

Tackling the disease has been complicated by conflict in the region.

Since January, there have been 198 attacks against healthcare workers or Ebola treatment facilities leading to seven deaths and 58 injuries.

Another major problem has been distrust of healthcare workers leading to about a third of deaths being in the community rather than at a specialist Ebola treatment centre, observers emphasize.



Tanzania Rural and Urban Road Agency (TARURA) engineers and technicians in business at the Mabey Bridge construction site in Melela ward, Kilombero District, yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Rufiji's hydro-power project to get improved communication services

By Correspondent Semu Mwakyanjala

THE multi-million-dollar worth-Rufiji hydro-power project is poised to get efficient and reliable communication services under a special drive by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA).

Speaking during the visit at the mega project by TCRA board of directors, TCRA content committee and the management, TCRA director general James Kilaba said that reliable communication services at the project worth 6.5trn/- will be a key enabler to various economic undertakings at the project.

Kilaba said the project that will cover approximately 2,500 square kilometers of waters is not only one of the most strategic economic investments in the country but also an enabler to other various economic activities of great benefit to the nation.

The TCRA DG said the Tanzania Telecommunication Company Limited (TTCL) and other mobile phone service providers should ensure they install efficient communication services at the project where thousands of people will

be employed.

"This strategic economic project will employ over 6,000 workers; these exclude hundreds of others who will be touring the wild-life rich Nyerere National Park who significantly need modern, efficient and reliable communication services. TTCL should ensure that it installs network that supports 4G data communication services preferably optic fiber system", said the TCRA boss.

President John Joseph Magufuli inaugurated the construction of the Rufiji mega hydro-power project on Friday last week. The construction work is expected to end by 2022 having the anticipated capacity to generate 2,115 Mega-Watts.

TCRA Board Chairman Dr Jones Killimbe said the flagship projects need TCRA's priority because reliable communication services are the hub to other services facilitating and empowering other services within the unique project, in the country and beyond.

"As regulators of the communication services in the country, we will ensure improved communication services within all flagship projects in the

country, like the standard gauge railway (SGR) and the ultra-modern Terminal III at the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) among others. These projects are of great economic liberation to the country", he noted.

TCRA board chairman said that 'wananchi' should set themselves ready to witness big milestones of achievements being realized through these projects in the country.

Dr Killimbe said the biggest man-made Lake in the country, which will be known as Nyerere dam in Rufiji will not only generate 2,115 MW of power but also will up-grade tourism services where visitors will enjoy seeing giant crocodiles, hippopotamus, giraffes, lions, zebras and buffaloes among others. "Nyerere Dam will also become one of the best fishing grounds as the area will become favourable breeding ground for a variety of fish, benefiting those involved in fishing and the population at large.

Irrigation services will also be eminent employment thousands of people. All these economic activities will subsequently contribute to the development of the country", said Dr Killimbe.

By Guardian Reporter

SADC member states enact legislation to address trafficking in persons

FOURTEEN out of the sixteen Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states have adopted legal instruments and enacted comprehensive national legislations to address trafficking in persons in the region.

In her statement on the 2019 World Day against Trafficking in Persons, SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Tax said: "It is pleasing to note that fourteen of the sixteen SADC member states have enacted comprehensive national legislation as

well as plans and strategies aimed at combating trafficking in persons. This is a clear demonstration of commitment by governments to combat and prevent trafficking in persons and to protect their citizens from this practice".

This year's event was commemorated under the theme 'Human Trafficking: Call your Government to action'.

The theme underscores the urgency for governments to strengthen efforts to implement laws to address issues

affecting victims of trafficking.

She said SADC recognises that trafficking in persons is a heinous crime that cannot be condoned, as it deprives people of their basic human rights.

Tax added: "SADC reaffirms its unwavering commitment to coordinate and facilitate the regional counter-trafficking response and to support member states in fighting trafficking in persons in order to eradicate this

crime".

"While we acknowledge the commitment by Governments in the region to address trafficking in persons, we also underscore the urgent need to accelerate the implementation of laws and policies established at national level and the need to strengthen the capacities of law enforcement officers to effectively respond to trafficking and protect victims of this unacceptable act", said the SADC Executive Secretary.

She urged SADC member states to work relentlessly to identify, prosecute and punish perpetrators of trafficking in persons. She said countries must make efforts to protect and support victims of trafficking, particularly, women and children who are most at risk of trafficking.

She SADC is guided by instruments such as United Nations Protocol on Transnational Organised Crime (UNTOC) and the Palermo Protocol,

United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) and the Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW).

The World Day against Trafficking in Persons was set aside by the United Nations General in 2013 to raise awareness of the plight of victims of human trafficking and to advocate for the promotion and protection of their rights.

REPUBLIC OF KENYA



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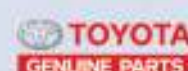


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Switzerland, UN Women seal accord to support women's leadership and political participation in the country

By Guardian Reporter

THE embassy of Switzerland and UN Women Tanzania has signed a new agreement to support the UN Women led project, Women's leadership and Political Participation (WLPP) also known as "WanawakeWanaweza" Phase II.

The project seeks to ensure that women lead and participate in decision-making at all levels.

According to the UN Women Tanzania Representative, Hodan Addou, the Embassy of Switzerland will provide funding support to the "WanawakeWanaweza" project, focusing on the training of women towards expanding the pool of qualified and capable women to engage in leadership positions.

Speaking recently in Dar es Salaam at the signing ceremony, Addou emphasized the importance of supporting women's greater participation in politics and leadership, and the greater benefits of women's leadership in society.

"When more women sit at the table, policies and budgets are more gender-responsive; more resources are allocated for education, health, community development, and the welfare of children and the elderly is prioritized," she said.

Through the project, about 1,300 women across Tanzania will participate in training to boost their confidence and capacity to lead, enhance their campaign strategies and strengthen their resource mobilization and community mobilization skills.

In her remarks, Florence Tinguely Mattli, Ambassador for the Embassy of Switzerland to Tanzania and Zambia said that gender equality and women's empowerment is an important priority area for the work the Embassy is undertaking in Tanzania and emphasized the need for providing

women with the skills to build their confidence to vie for political leadership positions.

"I strongly believe that women hold the key to triggering the change we need to make progress towards sustainable development, and I am confident this program will help women to gain confidence, speak out, take risks and take responsibility towards transforming society at both the local and national level," she said.

According to a presentation delivered by Erasmia Massawe, Team Leader for the "WanawakeWanaweza" project, although the representation of women in the Parliament of Tanzania currently stands at 36.8%, and 37.2% in the Zanzibar House of Representatives, only 10% and 12% of women have been elected through constituencies. At the local level, only 5% of women have been elected as Councilors in Mainland Tanzania, with 21% in Zanzibar.

"Several barriers exist that hinder women from taking up leadership and political positions in Tanzania, including poverty, which mostly affects women; gender gaps in laws and policies, a patriarchal system; male dominated political institutions, including political parties; lack of self-confidence among women which is contributed to by low levels of education and weak access to information," she said.

In addition to building the capacity of potential and actual women leaders, the "WanawakeWanaweza" project which is also supported by the governments of Finland, Sweden and the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) seeks to address these barriers through interventions on the gender analysis of legal and policy frameworks, supporting institutional change, transforming social norms by working with male change agents and strengthening the media to promote women's leadership and political participation.



TPB Bank CEO Sabasaba Moshingi (L) symbolically presents 300 bags of cement to Mtwara district commissioner Evod Mmunda in Mtwara municipality yesterday in support of the construction of a fence at Mtwara Technical Secondary School. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tanzania on track to attain Agenda 2030 goals

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

TANZANIA had made great strides in attaining the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) especially in the education sector following introduction of the free education policy.

In November 2015, the government announced the free education which included free primary and secondary school education for all the children. The policy includes the removal of all forms of fees and contributions.

This was said recently by Special Seats legislator, Fatuma Toufiq who

is the SDGs champion in the National Assembly when briefing journalists on the just ended United Nation's High-level Political Forum to review the 2030 agenda for sustainable development and the SDGs.

Toufiq who is also the director of an association that deals with women issues—Women Wake Up (WOWAP) said Tanzania has made numerous steps towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 4. She attended the meeting with sponsorship from the US based organization—Equal Measure 2030.

The Sustainable Development Goal 4 requires states to ensure that everyone

"completes free, equitable and quality primary and secondary education".

The MP added that the US organization, Equal Measure 2030, works to help girls and women to realize their life dreams as well as ensuring equality in various issues including education.

She said Tanzania is leading in Africa for registering a good number of children for primary education.

"Countries presented their reports for review. Our country's report was presented by Finance and Planning Minister, Dr Philip Mpango who was leading the Tanzania delegation in the UN meeting", she said.

Toufiq highlighted that during the conference, she presented measures taken by the Tanzania government in improving access and provision of primary and secondary school education towards achieving the sustainable development goals.

She noted that apart from free education, Tanzania has done a lot in improving good governance and enhance the judiciary system where various courts are under construction across the country. She said the different intervention in developing infrastructures will accelerate sustainable development by 2030.



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EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (EOI)

TENDER TITLE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR PROVISION OF AN AIRPORT COMMUNITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (ACM) AT ENTEBBE INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT - UGANDA

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20190105

The Uganda Revenue Authority (URA) with support from TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is seeking Expressions of Interest for Consultancy Services for design, development and implementation of an Airport Community Management System (ACMS) at Entebbe International airport.

Terms of reference for this Expressions of Interest (EOI) and the EOI document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com.

You are further advised that only applications from **firms/consortiums** shall be accepted. **The closing date for submissions is 15 August 2019.**

Interested, qualified firms/consortiums should submit applications as detailed in the tender document.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender five days or less prior to the submission deadline



Growing Prosperity Through Trade

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: TECHNICAL ASSISTANT TO SUPPORT MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE, ANIMAL AND FISHERIES (MAAIF) - UGANDA IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF A MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20190108

The Ministry of Agriculture, Animal and Fisheries (MAAIF) Uganda, with support from TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is seeking consultancy services of an ICT technical resource to support MAAIF in the design, implementation and roll-out of the digital platforms developed with the support of TMEA.

Terms of reference for this consultancy and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com.

Interested bidders MUST submit separate technical and financial proposals via TMEA procurement mailbox at the address procurement@trademarka.com. **The closing date for submissions is 21 August 2019.**

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender five days or less prior to the submission deadline



Growing Prosperity Through Trade

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Omar Kumbilamoto addresses councillors in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly after being elected Ilala Municipal mayor. He was formerly deputy mayor. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Guardian Reporter

THE Southern African Development Community (SADC) secretariat has convened the first meeting of the programme steering committee of the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) on support to peace and security which include mechanisms in dealing with dispute resolution, conflict prevention and management.

Speaking during the meeting which was held in Gaborone, Botswana Isabelle Lemba, who represented the chairperson of the organ on politics, defence and security affairs, said the support to peace and security in the SADC region (SPSS) is a joint programme of the European Union (EU) and SADC Secretariat, under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF).

Lemba indicated that the aim of the programme was to strengthen SADC's peace and security infrastructure at national and regional levels, which include mechanisms dealing with dispute resolution, conflict prevention and management, detection, monitoring and prosecution of transnational organised crime and offences related to Gender Based Violence. She explained that the SPSS

SADC convenes first EDF meeting on peace and security in the region

programme was designed to address inter-linked peace and security concerns, especially, the need to strengthen capacity to sustain democratic institutions and prevent, manage and resolve conflict; and the need to enhance institutional capacity to address human security challenges in particular trans-national organised crime.

Lemba informed the meeting that the EDF programmes remain a good example of cooperation between SADC and the EU.

She said that effective implementation for programmes bore mutual benefits to both SADC and EU, because a peaceful and stable region was a pre-requisite for sustained economic growth and foreign investment.

Director of the organ on politics, defence and security affairs, Jorge Cardoso, highlighted that the Programme Steering Committee (PSC) was established to ensure adequate coordination and management of the programme's activities by the key stakeholders.

Specifically, the PSC has the mandate to provide strategic guidance and advice to ensure attainment of the objectives formulated, monitoring and evaluation frameworks, to monitor implementation, and to develop synergies and complementarities with other actions.

Cardoso noted that the programme steering committee is expected to contribute to policy dialogue in the thematic area of peace and security in the region.

Representative of the European Union delegation to Botswana and SADC, Frederico Berna said, the EU is a concrete example of how peace and security are the basis for regional integration.

"We expected that the results of the EU-SADC cooperation on peace and security are owned by SADC member states and the region as a whole. SADC citizens could benefit from the sharing of tangible results and achievements from the programme", he noted.

The SPSS programme is funded to the tune of 15 million Euros in four years.

AGRA commits over 1.56bn/- to support ASDP II programme

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA) has increased its momentum in support of Tanzania's agriculture development.

The organization on Monday 29th July 2019 committed USD 680,000 (over 1.56bn/-) to the government of Tanzania to help strengthen the implementation of phase 2 of the Agricultural Sector Development Programme (ASDP II).

The amount tops up the ongoing implementation of the 5-year flagship

project - Partnership for Inclusive Agricultural Transformation (PIATA), which farmers in Tanzania food basket regions, call "Kilimo Tija/ Pata Tija project. The project kicked off in 2017 with AGRA directly supporting farmers' organizations.

The latest support seeks to catalyze more sustainable, inclusive, productive, profitable and solution-based agriculture (kilimo Tija), according to AGRA President Dr. Agnes Kalibata.

AGRA made the grant during the launch of "Strengthening Coordination of ASDP II at Regional and Local Gov-

ernment Authorities (SCALGA)" Program at Tamisemi Offices in Dodoma on 29th July 2019.

Dr. Agnes Kalibata said that AGRA was committed to supporting the Government of Tanzania roll-out of ASDP II and strengthening the agricultural sector coordination and delivery in planning, coordination, implementation and creating an enabling environment. "The grant will strengthen implementation of ASDP II," she noted.

SCALGA is an initiative that includes partnering with the Government in the roll-out of ASDP II and

strengthening the agricultural sector coordination and delivery; as well as creating an enabling policy environment that attracts increased private sector investments.

SCALGA will strengthen the already existing successes, in ASDP II Program at local and regional government level. The ASDP II covers 12 regions across the country and will cover 30 local government Authorities in the country.

SCALGA Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was exchanged between AGRA's President and the

government through permanent Secretary, in the Ministry of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government), Eng. Joseph Nyamhanga.

The PS said Tanzania was fully committed to improving the agriculture sector. He said implementation of ASDP II started last year. It is being implemented by different ministries including ministries of agriculture, livestock, fishing and so on.

"Tamisemi we are a major stakeholder in the implementation of ASDP II. We will hand over the MoU to the

ministry of finance and AG office for commendation. Tamisemi will be in charge of coordinating the program in the regions," he said.

In the last 5 years, Tanzania has managed to produce more food than she needs, noted deputy PS Ministry of Agriculture Mr. Siza Donald Tumbo

"Tanzania we have not known hunger for the last 5 years. We want our farmers to get the best inputs at affordable prices. We are championing for agribusiness which calls for more production to meet market needs in and outside Tanzania," he noted.

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DESTINATION	ECONOMY CLASS RETURN FROM (USD)*	BUSINESS CLASS RETURN FROM (USD)*	FIRST CLASS RETURN FROM (USD)*
Dubai	512	2,635	5,949
London	920	3,303	6,155
Lisbon	1,009	3,553	5,597
Moscow	1,194	3,830	5,714
Sydney	2,155	6,008	11,188



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*Terms and conditions apply. Valid for sale from 29 July until 6 August 2019 for travel from 29 July until 30 November 2019. Fares are inclusive of all taxes and surcharges. Fares to selected destinations may differ due to currency fluctuations and/or government tax regulations as per journey booked. Blackout periods, flight restrictions and other terms and conditions apply. For more information, please contact your local travel agent, call Emirates on +255 22 211 6100 or visit emirates.com/tz

By Guardian Correspondent

Zanzibar launches committee to promote tourist destinations

ZANZIBAR has launched a branding committee to promote and market the Isles' tourist destinations.

The Isles Minister for Information, Tourism and Heritage, Mahmoud Thabit Kombo, said during the launch that it has been tasked to promote and market Zanzibar Islands as potential tourists' destination.

The committee consists of 26 prominent personalities in the tourism sector being drawn from both public and private sectors with commitment and excels in the tourism, which includes international investors and senior government planners.

"This is a milestone to our tourism industry as the first national committee to oversee direct national interests

of tourism industry is launched", said Kombo adding that since Zanzibar adopted liberalisation of trade and accept tourism as second forex earners, it didn't have such platform to promote tourism as one entity.

"We used to have everyone, each of us promote and market Zanzibar in his/her own way. It was fragmented. This committee is strategically established, and it is focused", said the Minister.

He said the idea was floated by tourism stakeholders strategically focused to uplift Zanzibar's international profile and make the destination more visible across the world.

Tourism plays an important role in placing Zanzibar's economy on a sus-

tainable inclusive growth trajectory; and has demonstrated a higher growth rate than any other sector in Zanzibar.

Tourism sector in Zanzibar performs strongly, and the trend is not only positive but also promising. The length of stay for tourist who visit Zanzibar has been increasing steadily to eight days from the previous four to six days, according to data from the Zanzibar Commission for Tourism.

Some interviewed members of the committee said the Zanzibar National Branding Committee was long overdue since it was needed.

"The branding committee is a roadmap towards achieving big results in tourism nationally and internation-

ally. Zanzibar is a unique destination, it only needs a small push to achieve big results", said Ali Suleiman Amour, a longtime local investor in tourism and Vice Chairman of Zanzibar Association of Tour Operators.

"The committee will give us a clear picture on what we are focusing on, and our direction of promotion and marketing in and outside Zanzibar", said Seif Miskry, Chairperson of Zanzibar Tourism Investors (ZATI).

Tourism is one of the most important sectors in Zanzibar representing 27 percent of Zanzibar GDP. It employs almost 45,000 people, which represent over 10 percent of the Isles population which is 446,130, according to the 2012

national census.

Tourism has undoubtedly accelerated economic growth, trickled down economic base by employing several youth, broaden tax base with handsomely stable revenue collections from taxes, collection from social securities, insurances and entire transport sector.

During this period, there have been new developments, notably the Government's commitment in achieving economic transformation through industrialisation and technological advancements.

Branding in tourism has become one of the powerful forces and is necessary to monitor and promote tourist desti-

nations as well as ensuring there is consistent monitoring of successful brands in the market to enable assessment of the potential need for any necessary design.

Zanzibar is famous for white sand beaches and pristine environment, the country is among top ecotourism destinations in the world.

Currently, the tourism industry in Zanzibar is expanding and growing fast with myriad of activities that visitors could coddle in and being an island, beach sports feature strongly. Windsurfing (including kite surfing), snorkeling, dhow cruises, kayaking, parasailing, and stand up paddle boarding can be enjoyed all the year round.

DEBT COLLECTION MANAGEMENT LTD. (COURT BROKERS)

PUBLIC AUCTION/NOTICE

We are acting for / and on behalf of **M/S MKOMBOZI COMMERCIAL BANK PLC** of Post Office Box Number 38448 Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania. **In that respect we hereby issue a fourteen (14) days** notice to all the debtors listed below to pay their outstanding debts with the bank and our costs within the above stated period.

FAILURE, to comply with this formal notice will prompt sell of collaterals, mortgaged landed properties (Pledged Assets) listed hereunder after the name of each defaulter who executed loan agreement with **the Bank**.

The sale of the collaterals, mortgaged landed properties (Pledged Assets) will be conducted by way of public auction at the place where the property is located. **FURTHERMORE**, the date of public auction will be published to the general public by way of posters and/or any other means after the expiry of this notice.

Collaterals, Mortgaged landed properties (Pledged Assets) to be auctioned are with;

LOT NO.	CLIENT/GUARANTOR	LANDED MORTGAGED PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	AUCTION DATE
1	JONISIA SIGALA	C.T No.17332-MBYLR, Situated on Plot No. '359' Block 'J' Mafinga Urban Area, Iringa Tanzania.	05/10/2019 MAFINGA 11:00
2	LAISON INVESTMENT	PLOT NO.60 BLOCK 'E' MKAMBA IN URBAN AREA TITLE NO.129990	28/09/2019 MOROGORO 11:00
3	MAISALA ABDU SHAMTE	PLOT NO 6, BLOCK 22 MWANANYAMALA AREA TITLE NO 38563 KINONDONI DAR ES SALAAM IN THE NAME OF ABDALLAH MOHAMED PACHELLA	12/10/2019 DAR ES SALAAM 11:00
4	ZIHIJA SELEMANI MUHEMA	Title No.12962, Land office No.294856, Plot No. 505, Block '47', KIJITONYAMA AREA, (MABATINI) DAR ES SALAAM CITY.	19/10/2019 DAR ES SALAAM 10:00
5	ZIHIJA SELEMANI MUHEMA:	Plot No. 448/1 AND 449/1, Block '6' KEKO MWANGA AREA, DAR ES SALAAM.	19/10/2019 DAR ES SALAAM 12:00
6	ALPHONCE BUHATWA T/A COCO ENTERPRISES	PLOT NO. 35 BLOCK '31G SITUATED at KINONDONI belonging to Mr Alphonse Nicas Buhatwa.	26/10/2019 DAR ES SALAAM 11:00

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE AUCTION

- THE BUYER WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY 25% OF THE AUCTION PRICE AND THE REMAINING BALANCE TO BE PAID WITHIN 14 DAYS FROM THE AUCTION DATE.
- IF THE BUYER FAILS TO PAY THE BALANCE OF 75% WITHIN THE STIPULATED 14 DAYS THE AMOUNT PAID EARLIER WILL BE FORFEITED AND THE AUCTION WILL BE REPEATED.
- INSPECTION OF THE LANDED PROPERTIES SHALL BE MADE IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE RELEASE OF THIS ADVERTISEMENT FROM 10:00AM WORKING DAYS. ALL EXPENSES RELATED TO THE INSPECTION ESPECIALLY TRANSPORT AND OTHER RELEVANT TAX SHALL BE BORNE BY THE BUYER.
- TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP AND RELATED CHARGES SHALL BE BORNE BY THE BUYER.
- THE HIGHEST BIDDER IS NOT NECESSARILY THE WINNER; THE AUCTIONEER HAS THE RIGHT TO OBSERVE THE RESERVED PRICE.
- ANY PERSON WHO MAKES THE HIGHEST BID AND FAILS TO PAY THE MANDATORY 25% OF THE PURCHASE PRICE ON THE SPOT WILL BE CHARGED FOR THE INTERFERENCE WITH THE AUCTION PROCESS WITH MALICIOUS INTENTION AND STREN LEGAL MEASURE SHALL BE TAKEN AGAINST SUCH PERSON.
- THE MORGAGED PROPERTY IS SOLD ON THE BASIS "AS IS WHERE IS"

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Gf Trucks & Equipment board chairman Mehboob Karmal (R) presents a gift to EXCMG deputy general manager Luo Dong Hai during talks on plans to assemble trucks in Tanzania held in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ULTIMATE AUCTION MART LTD. (COURT BROKERS)

PUBLIC AUCTION/NOTICE

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LOT NO.	CLIENT/GUARANTOR	LANDED MORTGAGED PROPERTY DESCRIPTION	AUCTION DATE
1	ERASTO MSIGWA	PLOT NO 143 BLOCK M MBYT NO 14052 TUNDUMA URBAN AREA MOMBA DISTRICT, SONGWE REGION .	17/08/2019 TUNDUMA 10:00
2	ERASTO MSIGWA	TITLE NO 13528 MBYR LAND OFFICE NO 295622 NO 4 TUNDUMA URBAN AREA, MOMBA DISTRICT, SONGWE REGION	17/08/2019 TUNDUMA 12:00
3	LAITON EMILYO MWINKA	PLOT NO 397 BLOCK L TUNDUMA URBAN AREA TITLE NO 25265.MBYRL	17/08/2019 TUNDUMA 02:00
4	CHRISTOPHER BONIFACE MTEI	PLOT NO 662/1, 663/1 AND 665/1 BLOCK B MANZESE MBURAHATI AREA DSM CITY TITLE NO 52263	24/08/2019 DAR ES SALAAM

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THE AUCTION

- THE BUYER WILL BE REQUIRED TO PAY 25% OF THE AUCTION PRICE AND THE REMAINING BALANCE TO BE PAID WITHIN 14 DAYS FROM THE AUCTION DATE.
- IF THE BUYER FAILS TO PAY THE BALANCE OF 75% WITHIN THE STIPULATED 14 DAYS THE AMOUNT PAID EARLIER WILL BE FORFEITED AND THE AUCTION WILL BE REPEATED.
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NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE LTD

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PUBLICATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS ISSUED PURSUANT TO REGULATIONS 7 AND 8 OF THE BANKING AND FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (DISCLOSURES) REGULATIONS, 2014

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 30TH JUNE 2019

(AMOUNT IN MILLION SHILLINGS)

	Position as at 30/06/2019	Position as at 31/03/2019
A ASSETS		
1 Cash	112,644	118,887
2 Balances with Bank of Tanzania	202,815	159,581
3 Investment in Government securities	357,387	349,872
4 Balances with other banks and financial institutions	82,650	72,160
5 Cheques and items for clearing	4,045	6,866
6 Interbranch Float Items	-	-
7 Bills negotiated	-	-
8 Customer liabilities for acceptances	-	-
9 Interbank Loans Receivables	122,150	100,895
10 Investment in other securities	-	-
11 Loans, Advances & Overdrafts (Net of allowances for Probable Losses)	951,638	911,623
12 Other assets	78,643	68,166
13 Equity Investments	1,000	1,000
14 Underwriting accounts	-	-
15 Property, Plant and Equipment	39,807	39,375
16 TOTAL ASSETS	1,952,779	1,828,425
B LIABILITIES		
17 Deposits from Other Banks and Financial Institutions	9,960	9,185
18 Customer deposits	1,386,523	1,292,193
19 Cash Letters of Credit	101,945	56,529
20 Special Deposits	-	-
21 Payment orders/transfers payables	5	5
22 Bankers' Cheques & Drafts Issued	120	264
23 Accrued Taxes and expenses payable	32,296	28,132
24 Acceptances Outstanding	-	-
25 Interbranch float items	991	2,083
26 Unearned income and other deferred charges	-	-
27 Other Liabilities	28,758	41,675
28 Borrowings	109,672	124,406
29 TOTAL LIABILITIES	1,670,270	1,554,472
30 NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES)	282,509	273,953
C SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS		
31 Paid-Up Share Capital	87,000	87,000
32 Capital Reserves	-	-
33 Retained Earnings	163,994	164,041
34 Profit/(Loss) accounts	14,253	7,121
35 Other Capital Accounts	17,262	15,791
36 Minority Interest	-	-
37 TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS	282,509	273,953
38 Contingent Liabilities	340,621	292,584
39 Non performing loans & advances	73,164	76,042
40 Allowance for probable losses	52,396	52,424
41 Other non performing assets	-	-
D SELECTED FINANCIAL CONDITION INDICATORS		
(i) Shareholders Funds to Total Assets	14.5%	15.0%
(ii) Non performing Loans to Total Gross Loans	7.2%	7.8%
(iii) Gross Loans and Advances to Total Deposits	67.0%	71.0%
(iv) Loans and Advances to Total Assets	51.4%	52.7%
(v) Earnings Assets to Total Assets	73.3%	74.5%
(vi) Deposits Growth	10.3%	(4.1)%
(vii) Assets Growth	6.8%	(5.2)%

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 30TH JUNE 2019

(AMOUNT IN MILLION SHILLINGS)

	Current Quarter Ending 30-Jun-2019	Comparative Quarter (Previous Year) Ending 30-Jun-2018	Current year Cumulative Ending 30-Jun-2019	Comparative Year Cumulative Ending 30-Jun-2018
1 Interest Income	37,878	36,639	75,766	77,093
2 Interest Expense	(6,904)	(7,025)	(13,747)	(15,558)
3 Net Interest Income (1 minus 2)	30,975	29,614	62,019	61,534
4 Bad Debts Written Off	(2,090)	(4,426)	(4,364)	(8,112)
5 Impairment Losses on Loans and Advances	498	(106)	2,940	1,627
6 Non Interest Income:	15,429	15,007	33,449	30,335
6.1 Foreign Currency Dealings and Translations Gains/(Loss)	4,592	3,893	12,140	7,515
6.2 Fees and Commissions	10,183	8,215	19,034	18,336
6.3 Dividend Income	-	18	-	18
6.4 Other Operating Income	654	2,883	2,275	4,466
7 Non Interest Expense	(34,695)	(37,008)	(73,585)	(73,849)
7.1 Salaries and Benefits	(20,403)	(18,472)	(40,756)	(36,763)
7.2 Fees and Commissions	(1,582)	(2,358)	(3,727)	(4,125)
7.3 Other Operating Expenses	(12,710)	(16,178)	(29,102)	(32,961)
8 Operating Income/(Loss)	10,117	3,081	20,459	11,535
9 Income Tax Provision	(2,985)	(971)	(6,207)	(3,616)
10 Net Income/(Loss) After Income Tax	7,132	2,110	14,253	7,919
11 Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-
11.1 Net gain on Available for Sale Financial Asset (Net of Tax)	1,471	554	344	4,979
12 Total Comprehensive Income/Loss	8,603	2,664	14,597	12,897
13 Number Of Employees	1,189	1,210	1,189	1,210
14 Basic Earnings Per Share	4,542	1,344	9,078	5,044
15 Number of Branches	49	50	49	50
PERFORMANCE INDICATORS				
(i) Return on Average Total Assets	1.5%	0.4%	1.5%	0.8%
(ii) Return on Average Shareholders' Funds	10.1%	2.9%	10.2%	5.4%
(iii) Non interest Expense to Gross Income	74.8%	82.9%	77.1%	80.4%
(iv) Net Interest Income to Average Earning Assets	8.9%	8.2%	8.7%	8.5%

Other operating income includes income from bond trading of Tzs 1.8M.

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE 2019

(AMOUNT IN MILLION SHILLINGS)

	Current Quarter 30-Jun-19	Previous Quarter 31-Mar-19	Current Year Cumulative 30-Jun-19	Comparative Year Cumulative 30-Jun-18
I Cash flow from operating activities:				
Net Income/(Loss)	10,117	10,342	20,459	11,517
Adjustment for:				
-Depreciation/Amortization	1,712	1,710	3,422	3,561
-Impairment charge/(release)	(498)	(2,441)	(2,940)	(1,627)
-Net change in Loans and Advances	(41,607)	35,505	(6,102)	(108,448)
-Gains/Loss on Sale of Assets	-	-	-	-
-Net change in deposits	140,521	(57,614)	82,908	183,265
-Net change in short term negotiable securities	-	-	-	-
-Net change in other liabilities	(9,989)	6,732	(3,257)	4,912
-Net change in other assets	(11,092)	(2,918)	(14,010)	2,146
-Net change in SMR deposits	476	(9,908)	(9,432)	(6,857)
-Tax Paid	(3,521)	(916)	(4,437)	8,112
-Write offs	2,090	2,273	4,364	-
Net cash provided/(used) by operating activities	88,209	(17,235)	70,974	94,764
II Cash flow from investing activities				
Dividends received	-	-	-	18
Purchase of fixed assets	(1,041)	(2,792)	(3,833)	(1,578)
Proceeds on sale of fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Sale/(Purchase) of Non-Dealing Securities	(6,044)	32,935	26,891	93,299
Others	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided/(used) by investing activities	(7,085)	30,144	23,059	91,739
III Cash flow from financing activities				
Repayment of long-term debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	-	-	-	-
Proceeds from Issuance of Shares Capital	-	-	-	-
Payment of Cash Dividends	-	-	-	-
Net change in other borrowings	(14,734)	(54,433)	(69,167)	(45,521)
Others	-	-	-	-
Net cash provided/(used) by financing activities	(14,734)	(54,433)	(69,167)	(45,521)
IV Cash and cash equivalents				
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	66,390	(41,525)	24,866	140,982
Cash and cash equivalent at the beginning of the quarter	332,874	374,398	374,398	166,054
Cash and cash equivalent at the end of the quarter	399,264	332,874	399,264	307,035

CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 30TH JUNE 2019

	Share Capital TZS Million	Share Premium TZS Million	Retained Earnings TZS million	Regulatory Reserve TZS Million	General Provision Reserve TZS Million	Others (Fair Value) TZS Million	Total Equity TZS Million
Current Year							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	15,700	71,300	164,165	528	12,141	4,249	268,083
Profit for the year	-	-	14,253	-	-	-	14,253
Other comprehensive income	-	-	-	-	-	344	344
Transaction with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others (IFRS 16)	-	-	(171)	-	-	-	(171)
Balance as at the end of current period	15,700	71,300	178,246	528	12,141	4,593	282,509
Previous Year							
Balance as at the beginning of the year	15,700	71,300	151,296	20,184	8,691	23,783	290,954
Profit for the year	-	-	10,322	-	-	-	10,322
Increase/(decrease) resulting from adopting of IFRS9	-	-	(8,558)	-	-	-	(8,558)
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	(19,534)	(19,534)
Transaction with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend provided for	-	-	(5,100)	-	-	-	(5,100)
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	19,655	(19,655)	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	(3,450)	-	3,450	-	-
Balance as at the end of previous period	15,700	71,300	164,165	528	12,141	4,249	268,083

SELECTED EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR THE QUARTER ENDED 30TH JUNE 2019

In preparation of the quarterly financial statements, consistent accounting policies have been used as those applicable to the previous year audited financial statements.

Name and Title Signature Date

Theobald Sabi (Managing Director) Signed 29/07/2019

Waziri Barnabas (Chief Financial Officer) Signed 29/07/2019

Fulgence Shirat (Chief Internal Auditor) Signed 29/07/2019

We, the undersigned directors, attest to the faithful representation of the above statements. We declare that the statements have been examined by us and, to the best of our knowledge and belief, have been prepared in conformance with International Financial Reporting Standards and the requirements of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act, 2006 and they present a true and fair view.

Name Signature Date

Francis Mwakapalla (Chairman) Signed 29/07/2019

Dr. Kassim Hussein (Director) Signed 29/07/2019

The Banking and Financial Institutions (Disclosures) GN. NO. 28910 SCHEDULE (Made under Regulation 11)

NBC MINIMUM DISCLOSURES OF CHARGES AND FEES FOR QUARTER 2 2019

s/m	ITEM/TRANSACTION	Charge/ Fee (TZS)	Charge/ Fee (USD)
1.0 Current Accounts			
(a)	Required minimum opening balance	0	0
(b)	Monthly service fee Corporate (maintenance fee)	26,000	20.06
(c)	Monthly service fee Personal (maintenance fee)	2,600	N/A
(d)	Monthly service fee Private Banking (maintenance fee)	Free	Free
(e)	(i) Cash withdrawal over the counter	5,000 (up to 20M above is 0.12% Retail), 0.15% (Corporate & BII) Max 200,000	1.7% of the value Min 5
	(ii) Private Banking /La Riba Private Banking	Free (up to 50M, above is 0.12% Max 200,000)	Free
	(iii) Privilege Banking /La Riba Privilege Banking	1200 (up to 20M, above is 0.12% Max 200,000)	1.5% value Min 5
(f)	Fees per ATM withdrawal	1,200	USD equivalent
(g)	ATM mini statement	400	USD equivalent
(h)	Interim statement per page Business account (ad-hoc statement)	40,000	26.00
(i)	Periodic scheduled statement (Monthly Bank Statement)	Free	Free
(j)	Cheque book	800 per leaf	0.42
(k)	Dishonoured cheque	1.45 % (Min charge 150,000 and Max 300,000)	1.45% Min 100 Max 200
(l)	Special clearance	65,000	64.9
(m)	Counter cheque (Bankers cheque issuance / Replacement)	39,000	38.94
(n)	Stop payment	39,000	38.94
(o)	Standing order Within NBC (Buss account)	6,500	7.08
(p)	Standing order Outside NBC (Buss account)	65,000	46.02
(q)	Standing order Outside NBC (personal account)	34,000	33.04
(r)	Balance enquiry Over the Counter	Free	Free
(s)	Balance enquiry Mobile Banking	400	USD equivalent
(t)	Balance enquiry NBC ATM	400	USD equivalent
(u)	Balance enquiry Non NBC ATM	600	USD equivalent
(v)	New ATM card issuance	Free	N/A
(w)	ATM card renewal or fault all	Free	N/A
(x)	ATM card replacement (if Lost/ Physical damage standard card)	12,000	USD equivalent
(y)	Overdrawn account interest charge	5% above given rate	5% above given rate
(z)	Unarranged overdraft	N/A	N/A
(aa)	Interbank transfer	11,800	7.08
(ab)	Bill payments through ATM (Vodacom top up)	Free	Free
(ac)	Deposit fee	Free	Free
2.0 Savings Accounts (Disclose for product specific types)			
(a)	Required minimum opening balance	0	0
(b)	Monthly service fee (transactional savings)	3,600	3.54
(c)	Interim statement (savings products / accounts - Chania, student, Malengo, La riba)	3,600	N/A
(d)	Interim statement (other products)	15,000	14.00
(e)	Account closure (savings products / accounts - Chania, student, Malengo, La riba)	7,800	N/A
3.0 Electronic Banking			
(a)	Internet banking monthly fee	Free	Free
(b)	Internal transfer own account (Corporate)	Free	Free
(c)	Internet transfers Internal (Retail)	600	USD equivalent
(d)	Internet transfers to Mobile Wallets (Different customers business account)	1,000 - 9,999 chargers 800 10,000 - 49,999 chargers 2900 50,000 - 99,999 chargers 3,700 100,000 - 299,999 chargers 4,700 300,000 - 1,500,000 chargers 7,000	N/A
(e)	Fund transfer to unbanked customer (Cash popote)	1,800	USD equivalent
(f)	Wallet to Bank	1,200	N/A
(g)	Bill Payment	600	USD equivalent
(h)	Internet transfers Interbank (Corporate)	8,900	USD equivalent
(i)	SMS banking	N/A	N/A
4.0 Foreign Exchange Transaction			
(a)	Purchase/sale of TCs transactions over the counter	N/A	N/A
(b)	Purchase of foreign cheque	N/A	N/A
(c)	Sale/purchase of cash passport	N/A	N/A
(d)	Telegraphic transfer - TISS	11,800	7.08
(e)	Telegraphic transfer (Outward remittance -TT)	N/A	59
(f)	Telex/SWIFT (Trade)	N/A	64.9
(g)	Transfer from foreign currency denominated account to local current account within NBC (Internal transfer same customer)	Free	Free
(h)	Transfer from foreign currency denominated account to local current account, NBC to other Bank	N/A	N/A
(i)	Up-country cheques outside clearing zone (all)	0.52% (min 20,000 max 40,000)	USD equivalent
5.0 Retail Lending rates			
(a)	Processing/Arrangement/Appraisal fee	Between 1.5% to 2% of the Loan amount	USD equivalent</

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Parents should prioritise their children's education

CHILDREN'S rights education is the teaching and practice of children's rights in schools, educational programmes or institutions, as informed by and consistent with the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. When fully implemented, a children's rights education programme consists of both a curriculum to teach children their human rights, and framework to operate the school in a manner that respects children's rights. In addition to meeting legal obligations of the Convention to spread awareness of children's rights to children and to adults, teaching children about their rights has the benefits of improving their awareness of rights in general, making them more respectful of other people's rights, and empowering them to take action in support of other people's rights.

It is a form of education that takes seriously the view that children are bearers of human rights, that children are citizens in their own right, that schools and educational institutions are learning communities where children learn (or fail to learn) the values and practices of human rights and citizenship, and that educating children about their own basic human rights is a legal obligation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

Children's rights education is education where the rights of the child, as described in the Convention, is taught and practiced in individual classrooms. But in its most developed

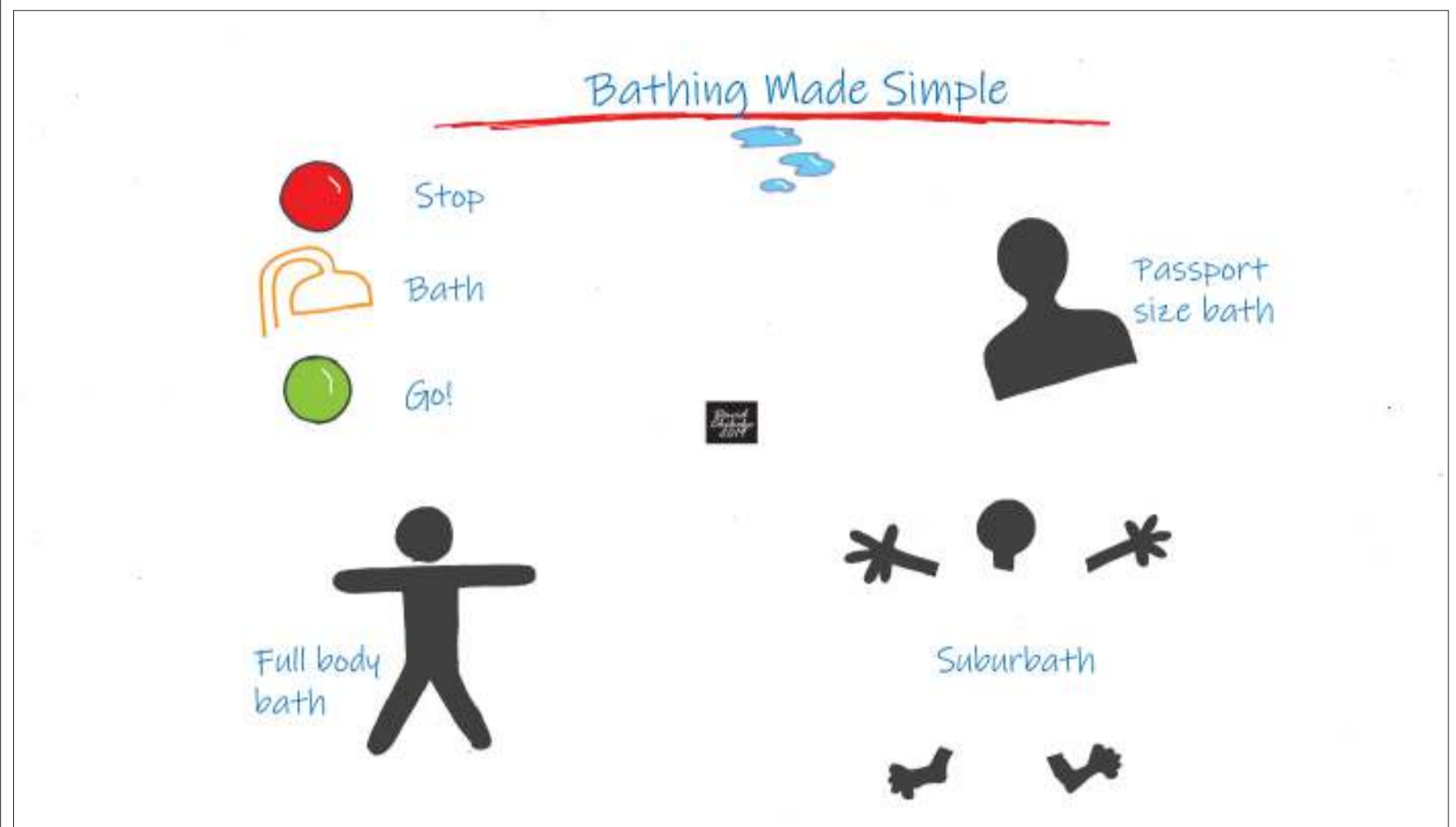
form, children's rights are taught and practiced in a systematic and comprehensive way across grade levels, across the school, and across school districts.

With full-blown children's rights education, children's rights are not simply an addition to a particular subject or classroom. Rather, the rights of the child are incorporated into the school curricula, teaching practices, and teaching materials across subjects and grade levels and are the centerpiece of school mission statements, behavior codes, and school policies and practices.[1]

Fully developed children's rights education means that all members of the school community receive education on the rights of the child. The Convention serves as a values framework for the life and functioning of the school or educational institution and for efforts to promote a more positive school climate and school culture for learning.

The Convention on the Rights of the child has important implications for the education of children. Approved by the United Nations in 1989, the Convention is the most widely ratified and most quickly ratified country in world history.

Only two countries - the United States and South Sudan - have yet to ratify the treaty. By ratifying the Convention, countries commit themselves to the principle that children have fundamental rights as persons and that state authorities have obligations to provide for those rights.



By Cameron Duodu

IT seems to me that some of our ministers and high government officials are, in their actions, failing to take adequate account of the bad history of political praxis in this country in the immediate past.

If they were, three recent incidents might not have occurred. The first is the alleged "invasion" of the offices of ModernGhana.Com and the arrest of three of its editors. The National Security personnel who executed this enterprise ought to have known that comparisons would be drawn, inevitably, with the sort of arbitrary actions that were taken against journalists by the PNDC Government, which are still remembered with a shudder by most politically-aware persons.

On 11 October 2000, an Accra newspaper printed a letter from the then Deputy Minister of Defence, Mr Tony Aidoo, denying knowledge of the "shit-bombing" of the newspaper's office. "I do not shoot my enemies in the back!" he wrote.

But he did admit that he had engaged in a spat with the paper prior to the paper's office being sprayed with excreta.

His letter was, in fact, disingenuous because (1) miscreants in the power structure of the time had been known to take the law in to their own hands at times and (2) it is a well-known historical fact that when powerful people are displeased with certain persons or institutions, they can use their "body language" to incite minions of theirs to brutalise their bosses' opponents. Without being told so, they

By Robert Skidelsky

THE West still views itself as the bearer of universal civilisation, with the non-West no more than a lagging cultural indicator. But, ironically, the triumph of Western universalism has come just when Western power is collapsing.

The historian Norman Stone, who died in June 2019, always insisted that history students learn foreign languages. Language gives access to a people's culture, and culture to its history. Its history tells us how it sees itself and others. Knowledge of languages should thus be an essential component of a historian's technical equipment. It is the key to understanding the past and future of international relations.

But this belief in the fundamental importance of knowing particular languages has faded, even among historians. All social sciences, to a greater or lesser degree, start with a yearning for a universal language, into which they can fit such particulars as suit their view of things. Their model of knowledge thus aspires to the precision and generality of the natural sciences. Once we understand human behaviour in terms of some universal

Of perception and political realities in Ghana

know their actions would be secretly approved by their bosses - even if the bosses don't give an express order for such acts to be perpetrated.

"Will no one rid me of this turbulent priest?" (This saying, sometimes given as "troublesome priest," was muttered by King Henry II of England, and it inexorably led to the murder of Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury, in 1170.

In other words, the sweetness of the revenge is in the "hinting". Raising an eyebrow, can, in some cases, be as damning as the downward thrust of the emperor's hand, after a gladiator has been downed by his opponent.

The names of Tommy Thompson, John Kugblenu, Eben Quaicoo and others should be etched in the minds of all Ghanaian security personnel who are tempted to rough up Ghanaian journalists. Without these poorly-celebrated journalists, the regime(s) that appointed many of the current security personnel might not have come into existence at all.

These guys and many others like them in various sphere of national life exhibited tremendous bravery in putting pressure on armed rulers to quit office and hand the country over to a democratic government. Indeed, if he had the time, I am sure President Addo Dankwa Akufo Addo would like to take some of his officials through the trials he and others - in organisations such as the Movement for Freedom and Justice - went through before democracy was achieved in Ghana. To stain the reputation of an administration led by

The fall of the economists' empire

and - crucially - ahistorical principle, we can aspire to control (and of course improve) it.

No social science has succumbed to this temptation more than economics. Its favoured universal language is mathematics. Its models of human behaviour are built not on close observation, but on hypotheses that, if not quite plucked from the air, are unconsciously plucked from economists' intellectual and political environments. These then form the premises of logical reasoning of the type, "All sheep are white, therefore the next sheep I meet will be white."

In economics: "All humans are rational utility maximisers. Therefore, in any situation, they will act in such a way as to maximise their utility." This method gives economics a unique predictive power, especially as the utilities can all be expressed and manipulated quantitatively. It makes economics, in Paul Samuelson's words, the "queen of the social sciences".

In principle, economists don't deny the need to test their conclusions. At this point, history, one might have thought, would be particularly useful. Is

such a man with practices that befit the dictators of the past is quite unfair, to say the least.

And pray, what were the remote causes of the most widely publicised brouhaha? Apparently, the dismissal of one high University official and his replacement by another.

Is this really a matter that National Security should be exercised about? Where is its sense of proportion?

Okay, so some journalists may have used uncouth words about some powerful politicians alleged to be on one side of the contestants for office or the other. Is this something that politicians who should be hardened by the violent language experienced at the hustings, cannot live with?

Suddenly, the abuse of politicians turns into accusations of cyber fraud (!) against the journalists. When did the cyber fraud occur and why was it discovered by National Security only after the journalists had hurled abuse at their boss? Was this affair important enough to bring the name of the NPP Government into disrepute with regard to "torture" and "brutalization"?

What all politicians in power ought to be aware of is that in their job, agent provocateur goes with the territory. And it will intensify as elections draw nearer. People can act in a way that tempts the unwary to over-react. The ensuing controversy never fails to redound on those who, without much reflection, seek revenge.

Look also at the way the proposal to build a new Parliamentary Chamber has been handled. At the moment,

Ghanaians are suffering from incessant power shortages. Many of our roads are still in extremely bad condition. For example, a video that has gone viral on the Internet depicts a bridge in the Ashanti Region, over the River Pra, that has become visibly dangerous to both motor vehicle traffic and pedestrians alike.

The populace is entitled to expect its Government, if it was caring enough, to take emergency steps to repair such a bridge. Now, such emergency steps cost a lot of money. And, of course, the Government has to carefully husband the budgeted resources at its disposal. Emergency expenditure eats into projects given priority as being of crucial importance to the national weal.

Is a new Chamber of Parliament a priority? Obviously, not even the Government thinks so, but because of very poor public relations, news of the project has been dominating discussions on the airwaves. A uniformed other rank from the armed forces has even joined in, via a Youtube video! What did I say about agent provocateur activity? I hope that National Security will remember the 15 May 1979 episode and its denouement, as it handles this particularly nasty affair.

And it should read the riot act to the leadership of our Parliament, making it clear to it that our Parliament does not enjoy much popularity in the country, what with its failure to help address such problems as that of galamsey effectively.

of exhibiting behaviour the gross features of which resemble those of the actual world."

The goal of economics is to replace the particular languages that obstruct the discovery of general laws with the universal language of mathematics. Elon Musk takes Lucas's interacting robots one step further, with his ambition to link the human brain directly to the world (which includes other human brains). Our thoughts will be directly socialised without the intermediation of any language. When you think, "Door, open!" it does. Whereas economists dream of putting God in their models, the robotic utopians dream of reversing the fall of man by creating godlike humans.

To be clear, this is the apotheosis of a Western conceit. The West still views itself as the bearer of universal civilisation, with the non-West no more than a lagging cultural indicator. In the West itself, the authority of economics has diminished, but this hasn't dented the West's propensity to export its civilisation. "Good economics" has been partly replaced by a commitment to universal human rights as the means to save the world from itself, but the purpose is the same: to lecture everyone else on their shortcomings.

Youth empowerment is a must for Africa

YOUTH in Africa constituted 19 per cent of the global youth population in 2015, numbering 226 million. The United Nations defines youth as people aged 15 to 24 years. By 2030, it is predicted that the number of youths in Africa will have increased by 42 per cent. Africa's population as a whole is very young, with 60 per cent of the entire continent aged below 25, making it the youngest continent in the world, in relation to its population makeup. All of the world's top 10 youngest countries by median age are in Africa. A 2004 study found that young people are the most likely to commit violent acts, as well as more likely to become victims of violence themselves. The youths of Africa experience the globalisation of culture in many different forms, such as through fashion and music. A further significant issue for Africa's youth population is the prevention, treatment and eradication of disease, with particular reference to HIV/AIDS, which remains a major cause of morbidity and mortality amongst African youths.

There is a crisis in the lack of formal skilled employment opportunities across Africa, which is exacerbated by the addition of 10-12 million youths to the labour market each year. Youth unemployment across Africa is high, at 30.6 per cent in North Africa, the second-highest rate of a region globally, whilst in sub-Saharan Africa the rate is declining, to 12.9 per cent in 2016. As age within the working population increases, so do levels of employment, as youths are three times more likely to be unemployed than adults which demonstrates an anti-youth bias across African labour markets.

A lack of graduate employment opportunities across the continent has contributed towards high levels of informal employment, underemployment and unemployment across university graduates. It is

estimated that 600,000 South African graduates are unable to find suitable employment. Many African nations have worked to promote formal skilled graduate employment through schemes which seeks to develop employability skills amongst students, and the National Youth Service in Tanzania.

Young women have higher rates of unemployment than men in all African countries, which may potentially result from gender inequalities in primary and secondary education, with only Swaziland achieving gender parity in secondary school enrolment in Africa. In the Central African Republic and Chad, less than half as many girls as boys were enrolled in secondary school in 2012.

This takes the foundation for skilled formal employment away from girls, which is further exacerbated by a gender bias in the workplace; women with equivalent skills and experience are five times more likely to struggle gaining employment than men in Kenya. Further issues impacting young women's employment include: child marriage; time poverty through participation in reproductive labour; and laws and customs restricting women's actions and mobilities.

Governments and non-governmental organisations have previously created rules, laws and regulations meant to help the environment and people thrive but there has been minimal implementation and countable youth involved, if any. The youth play a vital role in the implementation process, sadly, in most cases they are not involved and if involved they may not be part of the decision making process.

We need to come up with ways in which we can bring the youth fully on board. All is not gloom. The inaugural Youth Conference which took place from 22nd to 24th of May, 2019 in Nairobi, Kenya was the turning point for African youth in conservation.

Is civil society arguing itself out of political space?

By Felix Dodds

As some of you will know I have a new book out Stakeholder Democracy: Represented Democracy in a Time of Fear. (other contributors to the book were: Jan-Gustav Strandenaes, Carolina Duque Chopitea, Minu Hemmati, Susanne Salz, Bernd Lakemeier, Laura Schmitz, and Jana Borkenhagen).

The book's theory of change is very simple involving stakeholders in the decision making makes better-informed decisions and that those decisions are more likely to be implemented with those stakeholder's support either singularly or in partnership.

The book places Stakeholder Democracy within the spectrum of Representative to Participatory Democracy.

It argues that we need to strengthen represented democracy in a time of fear through engaging stakeholders. It recognizes that in many places politicians are no longer believed but they need to make difficult decisions. To help them do this engaging with the support of stakeholders can help them to have the political courage to address climate change or the wave of new technologies coming or migration or the many other difficult issues we will be facing in the next ten years up to 2030.

Two discourses

Since around 1992 we have had two different political discourses in play that of stakeholders and that of civil society.

Under the leadership of Maurice

Strong, Chip Lindner, and Nitin Desai the Earth Summit moved away from the old NGO discourse. This was that in the UN everyone who wasn't a government or an intergovernmental organization was an NGO as far as the UN was concerned.

The Earth Summit changed that. Agenda 21 recognized 9 stakeholder groups in society who should be involved in policy development and in helping to deliver Agenda 21 and the Rio Conventions. These were: Women, Children and Youth, Indigenous Peoples, Non-Governmental Organizations, Local Authorities, Workers and Trade Unions, Business and Industry, Scientific and Technological Community and Farmers

By the way, these were enlarged in the development of the 2030 Agenda to include others such as older people and the disabled.

At the same time in the World Social Summit (1995), the Financing for Development space (2002) and those around the Bretton Woods Institutions a different political discourse evolved that of civil society.

This discourse recognized only two different groups than government and intergovernmental bodies these two were industry and civil society. What did this mean?

Civil Society concept increases space for industry

We often hear in the civil society discourse of the increased space that industry has.

Well, the conceptual framework for civil society by its nature



increases the space of industry from one of nine to one to two.

So let's be clear the advocates for this by their own actions are giving up massive space for industry and reducing space for other stakeholders.

It also allows governments and intergovernmental organizations to just group anyone who isn't industry into a catch-all group.

Who is Civil Society?

Well, there are many definitions out there and the book looks at some of them. But what it tends to be is a space dominated by NGOs... it does subordinate women, youth, community groups etc into this one space no longer having their individual and unique voices.

By doing this it dilutes the gender perspective - it reduces

the voice of the next generation.

Civil Society also excludes a number of key stakeholders that includes academics and scientists, Indigenous Peoples - they are a "Peoples" and should, of course, have not to be subjugated to other views.

It excludes local and subnational government who is seen as a level of government but whose voices

freedom found with their national government.

The book goes into examples where this course has resulted in the wrong people being at the table.

The Stakeholder discourse, on the other hand, requires an ongoing stakeholder mapping process to ensure the right people are at the table.

It gives them individual space to articulate for a gender perspective or youth a next-generation perspective. It enables new relevant stakeholders that have emerged over the last 25 years to be recognized and given space such as older people or people with disabilities.

Civil Society discourse is a lazy discourse

What amazes me is how groups that do not benefit from the civil society discourse seem to accept it without question.

I can only think it is because it's easier than to argue for the individual voice of relevant stakeholders.

For governments and intergovernmental organizations, it makes their life much easier.

They don't have to show what they are doing for engaging each of the stakeholders they leave it to a broad engagement with this catch-all group of civil society.

What it has done in many UN bodies that have adopted this reduces the staff support for stakeholders and increase it for industry - a good example of this is UNEP.

After all, now intergovernmental bodies would only be servicing two groups... resulting in the need for only a form of parity between civil society support and industry. Previously there needed to be evidence of support for women, youth, Indigenous Peoples etc.

You can hear from some of those lazy people the comments like...

"ahh how do you decide which stakeholder group you should be a member of?"

They go on to say "what if you are a woman and a young person and work for an NGO."

Well, the engagement isn't and shouldn't be based on the individual it's based on the organization in all cases. To be clear it should be based on what the organization's policy priorities are. If the organization is focused on youth policies then it should engage with the youth caucus, if its work is gender then it should engage with the women's stakeholder group and if it's a mixture well work in a number of different stakeholder groups.

Who benefits from the Civil Society discourse?

I always like to look at who benefits to see if that has a bearing.

It's clear that there is a number that benefit.

Governments and intergovernmental organizations benefit as they don't have to address the different voices and leave that coordination to whoever is organizing the civil society group.

Industry benefits as they gain a huge additional space vacated by key stakeholders one of 2 is so much better than one of 9 or more for them.

Also, large well organized northern-based NGOs benefit as they can assert a larger influence on one space than many.

So if you are happy with giving more space to industry, reducing space for women and youth and other key stakeholders, not recognizing Indigenous Peoples right for their own space, do not want academics and scientists to be able to represent their research then do continue to use the civil society concept but understand what you are doing.

Felix Dodds is Adjunct Professor at the University of North Carolina and Associate fellow at the Tellus Institute



CALL FOR PROPOSAL TO UNDERTAKE A STUDY ON MARGINALIZATION AND GENDER INEQUALITY WITHIN TAX REGIMES IN TANZANIA

Policy Forum (PF) is a network of more than 70 Tanzanian Civil Society Organisations established in 2003 and drawn together by their specific interest in augmenting the voice of ordinary citizens to influence policy processes that help in poverty reduction, equity and democratization with a specific focus on public money accountability at both central and local level as the underpinning pillar on which all PF activities are based.

Annually PF undertakes studies to recommend relevant actions that should be taken by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Government and other stakeholders to better promote the principles of good governance in the tax area. This year's focus is on the multiple identities that have varying implications on women's ability to pay taxes especially considering the disproportionate distribution of their unpaid care work. As such, this study is expected to enlighten the understanding of the manifestation of tax disparities by identifying the factors enhancing marginalisation of women and minority groups due to unfair tax regimes or bad governance; and pinpointing the forces behind resource leakages, and how women and other minority groups or communities are excluded within the mitigating measures.

Policy Forum seeks to hire a consultant:

- To identify the interconnecting factors enhancing marginalisation of women and minority groups due to unfair tax regimes and bad governance;
- To pinpoint the forces behind resource leakage, and how women and other minority groups or communities are excluded within mitigating measures;
- To recommend relevant actions to be taken by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Government and other interested stakeholders.
- To develop a Strategy and Plan of Action to ensure gender mainstreaming in tax governance is realised.

Interested applicants can view the full Terms of Reference (TOR) on our website: <https://bit.ly/2K5biBt>

Applications should be sent by email to info@policyforum.or.tz not later than 15h August 2019.



UNITED STATES PEACE CORPS

HUDUMA ZA KUJITOLEA ZA WAMAREKANI

Vacancy: Human Resources for Health Coordinator (1 position)

The U. S. Peace Corps, a leading international community-based development agency working in Tanzania since 1961, offers an attractive senior level professional opportunity with a competitive salary. Peace Corps (PC) provides American Volunteers (PCVs) to requesting communities and groups throughout Tanzania, in the areas of Community Health Education, Sustainable Agriculture, and Secondary Education – Science and Math, including the cross-sector programming initiatives HIV/AIDS, malaria, food security, and Gender in Development.

The successful **Human Resources for Health (HRH) Coordinator** candidate will be responsible for managing partnerships/relationships with university medical and nursing school partners or other types of partners, and supporting HRH nurses and doctor placements in these institutions. In conjunction with the partners, the HRH Coordinator will identify areas of need and opportunities, support the partners in the development of HRH Position Descriptions, and work with Peace Corps Headquarters through the process of recruitment and deployment to Tanzania. S/he assists with Volunteer support as well as overall monitoring and evaluation of HRH activities at the site and country level. S/he will prepare reports and support administrative needs, as necessary. When necessary, s/he represents Peace Corps with partner organizations, and advocates for the agency's interests.

The Human Resources for Health Coordinator will report to and work under the direct supervision of the Director of Programming and Partnerships. This position may require up to 20% travel throughout Tanzania.

Desired Qualifications:

- Education: Bachelor's degree. Coursework in management or development. Master's Degree desirable.
- Experience: Four years progressively responsible experience in managing activities, including planning, coordination, and communication on tasks with colleagues and partners.
- Experience with design and organization of training events.
- Experience with documentation and reporting on activities.
- Language: Level IV (Fluent) spoken and written English and Kiswahili.
- Skilled at managing and organizing detailed information.
- Skilled at planning and evaluating meeting and training events.
- Proficient in computer use and Microsoft Office suite of applications.
- Ability to act with diplomacy and tact with staff, PCVs, Trainees, community members and government officials.
- Abilities: To work on a team, facilitate training for adults. Develop and maintain mid-level contacts within the host government, universities, and international aid agencies partners. Render advice, employing sound judgment within PC guidelines. Must have well developed listening ability and a sensitive yet pragmatic and realistic manner.

Application Procedures:

Applications must be received no later than **August 30, 2019**. Please email a cover letter, CV, personal address and complete contact information, and names and contact information of relevant professional references to: tz-applicants@peacecorps.gov with "Human Resources for Health Coordinator" in the subject line. If necessary applications can be posted to the attention of: **Director of Management & Operations, Human Resources for Health Coordinator Application, U.S. Peace Corps Tanzania, P. O. Box 9123, Dar es Salaam.** Only short listed candidates will be contacted. No phone inquiries or visits will be accepted.

215353701

USAID-funded programme set to address health service gaps in southern highlands regions

By Henry Mwangonde, Mtwara

It is Wednesday morning at Mtwara's Magomeni Chikukuta suburb. Asha Wemba (37), a mother of six, is busy performing her household tasks, including preparing something to eat for her children.

She is a happy mother because just a month ago she delivered a baby boy, so is the husband Hamidu Ally.

As I approach their house, I am welcomed by a number of children who looked surprised by my visit as I was escorted by several other people, including a community health volunteer for the area, a health official from the municipal and a Malaria adviser for Mtwara under the Boresha Afya Southern Zone - a five-year programme funded by the United States Government through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

The programme entails sensitizing pregnant mothers to undertake Sulfadoxine-Pyrimethamine (SP) tablets as part of antenatal care services to immunise expected mothers and their unborn babies against Malaria.

She smiles as she welcomes us together with her husband; something interesting made it necessary to visit her house and see the baby.

My recent visit to Mtwara to witness the outcomes and implementation of the programme took me to various health facilities within the region.

During my visit to Ufukoni dispensary within Mtwara municipal council, I heard about Asha's special case from health attendants which I was told was the case to majority of women in the region before the programme came.

Asha was among women who started clinic late when the pregnancy was almost nine months meaning she hadn't received any of SP Intermittent Preventive Treatment in pregnancy (IPTp1) and (IPTp2) therapy doses.

Unfortunately, she was diagnosed with Malaria and there were fears that her unborn baby was at risk.

"At first, I thought I was six



Asha Wemba hands over her baby to her husband Hamidu Ally at their home at Magomeni Chikukuta in Mtwara Municipal. Photo: Henry Mwangonde

month pregnant but when I went to the hospital, I was told that I am just a week or so to delivery and this came after feeling headache for some days," she explained.

Nurses had to ensure that she was in proper care including administering her to SP therapy to immunise the baby and the mother from the deadly disease.

Fortunately, she delivered safely and they are progressing well with her baby despite the fears she had after realizing the effects that Malaria may cause to her baby for lack of protection caused by the mother.

"I saw that she was pregnant and asked whether she had started clinic or not, she told me she had not, I advised her to do so and we discovered that she was nine months pregnant and that she had not visited clinic since," said Ester Lucas, a health volunteer in the area who is also a neighbour to Asha and has been trained via the programme.

Asha told The Guardian that she has learnt the importance of visiting clinics and she is now using her experience to advise other women in her

area to go for clinics whenever they are pregnant.

The volunteer said Asha's scenario is just one among many women in the region for various reasons, including cultural practices.

She further revealed to us that during her engagement with Asha, she told her that she was afraid to go to clinic because she was afraid she will be told that she was giving birth at a fast speed.

"Most of the women in southern regions undergo such scenarios; we used to receive a huge number of pregnant women whose pregnancies are as old as seven months and have never taken any of the SP therapy, thanks to the Boresha Afya programme which came with sensitisation campaigns," she narrated.

According to Mtwara Regional Medical Officer Dr Silvia Mamkwe, uptake of SP Intermittent Preventive Treatment in pregnancy (IPTp1) (IPTp2) for Mtwara now stands at 84 per cent.

She said that through the programme, women are told to start maternity clinic before the pregnancy reaches two

months in order to get proper health information as well as easy tracking.

Dr Mamkwe gave an example of a last year quarterly report which showed that out of 9,000 women who gave birth in the region, more than 700 gave birth at home or on their way to the hospital.

She added that through the Programme, healthcare providers and Community Based Health Service Providers have been trained. She however cited the existence of some social barriers in the uptake of the drugs for pregnant women, including cultural practices, poverty and insufficient knowledge about malaria.

Despite being endemic to Mtwara, with a prevalence rate of 14.3 per cent, Mtwara faces other challenges such as cultural practices which push women to deliver at homes for various reasons.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommends IPTp with sulfadoxine-pyrimethamine (IPTp-SP), in all areas with moderate to high malaria transmission in Africa.

Intermittent preventive

treatment of malaria in pregnancy is a full therapeutic course of antimalarial medicine given to pregnant women at routine antenatal care visits, regardless of whether the recipient is infected with malaria.

IPTp reduces maternal malaria episodes, maternal and fetal anaemia, placental parasitaemia, low birth weight and neonatal mortality.

The programme works to address health service gaps in 43 councils across the regions of Iringa, Njombe, Morogoro, Lindi, Mtwara, and Ruvuma. The Deloitte Consulting Limited implements the programme with its technical partners Family Health International (FHI360), EngenderHealth and Management and Development for Health (MDH).

As the case in many other countries in Sub-Saharan Africa, malaria is the leading cause of death in Tanzania among children under age of five. Malaria transmission is high throughout the year, contributing to development of partial immunity within the first two years of life.

Terrorism and organised crime: Risks lying in shared responses

BY KAREN ALLEN

The macabre sale of human organs, trafficking of people and wildlife, drug crime, the smuggling of precious minerals - all have become lucrative revenue streams for organised transnational criminal groups. And there is growing anecdotal evidence that international terrorist groups such as Da'esh and al-Shabaab are exploiting the same channels.

But will grouping the two problems lead to a positive singular global response, or more problems regarding human rights abuses?

To increase the pressure on states to respond more urgently to the twin threats, United Nations (UN) Security Council resolution 2482 was adopted on 19 July. It calls on member states to 'enhance coordination of efforts' to strengthen the global response to the links between international terrorism and organised crime. It also urges them to 'continue to conduct research and collect information to ... better understand the nature and scope' of such linkages.

Some observers say the resolution shows that the lines between transnational organised crime and terrorist groups are becoming murky. This was underscored by a counter-terrorism debate at a recent UN conference in Nairobi.

Many terrorist groups and criminal gangs share the same routes and often the same networks, although their motivations may be different. Terrorism is driven by political idealism while organised crime focuses on financial gain. The responses are also becoming more blurred, reflected in the power exercised by a supranational body such as the Security Council and sovereign states.

Some commentators fear that by conflating terrorism and transnational organised crime, exceptional law - as applied internationally post 9/11 - is beginning to trump domestic law. Also, for some states, transnational organised crime is considered a law enforcement issue and shouldn't be packaged as part of efforts to stop global terrorism.

Resolution 2482 urges member states to respond to what appears to be an ill-defined 'threat'. It stops short of invoking Chapter VII of the UN Charter, which would conceive the dual threat of terrorism and organised crime as threats to international peace and security. Yet it 'signals that the council is taking the matter seriously,' says Martin Ewi - technical coordinator of the ENACT transnational organised crime project at the Institute for Security Studies. 'But it is shy of calling it a Chapter VII issue because of the additional sanctions that would come with it.' Even so, a lively debate is being fuelled about whether the Security Council is exercising mission creep in the fight against global terrorists and their financiers.

Fionnuala Ní Aoláin, UN Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, is particularly concerned. At the core of her argument are the issues of sovereignty, oversight and human rights. With still no universally agreed definition of international terrorism, she says existing counter-terrorism laws are already being used (or rather abused) to squeeze democratic space and stifle dissent.

By throwing organised crime into

the mix, the human rights community warns that the potential for abuse is increased with security operations being used as a pretext for clamping down on opposition voices.

There is also a particular concern about terminology in the African context. Transnational organised crime and terrorists are ill-defined terms. An investigation into linkages must also take into account militias, rebel movements, local criminal gangs and how their own unique objectives may sometimes align with those of proscribed terrorist organisations. Furthermore, do they operate at regional or national level, and to what extent should this influence the response?

International law is flavoured by politics because it requires negotiation between states who have their own interests at heart but sometimes cooperate because of a sense of shared threats and common values. In contrast, domestic law - where criminal law has traditionally resided - is shaped by national norms, constitutions and common law.

The Special Rapporteur argues that by obligating states to impose regimes - i.e. a new Security Council resolution - it risks opening the door to abuse. It does this, she argues, by undermining state sovereignty and the national system of checks and balances already existing to protect human and constitutional rights. By extending powers originally intended to thwart terrorism into new terrain, the council potentially gives further political cover for domestic human rights violations.

However, such mission creep is surely nothing new, and perhaps the Security Council should be applauded as an example of the UN's agility in responding to new global realities. The doctrine of the Responsibility to Protect (R2P) redefined some domestic conflicts after the Rwanda Genocide in 1994 as threats to international peace and security. R2P compelled states to act or risk facing Security Council sanctions.

This revised definition was used to justify an international response to what would previously have been considered a domestic concern. Does the supposed fusion of terrorism and organised crime present a paradigm shift for the Security Council? And is invoking the council the best way to urge states to investigate and de-couple the linkages?

More focus on stamping out corruption and collusion between criminal gangs and state actors would help increase legitimacy to governments, which may remove one of the drivers fuelling extremism in the first place. However, as outlawed organisations, terrorist groups generally can't tap into legitimate sources of funds, so there is almost inevitably a link with organised crime, given the basic principles of supply and demand.

Resolution 2482 gives numerous UN bodies 12 months to report to the Secretary-General on how to address suspected linkages. Shouldn't such bodies also be mandated to monitor state responses to these twin threats, and report back on whether they conform with human rights law?

For now, the Security Council's five permanent members acknowledge that not enough is known about how these supposed interlinked networks operate. But as the evidence base grows, it could well pave the way for a tougher approach.

ISS

Power is a privilege and a responsibility

NEW YORK

It's on all of us to make gender equality a reality - which means harnessing our collective power to build a gender equal world.

By empowering girls and women, realizing sexual and reproductive health and rights, tackling gender-based violence, and confronting the combinations of sexism, misogyny, racism, and colonialism, we can take steps towards true gender equality.

Coming off the heels of the Women Deliver 2019 Conference in Vancouver, we both explore the need to use - and share - power to deliver transformative change for girls and women.

Katja Iversen: At the Women Deliver 2019 Conference, we focused on power, and how it can drive - or hinder - progress and change for girls and women, and therefore for all. How will you use your power?

Justin Trudeau: Power is a privilege and a responsibility. Ultimately, the best thing you can do with power is share it. As we saw at Women Deliver, grassroots advocates and activists are creating change on the ground. Young people, like Natasha Wang Mwansa,

are not just the leaders of tomorrow, but the leaders of today.

We need to amplify the work they're doing, pass them the microphone, and make sure there's a seat at the table for people of diverse identities and perspectives.

Katja Iversen: In the lead up to and during the Women Deliver 2019 Conference, we have seen unprecedented energy and enthusiasm for advancing gender equality. How do we take that energy and commitment and turn it into action? From world leaders and business leaders to advocates and influencers, what is your call to action to keep up the momentum?

Justin Trudeau: At Women Deliver, we announced new steps forward on everything from funding for women's health and women's organizations, to support for women entrepreneurs and housing commitments that will benefit women.

We announced that Canada will increase our investment to \$1.4 billion to support women and girls' health globally, positioning us as a leading donor worldwide on comprehensive sexual and reproductive health rights. \$700 million of this annual

investment is dedicated to sexual and reproductive health rights.

We're focusing on the most neglected areas of this field. This is a game changer. We welcome other leaders to join us.

Globally, and here at home, we are seeing attacks on women's rights, whether it's undermining a woman's fundamental right to choose, or violence against Indigenous women and girls. We can't take our foot off the pedal, not even for a moment.

There's simply too much at stake. We all need to work together to move forward, and to build more sustainable, more inclusive movements. It's on all of us to make gender equality a reality.

Katja Iversen: Over the last several years, we have heard more world leaders and private sector executives make public statements about the importance of gender equality. This is certainly critical, commendable, and encouraging! But we also need to see these leaders "walk the talk" and move toward action.

This is something you have emphasized throughout your administration from appointing a gender equal cabinet to developing

gender-responsive federal budgets - both of which are crucial for moving policies and programs to actual impact. What impact have these actions had in Canada and around the world and what will you do next to move the needle for girls and women?

Justin Trudeau: Our government has put gender equality at the heart of everything we do. This means grappling with interlocking issues like sexism and misogyny, racism and colonialism. These challenges are complex and layered.

We won't always get it right, but we will always keep trying. We know that it's time to put an end to violence against all women and transgender, non-binary, and two spirit people, which is why we launched the first ever national strategy on gender-based violence.

We know that advancing gender equality hinges on economic equality, too. We will continue to demand that women and men receive equal pay for work of equal value, that everyone has a safe place to live, and that parents can share equally in both the joys and the responsibilities of raising children.

IPS



A recent Security Council decision raises concerns that linking these twin threats could increase human rights abuses. File photo

Telecom extends network reach in historical town with thriving fishing industry

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzania's leading digital lifestyle company, Tigo, has upgraded the Madanga 2G network site to a 3G network site in Pangani district, a historical town with a thriving fishing industry in Tanga region.

Speaking at the launch event in Madanga, Tigo's Tanga regional sales manager, Robert Kasulwa, said availability of the 3G network in the area will positively impact growth and is vital for generating economic growth and promoting job creation in the area.

"With the launch of the 3G network site in Madanga, we are creating a better experience for our customers to enjoy Tigo's ever-growing number of innovative digital services and content being developed for education, entertainment and business. This will surely open up new business

opportunities and foster socio-economic development."

Kasulwa said along with faster data speeds, the 3G network provides a much better call quality and level of reliability.

"In addition, customers who will purchase any data packs from the upgraded 2G to 3G sites will be awarded with 100MB each time of purchase. This offer is valid for 30 days from the launch," he said

The launch of Tigo's 3G service in Madanga is a continuation of the network's series of launches of the same in other regions across the country.

The Madanga 3G network site launch is the ninth out of 52 sites across the country that are lined up for an upgrade to the 4G LTE network particularly in the central, coastal, south, north and Lake Zones.



A Dar es Salaam resident skims through one of the books displayed for sale yesterday along the College of Business Education stretch of Bibi Titi Mohamed Street. Booksellers in Tanzania commonly cite lack of a reading culture as a serious threat to their business. Photo: John Badi

ICT firm rebrands M-paper with 'Kurasa Zinaongea' campaign

By Guardian Reporter

A Dar es Salaam-based digital & technology agency-Smart Codes yesterday re-launched its flagship product M-paper with a campaign dubbed "Kurasa Zinaongea" in an effort to give modern-day customer improved features and more convenience to enjoy using the digital platform.

Speaking at the re-launch press conference, Edwin Bruno the CEO Smart codes described M-paper as a product for everyone who

wants to read real-verified newspapers instantly.

He explained: "An entrepreneur on the move, the diaspora community who want to be updated on local news and current events, companies looking out for tenders or just anyone wanting to access of all local newspapers anywhere and anytime starting from mid-night on mobile or web now has M-paper as their go to solution." Reinforcing its commitment to customers,

M-Paper now stands as a rebranded independent commercial product, with features that include a more user-friendly interface, Mobile Number registry and login, a chat session for amazing 24-hour customer access to the M-paper team, user friendly payment bundles, additional payment options across M-pesa, Tigo pesa, Airtel Money and Banks integration that allows diaspora community to pay via Visa or Master Card.

The "Kurasa Zinaongea" concept explains the idea of accessing newspapers page by page only this time digitally as though it is on physical papers at half the price explained Reuben Orinda, project manager for Smart codes also continued to say that the campaign will run for the coming months across all communication channels and M-paper social media pages to educate current and new customers on how to download and use M-paper and to also

create awareness for the added features like value for money payment bundles, customer line support, and so much more. In November 2015, M-Paper was nominated and won the award for Best Educational Innovational App in Africa. Aiming to solve Africa challenges, Smart codes designed a platform that allows access to newspapers digitally, curbing most challenges one faces to get access to a physical local

newspaper and also setting trends to moving services digital. The awards were prepared by Apps Africa Advisory which is an African mobile consultancy and business development service providing expert insight and support helping to build strategy, drive expansion and support operations for companies entering or expanding in sub-Saharan Africa. M-paper can be accessed everywhere anytime on mobile and web.

Tanzania and SADC: An unfinished quest for regional strategic identity

By Ani Jozeni

FOR close to three decades now, Tanzania has had an uncommon problem, one of choosing not out of scarcity but out of plenty, as it was unavoidably a member of the East African Community and then it was developing similar ties with southern African countries. There was a time when SADC and then SADC appeared to be the proper replacement of faded hopes for integration in East Africa, especially due to incurable divergences in policy outlook, key international links and expectations for the future. Southern Africa seemed to be a zone where Tanzania was likely to be rather comfortable, as it was more in company in political ethos, and respected in its role there.

There was something indubitable about the replacement scenario as the highest state of euphoria in Tanzania's foreign policy from the mid-1960s (Unilateral Declaration of Independence in 'Southern Rhodesia' that widened the reach of the apartheid state northwards) was Mozambican and Angolan independence in 1975. The following year, 1976 was one of dramatic dismantling of organs of the East African Community (EAC) one after another, ending in the border closure between Kenya and Tanzania early 1977. While Southern Africa was brightening in Tanzanian imagination, East Africa was fading, but then EAC affinities have nine lives, so it rebounded....

By the time the Southern Africa Development Coordinating Conference (SADCCO) was being put together in 1980, East African cooperation was in its ice age, with no visible change in ties of Kenya-Tanzania after founder president Mzee Jomo Kenyatta passed away in 1978. His closest associates took office but in 1982, as instability was creeping in both countries, they agreed to exchange dissidents and coup plotters were returned to Kenya. From then until the third phase presidency emerged late 1995 nothing important took place in the EAC context, while Southern Africa was rising from one stage to another, SADC being improved to SADC in August 1992.

That is why there was a problem of interpreting radical initiatives that the third phase took early in its

stewardship, as President Benjamin Mkapa visited Kenya and Uganda early in his first year, underlining a radical change of tone in ties between the three countries. Relations with Kenya had largely been frozen diplomatically but sharply developed in economic terms after Tanzania liberalized and Kenyan goods found an excellent market niche, while Tanzanian artisan miners knew Kenya was their best end point to avoid punitive taxation inward, etc. This sort of symbiosis has always existed where Tanzanians looked to Kenya for market friendly outcomes.

Yet it was a different matter when President Mkapa and his foreign affairs lieutenant, Jakaya Kikwete vigorously pushed EAC integration and by the end of 1996 the EAC Secretariat was up and running, but a formal treaty took three more years to be signed. Then the old problems of vision and political ethos



Experts may not readily agree if the problem of Tanzania's split identities is now over and done with, or it still persists. While in the 1970s the ruling parties of Tanzania and Mozambique were sister parties, in like manner as ANC of South Africa, scarcely any of these things are present in the minds of the current generation.

started being noticed again, but as the structures were far less statist now compared to the past, little damage occurred to institutions but slow achievement of goals.

Still EAC was capable of setting goals for itself that could scarcely be dreamed

in SADC, things like a shared destiny, or an eventual federation, a customs union being the first item for which the partner states signed - all these looked too far away and unreachable for SADC. The key reason was the spatial context, that EAC is similar to SACU in the southern Africa context, that they share many things, for instance Uganda relies on Kenyan and Tanzanian ports, so it is easy or at least convenient to create a customs union, so as to ease importation and transit trade, etc. But as economies grow in the southern Africa region, plenty of ties are created, deeper relations.

Experts may not readily agree if the problem of Tanzania's split identities is now over and done with, or it still persists. While in the 1970s the ruling parties of Tanzania and Mozambique were sister parties, in like manner as ANC of South Africa, scarcely any of these things are present in the minds of the current generation. It could even be said this trend underlined the restoration of EAC towards the late 1990s as southern African ties have never replaced EAC affinities, and the key parameter, that of Frontline States and liberation, had rapidly faded. SADC is hence part of globalization and increased interest in each other's market as African states grow, more or less.

That is why, 27 years after the formation of SADC its image in Tanzania vis a vis that of the EAC has not changed, as external organizations build images from internal links, where EAC is anchored in daily chores while SADC is a fast growing area in business and interpersonal links, etc. Communications is a key driver for change but the pursuit of opportunities is a much more active ingredient, where numerous links are being formed especially South African businesses seeking partners northwards, as their traditional hinterland is rather small for their ambitions. There are new players like China who are bringing the world together such that SADC easily becomes a beneficiary of Belt and Road, etc. So the political map of the region hasn't changed much from the 1980s, so EAC is still paramount for Tanzania while SADC role isn't negligible.



IT Support Assistant

World Bank

Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania Country Office

The main duties of this role are defined around first level IT client service within the country office and follow task norms associated with ITIL standards for helpdesk service. Additional tasks include IT training for clients, asset management, and hardware repairs. This role requires frequent interaction with clients, desk-side IT coaching, and has a limited network administrator role. This is an entry level, IT support role where candidates are expected to have a minimum of 4 years of experience. Recent university graduates who have attained a bachelor's degree in areas of IT or related disciplines, are encouraged to submit CVs for consideration. This position has a 1 year contract.

Duties and Accountabilities:

- Provides standard support for mobile devices including smart phones, tablets and laptops computers.
- Provides office level network administration, including routine troubleshooting, maintenance and hardware/software upgrades.
- Installs, configures, and supports Bank-standard hardware and software.
- Provides technical support to office staff and visiting missions.
- Ensures that World Bank information and IT systems are protected in a manner consistent with information security policy, procedures and standards.
- Provides direction, support and training to clients. Helps clients solve IT problems.
- Facilitates preparation for videoconferences and other collaborative activities, such as Webex sessions.
- Manages all local IT assets and assists clients to manage data.

Essential Competencies:

- Information Technology diploma or university degree, preferably in Computer Science or related area, plus a minimum 4 years of experience providing IT support or facilitating IT training in an end-user environment.
- Expresses thoughts and ideas effectively in oral and written communications in English.
- Copes effectively and is productive under work stress.
- Ability to work cooperatively and collaboratively in a virtual team environment.
- Languages expected: English.

To apply, qualified candidates are requested to go to www.worldbank.org/jobs and then follow links to Current Openings, then in the "Keyword or ReqID" search field enter Req number 3792 and apply for the position ET Temporary Dar es Salaam. The deadline for applications is August 13. Only selected candidates will be contacted.

LOOKING BACK:

Statement by the SADC Executive Secretary Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax on the occasion of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought June 17 2018

By Richard Mngazija

Theme: Land Degradation and Migration

Today, 17th June, 2018, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) joins the international community in commemorating the World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought under the theme: Land Degradation and Migration. This day is set aside to promote public awareness of international efforts to combat desertification.

We are witnessing unprecedented land degradation, and the loss of arable land at 30 to 35 times the historical rate. Drought and desertification are also on the rise each year, amounting to the loss of 12 million hectares, affecting poor communities globally. As a result of this, of the 8,300 animal breeds known, 8 percent are extinct and 22 percent are at risk of extinction. Land degradation and drought are challenges that are intimately linked to food insecurity, migration and unemployment. In just 15 years, the number of international migrants worldwide has risen from 173 million in 2000 to 244 million in 2015, some of which are a result of environmental challenges. Rapid population growth and changing consumption patterns have generated excessive pressure on our finite land resources, leading to land degradation around the world. Globally, thirty percent of all land has lost its true value

due to degradation.

As we commemorate this day, the SADC Region can draw lessons from a number of continental initiatives, designed to reverse worrisome trends of land degradation and desertification. Some countries, like Namibia, have set national targets under the Land Degradation Neutrality (LDN) programme which seeks to ensure that the amount and quality of land resources, necessary to support ecosystem and enhance food security, remain stable or increase within specified temporal and spatial scales and ecosystems. Namibia provides a number of lessons for other SADC Member States, as we commend Namibia, we call upon other countries to learn from these best practices.

The Great Green Wall for the Sahara and the Sahel Initiative is one of the programmes that is aimed at restoring Africa's degraded landscapes and in the process, transform millions of lives in one of the world's poorest regions. The initiative is already boosting food security and resilience to climate change, whilst creating thousands of jobs for many communities living along its path, especially women and young people. Moreover, it promises to be a compelling solution to the many urgent threats that plague the people of this region - notably drought, famine, conflict and migration. Inspired by the Great Green wall of the Sahel and Sahara Region, the SADC Ministers re-

sponsible for Environment and Natural Resources, at their meeting in November 2015 in Botswana, approved the establishment of the Great Green Wall Initiative (GGWI) of Southern Africa.

Also under the African Forest Restoration Initiative (AFRI), a project targets to rehabilitate 100 million hectares of degraded and deforested land by 2030, some SADC Member States have committed to rehabilitate millions of hectares of degraded and deforested land by 2030.

As we commemorate this day, we also need to reflect on commitment made in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (SDGs) adopted in 2015. SDG 15 Life on Land, which calls for a resolve to halt and reverse land degradation, with a target to combat desertification, restore degraded land and soil, including land affected by desertification, drought and floods, and strive to achieve a land degradation-neutral world by 2030. It is worth noting that halting deforestation is vital to mitigating the impact of climate change-one of the biggest challenges of our time. We call on SADC Member States to take all necessary measures to address desertification, through active participation in initiatives that aim to address the challenge.

Dr. Stergomena Lawrence Tax
SADC Executive Secretary
17 June, 2018, Gaborone, Botswana
Desertification is a type of land degra-

degradation in which a relatively dry area of land becomes a desert, typically losing its bodies of water as well as vegetation and wildlife. It is caused by a variety of factors, such as through climate change (particularly the current global warming) and through the overexploitation of soil through human activity. When deserts appear automatically over the natural course of a planet's life cycle, then it can be called a natural phenomenon; however, when deserts emerge due to the rampant and unchecked depletion of nutrients in soil that are essential for it to remain arable, then a virtual "soil death" can be spoken of, which traces its cause back to human overexploitation. Desertification is a significant global ecological and environmental problem with far reaching consequences on socio-economic and political conditions.

Considerable controversy exists over the proper definition of the term "desertification" for which Helmut Geist (2005) has identified more than 100 formal definitions. The most widely accepted of these is that of the Princeton University Dictionary which defines it as "the process of fertile land transforming into desert typically as a result of deforestation, drought or improper/inappropriate agriculture".

Desertification has been neatly defined in the text of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) as "land degradation in arid, semi-arid and dry sub-humid regions resulting from various factors, including climatic variations and human activities."

Another major contribution to the controversy comes from the sub-grouping of types of desertification. Spanning from the very vague yet shortsighted view as the "man-made-desert" to the broader yet less focused type as the "Non-pattern-Desert".

The earliest known discussion of the topic arose soon after the French colonization of West Africa, when the Comité d'Etudes commissioned a study on dessèchement progressif to explore the prehistoric expansion of the Sahara Desert.

History
The world's most noted deserts have been formed by natural processes interacting over long intervals of time. During most of these times, deserts have grown and shrunk independent of human activities. Paleodeserts are large sand seas now inactive because they are stabilized by vegetation, some extending beyond the present margins of core deserts, such as the Sahara, the largest hot desert.

Desertification has played a significant role in human history, contributing to the collapse of several large empires, such as Carthage, Greece, and the Roman Empire, as well as causing displacement of local populations. Historical evidence shows that the serious and extensive land deterioration occurring several centuries ago in arid regions had three epicenters: the Mediterranean, the Mesopotamian Valley, and the Loess Plateau of China, where population was dense.

Areas affected
Drylands occupy approximately 40-41 per cent of Earth's land area and are home to more than 2 billion people. It has been estimated that some 10-20 per cent of drylands are already degraded, the total area affected by desertification being between 6 and 12 million square kilometres, that about 1-6 per cent of the inhabitants of drylands live in desertified areas, and that a billion people are under threat from further desertification.

As of 1998, the then-current degree of southward expansion of the Sahara was not well known, due to a lack of recent, measurable expansion of the desert into the Sahel at the time.

The impact of global warming and human activities are presented in the Sahel. In this area, the level of desertification is very high compared to other areas in the world. All areas situated in the eastern part of Africa (i.e. in the Sahel region) are characterized by a dry climate, hot temperatures, and low



SADC Executive Secretary Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax

rainfall (300-750 mm rainfall per year). So, droughts are the rule in the Sahel region. Some studies have shown that Africa has lost approximately 650,000 km² of its productive agricultural land over the past 50 years. The propagation of desertification in this area is considerable.

Some statistics have shown that since 1900 the Sahara has expanded by 250 km to the south over a stretch of land from west to east 6,000 km long. The survey, done by the research institute for development, had demonstrated that this means dryness is spreading fast in the Sahelian countries. 70 per cent of the arid area has deteriorated and water resources have disappeared, leading to soil degradation. The loss of topsoil means that plants cannot take root firmly and can be uprooted by torrential water or strong winds.

The United Nations Convention (UNC) says that about six million Sahelian citizens would have to give up the desertified zones of sub-Saharan Africa for North Africa and Europe between 1997 and 2020.

Another major area that is being impacted by desertification is the Gobi Desert. Currently, the Gobi desert is the fastest moving desert on Earth; according to some researchers, the Gobi Desert swallows up over 1,300 square miles (3,370 km²) of land annually. This has destroyed many villages in its path. Currently, photos show that the Gobi Desert has expanded to the point the entire nation of Croatia could fit inside its area. This is causing a major problem for the people of China. They will soon have to deal with the desert as it creeps closer. Although the Gobi Desert itself is still a distance away from Beijing, reports from field studies state there are large sand dunes forming only 70 km (43.5 mi) outside the city.

Vegetation patterning
As the desertification takes place, the landscape may progress through different stages and continuously transform in appearance. On gradually sloped terrain, desertification can create increasingly larger empty spaces over a large strip of land, a phenomenon known as "Brousse tigrée". A mathematical model of this phenomenon proposed by C. Klausmeier attributes this patterning to dynamics in plant-water interaction.[31] One outcome of this observation suggests an optimal planting strategy for agriculture in arid environments.

Causes by loss
The immediate cause is the loss of most vegetation. This is driven by a number of factors, alone or in combination, such as drought, climatic shifts, tillage for agriculture, overgrazing and deforestation for fuel or construction materials. Vegetation plays a major role in determining the biological composition of the soil. Studies have shown that, in many environments, the rate of erosion and runoff decreases exponentially with increased vegetation cover.[36] Unprotected, dry soil surfaces blow away with the wind or are washed away by flash floods, leaving infertile lower soil layers that bake in the sun and become an unproductive hardpan.

Many scientists think that one of the most common causes is overgrazing, too much consumption of vegetation by cattle. Controversially, Allan Savory has claimed that the controlled movement of herds of livestock, mimicking herds of grazing wildlife, can reverse desertification.

Desertification often causes rural lands to become unable to support the same sized populations that previously lived there. This results in mass migrations out of rural areas and into urban areas, particularly in Africa. These migrations into the cities often cause large numbers of unemployed people, who end up living in slums.

Agriculture is a main source of income for many desert communities. The increase in desertification in these regions has degraded the land enough where people can no longer productively farm and make a profit. This has negatively impacted the economy and increased poverty rates.


Techniques and countermeasures exist for mitigating or reversing the effects of desertification, and some possess varying levels of difficulty. For some, there are numerous barriers to their implementation. Yet for others, the solution simply requires the exercise of human reason.

One proposed barrier is that the costs of adopting sustainable agricultural practices sometimes exceed the benefits for individual farmers, even while they are socially and environmentally beneficial.[49]

Another issue is a lack of political will, and lack of funding to support land reclamation and anti-desertification programs.

Desertification is recognized as a major threat to biodiversity. Some countries have developed Biodiversity Action Plans to counter its effects, particularly in relation to the protection of endangered flora and fauna. Reforestation gets at one of the root causes of desertification and is not just a treatment of the symptoms. Environmental organizations work in places where deforestation and desertification are contributing to extreme poverty. There they focus primarily on educating the local population about the dangers of deforestation and sometimes employ them to grow seedlings, which they transfer to severely deforested areas during the rainy season. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations launched the FAO Drylands Restoration Initiative in 2012 to draw together knowledge and experience on dryland restoration. In 2015, FAO published global guidelines for the restoration of degraded forests and landscapes in drylands, in collaboration with the Turkish Ministry of Forestry and Water Affairs and the Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency.

At least 90 per cent of the inhabitants of drylands live in developing countries, where they also suffer from poor economic and social conditions. This situation is exacerbated by land degradation because of the reduction in productivity, the precariousness of living conditions and the difficulty of access to resources and opportunities.



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VACANCY:

Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning Director

Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation - Tanzania is a non-government organization (NGO) dedicated to supporting the provision of high-quality, comprehensive HIV/AIDS care and treatment to HIV - exposed and infected children and adolescents in the Lake and Southern Highlands Zones of Tanzania. Baylor Tanzania is affiliated with Baylor International Pediatric AIDS Initiative (BIPAI) Network which is headquartered at Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, Texas, USA. Baylor-Tanzania is funded by the United State Agency for International Development (USAID), working to support the Government of Tanzania through Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children to improve provision of services for children and adolescent infected and living with HIV in the Lake and Southern Highland Zones.

Baylor - Tanzania is looking for a highly motivated, well-qualified individual to join its growing program team in the following vacant position:

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Location : Mwanza-Tanzania
Reports to : Chief of Party/Executive Director


Position Summary:
 The Director of Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning, under the supervision of the COP, will be responsible for M&E technical oversight, manage and implement "USAID Afya Bora Mtoto Imapa" project monitoring, evaluation and training plan, specific to the National guidelines, support program planning at country level, and help organization's understanding of its program approaches and outcomes. He/she will contribute to the project's information management by advising on the planning, design, and strengthening of project MEL systems at different levels.

For details follow the following link: <http://jobs.baylortanzania.or.tz>


APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS:
 To apply for this position, please send your detailed resume together with a cover letter outlining your experience and interest in the vacancy to the following email address:

1. The Executive Director
 Baylor College of Medicine Children's Foundation - Tanzania
hr@baylortanzania.or.tz

Deadline for application is 14th August 2019



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Thursday 1 August 2019

NBC posts record 80pc growth in net profit for Jan-June 2019

By The Banker Reporter

IN a rare feat, National Bank of Commerce defied all market odds to post a record 80 percent pre-tax profit during the first six months of this year thanks to improved efficiency, better loan portfolio and cost savings.

In its latest report, the bank's Managing Director, Theobald Sabi said the bank had net loans and advances valued at 952bn/- with customer deposits spiralling to 1.38trn/-. "Our half year performance is mainly attributed to the ongoing cost savings and efficiency drive, increased fee income from transactional activities and improved quality of the loan portfolio," said Sabi.

Sabi pointed out that total net loans and advances increased quarterly by 4.3 percent mainly contributed

by additional loan bookings from retail and business banking clients, whilst the overall customer deposits increased by 7.3 percent.

"Our continued focus of on-boarding quality loans has started to pay off resulting in lower impairment charges for the first half of the year. In addition, Non-Performing Loans (NPLs) ratio has continued to decline to 7.2 percent down from 11.4 percent as of June 2018," the MD noted.

The country's third largest commercial bank further said its retail and corporate banking customers have benefitted from the digitization which NBC has embarked on by introducing electronic solutions that have made banking easier and cost effective.

"Our digital banking facilities provides individuals, SMEs,

government agencies and corporates with convenient and efficient cash collections and payment solutions," added Sabi who further pointed out that online and mobile banking products have become popular electronic channels widely used all types of clients.

The digital transactions which are safe and secure have allowed bulk payments, local and international payments, mobile payments and online foreign exchange dealings. "It is our desire to provide customers with friendly and secure transactional solutions through our electronic channels," the NBC Managing Director stressed.

NBC which was among the first banks in the domestic market to introduce paperless banking has allowed its customers to have access

to their accounts without filling any papers. "The adoption of this innovative technology has greatly reduced waiting time, and queues in our banking halls," Sabi added.

NBC has the largest number of Intelligent Automated Teller Machines (iATMs) in the market 180 of them which provide multiple services to customers such as dispensing and accepting cash deposits for 24 hours throughout the week.

"Customers can now pay for things like school fees at any of our cash accepting NBC ATMs conveniently," the NBC chief noted while noting that its digital channels are Government Electronic Payment Gateway (GePG) compliant, thus allowing customers the choice to settle government levies and fees through the bank.



NBC Managing Director Theobald Sabi is basking in first half super-profits in 2019.

CBK mops up Sh35bn to defend the shilling

NAIROBI

The Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) Tuesday mopped up Sh35 billion from the money market as high liquidity saw the shilling weaken to a four-year-low of 104.20 units to the dollar.

CBK swept the cash through repurchase agreements (repos), where lenders flush with shillings offered Sh43.35 billion out of which the regulator took its target of Sh35 billion. Forex traders pointed at excess liquidity as a major cause of the shilling's weakness, further fuelled by the normal end-of-month spike in dollar demand by importers.

The shilling had opened trading Tuesday at an average of 104.07 units to the greenback, but continued to come under pressure weakening to the 104.20 level that was last recorded in October 2015 when a government cash crunch caused a spike in interest rates and a swing in the exchange rate. Forex bureaus were selling dollars for as much as 105 shillings on Monday, CBK data showed.

Liquid market
"The depreciation is a result of a number of factors such as the highly liquid market, rising dollar demand and we are also seeing inflows from flower exports coming in a bit lower. "Interbank market volumes are also low indicating that banks are liquid at the moment," said a forex dealer.

CBK governor Patrick Njoroge last week pointed to the excess liquidity in the market as the chief cause of the weakening of the shilling this month, even as he sought to allay concerns over the exchange rate by pointing to the forex reserves that the regulator can deploy to fight volatility.

"In effect what happened over this period, in addition to higher liquidity, there was more demand of foreign currency relative to the inflows that were coming in. That is what led to depreciation pressure," said Dr Njoroge in the Thursday post-Monetary Policy Committee briefing.

Mopping up or injecting liquidity is one of the tools at CBK's disposal when fighting exchange rate volatility. The regulator can also buy or sell dollars into the market to rebalance supply and demand, although it does not disclose when it does so or the amounts involved.

The official forex reserves fell by \$179



CBK governor Patrick Njoroge.

million (Sh18.6 billion) last week to \$9.57 billion (Sh993 billion), pointing to possible sale of dollars to tame volatility of the shilling. Dealers said that the CBK has largely kept out of the dollar market this week.

Household budgets
If prolonged, however, the current round of depreciation of the shilling is likely to negatively impact household budgets, mainly through higher energy costs and increased cost of transport that eventually filters through to the price of goods.

In the July fuel price review, the adjustment for inflation on excise duty meant that Kenyans missed out on the benefit of lower crude prices in the international markets. The price of petrol went up by Sh0.29 per litre to Sh115.39, while diesel fell by Sh0.88 to Sh103.88 in Nairobi.

A weaker shilling will further weigh on the price of fuel in the next review set for two weeks from now. The price of food—particularly the staple maize flour—has also been going up and, with the likelihood of maize imports, a weak shilling will only add to the cost borne by consumers.

NMB Bank 'determined' to transform subsistence farmers into big-time ones

By The Banker Reporter, Bariadi

THE country's subsistence farmers have full backing from NMB Bank Plc which is committed to graduate them into large scale commercial farmers.

The bank's Western Zone Manager, Sospeter Magesse said here this week at the ongoing annual agriculture trade fair popularly known as Nane Nane that because of the lender's commitment to develop the agriculture it has bankrolled the fair through 30m/- grant.

"We understand the importance of the agriculture sector to the economy of our country hence allocate funds to the sector as priority area," Magesse said while pointing out that the bank has since invested over 600bn/- in the agriculture sector.

He said the bank is attending the fair which is being held here at national level, as part of measures to extend its services and products to broader public including small-holder farmers who constitute the bulk of the country private farming industry.

Magesse pledged to sensitize farmers on the need to run their farms as businesses, borrow from the bank and grow their production to become large scale commercial



Simiyu regional administrative secretary Jumanne Sagini (2nd L) receiving a dummy cheque from NMB Bank Plc's Western Zone Manager, Sospeter Magese, as the bank's sponsorship for the annual agriculture trade fair popularly known as Nane Nane taking place in the region at national level. Photo courtesy of NMB

farmers capable of owning small agro-processing industries.

"Our presence here this year is targeting small scale farmers and pastoralists with various products including sensitising them of modern farming practices relating to cotton, coffee and tobacco. We are also going to inform the farmers that we have loans that will enable them mechanise their farms with tractors," the NMB Western Zone Manager added.

Speaking after receiving NMB's

dummy cheque, Simiyu Regional Administrative Secretary, Jumanne Sagini said NMB has shown its true commitment to work with the government in transforming the agriculture sector from subsistence farming to commercial.

"Through this generous support to the fair which gathers farmers and experts in the field together, NMB is the second main sponsor of the show this year which is an important aspect to the government that's working tirelessly to moder-

nise agriculture," Sagini noted.

He said the government will continue working closely with NMB and other commercial banks to ensure that small scale farmers and businesses assess financing to develop them into big businesses as government targets industrialization and middle income status by 2025.

"The government also appreciate your support to education, health and disaster relief financing which serves our people through better social services," he stated.

MTN's fintech ambitions get Nigerian boost

LAGOS

Pan-African telecoms operator MTN's desire to be an active player in the financial services space on the continent has received a boost.

This as the company announced yesterday it had been granted a licence by the Nigerian Central Bank (CBN) to offer financial services. In a statement, MTN Nigeria says its subsidiary, Yello Digital Financial Services (YDFS), has been

granted a full Super Agent Licence by the CBN.

It notes YDFS received approval in principle for its Super-Agent Licence in December 2018 and has been conducting a pilot project since then to meet the conditions of a full licence. The successful pilot has now led to the granting of a full licence, under which YDFS will distribute financial services to all Nigerians.

The licence enables the launch of

MTN Nigeria's fintech strategy. It will also allow MTN to convert its existing airtime agents and recruit other small businesses to distribute financial services. Buoyed by the CBN licence, the mobile operator says: "This marks a very important first step in leveraging our infrastructure to scale our fintech initiatives."

MTN Nigeria CEO Ferdi Moolman says: "We have also applied for a payment service bank licence,

which will enable us in time to offer a broader and deeper range of financial services to those communities, and we remain hopeful we will receive approval shortly."

The news from Nigeria comes at a time the telco is making an aggressive push in the financial services sector. Over a week ago, MTN appointed former Vodacom chief officer of strategy and M&A, Yolanda Cuba, as group chief digital and fintech officer.

Azania Bank's campaign to mobilise savings in the market facing several challenges - MD

By The Banker Reporter

More often than not, financial institutions, the government (through the relevant ministry), and other stakeholders in the financial sector have been heard lamenting the poor saving culture among most Tanzanians, citing it among the reasons that most citizens are living miserable lives, especially in the sunset of their lives.

Indeed, available statistics indicate that the current domestic savings in the country stand at about 24 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP), with the nation's planners opining that it is only through increased formal savings that the economy and indeed the consumers will be able to ease the nagging domestic credit constraints.

Suffice it to say, lack of savings can cause significant stress which can lead to a host of problems such as depression and hopelessness, thus causing untold suffering to those affected and their immediate families, especially children who are mostly dependant on the victims of the resultant stress.

Moreover, even at the national level, low level of savings reduce the amount of investment in the country, thus affecting the country's overall GDP, argue financial experts. These factors and many others therefore, should serve as a wake-up call to Tanzanians to embrace the culture of saving so as to be ready to face the otherwise unpredictable future with confidence, without undue worry of financial requirements that may come in the way of their daily responsibilities.

It is for this reason that, realizing Tanzanians' predicament, Azania Bank Limited (ABL) is drumming up support for its customers and indeed Tanzanians of all cadres to adopt a saving culture, noting that by saving, individuals will be assured of financial security that will provide them with a safety net in case of an emergency.

To this end, ABL recently launched a campaign dubbed 'Amsha ndoto' (Revive your dreams) with the aim of encouraging



Azania Bank Limited's Managing Director, Charles Itembe.

its customers to embrace a saving culture in order to guarantee a safe and secure financial future. According to the bank, it is its mission to enlighten and motivate customers to adopt a saving culture that will be the cornerstone for the future and that of families. "ABL has over the years been the custodian of its customers' savings and that's why the launch of 'Amsha ndoto' campaign further buttresses our concern for customers' future wellbeing," said ABL Managing Director, Charles Itembe said during the campaign's launch in Dar es Salaam recently.

According to Itembe, the campaign, whose tagline is: 'Weka akiba ushinde tumuwezeshesha ada ya shule,' will run for

three months, from 27th June to 27th September 2019 and will involve the existing and new customers with the main focus being two core saving products, namely: 'Ziada Account' and 'Watoto Account'.

He added that participants in the campaign will receive various awards, saying that all a customer will be required to do to be eligible to participate is to deposit savings not less than 1m/- after which they will receive tokens, enabling them to qualify for the draw to win different prizes. The winning customers will then enjoy an award of 6 percent interest rate on their savings during the campaign period and throughout the year.

"We are therefore, calling upon parents and guardians, the group that is the major culprit of the aftershocks of a poor saving culture, to seize this rare opportunity and open Watoto Account for their children so as to avoid the hassle of financial struggle such as school fees requirements when their children grow up," the ABL's Managing Director, advised.

ABL's initiative sets a precedent to other stakeholders in the financial sector to mobilise consumers to embrace a saving culture not only for their future but also to cushion themselves from eventualities such as medical costs as well as un-called-for shocks such as sudden loss of income and other misfortunes.

ANC still wants central bank to be nationalised - party official

JOHANNESBURG

The plans of South Africa's ruling African National Congress (ANC) to nationalise the central bank will be implemented responsibly and will not affect the institution's mandate or independence, party officials said on Tuesday.

Unlike most central banks in the world, the South African Reserve Bank (Sarb) is privately owned, but the ANC resolved at a party conference in December 2017 to move it into full state ownership.

Party officials on Tuesday sought to emphasise that they would tread carefully after Sarb Governor Lesetja Kganyago said last week that a debate over ownership of the central bank was increasing investor uncertainty and fuelling the risk premium attached to the country's debt.

"Our position on the nationalisation of the reserve bank has not changed," ANC Secretary General Ace Magashule told reporters. "All the decisions which must be implemented, must be implemented in a responsible way," he added.

Alongside the pledge to nationalise the Sarb, a dispute has erupted within the ANC over whether or not to explicitly expand its mandate. According to the constitution, "the primary object of the South African Reserve Bank is to protect the value of the currency in the interest of balanced and sustainable economic growth", and since 2000, the SARB has used an inflation-targeting framework to achieve its monetary policy goals.

Magashule said a meeting of the ANC's national executive committee at the weekend emphasised the party's policy positions on the central bank's independence and constitutional mandate. Those comments struck a contrast to last month, when he said that the party had agreed to explicitly target job creation alongside inflation.

His June comments were disputed by an official aligned with President Cyril Ramaphosa, and the disagreement unnerved investors in Africa's most advanced economy. The Sarb has been privately owned since it was established in 1921. But its shareholders, which include South African banks like Absa and Bidvest as well as private individuals, have no control over monetary policy, financial stability policy or banking regulation.

The party's deputy secretary general Jessie Duarte said the mandate of the Sarb would not change as a product of the bank's nationalisation. "(The mandate) cannot change because of who the shareholder is, that's not the issue," Duarte said. "We stand behind the independence of the Reserve Bank."



Sarb Governor Lesetja Kganyago.

Credit Suisse earnings surge by 45pc

GENEVA

Credit Suisse posted its highest quarterly earnings in four years on Wednesday, hailing frugal cost management as paying off in a tough environment.

Switzerland's second-biggest bank raised earnings 45 per cent in the second quarter through June, well beyond expectations, as costs continued to come down half a year after it wrapped up a three-year overhaul.

"Part of our strategy has been to reduce our fixed costs very heavily, and I think we did that at the right time," chief executive Tidjane Thiam said. "Our view from the start was that it's always going to be a stagnant industry, so we had to take our cost down very severely," he said.

"We're also lucky because we came out with that new platform just at the time when many others are restructuring, and we're benefiting from that," Mr Thiam added.

Credit Suisse shares, which had dropped on Tuesday to their lowest in a month, rose 5 per cent by 11.29 UAE time with analysts noting a clear beat in Global Markets, the capital-heavy trading division which the bank downsized during its overhaul, and solid inflows of fresh client money, an indicator of future earnings for private banks.

"We view these as strong results," Citi analysts wrote in a note. "Global Markets has been the main cause of consensus earnings downgrades over the past 18 months, but has now shown signs of recovery for a second consecutive quarter."

The Zurich-based lender's revenue remained largely flat during the quarter, with a



Credit Suisse CEO Tidjane Thiam.

jump in trading income helping offset a slide in its corporate advisory business.

The bank nonetheless confirmed its ambitions this year to reach a return on tangible equity (RoTE) of between 10 per cent and 11 per cent - double the 5.5 per cent it hit in 2018 - which it aims to achieve through reduced costs and lower tax rates, and which assumes flat revenue for the

year. Geopolitical twists have created a rocky backdrop for private and investment banks, with transaction levels and client sentiment susceptible to uncertainties ranging from central bank rate cuts to Chinese-US trade relations and Brexit.

Rival UBS last week posted a 1 per cent net profit rise as strength in its Swiss business

helped offset weakness in wealth management. Tepid trading from wealthy clients saw adjusted profit slide 19 per cent at Julius Baer.

At Credit Suisse a 937 million Swiss franc (Dh3.47bn) net profit was well ahead of the bank's own consensus for 788m francs. Revenues from equity sales and trading rose 3 per cent, with management pointing to further gains in

market share. Fixed-income sales and trading revenues rose 11 per cent, both ahead of peers.

The bank gave a mixed outlook, saying it had seen healthy levels of client engagement thus far in the third quarter, but adding market conditions would impact whether that engagement ultimately translated into a pickup in activity.

MTN Rwanda mulls listing on bourse, eyes stake in KTRN

KIGALI

MTN Rwanda, the country's biggest telco is considering direct listing on the Rwanda Stock Exchange (RSE), sources said, disclosing that the firm is also weighing options of acquiring stake in Korea Telecom Rwanda Network (KTRN).

If successful, the development could give the public the opportunity to own more than the 20 per cent share of the firm - currently held through Crystal Telecom Limited. According to sources familiar with the arrangements, South African based MTN Group - which owns 80 per cent of MTN Rwanda - has begun engaging local authorities on the matter.

Without divulging details, sources said that management and shareholders were confident of securing green light from capital market regulators. A direct listing is preferred by firms that want to do a public listing but may not want to use underwriters or may not want to dilute existing shares by creating new ones or may want to avoid lockup agreements.

In the event of a direct listing, rather than create new shares, existing investors holding shares of the company can directly sell their shares to the public. Direct Listing is often considered by firms as more convenient in comparison to the Initial Public Offering (IPO), which requires brokers, is time consuming and often costly.

Listing MTN Rwanda will, among other things, have implications on its

corporate governance practices, leadership and influence on its priorities. Experts say that listing on the local bourse would give MTN Rwanda more autonomy from its parent company as well as more local representation on its board. MTN Rwanda Chief Executive, Bart Hofker, declined to comment on the matter as he was travelling. MTN Rwanda's performance for the year 2018 ended on a positive note with revenues growing by 21.6 per cent to Rwf102.8 billion.

The company's earnings before interest, tax, depreciation and amortisation stood at Rwf30.1 billion as at the end of December while the net profit recorded was Rwf7.7 billion. To support growth of revenue, MTN Rwanda would like to have direct access 4G LTE and is interested in buying a stake or take over KTRN with discussions currently at group level. For 2019, the firm is optimistic on improved performance following a positive half year performance.

According to details from a conference call between the telco's management and African Alliance, a continental investment banking group, the first half year 2019 in comparison to the first half of 2018, revenue growth was at 27.3 per cent year on year.

The New Times has also established that MTN Rwanda is weighing up options of acquiring stake in Korea Telecom Rwanda Network (KTRN) as it moves to strengthen its position in Rwanda's data market.

Concerns as government establishes an 'independent' taxation arbitrator

By Jovin Bachwa

Finance and Planning minister, Dr Phillip Mpango presented the 2019/20 budget to parliament on 13th June this year. The speech and later on the Finance Bill contained several proposals, which were discussed by the lawmakers and passed the proposed changes into the Finance Act 2019.

Subsequent to the parliamentary discussions, The Finance Act 2019 was then assented to on 30th June 2019 by President John Magufuli to officially become legally binding. Among proposals that caused heated debate within parliament and among the general public, was that of establishing an office of a Tax Ombudsman.

As we may recall on 07 June 2019 (just six days before the budget speech), President Magufuli met with the business community with representations from each district in the country to discuss various challenges that the private sector faces and find a way forward on resolving them.

The meeting brought into perspective the relationship between the business community and the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) which could be clearly described as hostile. The business community cited various challenges that they were undergoing which was squarely blamed on TRA.

To heal the situation, the government through the budget speech proposed to establish the office of Tax Ombudsman to act as an independent tax arbitrator and tax adjudicator with regard to the tax payers' complaints against the revenue authority going forward. This proposal has now become the law as per the recently issued Finance Act No.8 of 2019.

The Tax Ombudsman who will be appointed by the Minister of Finance and Economic Planning will be responsible for reviewing and addressing any complaints by a taxpayer regarding service procedural or administrative matters arising in the course of administering tax laws by the TRA, the Commissioner General or a staff of the revenue authority.

The Tax Ombudsman will be charged with the following specific duties: reviewing complaints and where necessary resolve them amicably through mediation or conciliation; act independently and impartially in resolving complaints; follow informal, fair and cost effective procedures in resolving complaints; and provide information, awareness and training to taxpayers on tax



ombudsman services in general.

Other duties also include to facilitate access by taxpayer to dispute resolution within the TRA and also identify, review tax administrative issues related to customer service, or procedures and behaviours which impact negatively on tax payers.

The puzzle surrounding the Tax Ombudsman's independence

The establishment of the Tax Ombudsman has brought up mixed feelings among the general public with regard to the possibility of conflict of interest and absolute independence of the Tax Ombudsman's office as stated below;

In addition to being appointed by the Finance Minister, the Tax Ombudsman is required to directly submit all his findings to the minister as recommendations for his deliberations and directives.

Furthermore, the Tax Ombudsman shall hold office for a renewable period of three years under such terms and conditions regarding remuneration as the

minister may determine. Also the Minister shall prescribe the regulations governing the conduct of the Tax Ombudsman.

In light of the above, it is evident that the Minister has influential control and decisive power over the existence and discharge of duties in relation to the Tax Ombudsman, and may pose to be the initial obstacle towards reaching the primary objective for establishment of the office.

It should also be noted that, in Tanzania the Finance Minister is also in charge of administering tax on aspects such as granting value added tax exemptions. The tricky part is that, what will happen if there comes a time that some of the complaints are unswervingly about the minister with regard to his role in administering tax?

Moreover, whilst the Tax Ombudsman's office has the obligation to directly submit all findings of the 'supposedly accused' to the minister as recommendations for his deliberations and directives; the same office is charged

with carrying out its functions independently and impartially without interference from any institution, agency or department of the government or any other person.

In view of the above, there is no doubt that, there are some instances of existence of the conflict of interest between the minister and the Tax Ombudsman under such circumstances and a threat to independence of the latter. Such scenario leaves taxpayers at crossroads like those who also complained to the President about bureaucracy from the Ministry. I note there is a section which indicates taxpayers are not bound by the decision of the Tax Ombudsman, however, there is one saying that goes, one needs to be independent, not only in mind but also in appearance.

My take

The establishment of the office of Tax Ombudsman Services is a great move by the government towards establishing an alternative dispute resolution mechanism, considering the unnecessary bureaucracy by tax administrators. This office will change the negative attitude among taxpayers towards the revenue authority, encourage fairness in tax administration, speedup tax disputes and make the system free from bureaucracy. The aim is to enforce quality services by the TRA to taxpayers.

As appealing as the benefits of the establishment of a Tax Ombudsman office may sound, care should be taken in the whole procedure of establishment of this office to avoid unnecessary conflicts of interests and threats to independence.

If the sensitivity and prominence of the functions to be done by the Tax Ombudsman could be put into more consideration; and in order to achieve the required independence, without interferences, my suggestion is to give protection and establishment of the Tax Ombudsman office similar to the ones given to the Controller and Auditor General (CAG).

This measure would minimize the minister's influential control and decisive power over the existence and discharge of duties by the Tax Ombudsman.

NB:

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Airtel Kenya sinks deeper as losses pile up to Sh68bn

NAIROBI

Airtel Kenya's auditors have raised the red flag on the company's financial health after the telecommunications firm posted a Sh2.89 billion loss last year, raising its cumulative losses to Sh68.09 billion.

Airtel, which is in merger negotiations with the government-owned Telkom Kenya, is now insolvent to the tune of Sh8.14 billion after the gap between its liabilities and assets widened further from the Sh2.86 billion recorded in 2017. The firm halved its annual loss from Sh5.8 billion in 2017, but losses accumulated over the years and an increasing debt load pushed the company into a precarious financial position.

"These conditions, along with other matters... indicate the existence of a material uncertainty which may cast significant doubt on the company's ability to continue as a going concern," warns Airtel's auditors Deloitte.

The company's weak financial position is in sharp contrast to market leader Safaricom, which posted a record Sh63.4 billion after-tax profit in the last financial year ended March 31. Airtel is awaiting regulatory approvals to merge with Telkom Kenya, the country's third-largest telecommunications firm.

The firm's losses deepened on the back of increased operating, finance, administrative and distribution costs, gobbling close to Sh22 billion of the telco's revenue. Its distribution costs jumped to Sh250.6 million from Sh55.6 million in 2017, partly driven by arbitration talks it had entered into with some of its distributors in 2015 after they filed a lawsuit challenging its commission rates.

Sharp decline

Revenue from the sale of goods (accessories and handsets) recorded a sharp decline to Sh45 million from Sh677.2 million in 2017, pointing to either a struggling Airtel shops business model, or the firm's shift away from that business line.

The negative asset position means Airtel would have been unable to meet its financial obligations maturing this year, even if it sold all assets that could be readily liquidated.

"The directors acknowledge that the continued existence of the company as a going concern depends on the outcomes of various strategic measures that the directors continue to pursue to return the company to profitability and continued financial support from the company's shareholders and bankers," states the board in a note accompanying the financial statements.

The directors say they have obtained a

commitment from its major shareholder to obtain additional funding to meet its obligations as they fall due. The telco has seen a rise in its shareholder loans to Sh47.5 billion in 2018, up from Sh43.4 billion in 2017.

These loans are from its holding firm Bharti Airtel Kenya BV, and are supposed to be payable in full by December 2021. They are unsecured and carry an interest charge of three percent per annum. Airtel's borrowings last year shrunk to Sh5.9 billion, from Sh8.52 billion in 2017. It owes Citi and Standard Chartered banks billions of shillings. The telecommunications firm has also seen its taxes due to the Kenya Revenue Authority rise to Sh9.4 billion as at last year.

Subscriber numbers

Airtel Kenya is now focused on its subscriber numbers, churn rate and revenue per user targets to turn around its fortunes. Its subscriber base rose by 45 percent last year to more than 13 million, pushing its revenue up by 23 percent.

Airtel's subscriber growth comes on the back of a prolonged tariff war with Safaricom, which saw it launch the lowest call rates in a promotional offer recently. The firm recorded a rise in its revenue to Sh20.5 billion in 2018, up from Sh16.78 billion the previous year, pushed by voice income which increased to Sh10 billion, up from Sh7.7 billion the previous year.

Airtel Kenya also saw a rise in its data revenue to stand at Sh5.5 billion at the end of December last year, from Sh3.7 billion over a similar period in 2017. The firm also booked a Sh618 million loss on suspected fraud by its employees last year, via its Airtel Money platform, of which it has since been paid Sh86 million by its insurer AIG Kenya in March this year.

"In 2018, incidents of cash control frauds were identified in the Airtel Money operations in Kenya, which involved circumvention of its controls by Airtel Money employees and resulted in loss of Sh670 million," the firm's parent company said early this month through its Initial Public Offer prospectus.

"While Airtel Africa has introduced enhanced controls, including increased segregation of duties, daily reconciliations and technical restrictions on the transfer of funds to non-Airtel bank accounts, the risk of fraudulent activity by individuals employed by or working in partnership with the Group cannot be eliminated completely, and it may be liable for fraud and problems related to inadequately securing its payment systems.

Mubadala's assets and income surge in 2018 in spite of tough markets globally

ABU DHABI

Mubadala Investment Company recorded a significant rise in both comprehensive income and assets under management in 2018 as Abu Dhabi's strategic investment arm continued to invest globally, despite tough market conditions and macroeconomic headwinds.

Comprehensive income increased 21 per cent in fiscal 2018 to Dh12.5 billion from a year earlier, Mubadala said in its annual review released on Monday. In line with its strategy to diversify its investment base, Mubadala monetised a number of its mature assets, realising a total of Dh55.4bn in funds, it said.

Mubadala's capital investment surged to Dh70.1bn for the reporting period. The company, which invests globally on behalf of the Abu Dhabi Government, took stakes in ventures across new geographies and sectors including specialty pharma, MedTech and agribusiness, taking assets under management up to Dh841bn, an 80 per cent year-on-year jump.

Capital investments and managed assets both include contributions from the Abu Dhabi Investment Council, which merged with Mubadala last year amid a consolidation of wealth funds in the emirate, the company said.

"Mubadala is operating as a global investor to drive financial returns and strategic value for Abu Dhabi, towards a vision of an internationally-connected and future-focused economic base," said Khaldoon Al Mubarak, Mubadala's group chief executive and managing director.

"The addition of the Abu Dhabi Investment Council was a transformational step, strengthening our position as an international investor across different sectors," he said.

Mubadala, which merged with International Petroleum Investment Company in 2017, is at the heart of the government's plans to diversify Abu Dhabi's revenue base and generate income from sources other than oil. Bringing Adic into its fold has significantly increased Mubadala's scale as an investor and

expanded its global outreach. At home, the company has stakes in Emirates Global Aluminium; green-energy company Masdar; property developer Aldar; and a host of other companies including Abu Dhabi's diversified investment company Aabar, which has stakes in commodity trader Glencore and Italian bank UniCredit.

Mubadala's international investments include a shareholding in General Electric; private equity company Carlyle Group; Spanish refiner Cepsa; Austria's OMV; and petrochemicals companies Borealis from Austria and Nova Chemicals of Canada.

Mubadala is a cornerstone investor in SoftBank Group's \$100bn (Dh367.25bn) Vision Fund, with commitments of \$15bn. The company last year also joined hands with SoftBank and launched a \$400 million fund to invest in European technology companies.

"Technological disruption is creating the potential for value across all sectors, which is an opportunity

for us to deepen our position as a major global investor," Mr Al Mubarak said. "We are also activating our investments and relationships to establish Abu Dhabi as the technology hub for the Mena region."

As well as venturing into new investment sectors last year, Mubadala invested "additional and recycled capital" across the group's existing sectors including technology, aerospace, commodities and financial services.

The company has opened new offices in Moscow and San Francisco as it seeks returns in a broad range of geographies and asset classes. These offices add to its presence in Rio De Janeiro, and in Hong Kong through a joint venture. Earlier this year, Mubadala also opened an office in New York City. Mubadala reduced its corporate debt through a combination of repayments, new issuances and favourable foreign exchange movements, it said, without elaborating.

INDEPTHREPORT



Airtel Africa CEO and MD, Raghunath Mandava.

WORLD

Sanders, Warren under fire at 2nd round of 2020 Democratic debates

DETROIT

PROGRESSIVE candidates Bernie Sanders and Elizabeth Warren bore the brunt of attacks from more moderate rivals in the second round of US Democratic debates on Tuesday, spotlighting the ideological divide among the party's crowded presidential field.

The Democrats on stage were united in stressing the urgency of defeating Republican President Donald Trump in the November 2020 election, but delivered bruising critiques of their party rivals' positions on issues like healthcare and immigration.

Trump has been eager to paint the entire Democratic field asocialists, seeking to make any eventual nominee untenable to voters by arguing Democrats want to raise taxes, open the US borders and take away private healthcare.

The dispute between the moderate and liberal wings of the Democratic Party highlighted central question of the nominating contest: Which candidate in field of more than two dozen would be best positioned to beat Trump next year?

Montana Governor Steve Bullock,

participating in his first presidential debate, opened by criticizing his fellow candidates for being too liberal in the opening round of debates last month in Miami.

"Watching that last debate, folks seemed more concerned about scoring points or outdoing each other with wish-list economics than making sure Americans know we hear their voices and will help their lives," Bullock said.

Progressives argued their policies would excite voters and allow them to draw a distinct contrast to Trump.

Taking a jab at former US Representative John Delaney, who often played the role of liberal foil during the debate, Warren said: "I don't understand why anybody goes to all the trouble of running for president of the United States to talk about what we really can't do and shouldn't fight for."

As the front-runners in the polls among the candidates debating on Tuesday, Sanders and Warren, both US senators, often found themselves defending the policy positions they share.

"I get a little bit tired of Democrats afraid of big ideas. Republicans are not afraid of big ideas," Sanders said.

Healthcare, immigration



Senator Bernie Sanders, I-Vt, and Senator Elizabeth Warren, D-Mass, embrace after the first of two Democratic presidential primary debates hosted by CNN, on Tuesday, in the Fox Theatre in Detroit. (AP)

The debate quickly turned to a dispute about the future of the US healthcare system, and whether Democrats should embrace Medicare for All proposals that would have government take over the health insurance industry.

Some contenders argued the proposal pushed by the progressives would take private insurance away from people who currently prefer their coverage and force a tax increase on the middle class.

"Why do we have to be the party of taking something away from people?" said Delaney, who has been critical of Medicare for All.

He argued that Democrats should not back proposals that would eliminate private insurance.

"They are running on telling half the country that your health insurance is illegal," Delaney said, pointing to Warren and Sanders.

Warren interjected to defend the proposal.

"We're not trying to take healthcare away from anyone. That's what Republicans are trying to do." Sanders, who has introduced a Medicare for All bill in the US Senate, said: "Healthcare is a human right, not a privilege. I believe that, I will fight for that."

The candidates also differed on immigration policy - disagreeing on whether illegal border crossings should be decriminalized.

"You don't have to decriminalize everything," Bullock said.

"What you have to do is to have a president in there with the judgment and the decency to treat someone that comes to the border like one of our own."

Warren disagreed, saying: "We need to expand legal immigration, we need to create a path for citizenship not just for dreamers but for grandmas and for people who have been working here in the farms and for students who have overstayed their visas."

"You are playing into Donald Trump's hands," Bullock said.

Lower-tier candidates were aiming to produce the kind of post-debate surge that US Senator Kamala Harris enjoyed after a strong performance in the first debate after confronting front-runner Joe Biden on the issue of race.

The two nights in Detroit could be the last chance for many contenders to debate on the national stage, as the Democratic National Committee will double its fundraising and polling requirements to qualify for participation in the next debates in September and October.

Ten more candidates were expected to face off yesterday night, including Biden and Harris.

Agencies

S. African parliament votes to bail out embattled SOEs

CAPE TOWN

SOUTH Africa's National Council of Provinces (NCOP), or Upper House of Parliament, has passed the 2019 Appropriation Bill designed to bail out embattled state-owned enterprises (SOEs).

The NCOP passed the bill on Tuesday without any amendments and it will now be sent to President Cyril Ramaphosa for assent, parliamentary spokesperson Moloto Mothapo said.

This is done in line with Section 213 of the Constitution and Section 26 of the Public Finance Management Act (PFMA) which require Parliament to approve any

withdrawal of money from the National Revenue Fund for allocation and expenditure by state organs, said Mothapo (pictured).

The bill, which has been agreed to by both Houses of Parliament, authorizes the allocation of money from the National Revenue Fund (NRF) to various state institutions to enable its expenditure, Mothapo said.

The National Assembly, or Lower House of Parliament, passed the bill at its plenary sitting on July 23.

The bill was tabled by Minister of Finance Tito Mboweni in Parliament in February. A number of South Africa's SOEs, notably electricity utility Eskom, have been in



financial trouble, posing a threat to the country's economic development.

With the bill passed, Eskom will get additional financial support so as to avoid a systemic collapse.

The bill requests approval of additional 26 billion rand (about

1.83 billion U.S. dollars) in 2019/20 financial year and 33 billion rand (about 2.3 billion dollars) in the 2020/21 financial year for the state-run parastatal.

Earlier the government committed 23 billion rand (about 1.6 billion dollars) to be allocated to Eskom over the next three years in the current fiscal framework.

Staggering under a heavy debt of 450 billion rand (about 31.6 billion dollars), Eskom, which provides more than 95 percent of the electricity consumed in South Africa, has been unable to provide sufficient electricity for the past decade, particularly for the past recent years when constant load

shedding is implemented across the country.

The utility, crippled by poor management and alleged corruption, is seen as the biggest risk to the fiscal framework because of its financial problems and negative impact on the economy.

Also on Tuesday, Eskom reported a record loss of 20.7 billion rand (about 1.45 billion dollars) for the year to March, highlighting the severity of the threat it poses to South Africa's economy. The government said it is urgently working on stabilizing the utility, while developing a broad strategy for its future to prevent it from collapse.

Xinhua

Rwanda installs thermal cameras at entry points for Ebola surveillance

KIGALI

RWANDA has installed thermal cameras at some entry points at risk zones to reinforce Ebola surveillance.

About 12 cameras have so far been installed at selected entry points including some border posts with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and Kigali International Airport, and more are to be installed, Malick Kayumba, Head of Rwanda Health Communication Center at Rwanda Bio-

medical Center, told Xinhua in a phone interview on Tuesday.

Without mentioning when exactly the Ebola screeners started to use cameras, Kayumba said about 12 cameras have so far been installed at selected entry points and the installation is still ongoing.

The cameras used for measuring temperature detect people who might have fever and can alert health officials at the entry points, he said, adding that the development helps speed up the



process of screening travelers.

The government is trying to do its best to strengthen its capacity to prevent, detect and respond to Ebola, according to him.

It also recently increased the number of Ebola screeners at the borders with DRC working in shifts to screen all travellers entering the country, he said.

This week marked one year since the start of the ongoing Ebola outbreak in DRC that has already killed more than 1,700 people, making it the second worst

Ebola outbreak in history.

Rwandan hospitals on Tuesday started Ebola simulation drills for front-line healthworkers to strengthen their readiness to prevent and manage Ebola in case of any outbreak in the country.

The World Health Organization last week commended Rwanda on its ongoing Ebola preparedness efforts and confirmed that no cases of Ebola have been reported from the central African country.

Xinhua

Nigeria officially outlaws religious group after violent protests

ABUJA

NIGERIA'S Inspector General of Police Mohammed Adamu has officially declared Islamic Movement in Nigeria (IMN), also known as the Shi'ites Movement, an outlawed group banned from organizing protests in the country.

Anyone associated with the Shi'ites group or found promoting their agenda will henceforth be treated as a terrorist and an enemy of the state, Adamu said on Tuesday at a press conference in the Nigerian capital, Abuja.

The proscription of the religious group followed a number of violent protests held in agitation for the release of their spiritual leader Sheikh Ibrahim El-Zakzaky and his wife who had been in "protective custody" since 2015.

A federal High Court in Abuja gave the order that the group should be proscribed following an ex parte application by the federal government before the court last Thursday.

Through the judicial pronouncement, the Nigerian government has classified IMN as a terrorist group and accordingly proscribed, Adamu said.

He said the activities of the IMN had over time evolved to constitute a grave threat to national security, law and order, socio-religious harmony, peace, good governance and the sovereign integrity of Nigeria.

"The members of the IMN have engaged in extreme radicalism, series of terror-related activities, violence and other unlawful activities which are inimical to the national security interest, good governance, and the corporate existence of the Federal Republic of Nigeria," said the national police chief.

According to Adamu, over the years, the religious group had manifested its penchant for launching attacks on Nigerians and the symbols of state authority, which includes engaging in nefarious activities and "pledging allegiance to foreign countries from where they are enjoying political, financial and training support with the aim of advancing their destabilizing intents within Nigeria."

Among many allegations against the group include setting up of a paramilitary guard, through which the police chief said the IMN has been terrorizing local residents.

"They have also instituted unregistered security outfits and performed paramilitary ceremonies, hoisting of flags, combat exercises, parades and inspection by the IMN leader reminiscent of state authority.

"Unauthorized blocking of public highways, engagement in illegal road blocks, imposition of illegal curfews and checkpoints, raids on security assets, prevention of arrest of their members, invasion of court premises to abort legal proceedings involving IMN members, refusal to submit to ordinary security checks and attacks on security agents which led to the death of several Nigerians," Adamu added.

The government had filed the suit to proscribe the religious organization in court after the Shi'ites group clashed twice with the police in Abuja within one month. A march for the release of El-Zakzaky and his wife turned violent on July 9 when hundreds of protesters invaded the national parliament in Abuja.

At least eight police officers were injured and 40 protesters arrested during and after the clash. The second clash came about two weeks later, on July 22. And it left a senior police officer and a young journalist serving with a local broadcaster killed, with many others injured and properties destroyed.

Xinhua

Hong Kong police charge 45 people following illegal assembly

HONG KONG

POLICE force of China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region said on Tuesday that 45 people were charged with rioting, assaulting police officer and possession of offensive weapons respectively after a recent illegal assembly.

The illegal assembly was held in the Western District on Hong Kong Island on Sunday, during which the protesters set up roadblocks by umbrellas, wooden planks, bamboo sticks and railings, piled up pavement bricks, demolished roadside fences and damaged street signs and lampposts, according to the police. They also attacked police officers at scene with lethal weapons such as bricks and sharpened iron rods.

Although the police repeatedly asked the protesters who charged the police cordon lines to leave the illegal assembly immediately, the protesters continued to perform various peace-breaching acts and attacked police officers.

After repeated warnings were ignored, the police took dispersal action at around 7 p.m. on Sunday to restore social order, during which the police arrested 49 people including 32 men and 17 women, aged between 16 and 41.

After investigation and seeking legal advice, the police charged 44 people for rioting. Among them, a 33-year-old man was also charged with assaulting police officer. Separately, a 24-year-old man was charged with possession of offensive weapons.

Xinhua

Chinese economy dismays naysayers amid trade consultation with US

BEIJING

WHEN China and the United States held the latest round of trade consultation, the Chinese economy showed steady performance and strong resilience, dismaying naysayers at a key moment of negotiation with the U.S. side.

The country's GDP grew 6.3 percent year on year in the first half of this year, showing that China is still a relatively fast-growing and healthy economy.

At a Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee meeting held on Tuesday, the Chinese authority assessed that the country's economy maintained steady

upward momentum, with the main macroeconomic indicators remaining in the reasonable range. It will maintain the basic tune of "seeking progress while maintaining stability" for its economic work and continue to promote supply-side structural reform.

When the U.S. side holds up the "big stick" of tariffs, some people shout "China's situation is very bad," and even fabricate false statements that "China has lost 5 million jobs."

These are just a microcosm of the long-term vision of some foreign institutions or people looking at China's economy through colored glasses.

These people either unilaterally exaggerate the difficulties encountered

in China's economic development or turn a blind eye to the potential and resilience of China's economic development. Their remarks have been proved untenable.

Those naysayers are clearly still judging the Chinese economy by speed of growth. In fact, the Chinese economy is already in transition from a phase of rapid growth to a stage of high-quality development.

In the first half of this year, 7.37 million new urban jobs were created, and 19,400 new enterprises were established per day.

Consumption contributed 60.1 percent to economic growth, and the tertiary industry contributed 60.3 percent to GDP growth. It is safe to

say that the Chinese economy is in a stable and firm pattern, and more progress is in sight.

Over the past 70 years since the founding of the People's Republic of China, China's development has gone through ups and downs, and there have been many doubts over China's growth.

However, China has time and again delivered surprisingly nice growth factsheets to the world, allowing people who do not like China to re-examine and respect China.

The Political Bureau meeting has sent a positive signal to the world. Although China's current development is facing new risks and challenges with downward pressure, it has always

placed more emphasis on structural adjustment and reform and opening-up rather than short-term stimulus policies, demonstrating its determination and confidence to vigorously promote high-quality development.

According to the meeting, China will continue to implement the proactive fiscal policy and prudent monetary policy and adhere to the principle of "housing is for living in, not for speculation."

Fiscal policy could be intensified and the monetary policy also has room for adjustment if necessary, therefore China has ample policy ammunition to cope with downside risks.

Meanwhile, the old memories of relying on short-term speculation

Xinhua

US, Japan seek talks as DPRK fires 2 short-range missiles

SEOUL/BANGKOK/TOKYO

THE Republic of Korea (ROK) said yesterday the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) fired two short-range ballistic missiles off its east coast, as Japan and the United States sought to keep lines of communication with the DPRK open.

ROK's Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said the two missiles were launched at 5:06 am and 5:27 am local time each near DPRK's eastern city of Wonsan, traveling about 250 km at an altitude of some 30 km.

ROK military was maintaining defense posture, while monitoring relevant situations in preparation for a possibly additional missile launch, the JCS said.

"North Korea's actions do not help ease military tensions, nor do they help keep the momentum for talks that are under way," ROK Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha told reporters, Reuters reports. She urged the DPRK to halt the missile launches.

The DPRK is also referred to North Korea.

Later in the day, the National Security Council (NSC) standing committee of the Blue House expressed strong concern about the DPRK's launch.

The committee said DPRK's missile firings could have a negative effect on efforts to build peace on the Korean Peninsula, instructing the military to closely monitor relevant situations and thoroughly maintain defense posture.

The committee members vowed to continue diplomatic efforts for the resumption of negotiations to denuclearize the peninsula.

The DPRK's new move came less than a week after the country's launch of two short-range ballistic missiles



People watch a TV showing a file image of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea's missile launch during a news program at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, the Republic of Korea, yesterday. (AP)

that were fired near the same Wonsan area.

A ROK defense official said initial estimates showed the missiles, dubbed the KN-23s, fired on Wednesday could be similar to those last week, although they were still working to confirm details, reports Reuters.

ROK defense minister Jeong Kyeong-doo told a defense forum in Seoul that stopping a missile like the KN-23 would be difficult, although ROK's missile defense systems would be able to detect and intercept them.

ROK's defense ministry also told lawmakers in Seoul it had concluded that a new submarine the DPRK showcased last week was capable of carrying up to three ballistic missiles.

Following the latest DPRK's move, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

said in Bangkok he's very hopeful for a quick resumption in nuclear talks with the DPRK despite DPRK's recent weapons tests that have clouded already uncertain prospects for a return to the table, AP reports.

He told reporters accompanying him to an Asian security conference that some preliminary work on a new round of talks has been done but no dates have been set.

He said he's waiting to see if DPRK's foreign minister comes to Bangkok for the Association of Southeast Asian Nations Regional Forum and is confident they will meet if he does, according to AP. The State Department said the lead US negotiator, Stephen Biegun, will be in Bangkok for DPRK-related discussions but has not released his schedule.

In Tokyo, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said the DPRK's latest missile launch has no impact on Japan's security, and that Japan was working with its allies over the situation in the region, reports Reuters.

Separately, Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga said Japan would continue to seek a summit with the DPRK without conditions.

Yesterday's launches came hours after a senior US official said US President Donald Trump sent DPRK top leader Kim Jong-un mementos from his brief visit to an inter-Korean border town late last month, according to AP.

The official said a top staffer from the National Security Council hand-delivered photographs from the leaders' June meeting at the Korean Demilitarized Zone to a DPRK official last week. The Trump administration official spoke on the condition of anonymity because the official wasn't authorized to speak publicly. **Agencies**

Europe's record heatwave threatens Greenland ice sheet

LONDON/GENEVA

BRITAIN has officially had its hottest day on record.

The Met Office, Britain's weather agency, said the temperature reached 38.7 C at Cambridge University Botanic Garden in eastern England during last week's heat wave.

The temperature was recorded Thursday and confirmed Monday after "quality control and analysis" by the Met Office.

The previous UK record was 38.5 C, set in August 2003.

Temperature records fell across Europe last week as a suffocating heat wave swept up from the Sahara.

The United Nations warned on Friday that the hot air that smashed European weather records last week looks set to move towards Greenland and could cause record melting of the world's second largest ice sheet.

Clare Nullis, spokeswoman for the UN World Meteorological Organization, said the hot air moving up from North Africa had not merely broken European temperature records on Thursday but surpassed them by 2, 3 or 4 degrees Celsius, which she described as "absolutely incredible".

"According to forecasts, and this is of concern, the atmospheric flow is now going to transport that heat towards Greenland," she told a regular UN briefing in Geneva.

"This will result in high temperatures and consequently enhanced melting of the Greenland ice sheet," she said. "We don't know yet whether it will beat the 2012 level, but it's close."

Nullis cited data from Denmark's Polar Portal, which measures the daily gains and losses in surface mass of the Greenland Ice Sheet. **Agencies**

Simple solar drying technology helps Kenyan farmers conserve produce

NAIROBI

FOR many years, Kenyan farmers have been drying their produce that include maize, beans and cassavas using the sun.

The crops would be spread on polythene sheet and dried openly under the sun. This method, however, came with many challenges that included contamination and loss of grains to birds.

The outmoded drying method is currently being replaced by simple home-made solar drying technology that is not only effective in ensuring that produce has low moisture content but it also extends its shelf-life.

The solar dryers are made using ordinary timber and poles and covered with a black polythene liner, making it look like a greenhouse.

Inside the dryer, one then makes shelves preferably from small-holed wire mesh where the produce is placed for drying.

"The black liner helps to attract the heat from the sun enabling the produce to dry faster, in about two to four days but maximum a week if the intensity of the sun is little especially when it rains," Vincent Kinyua, a farmer in Nyeri County, said Tuesday.

On the other hand, a wire-mesh is used as shelf to ensure that heat penetrates the produce well and from the different directions to allow thorough drying.

The dryers have helped farm-



Drying within a solar dryer protects the yield against spoiling by rain or wind and animals.

ers across the east African nation to conserve their produce and add value to it.

Away from maize, beans, sorghum, cassava and sweet potatoes, the farmers are using the structures to dry fruits like bananas, pineapples and pumpkins, mushrooms, fish and traditional vegetables.

"It's close to two years since I started using the solar dryer after learning about the technology from a non-state organization. It has enabled me process bananas that I grow into flour," said Kinyua, noting before drying the bananas,

they are peeled and chopped into smaller pieces.

Thanks to the solar dryer, the farmer now has his own flour brand that he sells in churches, field days and local markets at 60 Kenyan shillings (0.58 U.S. dollars) a kilo.

Benson Aparo, who grows mushrooms and uses a simple dryer to dry them, noted that the technology has helped him extend the shelf-life of his produce.

"Once I harvest the mushroom, I dry them in my solar dryer which gives me time to sell for a longer period," he said.

Beatrice Macharia of Growth Point, an agro consultancy, noted that solar drying is a cost-effective and greener way of drying produce.

"Unlike electricity or firewood, solar drying comes with very little costs since one depends on the sun," she noted, adding that the fact that the produce is put in the greenhouse-like structures ensures that they are free from contamination.

"This is what the small farmer needs in Kenya to curb post-harvest losses and make more cash," she said, adding that the fact that the dryer using materials readily available on the farm makes the technology suitable.

According to Macharia, a good solar dryer should have an air inlet, drying chamber fitted and a chimney.

"The inlet allows air to flow through the structure but most farmers don't consider it perhaps because theirs are simple structures. Wire mesh is recommended for use because it allows free flow of hot air which hastens the drying of farm produce," she said.

Xinhua

Zimbabwe removes controversial clause from proposed marriage bill

HARARE

THE Zimbabwe Cabinet has directed that a controversial clause in the proposed Marriages Amendment Bill be removed following public outcry that it sought to legitimize extramarital relationships by recognizing civil partnerships between men and women.

Clause 40 of the proposed Bill, which was gazetted recently, would have allowed adult men and women who are not married but have lived together domestically to be regarded as partners in what is known as a civil partnership.

Civil partnerships would have been recognized even if either or both the partners are married to someone else under customary law or in a civil marriage.

Upon dissolution of the civil partnership, the partners would have been entitled to the same remedies as legally spouses on divorce.

But after concerns were raised during public consultations on the Bill, Cabinet on Tuesday resolved to remove the section, State news agency New Ziana reported on Tuesday.

The news agency quoted Information, Publicity and Broadcasting Services Minister Monica Mutsvangwa telling journalists after a Cabinet meeting that members had sought clarification from the Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Ziyambi Ziyambi on the contentious section.

"Following the explanation by the minister, Cabinet observed



Minister of Justice, Legal and Parliamentary Affairs Ziyambi Ziyambi

that the concept of a civil union or partnership is foreign and not consistent with Zimbabwe's cultural norms as well as its Christian values," she said.

Accordingly, Cabinet has directed that Section 40 which bears reference to civil partnerships be removed forthwith from the proposed Marriages Amendment Bill," she said.

Attorney General Prince Machaya said the idea behind Section 40 in the Bill had been to protect rights of either partner in the event of a break up.

"Civil partnerships were created in that draft Bill solely for purposes of distribution of assets of the people involved in that union when they go their separate ways," he said.

"It (civil partnership) is not recognized, it is not a marriage but it was merely out of considerations of fairness that it was felt that when these people move apart the one who is more economically empowered should not use their economic empowerment to

the detriment of the other partner. "Let a court decide who should have what. That was the sole purpose of referring to that as a civil partnership."

Machaya added that it seemed this was being misunderstood as a form of marriage, which was an affront to cultural values. "Cabinet has looked into all those other issues apart from the issue of fairness and decided we should remove reference to civil partnerships," he said.

He said without that provision, partners in an unrecognized union were not entitled to claim protection that people in recognized marriages were entitled to.

"When two people just move and live together they have rights they have as individuals, their living together does not confer any additional rights upon them.

So a person who enters into such an arrangement and is thereafter left by the other party can only claim such rights as they had as an individual," he said.

Xinhua

Dialogue mediation panel in Algeria likely to fail amid authority's intransigence

ALGIERS

SPOKESPERSON of the Independent Panel for National Dialogue and Mediation in Algeria on Tuesday said the group is likely to be dissolved if the authority does not respond positively before any dialogue with the political class to find a way out of the crisis hitting the North African nation.

Karim Younes, head of the dialogue mediation panel composed of six independent individuals, told the state-run radio channel I that "we have set a

couple of appeasement conditions, including the release of people arrested during the marches in recent months, and lifting the security checkpoints set in the entrances of the capital Algiers in a bid to prevent Algerian citizens from taking part in the weekly marches staged every Friday."

The group also requires the resignation of the current cabinet led by Prime Minister Nourredine Bedoui and replacing it with a caretaker cabinet until electing a new president. "The members of the media-

tion group have not started any dialogue process as long as our conditions have not been met," Younes (pictured) added.

He further assumed that the group "is likely to be dissolved in case the presidency doesn't respond to these conditions."

Last week, interim President Abdelkader Bensalah met with the members of this dialogue mediation team as he called on justice authority to release the protesters arrested during the recent marches, and demanded security authorities to lift the tough measures that prevent



people from entering the capital every Friday.

Meanwhile, Army Chief of Staff, Ahmed Gaid Salah, on Tuesday hailed the establishment of the dialogue mediation

group, yet he rejected "dictating" any preconditions ahead of launching dialogue process to resolve the political crisis hitting the country.

Addressing senior army officials and troops in western Algiers, Gaid Salah indicated that "organizing presidential election as soon as possible is the main goal of any dialogue initiative."

In fact, a key member of the mediation group, Smail Lalmas, announced his resignation, soon after the speech of Army Chief of Staff, as he wrote on his

official Facebook account "amid the absence of any positive response to the popular demands that we have transmitted to the presidency."

According to observers, this first mediation dialogue initiative has failed amid the rejection of the authority, represented by the army, to make any concession.

On July 3, Bensalah urged "all political players to join the comprehensive dialogue process that the government is due to launch in a bid to discuss the forthcoming presidential

elections, while providing their suggestions."

For now, a new attempt to launch dialogue process is needed likely to overcome the current political stalemate, observers suggest.

Algeria has seen wide-scale protests since Feb. 22, forcing former President Abdelaziz Bouteflika to resign on April 2.

The demonstrators are now demanding the resignation of the interim president and the cabinet under the pretext that they belong to the government of the ousted president.

The
Guardian

SPORT



Robert C. O'Brien, U.S. Special Envoy Ambassador, centre, arrives at the district court where US rapper ASAP Rocky is to appear on charges of assault, in Stockholm, Sweden, Tuesday July 30, 2019. American rapper ASAP Rocky and two other men believed to be members of his entourage are going on trial Tuesday in Sweden in a high-profile legal case that has caught the attention of U.S. President Donald Trump and rallied music and entertainment celebrities among others. (Agencies)

US presidential envoy sent to Sweden for rapper ASAP Rocky's trial

HELSINKI

AMERICAN rapper ASAP Rocky pleaded not guilty to assault as his trial in Sweden opened Tuesday, a month after a street fight that landed him in jail and became a topic of U.S.-Swedish diplomacy.

Rocky, whose real name is Rakim Mayers, is accused with two others of beating a 19-year-old man in Stockholm on June 30. Prosecutors played video footage in court that showed Mayers throwing a young man to the ground.

Wearing sweatpants and a green T-shirt in court, Mayers, 30, pleaded not guilty to an assault charge that carries a maximum penalty of two years in prison. He says he acted in self-defense.

The Grammy-nominated artist's extended detention prompted U.S. President Donald Trump to personally intervene on his behalf earlier this month. Mayers nevertheless remained behind bars, angering Trump.

Swedish news agency TT said Trump sent the U.S. special presidential envoy for hostage affairs to Stockholm to monitor the court proceedings and to show support for Mayers.

The special envoy, Ambassador Robert O'Brien, was seen at Stockholm District Court in the morning. A biographical statement on the State Department's website says O'Brien "leads the U.S. government's diplomatic efforts on overseas hostage-related matters."

"He works closely with the families of American hostages and advises the senior leadership of the U.S. Government on hostage issues," the website states.

A senior U.S. official in Washington described O'Brien's presence as part of an effort to convey Trump's concern about the case, support American citizens "and, to, hopefully, bring them home." The official spoke on condition of anonymity to The Associated Press because they were not authorized to discuss it by name.

Fellow rapper RZA (RIHZ-uh) of the Wu-Tang Clan told The Associated Press on Friday he was concerned about ASAP Rocky and "disappointed that a judge cannot discern that this is not a man you hold hostage."

ASAP Rocky's mother, Renee Black, also attended the proceedings. She said beforehand she was convinced her son is not guilty.

"This is a nightmare," Black was quoted by Swedish media as saying.

Prosecutors and defense lawyers presented competing narratives on the trial's opening day of what happened the night of the fight.

Prosecutors said 19-year-old Mustafa Jafari and a friend got into an argument with Mayers and one of his bodyguards near a fast-food restaurant where the rapper's entourage had eaten.

Mayers has published videos on his Insta-

gram account that showed him repeatedly pleading with the two to stop following him and his associates.

Defense lawyer Slobodan Jovicic stressed Tuesday that the rapper and his entourage "didn't want any trouble" and alleged that Jafari and his friend had exhibited "aggressive and deeply provocative behavior."

ASAP Rocky previously encountered violent situations because of his fame and "there are some people who don't always wish him well," Jovicic said.

"He's been harassed in the past. In this case, the bodyguard made the assessment that these people should move on ... and not to come close," the lawyer said.

Prosecutors alleged in court documents that Mayers and the two other men thought to be part of his entourage beat and kicked Jafari while he was on the ground.

Jafari also was hit with parts of or a whole bottle, they alleged. The court file includes photos of Jafari's cuts, bruises and blood-stained clothes.

Another lawyer representing ASAP Rocky in Sweden, Martin Persson, told public broadcaster SVT he would present evidence showing "no bottle has been used to hit or injure anyone."

Any physical aggression by Mayers and his co-defendants was "within the limits of the law," Persson said.

The trial is expected to continue with witness testimony on Thursday and could run through Friday, Stockholm District Court.

Mayers, along with two men thought to be members of his entourage, was jailed on July 3 and remains in custody.

His case has drawn the attention of American celebrities and Mayers' fellow recording artists, including Sean "Diddy" Combs and Justin Bieber. A social media campaign for his release, #JusticeForRocky, was created soon after his arrest.

Trump also weighed in, asking for a phone call with Swedish Prime Minister Stefan Lofven and offering to personally guarantee ASAP Rocky's bail. The two leaders spoke, and the prime minister's spokeswoman said Lofven stressed he couldn't interfere in a legal case.

Sweden doesn't have a bail system, so Mayers stayed behind bars despite Trump's vouching for him. After prosecutors filed charges Thursday, Trump took to Twitter to criticize Lofven "for being unable to act."

"Give ASAP Rocky his FREEDOM," Trump added. "We do so much for Sweden but it doesn't seem to work the other way around. Sweden should focus on its real crime problem! #FreeRocky."

AP



SportPesa Director of Administration and Compliance, Tarimba Abbas (C), speaks to the press when he announced the unveiling of the SportPesa Simba Day 2019 in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. Looking on are Simba's Chief Executive Officer, Crescencius Magori (L), and the squad's information officer, Haji Manara. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

2019 SportPesa Simba Week launched in Dar

BY GUARDIAN REPORTER

THE SportPesa Simba Week 2019 was launched in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday, with the event set to end in the city on Tuesday next week.

SportPesa's Director of Administration and Compliance, Tarimba Abbas, whose firm has been sponsoring Simba, noted the firm will fully cooperate with the club in celebrating the 10th anniversary of the event, which will come to an end in the day, popularly known as Simba Day.

Abbas noted SportPesa has promised to fully cooperate with Simba in unveiling the outfit's new jerseys, which will be used in the coming season, set for yesterday.

The club and the firm will do the jerseys' unveiling via the two institutions' social media sites.

SportPesa and the outfit will moreover motivate the side's fans to buy the jerseys, which were set to be on sale the same day.

SportPesa will also join forces with Simba to motivate the outfit's fans to buy tickets to attend

the Simba Day, which will take place on Tuesday.

The Mainland Premier League defending champions will lock horns with Zambia's top flight club, Power Dynamos, in a friendly at the National Stadium in the day.

SportPesa and Simba will also visit junior teams and present kits to the squads with a view to boost the game's promotion.

The activity is a continuation of an initiative known as Kits for Africa which gears towards backing soccer outfits in Tanzania.



Acting Director of Culture Development in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Joyce Fisoo (2nd L), takes part in the Cigogo music festival with a section of the genre's artistes at Chamwino ground in Dodoma on Tuesday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Govt determined to value culture

BY CORRESPONDENT SABATO KASIKA

THE government has disclosed the Cigogo music festival, which ended at the Chamwino ground in Dodoma on Tuesday, is a continuation of Tanzania's efforts to value and promote culture in the East Africa region.

Acting Director of Culture Development in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and, Joyce Fisoo, issued the comments during the opening of the 11th edition of the festival.

Joyce noted Tanzania's opportunity to host the East Africa music festival, namely JAMAFEST, is another honour to the country.

She noted the festival, scheduled for September 21 and end on September 28 in Dar es Salaam, is a catalyst for development of culture and economy in the member countries.

She asked culture stakeholders to fully exploit the festival to develop the industry.

Joyce, who had earlier served as Director of Tanzania Film, she

is planning to hand over a special certificate to Chamwino Arts Center (CAC), which has hosted the Cigogo festival, to appreciate the institution's contribution to the progress of culture domestically.

"I'm pl to prepare a special certificate to appreciate CAC contribution, as apart from developing culture, the institution offers education to other regions which attend the event," she noted.

Joyce added she will convince the government to put its weight

on the festival, thanks to the festival's prominence.

The festival's chairman, Edmon Mapana, noted Tanzanians should make the most of the festival.

Mapana moreover disclosed JAMAFEST has a variety of opportunities for the locals.

Culture stakeholders from USA, Uganda, Spain, Thailand, Zambia, Germany, Bulgaria, Ethiopia and Argentina too part in festival which saw 30 cultural troupes take to stage.

Esperance, Wydad included in CAF Champions League draw

JOHANNESBURG

ESPERANCE Tunis and Wydad Casablanca, who are locked in a legal battle over which won the last CAF Champions League, will have first-round byes when the next edition kicks off.

Both the Tunisian and the Moroccan clubs will advance directly to the last-32 of the premier Confederation of African Football (CAF) competition.

Esperance will play Cercle Mberi Sportif of Gabon or Elect-Sport of Chad while Wydad have been drawn against the winner of SO Armeé of the Ivory Coast and Nouadhibou of Mauritania during September.

Two months ago, Esperance were leading Wydad 2-1 on aggregate with 30 minutes remaining of the second leg in Tunis when Wydad had an equaliser disallowed.

Wydad wanted the decision referred to VAR (video assistant referee), but the system was not working and the team stormed off in protest.

After a 90-minute delay, Esperance were awarded the match and the team received medals and the trophy, but not the \$2.5 million (2.24 mn euros) prize.

When CAF officials later ordered the second leg to be replayed at a neutral venue, both clubs lodged appeals with the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS).

CAF accepted this course of action and the Switzerland-based CAS has promised to reach a decision by July 31.

- Historic -
The next Champions League will be historic as an August-to-May season is introduced and the final is reduced from two legs to one match at a neutral venue.

There will also be a record 14 previous winners involved, including eight-time trophy-holders Al Ahly of Egypt.

While the new timetable has been welcomed as it matches most African domestic seasons, there is concern that finals could be watched by tiny crowds.

The Cup of Nations, which finished in Egypt on July 19, confirmed that African football fans show little interest in matches not involving their own clubs or national teams.

A 9,000 crowd watched Senegal beat Tunisia in a semi-final that would have filled a 60,000-capacity stadium in Dakar or Tunis.

The latest Champions League begins in August with 29 preliminary round ties while Esperance, Wydad and TP Mazembe of the Democratic Republic of Congo have byes.

Guinean club Hafía, who were African champions three times between 1972 and 1977, return after a 36-year absence and face Etoile Sahel of Tunisia. **AFP**

Evra reveals row with United chief Woodward

LONDON

PATRICE Evra has revealed he threatened Manchester United executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward during a heated row over his future at the club in 2014.

Former France defender Evra retired from football on Monday after a glittering career that included an eight-year spell with United.

The left-back played for United from 2006 to 2014, winning five Premier League titles and one Champions League crown among a host of honours.

But the 38-year-old, who had a short-term deal with West Ham last season, didn't always enjoy a smooth ride at Old Trafford.

Evra had told Woodward he intended to leave United when his contract expired at the end of the 2013-14 season, but after initially accepting his decision, Woodward announced he had triggered a one-year contract extension against the player's wishes.

Evra went ballistic and threatened Woodward when he spoke to him about the deal.

Two months later the defender, then 33, joined Juventus for £1.2 million.

"Before the end of that season Ed told me: 'Patrice, you're going to stay for another year because we've got an option in your contract,'" Evra told Sky Sports on Tuesday.

Fans to sue after Ronaldo sits out Juventus friendly in Seoul

SEOUL

SOCCER fans in South Korea are taking legal action to seek compensation after Cristiano Ronaldo failed to play in a friendly during Juventus' pre-season tour in Seoul last week.

Ronaldo had been contracted to play at least 45 minutes against K League All Stars, according to event organisers The Fasta Inc, but ultimately sat out the entire game at a packed Seoul World Cup Stadium.

An online community was formed on South Korea's Naver web portal to protest Ronaldo's lack of participation, and two members reached out to lawyer Kim Min-ki to file a lawsuit against the match organisers.

"Many purchased tickets to see Ronaldo. The Fasta publicised that the company had a deal with Juventus which stipulated Ronaldo would play for at least 45 minutes and that Ronaldo would hold a fan signing event," Kim told Reuters.

Phone calls to The Fasta by Reuters were not answered, while officials at Juventus did not immediately reply to requests for comment.

The lawsuit is seeking compensation of 70,000 won (\$59) per ticket, 1,000 won for the ticket commission fee,

and 1 million won (\$847) each for compensation for "mental anguish".

"Normally in such cases the plaintiffs will be refunded the price of the tickets, but I put this under a special case since the company, through false advertising, took advantage of the football star's fans," Kim added.

"For now we have two plaintiffs who sued the company, but I have been getting a lot of calls today and I assume there will be some 60,000 more. "As for the mental anguish part, I'd like to say some of them are raucous fans, the real avid fans. So for them it is very painful because they love Ronaldo and want to protect him, but they can't, given the situation."

The Fasta CEO Robin Chang confirmed to local broadcaster SBS that the contract stipulated Ronaldo play 45 minutes and said she found out that the 34-year-old would not take part 10 minutes into the second half.

"When I went to argue with (Pavel) Nedved, the vice president of Juventus, all he said was 'I also wish Ronaldo ran, but he doesn't want. Sorry, there's nothing I can do.' I was so frustrated," Chang told SBS.

REUTERS

Pulisic faces more pressure than most of Europe's top five leagues' fresh faces

BY NICK MILLER/ESPN.COM WRITER

AS Europe's most prestigious clubs fly back to the Old World from preseason tours of all corners of the globe, it's the surest sign yet that the return of club football is just around the corner. As ever, the summer transfer window has seen teams splash stacks of cash, so ESPN FC enlisted Nick Miller to break down some of the new arrivals who are preparing for their debut campaigns in a new league.

Premier League

It's always a fun, if slightly pointless, exercise to look for weaknesses in Manchester City's side. At the end of last season, the best you could probably come up with is "Fernandinho's getting on a bit," so naturally City promptly fixed that weakness with probably the best option available. Rodri arrived from Atletico Madrid for a hefty €70 million fee, but if the 23-year-old stays and excels for as long as Fernandinho did, then it will look like a shrewd purchase.

At the other end of the spending scale, Tottenham have very much kept their hands in their pockets for the past 18 months, but went big when they eventually did splash out. In theory Tanguy Ndombele is exactly what Spurs need, combining the best qualities of Mousa Dembele and Moussa Sissoko to give them many more options in central midfield. Not all theories work out, but for a team cautious about their business as Spurs are, Ndombele looks like as close to a guarantee as you can get.

It is slightly baffling that, at the time of writing, Arsenal appear to have little interest in buying a central defender who can help them this season. Still, newcomers further up the pitch look quite exciting, with the apparent imminent arrival of Nicolas Pepe and the signing on loan of Dani Ceballos from Real Madrid. The latter can play in a couple of different roles in midfield, including No. 10: Could he displace the already semi-marginalised Mesut Ozil even more this term?

The good news for Chelsea is that Christian Pulisic is used to dealing with expectation. The U.S. men's national team's leading man from an early age, Pulisic will now need to take that experience from the international stage to the Premier League, not only being the only genuinely new face in the Chelsea squad but now carrying the added pressure of having to replace Eden



Hazard. With a rookie manager in Frank Lampard having to deal with limited resources, he really needs everything at his disposal to function properly. There's more emphasis on this signing than most.

La Liga

The saga of Eden Hazard's move to Real Madrid was one of the longest-running in recent history. The question now is: With that epic brought to a merciful conclusion this summer, will he make the sort of impact to justify the time spent getting him there? Hazard's talent verges on the genius, but regular Chelsea watchers will tell you that he can have long spells of anonymity, even whole seasons when he's below par. Will he get away with that at the most demanding club in the world?

Barcelona were another club to get their business done early. Will Frenkie de Jong be able to hit the ground running and replicate his performances for Ajax now he is at Camp Nou?

It's an indication of where the transfer market is that Atletico Madrid paying €126m for Joao Felix was of course remarkable, but didn't exactly cause colossal shockwaves. Quite apart from seeing how he deals with the pressure of that fee, it will be fascinating to see how he adapts to Atletico, or maybe more accurately if and how Atletico change their style to reflect their new recruit.

It was only a year ago that Nabil Fekir

was a point of obsession on Merseyside, a €60m move to Liverpool agreed only for it to break down over concerns about his knee. Now, after a season in which the playmaker made 29 league appearances with no major injury concerns, Real Betis may have got themselves a bargain, paying a third of that price for Fekir, where he could line up alongside Giovanni Lo Celso (assuming he doesn't depart for Tottenham), Sergio Canales and William Carvalho. What a midfield that could be.

Serie A

The continent's most ambitious clubs formed a not-so-orderly queue to pick off the best from Ajax's extraordinary young side this summer, and Juventus snagged maybe the very best, Matthijs de Ligt. Even at just 19, he seems so mature that he'll be able to deal with the pressure and expectation, but we'll only find that out for sure as years ahead pass. De Ligt has been signed at a point where he won't have much time to learn from Giorgio Chiellini and Leonardo Bonucci, almost replacing them straight away.

Perhaps the wider point about Juve's new arrivals this summer is how they will knit together with a new regime, Maurizio Sarri's appointment representing a shift in emphasis from simply winning to doing so in a certain style. It won't be easy, and another challenge could be dealing with Adrien Rabiot, a man who comes with a tricky reputation from his time at Paris Saint-Germain.

The appointment of Antonio Conte and the signing of the grizzled warhorse Diego Godin are two definite signals that this will be a different Inter this season. But how different? How much can these two men of iron do to turn around a club notorious for incompetence and bad decisions at every turn?

Bundesliga

Another season, another Bayern Munich procession to the Bundesliga title? Perhaps. This is a Bayern in flux, with a head coach who had a variable first season and who have lost their two most experienced players in Arjen Robben and Franck Ribery. There has been a concerted effort to make the squad younger this summer, and the headline arrival has been Lucas Hernandez from Atletico Madrid, for a whopping €80m. Will the revolution of youth prove successful?

Of course, Bayern's biggest challengers will be Borussia Dortmund, but all of their major recruits have been from within the Bundesliga. Snapping at the

heels of both will be RB Leipzig, who finished third last term but now have Julian Nagelsmann at the helm and have made a clutch of interesting signings. Chief among those is Ademola Lookman, who curiously didn't get much of a chance at Everton but clearly impressed those in Leipzig enough for them to pay north of €25m for him this summer. This isn't the most eye-catching deal, but if Nagelsmann and Leipzig can get the best from Lookman's talent then it could be among the shrewdest.

Also arriving in Leipzig is Christopher Nkunku, who could probably count himself as among the unluckiest players in Europe in the past couple of years, given that he came through at PSG at just the time they ramped up their spending to recruit the world's best and shiniest attackers. You can't really blame anyone for not dislodging Neymar, Edinson Cavani and Kylian Mbappe, so hopefully a new start will give him more opportunities.

Ligue 1

Perhaps the days of lavish and glamorous expenditure at PSG are over. At the time of writing, it seems that there will be no global superstar arriving, instead the sort of signings that a club with money but also sense would make. Like defender Abdou Diallo, for example, who cost around €30m from Borussia Dortmund, and is an interesting addition for a couple of reasons. Firstly, how often will Diallo play this season will presumably depend on how frequently Thiago Silva and Marquinhos are available. Also, does this arrival mean PSG have moved on from Presnel Kimpembe?

Perhaps even more remarkable than PSG making a shrewd signing is them making a free one. Ander Herrera's arrival from Manchester United probably doesn't signal a huge shift in approach, but does suggest they recognise the value of a functional player who will do a job when it is asked of him. Much like he was at United, Herrera will probably turn out to be a man who gives you 7/10 every week, and even teams like PSG need that.

Joachim Andersen was linked with a number of Europe's biggest clubs over the past few months, so it was interesting to see him rock up at Lyon. Of course this season will see the annual question of whether anyone will challenge PSG domestically, but if Andersen fits in then they will at the least be solid enough to allow their silkier attacking talents to flourish.

Mourinho wants to work for 'Mourinhistas'

LONDON

JOSE Mourinho has been a little quiet over the summer.

Don't worry, he's just been taking a little time off to take stock of his career after being fired by Manchester United in December.

Speaking in an exclusive interview with Sky Sports News, Mourinho has been relaxing in his hometown of Setubal in Portugal.

After some time as a pundit as he "learned what goes on on the other side of the camera" Mourinho says he is now ready to return to coaching. And he's back with a bang.

"This is basically the first time I have time to think, the first time I am in Setubal at the end of July or beginning of August in more than 20 years," Mourinho said. "I have some time to think, to rethink, to analyze and what I feel is exactly that 'Ze' (Mourinho's nickname as a boy) is full of fire!

"My friends tell me 'enjoy your time, enjoy your July, enjoy your August, enjoy what you never had'. Honestly, I can't enjoy. I am not happy enough to enjoy. I miss my football, I have the fire, I have a compromise with myself, with people that love me, with so many fans that I have around the world, so many people that I inspired."

"Ze has to be Ze and Ze until the last day, but I don't see the last day because my next move will be like the start! I don't feel it's just one more year in accumulation of how many years I've worked, how many titles I've won. That is history, that is the museum. My future will start in my next move and, as I was saying, it looks a little bit ridiculous with so many beautiful things around me and so many things I didn't [have]

for so many years, but I can't really enjoy my free time."

Mourinho speaking about himself in the third person is pretty epic, and the fact he can't relax in his picturesque surroundings says it all. He's a football man, through and through. Whatever you think about Mourinho, he simply belongs in the game. That's just the way it is.

A break will have, hopefully, done him good. That old fire he had needed to return because the grumpy, disinterested Mourinho we saw at United wasn't the one we'd grown up to love and/or hate, but still admire.

Having a rejuvenated Mourinho in the game isn't a bad thing at all, but it will be interesting to see where he ends up next.

As Real Madrid continue to struggle in preseason under Zinedine Zidane, maybe he is just waiting in the wings to have a second crack at being the king of the Santiago Bernabeu. He says



to be seen. Offers from China and Portugal have come in, but Mourinho wants to work for a club that adores him.

"Why do I say 'no'? I say 'no' because it's not [at] the level of challenge that I want. But, with all respect to the possibilities I have had and the clubs involved, I want the right to choose the people who are 'Mourinhista' - like people say in Portugal, Spain and Italy - 'Mourinhista' is someone who is a fan," Mourinho explained.

"The 'Mourinhistas' want me where I belong, so, for me now, it's not a question of [saying], 'okay I have this offer and I'm going to take it'. I have to be patient and wait for the right opportunity and the right opportunity is one that is at the same size and the same level that I am as a manager."

The fire seems to be well and truly back inside Mourinho. Line up to make your offers. Mourinhistas... (Agencies)

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Dar athletes to camp in Nagai for 2020 Olympics

SPORT

Pulisic faces more pressure than most of Europe's top five leagues' fresh faces

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Tanzania's U-20 women team eyes success in COSAFA U-20 Championship

By Guardian Reporter

NATIONAL U-20 women soccer team 'Tanzanite's head coach, Bakari Shime, is optimistic his squad will put good showing in this year's COSAFA U-20 Women Championship and achieve good results in the showpiece, slated to kick off in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, today.

The squad is a guest side in the competition, which is organized by Council of Southern Africa Football Associations, and aimed at promoting women soccer in the region.

Shime disclosed shortly before the team's departure for Port Elizabeth the team, consisting of 20 players, has had better preparations, insisting his squad is keen on making its presence felt.

"We thank God we were in great shape in the camp for almost one month. We also appreciate contribution from all people, which aimed at seeing to it our camp runs smoothly and in the end get players for the competition," he noted.

Shime added the team's preparations went on smoothly, insisting the team's technical bench hopes each of the players will fulfil her duty and represent the country well.

He appealed to soccer enthusiasts in the country to rally behind the team, given the approach will motivate the squad to put scintillating performance in the competition.

Esther, Tanzanite's member, noted the team has undergone good preparation for the competition and she believes the squad will excel in the showdown.

She noted Tanzania soccer followers should understand the team is eager to emerge victorious in the tournament and will for that matter settle for nothing short of wins in their matches.

Sarah Chao, who heads the delegation, disclosed the team is in good shape, adding the squad will give its all in the competitions.

She added the team's players are in high spirit, pointing out each of the players has promised to fulfil her duty.

The country will add an extra dimension to the field for the COSAFA championship and continue a long tradition of teams from the country competing in Southern African competitions.

The senior national women's side have enjoyed some excellent results down the years, while the Under-20s have also had the ability to spring a surprise, though their entrance to the stage has been more recent.

The country has attempted to qualify for the African Under-20 Cup of Nations for Women in the last three editions only.

In 2014 they defeated Mozambique 15-1 on aggregate in the first round but lost 9-1 to South Africa in the next stage.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S athletes who will qualify for the next year's Tokyo Olympics will camp in the city of Nagai to prepare for the games.

This was disclosed yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Tanzania's government and officials from the Nagai city.

The MoU will cater for both Olympics and Paralympics athletes from Tanzania.

Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Nicholas William, said he is delighted with the signing of the MoU, noting the camp will help the athletes benefit from the immense technological ad-



Athletes battle it out in the 5000m race of the last year's National Open Championship in Arusha.

vancement Japan enjoys.

"This is very welcome to the country's sports, I'm very sure that under this MoU, our athletes will benefit a lot as they will use top advanced facilities in Japan, we really thank Nagai city for this welcome gesture," he said.

The official also said he is very happy as the partnership will extend beyond sports and cover business and cultural exchanges beyond the 2020 Olympics.

He further hailed the long-standing bilateral collaboration between the two countries in various fields.

On his remarks, Mayor for

Nagai city Shigeharu Uchiya said they are committed to work with Tanzania in general and athletes in particular.

Uchiya who leading a delegation of 13 people from his city promised that Tanzania's athletes and their leaders will have a comfortable stay in Japan.

"We are very happy with the warm reception by Tanzanians, let me assure you all here that Tanzania's athletes and their leaders will have a comfortable stay in our city and the partnership will extend beyond 2020 Olympics," he said.

An assistant to Japan's Ambassador to Tanzania, Katsutoshi

Takeda, hailed the MoU saying sports unite people.

Speaking later at Tanzania Olympics Committee (TOC) offices, Ghulam Rashid, who is the committee's president, said he is delighted with the MoU, adding this will help local athletes prepare well for the games.

He also disclosed that TOC is aiming at sending many athletes to the Tokyo Olympics.

"We are happy with the MoU signed today (yesterday), I'm very sure that our athletes will prepare well for the games, our aim is to see many local athletes compete at the 2020 Olympics... I think it's now time for our

athletes to bring home medals from Olympics, next year will be 40 years since the country won medal at Olympics, now it's our time," he said.

Ghulam also used the function to show members of the press an official invitation letter that Tanzania has received from International Olympics Committee (IOC) signed by the committee's president Thomas Bach.

This is the third time that officials from Nagai city are visiting Tanzania, since the partnership was established there has been an exchange of visits. Last year the country sent its athletes to Nagai Marathon.

Ismaili Community cricketers edge Surat Stars in GP Gymkhana Shield

By Guardian Reporter

SURAT Stars cricket team's quest for qualification for the last eight of the ongoing GP Gymkhana Shield competition has experienced a blow given the squad lost to Ismaili Community by 10 runs in Dar es Salaam early this week.

Winning the toss, Ismaili Community skipper, Ayzaz Jasani, elected to bat first in the Group D match played at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) oval.

The innings started with a wobble for Ismaili Community, given they lost their first three wickets in quick succession.

However their star player, Harsheed Chohan, was instrumental in the squad's ability to stay in control of the innings considering the all-rounder played a key innings of 59 runs from 37 balls.

Surat Stars' bowlers did a decent job, restricting their opponents to 145/8 in 20 overs. Surat Stars' captain Ashish Nagewadia ended his bowling spell with two wickets and experienced all-rounder Riziki Kisetu, and Ajis Rabadia ended with one wicket apiece.

In response, Surat Stars started their innings well with an opening partnership of 53 runs between Kisetu and Rajesh.



Ismaili Community outfit's Harsheed Chohan (R), receives a man of the match prize from a cricket enthusiast after the completion of this year's GP Gymkhana Shield competition's match between the squad and Surat Stars in Dar es Salaam early this week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NIKHIL PUJARA

Chasing 146 runs to come out with a win, though, turned out to be a tall order for Surat Stars, as they posted 135 runs for the loss of eight wickets in 20 overs.

Sanjay Bom, who was in great form in Surat Stars' victory over Sandy Super Strikers in the first match, continued his fine form against Ismaili Community, his efforts however did little to see his outfit

avoid defeat.

Excellent bowling spell from Ismaili Community's Aaryan Premji turned the game around for the squad.

The gifted performer took three key wickets during his spell of four overs and, in the end, the day belonged to Ismaili Community and their average score of 145 turned out to be decent.

The man of the match prize went to Harsheed Chohan for his fine batting display and disciplined bowling in his team's key contest against a motivated Surat Stars team.

Surat Stars therefore need nothing short of a win in their clash with MCC, scheduled for Sunday, if the former want to make certain of their progression to the knockout stage.

Teams which are participating in the GP Gymkhana Shield tournament have been put in Groups A, B, C and D.

Young Muslims, TNCC, Lions Club and Kanbis make Group A, Group B has been made up of Union Sports Club, Jaat Blast-ers, Jain Sangh and Tarangini.

The Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) Cricket Section-organized tournament has General Petroleum and Premier Refinishes as main sponsors.

ASAR Limited, SBC Tanzania, Mgen Insurance, AFRO Turk, Catridge World, PS Limited, I&M Bank and Jaykey Trading are the event's co-sponsors.

The T20 -formatted competition, as disclosed by DGC Cricket Section captain, Nagewadia, will run for 14 weeks with matches taking place at the club's oval.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

