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## Trump bans Immigration to US, citing coronavirus

WASHINGTON, DC

PRESIDENT Donald Trump yesterday said he would sign an executive order to temporarily suspend all immigration to the United States because of the coronavirus.

On Twitter, he cited "attack from an invisible enemy" as he calls the virus, and the need to protect the jobs of Americans, but did not give details.

It was not clear what programmes might be affected and whether the president would be able to carry out the order.

Critics say the government is using the pandemic to crack down on immigration. Immigration has traditionally been a strong campaigning theme for the Republican president, but it has taken a back seat during the pandemic and in the lead-up to the November election.

Trump's announcement late on Monday came as the White House argued that the worst of the pandemic was over and the country could begin reopening. The restrictions on people's movement, implemented by many states to curb the spread of the virus, have paralysed large parts of the economy.

Over the past four weeks, more than 20 million Americans have registered for unemployment benefits. That amounts to roughly as many jobs as employers had added over the previous decade.

The US has more than 787,000 confirmed cases of Covid-19 and more than 42,000 deaths, on the basis of a tally by Johns Hopkins University, which is tracking the pandemic globally.

It was not immediately clear who could be affected by the president's announcement or when such a move could come into force, and the White

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Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured yesterday walking through a disinfectant-spraying 'booth' installed at the National Assembly grounds in Dodoma in implementation of efforts to forestall Covid-19 infections. Photo: PMO

## TLS seeks 21-day lockdown to curb spread of Covid-19

●Wants remandees bailed, inmates pardoned

By Guardian Reporter

TANGANYIKA Law Society (TLS) leaders have called on the government to impose a 21-day countrywide lockdown to contain the spread of Covid-19.

In a statement released yesterday, the bar association also appealed that social activities and public meetings including those organized by political leaders be proscribed during the period.

Noting that the World Health Organization (WHO) had announced Covid-19 as a global pandemic, the

statement underlines that WHO "directly pushes countries to take serious measures which include lockdown," it said.

"However the step should not touch servants in the health sector, security organs, port and commodity transportation," said Dr Rugemeleza Nshala, the current TLS president.

The bar association also wants the government to provide bail to remandees as well as pardoning of inmates. It said that the pardoning of inmates "will help strengthen the protection of other

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## Ndugai urges delivery of protective supplies

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

NATIONAL Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai yesterday appealed to businesses and other organisations to donate protective supplies against the coronavirus to the legislature to avoid further spread of the disease to MPs and the secretariat.

Speaking here yesterday, Ndugai said the House is in need of recommended protective paraphernalia such as hand washing facilities, hand sanitisers as well as approved face masks.

Ndugai spoke after receiving two disinfectant-spraying booths donated by

businessman and ex-Igunga MP Rostam Aziz through Taifa Gas (T) Ltd. The booths were mounted on the entrances of the august house for disinfecting by MPs, staff and others who access the facility, including journalists.

"We appreciate the company's commitment in supporting government efforts to contain the disease. The two donated body decontamination booths will help legislators, workers and visitors to sterilize the body before entering Parliament premises," he said.

The donation and the appeal for more supplies came one day after Deputy

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# Covid-19: MPs will not pay Rev Dr Rwakatare last respects

●Family wants her to be buried at 'Mikocheni B' Assemblies of God

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

SPECIAL Seats MP Rev. Dr Getrude Rwakatare who died early Monday will not be given parliamentary last respects as is the tradition.

Her body will not be taken to Dodoma for viewing in the debating chamber as is the norm for departed legislators, the House announced yesterday.

National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai said here yesterday that instead, her funeral will be handled by the government and it will involve less than ten people.

He said the family of the fallen MP requested that the body of the MP be buried tomorrow at the church's premises—Mikocheni B Assemblies of God church in Dar es Salaam.

"We will, however, liaise with her family about burial plans and see how MPs can take part in the

event," he said.

Ndugai sought to calm down MPs who were apparently eager and looking forward to seeing the body of their colleague lie in state and accorded last respects in the House where she served the nation.

"It is the norm that when an MP passes on, we skip one sitting and his or her body is brought to this House for viewing. However, due to the current coronavirus situation, we will not be able to accord her that aspect of parliamentary protocol," the speaker elaborated.

Rev Dr Rwakatare, who was a Special Seats MP for Morogoro Region via the CCM women's wing, died on Monday in Dar es Salaam after suffering a heart attack, according to her family.

Dr Rwakatare who died aged 69 founded and ran the 'Mikocheni B' Assemblies of God

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## SHARE FACTS ABOUT COVID-19

Know the facts about coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) and help stop the spread of rumors.

**FACT 1** Diseases can make anyone sick regardless of their race or ethnicity.

Fear and anxiety about COVID-19 can cause people to avoid or reject others even though they are not at risk for spreading the virus.

**FACT 2** For most people, the immediate risk of becoming seriously ill from the virus that causes COVID-19 is thought to be low.

Older adults and people of any age who have serious underlying medical conditions may be at higher risk for more serious complications from COVID-19.

**FACT 3** Someone who has completed quarantine or has been released from isolation does not pose a risk of infection to other people.

For up-to-date information, visit CDC's coronavirus disease 2019 web page.

**FACT 4** There are simple things you can do to help keep yourself and others healthy.

- Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds, especially after blowing your nose, coughing, or sneezing; going to the bathroom; and before eating or preparing food.
- Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.
- Stay home when you are sick.
- Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.

**FACT 5** You can help stop COVID-19 by knowing the signs and symptoms:

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath

Seek medical advice if you

- Develop symptoms

AND

- Have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

[cdc.gov/COVID-19](https://www.cdc.gov/COVID-19)







Zanzibar Second Vice President Seif Ali Iddi and the Permanent Secretary in his Office, Shaaban Seif Mohammed (both facing camera), wave during a video conference with Vodacom Tanzania PLC managing director Hisham Hendi (L) and Vodacom Tanzania Foundation director Rosalynn Mworia yesterday. The company announced that it was donating 300m/- to the Zanzibar government in support of the war on Covid-19. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Rostam Aziz now gives 500m/- worth of items to Zanzibar authorities in fight against Covid-19

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Second Vice President Seif Ali Iddi has received various items valued at 500m/- as assistance in the fight against Covid-19 infections from businessman Rostam Aziz.

The items include 3,000 bottles of sanitizers to be used in the Isles commuter buses, 20,000 masks, heartbeat recording machines and ventilators.

Aziz also donated large upright sanitizers to be put at Mnazi Mmoja Hospital, Darajani Main Market and Malindi Harbour.

Amb Iddi thanked the businessman for "his patriotism and kindheartedness in assisting the community during this period that needs such items."

"This is not a one-man war, it is a war for all of us because we are fighting

against an invisible enemy," he said.

Amb Iddi appealed to wananchi to wear face masks and follow the government directives from health experts.

"Many people say we Zanzibaris have a habit of arguing much, this is not the time for that, we should stop the habit and wear masks and must endeavour to follow the advice from our health experts," he said.



**This is not a one-man war, it is a war for all of us because we are fighting against an invisible enemy**

## Covid-19: MPs won't pay Rev Dr Rwakatare last respects

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Pentecostal church and a chain of English medium schools known as St. Mary's.

Meanwhile, the ongoing session of Parliament will not adjourn over the coronavirus as agitated by some MPs following the news on Monday that one lawmaker had tested positive.

Speaker Ndugai clarified on the matter yesterday as concerned MPs called for immediate adjournment, testing of all MPs and staff for Covid-19 and disinfecting the premises.

Special Seats MP Cecilia Pareso (Chadema) sought to know of strategies put in place by the parliamentary secretariat to curb further spread of the disease among MPs and staff.

Richard Mbogo (Nsimbo-CCM) said that debating and finally passing the budget in the ongoing session was crucial but the health of MPs and other people working in the House

was of paramount importance, urging immediate testing and isolation of those found with the virus.

"If standing orders permit, test all of us as a matter of urgency so that those found with the disease are quarantined to avoid the further spread of the virus," he declared.

In his response, Ndugai promised that the House leadership will do everything possible to ensure safety of MPs and staff as the session progressed, challenging them to take firm precautionary measures.

"We don't stay in this House for 24 hours and we cannot follow up on your behavior all the time. Please observe prescribed preventive measures including social distancing and hand washing," the Speaker intoned.

The budget session of the National Assembly is scheduled to continue until the end of June, parliamentary officials noted.

## TLS urges 21-day lockdown to curb spread of Covid-19

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inmates".  
"The pardon should also consider their age, state of health, length of detention and good conduct," he said.

Other recommendations include allowing non-congested trading in the streets where people can access goods and services, he said.

Equally, health attendants should be capacitated with the required protective equipment and education so as to provide quality services to the wider community, he further stated.

He also proposed that public transport should be banned for the 21

days of lockdown.

"We also were recommending more special strategies which include widespread testing so as to identify those who are infected so as to isolate and treat them," he said.

"We should also disinfect cities and towns; this will easily fight the spread of the virus. The government should also consider providing tax exemptions to traders, employees and others as most economic operations have been affected by the disease," he further remarked.

TLS also recommends that the general public should be given protective tools such as sanitizers and

masks for free as most of them live in abject poverty.

"It is also high time financial institution to respond to the disease by reducing loan interest rates as well as putting emergency policies to ensure that all debtors are given more time to repay their loans.

"The government should also direct landlords not to collect rent fees from tenants for three months or until things calm down. We also recommend that a special strategy should be developed to start supplying food for free to families that are in dire need."

Employers should now come up with a special strategy to enable employees

work from home, the advocates' body counseled.

"The use of natural remedies should be emphasized to ensure that more people use alternative medicines to fight the disease. Courts in the country should also suspend hearing of cases for 30 days," he said.

On Monday, Covid-19 cases reached 254 as new 84 cases were recorded countrywide.

As of yesterday, globally confirmed cases surpassed 2.5m, 171,810 deaths with over 659,000 recoveries. The coronavirus has affected virtually all countries and territories around the world.

## Ndugai urges delivery of protective supplies

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Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson announced in the House that one MP had tested positive for Covid-19.

The donation is part of the 1bn/- worth Taifa Gas (T) Ltd initiative in curbing Covid-19. The National Assembly is still in need of disinfection equipment to fix at other gates, Ndugai elaborated.

"The firm has recently donated similar equipment in Dar es Salaam now fixed at various public offices. We thank you for the assistance," he said in acknowledgement.

Earlier, Domician Mkama, the TGTL head of sales and marketing said the body disinfection sensor equipment will help reduce the risks of being exposed to contracting Covid-19.

Despite passing through the body cleaning sensor machine, people should continue taking precautions

like the regular washing of hands and wearing masks.

"This machine does not interact with the coronavirus. It reduces the risks of contracting the disease. It is important that you continue adhering to other preventive guidelines issued by health experts," he said.

Taifa Gas (T) Ltd has so far donated similar equipment to the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) in Dar es Salaam and the Mnazi Mmoja Referral Hospital in Zanzibar.

The body sterilising equipment at the Bugando Referral Hospital in Mwanza and Mlonganzila Hospital on the outskirts of Dar es Salaam will soon be fitted, he said, noting that TGTL plans to donate 60 body disinfecting equipment.

Early this week the company donated masks and hand sanitizers to commuter bus drivers and conductors in Dar es Salaam, he added.



Albert Kakengi (L), a senior official with the Lake Victoria zone of the Tanzania Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance, pictured in Mwanza city yesterday showing the commission's acting Executive Secretary, Hajjat Fatuma Muya (R), documents on children's rights stocked in the reference library. Photo: Correspondent Mbaraka Kambona

## Mbeya City embarks on spraying houses against coronavirus

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

POLICE in Mbeya Region in collaboration with Mbeya City Council have started disinfectant spraying on all buses departing the city to other destinations as a preventive measure against Covid-19 infections.

Mbeya City Council official, Johnson Ndaru, said they began the exercise on buses departing for other regions, saying they spray the buses before passengers board them.

He said later it will be the turn for commuter buses including motor cycles and tricycles to ensure the pandemic is under control in the city.

Ndaru said the exercise is conducted jointly with the police and bus owners to ensure it is performed well.

So far Mbeya region has not recorded of any Covid-19 case but they have decided to take precautions due to people's interaction with those of other areas.

## Trump bans Immigration to US, citing coronavirus

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House has not commented.

The New York Times, citing several people familiar with the plan, said a formal order temporarily barring the provision of new green cards and work visas could be one way of implementing the measure.

The administration would no longer approve any applications from foreigners to live and work in the US for an undetermined period of time, it affirmed.

Last month, the US suspended almost all visa processing, including for immigrants, because of the pandemic.

The US has already agreed with both Canada and Mexico to extend border restrictions on non-essential travel until at least mid-May.

Travel has also been sharply restricted from hard-hit European countries and China, though people with temporary work visas, students and business travellers are exempted.

On Monday, the US said it would continue to expel migrants it

encounters along the border with Mexico for at least another month.

In recent weeks, emergency powers have been used to expel thousands of undocumented migrants on the US southern border. The public health measure lets officials override immigration laws, expediting removal processes.

Last year, just over one million people were granted lawful permanent resident status in the US, according to the Department of Homeland Security. The top countries of origin were

Mexico, China, India, the Dominican Republic, the Philippines and Cuba.

More than half of those, though, were cases of "adjusted status from within the US" - meaning they were already there - and only 459,000 arrived from abroad. The latter group would be the ones presumably affected by an immigration ban.

When it comes to refugees, there were 30,000 people admitted into the US in 2019, most of them from Congo, Myanmar, Ukraine, Eritrea, Afghanistan and Syria, officials noted.



# Dr Reginald A. Mengi: His Legacy



**Don't lament over what you don't have; rather, put to useful purpose what you have."**

# Dr Mengi had deep concern over quality of education in Tanzania

By Michael Eneza

**M**AKING a review of Dr Reginald Abraham Mengi's autobiography, which goes by the title "I can, I must, I will - The Spirit of Success", long-serving University of Dar es Salaam professor of education Issa Mcholo Omari picked up a passage as an ultimate lesson for Tanzanians.

That was absolutely understandable from the viewpoint of a lifelong educationist, but there is no disputing the fact that the message was intense and convincingly expressed. It is a message that constantly needs to be addressed, as remedies to the situation so depicted appear to be above collective abilities.

According to the don, the book sends one crucial message about education in Tanzania when Dr Mengi says: "I am also concerned about whether democracy could indeed deliver the full force of its potential in our society, given the kind of human output coming out of our schools."

The professor quotes Dr Mengi as having further noted in the book: "Our education system is not producing young people who are confident to seek jobs in our companies where English is widely used. Our country is sorrowfully excluding itself from the future."

"Something dramatic needs to be done - and done quickly and resolutely to save the country from a continuing state of backwardness. What is required is for us to debate the problems and forge a national consensus on solutions," Dr Mengi notes further.

The question is whether, one year on, there is movement in that direction and indeed whether the question as such is adequately and appropriately appreciated, or we are still beating about the bush.

One thing that pundits in the current period and definitely one or two decades ago fail to notice is that the position expressed above neatly coincided with what Father of



Dr Reginald Mengi exchanges greetings with Form VI students of Kilimanjaro Region's Ashira Girls Secondary School when he graced their graduation ceremony.

the Nation Mwalimu Julius Nyerere thought about the situation.

Mwalimu Nyerere constantly and relentlessly fought rather extremist ideas of the total indigenisation of education, whose battle horse and mobilisation slogan is using Kiswahili to teach, from primary school right on to university.

When this is done, businesses where

English is used will have to close down, or Tanzanian graduates will have to take English courses for one to two years to (perhaps) be considered for a job.

Meanwhile, those pursuing the radical indigenisation line of thinking have a placid format where all activity in the country will be conducted in Kiswahili, and only those going outside

the country for studies need to know English adequately; they trust this will be the case when it is taught as a subject.

Addressing an international Kiswahili conference in late 1984, Mwalimu Nyerere pointed out something that the militant indigenisation lobby, basically the quarter responsible for the dislocation of Tanzanian education

faces in the face of globalization, would like to forget.

It is unlikely that any of the chief pundits of indigenisation has ever done as much as to highlight those observations. There were meanwhile also critics like Dr Mengi and Prof Omari, who scarcely knew each other in life as defenders of the kind of education that empowers children and youth for the

challenges of globalization.

These might not have always spoken out, as it is considered patriotic and politically correct to believe that Kiswahili is in and by itself sufficient.

Mwalimu Nyerere said at the conference cited that when he read a book or any tract in English he didn't need the use of a dictionary, but when he read productions from Kiswahili experts or institutes of learning, he had to have a Kiswahili dictionary around so as to discern what this or that word meant.

Mwalimu did not say that this was understandable as part of the growth of the language, which is essentially the position one could elicit or constantly hear from Kiswahili pundits. However, he would always openly admit that he was sharply tongued about that tendency.

He said that experts were robbing Kiswahili speakers of their language, and rhetorically asked them to "take back" the language to the people, arguing that it didn't belong to experts and researchers but, rather, to the common user.

The remarks that Prof Omari elicited from Dr Mengi are focused in the same direction and, in a sense, go a bit deeper in expressing the sum total of the problem, which is that robbing people of their language was akin to robbing them of their future.

Plenty in the current environment depends on one's ability to master the language of technology, to be able to relate with anyone anchored in that language - rather than Kiswahili - on a day to day basis, and to communicate on a one on one basis rather than expecting someone to stand next to you to translate or amplify what you want to say.

Few indigenisation pundits appreciate this need, as at the backs of their minds there is only a single nation and its economy, based on agriculture and local self-sufficient industries, all using Kiswahili. This is an extremist model that calls for a major revamp if it is to be of sufficient use to Tanzanians.



Dr Mengi has an audience with students of Kisutu Girls Secondary School in Dar es Salaam



Dr Mengi is welcomed by students of a secondary school in Dar es Salaam during one of his many visits to institutions of learning in Tanzania.





Morogoro district commissioner Regina Chonjo (L) pictured yesterday officiating at the allocation of 3,504 plots to 2,409 people previously occupying the land unauthorised. Photo: Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa

## Mineral trading hubs yield good results - minister

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE establishment of mineral hubs across the country had contributed into the sector's growth from 0.9 per cent in 2018 to 12.6 per cent in 2019, Minerals Minister Dotto Biteko told the House yesterday.

Biteko said until February 2020, a total of 28 minerals exchange centres were established at different regions insisting the hubs had greatly contributed to solve many challenges facing the sector including lack of coordinated markets, tax evasions and illegal exportation of minerals.

Tabling the Ministry's budget estimates for the 2020/2021 fiscal year, the minister said through the mineral exchange centres, small scale miners had been able to bargain better prices and sell various minerals worth over 1trn/- between March 2019 and February 2020.

Biteko said the government's strict measures to curb illegal exportation of minerals had facilitated seizure of different minerals worth US \$ 3,210,976.35 and 1,556,209,334.61/- in Tunduru, Kyerwa, Mwanza, Mirerani, Holili, Babati, Hai, Dodoma, Nzega and Kahama.

"We have been conducting regular inspections at exportation points, we have put in place strict measures to ensure all the minerals are traded at the government established hubs, this had largely contributed into the sector's growth making it among the top growing economic sectors after the construction sector which grew by 14.8 per cent", said the minister.

Following growth of the sector the contribution to the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) had increased to 4.7 per cent in between January and September 2019.

Parliament's Energy and Minerals Committee chairman, Dunstan

Kitandula said there is a need for the government to consider tax exemption for minerals dealers and brokers as the law only recognises small scale miners who have been exempted from paying Value Added Tax (VAT) and Withholding Tax.

Kitandula said that despite tax exemptions in accordance with the country's Minerals Act, 2010 and 2019 regulations, officials from the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) have been ordering small scale miners and brokers to pay VAT.

"There should be a level playing field for small scale miners, brokers and dealers. This will encourage many people to use the established minerals centres and curb illegal exportation of minerals", he said.

He advised the government through minerals committee, ministry and regional authorities to identify special areas for establishment of the centres as some of them are allocated at dilapidated buildings situated far from city centres.

Presenting opinions of the opposition, Mikumi legislator, Joseph Haule said despite establishment of the Tanzania Extractive Industries (Transparency and Accountability) Act 2015 and TEITI Committee, the duo do not have enough funds to ensure supervision of the country's resources.

Haule faulted the government over failure to allocate funds for development projects despite endorsement of the budget by the Parliament in the 2019/2020 financial year whereas 7,039,810,200/- had been allocated for the purpose.

Tarime Member of Parliament, John Heche (CHADEMA) urged the government to initiate talks with other mining companies including Geita Gold Mining (GGM) as it had done for Barrick Gold which resulted into the formation of Twiga Minerals Cooperation.

## Zanzibar records 16 new Covid-19 cases

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Ministry of Health has announced the increase of 16 new cases of coronavirus to 74 from 58 on April 19, this year.

A statement issued by Minister Hamad Rashid Mohamed on April 21 said out of the new cases 11 were from

Unguja and five from Pemba.

The statement said out of the 16 cases, 15 are Tanzania nationals. The statement further said the Zanzibar government continues to stress upon wananchi to take all precautionary measures to protect themselves against the pandemic including washing hands with soap and running water,


avoid gatherings and stop making unnecessary travels.

The statement also insisted on Zanzibar residents to wear face masks whenever they go out of their houses and that the government will issue directives on how to put them on as well the correct types of the masks.

The government, through the


Ministry of Health also appealed to anyone with symptoms of the disease - high fever, coughing and sneezing to immediately report to a health centre or telephone the numbers already given for assistance.

The ministry also stressed to the media to get any report on Covid-19 pandemic from the relevant ministry.




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# 'Cashewnut production reaches 1,036,698 tonnes in four years'

By Guardian Reporter

AGRICULTURE minister Japhet Hasunga has stated, in a report that in the four years of the presidency John Magufuli cashewnut production had increased to 1,036,698 tons.

Hasunga said the quantity has pumped in more than 3.3tr/-, and USD 1,139 million in foreign currency in the three years period 2017-2019 making it a leading crop in the country.

In implementing the industrial policy of the Phase V Administration, Hasunga said cashew nuts processing factories have increased from 21 to 30.

In addition the report explains that cashew nuts production in the country

has gone up because as of now a total of 20 regions produce the crop as compared to only five before the Phase V Administration came into power.

Many Tanzanians have been mobilized by cashew nuts production due to the crop's high financial returns to both farmers and the government.

Hasunga said between 1.2 and 1.5 million Tanzanians are currently in the crop's production from which they have greatly benefited.

However he said these achievements were attained from the way the government has been educating on the best way in the use of pesticides, increase profitable production and investing in research through Tanzania

Agricultural research Institute - Naliendele Centre (TARI-Naliendele) in Mtwara region.

He said the centre has done great work in ensuring farmers get quality seedlings that increase production, able to withstand drought and plant diseases.

Hasunga said during the period the crop's quality has gone up thereby attracting many foreign buyers.

On the cooperatives, Minister Hasunga said the sector has been important to Tanzanians because the beneficial of cashew nuts to farmers stems from the existence of cooperatives, which will continue to be strengthened for more achievements.



Mbeya regional commissioner Albert Chalamila (gesturing) has a word with small-time fruit sellers at Forest in Mbeya city at the weekend, chiefly on the need to ensure environmental hygiene - particularly in view of the spread of Covid-19 infections. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

# Govt to introduce quota system to inspire barley, wheat farmers

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

IN efforts to protect barley and wheat farmers in the country, the government is planning to introduce quota system on the importation of the crops in the country, the House heard yesterday.

Through the system local processors of the two crops will be forced to purchase locally the amount of tonnes they import from other countries so as to increase productivity among Tanzanian farmers.

The statement was made in the House by the Ministry of Agriculture in a written response to a question by Special Seats MP Cecilia Pareso (Chadema) who had wanted to know what the government was doing to help barley and wheat farmers who no longer have market for their produce.

The MP said barley farmers in Karatu district have no reliable market of the

crop since Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) which is the main buyer had stopped to purchase it. "How will the government help the farmers?" she asked.

In response the ministry explained that the government is in talks with



**Complains about lack of market for barley in Karatu district is due to the fact that farmers produced a lot of the crop outside the contract system**

TBL, which is also the owner of barley processing company in Kilimanjaro to restore the factory or lease it to another investor who can run it and process the crop.

The ministry added that both TBL and Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) annually enter into contracts with farmers to produce barley.

In the 2018/19, TBL entered into contract with farmers to produce 230 tonnes of barley for the purpose of the factory.

Since there was plenty of produce by the farmers, the company purchased barley from farmers in phases whereby the last consignment was bought at 800/- per kilogramme.

"Complains about lack of market for barley in Karatu district is due to the fact that farmers produced a lot of the crop outside the contract system," said the ministry.

# 'Engagement of all political parties for industrialisation agenda is vital'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

IN ensuring that the government attains its ambitious industrialisation agenda, all political parties regardless of their ideological differences will be engaged in putting up a strong economy that will help the country to attain a middle income economy.

The move according to Deputy Minister for Finance and Planning, Dr Ashatu Kijaji, is part of priorities outlined in the country's development vision 2025.

The deputy minister was responding to a question from Gando MP Othman Omar Haji (CUF) who was not sure on whether the country was able to realise its middle income dream or not.

"The government understands that political stability is key in building up

the economy of any nation, does the Tanzanian government know that it is telling lies to its citizens that it is capable of transforming the country into a middle income economy," he asked.

During the written response, the deputy minister agreed that political stability was very important in building a stronger economy.

However, she was quick to point out

*"The government understands that political stability is key in building up the economy of any nation, does the Tanzanian government know that it is telling lies to its citizens that it is capable of transforming the country into a middle income economy"*

that the country's Development Vision 2025 was categorical on the objectives that need to be implemented in order to attain a middle income economy, adding that as a nation it was prudent to implement key major matters.

"These include development thinking which reflects the real situation within our communities, responsibility and respecting traditions and culture in order to provide more opportunities to the public, hardworking and observing the spirit of competitiveness as well as good leadership and governance," said Kijaji.

According to her, the Tanzania Economic Update July 2019, 12th Edition indicated that Tanzania will surpass the income level of economies of poor countries to attain its ambitious middle income economy by 2025.



## EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

FOR

## SUPPLY OF BRANDED STAFF UNIFORMS FOR CRDB BANKS' STAFF

FOR THE YEAR 2020/2021

1. CRDB Bank Plc is an African bank and a leading Financial Services Provider in Tanzania with current presence in Tanzania and Burundi, East Africa. The Bank was established in 1996 and was listed on the Dar Es Salaam Stock exchange (DSE) in June 2009. Over the years, CRDB Bank has grown to become the most innovative and preferred financial services partner in the region. Supported by a robust portfolio and uniquely tailored products, CRDB Bank remains the most responsive bank in the region

2. CRDB Bank Plc. has set funds for year 2020, towards the cost of supplying staff uniforms. It is intended that part of these funds will be applied to eligible payments under contract for Supplying Staff Uniform for CRDB Banks' Staff across the branch network;

3. The CRDB Bank Plc. Management Tender Committee now invites all eligible, qualified and competent vendors to submit their applications for expression of interest for supplying Staff Uniform to all Staff across the Branch network;

4. The Selection of eligible and qualified Staff Uniform Companies will be conducted through Open Competitive Tendering Procedures as specified in the CRDB Bank Plc. Procurement Policy and Procedures. The selected vendor will be required to go around all branches across the country for taking measurements, thereafter do production, sorting, packing and deliver to individual staff in all branches;

5. This is not a request for proposals (RFP), henceforth after a review of the submitted applications for the expression of interest, a shortlist will be prepared. Shortlisted vendors will be invited to submit their technical and financial proposals through a request for proposal document which will be shared;

6. The selection Criteria shall involve 2 stages (Legal registration/compliance and Capabilities):

### a) Legal Registration/Compliance:

- Possession of registration certificate from relevant authorities, business license, company certificate of incorporation, TIN, VAT Registration;
- The company must have not less than five years' experience in the relevant field;
- Current physical location (which will be inspected for verification); that is a valid right of occupancy of office premises or lease contract;
- Submission of power of attorney document;
- Submission of certified declaration on Litigation information regarding your firm.

### b) Company's Capabilities and Proposed Methodology:

- Indicate the proposed Work methodology and the schedule of taking Measurements throughout the branch network countrywide and delivery end to end;
- Staffing level to meet the delivery timelines. Submit the list of key staff with their CVs demonstrating their ability to carry out the assignment;
- Previous experience to handle project of the similar scale and magnitude (more than 3000 staff scattered throughout the country);
- Capability in terms of resources and equipment sufficient to execute the entire project without subcontracting;
- Indicate project duration to carry out the entire process including taking measurements, designing & cutting, collection & ordering of materials and period for sorting, packing and delivery;
- Submit audited financial statements for the last three years (2017, 2018 and 2019);

7. Please note that in assessing the submissions, consideration will be given to the above-mentioned criteria. Only eligible and qualified Uniform Supplying Companies who will meet the above-mentioned criteria will be considered for shortlisting to the RFP stage.

8. Interested eligible vendors may obtain further information from the Office of the Secretary, CRDB Tender Committee, situated at 1st Floor, CRDB Head Office, along Azikiwe Street, Office Accommodation Scheme Building, Opposite New Post Office, P.O. Box 268, Dar es Salaam before 1500hours local time or via email to tenders@crdbbank.com

9. All Tenders in one original, duly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the Tender Box on the 1st Floor, CRDB Head Office, along Azikiwe Street, Office Accommodation Scheme Building, Opposite New Post Office, and P.O. Box 268, Dar es Salaam before 1500hours local time on Friday 8th May, 2020. All Tender clearly marked, should be addressed to the Secretary Management Tender Committee CRDB Bank Plc P.O.BOX 268, Dar es Salaam. Applications will be opened promptly thereafter in public. The outer cover shall be clearly marked:

**Expression of Interest for Supplying Branded Staff Uniforms for CRDB Banks' Staff for the Year 2020/21. Not to Be Opened Before 15HRS on Friday 8th May, 2020.**

10. Late applications, portion of applications, applications not received, opened and read out aloud in public at the opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

The Managing Director  
CRDB Bank Plc  
P.O.BOX 268  
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania



## 'Purchase scrap metal from registered dealers'

By Guardian Reporter

LOCAL industries must buy scrap metal from registered dealers. The National Environment Management Council (NEMC) urged local industries to purchase scrap metal from registered dealers.

NEMC has warned culprits would be punished heavily under the new regulations governing the scrap metal business.

NEMC director general Samuel Gwamaka told reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday that violators of the regulation would be risking forfeiture of the collected scrap metal and would face other forms of severe punishment as stipulated in the law.

"From today onward buyers must buy scrap metal from registered dealers by the council. Similarly, the new regulations require dealers in scrap metal to be registered by the council before doing business," Dr Gwamaka explained.

Following extensive damage of expensive national infrastructure by vandals and other criminals, the DG clarified, NEMC undertook a survey that revealed that scrap metal from vandalised national infrastructures were sold to local dealers of scrap

mental, saying the government banned altogether trade in scrap metal and other forms of hazardous waste.

The DG further explained that registered collectors of scrap metal would pay a 50,000/- registration fee. Small scale collectors—those collecting three metric tonnes annually—would pay 1.5m/- levy and those collecting more than three tonnes would pay 5million/-.

Dr Gwamaka said because the national industrialisation agenda also depended hugely on scrap metal, the government would both monitor internal scrap metal business and also encourage importation of scrap metal. As an incentive, he said, importers would pay a 7,500/- duty per tonne, but exporters would pay 30,000/- per tonne.

Dr Gwamaka said the fifth phase government wants to see many Tanzanians having a stake in national economy by encouraging citizens to participate in lawful economic activities that aim to make Tanzania a middle-income country by 2025.

"NEMC would ensure traders of scrap metal were known and registered by the council and scrap metal business thrived for the benefit of traders and the nation as well," he explained.



Maxmilian Mahangila (L), Tanzania Airports Authority's acting Head of Environment, pictured in Dar es Salaam on Monday presenting the findings of a study on the side-effects of Covid-19 to TAA's managerial advisory board on the operations of airports. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has appealed to the public, especially villages neighbouring reserve areas to abide by the law and refrain from encroaching into the areas.

There had been cases where people carry out human activity into national game reserve and other areas contrary to the laws and when forcefully evicted they attack officers with traditional weapons.

The Ministry of Tourism and Natural Resources said in a written response to Special Seats MP Rhoda Kunchela (Chadema) who had wanted

## Villagers advised to refrain from illegally occupying reserve areas

to know what the government was doing to end ever escalating conflicts between villagers and the reserve authorities.

"The pastoral communities have been living under fear due to beatings from officers manning the reserve areas, leading to injuries and some time their animals are confiscated and forced to

pay a lot of money in fines contrary to the laws. What is the government doing to end the problem?" she asked.

The lawmaker also wanted to know if the government acknowledges the pastoralist community and what is the government action on wildlife officers who mistreat livestock keepers.

In response, the ministry said at

different times, pastoralists who invade reserve areas have been arrested and fined in accordance with the laws. The government said the procedures of arrest and fine is within the laws and procedures in the reserve areas.

"The officers perform their duties in accordance with the laws and the

government has always reminded them to follow the laws while carrying out arrests and subsequent hand them over to the relevant authorities," said the statement.

Despite following the laws during arrests, there are several cases where pastoralists attacked officers, injuring them or causing deaths.

In on 9th September, 2018 wildlife officers at the Ruaha National Park was killed while on duty at Nyota station by pastoralists who evaded the station to collect their animals that were confiscated.

Similar experience, according to the government had happened on 3rd July 2016 whereby one person was killed by pastoralists at e Ikoga station with the intention to recover confiscated animals.

"Those who have violated laws and regulations governing the national reserves are always punished in accordance with the laws and procedures," said the ministry.

## 'National Housing Policy draft almost completed'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government in collaboration with Ardhi University (ARU) has finalised the proposed draft for the review of the National Housing Policy, the House heard yesterday.

In a written response to the question from Babati Urban MP Pauline Gekul

(CCM), the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development said as of February, 2020 the draft policy had been completed.

In her basic question, Babati Urban Member of Parliament demanded to know as to when would the new National Housing Policy be completed.

Ministry was collecting views from stakeholders, adding so far, the views had been collected in the regions of Mtwara, Ruvuma, Lindi, Mbeya, Songwe, Iringa, Rukwa, Mwanza, Kagera, Geita, Dodoma, Singida, Moshi, Manyara, Kilimanjaro and Tanga.

"The expectation is that collection of views and improvement in the proposed draft of the National Housing Policy will be completed by June 2020," reads the statement.

The ministry said that immediately after completion of collection of views from stakeholders, all the proposed views would be incorporated in the draft policy before going into another stage of adopting the policy.

The government in collaboration with ARU, started reviewing the Human Settlements Development Policy, 2000, with a view to make it conform to the changing technology and meet the current and future demands.

"Another objective for its review was separating housing and human settlements matters which are in the Human Settlements Development Policy, 2000 in order to have an independent National Housing Policy," noted the minister in his statement

**The expectation is that collection of views and improvement in the proposed draft of the National Housing Policy will be completed by June 2020**

**jhpiego**  
Saving lives. Improving health. Transforming futures.

**INVITATION FOR TENDER**  
**TENDER NO. 2020/04-3655**  
**FOR**  
**DEVELOPMENT OF MSDQI EDS-DHIS2 INTERACTIVE DASHBOARD AND UPDATING MALARIA CHECKLISTS FOR ZANZIBAR MALARIA ELIMINATION PROGRAM (ZAMEP)**

Jhpiego is a nonprofit global leader in the creation and delivery of transformative health care solutions that save lives. In partnership with national governments, health experts and local communities, Jhpiego builds health providers' skills and develops systems that save lives now and guarantee healthier futures for women and their families. Informed by scientific discovery, technical know-how and best practices, Jhpiego translates decades of experience into moments of care that mean the difference between life and death: the moment a woman gives birth, the moment a midwife helps a newborn to breathe, the moment a nurse screens for cervical cancer with a simple vinegar swab, the moment a community health worker tests a man for HIV and reports that he is virus-free.

By collaborating with local governments, nongovernmental organizations, health care facilities and schools, Jhpiego develops sustainable solutions to address global health challenges—solutions that empower individuals and communities to work cooperatively to improve and increase access to high-quality health care. Jhpiego remains close by until the health care system has embedded the know-how and practice into a sustainable way forward and the entire health care system and the people served are transformed

Since 1999, Jhpiego has worked with the Tanzania Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, President's Office Regional and Local Government, Development partners, Health experts, and Community leaders to improve health outcomes in Maternal, Newborn and Child Health; HIV/AIDS; Gender-Based Violence; Cervical Cancer Prevention; Integrated Management of Childhood Illness; Malaria; and Family Planning, as well as Pre-Service Education, Infection Prevention and Control, and training of Community Health Workers.

Led by Jhpiego and funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development and U.S. President's Malaria Initiative, the USAID Boresha Afya project is working to improve the health status of all Tanzanians—with an emphasis on women and children in targeted regions—by improving the availability of, and access to, high-quality, respectful and integrated health services. The project focuses on reproductive, maternal, newborn and child health outcomes and is implemented in a total of 1,823 health facilities in selected districts of Zanzibar and seven regions of the Lake and Western Zones (Geita, Kagera, Kigoma, Mara, Mwanza, Simiyu and Shinyanga).

Jhpiego Tanzania office is now seeking to engage a firm for development of MSDQI EDS-DHIS2 interactive dashboard and updating malaria checklists for Zanzibar Malaria Elimination Program (ZAMEP).

A prospective bidder having any question regarding this RFP shall send an email 3 days prior to the due date and time for submission of offers to the following address: TZ-Jhpiegobids@jhpiego.org

Interested eligible bidders may collect a complete set of bidding documents from address given below on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM (GMT+3) local time except on public holidays or request the bidding documents through email address given above.

All proposals in one original plus one copy, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the address given below before Thursday, 7th May 2020 at 10:00 A.M.

Jhpiego reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal, and to annul the bidding process and reject all proposals at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to Bidders. The Jhpiego is under no obligation to accept the lowest proposal. Late proposals, electronic proposals, proposals not received shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

**Offers must be delivered on or before the due date to:**  
**The Country Director**  
**Jhpiego Tanzania**  
**Plot No. 72, Block 45B, Victoria Area, New Bagamoyo Road**  
**P.O. Box 9170, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**  
**Tel: +255 756 888 388**

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**VACANCY**  
**(For reputed Developer)**

**Project manager : Posts: 2**  
**Qualification : Civil or Mechanical Engineer, Electrical Engineer**  
**7 years experience in project or site management**

**Electrical engineer : Posts: 5**  
**Qualification: Graduation in Electrical**  
**7 years experience**

**Electrical technician : Post : 5**  
**Qualification: Diploma in Electrical**  
**5 years Experience**

**Plumber : Post : 5**  
**Qualification: Diploma in Plumbing**  
**10 years Experience**

**AC Technician : Post : 3**  
**Qualification: Highly qualified Diploma in**  
**Air condition technology**  
**5 years Experience**

**Very fluent in English and Swahili for all above posts.**  
**Only Tanzanian citizens for all posts**  
**Deadline: 7th May 2020**

**Resumes should be sent to Email : Safari@sura-tz.com & vasudha0606@yahoo.com**





Five Star Industry managing director Ashik Abbas Karim (L) takes Industry and Trade minister Innocent Bashungwa (C) through the production of face masks when the minister visited the facility yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

## Two Dar companies to make over 3.5 million face masks per month

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

MINISTER for Industry and Trade, Innocent Bashungwa has said that two industries in Dar es Salaam had promised him to produce more than 3.5 million face masks per month.

He made the remarks yesterday after his official tour of the two industries in Dar es Salaam where he went to inspect the development of sanitizers and masks production.

Currently, there is high need of the two products all over the country because they are used by the citizens to prevent themselves from Covid-19.

One of the industries he visited are Pristine which currently produces

30,000 masks per day but after the arrival of raw materials from abroad, they will have the capacity to produce 50,000 masks per day.

Before yesterday's tour, minister visited the industry two weeks ago and was told about the shortage of raw materials whereby Bashungwa contacted India, Turkey and China embassies to speed up the process of transporting the raw materials.

Either, Bashungwa congratulated the embassies for the good cooperation they have shown to the industry to get enough raw materials for masks production.

Minister Bashungwa also visited Five Star Industry at Vingunguti in the

outskirts of Dar es Salaam which is expected to produce 100,000 masks per day fight against the pandemic.

"Am happy to see that the two industries are capable of producing 3.5 million masks per month, this is a good move to fight this pandemic," said Bashungwa.

The aim of the minister tour was to see the capacity of masks and sanitizers. He directed all producers to make sure they produce products of the highest quality. He said many Tanzanians need those products to prevent themselves from corona virus pandemic so it is high time to make sure they produce big consignments but of the highest quality.



### JOB VACANCIES

**Job title:** Child & Youth Development Officer - (1 post)  
**Duty station:** SOS Children's Village - Arusha  
**Reporting to:** Alternative Care Coordinator

**The main responsibility:**

The Child and Youth Development Officer is responsible for guiding SOS Youth (within the Village) towards independence, so that they may eventually become self-sufficient, contributing members of society. In achieving this, the Child and Youth Development Officer should be seen as a peer and a role model providing guidance, support and a positive example to the Youth. Planning and Implementing activities within Alternative care program

**Roles & Responsibilities**

- Conduct Psychological assessment to the children and youth during the admission process for the wellbeing of their lifetime in the program
- Provides counselling to children and youth to enable them to cope with their status and find the opportunities within the program
- Provides youth and children with ongoing career counseling and job orientation. Encourages youth to take initiatives in researching career opportunities.
- Identifies and promotes community service opportunities among the youth. Administers the placement of youth in short or long-term programs. Maintains close contact with youth during such programs.
- Encourages youth to take advantage of opportunities which integrate them with the surrounding community, and which expose them to life outside SOS, such as clubs etc.
- Work with Monitoring and Evaluation Officer to make proper follow up on youth's academic development to schools and guide them through their youth life.
- Conducts regular Psychosocial Assessment and reviews for children and youth (at least half-yearly) and prepare reports which will guide the management on supporting children
- With support from Alternative Care coordinator ensure care plans and youth development plans are developed and reviewed twice a year
- In collaboration with Alternative Care team develop and implement appropriate life skills and entrepreneurship program for children and youth
- Design and implement Children Program activities in line with the age and capabilities
- Support Alternative Care coordinator to develop and implement reunification and integration strategy as per government policies and regulations
- Implement after care plan for integrated children and youth
- Provides guidance and mentorship on academic, career development and behavior change
- Work closely with SOS Mothers to play a significant role in their children's education, stimulating their interest in learning within the home.
- Conduct home visit and maintain positive relationship with children/youth family of origin
- Organizes educational and extra-curricular activities which the children will find interesting and enjoyable at the village.
- Prepare analytical child's educational progress report
- Supports and monitors children's academic performance and formulates strategies for performance improvement

**Knowledge, skills and abilities**

- Bachelor Degree in in Counselling Psychology, guidance and counselling, Social work from recognized Universities
- Fluent in English and computer literate
- Experience and skills in youth development work is an added advantage
- Passion with children/ youth and ready to work in a busy environment
- At least four (4) years' experience, working with children and youth environment from NGO's set up.
- Ability to convince, mentor and coach the youth.

To apply for this position, send your application by letter or email describing how your experience, qualifications and competencies make you the right candidate for this position Enclose a detailed updated CV, copies of academic & professional certificates, a passport size photo, telephone contacts and details of at least 3 referees to reach us to:-

**The National Director**  
**SOS Children's Villages Tanzania**  
**P. O. Box 80462 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**  
**recruit.sostanzania@sos-tanzania.org**

Please Note: SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer and committed to keeping children safe from abuse and harm, therefore candidates applying for this post will be subject to child safeguarding recruitment procedures and checks.

**Dead line for receipt of applications is one week from the appearance of the advertisement.**

- Only short listed candidates will be contacted



### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR RECRUITMENT CONSULTANCY SERVICES

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania (SOS CVTZ) is locally registered non-government organization affiliated to SOS Children's Villages International, a worldwide childcare organization that provides children who have lost parental care with a permanent home and help them shape their own future by assisting them to recognize their individual abilities, interest and talents; by investing in their education and developing their skills for them to be successful and contributing members of their society. SOS Children's Villages Tanzania assist families, communities and government to assume their responsibilities, in ensuring that children have access to the services required to fulfil their survival, development, protection and participation rights. Its operation centres around two major programmes i.e. Alternative Care (Family Like Care) and Family Strengthening Programmes. SOS Children's Villages Tanzania & Zanzibar started its operations in 1991 and currently operates in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Iringa and Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba).

**Brief of the assignment:**

SOS Children's Villages is looking for a competent Recruitment Agency to assist the organization in looking for the best and competent staff for our programs. The agent will attract candidates, screen them and match them to appropriate positions and qualifications which will be provided upon winning the tender. The Recruitment Agent should have the best selecting and headhunting skills. The Agent will use its best endeavours to locate a suitable candidate to the organization and use its skill, experience in recruitment and Human Resources (HR) as well as industry knowledge to locate, screen, interview and test the candidates. The Agent shall undertake searches for candidates directly or may outsource the roles from third-parties or networks. Specialized tests such as criminal and background-checks will not be performed by the Recruitment Agency.

The recruitment firm should possess the following knowledge and skills:

- A detailed company profile with personnel holding a Masters' degree with specialization in Employment and Labor Relations Act, Industrial Relations, Human Resource Management or any related field.
- At least 10 years of professional experience in the HR consulting field mainly in recruitment and selection, preferably working in/with NGOs
- Excellent communication and presentation skills

Submission of a proposal to offer services will include:

- The organization detailed profile
- A listing of organizations where similar service is being/has been offered
- CVs of key personnel in the firm

**Proposal Submission:**

Completed proposals, including all the requirements and details specified should be sent through [National.Office@sos-tanzania.org](mailto:National.Office@sos-tanzania.org) to National Director, SOS Children's Villages Tanzania, National Office, White Star Tower (Ground Floor), Kiko Avenue, Mikocheni.

**Closing date for receiving the applications is 30th April 2020.**



### EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR LEGAL CONSULTANCY ON RETAINERSHIP BASIS

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania (SOS CVTZ) is locally registered non-government organization affiliated to SOS Children's Villages International, a worldwide childcare organization that provides children who have lost parental care with a permanent home and help them shape their own future by assisting them to recognize their individual abilities, interest and talents; by investing in their education and developing their skills for them to be successful and contributing members of their society. SOS Children's Villages Tanzania assist families, communities and government to assume their responsibilities, in ensuring that children have access to the services required to fulfil their survival, development, protection and participation rights. Its operation centres around two major programmes i.e. Alternative Care (Family Like Care) and Family Strengthening Programmes. SOS Children's Villages Tanzania & Zanzibar started its operations in 1991 and currently operates in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Iringa and Zanzibar (Unguja and Pemba).

**Brief of the assignment:**

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is looking for a reputable law firm which will support and provide legal advice / guidance to the organization and represent the organization in different legal entities as per the need. To provide comprehensive legal advice to SOS Children's Villages Tanzania in relation to contract development, design and management. Advising and assisting with issues relating to SOS Children's Villages Tanzania's basic country agreement with the Government of United Republic of Tanzania. Provision of legal audit services in the business of the client, including but not limited to legal due diligence on the client's current and prospective business and always ensuring that the business of the client is conducted within the ambit of the law. Dealing with any other matter that SOS Children's Villages Tanzania may from time to time refer by written notice.

**The legal firm should possess the following knowledge and skills:**

A detailed company profile with personnel holding a Masters' degree with specialization in employment and labor relations act, industrial relations or any related field.

At least ten years relevant experience in providing legal services of the same matter.

Excellent communication and presentation skills

Submission of a proposal to offer services will include:

- The organization detailed profile
- A listing of organizations where similar service is being/has been offered
- CVs of key personnel in the firm

**Proposal Submission:**

Completed proposals, including all the requirements and details specified should be sent through [National.Office@sos-tanzania.org](mailto:National.Office@sos-tanzania.org) to National Director, SOS Children's Villages Tanzania, National Office, White Star Tower (Ground Floor), Kiko Avenue, Mikocheni.

**Closing date for receiving the applications is 30th April 2020.**



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## Languages are indeed essential to the identity of groups, individuals

LANGUAGES constitute a strategic factor of progress towards sustainable development and a harmonious relationship between the global and the local context. Only if multilingualism is fully accepted can all languages find their place in our globalised world.

International Mother Language Day is a worldwide annual observance held on 21 February to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and promote multilingualism. First announced by UNESCO on 17 November 1999, it was formally recognised by the United Nations General Assembly in a resolution establishing 2008 as the International Year of Languages.

The idea to celebrate International Mother Language Day was the initiative of Bangladesh. In Bangladesh the 21 February is the anniversary of the day when Bangladeshis fought for recognition for the Bangla language. International Mother Language Day has been observed annually since 2000 to promote peace and multilingualism around the world and to protect all mother languages. It is observed on February 21 to recognise the 1952 Bengali Language Movement in Bangladesh.

The day was proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in November 1999. In its resolution, the United Nations General Assembly called on its member states "to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by people of the world" on 16 May 2009. In the resolution, the General Assembly proclaimed 2008 as the International Year of Languages to promote unity in diversity and international understanding through multilingualism and multiculturalism. The resolution was suggested by Rafiqul Islam, a Bengali living in Vancouver, Canada. He wrote a letter to Kofi Annan on 9 January 1998 asking him to take a step for saving the world's languages from extinction by declaring an International Mother Language Day.

Rafiq proposed the date as 21 February to commemorate the 1952 killings in Dhaka during the Language Movement.

Languages are the most powerful instruments of preserving and developing our tangible and intangible heritage. All moves to promote the dissemination of mother tongues will serve not only to encourage linguistic diversity and multilingual education but also to develop fuller awareness of linguistic and cultural traditions throughout the world and to inspire solidarity based on understanding, tolerance and dialogue.

Tanzania is a multilingual country with 150 ethnic languages spoken within its borders. The current sociolinguistic situation in Tanzania necessitates the continued use of Kiswahili as a unifying language. The majority of urban children now actually acquire it as their first language. It is also the language most frequently used in government offices, as well as in everyday activities countrywide.

Despite the adoption of one of Africa's largest languages as an official language, the government has constantly insisted that English should remain the only medium of instruction at post-primary level, because of its tremendous power and prestige in the global market. The government's stance reveals a limited understanding of what a system for promoting bilingualism and biliteracy in education should involve.

Certainly at the time when the country became independent and Swahili was first proclaimed a national language, it was proclaimed as such in opposition to English. The original intention was eventually to replace the language of the former colonial rulers, English, with Swahili. Comments by responsible African writers support this original intention. For example, Professor Ali Mazrui in an article published as recently as 1967 commented on the comparatively mild and smooth conclusion of British colonial rule and contrasted this with the anti-British language policy in Tanganyika after independence.

## We need to influence protection of copyright works on a global scale

COPYRIGHT is the exclusive right given to the creator of a creative work to reproduce the work, usually for a limited time. The creative work may be in a literary, artistic, educational, or musical form. Copyright is intended to protect the original expression of an idea in the form of a creative work, but not the idea itself. A copyright is subject to limitations based on public interest considerations, such as the fair use doctrine in the United States. Some jurisdictions require "fixing" copyrighted works in a tangible form. It is often shared among multiple authors, each of whom holds a set of rights to use or license the work, and who are commonly referred to as rights holders. These rights frequently include reproduction, control over derivative works, distribution, public performance, and moral rights such as attribution.

Copyrights can be granted by public law and are in that case considered 'territorial rights'. This means that copyrights granted by the law of a certain state, do not extend beyond the territory of that specific jurisdiction. Copyrights of this type vary by country; many countries, and sometimes a large group of countries, have made agreements with other countries on procedures applicable when works 'cross' national borders or national rights are inconsistent.

Typically, the public law duration of a copyright expires 50 to 100 years after the creator dies, depending on the jurisdiction. Some countries require certain copyright formalities to establishing copyright, others recognize copyright in any completed work, without formal registration.

Copyright is just one form of intellectual property. It is not the same

as trademark, which protects brand names, mottos, logos, and other source identifiers from being used by others for certain purposes. It is also different from patent law, which protects inventions.

A patent is a form of intellectual property that gives its owner the legal right to exclude others from making, using, selling and importing an invention for a limited period of years, in exchange for publishing an enabling public disclosure of the invention. In most countries patent rights fall under civil law and the patent holder needs to sue someone infringing the patent in order to enforce his or her rights. In some industries patents are an essential form of competitive advantage; in others they are irrelevant.

The procedure for granting patents, requirements placed on the patentee, and the extent of the exclusive rights vary widely between countries according to national laws and international agreements. Typically, however, a patent application must include one or more claims that define the invention. A patent may include many claims, each of which defines a specific property right. These claims must meet relevant patentability requirements, such as novelty, usefulness, and non-obviousness.

Under the World Trade Organization's (WTO) TRIPS Agreement, patents should be available in WTO member states for any invention, in all fields of technology, provided they are new, involve an inventive step, and are capable of industrial application.[4] Nevertheless, there are variations on what is patentable subject matter from country to country, also among WTO member states. TRIPS also provides that the term of protection available should be a minimum of twenty years.



By J. Alexander Nuetah

RECENT reports from social and some mainstream media outlets have reported discrimination against Africans living in the commercial city of Guangzhou in Guangdong Province of China. The outcries led a Group of African ambassadors in China to release an official protest to the Chinese authorities on 10 April 2020. In their protest, the Group specifically cited the eviction of some Togolese, Nigerians, and Benois from their hotels in the middle of the night while some students are being coerced into taking COVID-19 and other medical tests, and asked to undergo mandatory quarantine.

There are also reports that Chinese landlords were evicting some 100 Africans, mainly Kenyans, from their apartments as part of efforts to "curb the spread of Coronavirus". While the reported actions are extreme and show semblance of discrimination, we strongly believe they neither reflect the general attitudes of Chinese towards Africans nor an official policy of Chinese authorities towards Africans in the fight against COVID-19, as reflected by the numerous supports China and African countries have been giving each other in fighting the pandemic.

As someone who stayed and studied in China for more than seven years and have had close interactions with Chinese at all levels for more than fifteen years, I thought to share my personal opinion and urge the continuous upholding of the mutual relationship that has existed between China and Africa, and treat COVID-19 as a common enemy. While I frown at the harassment of peaceful Africans in Guangzhou, it is also necessary to understand that Guangzhou is a trading city and one of the main manufacturing hubs in China. As with all such commercial cities anywhere in the world, the city is more likely to attract both legal and illegal immigrants than any other city in China. From personal experience, Guangzhou has a lot of illegal immigrants who may have become forced to come face-to-face with law enforcement authorities in the face of the coronavirus pandemic.

Faced with threats of possible deportation, some may easily result to fighting back through the use of social and other media outlets to create alarm. Also, as we may all be aware, China is still recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, and has put into many control and preventive measures, some of which affect even Chinese. For instance, a recent BBC program reported that in order to easily track and trace possible COVID-19 contacts, China is implementing a "health code" service for all its residents—both Chinese and non-Chinese—as people begin returning to work after more than two months of lockdown in Wuhan, the epicenter of the virus. The "health code" service, which is run

## Every need to uphold Sino-African solidarity in the face of COVID-19



on the electronic payment and social media platforms Alipay and WeChat respectively, gives users colour-coded designations based on their health status and travel history, and a QR code that can be scanned by authorities. Though the apps are specific to each city or province, it generally allows anyone with a green code to travel relatively freely. A yellow code indicates that the holder be in home isolation, while a red code show that the user is a confirmed COVID-19 patient and should be in quarantine. For instance, when the lockdown restrictions in Hubei province were lifted, people with green code were allowed to travel within and out of the province to avoid possible exportation of the virus from Wuhan to other areas. Also, to minimize the risk of resurgence of the virus, some restaurants, shops, hotels and other establishments in Wuhan ask customers to show their codes before entering, while only those with green health codes are currently being allowed to take public transport.

While these measures have proven to be effective in suppressing the incidence of new COVID-19 cases in Wuhan and Hubei Province in general, that may not be the case in other provinces. According to the Southern China Morning Post, health authorities in Guangzhou reported 111 positive COVID-19 cases on April 7, sixteen of which were Africans with five Nigerians among them. The five Nigerians were said to be linked to a restaurant in Kuangquan Street in Yuexiu district known popularly as "Little Africa" in Guangzhou city. This reportedly prompted health authorities to impose stringent control measures for anyone entering and leaving the area. Also, part of general efforts to contain the coronavirus pandemic, Guangzhou has reportedly been screening people, and has screened over 3,780 foreigners from high-risk countries who had not been under centralized quarantine prior to entry into China. With more than 2 million COVID-19 cases and over 100 thousand death across the globe,

every responsible country will take the most appropriate measures to ensure the safety of its residents. So, the actions by authorities in Guangzhou should not be interpreted as upright discrimination or racism as it has been reported by some.

China and Africa have come a long way and coronavirus should not be allowed to stand in the way of a relationship built and nurtured over many decades. The Group of African Ambassadors acknowledged this longstanding relationship in their protest statement and appreciated the excellent relations between China and African countries dating back to Africa's liberation struggle, and Africa's support to China in securing its rightful place as a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. China has also continued to engage and support Africa's physical and human capital development, and today there are thousands of African students still living and studying in China on Chinese government scholarship, even in the face of the dreadful coronavirus pandemic.

On the other hand, there are hundreds of Chinese nationals working in African countries especially on developmental projects and business investments. Except for one case of COVID-19 of an African student in Wuhan who was treated and recovered, most of our African students and legal residents remain safe and in good health—thanks to guidance provided by the Chinese government and school authorities. For instance, since the outbreak of the pandemic, some of our friends still studying in China have reported that the Chinese authorities have made every effort to meet the living and medical needs of foreign nationals, including African international students, and provided timely treatment to those infected with COVID-19. The guidance of the authorities demonstrates that China attaches great importance to the safety and health of foreign nationals, and protects their legitimate rights and

interests in accordance with the law.

Many of the foreign nationals, including Africans, have even volunteered and joined Chinese in the fight against the epidemic; some leaving touching stories of Chinese and foreigners working together during these difficult times. Thus, under these severe circumstances, China has given full consideration to all foreign citizens within its borders, and even granted "super national treatment" to African residents. Also, while China is still recovering from the pandemic, the government and people of China are still supporting African countries in their ongoing fight against COVID-19, as acknowledged by the Group of African Ambassadors in Beijing. For example, China has provided batches of medical supplies to the African Union and all African countries with diplomatic ties to China. On April 6th, China-aid also reportedly delivered urgently-needed medical supplies to Accra, Ghana to be distributed to 18 Africa countries, including Liberia, to assist in their fights against COVID-19. The donation is said to include PPEs, face masks, medical protective suits, goggles, gloves and other urgently-needed medical supplies for fighting the virus. This is a great show of solidarity from our Chinese friends.

So, we should see COVID-19 as a common enemy and continue to support each other in the battle to defeat it. China remembers the supports voiced and provided by African leaders and their people during the most crucial stages of her struggle with the virus, and it is monitoring the situation in Africa. China and African countries must remain united and demonstrate brotherhood, as always done in times of adversity. China opposes all forms of discrimination and prejudice, but requires all foreigners, including Africans, in China to strictly abide by the Law of the People's Republic of China on prevention and treatment of infectious diseases, as well as other laws and local regulations on epidemic prevention and control. Our African brothers and sisters, especially in Guangzhou, should understand and fully comply with measures deemed necessary by Chinese authorities to control and prevent a further escalation of the virus, as doing so also protects the health and safety of themselves and others. Like all other countries, China is obligated to protecting its people and foreign nationals resident in China from the importation of the virus to prevent domestic resurgence. Africans, and all other foreign residents, must understand and cooperate with China for the greater good of the world as resurgence of COVID-19 in China would mean the entire world is still at risk.



# UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA (TANZANIA) LIMITED

## FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE QUARTER ENDING 31-03-2020

Report of Condition of Bank pursuant to section 32 (3) of the Banking and Financial Institutions Act, 2006



### CONDENSED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31ST MARCH 2020

(Amounts in million shillings)

	Current Quarter 31-Mar-20	Previous Quarter 31-Dec-19
<b>A. ASSETS</b>		
1 Cash	3,702	2,008
2 Balances with Bank of Tanzania	11,210	9,947
3 Investments in Government securities	89,053	86,828
4 Balances with other banks and financial institutions	2,407	4,976
5 Cheques and items for clearing	72	1,970
6 Inter-branch float items	-	-
7 Bills negotiated	-	-
8 Customers' liabilities for acceptances	-	-
9 Interbank Loans Receivables	60,591	68,236
10 Investments in other securities	-	-
11 Loans, advances and overdrafts (net of allowances for probable losses)	43,903	42,181
12 Other assets	5,465	8,951
13 Equity Investments	-	-
14 Underwriting accounts	-	-
15 Property, Plant and Equipment	1,448	1,538
<b>16 TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>217,852</b>	<b>226,635</b>
<b>B. LIABILITIES</b>		
17 Deposits from other banks and financial institutions	69,021	69,445
18 Customer deposits	110,028	111,095
19 Cash letters of credit	-	-
20 Special deposits	7,696	8,157
21 Payment orders/transfers payable	-	-
22 Bankers' cheques and drafts issued	-	-
23 Accrued taxes and expenses payable	1,105	674
24 Acceptances outstanding	-	-
25 Inter-branch float items	7,600	8,700
26 Unearned income and other deferred charges	1,439	5,000
27 Other liabilities	-	1,510
28 Borrowings	-	2,582
<b>29 TOTAL LIABILITIES</b>	<b>196,889</b>	<b>206,609</b>
<b>30 NET ASSETS/(LIABILITIES) (16 minus 29)</b>	<b>20,963</b>	<b>20,026</b>
<b>C. CAPITAL AND RESERVES</b>		
31 Paid up share capital	31,420	31,420
32 Share Premium	29,104	29,104
33 Retained earnings	(40,582)	(42,168)
34 Profit/(Loss) account	1,021	1,668
35 Other capital accounts	-	-
36 Minority Interest	-	-
<b>37 TOTAL SHAREHOLDERS' FUNDS</b>	<b>20,963</b>	<b>20,026</b>
38 Contingent liabilities	841,483	841,483
39 Non performing loans & advances	3,933	234
40 Allowances for probable losses	709	891
41 Other non performing assets	-	-
<b>D. SELECTED FINANCIAL CONDITION INDICATORS</b>		
(i) Shareholders Funds to total assets	10%	9%
(ii) Non performing loans to total gross loans	8.90%	0.55%
(iii) Gross loans and advances to total deposits	38%	33%
(iv) Loans and Advances to total assets	20%	19%
(v) Earning Assets to Total Assets	89%	88%
(vi) Deposits Growth	-1%	-7%
(vii) Assets growth	-4%	-5%

### CONDENSED STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE PERIOD ENDING 31ST MARCH 2020

(Amounts in million shillings)

	Current Quarter 31-Mar-20	Comparative Quarter 31-Dec-19	Current Year Cumulative 31-Mar-20	Comparative Year Cumulative 31-Mar-19
1 Interest Income	3,958	4,423	3,958	1,897
2 Interest Expense	(1,510)	(1,702)	(1,510)	(682)
<b>3 Net Interest Income (1 minus 2)</b>	<b>2,447</b>	<b>2,721</b>	<b>2,447</b>	<b>1,214</b>
4 Bad Debts Written Off	-	-	-	-
5 Impairment losses on loans and advances	-	(298)	-	-
<b>6 Non-Interest Income</b>	<b>2,323</b>	<b>1,584</b>	<b>2,323</b>	<b>2,178</b>
6.1 Foreign currency dealings and translation gains/(losses)	307	371	307	409
6.2 Commissions and fees	1,998	1,199	1,998	1,736
6.3 Dividend income	-	-	-	-
6.4 Other operating income	18	14	18	33
<b>7 Non-Interest Expenses</b>	<b>(3,749)</b>	<b>(3,421)</b>	<b>(3,749)</b>	<b>(3,252)</b>
7.1 Salaries and other staff benefits	(1,794)	(1,658)	(1,794)	(1,498)
7.2 Fees and Commissions	(296)	(300)	(296)	(268)
7.3 Other operating expenses	(1,659)	(1,464)	(1,659)	(1,586)
<b>8 Operating Income/(Loss)</b>	<b>1,021</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>1,021</b>	<b>41</b>
9 Income Tax Provision	-	-	-	-
<b>Net Income/(Loss) After Income Tax</b>	<b>1,021</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>1,021</b>	<b>41</b>
10 Other comprehensive income (reversed)	-	-	-	-
<b>11 Total comprehensive income/(loss) for the year</b>	<b>1,021</b>	<b>586</b>	<b>1,021</b>	<b>41</b>
12 Number of employees	117	114	117	104
13 Basic earning Per Share	163	93	163	7
15 Number of branches	4	4	4	4
<b>SELECTED PERFORMANCE INDICATORS</b>				
(i) Return on Average Total Assets	0.46%	0.25%	0.46%	0.03%
(ii) Return on Average Shareholders' Fund	4.98%	2.92%	4.98%	0.22%
(iii) Non Interest Expense to Gross Income	59.69%	56.95%	59.69%	82.25%
(iv) Net Interest Income to Average Earning Assets	1.25%	1.34%	1.25%	1.07%
<b>Name and Title</b>	<b>Signature</b>	<b>Date</b>		
1 Usman Bika Managing Director / CEO	Signed	17th April 2020		
2 Chomete Hussein Chief Finance Officer	Signed	17th April 2020		
3 Joseph Rings Country Head, Internal Audit	Signed	17th April 2020		

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

### CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE QUARTER 31ST MARCH 2020

(Amounts in million shillings)

	Current Quarter 31-Mar-20	Comparative Quarter 31-Dec-19	Current Year Cumulative 31-Mar-20	Comparative Year Cumulative 31-Mar-19			
<b>I. Cash flow from operating activities</b>							
Net Income/(Loss)	1,021	586	1,021	41			
Adjustment for:							
-Impairment/Amortization	128	434	128	97			
-Net change in loans and advances	(1,722)	(8,204)	(1,722)	4,492			
-Gain/(Loss) on Sale of Assets	-	-	-	-			
-Net change in Deposits	(1,953)	(9,007)	(1,953)	(4,195)			
-Net change in Short-Term Negotiable securities	(2,225)	751	(2,225)	5,398			
-Net change in other liabilities	(3,581)	244	(3,581)	(246)			
-Net change in other Assets	3,486	642	3,486	(540)			
-Tax paid	-	-	-	-			
-Others (specify)	-	-	-	-			
Net cash provided/(used) by operating activities	(4,845)	(14,554)	(4,845)	5,048			
<b>II. Cash flow from investing activities:</b>							
Dividend received	-	-	-	-			
Purchase of fixed assets	(36)	(34)	(36)	12			
Proceeds from sale of fixed assets	-	-	-	-			
Purchase of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	-			
Proceeds from sale of non-dealing securities	-	-	-	-			
Others	-	-	-	-			
Net cash provided/(used) by investing activities	(36)	(34)	(36)	12			
<b>III. Cash flow from financing activities:</b>							
Repayment of long-term debt	-	-	-	-			
Proceeds from issuance of long-term debt	-	-	-	-			
Proceeds from issuance of share capital	-	-	-	-			
Payment of cash dividends	-	-	-	-			
Net change in other borrowings	(3,510)	(4,038)	(3,510)	1,647			
Others	-	-	-	-			
Net cash provided/(used) by financing activities	(3,510)	(4,038)	(3,510)	1,647			
<b>IV. Cash and Cash equivalents:</b>							
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalent	(8,390)	(18,925)	(8,390)	6,707			
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the quarter	116,710	135,645	116,710	25,917			
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the quarter	108,320	116,710	108,320	32,624			
<b>CONDENSED STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY AS AT 31ST MARCH 2020</b>							
	Share capital	Share Premium	Retained Earnings	Regulatory Reserve	General Reserve	Others	Total
<b>Current Year 2020</b>							
Balance at the beginning of the year	31,420	29,104	(40,582)	-	-	-	19,942
Profit/(Loss) the year	-	-	1,021	-	-	-	1,021
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Share issued	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance as at the end of the current period</b>	<b>31,420</b>	<b>29,104</b>	<b>(39,561)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,963</b>
<b>Previous Year 2019</b>							
Balance at the beginning of the year	31,420	29,104	(42,548)	-	402	-	18,358
Profit/(Loss) the year	-	-	1,668	-	-	-	1,668
Other Comprehensive Income	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Transactions with owners	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Dividend Paid	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Regulatory Reserve	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
General Provision Reserve	-	-	402	-	(402)	-	-
Others	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Share issued	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Balance as at the end of the previous period</b>	<b>31,420</b>	<b>29,104</b>	<b>(40,498)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(0)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>20,026</b>

## UNITED BANK FOR AFRICA (TANZANIA) LIMITED MINIMUM DISCLOSURE OF CHARGES AND FEES

SECTION A	ITEM/TRANSACTION	RETAIL	CORPORATE	
1 FREEDOM SAVINGS	Required minimum opening balance	TZS 5,000	N/A	
	Minimum operating balance	TZS 2,000	N/A	
	Monthly maintenance fee	NIL	N/A	
	Withdrawal Charges @ Counter	NIL	N/A	
	2 GENERAL SAVINGS	Required minimum opening balance	TZS 20,000	N/A
		Minimum operating balance	TZS 5,000	N/A
		Monthly maintenance fee	NIL	N/A
		Withdrawal Charges @ Counter	TZS 1,000	N/A
		Required minimum opening balance	TZS 15,000 USD 15	N/A
	3 EMPLOYEE SAVINGS	Required minimum opening balance	TZS 2,000 USD 10	N/A
Minimum operating balance		TZS 1,000/ PAGE	N/A	
Monthly maintenance fee		NIL	N/A	
Ad-hoc statement request		TZS 1,000/ PAGE	N/A	
Withdrawal Charges @ Counter		TZS 1,000	N/A	
4 SAVINGS ACCOUNT INDIVIDUALS	Required minimum opening balance	15,000	N/A	
	Minimum operating balance	5,000	N/A	
	Monthly maintenance fee	NIL	N/A	
	Withdrawal Charges @ Counter	TZS 1,000	N/A	
	Required minimum opening balance	15,000	N/A	
5 SAVINGS ACCOUNT SALARY	Required minimum opening balance	15,000	N/A	
	Minimum operating balance	5,000	N/A	
	Monthly maintenance fee	NIL	N/A	
	Withdrawal Charges @ Counter	TZS 1,000	N/A	
	Required minimum opening balance	USD 10	N/A	
6 SAVINGS ACCOUNT DOMICILIARY	Required minimum opening balance	USD 5	N/A	
	Minimum operating balance	NIL	N/A	
	Monthly maintenance fee	NIL	N/A	
	Withdrawal Charges @ Counter	1% per transaction	N/A	
	Closing account	USD 5	N/A	
7 U-CARE CHILDREN SAVINGS	Required minimum opening balance	TZS 20,000 USD 15	N/A	
	Minimum operating balance	TZS 20,000	N/A	
	Monthly maintenance fee	NIL	N/A	
	Withdrawal Charges @ Counter	TZS 1,000	N/A	
	Required minimum opening balance	USD 200	N/A	
8 CURRENT ACCOUNTS	Minimum operating balance	USD 100	N/A	
	Monthly maintenance fee	NIL	N/A	
	Cash withdrawal at counter	NIL	N/A	
	Closing account	NIL	N/A	
	Penalty for overdraft account	NIL	N/A	
	Outward fund transfers (FTs)	MIN USD 50 in between 0.25% MAX USD 200	N/A	
	Inward fund transfers (FTs Incoming)	NIL	N/A	
	Foreign exchange	Favourable rates will be applied	N/A	
	Required minimum opening balance	USD 100/ EUR 100/ GBP 100	USD 100/ EUR 100/ GBP 100	
	Minimum operating balance	USD 100/ EUR 100/ GBP 100	USD 100/ EUR 100/ GBP 100	
Monthly maintenance fee	USD 12 or its equivalent	USD 15 or its equivalent		
Minimum search fees	USD 25/ EUR 25/ GBP 25	USD 25/ EUR 25/ GBP 25		
Cash withdrawal	1% per transaction	1% per transaction		
Cheque book - 25 LEAF	USD 10 or its equivalent	N/A		
Closing account	USD 10	USD 10		
Penalty for overdraft account	PLR + 2%	PLR + 2%		
Transfer from TZS to DOMICILIARY/ DOMICILIARY to TZS	NIL	NIL		
9 CHECK ACCOUNTS	Minimum operating balance	TZS 1,000,000	CoA Accounts TZS 10,000,000	
	Monthly Average balance requirement	Negotiable	Negotiable	
	Interest Rates	Negotiable	Negotiable	
	Term deposits	Negotiable	Negotiable	
	Minimum deposit - local currency	TZS 500,000	TZS 10,000,000	
	Minimum deposit - USD	USD 10,000 or equivalent	USD 10,000 or equivalent	
	Interest Rates	Negotiable	Negotiable	
	Electronic banking	N/A	N/A	
	Internet banking (self-downloaded)	FREE	FREE	
	PCoS purchase (Local)	FREE	N/A	
PCoS purchase (International)	TZS 6,000 (up to 1000\$) TZS 10,000 (\$1001 - \$2000)	N/A		
ATM reversal	TZS 20,000 (Above \$ 2000)	N/A		
Fund transfer/ company load	TZS 1,000 per transaction	TZS 1,000 per transaction		
Card Load	TZS 1,000 per transaction	TZS 1,000 per transaction		
Manual pin change	TZS 1,500 per transaction	TZS 1,500 per transaction		
U-MOBILE (mobile banking Bank to wallet)	TZS 1,000 (0 - 200,000/1) and TZS 2,000 (200,001 - 400,000/1)	N/A		
Card to card transfer	TZS 1,500 per transaction	TZS 1,500 per tr		
Affcash	TZS 6,000 + 1.5% of the amount sent/USD 4.45 + 1.5%	N/A		
Visa Debit Card	TZS 10,000	N/A		
Insurance fees	TZS 10,000	N/A		
Visa Prepaid Cards	TZS 10,000	N/A		
Issuance fees for instant card	TZS 12,000	N/A		
Issuance fees for personalized card	TZS 15,000	N/A		
Resuance fees	TZS 12,000	N/A		
Online Passcode reset fee	TZS 1,500	N/A		
ATM Pin reset fee	TZS 1,500	N/A		
Loading fee	TZS 1,000	N/A		
Online shopping fee - Local transactions	FREE	N/A		
Online shopping fee/Web - Int. transactions	TZS 6,000 (up to 1000\$) TZS 10,000 (\$1001 - \$2000)	N/A		
ATM Withdrawals	TZS 500	N/A		
ATM PIN (On us)	TZS 200	N/A		
ATM Balance inquiry (Local)	TZS 1,000	N/A		
ATM Balance inquiry (International)	TZS 2,500	N/A		
To other banks ATM (On others/OFF US) Local	TZS 6,000	N/A		
International ATM withdraw	TZS 6,000	N/A		

SECTION E	ASSET BANKING			
1 LOANS	Processing fee	negotiable		
	Insurance for personal loans	N/A	1.2%	
	Legal fees	0.5% minimum of TZS 300,000	0.5% minimum of TZS 300,000	
	2 TEMPORARY OVERDRAFT (TODs)	Processing fee	2%	2%
		Facility Commission	2% p.a (0.5% per qtr), Min USD 250 per qtr.	2% p.a (0.5% per qtr), Min USD 250 per qtr.
	SECTION F TRADE FINANCE	Arrangement fees	2%	
		Cash Covered	0.5% per qtr Min 250 per	



# Current challenges in the management of patients with sickle cell disease

By Special Correspondent

Sickle cell disease (SCD) is an inherited red blood cell disorder caused by a structural abnormality of hemoglobin called sickle hemoglobin (HbS). Clinical manifestations of SCD are mainly characterised by chronic hemolysis and acute vaso-occlusive crisis, which are responsible for severe acute and chronic organ damage. SCD is widespread in sub-Saharan Africa, in the Middle East, Indian sub-continent, and some Mediterranean regions. With voluntary population migrations, people harboring the HbS gene have spread globally. In 2006, the World Health Organization recognized hemoglobinopathies, including SCD, as a global public health problem and urged national health systems worldwide to design and establish programs for the prevention and management of SCD. Herein we describe the historical experience of the network of hemoglobinopathy centers and their approach to SCD in Italy, a country where hemoglobinopathies have a high prevalence and where SCD, associated with different genotypes including  $\beta$ -thalassaemia, is present in the native population.

## Introduction

The term sickle cell disease (SCD) encompasses a group of inherited red blood cell disorders caused by a structural abnormality of hemoglobin (Hb) called sickle hemoglobin (HbS), which originates from a single nucleotide substitution in the gene encoding  $\beta$ -globin. HbS is inherited in an autosomal recessive way and SCD can occur due to homozygosity for HbS (HbSS), a condition also known as sickle cell anemia (SCA), or due to compound heterozygosity with  $\beta$ -thalassaemia mutations (HbS/ $\beta$ 0-thalassaemia and HbS/ $\beta$ +thalassaemia, previously known as microdrapanocytic disease and first described by Silvestroni and Bianco in 1944 and other  $\beta$ -globin structural variants such as HbC (HbSC disease). HbS is functional and soluble when oxygenated, but upon deoxygenation it polymerizes, leading to the generation of misshapen red blood cells known as sickle cells and dense erythrocytes. Sick red blood cells show: (i) abnormal membrane mechanical stability; (ii) increased membrane oxidation; (iii) activation of pro-dehydrating membrane transport pathways; and (iv) pro-adhesive molecules. The dense, rigid red blood cells are easily trapped within organs with sluggish microcirculation by their interaction with the inflammatory activated vascular endothelial cells and neutrophils. These events generate acute vaso-occlusive events, which leads to ischemic-reperfusion damage of target organs such as lung, kidney or brain.

Up to now, SCD remains an invalidating chronic disorder with high mortality and morbidity. The most common acute manifestations of SCD include acute hemolytic crisis and vaso-occlusive crisis (VOCs). VOCs are characterized by musculoskeletal pain, which might develop into severe forms such as acute chest syndrome, stroke or priapism. In addition, with the spleen being one of the target organs of VOC, patients with



Leg ulcers in patients with SCD are a common symptom and can vary in incidence among different phenotypes of the condition and geographical area, occurring in up to 75 per cent of adults affected by the disease in some populations.

SCD are also prone to serious bacterial infections due to asplenicity. The recurrent pattern of VOCs results in chronic organ damage, which becomes clinically evident in adult patients. SCD was long regarded as a disease of children, with few surviving to adulthood. Today, thanks to advances in infection control, vaccination and screening programs, as well as intensive disease management, more than 95 per cent of children with SCD in developed countries reach adulthood. In adults with SCD, survival is estimated to be over 50 years for patients with HbSS or HbS/ $\beta$ 0-thalassaemia genotypes, while the survival of patients with HbSC or HbS/ $\beta$ +thalassaemia genotypes is close to that of the general population.

Epidemiologic and global burden of disease studies have shown that SCD is widespread in sub-Saharan Africa, in the Middle East, Indian subcontinent and some Mediterranean regions. In the last few decades, due to voluntary population migrations, the HbS gene has spread all over the world. A study published in 2014 estimated that the global number of migrants with HbS increased from approximately 1.6 million in 1960, to 3.6 million in 2000. In 2006, the World Health Organization (WHO) recognized hemoglobinopathies, including SCD, as a global public health problem and urged national health systems worldwide to design and establish programs for the prevention

and management of SCD. The European Union considers SCD a rare disease.

Changes in the demographic profile of SCD have been also reported in Italy, a country where SCD, in particular HbS/ $\beta$ -thalassaemia, is historically present in the native population. We describe here the experience of new challenges posed to Italian health providers by the increasing prevalence of SCD. To this purpose, we will first discuss the changing epidemiology of SCD in Italy, then we will briefly review the peculiarity of the Italian treatment strategy.

## Epidemiology of sickle cell disease in Italy

The prevalence of SCD throughout Italy is changing and the presence of immigrants in the increasing number of SCD patients in Italian regions with a historically low disease prevalence has been documented by recent studies. The highest frequency of the sickle cell allele in Italy was reported in Sicily, with an estimated mean frequency of 2 per cent and peaks as high as 13 per cent. Notably, in Western Sicily SCD appears to have originated from Africa, with chromosomal analysis of the HbSS and HbS/ $\beta$ -thalassaemia genotypes suggesting that the HbSS genotype found in Sicily arrived initially from North African populations.

In an Italian survey of 696 cases of SCD, conducted in the late 1990s, 518 cases (74 pc) were identified as compound heterozygous HbS/ $\beta$ -thalassaemia, 149

cases (21pc) as homozygous HbSS, and 21 cases (3 pc) as compound heterozygous HbS/other Hb structural variant. Of the 673 cases of SCD with a known place of residence, 60 per cent were living in Sicily, 20 per cent in South Italy, 6 per cent in Central Italy, and 13 per cent in North Italy. Hence the survey revealed that, in the 1990s, the majority of SCD patients in Italy resided in Sicily and that they mostly had HbS/ $\beta$ -thalassaemia. A survey update, published in 2003, found that the proportion of SCD patients living in North Italy had increased to 20 per cent, but in Sicily this had decreased to 53 per cent. Furthermore, the proportion of patients with HbSS had increased from 21 per cent in 1998 to 28 per cent in 2003. A comparison of patients of non-Italian versus Italian origin showed that non-Italian patients were mostly homozygous for the HbS allele (72pc vs 18pc, respectively), were younger (75pc vs 18-years old vs 23pc) and lived predominantly in North Italy (61pc vs 11pc).

Real-life experience with the use of hydroxyurea (HU) in SCD was assessed using data from a retrospective Italian nationwide survey of SCD patients with heterogeneous descent, which registered 1,638 patients. From a total of 652 patients who had received HU during their disease course, 400 patients (64pc) were Caucasian in origin and 221 patients (36pc) originated from Africa. It

is also apparent that the genotype of the Hb allele in Italy is changing over time with an increasing frequency of the homozygous HbSS genotype. Screening programs initiated in the 1970s in Italy have increased public awareness of thalassaemia and aided its prevention in target populations as well as enabling screening for other hemoglobinopathies. These programs, which aim to prevent hemoglobinopathies, have significantly reduced the frequency of live births with SCD. In Sicily, an 85 per cent decrease in the incidence of thalassaemia major and SCA (from 1 in 245 live births to 1 in 2,000) has been documented following 30 years of preventative actions, which included legislative action, a public awareness campaign, screening and carrier diagnostics, genetic counselling, and prenatal diagnosis. In addition, a universal screening program for hemoglobinopathies, which includes voluntary pregnancy termination within the 22nd week in case of an affected fetus, is active for couples before and/or after conception according to the Italian law since Italy is considered an area endemic for hemoglobinopathies.

## Management of patients with sickle cell disease in Italy

The creation of evidence-based guidelines for SCD, as for other uncommon or neglected diseases, has proven challenging due to the complex clinical expression of the disease, and the availability of clinical trials regarding only some screening, management, and monitoring issues of SCD. Notably, an important goal of SCD guidelines is to improve the awareness of SCD and increase the number of health professionals able to provide care for patients with SCD.

Effort undertaken over the past 10 years by scientific societies involved in the care of pediatric and adult patients with SCD (the Italian Association of Hematology and Pediatric Oncology [AIEOP] and SITE) has been to develop guidelines for the management of children and adults with SCD, respectively, tailoring international recommendations to the Italian health care system.

In general, currently available guidelines deal with

three main areas of SCD management: prevention of infections, stroke, and management of acute and chronic complications; treatment of the various complications (VOC, pain, infections, worsening of anemia, acute chest syndrome, vasculopathy); and specific treatment of severe disease with disease-modifying therapies (transfusion and HU).

Preventive measures have a central position in the management of SCD. Prophylactic antibiotics should be initiated as early as 2 months of age in infants and a specific vaccination program should be followed in order to widen the protection against encapsulated bacteria.

Primary prevention of stroke is performed by screening children, aged 2 to 16 years, with transcranial Doppler ultrasonography; this allows the identification of children at high risk of stroke, who are placed on transfusions and, eventually, HU for stroke prevention.

The use of chronic transfusions (typically given on a monthly basis) to reduce the percentage of HbS in the blood have proven effective in preventing most complications of SCD, including stroke, and in minimizing chronic anemia with significant improvements in the patient-centered outcome of health-related quality of life. Preliminary results from the "National Transfusion Treatment Survey in patients with SCD" (NCT03397017), a prospective longitudinal systemic study designed to assess the therapeutic approach in a large Italian cohort of patients with SCD (n=1,579), were reported recently. This national survey, which was coordinated by SITE in collaboration with the Italian Society of Transfusion Medicine and Immunohematology (SIMIT) and AIEOP, showed that 14 per cent of patients are on regular transfusion, while 40% received both transfusion and HU, the transfusional approach being similar in HbSS, HbS/ $\beta$ -thalassaemia and HbS/ $\beta$ +thalassaemia patients, who were predominantly Caucasian or African; severe VOCs and symptomatic anemia were the main reasons for transfusion. The rate of red blood cell alloimmunization was comparable to the lower rate reported in the literature. Elderly Caucasian SCD patients and their long-term follow-up represent a unique population of SCD, and are extremely informative on aging with SCD.

The introduction of chronic transfusion in children with cerebrovascular disease as well as the aging of adults with SCD has increased the use of different transfusion regimens (e.g.: simple transfusion, erythrocytapheresis, red blood cell exchange), which might lead to iron overload. The availability of iron chelators, including deferoxamine, given parenterally, and the oral agent deferasirox, has definitively improved clinical management of iron-overload in SCD subjects. Notably, long-term iron chelation therapy with deferasirox was associated with a similar efficacy and safety profile to that of deferoxamine in patients with SCD and may therefore represent an effective long-term treatment option. However, it is of note that the oral chelator deferasirox is currently off-label.

In Italy, there is also wide experience in the treatment of SCD with erythrocyte exchange

as a means of lowering HbS levels, particularly in patients who do not tolerate or are unresponsive to HU. Indeed, manual or automatic red blood cell exchange was shown to be safe and effective in preventing complications of SCD for up to 29 years, with minimal development of iron overload and no increased risk of procedure-related complications in both adult and pediatric SCD patients. More recently, an Italian double-center retrospective cross-sectional study showed that early prophylactic erythrocytapheresis (initiated at 10.7  $\pm$  5.2 weeks of gestation) improved maternal and fetal outcomes in SCD women with a history of severe SCD-related organ complications. The generation of SITE recommendations for transfusion strategies in hemoglobinopathies has contributed to standardizing the procedures and sharing the clinical indication to the different transfusional approaches at a national level. The real-life transfusion strategy is the object of a very recent survey. A large observational study coordinated by SITE demonstrated the efficacy of direct-acting antiviral drugs in the eradication of hepatitis C virus (HCV) in an Italian cohort of SCD patients infected with HCV (n=136; 93.5% of these patients achieved a sustained virologic response), which likely occurred due to transfusion therapy prior to the introduction of blood-donor screening in the 1990s.

A large body of preclinical and clinical evidence has demonstrated that HU reduces the morbidity and mortality of both adults and children (including infants) with SCD, with a favorable tolerability profile and without significant short-term and long-term safety concerns. A series of real-life reports documenting the use of HU in Italy have recently been published. HU was shown to be beneficial as a treatment option in a retrospective, nationwide cohort study of 1,638 patients with SCD of whom 652 patients had received HU during their disease course. Notably, only 39.8 per cent of patients (652 out of 1,638 patients) with SCD who had attended treatment centers across Italy were treated with HU, suggesting its underutilization in clinical practice. The percentage of HbS/ $\beta$ -thalassaemia and HbS/ $\beta$ +thalassaemia patients on HU was even lower: 90/624.

A sub-analysis of pediatric data from the retrospective, nationwide cohort study demonstrated the tendency to treat children with lower doses than those recommended; furthermore, although national pediatric guidelines recommend starting HU treatment as early as the first months of life, this cohort of children revealed that HU was never started before 11 months of age. Nonetheless, the results of this survey highlight good adherence to the Italian National Guidelines that included detailed recommendations for the use of HU, which is noteworthy considering patients were mainly first-generation immigrants, who may be socially, culturally, and economically vulnerable.

To be Continued





Kisesa legislator Luhaga Mpina, who is also Livestock and Fisheries minister, greets Meatu residents when he toured the district yesterday for a first-hand account of the ongoing construction of a secondary school in Isengwa ward. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Brewer partners with FTMA and WFP to support nation's sorghum farmers

By Guardian Reporter

**T**ANZANIA Breweries Limited (TBL) has teamed with the Farm to Market Alliance (FtMA) and key alliance members like the World Food Programme (WFP) in Tanzania to support smallholder sorghum farming in Tanzania. The collaboration kicked off with a pilot project where TBL Plc has agreed to purchase the sorghum produced by approximately 1,400 smallholder sorghum farmers in Dodoma and Manyara. TBL Plc, FtMa and WFP support the farmers with access to sorghum seed; crop insurance; sorghum crop man-

agement protocols; agricultural extension services; and improved aggregation and market access to maximize their harvest. TBL Plc managing director, Philip Redman, said that the project will play a crucial role in raising production of sorghum in Tanzania, a development that will assure farmers a reliable source of income. The company sources sorghum locally from smallholder farmers and by collaborating with FtMa and WFP we are collectively working to strengthen the value chain and to increase the livelihoods of Tanzania's smallholder farmers who are essential part of its supply chain.

"We believe in developing robust, sustainable and inclusive value chains and are positive about our partnership with FtMa and WFP, the farmers will get production support in the form of seeds, training materials and agronomic extension services which will in turn help to raise sorghum production," says Redman. He furthermore went on to say, "We are also looking to roll-out the BanQuBlock-chain platform, which will add transparency and traceability into our supply chain. BanQu enables farmers to have an immutable digital record of their financial transactions e.g. production, sales, purchases (inputs),

repayments, etc. and also enables the farmer to be paid via mobile money. This ensures food security for farmers and promotes financial inclusion, increasing the bankability of these farmers. Increased production, with TBL Plc as the buyer, will also serve as a source of income for them for improving their economic positions." Last year TBL spent over 36.6 billion/- on the sourcing of local raw materials as part of its wider local content development program. "We believe that our contribution through our local sourcing programs stands with the government's wider efforts towards enhancing Tanzania's economy," he said.

"Access to reliable markets is one of the many barriers holding back smallholder farmers from breaking out of subsistence farming," said WFP Tanzania Country Representative, Michael Dunford. "While we are working with sorghum farmers to invest in increased production beyond household use, we also need to ensure commercial buyers such as TBL Plc are there to purchase the surplus, boosting the livelihood of farmers." In 2018, ABInBev publicly committed to skill, connect and financially empower their direct farmers by 2025. "To this end, our business has made significant investments in supporting

our smallholder farmers in Tanzania with the following products and services - KilimoUza: a bulk SMS and USSD platform to send farmers weather, market and agronomic information; An input advance credit scheme, coupled with financial literacy training, for the procurement of quality inputs and services; Research trails in Tanzania for developing improved sorghum seed varieties and research based crop management protocols tailored to the Tanzanian context; and agronomic training and support throughout the season, to inculcate sustainable agronomic practices," says Redman.

## Solar: A game-changer for village healthcare in Korogwe District

By Guardian Correspondent

THE number of women giving birth at Mpale health centre in Korogwe district, Tanga region has increased after installation of solar power, hence improving service health delivery at the facility.

Doctor in charge of the centre, Herman Magembe, said recently when a team of Journalists on Environment Tanzania (JET) visited the village to among other things, learn on the solar project.

According to Dr Magembe, the installation of solar power has increased deliveries at the facility from 30 to 35 births per month.

"It was previously very hard to conduct deliveries at night but with this project, we are now free to support births even during late nights as we have reliable power. We were previously forced to use local lamps or torch and this was in turn was risk mother and child's lives," he said.

Dr Magembe added: "I was becoming more nervous and shocked whenever I hear someone knocking at my door during night; I had nothing to do than to struggle to save lives of people even if under difficult environment."

He said that lack of power didn't only affect deliveries, but also other key issues like preparation of vaccines and other equipment as some of them had to be heated before use.

"We had to travel to Korogwe town to take the vaccine equipment. But we currently have a fridge and freezers to keep medical tools. The solar power has also reduced costs incurred during the use of lamps from 60,000/- to 30,000/- per month," he said.

Residents have hailed the improvements, saying that the community is currently enjoying access to quality health services.

"We have nothing to worry now, we can also freely take our wives to the hospital any time even during the night," said Othman Mtunguja, a villager at Mpale.

Erica Jackson, Ensol project's supervisor at Mpale said that they saw it better to send the solar power services to under-served communities specifically at health centres, churches and schools.

She said that before the installation of the solar power at the health centre, mother and child services were very poor. Mpale village chairman Abdallah Mdoe commended the solar-power company-Ensol for installing 1bn/- solar plant in the area. He described the support as 'meaningful' to the off-grid communities like Mpale, saying the solar power project has transformed people's livelihoods in the area.

Apart from improving service delivery at the health centre, Mdoe said that the electricity generated by the solar power plant has also brought various positive impacts in the village of a population of 9,613 people.

ENSOL installed a solar power plant and supply power to 250 households, the move that had completely transformed people's lives in the area.

The Energy Access Situation Report, 2016 Tanzania mainland, reveals that solar power is the dominant electricity source in the country's rural areas.

The report, released earlier this week by the National Bureau of Statistics and the Rural Energy Agency shows that grid electricity is the second-largest source of power in rural areas with 34.5 per cent of households connected, while solar is leading by nearly 65 per cent.

"The results show that solar power is the dominant electricity source in rural areas as 64.8 per cent of the rural households were using electricity generated from solar power. Private entity and individual electricity generated from own sources (excluding solar) was the least source of electricity among rural households at 0.6 per cent," part of the report reads.

## ActionAid donates a variety of items worth 44.5m/-to Kilwa flood victims

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

ACTIONAID Tanzania has donated food relief items worth 44.5m/- to support flood victims in Njinjo and Matandu wards in Kilwa district, Lindi region.

Project coordinator at ActionAid Steven Benard said yesterday that the organisation had donated 23,390 kg of maize flour, 2,366 litres of cooking oil, 3,800 kg of beans, 23 boxes of ball pens, 10 boxes of pencils, 21 carton of exercise books.

The donation was for 838 households in Njinjo ward and 330 households in Matandu ward who had been badly affected by the recent floods in January and February, this year.

"We have decided to support people in needy in the Matandu and Njinjo wards because we are accountable for the community that we are working with," he said.

He said currently ActionAid Tanzania is implementing the Local Rights Programme (LRP) in Njinjo and Matandu wards.

He said that before donating the support to the victims in those areas we contacted Kilwa District Commissioner, Christopher Ngubiagai, and District Executive Director, Renatus Mchau.

He said during the distribution of relief food to flood victims, ActionAid Tanzania team was accompanied by the district's disaster relief committee team.

"Following outbreak of COVID 19, necessary measures were taken to ensure effective distribution of relief support while minimising possible contamination. The measures include those steps were taken by the Local Rights Programme (LRP) team and emergency team at the district level."

Through the LRP, ActionAid Tanzania in Kilwa has

procured sanitizers and hand washing soap and other necessary hygiene materials to ensure communities take all required steps to prevent contamination during relief aid support and communities were asked to wash their hands before and after accessing relief aids," he noted. Also in a bid to protect people from COVID-19, 3-meter distance between person and person was adhered during the distribution of relief aids.

In rural communities where Actionaid Tanzania operates, members of women and youth platforms and networks are taking initiatives to raise awareness in their communities about the pandemic and importance of following government and experts' instructions to protect themselves and reducing spread of the virus.

Benard added that although ActionAid Tanzania has donated such support, more food is still needed for flood

victims at Nkenda and Njenga suburbs.

"So far a total of 165 households at Nkenda suburbs and 225 households at Njenga suburbs still need food support such as maize, paddy, cowpeas and chickpeas including cassava because the floods had destroyed more farms in those areas," he says.

He said so far a total of 9860 flood victims are still staying in relief camps in various areas within the district and they still need food, legume seeds, safe drinking water and medicines for preventing and controlling disease outbreaks as well as treat people who have been infected with disease outbreaks.

According to him, although Kilwa district has been working hard to rescue flood victims, the district emergency team is still facing a lot of challenges in terms of poor infrastructures specifically in Nakiu, Njinjo and Mbemwemkuru areas.



Tanga regional commissioner Martine Shigella has a word with Ngamiani ward residents yesterday after receiving five water tanks donated by members of the business community in support of the war on Covid-19. Photo: Correspondent Boniface Gideon



By Guardian Correspondent, Namtumbo

VILLAGERS in Lukuyu village in Namtumbo district, Ruvuma region are eager to see Mkuju river project kicks-off for them to benefit from the countless opportunities embedded in the uranium mining venture.

The project is envisaged to improve social services delivery as well as creating job opportunities for villagers living around the mining site.

The project delay for over five years now authorities were citing decline of uranium price in the global market as one of the major reason to its deferral.

Some of the villagers noted that long-term employments are due to the fact that feasibility studies, conducted by Mantra Tanzania limited showed presence of uranium, which can be mined for not less than 50 years.

Already, some schools in the villages have started to experience improvements, as part of Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) by the investor, during feasibility studies era, about 10 years back, said one of the villagers, Aliko Mpepo.

"Valuation exercise for our plots took place in 2014,

## Lukuyu villagers eager to see uranium mining project in Namtumbo kick-off



with our houses earmarked for demolition to pave the way for expansion of the main road towards the mining site, but nothing had been done so far. All those dreams are fading after the project operations had stopped for a couple of years now," Mpepo lamented.

He added: "Our wives are also already on stand-by to run food vending businesses

around the mining site, meaning that our families would automatically advance when family mothers and fathers are at work, whether in or around the mine."

He said that people are also expecting remarkable changes in the whole society, as results of village tariffs collections from the mine. This is because the authorities keep on telling

that all the collected funds will be allocated to various development projects.

Likuyuseka Ward councillor, Kassim Gunda supported the motion, saying that the villagers will at the first hand benefit from employment as it was agreed that 60 per cent of the project manpower should be locals.

He affirmed that the contract was also directing the investor to have been setting aside one percent of the turnover as CSR.

"Then after, its villagers who will be deciding in which kind of social services the amount should be allocated... be it in education, health, water, road infrastructures sectors.... among others," he said.

The contract was also directing the investor to contribute 0.3 per cent of the turnover as service levy. The collected funds will be also allocated to various development projects, for the benefit of Namtumbo residents.

He was further quoted saying that roads improvement will automatically encourage high level of people's interaction and business growth,

hence, economic development from the village to regional level.

Songea district commissioner, Pololet Mgeme, said project's delay was due to decline of uranium price in the world market.

"That is the only declaration we have as of now. However, we urge the villagers to be patient as the investor will be in place soon after the price had stabilized," he said.

Both unskilled and skilled Tanzanians will be prioritized in terms of job opportunities.

Executive secretary of the Mining Commissioner, Prof Shukran Manya cited decline of the uranium price is the only reason behind the project's stand-still.

"Let them calm down as all their expectations will be met after the mining activities have taken place. Mantra Tanzania Limited has special mining license and ready for the business but cannot operate right now because the project could be unprofitable," he said.

When asked on how if another investor emerges and decide to get into contract of uranium business regardless

government and its client."

He added: "Once results for feasibility studies are realistic, we give the go ahead, and if aren't realistic then we give advice on what should be done because the aim here is not chasing away the clients, but give the relief."

Biteko admitted that the government had not yet responded on Mantra Tanzania Limited request on the consent for postponement of Mkuju river project operations for five years.

It is because the government asked the company to submit basic reasons over the request, but in vain, said the minister, adding: "And the government came across that many of the mining license holders have been requesting for what is called 'pending surrender' (postponement) when they are in a mission to close the mines or to change the ownership of the license. The government usually demands basic reason over the request but many, including Mantra do fail to submit, hence, no government's response at all."

The minister however, admitted that commencement of Mkuju river project would enable the government to establish uranium center (market), hence, make Tanzania the first country in eastern Africa to have such a kind of the market.

## Spanish Day seeks to promote equal use of all UN six official working languages

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

There are six official languages of the United Nations. These are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish. The UN selected April 23 for Spanish Language Day commemorating the celebrated Spanish author and poet, Miguel de Cervantes Saavedra. His magnificent novel, *Don Quixote*, has been translated into more than 60 languages. Spanish Language Day honours the day of Miguel de Cervantes death on April 23. Miguel de Cervantes was a Spanish writer widely regarded as the greatest writer in the Spanish language, and one of the world's pre-eminent novelists.

The day is observed annually and the event was established by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) in 2010 to seeking to celebrate multilingualism and cultural diversity as well as to promote equal use of all six of its official working languages throughout the organisation.

Spain officially the Kingdom of Spain is a country in Southwestern Europe with some pockets of Spanish territory across the Strait of Gibraltar and the Atlantic Ocean. Its continental European territory is situated on the Iberian Peninsula. Its territory also includes two archipelagos: the Canary Islands off the coast of Africa, and the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean Sea. The African enclaves of Ceuta, Melilla, and Peñón de Vélez de la Gomera, make Spain the only European country to have a physical border with an African country (Morocco). Several small islands in the Alboran Sea are also part of Spanish territory. The country's mainland is bordered to the south and east by the Mediterranean Sea except for a small land boundary with Gibraltar; to the north and northeast by France, Andorra, and the Bay of Biscay; and to the



António Guterres is Secretary General of the United Nations. He is the ninth Secretary General, his term having begun on January 1, 2017.

west and northwest by Portugal and the Atlantic Ocean.

With an area of 505,990 km<sup>2</sup> (195,360 sq mi), Spain is the largest country in Southern Europe, the second-largest country in Western Europe, and the European Union, and is the fourth-largest country by area on the European continent. With a population exceeding 46 million, Spain is the sixth-most populous country in Europe, and the fifth-most populous country in the European Union. Spain's capital and largest city is Madrid; other major urban areas include Barcelona, Valencia, Seville, Zaragoza, Málaga, and Bilbao.

Modern humans first arrived in the Iberian Peninsula around 35,000 years ago. Iberian cultures along with ancient Phoenician, Greek, Celtic and Carthaginian settlements developed on the peninsula until it came under Roman rule around 200 BCE, after which the region was named Hispania, based on the earlier Phoenician name Sp(a)n or Spania. At the end of the Western Roman Empire the Germanic tribal confederations migrated from Central Europe, invaded the Iberian peninsula and established relatively independent realms in its western provinces, including the Suebi, Alans and Vandals. Eventually, the Visigoths would forcibly integrate all remaining independent territories in the peninsula, including the Byz-

antine province of Spain, into the Visigothic Kingdom, which more or less unified politically, ecclesiastically and legally all the former Roman provinces or successor kingdoms of what was then documented as Hispania.

In the early eighth century the Visigothic Kingdom was conquered by the Umayyad Islamic Caliphate, that arrived to the peninsula in the year 711. The Muslim rule in the Iberian Peninsula (al-Andalus) soon became autonomous from Baghdad. The handful of small Christian pockets in the north left out of Muslim rule, along the presence of the Carolingian Empire near the Pyrenean range, would eventually led to the emergence of the Christian kingdoms of León, Castile, Aragon, Portugal and Navarre. Along seven centuries, an intermittent southwards expansion of the latter kingdoms (metahistorically dubbed as a reconquest: the Reconquista) took place, culminating with the Christian seizure of the last Muslim polity (the Nasrid Kingdom of Granada) in 1492, the same year Christopher Columbus arrived in the New World. A process of political conglomeration among the Christian kingdoms also ensued, and the late 15th-century saw the dynastic union of Castile and Aragon under the Catholic Monarchs, sometimes considered as the point of emergence of Spain as

unified country. The Conquest of Navarre would take in 1512, while the Kingdom of Portugal was also ruled by the Hapsburg Dynasty between 1580 and 1640.

In the early modern period, Spain ruled one of the largest empires in history which was also one of the first global empires, leaving a large cultural and linguistic legacy that includes over 570 million Hispanophones, making Spanish the world's second-most spoken native language, after Mandarin Chinese. During the Golden Age there were also many advancements in the arts, with the rise of renowned painters such as Diego Velázquez. The most famous Spanish literary work, *Don Quixote*, was also published during the Golden Age. Spain hosts the world's third-largest number of UNESCO World Heritage Sites.

Spain is a secular parliamentary democracy and a parliamentary monarchy, with King Felipe VI as head of state. It is a major developed country and a high income country, with the world's fourteenth-largest economy by nominal GDP and the sixteenth-largest by PPP. It is a member of the United Nations (UN), the European Union (EU), the Eurozone, the Council of Europe (CoE), the Organization of Ibero-American States (OEI), the Union for the Mediterranean, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE), the Schengen Area, the World Trade Organization (WTO) and many other international organisations. While not an official member, Spain has a "Permanent Invitation" to the G20 summits, participating in every summit, which makes Spain a de facto member of the group.

The origins of the Roman name Hispania, from which the modern name España was derived, are uncertain due to inadequate evidence, although it is documented that the Phoenicians and

Carthaginians referred to the region as Spania, therefore the most widely accepted etymology is a Semitic-Phoenician one. Down the centuries there have been a number of accounts and hypotheses:

Jesús Luis Cunchillos argues that the root of the term span is the Phoenician word *spy*, meaning "to forge metals". Therefore, *ispn-ya* would mean "the land where metals are forged". [19] It may be a derivation of the Phoenician *I-Shpania*, meaning "island of rabbits", "land of rabbits" or "edge", a reference to Spain's location at the end of the Mediterranean; Roman coins struck in the region from the reign of Hadrian show a female figure with a rabbit at her feet, and Strabo called it the "land of the rabbits". The word in question (compare modern Hebrew *Shafan*) actually means "Hyrax", possibly due to Phoenicians confusing the two animals.

Hispania may derive from the poetic use of the term *Hesperia*, reflecting the Greek perception of Italy as a "western land" or "land of the setting sun" (*Hesperia*, in Greek) and Spain, being still further west, as *Hesperia ultima*.

There is the claim that "Hispania" derives from the Basque word *Ezpanna* meaning "edge" or "border", another reference to the fact that the Iberian Peninsula constitutes the southwest corner of the European continent.

Two 15th-century Spanish Jewish scholars, Don Isaac Abravanel and Solomon ibn Verga, gave an explanation now considered folkloric. Both men wrote in two different published works that the first Jews to reach Spain were brought by ship by Phiros who was confederate with the king of Babylon when he laid siege to Jerusalem. Phiros was a Grecian by birth, but who had been given a kingdom in Spain. Phiros became related by marriage to Espan, the nephew of king Heracles, who also ruled over a kingdom in Spain. Heracles later renounced his throne

in preference for his native Greece, leaving his kingdom to his nephew, Espan, from whom the country of España (Spain) took its name. Based upon their testimonies, this eponym would have already been in use in Spain by c. 350 BCE.

### History

Iberia enters written records as a land populated largely by the Iberians, Basques and Celts. Early on its coastal areas were settled by Phoenicians who founded Western Europe's most ancient cities Cádiz and Málaga. Phoenician influence expanded as much of the Peninsula was eventually incorporated into the Carthaginian Empire, becoming a major theatre of the Punic Wars against the expanding Roman Empire. After an arduous conquest, the peninsula came fully under Roman rule. During the early Middle Ages it came under Visigothic rule, and then much of it was conquered by Muslim invaders from North Africa. In a process that took centuries, the small Christian kingdoms in the north gradually regained control of the peninsula. The last Muslim state fell in 1492, the same year Columbus reached the Americas. A global empire began which saw Spain become the strongest kingdom in Europe, the leading world power for a century and a half, and the largest overseas empire for three centuries.

Continued wars and other problems eventually led to a diminished status. The Napoleonic conflict in Spain led to chaos, triggering independence movements that tore apart most of the empire and left the country politically unstable. Spain suffered a devastating civil war in the 1930s and then came under the rule of an authoritarian government, which oversaw a period of stagnation that was followed by a surge in the growth of the economy. Eventually democracy was restored in the form of a parliamentary constitutional monarchy. Spain joined the European Union, experiencing a cultural re-

naissance and steady economic growth until the beginning of the 21st century, that started a new globalised world with economic and ecological challenges.

### Prehistory and pre-Roman peoples

Archaeological research at Atapuerca indicates the Iberian Peninsula was populated by hominids 1.2 million years ago.[26] In Atapuerca fossils have been found of the earliest known hominids in Europe, the Homo antecessor. Modern humans first arrived in Iberia, from the north on foot, about 35,000 years ago. The best known artefacts of these prehistoric human settlements are the famous paintings in the Altamira cave of Cantabria in northern Iberia, which were created from 35,600 to 13,500 BCE by Cro-Magnon. Archaeological and genetic evidence suggests that the Iberian Peninsula acted as one of several major refugia from which northern Europe was repopulated following the end of the last ice age.

The largest groups inhabiting the Iberian Peninsula before the Roman conquest were the Iberians and Celts. The Iberians inhabited the Mediterranean side of the peninsula, from the northeast to the southeast. The Celts inhabited much of the inner and Atlantic sides of the peninsula, from the northwest to the southwest. Basques occupied the western area of the Pyrenees mountain range and adjacent areas, the Phoenician-influenced Tartessians culture flourished in the southwest and the Lusitanians and Vettones occupied areas in the central west. A number of cities were founded along the coast by Phoenicians, and trading outposts and colonies were established by Greeks in the East. Eventually, Phoenician-Carthaginians expanded inland towards the meseta; however, due to the bellicose inland tribes, the Carthaginians got settled in the coasts of the Iberian Peninsula.

*To be Continued*



## BUSINESS

DISPUTE

## TRA directorate advises Friedkin Group to appeal 161.9bn/- tax bill

By Guardian Reporter

Friedkin Group conservation, hotel and tourism conglomeratebased in the US, can follow legal channels and appeal a tax backlog bill which is estimated to peak over US\$70 million (over 161.9bn/-) covering the past three decades.

Tanzania Revenue Authority's Director of Taxpayer Education and Public Relations, Richard Kayombo said in Dar es Salaam last week that the tax body is investigating the US based group of companies but refused to give details.

"Tax issues are a secret between the payer and the authority which cannot be discussed in public," Kayombo said while distancing the authority from claims that the US based group owes Treasury the above mentioned amount.

The group which has eight subsidiary companies in the country is also involved in conservation activities through its charity arm, Friedkin Conservation Fund. TRA which has been investigating the conglomerate since December last year accuses it of evading taxes through hiring of foreign expatriates who are paid handsomely through offshore accounts in Cayman Islands, Mauritius and Switzerland.

Responding to allegations that TRA is frustrating a foreign investor who has established an over US\$300 million conservation, tourism and hunting group in the country, Kayombo said if Dan Friedkin who owns the group of Marcus Watts its CEO are dissatisfied with the tax bill, they should seek legal redress. "Let the aggrieved party follow proper legal procedures which are cleared in place to seek redress if dissatisfied," the TRA Director added.

In December last year when the investigation started, Friedkin Group's CEO issued a statement saying, "The Friedkin Companies in Tanzania



Friedkin Group owner, Dan Friedkin.

have operated in the hotel industry and conservation industries for over 35 years, during which time we have established a strong relationship both with the government and with the communities in which we operate."

The conglomerate further stated that its activities in the country are motivated by deep commitment to protecting

the environment and charity hence in consistency with such a mission, money has never been taken out of the country illegally.

"We paid billions of shillings in taxes and invested billions in local communities to help the economic development of this extraordinary country, which we love deeply. We have hired more than

500 Tanzanians. We oppose the recent, false and deceptive news articles that have the intent to divulge misinformation about the operations of our companies in Tanzania, the group will be committed to maximum diligence and will continue to cooperate and help the government in all its efforts," the statement stated.

CALL

## COVID-19: Accurate data critical in fighting the pandemic in Africa

ADDIS ABABA

Getting timely, accurate data to get the COVID-19 pandemic under control in Africa is critical for the success of global efforts, experts said on Monday, April 20.

This was as the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data (GPSDD) unveiled an initiative to strengthen Africa's data ecosystems in the face of the current pandemic.

The initiative was officially announced in a virtual press briefing. It seeks more collaboration in the areas of access to relevant data, analytics and visualization, training and capacity development, technology and connectivity, as well as financial resources.

The two organisations are collaborating in an effort towards contributing to data-driven decision-making that can expedite the fight against COVID-19. Globally, the pandemic has caused untold suffering; killed more than 165,000 people, so far, and endangered the global economy.

"Tackling the pandemic requires data and information to ensure that policies, resources and technology are deployed in the right place and time to make the biggest possible impact," said Vera Songwe, ECA Executive Secretary. Songwe noted that data systems for health and other areas of policy in Africa are often fragile and frequently inadequate.

"Critical gaps in coverage and timeliness can leave governments uncertain of where the risks of infection are highest and how to deploy resources in the most effective way, as well as where food aid is needed the most in particular for women and children," Songwe said.

According to Claire Melamed, the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development Data's CEO, the vulnerabil-

ity of low-income countries is more alarming. She said: "The lack of adequate shelter, sanitation, and health systems in low and lower-middle-income countries puts us at the precipice of the worst humanitarian crisis in 100 years."

"Getting timely, accurate data to get the pandemic under control in Africa is critical for the success of global efforts, and will help build strong data systems for the long term." As explained, areas, where better data can save lives during the pandemic, include population, where it is important to understand who is most at risk, to allocate resources effectively; and health infrastructure and staffing.

Also key is in virus monitoring; and tracking the economic impacts, including business closures, the impact on agricultural production, and on trade and public spending, to put in place the right support and avoid long-term devastation.

The ECA-GPSDD partnership will work in a coordinated and coherent manner with various partners to, among others, put tested solutions to work, bringing together the right partners to understand what data and solutions are needed, make them available, and ensure they are used to save lives.

They will also work to help strengthen systems by ensuring new solutions are sustainable and can be maintained for the long-term by increasing interoperability between data sets and developing capacity among users to understand and work with data for policymaking.

They will increase the effective use of resources by targeting areas where data gaps are most acute and minimize duplication of effort. They will also share learning and information among partners and countries for quick adoption and replication of effective solutions.



UN-ECA Executive Secretary Vera Songwe

ACTIVISM

## Community-supported Lake Rukwa zone catchment area project seen bearing fruit

By Beatrice Philemon

A holistic project involving communities living around Lake Rukwa to protect its catchment area and save the water body from imminent extinction has started showing positive results.

The project dubbed, Shared Resources Joint Solutions involves 21 villages in Katavi and Rukwa regions which apart from using the lake indiscriminately through farming and grazing of animals, also harm rivers which flow into the lake.

"This lake is disappearing due to uncontrolled human activities hence the project is aimed at reducing all activities threatening the water body," said SRJS Programme Coordinator Andrew Mariki.

He said so far the villagers have already developed a number of strategies including forming a Water Use Association to ensure that use of Lake Rukwa's water sources such as rivers are protected.

"But we also sensitize them to ensure that livestock populations being kept around the lake and its catchment area don't destroy water sources that flow directly into Lake Rukwa," he added.

The villagers have also developed a



Cattle grazing along the shores of a drying Lake Rukwa in Sumbawanga District.

2020 Action Plan on how to protect Lake Rukwa but also engage in activities that conserve the environment such as reducing cattle herds and practicing zero grazing.

The five years project also seek to boost surveillance

around the lake which is also affected by over fishing. "As SRJS we are very glad with this initiative because right now the association has already formulated by-laws that guide them to protect Lake Rukwa, arrest people

who violate the laws as well as formed a patrol team," he added.

The villagers are also trained in financial management to help them use donated funds properly to sustain income generating activities

that are independent from the lake. "The association has already 1m/- from SRJS project to help them operate their planned activities under 2020 Action Plan," the SRJS Coordinator added.

DIGITIZATION

## Lotto in Lockdown: Almost 900,000 South Africans buy lottery tickets online

JOHANNESBURG

The National Lottery says more and more players are signing up to tata ma chance from home during lockdown. Since the nationwide lockdown started at the end of March, the National Lottery has seen a spike in users registering to play the lottery online - bringing the total number of registered players to over

883,000 players.

Interest is growing for the biggest PowerBall jackpot thus far for 2020. On Tuesday, 21 April 2020, it could land someone a staggering combined R218 million with the PowerBall and PowerBall PLUS jackpots estimated at R123 million and R95 million respectively.

In a matter of days lottery managers Ithuba, say some 42,000 new players

registered to play on their app, which they say is now more important than ever to encourage players to play online rather than going to stores to purchase tickets. But, should you win you'll also only be able to claim the prize winnings once lockdown is officially over as the Ithuba offices remain closed during the lockdown period. But while winners may be anxious to collect, all winning

tickets have a life-span of 365 days before they expire.

Ithuba has been attempting to migrate its players to digital platforms since before the national lockdown. You can play the lottery online through its app, website and via banking partners Absa, FNB, Standard Bank and Nedbank.

Over the past three years, there has been a total of 20 national lottery

jackpot winners who played via FNB's digital banking platforms. The function has been available on the FNB app since 2012. While some would question whether gambling is an essential service, in the absence of live sports, South Africans are turning to betting on esports and sports simulations.

Part of the money which is generated from the national lottery does go toward

fighting Covid-19. R50 million has been directed to the Solidarity Fund by the National Lotteries Commission, that regulates lotteries in South Africa and serves as the lottery grant funder. The biggest PowerBall jackpot thus far for 2020 was won in February by a single player in Roodepoort who walked away with R114 million after spending R5 on the winning ticket.



## GENEROSITY

# Songas joins COVID-19 onslaught with 100 million/- donation to state

By Guardian Reporter

**M**OBILIZATION of resources to tame the spreading of the novel coronavirus gathered more momentum with Songas Limited presenting a 100m/- pay-check to the government on Monday.

The gas to power company's Managing Director, Anael Samuel said in Dar es Salaam after presenting the donation to Minister of Health, Ummu Mwalimu that Songas supports the state's onslaught of the deadly virus through establishment of National COVID-19 Relief Fund.

Samuel said the donated cash will go towards the acquisition of essential medical equipment in prevention and treatment of COVID-19. "We are cognisant that a challenge of this magnitude requires strong partnerships and mobilisation of resources from all areas in order to reach the scale needed to flatten the COVID-19 curve," said Samuel. He added that, "All

of us at Songas are committed to support the government in its efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic."

He pledged to ensure that Songas continues to generate cost-effective and reliable electricity during this period and has put measures in place to ensure the continuity, safety and wellness of its employees and the public.

"This support comes on the back of increasing worry about Africa's capacity to combat the coronavirus," he added noting that data provided by AMREF Health Africa indicates that the average readiness in Africa is about 66 percent with the most significant gaps being in rapid response teams, infection prevention and control, among others.

The threat posed to people across the continent is considerable, taking into account Africa's 1.2 billion population served by health systems that are already overburdened with ongoing disease outbreaks.

"This is a move that we hope will be emulated by



Songas managing director Anael Samuel speaks at a past event.

other private sector players. We are stronger when we join hands together in the fight against the virus," the Songas chief added.

Songas is a leading gas-to-power company which operates Ubungu power plant in Dar es Salaam and supplies nearly 20 percent or 180MW

of electricity fed into the national grid under a 20-year power purchase agreement signed Tanesco. Treasury through Tanzania Petroleum

Development Corporation, Tanesco and Tanzania Development Finance Limited owns about 40 percent of the company.

## COMPETITIVENESS

# Free cash transfers to cost Safaricom Sh5.5bn

NAIROBI

Safaricom will take a Sh5.5 billion hit on its M-Pesa revenue in the three months from mid-March after it waived transaction fees on mobile money transfers under Sh1,000.

The waiver was part of the quest for cashless payments to curb the spread of the coronavirus. The foregone revenue is equivalent to 7.3 percent of M-Pesa's annual sales. In the financial year that ended in March 2019, M-Pesa accounted for about a third of Safaricom's Sh240.3 billion revenue.

This week, Safaricom CEO Peter Ndegwa, who took the reins on April 1, said the firm was not worried by the loss in sales, arguing it was part of the telco's contribution in easing the effects of Coronavirus, which has killed 14 Kenyans and infected 281 people since the first case was reported on March 13.

In an interview with Citizen TV, Mr Ndegwa said: "These measures will cost us five and a half billion shillings over the next three months. The key is to ensure we can support our customers to get through this crisis. When Kenya gets back on track, our business should get back on track."

Coronavirus has disrupted supply chains and local production, prompting the Treasury to forecast that economic growth will slow down to three percent or less this year from an earlier forecast of 6.1 percent.

Under an initial 90-day deal with the government, telcos and other firms involved in mobile money transfers waived all charges for transfers of less than Sh1,000. This was aimed at cutting down on the handling of cash and the attendant risk of the virus being transmitted from person to person.

It is expected that M-Pesa business could benefit from increased usage as customers shun bank notes during the

crisis. Mr Ndegwa said that it was still too early to make predictions. "We are not factoring in any upside until we see how customers cope with this crisis," he said.

Safaricom has experienced an increase in data traffic as people work from home and students turn to e-learning services. The firm last

week said mobile phone data usage had grown by 35 percent as users streamed movies on platforms like Netflix, worked from home and used social media sites like Facebook.

Mr Ndegwa, who was Diageo's managing director for continental Europe before taking over his new role, is betting on M-Pesa,

data business and entry into other markets like Ethiopia to shape the firm's future profitability. "We want to democratise the use of data, whether it's for education or other uses," said Mr Ndegwa, while signalling cheaper internet and handsets.

M-Pesa has emerged as Safaricom's profit driver in recent years in the face

of sluggish growth in voice revenues where the firm has been shedding market share to its rival, Airtel Kenya, which is in merger talks with Telkom Kenya, the third largest telco in the country. In the last financial year, M-Pesa revenue grew by 19.2 percent.



Safaricom CEO Peter Ndegwa.

## RELIEF

# Zimbabwe lifts lockdown for telecommunications

HARARE

The government of Zimbabwe has amended the country's initial lockdown regulations after declaring telecommunications companies and workers essential.

The country's President Emmerson Mnangagwa announced a two-week extension on existing movement restrictions to 3 May

2020 as the country recorded three Coronavirus (COVID-19)-related deaths and 25 confirmed cases.

In a statutory instrument published today, the Government of Zimbabwe has amended the initial lockdown regulations to include "communication and telecommunication services including the internet, any public or licensed broadcasting services" as well as

the "activities of persons such as journalists, newspaper vendors of such services" as essential.

A representative from a telecommunications firm, who spoke to ITWeb Africa under condition of anonymity, said some key employees faced challenges in accessing base stations and other key service centres during the lockdown.

"This is important for the industry because

you have to keep explaining to law enforcers whenever teams can't pass a roadblock to go and carry-out an essential service or even breakdowns as has been the case in the past weeks of lockdown," said the representative. Certain mobile operators, including Econet Wireless, have kept specific service centres open to cater for SIM card replacement and other limited services.

"Due to the National lockdown our shops are temporarily closed except for Tuesdays and Thursdays when some are open for world remit. Any inconvenience caused is sincerely regretted," Econet said on Monday. With the lockdown measures in place, most banks have closed banking halls - although online and mobile banking options have remained operational.

## COVID-19

# African businesses face ruin from lockdowns

CAPE TOWN

After 16 years of eking out a living as a small-scale builder, Misheck Woyo's business came to an abrupt halt on March 27 when South Africa imposed a lockdown. Unable to pay rent and wages or even feed himself, he doesn't know where to turn to for help.

Woyo's plight is shared by small-enterprise owners the world over who've been caught up in the global maelstrom wrought by the coronavirus, with his fellow Africans among the hardest hit. The poorest continent accounts for less than 1% of the world's more than 2.4 million confirmed infections, but it's the worst equipped to get aid to those that need it most.

More than half of Africa's 54 nations have ordered total or partial lockdowns, shuttering millions of stores, restaurants, hair salons and factories that lack the cash buffers they need to keep paying staff and eventually reopen. Most governments were already facing budgetary constraints and grappling with rampant unemployment before the virus hit and will be hard-pressed to provide bailouts, while a lack of administrative capacity will hinder the swift disbursement of international support.

"I don't have any income, I don't have any money," Woyo, 40, said by phone from his home in Strand, near Cape Town, where he passes his time reading and exercising. "Everything has just stopped."

The structure of the labour market exacerbates Africa's problem. More than 85% of its workers have informal jobs, International Labour Organisation data shows, rendering many ineligible for support. And those that do qualify may be unaware of available assistance due to illiteracy or inadequate advertising, or an inability to access online facilities needed to apply while confined to their homes.

The fallout from the virus could place a third of the 300 million informal jobs in Africa at risk, while between 9 million and 18 million formal jobs could be lost, according to McKinsey & Co. It also sees as many as 35 million people having their wages and working hours cut.

Data on business closures and re-trenchments isn't readily available, but there are ominous signs that a meltdown has begun. In South Africa, which has imposed a five-week lockdown, 95% of 233 entrepreneurs surveyed by University of Cape Town students and non-profit Phaphama said they couldn't afford to pay staff, half didn't expect their businesses to survive and 86% said they didn't know where to access emergency funding. A R1 billion business-support fund established by the Rupert family, the nation's third-richest, was swamped with more than 10 000 applications within three days of opening.

In Nigeria, the informal economy that supports more than half the residents of Lagos and Abuja, the two main cities with a combined population of about 25 million, has ground to a near-halt due a lockdown that's set to last for at least four weeks. While the government plans to raise as much as \$6.9 billion from multilateral lenders to mitigate the impact of the virus on Africa's most-populous nation, the money has yet to begin flowing.







## WORLD

## 'Nothing hidden from the US from day one' about COVID-19 - WHO chief

GENEVA

NOTHING in the response to COVID-19 by the World Health Organization (WHO) have been "hidden from the U.S. from day one," with U.S. professionals playing an important role in its anti-epidemic fight, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said Monday.

Some 15 staff from the U.S. Centers

for Disease Control have been seconded to the WHO since January, with two U.S. officials assigned long-term, which is a sign of the agency's transparency, Tedros told a news conference, adding that "all countries get information immediately."

Calling COVID-19 "public enemy No. 1," the WHO chief said "we have been warning from day one: this is a devil that everybody should fight." Tedros



WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

made the remarks after U.S. President Donald Trump on March 14 ordered a halt to his country's funding for the WHO, alleging that the agency had messed up the early response

to COVID-19, although the specialized organ for global health has been coordinating international efforts against the pandemic.

Trump also insisted that the

WHO had failed to share information "in a timely and transparent" manner since the COVID-19 outbreak.

In response to the allegations, Tedros said "there is no secret in WHO because keeping things confidential or secret is dangerous ... because it's about lives, and even a single life is very precious."

If there is strong national unity and global solidarity, the world still can win the fight against COVID-19, Tedros said, warning "without the two, trust us, the worst is yet ahead of us."

The WHO, working with other organizations, has placed orders for 30 million tests over the next four months and delivered protective equipment and medical supplies to 40 countries, according to Tedros.

The health agency also intends to ship almost 180 million surgical masks, 54 million N95 masks and more than 3 million protective goggles to countries in need through April and May.

Xinhua

## Why is accusation that COVID-19 virus originates in lab false, wrong?

BEIJING

THE accusations that the novel coronavirus causing the COVID-19 pandemic was created in the laboratory or in a laboratory in China's Wuhan are false and wrong, several French scientists have said recently.

Driven by a malicious intention of scapegoating China to cover up the lax U.S. response to COVID-19, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has been repeatedly calling the novel coronavirus "Chinese virus" or "Wuhan virus" in public, largely accountable for the virus disinformation. "What we do know is we know that this virus originated in Wuhan, China," said Pompeo in a comment requested by the Fox News.

"The U.S. government is working diligently to figure it out," Luc Montagnier, a French Nobel



U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

prize winning virologist in 2008, told French media last week that "there was manipulation around this virus ... It is not natural. It's the work of professionals, of molecular biologists."

In response, several French scientists have recently refuted the

remarks by Montagnier.

The hypothesis that a virus was created in a lab in Wuhan sounded "a conspiracy vision that does not relate to the real science," said Jean-Francois Delfraissy, an immunologist and head of the scientific council that advises the French gov-

ernment on the COVID-19 pandemic, when interviewed by French television BFM TV. "Everyone in the scientific community agrees that COVID-19 is a coronavirus.

From time to time there are coronaviruses different from the others, as are SARS and MERS with a pathogenicity which has appeared," he added.

Both Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) and Middle East Respiratory Syndrome (MERS) are caused by coronaviruses, and the COVID-19 virus is also known as SARS-CoV-2. "The world of viruses is a world in perpetual evolution," Delfraissy noted.

According to Olivier Schwartz, head of the virus and immunity department of France's Pasteur Institute, studies have shown clearly that the novel coronavirus was not man-made in the laboratory.

"Professor Montagnier spreads

whimsical theories," he told the French weekly L'Obs, previously known as Le Nouvel Observateur. "Sars-CoV-2, the virus that causes the COVID-19 disease, was not created in the laboratory.

We see this by studying the genetic heritage of the virus, which has been sequenced by Chinese teams and then verified in many other laboratories, including the Pasteur Institute," said Schwartz.

"This virus is clearly part of the coronavirus family tree. It is close to Sars-CoV-1, with which it has 80 percent homology," he explained.

"Above all, the same virus is found in different animals, in particular the pangolin and the bat.

And there, the percentage of similarities is greater than 95 percent. So, by drawing up the family tree of this virus, we know that it is derived from viruses that circulate in nature," he said. Xinhua

## Guangdong measures against COVID-19 effective, helpful - African consul generals

GUANGZHOU

CONSUL generals of African countries in Guangzhou, south China's Guangdong Province, said they support the local measures against COVID-19 and believe the novel coronavirus will eventually be defeated through strengthened communication and joint efforts.

The various measures have shown the importance Guangdong has attached to African residents, and a communication mechanism has been established between the African consulate generals and Guangdong and Guangzhou authorities, Alima Danfakha Gakou, consul general of Mali in Guangzhou, told media Saturday.

"The friendly cooperation relations between China and Africa are unremitting. All parties are expected to join hands together to prevent the common risks brought by the virus and protect the health and safety of ourselves and others," said Gakou, also dean of the African Consulate Corps in Guangzhou.

She said the foreign affairs office of Guangdong updates them on the latest information and epidemic prevention measures every day, and the consulate general will timely translate the updated entry policy and notify Mali people.



A staff member arranges medical supplies at Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport in Guangzhou, capital of south China's Guangdong Province, March 21, 2020. Medical supplies donated to African countries by Jack Ma Foundation and Alibaba Foundation were packed and ready for shipping. (Xinhua)

Gakou said she was impressed that China had taken effective measures to contain the spread of the epidemic and saved numerous lives, including building two makeshift hospitals in around 10 days, which was astonishing and admirable.

She also said while fighting against the virus domestically, China kept assisting African countries, which received abundant aids from

the Chinese government and companies.

Guangdong Province and Guangzhou City have taken multiple moves to protect the rights and interests of African expatriates, Gakou said, adding they maintained close communication with the provincial and city foreign affairs departments. By the end of Wednesday, Guangzhou had

reported 39 confirmed COVID-19 cases who were foreigners. A total of 102 asymptomatic cases were identified among the foreigners in Guangzhou, according to the Guangzhou Municipal Health Commission.

On Saturday, the foreign affairs office of the province issued an open letter, calling for joint efforts in the fight against COVID-19, which

was welcomed by the diplomats from Africa.

Adam Yousif, consul general of Sudan in Guangzhou, said the open letter showed the clear attitude of the provincial government, especially its opposition to any discriminatory remarks or acts against specific individuals or groups.

He said African expatriates in Guangdong are willing to strictly abide by local anti-virus guidelines and regulations to ensure the safety of the lives and health of residents.

Ethiopian Consul General in Guangzhou Teferi Melesse Desta said they would continue to work together with local governments to promote mutual understanding. He said Guangdong has taken many effective measures and African communities here obey the instructions.

"The measures taken by the Guangdong government to prevent the virus are very helpful and we talk about it with great pleasure," he said, adding that a platform has been set up for strengthened communication, which he said was a precise and targeted measure.

"Now our common enemy is the virus. We should work together to defeat the virus," he said. Xinhua

## OPEC+ participants will contact each other to reconcile positions if necessary, says Kremlin

MOSCOW

PARTICIPANTS of OPEC+ deal will contact each other if necessary, but so far there are no decisions on holding such meetings, Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters yesterday.

"We have all mechanisms to reconcile positions with our partners in this deal, and proper contacts will be carried out if necessary," he said, answering the question about the possibility of new solutions through OPEC+.

Peskov refrained from any comments about whether new solutions in this area are possible in connection with the situation on the oil market.

According to the Kremlin spokesman, Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro's proposal to hold a meeting of the committee on monitoring the implementation of the OPEC+ agreement on May 10 has been "taken into account."

"But so far there have been no decisions or actions taken in this regard," Peskov said.

Earlier the Venezuelan Foreign Ministry reported that President Nicolas Maduro had proposed holding a meeting of the committee on monitoring the implementation of the OPEC+ agreement on May 10. He put forward this initiative during a telephone conversation with Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday.

On Monday, the price of May WTI oil futures fell to a negative value on the New York Mercantile Exchange for the first time in US history.

By Tuesday noon, the price of a June WTI futures fell below \$17 per barrel. The cost of a June Brent crude futures on the ICE Exchange in London fell by 25% compared to the closing level of previous trading and amounted to \$19.17 per barrel, according to the trading data as of 12:12 Moscow time.

## FAO chief calls for global cooperation to ensure food security while combating pandemic

BEIJING

DIRECTOR-General of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization Qu Dongyu Monday called for global cooperation to overcome the immediate challenge posed by the COVID-19 pandemic, while tackling longer-term issues of fighting hunger and poverty and promoting sustainable and resilient production systems.

Qu (pictured) made the remarks when attending the China Agricultural Outlook Conference 2020, which was held online. In his video speech, Qu said COVID-19 is a global crisis that requires a global response.

"The world is confronted today with the big challenge of the COVID-19 pandemic, but we must not lose sight of our goal of forging a world free from hunger and poverty. Food insecurity has been on the rise over the last few years," Qu said.

He urged to strengthen the resilience of food and agricultural systems in order to deal with unexpected and sudden shocks.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has shown that our food system is relatively resilient, but at the same time, it has exposed weaknesses that we need to address urgently. Strengthening our food systems, from production to distribution and retail, is key to fighting hunger and tackling diseases whenever they emerge in humans, animals or plants," Qu said.

"Despite abundant global supplies of basic food commodities in terms of production and stocks, we have observed disruptions in terms of logistics and movement of products as a result of the measures introduced by countries to contain and mitigate the COVID-19 crisis," he said.

That is why necessary measures must be put in place to ensure that supply chains continue to flow smoothly. It is essential that international trade and markets are kept open, Qu said.

He pointed out that trade restriction measures and protectionist policies can have profound consequences, particularly for low-income countries who depend on both imports to meet their needs and exports to earn revenues and foreign exchange.

Qu also mentioned that digital technology can be an important tool in the fight against COVID-19. It can help farmers to access in a timely manner critical market information, such as input and output prices. It can also facilitate the implementation of safety measures at all stages of the food chain.

Xinhua

## It remains urgent to eliminate racism amid COVID-19 pandemic

A civilized society must have its bottom line, and that's why there's no time to delay uprooting racism from the earth.

In the global fight against the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), each and every one of us should take on our responsibilities as the exacerbating pandemic has already put human civilization to the test.

With the COVID-19 sweeping across the globe, mankind has come to a critical historical moment when solidarity is the only key to the victory over the virus.

While it's clear to all that concerted efforts are the premise of the victory, some people are still acting in total disregard

of the future and common interests of mankind, allowing their deep-rooted racism to repeatedly inject negative energy to the global anti-pandemic efforts.

Emmanuel Lechypre, a journalist of French BFM TV made discriminatory remarks when broadcasting a mourning activity over the COVID-19 victims in Wuhan on April 4. The journalist later received wide condemnation from netizens who said the remarks were racist, not "inappropriate" - a word Lechypre used to excuse himself.

Although Lechypre and BFM TV have both made public apologies, the damage still exists.

The ridiculous theories raised in Western countries since the outbreak of

the COVID-19 revealed the conventional thinking powered by racism.

Attempting to label the virus and the pandemic in a racist manner, they called the coronavirus a thing "only for the yellow race", and claimed that the novel coronavirus only attacks the immune system of Asians.

Such insensitive comments, while fully exposing the pride, prejudice, ignorance, and conceit of them, have instigated racist acts and xenophobia, and become public hazards of the world.

Opposing geographical, national, and racist labels for virus is a consensus among the mainstream international community as well as something that the world should always abide by.

It has been reiterated by the World Health Organization (WHO) that viruses know no borders, and they don't care about people's ethnicity, skin color or bank account.

The greatest enemy is not the virus itself but the stigma "that turns us against each other," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said on Feb. 15 at the 56th Munich Security Conference (MSC).

In addition, United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has on many occasions called on efforts to avoid discrimination, violation of human rights and stigma on innocent people just because of their ethnicity.

However, some Western politicians

and media turned a deaf ear to these appeals and trampled on the bottom line of civilization by stirring up racial conflicts time after time.

The international community must stay vigilant against, severely condemn, and firmly resist such extremely irresponsible and immoral deeds at all times.

As history lessons have shown, racist sentiments and xenophobia triggered by major infectious diseases cannot solve problems but would create bigger challenges.

Racist prejudices would only cause barriers and harm, and racist remarks would only create tension and conflicts. Previous distress shall never be repeat-

ed.

The international community must be aware that as the pandemic spreads around the world, wanton stigmatization and well-planned smear out of ulterior motives have led to a rise in bullying, discrimination, and violence against the Chinese people and even all Asians.

Such backtracking is extremely dangerous and shall never be tolerated.

In the face of the epidemic that threatens all, far-sighted personages from around the world have frequently called for solidarity and opposed discriminatory and separatist deeds, expressing insistence on goodwill and justice.

People's Daily



# Trump says he will suspend all immigration into US over coronavirus

WASHINGTON

PRESIDENT Donald Trump said on Monday he will suspend all immigration into the United States temporarily through an executive order in response to the coronavirus outbreak and to protect American jobs.

The move, which the Republican president announced on Twitter, effectively achieves a long-term Trump policy goal to curb immigration, making use of the health and economic crisis that has swept the country as a result of the pandemic to do so.

The decision drew swift condemnation from some Democrats, who accused the president of creating a distraction from what they view as a slow and faulty response to the coronavirus.

Trump said he was taking the action to protect the U.S. workforce. Millions of Americans are suffering unemployment after companies shed employees amid nationwide lockdowns to stop the contagion.

"In light of the attack from the Invis-

ible Enemy, as well as the need to protect the jobs of our GREAT American Citizens, I will be signing an Executive Order to temporarily suspend immigration into the United States," Trump said in a tweet.

The White House declined to offer further details about the reasoning behind the decision, its timing, or its legal basis.

"As our country battles the pandemic, as workers put their lives on the line, the President attacks immigrants & blames others for his own failures", former Democratic presidential candidate Amy Klobuchar said in a tweet.

Immigration is largely halted into the United States anyway thanks to border restrictions and flight bans put in place as the virus spread across the globe.

But the issue remains an effective rallying cry for Trump's supporters.

Trump won the White House in 2016 in part on a promise to curb immigration by building a wall on the U.S. border with Mexico. He and his advisers have spent the first three years of his



tenure cracking down on both legal and illegal entries into the country. Crowds regularly chant "Build the Wall!" at Trump's political rallies, which are now idled because of the virus.

Trump has lamented the economic fallout of the outbreak; his stewardship of the U.S. economy was set to be his key argument for re-election in November.

The U.S. death toll from the virus topped 42,000 on Monday, according to a Reuters tally.

The U.S. economy has come to a near standstill

because of the pandemic; more than 22 million people applied for unemployment benefits in the last month.

"You cut off immigration, you crater our nation's already weakened economy," former Democratic presidential candidate Julian Castro said in a tweet. "What a dumb move."

The United States has the world's largest number of confirmed coronavirus cases, with more than 780,000 infections, up 27,000 on Monday.

But the president has made a point of saying the peak had passed and has been encouraging U.S. states to reopen their economies.

"It makes sense to protect opportunities for our workforce while this

pandemic plays out," said Thomas Homan, Trump's former acting director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. "It's really not about immigration. It's about the pandemic and keeping our country safer while protecting opportunities for unemployed Americans."

The United States in mid-March suspended all routine visa services, both immigrant and non-immigrant, in most countries worldwide due to the coronavirus outbreak in a move that has potentially impacted hundreds of thousands of people.

U.S. missions have continued to provide emergency visa services as resources allowed and a senior State Department official in late March said U.S. was ready work with people who were already identified as being eligible for various types of visas, including one for medical professionals.

The administration recently announced an easing of rules to allow in more agricultural workers on temporary H2A visas to help farmers with their crops. **Agencies**

## Russian Army gets one of world's most powerful self-propelled guns after upgrade

MOSCOW

THE Russian Army has received the first 2S7M 'Malka' 203mm self-propelled artillery gun, the press office of the state hi-tech corporation Rostec reported.

"Uraltransmash (part of Uralvagonzavod Group within the state hi-tech corporation Rostec) has delivered the first 2S7M 'Malka' upgraded self-propelled artillery gun to the Defense Ministry of Russia. The upgraded weapon has received new running gear and electronics, which have significantly enhanced its performance characteristics," the press office said in a statement.

Following the upgrade, the Malka underwent a full cycle of trials, including running and firing tests, which checked the characteristics of its mobility, the chassis, powerplant and transmission durability, and also the reliability of its loading and fire control mechanisms and the strength of the 2A44 gun, Rostec said.

"This is one of the world's most powerful self-propelled guns designated to strike vital enemy targets and facilities in the tactical depth of defense behind the front line. Now the delivery of upgraded guns has begun for the Defense Ministry. Uraltransmash faces a serious task of implementing the serial upgrade of this weapon under the 2020-2022 defense procurement plan," Uraltransmash CEO Dmitry Semizorov was quoted by the press office as saying. **Agencies**

## Traditional Chinese Medicine experts introduce Chinese experience on COVID-19 to Australian counterparts

A China-Australia academic symposium, held through web-cast on April 4, introduced traditional Chinese Medicine (TCM) to the world, sharing its contributions to the global fight against the novel coronavirus, as this thousands-year-old branch of medicine has played a vital role in China's successful efforts to prevent and control COVID-19.

Zhang Boli, academian of the Chinese Academy of Engineering and president of Tianjin University of Traditional Chinese Medicine, noted at the video symposium that TCM was effective in treating both mild and severe cases.

It is able to reduce the duration of fever, cough and feebleness, improve the lung CT image, lift the number of lymphocytes and low-

er inflammatory mediators, said Zhang, who is also a member of the work group sent by the central government to guide epidemic control work in Hubei.

"What's more important is that TCM is able to reduce the ratio of severe cases turned from mild ones, which is significant," Zhang added. During the recovery period some patients, particularly those

who had severe symptoms, can achieve full recovery and reduce possible sequelae through the combination of TCM and Western medicine. At the symposium, Vice President of Australian Chinese Medical Practitioners Society Li Jiang introduced and analyzed COVID-19 situation in Australia.

Now is the best time to combine TCM with Western medicine, said

Ven Tan, chairman of Australian Soong Ching Ling Foundation, executive chairman of Australia China Economics, Trade and Culture Association, and chairman of Tasly Healthpac Group.

At the medical centers of Tasly Healthpac Group, Tan learned of the broad demand for TCM of Chinese students in Australia, China-funded organizations and

overseas Chinese.

Zhang Boli suggested that overseas Chinese take TCM in accordance with local climates, their respective symptoms, and differentiation of syndromes. He said it's not recommended that all healthy people take TCM for prevention, and it's vital for people to adjust to their physical conditions. **People's Daily**

## UK's COVID-19 death toll is far higher than daily figure, data suggests

LONDON

THE true extent of Britain's COVID-19 death toll was more than 40% higher than the government's daily figures indicated as of April 10, according to data that put the country on track to become among the worst-hit in Europe.

The Office for National Statistics said it recorded 13,121 deaths by April 10 in England and Wales, which account for the vast majority of Britain's population, compared with 9,288 in the government's daily toll for those who died in hospital.

The ONS figures include deaths in care homes and hospices as well as in hospitals.

Britain, which scientists say is probably now around the peak of the outbreak, has reported the world's fifth-highest national death toll from COVID-19, the respiratory disease caused by the novel coronavirus.

The global death toll from COVID-19 now stands at around 170,000.

The latest hospital death data show 16,509 people with COVID-19 had died across the United Kingdom as of this Sunday.

If these figures underestimate the overall death toll by a similar amount, then the true human cost for the United Kingdom as a whole could be above 23,000 based on the latest data - making it the second worst hit in Europe after Italy.

However, the difference be-



tween the initial daily figures published by the government and the later ONS data has narrowed with each week that passes, and may have reduced further by the time the ONS reports on the latest toll.

Still, Tuesday's figures are likely to raise further questions about Britain's decision to impose its lockdown of society at a later date than European peers, many of which have had less severe outbreaks of the novel coronavirus.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson is still on sick leave after falling ill with COVID-19 as his ministers attempt to tackle urgent issues such as a shortage of personal protective equipment for health workers.

### DEADLIEST WEEK

Including all deaths, 18,516 people died in England and Wales during the seven days to April 10 - almost 8,000 more than normal for the time of year and marking the deadliest week since a severe flu outbreak more than 20 years ago.

Martin Hibberd, professor of emerging infectious disease at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, said the figures marked a "rapid" increase.

"With limited testing being carried out, it may be that all of the 7,996 excess deaths were directly due to COVID-19," Hibberd said.

"(But) it is also likely that at least some of these were indi-

rectly involved, such as through inability to access typical medical care for other conditions because of COVID-19 activities."

COVID-19 was mentioned in a third of all death certificates issued in England and Wales in the week to April 19.

In London, more than half of the death certificates issued that week mentioned COVID-19.

The ONS figures are based on mentions of COVID-19 on death certificates, whether or not the deceased had tested positive for coronavirus.

"In care homes settings there are now double the number of deaths from all causes... than there were two weeks previously," ONS statistician Nick Stripe told the BBC. **Agencies**

## Chinese experts help Iraq diagnose COVID-19 through medical imageology



Chinese medical team members arrive at Baghdad International Airport in Baghdad, Iraq, on March 7, 2020. (Xinhua)

CHINESE expert volunteers dispatched by the Red Cross Society of China taught Chinese experience to Iraqi radiologists on how to diagnose COVID-19 by using the Computed Tomography machine (CT machine), contributing to the local fight against the epidemic.

"Officials of the Iraqi Ministry of Health and local medical staff are willing to learn Chinese experience against COVID-19 and have rapidly implemented our advice," Chen Huai, one of the expert volunteers who is the chief radiologist of the First Affiliated Hospital of Guangzhou Medical University in South China's Guangdong Province, told the Global Times on Sunday.

The Baghdad Teaching Hospital, the biggest hospital in Baghdad which holds 1,150 beds and three CT machines, only gave CT scans to five patients a day, Chen learned during his first visit on March 10.

Local radiologists do not know how the CT machine can help

with the diagnosis of COVID-19. Febrile patients were told to obtain nucleic acid testing directly without CT scans, Chen explained.

"However, if the diagnosis only relies on nucleic acid testing, many COVID-19 patients cannot be confirmed because of the shortage of test kits," he noted.

Moreover, there have also been cases in China where nucleic acid tests were negative, but lung lesions caused by COVID-19 were detected by CT.

Chen suggested that local medical staff scan febrile patients first and then carry out nucleic acid tests. Diagnosis combining nucleic acid tests and CT scans is more accurate.

The Baghdad Teaching Hospital accepted his advice and gave CT scans to around 30 to 35 patients a day, when Chen visited it on April 1.

"It is not easy and marked a big progress for local radiologists. I normally scan around 65 patients

a day in my hospital in China. Iraqi medical staff have a relative shorter working time than their Chinese counterparts," he said.

Chen also taught local radiologists how to identify COVID-19 through lung films, which Chinese doctors have accumulated and summarized from thousands of cases.

There is ground-glass opacity in the lung film of COVID-19 patients. Some show a consolidation shadow and reticular shadow. Several patients also develop pleural effusion. Pulmonary fibrosis occurs in some severe cases at the later stage.

Chinese expert volunteers also suggested local hospitals treat COVID-19 suspected patients with a separate CT machine and carry out disinfection after every patient by wiping the CT machine with medical alcohol and sterilizing the air in the radiation room.

**Global Times**

## Italy expects to gradually ease lockdown from May 4

ROME

ITALY will announce before the end of this week its plans for the gradual reopening from a lockdown imposed to fight the coronavirus emergency that will be applied starting from May 4, Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte said yesterday.

Conte said that his cabinet is working with various experts to coordinate the so-called "phase 2" when Italy will have to cohabit with the coronavirus. The plan will be done at a national level but it will take into account regional differences, Conte said.

Conte said the easing of restrictions would happen on the basis of a thorough study and scientific data.

The number of new COVID-19 cases dropped to 2,256 on Monday, the lowest level in well over a month, the Civil Protection Agency said. The total death toll stood at 24,114, the second highest in the world after that of the United States.

Meanwhile, local and regional elections originally scheduled for next month have been postponed until at least September, the first time which media sources indicated that Italy has delayed local elections across the country since the end of World War II.

COVID-19 vaccine  
UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres wants a vaccine for COVID-19 to be available to all people around the world, said his spokesman on Monday.

"It needs to be available for all - for moral reasons but also that none of us will be safe until all of us are safe," said Guterres' spokesman Stephane Dujarric.

The UN secretary-general has been in touch with the World Health Organization (WHO), which is in the lead on this issue, said the spokesman.

"We want to make sure that the vaccine does not exacerbate the issues of inequality when it actually arrives and that it is shared for the benefit of all," he said.

Meanwhile, the WHO chief said on Monday that more than 100 countries have joined the efforts to evaluate the treatment trials for COVID-19.

"This week, we expect that more than 600 hospitals will be ready to

start enrolling patients," said WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

Welcoming the accelerated development and validation of tests to detect COVID-19 antibodies, Tedros said this will help the world to understand the extent of infection in the population.

### Global toll

The global death toll from COVID-19 topped 170,000 on Monday evening, according to the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University.

A total of 170,261 people have died of the disease as of 10:40 pm Monday (0340 GMT on Tuesday) among 2,475,841 cases worldwide, the CSSE data showed.

The United States suffered the

most fatalities at 42,295 as its total cases topped 786,600; Italy recorded 24,114 deaths, Spain reported 20,852 deaths and France also recorded over 20,000 deaths, according to the CSSE.

### US

Anthony Fauci, a top expert on infectious disease in the United States, urged caution on Monday for US states to reopen, as anti-quarantine protests are popping up around the nation.

Some US states are moving to ease stay-at-home restrictions, with governors of Georgia, South Carolina, Tennessee, Illinois, and Louisiana announcing moves intended to restart economy and public life in their states.

According to a tally from Johns Hopkins University on Monday,

the number of coronavirus cases in the United States has exceeded 784,000, with more than 42,000 deaths.

A new report, released by Harvard University's Edmond J. Safra Center for Ethics on Monday, said that the United States will need to administer 20 million tests for the coronavirus each day by mid-summer in order to fully remobilize the economy in a safe fashion.

New York state has launched a large-scale COVID-19 antibody testing starting on Monday in an effort to find out how much of its population has been infected with the virus. In Los Angeles, health officials said that some 4.1 percent of adults tested positive for coronavirus antibodies in a study of Los Angeles County residents, suggest-

ing the rate of infection may be 40 times higher than the number of confirmed cases.

Meanwhile, the US Congress on Monday inched toward a US\$450 billion deal to help small businesses and hospitals hurt by the coronavirus pandemic, as the Senate set a Tuesday session for a potential vote.

Separately, US President Donald Trump said in a tweet late on Monday he will be signing an executive order to temporarily suspend immigration into the United States.

Earlier, US Acting Department of Homeland Security Secretary Chad Wolf said in a tweet that the United States, Mexico and Canada are extending restrictions on non-essential travel across their shared borders for an additional 30 days.



## SPORT



In this Feb. 10, 2020 file photo, flowers and photos honor members of the Altobelli family outside Angel Stadium in Anaheim, Calif. Coach John Altobelli, 56, far right, his wife, Keri, 43, second from left, and his daughter Alyssa, 13, left, died in a helicopter crash on Jan. 26 in Calabasas. Family members of four of the people killed in a helicopter crash with Bryant and his daughter are suing the companies that owned and operated the aircraft. (AP Photo)

## Families sue helicopter company in deadly Kobe Bryant crash

LOS ANGELES

FAMILY members of four passengers killed in a helicopter crash with Kobe Bryant and his daughter have joined the NBA star's widow in filing wrongful death lawsuits against the companies that owned and operated the aircraft.

The suits on behalf of three members of one family, and a woman who helped coach Bryant's 13-year-old daughter in basketball, were filed electronically Sunday in Los Angeles Superior Court.

The pair of lawsuits comes about two months after Bryant's widow, Vanessa, the mother of Gianna, also sued Island Express Helicopters Inc., which operated the Sikorsky, and its owner, Island Express Holding Corp.

A person who answered the phone at Island Express Helicopters declined to comment and an email from The Associated Press requesting comment was not immediately returned.

Unlike Vanessa Bryant's lengthy lawsuit, the new identical 7-page cases do not name the dead pilot, Ara Zobayan, or his representative, as a defendant. All the suits allege that the two companies were careless

and negligent.

One suit was filed by two surviving children of Orange Coast College baseball coach John Altobelli and his wife Keri. Their daughter Alyssa played basketball with Gianna. Another suit was filed by the husband and three children of Christina Mauser, who helped Bryant coach the girls' basketball team.

The group was heading to a basketball tournament Jan. 26 when the chopper crashed in thick fog northwest of Los Angeles.

An initial National Transportation Safety Board report said there were no signs of engine failure from the wreckage recovered. Zobayan had nearly navigated the helicopter out of blinding clouds when the aircraft suddenly turned and plunged into the mountainside.

Vanessa Bryant, who filed the suit the same day as her husband's large public memorial service in February, alleged that Zobayan was careless and negligent to fly in the fog and should have aborted the flight.

Also killed in the crash were Sarah Chester and her daughter Payton, who was another of Gianna's teammates.

AP

## Sports leagues seek return to play but with no guarantees

By EDDIE PELLIS

WITH no games being played, recent sports headlines have centered around hopes and dreams - namely, the uncharted path leagues and teams must navigate to return to competition in the wake of the pandemic.

Virtually all leagues talk publicly about their desire to return before summer. But behind closed doors, they are hatching different potential plans: all 30 baseball teams playing in Arizona; home run contests to decide tie games; the Stanley Cup being hoisted in an empty arena that neither team calls home; end-of-season soccer standings decided by vote; college football games in spring.

Over the past week, The Associated Press spoke to more than two dozen policymakers, coaches and players across the globe to get their candid assessments of plans to return from the stoppages caused by the new coronavirus. The conclusion: While it's critical to put optimistic restart scenarios in place, there is no certainty any of these plans will work without buy-in from politicians and an OK from players and medical experts. Underpinning it all would have to be a drastic ramp-up in testing, a vaccine or treatment breakthrough, or some other solution.

In short, the return of any sports, no matter how innovative the plan, will be risky and uncertain for the rest of this year and into 2021.

"It's not about 22 players walking onto a pitch and throwing a ball out," said FIFA Vice President Victor Montagliani, whose

concerns about restarting soccer mirror those of all sports worldwide.

The organizers of the Olympics were among the last to postpone their event, then among the first to set a new date - exactly 52 weeks after the original July 24 cauldron lighting had been scheduled. The decision to reschedule for a date 15 months down the road came just before an unexpected spike in virus cases hit Japan. The worry that followed underscored the many open questions about the arc of the outbreak.

"I think everyone's probably working on multiple options. It's 'If this, then what?'" said Tim Hinchey, the CEO of USA Swimming, the sport's governing body in the United States.

Virtually all the big-time team sports are coming up with scenarios to play games with no fans in the stands.

The Washington Post reported that while the NFL is publicly committed to its usual kickoff date in September, it is looking into contingencies that include shortening the season or playing in front of half-full or empty stadiums.

College athletic directors have come up with a half-dozen or more scenarios for football season, including, according to Oklahoma's Joe Castiglione, a scenario in which part of the season would be played in spring. One theme gaining wide acceptance: If it's not safe enough for students to return to school or attend games, then athletes shouldn't be asked to return either. Without the millions of dollars from football, all college sports are in peril.

AP

## A word or two on sporting content

BY CORRESPONDENT LLOYD ELIPOKEA

AS elaborated upon at length in my very last commentary, it is particularly critical that all of us who dwell on terra firma somehow find the hope and inspiration to go on in the face of morale-draining news reports stemming from the damaging impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the entire global populace.

Indeed, as is well-known, the COVID-19 has also struck a blow against our nation and its deadly potency continues to strike fear into all of our hearts that things are inevitably bound to get only worse.

Prior to the COVID-19 outbreak, one of the primary ways in which undiluted fans of sports were able to de-stress and cope with the travails of life was by watching competitive sporting action and absolutely relishing every moment of it.

But alas, all sporting activities in practically every nook and cranny of this world have been brought shuddering to a halt for some time now.

Which presents all of us seasoned connoisseurs of sports with quite a major snag: in the absence of live sporting action, how are we going to keep our spirits up, which is essential if we desire to go on in the right frame of mind?

Well, towards that end, this writer has a few pointers for you Dear Reader, on how you can still manage to get your sports fix regularly.

One way of feasting your eyes on sporting action is by typing the following short phrase: 'magical table-tennis rallies' into the search-box of your YouTube app on your mobile phone.

Upon doing that, a list of op-



Azam FC forward, Richard Djodi (C), dribbles past Polisi Tanzania players in a Vodacom Premier League match, which took place in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

tions will appear and once you, Esteemed Reader, click on any one of them, you should ready yourself to be fantastically entertained by the sheer wizardry of table-tennis players, especially those of Chinese nationality, who are globally renowned for their uncanny talents in this most charming of sports.

Another way of gaining access to spell-binding sporting entertainment is by typing the following decidedly brief phrase: 'Neymar's audacious dribbling skills' into the search-box (that resembles a magnifying glass) of your mobile phone's YouTube app and like clockwork a list of options will rapidly appear.

I assure you, Reader, that clicking on any one of the options will transport you straight into the world of Neymar's particular brand of dribbling magic, which

is really something to behold.

Finally, according to recent media reports, a club contesting for top honors in the domestic premier league engaged in a secret training session as part of their readiness for the resumption of the entertaining top tier football league in the country.

Indeed, it will be recalled that around a month or so ago, the authorities not only imposed a ban on mass gatherings of any kind but also on all sporting activities, which was a move designed to slow down the spread of the COVID-19 across the length and breadth of this country.

Significantly, the World Health Organization (WHO) has maintained that the COVID-19 pandemic spreads swifter in the midst of large masses of people, as would be typical of sporting activities not just here in Tanza-

nia but globally as well.

Hence, in consideration of all the aforesaid points, one does not need to be a consultant neurosurgeon to appreciate the sagacity of the authorities' measure to impose a ban on all sporting activities and other gatherings of people en masse.

This, then, renders the secretive training session of the premier league club being alluded to here in this last segment of this sporting narrative as constituting a very grave offence.

Therefore, it is hoped that the club which took part in its training exercise very hush-hush and its fellow clubs competing in the premier league will be reminded in no uncertain terms that they must adhere strictly to the authorities' ban or else they will face stern punitive consequences

## Dar soccer players can't back fight against Coronavirus spread- Kisoki

BY CORRESPONDENT ADAM FUNGAMWANGO

TANZANIA Soccer Players Union (Sputanza) Chairman, Mussa Kisoki, has said it is difficult for soccer players in the country to financially support the fight against the coronavirus pandemic because most of them are strapped for cash.

The players' clubs he noted are as well lacking sustainable financial backing and the situation prevents them from offering support.

Kisoki's statement has come in the wake of a recent report that the English Premier League (EPL)'s Players Union has contributed £4m to back efforts to end the pandemic in England.

Kisoki disclosed it is difficult for domestic soccer players to contribute to the cause because of the difficulties they are in financially, with other players receiving their salaries late.

"Sputanza directly takes part in the fight against the disease by presenting information, released by Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, on the disease to the players and other people," he pointed out.

"But when it comes to financially supporting the cause, it is not easy for us because our players are not financially stable. They receive little payment from their clubs and some of them receive the payment late."

He revealed he has though seen some of domestic players support the cause, noting it is good for them and the domestic soccer fraternity.

Simba's midfielder Ibrahim Ajibu recently handed over equipment which include soaps and hand sanitizers to an



Yanga winger, Mapinduzi Balama (L), challenges Gwambina FC defenders when the two outfits met in the round of 16 duel of this season's Federation Cup which took place in Dar es Salaam. Yanga won 1-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

orphanage in the city with a view to backing the fight.

Commenting on the EPL players' gesture Kisoki pointed out the United Kingdom and other countries in Europe have set up good strategy, which states once a player is recruited by a club he or she automatically turns into the particular countries' players'

union member.

It is, he added, though a quite different case in Tanzania because players can choose to either join the players' union or not.

"We have called on Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) to set up a regulation which will make it easy for players to readily contribute once there is natural

disaster," he insisted.

He pointed out most of soccer players in the country are not Sputanza members but they usually approach the union for support when they encounter difficulties at their clubs.

He disclosed the union has nevertheless rendered support to the players.



## Concern for players' mental health with soccer shut down

BY ROB HARRIS

SOCIALLY isolated, cut off from their teammates. Worried about when they will play again. Concerned about their finances and the future of their sport.

The global union for soccer players has found its members are struggling with increased levels of anxiety and depression during the coronavirus pandemic that has shut down most leagues.

As clubs focus on keeping players fit during national lockdowns and faced with cost-cutting needs, FIFPRO is urging them not to neglect providing mental health provisions.

"If a club has to decide between having a second or third right back or a clinical psychologist within the medical team, you know which choice you are going to make, so it's a kind of priority," FIFPRO Chief Medical Officer Vincent Goutteborge told The Associated Press on Monday. "Within the medical staff at any club, we know that the physical health of players is a main priority. But now we have enough objective data that show that mental health is as important as the physical health."

"We need to have an interdisciplinary medical team in place within clubs in order to take care of the mental health of the player."

Reinforcing the need for clinical psychologists or psychiatrists to be made available to players is a survey led by FIFPRO of 1,602 professional players in Australia, Belgium, Botswana, Denmark, England, Finland, France, Ireland, Malta, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Scotland, South Africa, Switzerland and the United States.

It found 22% of female players and 13% of their male counterparts reported depression symptoms when asked in recent weeks, around twice as many as a separate survey with a smaller sample size of 307 players found in December and January.

The findings are only indicative of

the mental health issues in soccer due to the small sample sizes and non-scientific polling.

"When you are not engaged with your family, with your teammates, then you have, of course, a decrease of social support and that is likely to lead to an higher rate of mental health symptoms," Goutteborge said. "The uncertainty about the end of competition and the uncertainty for the future in the football industry is obviously something that plays a role."

Players have been away from their teams in most of the world for more than a month as governments try to contain the spread of the COVID-19 disease, although limited training has resumed in Germany.

Players will need several weeks to get match fit again before competitive games can resume. Europe's major leagues are still trying to find a way of completing their seasons by extending beyond their usual endpoints around May and June.

"We have concerns on match congestion that might be related to resuming the competitions right now and trying to rush towards the end of the season," Goutteborge said. "The number of matches played within a few weeks and the very limited number of recovery days between matches."

If UEFA's optimistic planning allows the Champions League final on Aug. 29 -- three months later than originally scheduled -- next season could begin almost immediately in an attempt to recover lost time. With the 2020-21 season due to end for men with the rearranged European Championship, it could mean a lengthy continuous spell of competitive games.

"This season might be very long for many players, so this is a concern," Goutteborge said. "The international match calendar has been, of course, under scrutiny for quite a while. We need to find a good balance for players so that they can perform optimally without risk for musculoskeletal injury."

AP

## Arsenal players, coaches agree 12.5% wage cut

LONDON

ARSENAL have agreed a 12.5% pay cut for 12 months with their playing staff and senior coaches following lengthy discussions over the past two weeks.

The wage reduction will come into effect before the end of April and last until March 2021, although the club have vowed to repay the amounts agreed if the team hits certain on-field performance targets in the coming season.

Sources close to the deal have told ESPN the money will be returned in full if Champions League qualification is secured while the players will receive a lower figure if they seal a Europa League spot.

A club statement on Monday read: "We are pleased to announce that we have reached a voluntary agreement with our first-team players, head coach and core coaching staff to help support the club at this critical time."

"The move follows positive and constructive discussions. In these conversations there has been a clear appreciation of the gravity of the current situation caused by the Covid-19 pandemic and a strong desire for players and staff to show their backing for the Arsenal family."

"Reductions of total annual earnings by 12.5% will come into effect this month, with the contractual paperwork being completed in the coming days. If we meet specific targets in the seasons ahead, primarily linked to success on the pitch, the club will repay agreed amounts. We will be able to make those repayments as hitting these targets, which the players can directly influence, will mean our financial position will be stronger."

"The agreement is based on the assumption we will finish the season 2019/20 and receive the

full broadcasting revenues. The resulting savings will help cover some of the financial risks we have this season in relation to our matchday and commercial income."

"We are proud and grateful to our players and staff for pulling together to support our club, our people and our community in these unprecedented times which are some of the most challenging we have faced in our history."

Sources have also told ESPN that the move could save the club as much as £20 million. It is believed that although the vast majority of players have agreed to the terms, at least two have chosen not to accept the voluntary arrangement but regardless talks have ended amicably after head coach Mikel Arteta sought to intervene late last week.

The first-team squad, represented in negotiations by their Professional Footballers' Association representative Hector Bellerin, was understood to have been initially surprised at being asked to take a permanent reduction when other Premier League clubs were discussing wage deferrals.

Bellerin was believed to have been torn over the situation, recognising the need to fight for his teammates but also understanding the wider financial pressure on the club and football as a whole in the wake of the coronavirus pandemic. The club's desire to link cuts to performance and impose a year-long reduction were sticking points which Arteta addressed in a conference call on Thursday, reminding players of the values Arsenal seek to represent.

Southampton and West Ham United were the first top-flight clubs to have followed this path with Watford expected to follow suit imminently.

(Agencies)

# UEFA look for light at end of tunnel in bid to resume European football season

PARIS

AS European countries take steps towards easing lockdown measures imposed due to the coronavirus pandemic, UEFA will meet with the continent's football clubs and associations this week to try to mark out a pathway towards resuming the season.

European football's governing body is eager to steer all 55 member countries towards a consensus. They want to finish the season, with Germany hopeful of restarting Bundesliga matches behind closed doors next month.

Elsewhere, Belgium and Scotland appear to be awaiting a green light from UEFA to call an end to their seasons now.

The virus has claimed over 165,000 lives globally, nearly two thirds of them in Europe, according to an AFP tally. Given the uncertainty surrounding the pandemic, UEFA are remaining prudent.

That means firm decisions are unlikely this week, as UEFA hold a meeting with the heads of all member associations on Tuesday, followed by another with the powerful European Club Association (ECA)



and the European Leagues grouping on Wednesday.

UEFA's Executive Committee will then meet on Thursday, and that could trigger key announcements elsewhere.

Notably, the German Football League will hold a video call with the 36 clubs from its top two divisions later the same day as it hopes to resume playing by mid-May.

"This week, important decisions will be made on how to proceed," German FA chief Fritz Keller told Kicker magazine.

"UEFA are working on a whole host of scenarios," one source told AFP. "But nothing will be decided at the end of the meeting on Thursday because it is still impossible given all the

uncertainty surrounding the easing of the lockdowns."

When football ground to a halt in mid-March, the end of June was set out as the target date for finishing the season.

UEFA has since been working on the possibility of playing in July and August if required, and president Aleksander Ceferin remains optimistic that seasons can be completed.

- Champions League final in August? - "We may have to resume without spectators, but the most important thing, I think, is playing games," Ceferin told Italian daily Corriere della Sera.

"It is early to say that we cannot complete the season. The impact would be terrible for clubs and leagues. Better to play behind closed doors than not at all."

UEFA has already postponed Euro 2020 by a year. The Champions League and Europa League are on hold "until further notice", with both stuck in the last-16 stage.

According to Jean-Michel Aulas, president of French club Lyon and also on the ECA board, UEFA's hope is to complete its club competitions in August, with the Champions League final on August 29.

Ultimately, though, football is at the mercy of the virus and of national

governments.

Lockdowns in the UK, France, Spain and Italy will continue into May. Meanwhile Germany and other parts of Europe are taking tentative steps to ease measures.

German clubs are desperate for the season to be finished by June 30 to secure an instalment of television money, reportedly worth around 300 million euros (\$326 million).

That is a central concern for Europe's other leading leagues but, in contrast, the Belgian Pro League has stated its intention to declare the season finished.

They are waiting for the UEFA meeting before potentially ratifying the decision at a meeting on Friday -- UEFA had previously threatened to exclude teams from the next Champions League if domestic competitions were ended prematurely.

Scotland has already declared the season over in the leagues below the top flight and could do the same for the Premiership if UEFA does not object.

AFP

## Vincent Enyeama's new project: 'I want to raise clean sheet machines'

BY COLIN UDOH, SPECIAL TO ESPN

FORMER Nigeria goalkeeper Vincent Enyeama, who has not played competitive football since 2018, has told ESPN that his career is not over yet, and he is open to the right offer.

Enyeama has not played since leaving Lille in August 2018, when a potential move to Dijon fell through at the last minute, but he remains determined still to bring out a few more years from his 37-year-old body before calling it a day.

"If I have the right project, yeah, I will get back on the field," he told ESPN. "I am looking at projects that will help me get to the next stage and pursue the things I want to do. It is not about just football."

"It was a choice of staying with the family and pursuing a future. That is what has kept me in France. The opportunity I had with Dijon did not work out. The details were not good. I don't like suffering and smiling."

There have been reports about him joining South African giants Orlando Pirates or Kaizer Chiefs, though he told ESPN that he was more answering a theoretical question from a reporter than saying there had been discussions.

He was asked whether he'd move to Johannesburg if the right offer came along: "He [the reporter] asked if I would be willing to play in Africa, especially in SA. He mentioned some clubs, Joburg clubs. I told him why not, if the details are ok."

While waiting for the right offer to come along, the former Enyimba man says he is in the process of grooming a new generation of goalkeepers to solve Nigeria's woes in that position.

He explained: "I have plans with the governor of my state (Akwa Ibom) to raise an academy for the people. I have a few goalkeepers I am training already. I want to give back, to raise clean sheet machines."

The inspiration for the project comes from the progress he made in his career when he spent about three weeks training at Bolton Wanderers in the early 2000s.

Enyeama said: "I was a very good goalkeeper before I went to train with Bolton, but the two or three weeks I spent at Bolton gave me a different style of goalkeeping and opened my eyes."

"The goalkeeper trainer then, Fred Barber, told me things I needed to change. When I started doing the things he told me, I unlocked different levels to my game."

"I started using those methods and my game really changed. It is those secrets that I want to impart to my students."

Bolton gave him a taste of what English football was like, but for some reason, the deal never happened and Enyeama remains unsure



Vincent Enyeama left Lille in August 2018, after seven seasons. (Agencies)

why: "I am still wondering why I didn't sign."

"It was a trial that went so well. They even told me I was going to get jersey number 35. All that was left was just to do the medicals."

"I was supposed to be number three, because Bolton had two goalkeepers already, with Jussi Jaaskelainen as number one."

"But I don't regret it because it gave me the opportunity to go to ls

But Bolton was not the only Premier league club he missed out on, as London rivals Arsenal and Tottenham also made overtures.

The veteran explained: "Arsenal wanted me for second choice, but I was not interested. I also had an offer from Tottenham that wanted me for second choice also and I wasn't interested."

"It was after 2006 Nations Cup and then again around the 2014 World Cup. When I turned them down, that is when they [Arsenal] took David Ospina."

"For me, I was at the stage where I preferred playing even if it was for one of the smallest teams. That is what the agents that were involved told me. That Arsene (Wenger) wanted me but he is not so sure because of my height and things like that."

"People have their choices and I respect their choices."

Choices have dominated Enyeama's career, not least in 2015 when his volatile relationship with then-Super Eagles head coach Sunday Oliseh led to his retirement from the national team.

After hitting the 101-cap mark that made him the most capped Nigeria play-

er ever, Enyeama's time with Nigeria's Super Eagles could have stretched to four World Cups and perhaps up to another 10 or 20 caps.

His departure sent the Super Eagles' goalkeeping stocks into a tailspin.

Where Enyeama had been the undisputed mainstay since 2002 -- except for a brief period of disagreement in 2008 under Berti Vogts -- Nigeria have burned through five goalkeepers since, with slim signs of a permanent solution.

Carl Ikeme, Daniel Akpeyi, Ikechukwu Ezenwa, Francis Uzoho and Maduka Okoye have all had stints trying to replace one of Africa's legendary goalkeepers, and so far, not succeeding.

One reliable goalkeeper for nearly 13 years, and then five in five years. That prompted former

number one Peter Rufai to call for Enyeama's recall in 2017.

Those calls have not completely died down, even in 2020 but Enyeama shot down suggestions that he should be called to the national team.

He continued to ESPN: "A good Nigerian league goalkeeper right now will be better than me because I haven't played in over a year."

"Playing for Nigeria is not an easy thing. If you have not played for a year, you can't come out and say you want to play for Nigeria. Nigeria is such a big country, you can't go and mess up."

"What is Uzoho doing that they should call me? What about Osigwe or the young boy Maduka in Germany? Akpeyi is doing excellently well in South Africa."

"Why should they call Enyeama when Ezenwa is playing and there are good goalkeepers in the Nigerian league? You can't call Vincent Enyeama. It would be insulting to the other goalkeepers."

"We should be proud of these guys. They are all good goalkeepers."

If he will not rejoin as a goalkeeper, how about following in the footsteps of the man who passed him the armband, Joseph Yobo and join the technical staff?

Once again, Enyeama defers to those he considers to be higher up in line: "There is Peter Rufai, there is Alloy Agu doing very well with the team right now and others who are still out there that can help."

"If these guys are considered, it can be nice. If you want Vincent to be part of the set up, it can also be nice. I don't have a problem, I will never say no to Nigeria."

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

## Concern for players' mental health with soccer shut down

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**TONIGHT @ 7:00**

**EATV WEDNESDAY**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)  
13:30 Kili Za Wana  
14:00 Planet Bongo (r)  
14:30 Bongo Hits  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Nirvana (r)  
16:00 Skonga (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SLEKTI  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music/Soap  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 Kibiashara Zaidi

**EATV SAA 1**  
Coverage of the days current events accompanied by interviews with prominent people on diverse topics ranging from national to social interests.

**eastafrika RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## Stephen Akhwari International Marathon postponed to next year

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE John Stephen Akhwari International Marathon, which had been scheduled to be held at Sheikh Amri Abeid Memorial Stadium in Arusha in June, has been postponed to next year, the race's organizers disclosed yesterday.

Sylvester Orai, the race's director, said organizers met recently and agreed to cancel this year's edition of the race due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The race will therefore be held at the same venue on June 6 next year.

"Organizers and other stakeholders met, we agreed that due to the Coronavirus which has hit the world, this year's edition of Stephen Akhwari International Marathon should be postponed to next year, this is in the interest of all stakeholders of the event," he said.

The Stephen Akhwari International Marathon was to be expected to be held on June 7 this year.

Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Harrison Mwakembe was set to be the race's guest of honor.

The event was supposed to have three events, 21km and 10km for both male and female runners, and a 2km race for kids.

Kids were greatly encouraged to compete at the event since one of the purposes of the race is to identify young talents for proper training to enable them represent the nation in major tournaments in future.

The organizing committee had prepared 7,360,000m/- prize budget for the winners, in which the top 10 runners in 21km and 10km races will be presented with cash prize, while kids will be presented with medals.

This year would have been the second year in a row that the Akhwari International Marathon take place.

Last year, 800 athletes from within the country and beyond competed and this year more than 1,200 athletes had been expected to compete.

The main purpose of the race is to honour Mzee John Stephen Akhwari who contributed immensely in the history of athletics in the country.

He is one of the very first young Tanzanians to represent the country in international athletics competitions.

The marathon is duly registered with National Sports Council (NSC) and is also recognised by the Athletics Tanzania (AT).

"Akhwari is most famous in the 1968 Olympics, which were hosted by Mexico, where he left a mark, bringing a new meaning to the word, never give up," Sylvester said.

He disclosed the second reason for holding the event is to work hand in hand with the government in its drive to identify and nurture young talents to pick up from the initiative of the nation's athletics legends.

# Yanga set to launch magazine, website



Yanga information officer, Hassan Bumbuli.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MAINLAND Premier League big guns, Yanga, will on Monday next week launch their magazine, website and an application as a means of generating extra revenue.

The side's information officer, Hassan Bumbuli, yesterday said apart from generating revenue, supporters, fans and follow-

ers of the club and the remaining football stakeholders will benefit by getting latest news and other details from the club.

He explained that the magazine will be coming out after three months while the website and the application will be updated every minute.

The official further pointed out

Yanga will in June start publishing their newspaper. According to him, the application and website will have a section for followers to share their views.

Bumbuli described the three as a convenient platform that will link the club and its millions of supporters around the world.

"The three are the best platforms which will link Yanga and the club's supporters around the world," he disclosed.

"I urge our supporters and football lovers and the corporate world to utilise these tools and reach out to thousands of potential customers."

"The idea of having the three

platforms which will link Yanga and the club's supporters around the world," he disclosed.

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platforms which will link Yanga and the club's supporters around the world," he disclosed.

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"The idea of having the three

## 'Players won't be forced to financially support fight against coronavirus pandemic'

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Soccer Players Union (Sputanza) has noted it has no mandate to compel soccer players in the country to offer financial contribution to the fight against Coronavirus pandemic.

The union pointed out many local players can not afford a pay cut to help in the fight against the spread of the disease.

Sputanza Chairman, Mussa Kisoki, attributed this to meager salaries which most clubs pay their players.

Most of the players, he insisted, have also not been paid by their respective clubs.

The idea is good but Sputanza has no mandate to force it, noting it is up to players themselves to help out of their own will.

"The idea that players should use their money (pay cut) to help in the fight against the disease is good, but we do not have that mandate to force them to use their money, it is up to them to help on their own will," he said.

He noted even if it was the union's mandate, it would have been difficult for the union to implement it in this period when sporting activities have been suspended because of the pandemic.

He disclosed many players have not been paid for more than two months.

"The suspension of football action due to Coronavirus has brought about financial challenges in many local football clubs and it would have been unfair to force players to accept pay cut," he said.

Many players in world's top football clubs have accepted pay cut to help in the fight against the pandemic which is causing untold misery to the society.

Locally, Simba SC player Ibrahim Ajibu is the first footballer to join in the fight against the pandemic.

He recently handed out food, hand sanitizers, masks and other materials to orphanages which are taking care of less privileged children in Dar es Salaam.



Uluguru bikers pictured during a recent Uluguru Cycling race which took place in Morogoro. PHOTO: MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

## Don Bosco Chess Club prepares training schedule for players

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

DAR ES SALAAM's Don Bosco Chess team of Upanga has arranged for its players to continue preparations for the coming local and international games.

The side's head coach, Kara Louis, said the aim is to keep his players active and well informed during this period when all sporting activities have been suspended due to Covid-19 pandemic.

Before the suspension of sporting activities, National Chess League was taking place at Russian Cultural Center in Dar es Salaam.

The coach pointed out he has though drawn program for his players to continue training at their respective homes.

The suspended Chess League was in rounds three and four and Don Bosco team was placed second with six points in the 11-team league.

He said the club has 25 players and after daily individual training they meet on weekends online through lichess.org (Chess training online).

"All players are indoors, we are not meeting physically, but I'm training them through video call, internet and other platforms," he noted.

"We as well meet every Saturday and Sunday on lichess.org, where we share ideas and other useful chess tips," he said.

He said they have chosen to take the approach as they do not want to be taken unawares when the suspension of sports events is lifted.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

