



National Pg 2

TLS supports Fatma Karume on ruling



National Pg 3

Eyakuze elected co-chair of OGP



National Pg 4

Housing key to sustainable transformation



Page 13

TEACHERS

Page 6



RABIES

Page 7



DEADLINE

Page 11



Alert on cheating as Std Seven exams start today



Finance and Planning ministry permanent secretary Doto James (R) and the Swiss Ambassador to Tanzania, Didier Chassot, exchange documents in Dodoma yesterday after signing two agreements worth 44.1bn/- relating to support for the implementation of the second phase (from 2020 to 2023) of Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) projects and joint health funding during financial year 2020/21. Photo: Finance ministry

By Lydia Sospeter, TUDARCo

THE National Examinations Council of Tanzania (NECTA) has warned invigilators, head teachers, parents and candidates sitting for the Standard Seven examinations starting today to avoid all cheating, saying there will be consequences.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, NECTA Executive Secretary Dr Charles Msonde said that the candidates were being prepared for the past seven years and must be left to write the test themselves in an honest way.

"The council would like to take this opportunity to call on regional examination committees and district, municipal and city councils to ensure that all procedures for the conduct of national examinations are adhered to examination committees should ensure that examination centres are safe, secure and prevent any loopholes that could lead to cheating," he said.

The exams to take place today and tomorrow will have 1,024,007 candidates on the Mainland. Out of the number, 493,289 (49.17 per cent) are boys while 530,718 (51.83 per cent) are girls.

Dr Msonde said that 974,532 pupils will write the exams in Kiswahili while 49,475 will do so in English, stretched over 17,335 registered primary schools countrywide.

Furthermore, examination results

TURN TO PAGE 2



Mwinyi promises bright future for civil servants

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

CCMS presidential candidate for Zanzibar, Dr Hussein Mwinyi, has said if elected he will put an effort to sort out bottlenecks in respecting workers' rights to eradicate complaints that have brought about a decline in accountability and demoralization.

Dr Mwinyi (pictured) was addressing leaders of trade unions here as part of a series of campaign indoor meetings, where he stated that one cannot achieve success from employment if some workers hold

grudges of being deliberately swindled of their benefits.

"If elected I will work hard to find solutions to various challenges facing government employees... you cannot expect success when some workers are being defrauded of their rights," he asserted.

"Rights and accountability are like twins... I have listened to the complaints, vote for me and I will work on them," he reiterated.

Earlier, the Secretary General of the Zanzibar Trade Union Congress (ZATUC), Khamis Mwinyi said government employees and the private sector, including the informal sector hold great expectations in the CCM presidential candidate in his avowed interest to institute great economic changes.

The candidate said in the month-long campaigns has enabled him to meet with various groups including the youth, small entrepreneurs, women, elders and widows to listen to their problems and

Switzerland avails 44bn/- for healthcare, poverty reduction

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

TANZANIA and Switzerland yesterday signed two-bilateral grant agreements worth 44.1bn/- on health services and poverty reduction initiatives.

The money will be injected into the Performance Based Health Basket Fund (PBHCBF) and the Productive Social Safety Net (PSSN) programmes. In the first agreement the Swiss government has injected 39.15bn/- to finance the second phase of PSSN covering the period 2020-2023.

The second agreement amends an existing grant agreement by an amount reaching 4.95bn/- as additional contribution to the healthcare basket fund, running from this year to next year.

The contracts were signed by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Planning,



Switzerland acknowledges economic gains made by Tanzania that has helped lives of many people, he stated

Dotto James and resident Swiss ambassador Didier Chassot.

Speaking after signing the agreement, James said the PSSN II project being undertaken by the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) improves access to income earning opportunities and socio-economic services for targeted poor households.

The programme also seeks to protect the human capital of children as it reduces poverty, enhances improved consumption and increased engagement in income generating activities," he elaborated.

The grant, the paymaster general said, shall boost school enrollment and health outlook for children.

TURN TO PAGE 2

COVID-19 downturn not as bad as feared, crisis not over - IMF chief

WASHINGTON

Amid a flood of government spending, the global downturn sparked by the coronavirus pandemic will not be as bad as originally feared, International Monetary Fund (IMF) chief Kristalina Georgieva (pictured) said yesterday, but she warned that the crisis is far from over.

"The picture today is less dire ... allowing for a small upward revision to our global forecast for 2020," she said in a speech ahead of IMF-World Bank autumn meetings next week, when the IMF is due to present its updated forecasts.



In June, the Washington-based crisis lender projected a nearly five percent contraction of global GDP, but results in the second and third quarters were better than expected.

Georgieva credited the "extraordinary policy measures that put a floor under the world economy" which amounted to \$12 trillion in fiscal support to households and firms.

But she warned governments not to prematurely withdraw the help they have provided, since the outlook for next year is mixed and rife with uncertainties and risks.

After more than a million deaths, "this calamity is far from over. All countries are now facing what I would call 'The Long Ascent' -- a difficult climb that will be long, uneven, and uncertain," Georgieva said.

In the United States and Europe the

TURN TO PAGE 2



9 770856 542009 >

TURN TO PAGE 2



Students at Arusha's Themu Primary School clean desks yesterday in readiness for the Standard Seven national examinations, which are scheduled to begin today. Photo: Correspondent Getrude Mpezya

FROM PAGE 1

are used for selecting pupils to join secondary education, which must be conducted in fair way so that the deserving pupils get an opportunity to proceed to the next level, he emphasised.

NECTA has at several instances canceled results of candidates or exam centres where examination cheating is suspected, at individual or group level, and this has been the case with national examinations at primary school leaving examination, as well as secondary school and high school exams.

As NECTA has been doing each year, those found to have engaged in cheating

Alert on cheating as Std Seven exams start today

will face disciplinary measures and where relevant, legal action against the culprits, he stated.

In 2018, NECTA nullified results for over 100 primary schools for cheating. They were altogether 110 schools, which included all those in Chemba district, Dodoma region. Also impacted were Hazina and New Hazina primary

schools in Kinondoni district, in the city of Dar es Salaam, along with Alliance, New Alliance and Kisiwani schools in Mwanza, and Kondo Integrity school in Kondo district.

The school managements were alleged to have colluded with departmental authorities in the various districts to achieve pass number targets

by revealing questions in exam papers to pupils prior to sitting for the same exam.

The government suspended education officers, head teachers and ward education coordinators believed to have been involved in the scam instances, the national exams controller intoned.

Switzerland avails 44bn/- for healthcare, poverty reduction

FROM PAGE 1

The signing of the PSSN agreement brings to an end PSSN I which was implemented from February 2013 to December 2019, covering 159 local governments in the Mainland and Zanzibar.

PSSN I output among others were enrollment of 1,805, 613 children for primary schools and 448,409 for secondary schools from poor households, he explained.

Still other results are providing part time income generating opportunities for targeted poor households, where 253,117 individuals earned cash by participating in public works, he said.

Evaluation of PSSN I has shown success in enabling selected poorest households to participate in production and survive natural hazards, reducing poverty and building human capital, he said.

PSSN II which is rolled out over four years with Sh 2.02tr/- total budget reaches out to poor households in villages and urban peripheries, areas not reached in implementing PSSN I, he pointed out.

On PBHCBF, the top Treasury official noted that the objective is to strengthen the primary health care system, improve the performance of health care workers and the quality of health services delivery.

It similarly seeks to improve access to quality primary health care services, improved social accountability and support health sector strategic plans embodying its respective ultimate goals, he said.

He expressed government commitment to improve the provision of health services by supplying medicines, medical equipment, reagents and medical expertise.

On his part, Ambassador Chassot praised bilateral relations between the two countries, expressing full support in efforts to attain sustainable development goals and other aspects of the country's economic agenda.

Switzerland acknowledges economic gains made by Tanzania that has helped lives of many people, he stated.

"We also have to ensure we protect lives of people not affected by the growth and my country supports the UN agenda of not leaving anyone behind," he declared, noting further that through continued cooperation more can be achieved, strengthening bilateral ties.

TASAF steering committee chairman and State House Dr Moses Kusiluka lauded the Swiss government for the gesture of support, promising that the government will ensure the money is spent as intended.

COVID-19 downturn not as bad as feared, crisis not over - IMF chief

FROM PAGE 1

downturn, though painful, was not as bad as economists feared at the outset, and China is seeing "a faster-than-expected recovery."

But the news elsewhere is bad: "In low-income countries, the shocks are so profound that we face the risk of a 'lost generation,'" she said.

"There is also now the risk of severe economic scarring from job losses, bankruptcies, and the disruption of education."

Low-income countries have not

had the resources to spend as much to support jobs and businesses, and also will need help to deal with their debt burden, including through more grants and debt restructuring.

She likened the crisis to World War II when leaders "forged a better world in the worst possible moment," and called for governments to continue support for workers as long as it is needed, while spending to create a better, more equitable, economic system.

AGENCIES

In appealing deregistration, Fatma obtains TLS support

By Guardian Reporter

MEMBERS of the Governing Council of the Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) have vowed to provide full support to advocate Fatma Amani Karume, who is appealing against a ruling by the Advocates Committee of the Judiciary to deregister her as an advocate of the High Court.

TLS president Dr Rugemeleza Nshala said in a statement yesterday that the bar association will avail the prominent activist all the legal support at its disposal to overturn the verdict of the Judiciary committee.

The ruling will be contested before a panel of three judges of the High Court, after the move on October 2, where the governing council deliberated on the ruling of the Judiciary committee regarding Application No 19 of 2019.

"The Governing Council noted the reasons given by the Advocates Committee from which it found Fatma Amani Karume guilty of gross professional misconduct," the TLS leader noted.

"Among many things that one sees upon reading the said ruling, the Governing Council noted and was perturbed by the manner in which the complaint was lodged afresh by the Attorney General before the Advocates Committee," he said.

TLS noted that the issue had been subject to a court ruling and the directive of principal judge Dr Eliezer Feleshi in the case of Ado Shaibu, where the applicant cites the president of the United Republic and two others as respondents, in Miscellaneous Civil Cause No 29 of 2018.

The principal judge directed the Registrar of the High Court to "refer the professional misconduct matter contained in petitioner's reply submission and respondents' rejoinder submission together with this ruling to the Advocate Disciplinary Committee for determination."

TLS is also concerned with the composition of the Advocates Committee of the Judiciary to adjudicate the complaint lodged before it by the Attorney General against Fatma Amani Karume, noting that there was a 'high likelihood of bias.'

Similarly at issue is the reception of electronic evidence in the course of the proceedings, saying that the substance of the evidence was not attached to the complaint or in the List of Documents to be Relied Upon (if any), he stated.

The TLS governing council similarly has questions to pose on the severity of the punishment and the implications of the ruling to advocacy and independence of the legal profession in the Mainland.

"The Governing Council, through the TLS president, contacted Fatma Amani Karume who informed it that she is thoroughly dissatisfied with the said ruling and she is ready to appeal against it. The governing council, mindful of its noble duty imposed upon it by section 4(1)(d) of the Tanganyika Law Society Act Cap 307 R.E. 2002 (as amended) which requires it 'to represent, protect and assist members of the legal profession in Tanzania as regards conditions of practice and otherwise' resolved unanimously to lend its support to its member, Fatma Amani Karume," the TLS statement underlined.



The Governing Council noted the reasons given by the Advocates Committee from which it found Fatma Amani Karume guilty of gross professional misconduct



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Abubakari Kunenge (C) leads religious leaders on Monday during an inspection tour of Tanzanite Bridge, which is under construction. It will link the city's Upanga-Seaview and Oysterbay areas. Photo: Correspondent Jumaine Juma

Mwinyi promises bright future for civil servants

FROM PAGE 1

the challenges they face.

Swaumu Othman, a ZATUC official, appealed that ministerial departments and other public institutions need to provide chances of further education to workers in those institutions to achieve more success.

Tanzanians go to the polls on 28 of this month to elect the Union president, the president of Zanzibar, members of Parliament, members of the Zanzibar House of Representatives and ward councilors.

Apart from Dr Mwinyi, there are 14 other candidates in the race namely

Said Soud (AAFP), Juma Ali Khatib (ADA TADEA), Hamad Rashid Mohamed (ADC), Mfaume Khamis (NLD), Ali Juma (CHAUMA), Issa Muhammed Zonga (SAU), Ameri Said Ameri (Demokrasia Makini) and Hamad Muhammed Ibrahim (UPDP).

Others are Hussein Juma Salim

(Tanzania Labour Party - TLP), Mohamed Omar Baharia (Union for Multiparty Democracy-UMD), Shafi Hassan Saleiman (Democratic Party- DP), Khamis Faki Mgaun (National Reconciliation Alliance-NRA), Seif Sharif Hamad (ACT Wazalendo) and Othman Rashid Khamis (CCK).



Salum Mwalimu, opposition Chadema's running mate for the Tanzanian Presidency in the upcoming General Election, unveils a plaque to inaugurate the office of the party's branch at Msambiati in Mtwara Region yesterday. It was shortly before he addressed a campaign rally at the village. Photo: Correspondent Francis Dande

Our Michenzani Mall will stand as a tourist attraction - Dr Shein

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has said the government has decided to build Michenzani Mall, a business complex in order to offer various business services, including shopping malls that will also change Zanzibar's landscape and become among Isles' tourist attractions.

The complex, the biggest in the Isles has a gym, cinema hall, children play grounds as well as social activities including a wedding hall, restaurants, hair salons and others.

Speaking at the complex's inauguration at the weekend, Dr Shein said the business sector was important for economic growth and social development, as both have great correlation with the transport sector that bring people together from within and outside the country.

In the circumstances, he said his government decided to concentrate in the strengthening of the construction sector by building new roads and refurbish old ones.

Dr Shein said all those who were conducting businesses at the area will be given priority to their applications to conduct businesses in the complex.

He said his government has also implemented boosting inclusive growth for Zanzibar-integrated development project (BIG-Z), which, through the Ministry of Finance will work together with the World Bank to make it a success in various areas in the Isles.

He said it was a five to seven-year project and aims to strengthen the areas environment by involving economic and social integration in the Zanzibar Mchenzani green corridor.

The Minister for Finance and Planning, Amb. Mohammed Ramia Abdiwawa, said the project was in accordance with the CCM 2015/20

election manifesto that directed for improvement of Zanzibar Social Security Fund (ZSSF) to engage in various economic projects to enhance its revenues.

He said among the projects was Michenzani Mall which he said in the 10 years of Dr Shein's leadership, ZSSF invested in 12 big projects all costing 140bn/-.

Earlier, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Khamis Mussa, said after completion of the drawings on April 30 2018 a tender for a contractor was advertised, and a total of 28 applications were received, after which CRJE from China was picked for the job and the work started on October 4 2018 at a cost of 27.9bn/- and took 21 months to complete up to June 30 2020.



Dr Shein said all those who were conducting businesses at the area will be given priority to their applications to conduct businesses in the complex

'Make use of Tanga oil storage facilities'

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority in the northern zone has called on fuel importers to start storing it in the fuel storage facilities in Tanga Region in order to reduce rampant fuel shortages in Kilimanjaro, Arusha, Manyara and Tanga regions

EWURA said the directives are in accordance with the law and government policy to make Tanga port

the second port for fuel importation after Dar es Salaam port.

EWURA director for the northern zone Eng. Lorivii Long'gudu was speaking in Arusha on Monday during his meeting with members of Tanzania Petrol Stations Operators Association (TAPSOA).

He said the aim of the meeting was to stress and remind fuel dealers in the zone of their responsibilities.

"But also we have called you here

to thank you for your good services during the election period, but we insist that fuel storage facilities in Tanga are available to ensure no area in the zone should experience fuel shortage," he said.

He added: "When you take your fuel supplies from Tanga you also reduce the costs of transportation because the distance from Dar es Salaam to northern regions is long."

EWURA also called on fuel dealers to

have contracts with fuel importers to be certain of constant fuel supply.

In regard to complaints, from some fuel dealers on delays in loading fuel to their trucks, he promised to investigate the complaints for amicable solution.

Earlier, TAPSOA chairman for the northern zone Deepyen Barmeda appealed to EWURA to take steps against GBP storage facilities in Tanga for the delay in loading fuel.

Twaweza: Eyakuze now co-chair of Open Government Partnership

TWAZEZA's executive director, Aidan Eyakuze, has been elected as civil society co-chair of the open government partnership (OGP).

A statement released yesterday by Twaweza said Eyakuze's term as lead co-chair alongside the government of Italy will begin in late 2021.

"Until then, and in collaboration with the government of Italy, he will support the new lead co-chairs, Maria Baron, executive director of directorio legislativo, and the government of South Korea, to advance the work of the partnership," reads the statement.

OGP is a multilateral initiative that aims to secure concrete commitments from national and subnational governments to promote open government, empower citizens, fight corruption, and harness new technologies to strengthen governance.

This is the second time that Tanzania, and Twaweza in particular, has produced the civil society co-chair, who serve in their personal capacity, for the OGP. It comes at a time when Africa's presence on the steering committee includes civil society leaders such as Lysa John, secretary-general of Civicus, Stephanie Muchai of Hivos and Oluseun Onigbinde, founder of BudgIT. The governments of Nigeria and Kenya also serve on the steering committee.

Founded in 2011 by eight governments (Brazil, Indonesia, Mexico, Norway, the Philippines, South Africa, the United Kingdom and the United States) and civil society leaders, OGP inspires and supports governments to work

in partnership with civil society and the private sector to co-create and implement ambitious open government reforms. Since its inception in 2011, OGP has grown to 78 participating countries and a growing number of local governments.

The statement said Eyakuze proposes to focus on defending civic space across

the partnership so that citizens can make government more accountable, deepening open government principles and practices at local government levels where most citizens have their most direct and frequent encounters with government, and demonstrating how open government can directly improve quality of life for citizens.



Enabel – SAKIRP - Vacancy

Construction site supervisor - Kigoma region

Enabel – the Belgian Development Agency is recruiting civil building technicians for the supervision of bridge construction works.

Duty station: Kigoma region Kakonko or Kibondo – willing to relocate in function of construction sites.

Contract term: 1 year extendable - competitive salary package(14 months' Salary i.e. Leave allowance and Christmas Bonus) Medical Insurance Coverage, Relocation allowance Etc.

Profile: minimum diploma in Civil Engineering or equivalent


Experience: minimum 2 years hands-on supervision of masons and contractors.

Computer literate and good reporting skills in English/ Kiswahili.

Details vacancy at: <https://btctanzania.wordpress.com/>
Submit your applications to: recruitment.tza@enabel.be

Deadline: 20TH October 2020 at 15:00 HOURS

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



Enabel Belgian Development Agency

The Kingdom of Belgium through Enabel and the Government of Tanzania through the Ministry of Water, are implementing a water and sanitation project in Kigoma region. This is a 5-year project which runs through June 2022 and aims to promote provision of sustainable water supply services in the region. The project has a component of sanitation and hygiene promotion which will be implemented in 22 villages across 6 districts of Kigoma region. Enabel, is coordinating the call and is now inviting applications from suitably qualified local or international NGOs to implement this component. The project targets behavior changes in respect of domestic water management, hand hygiene, and latrine use and maintenance.

This is an exciting intervention to which all non-state actors with requisite capacity to implement sanitation and hygiene projects, are encouraged to apply. Enabel is looking for agencies that can use effective and innovative approaches in rural hygiene and sanitation promotion to submit their applications for consideration.

Organizations that previously submitted their expression of interest and concepts are encouraged to look out for the guides on our website (www.enabel.be) and <https://btctanzania.wordpress.com/> in order to make fresh submissions.

The deadline for submission of the concept notes is **November 2, 2020** as evidenced by the date sent, the postmark or date of acknowledgement of receipt. All concept notes submitted after the deadline date and time will be rejected.



NMB Bank Plc board chairman Dr Edwin Mhede (C) unveils a plaque in Dar es Salaam yesterday to launch three digital products meant to enable the swift relaying of feedback from customers. It was all part of the global commemoration of international Customer Service Week, which is held each October. Looking on are the bank's CEO, Ruth Zaipuna (L), and chief of retail banking Filbert Mponzi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

TTU appeals to govt to address key challenges facing teachers

THE Tanzania Teachers Union (TTU) has appealed to the government to help solve key challenges facing teachers in the country including promotions and payments of arrears.

While acknowledging efforts being done by the government to get to the bottom of the issues, TTU feels a lot more need to be done to make teachers work effectively.

Speaking during a conference to mark the World Teacher's Day in Dodoma on Monday evening, TTU president, Leah Ulaya, noted that the government is trying to fulfill teachers' pledges. "We thank the government for the commitment to pay teachers their salaries during the Corona pandemic, but we still expect a lot in solving challenges facing teachers," said the teachers' president, adding that the learning and teaching environment had also improved.

However, she appealed to the government to see how to come up with strategies for capacity building on information, communication and technology (ICT) skills for teachers.

She explained that with the growing technology globally, teachers should not be left behind in ICT fields, adding that during COVID-19 pandemic they were forced to offer services online.

The TTU boss added that such pandemics are not predicable hence the need to empower teachers to be able to carry out their duties even during such times. "It is very important for the government to see how to empower teachers technologically in order to cope with online teaching" she said.

She also appealed to the government to engage owners of private schools in deliberations of how to improve welfare of teachers in their schools, arguing that some of them faced difficulties during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The president said many private school teachers did not get their pay despite students having paid school

fees as the management failed to play their roles effectively.

Speaking while officiating at the opening of the conference, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office responsible for Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Employment, Youth and the Disabled, Jenister Mhagama said the government is working hard to improve the welfare of teachers.

She said the government acknowledges the good work being done by teachers in both public and government schools as they all use their skills to improve the national economy.

According to the minister, the country's recently announced lower middle class economy had contributions of both public and private sector, servants including teachers.

In appreciation to the good, she said

the government has laid strategies to end conflicts, employed more teachers to reduce workload and had started providing ICT equipment to some teachers.

She reminded them of the importance of unity amongst them, calling on them to remain peacefully united during the ongoing campaigns and elections. "You should be agents of peace in the coming polls, come out in big numbers and exercise your constitutional right", said the minister.

The minister represented the Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa in the meeting and promised to submit to the government all recommendations to the government for action.

Earlier, TTU's secretary general, Deus Seif, also thanked the government for what it is doing to improve teacher's welfare, calling for immediate promotions for teachers in the 2019/20.



Bank of Tanzania deputy governor Dr Bernard Kibesse cuts a ribbon in Dar es Salaam yesterday to launch a finance education campaign targeting the city's residents. He is flanked by Tanzania Bankers Association chairman Abdulmajid Nsekela (L), who is also CRDB Bank Plc managing director and CEO, and Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania CEO Sanjay Rughani. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Govt in talks with NIC to have livestock insurance

By Guardian Reporter

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Prof Elisante ole Gabriel, has said that the ministry has initiated talks with the National Insurance Corporation (NIC) for the establishment of livestock insurance.

Prof Gabriel disclosed this at the weekend during his visit at Kibaha Tanzania Vaccine Institute under Tanzania Veterinary Laboratory Agency (TVLA).

He said they have already held talks with the NIC director general Dr Elirehema Doriye, adding that the talks were going on well.

Meanwhile, Prof Gabriel urged herders in the country to cooperate and make use with livestock experts to understand the real causes of diseases afflicting their livestock instead of doing the job themselves.

"There are some livestock keepers who think they own the cattle, and that they can become doctors, even if he

owns a dispensary, he must involve a veterinary officer who must know how the animal is to be treated," said Prof. Gabriel. He added: "My call to livestock keepers is that they have to use veterinary experts who are to tell them the causes of the diseases afflicting their animals, they should abandon the belief that if they gave them a DTT injection, then all bacteria for anthrax will disappear, no."

He said livestock keepers must receive vaccinations at low cost and

they should embrace modern practices in livestock keeping, and must ensure they buy the approved vaccination drugs.

He advised local councils to accord priority to the livestock sector in accordance with the law, and directed that 15 per cent of their internal revenues should be ploughed back to the development of the sector.

Prof Gabriel also called on livestock experts to offer their professional expertise to help herders.

Adequate, more affordable housing vital in sustainable transformation - CCI chief

By Getrude Mbagu

INCLUSIVE, affordable and adequate housing is the key to sustainable transformation of cities and communities', fighting poverty and other risks, says Dr Tim Ndezi, executive director of the country's Centre for Community Initiatives (CCI).

According to him, as Tanzania joined others to commemorate the World Habitat Day on October 5, this year, increased investments and support towards having more improved and affordable housing for all is vital.

In an interview with The Guardian, Dr Ndezi said that in a bid to ensure decent housing for all, the government, private sector and stakeholders have to work together, increase investments and addressing challenges and providing diverse financing mechanisms.

He said that CCI urges the government to put people at the core of decision-making, work closely with local communities by engaging them in various projects that affect their daily lives.

"Tanzania urban poor struggle with issues of poor housing and threats of forced eviction. Government's efforts to address housing problems in urban areas are still insufficient. The urban population struggles very hard to access surveyed plots and when available they are sold at high prices, something which had led them to settle in unplanned and subserviced settlements," Dr Ndezi said.

He however said everyone should be aware that providing adequate housing is a shared responsibility, which depends on national and local governments, civil society, businesses, and local communities working together.

According to him, as a way of demonstrating the more affordable way of addressing land and housing challenges, Tanzania Urban Poor Federation (TUPF) with support from CCI initiated affordable housing schemes a few years ago.

Dubbed "Chamazi community based housing scheme" the project was implemented in Temeke Municipality in Dar es Salaam.

"In the project, we saw over 70 affordable houses of two-bedrooms with modern toilets at a cost of not more than 3m/-. Both housing projects have highly considered and demonstrated the role played by community organisations and participation by purchasing land, planning and participating in construction work with the aim of reducing the cost and creating ownership," he said.

Dr Ndezi further urged the government to prioritize people with low income in land ownership and affordable housing.

"Non-governmental organisations (NGOs) should also support the government's efforts by helping to empower communities and ensure governments implement an inclusive agenda. Communities should be empowered to participate in shaping the global "housing for all" agenda in countries, cities and settlements around the world," he noted.

In his remarks to commemorate the important day, Minister for Land,

Housing and Human Settlements Development, William Lukuvi said that the ministry is working to conduct a housing census to identify the actual number of houses and help identify housing conditions and shortages and thus come up with strategic development plans to address the challenges.

The minister instructed land offices in all regions as well as the planning authorities to actively monitor the identification, planning and ownership exercises in accordance with the laws, procedures and guidelines issued so as to ensure that more citizens own land and houses.

In her message also, UN Habitat executive director Maimunah Mohd Sharif said the World Habitat Day 2020 offers an important opportunity to reflect on the effect of the Covid-19 crisis, and also how we can shape the future of human settlements more resiliently.

"Housing is now widely recognised as a frontline defence against Covid-19, with residents across the world being told to stay at home and wash their hands. But these simple measures are impossible for the 1.8 billion people living in inadequate housing conditions, informal settlements, overcrowded homes, homelessness, and unstable housing conditions," she noted.

World Habitat Day 2020 presents the opportunity to engage in a global discussion on the transformative impact of Covid-19 on the housing sector and to explore how to build societies back better, by leveraging the role of housing as a catalyst for progressively delivering human rights and as a foundation of people's wellbeing. Issues around housing must be at the centre of sustainable and inclusive urban development.

The day acts as a hub to coordinate and share information to promote the idea of housing, shelter and slum upgrading as central to the functions of cities in meeting residents' needs. The pandemic has shown that cities and local governments around the world can move towards reducing inequalities and poverty levels and providing access to adequate housing for all, as a catalyst to achieve other fundamental rights.

She said Sustainable Development Goal 11 aims for resilient, inclusive, safe, diverse cities by 2030 and one of the targets is access to adequate, safe and affordable housing and basic services for all by 2030 and the upgrade of slum.

Maimunah further said governments need to reshape policies, strategies and legislation for diverse housing solutions for all and respect, protect and fulfill human rights for all in cities.

She said that UN-Habitat is launching a five-week long campaign on 'Housing for All'; to spread the message that housing is more than just a roof.

"Adequate housing is central to providing shelter against safety and health risks. It is an essential condition of living in dignity, and the basis for belonging and wellbeing, and a key for access to public spaces, job opportunities, hospitals, schools, and food."

'Avoid violence fuelled by hate'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ADC's presidential candidate for Zanzibar, Hamad Rashid Mohamed, has called on Pemba residents to avoid all forms of violence fuelled by hate aimed at causing chaos as October 28 approaches and reminded them that after elections lives will continue as usual.

Addressing a campaign rally at Chake Chake in Pemba at the weekend, he said there was one party thinking that Pemba is its stronghold and there was no other party with any political following.

"I call on you Pembans not to be misled by hate political speeches that can cause violence and breach of the peace... this island underwent similar situation in the past that saw the eruption of violence and with some people losing their lives," he said.

He appealed to residents of Chake Chake District to vote for ADC that

is well mobilised to bring economic transformation for the island including boosting cloves farming.

He said research conducted has shown that in India, Arab countries and Europe there are big markets for spices that had not been fully utilised by farmers.

"Farmers should increase efforts in spices production because at present there is a reliable market in India, Arab countries and Europe," he added.

For his part, ADC's running mate for the Union presidency Shoka Khamis Juma called on the people to vote for the party to allow it implement its election manifesto to bring about huge economic transformation, including construction of factories within the Micheweni Export Processing Zone.

"Micheweni was declared Export Processing Zone since 1992 but unfortunately it had not so far been fully utilised," he added.

CCM parliamentary candidate says she'll make sure menace of quelea quelea dies off

By Guardian Reporter, Same

CCM's parliamentary candidate for Same East Constituency, Anne Kilango Malecela, has pledged to end the invasion of flocks of red-billed quelea birds that destroy farm crops in higher altitudes of Pare Mountains. She said the birds flying in huge flocks invade farms in Kalimawe ward and Mpunga Ndung'u Irrigation Scheme. Speaking on Monday at a campaign rally at Karamba Village she said if residents of the constituency were to elect her she would send in experts to come up with alternative way to exterminate the birds. Kalimawe ward is home to big irrigation project whose dam is 4,000 metres long and 5,000 metres wide. In addition, the constituency has a 680-hectare rice irrigation scheme with over 2,500 rice farmers even though destructive birds cause havoc to their crops. It is said that a single quelea bird eats up to 209 grammes of rice per day and when fed, it uses most of its time to destroy the rice stalks by felling them to the ground.

According to extension officers, most of the time crops pests have been army worms, quelea, red locusts and rats. It is also estimated that more than four million fly in flocks every morning to feed on the crops and return to their nests. Kilango said if elected she would work hard to remove various challenges facing residents and help them increase production of crops by adding value thereto and searching for markets. She also said she would ensure the village is connected to electricity as well as eradicating land conflicts to the acute land shortage, including land for cemeteries.

At the rally, Kilimanjaro Region's CCM Chairman Patrick Boisafi, called on Karamba villagers to vote for Kilango as she knew Same East as well as their complaints as opposed to her opponents.

Kalimawe ward is home to big irrigation project whose dam is 4,000 metres long and 5,000 metres wide



Vodacom Tanzania Plc managing director Hisham Hendi (2nd-L) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday presenting an appreciation trophy to Frank Monyo, a representative of The Guardian Ltd (publishers of The Guardian and Nipashe newspapers), in recognition of the publishing company's contribution to Tanzania's information sector. It was during the commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the mobile phone service provider's operations in the country. With them are Vodacom Tanzania director of corporate affairs Rosalynn Mworira (L) and commercial director Linda Riwa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

KAMPALA

UGANDA President Yoweri Museveni yesterday said the country is now open to the world, urging tourists to visit the east African country following the easing of COVID-19 restrictions. Museveni said in a tweet that tourists are free to visit the country following the reopening of the country's Entebbe International Airport and national borders after seven months of

Uganda opens its doors to visitors with easing of Covid-19 restrictions

government closure in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. "Uganda is now open to the world, provided the SOPs (Standard Operating

Procedures) are strictly adhered to," said Museveni. "Tourists/travellers should have tested negative 72 hours before arrival

in Uganda," he said. Uganda on Oct. 1 resumed scheduled commercial passenger flights after the government suspended the operations

when the pandemic broke out in the country in March. Uganda Wildlife Authority, a state-owned conservation agency, last

month announced the full reopening of all its national parks as the country continues to ease lockdown restrictions. The agency said all tourists and visitors to Savannah and primate parks will have to undergo mandatory temperature screening at the various entries, wearing face masks, observing social distancing, and mandatory hand-washing for all visitors.

BIASHARA ZOTE MAKINI

HUTANGAZWA HAPA

Nipashe

Nipashe mwendo mdundo

Unafhamu ni kwa nini? _____

"Tunaongoza na Kuaminika"

Nipashe

Mwanga wa Jamii

WASILIANA NASI

☎ 0745 700 710 au 0677 020 701

✉ advertise@guardian.co.tz (Matangazo)

subscription@guardian.co.tz (Magazeti)

epaper@guardian.co.tz (e-paper)

Pata Nakala yako

🌐 <https://epaper.ippmedia.com>

Pakua The Guardian-IPP Media

KUWA WA KWANZA KUHABARIKA | Tufate nipashetz nipashe TheGuardiantz YouTube The Guardian Digital

Women traders urged to be creative, utilise social media to access markets

By Guardian Correspondent, Pemba

WOMEN entrepreneurs in Pemba Island have been urged to be more creative and utilise well presence of social media platforms for promoting their businesses.

Training facilitator Faki Othman Faki made the call here yesterday when speaking during the capacity building session organised by the Tanzania Media Women's Association (TAMWA Zanzibar).

According to him, majority of entrepreneurs in the country have recognised the importance of social media platforms and they are currently using them intensively to sell their products online.

"However, there are some of them who are yet to recognize the potential available in these social media networks, it is my appeal to you all, to wake up and make good use of these platforms to improve your businesses," he said.

Faki said that for any entrepreneur to develop and earn more from his/her business, the use of social media platforms is inevitable.

He said the presence of such networks has made it easier for an entrepreneur to sell and reach more customers without using much force compared to other marketing methods.

"Through social media networks, a trader can meet customers from within and outside the country within a short time, so it is better for the entrepreneurs to grab this opportunity," he added.

He however, reminded the entrepreneurs that producing and selling quality products is vital if they are serious with their businesses.

The facilitator urged the participants to adhere to business rules, invest in marketing and promotion which include creating and expanding communication and trust with their

customers.

One of the participants, Fadhila Ali Juma commended Tamwa-Zanzibar for bringing the entrepreneurs together and capacitating them with essential skills and knowledge to improve their businesses.

"I am so happy to be part of this training, I have learnt a lot concerning my business, we are going to ensure that we utilise the knowledge in our group. We have been producing natural soaps, lotion and other products but our major challenge is low access to the market," she said.

Earlier, manager of the TAMWA's Women Economic Empowerment Project (WEZA II) in Pemba Asha Mussa Omar said that the training aimed to capacitate the entrepreneurs with new skills and techniques to enable them improve their businesses and have access to the market.

"TAMWA Zanzibar decided to organise this training to enable our entrepreneurs to identify and capitalise on the opportunities available in the online market so as to earn more and fight poverty," she said.

The training is a continuation of the implementation of the Zanzibar Women's Economic Empowerment project (WEZA III) which is implemented by TAMWA-Zanzibar with funding from the Milele Zanzibar Foundation.

"I am so happy to be part of this training, I have learnt a lot concerning my business, we are going to ensure that we utilise the knowledge in our group. We have been producing natural soaps, lotion and other products but our major challenge is low access to the market"



Residents of Zunga in Msata ward, Chalinde District, pictured yesterday drawing potable water from a kiosk built by the Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) and serving more than 300 people. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities, Jenista Mhagama has said the government will continue supporting teachers and called on them to work hard.

She said the government has improved the country's five colleges to enable them deliver professionals in various essential sectors.

She was speaking here at the weekend at a teachers' forum organised by Tanzania Teachers' Union (TTU).

The minister said in recognition to great work from teachers in the country

Govt is steadfast on care for teachers - Mhagama

the government embarked on steps to improve their teaching environment.

Mhagama mentioned among the colleges that have been improved as the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology (DIT), Mwanza Institute of Technology (MIT) and the National Institute of Transport (NIT).

She said the government has

provided 1,550 personal computers (PCs) for teaching ICT teachers and added that the government will continue working on the issue of teachers' promotions for those eligible.

He promised them that that the government will continue improving their working environment as well as increase teachers' vacancies.

TTU Secretary General Deus Seif said teachers held high hopes in the government and will not let down President John Magufuli for his development efforts.

TTU President Leah Ulaya said apart from some teachers' having been promoted, there were still many others who are yet to be promoted.



Korogwe district commissioner Kissa Gwakisa speaks at the launch of Kalalani gemstone trading centre yesterday. With her are Korogwe district administrative secretary Rahel Mhando (R), Tanga Region's resident minerals officer, Zabibu Napach (L), and Tanzania Women Miners Association official Eunice Negelo. Photo: Correspondent Oscar Kasimiri

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibaha

ACT-Wazalendo Parliamentary candidate for Kibaha Urban, Aminata Mshana has said if elected she would supervise the construction of adequate classrooms in all schools including provision of sufficient desks.

She gave the pledge at the weekend at a campaign rally held at Mailimoja Ward, stressing that she would make sure to eliminate all education challenges in regard to teaching tools and furniture in schools.

Regarding the health sector, she

ACT-Wazalendo parliamentary aspirant promises enough classrooms for schools

said she would supervise for free health services for women, elders and children, but also pledged to have health experts in all 14 wards of the constituency who would be going house to house to examine people's health statuses.

ACT-Wazalendo Secretary for the Mailimoja Ward Mussa Hazirun said any leader is required to provide children with good nutrition as directed in the

party's policy towards children's up-keeping.

On his part, the party candidate for Mailimoja Ward Councillorship Athumani Lusambi said if elected he would talk with various stakeholders for the construction of a police station for the ward.

He also said if elected he would make sure to make use of donors for

the construction of classrooms for students with special needs in the ward's primary schools.

Lusambi also pledged to make sure commuter buses enter Tumbi referral Hospital instead of currently ending their journeys at Njuweni, the situation that forces the sick and other people wanting to go to the hospital to use tricycles (bajaj) and motorcycles (bodaboda).

Zanzibar's urban residents now have greater access to water and sanitation after AfDB support, report shows

By Special Correspondent

THE Zanzibar Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Project, implemented between 2012 and 2018 in Tanzania, has provided water and sanitation services to around 287,000 people, according to a report by the African Development Bank (AfDB).

Financed by a bank loan at the amount of \$19 million, the project was rolled out in Saateni and Welezo, two urban areas in the Zanzibar archipelago.

The report notes that progress towards achieving the project's initial goals was largely satisfactory. In fact, 71 percent of the people in the Saateni and Welezo regions now benefit from water supply services, 12 elementary schools have gained access to improved sanitation facilities, and 5,000 primary school students have been sensitized on hygiene and sanitation.

Similarly, 76 percent of the 30 targeted non-functional boreholes have been rehabilitated and new submersible pumps have been installed, six new wells have been drilled and new submersible pumps have been installed. A total of 56,782 m³/day of water is produced, representing 154 percent of the targeted production quantity of 36,755 m³/day, the report said.

The project has made remarkable progress and has ultimately improved the lives of the targeted beneficiaries.

The document also highlights the rehabilitation and extension of more than 68 kilometres of water supply and distribution mains, the installation of more than 15 meters, the acquisition of nearly 4,000 household water meters, and the rehabilitation and construction of about 454 sanitation and hygiene facilities in elementary schools, adapted to children and people with disabilities.

In addition, 30 school sanitation and hygiene centres were created.

Nine training sessions were held for 117 teachers, 72 percent of whom were women.

"The project has made remarkable progress and has ultimately improved the lives of the targeted beneficiaries," the report continues.

"The rate of access to sanitation facilities in schools rose from 7 percent in 2012 to 142 percent in 2020. In addition, 34,353 primary school students have been taught about sanitation and hygiene thanks to the training offered. In accordance with the project design, the students are relaying these messages to their communities, which has had a positive impact on sanitation and hygiene in those communities."

The report concludes by pointing out that 227 direct jobs, including 80 skilled jobs, were created during the construction of the water and sanitation facilities and following the commissioning of a water supply system in Zanzibar.



The project has made remarkable progress and has ultimately improved the lives of the targeted beneficiaries

Govt resolute on total elimination of human deaths caused by rabies

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government is set to accelerate progress towards the elimination of human deaths from dog-mediated rabies reported to kill 1500 people in the country every year by 2030.

The Public Health Specialists at the Ministry for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Jubilate Bernard said in Dar es Salaam that it has already put in place the rabies strategic plan to prevent canine rabies.

The government plan moved along with World Rabies Day 2020 with a theme "End Rabies: Collaborate, Vaccinate".

She said globally, about 59,000 human deaths are due to rabies adding that over 95 percent of human deaths result from domestic dog bites.

She added that Africa and Asia together contribute to 96 percent of all bites while Africa continent alone contribute 36.4 percent of global burden.

The officer warned that if not untreated, humans infected by rabies have a 100 percent chance of dying when symptoms start.

In Tanzania for instance the research shows that at least 1499 deaths reported per year noting that statistics show that between January and August this year, there were 18,000 animal bites reported.

"Human rabies is reported as a case fatality rate of 100 percent therefore, we can control it in dogs if we improve access to treatment and care," she said.

Dr Audifas Savimbo from the Ministry for Livestock and Fishery

Development said there was a need to increase awareness to the dog's keepers to know the risk of not vaccinating their animals.

"Our target is to increase vaccination coverage up to 70 percent from 55-65 percent especially in rural areas," he said.

According to the Health Protection Agency (HPA) on the level of rabies risk, by country, Tanzania is ranked as a high-risk area.

In his remarks, the World Health Organisation (WHO) Director-General, Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said: "We can only eliminate rabies in people if we do a better job of controlling it in dogs, and if we radically improve access to treatment and care - especially among the poor and marginalised groups who suffer the most from this horrible disease."

The World Organisation for Animal Health, OIE Director-General, Dr Monique Eloit stressed the need for collaborative efforts against rabies. "This is a disease we know how to beat, but there is no single solution. We have to work together, across human and animal health sectors and with affected communities. If we do, elimination is possible, and in the process, we will also be building stronger systems for the detection and control of other diseases."

"Our target is to increase vaccination coverage up to 70 percent from 55-65 percent especially in rural areas"



Dr Dorothy Gwajima (2nd-L), Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government - Health) shares a light moment with staff at a health centre in Karatu District at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Woinde Shizza

TCRA marks Customer Service Week in style

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) has marked the Customer Service week in Style for organising study tours for parents, schools and children to the National Museum to enable them learn and gain more knowledge on how people communicated before the arrival of the technology era.

The study tours are part of the ongoing commemoration of 'Customer Services Week'.

TCRA's acting head of communications unit, Mabel Masasi said in a statement that the authority has also established special desks to serve people with various services.

According to him, during the special week, TCRA expects to get views and comments from the public on service

provision so as to help the authority improve delivery of its services. He said that celebrating the day is a chance for all service providers to improve their services but also for the public to air their views on what should be done to improve the communication sector.

According to him, the authority will continue to accelerate effective use of information, education; communications and technology

amongst stakeholders that promote innovation and ensure universal access, secured, quality and affordable communication services.

Masasi said that the authority will continue supervising and monitoring the expansion of communication services so as to ensure that all people including the underserved community have access to affordable communication services.



Road construction under way in Dar es Salaam's Kibamba suburb yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Advice to Mwanza residents: Visit Saanane National Park

By Correspondent Wilhelm Mulinda,

Mwanza

MWANZA residents have been urged to be patriotic, visit various tourist attractions including the Saanane Island National Park for leisure, but also contribute to the country's development.

Eva Mallya, park's assistant conservation commissioner made the call yesterday in an interview with The Guardian.

Mallya said that domestic tourism contributes well in the sector and the country's economic growth, so having steady plans to improve it is vital.

She said the park, which is found in Lake Victoria just metres from Mwanza city centre, is endowed with a lot of tourist attractions to serve local people and foreigners.

"I call upon Mwanza residents and Tanzanians in general to participate in promoting tourism by visiting national parks and other attractions to promote the industry, as this sector contributes to the economy by bringing in foreign currency," she said.

She pointed out that the park is reachable by boat drive, taking only few minutes from its office situated at Capri-point area in Mwanza city.

"During the outbreak of Covid-19 pandemic a few months ago visitors declined at the park to some extent, but they have now started to turn up in

a huge number after the disappearance of the deadly virus in the country," she said.

Mallya said the park is now putting in place a number of strategies to attract as many visitors as possible in a bid to boost the tourism industry and raise income.

Citing an example she said that they are currently visiting various areas like tourist hotels to promote the park.

Saanane Island is currently the smallest national park in the country with 2.18 square kilometres including water and dry land areas of three islands-Saanane itself, Big Chankende and Small Chankende.

Tourist attractions available at the park include impala, zebra, wildebeests, lions, peacocks, more than 70 species of birds both aquatic and terrestrial migrants as well as residents and lake panoramic view.

Others are revert monkeys, lizards lagama, monitor lizards, crocodiles, rock hyrax, pythons as well as sea otters to mention just a few.

Tourism is the largest foreign exchange earner since 2012, contributing an average of \$2 billion annually, which is equivalent to 25 per cent of all exchange earnings, according to the government data. It also contributes to more than 17 per cent of the national Gross Domestic Product (GPD) and creates more than 1.5 million jobs, 500,000 of which are direct.

By Beauty Mwakatobe TUDARCO

Dar residents decry presence of middlemen inflating rental fees

DAR ES SALAAM city residents have decried presence of middlemen who are being blamed for inflating rental fees, making them living miserable lives.

In separate interviews, they said middlemen charges exorbitant fees, the situation that complicates people's lives in the country's commercial capital.

"It's not easy to find a home without a middleman, but he will charge 10 percent of the prevailing rental price," said Lilian Sanga, a resident of Sinza

Kijiweni, adding:

"If you are an employee looking for a place to stay in Dar es Salaam, God knows how much you would pay for it."

She described the issue of middlemen as a main challenge when it comes to the search for rental rooms in the city.

"Middlemen charge us a lot of money despite the fact that they know our living conditions. Worse enough, landlords charge us one-year rent, something which puts more burdens

to tenants," she complained.

But, for Shamsa Khalifa, a resident of Mikochei described middlemen as important as they know where rooms, houses and apartments are found, "so it makes life easier for us."

Echoing Shamsa's remarks, Atupakisye Kipiki of Goba suburb, underscored the need for middlemen to be there as they have been helpful for newcomers to Dar es Salaam. They are also an important bridge that link tenants and landlords in the city.

Festo Hamis is an Ubungo-based middleman who admitted: "It is true; we take one-month rent from a tenant. The amount we take from tenants is not as oppressive as they think because we also incur costs when searching for accommodation."

According to him, middlemen are ready to pay tax once the government puts in place law for landlords who charge their tenants three months, six months or even one year rent at a time.

"This will make us being recognized,

hence increasing trust to our clients," he said.

One of the fastest-growing cities in East Africa, Dar es Salaam has seen a huge influx of rural migrants in recent years, putting extra pressure on its strained housing supply and forcing poorer residents to move to the periphery.

The steep cost of building a home, the shortage of houses to rent and lack of a legal mechanism to regulate rent have allowed landlords to charge exorbitant

rents in a city where almost 75 percent of residents are tenants, according to a 2011 housing study by the government.

High rents push many residents to the brink of survival as many spend the lion's share of their income on accommodation.

The average rent for a modest two-bedroom apartment in the city is estimated at 600,000/- a month - almost three times the national average - according to real estate agencies that track the market.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757154767
General line: 0745700710
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Mobile: 0782253676
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

International Coffee Day should promote fair trade

COFFEE is a brewed drink prepared from roasted coffee beans, the seeds of berries from certain *coffea* species. When coffee berries turn from green to bright red in colour indicating ripeness they are picked, processed, and dried. Dried coffee seeds (referred to as beans) are roasted to varying degrees, depending on the desired flavour. Roasted beans are ground and then brewed with near-boiling water to produce the beverage known as coffee.

Coffee is darkly coloured, bitter, slightly acidic and has a stimulating effect in humans, primarily due to its caffeine content. It is one of the most popular drinks in the world, and can be prepared and presented in a variety of ways (e.g., espresso, French press, caffè latte, or already-brewed canned coffee). It is usually served hot, although chilled or iced coffee is common. Sugar, sugar substitutes, milk or cream are often used to lessen the bitter taste.

Clinical research indicates that moderate coffee consumption is benign or mildly beneficial as a stimulant in healthy adults, with continuing research on whether long-term consumption reduces the risk of some diseases, although some of the long-term studies are of questionable credibility.

Coffee production in Tanzania is a significant aspect of its economy as it is Tanzania's largest export crop. Tanzanian coffee production averages between 30-40,000 metric tonnes annually of which approximately 70 per cent is Arabica and 30 per cent is Robusta. The nine main growing regions of Arabica are in: Iringa the nine main growing regions of Arabica are in Iringa, Kigoma, Matengo Highlands, Mbeya, Mbinga, Morogoro, Ngara, North Kilimanjaro and Usambara Mountains.

The main growing region of Robusta is the Bukoba area of the Kagera Region. Two new species were found recently in Tanzania's Eastern Arc Mountains, *Coffea bridsoniae* and *C. kihansiensis*. Harvest time is traditionally October to February. Ninety per cent of the nation's coffee farms are smallholder, with the remainder being plantations. The industry estimates are approximately 270,000 personnel involved in the coffee industry.

Before 1990, the State coffee board and the cooperative unions were responsible for marketing coffee. Reforms in 1990 and in 1994/95 affected export pricing. Coffee wilt disease appeared in Tanzania in 1997, spreading rapidly and causing serious losses.

International Coffee Day is an occasion that is used to promote and celebrate coffee as a beverage, with events now occurring in places across the world. The first official date was 1 October 2015, as agreed by then International Coffee Organisation and was launched in Milan. This day is also used to promote fair trade coffee and to raise awareness for the plight of the coffee growers. On this day, many businesses offer free or discounted cups of coffee. Some businesses share coupons and special deals with their loyal followers via social networking. Some greeting card companies sell National Coffee Day greeting cards as well as free e-cards.

At a meeting on 3-7 March 2014, a decision was taken by the International Coffee Organisation to launch the first official International Coffee Day in Milan as part of Expo 2015.

Various events have been held, called Coffee Day or National Coffee Day, with many of these on or around September 29.

Global action necessary in making sure all children back in class post-Covid-19

EBOLA crisis, girls are particularly vulnerable when schools close for long periods of time. A recent report estimates that 10 million more secondary school-age girls could be out of school after this initial wave of the COVID-19 crisis has passed. Evidence shows that prolonged school closure can also result in increased sexual abuse and teenage pregnancies. Further, girls from the poorest communities are likely to miss out on remote learning strategies, either because access is limited or because the burden of care often falls on women.

Now, in the face of this pandemic, more than 70 per cent of students around the world are still affected by nationwide school closures—or more than 1.26 billion children and youth. While we are just beginning to understand the socioeconomic impact, experiences from Ebola show us that girls will be among the hardest hit.

For many adolescent girls, especially those from low-income countries and the poorest communities, access to education was already a challenge even before COVID-19. A recent UNICEF report shows that nearly one in three adolescent girls from the poorest households around the world have never been to school, and estimates show that only 25 per cent of the poorest girls in low-income countries complete primary school. Emergencies exacerbate preexisting inequalities and intensify the existing learning crisis.

Together, this data and lessons learned from our past experience tell us that we'll need to do more than simply reopen classrooms to make it possible for the poorest and most marginalised girls to return to school. We have a once-in-a-lifetime chance to transform education and reimagine the way students learn, so that when schools reopen, they are more gender-responsive and inclusive, help all students to learn, look after all students' health and well-being, and are digitally connected.

Drawing on existing evidence, including the "What Works in Girls'

Education" Brookings book, and on-the-ground know-how, we recommend governments and their partners take the following five steps to ensure marginalized girls, alongside boys, can continue their education.

The pandemic is hitting poorer families the hardest. A recent study in Kenya revealed that 68 per cent of respondents had skipped a meal or eaten less as a direct result of COVID-19. The economic impact on families and communities leaves adolescent girls at higher risk of child marriage, sexual exploitation, and child labour. Waiving school and examination fees could facilitate girls' return to school. Other strategies, such as cash transfers for the most marginalized girls, have also proven effective. Following Ebola, the Sierra Leone government waived tuition and examination fees for all learners for two academic years to motivate parents and caregivers to send children back to school. Additionally, in Ghana, keeping girls safe and learning is a priority during school closures. The Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection will increase cash transfers under the Livelihood Empowerment Against Poverty (LEAP) Programme for extremely poor households across Ghana, facilitating girls' return to school in communities hard hit by the economic impact of COVID-19.

Distance learning strategies are essential during and after COVID-19, especially for the most marginalised girls and boys. While a recent Brookings report shows that currently 90 per cent of high-income countries are using remote learning strategies to continue education, only 25 per cent of low-income countries are doing so—and then largely through television and radio.

There is an opportunity for countries to transform how they reach out-of-school girls and boys, even after the pandemic is over, by designing and scaling remote learning programs using appropriate technology. But it will be essential for these programmes to take a gender-focused lens.

By Erna Solberg and Cyril Ramaphosa

WE must confront one of the most serious healthcare crises to hit the world in recent times as a global challenge, together, not as individual countries

In the battle against COVID-19, we all have a common goal: to save lives, reopen our societies and rebuild our economies. New diagnostic tests, treatments and vaccines offer the best hope of achieving this - but only if they are deployed when and where they are needed most. This is not just the right thing to do; it is the smart thing to do. Against a foe that respects no borders, national solutions are bound to fall short.

This week, global leaders are meeting at the United Nations General Assembly to discuss the global solution that is here for the taking. We call on world leaders to use significant moments like UNGA to commit investment in - and cooperation with - the ACT-Accelerator programme, a global push to develop COVID-19 tests, treatments and vaccines. By doing so we are leading our people and the world directly towards the exit of this crisis by replacing fear with hope.

Our two countries, Norway and South Africa, may lie at different ends of the planet - and stand on different rungs of the economic ladder - but we have a long-standing relationship and we rely on each other to escape from this crisis. The same is true for every country on Earth.

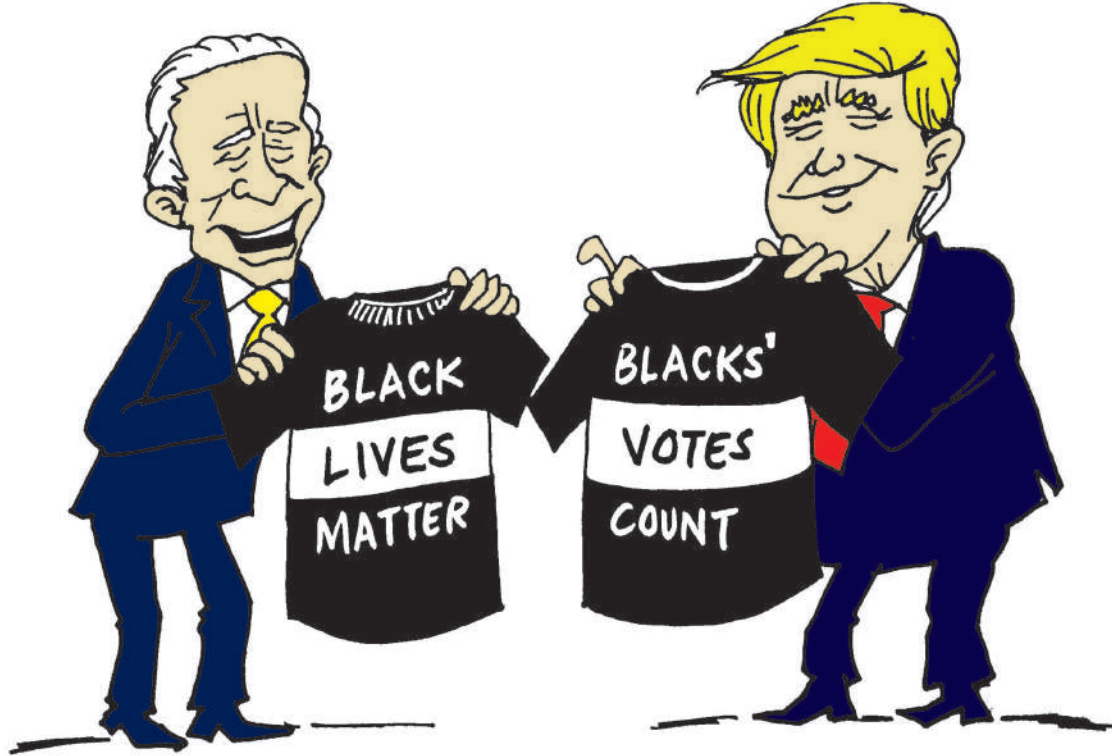
Countries that only focus on ensuring supplies of vaccines, drugs and diagnostics for their own populations must wake up to the fact that they risk delaying the end of the pandemic for everyone. The pandemic transcends national borders - our efforts should be aligned to fight this pandemic collectively. Vaccines, drugs and diagnostics must be made available for all in need. If not, we risk delaying the end of the pandemic for everyone.

In our shared desire for a rapid global solution, earlier this month we co-chaired the inaugural meeting of the ACT-Accelerator Facilitation Council with over 30 heads of state and ministers, economic cooperation groups, international partners and civil society. Launched in April by the World Health Organization with the European Commission, G20 countries and other partners, the ACT-Accelerator offers a joint exit strategy from the COVID crisis based on global cooperation and equitable access. Crucially, it promises excellent value for money.

The unprecedented speed at which ACT-Accelerator is accelerating the development and rollout of new tools is testament to the incredible advances in science and technology of recent years and shows what can be achieved when we work together.

These tools play an equally important role in ending the pandemic.

US Election Twenty Twenty!



North to South: Countries must collaborate in ending Covid-19



Erna Solberg is a Norwegian politician serving as Prime Minister of Norway since 2013 and Leader of the Conservative Party since May 2004. She has been given the nickname "Iron Erna", inspired by Margaret Thatcher's nickname, the "Iron Lady"



President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa

Diagnostics are the eyes and ears of the COVID response - and are essential to limit the spread of the virus. Better, more effective treatments for all stages of disease are essential to prevent death and serious illness. A safe and effective vaccine will protect populations, in particular high risk and vulnerable groups.

As the world awaits the results of large-scale clinical trials on vaccines and therapeutics, it is vital that we take the opportunity to ensure that they will be used to maximum effect.

Immunising people in a limited number of high-income countries will not fix the problem. In fact, new research suggests that unequal distribution of vaccines could result in

almost twice as many COVID-19 deaths than if the same volume of vaccines were shared out equitably. That has grave implications for countries at all income levels in both North and South alike.

In an inter-connected world, tackling the virus everywhere is our best chance not only of saving the largest number of lives but also of restoring social and economic activity globally and nationally. Until the threat of COVID-19 recedes, the global economy will continue to suffer, supply chains will remain broken and travel will be disrupted.

What is more, we risk losing decades of development progress, with 100 million more people around the world

facing the possibility of being driven into poverty, millions of children in low- and middle-income countries lacking access to schooling, and healthcare systems across resource-poor regions in danger of being overwhelmed.

Resurgences of the virus now evident in many countries underscore the precarious state of affairs. With up to 95% of the global population still at risk of catching the virus, there is a continuing danger that COVID-19 will flow back to countries currently under control - whatever unilateral steps they may have taken to suppress transmission - creating more economic uncertainty and shocks.

In just five months, the ACT-Accelerator and its four pillars have built an unrivalled research and development portfolio of tests, treatments and vaccines, alongside an advance purchasing system to get them to the places they are needed, and a global distribution network to get them to the people who require them. It is the ideal mechanism to deliver a coordinated global response by bringing together governments, health bodies, scientists, businesses, civil society and philanthropists.

The ACT-Accelerator has shown us the potential for an exit from this crisis, but a gear change in funding is necessary if we are to reach that door. To date, just \$2.7 billion has been given to its work - enough to ensure a robust start-up phase, but this covers less than 10% of the overall needs. To meet the goal of producing and delivering 2 billion vaccine doses, 245 million treatments and 500 million diagnostic tests, world leaders must use the window of opportunity to scale-up the initiative over the next three months.

The investment case is compelling. With the global economy expected to contract by \$7 trillion in 2020 alone, fully financing the remaining \$35 billion needed by partners of the ACT-Accelerator to shorten the duration of the crisis would pay for itself in just 36 hours once global travel and trade alone are restored. The alternative path of "vaccine nationalism", and a lack of innovation for and access to effective tests and treatments, would hold up the recovery of all countries.

We must confront one of the most serious healthcare crises to hit the world in recent times as a global challenge, together, not as individual countries. The case for united action has never been stronger. Nor has it been more urgent.

Prime Minister Erna Solberg of Norway and President Cyril Ramaphosa of South Africa are co-chairs of the ACT-Accelerator Facilitation Council.

Accommodating interests of PwD poses daunting challenges

By Gaudensia Mngumi

HAVING an adequate home is now, more than ever, a matter of life and death. As COVID-19 continues to spread, people have been told to stay at home, but this simple measure is impossible for people who do not have adequate housing." They are words from the United Nations to mark 2020 World Habitat Day.

UN further says: "At the same time, COVID-19 has reminded us that home is much more than just a roof. To make us feel safe and enable us to continue living, working and learning, a home needs to be secure, to allow us to access basic services and infrastructure for hygiene measures and to have enough room for physical distancing..."

As the nation marked the world habitat day this Monday, people living with disabilities are asking President John Magufuli to start a National Housing for Persons with Disabilities Programme, targeting to improve residences for the poor disadvantaged citizens, who for long time have been living in inconceivable houses.

Rehema King'ung'aro, Director for Tanzania National Disabilities Alliance, during the interview with The Guardian in Dar es Salaam, defines Magufuli's leadership as being a pro poor and developmental president, prominent leader in Africa who fought corruption who will leave behind an ever lasting legacy by accomplishing the Housing for Persons with Disabilities Programme.

"We should not be treated the same as other citizens when it comes to housing issues. We have lesser resources, less freedom of choice than

other people. Imagine there are many cases which has led to the removal of people with disabilities from the housing that alone has created many challenges to our people including sleeping on the streets," she says.

The fifth phase government is undertaking several projects, for the example the one that integrate urban infrastructure with the SGR, not only the country is building a multibillion Stigler's gorgor power project to generate 2000 plus electricity megawatts while in Mererani the great tanzanite wall has started to pay off.

Currently the government has announced a plan to beef up the national carrier by buying several flights including cargo flight and many things are going to happen as the government is intending to do much more in line with the country's development strategy including lightening the rural areas, why not the housing project for persons with disabilities? Rehema queried.

"In this modernizing Tanzania programme people with disabilities are asking the government to set up villages for persons with disabilities in Mwanza, Dar, Dodoma and Arusha which will be a living legacy for president Magufuli..."

Rehema, a Pugu Secondary School teacher is so concerned that people living with impairing challenges are worried about living standards. They need a village of their own and that will be a big gain to the communities of disabilities.

The chief of Tanzania National Disabilities Alliance asks the president to see into it that people with disabilities live better lives, because the majority of them do not have better homes to



Rehema and Gumbo speak during an interview with The Guardian Reporter on various issues that challenge persons with disabilities. Photo: Gaudensia Mngumi.

live.

For instance, if they are given plots to build a home the majority cannot, because they don't have resources, as a result they sell their plots to make their ends meet.

"That is why despite the fact that some persons with disabilities have plots in cities like Dar es Salaam, Dodoma and Mwanza they still have no homes.

"We are happy as we have heard several times President Magufuli saying that his leadership is about to serve the people. We have seen good services for people with disabilities, there are

plentifully going to schools, we have special educators' facilities, and funds for the higher learners no wonder we need a home now..."

Rehema is thankful to the government commending that since time in memorial, Tanzania has sought to secure PwDs future by ensuring that there are several special schools in which they studied like those for the blinds, the deaf and the mental challenged children.

She adds that the nation has put a great value on their education and there have been university admissions for persons living with physical impairments, the government is taking on all

education responsibilities all the way from primaries, secondary to the colleagues.

Unfortunately the most challenging barrier has been lack of good homes. This is still a critical trial to the majority of them that is why they are asking the government to set up living centres for the disadvantaged population of the blind, blind deaf, the cripples and albinos, Rehema asks.

The Secretary General for Tanzania National Disabilities Alliance, Noel Gumbo supports Rehema, as he remarks:

"To be a person with disabilities sometimes means that you lack a space. Imagine able-bodied people live in ding areas. Some share apartments, sides, and beds. A number of more than 10 people can share a kitchen, toilet and birth rooms. Imagine how a person with a disability challenge suffers? We suffer tenth as much."

"Hundreds of us in various cities and towns are suffering at communal toilets that send horror odor across the streets. We share taps. Yet we are paying rent. Sometimes we are chased out of the houses..."

Gumbo notes that everybody is enjoying the Dar, Arusha, Mwanza, Dodoma and Zanzibar new looks, because there are newly built high rises, apartments and the construction boom continues as many cities liters with fantastic decorations which speaks about good life likewise the persons with disabilities need a place or a village in those great fantastic cities.

"As you can see it is harder for majority Tanzanians to afford to purchase housing. How can I afford... if anything the government can do to uplift our lives is to give us good homes to live comfortable..."

Gumbo says residential housing is in a huge need. Many people in towns and cities want to own their own places or piece of land the price is moving up every day, even unsold spaces became extremely expensive everyday which is a hiccup to many ordinary persons but much more troubling to people with disabilities.

Also because of a scarcity of houses in many cities and towns they will lack a space to do business particularly in the big cities or commercial areas because of square footage prices.

Despite the fact that the PwDs will love to occupy the ground floor nobody will get it because the eyes of the property owners are targeting the highly paying investors (occupiers) not anybody else who wishes, says Gumbo.

How EWURA ensures stable prices, quality services in energy, water sectors

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

THE Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) is determined to be one of the government's institutions that make major contributions to the national economic development and improve the welfare of the Tanzanian society through delivery of best-regulated services.

EWURAS Deputy Chairman Ahmad S.K. Kilima said that their 13th Annual Report has highlighted their performance for the year ended 30th June 2019.

He said: "EWURA is proud to present its performance report that depicts its economic and social contribution in facilitation of the government's policy to transform the country towards industrialised economy."

Such contributions have been made possible by a dedicated team of our experts who, with the quality leadership and relevant policies, regulations and rules, remained focused to ensure that the ultimate objective of promoting availability of quality-regulated services in the energy and water sectors is achieved in line with national vision.

This is evidenced by the presence of stable price and quality of regulated services most notable fuel that despite the dynamics of geopolitics that affects the world market the price in the domestic market has relatively continued to remain stable in the last ten years.

He further noted that during the period under review, the authority received massive support from the government in making sure all regulatory activities were well handled.

"My sincere appreciation should go to the government specifically, His Excellency, President, Dr John Pombe Joseph Magufuli for creating a conducive environment, which enabled EWURA to conduct its functions effectively and efficiently."

For his part, EWURAS Ag Director General Nziyangwa Mchany said that for the period covering 1st July 2018 to 30th June 2019, EWURA had successfully undertaken various regulatory activities, with a clean audit record for the past 13 years of its operations since September 1st, 2006 with the role of overseeing economic and technical regulation of Energy (Electricity, Petroleum and Natural Gas) and Water sectors.

He further noted that during the year under review, EWURA maintained Quality Management Systems (QMS) with a view to ensuring that the authority's operational procedures for implementing its roles and functions continued to comply with internationally recognised standards (ISO 9001:2015).

According to him, the importation of petroleum products through the Bulk Procurement System (BPS) continued to expand with the successful additional entry of petroleum products through Mtwara port as the third entry of petroleum products imports.

In this regard, EWURA continued to

strengthen efficiency of supply of petroleum products by having three entry ports of Dar es Salaam, Tanga and Mtwara.

During the period under review, EWURA recorded various achievements, notably, in the electricity sub-sector; EWURA increased the level of inspections routines and created awareness to the electrical installation contractors.

In view of enhancing performance of regulated water utilities, EWURA issued revised evaluation criteria for classification of licences for Water Supply and Sanitation Service Providers (2018).

In the natural gas sub-sector, the authority prepared eight (8) various rules governing the regulation of the natural gas sub-sector, that has kept growing in the recent years.

The authority also conducted detailed trainings on preparation of Business Plans to 33 District and Township Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (DTWSSAs) and Regional and National Projects Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (RNPWSSAs).

And reviewed and approved three (3) Customer Service Charters from Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities (WSSAs); launched the Sector Performance Report for financial year 2017/18; and finally approved 47 charges and tariffs for WSSAs.

During the period under review, the authority continued with issuance of various licenses on the regulated sectors where by the authority issued to 540 licenses on Petroleum, four (4) on Electricity (Electricity Generation (Own Use), three (3) provisional licences and 20 registration certificates.

There was one (1) license on Water Supply and Sanitation (class III licence) and one (1) Provisional Licence). During the year under review, the authority issued 645 Electrical Installation Personnel licences.

The authority's Information Communication and Technology (ICT) System continued to support regulatory functions to improve services delivery. It is the authority's policy to ensure that the public is provided with timely and accurate information. The authority's website provides access to regulatory information including publications of all decisions made by the Board.

The Authority maintain a system that enable public to get access of petroleum price at any point in Tanzania through mobile phone. Monthly fuel prices are uploaded in the website for public consumption.

Further, the authority maintained Licence and Order Information System (LOIS) that enabled many applicants who are using it to submit licence and tariff applications.

Document Management System (DMS) has also been operational and improved performance and security; electronic management for storage, archival and disposal of documents.

Furthermore, the authority has implemented successfully video Conferencing System between Eastern Zone office (Dar es Salaam) and



Headquarters (Dodoma) to facilitate meetings and improve efficiency.

According to the report, key achievements attained by the authority during the year under review among others were: The review of various regulatory tools and developed new ones.

In total the authority reviewed and developed 25 regulatory tools, of which 12 were for Natural Gas, seven (7) for electricity, and six (6) for petroleum.

The authority also participated in reviewing the EWURA Act; the Water Supply and Sanitation Act; and the Petroleum Act.

It continued to conduct monitoring of the Bulk Procurement System (BPS) of petroleum products and facilitated its operations, including introduction of Mtwara as the third port for importation of petroleum products through BPS.

Conducted monitoring and inspection of its regulated sectors. This has improved the quality of regulated products, services, and standards of infrastructure.

Also the authority cooperated with other government institutions such as Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), National Environment Management Council (NEMC), Tanzania, Revenue Authority (TRA), Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA), Weight and Measures Agency (WMA) and Police Force on matters that required EWURAs cooperation or intervention, or vice versa, for the country's interest.

The authority revised business plans to 32 Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities (WSSAs) of Babati, Iringa, Mwanza, Lindi, MANA-WASA, Mkuranga, Bunda, Mbeya, Mpanza, Ludewa, Makete, Sengerema, Maswa, Ushirombo, Muheza, Magugu, Rujewa, Mugango - Kiabakari, Ngudu, Mbinga, Mugumu, Biharamulo, Magu, Tanga, Arusha, Nansio, Karatu,

Ngaramtoni, Usa river, Mbulu and Same WS-SAs.

It continued with licensing activities on the regulated sectors where 1,208 licences were issued to regulated suppliers, 544 in Petroleum, eight in Electricity (three provisional licences and five generation licences), two in Water and Sanitation (1 class III licences and one provisional water supply and sanitation license) and 654 for electrical installation personnel licences.

The authority approved rates and charges to 47 Water Supply and Sanitation Authorities. The Authority attended to complaints against suppliers of regulated goods or services in relation to any matter connected with the supply, possible supply or proposed supply of goods or services.

During the year under review, the authority received 251 complaints, 24 in the petroleum sub-sector, 118 in the electricity sub-sector and 44 in the water and sanitation sector were resolved.

At the end of the year, 186 complaints were resolved and 65 complaints were at various stages of mediation and hearing.

The authority successfully continued to conduct public awareness campaigns and seminars on the roles and responsibilities of the authority, rights and obligations of the service providers and consumers and complaints handling mechanism.

The authority made disbursements to EWURA Consumer Consultative Council (CCC), Fair Competition Tribunal (FCT), Fair Competition Commission (FCC), Government Consultative Council (GCC) and the Treasury as required by the law.

The authority continued to finance the construction of EWURA Headquarters in Dodoma, whereby 62 per cent was completed

during the period under review.

However, in every success there are some challenges. The authority encountered various challenges in the course of discharging its functions during the year under review.

Key challenges encountered included: High petroleum products prices at the world market was causing economic risk to the country.

The authority would continue monitoring the trend of world market prices and implementing various mechanisms that will shield the country from the negative impacts of world market prices.

Inadequate capacity of the WSSAs to prepare Business Plans, in compliance with EWURA, Business Plan Guidelines, continues to be a challenge. The authority will continue to provide capacity building to WSSAs on preparation of business plans.

The size of the country and its population is a challenge on public knowledge regarding rights and obligations of consumers and those of the regulated suppliers. EWURA shall continue to strengthen implementation of public awareness programme to address this challenge.

Service delivery of petroleum products in remote areas remains to be a challenge since there are no reliable petrol stations in these areas. The authority was in the process to introduce mobile petrol stations that would cater for the rural population.

Increased operational costs as compared to available financial resources. The authority was contemplating on how best the available resources will be shared to make sure that operations run smoothly.

The authority is committed to continue addressing these challenges for improved performance in the years ahead.

EWURA is mandated to regulate three energy subsectors, namely electricity, petroleum, and natural gas.

Established under the EWURA Act, Cap. 414 of the Laws of Tanzania, the authority started its operations on 1st September 2006 as a multi-sectoral regulatory authority.

The authority carries out technical and economic regulation of the Energy (Electricity, mid and downstream Petroleum and Natural gas subsectors); and Water sector.

Meanwhile, Arbogast Warioba, a businessman in Dar es Salaam commended EWURA and the government for strengthening efficiency of supply of quality petroleum and diesel at lower and affordable prices compared to the previous years.

"Some years ago we used to fill fuels our cars at high prices, but these days we buy at affordable prices," he noted.

Mtoro Malemi, a boda boda man, also applauded EWURA for controlling fuel price increase. "Nowadays fuels prices have decreased due to effective and efficiency work being done by the authority," he said.

The authority maintains a system that enables public to get access of petroleum price at any point in Tanzania... (File photo).

Six things to look out for if you are worried about your drinking...

By Chelsey Flood

SARAH Allen Benton's book entitled *Understanding the High-Functioning Alcoholic* explodes old stereotypes of alcoholism. She explains that these ideas are not only wrong but also dangerous.

It's something I've written about before, the lesser understood fact that there are many different types of alcoholics or people with Alcohol Use Disorders (AUDs) and a great many of them are functional.

Many people with an AUD hold positions of power, raise families and do excellent work.

These sorts of drinkers are 'high-functioning alcoholics' (HFAs). An oxymoron if ever there was one, but this is the society we live in - one with a very high tolerance for booze.

HFAs drink hard and function at a high level. They drink much more than the official guidelines for alcohol consumption, which places a lot of stress on their bodies and psyches, and they do whatever it takes not to let anyone notice.

HFAs' ability to function in spite of their habit saves them from the consequences that normally signal that a person's drinking is out of control.

They don't lose a job. They don't lose their partner. They don't lose their driving licences. In other words, they keep getting away with it.

So how can you tell if you're a high-functioning alcoholic? We front six signs to look for.

One: You tell yourself that the amount you drink is fine because of how well you perform in your family, life and work.

This may mean the busy, competent mother who has everyone's schedule down to a tee. She cooks amazing dinners, smashes it at work, and shows



up on time for every activity. And she cannot wait to get home to drink wine.

Or you are the talented musician who drinks before performing, with the performance so good that nobody minds.

These drinkers know that they consume more than is healthy, but they are so productive that they don't worry about it.

We usually drink too much to cope with the fact that our life doesn't suit us - or because we are doing too much. All too often, society and modern life isn't designed to suit humans. We need a little something extra to get us through. Maybe we have been given more than a fair share. Women, especially mothers, I'm looking at you - and not in a judgy way.

Women, especially, are drinking more than ever. And alcohol works, if the aim is to turn us into numbed out fast-paced doing robots.

But drinking too much can stop

you from ever creating a life that does suit you. It takes the edge off painful feelings which, if you sat with long enough, might just push you to take a risk.

Two: The friends you see most regularly are heavy drinkers too. For most of my life, I tended to gravitate towards the drinkers. I liked the looseness and camaraderie, the off-key jokes and the feeling of rebellion.

In my twenties, I was actively put off by people who didn't drink. They made me feel uncomfortable. I hated the way they left so early, how they always stayed the same. Where was their sense of fun?

Around this time, I made a friend who didn't drink much, and we started to have sweet wholesome evenings together, eating elaborate salads and watching romcoms (romantic comedies).

Her sober ways provided respite from my increasingly alarming habit,

but I didn't see her as often as I saw the friends who loved to drink.

Nor as often as I drank alone. We didn't want to spend our time in the same way. And though I liked her best, I couldn't resist the pull of booze.

Three: You drink fast compared to your non-drinker friends. I'm not talking about your heavy drinking friends, as those lovely maniacs shouldn't be used as measuring sticks. I'm talking about the friends you see less often - the acquaintances.

It was during a writing residency in a Scottish Castle that I finally realised that I drank faster than 'normal people'. Until then, I was still operating under the illusion that everyone drank the way I did.

But during our first trip to the pub on a Friday night, everyone except me had half a lager. And after they had finished, they put their empty glasses down. They looked at each other expectantly.

They were ready to head home. It was the strangest experience of my life.

Four: You jokingly refer to yourself as an alcoholic. On a wilder night at the pub - two drinks a pop - I was the only one still thirsty at last orders.

"I'll have one more... Because I'm an alcoholic," I said, self-consciously, trying not to sprint as I made my way to the bar.

The three lovely writers sat politely, while I finished an extra pint, which suddenly seemed very large - and this brings me to my crucial point.

Five: You are more than happy to drink alone. For years, opening a bottle of cold white wine, and pouring a glass to cook dinner, was my idea of heaven. How luxurious and civilised and grown-up.

Writing that sentence, I feel the old longing: What sweet pleasure drinking alone was! But it kept me isolated too. It helped me to believe that I didn't need anyone.

For years, I mourned the total absence of community in my life, at the same time as I adored drinking wine by myself.

It didn't occur to me until after I quit drinking that my love of solo drinking and my growing feeling of isolation were connected. This is the scary thing about drinking. It hampers your ability to think.

As I became self-sustaining as a writer, I rarely had to work in a team or go to a meeting. Gradually, I became more isolated. I wished to be a part of something, but it just seemed harder and harder to connect.

I would switch from sad and lonely in the day, hating modern life for making islands of us, to happily drinking wine by myself at night. And I suspect I could have continued doing it forever.

Six: In the early hours of the morn-

ing, you worry about your drinking. The early hours of the morning are a strange, haunted sort of time for the heavy drinker. You wake up, desperately dehydrated, with no understanding of why you drank enough to make yourself ill again.

Buying and pouring the wine, it's easy to convince yourself that this is a treat. You want to relax. You deserve something nice. But lying in bed, feeling nauseous and headachy or just incredibly flat, it's hard to understand why you drank the way you did.

Why didn't you stop after one glass or two, the way you had promised that you would? Tonight it will be different, you think. But there is a hollowness to the thought because you have had it so much recently, and yet here you are again...

If you need help to stop drinking, you're not alone. And there's no shame in getting addicted to something deeply addictive. The fact is that it's likely not going to get any easier to stop than it is this very moment.

If you're ready to try something different, try my alcohol experiment. Do whatever it takes to stay sober for 30 days: go to your doctor, try Smart or AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) or Hip Sobriety... There is a whole community of people just waiting to help you. Reach out. Something better is waiting for you.

I write this as a person who used to drink too much - but now sober. Please, seek medical advice before you quit, especially if you are a daily drinker.

Chelsey Flood is a lecturer in creative writing and a dedicated truth-seeker. She writes about freedom, addiction, nature and love.

Newsrooms tackle unexpected crisis: Lessons learned from Latin America

By Aldana Vales & Lucía Ballón-Becerra

IN late February, with Covid-19 still a seemingly distant threat for Latin America, ten newsrooms participating in a regional educational programme were designing their strategic growth plans for 2020.

When the pandemic hit, these news outlets - all taking part in the Velocidad training, implemented jointly by the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists (ICJ) and Sembramedia with support from Luminare - had to change course. The media startups have not only successfully adapted their best-laid plans during the global health crisis but have also seized on new opportunities.

In this article, four news outlets share their lessons learned and advice for navigating an unexpected crisis.

Commitment: Founded in 2014, Posta is widely regarded as the top producer of podcasts in Argentina. Its diverse content focuses on topics ranging from innovation and technology to entertainment and pop culture. This year, the digital media outlet had planned to expand its production and strengthen its relationship with its audience.

The challenges of the Covid-19 pandemic notwithstanding, Posta launched *Esto Pasó Posta*, a ten-minute daily summary that runs every evening. They also partnered with a news site, *El Gato y la Caja*, to roll out a new podcast series of short episodes that provide analyses of the health crisis.

The new projects were no simple task. The Posta team had to be flexible and adapt to the challenges of remote work; this required, for example, that they seek out specialised recording studios to produce their podcasts.

Above all, Posta prioritised the professional quality of their audio and content. "We have an audience that seeks in us an alternative to entertainment, information, education and access to other ideas. Our commitment to that audience, I think, was maintained," said Posta co-founder Luciano Bancho. "We have an audience that seeks in us an alternative to entertainment, information, education and access to other ideas. Our commitment to that audience, I think, was maintained," said Posta co-founder Luciano Bancho.

Adjustment: Mexican news site Lado B also adopted a more flexible approach as the pandemic intensified. It was important for site editor Mely Arellano to know when to make a move, stop or completely postpone an activity. "Sometimes things can sound really nice, but it's not the right moment to do them," said Arellano.

Lado B cancelled a series of in-person workshops originally planned for this year after the coronavirus hit Mexico. In its place, the outlet organised online workshops.

Of course, many other news organisations had the same idea. "We had to launch our first workshops for free with an option for donations," said Arellano. In doing so, Lado B was able to build links with its community - one area, in particular, the outlet wanted to improve through its work with Velocidad.

Charting this new course, Lado B prioritised engaging and soliciting feedback from its community of readers. The outlet produced a new newsletter to boost the reader-focused approach. "We made calls to action for them to answer and we received responses," said Arellano.

As they build their reach, the Lado B team is encouraged by conversations they are able to have with readers now - ones they had only briefly in the past.

Decision: Chilean investigative media outlet CIPER entered this year determined to grow its membership programme. The critical editorial decisions the newsroom has made over the past six months have boosted this effort, while at the same time meeting an increased demand for reliable information among readers.

Before the pandemic, for instance, CIPER had rarely covered breaking news. This year, while maintaining its central commit-



ment to investigative reporting, the outlet has delved more into covering daily developments around the virus.

"We were not going to change our rigour, but suddenly we could prioritise and make certain things more current, and always with the stamp of research," said community editor Claudia Urquieta.

In June, CIPER published a report that revealed that the Chilean government was broadcasting a lower death toll within the country than it reported to the World Health Organisation. The report was impactful, ultimately leading to the resignation of the country's Health minister. CIPER, meanwhile, gained 600 new members after publishing - a milestone in its membership programme.

"In situations like this, journalism really shows itself. It shows its reach and the need it generates, because it is necessary for people to be informed by a reliable source," said Urquieta.

Resilience: Peruvian news organisation Convoca has grown its operation despite the pandemic. "It was going to be the year with the highest number of projects, and it continues to be. That has not changed," said the outlet's director, Milagros Salazar.

Covid-19 unexpectedly created an opportunity to adapt and offer readers added value. Like other Velocidad grantees, the health crisis challenged Convoca to accelerate some processes, while reconsidering and adjusting others.

The personal impact the pan-

dem Covid-19 left on Salazar has also informed editorial strategies for Convoca. First, Salazar was one of the Peruvians stranded abroad during the early days of the pandemic. For Convoca, this was an opportunity to tell these stories firsthand. "Many of our readers were the ones who were stranded," she recalled.

Later, Salazar's father fell ill and became one of the first to pass away from Covid-19 in Peru. After his death, Convoca became "a reference outlet to portray the situation in hospitals, clinics and healthcare generally", according to Salazar.

As she learned of her father's diagnosis, Salazar wrote an overview of the state of the Peruvian health system in the face of the pandemic.

"Something as strong as grief, like the loss of a father, becomes an op-

portunity for public service," she told IJNet. Out of this was born the site "Do your part, let's face the pandemic together". It's a space for citizens and health workers to report their experiences with the coronavirus.

The project pays tribute to the different faces of the pandemic. First, to "the unforgettable" - people who have succumbed to Covid-19. Second, to "the essentials" - the frontline workers combating the virus every day. And, finally, to "the resilient ones" - those who nonetheless make it through.

Convoca has so far recorded historic readership growth this year, with Salazar testifying: "We could say that Convoca is one of the resilient ones of this story."

A dispatch by the International Journalists' Network (IJNet), a project of ICJF, The Velocidad programme is implemented with funding from Luminare. It was designed by ICJF and Sembramedia to support the work of independent digital media outlets in Latin America. Aldana Vales is a programme manager at ICJF, where Lucía Ballón-Becerra is a programme assistant.

Oxfam research shows the rich generate carbon emissions, the poor suffer consequences

By Special Correspondent

THE world's poor and marginalised people are suffering the most from climate change impacts, though they contribute the least to the carbon emissions that are driving global warming, according to new research by Oxfam.

The 3.1 billion people who comprise 50 percent of the world's poorest population generate just 7 percent of the cumulative emissions that are harming the planet, the Oxfam research shows. Meanwhile, the 63 million people who comprise the world's richest 1 percent generate more than double that amount, or 15 percent of the total.

"Over the past 20 to 30 years, the climate crisis has been fuelled and our limited global carbon budget squandered in the service of increasing the consumption of the already affluent, rather than lifting people out of poverty," the report, jointly published with the

Stockholm Environment Institute, noted.

"The two groups that suffer most from this injustice are those least responsible for the climate crisis: poorer and marginalized people already struggling with climate impacts today, and future generations who will inherit a depleted carbon budget and a world accelerating towards climate breakdown," the report observed.

Former Secretary-General of the United Nations Ban Ki-moon noted in a comment on the report that it "shows once again that to tackle climate change we must fight for social and economic justice for everyone. My indigenous peoples have long borne the brunt of environmental destruction, and now is the time to listen, to integrate our knowledge and to prioritize saving nature to save ourselves."

The data show emissions by sub-Saharan Africa account for less than 1 percent of the total. Yet the African continent is already

bearing the brunt of negative climate change impacts, Sulemana Issifu, director of research at the Centre for Climate Change and Food Security, told the Alliance for Science.

"Climate change threatens the very existence of humanity," Issifu said. "Although industrialization in Africa is very low, other models have shown that if climate change becomes very severe, Africa stands the chance to be the greatest casualty."

African agriculture is already being adversely affected by heavy downpours that result in flooding, as well as drought – both of which could be consequences of climate change, he observed. Climate change is also promoting the spread of pests on farms across the continent, Issifu said.

"I will appeal to the developed and industrialized countries that they should lead the charge in the fight against climate change," Issifu added. "Otherwise, Africa, Southern America and Asia will

be hardest hit. So, we can only appeal to them."

Between 1990 and 2015, the richest 5 percent (about 315 million people) accounted for over a third (37 percent) of the total growth in emissions, the report noted. The richest 10 percent (about 630 million people) accounted for 46 percent of the total emissions growth – only marginally less than the 49 percent contributed by the middle 40 percent.

The poorest 50 percent barely increased their consumption emissions at all. The total increase in emissions by the richest 1 percent was three times more than the total increase in emissions by the poorest half of the population.

The richest 10 percent accounted for one third of the carbon emissions that scientists estimate will cause the 1.5C temperature rise triggering catastrophic irreversible climate change if unchecked, while the

poorest half of humanity emitted just 4 percent.

The report, titled "Confronting Carbon Inequality," made a number of recommendations to help deal with the situation. They include:

Setting science- and equity-based national targets to reduce carbon emissions from consumption, as well as production;

Incorporating principles of social dialogue at all levels to ensure that the voices of workers in affected industries, women and low-income and marginalized groups are heard in designing just transitions to an economy that keeps global heating below 1.5C and a society that enables all its members to thrive;

Imposing punitive measures against the rich for their role in polluting the environment, with the revenues invested in public infrastructure that benefits the masses.

"Taxes or bans are more appropriate measures to curtail luxury carbon consumption of items like SUVs and high-end sports cars, or frequent business-class and private jet flights," the report stated. "Alternatively, public investment, such as in energy efficiency improvements in affordable housing, is more appropriate to improve footprints associated with home heating, to avoid regressive impacts on lower income households," the report stated.

Issifu called for a change in behavior not only by the rich, but by the poor as well.

"Human consumption behavior is a major accelerator of climate change," he said. "It is true that the lifestyle of the rich is a major accelerator. But the poor also have a role to play...For example, government is putting a ban on importation of more than 10-year-old vehicles in Ghana and the poor are protesting. Government wants to ban plas-

tics and the poor are protesting. So, if we begin to apportion the blame, we will not get anywhere. So, I will say behavior of human beings in general should change."

Earlier this week, South Africa President Cyril Ramaphosa called for action to stem the impact of climate change in a statement he made to the 75th United Nations General Assembly.

"We have no choice but to work together to address climate change," Ramaphosa said. "As we rebuild in the aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic, we have an opportunity to place the global economy on a low carbon, resilient development path. We must advance the principles of the green and circular economies, not just for the sake of environmental sustainability but because of the opportunities for job creation and economic growth. The global recovery effort must place climate change adaptation, mitigation and support at its center."

BoT issues licence deadline to microfinance institutions

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Association of Microfinance Institutions (TAMFI), the umbrella organisation for microfinance organisations operating in Tanzania, has urged microfinance institutions (MFIs) to make sure they obtain the licence from the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) before the end of October, this year.

The one-year deadline issued to obtain the vital regulatory requirement will end in October 2020.

Microfinance Act 2018 became effective 1st November 2019 and gave the Bank of Tanzania (BoT), which is mandated to license, regulate and supervise financial institutions, an additional mandate to start issuing licences to microfinance institutions, previously, a sub-sector, which was largely unregulated.

As per the law, December 2019, the bank issued a public notice directing MFIs to comply with the new regulatory regime as per section 57 of the Microfinance Act 2018. The section requires all persons who are engaged in microfinance business "to obtain formal license from the Bank of Tanzania or delegated authorities and observe other requirements of the Regulations, within 12 (twelve) months of the date of commencement of the Act, that is 1st November 2019.

As the deadline nears, MFIs have up to 31st October 2020, to comply with the regulation. TAMFI members on 30th September 2020, held a meeting in Dar es Salaam with diverse stakeholders including regulators, policymakers and microfinance practitioners to look at the best way to accelerate compliance.

TAMFI chair, Joel Mwakitalu noted there were crucial lessons to be learnt in the ongoing applications of licences. "It is necessary to have a better understanding of what is actually required in the application to avoid/ minimise time wasting or rejection in the application process," he noted.

"This is the first time BoT is issuing licences to microfinance institutions. There are some challenges and we need to see how we can navigate through and smoothly," he said. For example, he said the requirement to have a credit policy for MFI to be licenced was vital, but many MFI found it difficult in drafting the document.

If MFIs get to know what exactly they must do in the application process, it will make the work of BoT much easier, there will be fewer rejections and the process will be speedier, he noted.

According to Deogratias Mnyamani, Bank of Tanzania, principal financial analyst, the microfinance sector is huge, but traditionally it has been informal with no proper guidelines and transparency.

The current regulatory regime is for enhancing transparency, efficiency in marketing and pricing and also for the government to be able to get correct statistics and recognize MFI promoting economic growth.

As per September 30th, about 20 licences had been issued, 350 applications received with over 250 licenses being processed, he noted.

"Financial sector is the heart of the economy. About 55 per cent of the people who access financial services in this country get it from microfinance institutions. This shows there is still a bigger opportunity for growth. That's why licensing of microfinance institutions is important so as to get the right statistics," Mnyamani noted.

He said the licensing process was somewhat slow due to misunderstanding and misinformation on how to apply.

"The process of application is very easy to follow. You are supposed to avail all the requirements needed and make sure your documents are compliant. The BoT is ready to issue licences to all who apply and comply," he added.

Mnyamani urged all microfinance institutions in Tanzania to make sure they apply for the licence before the deadline.



with the decisions made by the regulator," he noted.

The policy fronts a regulators forum each year whereby stakeholders and regulators come together and discuss issues pertaining to the growth of industry and come up with deliberations which will be forwarded to the Minister for taking actions, he noted.

It also puts in place focal persons at every municipality to enable the promotion and growth of the financial sector and also gives back feedback to the responsible department. "The regulations have been made to make a conducive environment for the microfinance sector to grow, to supervise and oversee that people are not exploited," he noted.

Altemius Millinga, the executive director Yetu Microfinance PLC, who is also TAMFI vice chairman noted that challenges are bound to be there in implementing any new regulation. "There are two major things, getting the license to remain in the field; and the second one is operations - how to run the institutions. This is a challenge we encounter with mostly and engage the regulator because even the regulator knows there are times of acceleration and times when we are low," he said. He said most MFIs had a huge challenge of lack of lending capital.

Authorities in Tunduru appeal for measures to end elephant invasions

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu,

Tunduru

TUNDURU District in Ruvuma Region has appealed to the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism to find a permanent solution with immediate effect of elephants which invade their villagers and destroy farms.

Tunduru District Commissioner, Julius Mtatiro, said the district is currently under siege and every day there are at least four cases of elephants invading different villages in search for food.

"I receive phone calls every day on the elephant invasion into different villages but the district's wildlife department is ill-equipped, has no enough man power (patrol teams) to rush to the villages to get back the elephants into the Selous game reserve."

Current measures being implemented by the Ministry of Natural Resource and Tourism have all failed, requesting the

ministry to change strategies by capacitating the wildlife department of the district in terms of modern equipment and additional of personnel.

He made the plea at a meeting between Tunduru district, WWF, TAWA, the Ministry of Natural Resource and Tourism (MNRT), the Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRFF) on the role of community in tackling poaching and illegal wildlife trade.

He also said that the budget is inadequate to facilitate fruitful patrols into different villages as a result the villagers ends up in tears.

He said wherever he goes to meet villagers for other development issues, usually complaints of the elephants invading their villages and destroying their crops would always top other development agenda.

"Yesterday there were four areas where the elephants invaded different villages and destroyed crops and other properties. Af-



Tunduru district commissioner Julius Mtatiro speaks at a meeting with key wildlife stakeholders in the district on Monday. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

ter a short time, I heard another villager who was riding a bicycle to another destination called me that he has seen another herd of elephants in the village. As I am taking to you now the situation is worse," he said.

"We should stop talking too much, instead we should take action. I understand that both human being and elephants are important. We can't address this problem while we have no enough equipment and man power. We need your support to equip our patrol teams and to ensure adequate budget, he said. "I have been here as district commissioner for almost a year now and all this time, he villagers have been complaining about the elephant invasion into their villages. We need to tackle this problem now otherwise, the villagers are tired and my worry is that if the situation will not be addressed now, the villagers may start taking their own traditional decisions to address elephant invasion," he said.

Tunduru district wildlife officer Hassan Limbenga said for 2020 year alone the elephants have killed four people, injured 2 people, destroys more than 1745 hectares and affecting more than 2000 villagers in the district.

"We have no equipment to conduct proper patrols, our budget is very little only 7m/- per year and we have skeleton staff as well. At times we are ready to save people's lives and crops but we can't manage to patrol all areas because we are ill-equipped," he said.

Contributing to the matter from TNRFF communication department, Margareth Molle said during field visit in Tunduru District, TNRFF observed the need for the government to invest more on training young men from the villages on skills and knowledge about managing human wildlife conflicts.

"These youth should be playing the role of protecting wildlife specifically elephants to reduce human wildlife conflicts"

Here's what Trump's doctors said – and didn't say

By Dana G Smith

UPDATE 3:50 pm: No significant changes regarding US President Donald Trump's health were made public at the Monday news conference. His physician, Dr Sean Conley provided no additional information on the president's medications, scans or date of disease onset. He said the president's tweets were an indication of his mental status.

Donald Trump is not doing well. Or he's doing great! It all depends on whom you ask. The president's medical team has been cagey and at times deliberately misleading about his condition, but we do have some information about the progression of his illness over the weekend.

Despite the rosy picture painted by the White House physicians, Trump – who is in several high-risk categories based on his age, weight, sex and medical history – is currently being treated as if his case of Covid-19 is severe. In a briefing given on Sunday, however, it sounded as if his condition is improving.

What are his vitals?

One is fever. On Sunday, White House physician Conley stated that the president had a high fever on Friday, but he would not say how high it had been. Pulmonologist Sean Dooley, MD, followed up to say that Trump had been fever-free since then.

Neither physician provided information about whether the president had been given medication to lower his temperature, although he does take a daily aspirin, which can act as a fever reducer at high doses.

Celine Gounder, MD, an infectious disease expert at NYU Langone, says the question of whether Trump has taken another fever-reducing medication, such as Advil (ibuprofen) or Tylenol (acetaminophen), is important.



President Trump drives past supporters in a motorcade outside of Walter Reed Medical Centre. Photo: Alex Edelman/Getty Images

"If the fever came down on its own, that's a very good sign prognostically. If the fever required medication to come down ... it wouldn't necessarily mean that he's getting better. Rather, it would just mean he's gotten rid of the fever," she adds.

Two is blood oxygen. The president's medical team also admitted that on Friday and Saturday, he had an oxygen saturation of under 94 per cent, which is considered to be a sign of severe Covid-19. However, they did not say how low his oxygen levels had gotten, leading Gounder to speculate that it could have dipped into the upper 80s.

After obfuscating about the question on Saturday, Conley confirmed that Trump had received supplemental oxygen on Friday. The physician said Trump's oxygen levels on Sunday were back up to 98 per cent.

Three is scans. The doctors said that Trump had a lung X-ray, a lung CT and an ultrasound, although they didn't

say of which organ. Despite multiple questions from the press, the results of the scans have not been provided, but Dooley did say the lung CT was consistent with Covid-19.

Gounder says that this implies that the president could have ground-glass opacities in his lungs – an abnormal pattern that can be seen when the lungs are sick – but this has not been confirmed.

Other vital signs. Dooley reported on Sunday that Trump's kidney, liver and cardiovascular functioning were "normal or improving". Another member of the president's medical team, Brian Garibaldi, MD, later stated that his liver and kidney functions were normal. If the president's health was a deductive logic puzzle, one could imply that Trump had cardiovascular abnormalities over the weekend that were now improving.

Heart function is a major concern with Covid-19 and is one of the primary causes of death from the disease. The

drug also works to stop the virus from spreading, and it is one of the few therapies approved by the FDA to treat Covid-19. It's an intravenous drug that is typically given to moderate to severe patients. However, Gounder says that it can also be effective in the earlier stages of the disease.

Trump has a common, moderate form of heart disease, which puts him at high risk for cardiovascular complications from the coronavirus.

Gounder said that in addition to the information provided, she would like details about the president's white blood cell and platelet count, as well as his levels of inflammatory markers and blood clot tests.

"I think his condition is more severe than they are communicating to us," she says, elaborating: "There's no reason not to release more details like blood tests unless they want to withhold that kind of information. If the numbers are normal, this would put things to rest and reassure people, so they're withholding that for a reason."

What medications has he received?

One: Monoclonal antibodies. Trump received one dose of a monoclonal antibody cocktail on Friday. This experimental drug, developed by the pharmaceutical company Regeneron, has shown promise in an early clinical trial, but it is not approved by the US Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for Covid-19 or any other diseases.

It consists of two types of antibodies – specialised proteins made by the immune system – that prevent the virus from infecting more cells in the body. However, these monoclonal antibodies were made in a laboratory rather than being taken from the plasma of a recovered patient.

Monoclonal antibodies work best at the beginning of an infection – before the virus has had much chance to spread throughout the body.

Two: Remdesivir. Come Friday evening, Trump's doctors announced that he had been started on a five-day course of remdesivir. This antiviral

drug also works to stop the virus from spreading, and it is one of the few therapies approved by the FDA to treat Covid-19. It's an intravenous drug that is typically given to moderate to severe patients. However, Gounder says that it can also be effective in the earlier stages of the disease.

Three: Dexamethasone. Most alarmingly, Conley said that owing to Trump's drop in oxygen levels, he had been started on the steroid dexamethasone on Saturday. Dexamethasone, which is only given in severe cases because it suppresses the immune system, signifies that the president has progressed in his illness. It suggests that his doctors are no longer only trying to stop the virus from replicating but also attempting to prevent or stop a hyper-inflammatory immune response.

Several physicians took to Twitter to express their concern about the president receiving the steroid. Most pressing is the fact that dexamethasone can cause confusion, delirium and hyperactivity.

Gounder says that she would like to know what other medications Trump is taking in addition to these three drugs, particularly whether he's been given a blood thinner or a cardiovascular medication.

"I suspect that the med list we got was not a complete med list and that it was only including medications that were directly related to his Covid treatment," she says.

When will he be discharged?

Trump's doctors said he could be released as early as Tuesday. This prognosis looks overly optimistic for several reasons. For one, the president is on day three of a five-day course of remdesivir, which needs to be given intravenously. He's also on a hefty cocktail of medications, all of which can have serious side-effects, including liver and kidney toxicity, for which he should be monitored closely.

Also, if the timeline the White House has provided is accurate (which is up for debate), Trump was on day five of the disease. Many people who have severe cases of Covid-19 have initial symptoms, a brief recovery, and then appear to relapse around days seven to ten of the infection.

"They really should keep him in the hospital until about ten days into his illness just to make sure he doesn't get worse," Gounder says, because that's when patients usually decompensate. But, she adds, "What Trump decides to do is anybody's guess."

Update 2:40 pm: Trump announced on Twitter that he would be leaving Walter Reed Medical Centre only hours later.

Dana G Smith is a senior writer for Elemental, a Medium publication about health and wellness.

Can video save newspapers? Time to strike deals is now...

By Colin Morrison

THE Covid-19 accelerator is shaking the foundations of the news business. In some countries, there may be seismic change in politics. However, for media revolutionaries, it is a perfect storm of disenchanted consumers, misinformation, and dislocated economics.

Look at the UK, home of Fleet Street's national daily newspapers. The Reuters Institute reports the predictable dependence of under-35s on online and TV news. But it's not much better for the UK population as a whole, only 18 per cent of whom have recently read a print newspaper.

However, the real killer is that only 7 per cent of all Brits have paid for any online news in the last year – which is substantially lower than the US (20 per cent), Nordic countries (26 per cent), Australia (14 per cent) and Germany (10 per cent).

Reuters found that, literally, nothing could persuade 50 per cent of all Brits to pay anything at all for news.

As if to underline the extent to which Brits have become estranged from their historical news brands, only 25 per cent of local paper readers would miss them "a lot", a much lower score than in most Western countries. Online video and TV are much more important for news, as well as much else.

That is the context for the planned launch of GB News. The new television channel is being fronted by punchy BBC politics presenter Andrew Neil, and part-funded by Discovery Communications.

Former newspaper editor Neil says he is determined to bring the spirit of talk-radio to UK television viewers "underserved and unheard by their media".

He says the channel will be "the most exciting thing to happen in British television news for more than 20 years, adding: "We will champion robust, balanced debate and a range of perspectives on the issues that affect everyone in the UK, not just those living in the London area."

Neil further notes that GB News will be a channel of distinct programmes not 'rolling news' and will include a nightly satirical show.

Expected to broadcast only in the evening, the channel will be available to 96 per cent of UK households through broadcast and cable and will be funded by advertising.

Discovery has pledged some US\$15m of the US\$60m investment the new TV channel is seeking. But there is more to it than that.

The channel, which is expected to launch early in 2021, is being operated by a UK company, All Perspectives Ltd. It is part-owned by Andrew Cole, a director of Liberty Global, the John Malone-controlled TV-telecoms company which owns: the UK's Virgin Media, 10 per cent of free-to-air broadcaster ITV – and is the largest shareholder in Discovery itself.

While GB News is a small bet for the US\$10bn Discovery (and has not even merited an investor announcement by the parent company), the ownership tentacles have attracted the interest of UK media companies.

These won't have missed the point also that GB News will have a total staff of only 100, about 10 per cent of that of most UK national daily newspapers. It will thus be disruptive in

more ways than one.

But the channel may not be the only news startup in the UK next year. News Corp, whose best-known UK newspaper this year launched the eponymous Times Radio, is also planning to make a splash in TV.

Its London venture, headed by former CBS News and Fox president David Rhodes, is believed to be planning a January 2021 launch for what may be a series of TV news 'marquee' programmes delivered daily.

The series will not be part of a single channel but will run across a range of news web sites perhaps even including streamers like Netflix. Rhodes' LinkedIn profile teases: "See what we'll do on the screen in the coming months."

Nobody has missed the point that the Murdoch family once owned the pan-European Sky pay TV network and its prestigious Sky News channel – now part of Comcast, owner of NBCUniversal.

Or that News Corp's Talk Radio is increasingly operating as a popular TV news channel with studio feeds being relayed on YouTube. Or that its highly popular tabloid The Sun is seeking to compete digitally with the Daily Mail across the world. There is scope for some big surprises in the News Corp plan for UK television news.

Of course, encouragement for both the news ventures comes from the fact that many Brits – and not just young adults – are captivated by the news of Brexit, Covid-19 and much else but are left cold by linear TV or daily newspapers.

Given that 40 per cent of all Brits regularly listen to podcasts – many on smartphone – and a similar number access online news video, there is a huge news audience just waiting to become hooked on something. That something might just be news video for the smartphone: video-podcasts to some, TV programmes to others.

There has also been an interesting shift in the perception of what can actually be broadcast in the UK. It had long been considered that the right-wing harshness of the US\$1bn-earning Fox News would not be permitted in the UK where broadcast licences carry the obligation to provide a balance of views – and hence the "All Perspectives" name of the GB News owner.

But the insurgent broadcasters and the newspapers with which they have been discussing the project are all versed in the renewed success of the radio station LBC News which achieves its required "balance" by having the odd left-wing broadcaster alongside a raft of right-wing presenters. Or so they say.

For all the general decline of linear TV – at the expense of video streaming, podcasts and online everything – broadcast remains the UK's most popular news platform.

However, the new channels/programmes will likely finally break down the barriers between broadcast and online. It will also bring them into competition with the digital output of newspapers at the very time when many publishers have scaled back video content after years of investment in what was once believed to be the online future of news. Well, now it is.

The UK's largest newspaper publisher, Reach Plc, has recently reported a 23 per cent decline in half-year profits and



labours under historic pension debt. Also, it does not have the firepower to undertake serious diversification even though its massive national audience might want it. But other publishers will be pondering their next moves into news video.

The £1.4bn Daily Mail group DMGT may be tempted to invest in News GB, but it might also want to ramp up its Daily Mail TV show from the US. It may, further, want to negotiate some kind of tie-up with Independent Television News (ITN), in which it shares ownership with broadcaster ITV, and Reuters.

The Telegraph Media Group, which may yet be divested, is again making sensible profits and might be tempted to invest in News GB. It may perhaps be encouraged by Andrew Neil, who remains boss of The Spectator – which is owned, like the Telegraph, by the Barclay family.

The sensible strategy of daily newspaper companies is to use their traditional brands and platforms as a "run-

way" for the launch of next-generation media, gradually moving their people and resources into new business. The launch of news channels and expected response from existing TV services has given the task fresh urgency.

The new-wave video news providers may usher in a world where branded channels and individual programmes are distributed widely online and by cable and satellite.

In Germany, public broadcaster ARD has recently made vertical video a key feature of its Tagesschau app. Swiss publisher Ringier has meanwhile launched Blick TV, a 15-minute news show, broadcast online but updated through the day.

In the US, the New York Times, Vox, and BuzzFeed have been focusing on longer-form linear commissions aimed at online streaming services and cable TV. Food52 has just launched a video app on Apple TV and Amazon Prime.

It may, therefore, be the start also of a whole series of online and broadcast news verticals – for example, in sports,

business and the arts. This may accelerate the move of readers and advertisers away from print-centric media and into video/TV.

Online video is the future of news and, perhaps, of so many print media brands. That is why the disruptors have got the attention of UK newspaper publishers. This new wave of video may, to say the least, accelerate the decline of newspapers – or create opportunities for the future.

The new ventures may also be the opportunity for specialist media to establish programmes, video-podcasts or whole channels across key verticals.

That may be another reason Discovery – operator of special interest channels in food, sport, cycling, golf, motoring and travel – is investing in GB News, an apparent step away from its strategy of "real life entertainment". For newspapers, it's time to strike video/TV deals and partnerships, or else...

Flashes & Flames/WAN-IFRA

GLOBALIZATION

Airtel Money bringing home global payments company WorldRemit

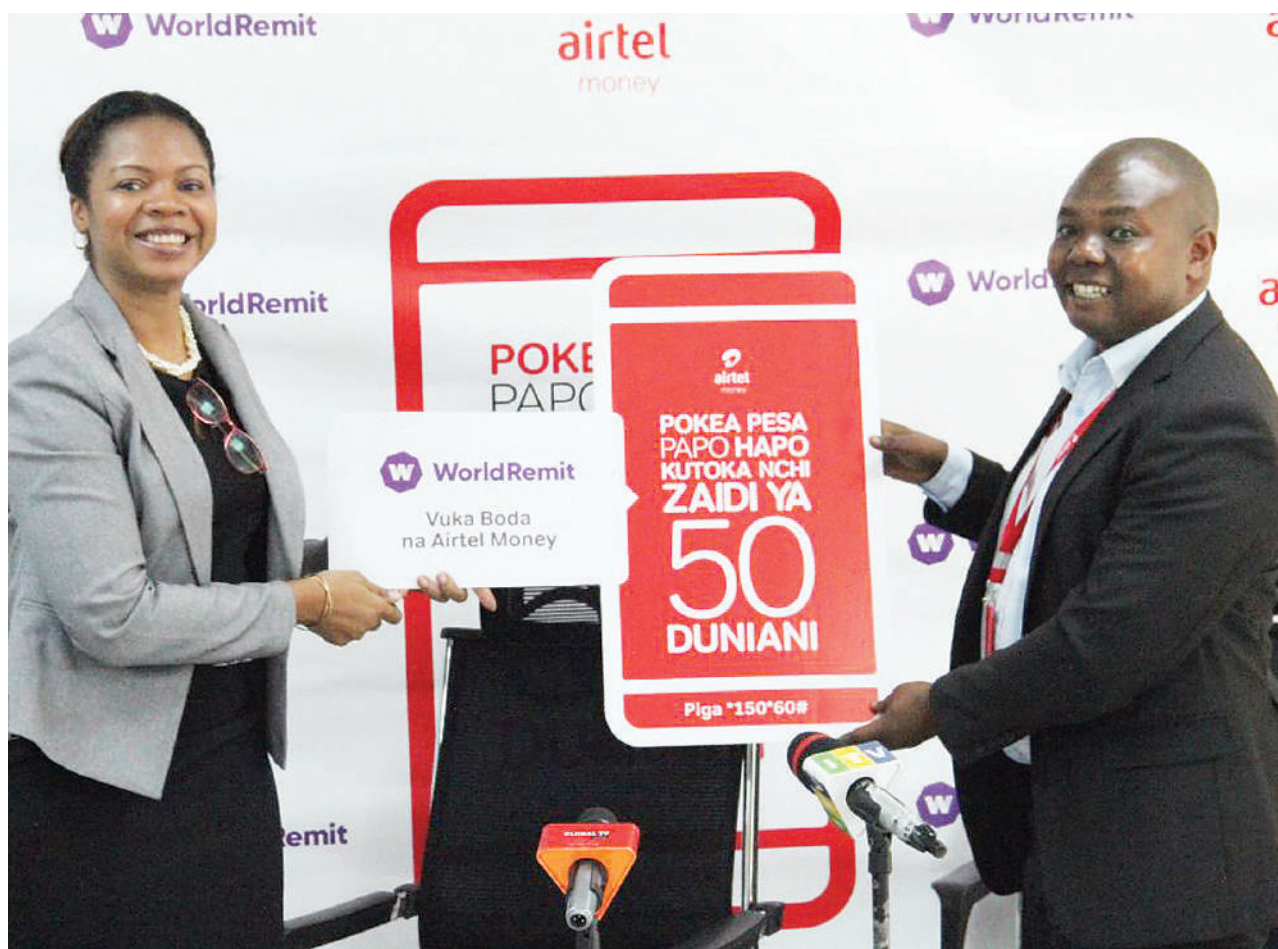
By Guardian Reporter

IN a rare feat, Airtel Tanzania Plc through its mobile money platform has joined forces with leading global international money transfer company, WorldRemit.

Addressing a news conference in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the unveiling of the partnership, Airtel Money Director Isack Nchunda said the partnership with the leading global payments company, will enable Airtel Money customers to send and receive money directly into their mobile money wallets from abroad.

This means that Airtel Money customers can receive money from over 50 countries worldwide including the United States, United Kingdom, Australia, Sweden, Canada, Germany, Norway, Netherlands, Denmark and Belgium.

"This will contribute to deepening financial inclusion and further boosting the economic and industrial agenda. The partnership with WorldRemit will widen access to money transfer for recipients in urban and rural areas of Tanzania as they can now receive international money transfers directly to their mobile wal-



Airtel Money director Isack Nchunda (R) and WorldRemit Tanzania Country Manager Cynthia Ponera display a placard after launching a partnership to enable customers to send and receive money directly into their mobile money wallets from over 50 countries. Photo courtesy of Airtel.

lets without the need for a bank account or internet connection," Nchunda said.

He added, "Our work with WorldRemit will hugely contribute to accomplishing our vision of providing unique,

convenient and affordable products and services to customers. The launch of this service between WorldRemit and Airtel Money is testimony of our commitment to supporting the ongoing agenda of financial inclusion

initiatives and breaking the divide between rural and urban communities."

Nchunda further noted that the telco's mobile money platform is increasingly becoming an attractive and more inclusive operator, in offering faster, convenient and safe, cross border remittances.

"The service is affordable with the most competitive fees in comparison to other international money transfer corridors. Recipients in Tanzania from over 50 countries will receive their money instantly, once the transaction is confirmed," the Airtel Money Director noted.

In remarks at the same event, WorldRemit's Country Manager for Tanzania, Cynthia Ponera said the company is delighted to work with Airtel Tanzania in ensuring that local clients have access to financial support from their family and friends abroad.

"The connection allows us to give customers even more remittance options whilst continuing to provide a convenient, safe and secure service," Ponera said adding that WorldRemit is a global leader in the international money transfer network.

Airtel Money is currently connected to over 1,000 companies including utility service providers and is also integrated with over 40 financial institutions. In addition, the mobile money platform has more than 1,200 Airtel Money branches in the local market.

OPTIMISM

IFC to grow Middle East and Africa investments amid pandemic

CAIRO

THE International Finance Corporation (IFC) is planning to increase its investments in the Middle East and Africa region during its 2021 fiscal year to support private sector projects amid a weaker economic environment resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic and lower oil prices.

The corporation, a part of the World Bank Group, invested more than \$5.6 billion in the region during its 2020 financial year, which ended on June 30. Vice president Sérgio Pimenta did not give a figure for 2021 but said it would be higher than last year.

"We believe that there is really more we can do this fiscal year in

the context of the (pandemic) crisis response by bringing both financing and advisory work to help the economies be resilient and rebuild after the crisis," Sérgio Pimenta, IFC vice president for the Middle East and Africa, said.

The IFC is a development finance institution whose mission is to bridge funding gaps in emerging economies by providing finance to projects that might otherwise not be able to secure it, unlocking further private sector investment.

The Washington-based institute invested \$4.6bn in Sub-Saharan Africa in its most recent fiscal year, exceeding the \$4.1bn invested in 2019. In the Middle East and North Africa, the total investment in its 2020 fiscal year reached more than \$1bn.

"We have a very solid pipeline for this year and we are looking at instruments in terms of crisis response and in terms of helping projects that will have an impact on SMEs (small and medium enterprises), including job creation or some of the areas such as climate change and water that are very sensitive in the region," he said. "We also have a pipeline of projects with a long-term perspective with the vision of helping on the infrastructure side, on the manufacturing side."

The world economy is set to slide into the deepest recession since the Great Depression, with the International Monetary Fund projecting a 4.9 per cent contraction this year and a sluggish recovery in 2021. The economies of the Middle East and

Central Asian countries are projected to shrink by an average of 4.7 per cent, according to the fund.

The IFC has put together a strategy to deal with the crisis that includes providing "immediate and urgent" help for private sector companies hurt by the economic downturn caused by the spread of Covid-19, Mr Pimenta said. As part of its phase one strategy, the IFC is providing an \$8bn fast track finance facility to various companies across the globe with "a good part" of that total being deployed in the Middle East and Africa region.

"Beyond that, we have a phase two of restructuring and phase three of recovery. Restructuring is very much around making sure that markets in Mena are resilient and

that we help them not be destroyed by what is happening. And the third phase of recovery, which is a long-term phase, is really how you build the future and the new world that comes out of the crisis." The IFC is also strengthening its operations in the region, opening new offices and hiring more people as a response to the crisis, Mr Pimenta added.

Covid-19 may "speed up plans for much-needed reforms, especially those related to diversifying economies away from oil and taking the necessary steps to increase private sector participation as [the] fiscal space gets tighter," he said.

"For us, this means IFC's role is more important than ever. We are responding by growing our team in the region and launching new initia-

tives, for example, what we call 'upstream', where we will work with governments and the private sector in priority sectors to create new projects and crowd in more private investment."

Infrastructure, health, education and manufacturing are some of the sectors Mr Pimenta identified as attracting private sector support during the current fiscal year. It is also looking to increase investments in technology, including e-commerce and other digital services. "This is a sector [where] I believe Mena has a strong competitive advantage in the sense that they have young population with skills in this sector. This is an area where we will do more in years to come."

XENOPHOBIA

Foreigners targeted as joblessness reaches new high in South Africa

JOHANNESBURG

FOREIGN nationals living in South Africa are often blamed for a range of social ills, including joblessness. As such, they risk falling victim to physical attacks by mobs that loot and burn their businesses - and sometimes take their lives.

Joblessness was already above 30 per cent before the pandemic. With one of the world's harshest lockdowns that brought most of the country to a halt, the number of unemployed people has grown. At least 2 million people lost their jobs in the second quarter, according to the latest figures from the government statistics body StatsSA, as the economy contracted 51 per cent.

"There has never been a period in our history where in one quarter, more than 2 million people have lost their jobs," Mike Schussler, chief economist at economists.co.za in Johannesburg, said.

The true figure of unemployment in Africa's most industrialised economy could now be as high as 45 per cent. The US, the world's largest economy, lost 21 million jobs in

March and April.

The government of president Cyril Ramaphosa and his African National Congress are due to announce an economic recovery plan. However, the state has a long record of setting out plans that are not fully implemented, Mr Schussler said. "This makes it very difficult to convince investors, or even local businesses to expand, even just a little."

The only glimmer of light is the number of jobs being created through call centres. Amazon recently said it will hire 3,000 people in the country, and a new report by consulting firm McKinsey argues South Africa now rivals India as a call centre destination.

In such a climate, it becomes easy to target seemingly better-off immigrants and refugees who run their own businesses. In particular, small grocery stores, or 'spaza shops', and mobile phone kiosks are almost entirely run by foreigners. Owners mostly hail from around Africa, but also from as far away as China, Bangladesh and Pakistan. Somalis and Ethiopians are especially visible in the spaza trade.

The perception is that many of



People walk through Gandhi Square in Johannesburg as restrictions to limit the spread of Covid-19 ease.

these people are either refugees or undocumented, which means they cannot legally own businesses. One man who plans to capitalise on this is former Johannesburg mayor Herman Mashaba. Mr Mashaba recently launched his own political party, Action SA, whose platform pledge is to deport people without permanent residence status.

"This we are unapologetic about;

anyone here who is undocumented has to explain themselves," he said. During his 3-year tenure as Johannesburg mayor, Mr Mashaba directed city law enforcement officials to raid buildings believed to be occupied by illegal migrants. He even accompanies police on some raids.

"These properties are occupied by foreign nationals with no documentation whatsoever. You can imagine

if we send these people back to their countries how much space we can free up for our people."

Nigerians, in particular, have borne the brunt of xenophobia in recent times. Last year, a dozen people were killed in attacks directed at Nigerians, in and around Johannesburg.

The incidents led to reciprocal attacks on South African businesses in Nigeria, and strained diplomatic rela-

tions between the two countries.

Late last month a group calling itself 'Put South Africans First' picketed the Nigerian embassy and presented the ambassador Kabiru Bala with a set of demands.

The group also accused Nigerians of being behind sex and drugs trafficking in the country. "I feel we are being unfairly targeted," Mr Bala said. "I don't think the crimes committed here are being committed by Nigerians alone."

He noted the group's demands included the removal of criminals, whom it blamed for virtually all of the crimes being committed in the country, while presenting little evidence. "They believe 98 per cent of crimes are being committed by nationals from Nigeria. I really wonder where they got that statistic?"

The East African community has also come under fire. Around 180,000 Somalis live in South Africa, many of whom have refugee status.

Somalis are especially active in running grocery stores. Now, the Gauteng provincial government that covers Johannesburg, wants to ban foreigners from owning businesses.

The local representative organisation, the Somali Community Board, says it will challenge any ban in court. "It is discriminatory and a racist attack on the migrant community," said Amir Sheikh, the chairperson of Somali Community Board. "It's very sad. But luckily, we are in a country where the constitution is supreme."

WARNING

NAIROBI

KENYAS coffee risks losing its top spot in the world market following its rejection in Japan and South Korea due to high levels of chemical contamination. The chemical levels of Ochratoxin have exceeded the allowable minimum, resulting in rejection at the two countries' border points.

Kenyan coffee risks losing global appeal on chemicals

The coffee, which is highly sought after by roasters for blending with lower quality beans from other parts of the world, has been banned for three years with local stakeholders now raising concerns that if this is not reversed, then the produce could face total ban. Kenya Coffee Producers Association

wants the government to address the issue, arguing that it could have a negative effect on other importing countries as well.

"The flagging of Kenyan coffee by the key markets due to high levels of contamination does not

augur well for the sector. The government has to move fast in addressing this challenge," said Peter Gikonyo, the association's chairperson. Statistics for 2017/2018 show that South Korea accounted for 12 per cent of Kenya's coffee exports, fourth after Germany, United States and Belgium.

Mr Gikonyo said some of the reasons for the flagging could be gaps in certification procedures for coffee agrochemicals, inadequate capacity by farmers in post-harvest handling of the crop and gaps in coffee export regulations and en-

forcement. The producers also raised concern over the measures put in place by the government to curb the spread of Covid-19 arguing that it has affected production of the commodity. "The measures have increased cost of production, compromised quality, reduced de-

mand of coffee and increased cost of logistics," said Mr Gikonyo.

He said the pandemic has made worse an already bad situation given that world coffee prices were already down at the beginning of the year before Covid-19. Kenyan coffee production has been declining from a high of 130,000 tonnes realised in the late 80s to the current 40,000 tonnes.

INNOVATION

Bank emerges with digital interactive tools to mark Customer Service Week

By Guardian Reporter

NMB Bank Plc has launched three innovative and transformative digital customer experience tools aimed at simplifying interactions between the two parties.

The digital customer experience tools introduced in Dar es Salaam yesterday include WhatsApp Contact Center number: +255 747 333 444, a self-service to retrieve a purchased LUKU token through dialling a Toll Free 0800 002 002 and instant service feedback through Quick Response (QR Code).

Speaking at the launch, NMB's CEO, Ruth Zaipuna underscored the bank's dedication to the use of technology in bringing solutions to its customers. "I am

happy to announce the launch of these three digital platforms that will transform our customers' experience by providing innovative banking services and additional opportunity to receive feedback for service improvements," said Zaipuna.

She said the bank's journey in service delivery is to continue making digital innovations to improve customer experiences when using its services.

Zaipuna added that the three digital customer experience tools are part of NMB's celebration of the International Customer Service Week during which the bank aims to recognize, encourage and appreciate its customers and staff who deliver exceptional customer experience. "The bank will also

recognize and visit customers appreciating their loyalty and businesses in respect of this year's theme of 'One Team, One Dream,' she noted.

In a key note address to mark this year customer service week, NMB Board Chairman, Dr Edwin Mdehe said his leadership is committed towards giving customers the best services and products in the market through innovation.

"Without happy and satisfied customers, the bank cannot perform well and exist in the market. Customers are the bank's corner stone," Dr Mdehe who is also Tanzania Revenue Authority Commissioner General stated.

He commended Zaipuna's management for coming up



NMB Bank Plc CEO, Ruth Zaipuna speaks at a past event

with the triple digital tools to interact with customers saying such innovative solutions makes customers satisfied because of easy access to the bank's services and products.

"These three innovative service tools are important to customers and I am sure that they will appreciate their availability in the market," the NMB

Board Chair added.

The market's largest bank has a network of 227 physical branches, over 7,000 agents and more than 800 ATMs across the country with representation in all districts of the country serving more than three million customers with its 3,000 plus strong workforce.

PESSIMISM

More trouble ahead for erratic emerging market currencies

PARIS

VOLATILITY in emerging market currencies will not let up in the next six months as US presidential election jitters mount and domestic economic growth tapers off, a Reuters poll of market strategists showed.

Most emerging market currencies were forecast to weaken or at best cling to a range over the next three to six months but will rise about 2% on average in a year, supported by a weaker dollar, the Sept. 28-Oct. 5 poll found.

Subscribe for full access to all our share and unit trust data tools, our award-winning articles, and support quality journalism in the process. Reuters surveys since the global shutdown in activity in March have been consistently concluding emerging market currencies will not recoup even half their coronavirus-induced 2020 losses within a year.

Still, a steep dollar selloff, which just posted its worst quarter in three years as expectations for a swift recovery from the Covid-19 recession made investors exit safe havens, has helped currencies in less developed countries rise. That comes despite deep economic troubles from the pandemic.

"EM currencies are running on empty without capital inflows or a resounding macro narrative. The large output gap and lower level of economic activity will have a disproportionately negative impact on currencies," said Jason Daw, head of emerging markets strategy at Societe Generale.

"EM FX has tended to weaken in the lead up to and for several months after a challenger victory in the contest for the White House. A Democratic sweep, our central scenario, could result in weaker EM currencies." A Reuters/Ipsos poll on Sunday found 51% of voters were backing Democrat Joe Biden while 41% said they were voting for President Donald Trump.

Event risk
The Chinese yuan, the most actively traded emerging market currency but also tightly managed by its local authorities, was predicted to edge up about 1% to 6.70 per dollar in a year from now.

"We expect CNY to continue to gain ground against a backdrop of broad USD weakness and a favourable external balance. However, in the near term, the upcoming US presidential election on Nov. 3 is a key event risk," said Irene Cheung, senior strategist at ANZ.

"We however see the risk of volatility in the coming weeks ... Any delay in or contest of the US election result could see a prolonged period of uncertainty." All but one of 68 FX strategists who answered an additional question said already-high volatility in emerging market currencies would increase rapidly or remain the same over coming months.

South Africa's rand, which has been on a rollercoaster ride since April, is expected to gain nearly 0.5% to 16.5 per dollar in 12 months. The rand's appeal has been enhanced by the lack of alternative high-yielding currencies as growing geopolitical risks diminished the appetite for assets in Turkey and Russia.

ACQUISITION

Media giant Groupe Canal buys a stake in Multichoice

JOHANNESBURG

FRENCH media giant Groupe Canal+ has acquired a not-insignificant stake in South Africa's largest broadcasting company, DStv parent MultiChoice Group.

MultiChoice, which is listed on the JSE, disclosed the Canal+ investment in a statement on the stock exchange news service on Monday morning. Canal+ has bought 6.5% of the company's total ordinary shares in issue, it said. MultiChoice shares leapt higher in Monday morning trading on the news and were quoted up 8.2% at R110.84 apiece at 10.39am.

"As a publicly held company, MultiChoice regularly engages with its strategic partners and maintains an open dialogue with the investment community.

The group's policy is not to comment on its individual shareholders nor on its interactions with them," it added.

Canal+ is owned and controlled by Vivendi and produces movies and television shows. It has a significant pay-television business and a film library of more than 5 000 titles.

ENTERPRISING

BK kicks off Customer Service Week with launch of digital booth

KIGALI

ON Monday October 5, Bank of Kigali joined the rest of the world to celebrate the International Customer Service Week. This is an international event celebrated annually during the first full week of October. During the ceremony, customer-oriented organizations and institutions around the world recognize the importance of customer service excellence to their organizations.

Bank of Kigali kicked off the week with several members of its executive team putting aside their supervisory roles to appreciate customers. Diane Karusisi with other six members of the executive management were seen serving and interacting with clients at the lender's headquarters in Kigali.

Speaking to The New Times, the Executives said that the gesture was intended to put the management into the staff's shoes but also an opportunity to reach out to their clients and hear their feedback. "Our message is one. We are appreciating our customers for choosing to bank with us," Karusisi said.

She also pointed out that the week provides an opportunity to get feedback from customers. "This is entirely for our customers. We want to hear from them, mainly on the challenges they face especially concerning our digital platforms," added Karusisi.

Karusisi urged the customers to continue pushing for the best service. She said it was the bank's mandate to ensure that the staff have all the necessary facilitation to deliver the best services. To ensure that, she said, the bank has established a one-stop-centre digital booth that will among others raise digital payment literacy among customers.

"Customers need the necessary equipment



Bank of Kigali's CEO, Diane Karusisi

for digital payment adoption. Through this digital booth, our staff will be able to support our customers in terms of understanding how this works," she said. According to Bank of Kigali's CEO, the development comes at a time the Bank

has experienced growth in digital payment.

"Digital services have experienced at least a 30% increment compared to the previous year. And through the digital booth we want to keep this trend going up." In addition to the Customer

Service week celebrations, Karusisi pointed out that BK conducts annual surveys to understand customers' challenges and needs, which has continued to facilitate the institution to make decisions based on customers' feedback.

ALERT

Mozambique: Total warns of Islamic State instability risk

MAPUTO

TOTAL SE Chief Executive Officer Patrick Pouyanne called on European nations to help Mozambique fight an insurgency, backed by Islamic State, in part of the East African nation where the energy company is developing a natural gas project.

For more than a month, militants have occupied a town about 60 kilometres (37 miles) south of where a group led by Total plan to spend \$20 billion to extract gas from below the ocean and export it to European and Asian customers. The violence, including alleged human rights violations by security forces, is now creeping toward Total's Mozambique LNG project in the far northeast of the company.

"Western powers are realising that a Daesh enclave is settling within Mozambique," which is "a major problem" for East Africa's stability, Pouyanne said Thursday during a press con-

ference near Paris. "It would be good if the situation is brought back under control, not just for Total's project, but for the stability of the region."

Pouyanne, who met Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi to discuss the situation last month, said he can help by bringing the attention of European nations to the issue. France has a vested interest in the region because it owns Mayotte, an island located between Mozambique and Madagascar, he said. Earthworks at Mozambique LNG have progressed, and a landing strip as well as jetties for boats have been built, Pouyanne said.

Mozambique LNG, the biggest private investment in Africa, is due to be completed in 2024. Total bought a 26.5% stake in the project for \$3.9 billion in 2019. It's one of Total's biggest projects to boost its production of liquefied natural gas in the second part of the decade, alongside operations in the U.S., Russia and Papua New Guinea.



Total SE chief executive Patrick Pouyanne

INCENTIVE

South Africa amends price system for scrap metal to support industry

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH African authorities have amended the pricing system of scrap metal following complaints from the steel and other metal-producing sectors, the trade ministry said on Monday.

The ministry had been told by the metal industries that the system was harming their business and constraining their recovery from the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. Subscribe for full access to all our share and unit trust data tools, our award-winning articles, and support quality journalism in the process.

The key changes to the price preference system (PPS) include the imposition of an additional discount of 10% when domestic buyers are located in inland provinces and scrap metal is located at the coast, to account for transport costs, it said.

Domestic buyers will also have the right to weigh and inspect the material to "ascertain that material delivered is the same quality, type and weight as agreed to when the offer was made and concluded, and the right to claim reasonable compensation for costs incurred" if that is not the case.

These changes, made by the International Trade Administration Commission of South Africa (ITAC), will take effect on October 2. "The amendments to the guidelines are intended to improve the domestic consumers' access to affordable scrap metal and address the concerns raised by the industry in the interim period," the ministry said. In July, Ebrahim Patel, minister of trade, industry and competition, called on the ITAC to explore measures which could help support the metals industry, which was suffering from price increases for scrap.

The pricing system was introduced in 2013 to promote the affordable supply of scrap metal to South African buyers, by requiring scrap dealers to first offer scrap domestically at a prescribed discount to international prices, before it could be exported.

RECOVERY

Arab world's three largest economies bounce back in September as Covid restrictions ease

RIYADH

The non-oil private sectors of the Arab world's three largest economies bounced back in September as movement restrictions eased and businesses continued to recover.

The seasonally-adjusted IHS Markit Saudi Arabia Purchasing Managers' Index - a composite gauge designed to give a single-figure snapshot of operating conditions in the non-oil private sector economy - rose to 50.7 after slipping to 48.8 in August.

A reading above the neutral 50 level indicates an economic expansion, while a reading below the threshold points to a contraction. Saudi Arabia's private sector economic growth, the first in seven months, was driven by a rise in output, new business and exports.

Firms saw a weaker rise in input costs during the month, as the impact of a rise in value-added tax (VAT) eased considerably since August. Output charges in September also rose more slowly, according to IHS Markit survey.

"Business activity in the Saudi Arabia non-oil private sector ticked up in September, supported by a return to sales growth as the economy

started to find its footing after the Covid-19 lockdown," David Owen, an economist at IHS Markit, said. "Despite some businesses continuing to see a drag from ongoing restrictions, most companies saw market conditions improve."

The impact of a three-fold rise in VAT implemented in July, also "notably softened", after a sharp increase in prices and a dip in sales in August, while "cost inflation eased to just a marginal pace," Mr Owen said. Supporting the non-oil economic expansion were positive readings for both the output and new orders sub-components of the PMI index. The increase, however, was marginal.

Panellists cited the loosening of Covid-19 restrictions among the reason for an upswing in demand that led to a rise in new work in September. The trend was supported by both an increase in foreign sales and rebound in domestic orders.

In line with the improvement in business conditions, firms in the kingdom were more optimistic of an increase in output over the coming year. Though the degree of confidence improved only slightly from August, it was the strongest seen for seven months.

The pandemic has upended global trade and

severely disrupted the travel and tourism industry across the world. The health crisis tipped the global economy into the deepest recession since the Great Depression with the International Monetary Fund estimating global gross domestic product to shrink 4.9 per cent this year. However, recent data suggests trade is bouncing back and some economies are recovering as business activity picks up with ease in travel restrictions.

The UAE headline PMI also jumped to 51 in September from 49.4 in August to the highest reading in 11 months. The overall lift in business conditions, marked a renewed expansion in the non-oil private sector of the country at the end of the third quarter. The headline PMI posted above 50 for the third time since the introduction of coronavirus-related movement restrictions were enforced earlier in March.

Rising activity levels were supported by a solid upturn in new business, as companies noted a further rebound in consumer demand. Companies also reported higher export sales for only the second time in eight months. "Higher demand was also supported by strong discounting efforts in September, the greatest since the end of 2019," Mr Owen said.

Egypt PMI

sa, >50 = improvement since previous month



Source: IHS Markit.

IHS Markit's graph for Egypt recovery

ECO-FRIENDLY



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson holds an electric vehicle charging cable as he visits the headquarters of Octopus Energy, in London on Monday.

Boris Johnson out 'to change UK into Saudi Arabia of wind power'

LONDON

BORIS Johnson will pledge today to put wind energy at the centre of plans to "build back greener" from the coronavirus crisis.

The UK prime minister will pledge £160 million (\$208 million) to upgrade ports and factories for building turbines off the British coast, making the country the "Saudi Arabia of wind energy", with every home powered by offshore wind inside a decade.

The speech will be delivered at the Conservative Party annual conference and is seen as key to regaining a grip over the political agenda after months of negative headlines and Tory unrest over his handling of the pandemic.

"As Saudi Arabia is to oil, the UK is to wind - a place of almost limitless resource, but in the case of wind without the carbon emissions and without the damage to the environment," Mr Johnson will say, according to extracts of the speech. "We believe that in 10 years' time offshore wind will be powering every home in the country."

He will add: "You heard me right. Your kettle, your washing machine, your cooker, your heating, your plug-in electric vehicle - the whole lot of them will get their juice cleanly and without guilt from the breezes that blow around these islands."

Mr Johnson is seeking ways to rebuild the Covid-ravaged UK economy and to tackle a surge in joblessness expected once govern-

ment employment support falls away at the end of the month.

In announcing the new plans, the prime minister is expected to face questions over previous comments made while the mayor of London where he suggested wind power "couldn't pull the skin off a rice pudding." Asked about the comments on LBC, Chancellor Rishi Sunak said the technology had "hugely improved" since the 2013 remarks.

"I don't know if I would quite describe it like that," Mr Sunak said, adding: "The difference now is, we know it's clean, it's cheap and affordable, and we're very good at it." Helping the environment is a key part of his agenda to drive growth and return to the program he set out before his decisive election victory last December. Since then, his ratings in polls have collapsed.

Today's remarks are a foretaste of a 10-point program for green industries the prime minister is planning to unveil later this year. It will include support for innovation and infrastructure, his office said, without giving a specific date for the announcement.

The broader package will help build hydrogen as a fuel for heavy industry, spur carbon capture technology and a ban on the sale of petrol cars, according to two people familiar with Johnson's thinking. "This investment in offshore wind alone will help to create 60,000 jobs in this country - and help us to get to net-zero carbon emissions."



ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM



ITV PGM SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 26 Sept

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 9:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:00 Shika Bamba 5
- 10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt
- 11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
- 12:15 The Great Queen Seonduk
- 13:00 Korean drama rpt: Hwarang
- 13:45 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
- 16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
- 16:20 Igizo: Mtego
- 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Korean drama: Hwarang
- 19:00 Jungu Kuu
- 19:30 Shika Bamba
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Art and lifestyle
- 21:30 ITV TOP 10
- 22:10 Hawavumii lakini wamo
- 22:45 Isidingo rpt
- 01:30 DWTV

SUNDAY 27 Sept

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 Watoto Wetu
- 10:00 Isidingo
- 11:40 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt
- 12:00 Bongo Movie rpt: Siri
- 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
- 15:00 Mwangaza
- 16:00 The Great queen Seonduk
- 16:45 ITV Top 10
- 17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Matukio ya wiki
- 19:30 Igizo: Mtego
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko
- 21:05 Mizengwe
- 21:25 Kipindi maalum: Cheza pesa
- 21:30 Mjue Zaidi
- 22:14 Bongo Movie: Why this room
- 00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin

MONDAY 28 Sept

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habari za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:30 Isidingo
- 09:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 ITV Top 10 rpt
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera News
- 12:30 Mtego rpt
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Mjue Zaidi
- 13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:10 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:10 Aibu yako rpt
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:45 Kesho leo
- 19:00 Afya ya Jamii

TUESDAY 29 Sept

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habari za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:30 Isidingo
- 09:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:30 Jungu Kuu rpt
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 The Base rpt
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Afya ya jamii rpt
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Kesho leo rpt
- 13:30 Shika Bamba rpt
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza huru
- 16:30 Watoto wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:10 Yu wapi
- 18:15 Mapishi rpt
- 18:30 Uchumi na biashara
- 19:00 Kipindi Maalum: Twende pamoja
- 19:30 Isidingo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Tanzania yetu
- 21:30 Chetu ni chetu
- 22:15 Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 DWTV

WEDNESDAY 30 Sept

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habari za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:30 Isidingo
- 09:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:30 Uchumi na biashara
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 The Base rpt
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Kipindi maalum rpt: Twende pamoja
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Dakika 45
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Kipindi maalum rpt
- 14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
- 14:55 Habari za saa
- 15:00 Meza huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Korean drama rpt: The great queen Seonduk
- 19:00 Ijue Sheria
- 19:30 Isidingo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
- 21:30 Kipindi Maalum: Ripoti Maalum
- 22:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 Al Jazeera

THURSDAY 01 Oct

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habari za saa
- 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
- 9:30 Isidingo
- 9:55 Habari za saa
- 10:00 Watoto
- 10:30 Shamba lulu rpt
- 10:55 Habari za saa
- 11:00 The Base rpt
- 11:55 Habari za saa
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Ijue Sheria
- 12:55 Habari za saa
- 13:00 Ripoti Maalum rpt:
- 13:30 Tanzania yetu
- 13:55 Habari za saa
- 14:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt
- 14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
- 15:00 Meza huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Usafiri wako
- 19:00 Kipindi maalum: Twende pamoja
- 19:30 Isidingo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Malumbano ya hoja
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 DWTV

FRIDAY 02 Oct

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:30 HABARI
- 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
- 8:55 Habari za saa
- 9:30 Isidingo
- 10:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:30 Usafiri wako rpt
- 11:00 The Base
- 12:00 Al Jazeera
- 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
- 13:00 Igizo maalum rpt: Twende pamoja
- 13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt
- 14:15 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
- 15:00 Meza huru
- 16:30 Watoto Wetu
- 17:00 The Base
- 17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mizengwe rpt
- 18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Utalii
- 19:00 Shamba lulu
- 19:30 Isidingo
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:05 Kipima Joto
- 23:00 Habari
- 23:30 The Base
- 00:30 DWTV

SATURDAY 03 Oct

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 9:00 Watoto wetu
- 10:00 Shika Bamba 5
- 10:30 Mjue Zaidi rpt
- 11:15 Chetu ni chetu rpt
- 12:15 The Great Queen Seonduk
- 13:00 Korean drama rpt: Hwarang
- 13:45 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
- 16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
- 16:20 Igizo: Mtego
- 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani
- 18:00 Jiji Letu

18:15

- 18:15 Korean drama: Hwarang
- 19:00 Jungu Kuu
- 19:30 Shika Bamba
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Art and lifestyle
- 21:30 ITV TOP 10
- 22:10 Hawavumii lakini wamo
- 22:45 Isidingo rpt
- 01:30 DWTV

SUNDAY 04 Oct

- 5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
- 6:00 HABARI
- 6:40 Kumekucha
- 7:00 Habari
- 8:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 Watoto Wetu
- 10:00 Isidingo
- 11:40 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt
- 12:00 Bongo Movie rpt: Why this room
- 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
- 15:00 Mwangaza
- 16:00 The Great queen Seonduk
- 16:45 ITV Top 10
- 17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo
- 18:00 Jiji Letu
- 18:15 Mapishi
- 18:30 Matukio ya wiki
- 19:30 Igizo: Mtego
- 20:00 Habari
- 21:00 Kipindi maalum: Biko
- 21:05 Mizengwe
- 21:25 Kipindi maalum: Cheza pesa
- 21:30 Mjue Zaidi
- 22:14 Bongo Movie: Twisted
- 00:05 Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin

SAT 26 Sept

- 08:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 Rev rpt
- 09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt
- 10:00 Culinary delight rpt
- 10:30 Innovation rpt
- 11:00 Out n' about rpt
- 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt
- 12:00 Usafiri wako rpt
- 12:30 Eco@Africa rpt
- 13:00 Business edition rpt
- 13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Beating again
- 14:30 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny
- 17:15 Tanzania Yetu rpt
- 17:45 Bundesliga Kick off
- 18:15 Capchat rpt
- 19:15 Mizengwe
- 19:30 The Decor
- 20:00 Korean Drama: The Slingshot
- 21:00 Out n' About
- 21:30 Movie: Murder of innocence
- 23:00 Series rpt: Grapes of justice
- 01:00 Al Jazeera

SUN 27 Sept

- 08:00 Al Jazeera
- 09:00 In good shape
- 10:00 Capchat rpt
- 11:00 Sports Gazette rpt
- 11:30 Korean Drama rpt: The Slingshot
- 12:00 Jagina rpt
- 12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt
- 13:00 In good shape rpt
- 13:30 Series rpt: Itohan
- 15:15 Aibu yako
- 15:30 Rev rpt
- 16:00 Dakika 45 rpt
- 16:45 Mizengwe rpt
- 17:00 The Decor rpt
- 17:30 Meza huru
- 19:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt
- 20:00 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights
- 20:30 Korean Drama: The Slingshot
- 21:00 Shift
- 21:15 Capchat live
- 22:15 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny
- 00:00 Al Jazeera

Mon 28 Sept

- 06:00 Al Jazeera
- 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
- 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
- 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny
- 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
- 16:00 Series rpt: Itohan
- 16:30 Tanzania Yetu rpt
- 17:00 Eco@Africa rpt
- 17:30 Meza huru
- 19:00 The Decor rpt
- 19:30 Shamba lulu
- 20:00 Series: Itohan
- 20:45 The Monday Agenda
- 21:30 Capital Prime News
- 22:00 Kipima Joto
- 00:00 Al Jazeera

Tues 29 Sept

- 06:00 Al Jazeera
- 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
- 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
- 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny
- 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
- 16:00 Series rpt: Itohan
- 16:30 Capchat rpt
- 17:30 Meza huru
- 19:00 Innovation
- 19:30 Jagina rpt
- 20:00 Series: Itohan
- 20:45 Telenovela: (Destino) Destiny
- 21:30 Capital Prime
- 22:00 Turning the spotlight rpt
- 22:30 Eco@Africa
- 23:00 Al Jazeera

Wed 30 Sept

- 06:00 Al Jazeera
- 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
- 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
- 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny
- 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
- 16:00 Series rpt: Itohan
- 16:30 Culinary delight rpt
- 17:00 Innovation rpt
- 17:30 Meza Huru
- 19:00 Sports Gazette
- 19:30 Chetu ni chetu
- 20:00 Series: Grapes of justice
- 20:45 Telenovela: Itohan
- 21:30 Capital Prime News
- 22:00 Dakika 45:
- 22:45 The Decor
- 23:15 Al Jazeera

Thurs 01 Oct

- 06:00 Al Jazeera
- 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
- 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
- 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny
- 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
- 16:00 Series rpt: Itohan
- 16:30 Business edition rpt
- 17:00 In good shape
- 17:30 Meza huru
- 19:00 Turning the spotlight
- 19:30 Tanzania yetu
- 20:00 Series: Itohan
- 20:45 Telenovela: (Destino) Destiny
- 21:30 Capital Prime News
- 22:00 Capchat rpt
- 23:00 Al Jazeera

Frid 02 Oct

- 06:00 Al Jazeera
- 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
- 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
- 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Destino) Destiny
- 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
- 16:00 Series rpt: Itohan
- 16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt
- 17:30 Meza huru
- 19:00 Rev
- 19:30 Eco@Africa
- 20:00 Aibu Yako
- 20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition

As Saudi Arabia is to oil, the UK is to wind - a place of almost limitless resource, but in the case of wind without the carbon emissions and without the damage to the environment," Mr Johnson will say, according to extracts of the speech. "We believe that in 10 years' time offshore wind will be powering every home in the country

WORLD

Trump faces backlash for removing mask on return to White House

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump faced a fresh backlash on Tuesday for removing his mask when he returned to the White House and urging Americans not to fear the COVID-19 disease that has killed more than 209,000 people in the country and put him in hospital.

Trump arrived at the White House on Monday in a made-for-television spectacle in which he descended from his Marine One helicopter wearing a white surgical mask only to remove it as he posed, saluting and waving, on the mansion's South Portico.

"Don't let it dominate you. Don't be afraid of it," Trump said in a video after his return from the Walter Reed Medical Center military hospital outside Washington where he was treated for the disease caused by the coronavirus.

"I'm better, and maybe I'm immune - I don't know," he added, flanked by American flags and with the Washington Monument in the background. "Get out there. Be careful."

Trump, who was treated by an army of doctors and received experimental treatment, has repeatedly played down a disease that has killed more than 1 million people worldwide and left his own country with the highest death toll in the world.

The Republican president, running for re-election against Democrat Joe Biden in the Nov 3 election, was admit-

ted to hospital on Friday after being diagnosed with the disease.

Trump has repeatedly flouted social-distancing guidelines meant to curb the virus' spread and ignored his own medical advisers. He also mocked Biden at last Tuesday's presidential debate for wearing a mask at events, even when he is far from others.

His decision to remove his mask after climbing the staircase to the White House South Portico - a perch that put him at some distance from others - and his insistence that Americans should not fear the disease horrified some physicians.

"I was aghast when he said COVID should not be feared," said William Schaffner, a professor of preventive medicine and infectious diseases at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville.

The Republican president, running for re-election against Democrat Joe Biden in the Nov 3 election, was admitted to hospital on Friday after being diagnosed with the disease.

Trump has repeatedly flouted social-distancing guidelines meant to curb the virus' spread and ignored his own medical advisers. He also mocked Biden at last Tuesday's presidential debate for wearing a mask at events, even when he is far from others.

His decision to remove his mask after climbing the staircase to the White House South Portico - a perch that put



US President Donald Trump looks out from the Truman Balcony upon his return to the White House from Walter Reed Medical Center, where he underwent treatment for COVID-19, in Washington, DC, on Monday. (AFP)

him at some distance from others - and his insistence that Americans should not fear the disease horrified some physicians.

"I was aghast when he said COVID should not be feared," said William Schaffner, a professor of preventive medicine and infectious diseases at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Nashville.

Biden quickly hit back on Twitter with side-by-side images of himself donning a mask and Trump removing his. A caption said, "Masks Matter. They save lives."

White House spokesman Judd Deere said every precaution was being taken to protect the president and his family. Physical access to Trump would be limited and appropriate protective equipment would be worn by those near him.

Questions continue to swirl about the true state of Trump's health after a weekend in which his doctors offered contradictory or opaque assessments of his condition.

His oxygen saturation dipped enough to require supplemental oxygen on Friday and Saturday and he will receive his last intravenous dose of the antiviral drug, remdesivir, at the White House on Tuesday, his doctors said.

SETBACK POSSIBLE

Many aides and confidants have been diagnosed with the disease since his announcement last week that he had tested positive for it, intensifying scrutiny and criticism of the administration's handling of the pandemic.

Trump has no public events on his schedule on Tuesday and it is not clear when he will be able to resume a full schedule, return to the Oval Office or get back on the campaign trail. As polls showed Trump slipping further behind Biden, Vice President Mike Pence beefed up his campaign schedule, adding stops in the swing states of Nevada and Arizona

on Thursday, the Trump campaign announced.

A Reuters/Ipsos poll taken Friday and Saturday after the president tested positive for the coronavirus, found Biden leading Trump by 10 percentage points nationally and that nearly two-thirds of Americans thought that Trump probably would not have been infected if he had taken the virus more seriously.

The severity of Trump's illness has been the subject of intense speculation, with some experts noting that, as an overweight, elderly man, he was in a category more likely to develop severe complications or die from it.

#GaspingForAir began trending on Twitter after video showed Trump appearing to take several deep breaths while standing on the White House balcony.

Dr Anthony Fauci, the US government's top infectious disease expert, told CNN Trump looked good when he came out of the hospital, but noted that patients sometimes have a setback five days after they get sick.

"He looks fine," said Fauci, the director of the National Institutes of Allergy and Infectious Diseases. "Sometimes when you're five days in you're going to have a reversal ... It's unlikely that it will happen, but they need to be heads-up (alert) for it."

Xinhua

Pompeo's China-smearing rhetoric not well received in Europe

ATHENS

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, long notorious for firing baseless accusations against China, moved up another notch in his China-smearing campaign during a five-day European tour in Greece, Italy, the Vatican and Croatia.

From the COVID-19 fight to religious "freedom," from 5G to the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), the top US diplomat's relentless China-bashing rhetoric was met with criticism from senior officials in these countries and solemn condemnations from the Chinese embassy.

SELF-CENTERED POLITICAL MOTIVATION

Pompeo (pictured) began his tour in the northern Greek city of Thessaloniki, where he was received by nearly 2,000 protesters carrying signs reading "The hawk of war is not welcome in our coun-

try" and "The murderers of the peoples are not welcome."

On Wednesday, Pompeo hosted a symposium on religious freedom at the U.S. embassy to the Holy See in Rome. Pope Francis was invited to the event but did not attend, fearing that the Trump campaign would use him as a political tool in the 2020 presidential election.

Asked if the event "amounted to exploitation of the Pope" by Italy's ANSA news agency, Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher, the Vatican's secretary for relations with states, said "Yes, that is precisely why the Pope will not meet American Secretary of State Mike Pompeo."

Pompeo renewed his smearing of China at the event, claiming "Nowhere is religious freedom under assault more than it is inside of China today," while blaming "the Chinese Communist Party" and "all communist regimes."

The Chinese embassy in Italy, as a response, condemned Pompeo's



statements in a press release on Thursday, saying his statements "overflow with ideological prejudice and ignorance about China."

"Today, Chinese citizens of all ethnic groups enjoy an unprecedented sense of satisfaction, happiness and security. The assessment of whether the situation of human rights, religious freedom, and cyber security in China is good or not is up to those with the foremost right to speak on the matter - namely the 1.4 billion Chinese citizens, and certainly not any foreign politician," the embassy's statement said.

Quoting an Italian proverb that says "Sow the wind and you shall reap the whirlwind," the Chinese embassy urged Pompeo to stop his

grandstanding as soon as possible.

To cover up Washington's slow response to the COVID-19 pandemic and deflect U.S. public attention from other pressing domestic issues, Pompeo has once again made China a scapegoat during the trip.

"Recovering from the virus should also mean accountability for the Chinese Communist Party," said Pompeo in a press conference with Italian Foreign Minister Luigi Di Maio, attempting to shift the blame for inability of his own government in protecting the American people from the novel coronavirus.

Two days ahead of Pompeo's visit to Croatia, Croatian President Zoran Milanovic criticized U.S. President Donald Trump for ruining the international reputation of the United States and called him a "rabble-rouser." Croatian national news agency Hina reported.

"Donald Trump has ruined it all. He incites hatred, provokes, and

that's it," Milanovic said, adding that Pompeo's visit was to sell war planes.

In an analysis article titled "How the world will look after the coronavirus pandemic" published by Foreign Policy in March, Kori Schake, deputy director general of the International Institute for Strategic Studies, said "the United States will no longer be seen as an international leader because of its government's narrow self-interest and bungling incompetence."

ILL-FOUNDED ANTI-CHINA SENTIMENT

Pompeo has long sought to persuade European countries to avoid deeper economic cooperation with China and Chinese companies, citing unfounded charges of China's economic presence in other countries as "not for sincere partnerships" and that Huawei's 5G technology poses high security risk.

Xinhua

WHO says Western Pacific fastest aging region in the world

THE Western Pacific is "the fastest aging (region) in the world," which presents both challenges and opportunities to this region, the World Health Organization (WHO) in the Western Pacific region said yesterday.

"Today, there are already more than 240 million people over 65

years in the Western Pacific, and this number is expected to double by 2050," Takeshi Kasai, the WHO regional director for the Western Pacific, told reporters in a virtual media briefing.

The rapid trend "presents health, social and economic challenges" to the Western Pacific re-

gion, Kasai said.

"But they can also turn into opportunities when societies become more age-friendly: people who live longer and healthier can be active and contribute to their societies - through paid or unpaid work, or consuming and investing, or passing down

knowledge and traditions, and acting as a caregiver for young family members," he said.

Kasai said this kind of transformation takes time, stressing the need "to get started as soon as possible." He said the regional committee, WHO Pacific Region's highest governing body, will con-

sider a regional action plan to promote healthy aging.

"Now, this item is about transforming not only health systems but also societies," he added.

According to WHO, the Western Pacific region is home to almost 1.9 billion people across 37 countries and areas. Xinhua

Nearly 4 million Americans have already voted, suggesting record election turnout

WASHINGTON

AMERICANS are rushing to cast ballots ahead of the November election at an unprecedented pace, early voting numbers show, indicating a possible record turnout for the showdown between President Donald Trump and Democratic rival Joe Biden.

With four weeks to go before Election Day Nov. 3, more than 3.8 million Americans already have voted, far surpassing about 75,000 at this time in 2016, according to the U.S. Elections Project, which compiles early voting data.

The shift has been driven by an expansion of early and mail-in voting in many states as a safe way to cast a ballot during the coronavirus pandemic and an eagerness to weigh in on the political future of Trump, said Michael McDonald of the University of Florida, who administers the project.

"We've never seen this many people voting so far ahead of an election," McDonald said. "People cast their ballots when they make up their minds, and we know that many people made up their minds long ago and already have a judgment about Trump."

The early surge has led McDonald to

predict a record turnout of about 150 million, representing 65% of eligible voters, the highest rate since 1908.

Biden leads Trump in national opinion polls, although surveys in crucial battleground states indicate a tighter race.

The numbers reported so far come from 31 states, McDonald said, and will grow rapidly as more states begin early in-person voting and report absentee mail-in totals in the next few weeks. All but about a half-dozen states allow some level of early in-person voting.

The percentage of voters who cast their ballot at a voting machine on Election Day already had been in steady de-

cline before this year, according to the U.S. Election Assistance Commission.

The total number of early or mail-in votes more than doubled from nearly 25 million in 2004 to 57 million in 2016, it said, representing an increase from one in five of all ballots cast to two in five of all ballots cast.

Trump has repeatedly railed against mail-in voting, making unfounded accusations that it leads to fraud. Experts say fraud is rare.

Those attacks by the president have shown signs of depressing Republican interest in voting by mail. Democrats have more than doubled the number of

returned mail-in ballots by Republicans in seven states that report voter registration data by party, according to the Elections Project.

In the crucial battleground state of Florida, Democrats have requested more than 2.4 million mail-in ballots and returned 282,000, while Republicans have asked for nearly 1.7 million and returned more than 145,000.

A national Reuters/Ipsos poll taken last week found 5% of Democrats nationwide said they had already voted compared to 2% of Republicans. About 58% of Democrats planned to vote early compared to 40% of Republicans. tmsn-

rt.rs/30AJKMD.

McDonald said early voting typically starts strong, then drops before surging just ahead of the election. But in some states, the rates of participation already have skyrocketed a month out.

In South Dakota, early voting is nearly 23% of the total turnout in 2016. It is nearly 17% of total 2016 turnout in Virginia and nearly 15% of total 2016 turnout in the battleground state of Wisconsin.

"That's just nuts," McDonald said. "Every piece of data suggests very high turnout for this election. I think that's just a given."

Agencies

SpaceX founder Musk backs Russian space agency's plan to develop reusable rocket

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S State Space Agency Roscosmos has made the right decision to develop a reusable rocket, SpaceX founder Elon Musk said yesterday.

"It's a step in the right direction," Musk tweeted, commenting on the material released by TASS on Monday on Russia's plans to develop the Amur methane-fueled rocket with a reusable first stage.

Russia should really aim for a fully reusable rocket by 2026 when the Amur's first launch is scheduled, Musk stressed.

"Goal should be to minimize cost per useful ton to orbit or it will at best serve a niche market," Musk said, responding to a report with a reference to the TASS material where the configuration design of the Amur reusable rocket was unveiled.

A larger rocket would also make sense for literal economies of scale, Musk added.

Roscosmos and the Progress Rocket and Space Center signed a contract on Monday on developing the conceptual design of the Amur-SPG space rocket center for Russia's first reusable methane-fueled rocket. The rocket will get a reusable first stage and its launches will be carried out from the Vostochny spaceport in the Russian Far East.

The cost of the work on creating the reusable rocket will not exceed 70 billion rubles (around \$880 million) while the price of a launch service is stipulated at the level of \$22 million, Roscosmos told TASS.

The reusable rocket is set to blast off for the first time together with a payload in 2026. The launch vehicle will be able to orbit up to 12.5 tonnes of payload.

Roscosmos also plans to develop a larger rocket with an increased lifting capacity. Agencies

British PM warns of 'bumpy' months ahead

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Boris Johnson has warned that the United Kingdom's coronavirus pandemic may be "bumpy through to Christmas" as the country continues to see a sharp rise in infections.

"I've got to tell you in all candor it's going to continue to be bumpy through to Christmas, it may even be bumpy beyond," he said in an interview with the BBC's Andrew Marr Show.

"This could be a very tough winter for all of us we've got to face that fact," Johnson said.

The prime minister made the remarks as his Conservative Party holds its annual conference online. More than a third of Britain's population is now under heightened restrictions, according to the BBC.

"I don't want to have to impose measures like this... this is the last thing we want to do. But I also have to save life. And that's our priority," he said.

Johnson said a "radically different" situation may appear by the spring next year. "We will find all sorts of ways, I'm absolutely sure, particularly through mass testing programs, of changing the way that we tackle this virus."

The UK reported a jump in daily COVID-19 cases to a record 22,961 on Sunday, after authorities said a technical issue meant that more than 15,000 test results had not been transferred into computer systems on time, including for contact tracers. The total number of cases in the UK is 502,978.

On Monday, European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said she had placed herself in isolation after being in contact with a person infected with the virus.

In a message posted on social media, the head of the European Union's executive arm said she took part in a meeting on Sept 29 that was attended by "a person who yesterday tested positive". She was on a two-day trip to Portugal during Sept 28-29.

She said she tested negative for the virus on Thursday and that she will undergo another test later.

In France, Paris is to be placed on a maximum COVID-19 alert, meaning that bars will be required to close for two weeks from Tuesday and restaurants will have to enforce new sanitary protocols to remain open, according to a statement from Prime Minister Jean Castex's office.

It said there had been no improvement in the Paris region since the capital passed all three of the government's criteria for being put on the highest level of alert in the middle of last week.

Working from home should be prioritized "now more than ever" in the Paris area and university lecture halls should be no more than half full, said the statement.

The reinforced restrictions will take effect from Tuesday. France reported 12,565 new cases on Sunday, while 893 patients had been admitted to intensive care over the past week. Agencies



Officials stationed to Xinzhuan village, Mangding township, Jinghe county, Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, help local families in lack of labor pick cotton on Sept. 26. File Photo

China to stick with CPC policies on governing Xinjiang for the new era

XI JINPING, general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, noted at the third central symposium on work related to Northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region that thanks to strenuous efforts from all sides since the second symposium in 2014, major progress has been achieved in the work related to Xinjiang.

The region has secured unprecedented achievements in economic and social development and the improvement of people's livelihood and people from different ethnic groups in Xinjiang have gained a stronger sense of fulfillment, happiness and security, Xi said at the symposium held from Sept. 25 to 26 in Beijing.

Shawulbek Malik, a villager of Kazak ethnic group in Miaoergou township, Changji city, Xinjiang, has realized such achievements from personal experience.

"My family has seen great changes over the years," he said, adding that they have moved to a new house, started a business, explored ways to increase the income and the kids have been able to go to schools near home.

"We should follow the instructions and guidance of the Party and join hands to embrace a better life," the villager suggested.

"Xi's speech has given us greater confidence about the path that we are taking, and made me more determined to win the battle against poverty," said Ma Jianning, a staff member at the State Grid Xinjiang Electric Power Co., Ltd. who was assigned as first secretary stationed to Tuogelake Aigele village, Qira county, Hotan prefecture of Xinjiang. Ma has read carefully the reports on the third central symposium on work related to Xinjiang.

By facilitating employment and developing industries, the village plans to lift the remaining 79 impoverished residents from 18 households out of poverty by the end of 2020.

It is estimated that the annual per capita net income of farmers and herdsmen will exceed 10,000 yuan (about \$1465.4) this year, compared with 7,215 yuan in 2019.

"Xi's remarks have really met our expectations of Xinjiang," pointed out Kurbanjan Nizamidine, first secretary stationed in Tuowu Reqi village, Kaletale town, Aksu city of Xinjiang.

"Xinjiang is about to usher in huge opportunities for development and we are all very proud to live in the region," the first secretary added.

Underscoring the great significance of Xinjiang-related work to the whole Party and the entire country, Xi asked for improvement in working mechanism in which the CPC Central Committee exerts the unified leadership, the central departments offer guidance and support, other provincial-level regions render support and cooperation, and Xinjiang plays its principal role.

"To continuously cement the great unity of all ethnic groups requires planning, promoting and carrying out various kinds of work around the major task of fostering a strong sense of community for the Chinese nation," said Shu Yangwen, an official with the National Ethnic Affairs Commission.

Shu emphasized the importance to help officials and ordinary people from various ethnic groups develop an accurate understanding of country, history, ethnicity, culture and religion and see that the sense of community for the Chinese nation is deeply rooted in the hearts of people.

Jiang Xuelong, executive deputy commander of the headquarters of East China's Anhui Province in Xinjiang for providing partner assistance for the region, pointed out that Anhui has always considered providing partner assistance for Xinjiang a major responsibility of its own. In recent years, Anhui has allocated over 3.26 billion yuan to assist Xinjiang. It intends to further strengthen coordination and cooperation with relevant counties and villages in Xinjiang to improve the comprehensive benefits of partner assistance for the region.

Qi Xiping, secretary of Party committee with the 6th division of the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps (XPCC) in Wujiaqu city of Xinjiang, thinks it necessary to "align our thoughts and actions with the CPC Central Committee's decisions and arrangements on work related to Xinjiang, continue deepening reforms, strengthen capacity-building of the XPCC for maintaining stability, and continuously improve its organizational advantages and ability to mobilize Xinjiang residents".

Qi called for forging the XPCC into a top militia force in defense of the border line of China, improving its capabilities related to stability maintenance and contingency response, and establishing a strong force that helps maintain the security along the border.

People's Daily

Russia will react to possible restrictions on access of its goods to EU market – Lavrov

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will respond to possible additional restrictions on the access of its goods to the EU market, Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said on Monday. He was speaking at a meeting with the members of the Association of European Businesses (AEB).

Lavrov (pictured) recalled that the European Commission had prepared a report on significant distortions in the economy of the Russian Federation for the purpose of trade defense investigations.

"The document is openly biased, fraught with additional restrictions on the access of Russian goods to the



EU market, which, of course, will not remain unanswered, as you understand," the minister said.

Lavrov also noted that Moscow also has questions as to another initiative by the European Union, which stipu-

lates introduction of carbon border adjustment mechanism not later than January 1, 2023.

"We are still studying what exactly is meant by this initiative, but we do hope that this mechanism will not contradict the norms of the World Trade Organization and will not turn into trade and climate protectionism," he said.

"Even if we take the situation, which is clearly politicized, I think that now is not the time for trade wars," the minister said.

"We would like to avoid the need to introduce retaliatory measures," Lavrov added.

Agencies

World experts hail Xi's proposals to boost global cause of women

HONG KONG

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping's call for elimination of violence, discrimination and other forms of inequalities against women will consolidate global consensus on promoting gender equality and boost global action to further buttress the well-being of women, international experts said.

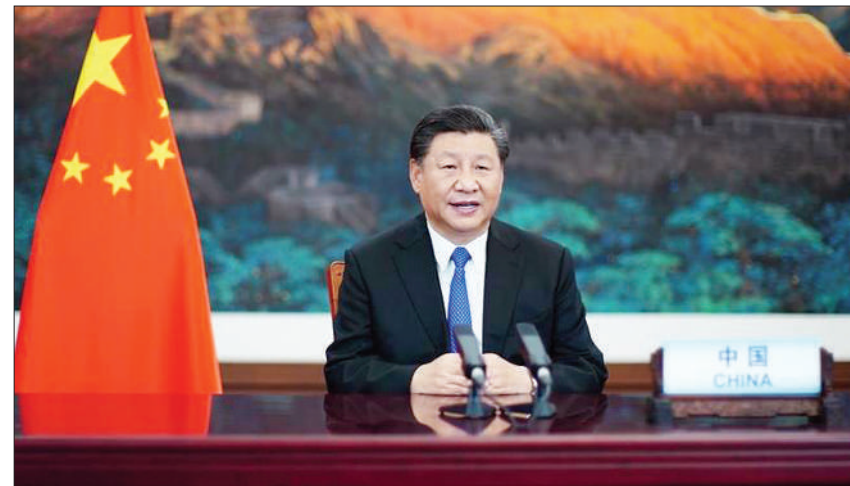
Xi (pictured) made the remark on Thursday in a video address at the High-Level Meeting on the 25th Anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women organized by the United Nations General Assembly.

He also praised the contributions of female medical and epidemic control workers, researchers, community workers and volunteers throughout the world in the ongoing fight against COVID-19 and underlined the need to minimize the pandemic's impact on women.

Adhere Cavince, a scholar of international relations in Kenya, said that the 25th anniversary of the Fourth World Conference on Women comes at a time of unprecedented challenges, particularly for women and girls, as a result of the pandemic.

The present circumstances call for concerted and targeted measures to safeguard the rights and interests of women, just as Xi emphasized in his speech, he said.

Widespread economic disruptions created by the global health crisis mean that millions of women across the world who often earn less yet work under precarious job conditions are increasingly vulnerable and unable to effectively absorb the shock



of the moment, the scholar said.

"Indeed, President Xi's call for total elimination of violence, bias, discrimination and other forms of inequality against women should form national, regional and global action points to further buttress the well-being of women around the world," he said.

Sivananthi Thanenthiran, executive director of the Asian-Pacific Resource and Research Centre for Women, a Kuala Lumpur-based nonprofit group, said: "It is great to see that China is stepping up in order to support the cause of gender equality at the global level. This would influence many other countries also to step up."

Thanenthiran said that COVID-19 has had a terrible impact on women. The burden of care at home has increased and also violence at home has increased due to lockdown measures. All of these can be expected to continue in the post-pandemic recovery period.

These are areas that governments should invest in while trying to grow

back the economy, Thanenthiran said.

Dennis Munene, executive director of the China-Africa Center at the Africa Policy Institute, said that Xi's clarion call to the global community is to emphasize the need for "promoting gender parity and women's development".

He is impressed that China has put in place a legal system comprising over 100 laws and regulations for fully protecting women's rights and interests.

Gertrude Mongella, secretary-general of the Fourth World Conference on Women, said that Xi's proposals have demonstrated the Chinese government's long-held position of attaching importance to the development of the cause of women.

The women's rights advocate in Tanzania also said that China has always been committed to improving women's rights and interests and effectively lifting the status of women. She also said that China's experience is very valuable for other countries.

Xinhua

Kyrgyz opposition claim power after storming govt buildings

ALMATY

OPPOSITION groups in Kyrgyzstan said they had seized power in the strategically-important Central Asian country on Tuesday after taking control of government buildings in the capital during protests over a parliamentary election.

President Sooronbai Jeenbekov said the country, which hosts a Russian air base and a large Canadian-controlled gold mine, was facing an attempted coup d'etat. He ordered security forces not to open fire on protesters, however.

One person was killed and 590 wounded in unrest overnight, the government said. The opposition said it had freed Almazbek Atambayev, a former president jailed on corruption charges, and was already discussing

the line-up of a provisional government. It was not clear what role, if any, Atambayev would receive, and Jeenbekov, the sitting president, showed no immediate signs of relinquishing power, although the central election commission was reported to have annulled the results of the Oct 4 election.

According to local news website 24.kg, the commission took the decision at a meeting held after the storming of the government headquarters.

Several opposition politicians urged the outgoing parliament to install a provisional cabinet in order to legitimize a transfer of power.

Kyrgyzstan borders China and is a close ally of Russia. It has a history of political volatility -- two of its presidents have been toppled by revolts in the past 15 years.

The Russian embassy to Kyrgyz-

stan said in a statement it supported resolving the matter through legal means while ensuring people's safety and domestic stability.

Burnt out cars littered Bishkek, the capital, on Tuesday morning after protesters took control of the main government building, known as the White House, which briefly caught fire before emergency services put out the blaze.

Debris from inside, including government papers and office furniture, was strewn outside after protesters ransacked parts of it.

Interior Minister Kashkar Junushaliyev did not show up for work on Tuesday, a ministry spokesman said, saying that Kursan Asanov, an opposition politician and a former senior security official, had taken over as acting interior minister.

Agencies

COVID-19 making a dangerous comeback in most parts of US

By Bloomberg

COVID-19 is spreading again across most of the US, hammering rural America and smaller cities and raising anxiety in New York, as experts warn that school reopenings and colder weather may cause the situation to rapidly deteriorate.

In 34 states, the seven-day average of new cases is higher now than it was a month ago. Although the virus has waned in populous states including California and Florida, it is wreaking unprecedented havoc in the Midwest and making an incipient return in parts of the Northeast.

"The weather report is darkly cloudy with further storms on the horizon," said William Schaffner, an infectious disease professor at Vanderbilt University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Medical professionals have long warned about a resurgence of the novel coronavirus as colder temperatures in North America drive people inside and many jurisdictions reopen schools. Knowing that, scientists have been racing to prepare a vaccine. But even if it is approved, it's unlikely to reach most of the public for many months.

Meanwhile, most attention has turned to US President Donald Trump, who returned to the White House on Monday evening after being treated at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center for the disease that has killed about 210,000 Americans so far.

Schaffner said the lack of adequate social distancing and masking in rural areas may combine with the coming cold weather and influenza, possibly resulting in a "twindemic" that further strains the health-care system.

In Nebraska, the seven-day average of cases hit a record Saturday, joining Midwestern and Western states including Wisconsin, Montana and the Dakotas in confronting a virus that had eluded them until recently. In New York City, schools in virus hot spots will close down Tuesday.

Across the country, there were 41,075 new cases reported on Sunday, bringing the total to 7,420,921, according to Johns Hopkins University.

"We're in very bad shape, never having achieved any sense of containment, never gotten below 20,000 new confirmed cases per day," said Eric Topol, director of Scripps Research Translational Institute. "Things can only get worse on this course."

Similar concerns are emerging in Canada. The country has reported 1,861 new daily cases on average over the past seven days, compared with 456 cases during the first week of September. The province of Quebec, which shut down restaurant dining rooms and other indoor venues last week, has seen a 46 percent rise in hospitalizations since Sept 28.



In 34 states, the seven-day average of new cases is higher now than it was a month ago. Although the virus has waned in populous states including California and Florida, it is wreaking unprecedented havoc in the Midwest and making an incipient

Profits of China's major industrial enterprises maintain steady growth in August

THE profits made by China's industrial enterprises above the designated size increased by 19.1 percent year on year in August, sustaining the momentum of steady growth, according to data released by the country's National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on Sept. 27.

In the first eight months of 2020, the total industrial profits went down by 4.4 percent year on year, and the decrease narrowed 3.7 percentage points from that in the January-July period.

The growth is a mirror of China's effective results in completing tasks to keep employment, the financial sector, foreign trade, foreign and domestic investments, and expectations stable and ensure security in job, basic

living needs, operations of market entities, food and energy security, stable industrial and supply chains, and the normal functioning of primary-level governments as the country has secured major achievements in epidemic prevention and control.

The increase in industrial profits in August was driven by the stable recovery of production and demand, said Zhu Hong, senior statistician of the NBS.

The total value added of the industrial enterprises above the designated size went up 5.6 percent year on year in August, accelerating from a rise of 4.8 percent registered in July.

Last month, the decline in China's total fixed-asset investment further narrowed, basically

returning to the level of the same period last year. The country saw the first positive growth of total retail sales of consumer goods since this year in August.

The gradual improvement in production and demand has boosted the sales growth of industrial enterprises, Zhu analyzed.

In August, China's producer price index continued to rise and the operating income of industrial enterprises grew by 4.9 percent year on year, 1.6 percentage points higher than that in July, Zhu said, adding that expansion of enterprises' production scale strongly supported the steady growth of their profits. The growth of industrial profits was attributable to a continuous decline in unit costs and better profitability of enter-

prises, according to Zhu.

As the implementation of supportive policies become more and more effective, in August, industrial enterprises above the designated size reduced their costs by 0.47 yuan per 100 yuan (\$14.67) of their operating income year on year and increased their profit rate by 0.8 percentage points from a year ago, a year-on-year increase for four months in a row.

Zhu also attributed the increase in industrial profits to a significant recovery in mining profits and accelerated growth in raw material manufacturing profits, thanks to improving demand as well as increasing prices of global bulk commodities including crude oil and iron ore.

In August, the circle between supply and demand in the industrial sector improved, and the continuous recovery of downstream industries further drove the development of upstream industries. Raw material manufacturing profits grew by 32.5 percent, 17.8 percentage points higher than that in July, contributing to an increase of 6.7 percentage points in the profits of industrial enterprises above the designated size.

Besides, Zhu said the increase in industrial profits was the result of relatively fast growth in the profits of the equipment manufacturing sector. In August, the profits of the equipment manufacturing sector rose by 23.1 percent year on year, driving an increase of 8.1 per-

centage points in the total profits of China's industrial enterprises above the designated size.

In particular, the profits of the general equipment manufacturing industry increased by 37 percent year on year, and those for the electrical machinery and equipment manufacturing industry grew by 13.3 percent, up 11 and 5.2 percentage points from July, respectively.

According to Zhu, the growth of industrial profits was also driven by a decline in losses of enterprises month by month. Thanks to further improvement in the operational situation for enterprises, the number of loss-making enterprises continued to decrease and their losses also fell sharply.

In August, the losses of loss-gen-

erating enterprises dropped drastically by 37 percent year on year. At the end of August, the losses of loss-making enterprises above the designated size narrowed by 1.2 percentage points compared with that at the end of July, sustaining the shrinking momentum month by month.

Zhu believes that China should continue to pursue supply-side structural reform as the main task, further tap into the potential of domestic demand, stimulate the vitality of market entities, ensure that market supply meets demand, and continuously consolidate the outcomes of economic recovery, so as to promote a steady improvement in the quality of industrial economic development.

People's Daily

SPORT



Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC players celebrate after the club had posted a goal against Mbeya City FC in a recent Vodacom Premier League match which took place in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

KMC FC suffers second loss in VPL

By Ismail Tano, TUDARCO

THE fifth round of this season's Vodacom Premier League (VPL) ended on Monday, with Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC losing 1-0 to Polisi Tanzania at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

It was a crucial away win for Kilimanjaro-based Polisi Tanzania, given the outfit has consequently scaled up to the fourth spot in the VPL table.

Polisi Tanzania have registered victory in three outings, lost one and managed draw in one.

Despite KMC FC having repeatedly attacked Polisi Tanzania goal in the first half of the tie, both teams went to the break without either scoring or conceding goals.

The hosts had dominated possession in the opening stanza but they were let down by poor finishing.

They went close on the ninth minute, in which Polisi Tanzania goalkeeper Geoffrey Mkumbo made a good save, foiling an effort by KMC FC forward Reliants Lusajo.

Midfielder Kenny Ally came close to netting a goal for KMC FC on the 12th minute after his effort went wide.

Profligacy in front of Polisi Tanzania's goal happened to be KMC FC forwards' biggest weakness, given they continued to attack the former, only to end up wasting opportunities.

Polisi Tanzania's strikers Tariq Seif and Marcel Kaheza worked hard, seeking to penetrate KMC FC defense that was led by

Andrew Vicent.

The KMC FC defense put solid performance, given the defenders had been following instructions by veteran keeper Juma Kaseja.

The second half began with the teams attacking each other in turns, with players' individual skills and tactics that were used by the squads' coaches coming into play.

After 10 minutes of the second half, the two sides' coaches,

Polisi Tanzania's Malale Hamsini and KMC FC's John Simkoko opted for substitutions, seeking to reinvigorate their respective squads.

Polisi Tanzania rested striker, Tariq Seif, for Pius Buswita, whereas KMC FC benched Paul Peter and fielded Hassan Kabunda.

The hosts continued to make changes, resting George Mpole and Emmanuel Mvuyekure on the 69th minute and fielded Ramadhan Kapera and Mohammed Samata respectively.

Tanzania Police eventually went 1-0 up on the 88th minute through Buswita, who capitalized on KMC FC's defensive mix up within the team's penalty area.

Failure by KMC FC defenders to clear the ball gave Buswita, who was lurking within the area, space to easily beat Kaseja with a right foot effort.

The victory has seen Polisi Tanzania collect 10 points from recording victory in three games, managing draw in one and losing one tie.

It turned out to be a second defeat for KMC FC this season. They have recorded nine points, having won three clashes and losing two.

Talking points from Vodacom Premier League fifth round

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE fifth round of the Vodacom Premier League concluded on Monday with one game. Azam FC sits two points clear at the top of the table.

Here, The Guardian takes a look at what we learned from the latest round of fixtures.

1. Simba SC striking dilemma

With three goals in two three appearances Chris Mugalu has given Simba boss, Sven Vandenbroeck, another selection headache.

The striker scored again in Simba's 4-0 win against JKT Tanzania, while Meddie Kagere bagged a first-half brace.

Kagere was comfortably Simba's top scorer last season with 22 league goals but has rode the bench the second half and the start of this campaign.

He now has four goals, just one shy of Azam FC forward Prince Dube who tops the scoring chart.

In the next league assignment against age old rivals, Yanga, once again Vandenbroeck must decide whether to leave out in-form Kagere, record signing Mugalu or his preferred striker, John Bocco who is expected to be available for selection after missing the last two games against Biashara United and JKT Tanzania.

2. Gwambina FC finally turns to men

Five games. That is what it took for Gwambina FC to register their first win of the season.

The newly promoted side from Misungwi District, Mwanza recorded their top-flight victory after defeating fellow newcomers Ihefu FC 2-0 on Saturday.

Prior to Saturday's match, the best they had done was get a draw while losing the remaining three matches.

3. FIFA break is a gift for coaches



Yanga midfielder, Feisal Salum (C), dribbles past Coastal Union midfielders, Mtenje Albano (R) and Salum Ali, when the squads locked horns in Vodacom Premier League duel, which took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. Yanga won 3-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

There are a couple of coaches that will be very happy that the FIFA international break is here.

The coaches of Mbeya City FC and Namungo FC teams will need to use the international break to fine-tune their teams or they could find themselves jobless in the next few rounds.

Mbeya City FC's head coach Amri said will be grateful for the break, his side is only one yet to win a game, something that even newly promoted Gwambina FC finally managed to do last weekend.

They are rooted to the bottom of the table, and for the second consecutive season they have failed to win any of their first five matches, failing to score in any of them.

4. From slaughterhouse to the laughter house

Last season teams used to be scared of going to

play Namungo FC at Majaliwa Stadium in Lindi.

Only Coastal Union managed to take maximum points at Majaliwa Stadium, but how things have changed this season.

Polisi Tanzania and now Mwadui FC, all have taken three points from their trips to Namungo FC, leaving the team in an unenviable ninth position on the log.

If the opening five games are anything to go by, it will not be the same as last season.

Namungo FC head coach Thierry Hitimana has a lot

of work on his hands or else he will soon be looking for another job.

5. Biashara United, Dodoma Jiji FC going quietly about their business

While Azam FC, Yanga and Simba are hogging the headlines with consecutive victories, there are teams quietly going about their business, raking in points at home.

Biashara United and Dodoma Jiji FC are making the most of home ground advantage.

Yes, Biashara United have only played three home games this year, but while some teams lost, they have made it a perfect three out of three, they even kept clean sheets in all games.

On Sunday they registered another home win against Mtibwa Sugar despite being forced to use an alternative home ground.

Their normal home ground, Karume Stadium, has been suspended from hosting top flight matches due to poor pitch condition.

They have adopted CCM Kirumba in Mwanza as their alternative home ground.

They are well placed for a top eight finish in their third top flight season, but may even want to challenge for a top five place, considering they are currently at sixth.

Dodoma Jiji FC also have a 100% home record, with Ruvu Shooting the latest to feel the impact in a 2-0 defeat to the former at Jamhuri Stadium on Friday afternoon.

Taifa Stars begin preps for key qualifiers

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

AS club football globally has momentarily halted for a brief lull, this can of course mean just one thing, Tanzania's Taifa Stars will soon be in action on the international front once more.

To be sure, the stars will seek to accord Burundi a decidedly frosty welcome in a friendly this Sunday at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Both countries will use the friendly duel as a way to earnestly tune up for upcoming 2021 AFCON finals' qualifiers which are set to take place early next month.

Regarding those qualifiers, Tanzania finds itself in 'Group J', where it has garnered three points thus far following one defeat and one conquest.

That lone triumph was our victory against Equatorial Guinea, while our defeat came against Libya who are out to cause a real stir in these make-or-break qualifiers.

Viewed through this prism, then, the Taifa Stars have everything to play for in their next 2021 AFCON qualifier, which shall be a distinctly testing encounter against the predatory Carthage Eagles of Tunisia on November 11 this year.

Hopefully then, the Taifa Stars will enough sharp-edged arrows in their quiver to dispose of Tunisia in rapid fashion.

Admittedly though, achieving that will be no easy undertaking.

Still maintaining the football theme, the South African master tactician Pitsso Mosimane has achieved a veritable coup by arguably becoming the first coach from sub-Saharan Africa to coach in the



Senior national football squad, Taifa Stars.

mighty 'Land of the Maghrebs'.

Indeed, after successfully steering Mamelodi Sundowns to yet another Premier Soccer League (PSL) trophy in South Africa lately, Mosimane boldly opted to step out of his comfort zone and test his mettle in the treacherous waters of Egyptian football's top tier league.

And, by golly, one feels that Mosimane is in for the sternest and most daunting test of his tactical nous as a coach, who is so accustomed to winning ways.

Indeed, Al Ahly absolutely need no introduction in African football. In the rich history of the prestigious CAF Champions League, Al Ahly have won the whole shebang more times than any other club across the

vast expanse of the continent.

However, what about Mosimane? Clearly to those not in the know, Mosimane will be regarded as a genuine unknown quantity who will be making his first foray into Egyptian football.

To many quarters in South Africa, though, Mosimane is meritoriously regarded as the cream of the crop of coaches plying their trade in the 'Rainbow Nation's PSL.

Indeed, during his lengthy stint with Mamelodi Sundowns, Mosimane triumphantly led the 'Brazilians' (Sundowns' nickname) to five PSL titles as well as quite memorably, the coveted CAF Champions League.

Absent with leave: calls grow for BTS members to postpone or skip military service

SEOUL

CALLS are mounting within South Korea for members of megaband BTS to be granted alternatives or delays to mandatory military service, with some lawmakers and fans arguing they are doing plenty for their country without wearing a soldier's uniform.

By law, all able-bodied men in South Korea aged between 18 and 28 must serve in the military for roughly two years as part of the country's defences against North Korea.

The eldest member of the band, Jin, is 27 and will be required to sign up by the end of next year while the other six will reach the age of conscription over the next few years.

South Korea has granted exemptions for high-profile athletes such as Tottenham Hotspur forward Son Heung-min as well as classical musicians such as award-winning pianist Seong-jin Cho, but to date there have been none for K-pop stars.

"Not everyone has to take up a rifle to serve the country," Noh Woong-rae, a senior member of the ruling Democratic Party, told a party meeting on Monday in comments that received widespread media coverage.

Noh suggested BTS members could work as ambassadors in their overseas travels to promote a group of islets at the centre of a territorial dispute with Japan.

His comments follow a proposal by fellow party member Jeon Yong-gi last month to revise the law so that some K-pop stars could delay their service until the age of 30.

"For the sake of the fairness we are not

talking about exempting them from their duty, but pop musicians and artists like BTS - their careers can blossom in their twenties," Jeon, who has the backing of a dozen lawmakers, told Reuters.

"We cannot let military duty block their way at the height of their careers," he said.

The public also appears to support special treatment for the band which has just become the first South Korean group to reach No.1 on the U.S. Billboard Hot 100 singles chart and has a massive global fan base.

Respondents to a Sept. 21 survey by domestic news website Kuki News showed 31.3% believed the band should not have to do their military service, while another 28.6% supported a postponement. Those supporting normal military service were around 30.5%.

Their label, Big Hit Entertainment, declined to comment on the matter, while individual members have previously said they are willing to complete their service.

"Military service is the natural duty and when duty calls, I will respond any time," Jin told a news conference in February.

Big Hit, which plans to list on Oct. 15, has said in its IPO prospectus that military service is a key risk for investors.

That has not stopped investors jumping on the offering, however, with orders from retail investors totalling some 58.4 trillion won (\$50.3 billion), some 607 times the value of shares on offer, lead arranger NH Investment & Securities said on Tuesday. (\$1 = 1,161.9500 won)

REUTERS

IOC gets official look at simplification for Tokyo Olympics

TOKYO

THE IOC and local organizers are trying to "simplify" the postponed Tokyo Olympics, promising to save money in what one study says is already the most expensive Summer Olympics on record.

The executive board of the International Olympic Committee is expected to review the proposed cuts on Wednesday. They include about 50 changes to fringe areas that leave the number of athletes - 15,400 for the Olympics and Paralympics - and all sports events untouched for next year.

Also largely untouched will be the opening and closing ceremonies, the heavily sponsored 121-day torch relay, and competition areas that will be seen on television broadcasts. This means the so-called field of play, and areas immediately adjacent.

Some of the proposed cuts listed in a detailed document

from the organizers include: fewer decorative banners; a 10-15% reduction in "stakeholders" delegation sizes; five fewer international interpreters from a staff of 100; fewer shuttle buses; reduction in hospitality areas; suspension in production of mascot costumes; cancellation of official team welcome ceremonies.

Big savings are not easy to find.

Organizers and the IOC say they had already slashed several billion dollars in costs before the Olympics were postponed six months ago because of the COVID-19 pandemic. This included moving events to existing venues rather than building new facilities.

Most of the big-ticket spending had already taken place, such as the \$1.43 billion national stadium, and the \$520 million swimming venue.

"We have many measures, and sometimes they look



In this Sept. 24, 2020, file photo, IOC President Thomas Bach, on the screen, speaks remotely with Tokyo 2020 Organizing Committee President Yoshiro Mori, left, and Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike, right, during an on-line meeting focused on how to pull off the delayed Tokyo Games, in Tokyo. The IOC and local organizers are trying to "simplify" next year's postponed Tokyo Olympics, promising to save money in what one study says is already the most expensive Summer Olympics on record. (AP)

small. But when you take them all together it will represent a large result in terms of both simplification and hopefully ... produce some significant savings," Christophe Dubi, the IOC executive director for the Olympic Games, said late last month when the plans were presented in Tokyo.

Dubi said a search for more cuts would continue. Tokyo and the IOC have not offered an estimate of the savings, but estimates in

Japan put them at 1-2% of official spending of \$12.6 billion. However, a government audit last year said the real cost of the Olympics might be twice that much.

All of the costs for putting on the Olympics come largely from public money with the exception of \$5.6 billion from a privately financed local operating budget. About 60% of the income in this budget - \$3.3 billion - comes from payments from 68 domestic sponsors.

Arsenal pay buyout clause to sign Partey from Atletico

LONDON

ARSENAL signed midfielder Thomas Partey from Atletico Madrid in the biggest move of transfer deadline day on Monday after meeting the Ghanaian's 50 million euro (£45 million, \$59 million) buyout clause.

Partey has been a long-term target for the Gunners, who were looking to bolster their options in central midfield.

"We have been watching Thomas for a while, so we're now delighted to add such a high quality player to our squad," said Arsenal manager Mikel Arteta.

"He is a dynamic midfielder with great energy. He brings a lot of experience from a top club that has competed at the highest level in La Liga and the Champions League for several years."

Uruguayan international Lucas Torreira has gone the other way from Arsenal to Atletico on a season-long loan deal.

Atletico said in a statement: "La Liga informed Atletico de Madrid at 11.28pm on Monday that Arsenal representatives have paid Thomas Partey's release clause at the sports association's headquarters."

"The player has therefore unilaterally terminated his contract with our club, which ran until June 30, 2023."

Arsenal have made an impressive start to the season, winning three of their opening four Premier League

games, as they aim to return to the Champions League next season for the first time in five years.

However, the Londoners have been short in midfield with Mesut Ozil and Matteo Guendouzi, who has joined Hertha Berlin on a season-long loan, frozen out by Arteta.

Partey was part of the Atletico sides that reached the 2016 Champions League final and beat Arsenal on the way to winning the Europa League in 2018.

A tough-tackling midfielder with an eye for goal, the 27-year-old scored 16 times in 188 appearances for Atletico since breaking into the first team in 2015.

"Thomas has all the right attributes to be a top player for Arsenal," said the club's technical director Edu. "He is a leader on and off the pitch and he is exactly the kind of player and person we want at the club."

"We already feel like we know Thomas very well based on the work we have done analysing his performances closely in recent times."

"With his all-round game and positive aggressive style, he will be a brilliant addition to our squad. We've made a strong start to the season and we want to continue to build on this with Thomas now part of our club."

Partey join up with his new teammates next week after he returns from international duty with Ghana.

AFP

Barcelona see Dembele, Depay deals falter

BARCELONA

JEAN-CLAIR Todibo and Rafinha left Barcelona on Monday but the club failed to bring in any deadline day signings of their own as they came up short in their attempts to sign Eric Garcia and Memphis Depay.

Todibo, 20, joined Benfica on a two-year loan deal worth €2 million. The Portuguese club also have an option to sign the defender for €20m in the future.

Rafinha, 27, has moved to French champions Paris Saint-Germain on a three-year deal. Barca didn't reveal any figures but sources told ESPN they could make up to €3m in performance-related add-ons from the transfer and will also receive 35 percent of any future sale.

Young defender Juan Miranda also left Camp Nou on the last day of transfers, joining Real Betis on a season-long loan, but there was no exit for Ousmane Dembele, despite interest from Manchester United.

Coach Ronald Koeman made it clear over the weekend he wanted a centre-back and a striker added to his squad and Barca began Monday hopeful of at least signing one of Garcia or Depay.

Barcelona needed to sell before they could buy and Todibo's move to Portugal, in theory, freed up room on the wage bill for Garcia to arrive from Manchester City.

However, following discussions throughout the day, City and Barca failed to reach an agreement as Garcia, 19, awaited developments from Madrid,

(Agencies)

Man Utd sign striker Cavani on free transfer, Smalling leaves to join Roma

LONDON

MANCHESTER United have completed the signing of striker Edinson Cavani on a free transfer, the club announced on Monday. Cavani has signed a two-year deal at Old Trafford, while both the club and player have the option to break the agreement after one year.

The move comes a day after the club's humiliating 6-1 defeat to Tottenham in the Premier League.

Cavani had been a free agent following his departure from Paris Saint-Germain at the end of last season after seven years at the club. United turned down the chance to sign him in January after being put off by his wage demands of £360,000 per week. After leaving PSG, he had been offered to a string of top European clubs before United stepped up their interest last week.

United are next in action away at Newcastle on Oct. 17, and Cavani has the chance to face former club PSG in the Champions League three days later.

Agencies

where he's currently based with the Spanish national team.

Sources have told ESPN that Barca believed City would reduce their asking price for Garcia given his contract expires next summer, but a middle ground was never reached. The Blaugrana can sign him for free at the end of the season, but for now he remains at the Premier League side.

Elsewhere, despite personal terms being agreed with Lyon striker Depay, 26, sources always told ESPN the signing would be impossible if Dembele didn't move to United.

Barca and United did hold talks over the French forward but wanted very different deals. Barca wanted a permanent move while United only wanted to take Dembele, whose three years at Camp Nou have been plagued by injuries, on loan.

Dembele, 23, also had doubts about joining United on a temporary deal and would have preferred a permanent solution to his future.

Depay, like Garcia, is also out of contract next summer but it remains to be seen if Barca will move for him again, even though Koeman made it clear the Dutch international was the attacker he wanted to complement his attack.

Sergino Dest, therefore, was Barca's final signing of the window. The United States international became the club's fourth signing of the summer when he joined from Ajax for €21m last week. Miralem Pjanic, Francisco Trincao and Pedri have also signed.

Algeria put 18-match unbeaten record on the line against Nigeria

JOHANNESBURG

ALGERIA will defend an 18-match unbeaten run when the leading African national teams return to action this week after 10 months of inactivity due to the coronavirus pandemic.

The reigning African champions face Nigeria in Austria on October 9 and Mexico in the Netherlands on October 13 ahead of the November resumption of 2021 Cup of Nations qualifying.

Algeria are among 18 of the top 20 ranked countries in the continent who will play one or two international friendly matches, with many being staged in Europe.

The Desert Foxes, who defeated Senegal in Cairo last July to become African champions a second time, last lost in October 2018, away to Benin.

They have won 15 competitive and friendly matches and drawn three since, with the victories including a thrashing of Colombia in France.

Cup of Nations-winning coach Djamel Belmadi has called up 24 stars with Manchester City winger Riyad Mahrez the captain and talisman.

The match against Nigeria is a repeat of a dramatic 2019 Cup of Nations semi-final won by a Mahrez thunderbolt free-kick in stoppage time.

Algeria then edged Senegal 1-0 in the final thanks to an early goal from Qatar-based Baghdad Bounedjah, who is also part of the squad for the friendlies.

Nigeria also play twice, meeting another powerful north African side, Tunisia, in Austria four days after tackling the Algerians.

The game with Tunisia is also a repeat of a 2019 Cup of Nations encounter with Nigeria winning the third-place playoff 1-0 thanks to an Odion Ighalo goal.

Ighalo, a 31-year-old forward on loan to Manchester United from Shanghai Shenhua until January 31, was not chosen by German coach Gernot Rohr for this international window.

- Nndidi misses out -



African Cup of Nations reigning champions, Algeria

Injured Leicester City midfielder Wilfried Ndidi also misses out, but four other English Premier League players were called up. Rohr selected defenders Olaoluwa Aina from Fulham and Oluwasemilogo Ajayi from West Bromwich Albion and attackers Alex Iwobi from Everton and Kelechi Iheanacho from Leicester.

A Tunisian squad including only goalkeeper Moez Ben Cherifia from champions Esperance will host Sudan in Rades four days before meeting the Nigerians.

The Ivory Coast have opted for non-African opponents - Belgium in Brussels on October 8 and Japan in Utrecht on

October 13 -- in their first games under French coach Patrice Beaumelle.

Ranked only 12th in Africa after a shock Cup of Nations qualifying loss to Ethiopia last November, the Ivorians hope to justify the praise Belgium manager Roberto Martinez gave them.

"Ivory Coast is a team with many highly talented individuals, including Wilfried Zaha and Nicolas Pepe," said the man who has lifted the Belgians to the top of the world rankings.

Beaumelle, a long-time assistant to higher profile French manager Herve Renard, has recalled a number of Ivorians discarded by previous handlers of the

Elephants. Midfielder Jean-Daniel Akpa Akpro is back after a four-year absence, winger Gervinho returns after three years, and midfielder Geoffrey Serey Die comes out of retirement.

Top ranked African country Senegal face Morocco away and host Mauritania without their superstar, Liverpool sharpshooter Sadio Mane, who has tested positive for Covid-19.

Two other Senegalese with English Premier League clubs, recently hired Chelsea goalkeeper Edouard Mendy and Crystal Palace defender/midfielder Cheikhou Kouyate, are available.

AFP

Nigeria not surprised by Bukayo Saka's England decision, but open to switch

By Colin Udoh, Special to ESPN



Bukayo Saka

AS Nigeria prepare for internationals against Algeria and Tunisia in Austria, Gernot Rohr and Super Eagles fans might be forgiven for looking at England and wondering what might have been.

Bukayo Saka reported to the England training camp on Monday, expected to make his senior debut during this international window in which England play Wales before UEFA Nations Cup fixtures against Belgium and Denmark.

Saka had been courted by Nigeria, and the teenager's decision to accept his first call up to the senior England squad left Super Eagles fans heartbroken, ironically coming as it did on the 60th anniversary of the West African nation's independence from Great Britain.

Not that Saka's decision came as a surprise to anyone.

Much as the Arsenal starlet had been courted overtly by Nigeria, he was always very unlikely to select the Super Eagles ahead of the Three Lions, given he was born and raised in England.

The teenager's connection to Nigeria is tenuous at best, through his parents, and he had never visited the country. So it would have been more of a shock had he turned down England in favour of Nigeria.

Having represented England at multiple cadet levels, any decision to play for Nigeria in full internationals also would have seen his career placed on hold while the process of sorting out his paperwork with FIFA went through.

Nor had his family given the Nigerian delegation much hope that he would choose the Super Eagles, when they were approached a few months ago.

"They told us that they don't want to have him decide on such things yet," a Nigeria source told ESPN.

"He's only 19 and there's a lot of time for him to be making such decisions. Right now it's all about his club football."

Subsequent events show it was not "all about his club football".

Rather, it was probably a polite way of telling the delegation that Saka was not interested in playing for Nigeria.

And Nigeria's new policy, whereby eligible players are approached to let them know they are welcome to the national team, and then left alone to make their decisions, meant that there was no follow-up approach for Saka.

All of which left Nigeria coach Gernot Rohr unsurprised by Saka's decision to accept his England call-up, albeit he sounded somewhat disappointed by the teenager's choice.

"We are not surprised," Rohr told ESPN. "Of course we would have liked to have him with us, but we have to respect this kind of decision from him."

"I wish him good luck and a long career with England."

Saka would have been a phenomenal addition to the Super Eagles squad, especially in the area where he plays. Much as he can feature in a variety of positions, Rohr would have been keen to deploy him at left-back or left wingback rather

than on the left side of midfield or attack, where the coach has a glut of talent from which to pick.

Going back well beyond Rohr's time, the Super Eagles have struggled at left-back.

Having previously been blessed with the likes of Ben Iroha, Michael Emenalo,

Celestine Babayaro, Ifeanyi Udezue and Taye Taiwo at left-back, the Super Eagles have failed subsequently to find the same quality to run the lines in that position.

Rohr did not entirely trust Elderson Echiejile, who took over from Taiwo, and he has spent most of his four years

in charge looking for a capable replacement.

He seemed to have found his replacement in Bryan Idowu, but that proved to be a false dawn.

Jamilu Collins currently occupies the spot, with Ola Aina and Tyrone Ebuehi both serving as reliable back-ups despite not being a natural left footers.

All three have been effective when they have played, but Saka would have been an instant upgrade.

Rohr has now called up FC Porto's Zaidu Sanusi, who is very highly rated. If Sanusi lives up to the potential that he has shown, Rohr might not mind the loss of Saka quite so much.

However, that loss may not be permanent -- at least not yet -- given FIFA's newly minted rules on the eligibility of players; the door is not entirely closed until Saka makes three senior appearances for England before he turns 21.

There are many who are unhappy about the new rule, arguing that it undermines the value of the national teams of African nations, but the Nigeria Football Federation (NFF) does not believe that is the case.

A NFF source has told ESPN that Saka -- or any player who decides to switch back to Nigeria -- will be welcome, at least under Rohr.

"We don't burn bridges," the source told ESPN. "And we shouldn't. He's gone now. Doesn't mean he can't return. Rules change. And you just can't say never."

"Any player who remains eligible to play for Nigeria will remain welcome under Gernot Rohr as long as he still possesses the qualities that will work for Gernot and his playing philosophy."

Rohr also told ESPN that Saka, "if he wants to change, he will be welcome with me".

For now, Bukayo Saka belongs to, and with, England.

Gwiji by David Chikoko

Keep on playing while I get you a new coach



SPORT

Algeria put 18-match unbeaten record on the line against Nigeria

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Morogoro's SUA Queens cricket team, in group picture with their coach, Majid Mrutu, shortly before taking on Nyanza Queens in a 2020 Women Premier League clash, which took place in Morogoro last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

SUA Queens cricket team demolish Nyanza Queens in 2020 Women Premier League

By Guardian Reporter

MOROGORO'S SUA Queens cricket team have got off to a good start in the 2020 Women Premier League, notching a comprehensive 38-run victory over Nyanza Queens at the former's backyard last weekend.

Senior all-rounders, Asha Daud and Mwajabu Hussein, were impressive at the crease, seeing to it the hosts end their innings with an imposing score once they were put in to bat first by the visitors that had won the toss and elected to bowl.

The SUA Queens amassed 119 runs for the loss of two wickets in 20 overs, with Asha being the top run getter with 43 runs not out which consisted of three fours.

Malizia Salum and Esther Expedito experienced brief spells, posting 16 runs and 10 runs respectively, but their dismissal did not deter their squad from staying in control of the innings.

Malizia and Esther had managed to exhibit their aggressiveness, blasting two fours apiece.

Mwajabu was equally aggressive, posting 32 runs not out, which consisted of five fours, and forging unbeaten partnership with Asha which proved to be extremely fruitful.

Nyanza Queens' bowlers Mwamvita Mwisiga and Nasra Shabani managed one wicket apiece in their respective four-over spells in what turned out to be a torrid afternoon for the side's bowlers.

Posting 120 runs to come out victorious happened to be a tall order for Nyanza Queens that had, in response, ended with 81 runs for five wickets in 20 overs.

Lonsina Seperatus' 35 runs not out was the visitors' only batting performance worth writing home about.

She nailed four fours in her spell, partnering Elizabeth Leonard that finished with 10 runs not out in what was, in the end, a fruitless chase.

They experience a wobble in the early stages of the chase after the outfit's openers Lemy Mkina and Mariam Mwisiga were dismissed in quick succession.

Mariam Juma and Halima Khalfan could only end up four runs short of double digit figures, as SUA Queens' bowlers kept on punishing Nyanza Queens' batters.

The SUA Queens' Dorice Helment took two wickets, conceding 12 runs in three overs, to see to it her team frustrate Nyanza Queens' chase.

In the day's other clash, held at the same venue, Dar es Salaam's Academy Girls trounced Twiga Girls from Tanga by 25 runs in a thrilling clash.

Academy Girls won the toss and elected to bat, scoring 136 runs for the loss of two wickets in 20 overs.

Experienced all-rounder, Monica Paschal, put solid batting to show for the side, ending with 64 runs in a spell which had the player cracking seven fours.

Promising performer, Nasra Hamza, was equally impressive, surpassing half century mark to end with 58 runs not out, which included six fours.

Twiga Girls' Nasra Nasoro had an impressive bowling spell in which she took two wickets for 21 runs in four overs.

In response, Twiga Girls put spirited showing, they nevertheless lost steam, scoring 111 runs for the loss of four wickets in 20 overs.

Much as opener Saum Godfrey had the best innings, recording 63 runs which included nine fours, her efforts to have the team getting down to successful chase ended in vain, as fellow batters were below par.

Nasra was the team's other batter with double digit figure, posting 13 runs not out that consisted of a four.

Monica wrapped up an impressive performance with two wickets for the clash's eventual winners in her four over-spell.

The competition, hosted by Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA), has brought together 10 women teams from five regions.

The event's games, TCA information officer Atif Salim disclosed, will be played at Morogoro's SUA ground and in Tanga in alternative weekends.

Salim said hosting the competition is TCA's good opportunity to improve women's level of interest in the sport of cricket.

SBL affirms to keep on sponsoring Taifa Stars

By Nassir Nchimbi, TUDARCO

SERENGETI Breweries Limited (SBL), via the company's brand Serengeti Premium Lager, has signed new contract with Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) to sponsor the country's senior national soccer squad, Taifa Stars.

The new three-year contract, worth 3bn/- was signed by the two parties in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The company expressed delight in having entered into an agreement with TFF for sponsoring Taifa Stars for another three years.

The contract, which had come to a close, was signed in 2017.

The team boasts of a lot of success it has had during the sponsorship period.

The SBL Chief Executive Officer, Mark Ocitti, said during the signing of the new contract that Serengeti Premium Lager is a major sports stakeholder in the country.

He disclosed that the brand has been proud to unite Tanzanians through sports.

"Through our favourite Serengeti Premium Lager beer, we are very happy to announce a sponsorship to our national team over another three years," he said.

"We have taken this decision based on and appreciate the importance of sports on social and economic development."

"We believe in sponsoring the team, not only do we contribute to the development of sports but also contribute to the promotion of football that many people in the world and Tanzania love," Ocitti said.

He disclosed: "We have decided to re-sign this contract after satisfaction with the development and success of the team over the past three years but also from the will of the team."

Taifa Stars have succeeded in securing significant gains under the concluded sponsorship of Serengeti Premium Lager's brand.

The achievement includes the team's qualification for and participation in such a major continental football tournament like African Cup of Nations (AFCON) finals last year after a 39-year absence in the show-piece. This massive warranty comes at a time when many businesses at the national and international level have reduced sponsorship on various activities including sports and decrease operational costs due to the coronavirus crisis, which has rolled back trade development and global financial cycles.

Wallace Karia, TFF President, expressed his regards to Serengeti Premium Lager for the sponsorship, noting the funds raised for the sponsorship would be used as intended.

He pointed out that the cash would be extremely helpful in achieving the team's operations and thus gaining positive results in its games.

"The signing of the contract today is clear evidence that Serengeti Premium Lager has enough confidence with the TFF leadership and we promise that we will stand firm to use this sponsorship as the contract says for the benefit of our national team," Karia said.



Mbwana Samatta

Samatta confident of Taifa Stars' victory over Burundi

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA's senior national football squad 'Taifa Stars' captain Mbwana Samatta believes the team have what it takes to cruise past Burundi in Sunday's international friendly at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The Turkey-based striker has urged fans to turn out in large numbers to cheer Taifa Stars in the warm up game ahead of next month's crucial double header against Tunisia in the 2022 African Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers.

Samatta scored a brace for his club, Fenerbahce, as the Turkish giants defeated Fatih Karagumruk 2-1 on Saturday.

The forward arrived in Dar es Salaam early yesterday and had a brief interview with the press before he headed to the team's residential training camp.

"I am fresh, with the players who have been selected for the national team squad, I am sure we will get good results. I saw the list of selected names, I think the league was going on and all the players were active and looked fit. I am confident of positive results," Samatta said.

Taifa Stars' head coach Etienne Ndayiragije will use the Burundi game to prepare his squad for the 2022 AFCON qualifiers.

The buildup will also prepare some of the players for the 2021 African Nations Championship (CHAN) finals early next year.

Taifa Stars meet Tunisia in Tunis on November 9 before the return game in Dar es Salaam on November 17.

The matches were initially set for March 27-31, and coach Ndayiragije had announced his squad before the Confederation of African Football (CAF) announced the suspension of all matches as the global coronavirus pandemic escalated.

After two rounds of matches, Tanzania are third in Group J in the qualifiers for Cameroon 2022 finals with three points.

The team posted a home win against Equatorial Guinea and an away loss to Libya.

Tunisia are in first place with six points followed by Libya who are second with three

points but ahead of Tanzania on head-to-head rule while Equatorial Guinea are bottom with zero. The 2021 Africa Cup of Nations finals were postponed in June by CAF from January and February 2021 to January and February 2022.

A total of 48 nations, including hosts Cameroon, have been split into 12 groups each consisting of four teams, with two teams from each group progressing to the finals.

Tanzania ended a 39-year hiatus from the AFCON finals when they competed in the 2019 Egypt Africa Cup of Nations finals.

The squad finished rock bottom in a group comprising winners Algeria, finalists Senegal and neighbours Kenya.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



TONIGHT @ 7:00

EATV SAA 1

EATV WEDNESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
13:30 Kall Za Wana
14:00 Planet Bongo (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Nirvana (r)
16:00 Skonga (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Kibishara Zaidi

EATV SAA 1
Coverage of the days current events accompanied by interviews with prominent people on diverse topics ranging from national to social interests.

east africa RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM