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Global gold demand to hit four-year high



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New twist in Parliament, CAG dispute

“The committee found the CAG guilty of contravening section 26 (e) of the Parliamentary Standing Orders and therefore recommend that the legislature cease any cooperation with him henceforth”

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE National Assembly yesterday resolved not to work or cooperate with the Controller and Auditor General (CAG), Prof Mussa Assad, after finding him guilty of disrespecting the legislature.

The resolution was reached after the Parliamentary Privileges, Ethics and Powers Committee tabled a report that convicted him of disrespecting and belittling the legislature during his interview in the United States with a UN Kiswahili Radio channel in December last year.

It emerged in the report that during his grilling by the committee in January this year

over ‘Parliament is weak’ comment, the CAG did not apologize and withdraw the statement but maintained that the words were normal in the auditing profession and he would continue to use them.

The debate however was dominated by members of the ruling party (CCM) who supported the motion, against few opposition lawmakers who distanced themselves from the motion.

Moving the motion before the House, committee chairperson Emmanuel Mwakasaka (Tabora Urban, CCM) told the House that his team found Prof Assad guilty as he agreed to have uttered words that were interpreted to mean that he was

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Speaker Job Ndugai

Prof Mussa Assad (CAG)



Committee faults Mdee for echoing ‘opinion’ by CAG

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

KAWE MP Halima Mdee (Chadema) (pictured) will have to miss two consecutive House meetings as punishment after the Parliamentary Privileges, Ethics and Powers Committee found her guilty of supporting Controller and Auditor General (CAG) Prof Mussa Assad’s “Parliament is weak” remarks.

Her suspension started yesterday at the ongoing 15th meeting of the legislature that runs until July as well as the 16th meeting set for September and well into October.

The committee convicted her for supporting CAG Assad’s remarks that he made back in December in the United States at an interview with a UN broadcasting channel.

Tabling the committee’s report and

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Treasury directed to release 50bn/- for cashew payments

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli yesterday said the government will soon start paying cashewnut farmers with 1,500 kilos and above after missing a fourth deadline - March 31 - to conclude the exercise which started late last year.

Speaking during the laying of a foundation stone for expansion of Mtwara Airport, the Head of State said that 18,103 farmers in this group who have already been verified will be paid.

He directed the Treasury to urgently release 50bn/- to start paying farmers who have been waiting for months now with their cashew nut stocks already in warehouses.

The president said that so far, the government has paid a total of 578.7bn/- to nearly 99 percent of farmers, as they had less than 1500kilos of cashew nuts.

“During the verification exercise at least 390,765

farmers with cashewnuts less than 1500 kilos were approved for payment. They had 160, 669.3 tonnes of cashewnuts in total and out of them 373, 149 farmers have so far been paid. They had a total of 159,865.2 tonnes of cashew nuts,” he elaborated.

A total of 17,616 farmers with cashewnuts below 1500 kilos were yet to be paid for various reasons, including errors in their bank accounts, he further noted, assuring the public that they will all be paid after correcting the raised errors.

“The government has also paid 5.1bn/- for logistics, 1.3bn/- for coordination and 6.6bn/- for storage facilities,” he specified.

“We don’t care over the loss which the government will encounter on the cashew nuts we bought from farmers. What we care for is the profit that our farmers get,” the president

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‘No more breast removal during cancer treatment’

By Henry Mwangonde

BREAST cancer patients in the country have a reason to smile following the start of a new operation procedure that eliminates the deadly cells without removing the infected organ as it was earlier.

The new advanced treatment is being hailed by experts as a milestone as the previous procedure that required the removal of the infected breast caused trauma to patients due to consequent changes in physical looks that came with the removal of the organ, as a crucial part of a woman’s image.

Speaking during the opening of a breast cancer

forum at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) Mloganzila teaching hospital on the outskirts of the city of Dar es Salaam yesterday, MNH executive director Prof Lawrence Museru said the first four patients will be operated using the technology installed at Mloganzila this week.

The technology known as breast conserving surgery will henceforth be an alternative to mastectomy surgery, following the recent procurement of state-of-the-art cancer care and treatment machines at the Ocean Road Cancer Institute (ORCI).

“Radiation treatment has started to advance

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President John Magufuli draws curtain in Mtwara yesterday to inaugurate the expansion of Mtwara Airport. Photo: State House

New twist in Parliament, CAG dispute

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disrespectful to the legislature but adamantly maintained that he would continue using the words in the future.

"The committee found the CAG guilty of contravening section 26 (e) of the Parliamentary Standing Orders and therefore recommend that the legislature cease any cooperation with him henceforth," he told an attentive chamber.

The CAG appeared before the parliamentary committee on 21st January following an order from the Speaker on 7th January.

The problem between the two top officials stemmed from Prof Assad's interview with the UN Kiswahili Service where he said the National Audit Office of Tanzania (NAOT) prepares reports which are supposed to be worked on by Parliament, but that was not normally the case.

"NAOT produces reports but no action is taken, which to me is a weakness of Parliament... I believe it is a challenge that should be worked on... Parliament is failing to exercise its responsibilities effectively."

Furious at the remarks, Speaker Ndugai then directed that Prof Assad appear before the Parliamentary Privileges, Ethics and Powers Committee on January 21 to respond to charges of disrespecting the legislature.

The full House yesterday heard that the CAG during the grilling by the committee confirmed to have used the words but said that in professional usage, such words do not mean any wrong and are ordinarily used.

But the committee chairperson noted that his defense was not meaningful since he spoke in an interview with an international medium, and was thus not addressing only his professional counterparts.

"The committee's position is that the CAG was speaking to the whole world and not only those familiar with his profession," he said, emphasizing that the negative implication was intentional.

Mwakasaka similarly said that during interrogation, Prof Assad repeatedly dismissed the committee's interpretation of the words he used, despite being told the Swahili dictionary meaning of the words showed he belittled the august House.

The CAG adamantly told the

committee that he would use the same words elsewhere, an assertion that implied he was not apologetic for any wrongdoing.

Contributing to the debate, Special Seat MP Catherine Magige (CCM) said it is high time national leaders know what to say and where to say it.

She argued that despite the high level of professionalism Prof Assad holds, he was reckless in that interview and deserved parliamentary sanctions.

"Even after being given a chance to apologize, the CAG remained unmoved. This is not good at all," the lawmaker insisted.

Kyerwa MP Innocent Bilakwate (CCM) echoed the same view, saying as a member of the parliamentary committee that grilled Prof Assad, he saw that the CAG's hardline position showed that he was disrespectful to the legislature, the speaker, the president and entire government.

Official Opposition leader, Freeman Mbowe (Hai, Chadema) was of a different view, saying the CAG was right in what he said, challenging the legislature to allow live television coverage of parliamentary debates if it is not weak.

He blamed the House for trying to silence people who have constitutional rights to air their views on issues of national interest. Mbowe went further to assert that it was useless debating a matter that had already been decided by those in power.

"Today Parliament writes history that will later haunt it as you collectively turn against the CAG for saying the truth," he declared, raising concern on the composition of the committee, that it is full of CCM MPs "who make decisions as if it was a party caucus."

Chambani MP Yusuf Salim Hussein (CUF) said it was wrong that Parliament should punish the CAG since he did not do any wrong. "We should thank the CAG for being transparent and saying the truth which Parliament needs to use to see where it has erred," he said.

Geita MP Joseph Msukuma (CCM) who was the last contributor to the debate argued that while there is freedom of expression as outlined in the constitution, there is also a limit to it.

He reminded Chadema lawmakers that when then their colleague Zitto Kabwe went against party policies he was unceremoniously kicked out of the party.

Committee faults Mdee for echoing CAG's view

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chairperson Emmanuel Mwakasaka told the House that the youthful lawmaker through her actions that she admitted before the team clearly showed she was disrespectful to the legislature.

A video clip showed the Kawe lawmaker speaking on 2nd January in support of the CAG's remarks. Mdee has also appeared before the committee three times for different offences, some of which landed her into suspension.

"During interrogation, she told the committee that she supported the CAG's statement that Parliament was

weak, underlining that as a three term MP she can testify to the claims by Prof Assad," the committee chair noted, elaborating that by that submission, the MP admits to have disrespected the legislature.

Mwakasaka said her admission and the video clip are in line with the Evidence Act (1967, as amended), Cap 6 which states that in any criminal proceedings, information retrieved from a computer system, network or servers or obtained through surveillance of means of preservation of information including facsimile (fax) machines, electronic transmission and communication facilities shall be

admissible in evidence.

"The committee was satisfied with the evidence that the MP had ill intention to disrespect Parliament before Tanzanians who have trust in the law making organ," he said.

In proposing that the MP be suspended, Mwakasaka cited section 33(1) of the Standing Orders which states that "where any member commits any contempt of the Assembly whether specified in section 26 or otherwise, the Assembly may, by resolution, either direct the Speaker to reprimand such member or suspend him or her for such period as it may determine."

He said that given the short time

before the eleventh parliament ends, they thought it wise that the MP be suspended for two meetings.

Contributing on the motion, Ulanga MP Goodluck Mlinga (CCM) said Mdee is notorious of contempt of Parliament and deserves punishment. "Despite being an experienced lawmaker, the MP has been acting against the Standing Orders, showing a bad picture to newcomers like us," he said.

The committee vice chairperson, Dr Christine Ishengoma (Special Seats, CCM) argued that the committee was quite lenient to the MP considering the fact that the eleventh parliament is soon coming to an end.

'No more breast removal during cancer treatment'

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in our country with the use of modern machines like the linear accelerator available at ORCL, enabling better incorporation of imaging modalities and more sophisticated irradiation techniques also allowing more targeted and less toxic treatment," said Prof Museru.

Breast cancer incidence rates are higher in high-income countries than in low- and middle-income countries but deaths are higher in low and middle income countries due to limited capacity for prevention, early detection and treatment programs, the don explained, noting that in Tanzania, breast cancer represents 14.4 percent of new cancer cases among women, annually.

He said breast cancer is the most common cause of cancer death among women worldwide, representing 25 to 35 percent of all female cancer cases.

Breast cancer is the second most common cancer and second leading cause of cancer mortality among women in Tanzania, he further observed.

The lifetime risk for developing breast cancer in Tanzania is approximately

1 in 20, and around half of all women diagnosed with breast cancer are likely to die of their condition, he pointed out.

"Approximately 80 percent of women diagnosed with breast cancer in Tanzania are diagnosed at advanced stages (III or IV), when treatment is less effective and outcomes are poor," said Prof Museru.

On treatment, Prof Museru said successful breast cancer control demands integrating early detection programs with accurate diagnosis and timely, accessible and effective treatments in a multidisciplinary approach.

"Addressing any of these components in isolation will not improve breast cancer outcomes in our country," he told the gathering.

In her remarks, MNH Mloganzila deputy executive director Dr Julieth Magandi said there are structural gaps including lack of healthcare workers trained in breast Cancer, pathology and cancer.

The existing referral system creates challenges in terms of early diagnosis and timely treatment, the director intoned.



Dr Kapologwa Ntuli (L), Health Services director in the President's office (Regional Administration and Local Governments), cuts a ribbon in Dodoma on Monday when launching a campaign on the combating of sickle cell anaemia to cover secondary schools across Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Treasury told to release 50bn/- for cashew payments

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declared.

He said the government didn't purchase the cashew nuts for commercial purposes but to help out farmers get their dues as per the effort and finances they spent in cultivating the crop.

"The move also aimed to teach

traders on the value of farmers and how they should treat them," he remarked.

He similarly noted that the government had commenced processing the purchased cashews. "We have started with 15,000 tonnes and we will continue with the rest...The government now expects to promote investors to establish more cashew nut

processing factories."

It was high time for the country to have more cashew nut processing factories, he stated.

He appealed to traders who are interested in working in the cashewnut sector to ensure that they came up with fair prices.

In February, the government admitted that it had yet again failed

to beat the February 15 deadline for the verification and payment of all cashewnut farmers as thousands had not been reached.

Agriculture Minister Japhet Hasunga said in an interview with The Guardian that a total of 12,378 cashew nut farmers with more than 1,500 kilos were yet to be verified.

The deadline for verification and

payment of all farmers was later extended to March 31 which elapsed last weekend.

Speaking in Parliament early February, Prime Minister Kassim Majalwa directed that the verification and payment of cashew nut farmers ought to be concluded by February 15th.

The premier had earlier set February

5 as the deadline after the government missed the initial deadline set by the president on January 31.

Dr Magufuli had directed that all cashew nuts consignments be verified first and farmers paid their sale monies in full.

The country's production projection for the 2018/2019 season was 240,000 tonnes of raw cashews.



Tanzania Electrical, Mechanical and Electronics Services Agency (Temesa) technicians move to re-install recently damaged road traffic lights at the Morogoro Road/Kawawa Road intersection in Dar es Salaam, as captured yesterday. Photo: Selemari Mpochi

State repossesses 14 privatised industries in Morogoro Region

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has repossessed at least 14 industries in Morogoro Region that were privatised in February, 2019, the deputy minister for Industries, Trade and Investment, Stella Manyanya told the House yesterday.

She said plan are underway to get new investors for the repossessed industries, adding that the aim of the government is to ensure that the defunct industries are revived and contribute to the national economy.

The deputy minister made the remarks in response to a question by the Special Seats MP, Devotha Minja(CHADEMA) who had wanted to know when President John Magufuli's promises to revive the industries would be fulfilled.

"During the last general election the president promised to reduce unemployment among youths in the country by reviving the industries, when will this be done?" she asked.

In her response, the deputy minister said the government is working to revive them as well as encouraging establishment of new ones depending on the country's needs.

"As at now all the 14 industries repossessed by the government are ready for take over and the

government is looking for potential investors to revive them," said Manyanya.

She added that in close cooperation with the office of the Treasury Registrar, the government is looking for the possibility of reviving industries in Morogoro Region and elsewhere in the country.

Manyanya explained that the Morogoro Canvas Mill Limited which is also closed is among the industries in the Treasury Registrar's list for revival.

Morogoro Region, according the deputy minister has a total of 14 industries that were privatized, eight are operational while the remaining are were not running.

Government official statistics show that some 274 state firms in the country had been privatised in 2012.

Among these, 95 were in the agricultural sector, 94 in industry; 23 in infrastructure, 34 in natural resources and tourism, 15 in the energy and minerals sector and 13 in other sectors. According to Dr Magufuli, in Germany for example the railway is state-owned entity but in Tanzania, Europeans wanted the Tanzania Railways Limited (TRL) to be privatised.

A report by the now defunct Consolidated Holding Corporation (CHC) before it was disbanded in 2014 indicated that 40 state-owned firms had been lined up for privatisation.

Godbless Lema to appear before parliamentary committee

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has repossessed at least 14 industries in Morogoro Region that were privatised in February, 2019, the deputy minister for Industries, Trade and Investment, Stella Manyanya told the House yesterday.

She said some two of the industries are in Morogoro Region, namely, Mang'ula Mechanical and Tools and Dakawa Rice Mills Limited.

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that the aim of the government is to ensure that the defunct industries are revived and contribute to the national economy.

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Tanzania Ports Authority



Tender No. AE/016/2018-19/CTB/W/18

For

DRY DOCKING AND REPAIR OF TUG SATO FOR DAR ES SALAAM PORT.

Section I: Invitation for Tenders (IFT)

- Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) has set aside funds in financial year 2018/2019 to cover for Dry Docking and Repairs of Tug "SATO" for Dar es Salaam Port..
- Tendering will be conducted through the International Competitive Tendering Method procedures specified in the Public Procurement Act. No 7 of 2011 (Goods, Works Non- Consultant Service and Disposal of Public Assets by Tender), Regulations, 2013 – Government Notice No. 446 and its amendment of 2016 and is open to sole Tender as defined in the Regulations from eligible, reputable and competent tenderers to provide the required services as detailed in the Employer's Technical requirements.
- TPA now invites sealed Tenders from eligible, reputable and Registered or be able to be registered by Contractors Registration Board (CRB) as Ship Builder/Marine Engineering Contractors in Class Three (3) and above to undertake the project.
- Interested eligible Bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the Tender Documents at the office of the Director of Procurement and Contracts, Tanzania Ports Authority, P.O. Box 9184 Dar-es-Salaam, Bandari Tower-One Stop Centre, Plot 1/2 , Sokoine Drive, 26th Floor from 09.00a.m to 04.00 p.m Local time Monday to Friday excluding public holidays.
- A complete set of tendering document (s) in English and additional sets may be purchased by interested tenderers on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 7 below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of USD 50. Payment should either be by Cash, Banker's Cheque or Bank Draft payment to cash office at TPA headquarters.
- Interested eligible Tenderers may obtain further information from and inspect the Tendering Documents at the office of Director of Procurement and Contracts, TPA Bandari Tower-One Stop Centre, Plot 1/2 , Sokoine Drive, 26th Floor Conference Room.
- The Tender must be accompanied by Tender Securing Declaration in the format provided in the tender document (Section IX). Tender not accompanied by Tender Securing Declaration will be rejected.
- Site Visit and Tug Inspection: shall be held on Friday 19th -22nd April, 2019 at Dar es salaam Port followed by Pre-Bidding Meeting which conducted on Tuesday 30th April, 2019 at TPA's Head Office, Bandari Tower One Stop Centre Plot 1/2 , Sokoine Drive, 26th Floor Conference Room.
- All bids in One Original plus Two Copies, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes clearly marked "TENDER NO. AE/016/2018-19/CTB/W/18 FOR DRY DOCKING AND REPAIR OF TUG "SATO" FOR DAR ES SALAAM PORT. " must be delivered to the address:-
- THE SECRETARY, CENTRAL TENDER BOARD, TANZANIA PORTS AUTHORITY P.O.BOX 9184, ONE STOP CENTRE BUILDING, 26TH FLOOR ALONG SOKOINE DRIVE DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA at or before 10:00 hours local time.
- The Deadline for submission of tenders is on 30th April, 2019 at 10.00 a.m. local time. Tenders will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in presence of Tenderers' representatives who choose to attend in the opening at the TPA Bandari Tower-One Stop Centre, Plot 1/2 , Sokoine Drive, 26th Floor Conference Room.
- Late Tenders, portion of Tenders, Electronic Tenders, and tenders not received, tenders not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
- Tanzania Ports Authority is not obliged to accept the lowest or any tender.

Issued by: Director General,
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Ecobank Transnational Incorporated 31st Annual General Meeting Notice of Meeting

Notice is hereby given that the thirty-first Annual General Meeting of Ecobank Transnational Incorporated will be held at the Conference Centre, Ecobank Pan African Centre, 2365 Boulevard du Mono, Lomé, Togo, on Thursday, 25th April 2019 at 10.30am to transact the following business:

- Approval of the accounts
- Appropriation of the profits
- Renewal of the mandates of directors
- Ratification of the co-option of directors
- Renewal of the appointment of the joint auditors

Any shareholder may attend and vote at the meeting or appoint one proxy to so do on his/her behalf.

All relevant documents in connection with the meeting are available to all shareholders from the date of this notice at the Registered Office of the Company at the address above as well as on the Company's website (www.ecobank.com). Shareholders who wish to receive the electronic version of the 2018 Annual Report may send a request to AGM@ecobank.com

Dated this 28th day of March 2019.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

Madibinet Cisse
Company Secretary

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The Pan African Bank



JOB OPPORTUNITY WITH ICAP IN TANZANIA

ICAP at Columbia University is a Non-Governmental Organization affiliated with Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health (MSPH) registered in Tanzania as MSPH Tanzania LLC since February 2005 (Reg. No. 00002080) ICAP currently operates in nine regions across Tanzania and employs over 230 people to deliver public health interventions in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly, and Children (MoHCDEG) and the National AIDS Control Program (NACP).

Since October 2016, ICAP has been receiving PEPFAR funding from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) for a 5-year project delivering HIV interventions as the community implementing partner. Known in country as the FIKIA Project and currently in Year 3 of 5 for implementation, the project provides community-based HIV prevention interventions including HIV testing to key and vulnerable populations (KVP). The goal of FIKIA is to accelerate, expand, and improve the quality of comprehensive community-based HIV prevention services to KVP in order to achieve epidemic control. FIKIA implementation spans a total of 46 districts across nine regions (including Kagera, Kigoma, Mwanza, Geita, Simiyu, Mara, Pwani, Tanga, and Dar es Salaam), aiming to deliver essential HIV interventions to nearly 1 million people each year.

ICAP is now seeking to fill the below position with a competent and dynamic individual:

Position Title: Senior Finance Manager

Reports to: Director of Finance and Administration

Location: Dar es Salaam

Purpose and Scope of Job:

The Senior Finance Manager contributes to the overall success of ICAP in Tanzania projects by effectively supporting the implementation of all financial policies and activities in the program. As a member of the Finance Department, the Senior Finance Manager assists the Director of Administration and Finance (DAF) with financial reporting, management and Budget monitoring and control issues as required. The individual in this position must be able to adapt to a continually evolving environment; demonstrating both, the autonomy and collaboration skills needed to advance ICAP's purpose and the leadership to inspire confidence of all internal and external stakeholders.

a) Primary Duties and Responsibilities (20% of role)

1. The Senior Finance Manager performs a wide range of duties including all of the following:
2. Ensure the monthly review of consolidated organizational budget performance against the individual annual project budgets; forecasting expenses and tracking the ongoing commitments against the approved cash position.
3. Advise the Director of Administration and Finance on issues, trends, and changes in the financial operating performance and operational delivery; proactively communicating issues that are anticipated before they arise.
4. Assist in implementing yearly objectives and measurable metrics for Finance department performance both for individual Team members and the Unit overall in service delivery to other Units with ICAP in Tanzania and stakeholders.
5. Support the long-term budgetary planning and costs management in alignment with ICAP's strategic and project plans, especially to improve the organizational development, increasing Finance's contributions to effectiveness and efficiency of the organization by leveraging technology and accurate information.
6. Assist the Director of Administration and Finance to ensure the ICAP's SMT are working to the approved budgets for programs and delivery through collaborative working practices.
7. Work collaboratively across the all departments, field offices and Headquarters.

b) Management accounting activities (20% of role)

- 1) Assist with the review of guidelines and collation of information for budget and monthly forecast preparation.
- 2) Produce timely and accurate monthly period-end reports and schedules for review with DAF as required.
- 3) Maintain financial records for each project or service in QuickBooks in a manner that facilitates timely and accurate management reports at month end.
- 4) Support maintaining compliance with internal financial and accounting policies, administrative procedures and local statutory requirements.
- 5) Provide accurate and timely reporting on the financial activity of individual projects and services across all cost centers with an ability to provide information in a timely manner.
- 6) Provide accurate and timely reporting on the financial activity of individual projects or ICAP as an organization.

c) Financial accounting and reporting (20% of role)

- 1) Code and post Payment Vouchers and General Journals to the accounting system in advance of month end closure.
- 2) Prepare timely monthly bank reconciliation statements in QuickBooks in all modules.
- 3) Assist with the review and maintenance of the integrity of the computerized accounting system and QuickBooks.
- 4) Assist with the maintenance of accurate financial records that are appropriate and give the required confidence to internal and external users.
- 5) Support the Director of Administration and Finance in ensuring all statutory requirements of the organization are met and tax remittance to the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) is done in a timely manner including filing returns to all statutory bodies and following them to completion.

- 6) Assist the Director of Administration and Finance in the preparation of information for the annual audits.
- 7) Assist with the documentation and maintenance of complete and accurate supporting information for all financial transactions and 100% upload of scanned copies into OnBase with proper indexing.
- 8) Maintain financial accounting systems for cash management, accounts payable, accounts receivable, credit control, and petty cash and ensure monthly reconciliation and follow up is made; communicating regarding any irrecoverable debt in a timely manner and seeking appropriate authorization for write offs.
- 9) Ensure that employees' payroll and financial information is secure and stored in compliance with current legislation and on a monthly basis ensure the Immedis payroll and payment files and downloaded from Immedis ShareFile and the salary Journal is posted into QuickBooks and uploaded to OnBase.
- 10) Support the Director of Administration and Finance in providing clear and Timely responses to queries from HQ Finance department.
- 11) Ensure all compliance practices are implemented based on up to date regulations;

d) Budgets, Cash Flow Management and Controls (10% of role)

- 1) Manage the annual budget process, providing guidance and support to Program Key personnel and other team members where needed
- 2) Maintain internal control and safeguards for receipt of revenue, costs and program budgets and
- 3) actual expenses;
- 4) Develop documentation of procedures and recommendations for process improvements;
- 5) Monitor investment portfolio as appropriate and bank balance positions during the course of the year;
- 6) Interface with outside audit firms, banks, TRA etc
- 7) Manage organizational cash flow forecasting exercise on monthly basis.

e) Debtor's management (10% of role)

Generate monthly advances list from QuickBooks and follow up on outstanding advances with the respective holders. Send out payment reminders for remaining cash (emails, letters) to staff and follow up with telephone calls and documented communication as appropriate.

f) Payroll preparation and administration (10% of role)

- 1) Ensure that the payroll Journal is posted to QuickBooks in a timely and accurate manner via the payroll function from QuickBooks.
- 2) Lead on the processing and submission of statutory returns on time and P09 and P10 returns are timely.

g) Legal, security and risk management (5% of role)

- 1) Assist the DAF to conduct spot checks, regular and ad-hoc, in the field offices to test the financial controls.
- 2) Coordinate with the auditors to complete required statutory audits.
- 3) Conduct spot checks in the Main and field offices to ensure internal control are working.

4) Identify and assess financial risks facing ICAP in Tanzania and raise it with SMT as appropriate.

h) Staff Management (5% of role)

- 1) Ensure all staff in Finance have clear Job descriptions, work plans and continuous review and support is provided.
- 2) Provide input into the strategic objectives of the finance team and how they can achieve their plans.
- 3) Assist with and complete ad hoc tasks as requested
- 4) Commensurate with the post, as advised by Director of Administration and Finance.

Experience, Skills & Minimum Required Qualifications

- 1) Bachelor Degree in Finance, Accounting, Business Administration or related field.
- 2) Must possess an Accounting qualification CPA (T), ACCA or related qualifications.
- 3) Possession of MBA will be an added advantage.
- 4) At least Seven (7) years' of relevant work experience in public/private sector working in Finance with experience dealing with high volume of information processing and Advanced excel skills.
- 5) Experience in financial management with PEPFAR/USAID and other donors' contracts/cooperative agreements is essential including policy, procedures and reporting requirements.
- 6) Excellent QuickBooks system knowledge and the ability to train or develop skills in other users.
- 7) Experience with International transactions and accounting is preferred.
- 8) Knowledgeable in GAAP, IAS and IFRS.
- 9) Demonstrated ability with reviewing, creating, and implementing new systems and approaches
- 10) Advanced knowledge of accounting and reporting software – QuickBooks and Microsoft Office experience required.
- 11) Excellent writing and high analytical skills.

Application Instructions:

Qualified applicants should send their applications (cover letter) by **15th April, 2019** via email to icap-jobs-tanzania@columbia.edu, mentioning in the subject line the Position Title. Please do NOT attach any certificates when submitting online.

ICAP is an equal opportunity employer.

GPS mapping to locate poor households for TASAF grants

By Guardian Reporter

GLOBAL Positioning System and digital mapping are among the new strategies that the government intends to deploy during the second phase of disbursing funds aimed at rescuing poverty stricken households in the country.

Hand in hand with that, the state will also apply direct electronic payment system during the forthcoming second phase of Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF II) expected to take off from next June 2019, about seven weeks from now.

Deputy Minister in the President's Office, in-charge of Good Governance, Dr Mary Mwanjelwa said the move was hatched after it was discovered that, in the past, state funds paid to poor families, sometimes did not reach the targeted beneficiaries after being deviated to benefit other people not in the poverty lists.

Dr Mwanjelwa was speaking during the occasion to officially open the Transfer Project Workshop taking place in Arusha. The meeting involves delegates from more than 25 countries on the African Continent, where Tanzania announced the forthcoming second phase of Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) and new strategies to accompany it, for effective community based conditional cash transfer to alleviate poverty among poor families.

"In the past people used to fill questionnaire forms, but this time the government wants to improve on that through digital mapping and electronic data collection for fool-proof identification," maintained the Deputy Minister.

The Director of Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) Ladislaus Mwamanga said during the first phase, TASAF managed to identify and reach out to over 70 percent of poor households on the mainland and 30 percent in the Isles, which means the remaining uncovered families will be mapped out through the new method which is also going to be used to review the previous beneficiaries.

"Meanwhile as from next July we are also going to start pruning out families that have already benefitted from the Social Action Funds for the past five years to pave way for new candidates," stated Mwamanga.

The chief social policy officer from United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF), Paul Quarles Van Ufford said the scheme of poverty reduction through Social Action Funds has proved to be very effective in Tanzania where families have been able to pay school fees, buy food and start small-scale enterprises.

TIB trains 150 district council employees on project write-ups

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Development Bank (TIB) in cooperation with the Local Government Loans Board (LGLB) are training 150 workers drawn from district councils in Morogoro, Singida and Dodoma Regions on how to prepare project write-ups for development projects.

The trainer, TIB business administration manager, Joseph Chilambo, told reporters that the workshop was necessitated by the fact that many district councils do not secure loans from banks and other financial institutions because they present inferior project write-ups.

"This training seeks to eliminate this challenge from our district councils so that they can get credits from banks and other financial institutions in order to implement development projects," Chilambo said adding that experience shows that write-ups from district councils take up two years before they cleared by banks and other financiers.

He said quality write-ups impress lenders, adding that loan applicants must know who to prepare write-ups to avoid disappointment. He said a good write-up must incorporate ideas from experts of various fields, such as economists, functionaries from finance, administration, community development and environment.

Dodoma Regional Administrative Secretary, Maduka Paul Kessy, called on trainees to take the training very seriously in order to effect radical changes preparing development programmes in district councils.

He said securing external funds was an important element in implementing successfully people-based development projects. "The TIB has identified the crippling problem and has come up with the solution to that problem. After this training our councils should be able to prepare write-ups acceptable to banks and other financial institutions in order to get external funds for development projects and make council significant and self-reliant," Kessy said.

Acting Ifakara town Engineer Linus Mdemu said the councils' main obstacle in securing credits from lenders was mediocre write-ups. "We hope this training will go a long way in solving this problem," he said.



This training seeks to eliminate this challenge from our district councils so that they can get credits from banks and other financial institutions in order to implement development projects.

Minister appeals for more actions to save the country from climate catastrophe

By Guardian Reporter, Songwe

MINISTER of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Employment, Youth and the Disabled), Jenista Mhagama has called on Tanzanians to protect water sources at all costs to save the country from 'climate catastrophe'.

She said that the country had suffered enough because of the negative effects of changing climate and something must be done now to reverse the situation.

Mhagama made the call on Monday when speaking at this year's National Tree Planting Day, which is annually celebrated on April 1. The campaign was launched in 1999 in order to fight deforestation and contain the encroachment of desert.

The minister said that Tanzania is on the threshold of becoming a semi-industrialised, middle-income by 2025, "and we can reach there if all sectors are involved."

She cited forest as one of the key sectors in scaling up the country's industrialisation agenda, suggesting the need for Tanzanians to venture into

tree planting campaigns.

Mhagama said that it was high time for Tanzanians to take part in tree planting campaigns, which is in line with the theme of this year's Uhuru Torch: "Water is the rights of everyone, Let's conserve its sources and Let's remember to participate in local governments' elections."

She tasked people to ensure that everybody is in-charge of managing environment and water sources in his/her localities.

The minister's call came at the time when reports show that at least 61 per cent of Tanzania's land mass is on the verge of becoming a desert, threatening the future livelihoods of millions of the country's livestock keepers and farmers.

The situation was worsening in Singida, Dodoma, Shinyanga, Manyara, Simiyu, Geita and Arusha regions. And the situation is bad and it is threatening economic lives of about 80 per cent of Tanzanians, who depend on farming and livestock keeping in their daily lives.

Human activities, associated with energy source needs and irresponsible

farming and livestock keeping, had seen Tanzania losing an average of one million acres of forests per year.

"Some water catchment areas have been adversely affected. Livestock and wild animals are dying due to scarcity of water. Rain is becoming increasingly unreliable. An increase in conflict cases between farming and livestock keepers in various parts of the country is one of the indirect outcomes of desertification," she said.

Desertification has direct and indirect consequences for the economy and on the country's prosperity. As such, the government is undertaking several initiatives in the endeavours to contain the situation, including coming up with the national action programme to combat desertification, which runs between 2014 and 2018. The programme highlights various issues that government organs work on to combat desertification.

The issues include tree planting programmes and those pertaining to proper land use among farmers and livestock keepers. So far, more than 264 million trees have been planted since 2014.



Oblivious of the health and other hazards he is risking, a Dar es Salaam resident collects used plastic bottles and other containers trapped in sewage in the city's Mwananyamala Kwa Manjunju suburb yesterday. Photo: Selemeni Mpochi

WFP programme fights chronic malnutrition to families in Dodoma and Singida regions

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

AS part of efforts to fight chronic malnutrition, the World Food Programme (WFP) through its 'Boresha Lishe' programme has been distributing nutritious foods to families in Dodoma and Singida regions.

Acting Director (Education and Training) from the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Center (TFNC) Sikitu Saimon made said yesterday when speaking at a three days training to health service providers.

The training aimed at equipping them with knowledge on how to prepare and use the nutritious food. Participants were from 40 health centers in Bahi, Chamwino, Ikungi and Singida Rural districts.

Sikitu said: "We want them to educate villagers on the importance of eating nutritious foods as well as its preparation. This will help us in reducing the level of chronic nutrition in the four districts in Singida and Dodoma regions".

She said that in Tanzania there are two main types of malnutrition

which are over nutrition or hyper alimentionation and malnutrition. She said over nutrition is a form of malnutrition in which the intake of nutrients is oversupplied while malnutrition refers to getting too little or too much of certain nutrients. Malnutrition is common to children under five years.

Sikitu noted that mothers are educated on the importance of breastfeeding their children and make sure they get nutritious foods in their first 1000 days.

WFP nutrition officer, Neema Sosho said the organisation has been building the capacity of nutrition officers at village, district, regional and national levels where it works closely with the Ministry Prime Minister's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) and the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Centre (TFNC).

Sosho said the 'Boresha Lishe' programme will be implemented in the four districts for five years from 2017 to 2022. She said that under the programme pregnant women and those breastfeeding are given

nutritious food.

WFP under the Boresha Lishe programme had provided capacity building trainings on nutritious foods to nearly 50,000 women.

Last week during his visit in Tanzania, WFP special advisor on mother and child nutrition, Princess Sarah Zeid of Jordan, underscored the need for elements of nutrition to be included at every level of children growth for them to be healthier and reach their potential in education.

Princess Zeid said that malnutrition problems in Tanzania are also facing women and girls who are at reproductive age.

According to the Tanzania Demographic Survey, 2015, 45 per cent of women at reproductive age suffer from anemia.

In Tanzania the high levels of chronic malnutrition is driven by poverty and food insecurity as well as poor children and infant caring and feeding practices at household level. The national stunting level stands at 34 per cent while Dodoma has 36.5 per cent and Singida 29.2 per cent.

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1 X PROGRAMME OFFICER - DAR ES SALAAM

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6 X PROJECT OFFICERS - DAR ES SALAAM & MWANZA

You will have at least one-year experience in a similar role, working with and supporting vulnerable children, young people and families. You will also have a demonstrated understanding of the child protection and safeguarding processes as well as the application of health, safety and risk management procedures. Most importantly you will have the passion and drive to make a difference to the lives of children living and working on the streets.

Railway Children Africa (RCA) is an international NGO registered in Tanzania, no 1563, with over 10 years working in Africa as an affiliate of our parent company Railway Children UK.

RCA is committed to safeguarding anyone who comes into contact with us and implements a range of policies to ensure only those suitable to work with vulnerable groups are employed.

We continually strive to provide positive work environment for all our employees. This is an exciting time to be joining Railway Children Africa.

In the next five years we have exciting plans to upscale our work dramatically:

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The recruitment packs with job descriptions and person specifications and application details are available online at www.railwaychildren.org.uk/jobs

How to apply: Please complete the application form at www.railwaychildren.org.uk and send it to jobs.mwanza@railwaychildren.org.uk. Please note that Railway Children Africa will only accept applications using this application form and will not accept CVs or covering letters.

Closing date: Wednesday, 15th April 2019 at 5pm East African Time

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews

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'Underlying cause of most skirmishes is lack of funds'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

FINANCIAL constraints derail the Ministry of Defence's efforts to help bring to an end conflicts between villages and military camps, the National Assembly heard yesterday.

Minister for Defence and National Service, Hussein Mwinyi told the lawmakers that the ministry is working hard to end the ever increasing conflicts but lack of money was the biggest challenge.

He said in the 2018/19, the ministry allocated 20 billion/- for the purpose but until recently only 3 billion/- was disbursed from the treasury, the amount he said was directed for work in Kilwa District.

"The government formed a taskforce to access the magnitude of the problem to see what can be done but the greatest setback is lack of funds," said the minister.

He was responding to a supplementary question by the Chumbani MP, Ussi Salum Pondeza (CCM) who had wanted to know when the government would end land conflicts between Kisakasaka residents and the neighbouring military camp.

He said some of the reasons for the failure to end the conflict is lack of funds for valuation process, survey and compensation on areas belonging to the army

Last year during the budget session Mwinyi said the government was taking measures aimed at resolving land conflicts between villages and military camps.

Mwinyi told the National Assembly that the government was worried over the increasing wave of land conflicts between villagers and military camps.

"We have planned to undertake nationwide surveys to establish the magnitude of the problem and take corrective measures," the minister told the House.

"The conflicts have been reported in many parts of the country, thus the need to intervene," added Mwinyi.

Mwinyi was responding to a question asked by the Morogoro Urban Member of Parliament, Abdul-Aziz Abood, who had wanted to know when the government will resolve land conflicts between residents of Kauzeni and Luhongo villages in Morogoro Region and the Tanzania People's Defense Forces (TPDF).

The MP said the residents in the two villages had been left without land for farming as the army has installed beacons in what used to be their farming land.

Abood argued that it was the TPDF which encroached on the land of the villagers meant for farming, calling on the government to allocate part of land to the villagers.



Upendo Sanze, an engineer with the special unit of the Works, Transport and Communications ministry charged with co-opting women in the construction of roads, addresses students of Kwa Mtoro Secondary School in Chemba District, Dodoma Region, earlier this week on the strategic importance of mathematics and science subjects. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TADB hails pact on planned Ruvu beef plant

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) has pledged to support the proposed Ruvu meat processing plant and allied stakeholders in order to create strong national industrial base.

Speaking on the sidelines of the signing of a pact to establish the plant in Ruvu, Coast Region between the government and an Egyptian company, NECAI, the TADB managing director,

Japhet Justine, said signing of the pact was a welcome development that was bound to strengthen Tanzania's industrial base, revolutionise the livestock sector and increase disposable income of serious pastoralists. "On our part we praise and welcome this agreement between the government and the Egyptian investor. We view this development as an important initiative that aims to make a very big change in Tanzania's livestock sector. We assure the nation, the government, the investor

and the livestock keepers that we support strongly this initiative," he said.

The MD said the TADB will give distinct cooperation to all stakeholders in the initiative in order to make the plant sustainable so that its existence becomes of great value to Tanzanian keen livestock keepers, further explaining that meat processing is part of important livestock product value chains that give meaning to the livestock sector and will ultimately to improve the wellbeing of serious pastoralists.

Besides, he said, the plant will increase the number of strategic industries that will use local raw materials.

The Permanent Secretary in the Livestock and Fisheries Ministry, Prof Elisante ole Gabriel said the plant will have direct beneficial impact on live animals, meat generation and processing and add value to local hides.

The government is implementing an ambitious objective of making Tanzania an industrial middle-income nation by 2025.

APPRECIATION



The family of the Late Mzee Ali Tukai of Kibamba Da-es-salaam express sincere gratitude to relatives, neighbours, friends and well wishers who supported and consoled us during the bereavement and funeral of their beloved son and brother Thomas Mgante Tukai who passed away in Calgary, Canada on 4/12/2018 and was laid to rest in Kibamba Dar-es-salaam on 15/1/2019. The love you have shown us is unlimited and is an unexplainable consolation.

It is very hard to thank each one by name. However, we are indebted to mention a few. Our special appreciation to the funeral organizing committee; The Tanzanian Community in Canada, especially the families of Dr. Kachua, Raymond Njiku, Immanuel Kijazi, Anthony Semesi and the Tanzanian Embassy in Canada; Mgante's friends from Aga Khan Primary and Mzizima Secondary Schools; Bishop Bernadin Mfunbusa and Fr. Richard of Kondoia Diocese; Fr. Pripo Joseph, the Kibamba Parish Priest; Crimson Travel (T) Ltd; Mrs Tukai's; co-workers and close friends of Mgante's brother and sisters; neighbours and the neighbourhood community.

The family would like to express our utmost appreciation to the close family members, relatives and friends who coordinated all the logistics that facilitated smooth management of Mgante's funeral arrangements,

Lastly, the family welcomes you to a Thanks Giving Mass to be held on Sunday 7/4/2019 at Kibamba Parish starting at 2:30 am and thereafter to a gathering at the family residence.

"If I live, it will be for Christ, and if I die, I will gain even more" (Philippians 1:21)



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

Consultant to Facilitate Participatory Water Allocation Plan for Ndembera sub-catchment at Rufiji Basin

1. WWF Tanzania Country Office is a Non-Government Organization dealing with environmental protection in Tanzania since 1990 and it has supported the Government of Tanzania in implementing various projects on Marine, Forest, Fresh Water, Energy and Wildlife. WWF global mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:

- conserving the world's biological diversity;
- ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable and
- promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption

2. WWF TCO in collaboration with Rufiji Basin Water Board is now wishes to engage a highly experienced, reputable and well-established group of individuals or institution to a CARE – WWF Alliance. The project, among others, aim to pilot Integrated Land and Water Management (ILWM). One of the key activity is to facilitate the participatory water allocation plan for the whole Ndembera sub-catchment.

3. All registered, eligible and reputable, firms, institutions and individuals are advised to submit both technical and financial proposals for this assignment. The technical proposal should clearly indicate the individual's/institution's team's experience in doing similar exercises.

4. **Terms of Reference request:** Detailed ToR is available at WWF Tanzania Country Offices but also can be requested through the e mails provided at para number six (6) below.

5. Applicant Requirement and qualifications:

The desired applicant to undertake the assessment **with other key qualities**, must meet the following minimum qualifications:

- Advanced degree in natural resource management, Hydrology or Climate change related sciences
- Practical experiences on Climate change and Integrated Water Resources Management interventions are foundations for this assignment
- Previous engagement with either of the water boards on IWRM and Development plan is necessary
- Key competencies and evidence on experience on similar work carries more weight

6. Request of Terms of Reference and submission of Application Documents:

- ToR should be requested through the below e mails tz.procurement@wwf.panda.org
- For enquiries only: please, contact or visit us at:

Kiko Street, Mikochei – Off Mwai Kibaki Road Plot 252, P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077
Fax: +255 22 277 5535; website. www.panda.org

7. **Deadline for submission:** Applications should be a concise full combined technical & financial proposals fully signed, highlighting company profile, concrete evidences of experiences on similar works, the proposed approach and methodologies, work schedule and timings of the process. Team CVs should also be attached.

Also apart from one pager application letter, financial proposal should clearly specifying all ITEMIZED EXPENSES time and other expenses both direct and reimbursable, these include unit costs on professional fees and the eligible taxes; kindly submit your applications **through the e mails above** as instructed by **Thursday, 18th April, 2019 at 16.00hrs** Tanzania local time. Only successful applicant will be contacted.

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

9. Only successful applicant will be contacted

By Guardian Reporter

Magufuli to inaugurate JICA/AfDB-funded road projects in Mtwara, Ruvuma regions

PRESIDENT John Magufuli is tomorrow expected to grace the official opening ceremony of road projects co-financed by Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) and the African Development Bank (AfDB) in Mtwara and Ruvuma regions.

According to a statement issued by JICA yesterday in Dar es Salaam, the Project for Construction of "Road Sector Support Project I & II in Mtwara Corridor" are projects which are co-financed by the Japanese Government and African Development Bank under the Enhanced Private Sector Assis-

tance (EPSA) initiative for Africa, which is geared for upgrading roads to Bitumen Standard. The funding covers two sections namely the "193 (187.6) km section of Tunduru-Namtumbo Road and the "203 km section of Mtambaswala-Mangaka-Tunduru of the Mtwara Corridor".

The Opening ceremony of the projects will be held at Mangaka in Mtwara

Region and Tunduru in Ruvuma Region.

The projects are some of the most important road projects in Africa considering that they link the southern regions of Tanzania with Mozambique, Malawi and Zambia and offer increased access across borders for both people and for commodities.

Mtwara is becoming one of the

most active regions in the country be-

cause of the discovery of natural gas.



Vodacom Tanzania managing director Hisham Hendi (2nd-R) presents a Positive Safety and Best Technology Supplies award to his Best One Ltd counterpart, Juma Mvamba (C), at a recent ceremony held in Dar es Salaam for Vodacom's suppliers. Right is Vodacom Head of Health Safety and Environment Karen Rwakatare. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

KAMPALA

Five held over 'smuggling' of Tanzanian cattle into Uganda

FIVE people have been arrested for allegedly conniving to sneak Tanzanian cattle into Uganda.

The arrested suspects include George William Ssenkubuge, the assistant veterinary officer for Rakai district in charge of Kabanda Sub County. Ssenkubuge was arrested alongside four others following a security operation on unauthorized movement of animals in the districts of Kyotera and Rakai on Monday.

The other suspects are; David Kyomuhairwe, Wilson Namara, Claver Manavule, and Nathan Katende Sserunjogi, the chairperson of Kamuli village in Kibanda sub-county, Rakai district.

Ssenkubuge is accused of conniving with Katende and other village chairpersons located along the Uganda-Tanzanian porous border points, to stealthily sneak Tanzanian cattle into Uganda without following due inspection procedures. Greater Masaka deputy regional police commander Lameck Kigozi, says they have also seized five

trucks of cattle allegedly smuggled from Tanzania with suspicious movement permits.

According to Kigozi, their intelligence established that the veterinary officer has been fraudulently issuing cattle movement permits to the traders after bribing village council chairpersons to claim that they were bought from within the localities.

The arrests comes shortly after ministry of Agriculture lifted a cattle quarantine in different parts of the country that had been struck by Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD). The ministry accordingly, issued regulations to veterinary officers to strictly inspect all animals for Foot and Mouth Disease, before they are issued with movement permits as a way of averting similar outbreaks. It is alleged that Ssenkubuge has been conniving with village council chairperson and traders to bypass the

system. Stephen Ssebunya, the Mutukula town council chairperson complained to police about the continued unauthorized movement uninspected cattle in the area.

However, the arrests sparked off protests from other cattle traders who accuse police of using operations to selfishly harass and frustrate their business. These have now sought the intervention of Kakuuto county MP Christopher Kalemba and his Rakai district counterpart Juliet Ssuubi to ask government to reign over the situation and have their contemporaries released.

John Kalemba, one of the aggrieved cattle traders alleges that some Ugandan farmers had moved with their cattle into Tanzania in search of pasture and water, wondering why they are being restricted from selling their livestock yet they had been vaccinated back home.

25 students participate in inaugural ceremony of US embassy's English accessing programme

By Guardian Reporter

TWENTY-FIVE students participated in an inaugural ceremony of the US embassy's English 'Access' Microscholarship Programme at Mkongwe secondary school in Lindi.

Over the next two years, the students (12 male and 13 female) will complete bi-weekly after-school English classes conducted by Tanzania English Language Teachers' Association (TELTA - Lindi).

The US embassy supports five additional access classes throughout Tanzania - in Mwanza, Tanga, Mbeya, Pemba and Unguja.

During the inaugural ceremony, regional English language officer George Chinnery described the programme's role in the students' academic and professional success and challenged the access programme students to dream big.

"Through your dedication to and active participation over next two years, you will see that you will go far beyond what you are imagin-

ing today. The work that you do in your Access program today will undoubtedly lead to future success in your preparation for higher education."

The Access Programme provides a foundation of English language skills to talented 13-20 year-olds from economically disadvantaged sectors through after-school classes and intensive sessions.

Access gives participants the English skills that can lead to better jobs and educational prospects. Participants also gain the ability to compete for and participate in future exchanges and study in the United States.

Since its inception in 2004, more than 350 students in Tanzania and 150,000 students in over 85 countries have participated in the programme.

"Through your dedication to and active participation over next two years, you will see that you will go far beyond what you are imagining today"

**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF WORKS, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION**

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Fax: +255 26 2323233
Email: ps@mow.go.tz
Website: www.mwtc.go.tz
In replay please quote:



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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

1. The general public is hereby notified that there will be a movement of special load from **DAR to KAGERA** by vehicle with registration number(s) **T785 CAD/T166 ADN of S.S.F CO.LTD**
The journey is scheduled to start on **05/04/2019**:

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We regret for any inconvenience caused.

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Height - 5.20m

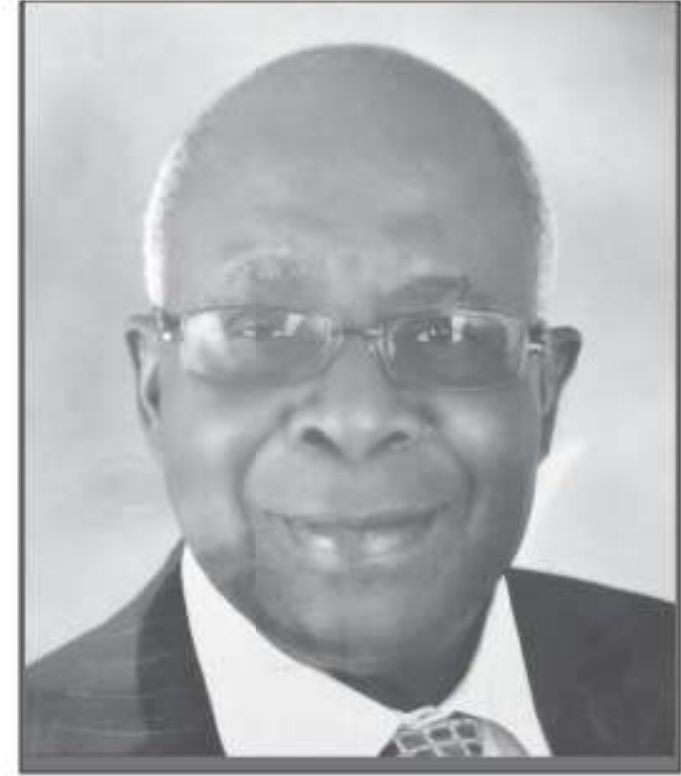
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We regret for any inconvenience caused.

115133291

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IN LOVING MEMORY



Simba Anastasius Mbenna
16th February 1945 ~ 03rd April 2015

*Our love won't go away,
you walk beside us every day,
unseen, unheard, but always near us,
still loved, still missed and still very dear.
We miss you Dear Baba.*

Those who have been ransomed by the Lord will return. They will enter Jerusalem singing, crowned with everlasting joy. Sorrow and mourning will disappear and they will be filled with joy and gladness.

Isaiah 51:11

**Truly missed by your wife Afra, Children; Mzilasi, Betty, Msomisi and Mtiuyu. Grandchildren; Afra, Adron, Atalya, Hurbert and Gabriel. Sons-in-law; Aaron and Melvin.
All your family members and friends.**

Raising awareness of the International Day of Sport for Development, Peace

THE General Assembly of the United Nations decided to proclaim on 6 April as International Day of Sport for Development and Peace. This date commemorates the inauguration, in 1896, of the first Olympic games of the modern era, in Athens (Greece).

On August 23, 2013, the General Assembly of the United Nations in resolution decided to proclaim on 6 April International Day of the Sport for the Development and the Peace.

The UN, with this commemoration, invites states, the United Nations system and in particular the United Nations Office on Sport for Development and Peace, relevant international organisations, and international, regional and national sports organisations, civil society, including non-governmental organisations and the private sector, and all other relevant stakeholders to cooperate, observe and raise awareness of the International Day of Sport for Development and Peace. The modern Olympic Games or Olympics are leading international sporting events featuring summer and winter sports competitions in which thousands of athletes from around the world participate in a variety of competitions.

The Olympic Games are considered the world's foremost sports competition with more than 200 nations participating. The Olympic Games are held every four years, with the Summer and Winter Games alternating by occurring every four years but two years apart.

Their creation was inspired by the ancient Olympic Games, which were held in Olympia, Greece, from the 8th century BC to the 4th century AD. Baron Pierre de Coubertin founded the International Olympic Committee (IOC) in 1894, leading to the first modern Games in Athens in 1896. The IOC is the governing body of the Olympic Movement, with the Olympic Charter defining its structure and authority.

The evolution of the Olympic

movement during the 20th and 21st centuries has resulted in several changes to the Olympic Games. Some of these adjustments include the creation of the Winter Olympic Games for snow and ice sports, the Paralympic Games for athletes with a disability, the Youth Olympic Games for athletes aged 14 to 18, the five Continental Games (Pan American, African, Asian, European, and Pacific), and the World Games for sports that are not contested in the Olympic Games. The Deaflympics and Special Olympics are also endorsed by the IOC.

The IOC has had to adapt to a variety of economic, political, and technological advancements. The abuse of amateur rules by the Eastern Bloc nations prompted the IOC to shift away from pure amateurism, as envisioned by Coubertin, to allowing participation of professional athletes.

The growing importance of mass media created the issue of corporate sponsorship and commercialisation of the Games. World wars led to the cancellation of the 1916, 1940, and 1944 Games. Large boycotts during the Cold War limited participation in the 1980 and 1984 Games.

The Olympic Movement consists of international sports federations (IFs), National Olympic Committees (NOCs), and organising committees for each specific Olympic Games. As the decision-making body, the IOC is responsible for choosing the host city for each Games, and organises and funds the Games according to the Olympic Charter. The IOC also determines the Olympic programme, consisting of the sports to be contested at the Games.

There are several Olympic rituals and symbols, such as the Olympic flag and torch, as well as the opening and closing ceremonies. Over 13,000 athletes compete at the Summer and Winter Olympic Games in 33 different sports and nearly 400 events. The first, second, and third-place finishers in each event receive Olympic medals: gold, silver, and bronze, respectively.

Lest we forget: This Sunday is another World Health Day

THE World Health Day is a global health awareness day celebrated every year on 7 April, under the sponsorship of the World Health Organisation (WHO) as well as other related organisations.

In 1948, the WHO held the First World Health Assembly. The Assembly decided to celebrate 7 April of each year, with effect from 1950, as the World Health Day. The World Health Day is held to mark WHO's founding, and is seen as an opportunity by the organisation to draw worldwide attention to a subject of major importance to global health each year. The WHO organises international, regional and local events on the Day related to a particular theme. World Health Day is acknowledged by various governments and non-governmental organisations with interests in public health issues, who also organise activities and highlight their support in media reports, such as the Global Health Council.

World Health Day is one of eight official global health campaigns marked by WHO, along with World Tuberculosis Day, World Immunisation Week, World Malaria Day, World No Tobacco Day, World AIDS Day, World Blood Donor Day, and World Hepatitis Day.

The theme of World Health Day 2013 was the need to control raised blood pressure (hypertension) as a "silent killer, global public health crisis". The slogan for the campaign was "Healthy Heart Beat, Healthy Blood Pressure". The WHO reports hypertension - which is both preventable and treatable - contributes to the burden of heart disease, stroke

and kidney failure, and is an important cause of premature death and disability. The organization estimates one in 3 adults has raised blood pressure.

World Health Day 2014 put the spotlight on some of the most commonly known vectors - such as mosquitoes, sandflies, bugs, ticks and snails - responsible for transmitting a wide range of parasites and pathogens that can cause many different illnesses. Mosquitoes, for example, transmit malaria - the most deadly vector-borne disease, causing an estimated 660 000 deaths annually worldwide - as well as dengue fever, lymphatic filariasis, chikungunya.

The goal of the World Health Day 2014 campaign was better protection from vector-borne diseases, especially for families living in areas where diseases are transmitted by vectors, and travelers to countries where they pose a health threat. The campaign advocated for health authorities in countries where vector-borne diseases are a public health problem or emerging threat, to put in place measures to improve surveillance and protection.

The WHO promoted improvement of food safety as part of the 2015 World Health Day campaign. Unsafe food - food containing harmful bacteria, viruses, parasites or chemical substances - is responsible for more than 200 diseases, and is linked to the deaths of some 2 million people annually, mostly children. Changes in food production, distribution and consumption; changes to the environment; new and emerging pathogens; and antimicrobial resistance all pose challenges to food safety systems.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

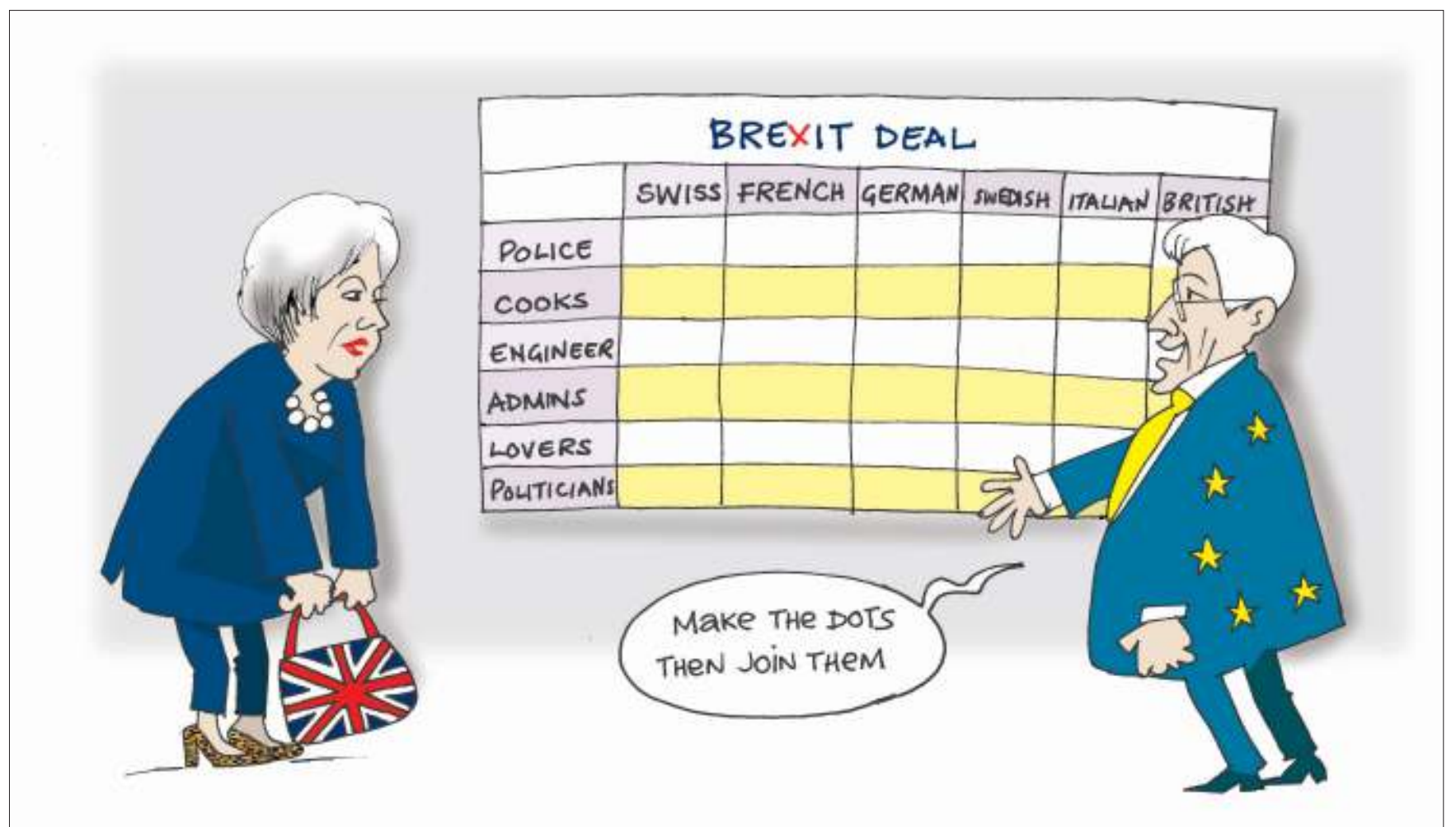
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Sudan is back to square one

By Alsir Sidahmed

THE popular anti-government uprising, now in its fourth month, and with no clear political breakthrough and worsening economic crisis has started to take its toll on the country's image at least in the region.

Out of the blue Egypt invited foreign interested oil and gas companies to bid for new blocks some of them are located in the disputed Halaieb region between Sudan and Egypt.

Sudan warned companies from bidding saying that they will be taken to court if they engaged in any activity to utilize any hydrocarbon reserves namely in blocks 7, 8, 9 and 10. Interestingly enough it was back in early 1990s that Egypt objected to Sudan's move to list these blocks, then grouped by Sudanese authorities as Block-16.

The dispute over Halaieb is an old one that flared up in late 1950s, then Sudan tabled a formal complaint to the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) and keeps on renewing it regularly. However, things took a turn in the 1990s when Egypt moved its troops and administrators in the

region following an assassination bid on former President Hosni Mubarak. An attempt Sudan was accused of providing the logistical support to the plotters. That was followed by UNSC resolutions that pushed Sudan into a splendid isolation.

It looks like Cairo is reading from the same previous experience and the recent moves are intended to make use of Sudan current crisis and consolidate the facts it is creating on ground that will lead eventually to the Egyptianization of the disputed region.

Moreover, question marks now hang over Sudan's bid to host and chair the first ordinary IGAD summit in years. It was originally scheduled to be held in the first week of March with a big announcement of linking the Red Sea with Lake Victoria, thus unlocking Uganda and refocus the attention on Sudan's strategic location and the role it could play for land-locked countries like Chad and help boost China's road and belt mammoth project.

These development refocuses attention on which strategy to take in dealing with the outside world. To focus on solving domestic problems and enhance the country's stand to

enable it play a more active role or venture into regional disputes as a mediator so as to strengthen its regional and international stand that will help eventually in solving domestic problems.

The latter was the route taken by Sudanese diplomacy over the past few months when it ventured on mediating into South Sudan civil strife that brought to end a five years of internecine fight. Though the deal was met with scepticism, but it still holding. More important after the peace agreement was sealed, Khartoum got a nod from Washington that it is time to start the second stage of the bilateral dialogue that will lead eventually to lifting Sudan from the list of countries sponsoring terrorism.

The success achieved with South Sudan peace encouraged Khartoum to try its luck with another nearby dispute in Central Africa, a move that was not very much welcomed by France.

That could have add to what Khartoum managed to achieve in South Sudan and help shore up the country's image.

Then the long discontent that has been brewing for years exploded in a way that took almost all political

powers including the government and traditional opposition by surprise.

More important it shows clearly that attempts to reconcile and achieve peace should start at home, not in neighboring countries. Whatever that regional effort did is now under threat from ongoing uprising. This uprising is putting question marks around the system currently in place. It is a fact recognized by President Omar al-Bashir, who went as far as saying he will lay down framework for solution and going forward. He asked other political forces to join hands.

But to move on along the line stipulated needs more than a declaration. One big problem that needs to be faced head on is the lack of confidence and the credibility of government declarations. This is one of the cases where deeds speak more than words. And it is in the government's court that first steps need to be taken.

But the government is dominated by the National Congress Party (NCP) and despite President al-Bashir saying that he is becoming a national figure, but that needs to be translated into actions and NCP sorts out where it stands and what it hopes to do.

South Africans must rise above xenophobia

By Special Correspondent

XENOPHOBIA attacks targeting Zimbabweans and other nationals that resurfaced in Durban, KwaZulu Natal and some parts of the Limpopo Province in South Africa are very unfortunate and should be strongly condemned.

According to reports, a Zimbabwean truck driver is battling for his life at a hospital in Durban, while more than 100 foreigners among them Zimbabweans were forced to flee and seek refuge at a police station as xenophobic attacks rear their ugly head once again in South Africa.

The attacks come hardly a fortnight after South Africa and Zimbabwe appended their signatures to Zimbabwe-South African Bi-National Commission in Harare.

During the commission, Zimbabwe and South Africa signed 45 deals covering various sectors of their economies ranging from mining, trade, railways to air transport, a progressive development hinged on further strengthening relations between the two countries.

Sadly, the xenophobic attacks are taking place before the ink has hardly dried. The attacks should be strongly condemned considering

the historical, political, social and economic ties between South Africa and Zimbabwe.

Besides their geographic proximity, South Africa and Zimbabwe have a common and long history of regional affiliation and cultural ties. The people of Zimbabwe played an important historical role in support of the liberation struggle in South Africa against the system of apartheid.

The brotherhood between the two even saw the African National Congress opening an office in Harare at the height of apartheid in South Africa. Evident of the risk associated with such decision, Zimbabwe, being the brother's keeper, gave ANC a home and relentlessly ensured that its brother was comfortable throughout.

Even the bombing of ANC offices in Harare, which posed serious danger to Zimbabwean people, did not deter Zimbabwe from reaching out to a brother in need of help.

It is the same brotherhood that saw thousands of Zimbabweans trekking down south - among other nationalities - to work as labourers in plantation and in gold and diamond mines during the infamous Wenela period.

These compelling relations between the two have also cascaded to the economic front, where Zimbabwe is South Africa's biggest trading partner.

Business is quite huge between the two that \$5 billion exchanges hands between South Africa and Zimbabwe annually, making Beitbridge Border Post the busiest port of entry on the continent.

Inter-marriages and cultural exchanges across the border between South Africans and Zimbabweans are a common feature and they continue to flourish as nationalities from both countries regularly interact.

All these ties cannot be wished away overnight. It therefore defies the logic why some South African nationals should decide to perpetrate violence against their own.

Zimbabwe and South Africa are one people divided by a river, a merely physical feature which should not strain relations to the point of spilling blood. Naturally we are all greatly disturbed and hurt by the senseless violence in South Africa and call on South Africa to bring to book the perpetrators of such heinous acts.

We therefore call for immediate cessation of these xenophobic attacks on foreign nationals to avoid loss of life reminiscent of the 2014 attacks where several people died.

If anything, the continued attacks makes a mockery of SADC's efforts to unite the region.

While they have been dissenting

views from some sections of people in South Africa, we feel that the act of treating other Africans in that horrible way cannot be condoned by anyone, and should be dealt with forthwith, to protect the dignity of the region.

South Africa should stand against such behaviour and must speak out and act against this tragedy of indescribable proportions that is unveiling before the whole continent.

A thorough investigation of this issue will enable South Africa to flush out criminal elements, who may actually be investigating these attacks against defenceless people to perpetuate criminal acts.

We believe that not all South Africans are angry, violent and xenophobic. The few that seem to agitate for violence against foreigners would need to be schooled how other African countries contributed to South Africa's economic growth and its fight against apartheid.

Beyond the economics and politics of the day, they also need to appreciate the ties that bind us as Africans. We share Ubuntu, the land, our diverse cultures and a beautiful history of unshackling ourselves from the yoke of the colonisers.

Having come that far as one people, we surely can rise above xenophobia.

Certified timber saves forests, eases poverty in Liwiti village, Kilwa district

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu, Lindi

As birds swayed smoothly on feeble branches, pecking at, and preening their feathers excitedly to signify well conserved forest, Liwiti villagers raced to narrate numerous achievements registered from the forest certification. A better price for their forest timber was one of the frequent uttered sentence by almost every smiling face at the mobile sawmills location.

Liwiti is one of the fourteen villages which is endowed with well conserved Miombo woodlands in the Ruvuma Landscape that are certified by the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC). FSC certification improves the villages' prospects to benefit from a high and better timber price at international market compared to the local market.

The village Chairman Abdallah Ibrahim Kipande said the villagers in collaboration with the District Council, Mpingo Conservation and Development Initiative (MCDI) and WWF are implementing a project on Community sustainable harvesting and timber processing at Namatuli, Liwiti's Village Land Forest Reserve.

Since the forest certification, they have managed to earn 67m/- from sawn timber production since 2018.

He said the money has been used for development activities in their village. For example, they have been able to build two classrooms in 2011, constructed teachers office, and in 2016 to 2018, constructed two teachers houses.

In 2017, the village government gave supported 22 students who passed to join secondary school to purchase school items and pay initial costs. From 2013 to 2019, the village has also managed to provide 30 bags of food for the pupils' lunch. "In January 2015, we managed to buy food for the villagers. This food hand out helped to rescue the villagers from shortage of food, he said.

The money from forest also were used to buy text books for teachers and two school national flags, and the Band music for the school.

Also in the list, the village has also managed to pay National Health Insurance for the Village Natural Resource Committee members which ended in 2017. They bought their uniforms in different occasions. "If it happens meeting other neighbouring villages, I will advice them to certify their forest so that they can get better price and increase their income," said the Village Chairman.

Commenting on how women have benefited from the forest conservation, a member of the Village Natural Resource Committee Salima Msham said that women have acquired knowledge and skills on forest conservation.

"Few years ago, the village faced hunger. The village convened the meeting and decided that we should use part of the money to buy some food for the villagers. We wrote to Kilwa District Executive Director and approved our request. The food was bought and distributed among the villagers. As women we think this was a big support," she said.

The forest products have helped them in many ways, for example, from the Community sustainable harvesting and timber processing, many timber companies have placed order and interest for the certified timbers.

She said the income accrued from the certified sawn timber has motivated the villagers to now collaborate with development partners like MCDI and WWF to manage well the forests, she said.

As a woman I have benefited a lot from forest conservation. For example, in December last year I participated in the patrol team and received an allowance. I used the money to buy three counter Books for my school child.

"After a short time, I was picked up again to join the patrol team and received another allowance which I used to buy uniforms for my secondary school child, she adds.

Few years ago, my husband was involved in a car accident and broke his leg. The village gave me financial support from the village development fund and took him to hospital. These are some of the benefits and personal achievement registered in the forest conservation.

Future plan
In what seem to have gained adequate knowledge on the importance of forest management, the village Chairman said that the future plan for the village is to plant new trees and expansion of the forest area.

"We are planning to request the district to allow us use the abandoned Jatropha farm. WWF and MCDI should continue providing support because in this village they are regarded as fathers and mothers," said Msham.

Another beneficiary of the forest, Rashid Abdallah who was trained to operate the Mobile Sawmill said he has worked for four years now and managed to buy a land plot and iron-sheets. He is currently building a house.

"Before getting trained in Mobile Sawmill, I was engaged in agriculture, but could not realize more benefits. Forest conservation has more benefits because it provides employment as well," he said.

Yusufu Kiangio from MCDI said the project on Community sustainable harvesting and timber processing aimed at adding value to forests products.

He said that unlike in the past where the villagers sold logs, he can attest that the villagers have benefited a lot from this project.

Citing an example he said the village processed 100 cubic meters of logs. If the villagers sold the logs as they are, they would get only 26m/- but after processing the timbers, the village earned 67.2m/- shillings.

Other benefits include employment, technical training and individual income for some who were helping minor jobs at the mobile sawmill area.

"We started last year from Ngea village where the villagers processed 1600 pieces of timber which were sold. In Liwiti village, last year they had two orders, one for 520 pieces of timber valued at 17.2m/-, and another order of 2500 pieces which earned the village about Tsh. 50m/-

According to the Forest Program Coordinator cum Policy Advisor for WWF Tanzania Country Office, Dr. Lawrence Mbwambo, the villages should promote Sustainable Forest Management so that their forests can be certified and accepted internationally.



Liwiti village community member in Kilwa district collecting certified slabs produced from certified sawmill at the processing site. The slabs were later divided to community members for renovation of the doors and windows of their houses. Photo by Gerald Kitabu

"Through MCDI, we have supported 14 villages in the Ruvuma Landscape. The forest products of these villages have been certified and accepted internationally. Liwiti village in Lindi region is one of the 14 villages which have their forest certified under the Forest Stewardship Council standards. We have seen that many stakeholders prefer forests products that have been certified," he said.

The forest certification has its own importance. WWF is encouraging forest certification because if the forest is certified, the products will be accepted internationally as they are considered to come from the forests managed sustainably by the communities. This adds more value to the forest products than conserving uncertified forest.

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Chinese opera to highlight Marco Polo's romance in medieval China, stress Silk Road cultural exchanges

GUANGZHOU/ROME

THE story of young Venetian merchant and explorer Marco Polo is to be retold to his compatriots, as the Carlo Felice Theater (CFT) signed in Rome a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on original opera Marco Polo with its Chinese producer to have the opera open the theater's 2019-2020 season.

Produced by China Arts and Entertainment Group (CAEG) and debuted in Guangzhou Opera House in 2018, the opera has a German composer, a Danish stage director and is performed in Chinese by international singers.

The opera, as the CFT's Art Director Giuseppe Acquaviva viewed "important in many ways," is a fresh fruit of the cultural exchanges between Europe and China, two ends of the ancient Silk Road.

MARCO POLO'S ROMANCE BACK TO ITALY

Nearly 700 years ago, Marco Polo, the first European who left a detailed chronicle of his 24 years' journey in Asia, amazed Europe with his travel notes. Ever since, Marco Polo's name has become a symbolic link between the East and the West.

According to the MoU signed between CFT and CAEG on March 22, the opera is scheduled to stage at the Italian theater in Genoa in September. It will be the opera's first foray into the overseas market, said the opera's executive producer Chen Rui.

To bring the audience back to ancient Chinese city Lin'an (now the capital of Zhejiang Province in east China) where Marco Polo met his beloved girl, British video designer Luke Halls will use the advanced holographic projection technology to present the sceneries.

"This time we will present Marco Polo's legend with an original Chinese-writ-

ten opera. And this is an unprecedented attempt," said Chen, who is also the general-manager assistant of the Guangzhou Opera House.

"Marco Polo is the pioneer of China-Italy cultural communication. He made the Europeans to start yearning towards China," said Acquaviva, who decided to introduce the opera to Italian audience after watching it in China last year.

Calling the opera an exemplar of co-operation between the East and the West, CFT Superintendent Maurizio Roi told Xinhua, "When the new production premieres in Genoa it will be a true joint project between Italy and China."

According to Roi, the CFT will provide the orchestra, the chorus, and the set for the Italy premiere in September, but the opera itself, the costumes, and the cast aside the personage of Marco Polo will fall to the Chinese side.

"This will be an important project in many ways," Acquaviva said in an interview. "First, because it's important to produce new operas, and also because of the value of strengthening ties between Europe and Asia. That's what Marco Polo did, and with this production we'll do our part as well."

A MAGIC COMBINATION

This is not the first time that Italian and Chinese artists cooperated on a story about Marco Polo. Thirty years ago, the TV series "Marco Polo" co-produced by China, America and Italy was broadcast in 1982 with then well-known Chinese actor Ying Ruocheng played Kublai, the founding emperor of the Yuan Dynasty, who warmly welcomed the Italian explorer.

Ying showed his fluent English in that TV series. This time Italian tenor Giuseppe Talamo will sing in Chinese on stage.

The 39-year-old Italian singer said that although he has performed roles in Eng-



Actors rehearse opera "Marco Polo" at the Tianqiao Performing Arts Center in Beijing May 14, 2018. (Xinhua)

lish, French, and German, he has never sung a note in Chinese, so he is now learning Chinese with professional guidance.

"You don't have to speak a language in order to sing in that language, but, still, this will probably be the biggest challenge of my career," Talamo told Xinhua.

"I console myself by remembering that even if I have an Italian accent when I sing in Chinese, that Marco Polo probably had the same accent when he visited China," he said.

"A magic combination" is what Stage Director Kasper Holten described the opera. "Marco Polo's story has been

well-known for many people for many years, but we can present it in new ways," he said.

"It is a Chinese opera, as well as a European one, which is written and produced by Chinese and composed by German. That is exciting," said Holten.

The Danish director, who was Director of Opera at Royal Opera House Covent Garden in London between 2011-2017, said that despite the challenges the Marco Polo opera brought to him, more importantly he wants to deliver a Chinese philosophy to European audience via this play.

"Even through the story happened in the 13th century, I want it to be a

mirror to let the audience think about their own love, their understanding of culture and their identity, to let the opera directly connect the audience. And that's the beauty of cultural communication," he said.

NEW FRUIT ON MODERN SILK ROAD

Chen, the opera's executive producer, told Xinhua that the Marco Polo opera won big interest and curiosity upon its introduction to the overseas markets, where the audience is confident about China's ability in creating high-quality cultural products.

Not long before the 2018 premiere

of the opera, China's experimental Peking Opera Turandot co-produced by the National Peking Opera Company and the Italian Emilia-Romana Theater Foundation was performance in Italy. Besides, in 2015 China and Italy already produced the experimental Peking Opera Faust together. Both of the operas achieved huge success in the overseas markets.

As an increasing number of Chinese cultural products are appreciated by Western audience, the CAEG launched the Silk Road International League of Theaters in October 2016. By early 2019, there have been 107 members from 37 countries and two international organizations in the union, including the CFT.

"The union will pay more attention to improving the capacity of content production and constructing an industrial operation mode in the future. It will become an important cultural carrier for enhancing people's communication in all countries along the Belt and Road," said CAEG CEO Li Jinsheng.

Cultural exchanges are playing an increasingly important part in the construction of the Belt and Road. In a keynote speech at the Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation held in May 2017, Chinese President Xi Jinping made an appeal for related countries to "build the Belt and Road into a road connecting different civilizations," promoting the application of "exchange", "mutual learning" and "coexistence" in dealing with different civilizations.

Up to now, the opera staff are still polishing up on the over-two-hour Marco Polo opera in the hope that it will be a hit with the European audience.

"As an original opera in Chinese, Marco Polo still need improving," said Chen, adding that from Italy, Marco Polo will set off on its global tour.

Xinhua

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POSITION (1)- VALUE CHAIN SERVICES MANAGER

Fintrac, a leading US-based agriculture consulting firm with long-term programs in Africa, Asia, and Central America, is seeking a **Value Chain Services Manager** for the Feed the Future Tanzania Mboga na Matunda activity.

Location: Iringa

Responsibilities: The **Value Chain Services Manager** will be based in Iringa and reports to the Chief of Party. In addition to the specific tasks stated below, he/she is expected to contribute fully as a program team member, conducting himself/herself in a proper manner at all times as a representative of the program, and is responsible for the safe-keeping and care of all program assets assigned to him/her. Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Supervise, manage, mentor and coordinate a team of value chain services specialists, consisting of regional coordinators, market facilitators, finance and credit specialists, agronomists, and processing specialists across four regions of the Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar.
- Ensure that the work plans for each component (Regional Coordination, Agronomy, Marketing, Processing, and Finance and Credit) are executed on a timely basis and with high quality. This requires constant monitoring of activities, frequent communication with staff, and frequent visits to the field for supervision and problem solving.
- Synchronize the activities of these specialists with the Activity's partners (e.g. agro-input companies, processors, & exporters), the nutrition and social inclusion component, the monitoring and evaluation team, local governments and other value chain stakeholders.
- Ensure that major events are properly planned, and executed on time.
- Assist the value chain services components in developing strategic plans and interventions for the achievement of FTFT-MnM targets and the growth of the horticulture sector in general.
- Regular reporting (at least weekly) to the Chief of Party on all value chain service components.
- Support the COP and DCOP in representing the Activity in formal events, meetings, conferences, as required.
- Support the COP / DCOP in the development of quarterly reports, presentations, and other communications materials, as needed.
- Supervise and report to the Human Resources manager any challenges in the general operation of the Iringa office and the Iringa car pools.
- Collaborate with senior managers to achieve FTFT-MnM's higher-level outcomes.
- Perform any other duties as may be assigned by the Chief of Party.

Key Qualifications & Characteristics:

Candidates must have a minimum of 10 years of proven experience in the management of multidisciplinary teams and an in-depth knowledge of the horticulture value chain and its challenges. In addition, she/he must have the following:

- University degree in agriculture, rural development, marketing, business administration & management or a related field.
- At least ten years of experience in similar positions in the agriculture sector or in rural development in Tanzania. Strong preference is given to candidates with proven private sector credentials.
- Excellent organizational and management skills.
- Strategic thinker.
- Good communicator with the ability to work with people from different backgrounds.
- Dynamic, self-starter who is always looking for work and who sets goals and makes sure they are achieved.
- Physically fit and capable of a demanding work schedule in the field.

POSITION (1)- SENIOR AGRONOMIST

Fintrac, a leading US-based agriculture consulting firm with long-term programs in Africa, Asia, and Central America, is looking to hire the Senior Agronomists for Feed the Future Tanzania Mboga na Matunda program.

Location: Iringa

Responsibilities: The Senior Agronomist will be responsible for all the agronomic activities for Iringa region. He/she will report to the Senior Production Advisor and will provide leadership, technical and strategic guidance to the Project Agronomists. In addition to the specific tasks stated below, he/she is expected to contribute fully as a program team member, conducting him/herself in a proper manner at all times as a representative of the program, and being responsible for the safe-keeping and care of all program assets assigned to him/her. Specific responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Ensure that Junior agronomists in the region(s) understand their strategic contributions under the project design – to expand smallholder commercial horticulture and strengthen linkages with the sub-sector.
- Assist project management to understand the production potential of the region(s) and the means of unlocking it. This includes the identification of regional constraints and opportunities within the horticulture value chain as well as relevant stakeholders.
- Drive market linkages and relationship building between regional stakeholders to stimulate the supply of inputs, technology adoption, financing, service provision, sales and value addition.
- Provide technical support and management to the field agronomists within the selected region(s) by conducting regular, programmed visits to the agronomists' area of work. Ensure that agronomists are properly trained, professional and carrying out all of the tasks assigned to them, including proper adoption of agriculture technologies, M&E/reporting activities, and support to assigned partners.
- Provide regular feedback to the agronomist on their performance and inform the Production Manager of their progress in a weekly report.
- Provide training and technical assistance to partner field staff and other key technical stakeholders.
- Collaborate with the Regional Technical Coordinator (RTC) and other operational managers for the efficient and coordinated outreach of other Mboga na Matunda field specialists to Activity farmers. This includes the work of marketing, nutrition, processing and finance specialists.
- Take a proactive role in ensuring that the project meets its targets of significant involvement of women and youth into the commercial horticultural value chain.
- Support and interact with regional stakeholders from the private sector, government extension officers and partners as necessary. This will require representing the project in dealings with buyers, exporters, trade associations, government agencies, universities, research agencies, relevant donor programs, and strategic partners to help further the activities and objectives of the project.
- Identifying and recommending strategic partnerships or alliances in the region(s) for the expansion of MnM-supported activities to MnM management.
- Assist agronomists in planning, budgeting and conducting successful, well-attended farmer field days and other public events like Farmer to Farmer events, Nane Nane, etc.
- Taking responsibility for all Technology Fund procurements that are arranged in his/her region, ensuring that the transactions are properly executed and documented.
- Supervising the development of technical materials for training courses, workshops, marketing/trade events, and other activities.
- Providing input for work plans and budgets, quarterly and monthly reports, program success stories, etc., as required.
- Taking the lead in the production-based, value chain initiatives within the region(s). This requires the timely implementation of all activities described in the project work plan, e.g. market-led production, aggregation initiatives, inputs supply issues, etc.

Performing any other duties as may be required by the Senior Production Advisor.

- Key Qualifications & Characteristics:
- University or Diploma level in Agriculture or related fields.
- Must have at least 3 years' work experience in production of commercial horticulture crops.
- Ability to provide training and extension to farmer groups and partner staff.
- Must be able to drive standard gear 4 X 4 pickup trucks.
- Computer knowledge.
- Physically fit and capable of a demanding work schedule in the field.
- Ability to work without daily direct supervision.
- Honest and responsible work ethics.

Mode of Application: Candidates should submit a CV and Cover letter to mnrecruit@fintrac.com. Deadline for submission is **Friday, April 12, 2019**. Candidates should indicate the position for which they are applying in the subject line. Learn more about Fintrac and our work at www.fintrac.com

Govt working to improve communication services in the rural areas, says Dr Yonazi

By Guardian Correspondent, Rombo

THE government is working to improve communication services in rural areas and various border posts between Tanzania and neighbouring countries, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communication, Dr Jim Yonazi has said.

Dr Yonazi made the remarks during his tour at the Tanzania/Kenya border and different places within Rombo district to observe communication status. He was accompanied by experts from the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) and Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF).

"We are still improving our communication services through implementation of different projects including construction of cellular network towers. We are doing all these not only to facilitate communication,

but to let Tanzanians participate in the country's economic growth", Dr Yonazi asserted.

He noted that UCSAF has been working to improve communication services at rural areas as well as border areas whereby efforts are now directed on improvement of communication services at the Sirali and Tanzania/Mozambique border posts.

He said the communication services which UCSAF works to improve include mobile phone services, TV and broadcast services. He said rural dwellers have the right to enjoy better communication services like those in urban areas.

"There are still some challenges in some areas due to their geographical location. Cell towers will be constructed at all these areas to ensure every Tanzanian enjoys the services", he said.

Rombo District Administrative Secretary, Abubakar Asenga said

the district is among areas with communication challenges. He said the residents can hardly access various radio frequencies calling for UCSAF to make sure radio and television services are improved.

UCSAF Chief Executive Officer, Eng Peter Ulanga said they have been providing subsidies to mobile phone companies for improvement of its services in rural areas. He said four projects are being implemented by UCSAF in Rombo district and at border posts to improve radio and television services.

Acting Head of the Northern Zone of the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), Eng Imelda Salum, assured wananchi of good communication and that the authority will make sure residents residing near the border posts enjoys communication services as per the East African Communications Organization (EACO)



Traffic police officers inspect a tricycle alleged to have been found loading at an unauthorised spot along the Ubungo stretch of Dar es Salaam's Morogoro Road yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Getrude Mpezya

Stakeholders discuss issues related to climate change in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

MORE than 200 participants from the government, development partners, private sector, academia and civil societies are meeting in Dar es Salaam today to extensively discuss issues related to climate change in Tanzania.

A press statement issued yesterday by the embassy of Finland in Dar es Salaam, said the seminar

is part of the celebrations of the annual Nordic week 2019, which is taking place in Dar es Salaam for the fourth time.

The Nordic countries are generally considered to refer to Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, including their associated territories (Greenland, the Faroe Islands and the Åland Islands).

This year's theme according to the statement is "Building Partnership

for Sustainable Development". The seminar works as the timely step in the new era of result-based large-scale climate actions.

Among other things, participants of the half day seminar will discuss the role of forests in responding to climate change in Tanzania.

The seminar will serve to highlight the seriousness of climate change both locally and globally and encourage investments in large scale carbon sinks

in Tanzania by both the government and private sector.

Climate change has been well recognised in Tanzania since enactment of the new Environmental Management Act in 2004. The government through the Vice President's Office has produced several strategies and plans to mitigate and adapt to the climate change, many of them with a support from the Nordic countries.

However most of the plans to mitigate climate change are at national level with actions been mostly pilots in a modest scale. Climate change issues have been given a due consideration in Tanzania's National Strategies for Growth and Poverty Reduction for the two last periods 2010-2015 and 2015-2020.

The Nordic countries have supported Tanzania in planning to mitigate and adapt the climate change including

important pilots and the work to establish the national baseline for forest carbon.

The event includes distinguished speakers, among them Dr. Outi Myatt Hirvonen, Senior Adviser on Climate Change from the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland and Dr. Ezekiel Mwakalukwa, the Director of Forestry and Beekeeping Division from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism of Tanzania.



Offloading of sugarcane for sale gets well under way yesterday at Dar es Salaam's Tandale foodstuff market. Photo: John Badi

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

War on substandard goods now to extend to district level - regulator

THE government has embarked on war against manufacturers who have shifted their businesses, mostly substandard goods, in rural areas to urban centres to avoid law enforcers.

Emmanuel Simon, an inspector from Tanzania Bureau of Standards, disclosed in Dar es Salaam yesterday when speaking during an ongoing countrywide operations to collect samples of goods from markets and test them for quality.

Some samples were taken from the city at Kariakoo area, Mwenge, Chang'ombe, Kinyerezi and Gongo la Mboto, including water pipes, well pipes, tiles and cement.

He said the samples taken from the markets will be sent to TBS accredited laboratories to check whether they meet the required standards.

"The test results will be issued between seven and 21 days, depending on type of a sample and all manufacturers would be notified immediately", he said.

Simon said noted that if the results test proved failure, the manufacturers would be compelled to stop production of the faulty items and destroy or return the cargo to the

relevant countries of origin.

According to him, similar operations are being conducted in various regions countrywide to see whether manufacturers and food processors adhere to standards requirements. "Our main role is to protect consumers from purchasing substandard goods which are not good and some time increases costs," he added.

He urged the public to buy products from certified and legally recognised outlets scattered all over the country. The new standard for maize flour in the country is TZS 328:2016.

"There are many people in the country who are victims of substandard goods and we must take action to protect them," Simon said.

He said his organisation will continue taking stern measures against people who engaged in the importation and sale of substandard goods countrywide.

Standards Act No. 2 of 2009 states that TBS is mandated to promote standards, and

in doing so it cannot compromise quality. It empowers the agency to suspend production or importation of any goods which abuse procedures.

Simon said inspectors from TBS would keep on combing markets by buying samples of various products and testing them for quality.

For his part, a trader from Kariakoo area identified as Solomon Mwalyambi, thanked the officials from Standards watchdog for visiting them.

He asked government organs to conduct more inspections and awareness campaigns on substandard products in order to save the lives of Tanzanians.

"I urge the government to continue conducting inspection operations and awareness ducation to consumers on the importance of quality marks", he said.

According to him, the problem of substandard goods was becoming worrisome and concerted efforts were needed to stop the horrible practice.

Common misconceptions people have about direct sales industry

By Guardian Reporter

WHILE network marketing is rapidly gaining ground in the country and the region as a whole owing to a growing population and vibrant youth, there is still a common yet erroneous assumption that this is not a legal business.

The misconception persists despite the fact that professional network marketing is a US\$ 190 billion industry with over 96 million distributors worldwide. QNET direct selling company is part of an industry that is bound by the same laws and ethical regulations that govern all legitimate corporations.

During a recent visit to Dar es Salaam, the company's Regional General Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa Region, Biram Fall countered the misconception by stating that the company operates a legitimate business in the country and worldwide and they offer genuine products and services.

Fall was in the country when the company hosted an Expo to showcase products and services to prospective customers, where he noted that they have been in operations for over two decades and if it were a scam they would not have been able to last that long.

"Pyramid schemes do not last that long as we have been in operation since 1998, such scams can never be sustainable," he said.

He further said that the firm has a reputable global image to protect and would therefore not engage in any form of scam.

"There are always going to be bad people here and there, this is a challenge. But as a matter of principle we ensure that business is conducted in an ethical manner and since we are not here to dupe people, I assure you that we are here to stay," he said.

To the contrary, the company seeks to empower people, mostly youth, he said, adding that according to Youth Demographics Analysis-African Institute for Development, currently comprises of over 45 per cent of the 150 million people in Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda and Uganda.

Most of these youth are educated, generally tech-savvy, quick to adapt to new trends, eager to put in the effort and have an entrepreneurial mindset - factors that are a prerequisite for sustainable success in the direct selling business.

Network marketing or direct selling is an international business concept and is defined as 'the sale of a consumer product or service, person-to-person, away from a fixed retail location'. This model of sales is more than 100 years old and originated initially in the USA.

Today, there are nearly 117 million people involved in it. According to the World Federation of Direct Selling Association (WFDSA) 2018 annual report, direct selling generated US\$190 billion with nearly half of the sales recorded in emerging markets.

Africa accounts for less than 1% of the total WFDSA sales but experts posit that the East African market offers potential growth opportunities for aspiring entrepreneurs and even to those with a regular job and keen to earn supplementary

income through direct selling.

In a region where formal employment requirements are becoming increasingly competitive and full-time jobs equally scarce, direct selling offers an alternative to traditional employment for those wanting supplementary household income or whose circumstances don't allow employment.

Yet as with, the business model faces challenges and the most serious is proliferation of illegal, pyramid schemes that masquerade as genuine direct marketing companies, promising potential investors extraordinary profits if they enroll other people.

The fact is these 'scams' create a negative perception of the Direct Selling industry, thereby creating hurdles for genuine companies to recruit sales consultants and run their genuine and legal businesses.

As a result, the company addresses the problem by educating the public to be wary of such 'scams' and urging them to ascertain the genuineness of any company based on its adherence to guidelines, rules and regulations set by governing bodies and relevant authorities.

To buttress the direct selling's legitimacy, a recent study by the India Multi-Level Marketing Institute examined multiple operations such as Avon, Mary Kay, QNET, and Tupperware and established that "they are not schemes, of the pyramid type or any other variety".

To make its footprint in the country, the company held an Expo in Dar es Salaam which was graced by Regional Commissioner, Paul Makonda, where he challenged youth pursuing opportunities through the company to be resilient when in pursuit of their dreams in order to become successful.

Makonda said that his personal life's story is true testament that hard work and resilience eventually pays off and counseled young people to never settle for less.

"My life story is proof that by working hard and being resilient one can always find the success he or she pursues. Do not settle for anything less than your full potential," he said.

The expo titled Absolute Living, in line with the company's principles philosophy, is held every year in different countries around the world with the aim of showcasing its products and services on the ground.

It also serves as a platform for prospective customers and other interested parties to understand the company and its business model. The concept is a reflection of the firm's efforts to promote a proactive approach to a healthy, well-balanced lifestyle, with a focus on health, wellness, and education.

"From online education courses, to holiday packages, to energy products, dietary supplements and watches, we have a comprehensive range to cater to a wide variety of needs. At the core of it all, is our desire to provide avenues for 'Absolute Living,'" Mr. Fall said.

The company also offers low-cost business opportunities to individuals interested in taking it up, irrespective of their education or experience.

Beached whale found with 22 kilos of plastic in belly sparks concern in Italy

ROME

WHEN a pregnant sperm whale with 22 kilos of plastic in her stomach washed up dead over the weekend on a tourist beach at Porto Cervo, a renowned summer holiday destination on Italy's Sardinia island, environmentalist organizations were quick to highlight the need to fight marine litter and plastic pollution.

"The first thing that emerged from the autopsy is that the animal was very thin," marine biologist Mattia Leone, vice president of a Sardinia-based non-profit called Scientific Education & Activities in the Marine Environment (SEA ME), told Xinhua on Monday.

"She was about eight meters long, weighed about eight tonnes and was carrying a 2.27-meter fetus," Leone recounted of the dead sperm whale, a species she described as "very rare, very delicate," and which has been classified as being at risk of extinction.

Female sperm whales reach adulthood at seven years of age and become fertile every 3-5 years, meaning that given her relatively small size -- full-grown males can reach up to 18 meters in length -- the beached specimen was likely a first-time mother-to-be.

An analysis of her stomach contents showed that she had eaten black trash bags, plates, cups, pieces of corrugated pipe, fishing lines and nets, and a washing machine detergent container with the bar code still legible, Leone said. "Sea animals are not conscious of what we do on land," Leone explained.

"For them, it is not normal to encounter things at sea that are not prey, and floating plastic looks a lot like squid or jellyfish -- the staple foods for sperm whales and other marine mammals." Plastic is not digestible, so it accumulates in the stomachs of animals, giving them a false sense of satiety.

"Some animals stop eating, others, such as turtles, can no longer dive below the surface to hunt for food because the plastic in their stomachs fills with gas, while others fall ill because plastic under-

mines their immune systems," Leone explained.

"We are seeing an increase in beached cetaceans every year," Leone said. "Now is the time to seek out alternatives to plastics, as we are doing with many other things, for example renewable energy."

We have evolved, and technology has made giant steps forward, so we can surely find a biodegradable material to substitute plastic."

One such alternative has already been invented by Catia Bastioli, founder and CEO of a biodegradable plastics manufacturer called Novamont.

In 2017, Italy banned the use of plastic bags in supermarkets, substituting them with biodegradable bags manufactured by Novamont. For Bastioli, a culture change must occur before humanity can say goodbye to plastics once and for all.

"Plastic is not good or bad, it is a technology, and like all technologies, its benefits depend on how it is used," Bastioli, a chemist by training, told Xinhua in a recent interview.

"The point is that we have to rethink and redesign the entire system in a circular perspective, consuming as few resources as possible, using plastics wisely and only when really necessary. In short, we cannot think of an unlimited growth for this kind of product," said Bastioli.

Bastioli's invention of starch-based bioplastics earned her a 2007 European Inventor of the Year award from the European Patent Office, and has been awarded the Order of Merit and been made a Knight of Labor by presidents of the Italian republic (Sergio Mattarella in 2017 and Giorgio Napolitano in 2013).

"We must consider that 80 percent of marine pollution is caused by the poor management of wastes on land: if we improve end-of-life management, we also contribute to reducing marine litter."

On an overpopulated and overexploited planet, too often we look at the consequences without thinking about the causes," said Bastioli, who has collected numerous awards for her pioneering work as a socially responsible scientist and entrepreneur -- including a Golden Panda in 2016 from the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) environmental organization.



A dead whale is lifted onto a truck after being recovered off Sardinia island, Italy

In a statement released on Monday, the Italy office of WWF, has already gathered close to 600,000 signatures on a global petition to the United Nations called "Stop Plastic Pollution" said that one-third of sperm whales found dead in the Mediterranean had their digestive systems clogged up by plastic, which makes up 95 percent of marine litter.

If humans don't make a change, "by 2050 the world's seas will contain more plastic than fish," said the WWF, which also pointed out that according to a Eurobarometer survey, 87 percent of Europeans are concerned over the impact of plastic on health and the environment.

On a global level, Europe is the second largest plastic producer after China, dumping up to 500,000 tons of plastic products into the sea every year, according to WWF estimates.

Sunday's discovery of the dead sperm whale came after lawmakers at the Eu-

ropean Parliament voted 560 to 35 last week to ban single-use plastic by 2021.

The European decision follows China's 2018 decision to stop importing plastic waste, the South China Morning Post reported on Monday. The EU's move was welcomed by the Italian environmentalist association Legambiente, whose President, Stefano Ciafani, pointed out that Italy has not only banned plastic supermarket bags but also plastic-based Q-tips and microplastics in cosmetics.

"We call on the government to immediately summon all stakeholders -- producers, local administrators, consumers, environmentalist associations -- to accompany the transition and render effective the deplastication process," Ciafani said.

According to environmentalist NGO Greenpeace, every minute the equivalent of a truckload of plastic ends up in the world's oceans, causing the death by

suffocation or indigestion of 700 different animal species -- including turtles, birds, fish, whales and dolphins -- who mistake the litter for food. Over eight billion tons of plastic products have been manufactured since the 1950s, and currently 90 percent of single-use plastics is never recycled, according to Greenpeace.



We must consider that 80 percent of marine pollution is caused by the poor management of wastes on land: if we improve end-of-life management, we also contribute to reducing

OUR REACH IS ACROSS TANZANIA, ADVERTISE WITH US TODAY!!



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Doodle pad

In this Puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The GUARDIAN have given you a head start.

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| SARAH | MEAT | MANYATA | | | | | | | | | |

By Felix / any comments SMS : 0755 42 92 40

EAC INTEGRATION

EPZA head hints Ugandan Army delegation on industrialisation strategy vehicles

By Guardian Reporter

EXPORT processing zones and special economic zones are important ve-

hicles to speed up industrialization of an economy and rapid development of a country. Export Processing Zones Author-



EPZA Director General Col. (rtd) Joseph Simbakalia. File photo.



NMB Bank's acting Managing Director Albert Jonkerkouw (R) signs a partnership agreement with Union Pay International CEO Cai Jianbo in Dar es Salaam on Monday. The partnership is expected to transform the future of payments in the country by increasing and expanding the e-commerce market while increasing card payment services between Tanzania and China but also the global market. Photo courtesy of NMB.

ity (EPZA)'s Director General, retired Colonel Joseph Simbakalia told a visiting Ugandan army delegation from Kimaka Defence College which visited Benjamin Mkapa SEZ in Dar es Salaam yesterday that EPZs and SEZs have a big contribution in transforming and building a strong industrial sector in East African region.

"Special economic zones and export processing zones have contributed a lot in social economic development by providing employment to millions, boosting government revenue," Simbakalia said while noting that SEZs and EPZs have also attract-

ed massive foreign direct investments into the country.

He said while making a presentation to the delegation that the two investment vehicles have also contributed in increasing the country's industrial production output with high impact on export trade and supply of high quality finished goods in the local market.

Touting East African Community integration, the EPZA chief further noted that the bloc is an important platform that offers huge market opportunity to investors and attract more FDI inflows into the partner

states to building a strong industrial base. "Establishing more strategic export processing zones in the region which provides a bigger market opportunity is vital because it will lead to rapid economic development of the partner states," he added.

Simbakalia also noted that the EAC is strategically located along the Indian Ocean to provide access to wider southern African market by manufactures based in the bloc. "But more important is also to bring onboard the participation of local private sector in order to achieve industrial sustainability and build an inclusive

economy," the EPZA chief underlined. In a vote of thanks, Head of Ugandan army delegation, Lieutenant General Andrew Gutti said the tour has been very successful as it had enhanced their understanding on how export processing zones are established and their contribution to the economy.

"We have learnt how Tanzania managed to develop successful special economic zones which is an important platform for building strong industrial base," Lt. General, Gutti said adding that the tour also strengthened regional integration.

APPRECIATION

Global gold demand to hit four-year high

LONDON

GLOBAL demand for gold in 2019 will rise to the highest in four years as higher consumption by jewellers offsets a fall in purchases by central banks. The world will consume 4,370 tonnes of gold this year, the most since 2015 and up slightly from 4,364 tonnes in 2018, consultancy Metals Focus said on Monday.

Its Gold Focus 2019 report also predicted gold prices would average \$1,310 an ounce this year,



Gold coins, bullions and plates on display at a shop.

up from \$1,268 in 2018 and the highest since 2013. Gold currently trades around \$1,300 an ounce.

Gold consumption for jewellery will rise 3 per cent this year to 2,351 tonnes, driven by increases of 7 per cent in India and 3 per cent in China - the two largest markets - which will counter lower demand in the Middle East, Metals Focus said.

Purchases by the official sector, which surged almost 75 per cent in 2018 as central banks

added gold to diversify their reserves, will slip 9 per cent this year to 600 tonnes, the report predicted. Physical investment demand will remain largely unchanged from 2018 at 1,082 tonnes.

Gold to shine even brighter as it rallies amid troubled times

Metals Focus said gold supply would rise by 1 per cent to 4,707 tonnes thanks to higher mine production and recycling. Helping gold prices to rise would be the

end of interest rate rises by the US Federal Reserve, along with political and economic uncertainty around the world, Metals Focus said, but it added that a strong dollar would limit gains.

Gold is traditionally seen as a safe place to invest during periods of uncertainty. Higher interest rates hurt gold because they make bullion, which pays no yield, less attractive to investors, while a stronger dollar can depress demand by making gold more expensive for buyers with

other currencies.

Despite the report, old prices slipped on Monday as upbeat Chinese economic data and signs of progress in Sino-US trade talks eased some concerns about a slowdown in economic growth and boosted appetite for riskier assets.

Spot gold was down about 0.2 per cent at \$1,290.01 per ounce by 07.50 GMT, after touching its lowest since March 8 at \$1,286.35 on Friday. US gold futures fell 0.3 per cent at \$1,294.80 an ounce.

DANGEROUS

Big Tobacco is increasingly using social media influencers to attract new-generation smokers

By Robert Kozinets

BIG Tobacco is increasingly using social media to find new ways to hook young people on smoking, circumventing decades of laws restricting the marketing of traditional cigarettes to minors.

In major cities around the world such as Rio de Janeiro, Cairo, Jakarta and Milan, tobacco companies have been holding extravagant events with names like "K Player" and "RedMoveNow" that were designed to connect with young people. Often featuring alcohol, live music and attractive hosts, these lavish events spare no expense as they seek find new buyers for their tobacco products.

The problem? Those party-goers are carefully targeted young influencers, who are encouraged to share photos of their glamorous tobacco-sponsored adventures with friends and followers on social media using appealing hashtags like #iamonthemove, #decideyourflow and #mydaynow. And although the influencers are over 18, their social media follow-

ers can be much younger.

This exploitation of social media's organic reach is one of the findings from a global research project I've been working on since 2016 with more than a dozen different scholars. The anti-smoking advocacy group Tobacco-Free Kids noticed a lot of photos of young people with cigarettes turning up in their online scans of global social media and asked me to look into it.

My own research focuses on how to rigorously research online culture using natural observational techniques, something that this study definitely required.

My team's task was to monitor, report upon and analyze the programs behind the hashtagged social media posts of young people smoking. What we learned about tobacco company's current advertising surprised us.

Skirting marketing restrictions Tobacco companies have always had a knack for finding creative ways to skirt regulations intended to curb marketing to young people.

In 1971, the U.S. Congress banned tobacco ads from television and radio. In response, companies invested heavily in outdoor advertising and magazines. In 1997, the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement banned tobacco on outdoor and billboard ads. In response, tobacco money flowed into sponsorships of sports, music and other events. These type of event sponsorships were banned, with some exceptions, in 2010, at the same time wider restrictions on youth marketing were also introduced.

No matter the medium, the messaging was often the same: find ways to reach new and young potential smokers. As documents from the Legacy Tobacco Documents Library reveal, tobacco executives have long believed that the continued survival and success of their companies depends on one thing: convincing young people to buy their products.

In 2005, the World Health Organization banned tobacco advertising in 168 signatory countries. By 2010, the U.S. had closed a lot

of Big Tobacco's favorite advertising and tobacco loopholes.

With conventional media mostly off-limits, what was Big Tobacco to do? Like the Marlboro Man, the unregulated Wild West of social media rode to the rescue.

The perfect marketing medium Social media fits Big Tobacco's advertising needs to a tee. At least 88 percent of American youth say they use social media apps like Facebook and Instagram regularly, and the technologies are notoriously difficult to regulate.

With Tobacco-Free Kids' financial support, I assembled a growing team of researchers to investigate. Our work is ongoing.

My team collected a plethora of social media data and also conducted interviews with a range of tobacco brand ambassadors, party attendees, influencers and industry insiders from around the world. What we found was an astoundingly effective use of social media by a range of different tobacco companies to connect with the next generation of potential cigarette smokers.



While tobacco companies were careful to abide by the letter of the law - the influencers involved in these posts were all of legal smoking age in their countries - social media has a public setting that makes it an effective and largely unregulated form of broadcast.

Legally, anyone age 13 or over can have an Instagram or Facebook account. Our "netnography" - a type of qualitative social media inquiry that focuses on cultural contexts, social structures and deeper meanings - only looked at public posts, images that any 13-year-old with an account could see.

Training camps and pop-up parties Our investigation uncovered a range of promotional activities and a web of public relations and advertising agencies that cleverly leveraged the strengths of social media to keep tobacco advertising under the radar of existing regulation.

We found tobacco companies in countries such as Indonesia and the Philippines recruiting "nano-influencers" of just 2,000-3,000 followers on Facebook and Instagram and encouraging them to post about their tobacco-sponsored adventures.

In Indonesia, we found brand ambassador training camps

that lasted two full weeks and were run by the domestic tobacco company Gudang Garam. At these camps, young nano-influencers were paid generous fees, taught about cigarette brands images and then provided lessons about how to better maintain their social media feeds.

Public relations agencies in Uruguay taught their influencers how to take pictures of cigarette packages in ways that best accentuated their brands, offering tips on lighting, hashtags and the best time to post them for maximum impact. Some companies used Facebook pages to recruit young people to attend their parties. After answering a few questions on the Facebook page, for example, responders were enrolled in a mailing list resulting in invitations to cool pop-up parties and edgier events.

At those parties, young people were greeted by attractive attendants who offered them cigarettes and encouraged them to pose with floor designs modeled after cigarette brand logos. After snapping pictures, they were encouraged to post them on their social media feed using the party's decisiveness and action-oriented hashtags. The result was unquestionably a new form of cigarette promotion.

Robert Kozinets, Hufschmid Chair of Strategic Public Relations, University of Southern California, Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism.

MARKETING

AccessBank conducts basic training for businesswomen, debuts Lulu Account

By Guardian Reporter

HUNDREDS of Dar es Salaam businesswomen were given basic entrepreneur skills by AccessBank Tanzania Limited experts during a maiden training session where also a Lulu Account for the group was introduced.

Women with macro, small and medium size enterprises working in agriculture and other sectors both clients and non-clients of the bank were

given skills in management of their businesses, tax payment and saving with banks to grow their businesses.

With a theme, 'Women in business and their savings culture,' the one day forum was aimed at equipping AccessBank's businesswomen with the right understanding and know-how on growing their business operations while also promoting a good savings culture.

"This is a first business forum for

women held in Dar es Salaam, among many other women's business forums to be conducted by the bank in other regions in 2019," said AccessBank Tanzania's Chief Business Officer, Prosper William.

William said they plan to promote a sound savings culture as women are the bread and basket of families who also manage the informal sector. "For those ambitious women that are willing to take risks and stand-out in

the crowd, we will coach you on business ethics and practice as well as educate you and assist you to save aggressively for your future," he added.

The AccessBank CBO further said loan processing time has been speeded up while reducing risks and liabilities against loans through offering a Credit Life Insurance to cushion non performing loans.

The forum was organized in partnership with European Investment Bank (EIB) with Jennifer Bashwas was conducted the training as lead business trainer for the forum. Beshwas told the businesswomen that AccessBank is their reliable business partner that wants to grow with

them.

"It is important to use the bank as a tool to grow your businesses, be it through borrowing money for capital or by saving aggressively to achieve your personal goals. These trainings provide a platform to promote good leadership and team work for your business as well as your personal lives," she noted.

Among its shareholders, the bank boasts of having strong international shareholders who include AccessHoldings, International Finance Corporation of World Bank, German KfW, African Development Bank and MicroVest.

SECURITY

South Sudan risk insurance cover facilitates investment

JUBA

THROUGH the efforts of the South Sudan government, the African Development Bank and the Africa Trade Insurance Agency (ATI), to date ATI has provided gross risk cover to facilitate investments in the electricity, gas, water supply and financial and insurance sectors.

South Sudan is also expected to benefit from a USD 100 million trade facility from the Trade and Development Bank (TDB).

Rural clinics and police stations

The facility will focus on strategic commodities, budgetary support and other essential co-imports. It will comprise USD 60 million in hard currency and USD 40 million for spare parts, food, pharmaceuticals and refined products. About USD 5 million has been ring-fenced for solar energy at rural clinics and police stations.

South Sudan's membership of the ATI and the TDB was made

possible by a USD 18.15 million concessionary facility from the African Development Bank.

Economic fragility in South Sudan

The African Development Bank's country manager for South Sudan, Benedict Kanu, said, "With a very weak capitalisation of private trade finance and insurance institutions in South Sudan, there is a pressing need to boost trade finance."

He added that the groundbreaking AfDB-supported project demonstrates an innovative use of limited concessionary financing, with exemplary catalytic effects in the immediate and long-term. "Once scaled up, the project will address some of the over-arching factors contributing to economic fragility in South Sudan, particularly financial sector development and risk management," he added.

Membership of the East Africa Community

Kanu added that the immediate and future benefits of South

Sudan's ATI and TDB membership project recall the country's aspirations of members of the East Africa Community (EAC) which was realised in April 2016.

"They also reinforce the Bank's High 5 Agenda for Africa's economic transformation," he said.

The Bank's Head of Trade Finance, Yaw Adu Kuffour, said the shortage of trade finance in Africa presents clear risks to the economic performance of regional member countries, especially those in transition. He added, "We are glad to support South Sudan in this way."

Stakeholder engagement

AfDB will work closely with ATI, the government, the private sector and other concerned stakeholders to promote inclusivity and communication and information dissemination at the country level, especially on ATI's services, products and investment guarantee tools.

In collaboration with ATI and TDB, the Bank will also organise a stakeholder engagement



AccessBank Tanzania CEO Armando Massimiliano presenting a gift and certificate to one of the bank's female clients, Hellen Tegga who participated at a forum held in Dar es Salaam last week. To Massimiliano's right is the bank's Chief Business Officer, Prosper William while partly hidden right is trainer, Jennifer Bashwas. Photo: courtesy of ABT.

COUNSELLING

Mboweni: Southern Africa could benefit from Brics bank funding

CAPE TOWN

THE southern African region could benefit from funding from Brics bank and it was important for bank's projects to consider the intertwined nature of the countries in the region, Finance Minister Tito Mboweni said on Monday.

The Brics bank is formally known as the New Development Bank. Mboweni said that the bank, which focuses on financing infrastructure development, needed to look at funding projects in the broader southern African regional context.

"When you are looking at projects in the southern African region - look at them in the southern African context because of the intertwined nature of the countries," he told delegates at the Cape Town International Convention Centre where the bank is holding its fourth annual meeting of its member countries, which are Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

Up to now, it has largely funded projects in South Africa or projects with a significant South African interest such as the Lesotho Highlands Water Project. The projects that Mboweni identified that could benefit from funding included fixing the Kariba dam wall between Zimbabwe and Zambia as well as the Inga hydroelectric project in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Mboweni, who is also chairperson of the bank's board of governors, said the lack of infrastructure in Mozambique was reflected by the way disaster management, as a result of Cyclone Idai, was being dealt with in the

country.

Calls for the Brics bank to expand its membership grow

Two of the five countries that make up the Brics bank on Monday called for an expansion of the bank's membership beyond its existing five founder members. India's finance secretary Subhash Chandra Garg said during the opening ceremony that the bank "has come of age." He called for the bank to move from financing its five members to financing the world.

"It is now the Brics' role and responsibility to finance and contribute to the development of the entire world. The Group of Seven countries played this role for many years. I think the time has come for the Brics to play that role for the development of the world. Therefore, I think we should expand our membership going forward."

Marcos Troyjo, Brazil's deputy minister for foreign trade and international affairs, also backed the idea of expanding the membership of the bank beyond the existing five members: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

The bank, which is headquartered in Shanghai, has opened a regional office in Johannesburg to access South Africa and Africa as a whole. Garg said additional regional offices were set to be opened in Brazil, Russia and India. Troyjo said that the Brazil office was likely to be opened in the city of Sao Paulo.

As part of the opening ceremony, loan agreements were signed with the Development Bank of Southern Africa for greenhouse



SA Finance Minister Tito Mboweni speaks at BRICS conference on Monday.

gas emissions reduction and energy sector development and also signed loan agreements with Eskom for a renewable energy and transmission project.

The bank agreed to loan Eskom \$180 million (about R2.5 billion) to connect 670MW of renewable energy projects to the national grid.

The New Development Bank's president Kundapur Vaman Kamath said that the bank had loaned South Africa \$680 million and on Sunday the bank

approved more loans for South Africa totalling \$790 million. The bank expected loans to South Africa to grow to \$2.3 billion, he said.

In 2018, the bank funded 17 projects via loans to its member countries to bring the total amount loaned to \$8 billion covering 30 projects. Kamath said the bank was looking to double its total amount loaned to \$16 billion.

He said that 80% of the bank's lending focused on transport,

green energy as well as water and sanitation.

Minister of Higher Education and Training Naledi Pandor, who delivered the opening address at the bank's annual meeting, said that African economic growth had lagged its recent high levels due to the commodity downswing.

"African remains the second fastest growing region in the world after developing Asia. Consequently, the continent is attracting increasing interest

and investment from the international financial community," she said.

However, despite this interest, nine out of 10 of the world's extremely poor lived in sub-Saharan Africa, Pandor said. "We need to start thinking about what it will take for Africa to improve its odds of overcoming poverty much faster in the next decade." Pandor said that African needed to improve its domestic resource mobilisation.

"It makes no sense for us to expect that donor countries will find our initiatives interesting without us increasing our efforts to secure resources in our own environment." To attract more investment, Pandor suggested that local tax law and other financial regulation needed to be improved.

"Being overly reliant on financial aid from developed countries - places the continent development agenda at the mercy of business cycles." However, Pandor also raised the issue of capital flight eroding Africa's ability to improve the lot of the people of the continent.

Between 2000 and 2010, the continent is reported to have lost \$510.9 billion through capital flight, she said. "For us as in South Africa, investment in infrastructure and infrastructure projects have been identified as critical areas of policy action."

The bank is holding its annual meeting in Cape Town on Monday and Tuesday. This is the first time that the bank is holding its annual meeting in South Africa. Previous meetings were held in Shanghai and New Delhi.

CYBERCRIME

Increase seen in mobile malware attacks in Kenya

NAIROBI

KENYANS are increasingly at the risk of losing their cash through mobile transactions because of an increase in mobile malware attacks.

According to the Communication Authority of Kenya's (CA) second quarter (2018/2019) statistic report for the period October to December 2018, fraudsters are targeting mobile phone users through fake mobile phone applications.

"The report covering October-December 2018 shows a dramatic spike in malware attacks, targeting mobile devices and which has seen unsuspecting Kenyans defrauded in online platforms," the report stated.

"In particular, there was a rise in cases of malware and the sale of stolen data and credentials including personal data and credit card information," it added. Data from the National KE-CIRT/CC shows that there were 10.2 million attacks of which 9 million were malware attacks, compared to 1.8 million cyber attacks reported during the last quarter.

Mobile commerce continues to draw threats as more people embrace mobile money payments, mobile money transfers and mobile banking. The report said: "There were 586.9 million mobile commerce transactions valued at KSh1.8 trillion person-to-person (P2P) transfers amounted to KSh731.9 billion." At the same time, the mobile internet subscriptions grew from 41,854,706 to 45,333,942 representing an 8.3% growth, underlining the appetite for mobile internet in the country.

"Safaricom PLC registered the highest market share for mobile data subscriptions at 69.5 percent whereas Airtel Network Limited reported 22.4 percent market share".

BAD-NEWS

Growth of cashless society leaves US poorest sidelined

NEW YORK

REBECCA Esparza works with homeless people and, having once lived in a shelter herself, knows what it's like to navigate the US economy if you don't have much money.

For most of her clients, cash is king because they lack access to the financial tools many Americans take for granted - checking accounts, debit cards, payment apps.

Ms Esparza worries that the growing number of cashless stores and restaurants around the country will further marginalise low-income people at a time when inequality is already the highest in more than half a century.

"We just forget just how poor the poor can actually be in this country," says Ms Esparza, who works at the Lawrence, Kansas, affiliate of the non-profit Family Promise and once sold her blood to support herself and her five children. "I could totally be part of that cashless system today, but it would totally discriminate."

Legislators around the country agree with Ms Esparza and are taking steps to halt or slow the steady march toward a cashless society. Last month, New Jersey passed legislation banning many kinds of cashless stores, joining Massachusetts, which has a 1978 law prohibiting discrimination against customers opting to use cash, and Philadelphia, which adopted a similar law in February.

San Francisco has proposed a ban on stores like Amazon Go and Nestle-owned Blue Bottle, which has stopped accepting cash as a test at some of its coffee shops. Ritchie Torres of the New York City Council is leading efforts to ban cashless retail there, and policymakers in Chicago and Washington, DC have considered similar proposals in recent years.

Proponents of cashless stores tout various benefits. Electronic payments save employees the time it takes to collect, store and transport cash. Theft is less likely. Customers typically move faster through checkout lines because they don't need to count out their cash and wait for change.

Some argue that technology, having helped usher in cashless payments, can provide a solution. Companies like Square and PayPal offer payment services that don't require a bank account; they're gaining some traction with the working poor and could eventually provide an alternative to banning cashless stores outright.

The vast majority of US retailers and restaurants currently accept cash. And those that don't often cater to wealthier customers. The best-known example is Amazon Go, a chain of cashierless convenience stores that carry upscale fare like artisanal cheeses and locally made chocolates. Amazon.com operates only 10 Go stores in three cities, but eventually could open as many as 3,000, according to sources.

The fear is that if cashless shopping catches on, more and more retailers will follow suit. Many local restaurants are no longer accepting hard currency because handling cash can add as much as 10 per cent to overhead costs, says Richard Crone, chief executive of payments expert Crone Consulting. In five years, he says, a third of all retail will be cashless, up from about 17 per cent today. About 10 per cent of brick-and-mortar stores will be cashless, up from less than 1 per cent today, he says.

"A trillion-dollar behemoth like Amazon has the ability to spread widely throughout the country," says Mr Torres, the New York City councillor. "So a trend that might start at the margin can proliferate overnight."

In 2017, 6.5 per cent of US households were "unbanked" and lacked a checking or savings account, according to the Federal Deposit Insurance's latest available national survey. Another 18.7 per cent fell into the broad "under-banked" category, meaning they had a bank account but used at least one alternative service like money orders, cheque cashing or payday loans.

There are a variety of reasons Americans use cash. Even with a steady income, people living pay cheque-to-pay cheque may not have enough money to keep in an account. Some don't want to pay the fees; others don't trust banks or are concerned about privacy.

The homeless are especially vulnerable. If they lose their documents, they often have trouble getting them again. Michelle Jones, 37, who arrived in Seattle in 2001 as a homeless youth, lost her social security card three times and says it was stolen once.

"Even just to get a bank account, of course you need to have an ID," says Ms Jones, who now works for the Metropolitan Improvement District, a nonprofit helping the homeless population in Seattle's downtown. "Getting an ID can take months. And during that time they can't get any work at all. And at that point they are falling more into the pattern of listlessness."

Another barrier to opening a bank account: lack of steady income. Some only receive cash from begging and don't have enough money to put in a bank account anyway. Plus many banks require secondary proofs of identity, such as a utility bill and a credit-card statement - which, obviously, homeless people don't have.

For people trying to climb out of poverty, foregoing cards is also often a necessity to staying afloat. Kat Lilley, who, along with six children, aged 18 months to 12 years, was homeless from the summer of 2013 to early 2014, often had to make ends meet with \$761 a month. She used envelopes and cash to better budget expenditures.

The envelope system is based on the what proponents say is the whole psychology of people spending less when using cash instead of plastic. You are far more restrained in your spending when you pull money (not plastic) out of your wallet. That's one of the biggest benefits to stuffing cash into envelopes for budgeting purposes, they argue.

"When you are on a shoestring budget, a little hiccup can lead to a snowball of overdraft fees," she says. "So a lot of families resort to cash." She encourages the homeless families she now helps as executive director of Family Promise of Colorado Springs to use envelopes to learn how to better manage money.

For technologists, a cashless society is a cherished dream, one that's already becoming a reality in other countries - even ones with large populations of low-income people. Almost half of Chinese already use mobile phones for cashless payments, according to eMarketer. The Indian government is promoting digital payments in an effort to stamp out endemic corruption and local payment services such as Paytm have been signing up millions of people.

In Sweden, often described as the most cashless society on earth, just 25 per cent of Swedes paid in cash at least once a week in 2017.

Now local authorities wonder if money is disappearing too quickly and could hurt people, such as the elderly, who haven't yet joined the digital age. Swedish legislators are expected to adopt a proposal forcing banks to keep offering cash to customers who require it.

"The US is just weird historically, in that we have a lot of competition and banks don't give accounts to a lot of low-income people," says Mehrsa Baradaran, author of *How the Other Half Banks*. "We also have a lot of areas in the country where banks aren't locating any more. We have a more stratified society, poverty is more pronounced here than in other places. There are some poorer countries that are mobile; we just have not built that infrastructure."

Many homeless and low-income peo-



A customer paying with his credit card at an Amazon Go store in Seattle.

ple currently use Green Dot reloadable prepaid debit cards. But they come with heavy fees: a \$7.95 monthly charge on low amounts, plus as much as \$4.95 for every reload and \$3 for ATM withdrawals. Several digital payment services are becoming

a go-to for the working poor. Square's Cash mobile payment app lets users send and receive peer-to-peer payments, arrange to have pay cheques directly deposited and spend their balances using a free Visa debit card. It stores money electronically without linking to a bank account. PayPal has introduced similar capabilities on its platform.

While the Square service wasn't designed specifically for low-income Americans, it's becoming a boon to the unbanked and under-banked.

"People are using this as their primary spending device and primary banking account, and in some cases, their only banking account," Square chief executive Jack Dorsey said last year.

"We're reaching an audience - which is consistent with how we started the company - that is underserved, number one, and even to the point of unbanked completely, which wasn't a stated goal initially but is something that we really love and want to lean into more."



ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

I T V

SATURDAY 30 March

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera
9:00 Watoto wetu
10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt
11:00 Jungu kuu rpt
11:30 Usafiri wako
12:00 Shamba Shape up
12:30 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)
14:45 Igizo rpt: Riziki
15:15 Igizo rpt: Elininyo
15:45 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
16:00 Igizo rpt: Kimya Milele
16:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt
17:00 Shambam ya Pwani
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Igizo: Riziki
19:00 Sanaa na wasanii
19:30 Jungu Kuu
20:00 Habari
21:00 Igizo: Kimya Milele
21:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo
22:30 Isidingo rpt
01:00 CNN International

SUNDAY 31 March

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
11:45 Aibu Yako
11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt
12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: Illegal sisters
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:00 Mwangaza
16:00 Korean drama: The great queen Seonduk
16:45 Mjue zaidi
17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Mizengwe rpt
18:45 Matukio ya wiki
19:30 Igizo: Mtego
20:00 Habari
21:05 Mizengwe
21:00 Bongo Movie: Illegal sisters 2
22:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)

MONDAY 01 April

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 wetu
10:30 Igizo: Hatua
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Kimya Milele
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jungu kuu rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Mjue Zaidi
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino)
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 Huduma ya kwanza
18:30 Kesho Leo
19:00 Afya ya Jamii
19:30 Isidingo
20:00 Habari
21:05 Dakika 45
21:55 Kipindi Maalum: True Vision
22:00 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino)
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 CNN International

TUESDAY 02 April

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 wetu
10:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo
11:15 Igizo: Mtego
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Afya ya jamii rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Uchumi na biashara
13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt : TFDA
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Huduma ya kwanza
14:15 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino) rpt
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 Jarida la wanawake
19:30 Isidingo
20:00 Habari
21:00 Kipindi maalum: True Vision
21:05 Kipindi Maalum:
22:15 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino)
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 CNN International

WEDNESDAY 03 April

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 wetu
10:30 Shamba shape up
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Korean: The Great Queen Seonduk
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Dakika 45
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino):
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi rpt
18:30 Ijue Sheria
19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TFDA
19:30 Isidingo
20:00 Habari
21:00 Aibu Yako! Hata wewe?
21:10 Kipindi Maalum : Uongozi
21:40 Kipindi Maalum : Tanesco
22:05 Kipindi Maalum: Tatu mzuka
22:15 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino)
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera
2:00 CNN International

THURSDAY 04 April

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 wetu
10:30 Igizo: Elininyo
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Igizo: Elininyo
11:15 Kesho leo rpt
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Ijue Sheria
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Uongozi
13:30 Kipindi Maalum: TFDA
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza Huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Igizo: Riziki
19:00 Usafiri wako
19:30 Isidingo
20:00 Habari
21:00 Malumbano ya hoja
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 CNN International

FRIDAY 05 April

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 wetu
10:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo
10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo
11:20 Usafiri wako
11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt
13:45 Kipindi Maalum: Kesho leo rpt
13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Kipindi Maalum: Kesho leo rpt
14:15 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)
14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru
16:30 Watoto wetu
17:00 The Base
17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe
18:30 Shamba shape up
19:00 Uchumi na biashara
19:30 Isidingo

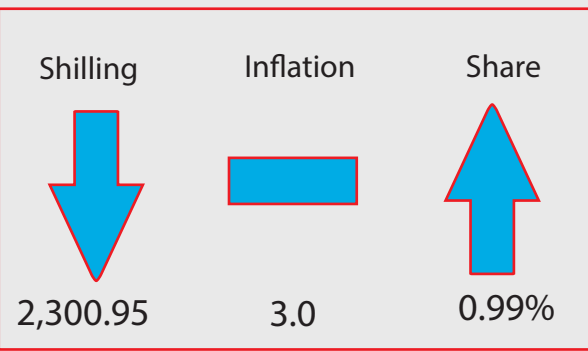
20:00 Habari
21:05 Kipima joto
23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base
00:30 CNN International

SATURDAY 06 April

5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha
7:00 Habari
8:00 Al Jazeera
9:00 Watoto wetu
10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt
11:00 Jungu kuu rpt
11:30 Usafiri wako
12:00 Shamba Shape up
12:30 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)
14:45 Igizo rpt: Riziki
15:15 Igizo rpt: Elininyo
15:45 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
16:00 Igizo rpt: Kimya Milele
16:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt
17:00 Shambam ya Pwani
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Igizo: Riziki
19:00 Sanaa na wasanii
19:30 Jungu Kuu
20:00 Habari
21:00 Igizo: Kimya Milele
21:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo
22:30 Isidingo rpt
01:00 CNN International

SUNDAY 07 April

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
11:45 Aibu Yako
11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt
12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: Illegal sisters 2
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
15:00 Mwangaza
16:00 Korean drama: The great queen Seonduk
16:45 Mjue zaidi
17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo
18:00 Jiji Letu
18:15 Mapishi
18:30 Mizengwe rpt
18:45 Matukio ya wiki
19:30 Igizo: Mtego
20:00 Habari
21:05 Mizengwe
22:00 Bongo Movie: Magic house
22:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)



Total Market Capitalization

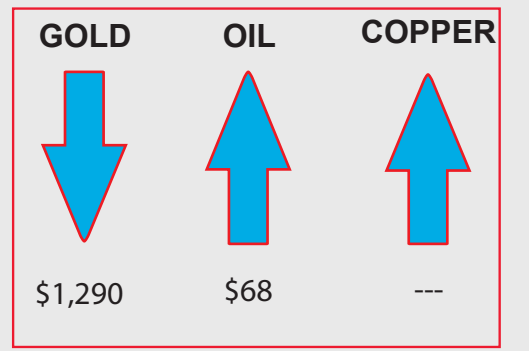
| | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|
| TZS | 19,858.80 bln (USD 8,712.24 mn) |
| Indices March 29, 2019 | |
| TSI | 3,482.87 +5.48 |
| DSEI | 2,060.29 -2.63 |

AVERAGE PRICES FOR FOOD CROPS TSH/100KG

| | | | |
|----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| Maize | 52620.00 | Finger Millet | 144052.63 |
| Rice | 183125.00 | Wheat | 130066.67 |
| Sorghum | 80857.14 | Beans | 176041.67 |
| Bulrush Millet | 84000.00 | Round potatoes | 71041.67 |

Exchange Rates (DSE)

| Currency | Buying | Selling |
|----------|----------|----------|
| EUR | 2,591.28 | 2,617.65 |
| USD | 2,268.07 | 2,290.76 |
| KES | 22.38 | 22.56 |
| GBP | 2,947.82 | 2,977.52 |



Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange

Date: Mar 29, 2019

| Company | Closing | Prev | Chg (%) |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| ACA | 5,950 | 6,000 | -0.83 |
| CRDB | 125 | 125 | +0.00 |
| DCB | 340 | 340 | +0.00 |
| DSE | 1,300 | 1,300 | +0.00 |
| EABL | 4,690 | 4,680 | +0.21 |
| JHL | 9,300 | 9,650 | -3.63 |
| KA | 115 | 115 | +0.00 |
| KCB | 1,000 | 1,000 | +0.00 |
| MBP | 490 | 490 | +0.00 |
| MCB | 500 | 500 | +0.00 |
| MKCB | 800 | 800 | +0.00 |
| MUCOB | 400 | 400 | +0.00 |
| NICO | 165 | 165 | +0.00 |
| NMB | 2,340 | 2,340 | +0.00 |
| NMG | 1,380 | 1,380 | +0.00 |
| PAL | 400 | 400 | +0.00 |
| SWALA | 490 | 490 | +0.00 |
| SWIS | 1,700 | 1,700 | +0.00 |
| TBL | 11,400 | 11,400 | +0.00 |
| TCC | 17,000 | 17,000 | +0.00 |
| TCCL | 600 | 600 | +0.00 |
| TICL | 385 | 385 | +0.00 |
| TOL | 660 | 660 | +0.00 |
| TPCC | 2,100 | 2,020 | +3.96 |
| TTP | 120 | 120 | +0.00 |
| USL | 10 | 15 | -33.33 |
| VODA | 800 | 800 | +0.00 |
| YETU | 600 | 600 | +0.00 |

DSE MARKET SUMMARY

| | | |
|------|----------|-------|
| TSI | 3,482.87 | +5.48 |
| DSEI | 2,060.29 | -2.63 |

TRADING STATS

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| Market Cap (bln) | 19,858.77 |
| Equity Turnover | 63,918,250.00 |
| Total Volume | 126,350 |
| Total Deals | 18 |

TOP MOVERS

| | | |
|------|-------|--------|
| CRDB | 125 | 96,170 |
| TPCC | 2,100 | 21,000 |
| NICO | 165 | 6,800 |

GAINERS & LOSERS

| Company | Price | Change |
|---------|-------|---------|
| JHL | 9,300 | -3.63% |
| ACA | 5,950 | -0.83% |
| USL | 10 | -33.33% |
| EABL | 4,690 | +0.21% |
| TPCC | 2,100 | +3.96% |

Interbank Foreign Exchange Market (IFEM)

| Date | Amount Traded (Mn USD) | High | Low | Weighted Average |
|-------------|------------------------|----------|----------|------------------|
| 1/Apr/2019 | 1.30 | 2,311.00 | 2,298.50 | 2,300.95 |
| 29/Mar/2019 | 2.00 | 2,313.00 | 2,298.50 | 2,300.87 |
| 28/Mar/2019 | 2.75 | 2,320.00 | 2,298.50 | 2,300.89 |
| 27/Mar/2019 | 3.10 | 2,313.75 | 2,298.50 | 2,300.90 |
| 26/Mar/2019 | 3.00 | 2,313.00 | 2,298.55 | 2,300.92 |
| 25/Mar/2019 | 2.50 | 2,310.00 | 2,298.60 | 2,300.89 |
| 22/Mar/2019 | 3.20 | 2,315.00 | 2,298.65 | 2,300.91 |

Inter-bank Local Money Markets

| Date | Volume (million-TZS) | High | Low | Weighted Average Rate (WAR) |
|-------------|----------------------|------|------|-----------------------------|
| 1/Apr/2019 | 66,250 | 6.00 | 4.50 | 5.33 |
| 29/Mar/2019 | 32,100 | 6.50 | 5.00 | 5.19 |
| 28/Mar/2019 | 55,000 | 6.00 | 5.00 | 5.15 |
| 27/Mar/2019 | 57,000 | 5.50 | 5.00 | 5.07 |
| 26/Mar/2019 | 35,000 | 6.00 | 5.00 | 5.21 |

Tanzania Shilling On Average bases

The USD/TZS traded at 2,310.0000 on Monday April 1. Historically, the Tanzania Shilling reached an all time high of 2360 in March of 2019 and a record low of 1014.30 in December of 2004.

Gold steadies near four-week low as equities, dollar climb

* SPDR gold holdings posted biggest fall in a month on Monday
* Dollar hovers near three-week highs

LONDON, April 2 (Reuters) - Gold prices eased on Monday as stock markets rallied after upbeat Chinese economic data soothed some concerns about the global economy and boosted risk appetite, although losses were limited by a sliding dollar.

Spot gold was down 0.1 percent at \$1,290.22 per ounce by 1005 GMT, after touching its lowest since March 8 at \$1,286.35 on Friday.

U.S. gold futures fell 0.2 percent to \$1,295.80 an ounce. "We have a positive environment in the equity markets so risk is on and that's a negative for gold," Julius Baer analyst Carsten Menke said.

Global stocks surged on strong Chinese factory activity data and signs of progress in U.S.-China trade negotiations.

The dollar index was lower, however, limiting gold's losses as it makes holding the metal cheaper for buyers holding other currencies.

"We have to look through the noise and at the bigger picture. We still think the global economy is slowing in the 12-18 month horizon, especially in the U.S., which should help gold in the longer term," Menke said.

Gold has gained more than 11 percent since touching more than 1-1/2-year lows last August on a dovish U.S. Federal Reserve and global growth concerns.

Investors are now waiting for U.S. retail sales and manufacturing PMI data due later in the day.

Global demand for gold in 2019 will rise to the highest in four years as higher consumption by jewellers offsets a fall in purchases by central banks, an industry report said on Monday.

Elsewhere, Britain's exit from the European Union was in disarray after the implosion of Prime Minister Theresa May's Brexit strategy left her under pressure from rival factions to leave without a deal, go for an election or forge a much softer divorce.

Speculators increased their net long position in COMEX gold for the second straight week in the week to March 26, data showed on Friday.

"Speculative financial investors were caught on the wrong foot recently," Commerzbank analysts said in a note, adding gold prices have, however, fallen consistently in the meantime.

Among other precious metals, spot palladium was down 0.5 percent at \$1,377.21 an ounce, having declined more than 11 percent last week.

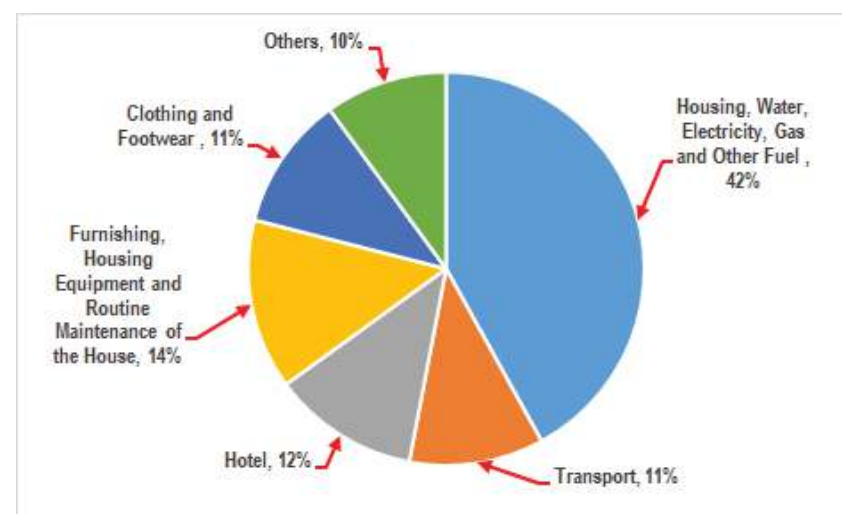
Silver was down 0.6 percent at \$15.05 an ounce, while platinum fell 0.1 percent to \$844.35 an ounce.

All Share Index : 02 April 2019

| Africa | Actual | Change | Daily | Weekly | Monthly | Yearly |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| NSE-All Share | 30,707 | 179.74 | 0.59% | -1.08% | -4.43% | -24.84% |
| FTSE/JSE TOP 40 | 50,735 | 144.73 | -0.28% | 2.76% | 1.68% | 5.30% |
| JALSH-All Share | 57,029 | 80 | -0.14% | 2.91% | 1.35% | 3.85% |
| Egypt EGX 30 | 15,155 | 200.72 | 1.34% | 3.54% | 2.26% | -13.36% |
| Casablanca CFG 25 | 10,991 | 0.00 | 0.00% | -0.77% | -1.81% | -14.46% |
| Nairobi 20 | 2,850 | 3.24 | 0.11% | -0.78% | -2.17% | -25.64% |
| NSE All Share | 159 | 1.35 | 0.86% | -0.04% | 3.47% | -17.15% |
| DSEI | 2,060 | 0.00 | 0.00% | -0.31% | -1.23% | -15.10% |
| TUN | 6,862 | 0.63 | 0.01% | -1.25% | -3.76% | -4.45% |
| GGSECI | 2,412 | 4.37 | -0.18% | 0.12% | -1.70% | -28.36% |
| NSX Overall | 1,349 | 5.60 | -0.41% | 3.78% | 0.03% | -0.50% |
| Gaborone | 7,886 | 0.01 | 0.00% | 0.08% | 0.24% | -8.15% |
| SEMDEX | 2,160 | 6.49 | -0.30% | -0.38% | -1.99% | -5.81% |
| Zimbabwe Index | 409 | 3.28 | 0.81% | 0.77% | -16.36% | 40.47% |

DSEI decreased 2 points or 0.10% to 2063 on Thursday March 28 from 2067 in the previous trading session. Historically, the Tanzania All Share Index DSEI reached an all time high of 3686.97 in January of 2019 and a record low of 1161.30 in December of 2010.

Inflation 3.0% - February 2019: Top Movers



Fluctuation of a Shilling



Oil hits 2019 high on OPEC cuts, concerns over demand ease

LONDON, April 2 (Reuters) - Oil hit a 2019 high above \$69 a barrel on Tuesday on the prospect that more sanctions against Iran and further Venezuelan disruptions could deepen an OPEC-led supply cut, and as the market became less worried that demand may slow.

The United States is considering more sanctions against Iran, whose oil exports have been halved by existing measures, an official said. A key crude terminal in Venezuela, also under U.S. sanctions, has halted operations again.

Brent crude rose 10 cents to \$69.11 a barrel by 0826 GMT, having touched \$69.50, the highest since mid-November. U.S. crude was up 11 cents at \$61.70 after rising above \$62 for the first time since early November.

"The supply cuts have been there for a while but Venezuela is not improving," said Olivier Jakob, analyst at Petromatrix. "That is taking a lot of oil away from the market."

Further supply losses from Iran and Venezuela could widen an OPEC-led production cut that took effect in January, designed to prevent a price-sapping rise in inventories.

Supply from the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries hit a four-year low in March, a Reuters survey found, because top exporter Saudi Arabia cut more than it had agreed to and due to the involuntary declines.

This week's reports on U.S. supplies are expected to show crude inventories fell, a sign that the OPEC curbs are having the impact producers intended.

Six analysts polled by Reuters estimated, on average, that crude stocks fell by 1.2 million barrels in the week to March 29. The first of this week's supply reports, from the American Petroleum Institute, is due at 2030 GMT.

Oil's pattern on the price charts could lead to further gains. Brent is trading just below the 200-day moving average and a move above this mark would provide additional technical support, Jakob said.

Healthy data on the world's biggest economies, the United States and China, also bolstered prices.

Figures showing a rebound in U.S. factory activity in March and a return to growth in Chinese manufacturing eased concern that an economic slowdown could weaken oil demand.

"China's PMI number was the most significant monthly increase since 2012, which should ease concerns around a potential threat to oil demand," said Stephen Innes, head of trading and market strategy at SPI Asset Management.

Fuel Wef. Wednesday, 6th Mar 2019

| Town | Petrol (TZS/Litre) | Diesel (TZS/Litre) | Kerosene (TZS/Litre) |
|-----------------|--------------------|--------------------|----------------------|
| Dar es Salaam | 2,098 | 2,131 | 2,096 |
| Arusha | 2,191 | 2,195 | 2,286 |
| Pwani | 2,102 | 2,135 | 2,101 |
| Dodoma | 2,157 | 2,189 | 2,155 |
| Geita | 2,263 | 2,296 | 2,262 |
| Iringa | 2,162 | 2,195 | 2,161 |
| Kagera (Bukoba) | 2,313 | 2,346 | 2,312 |
| Katavi (Mpanda) | 2,306 | 2,339 | 2,304 |
| Kigoma | 2,329 | 2,362 | 2,328 |
| Moshi | 2,181 | 2,185 | 2,276 |
| Lindi | 2,141 | 2,236 | 2,155 |
| Manyara | 2,225 | 2,229 | 2,320 |
| Mara | 2,276 | 2,309 | 2,275 |
| Mbeya | 2,205 | 2,238 | 2,204 |
| Morogoro | 2,123 | 2,156 | 2,121 |
| Mtwara | 2,127 | 2,222 | 2,169 |
| Mwanza | 2,248 | 2,281 | 2,247 |
| Njombe | 2,190 | 2,223 | 2,189 |
| Rukwa (S'wanga) | 2,271 | 2,304 | 2,269 |
| Ruvuma (Songea) | 2,213 | 2,308 | 2,220 |
| Shinyanga | 2,227 | 2,260 | 2,225 |
| Singida | 2,188 | 2,221 | 2,187 |
| Songwe (Vwawa) | 2,214 | 2,247 | 2,213 |
| Tabora | 2,252 | 2,285 | 2,251 |

Foreign Exchange- April 2

| | Actual | Chg | %Chg |
|-----------|----------|---------|--------|
| EURUSD | 1.12014 | 0.00106 | -0.09% |
| GBPUSD | 1.30578 | 0.00412 | -0.31% |
| AUDUSD | 0.70781 | 0.00329 | -0.46% |
| NZDUSD | 0.67653 | 0.00387 | -0.57% |
| USDJPY | 111.36 | 0.02 | 0.02% |
| USDCNY | 6.72461 | 0.00671 | 0.10% |
| USDCHF | 0.99977 | 0.00107 | 0.11% |
| USDCAD | 1.3324 | 0.0018 | 0.14% |
| USDMXN | 19.1339 | 0.0041 | -0.02% |
| USDINR | 69.204 | 0.0140 | 0.02% |
| USDBRL | 3.8518 | 0.0010 | 0.03% |
| USDRUB | 65.44 | 0.2285 | 0.35% |
| US Dollar | 97.38 | 0.14 | 0.15% |
| BTCUSD | 4,765.53 | 629 | 15.21% |

Exchange Rates for April 2, 2019

| Currency in 100 Units | Spot Buying | Spot Selling |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| EAST AFRICAN CURRENCIES | | |
| Kenya SHS | 2,261.21 | 2,279.30 |
| Uganda SHS | 57.75 | 61.89 |
| Rwandan Franc | 251.97 | 255.01 |
| Burundi Franc | 218.12 | 219.77 |
| OTHER SELECTED CURRENCIES | | |
| USD | 227,816.83 | 230,095.00 |
| Pound STG | 298,690.65 | 301,700.56 |
| EURO | 255,997.77 | 258,580.76 |
| Canadian \$ | 170,674.88 | 172,329.99 |
| Switz. Franc | 229,053.72 | 231,321.00 |
| Japanese YEN | 2,054.26 | 2,074.61 |
| Swedish Kronor | 24,567.49 | 24,802.47 |
| Norweg. Kronor | 26,566.01 | 26,826.98 |
| Danish Kronor | 34,300.47 | 34,640.34 |
| Australian \$ | 162,342.27 | 164,011.72 |
| Indian RPS | 3,291.44 | 3,322.77 |
| Pakistan RPS | 1,538.21 | 1,631.88 |
| Zambian Kwacha | 18,616.48 | 18,914.51 |
| Malawian Kwacha | 290.47 | 311.13 |
| Mozambique-MET | 3,554.08 | 3,584.03 |
| Zimbabwe \$ | 42.63 | 43.49 |
| SDR | 316,266.72 | 319,429.38 |
| Gold (T/O) | 295,013,684.36 | 298,308,963.70 |
| S. African Rand | 16,056.78 | 16,213.46 |
| UAE Dirham | 62,028.11 | 62,644.98 |
| Singapore \$ | 168,291.96 | 169,962.33 |
| Hong Kong \$ | 29,022.36 | 29,312.21 |
| Saud Arabian Rial | 60,746.30 | 61,352.12 |
| Kuwait Dinar | 748,954.01 | 756,219.80 |
| Botswana Pula | 21,300.87 | 21,697.96 |
| Chinese Yuan | 33,948.30 | 34,279.61 |
| Malaysia Ringgit | 55,851.15 | 56,368.20 |
| South Korea Won | 200.75 | 202.71 |
| Newzealand | 155,598.90 | 157,246.92 |

World Commodities (\$) 29 March 2019

| Energy | Price | Day | Weekly | Monthly | Yearly |
|-------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| Crude Oil | 60.5058 | 2.09% | 2.43% | 8.38% | -7.23% |
| Silver | 68.786 | 1.37% | 2.51% | 5.60% | 1.58% |
| Natural gas | 2.6957 | -0.41% | -2.04% | -5.87% | 0.52% |
| Gasoline | 1.9153 | 1.71% | -0.56% | 10.68% | -2.59% |
| Heating oil | 1.9947 | 0.95% | 1.38% | -0.40% | 0.65% |
| Ethanol | 1.3603 | -1.45% | -4.14% | 1.67% | -3.53% |
| Naphtha | 532.9 | -0.17% | -0.35% | 4.06% | -6.75% |
| Propane | 0.67 | -0.06% | -0.57% | -0.46% | -15.72% |
| Uranium | 25.05 | -1.76% | -3.84% | -10.70% | 19.29% |

CROPS, PRICE PER 100KG MARCH 29, 2019

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WORLD

British lawmakers reject all four Brexit options in second round of unbinding vote

LONDON

BRITISH lawmakers on Monday voted to turn down all the four proposed Brexit options on the table, the second time since Friday that none of MPs' proposed Brexit options wins clear backing in the House of Commons.

MPs voted down all the four Brexit proposals chosen by House Speaker John Bercow in a bid to break the current Brexit deadlock.

The British government has until April 12 to decide how Britain will leave the European Union (EU). None of the four alternatives to British Prime Minister Theresa May's Brexit deal receives support from a majority of MPs in the

second round of "indicative vote," which kicked off at around 20:00 BST on Monday and whose results were announced at around 22:00 BST.

MPs voted 261 to 282 to reject the proposal that the United Kingdom stays in the single market and negotiates the customs union with the EU. The customs union proposal means Britain's close trading relations with the European Union after Brexit.

Under the Common Market 2.0 proposal, the UK would leave the EU, but retain the free flow of goods and make contributions to the EU budget.

Meanwhile, MPs also voted 191 to 292 to turn down the idea to give lawmakers power to stop a no-deal Brexit. They



British Prime Minister Theresa May

voted 280 to 292 to oppose the proposal that confirmative public vote will be conducted on Brexit.

MPs also voted 273 to 276 to reject the proposal to negotiate permanent customs union with the EU. None of the Monday votes on the proposals are legally binding, meaning it will be up to the British government if they act on the results. Conservative MPs have been given a free vote, but cabinet ministers will be told to abstain.

The opposition Labour Party ordered its MPs to vote for the customs union. Prime Minister May is seeking a fourth vote on her Withdrawal Agreement, which has been rejected by the parliament three times since January.

The first round of unbinding "indicative vote" was conducted on March 27, in which none of

MPs' eight proposed options secured a majority, but among them, the proposed options about a customs union with the European Union and a referendum on any deal received most support from the lawmakers.

Many of those eight options have returned for round two, but some have been replaced with new alternatives. The prime minister, who is struggling to hold her party together, warned Sunday night that she faced resignation and a split in the Conservative Party if she agrees to pursue a "soft" Brexit this week.

The British cabinet is expected to meet on Tuesday morning to consider how to proceed with the vote outcomes amid speculation about possible resignations, a general election or change of Tory leader. "My party refuses to compromise, I regret therefore that I can no longer sit for the party," an emotional Conservative MP Nick Boles said in the parliament chamber shortly after the announcement of the vote results to quit the party. "I accept that I have failed," he added.

British cabinet ministers were once again reportedly instructed to boycott the votes as MPs make a second attempt to coalesce around an alternative deal. May had suggested she would "engage constructively" with the indicative votes process. May's plan that she negotiated with the EU has been rejected twice by historic margins in Parliament. The withdrawal agreement section of her deal was voted down again by MPs on Friday.

Mrs May now has until 12 April to either seek a longer extension from the EU to take a different course or decide to leave the EU without a deal.

Agencies

Russia's top diplomat says OPCW split due to attempts of politicising its work

MOSCOW

RUSSIA supports the overcoming of crisis and the improvement of the situation in the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said yesterday ahead of negotiations with OPCW Director-General Fernando Arias Gonzalez.

"The situation in the OPCW is unsatisfactory," he noted. "The organization is practically split due to constant attempts to politicize various aspects of the organization's activities."

"The creation of groups under so-called attribution is alarming," Lavrov said. "It is a rudest violation of the Chemical Weapons Convention," the Russian foreign minister noted.

"When the convention, which is based on the principle of consensus by definition, is changed by voting, it naturally creates a very nervous situation and gives a bad example to other international organizations."

"Being seriously concerned about the situation in the sphere of the OPCW's activity, being one of the states that conscientiously performed all its obligations under the Chemical Weapons Convention, Russia is interested in overcoming the current crisis," Lavrov went on.

In light of this, he called on the OPCW director-general to use his "rich experience and the ability to search for consensus and listen to the positions and approaches of all states and help find compromises" in the current difficult period.

"We are confident that only through uniting the efforts of all the countries that realized the scale of the problems it is possible to improve the situation in the OPCW and return this organization, its work into a normal, consensual state without any politicization," the minister highlighted.

Uganda harnesses power of mobile phones as driver of economic growth

KAMPALA

UGANDA is harnessing the power of mobile phones as a driver of its economic growth under the country's Vision 2040, which aims at the country's transition from a low-income country to one with a competitive upper middle class.

The mobile industry has succeeded in enabling access to services in the fields of finance, agriculture, health, education and energy, Uganda's Minister of Information and Communications Technology Frank Tumwebaze said at a recent national dialogue on digital transformation.

"Mobile phones enable the most widespread and inclusive means of accessing the Internet and digital technologies, which are vital to the growth of the Ugandan economy in an increasingly digital world," Tumwebaze said.

Almaz Gebru, acting resident representative of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), said the evolution of mobile phones

and digital services in Uganda is already yielding results.

Gebru said that in the late 1990s, mobile phones were only for a minority. One usually had to travel over 20 km to the nearest service provider to make phone calls.

"Today, nearly half of the Ugandan population have mobile subscriptions, with more than 10 million Ugandans accessing the Internet on phones. Farmers can access market prices and sell products remotely."

Citizens in rural areas do not require a bank account to save, send or withdraw money. They no longer have to travel to town to pay school fees or utilities," she added.

Key platforms such as mobile money and Cellular Internet of Things (IoT) enable the creation, distribution and consumption of a wide range of digital services, according to a report by the United Nations, Britain's Department for International Development and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency.

Algeria's leader, ceding to protests, will quit by April 28

ALGIERS, Algeria

ALGERIAN President Abdelaziz Bouteflika will step down before his fourth term ends on April 28, his office said Monday, as the ailing leader capitulated to growing calls for his resignation after two decades in power.

It's unclear if the stunning move will appease the masses of protesters whose vociferous calls for Bouteflika and his cadre of loyalists to quit have expanded to demand an overhaul of the entire political system.

Their weekly protests since Feb 22 have challenged the political status quo in the country long ruled by Bouteflika, 82, a onetime wily political survivor who has rarely been seen in public since he suffered a stroke in 2013.

A short statement from Bouteflika's office said he would take "important steps to ensure the continuity of the functioning of state institutions" after he leaves the office he assumed in 1999.

The Algerian Constitution calls for the head of the upper house of parliament, Abdelkader Bensalah, to act as interim leader for a maximum of 90 days while an election is organized.



President Abdelaziz Bouteflika

Algerian national television reported Sunday night that Bouteflika and the replacement prime minister he appointed last month, Noureddine Bedoui, had formed a new government after struggling for weeks to find potential cabinet ministers amid the uncertainty surrounding the president.

The new government must stay in place during the transition period before the next election.

In recent weeks, the president saw key figures withdraw their support from him. Algeria's powerful army chief proposed launching a procedure to have Bouteflika

declared unfit for office, prompting tensions between the army and the president's inner circle.

The president's concession came after a court in Algeria said it was investigating corruption and the illegal transfer of funds abroad amid concerns about a flight of capital from the country amid political instability.

The official APNS news agency quoted the Algerian prosecutor's office Monday as saying "certain people" were banned from leaving the country "for the needs of the investigation," providing no details.

Police detained a powerful industrialist who is thought to be close to Bouteflika, Ali Haddad, near the Algerian-Tunisian border over the weekend.

Algeria is Africa's biggest country by land mass and a major natural gas producer, but its energy riches have not trickled down to reach the pockets of its people.

The protests have been driven mostly by young Algerians, many of whom struggle to find jobs. Desperation has driven some to attempt to migrate to Europe on rickety boats.

Demonstrators said Bouteflika and the rest of the political establishment were out of touch with their everyday problems. They have called for a rewritten constitution that gives fewer powers to the president in a bid to strengthen democracy in the gas-rich North African country.

Ending his presidency amid the protests was a bold decision for Bouteflika, who in February declared he would seek a fifth term in the presidential election originally scheduled for April 18.

He postponed the election and said he would not be a candidate when it was held, but did not set a new date, angering critics who

saw the delay as designed to hold onto power.

Bouteflika had been known as a political survivor ever since he fought during the 1950s and 1960s for Algeria's independence from France.

He became foreign minister at the age of 25, and stood up to the likes of Henry Kissinger at the height of the Cold War, when Algeria was tethered to the former Soviet Union.

Bouteflika famously negotiated with the Venezuelan terrorist known as Carlos the Jackal to free oil ministers who were taken hostage in a 1975 attack on OPEC headquarters in Vienna and flown to Algiers.

Most crucially, he helped reconcile Algeria's citizens after a decade of civil war between radical Muslim militants and Algerian security forces left some 200,000 people dead in the 1990s and nearly tore Algeria apart.

During his 20 years in office, age and illness took a toll on the once-charismatic figure. Corruption scandals over infrastructure and hydrocarbon projects have also dogged him for years and tarnished many of his closest associates.

Agencies

President Xi cites US ties in gathering with ex-leaders

BEIJING

CHINA would like to walk in the same direction as the United States, handle their disputes and expand cooperation, President Xi Jinping said on Monday.

Xi made the remark while meeting with a delegation of global leaders called The Elders at the Great Hall of the People in Beijing. The independent group was founded in 2007 by Nelson Mandela, former president of South Africa.

Xi told the group that Sino-US ties are among the world's most important bilateral relationships. China would like to develop its relations with the US on the basis of coordination, cooperation and stability

to provide more certainty and predictability for the world, he added.

The relationship between major countries affects the strategic stability of the world, and major countries shoulder special responsibilities, Xi said.

China is dedicated to promoting coordination and cooperation between major countries, Xi said, adding that China expects to maintain friendly relations with major countries, avoid conflicts and confrontation, respect each other and cooperate for win-win results.

Xi said the impact of unilateralism has worried many countries, but support for multilateralism remains the mainstream of the international community.



China continues to support the multilateral processes including maintaining the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and enhancing the cooperation on climate change, Xi said.

The Belt and Road Initiative put forward by China is an important contribution to multilateralism and global cooperation, Xi said, adding that China has worked with other countries to innovate in cooperation

in the past five years.

As a developing major country, China pursues win-win cooperation and helps all developing nations achieve common development, Xi said, adding that the BRI aims for mutual benefits.

Most of the members of The Elders are leaders of international organizations and former political leaders including Ban Ki-moon, former secretary-general of the United Nations, and Ernesto Zedillo, former president of Mexico. Its chairwoman is Mary Robinson, former president of Ireland.

Members spoke highly of China's achievements in environmental protection, poverty reduction and ethnic relations and development.

China has played a constructive role as a responsible major country at a time when multilateralism is facing challenges, and Xi's speeches at international events have sent positive signals, they said.

Noting that this year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, Robinson said that China has made great progress in the recent decades, and she has seen great changes in China.

"We hope to really have a continuing dialogue with China on issues because they are quite urgent now," she said, adding that multilateralism is "going through a difficult time".

Xinhua

World's population to reach 9.7 billion in 2050 - UN report

UNITED NATIONS

THE world's population is projected to reach around 9.7 billion in 2050 and rise further to about 11 billion by the end of the century, according to a UN report released Monday.

"The world's population, estimated at 7.7 billion in 2019, continues to grow, albeit at a decreasing rate. It is projected to continue growing, reaching around 9.7 billion in 2050 and rising further to roughly 11 billion by the end of the century," said the UN report.

The UN report is titled "Review and Appraisal of the Program of Action of the International Conference on Population and Development and its contribution to the follow-up and review of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development."

China, Arab states eye closer cooperation on satellite navigation to build 'Space Silk Road'

TUNIS

CHINESE and Arab officials and experts on Monday envisioned building a "Space Silk Road" through closer cooperation on wider application of China's indigenously made BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS) in the Middle East.

Speaking at the second China-Arab States BDS Cooperation Forum held in the Tunisian capital Tunis, the officials and experts agreed that increased application of the BDS in the region could elevate the China-Arab strategic cooperation to a higher level to benefit both sides.

"The BDS cooperation is the best example for the strategic cooperation between China and Arab states, as satellite

navigation integrates many hi-tech areas, including telecommunication and space technologies," Slim Khalbous, Tunisian minister of higher education and scientific research, told the audience at the forum.

"This is an important opportunity for Tunisia, while the BDS cooperation also means the further upgrade of the China-Arab relations," the minister said, noting that Tunisia strongly supports its cooperation with China on the BDS application.

He hailed Tunisia's cooperation with China, suggesting that the two sides conduct more exchanges between universities and enterprises, and implement more projects on the BDS application to boost the bilateral ties.

Mohamed Ben Amor, secretary-

general of Arab Information and Communication Technologies Organization (AICTO), said that the establishment of the China-Arab States BDS/GNSS Center in Tunisia in 2018 was an important step in deepening the mutually beneficial China-Arab cooperation.

He pledged to boost the China-Arab cooperation on the application of satellite navigation technology, which has been widely used in land surveying, environmental monitoring, precision agriculture, disaster-reduction, and maritime transportation.

"Satellite navigation has provided many conveniences and benefits for us, and we are determined to push forward with our cooperation," Amor said in his speech at the opening ceremony.

Kamal Hassen Ali, assistant secre-

tary general of the Arab League (AL) in charge of economic affairs, lauded China, which made important contribution to building the ancient Silk Road, for establishing an excellent mechanism for cooperation and exchanges with Arab states.

Under the theme of "Cooperation, Application and Service," this year's forum focused on increasing BDS application in the Middle East region.

"The size of our cooperation will grow bigger, as the China-Tunisia cooperation has borne many fruits, and it will achieve greater progress in other countries in the region too," Ali said.

Wang Zhaoyao, chairman of Chinese Satellite Navigation Committee, called for jointly building a China-Arab "Space Silk Road" which he said will help Arab

states share more benefits from the China-made navigation satellite system.

He noted that the BDS has been already applied in many Middle Eastern countries, including Tunisia, Algeria, Kuwait and Sudan in areas such as precision agriculture, telecommunication, maritime monitoring and disaster relief.

Li Chengwen, the Chinese ambassador for China-Arab States Cooperation Forum Affairs, said that a "Space Silk Road" is taking shape as the BDS becomes a new engine for pushing forward the fruitful China-Arab cooperation, especially in the hi-tech area.

At the forum which was attended by more than 200 officials, experts and business people from China and Tunisia, several agreements were inked on furthering cooperation on the BDS ap-

plication. Many of the attendees also watched the demonstration of the application of BDS for precision agriculture at the China-Arab States BDS/GNSS Center, during which a self-driving tractor equipped with the BDS smartly averted obstacles and drove along the planned routes through the remote control.

The center, the first overseas BDS center, was set up in Tunisia in 2018 by China and the AICTO to showcase the BDS technology and promote international exchanges and cooperation on the field.

The BDS, which went into trial operation in 2011 and started global service in later 2018, is a navigation satellite system independently developed by China.

Xinhua

The
Guardian

SPORT



FILE PHOTO: Afghan boy wait for a brief dust storm to pass while playing cricket in Kabul, Afghanistan October 7, 2016. REUTERS

Swapping Kalashnikovs for bat and pads: Afghan cricket, the Taliban and peace

JALALABAD, Afghanistan

DURING a lull in Afghanistan's never-ending war, before the fighting season resumes once again in the spring, Taliban fighters recall laying down their Kalashnikovs and, for a brief moment, enjoying a game of cricket.

The sport is the only one most of the fighters enjoy, commanders say, with matches attracting hundreds of spectators from Taliban-controlled villages when there is no fighting. They are also fans of the increasingly successful national team.

"I love cricket," said Mullah Badruddin, a Taliban commander in Khogyani district of Nangarhar, on the border with Pakistan, where a tournament organised by the militants at the start of last winter drew large crowds.

"When Afghanistan play against another team, we listen to the radio with great interest and we also check for scores in social media and follow those in Facebook who give live updates," he told Reuters by telephone.

First played in Afghanistan by British troops in the 19th Century, the game was adopted by Afghans in the refugee camps of cricket-loving Pakistan, where more than 3 million fled a Soviet invasion and civil war in the 1980s and 1990s, and has since made huge strides in the country, particularly among ethnic Pashtuns in the eastern border provinces.

Taj Malook Khan, who helped set up the Afghan Cricket Club in Kacha Gari refugee camp outside the Pakistani city of Peshawar in the 1980s, and a small group of players used to cross into Afghanistan during the 1990s Taliban era to play and promote cricket.

The Taliban had banned games such as cricket and football in the early years of their austere rule because they believed they kept men away from prayers, according to former national cricketer Hasti Gul, but later became more tolerant of cricket.

From there, despite at least two attacks in the past couple of years on cricket matches claimed by the ultra radical Islamic State group, the game now rivals football for popularity in a country that has long been cut off from international sport.

STAR NAMES

Admitted as a full member of the International Cricket Council in 2017, Afghanistan won its first five-day Test match against Ireland last month after making steady progress in the lower levels of the international game.

However it is in the dynamic, shorter form of the sport that Afghans have had most impact. Players such as spin bowler Rashid Khan or big hitting batsman Mohammad Nabi Esakhil have become undisputed stars of the Indian Premier League (IPL), the razzle-dazzle showcase of so-called T20 cricket, the 12th season of which has just got under way.

Despite the Taliban's former suspicion of organised sports and their opposition to much of the transformation in Afghanistan since their hardline Islamic regime was toppled in 2001, many of the mainly Pashtun movement's fighters are fans.

Unlike football, which offends the sensibilities of some very conservative Muslims because it is normally played in shorts, cricket is played in long sleeves and trousers, in line with traditional dress codes. It also bears some resemblance to traditional Afghan children's games involving throwing and using sticks to hit smaller sticks or balls.

Karim Sadiq, a former batsman in the national team and an early pioneer of the sport who visited some Taliban-controlled areas in eastern Afghanistan this year, said he was mobbed by fighters asking about the

game and their favourite players.

A video clip he shot on his mobile phone shows dozens of Taliban, many with Kalashnikov automatic rifles slung across their shoulders, dissecting the quality of the team.

"I like all the players but my favourite is Rashid Khan Arman," says one fighter, referring to the young spin bowler who stars for the Afghan national side and IPL's Sunrisers Hyderabad. "His bowling is amazing."

WORLD CUP DREAM

With the approach of the cricket World Cup in England and Wales from May to July, Afghanistan's hopes of making a dent in the tournament are higher than they have ever been, even if few give them a chance against giants of the game such as India, Australia or England.

"We have a very strong team and my dream is Afghanistan bring the World Cup home," said Hazrat Gul, a young cricketer in the eastern city of Jalalabad, as he prepared to play a friendly match against a team from neighbouring Kunar province.

As peace talks between the U.S. government and Taliban officials continue and Afghanistan looks for a way out of 40 years of conflict, excitement is building and officials and government ministers lavish praise on the players, whom President Ashraf Ghani has called national heroes.

From the other side of the war, the feeling is similar. Sadiq who has just returned to practice after a long injury, aiming to take part in the upcoming World Cup, said the Taliban usually send them congratulatory messages through social media and on his cellphone when Afghanistan win.

Such broad appeal has seen the sport widely hailed as a unifying force in Afghanistan, a patchwork of different languages and cultures, sometimes at peace with each other but increasingly in recent years in conflict.

ETHNIC DIVIDES

Not everyone is on board the cricket bandwagon, however.

Look deeper, and the state of the game has much to say about a country where sport has repeatedly attracted violence, including suicide attacks on cricket and wrestling matches, and where politics is increasingly divided along ethnic lines that shade into all aspects of life.

For many Persian-speaking Tajiks and Hazaras, cricket is a sport for Pashtuns, the dominant ethnic group from the south and east of the country that has provided almost all kings and presidents throughout Afghan history.

"I have no interest and don't know anything about cricket," said Ahmad Jawad, a shopkeeper in Parwan, a mainly Tajik province north of Kabul. "It's a Pashtun game with Pashtun players, so let them enjoy their game." After the Taliban fell following the U.S.-led campaign of 2001, Sadiq and Gul - brothers who, like many teammates, learned their cricket in Pakistan - and other players struggled to convince Tajik commanders from the victorious Northern Alliance that swept into Kabul to allow them to continue playing the game.

"Palace officials told us to join Afghan guard units and forget about cricket," said Gul, who recalled having to cancel a provincial tournament in Kabul in 2005 after losing a fistfight with soccer players who wanted to use the pitch.

Now, with the IPL beamed into homes all over the country and the looming World Cup, he feels change is coming and the sport can give Afghanistan a platform no other can equal, one that offers hope for a more normal future after so many years of war. **REUTERS**



Simba striker, John Bocco (R), challenges Ndanda FC defender in a past Mainland Premier League match.

The enigma of John Bocco

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

JOHN Bocco divides opinion, putting it simply. We choose when to either love him or hate him. After almost every match we come to different but old conclusions.

One game he is a good enough forward to win Simba Sports Club the league trophy, the next a replacement figure is in need.

Ultimately, the reality is Bocco is one of the most underappreciated players to ever grace the Tanzania football landscape.

The former Azam Football Club hitman frequently fluctuates between good and bad, no in between. The inconsistency is what makes his reputation. He has long been underappreciated in the Tanzanian Premier League yet his stats shows he should be given far more recognition.

He has scored 108 times for Simba and Azam in the league, reaching double figures in seven seasons. Despite the fact that no other striker in the league can boast of having a similar record as Bocco, he has never been rated as a top striker. The question "why?" becomes harder to answer once his achievements and numbers are taken into context.

Bocco plays like an old fashioned number nine. He thrives off crosses and neat one-tos in and around the box, which is rare to find in out-and-out strikers especially in our league.

He is not either the flashiest player or the most technically

gifted. What he is, however, is a player that works hard and has come through for both Simba and Azam on countless occasions.

Simba fans tolerate him when he is playing well, but as soon as he goes on a run of blanks, the tide soon begins to go back out. The media tends to ignore him because he is not a controversial player who sells newspapers.

For instance against JS Saoura of Algeria, Bocco was not having a good game. Fans did not show the same tolerance they have for the likes of Emmanuel Okwi and Clatous Chama.

They made their feelings known by applauding his substitution in the first half, but the little love from the fickle fans is not enough to deter Bocco.

After his brace against Mbao in the Mainland Premier League last weekend, Bocco moved level with Simba favourite, Okwi, on 32 goals for the squad in the last two seasons, a commendable achievement which should impress even the staunchest Bocco critics.

He has scored 11 times in 17 league

appearances this season so far.

On top of his exploits for his club, Bocco is now starting to win over Tanzania football fans, who were less than pleased to see him win selection for the national team, Taifa Stars, ahead of other forwards in the past few years.

At one time he was booed by fans and his mere selection in the starting 11 would provoke derisions from fans and the media.

He was fed up with the negative and retired from international football only to be convinced otherwise. His recent performance for Taifa Stars has been nothing short of exceptional.

Playing in an unusual position as a winger, he was instrumental in Tanzania's do or die match against Uganda. He assisted two goals. Fans will certainly be hoping Bocco can maintain his current form, and in the process help Taifa Stars to a successful African Cup of Nations finals campaign in Egypt.

Whilst his footballing ability will continue to be called into question, one thing that cannot be disregarded is his character. Bocco is a gentleman on and off the pitch.

SportPesa Racing Point Sergio Perez makes his point in Bahrain



MANAMA

AFTER a challenging weekend in Bahrain, SportPesa Racing Point picked up a point with Sergio Perez racing to tenth place.

P10 SERGIO PEREZ - New Soft (8 laps) - New Medium (25 laps) - New Medium (24 laps)

"It's good to pick up my first point of the season. It was an unpredictable race and in that sense it's a nice surprise. We got a bit lucky with both Renaults retiring, but at the same time the Safety Car didn't help me because I was closing on Albon and I lost the opportunity to overtake him for ninth place. I made a really good start and

gained a few positions, but I couldn't defend my position for long. Then, we had an issue with the brakes getting too hot and I had to pit much earlier than planned to remove some debris blocking the brake ducts. Considering everything that happened in the race we can be pleased to pick up a point."

P14 LANCE STROLL - New Soft (1 lap) - New Medium (22 laps) - New Medium (33 laps)

Lance: "I haven't seen the replay yet but I think the contact with Romain [Grosjean] was a first lap racing incident. Unfortunately we touched, there was damage, and I had to pit for a new nose. We were racing wheel-to-wheel and these things happen, but

it was really costly because my race was pretty much over after that. We carried on racing and pushing, but we couldn't recover after losing so much time. The wind had really picked up out there today, but everyone was in the same boat and after a few laps we got used to it. We finished the race and there is plenty to analyse, but we've got to see where we can improve before we get to China."

SportPesa, the growing global technology and entertainment company, has been announced as the new title partner for Racing Point in February this year, with the team now known as SportPesa Racing Point F1 Team.

SportPesa is a growing global technology and entertainment company that is focused on sports and entertainment news. As such, our platforms immediately update sport scores and, in certain markets, offer fully licensed, real money gaming services. We are a brand committed to responsibly delivering our services and investing in the development of sports and our communities. We use the power of sport to unify people everywhere; connecting customers with excitement, sports clubs with funding and society with opportunities.

(AGENCIES)

Pope Francis: Messi joy to watch but 'is not God'

BARCELONA

POPE Francis has said his Argentinian compatriot Lionel Messi is not "God" yet understands why people refer to him as if he is.

Barcelona forward Messi has scored 31 goals, including both in the 2-0 derby victory over Espanyol, and set up 12 more in 27 league games for the La Liga leaders. He has netted 16 in 12 Champions League appearances to help Barca reach the quarterfinals and also helped his side progress to the Copa del Rey final.

Asked if it was a sacrilege to call the five-time Ballon d'Or winner Messi "God," thus breaking the third commandment by using the lord's name in vain, Pope Francis told Spanish TV La Sexta show "Salvados": "In theory it's a sacrilege.

"You can't say it and I don't believe it. I think people say 'he is

God' just as they say 'I adore you.' You have to adore only God. It's expressions that people use. This is a god with the ball on the pitch. It's a popular way that people have of expressing themselves. Of course it is a joy [to watch Messi play]. But he is not God."

Born in Buenos Aires, the head of the Catholic church is a football fan and club member of Argentinian side San Lorenzo.

Messi and the Argentina national team met Pope Francis in the summer of 2013 at the Vatican and the national team captain described the meeting as "short but beautiful."

A year later, Messi was among other Argentina internationals to sign a national team jersey which was sent to Pope Francis as a gift during the 2014 World Cup, where Argentina finished runners up to Germany.

(AGENCIES)

Ozil now 'happy' to pass Spurs in Prem standings

LONDON

ARSENAL midfielder Mesut Ozil said he was satisfied with the team's 2-0 win over Newcastle that saw them leap over North London rivals Tottenham Hotspur in the standings.

With Monday night's result, the Gunners move to third place in the Premier League standings, two points ahead of Spurs and Manchester United.

"Our aim is to get into the top four. Of course we're happy that we're in front of Tottenham," Ozil said after the match. "It's always a big competition with them. If we play like today, we have a few more games in front of us and we want to win them. We want to take all the points to get into the top four at the end of the season."

Aaron Ramsey scored in the 30th minute and Alexandre Lacazette added the second goal in the 83rd minute in a dominant performance at Emirates Stadium for Arsenal, who have won 10 straight home league games within a single season for the first time since May 1998.

"My work is to give everything on the pitch, like today. I only want to help my teammates to win the game. I think we played very well as a team,

not just me. It was a team effort," Ozil said.

Arsenal coach Unai Emery said the win came "at the most important moment of the season."

On Ozil's play on the night, Emery said: "[He] has quality, when he can find the best performance for the team, he is playing like we want with the system and how tactically we want. He is giving us his quality."

Ramsey's goal may have felt bittersweet for Arsenal fans. The Wales international will trade the Premier League for Serie A in the summer after he signed a four-year deal with Juventus in February.

However, his night ended prematurely when he picked up an injury in the 66th minute and immediately signaled to come off.

Lacazette echoed his manager's sentiments on the night's effort.

"The coach said we had to be patient and efficient in the box, and we did that. It's always like this against Newcastle. We are happy," Lacazette told Sky Sports.

"I can feel the difference in the atmosphere from last season. Now we can maybe go to the Champions League."

(AGENCIES)

Solskjaer holds Pogba talks over Madrid links

MANCHESTER, England

MANCHESTER United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has said he has had face-to-face talks with Paul Pogba following speculation the midfielder could be tempted by a move to Real Madrid.

Pogba has described a transfer to the Bernabeu as "a dream" while Real Madrid boss Zinedine Zidane has made no secret of his desire to see his compatriot move to the Spanish capital in the future.

It has prompted speculation a transfer could happen this summer but Solskjaer said he is confident Pogba, who is under contract at United until 2022 with no release clause, wants to stay after a meeting last week.

"[The speculation] doesn't really concern me because my thought of action then is to sit down and speak to Paul," Solskjaer said. "I've had my chat with Paul and we're fine.

"He is going to do his utmost here because he knows I'm very fond of him as a player and a person and he is important for us. There is no issue. He's important here."

Solskjaer has already spoken to executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward about his summer transfer business and what the squad, which he is hopeful will include Pogba, might look like next season.

United hope to appoint a technical director before the end of the transfer window to oversee

recruitment from the academy to the first team and Solskjaer said he has offered his advice on who the new man should be.

They are keen to appoint someone, like Solskjaer, who will fit into the culture of the club and there have already been talks with a number of prospective candidates.

"I've got an input in most of the things now and my advice of course and I've got to say, the communication between me Ed and the owners is very good," Solskjaer said. "We discuss different names but of course I am not the one who decides."

The Norwegian, appointed manager on a full-time basis on Thursday, takes his team to Wolves on Tuesday night looking to take another step towards the top four after the 2-1 win over Watford on Saturday.

They are battling Tottenham, Arsenal and Chelsea for two spots and Solskjaer has set his players a target for the final seven games to guarantee Champions League football next season.

"The players know themselves they want to be in the Champions League, they want to perform as well as they possibly can," Solskjaer said. "Maybe they didn't believe it themselves in November or December last year that we're in with a chance.

"Everyone knows now if we do our jobs, say 15 points in the last seven games, we'll be in the Champions League next year."

(AGENCIES)

The good times are coming back to Arsenal

LONDON

WITH about 20 minutes left of Arsenal's 2-0 win over Newcastle on Monday, Shkodran Mustafi collected the ball on the right wing and, with two forwards in the box to aim for, lined up his cross, carefully pulled his foot back and shanked the ball high into the North Bank.

Mustafi, a high-wire footballer who always introduces an element of peril into Arsenal games with the knowledge that a buffoonish error is always just around the corner, must have braced himself for the home crowd's response. He had produced a few of those brain-addled mistakes earlier, almost donating goals to the away side, and the game at that point was not yet safe; those Gooners present might have been within their rights to let rip.

But instead of opprobrium from the stands came applause and encouragement, seemingly all of the home fans near Mustafi getting to their feet and clapping the effort. It might be only a small thing, but it was a neat encapsulation of the atmosphere around Arsenal at the moment. Not ecstatically happy, but no longer empty and frustrated, either. There is a sense that this might be the start of something, even if the end is still a long way off.

They're not singing, "We've got our Arsenal back," as they were in that 22-game unbeaten run that stretched from August to December and featured an extraordinary 11 consecutive victories. Those were heady days under a new manager; they're more realistic now, but still hopeful.

If this was a relationship, the early weeks of Unai Emery's tenure were all romantic late dinners and flowers and cuddles. Now, things are getting more serious, but while they're not where they want to be just yet, life seems more contented: They're saving for a house and hoping for a more secure future together.

And they hope with good reason, too. The three points Monday not only took Arsenal above Tottenham and Manchester United and into third place for the first time this season, but also meant they have equalled last season's points total with seven games to spare. The last team to beat them at home in the league was Manchester City, in August. This was their 10th home win in a row. They were 10 points behind Spurs only a



Arsenal's Aaron Ramsey (right) celebrates after scoring during match against Newcastle United at Emirates Stadium, London. EPA

few weeks ago.

Beating Newcastle at home isn't exactly cause for dancing in the street, but it was the controlled nature of the performance that provided encouragement. In his postmatch news conference, as usual Emery didn't exactly pour out his heart and soul, but did offer some hints that he was happy with how his first season is progressing.

He suggested that his first target of creating a strong mentality within the squad and improving the relationship with the fans had been achieved. Then he spoke about being able to switch formations, to trust various different players with different jobs, to gain some sort of consistency in their away form; these are things that would suggest he is broadly satisfied that solid foundations have been laid, and is trying to build from there.

"We are improving," Emery said. "We're third but we know it's going to be difficult. When we were the last in the table [after losing the first two games of the season], I

was positive. Now, I am positive the same amount. It's easier than when we were last, but it will be demanding [to finish in the top four]." Things aren't perfect, obviously. Far from it. It feels like a cruel joke every time Aaron Ramsey plays for Arsenal, his impending free transfer to Juventus a consequence of the confused and botched re-vamping of their decision-making structure. Ramsey showed just how much he will be missed with a display of his best qualities against Newcastle, brilliant movement for a goal that wasn't allowed and a laser-precise finish for one that was.

Replacing him is a task Arsenal could do without, considering the side has so many holes in it anyway, but replace him they will have to do, and with what sounds like a limited budget. Arsenal will have to get very smart, very quickly in the summer transfer market.

The season has, to say the least, featured several spells when things didn't look so bright. Between the middle of December

and February they lost seven out of 14, which included elimination from both domestic cup competitions and being vapourised by Liverpool in the league.

And then of course there's the knowledge that this term's job is far from done. Five of their final seven games are away from home, even if the run-in does look reasonably friendly. This is still a team with a calamity in it, as they displayed with defeats to West Ham and Rennes in the past couple of months. It's still a team with significant flaws.

Despite all of that, it's difficult to realistically imagine how Emery could be doing a better job, given the circumstances. Fixing Arsenal after the club was allowed to drift into disrepair was always going to take longer than a season, but the process is on track, and everyone seems to realise that, too.

After all, only fans who suspect the good times are on their way back would be so forgiving to Mustafi.

(AGENCIES)

United could be big winners if Pogba is sold to Madrid

LONDON

SO Paul Pogba likes the look of Real Madrid and Zinedine Zidane and, according to the Bernabeu coach, the feeling is mutual. Real like the Manchester United midfielder quite a lot, too.

"Real Madrid is a dream for anyone," Pogba said during the recent international break. "There is also [Zinedine] Zidane as a coach and it's a dream for anybody who likes football. For now, I'm at Manchester. We don't know what the future holds. I'm at Manchester and I'm happy."

In response at the weekend, Zidane admitted that Pogba is a "player that I like a lot, he can do anything on the field," before admirably reminding his audience that "he is a Manchester United player and we must respect that."

Before we consider United's viewpoint on their most high-profile player and Real publicly flirting with each other, it is perhaps no surprise that the Spanish giants are once again playing the game of making their interest known in somebody else's superstar with not-so-subtle comments in the media.

United have been here before with Real, with Cristiano Ronaldo and David De Gea also publicly courted by the club during drawn-out transfer sagas in the past. Real got Ronaldo in 2009, of course, but missed out on De Gea thanks to a now-infamous faulty fax machine on August deadline day in 2015.

But just as Ronaldo did 10 years ago, Pogba is not only inviting the speculation, but adding to it with his own responses to questions about a possible move to Real. It is the nature of modern sport and Pogba is arguably no different to Eden Hazard, who is also doing little to dismiss the prospect of a move to Real from Chelsea this summer.

Yet Hazard has probably earned the right to weigh up his next move, having given Chelsea seven years of five-star service since arriving from Lille in 2012. The Belgian, who is approaching the final 12 months of his contract at Stamford Bridge, has helped Chelsea win five major trophies during his time at the club, including two Premier League titles, and can usually be



Paul Pogba

relied upon to deliver when it matters most.

Pogba, who returned to United from Juventus for a then-world-record £89 million in 2016, is nowhere near to proving himself as influential, and reliable, at United as Hazard has become at Chelsea. The 26-year-old has shown flashes of becoming that player in a United shirt, but he is also too much of an enigma for anyone to know whether he is genuinely one of the best midfielders in the world or merely one whose reputation exceeds his actual contribution.

He has won too many honours for club and country to be written off as over-hyped, but with Real and Zidane circling, the United hierarchy would be well within their rights to consider whether, at 26, Pogba is the genuine article or somebody who will never quite become what many believe he should be. United need a commanding mid-

fielder, one capable of dominating games and changing them in their favour with a moment of brilliance or his sheer force of personality, but we are still waiting for Pogba to do what the likes of Roy Keane, David Beckham, Bryan Robson and many others have done in the same area of the pitch for the club.

Statistics are often used as compelling evidence when judging a player, which is fine if you are Ronaldo or Lionel Messi, but with Pogba, they only tell part of the story. During 20 games under Jose Mourinho this season, he scored five goals and created four assists. In the 18 games he has played under Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, his goal return is nine, with seven assists.

On the face of it, he is delivering for Solskjaer and beginning to realise his potential, but then you recall his anonymous perfor-

mance during the FA Cup quarterfinal defeat at Wolves, or his similarly ineffective display during the 2-0 Champions League loss at home to Paris Saint-Germain in February, and wonder whether he really is a player who can deliver when it matters or is simply one whose statistics enable him to look more effective than he actually is.

Pogba is clearly a talent, but should Solskjaer now look to build his team around him or would a cold-headed, calculated decision see him sold to make way for a player, or players, more suited to United's requirements?

There are off-field issues to consider too. The world's biggest clubs are all desperate to own a globally recognised star, and Pogba is the only United player right now who shares billboard space with the likes of Messi, Ronaldo and Neymar from Los Angeles to Tokyo. This matters, rightly or wrongly, but it cannot be the driving factor in assessing a player's true value to a club and team.

If United were to cash in by selling Pogba to Real, they would lose their most visible commercial asset, and also a player who can create goals for himself and teammates such as Marcus Rashford and Anthony Martial. But they would also be without a player who lacks the drive and discipline to turn a big game on its head, which is what Solskjaer's team really needs.

United, at this moment, are better with Pogba than without him, but they really shouldn't be too worried if the flirting with Real steps up another level because he isn't a player who will be the difference between them winning the Premier League title or not.

(AGENCIES)

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

The good times are coming
back to Arsenal

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



FIDE Master, Hemed Mlawa (L), and Candidate Master, Yusuf Mdoe, take part in a chess tournament in Dar es Salaam recently.

BCCI ombudsman summons Hardik Pandya, KL Rahul

MUMBAI

JUSTICE DK Jain, the BCCI ombudsman, has issued notices to the pair of Hardik Pandya and KL Rahul, asking them to be present for hearings in the controversy related to their remarks on an Indian TV chat show recently. The hearings will take place in Mumbai, with Pandya's scheduled on April 9 and Rahul's the next day.

This is the first issue Justice Jain, who was appointed by the Supreme Court in February, will adjudicate on.

Justice Jain told ESPNcricinfo that as part of the process of natural justice, he had to hear both players before adjudicating on the matter.

Asked whether the players had confirmed their attendance, Justice Jain said that was not needed, but it was important for him to listen to what they had to say.

"I have sent them the notice. It is for them to appear or not," he said.

"It is part of natural justice. You cannot hold someone guilty without having given them the opportunity to present their case."

The timing of the hearings is a concern for the IPL franchises of the two players - Mumbai Indians (Pandya) and Kings XI Punjab (Rahul). Incidentally,

Mumbai will host Kings XI in an evening match on April 10, so it remains to be seen whether Rahul will feature in that game.

Justice Jain said there was no deadline given to him by the BCCI to take a final decision. However, both the Indian team management as well the national selectors would want clarity keeping in mind the World Cup, the squad for which will be picked around April 25 with the tournament starting on May 30.

Both Pandya and Rahul had been suspended by the BCCI's Committee of Administrators in January over their offensive remarks on the television show 'Koffee with Karan', which was aired on January 9.

The two players, who were in Australia at the time, were called back home and suspended two days later. Subsequently, on January 24, the suspension was provisionally lifted pending an inquiry. **AGENCIES**



Simba Sports Club

Simba eye TP Mazembe scalp

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SIMBA SC have said they will approach the Saturday quarterfinal match of the 2018/19 CAF Champions League against TP Mazembe of Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) with care as the visitors are well experienced.

Haji Manara, Simba's information officer, said his club is well aware of how good their opponents are and they will play with caution and care.

"Saturday game will not be that easy, we will play against a side which has a lot of experience in the CAF games, we will be very careful not to let them control the match," he said.

However, Manara said Simba are well

prepared for the encounter as the National Stadium is his club's fortress.

He assured all football lovers in the country that all of his team's players are in camp.

Manara made the clarification after rumours had it that the squad's influential players Emmanuel Okwi and Clatous Chama are not with the team as they are in talks with other foreign clubs.

"It will not be an easy game, TP Mazembe are one of the giants of football, we will take on them with care but, as usual, we are ready for them," he said.

Manara asked all soccer lovers in the country to flock the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam to create an intimidating atmosphere for the visitors.

He said for many people to watch the match gate fees are reasonable for anyone to afford. "Gate fees are very reasonable, for example, tickets for the open stands' seats will be sold at 4000/- each, the aim is to see to it that many people are coming to cheer their team," he said.

Meanwhile, Manara said his side is ready for today's Mainland Premier League game against JKT Tanzania which will be played at the Jamhuri Stadium in Morogoro.

He said his team is ready for the match as their aim is to collect maximum points.

Simba had maintained their winning ways in the league with an emphatic 3-0 win over Mbao FC at the venue last weekend.

Dar team excels in chess league

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

AHEAD Africa chess team is leading the rest of the pack in the ongoing chess league in Dar es Salaam with seven points from four games.

The maiden chess league that is recognized by the International Chess Federation (FIDE), has attracted 10 teams and each of the teams has played four games.

The tournament's organizing committee secretary, FIDE Master Hemed Mlawa, said he is happy with the competition in the tournament.

Mlawa said in round three Ahead Africa drew two and half each, Don Bosco beat New Africa 3-2, HS Computers lost 4-1 to Flashnet while Barkeilly lost 3-2 to My World Pre-School and Lake Oil beat Specialized Engineering 3-2.

In the fourth round, he said, Flashnet lost 4-1 to Ahead Africa, Don Bosco beat Kamal Steel 4 and half to half.

In other matches, New Africa drew two and half each with Lake Oil while Barkeilly notched 4-1 win over Specialized Engineer and My World Pre-School beat HS Computers 4-1. He said due to the results, Don Bosco team, which has also seven points, has been placed second in the league.

Don Bosco, though, differ on tie-break with the league leaders while Kamal Steel and Lake Oil have been placed third and fourth respectively with five points apiece.

Mlawa further said Flashnet and My World Pre-School are occupying the fifth and sixth positions respectively with five points apiece.

New Africa is in the seventh position with three points, as it is the case for Barkeilly, which is in the eighth position.

The official said Specialized Engineering and HS Computers are anchoring the standings with two and one points respectively.

Each team will play eight rounds and the tournament is expected to come to its climax on June 16.

The league gears towards providing a mutually beneficial structure whereby chess players in the country may compete, learn, share ideas and promote the sport in a friendly manner and atmosphere.

TP EATV TODAY @11:00

DADAZ.

WEDNESDAY DADAZ.

10:59 Jikoni Na Jane
11:00 DADAZ (live)
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:30 Mid Week Movie

DADAZ This daytime talk show gives women a platform to discuss social and political issues that affect our society from a feminine perspective.

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

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DAR ES SALAAM

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