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UNESCO readies digital instrument for spearheading journalists safety locally, worldwide

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

AS threats against journalists mount across the country, region and globally, a special application has been launched to help scribes raise alarms of imminent danger right from their mobile phones to potential colleagues, security organs and family members at a go. It will work online and offline as well.

The app was specifically formulated to help Journalists in Tanzania to quickly alert their loved ones and responsible organizations at any moment that they will feel they are in danger. It will also serve to trace and keep records of all cases of threats, attacks and other incidences affecting reporters, writers, photographers and other whistle-blowers.

The concept was initiated by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and



The application was designed and written by two young IT experts, Michael Kimollo and Mussa Kalokola from the Hyper Interactive Co. Ltd

Cultural Organization (UNESCO), which says that the application also sends the last location bearings of the victim who sent the 'cry for help' message. The cry is automatically dispatched in short message service (SMS) facility, and when connected to data such alerts can be delivered onto other online platforms.

Nancy Kaizilege, the head of UNESCO Media Communications Department, explained that a similar application known as 'Salama App' was launched in the United Kingdom and it is already working and active in the UK.

"It is not just aimed at raising alarms, but when the situation calls for it, the application also allows one to send full written text regarding cases of violation in one's own area," she said.

The application was designed and written by two young IT experts, Michael Kimollo and Mussa Kalokola from the Hyper Interactive Co. Ltd, a firm which

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HIV testing: Govt tabling bill to improve Law of the Child



A sample HIV self-testing kit. The government is determined to legalise voluntary HIV testing for children aged 15 and above. File Photo

She said Tanzania has 1.4 million people with by HIV and the government wants 90 per cent of the country's population to know their status, whereas currently it is only 62 per cent who know their status

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government is today expected to table a bill to amend the Law of the Child 2009 to allow voluntary HIV testing for children aged 15 and above following rapid increase in infections among this section of the population.

The Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Ummu Mwalimu, said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the amended law will also facilitate the selling of HIV testing kits in market outlets such as groceries and pharmacies to encourage testing among people generally.

She said currently the law of the child does not allow children to go for testing without permission from a parent, saying this means that their status remains unknown, hindering timely start of using antiretroviral (ARV) drugs.

"New infections on youth aged 15 to 19 are very high, about 65,000 yearly and out them 80-percent are girls and only 20-percent are boys. Therefore we need to continue sensitizing the youths because they are the most affected group," the minister said when speaking at an HIV/Aids seminar for artists which was organized by the



The minister said about 80 percent Tanzanians understand HIV/Aids, noting that the problem now is how to translate the information that they have into preventive practices

Benjamin Mkapa Foundation (BMF).

The minister said about 80 percent Tanzanians understand HIV and Aids, noting that the problem now is how to translate the information that they have into preventive practices.

She said Tanzania has 1.4 million people with HIV and the government wants 90-percent of the country's population to know their status, whereas currently it is only 62 percent who know their status.

"Many people do not like testing because of the stigma that is accompanied with it, but we will encourage that those who will be testing should do more testing in health centres," she said.

"We are implementing a 90, 90, 90 campaign on HIV which is aimed at ensuring that by the year 2020 90-percent of men know their status while 90-percent of those found positive have access to retroviral drugs and 90-percent of the remaining ones are protected by the same year," she specified.

In her remarks, the Chief Executive Officer for the Benjamin Mkapa Foundation, Dr Ellen Senkoro said the foundation has been working on encouraging voluntary testing for HIV.

"We have decided to use artists to promote voluntary testing because they have the ability to

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Water ministry revamps authorities, removes 36

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has realigned water utility authorities, scrapping 36, merging others and creating 25 water, sanitation and environment authorities with increased areas of coverage.

The new move will see water supply and sanitation authorities at the district level moved to the newly created Rural Water and Sanitation Authority (RUWASA).

Addressing a press conference here yesterday, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Water, Prof Kitila Mkumbo said the minister, Prof Makame Mbarawa took the decision in accordance with the



DUWASA will serve Dar es Salaam city and its municipal areas and new affiliated areas of Bagamoyo, Kibaha, Kisarawe and Mkuranga town councils

Water Supply and Sanitation Act, No 5 of 2009.

He said the move that has seen some authorities being given increased area of coverage for water supply is aimed at improving performance as well as reducing management costs.

Prof Mkumbo said the there will be 25 water supply and sanitation authorities at national level, cities and regional big towns.

"Some authorities at these levels have been given more areas of coverage while others have been merged with regional authorities," he said.

He named new regional water bodies as

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Treasury: Jan 1 is compliance deadline for e-procurement

By Francis Kajubi

ALL procuring entities that will not be using the Tanzania National e-Procurement System (TANePS) as of January 1, next year shall be banned from procurement activities.

Addressing reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Treasury Permanent Secretary Doto James (pictured) said that his office had already issued



a notice last month that all public accounting officers should make sure that their units are connected to the system.

"Any procuring entity that shall be not using the system be it public or private, will not be allowed to take part in procurement activities. There will be no grace period on this matter so I urge all procuring entities and accounting officers to start using the system," said the Paymaster.

Back in September the Minister of Finance and Planning, Dr Philip Mpango, directed the Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (PPRA) to make sure that all procuring entities start using

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HIV testing: Govt tabling bill to improve Law in the Child

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reach out to large numbers of people and they have followers who admire them in whatever they are doing," she stated.

In 2018, 1.6 million people were living with HIV in Tanzania, which is equivalent to an estimated HIV prevalence of 4.6 percent and 72,000 people were infected with HIV, while 24,000 people died from an AIDS-related illness, the minister noted.

Despite the numbers, Tanzania has done well to control the HIV pandemic over the last decade. Scaling-up access to antiretroviral treatment has helped the country to minimise the impact of the epidemic.

As a result, between 2010 and 2015, the number of new infections declined by more than 20 percent and the number of people dying from an AIDS-related illness halved.

According to the latest Global HIV Diagnosis & Treatment Market Research

Report 2019, HIV prevalence in Africa, specifically in the Southern Africa region is very high compared to the North African region. Approximately 1 out of 4 is suffering from HIV in Southern Africa.

The report said that Southern and Eastern region of Africa has one of the highest prevalence rates of HIV. About 19 million people have HIV, while HIV prevalence is low in North Africa but the number of cases of HIV is increasing rapidly. "There is no cure for HIV but drugs manufacturing companies are investing huge money in R&D to develop effective drugs for HIV," the report said.

It is estimated that over 3000 patients died in sub Saharan Africa on a daily basis due to HIV in 2015. Ten countries in Africa carry 80 per cent of the total HIV burden, namely South Africa, Kenya, Malawi, Ethiopia, Mozambique, Tanzania, Nigeria, Uganda, Zimbabwe and Zambia.

Oil tanker explosion report will be released soon - House

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE report by a special probe committee formed by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa to investigate the August 10th 2019 oil tanker explosion in Morogoro region will be released by his office at an appropriate time, the National Assembly heard yesterday.

Deputy Home Affairs Minister, Hamad Yusuf Masauni told the House in Dodoma that the Premier formed the committee aiming at enabling the government to know if relevant public authorities played their part after the accident which killed more than 100 people and wounded scores.

He said the aim of the special probe team was to come up with suggestions of measures to be taken to control similar incidences in future. Masauni gave the explanations in response to a supplementary question by Special Seats MP, Devatha Minja (Chadema) who asked why was the government contemplating to announce the outcomes of the probe committee.

Minja said that at the burial of some of the victims, Majaliwa who represented President John Magufuli formed a special probe committee to investigate

into a fuel tanker explosion, but the report has never been made public.

She also wanted to know when the government will release the report to the public claiming the fire and rescue force took long to arrive at the scene despite the fact that explosion occurred at the Msamvu area, some few kilometers their offices.

Masauni said: "The Prime Minister's Office has its own arrangement of releasing such reports. I am sure the report will be made public at an appropriate time".

On August 10th 2019, a fuel tanker exploded in Morogoro region killing more than 100 and several other wounded. Many of those killed and injured had been siphoning petrol from the vehicle when it burst into flames.

The tanker registered T717 DDF with a trailer 645 CAN Toyota Scania overturned on August 10, 2019 at Msamvu, in Morogoro. The vehicle was heading to Iringa from Dar es Salaam.

A similar tragedy occurred in Mbeya in 2000 when a number of villagers were burned in explosion of oil tanker. At least 33 were killed during the incident that happened at Isongole village after a fuel tanker exploded.



Low-income residents of Mpapa and Umbuji villages in South Unguja, who are supported by the Tanzania Social Action Fund, harvest onions in their farm yesterday. Photo: Rahma Suleiman in Zanzibar

Igunga medic in court over 200,000/- bribe

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

THE Prevention and Combating Corruption Bureau (PCCB) in Igunga district, Tabora region has arraigned in court Wallace Joseph Kazili (52) a medic from Igunga District for soliciting and receiving 200,000/- bribe from a patient.

PCCB prosecutor from Tabora Region Simon Mashingia alleged before Igunga District Court Magistrate Lydia Ilunda that the accused is facing three counts.

Prosecutor Mashingia alleged that on October 30 this year at an unknown time at Igunga District Hospital the accused solicited 200,000/- bribe from Kasembe Bundala Nangale, a resident of Kilelele Village from Kishapu district in Shinyanga region as an inducement to issue him with TB drugs for his mother Bugumba Lusalu (65).

In the second count, the prosecutor alleged that on the same date October 30 2019 at around 1pm the accused received 50,000/- through M-Pesa transaction as part payment of 200,000/- from Kasembe Bundala as inducement in issuing him TB drugs.

IUU in the third count, the prosecutor claimed that on November 1 this year at around 3pm at Maternity Ward of Igunga District Hospital, the accused received 50,000/- from Kasembe Bundala as inducement to him to issue TB drugs.

According to the PCCB prosecutor the accused committed the crime under Section 15(1)(a) of the PCCB Act No. 11 of 2007.

However after the charges were read, the accused pleaded not guilty and is out on 300,000 bail up to December 4 when the case will come up for mention.

UNESCO prepares digital application for safeguards for practitioners in media

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produces software and applications aimed at solving problems at community levels.

"We spent two months working on the 'Journalists' Safety Application' as requested by UNESCO," they said, noting that they were optimistic that the app should be ready for all platforms by December 2019.

During a recently held meeting in Arusha, representatives from media organizations were also trained on how to use the application in assessing the probability and proximity of threats and measure the potential financial, physical or reputational damage.

While the Tanzania version of the digital 'Journalists' Safety Application' is being perfected ahead of its launch next month, local scribes have been requested to suggest tentative names for it.

When all the bugs have been ironed out from the Alpha version, a Beta one will be introduced for trials, after which the complete version is to be released and made available for free downloads from Apple Store and Google Play Store for iOS and Android devices respectively.



Dr Deogratias Paul (L), a principal environment officer with the Vice President's Office, chairs a meeting of the technical working group of the Champions of Alternatives to Charcoal Project held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are group members: Institute of Management and Entrepreneur Development (IMED) director Dr Donath Olomi (2nd-L) and Shell Exploration and Production Tanzania representative Msomisi Mbenna. The project was initiated by the Vice President's Office and is funded by Shell and implemented by IMED. Photo: John Badi

Water ministry revamps authorities, removes 36

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Arusha Water Supply and Sanitation (AUWASA) serving Arusha city and additional areas of Longido, Monduli, Ngaramtoni and Usa River.

DUWASA will serve Dar es Salaam city and its municipal areas and new affiliated areas of Bagamoyo, Kibaha, Kisarawe and Mkuranga town councils.

Dodoma Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (DUWASA) will

serve the city of Dodoma and a wider network of Bahi, Chamwino and Kongwa town councils.

Geita Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (GEUWASA) will serve Geita town while Iringa Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (IRUWASA) will serve Iringa municipality as well as Ilula and Kilolo towns.

He said there will be eight national water supply and sanitation projects and 32 other projects at district level

and small towns. On the other hand, some 50 towns will be under the newly established Rural Water and Sanitation Authority (RUWASA) in the respective districts.

The scrapped water supply and sanitation authorities include Usa River, Monduli WSSA, Longido WSSA, Chamwino WSSA, Kongwa WSSA, Same WSSA, Mwangi WSSA, Gallapo WSSA, Dareda WSSA, Bashnet WSSA, Magugu WSSA, Mikumi WSSA, Kyela WSSA,

Kasumulu WSSA, Kilosa, Nanyama WSSA and Mangaka WSSA.

Others are Magu WSSA, Nansio WSSA, Ngudu WSSA, Kibaha WSSA, Kisarawe WSSA, Mkuranga WSSA, Bagamoyo WSSA, Iselamgazi WSSA, Tinde WSSA, Dida WSSA, Lalago WSSA and Dida WSSA.

The rest are Singamwaulgesha WSSA, Malampaka WSSA, Isikizya WSSA, Sikonge WSSA, Urambo WSSA, Muheza WSSA and Pangani WSSA.

Treasury: Jan 1 is compliance deadline for e-procurement

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the system before mid-December, and now the ministry is taking up the matter seriously.

"The system will enable the government and procuring entities save 34bn/- in the first five year of the implementation of the system. I insist that the government will not provide a procurement budget to procuring entities that are not registered in this system," he stated.

PPRA Chief Executive Officer, Leonard Kapongo, said that so far 418 procuring entities out of 540 have been connected to the system, from which 1600 procurement officers have been trained on how to use the system.

"Out of the connected 418, around 200 procuring entities are actively using the system while the rest are in the process of adopting it for comprehensive use. Most of these entities have so far submitted their year procurement plans that make up 11,343 tenders worth 11.3 trillion/-," said Kapongo.

Investigations by PPRA for the financial year 2018/19 released in September showed that the government incurred through bureaucracy a loss amounting to 4.36bn/- from fees that should be paid by bidders in procurement processes.

The other factor that contributed to the loss occurred from changes made in project designs that led to abandonment of some work to be executed and already procured goods.

The chairman of the PPRA Board of Directors Dr Matern Lumbanga said during the period, PPRA conducted five investigations in five public entities involving 13 tenders and contracts. The public entities were Nkasi District Council, Bank of Tanzania (BoT), Tanzania Airports Authority (TAA),

Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) and Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

"The total value of investigated tenders and contracts was 375.05bn/- and these investigations managed to save 3.39bn/- from possible misappropriation by unscrupulous bidders and government officials," he declared.

Assessment of corruption indicators in procurement demonstrated that a total of 131 contracts from 39 public entities had higher corruption red flag scores in the overall assessment. The contracts were being implemented by the Ministry of Water and Irrigation, the Tanzania Railways Corporation, Tanzania Ports Authority, Tanzania Bureau of Standards and the Singida Water and Sanitation Authority.

Others were Wang'ombe Water and Sanitation Authority, Kigamboni Municipal Council, Ubungo Municipal Council and Kahama Town Council, he said.

Dr Lumbanga asserted that in terms of compliance and value for money audits, PPRA audited 7,738 procurement contracts worth 9.122trn/-. These audits involved 104 public entities whereby 43 were ministries, departments and agencies (MDAs), 28 Local Government Authorities and 33 public authorities and five other public agency branches with delegated powers.

Among the audited entities, 18 public entities whose procurement volumes were 20bn/- or above accounted for 96.3 per cent of all audited contracts. The audit indicated an overall average compliance level of 76 per cent as compared to 74 per cent that was achieved the previous financial year. However, the recorded compliance level was below the target of 80 per cent which had been set by PPRA, he added.

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Precision Air managing director Patrick Mwanri (L) is interviewed by East Africa Radio presenter Ian Diallo as part of a campaign conducted by East Africa Television and East Africa Radio as part of a strategy to promote business in Tanzania. Photo courtesy of EATV

TRA registers increase in collection of VAT for first quarter of 2019/2020

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Revenue Authority has recorded an increase of exercise collection and Value Added Tax (VAT) from various domestically produced products in the first quarter of 2019/20 following the rolling out of the Electronic Tax Stamps (ETS) phase two.

According to TRA's Commissioner for Domestic Revenue Abdul Mapembe there has been a 35.3 percent increase in VAT and exercise collections from spirits and wines and 5.6 percent increase in Cigarettes in 2019/20 quarter compared to the same period last year.

Mapembe said TRA collected 25.8bn/- from spirits and wines that is produced locally in the first quarter of 2018/19 but, the case changed in the first quarter of this year.

The collections from cigarettes also increased to 5.6percent in 2019/20 compared to the same period last year.

He further elaborated that on cigarettes TRA collected 56.7bn/- as VAT from July to September, 2019 compared to 53.7bn/- collected during the same period last year.

For soft drinks TRA collected 16.155bn- as

VAT from August to September 2018 but, it increased to 19.05bn/- between August and September.

The government of Tanzania through Tanzania Revenue Authority started the first phase of ETS system on wines, spirits and cigarettes in January, this year.

The system was fully rolled out for all alcoholic drinks, cigarettes and bottled water on June 15, this year.

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

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

ETS is meant to replace the hitherto paper-based tax stamps initially attached to cigarettes, wines and spirits. The old system was prone to cheating of taxes through under declaration, among other malpractices.

Mbeya factory found making banned plastic bags

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

FIVE months after the government banned plastic bags, one factory - Mbalizi Plastic Ltd, in Mbeya Region owned by a Chinese national has been found still producing the banned items.

The factory was found doing so at the weekend through joint efforts of National Environmental Management Council (NEMC) Southern Highlands Zone officials and the

Police.

The officials made unannounced visit at the factory and impounded 30 bags (viroba) of plastic bags that were produced ready to enter the market.

Speaking at the factory NEMC Manager for Southern Highlands Zone Eng Anord Mapinduzi said the inspection followed the government directives on the plastic ban implementation follow-up.

He said the factory was registered to manufacture permitted bags but after follow-up they discovered that it was also making banned plastic bags.

Mapinduzi said NEMC acted on a tip that the factory was manufacturing banned bags on 'order' basis and that the work was done at night, and added that the law will take its course.

He said according to the law the factory will

be required to pay 20m/- fine and if it fails to pay it will be taken to court.

Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) Quality Inspector for Southern Highland Zone Eng Yekonia Sanga said even though the factory was registered to produce permitted bags, it is not recognised by TBS, hence, he added, there is controversy over the quality of its products and warned end users to be careful using such bags as the

law will also hold them as having committed a crime as well.

The owner of the factory Yong Le who could not speak Kiswahili or English defended himself by saying the banned bags were produced before the ban and they were not for distribution.

He said as of now his factory only manufacture legal bags hence he pleaded not to be punished.

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Why Tanzania must invest more in first 1,000 days of her children

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA must invest more in the development of her children within the first 1,000 days if the country is to attain its various advancement targets and grab a seat on the table of prosperous nations, it was said yesterday.

In his presentation during a nutrition awareness workshop for editors in Dar es Salaam, Nutrition Coordinator in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) Mwitwa Waibe said it is within that period that nations prepare human capital through investment in nutrition since conception up to two years of a child's life.

They are called critical 1,000 days because it is the period of brain development through nutrition: consumption, digestion, absorption and utilisation of key vitamins and minerals that are necessary for both brain and physical development, Waibe noted.

During this period, the expectant mother and later the child must consume balanced diet and recommended supplements to avert stunting and birth defects such as spinal bifida whose management cost the nation billions of shillings annually, he said.

But according to the National Nutrition Survey 2018, some 32 per cent of children under the age of five in the country are stunted and according to Waibe, Tanzania must reverse the trend for it to become middle income economy by 2025 and achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030.

Status Quo 2014-2025 report compiled by the Ministry of Finance and Planning found that Tanzania loses 3.5trn/- per year for not investing more in nutrition and will lose a whopping 39trn/- by the year 2025.

If this trend is not reversed, Tanzania may not hit the middle income and SDGs targets, he cautioned.

Since investment in nutrition is directly linked to reducing maternal and child deaths-critical aspects to achieving SDGs, Waibe said more investment in nutrition is inevitable for Tanzania.

What about some parents who invest heavily in the nutrition of their children who are above five years in the hope of averting stunting?

"They are wasting the resources; avoiding stunting must be done within the first 1,000 days," Waibe said.

He added that 90 per cent of a child's brain development occurs before the age of five. "Human brain development is human capital that Tanzania cannot ignore; all developed countries invested in this stage before becoming what they are today," he said.

Speaking on the economic cost of not investing in nutrition, Waibe said the nation ends up with dull people whose brains are not fully developed hence they cannot be trained and play a meaningful role in the development of their country.

Our roads, bridges, hydropower plants, railways, and airports will be built by foreigners whom we pay trillions of shillings that they inject into their economies," he said.

Neema Lugangira, Executive Director of Agri Thamani Foundation which co-organised the workshop noted however that high rate of stunting in Tanzania is not due to lack of food per se but rather balancing of it and prioritizing expectant mothers and children below five years.

"Regions such as Njombe and Kagera which have the highest rates of stunting in the country are not food deficient, they just don't give the right amount and right type of food to the right persons," she said.

Globally, it is recommended that the rate of stunting should not go above 22 per cent.

Some 59 million children are stunted in Africa while 151 million are stunted in the world.



Jubilee Insurance's Head of Customer Care and Wellness, Dr Maria Janja (R), conducts eye diagnosis on one of the children cared for at the Dar es Salaam-based Umra Orphanage during a free clinic the company organised yesterday for routine medical check-ups. Left is a medical specialist with the firm, Dr Romana Mail-Kusema. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE government has started expansion works to Mbeya Zonal Referral Hospital at Meta maternity wing by building a six-storey building to alleviate congestion in the few available maternity wards.

Speaking during the inspection of the ongoing project, Mbeya Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila said the government has dispensed 4b/- for the project through 'Force Account' procedure, and that it set for completion within two years.

He said the old buildings had a capacity for 172 patients but the one

Work on maternity wing expansion at Mbeya Referral Hospital commences

under construction will have the capacity of 204 patients hence the entire maternity wing will have a capacity of 376 patients intake.

He added that the hospitals caters for all southern highlands regions whose population is over 8 million and has enough specialists to serve people with ailments that cannot be treated in their area.

He praised the director of the

hospital and his staff in the supervision of the project as well as other buildings including diagnostic and children's wings.

The hospital's director Dr Godlove Mwanji thanked the fifth-phase government for dishing out the funds which will end congestion at the hospital.

He said the hospital has started to improve in every department and

would like one day to be on the level of Muhimbili National Hospital in service provision, and added that CT-scan service will soon start to be offered.

He said various national leaders have been passing at the site to inspect the ongoing project and to ensure it is implemented as soon as possible, and that he as the project leader and his staff will supervise the project to its completion.

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

ZANZIBAR President, Dr Ali Mohammed Shein has insisted that all countries must respect human rights if they are serious in cultivating peace, harmony and development.

The Isles' head of state said when receiving a delegation from Arusha-based African Court on Human and People's Rights when they paid courtesy call at the Zanzibar's State House.

The African Court Judges led by the institution's President, Justice Sylvain Oré, had paid a courtesy call on the President of Zanzibar, and during the discussions, the President of Zanzibar underscored the importance of human rights as a prerequisite for peace and stability, adding that Zanzibar has attached special importance to it.

Shein: Good governance, human rights are mutually reinforcing

Apparently, the African Court is holding its 55th Ordinary Session from the 4th to the 29th of November this year as well as the 10th Extra-Ordinary Session from 2nd to 7th December in Zanzibar.

Dr Shein pointed out that there cannot be any development without peace and stability. This, he said, has resulted in enormous economic, social and political achievements on the Islands.

"The success has also been contributed by the independence enjoyed by the three arms of government (the Executive, Legislature

and Judiciary), which complement each other in the functions of state," he said.

Dr Shein told the delegation that he was pleased to receive the Court officials assuring them of the support of his government to ensure that the Sessions were conducted smoothly, and encouraged the Judges and staff to visit the many attractions in Zanzibar.

On his part, the Court's President, Justice Oré thanked the Zanzibar government for hosting the sessions and especially for its commitment to peace, unity and the

protection of human rights.

"The Court's decision to hold the Sessions in Zanzibar is testimony of Zanzibar's peace and stability and affirms the latter's commitment to respect for human rights and the dignity of the human being", Justice Oré said.

The African Court is composed of eleven Judges, nationals of Member States of the African Union elected in their individual capacity. The Court meets four times a year in Ordinary Sessions and may hold Extra-Ordinary Sessions.

Ministry urges manufacturers, farmers to grab opportunities in the EAC market

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE government has urged farmers to grab business, investment and employment opportunities in the East African Community (EAC) following trade enhancement through ratification of the Customs Union and Common Market Protocols.

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, East Africa Cooperation, Dr Damas Ndumbaro told the National Assembly that both, small and large scale entrepreneurs have access to market within the bloc insisting on them to adhere to the set rules.

Dr Ndumbaro noted that partner states set the EAC Rules of Origin that helps differentiate between goods produced within the EAC region and those from outside to ensure favourable custom duties and tariffs for goods produced within the bloc.

"Partner states ratified the protocols to enhance business as well as boost development. It is the responsibility of Tanzanian farmers to meet the criteria set out in the Rules of Origin and acquire EAC Certificate of Origin to be able to purchase and sell products within the community," he said.

According to him, most local manufacturers and farmers fail to sell their goods within the EAC due to some laxity in export processes.

He said identification of goods produced in the EAC becomes easy when a product is wholly manufactured or obtained in one country. Such products includes those which require a single or double transformation.

He was responding to a basic question by Wete MP, Mbarouk Salum Ali (CCM) who tasked the government to link Pemba spice farmers with EAC markets.

The legislator was concerned that despite Pemba spice farmers being among the world spice producers they hardly access markets within and outside the country.

Pemba Island in Zanzibar, produces large amount of top quality spices such as cinnamon and cloves.

According to the Zanzibar State Trading Corporation (ZSTC), a kilogramme of clove is sold at between 14,000/- and 20,000/-.

Icea lion completes 20 years service



ICEA LION INSURANCE Managing Director Steven Olouch gives speech at 20th Anniversary events at Serena Hotel recently.

Icea Lion General Insurance Company has celebrates 20 years service in the country and says it will continue to be at the forefront in offering insurance services in the country.

Speaking at a function to mark the milestone the Chief Managing Director of the company Jarred Awando said in the 20 years of insurance business they have ensured that Tanzanians' thirst in getting excellent insurance service was realized. "In the 20 years period we have

introduced various products for the insurance service we offered in Tanzania, the situation that attracted many people to us," added Mr Awando.

On the company's future strategies, Awando said Icea Lion has mobilized itself to ensure every new insurance service found in the world enters Tanzania's market.

"In the insurance market there must be creativity and we will ensure every new product that comes up we have it," said the Icea Lion boss.

On his part the retired Commissioner of



Some of ICEA LION INSURANCE Staffs celebrates at the events at Serena



ICEA LION INSURANCE Chief Operation officer Jarred Awando speaking at the 20th Anniversary events at Dar es Salaam recently.

Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) Israel Kamuzora congratulated the company and called on other insurance companies to ensure they abide by professionalism in offering their services.

"Basically it is for other companies to emulate Icea Lion company that has been satisfying the needs of insurance customers in the country," said Kamuzora.



It is the responsibility of Tanzanian farmers to meet the criteria set out in the Rules of Origin and acquire EAC Certificate of Origin to be able to purchase and sell products within the community

NGOs and Landesa to unveil 'Protect Land for Women' campaign

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

TWENTY-FIVE institutions including Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs) will next week launch "Protect Land for Women" campaign that aims to educate the society on the position of women in land ownership.

The campaign that will also be conducted in various countries will be officially launched on November 21 under the coordination of Landesa Tanzania.

Landesa expert on land issues Khadija Mrisho said over the weekend during a two-day training seminar for journalists on the rights of women over land and responsible investment thereof.

Landesa is a US based nonprofit organization with offices in Dar es Salaam whose aim, in partnership of the civil society, is to support the government in strengthening land rights of rural women and men.

During the training Mrisho said the campaign involved 25 NGOs that have seen the need to incorporate men as well as religious and traditional leaders in bringing changes that will remove suppressive local traditions.

"There is a need for women to own land, the step that will give them an enabling economic capacity for the development of their families and the nation in general," said Mrisho.

She said researches showed that only 24 per cent of women own

land, the situation that stifle the economy since 80 per cent depend on agriculture for subsistence.

She said the campaign will be unveiled by the Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Seniors and Children Ummu Mwalimu.

Mrisho explained that Tanzania has been picked as a case in point for the campaign because it has shown its aim in bringing equality in land ownership since it has in place strategies in improving land policies and suppressive laws.

A member of Landesa Board Edda Sanga called on journalists to participate in the campaign through their profession and the training gained so that the society understands the campaign's good intentions.

A Landesa lawyer Godfrey Massai said there is a need to mobilize the society on joint land ownership to remove discrimination in may families which see that women do not have right to own land.

He said traditionally a woman owns land through her husband, her son or her male next of kin, hence she cannot use the land freely and therefore she cannot rescue herself economically.

He said the campaign will help in bringing changes in the mindset including pushing for laws and policies that will recognize joint land ownership as opposed to the Resolution on Customary Law Act No. 4 Cap 358 and the Law of marriages Act of 1971.



Zuhura Mkumbwa (R), an NMB Bank Plc branch customer experience manager in Dar es Salaam, presents over 350 T-shirts worth 5m/- to New Millennium Women Group member Germina Lukuvi (C) at the weekend ahead of the commemoration of the group's 10th anniversary. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

RITA to inaugurate online registration and issuance of birth certificates lined up to reach 15,917,602 Tanzanians

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA) is expected to launch the online registration and issuance of birth certificates targeting to reach 15,917,602 Tanzanians by 2025.

The online registration is also expected to increase the number of under five children with birth certificates and reduce by 50 percent the number of Tanzanians who do not have birth certificates to 21,508,277.

Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Dr Augustine Mahiga said when responding to a question from Special Seats MP, Fatma Toufik (CCM).

The legislator wanted to know the government's strategies to register and issue birth certificates to Tanzanians especially adults. She said despite ongoing campaign to register under five children, there are still a good number of citizens with no birth certificates.

"I want to know the government strategies to issue birth certificates to Tanzanians especially those aged between five years and above", she questioned.

In his explanation, Dr Mahiga said the online registration will ensure many Tanzanians getting the documents since the procedures will be simplified. He said eligible Tanzanians will submit their application online and lately visit RITA offices for completion procedures.

He called upon Tanzanians who do

not have birth certificates to visit RITA offices for registration insisting it is the right of every citizen to have the document.

"We need to sensitize people on the importance of having birth certificates. Legislators play a crucial role in sensitizing Tanzanians to register with RITA", he said.

According to him, the government through RITA has been implementing strategies to ensure many Tanzanians are registered in order to improve the country's statistics.

"We are implementing a programme (decentralized birth registration system) which includes registration of under five children through special arrangements. Through RITA, we also conduct campaigns at various residential areas to sensitize Tanzanians to register", said the Minister.

In March, this year when launching the decentralized birth registration system, Dr Mahiga said registration points have been established at health facilities which provide reproductive and child health services, and at the community ward executive offices.

He said the program is implemented in partnership with UNICEF and the Canadian government, which is providing funding. So far the regions includes are Dodoma, Singida, Lindi, Mtwara, Geita, Shinyanga, Mbeya, Songwe, Mwanza, Iringa, Njombe, Mara and Simiyu.

A total of 3 million under-five children have been so far reached in the specific regions.

Plot 254, 3rd floor, Coco Plaza Building, Toure Drive, Masaki, Dar es Salaam Tanzania, East Africa
P.O. Box 32605 Dar es Salaam, Tel +255-22-2923107/+255 689 103 046 Fax+255 22 2923108.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR VACANCY.

Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS) has been awarded by the US Centres for Diseases Prevention and Control (CDC) funds to implement the Project 'Strengthening the Quality, Accessibility, and Sustainability of the National Health Laboratory Services (NHLS) in United Republic of Tanzania under the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR). The goal of the project is empowering the National Health Laboratory System (NHLS) in the country to achieve and monitor progress towards the UNAIDS 95-95-95 goals.

THPS will support national lab systems strengthening through this five-year award in the following key areas:

- Implementation of continuous quality improvement (CQI) on HIV rapid testing to increase access and improve the quality of HIV rapid testing at all levels.
- Increase access to HIV early infant diagnosis (EID) and TB testing at all levels.
- Increase availability and use of laboratory data to inform improved patient management, healthcare provision, programs and policy decision making.
- Implementation and provision of technical assistance (TA) on establishing a Laboratory Information System (LIS) and using laboratory generated data in all laboratories.

THPS is currently seeking highly experienced, committed and motivated Tanzanians to fill in the following positions:

Position title:	LIS Database Systems Developer and Program Officer - I Position
Reports to:	NHLS Project Principal Investigator and THPS Senior Data Manager
Location:	THPS Head Office, Dar Es Salaam (with frequent field travel)

Overall Job Description
He/She will coordinate data management within the available Laboratory Information Systems to ensure smooth data transmission from different systems to Open LDR by working closely with super users in the testing laboratory and LIS program officers at the MoHCDGEC. He/She will ensure regular data cleaning and validation and ensure all data from Open LDR is linked to CTC3. He/She will ensure weekly reports submitted to THPS by the LIS TA subs are technically sound before they shared to MoHCDGEC and other Development Partners. Develop support implementation of Helpdesk for all LIS implemented in the laboratory network.

Principal duties and responsibilities:

- Coordinate with MoHCDGEC on Laboratory Information Systems
- Coordinate Migration of data to Open LDR
- Design and deploy data table structures, forms, reports, and queries.

- Conduct research and make recommendations on database products, services, protocols, and standards in support of procurement and development efforts.
- Applying third party upgrades to existing databases.
- Coordinate and work with other technical staff to develop relational databases and secondary databases (i.e. Access).
- Identify inefficiencies in current databases and investigate solutions. Diagnose and resolve database access and performance issues.
- Plan and coordinate data migrations between systems.
- Develop, implement, and maintain change control and testing processes for modifications to databases.
- Development and maintenance of the database stored procedures, views and functions for hosted web applications.
- Ensure all database systems meet business and performance requirements. Produce ad-hoc queries and develop reports to support business needs.
- Creation and maintenance of technical documentation. Development and maintenance of Data Warehouse.
- Implementation of data dashboards to display data in differing formats.

Requirements: Education, Experience and skills

- A degree in Computer Science or related field, such as programming, engineering or similar.
- 3 years relevant experience with database systems administration.
- Hands on experience with VB.net/C# application development and use.
- Knowledge in various statistical data packages including Epi info, Stata etc
- Excellent written and oral communication in English and Kiswahili
- Ability to work under pressure and timely meet deadlines
- Ability to plan, implement independently or in a team
- Analytical Skills and attention to details
- Experience with Laboratory Information Systems

How to apply:
Interested applicants should send their application cover letter one page maximum and CV four pages maximum to hr.thps@gmail.com by November 22nd 2019 with a subject line for example: LIS Database Systems Developer and Program Officer.

Only short listed applicants will be contacted. Please do not attach any certificates when submitting online.

THPS is an equal opportunity employer; women and people living with HIV/AIDS are encouraged to apply.

REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR
MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE, COMMUNICATION AND TRANSPORTATION

INVITATION FOR TENDERS

TENDER NO: SMZ/P01/G/ICB/2019-20/09

SUPPLY OF 948.76 TONS OF BITUMEN (122.76 TONS OF PRIME COAT MC 30 or MC 70 AND 826 TONS OF PENETRATION GRADE 60/70), FOR OLE-KENGEJA ROAD PROJECT ZANZIBAR)

- The Government of United Republic of Tanzania has obtained financing from The OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID) and intends to apply part of the proceeds for **SUPPLY OF 948.76 TONS OF BITUMEN (122.76 TONS OF PRIME COAT MC 30 or MC 70 AND 826 TONS OF PENETRATION GRADE 60/70)**, for Ole-Kengeja road project Zanzibar) for the Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transportation (MoICT), Zanzibar.
- Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transportation (MoICT), Zanzibar now hereinafter referred to as purchaser invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for **SUPPLY OF 948.76 TONS OF BITUMEN (122.76 TONS OF PRIME COAT MC 30 or MC 70 AND 826 TONS OF PENETRATION GRADE 60/70)**, for Ole-Kengeja road project Zanzibar-cited below.

ITEM NUMBER	DESCRIPTION
1	Supply of 948.76 tons of bitumen (122.76 tons of prime coat MC 30 Or MC 70 and 826 tons of penetration grade 60/70)

- Bidding will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) method specified in OFID Guidelines.
- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the following address:

Principal Secretary
Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transportation
Kisauni Area, Along Fumba Road
P. O. Box 266, Zanzibar
Attention: Procurement Management Unit MOICT

Email address: mustafajumbe@gmail.com, pmuic@gmail.com
- A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders upon the submission of a written application to the said Executing Agency, and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of TZS 200,000 (Tanzania Shillings Two Hundred Thousand only). Payment should made through Account no: 0403849000 **KATIBU MKUU UJENZI MAWASILIANO NA USAFIRISHAJI..**

Bids must be delivered ONE ORIGINAL and TWO COPIES to the office mentioned in clause 4 above on or before 10:00 hours on 10th December 2019 and must be accompanied by a security of TZS 10,000,000.00 (Tanzania Shillings Ten Millions only) or convertible currency.

The outer cover of the bids must be clearly marked "Tender no. SMZ/P01/G/ICB/2019-20/09 SUPPLY OF 948.76 TONS OF BITUMEN (122.76 TONS OF PRIME COAT MC 30 or MC 70 AND 826 TONS OF PENETRATION GRADE 60/70), FOR OLE-KENGEJA ROAD PROJECT ZANZIBAR.

- Bids shall remain valid for 90 days after the deadline for bid submission prescribed above.
- Late bids, partial bids, electronic bids, bids sent by fax/telex, bids not received, not opened and not read out in public at the bid opening ceremony shall not be considered for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend immediately after the submission deadline at the Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transportation Kisauni Area, Fumba Road, Conference Room No 6.

Principal Secretary
Ministry of Infrastructure, Communications and Transportation
P.O.Box 266 -Zanzibar, Tanzania.

UWT donates 8.7m/- for construction of modern nursery school in Dodoma

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE ruling CCM women wing (UWT) in Dodoma Region has donated various construction materials worth at least 8.7m/- to support finishing processes for the construction works of the wing's nursery school.

The education facility which is at final construction stages is to be erected at Kilimani area in the capital city. Upon completion the ultra-modern nursery school will accommodate 100 pupils at once.

The donated materials includes 398 woods, (worth 3.4m/-), 103 iron sheets (worth 4.2m/-), and nails worth at 800,000/-.

Speaking soon after handing over the materials, wing's chairperson, Neema Majule said the proposed facility will play a paramount role in helping UWT to strengthen its economic status and thus, deter from economic dependency.

"If all goes well, the school is projected to earn the wing at least 200m/- in a year, the monies which apart from paying salaries to trainers and cover other running costs, will be used to open more economic projects," she said.

However, she insisted that the focus was to ensure UWT capital city opens diverse economic projects in each districts in order to fuel a pace of industrial growth in the region.

She challenged the relevant officials to make sure the donated facilities are used for intended purpose in order to allow the school to start operating from January next year.

The donated materials includes 398 woods, (worth 3.4m/-), 103 iron sheets (worth 4.2m/-), and nails worth at 800,000/-



Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority technician Oscar Godwin tightens a water pipe in the city's Luguruni suburb yesterday in a bid to stop leakage. Photo: Guardian Photographer

Firm expedites irrigation farming in Kiteto District

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

OVER 1,000 farmers in Kiteto District, Manyara Region are expected to benefit with better means of improving crop production through the new irrigation scheme.

The initiative is implemented by 'Jenga Afya Tokomeza Umasikini' (JATU) - a local company focusing on assisting farmers to move from rain-fed agriculture to irrigation.

Speaking to reporters over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, firm's general manager, Mohamed Simbano said the initiative is designed to help farmers cultivate maize three times a year, rather than in one season they use to do.

He said: "We're currently finalising the construction of water wells in the district which will be used for irrigation in the farm to enable farmers increase and improve the quality of their crops in order to be competitive in the market."

"We will also try to motivate other farmers to shift to modern farming which gives them more benefits including management of the farm and have direct access to loans," he explained.

"We are eager to influence changes in the agricultural activities in Kiteto district for the benefit of all farmers and the public in general," said the manager.

Simbano added that the project scheduled to be executed in three phases in a year, will commence next year by beginning with 500 ha of farm as a pilot and will add more farms.

"We have decided to influence changes in the environment of Kiteto district in Manyara region to make it a blessed region for agriculture sector and the resident surrounding the area," he said.

One of members of the company, Asifiwe Mwakagenda applauded the initiative, saying it will enable farmers to expand the scope of production and stop relying on rain.

"I have decided to invest my time in farming due to the assistance I got from the company that helps me to access farms, to cultivate, to plant, to harvest and to seek for markets of our produce," he said.

"Currently, farmers are practicing unpredictable agriculture that depends much on rain, still we have not yet started working on irrigation farming, but we are in the process," he explained.

According to him, farmers are now able to obtain 30 sacks of maize and sunflowers, but through the irrigation scheme we hope to get more crops from three seasons that we will be planting.

"I am optimistic that when we will start practicing irrigation farming we will be in a good position to obtain more produce than the amount we are getting now," he explained.

He believe that if farming activities will be implemented by means of irrigation, there could be more production that will enhance commercialization of the production.



I am optimistic that when we will start practicing irrigation farming we will be in a good position to obtain more produce than the amount we are getting now

Agriculture ministry to dig boreholes to alleviate water shortage in Mang'ora

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

AGRICULTURE minister Japhet Hasunga has directed the Irrigation Commission from the ministry to go to Eyasi Division in Mang'ora Barazani Ward, Karatu district within a week to conduct research on borehole construction following an acute water shortage due to population increase.

Speaking to the ward's residents Hasunga said the ward is at the forefront in having a good irrigation scheme even though it is faced with water shortage challenge which has made some farmers failing to continue with their activities.

He said the commission will dig two wells while the District Council and Prison service will do the same so that Mang'ora Ward residents get enough water, private individuals should be approached to do the same.

He also castigated regions that allow cereals traders to use oversize bags (rumbesa) and said steps should be taken against such traders including confiscation of their commodities since they were destroying the crops market for other people.

He said due to some middlemen

conning farmers, the government has decided to register all farmers so as to identify them through their crops and by special identity cards.

He said the exercise has already been done in regard to strategic crops such as cashew nuts, coffee, tobacco and others.

The Arusha regional commissioner Mrisho Gambo said some of the middlemen do not like to use better government systems in the crop market, they want to go direct to farmers to con farmers.

On oversize gunny bags Gambo said it has two challenges - the lack of a joint supervision procedure as some regions allow traders to go directly to the farms instead of going to the crops markets.

The Karatu District Commissioner Theresia Mahongo said the District Council has allocated 40m/- for construction of two wells to assist in the alleviation of water shortage especially in regard to onions farmers.

One onions farmer Ally Yusuph, said they are facing an acute water shortage and asked the government to dredge Mang'ora springs that is full of sand that blocks free water flow.



AAR Healthcare nursing officer Nelson Kisenime checks the blood pressure of a Dar es Salaam resident at a free medical camp held in the city yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Health insurer offers free medical check-up, advice to Dar residents

By Guardian Reporter

A total of 150 residents of Dar es Salaam over the weekend received free consultations and medical check-ups, thanks to AAR Insurance Tanzania Limited which offered the service as part of its corporate social responsibility programme.

The exercise conducted at the Dar es Salaam's Mlimani City Mall by AAR healthcare Medical personnel, whereby people were checked on Body Mass Index (BMI), blood pressure, blood sugar, height and weight.

Speaking during the activations AAR Healthcare Business Development Officer, Jema Baruani observed that most people tend to take for granted frequent health check-ups hence causing health problems in the future.

"As key contributors to healthcare

in the country, it is our obligation to promote and sensitize frequent health check-ups by conducting medical activations and provide residents with crucial health advice that will assist them in managing problems that might get complicated in the future."

"This exercise is part of our corporate social responsibilities, as we believe we have a duty to provide solutions for better healthcare in the country," added Baruani.

AAR Medical Personnel Doctor Kasanga Bashir said: "According to statistics, since 1980 there have been drastic increase in the risk factor for non-communicable diseases such as diabetes especially to women.

"Our main aim today is to screen residents for non-communicable diseases which are one of the major problem causing deaths across the country."

Annual inflation rate registers slight increase - NBS

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE annual headline inflation rate for the month of October, 2019 has increased to 3.6 percent from 3.4 percent recorded in September 2019, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said yesterday.

Releasing the statistics yesterday, the Acting Director of Population Census and Social Statistics, Ruth Davison said the increase of the headline inflation explains that, the speed of price change for commodities for the year ended October, has increased compared to the speed of price change recorded

for the year ended September, 2019.

She said the overall index went up to 115.84 in October, 2019 from 111.83 recorded in October, 2018, adding that food and non alcoholic beverages inflation rate increased to 5.1 percent from 4.0 percent recorded in September, 2019.

"Annual inflation rate for food consumed at home and away from home for the month of October, 2019 has also increased to 6.0 percent from 5.1 percent in September 2019" she said.

On the other hand, the 12-month index change for non-food products in October, 2019 has decreased to 2.7

percent from 3.1 percent recorded in September, 2019.

The acting director observed that the annual inflation rate which includes food and energy for the month of October, 2019 has slightly decreased to 2.6 percent from 2.7 percent recorded in September, 2019.

She added that the overall index has decreased to 115.84 in October 2019, from 115.92 recorded in September 2019, noting that the decrease of the overall index is mainly attributed to the price decrease for non-food items.

Some of the non-food items that

contributed to such a decrease include kerosene by 2.5 percent, firewood (1.7), diesel (2.1), petrol (4.0), information processing equipment (5.1) and products for personal care such as hair cream (1.6).

In comparison with other East African countries of Kenya and Uganda, she said the annual inflation rate in Kenya has increased to 4.95 percent in October, 2019 from 3.83 percent recorded in September, 2019.

In Uganda, the annual headline inflation rate for the month of October, 2019 has increased to 2.5 percent from 1.9 percent recorded in September, 2019.



The bank that listens

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR 'SUPPLY, INSTALLATION AND INTERGRATION OF PHYSICAL SECURITY SYSTEMS AT NEW HEAD QUARTERS

- 1 CRDB Bank Plc is an African bank and leading financial service 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 2019.
- 2 CRDB Bank Plc is seeking for Expression of Interest (EOI) from a qualified solution provider to supply, install and integrate physical security systems at its new Head Quarters
- 3 The bank now invites eligible vendor to indicate their interest in supply, install and integrate physical security systems at its new Head Quarters.
- 4 Interested Firms must provide information indicating that they are qualified and experienced on supply, Installation and integration of physical security systems by submitting the following information; company profile, description of similar assignments, overall experience in providing similar solutions and services, resources and availability of appropriate skills among staff and business partners that will be engaged in the project.
- 5 A shortlist of firms will be developed on the basis of the Expression of interest (EOI) submitted to CRDB Bank Plc. The selection will be conducted through a two-staged "Quality Based" process. Initial short listing shall be conducted based on Technical and Functional Capabilities, Experience and skills whereas the second short listing shall be done based on a presentation covering previous similar assignments, experience and capabilities in conjunction with due diligence of reference sites and Head Offices of the participating firms.
- 6 Tendering will be conducted according to CRDB Bank Plc Procurement Policies and Procedures. Only shortlisted Vendors will be eligible for invitation the Request for Proposal (RFP) stage.
- 7 Other selection criteria shall be as follows: -
 - A. **Legal Compliance**
 - Submission of all registrations from relevant authority
 - Submission of valid business, Certificate of Incorporation or extract from registrar
 - Submission of TIN, VAT (for registered), valid Tax clearance certificate
 - Current physical location with valid lease agreement
 - Submission of certified litigation history certificate
 - B. **Company capabilities, competence and eligibility.**
 - Show evidence of at least FIVE (5) years' experience in the relevant field
 - Submission of CV and copies of certificates for key personnel and technical staff
 - Submit at least THREE (3) years of latest AUDITED financial statements
 - Demonstrate capabilities in terms of equipment, skills and technology
- 8 Interested eligible firms may obtain further information from the office of the CRDB Bank Tender Committee Secretary, CRDB Head Office along Azikiwe Street, 1st Floor, Office of Accommodation Scheme Building, from 8:00AM to 5:00PM Local Time on Monday to Friday excluding public holidays.
- 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, P. O. Box 268, Dar es Salaam before 1100hours local time on 21st November, 2019. All Tender clearly marked, should be addressed to the Secretary Management Tender Committee CRDB Bank Plc P.O.BOX 268, Dar es Salaam.
- 10 All Expressions of interest will be opened in public and in the presence of Bidder's representatives who will choose to attend the opening ceremony at CRDB Head Office Meeting Room situated on the 1st Floor on 21st November, 2019 at 1100 hours' local time.
- 11 Late Tenders, a portion of Tenders, Electronic Tenders, Tenders not received, and not opened and not read out in public at the Tender 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**

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The bank that listens

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) FOR SOFTWARE DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS

1. CRDB Bank Plc aims to achieve rapid innovation and transformation with the right technology consultant and development partner for software development services to cope up with the rapidly changing market trends.
2. The bank now invites Expression of Interest (EOI) from companies and service providers of software and product development services with the intent of establishing a multi-year contract with qualified vendors eligible for involvement in full or partial onsite/off-site software development lifecycle under agreed terms as needs arise.
3. The partners should be able to provide services in Tanzania or as may be required globally.
4. The Expression of Interest shall contain information on the following:
 - a) Extensive experience in providing at least two of the following digital transformation solutions for finance and banks: Lending, Payments, Onboarding, OMNI-Channel, Trade finance, AI-Based solution (Chatbots, Scoring Engine, Predictive Models, Fraud) etc.
 - b) High tech-expertise employed in creating products that bring along revolutionary user experiences in banking and finance: Internet of Things (IoT), Block Chain, AI, Predictive Analytics etc.
 - c) Recently innovative solution for banks and financial service providers
 - d) Methodology of working embracing agility and design thinking
 - e) Any other relevant information
5. A shortlist of firms will be developed on the basis of the Expression of interest (EOI) submitted to CRDB Bank Plc. The selection will be conducted through a two-staged "Quality Based" process. Initial short listing shall be conducted based on Technical and Functional Capabilities, Experience and skills whereas the second short listing shall be done based on a presentation covering previous similar assignments, experience and capabilities in conjunction with due diligence of reference sites and Head Offices of the participating firms.
6. Interested eligible firms may obtain further information from the office of the CRDB Bank Tender Committee Secretary, CRDB Head Office along Azikiwe Street, 1st Floor, Office of Accommodation Scheme Building, from 8:00AM to 5:00PM Local Time on Monday to Friday excluding public holidays.
7. 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, P.O. Box 268, Dar es Salaam before 1100hours local time on 19th November, 2019. All T ender clearly marked, should be addressed to the Secretary Management Tender Committee CRDB Bank Plc P.O.BOX 268, Dar es Salaam.
8. All Expressions of interest will be opened in public and in the presence of Bidder's representatives who will choose to attend the opening ceremony at CRDB Head Office Meeting Room situated on the 1st Floor on 19th November, 2019 at 1100 hours' local time.
9. Late Tenders, a portion of Tenders, Electronic Tenders, Tenders not received, and not opened and not read out in public at the Tender 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**

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The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

TUESDAY 12 NOVEMBER 2019

**Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

This is a more decent way of arresting illegal fishing

TANZANIA'S fishing industry has known hard times during the last two decades or so, chiefly owing to a decline in the volume of exports of fish from Lake Victoria and various other sources.

Fortunately, the government has not sat idly by. Rather it has moved to tame the tide both judiciously and pragmatically.

We don't have in mind only large-scale or commercial fishing, which can be said to have capacity to take care of itself.

We have more in mind the plight of small fishermen, who are at the bottom of the heap and therefore would immensely benefit from urgent bailout interventions.

For instance, small fishermen have on numerous occasions been found using prohibited fishing gear and therefore ended on the wrong side of the law.

Many of these have ultimately been left without any reliable means of livelihood after the government pounced on them.

On several occasions, Members of Parliament have cautioned the government against habitually confiscating illegal fishing gear from fishermen without providing them with better and safer options they can afford. In the circumstances, many small fishermen continue to use banned fishnets, despite the consequences.

What is needed, and this had been aired in Parliament from time to time, is for the government to help small local fishermen acquire modern fishing gear soon after the banned ones are confiscated and destroyed.

It is reported that fishnets that the government has endorsed for use in the country are not manufactured locally, the explanation being that they are not popular with fishermen.

Sources say manufacturers are understandably reluctant to produce such gear for fear of incurring loss - and, so, there is no escaping from importation.

So, the government has no option but to devise a plan that would ensure that the fishermen do not find themselves without means of their livelihood.

One idea relates to the need to sensitise and educate the fishermen on the environmental and other hazards the deployment of banned fishing gear can lead to.

There is also the equally important and urgent need to help them obtain - and use - acceptable gear. If necessary, the government would have to step in and subsidise the cost of such gear or provide the fishermen with loans for the purpose.

But as debate on the matter rages, what appears to be a lasting solution appears to be in the offing, what with Livestock and Fisheries minister Luhaga Mpina's recent directive that fishing cooperatives be established across the country charged with specifically helping small-time fishermen to switch from subsistence to commercial fishing.

The minister issued the directive in Mwanza while inaugurating Igombe Fishing Cooperative society, saying that there should be 20 such cooperatives by the end of next month.

We wholeheartedly welcome the intervention, believing that it will facilitate the acquisition of credit facilities by the fishing 'fraternity', particularly small players, thus improving their activities and therefore boosting their incomes.

It is also hoped that, with the cooperatives in place and operating to satisfaction, small fishermen will appreciate the logic of banning the environmentally and otherwise hazardous gear they have been using for decades on end.

The government's resolve to promote small fishermen will also logically translate into enhanced contribution to national development.

And, come to think of it, how remarkably different this would be from what the intermittent crackdowns on illegal fishing gear have been costing both the government and fishing communities!

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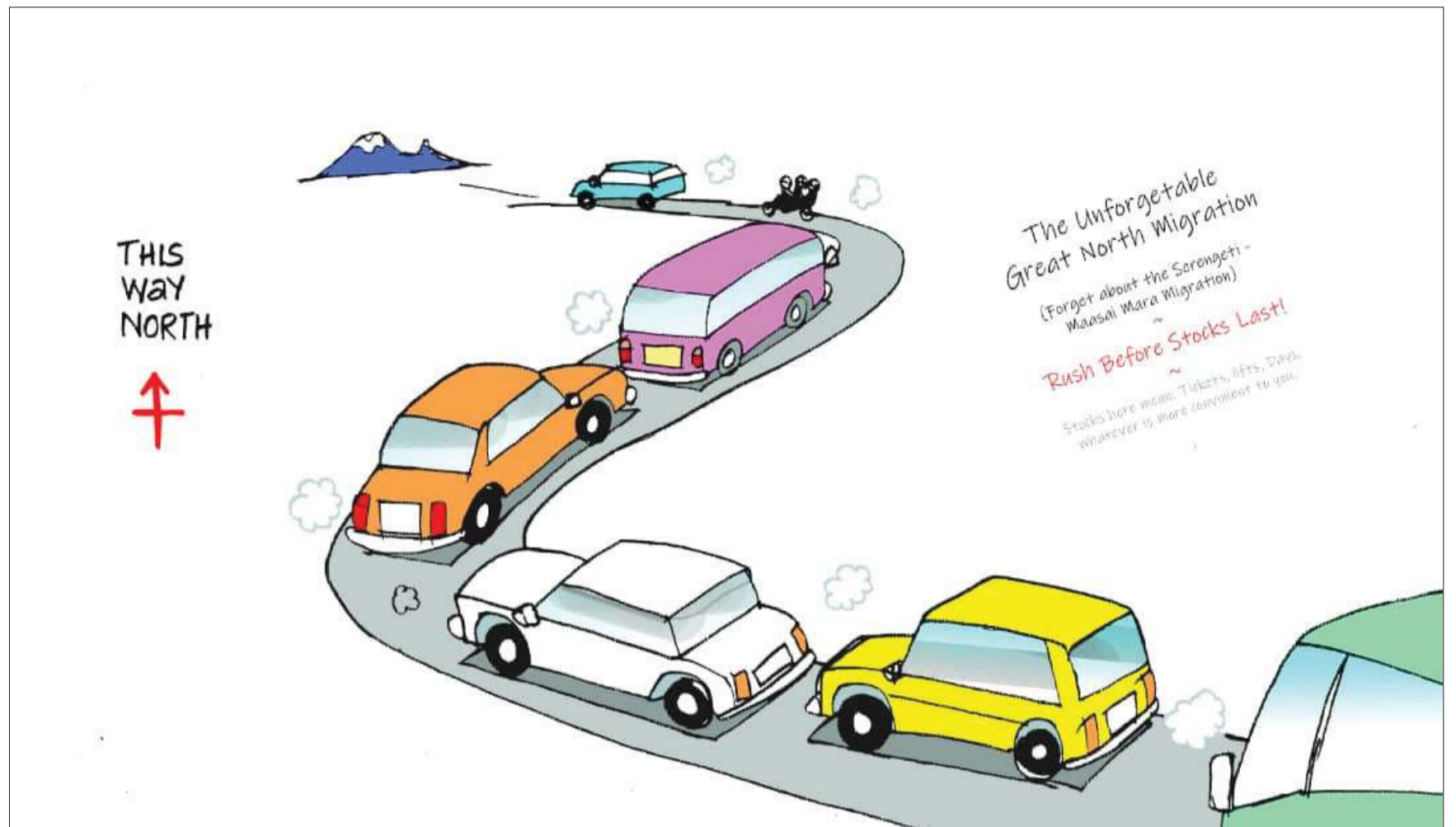
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Capital punishment: An overkill, irreversible

By Special Correspondent

THE Council of Ministers has recently endorsed a bill and tabled it for parliament this month, which aims at deterring human traffickers and those involved in the illegal migration scheme.

One of the articles in the bill proposes making the extreme forms of this act punishable by death.

It has been a while since any law whose transgression has consequences in capital punishment has surfaced in parliament. This, no doubt, catches attention.

Granted, the attempt to address the problem of illegal migration and human trafficking is well-intentioned. But introducing the death penalty may be an overkill, and should at the very least be discussed widely.

Migration has become one of the biggest headaches of the last decade for governments everywhere. It used to be just an after effect of war and conflict. Not anymore. It is now a non-stop global problem.

Increasing income inequality in the global south, in addition to the traditional migration drivers of war and conflict, have been tributaries of the non-stop flow of rivers of migrants to the relatively calmer waters of the north: the rich world. As long as the desperation that drives people to take the enormous risks of migration is not addressed, there will always be those that will take advantage of this desperation to make money.

The recruiting agents and the human traffickers are not going to quit unless the underlying problems are solved and dry up their business.

However, states that have exhausted all the tricks in their books without much success are turning to unconventional means. They seem to prefer increasingly harsher measures in their effort to turn the tide. This runs the gamut from building ridiculously long walls along borders to suggestions of digging human-made ditches in order to stop the inflow to shoot-to-kill orders in countries battling the outflow.

Ethiopia seems to be joining this league of nations, though only by employing an existing law.

Not just in this particular bill but in general, the issue of capital punishment seems to be a neglected topic in the Ethiopian civil discourse. There has never been much dialogue and public debate on the issue. Partly, it could be because executions are not frequent. But it remains in the books, and as long as it does, it should be up for the test of



public debate.

It is about time Ethiopians start a public dialogue on the topic, especially now that not only are the authorities letting what is in the books stay there, but they are even adding to it.

Those who advocate for the death penalty start their argument by highlighting the awfulness of the crimes committed and the need to deter others from doing the same. What the draft law, for instance, makes punishable by death is a severe crime often committed on children, the weak and involves drug trafficking as well as the smuggling of weapons.

There is a great deal of extortion going on, at times resulting in the death of victims. It is a truly horrendous crime and not one lightly applied.

Such gruesome acts trigger anger among members of the public, particularly when it is committed on the defenceless and children. Understandably, the reaction in society crosses beyond the call to see justice done toward the urge for vengeance.

The question is whether a civilised justice system - that is not barbaric in its application - should succumb to this human emotion of revenge? Isn't the whole point of the law reining in such sentiments, having a dispassionate search for the truth and meting out a proportional punishment to serve justice?

Then there is the deterrence

argument.

The belief that the fear of capital punishment stops individuals from committing crimes is nothing but intuitive in its reasoning. There is little empirical evidence, however, to prove that capital punishment is a more effective deterrent than life imprisonment. Amnesty International reports that states without the death penalty continue to have significantly lower murder rates than those that retain capital punishment.

The lack of overwhelming evidence of the deterrence effect has to be weighed against the historically documented cases of the limitations of the death penalty, including unacceptably high wrongful convictions. For example, more than 160 prisoners sent to death row in the United States have later been exonerated or released from death row since 1973 on the grounds of innocence. There have been many accused defendants executed despite serious doubts about their guilt, according to Amnesty International. One gets exonerated for every 10 executed, says the American Civil Liberties Union.

The universal recognition of the limitations of the effectiveness of the death penalty is behind the reason why an increasing number of countries have outlawed it entirely. There were only 16 countries in the world that had done so 40 years ago. It reached 106 countries last year.

Apart from the general arguments

here, since the bill under the legislative process is a concrete case that will be affecting real people, it is essential to consider Ethiopia's criminal justice system that will be tasked to enforce it.

Most of the sources of the migration in Ethiopia are rural areas. The people smugglers and their recruiting agents are not operating in urban centres. The arrests and the initial contact with the law enforcement system will be happening in these areas. These are the parts of the country where the capacity of the arresting officers to follow the proper safeguards to protect the rights of the accused is suspect. The judicial system is so overburdened, understaffed and the jurisprudence capacity questionable that the wrongful conviction of innocent people could be high. There is a legitimate fear that innocent people will fall victim.

The death penalty is an absolute punishment that will be carried out by an imperfect and often incompetent - not to say corrupt - criminal justice system.

Should society trust it with this heavy responsibility?

"The risk of executing innocent defendants can be entirely eliminated by treating any penalty more severe than life imprisonment without the possibility of parole as constitutionally excessive," John Paul Stevens, a former US Supreme Court Justice, once said.

Deficiency of vitamins in children cause for concern

MALNUTRITION is a condition that results from eating a diet in which one or more nutrients are either not enough or are too much such that the diet causes health problems. It may involve calories, protein, carbohydrates, vitamins or minerals. Not enough nutrients is called undernutrition or undernourishment while too much is called overnutrition. Malnutrition is often used to specifically refer to undernutrition where an individual is not getting enough calories, protein, or micronutrients. If undernutrition occurs during pregnancy, or before two years of age, it may result in permanent problems with physical and mental development. Extreme undernourishment, known as starvation, may have symptoms that include: a short height, thin body, very poor energy levels, and swollen legs and abdomen.

Efforts to improve nutrition are some of the most effective forms of development aid. Breastfeeding can reduce rates of malnutrition and death in children, and efforts to promote the practice increase the rates of breastfeeding. In young children, providing food (in addition to breastmilk) between six months and two years of age improves outcomes.

Stunting - a key indicator for malnutrition - has increased in Africa since 2000 despite declining by a quarter worldwide, according to a UNICEF report.

Brian Keeley, the editor-in-chief of the UNICEF report says that malnutrition risks lowering children's economic

prospects, and a better child nutrition would sustainably improve the region's socio-economic development. For example, every dollar spent on nutrition in the first 1,000 days of a child's life results in an average benefit of US\$45.

According to the report, major causes of malnutrition in Sub-Saharan Africa include poverty, rising cost of living, and globalisation, which have led to overdependence on staples such as grains and tubers at the expense of nutrient-rich foods including fruits, vegetables, meat, fish, eggs and dairy.

The report released in October, this year shows that from 2000 to 2018 the number of children under five with stunting increased by 1.4 million in Eastern and Southern Africa and by 6.5 million in West and Central Africa.

To arrive at the report's findings, a team of international experts used data sources such as workshops with mothers in 18 countries including Ethiopia, Ghana and Nigeria, and nationally representative demographic and health surveys.

"While the number of stunted children have fallen worldwide since 2000, it has risen in every region of Africa," explains Keeley. "Other forms of malnutrition, such as iron and vitamin A deficiencies affect children's growth and development, and these are widespread in Africa".

The report says that malnourished children have poor cognitive development, leading to low educational outcomes and half of annual deaths of children aged under five.

Donors need to step up and support democracy in Africa

By Tendai Biti and Greg Mills

THE headline figures are impressive, as is the generosity of the taxpayers behind them.4

Europe spends more than €21-billion in development aid in Africa every year. It is responsible for more than half of all aid globally. There's more. In addition to seven civilian and military European missions deployed across sub-Saharan Africa, the EU has committed no less than €1.4-billion to educational programmes in Africa over the past five years.

Yet there is also frustration in the giving. Much is apparently wasted on the multiplicity of the sources and methods of institutional facilitation.

A report from the Development Assistance Committee of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on aid effectiveness published at the end of 2019 showed that while there has been some progress in terms of donor performance since the previous report in 2012, things are far from perfect.

In part, as the OECD report highlights, Europe's problems spring from its aid approach. Much is sprayed around by too many institutions into too many countries and projects, driven by institutional interests and the preferences of its (for the moment) 28 member-states. The use of geographic and thematic instruments, bilateral and multilateral "funnels", and bodies which have different (developmental and commercial) mandates all incur overheads and pose challenges of coherence.

No matter how much is learnt about aid best practice, and there is a great volume of literature and learnings in this respect, it is easily trumped by expediency, by national interests and politics, and by hero-worship in the desperation to identify success stories. This explains why substantial aid flows continue to some of the least democratic countries in Africa.

But those are the supply-side issues. These problems pale by comparison to the environment into which this money is inserted.

Recipients who need the aid most are not well placed to use it well. It's a terrible tautology. Given that the recipients who really need development assistance most are, by definition, weak and lacking governance, they will likely waste it otherwise they probably would not



need it in the first instance.

The outcomes of any failure are more than academic or even institutionally constrained. Europe's geographic position means that failure in Africa means more refugees, inevitably, trying to enter the EU.

At the same time, there is growing frustration in European capitals. While it generously spends taxpayers' money, others profit. China, Israel, and, now, Russia are, among others, seen as net beneficiaries of European largesse, gaining a great deal more in terms of commercial contracts than they give.

And in part Europe's performance reflects its inability to get the politics right and in so doing to play to its strengths. With more than two-thirds of Africans routinely polled preferring democracy to any other system of government, and given that this system is – with occasional national variations – the basic building block of modern Europe, it would make sense, wouldn't it, to work with those like-minded in Africa?

Today, 10 African countries classify as "free" according to the US NGO Freedom House, which has ranked democracies worldwide for several decades. Another 22 fall into the "unfree" and "no free" categories.

Empirically, despite the appeal to some of a "big man" who supposedly gets things done despite (or perhaps because of) a lack of democratic niceties, the empirical evidence clearly shows that the better the democracy, at least in Africa, the better the economic growth and development record. The reasons for this performance premium relates, fundamentally, to the relatively open nature of democracy. Democracies are a more competitive testing ground for ideas and usually have more transparent and thus efficient systems of accountability. They also offer peaceful means to get rid of leaders when they (and their ideas) are tested and re-

jected by an electorate.

But entrenching democracy, rather than authoritarianism, requires supporting the systems and institutions that enable it, and calibrating aid accordingly.

Instead of giving more to those which are failing, the better the democratic performance, the better should be the donor rewards. The democrats should get the free trade deals and top-end educational exchanges, for example, while the authoritarians are relegated to food and humanitarian aid along with assistance as to how to run a free and fair election.

Supporting democracy also demands shaking the Shibboleth that donors should not be involved in supporting political parties. To the contrary, they must openly be, not least since many already are, and since without money political competition is virtually guaranteed to be dominated by the incumbent. The use of transparent trust structures disbursing funding according to a pre-agreed formula is one way around this conundrum. Democracy also requires extensive donor support for local media, a critical governance tool, as South Africa showed again in the fight to unseat the Zuptas.

African governments will likely resist such support on the grounds that such "conditionality" smacks of neo-colonialism or sovereign interference. But African governments cannot claim such interference when they take aid.

Just as some African leaders such as Paul Kagame and Yoweri Museveni have leveraged considerable international appeal by presenting themselves as allies of the West, and poles of stability, why should democracies not benefit disproportionately?

For the donors, the rewards are, too, obvious. Not only would such an approach assist in institutionalising democratic governance, but it would reinforce a link with African citizenry over authoritarians and their international supporters. It would also successfully differentiate the necessary conditions of success from failure.

The greatest challenge facing donors in making such a step-change is courage. It is not always in institutional abundance. The failure of the donors to see Mali as it was, in 2012, rather than as the once poster-child of democratic transition, contributed to the catastrophe which followed. It is important to avoid heroes and darlings. That tendency usually always leads to subjective and highly personalised evaluation and inevitable disaster.

The starting, stopping and clear calibration of aid not only would send important signals, but can reinforce better practices and reset bad ones. Supporting democracy, and aligning aid to do so, is in everyone's best interest.

DM

Russia throws more weight behind Haftar in Libya

BY PETER FABRICIUS

AFTER some equivocation, Moscow is now reportedly throwing its weight more fully behind Libya's maverick General Khalifa Haftar in his attempt to overthrow the United Nations-backed Tripoli government of Fayez al-Sarraj.

About 200 highly trained and well-armed Russian fighters recently entered the battle for control of Tripoli, according to The New York Times, quoting United States intelligence sources. The battle has raged since 4 April when Haftar, backing the eastern government based in Tobruk, launched a major offensive against the capital. The Russian troops are all evidently mercenaries from the private military company Wagner, which is rumoured to be controlled by President Vladimir Putin.

Haftar, who heads what he calls the Libyan Arab Armed Forces (LAAF), formerly the Libyan National Army, is also being supported by the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and, in part, France. Turkey is the strongest external military backer of al-Sarraj's Government of National Accord.

The New York Times quotes US intelligence sources saying the injection of the Wagner special forces, equipped with special sniper rifles and backed by hundreds of drones and Russian Sukhoi

fighter jets, could tilt the war in Haftar's favour.

These same trademarks characterised Wagner's operations in Syria, the paper notes. It also quotes officials of al-Sarraj's forces complaining that the United States (US) has abandoned them, as indeed the US recently abandoned its Kurdish Syrian allies, leaving them at the mercy of their Turkish enemies, plus the Russians and the Syrian government.

The unpredictable Trump administration has certainly been fickle in Libya, backing al-Sarraj's government but also expressing support for Haftar's campaign against Tripoli. In April the US joined Russia in blocking a United Kingdom-backed resolution calling for an immediate ceasefire, soon after Haftar began his offensive.

Russia's precise strategy in Libya is not easy to read either. Al-Sarraj reportedly attended last month's first Russia-Africa summit in Sochi on the Black Sea, where he met Russian officials, presumably to complain about the growing presence of Russian mercenaries in Haftar's army. It isn't clear if he met Putin, or what response he got from the Russians. The recent expansion of the Russian military presence, if true, would suggest it wasn't what he wanted.

Haftar's people had hoped to exploit

the summit by organising press events to publicise their claim that they were only fighting alleged terrorists among the militias defending Tripoli. According to Kirill Semenov, writing for the Al-Monitor journal, the Haftar faction had planned to claim at the summit that Russian jihadists had also been transferred from Syria to Tripoli to join al-Sarraj's forces. But the latter's unexpected arrival at the summit rather upstaged their propaganda ploy.

Semenov believes al-Sarraj's presence at the Sochi summit was evidence of disagreements among different factions of the Russian government about how to handle the Libyan crisis, including whether to fully back Haftar, or hedge its bets. The use of private military companies is generally contentious. South Africa, for example, has outlawed them. But Moscow doesn't seem embarrassed, in principle, about the activities of companies like Wagner.

At a seminar last month in Pretoria, Russia's new ambassador to South Africa Ilya Rogachev said, 'Private military companies are not necessarily bad ... I think it depends on the goals that are assigned to these companies.' If they were used to suppress Shi'a Muslims in Basra it would be bad. But if they helped defeat the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant - as they had in Syria - it would be good.



PETROLEUM BULK PROCUREMENT AGENCY

PRE-QUALIFICATION NO: PBPA/PQ/2020/PMSS

FOR

PROVISION OF MARINE SURVEY SERVICES

A. INVITATION FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR PROVISION OF MARINE SURVEY SERVICES IN THE YEAR 2020

- 1.0 Petroleum Bulk procurement Agency (PBPA) has been established by GN. No 423 of 2015 and mandated to coordinate importation of petroleum product through the Bulk Procurement System (BPS) by, G.N. 198 of 2017, under the Petroleum Act, No 21 of 2015.
- 2.0 The Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency (PBPA) intends to pre-qualify Marine Surveyors for provision of Marine Survey Services for **MOGAS, GASOIL, and JET AI & KEROSENE** in Tanzania under Bulk Procurement System (BPS). It is mandatory for petroleum products in Tanzania to be procured under the Bulk Procurement System (BPS).
- 3.0 Pre-qualification will be conducted under International Competitive Bidding (ICB), through the procedures specified in the Petroleum Act Cap 392, The Petroleum (Bulk Procurement) Regulations 2017 GN. NO. 198 and Petroleum Bulk Procurement Manual of 2017.
- 4.0 The prequalified bidders shall be eligible to participate in tenders for provision of **Marine Survey Services for MOGAS, GASOIL, and JET AI & KEROSENE** from January 2020 to December 2020.
- 5.0 A complete set of pre-qualification documents in English language can be collected by interested companies at PBPA offices upon payment of a non-refundable USD 1000 by direct deposit or direct transfer or banker's cheque in favor of Petroleum Bulk Procurement Agency from Monday to Friday (Working Days) between 1000 hrs and 1600 hrs.
- 6.0 Application for pre-qualification should be submitted in sealed envelope, delivered to the address below, before or on Tuesday 03rd December 2019, at 1100 hrs. and be clearly marked "Application to be Pre-qualified for the Provision of Marine Survey Services for tender no. PBPA/PPP/PQ/2020/PMSS";
- 7.0 Applications will be evaluated and results will be announced by **Thursday 12th December 2019** for pre-qualified suppliers to participate in the 2019 tenders from **January to December, 2020**.
- 8.0 Applications submitted beyond the specified time shall not be accepted.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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US: We are ready to support Africa on its energy journey

CAPE TOWN

TWO years ago, US Secretary of Energy Rick Perry attended Africa Oil Week to promote his country's policies for energy on the continent. This year the US Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy, Steven Winberg, attended to highlight the importance the country places on fostering relationships with Africa.

The first question on everyone's lips was how the recent announcement of Secretary Perry's resignation would affect the US outlook towards Africa.

"If you are asking if there is going to be an Africa policy change, the answer is clearly no," Winberg says, adding: "As you know, Deputy Secretary Brouillette has been nominated by the President, and he will go through the confirmation hearing. But I can tell you that the Secretary and the Deputy Secretary are in lockstep, as is the President, with policies such as Prosper Africa and Power Africa. The objective for the United States is not changing as it relates to Africa."

Winberg points to the fact that Prosper Africa is a cross-government initiative that involved the US Department of Energy and the State Department. It is designed to support United States business and energy activities in Africa.

"There are 54 countries on the African continent, and we think that there are great opportunities for the United States to bring our technology and our capital to bear, especially in the energy space," he noted.

"I think we also have the opportunity to counter malign actor influence. And finally, and probably most importantly, Prosper Africa provides opportunities for sustainable economic development and economic development with transparency," he adds.

"That is what the United States brings to Africa, and we are pleased to be here. We are pleased to be at this conference to help develop relationships and help develop understanding between the United States and the 54 countries in Africa," remarks Winberg.

The strategy is for the US government to work with US companies that want to do business in Africa and to work with countries in Africa that want to do business with U.S. companies.

"We can indeed shine a bright light on these opportunities. We can also assist African enterprise and African countries by introducing them to US companies, and vice versa," says Winberg.

He elaborates: "We also have opportunities for African countries to come



Steven Winberg, U.S. Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy. File photo

over to the United States and work with some of our departments so they that can understand how we do business and how we create a transparent business climate. We have 17 National Labs. And we are very open about what those labs do.

"Numerous countries send representatives to visit those labs so that they can understand the technologies that we are working on and how those technologies might be applicable to their situation. We are going to continue that activity so that we can become a long-term partner with African nations."

The global role for US gas

Aside from supporting the work of US businesses in Africa, Winberg is clear that he sees Africa as a prime market for the surplus of gas that the US shale revolution is delivering.

"I do believe there is going to be increased oil and natural gas production in Africa, but there is an interim period when African countries may want to avail themselves of our LNG exports," he explains.

At present, the US has the capacity to export seven billion cubic feet (of natural gas) per day, which will grow to ten billion cubic feet per day by 2020.

"In operation or under construction, we will have 15.5 billion cubic feet per day today coming online over the next several years. The Department of Energy has authorised about 35 billion cubic feet a day," Winberg says, adding: "There is a lot of headroom there for countries that want to use LNG imports in the interim period while they are developing their own natural gas

production."

According to Winberg, the US shale surplus offers another benefit: stabilising the market and providing security of supply. "About two and a half months ago, the Straits of Hormuz saw some hostile activity. If you watched the Brent Crude oil price, it barely moved in and around that hostility," he says.

"Then on September 14, the Iranians attacked Saudi Arabia - the attack initially took out half of their production. That happened on Saturday, and on Monday when the European markets closed Brent crude was up nine dollars and within two weeks Brent closed below pre-attack levels," he notes, adding: "That speaks volumes about the robust nature of this oil and gas market. If that attack had occurred a decade ago, we would have seen a fly up in oil prices, and I think they would have stayed up."

"The fact that we continue to increase the level of oil that we are producing in the United States and will be a net exporter of energy next year reduces the impact that those types of attacks can have," says Winberg, adding: "And if it is not as impactful as those perpetrators want it to be, then there is not a lot of value. And I think that is the real message here."

Fighting climate change outside Paris accord

Much has been made about the United States stepping away from the Paris Climate Accord, but Winberg says he is clear that does not mean that the US is not serious about reducing carbon emissions.

"The answer to reducing greenhouse

gas emissions, whether it is methane or carbon dioxide, is through technology development," he explains, adding: "The International Energy Agency (IEA) understands that and talks a lot about the need for carbon capture technology."

He notes further: "If you do the math, you know that without technologies such as carbon capture, utilisation and storage, none of the countries can meet any of the goals that they aspire to meet. It all comes down to technology."

"One thing that President Trump and the Administration are adamant about is having an 'all of the above' strategy in the United States," says Winberg, adding: "I know there are countries that want to eliminate fossil fuel from their energy mix. We do not think that is a wise decision. We think it is wise to develop technology to reduce the environmental impact of those fossil fuels - whether coal, oil or natural gas."

He further explains: "Under just about every forecast, and IEA is probably the most influential, 80 per cent of our energy needs globally will be coming from fossil fuels for the next 30 to 40 years. So, eliminating fossil energy is not practical. What is practical is developing technologies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and designing a less environmentally impactful use of energy."

Working with Africa to deliver growth

As for foreign policy in Africa, Winberg says that the Trump Administration fully believes that it is up to African countries to resolve whatever internal issues they have.

"It is not our role to tell countries what to do," he says, adding: "However, what we can do and what we offer is an opportunity to talk to us about policies that will attract capital and investments. We will continue doing that for countries that want to develop their natural resources."

Winberg elaborates: "That has been a focus of this Administration. I said earlier that the Trump administration absolutely believes in the 'all of the above' energy strategy."

"We want to export our technology and our natural resources. We will do everything we can to work with countries that want to avail themselves of what we have to offer, including working with them on various policy issues that they need to resolve to attract capital and attract technology."

• Agencies



In the Danish pavilion, a staff holds a free sample of Danisa cookie.

CIIE demonstrates benefits of opening-up

THE second China International Import Expo (CIIE) recently raised its curtain, and Chinese President Xi Jinping delivered a keynote speech at the opening ceremony, proposing that all countries work together to build an open world economy through co-operation, with innovation, and for mutual benefits.

The exhibition halls of the second CIIE, presenting the splendour of state-of-the-art technologies, are revealing the charm of openness.

At the exhibition sector for food and agricultural products, aroma is being exuded. Turkish chefs are presenting freshly-made specialties while Spanish hams are ready to serve the lines.

I am glad to introduce more Thai products to China, said Jurin Laksanawisit, Deputy Prime Minister and Commerce Minister of Thailand, saying he would like to be a "salesman" for his country.

Leading a delegation of Thai enterprises to the second CIIE, Laksanawisit remarked that the CIIE reflects China's confidence in and determination of opening up and provides a good platform for other countries to display their own products.

Tech giant ABB Group from Switzerland presented more than 40 technological innovations from eight countries, among which a waste-sorting robot was a major highlight.

By hosting the CIIE and taking a series of measures to further open up and improve the business environment, China has provided more opportunities for international companies, said Zhang Zhiqiang, senior vice-president of ABB Group and president of ABB China.

During the past year since the first CIIE, China has actively opened its market and fulfilled its opening-up promises, and this has been recognized by exhibitors attending the second CIIE. Five measures were announced by Xi this time to bring about opening-up at an even higher level, which indicates that China will open its door only wider to the world.

Heated discussion has been conducted by Chinese dealers and Mexican exhibitors at a booth shared by Mexican food enterprises, where tequila, avocados, coffee, and chili sauce are displayed.

The huge market of China, through further opening up, has created a dream platform for global enterprises, said Noemi Sanchez, a Mexican coffee exporter.

"The CIIE is a grand event for global exporters," Sergio Ley Lopez, head of the delegation of Mexican enterprises. Lopez, who is

also the chairman of the Asia-Pacific Committee of Mexico's Council of Trade, Investment and Technology, believes that the Expo would create more business opportunities for multinational enterprises, and also serves as a golden opportunity for small- and medium-sized exporters.

At the exhibition booth of the Zambian pavilion, dazzling products are being showcased, including honey, moringa seeds, jewelries, crops, and handicrafts.

Christopher Yaluma, Minister of Commerce, Trade and Industry of Zambia, told People's Daily that the CIIE has opened a window for the world to share China's development opportunities. The minister, who has led an enterprise delegation to the event on behalf of the Zambian government, said the CIIE will not only help Zambian enterprises introduce their quality products to China, but also find them cooperation partners and expand their production.

Wei Moline, President of the Greater China of 3M, said the Expo has built an excellent platform for multinational companies to connect and communicate with each other.

At the first CIIE, a hearing protection earmuff model of the company became a hit, and this year, 3M made its appearance again and brought more innovative products and cutting-edge technologies.

3M will take more innovation and technologies to the Chinese market through the Expo, Moline told People's Daily.

China General Technology (Group) Holding Co. Ltd. signed considerable deals at the first CIIE, and this time, the company once again made huge purchases of advanced devices, including a large number of the latest and powerful medical measurement equipment, such as one made by Swiss multinational healthcare company Roche.

The Roche instrument is able to finish the blood tests that used to cost 6 vialtainers of blood with only one, largely improving the precision and efficiency of medical measurement.

"In the first quarter after the first CIIE, the search volume of our products tripled, and in the first quarter of this year, our sales volume nearly doubled," said Cha Sheng, general manager of VorWerk China, a company committed to household appliance production.

This year, VorWerk has brought new products such as multi-function food processors, vacuum cleaners and intelligent tea makers to the Expo. "We hope to bring quality life to more Chinese families," the general manager added.

People's Daily

The slippery slope to autonomous killing machines

UTRECHT, The Netherlands

WOULD you trust an algorithm with your life? If that thought makes you uncomfortable, then you should be concerned about the artificial intelligence (AI) arms race that is secretly taking off, fueled by the arms industry.

Weapon systems that can select and attack targets autonomously, without real human control, are moving from science fiction to reality.

Take for example the Warmate 2. This Polish-made missile loiters over an area, controlled remotely by an operator, but can go into fully autonomous mode once a target has been identified.

Or the Dual-Mode Brimstone, a guided missile that can be assigned a target area after which it can find targets matching a predefined target type.

Right now these weapons are under human control, but the technology is designed to keep humans out of the picture. We are already well on our way down a very slippery slope.

For our new report* that we publish this week, we surveyed 50 weapons producers about their work on increasingly autonomous systems. The results show that although existing systems are still partly controlled, often remotely, by human operators, the industry is rapidly moving towards more and more autonomous systems.

In addition to asking the 50 companies to participate in the survey with questions about their policy and activities, the report analysed publicly available sources about the systems they are developing and military contracts they have already won.

We found only four companies that we could classify as showing 'best practice' because they have in place a policy or statement to not develop lethal autonomous weapons. 30 companies, however, are of 'high concern'.

These companies are all working on technologies most relevant to lethal autonomous weapons while not having clear policies on how they ensure meaningful human control over such weapons.

The group of high concern companies includes three of the world's largest arms producers: Lockheed Martin, Boeing and Raytheon (all US), as well as AVIC and CASC (China), IAI, Elbit and Rafael (Israel), Rostec (Russia) and STM (Turkey).

Turkey's state-owned weapons producer STM, for example, has developed the Kargu system. The Kargu is a kamikaze drone that flies to an area based on preselected coordinates and can then select targets based on facial recognition.

Some reports suggest the Kargu will soon be deployed on the Turkish-Syrian theater. This loitering munition may very soon cross the threshold to a weapon system without meaningful human control.

The results of this research are deeply concerning. Lethal autonomous weapon systems, which select and attack targets without meaningful human control, raise a host of legal, security and ethical concerns.

Crucially, removing the human from the ultimate kill-decision means delegating the decision to end a human being's life to an algorithm-operated machine. This is fundamentally opposed to



the right to life and human dignity.

But there are not just ethical concerns. Lethal autonomous weapons systems would be able to operate at speeds incomprehensible to humans.

Their high levels of autonomy would also make it very difficult to predict how they will react to unanticipated events, as we have already seen with accidents with self-driving cars. Any such unintended actions would significantly raise the risk of conflict escalation.

Lethal autonomous weapons are therefore not only unethical, but also pose a serious risk to international peace and security. It is also highly unlikely they would be able to comply with the key principles of International

Humanitarian Law (IHL).

IHL requires distinguishing between civilians and combatants and to assess for each attack whether the civilian harm that would be caused by an attack is proportional to the expected military advantage. These are all highly context-dependent considerations, and that is exactly what algorithms are really bad at.

These concerns have sparked intense debates among states, which have discussed autonomous weapons at the UN Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW) since 2013.

These discussions have been productive in the sense that it has become clear the large majority of states want to ensure meaningful human control over the use of force.

Organic farming benefits farmers in Kilimanjaro

By Francis Kajubi, Moshi

It takes one to drive for at least 30 minutes from Moshi Municipality to Shimbwe Juu village in Moshi Rural District. The village is a home of 544 households, Remmy Temba's family being one of them. Temba's family is now enjoying the fruits of organic farming—an agricultural system that uses ecologically based pest controls and biological fertilizers derived largely from animal and plant wastes and nitrogen-fixing cover crops.

It's now 16 years since a 57-year-old Temba switched to organic farming that has led him to a happy life that guarantees him food on table, cash to take care of his children and send them to school.

Almost 90 per cent of Shimbwe Juu villagers rely on agriculture especially ecological organic agriculture (EOA), livestock and beekeeping as their key economic activities.

Temba, a father of nine, has been practicing ecological organic agriculture since 2003 when the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) experts visited the village for the first time to educate coffee farmers on the potential of organic farming in terms of economy, health and environment.

Being the only child in his family, Temba inherited a three-acre farm from his late father Severine Temba in 1979 whom inherited the same from his late father in 1917.

The farm which has been there for more than 100 years is being planted Arabica coffee, passion trees, banana trees, legumes, beans, maize, pitches, Avocado and yams.

Temba works in his farm eight hours a day seven days a week. He rarely hires assistants to work in his farm, but he ensures that the farm gets all the services needed.

"Prior to FAO trainings in 2003, I and my fellow villagers were practicing inorganic farming that call for a use of industrial farm inputs that affected the natural ecological system as some of the insects such as worms, ants and which are important in sustaining soil fertility were killed by chemicals of the farm inputs;

The positive impact of using such industrial chemicals in growing coffee was just a big quantity of harvest but of poor quality on the market. On the



Remmy Temba of Shimbwe Juu village in Moshi Rural district explains on how organic farming is practiced in coffee farming to a group of journalists who visited the area recently. Photo: Francis Kajubi

negative side, conventional agriculture destroyed soil fertility that forced me to change places of cultivating other food crops like banana, beans and maize within the same farm after every three years just looking for fertile land" said Temba.

Temba said that he uses neem tree powder, pepper powder, and fermented livestock urine of rabbits, cow and goats as organic pesticides to suppress pests in his farm. He said the livestock urine is collected in small quantity and fermented for 21 days to have power of killing the pests.

"I have never used agrochemicals to suppress pests for the past sixteen years. I only use the organic pesticides I mentioned only when I realize that some pests have invaded the farm and this is very rare," said Temba.

He said that it's now sixteen years since he started practicing ecological organic agriculture and the plants have been yielding harvests of high

quality that are acceptable to the world markets. With conventional farming, Temba used to harvest between 700 and 800 kilos of coffee a year, but now gets between 600 and 700 kilos though organic farming.

"I switched to organic agriculture since it gives quality products that defeat agro products that are a result of conventional farming since it guarantees health of a consumer. The current value of organic coffee at Shimbwe is 4,500/- but coffee produced by conventional farming that rely on industrial agro inputs is sold at 2,500/- per kilogram" he said.

According to Temba, most of coffee farmers in Kilimanjaro and Arusha regions are turning into organic farming as years pass by but are facing climate change challenges as heavy rains especially in November and December delays maturity of coffee.

He asserted that he don't rely only on coffee farming for his living and

family households but also beekeeping.

Commenting on the control of agrochemicals such as pesticides, Joseph Bukalasa, Pesticides Registrar, Tanzania Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI) said: "The institute is very keen in making sure that farmers are not enticed into fake or unauthorized agro inputs."

"Apart from other initiatives such as raids on fertilizer dealers' shops we are now applying the Trade Management Information System (ARTIMIS) in providing licenses for importing and doing the agro-input business. We have been using the system since earlier February this year and has increased transparency and predictability in the management and operations of TPRI relating to crops and farm inputs," said Bukarasa.

Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement (TOAM) calls upon farmers of cash crops such as tobacco, cotton, tea

and cotton in Tanzania to take advantage of organic agriculture as its products are taking a big stake of the globe market share.

TOAM's Communication Advisor, Constantine Akitanda said that since its inception in 2005, TOAM coordinates and promotes, through networking and information dissemination, the development of the organic farming sector among smallholder producers for sustainable livelihoods in Tanzania.

Membership includes farmer associations and co-ops, NGOs, organic operators, research and trainers. 89 subscribed institutional members. TOAM also plays a role of certifying organic farmers and has so far registered 155 members mostly AMCOS with not less than 5,000 participants each. It has so far certified 250,000 organic farmers in the country.

"There is a big opportunity in or-

ganic farming that farmers must grab. The demand for organic agro products is growing in the world. In Tanzania US\$6billion has been invested in organic farming so far. Tanzania is the only country to date in the EAC region that has adopted a policy statement on agro ecology since 2013," said Akitanda.

Matt Carter, Sustainability Manager for TRIBECA Coffee South Africa, said that organic products demand is growing globally due to its quality and nutrients that guarantees health of a consumer.

According to him, organic is not only for environmental conservation but mostly for health benefits of a consumer and economic developments as it is against the application of chemicals for high productivity but that damages the long term soil fertility.

"We don't want consume poison anymore that is in most today's industrial food stuffs. Organic farming ensures what we eat is natural produced for health benefits. The organic products production is growing in Africa but more efforts are need especially for making organic farming sustainable"

According to the FiBL survey 2019, United States of America (USA) and the European Union (EU) stands as the main destinations of the world's certified organic products from Africa and Asia.

The FiBL survey states that global organic market reached 92.1 billion euros up to February 2019 (From data collected since 2017) whereby 69.8 million hectares worldwide are under organic agricultural management and Africa has only 2.1 million hectares from that stake.

According to the survey, Tanzania and Uganda are the only countries from the EAC region with the largest number of organic producers in the world.

Uganda took the second position in the list with 210,352 producers of organic products behind the leading India with 835,000. Tanzania is the sixth with 148,610 producers. The other countries are Mexico, Ethiopia, Philippines, Peru, Turkey, Italy and Paraguay. The survey states that there were 41 million hectares of wild collection and beekeeping areas during the period under review.

UNDP supporting green house farming in Jozani

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

SMALL-SCALE farmers around Jozani National Park in Zanzibar have started to realize benefits from new farming methods that defy the uncertainty of weather. Now the farmers who work under the umbrella of UWEMAJO (Umoja wa Wenye Mashamba Jozani) have learned conducting green house farming which allows them to produce vegetables throughout the year and so raise their incomes.

"We have built two units of green houses with funding from UNDP through its Small Grants Programme. In October we harvested the first crop of tomatoes and green papers. These fetched good prices in the market," explained Rajab Omar Khatib, the Secretary of UWEMAJO.

He was speaking to members of the National Steering Committee for Small Grants Programme (SGP) who visited Zanzibar recently to inspect various projects funded by SGP. The

Programme offered 75m/- for the construction of two units of green houses.

According to Khatib, after learning the new farming method farmers have been inspired to construct their own green houses so that they can raise their incomes from agriculture particularly through horticulture. "We have yet to share the money (12m/-) from sale of tomatoes and green paper because we want to expand build more units but farmers have realized the importance of greenhouses and are willing to construct more of these," said the Secretary.

There are 102 farmers who work under the umbrella of UWEMAJO but a total of 3000 people benefit directly and indirectly from the activities of the Association.

Speaking about the benefits of the green house project, the Chairman of UWEMAJO Suleiman Kweleza explained that after running the project for one year green house farming is becoming popular in Zanzibar because it provides opportunity for self



Nehemiah Murusuri, Secretary to the UNDP Small Grants Programme's National Steering Committee inspecting green peppers in a green house

employment that yields benefits.

"But there are challenges that we have to deal with. One is the timing of harvesting our products. If we harvest tomatoes when the supply in the market is big, then we are set to lose because the price will be low," he said, adding that there

are also plant diseases and pests that affect the crops.

While appreciating the support given by UNDP, he expressed the association's desire to expand the green house farming project and other activities through their own efforts because the SGP

had provided the capital.

One beneficiary of the project, Ali Masauni, said the green house farming project and other activities implemented by UWEMAJO have provided farmers with alternative income generating activities. Instead of cutting trees from Jozani forest and selling firewood and charcoal, families can participate in green house farming and irrigation of small farms using drip irrigation method.

"Green houses are expensive but the association could build say one at a time for two or three farmers and eventually the members would reduce poverty from sale of the products. Other projects conducted by UWEMAJO, including farming using drip irrigation, also provide new avenues for raising the income of families," he explained.

Commenting on the implementation of the projects, the Secretary of the National Steering Committee for Small Grants Programme, Nehemiah Murusuri who was part of the team that visited Zanzibar said that he was impressed by the quality of implementation of the projects as they reflected value for money.

"But you must move a step further and focus on value for many. Strive to make sure that more people, beyond the number targeted by the project, can benefit from these projects without affecting the quality of implementation. Inclusive implementation of the projects will provide alternative opportunities for more people to earn more income and so improve their lives," he said.

Besides the greenhouse projects, UWEMAJO trains farmers in conservation of the environment with the aim of reducing pressure on Jozani forest. It also trains farmers on entrepreneurship skills for poverty alleviation without having to rely on sale of firewood of charcoal both of which are sources mainly from Jozani Forest.

UNIDO, government launch campaign to roll out cleaner ethanol cooking stoves

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

THE United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) in collaboration with the government has launched a campaign to roll out 500,000 clean ethanol cooking stoves to households in various wards of Dar es Salaam.

Working together with Vice President's Office (VPO) division of environment and the Ministry of Energy, UNIDO is also partnering with various stakeholders including Tanzania Investment

Bank (TIB), Development Bank, Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) and Dar es Salaam region to promote bio-ethanol as an alternate clean cooking fuel.

UNIDO representative to Tanzania Stephen Kargbo said the activity is under the thematic pillar of safeguarding the environment and is being undertaken within the framework of the project for promotion of bio-ethanol as a clean alternate fuel for cooking in Tanzania.

"For today, we have decided to begin the first phase of the roll-

out campaign to promote the use of ethanol cook stoves here in Tabata ward, Ilala District," he said.

The project is expected to have multiple benefits including the most obvious which is supporting the national efforts to reduce deforestation in the country by reducing charcoal consumption.

Stephen Kargbo made the remarks over the weekend in at Tabata primary school in Dar es Salaam at the promotion event for the beginning of the cook stove roll-out programme under

the UNIDO/GEF project for promotion of bio-ethanol as a clean alternate fuel for cooking in Tanzania.

According to him, the project will not only create employment through the local assembly of ethanol stoves, but will also have a positive impact on the health of women and children in households switching to the ethanol cook stove technology.

"In addition, it will spur the growth of ethanol fuel industry in the country based on several feedstock options that are

available through agro-wastes from sugarcane, cashew and other crops," Kargbo explained.

Tanzania has made history by becoming the first location for UNIDO's Global Impact Programme on Clean Cooking aiming at reach 10 million households nearly 40 million people with clean cooking solutions across 20 countries in Asia and Africa.

The ethanol cook stoves are being locally assembled at Consumer's Choice Ltd, and the fuel grade ethanol is being mixed

and bottled at Consumer's Choice Ltd in Dar es Salaam. This has already resulted in fixed employment for a total of around 20 staff involved in stove assembly.

"The project is supporting Tanzania's efforts towards achieving a number of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) including goal number 9 on inclusive and sustainable industrial development, but also goal number 7 on affordable and clean energy, goal number 13 on climate action, goal number

5 on gender equality and goal number 11 on sustainable cities and communities," Kargbo elaborated.

For her part acting district administrative secretary Ag DAS for Ilala District Christina Kalekezi expressed appreciation for the joint efforts by UNIDO, Vice President's Office and other stakeholders including Consumer's Choice Ltd and TIB Development Bank in enabling residents of Ilala District to be amongst the first to benefit from the clean cooking technology.

IHI: Driven by core strategic mandate for research, training and services

By Guardian Reporter

IFAKARA Health Institute (IHI) is a leading health research organisation in Africa, with a strong track record of developing, testing and validating innovations for health. It is driven by core strategic mandate for research, training and services. The Institute's work spans across the full research lifecycle from basic science to policy and translation. These are delivered through three departments: Interventions and Clinical Trials, Environmental Health and Ecological Sciences and Health Systems, Impact Evaluation and Policy.

Training: High-level expertise

While IHI's primary mission continues to be research, development of human capacity within and beyond the institute has always been valued and is recognised as an essential component of innovation and institutional growth. IHI has become a major catalyst for the development of high-level expertise, complimented by strong investment in Master's level education and practical research training.

A number of senior scientists are affiliated to national and international centres of excellence, thereby contributing to teaching. Over the years, IHI has been hosting doctoral fellows who use the IHI research platforms and expertise.

Partnership for quality training

IHI is not a university or a higher learning institution therefore it does not have the ability to award its own degrees. Taking into account the fact that Tanzania's university system is not equipped to fully train the top-class researchers, the institute has partnered with universities to train researchers to cater for its needs and the demand of the labour market.

Internship programme

Over the years, IHI has been a home to interns getting introduced to the real world of health research. The institute welcomes interns to work on a temporary basis at IHI's Dar es Salaam, Ifakara and Bagamoyo offices. Usually, internships last three months and do not exceed twelve months.

IHI training centre

It has a dedicated training centre to support its onsite training programmes, located at the Bagamoyo branch. The centre coordinates all training and capacity building activities which include an accredited MScPHR programme, and skill transfer short courses in different scientific disciplines based on key IHI research areas.

Training activities also include co-supervision of masters, doctoral and post-doctoral fellows from partner universities. Training facilities include a dedicated training centre located in Bagamoyo, various IHI research platforms and ongoing research projects, which also provide training ground for several staff and students.

IHI leverages its research platforms, expertise (senior researchers), networks with higher learning institutions (abroad and in Tanzania) to offer quality practical training to researchers, students, doctoral and post doc fellows. Available learning platforms include: friendly data policy that allows access to our extensive data sets for learning or publication; two Health and Demographic Surveillance Sites (HDSS) located in Kilombero/ Ulanga and Rufuji districts; BSL 2, 2+ and 3 laboratories located at Bagamoyo and Ifakara branches; digital library offering access to multitudes of publications including digitized gray literature and published work; semi field insectaries and experimental facilities at Bagamoyo and Ifakara branches for studies on mosquitoes in a safe and controlled environment and study of different species of mosquitoes; several ongoing research projects at any given time, these offer opportunity for hands-on practical training in diverse areas and stages of research; experienced researchers in various fields of health; clinical trials facility capable of handling early-phase clinical trials; high speed internet connection at all branches and presence in multiple sites in Tanzania and strong working relationship with rural and urban communities in the country.

Long programmes

Master's programme in public



A section of IHI and Oxford University researchers during their symposium held in Bagamoyo on November 6, 2019.

health research

The MScPHR programme is designed for young university graduates who are interested in becoming public health researchers. Modules are suited for a complete Master's degree, but can also be taken in parts as a foundation for PhD candidates.

The programme is delivered within the mandate of the Nelson Mandela African Institution for Science and Technology-Arusha (NM-AIST) in line with the MoU between IHI and NM-AIST. This is a two-year programme divided into two parts, with 12 months of course work and 12 months of research.

Graduates can pursue specialisations in areas of intervention research, health system research or determinants of health and diseases. The course work is conducted at their training centre based at Kingani area in Bagamoyo.

Advanced postgraduate training in public health research

Researchers working with IHI receive professional training inside and outside the country. Several PhDs level professionals and a number of MSc students also use IHI as their training platform. Through leveraging of its rich and diverse research platforms IHI is a preferred training ground for post-doctoral research fellows from all over the world.

In recent years, IHI has greatly enhanced its efforts in advanced research and training. This process has allowed them to significantly improve their research outputs and expand career development opportunities for young researchers in Tanzania and beyond.

The current demographics of the research staff, with a median age of less than 40, and their scientific productivity are a testament to this potential.

The IHI graduates more than 10 masters and 5-8 PhDs annually. IHI post graduate researchers regularly present their work in international conferences, and engage widely with various stake holders and funding partners.

Short programmes

Capacity building in malaria

Course Objectives: The course is designed to reinforce knowledge and expertise in malaria and to develop competence in self and e-learning. Graduates are expected to manage malaria issues more effectively and to develop basic training courses and material in their home institutions.

Structure of the Course: The course is offered by Ifakara Health Institute (IHI) in collaboration with the Swiss TPH at the former's training centre at Kingani in the Tanzania's old capital, Bagamoyo. It lasts four weeks.

The course structure is modular and is taught using blended-learning approach. Each module lasts one-week (5 days). On the first day of the week day, Monday, participants receive questions on the topic of the week. Under the mentorship of facilitators, while working with their peers

using literature search (internet), the course participants complete their assignments and present to the entire group on the last day of the week day, Friday.

In addition to the self-directed learning, the module includes one lecture every day and one educational visit each week. The study time for the four weeks is approximately 200 hours - of which 40 hours is for pre-residential preparations such as speed talks and 160 hours for course work.

Facilitators: Facilitators of the course are drawn from a pool of international and national experts from malaria affected and non-affected countries. They are selected for their area of expertise, teaching skills and willingness to be deeply involved in the engaging learning process.

Life sciences, health systems and public health research

Short courses are offered on regular basis at IHI training centre in Bagamoyo. The courses target statisticians, research officers, project/program officers, health managers, district/regional medical officers, academicians, health secretaries, under graduate and post graduate students.

Short courses offered include: social determinants of health; systematic reviews; data analysis; writing for publication and grants; literature management

(mind mapping, search strategies, citation and reference management and plagiarism); basic and advanced statistical analysis methods (qualitative, quantitative and mixed method); geographic information systems and environmental modeling; economic evaluation of health programmes, and project management.

Others include: Modeling for infectious diseases; essential research skills for vector biologists; essential R skills for vector biologists; and media communication. In many instances, IHI offers these short courses in partnership with other institutions and collaborators. In other cases, however, specialist IHI staff may offer specific targeted courses as well. The training and capacity building department manages the annual time tables for these courses.

Training health professionals

In addition to training researchers, IHI also plays a role in the training of health professionals in Tanzania. The rural aid centre set up by the first IHI researcher, Dr. Geigy, was handed over to the Tanzanian government in 1978. It has evolved into a public-private partnership between the Tanzanian Ministry of Health, Novartis Foundation for Sustainable Development and

the Swiss TPH.

The centre, which is now named 'Tanzania Training Centre for International Health,' based in Ifakara, Morogoro region, offers courses in partnership with Columbia University in the US, and the University of Athens in Greece. Founded in 2008, the centre has produced more than 1700 health professionals.

Services

IHI offers dedicated premium services to projects, staff, policy-makers and the general public. They range from archiving study data to useful information that may affect the lives of the partners it works with.

Archives

Projects at IHI are assured of reliable storage of paper study documents/materials at our Bagamoyo archives. Officially opened in 2012, the archives based at Kingani site, has 44 cabinets and 22 shelves, capable of storing more than 30,000 flat and box files of field data.

Conference facilities

IHI operates a number of conference facilities in Dar es Salaam, Ifakara, and Bagamoyo. They are open for staff, projects and partners. T

here are two rooms at the Dar es Salaam office with the capacity of accommodating between 10 and 70 people; four in Baga-

moyo with the capacity of accommodating between 20 and 50 people; and one in Ifakara whose capacity is between 20 and 30 people.

Information platforms

IHI offers free of charge information services through its website, blog (Sayansi na Ubuntu), social media channels, an e-data platform, and library. The institute's website (www.ihio.or.tz) is a source of up-to-date information on health scientific research used by scientists, the mass media, policy-makers and the general public.

The Sayansi na Ubuntu blog, particularly, publishes lay versions of the complex study reports to inform on the latest developments in health science research and training. Our social media channels (Facebook: @likeIHI and Twitter: @Ifakara-health) are updated regularly to keep staff and our partners in the industry informed.

The institute's libraries - both the physical one at the training centre at Kingani and the digital (online) one (www.eprints.com) - particularly serve scientists with a reliable access to old and up-to-date publications.

Rest houses and residences

IHI staff, guests, collaborators and project workers assigned to Ifakara are assured of standard accommodation. There are 14 fully furnished and serviced rooms. The facilities are located in the IHI's Ifakara compound, about 40 kilometres from Udzungwa National Park, approximately a day's drive from the Selous Game Reserve and a four-hour drive from Mikumi National Park.

Servants at these rest houses offer unrivaled hospitality and great convenience for visitors in Ifakara, at very affordable prices. Guests have free access to a well-maintained swimming pool, wonderful silent rooms and the restaurant which serves Tanzanian and other cuisines.

They have several self-contained and air-conditioned bedrooms with TV and Wi-Fi access. The guest house also provides reliable 24/7 security for all guests. Catering and laundry services are also available at affordable price.

In addition to the short-stay guest houses, IHI also offers a variety of residential accommodation for longer stay visitors and also for staff and collaborators. The residences consist of fully furnished 2-3-bedroom houses conveniently located close to the IHI's offices.



IHI's primary mission continues to be research, development of human capacity within and beyond the institute has always been valued and is recognised as an essential component of innovation and institutional growth



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Mafia fishermen plead with authorities to reduce number of licences they need

By Beatrice Philemon

ARTISANAL fishermen along in Mafia district of Coast region have called on authorities to reduce the number of licenses imposed on them from over seven to at least two involving the vessel and the commodity itself.

Secretary of Twendekazi Cooperative Association in Mafia district, Twaa Ismail said last week that the numerous licenses which are payable annually have made it work for the state without any profit to take home to their families.

"We thank ActionAid for giving us modern fishing gear including an engine powered fibre boat worth 24m/- but we not benefitting from it because of the numerous licenses and taxes charged by authorities," Ismail told a delegation of ActionAid Tanzania officials and journalists who visited the island district last week.

He said the ActionAid modern fishing boat has improved their way of catching fish but the hostile regulatory regime is depleting their earnings. "We call upon district council officials to help us by reducing the number of licenses which in some instances are issued for a specific fish species like octopus," Ismail lamented saying their peers in Tanga, Lindi and Mtwara have no such hostile regulatory regimes.

"Most fishermen in Mafia district are leading a pauper's life because much of their earnings go into servicing licenses and other tax



Secretary of Twendekazi Cooperative Association, Twaa Ismail (with back to camera) and his peers relaxing at their beach front in Mafia shortly before briefing reporters and ActionAid officials on the state of fishing activities on the island district last week. Photo: Beatrice Philemon.

payments," the Twendekazi Cooperative Association's Secretary charged saying others have opted to change their occupation into traders.

Among other licenses being complained against include that of catching Noche-Lob-

sters, Sea Snail, Crustacean fishing and Octopus which fetch between 16 and 50,000/- per annum each. "As fishermen we need at least one or two fishing licenses so that we can operate profitably hence attract more youths to

join the trade," he added.

Furthermore he expressed thanks to ActionAid Tanzania to train fishermen on entrepreneurship skills and how to form cooperative union that in turn has helped them to recog-

nize themselves and operate their activities more effectively. With modern fishing gear has increased their catches from 25 and 30 kilograms to 70Kg of fish per day.

Responding to the fishermen's concerns, Mafia District Executive Director, Eric Mapunda acknowledged presence of multi licenses saying each has been sanctioned by parliament and the district council's own bylaws.

"The fishermen should raise their concerns with law makers and councilors who make these laws and regulations otherwise the district council simply implements such regulations," Mapunda said while noting that Mafia district heavily depends on fishing as a main source of revenue.

"As district we are just issuing different fishing licenses because the fishing gears that fishermen use differ hence through such a system it is easy for us to track each fishing gear's activities to also conserve marine resources," Mapunda added.

On his part, Mafia District Fisheries Officer, Ayoub Sabu said currently the island district has 5,133 fishermen and 1,011 fishing vessels that comprise modern boats and traditional canoes. Sabu said the fishermen are allowed to go and operate anywhere in the country with their licenses as regulations apply evenly.

"Right now no fisherman will be prohibited to fish anywhere they want in the country," he noted while advising the artisanal fishermen to use the opportunity to exploit the over 1,000 kilometres Indian Ocean coastline from Tanga to Mtwara.

Tigo, CCBRT partnership restoring hope to hundreds of clubfoot, cleft lip patients

By Smart Money Reporter

SINCE 2013, a partnership between Tigo Tanzania Limited and CCBRT has benefited thousands of clubfoot and cleft lip patients who are largely vulnerable children coming from poor backgrounds of the community.

Tigo's Corporate Responsibility and Government Relations Officer, Halima Okash said last week that the mobile phone services company saw the need to support the good cause started by CCBRT because it serves the most disadvantaged in the community.

"This CCBRT initiative also tries to remove as many barriers as possible to allow people to seek treatment. Society will forever be indebted to CCBRT for taking the initiative to help people with disabilities and allow them an opportunity to be treated at subsidized costs," Okash said.

The duo's partnership has so far benefited more than 1,509 children have benefited from life-changing surgeries at CCBRT over the past six years. "This is an achievement that makes all of us at Tigo feel very proud. By treating people living with disabilities, Tigo and CCBRT are making a lasting impact on the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities in Tanzania," she added.

Among other things, the Tigo cum CCBRT Hospital's partnership has helped treat patients with cleft lip, setting up an SMS reminder platform for

clients and raising awareness about the hospital's services to the general public.

The facility is an essential component of clubfoot care as attendance at weekly castings and follow-up appointments is crucial for successful treatment. The platform sends SMS reminder messages to the parents of all clubfoot patients, both four days, and one day before their scheduled appointments.

It has helped CCBRT significantly reduce the dropout rate. With an annual grant of 110m/- from Tigo, CCBRT can offer Ponseti treatment to more than 400 new patients and many more who attend follow-up casting sessions.

Among the smiling mothers of the partnership is Salma Haji, a 29 years old who gave birth 10 months ago. Haji who lives at Buza in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam, had her happiness cut short after she discovered that her baby's feet were curved inwards with a deformity she did not understand.

Her baby's feet abnormality was called clubfoot. Clubfoot is a congenital condition which means that it occurs before birth. Every year, around 100,000 babies worldwide are born with clubfoot. Clubfoot is a condition where one or both feet are twisted inward, causing the child to walk on their ankles.

In Tanzania, it is estimated that more than 2,800 children are born with clubfoot each year. 50 per cent of children born with clubfoot are affected in only

one foot and the other 50 per cent are affected in both feet.

Eighty per cent of untreated clubfoot is found in developing countries. If left untreated, the condition causes severe pain while walking, creating a lifelong disability. "It was really bad. I felt bad that my son might be permanently unable to walk normally and I had no idea what the problem was," Haji recalls.

"I felt like it was the end of the world for me and my child; I had so many questions on my son's condition. How would he survive...walk? Will he be laughed at by others? Will he go to a special school? I was completely confused," she lamented.

One of the nurses informed her that the disability could be treated at Comprehensive Community-Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) in Msasani at no cost. What followed was a series of hospital visits where doctors embarked on the process of treating the infant over a few months.

According to the Orthopedic Doctor at the CCBRT Hospital, Dr Zainab Ilonga, the cause of clubfoot is unknown. "In reality, we do not know the specific root cause of this condition, but we believe the cause may be associated with alcohol or drug abuse during pregnancy or genetic inheritance, research is going on to ascertain the real cause," he said.

"There are two ways of treating clubfoot; one is the Ponseti method which does not involve surgery while the



second one involves surgery," Dr Ilonga explained. "In Tanzania, we treat about 400 children per year (which is about 25 percent of total patients), because some parents tend to hide their affected kids," he lamented.

Ignacio V. Ponseti can be credited with developing the comprehensive technique for treating congenital clubfoot in the 1940s. One of the major principles of this technique is the concept that the

tissues of a newborn's foot, including tendons, ligaments, joint capsules, will yield to gentle manipulation and casting of the feet at weekly intervals.

By applying this technique of treating clubfoot within the first few weeks of life, the condition can be successfully corrected without the need for major reconstructive surgery.

Salma's child underwent a series of gentle bone manipulations and castings to trigger biological

response of muscles, ligaments and bone tissue in a bid to restore the deformed legs. "There were times he was inconsolable, crying for days and days on end. I too cried. I was pessimistic of the life my son would have," the pensive mother said. "I thank Tigo and CCBRT Hospital medical team for their support because now my son is ten months old and fully recovered," the smiling mother said.

Zambia government denies plans to sell Zamtel

LUSAKA

THE Zambian government has dismissed claims that it plans to sell state-owned telecommunications operator Zamtel to India's Bharti Infratel for an undisclosed amount.

The local Mast newspaper has quoted Zamtel insiders as having confirmed the plans have advanced and officials have had discussions with Bharti Infratel.

However the country's Minister of Com-

munications and Transport Mutotwe Kafwaya refuted the claims and said: "I should be the one to prepare a cabinet memorandum for the sale of Zamtel but I have not done so because there is completely nothing because the company is not being sold and I'm not aware of anything."

Zamtel shareholder, the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) group chief executive officer Mateyo Kaluba also rubbished the claims and said the IDC has never engaged any organisation to purchase

Zamtel.

He said the IDC board, management and staff had the capacity to turn Zamtel into a viable and profitable business, which would ensure it remains a key player in the telecoms sector.

"Zamtel has attained key milestones in achieving transformation through innovative products and service. Therefore, IDC remains committed to transforming the company as a subsidiary," Kaluba said.

Details are sketchy and there is no indi-

cation of whether or not the deal will go through, and if it does, how many shares will be sold - or why the government intends selling the company that has made significant growth over the past two years.

According to official statistics, the number of Zamtel subscribers now stands at over 3.3 million - up from less than 2 million three years ago, although it is still far behind leaders MTN Zambia and Airtel Zambia. Bharti Infratel has to date not responded to requests for comment.

Zamtel has attained key milestones in achieving transformation through innovative products and service. Therefore, IDC remains committed to transforming the company as a subsidiary.



NBC director advocates 'Biashara Clubs' as steady vehicles for growth



NBC's Head of Small and Medium Enterprises, Evance Luhimbo, makes a presentation at the launch of NBC Biashara Club for Morogoro Region at the weekend. Photo courtesy of NBC

By Smart Money Reporter, Morogoro.

NATIONAL Bank of Commerce's Biashara Clubs are important vehicles for business owners and managers to acquire knowledge and skills from bankers that will grow their businesses.

NBC Director of Business Banking, Elvis Ndonguru said during a Morogoro NBC Biashara Club launching last week that such vehicles are aimed at bringing together business people with different backgrounds to share experience, explore various market and investment opportunities both locally and abroad but also network with peers internationally.

Ndonguru noted that it was easier to impart knowledge to business people through the clubs anywhere in the country and that the bank's course of action was informed by its reliable customer feedback mechanism.

"The launch of NBC Biashara Clubs in various parts of the country has so far been successful, and as such we shall continue to improve training modules by including study tours for local traders to various coun-

tries to learn practically," Ndonguru said.

He noted that the bank's management is planning to add to its study tour list more countries which are doing better in private businesses and economic growth so that NBC Biashara Club members can learn from their peers.

"Countries that can work as role models to us include Turkey, Germany and the US which far much better in every aspect," he added while noting that NBC is planning to launch a special window for small and medium size enterprises run by women as a way of encouraging more to join.

Speaking earlier in the event on behalf of Morogoro District Commissioner, the municipality's Livestock and Fisheries Officer, Mohamed

Chamzimu said the clubs will help give members exposure to modern business practices, and that the training offered will inculcate professionalism among them.

"I call upon business people in Morogoro to seize this opportunity and join these clubs to network and grow your businesses," Chamzimu said while stressing that the clubs will benefit both individuals and the nation at large.

On their part the traders thanked the bank for the high quality of its services and low interest rates on loans charged compared to other banks in the market.

One of the businesspersons, Bupe Kamugisha said the fact that NBC has not been confiscating collateral right away after defaults to recover loans, businesspeople have afforded to re-payment loans under rescheduled timetables.

Business leaders talk digitisation at WPP Scangroup inaugural annual conference

By Smart Money Reporter

DIGITAL transformation is rapidly taking control of the market with banks such as Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania Limited going completely digital.

During a panel discussion at a maiden WPP Scangroup digital transformation conference held in Dar es Salaam last week, Executive Director of Standard Chartered Tanzania, Aljamair Riaz said during the current direction, digitization is the way to go.

"In the past our cost per acquisition was quite high. By simply switching our focus to

digital banking, we are able to save money to launch more value added initiatives for our customers," Riaz said while noting that Standard Bank has since opened a virtual bank in Hong Kong that is purely digital.

Riaz told the panel that consisted of Benji Fernandez who is CEO of Nala, David Minja, Managing Director of Unilever and Francis Nanai, CEO of Mwananchi Communications Limited, that digitization has influenced the bank's strategy.

WPP Scangroup plans to spark conversations around stimulating business growth in a digital first world naming the conference as a first reboot for Tanzania and the

first reboot in East Africa which was organized in 2018 in Kenya.

Looking at the current business landscape in Tanzania there has been a shift reflected by the growing number of people connected to communications and internet services, WPP Scangroup said in a statement.

"As WPP Scangroup, our new found strategy is to become a leader in technology and creativity. We want to incorporate a simpler, improved offer designed to capture the opportunities of a changing marketplace and a streamlined structure built around the needs of our clients," the company added.

The meeting was also attended

by influencers who are the centre of digital transformation to share their views with the audience. One of the influencers We-biro Wassira known artistically as Wakazi said that as an influencer one needs to understand that they are brands.

Manish Sardana who is Managing Director of Squad Digital, said that the coming of the digital age has forced businesses to rethink their strategies when it comes to advertising.

"Our target audience think differently because of this social media craze," Sardana said. WPP-Scangroup plans to hold digital transformation conferences annually.



Standard Chartered Tanzania's Head of Retail Banking, Aljamair Riaz.

Zimbabwe bourse CEO bemoans 80% currency crash ravaging market

HARARE

WHEN it comes to adverse conditions for stock-market trading, Zimbabwe's bourse belongs in a special category for extreme cases.

Consider the challenges confronting Zimbabwe Stock Exchange chief executive officer Justin Bgoni: a local currency that has crashed more than 80% since a peg to the US dollar was ended in February and annual inflation that the International Monetary Fund estimates at 300%.

While Harare's Industrial Index is at a record high and market capitalization in local currency terms has surged by 169% from a year ago to Z\$31 billion, in dollar terms they have crumbled to the lowest in a decade, at \$1.9 billion. In the past, investors have used the stock market as a shelter to ride out economic turmoil in the southern African nation, but its haven status has been shaken by the return of the Zimbabwe dollar and hyperinflation.

"Our market capitalisation in US dollar terms – that's just been worse, we are almost half of what we are normally at," Bgoni, in the job since March, said in an interview in his office in the capital, Harare. "If it was a normal country, where things are not indexed in US dollars, things wouldn't be so bad."

When it comes to assessing individual stocks, hyperinflation skews the picture for traders, said Lloyd Mlotshwa, head of equities at IH Securities, a Harare-based brokerage. While companies are showing significant gains in revenue, actual volumes of products sold are down and overall performance is deteriorating.

"The massive devaluation of the currency has also caused a dislocation in stock market valuations," said Mlotshwa. "Some firms are trading below the replacement values of their plants. At the same time, sentiment is so negative that this isn't necessarily being interpreted as a buy signal."

In February, the 1:1 parity peg between so-called bond notes and the US dollar was removed. In June, Finance Minister Mthuli Ncube abolished the use of the multicurrency system and reintroduced the Zimbabwe dollar as sole legal tender, almost a decade after it went out of circulation because of hyperinflation. The Zimbabwe dollar on Friday was trading at 15.85 per US dollar, compared with the February rate of 2.5 adopted at the end of parity.

Economic conditions in Zimbabwe, its struggling companies and inconsistent government policies all make local stocks less attractive to foreigners, Bgoni said. In terms of market development and options for investors, he estimated the bourse trailed African peers in Botswana, Kenya and Nigeria by about 10 years.



Zimbabwe Stock Exchange chief executive officer Justin Bgoni

Increase in output of rice to lower Kenyan food imports

NAIROBI

KENYA will this year cut rice imports by 36 percent following above average production in major irrigation schemes.

Water and Irrigation Principal Secretary Joseph Irungu said the country anticipates production of 240,000 tonnes of rice, which is almost double the output in the previous year. Kenya mainly relies on imports to bridge the local deficit, bringing in up to 250,000 tonnes annually to meet the demand.

"We are expecting a good crop this year and this will play a major role in cutting down on imports, hence benefiting our farmers," said Mr Irungu. National Irrigation Board (NIB) general manager Gitonga Mugambi said the production has resulted from good crop husbandry and expansion of the crop to regions.

"This year's crop will be above average and this results from expanded area under the crop as we have introduced rice in Bura," he said. Production at the Mwea Irrigation has been on the rise since 2016 when the scheme witnessed one of the worst droughts in a decade that saw output drop by more than half.

In 2016, 24,000 tonnes were harvested, followed by 77,000 tonnes in 2017 and 87,000 tonnes last year. The scheme is projected to yield about 180,000 tonnes in the current season. Mwea I scheme accounts for 80 percent of Kenya's rice production. Rice consumption has been growing by 10 per cent yearly and now stands at 400,000 tonnes, according to State data.

Improved production has seen the price of the commodity stay at a low of Sh130 at the factory currently from a high of Sh160 previously. The PS said Kenya wants to expand the area under crop in order to increase production and cut overreliance on imports.

"We are in talks with the Treasury to allocate this project more funds so that we can increase the area under crop cover," he said. Mwea Scheme has a gazetted area of 30,350 acres out of which 22,000 have been developed for paddy rice production while the remaining area is utilised for settlement, public utilities and growing of subsistence crops.



Zantel's affordable smartphone pioneers cost-effective services



Zantel's Head of Mobile Business, Aneth Muga, displays Smarta mobile handset during its launch in Zanzibar last week. File photo.

By Smart Money Reporter

IN a rare feat, Zanzibar's leading mobile phones services company introduced a cheap smartphone in the market that is allowing low income bracket people to enjoy digital online access which until recently was only available to the affluent.

The recent launch in Zanzibar of Smarta, arguably the most affordable smartphone mobile device in the local market by Zantel, Tanzania's leading B2B services provider, provides a rare opportunity for its customers.

To most low income bracket customers, Smarta is their first time smartphone possession with advanced and feature-rich digital device at the most affordable price ever in Tanzania's telecom industry.

Coming at a time when local consumers are price sensitive, the handset allows customers to afford their daily basic needs while at the same time sparing some discretionary income to afford an up-to-the-minute digital device that not only enables them to 'go digital' but also raises their reputation and self-esteem-attributes that are socially linked to owning a smartphone.

"We have introduced Smarta in the market to propel affordable access to smartphones while giving people a unique opportunity to enjoy rich experiences presented by the digital

lifestyle offered by Zantel through our 4G+ network," Zantel's Head of Mobile Business, Aneth Muga said during the launch.

Muga said with the Isles based telco's 4G network technology, which provides one of the fastest Internet speed in the East African region, Smarta owners will have full access to digital online services like any other smartphone holder.

Granted, the introduction of the cheap smartphone is expected to break the affordability barrier, the major drawback that is associated with limited access to such gadgets in the local market and also serve as the most cost-effective option for underserved areas and low income bracket people, mainly women who are digitally marginalized due to various socio-cultural and economic factors.

Smarta comes with huge benefits to the people, more so in boosting digital literacy and development of digital technology in Tanzania which includes Zanzibar. As Head of Zantel in Zanzibar, Mohammed Mussa said, the telco seeks to, "Foster digital development by facilitating availability of affordable technology across the country."

Mussa said the new cheap handset is also set to increase ownership of smartphones among Zantel customers who use Ezipesa, Zantel's mobile financial service, thus further driving the government's financial inclusion agenda.

"Additionally, it suffices to say that Zantel's affordable smartphone will boost mobile handset sales in the market by accelerating business investment in the handset's sales hence allowing customers to have an ideal choice in identifying affordable and trendy

gadgets," Mussa noted.

The launch further broadly speaks to digital inclusion in the country because by serving the previously underserved population, Zantel effectively contributes in accelerating digital access hence spurring the rapid development of the local telecom industry's entire digital ecosystem.

Retailing at the recommended price of 39,999/-, Smarta, the smart feature phone, is an entirely new device in its category which serves to fortify Zantel's affordability attribute while at the same time strengthening its role in pioneering digital products and services in the country.

The telecom boasts of other 'firsts' in its segment, including being the first to introduce mobile financial services, first to reduce rates on international calls by 60 percent; first to introduce wireless Internet in Tanzania and the first telecom to introduce per second billing in the market.

According to Pew Research Center (2018), Tanzania is one of the fastest smartphone penetrating markets in the Sub-Saharan Africa, a standing that is likely to be buoyed by Zantel's introduction of Smarta.

SSA's smartphone adoption, the Pew Centre said, stood at 33 percent last year, as opposed to 15 percent in 2014, which is more than double growth and it's predicted to equally double by 2025.

"The number of people connected to Internet is likely to continue rising, industry projections suggest that smartphone adoption rate in Sub-Saharan Africa will double by 2025," the 'non-partisan American think tank that provides information on demographics,' noted in its report.

Link between diabetes and heart disease

CORPORATE WELLNESS



By Bhakti Shah,

important to help take care of your heart. You can take the following steps to manage your diabetes to keep your heart and blood vessels healthy.

Knowing your diabetes ABCs will help manage your blood glucose, blood pressure and cholesterol, where:

A is for A1C test, also known as hemoglobin A1C based on the binding of glucose to hemoglobin. This test provides information about your average levels of blood glucose, over the past 3 months and can be used to diagnose type 2 diabetes or pre diabetes.

B is for blood pressure. Blood pressure is the force of your blood against the wall of your blood vessels. High blood pressure can make your heart work too hard and can cause heart attack or stroke and damage your kidney and eyes.

C is for Cholesterol: Where bad cholesterol can build up and clog your blood vessels. Too much cholesterol can cause a heart attack or stroke.

S is for Smoking - Stopping smoking if you have diabetes is also important to lower your chances for heart disease. Smoking and diabetes narrow blood vessels and your heart has to work harder.

Managing diabetes is not always easy. Feeling stressed, sad or angry is common when you are living with diabetes. Long-term stress can raise your blood sugar and blood pressure, but you can learn ways to manage your stress.

Developing and maintaining healthy lifestyle habits can help manage your diabetes and prevent heart.

HAVING diabetes means that you are at a higher risk of developing heart disease, heart attack or a stroke. People with diabetes are more likely to have certain conditions that increase the chances of heart disease or stroke, such as high blood pressure or high cholesterol. If you have diabetes, you can protect your heart and healthy by managing your blood glucose, also called blood sugar, as well as your blood pressure and cholesterol. If you smoke, get help to stop.

Over time, high blood glucose from diabetes can damage your blood vessels and the nerves that control your heart and blood vessels. The longer you have diabetes, the higher are the chances of developing heart disease.

People with diabetes tend to develop heart disease at a younger age than people without diabetes. In adults with diabetes, the most common causes of death are heart disease and stroke. Adults with diabetes are nearly twice as likely to die from heart disease or stroke than people without diabetes.

If you have diabetes, the following factors add to your risk of developing heart disease or having a stroke:

- Smoking - both smoking and diabetes narrow blood vessels.
- High blood pressure - can strain your heart, damage blood vessels and increase your risk of heart attack, stroke, eye and kidney problems
- Abnormal cholesterol - can build up and clog your blood vessels.
- Obesity and belly fat - can increase your risk of developing heart disease

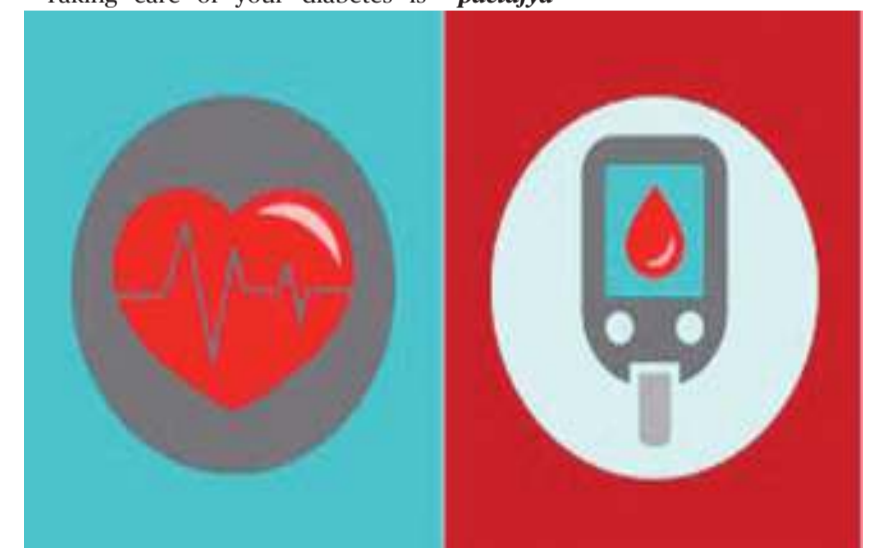
Taking care of your diabetes is

Reply back to bhakti@impactafya.com or call +255 754 694 643 with your feedback. We welcome your suggestions for corporate wellness tips you'd like to see covered in our future columns.

Bhakti Shah, MPH is the Founder and Managing Director of Impactafya Ltd, collaborating with Workplace Options and Mayo Clinic, USA to provide Corporate Wellness and EAP Solutions in East Africa. Bhakti is also the Advisor for the Africa Business Portal and the Past President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Tanzania.

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VIEW FROM THE TOP



Huawei releases new white paper on the future of fixed-wireless access

By Smart Money Reporter

HUAWEI has released its 4G/5G Fixed Wireless Access (FWA) Broadband Whitepaper, which outlines how fixed wireless can bring broadband to all.

According to the Chinese technology conglomerate, the high speeds and large capacity of 4G and 5G connectivity have made it possible to offer a Gbps broadband experience by utilising wireless networks, rather than requiring copper or fibre networks.

Thanks to advances in FWA technology, those who previously did not have access to digital services can now access connectivity up to 10Mbps. This is due to FWA lowering the barrier of entry to connectivity by drastically reducing costs when compared to fixed or mobile broadband.

FWA can also offer alternatives to copper-based broadband solutions, such as ADSL, by offering an average rate of 10-20Mbps at affordable prices and without the requirement of copper installations. Those who want fibre-like connectivity, but can't access fibre in their area, can also use fixed wireless to attain speeds of 50-100 Mbps during busy hours.

4G FWA solutions such as those mentioned above are already being used in over 120 countries and across 230 networks, servicing



Huawei's founder and CEO, Ren Zhengfei

100 million global households - and these numbers will continue to rise daily.

While FWA services using 4G are well established, 5G FWA is a way to full-scale 5G deployments. 5G will take FWA to the next level, enabling various modern technologies, as well as those that will inevitably be released in the future - including smart homes, 4K, and AR/VR services. 5G will also offer businesses

improved connectivity, enabling them to streamline their practices and lower their expenses.

Bringing connectivity to new locations According to a recent International Telecommunications Union report, 50 percent of the world's population will still not have access to the Internet by the end of 2019. Developing nations also tend to have

significantly slower connection speeds than developed countries, with broadband speeds failing to pass 10Mbps in some countries.

However, ever-improving wireless technologies can help to improve the reach and reliability of Internet connections in these nations. The implementation of wireless fibre in such countries brings with it a series of benefits including:

Wireless broadband can bring coverage to over 90 percent of a developing country's population - including urban and rural areas; 4.5G and 5G offer a fibre-like experience, with improved speeds and reliability; Wireless broadband allows for the speedy deployment of connectivity, as there is no need to dig trenches and install cables; and Developing wireless broadband infrastructure enables a smooth transition to 5G due to the installation of compatible network hardware.

Implication for Africa

Fixed wireless access has emerged as one of the most significant growth drivers around the world, as explosive user growth is seen in both developed markets as well as emerging countries like South Africa. Many believe that eventually 5G FWA will have a significant impact on fixed broadband just as 2G had on fixed voice more than 20 years ago.

Fixed broadband subscriptions in Sub-Saharan Africa are estimated to be 6.6 million in 2018. This market can grow by up to three-fold by 2023 according to Ovum, a London based global technology research and advisory firm.

According to Ovum's research released in the beginning of this year, there will be strong demand and rapid market growth for home broadband in sub-Saharan Africa in the coming five years. The number of broadband subscriptions in SSA will increase from 7.5 million in 2019 to 17 million in 2023.

In addition, the research forecasts Africa will record the highest growth in enterprise fixed broadband subscriptions between 2018 and 2022, with a CAGR of 7.27 percent, compared to 5.75 percent and 3.31 percent for Central and Southern Asia and Eastern Europe, respectively.

4G/5G FWA solution can address the connection of millions of households and enterprises currently unconnected, as well as the upgrade of 2.5 million households from low speed DSL to high speed broadband services. Case in point, according to a financial report issued by Telkom in South Africa, its WTTx new subscriber base increased by 340 thousand in the fiscal year 2018, beating 35 thousand new fibre users.

WORLD

As Trump fumes, public impeachment hearings set to grab spotlight

WASHINGTON

THIS week will mark a new and unparalleled chapter in Donald Trump's tumultuous presidency, as the Democratic-led impeachment probe goes public with televised hearings into allegations about Trump's dealings with Ukraine.

Beginning on Wednesday, three witnesses will publicly detail their concerns, previously expressed behind closed doors, that the Trump administration sought to tie military aid to Ukraine to an investigation of the Republican president's potential Democratic rival for the presidency, Joe Biden.

The testimony will be carried by major broadcast and cable networks and is expected to be viewed by millions, who will watch current and former officials from Trump's own administration begin to outline a case for his potential removal from office.

It has been 20 years since Americans last witnessed impeachment proceedings, when Republicans brought charges against then-Democratic President Bill Clinton.

Democrats in the U.S. House of Representatives argue Trump abused his authority in pressing the Ukrainian government to investigate Biden and his son Hunter, who was on the board

of a Ukrainian energy company, Burisma.

Representative Eric Swalwell, a Democrat on the House Intelligence Committee, which will hold the hearings on Wednesday and Friday this week, accused Trump on Sunday of "extortion."

"We have enough evidence from the depositions that we've done to warrant bringing this forward, evidence of an extortion scheme, using taxpayer dollars to ask a foreign government to investigate the president's opponent," Swalwell said on CBS' "Face the Nation."

Trump argued on Twitter over the weekend that he was not guilty of misconduct and that the probe was politically driven. "NOTHING WAS DONE WRONG!" he wrote on Sunday.

Democrats consider the open hearings to be crucial to building public support for a formal impeachment vote against Trump. If that occurs, the Republican-controlled Senate would hold a trial on the charges. Republicans have so far shown little support for removing Trump from office, which would require a two-thirds vote in the Senate.

GIULIANI'S ROLE UNDER SCRUTINY

TINY

The House Intelligence Committee



President Donald Trump

will first hear from William Taylor, the top U.S. diplomat in Ukraine, who told the committee in closed-door testimony that he was unhappy U.S. aid to the country was held up by the administration.

Taylor said he also became uncomfortable with what he described as an "irregular channel" of people involved in Ukraine policy, including Rudy Giuliani, the president's personal lawyer.

George Kent, a senior State Department official who oversees Ukraine, will appear at Wednesday's hearing as well. Kent was also concerned about Giuliani's role in conducting shadow diplomacy - and has testified that he was cut out of the decision-making loop on Ukraine matters.

On Friday, the committee will hear from former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Marie Yovanovitch. She says she was ousted from her post after Giuliani and his allies mounted a campaign against her with what she called "unfounded and false claims by people with clearly questionable motives."

Democrats are likely to call further witnesses after this week.

House Republicans released their list on Saturday of witnesses they would like brought before the committee, including Hunter Biden and the

yet-unnamed whistleblower who first brought the complaint against Trump over his July 25 call with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskiy. Intelligence Committee Chairman Adam Schiff, a Democrat, is unlikely to summon either to testify, and even some Republicans have opposed the push from Trump and some of his supporters that the whistleblower be identified.

"I think we should be protecting the identity of the whistleblower," Will Hurd, a former CIA officer and a Republican member of the committee, said on the "Fox News Sunday" program, "because how we treat this whistleblower will impact whistleblowers in the future."

Hurd said, however, he "would love to hear from Hunter Biden" and accused Democrats of running a "partisan exercise."

Trump and Giuliani have led accusations - without providing evidence - that Joe Biden sought the dismissal of a Ukrainian prosecutor to block a corruption probe of Burisma. The Bidens have denied wrongdoing.

Republicans on the committee will be permitted to question the witnesses this week and defend the president, although the president's lawyers will not be allowed to do so - something Trump has complained about bitterly. **Agencies**

No agreements can be reached without Nagorno-Karabakh's consent, says Lavrov

YEREVAN

IT is impossible to reach any agreements on Nagorno-Karabakh without the consent of the population of that region, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said yesterday following talks with his Armenian counterpart Zohrab Mnatsakanyan.

When asked about Russia's attitude towards the proposal to return Nagorno-Karabakh to the negotiating table as a full-fledged participant in the settlement process, the minister said it was up to the parties themselves "to coordinate and determine the composition of the participants in the negotiations."

"At an early stage of consultations and subsequent negotiations on the Nagorno-Karabakh settlement, when hostilities stopped, Nagorno-Karabakh was a party to the relevant agreements and talks, which began after the cessation of hostilities."

At some point, the Armenian leadership, one of the previous presidents, made the decision that Yerevan would represent the interests of Nagorno-Karabakh," he explained.

"As members of the group of co-chairs, while promoting that process, we can only seek to ensure that it proceeds in line with the general consent."

It is clear to everyone that it will be impossible to finalize any agreements without the consent of the people of Nagorno-Karabakh. Armenia will just not support them," he stressed.

According to Russia's top diplomat, at today's meeting, Armenian Prime Minister Nikol Pashinyan mentioned his public statement, which said that "the final agreements should take into account the interests of Armenia, Nagorno-Karabakh and Azerbaijan." "It is hard to argue with that," the minister concluded.

As for the parties to the conflict, they should be ready for a compromise, which should reflect a real and fair balance of interests, Russia's top diplomat told a meeting with his Armenian counterpart Zohrab Mnatsakanyan on Monday.

"The principles of territorial integrity, self-determination and exclusively peaceful settlement of disputes are enshrined in all documents that are discussed by the sides. In any case, a final solution should take into account all these principles, and neither Yerevan nor Baku argues against this. Any treaty, moreover on this challenging issue, is a compromise," Lavrov said.

"As co-chairs [of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe Minsk Group on Nagorno-Karabakh], we try to make sure that this compromise is fair and reflects a real and fair balance of interests," the foreign minister said.

Russia as mediator

Moscow will continue active mediation efforts on various platforms in order to resolve the Nagorno-Karabakh issue, the Russian foreign minister stated. "Russia is ready to continue active mediation efforts as a member of the OSCE Minsk Group and a participant in talks with Armenia and Azerbaijan," he pointed out.

The Russian top diplomat highlighted "the importance of facilitating talks between the parties [to the conflict] and the need to take steps to ease tensions in the conflict zone based on the existing agreements, including those signed at the April meeting between the foreign ministers of Russia, Armenia and Azerbaijan and the three co-chairs of the Minsk Group," Lavrov added.

"We believe that it is important to continue implementing the measures agreed by the ministers, which were discussed at a meeting between the leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan earlier in the year," the Russian foreign minister noted.

Russia as guarantor

Russia will be prepared to cooperate with other countries in the OSCE Minsk Group to be a guarantor of the Nagorno-Karabakh settlement, Sergey Lavrov told an audience of graduates of the Diplomatic Academy and university students in Yerevan.

"We are sincerely interested in the establishment of peace, in putting an end to the loss of human life, in opening borders and in resuming economic ties," Lavrov said. "Alongside the efforts being taken to ease military risks and promote likely cooperation in the humanitarian sphere Russia is conducting persistent work to coordinate political settlement principles. We carry out our mediatory mission without trying to impose any ready-made solutions on the parties concerned."

He said Armenia and Azerbaijan "should come to terms on their own, without external pressure, without any artificial deadlines or arbitration." "This is a firm position of ours," Lavrov said. "We will be prepared to support any solution that will suit all parties concerned. If an agreement is concluded, we shall be geared to act in concert with the other participants in the OSCE Minsk Group as a guarantor of the settlement."

Agencies

Turkey starts returning IS fighters, deports US national

ANKARA

A US national who is a member of the Islamic State group has been deported home, a Turkish official said yesterday, as Ankara began repatriating captured foreign IS fighters.

Turkish Interior Ministry spokesman Ismail Catakli told Turkey's state-run Anadolu Agency that a German and a Danish national would also be deported

later on Monday while seven German nationals would be returned on Nov 14.

Catakli did not immediately provide further information on the IS suspects but said they were being held in deportation centers.

"A foreign terrorist fighter from the United States has been deported from Turkey after the procedures were completed," Anadolu quoted Catakli as saying.

Turkey has over the past few

weeks criticized Western nations, including Britain and the Netherlands, for refusing to take back their nationals who had joined the militant group and vowed to send back IS militants - even if their citizenship has been revoked.

Interior Minister Suleyman Soylu has said that Turkey is not "a hotel" for IS militants and that Ankara would begin repatriating IS militants held by Turkey as of Monday. Soylu did not provide

any numbers or say which countries they would be sent back to.

Soylu said about 1,200 foreign IS fighters were in Turkish prisons and 287 members, including women and children, were recaptured during Turkey's military offensive into northeast Syria last month.

Turkey's move to transfer IS foreign fighters comes amid Turkish frustration with Western nations that have refused to back Turkey's

offensive against Syrian Kurdish fighters, whom Ankara considers to be terrorists because of their links to Kurdish rebels fighting inside Turkey. Many countries have voiced concerns that the Turkish invasion would lead to a resurgence of the IS.

Several European countries, including Britain, have stripped IS fighters of their nationalities, to prevent their return.

Agencies

Cyclone leaves trail of death, destruction in Bangladesh, India

DHAKA,

CYCLONE Bulbul, which slammed Bangladesh's coastlines after making landfall in the Indian state of West Bengal, has left a trail of death and destruction, claiming at least 23 lives.

At least 12 people were killed as cyclone Bulbul ripped through Bangladesh's coastlines, almost all as a result of falling trees, Bangladesh official figures showed yesterday.

According to the latest report by the Directorate General of Health Services (DGHS) under the Ministry of Health, at least 48 people were also injured by the devastating cyclone in southwestern Bangladesh.

It said 20,66,803 people across Bangladesh were relocated to cyclone shelters. Bulbul damaged houses, uprooted trees, snapped power and communication lines, and disrupted rail, road and air traffic. Power supply has not been restored in many cyclone-hit areas yes-

terday.

Bangladeshi State Minister for Disaster Management and Relief Enamur Rahman told reporters that the government has taken adequate measures to support the affected people.

He said a mass evacuation of over 2 million people hours before the cyclone made landfall have averted a greater loss of life.

The storm made landfall near Sagar Islands in Indian state of West Bengal with its status downgraded to "severe" from "very severe" on Saturday night, as the gale wind speed dropped to about 115-125km per hour.

It subsequently crossed coastal Bangladesh districts in a weakened form. Crops on nearly 300,000 hectares of land were damaged by Bulbul, the country's department of Agriculture said on Sunday.

Nearly 50,000 households and thousands of fish enclosures were reportedly damaged under the influence of



People fix their damaged homes amid high waters in Khulna as Cyclone Fani lashes Bangladesh. AFP

heavy rain and strong winds in three coastal Bangladesh districts which were hit hard by the cyclone.

Apart from this, embankments were also damaged due to the cyclonic storm which also left a trail of death and destruction in neighboring India

where nearly half a million people were affected and 60,000 houses were fully or partially damaged.

According to Indian officials, over 150,000 people were evacuated from West Bengal's low lying coastal areas in the wake of the cyclonic storm Bulbul.

Indian media reported that at least 10 people died across the state, most as a result of falling trees. Also one death has been reported from Indian state of Odisha due to heavy rain triggered by the cyclonic storm.

The cyclone toll is feared to rise further as some fishermen in both the countries were still missing owing to the incidents of boat sinking amid inclement weather on Sunday.

Tornado and cyclones are common occurrences in parts of India and Bangladesh. Cyclone Aila, which hit both Bangladesh and India in May 2009, left nearly 200 people dead and affected millions in both countries. In 2007, Cyclone Sidr hit Bangladesh's southwestern coastal belt, leaving more than 4,000 people dead or missing.

Xinhua

Cooperation to make BRICS voice louder - Brazil congressman

"I AM very much looking forward to the 11th BRICS Summit and the attendance of President Xi Jinping at the meeting. I believe that the meeting is bound to yield fruitful results," said Fausto Pinato, chairman of the Parliamentary Front of the Brazil-China National Congress and the BRICS Parliamentary Front.

BRICS countries will conduct dialogue and discussion in a harmonious and inclusive manner and make important contributions to improving global governance, he said.

The Parliamentary Front of the Brazil-China National Congress, established in 2017, aims to promote friendly

cooperation between Brazil and China. Its members account for more than half of Brazil's congressmen.

As the relations between the two countries and among BRICS countries deepened, Brazil established the BRICS Parliamentary Front in 2019, paving the way for exchanges and cooperation among BRICS countries.

Development is the common goal of BRICS countries, Pinato said. Though the five countries have different national conditions and cultural backgrounds, they all hope to increase their voice in international affairs through equal and open dialogue, and promote mutual cooperation, complement each



other's advantages, and join hands for mutually beneficial cooperation. Therefore, the cooperation mechanism is very important.

Pinato highly appreciates China's

important role in promoting BRICS cooperation and global development, saying China's role is crucial in the international arena.

"The BRICS cooperation mechanism allows BRICS countries to strengthen exchanges and mutual learning and share governance experience," he said, pointing out that China's development experience is worth learning for other emerging markets and developing countries.

The BRICS countries should strengthen cooperation so as to make a louder voice on international affairs.

Pinato, who is also chairman of the Committee on Agriculture of the Na-

tional Congress of Brazil, places high hopes on BRICS agricultural cooperation.

Brazil is a traditional agricultural country with superior natural conditions, but there is still much room for improvement in agricultural technology, he said.

"I am optimistic about the cooperation potential of BRICS countries in agriculture. I hope they can provide more financial and policy support for Brazil's agricultural development, especially to strengthen the support for small and medium-sized agricultural enterprises," he pointed out.

BRICS countries have a relatively

solid economic foundation and a large market, and the cooperation prospects are broad, Pinato said. The energy the mechanism releases and its potential can meet the urgent needs of emerging market countries and developing countries.

Brazil adopts a very positive attitude to BRICS cooperation. It is expected that at the 11th BRICS Summit, all parties could further reach consensus on the current international economic situation, deepen people-to-people exchanges and economic and trade cooperation, and work together to improve global governance, he added.

People's Daily



A large crowd of residents takes part in an anti-violence rally organized by Safeguard Hong Kong at Tamar Park, Hong Kong, Aug 17 2019. (File photo)

More than 1.1 million Hong Kong residents sign petition against violence

HONG KONG

MORE than 1.1 million Hong Kong residents had as of yesterday morning signed an online petition, calling for an end to violence in Hong Kong.

The campaign, initiated by the Safeguard Hong Kong alliance in October, is aimed at voicing their opposition to violence by black-clad masked rioters, and rallying public support for the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) government and the police in stopping violence and restoring order.

On Friday, Safeguard Hong Kong submitted a petition to the director of the HKSAR Chief Executive's Office, Kennedy Wong, convener of the community group, said the escalating violence has discouraged many residents from standing up to speak out, and the online petition is to allow more residents to voice their demands.

"We hope it can gather the positive energy in Hong Kong, and bring together those who support the HKSAR government and the police," Wong said.

Hong Kong residents should first support the law enforcement agencies in curbing violence, he added. The online petition also calls for the support of an anti-mask law, imposed by the HKSAR government last month in a bid to stop violence and chaos.

Hong Kong has been recently plagued by "black violence." The black-clad rioters ignore the anti-mask law and other laws, and continue to hide their identities, said an announcement issued by Safeguard Hong Kong on its website.

The rioters arbitrarily set fire to properties, robbed shops, smashed shopping malls, beat residents and tourists, and Hong Kong was plunged into "black terror," it said, adding that the work, study and life of Hong Kong residents are greatly affected.

"The achievements accumulated by several generations of Hong Kong people will be destroyed (by the rioters)," the announcement said.

On the website's message board, a netizen named "no identity, no soul" asked, "Why hate your roots?" The rioters are destroying their home and their future, the netizen said, adding that freedom does not mean that it can be above the rule of law, and it cannot infringe on the freedom of others.

A netizen named "Doris" wrote that a medical staff at a government hospital asked them whether there were police officers in their family when he accompanied a family member to see a doctor.

"Why do medical staff ask this question? We suspect that some medical staff are hateful or sensitive to the police," Doris said, adding that the police had been very hardworking and suffering, and Hong Kong people should not trouble police officers and their family members.

"Please sympathize with the police and support the government in rebuilding Hong Kong! Cheer up! Stay united!" Doris said.

"Don't let the police shed tears while shedding blood," netizen "Wing" said, adding that "the duty of the police is to arrest criminals, instead of being beaten, doxxed and attacked."

Netizen "KW" also expressed support for the police in strictly enforcing the law and hoped that the Safeguard Hong Kong alliance can organize more activities, so that the silent majority can speak out.

The demands of the protesters are not the mainstream voice and public opinion, KW said. "Love the country and love Hong Kong," netizen named Kan Shing Shun said, calling for joint efforts with the Hong Kong police to bring radical mobs to justice and stop violence as soon as possible. **Xinhua**

Uganda, DR Congo leaders agree to advance bilateral trade

KAMPALA

UGANDAN President Yoweri Museveni and visiting Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) leader Felix Tshisekedi have agreed to advance trade and economic ties between the two neighboring countries.

A State House statement issued here on Sunday said the two leaders on Saturday agreed to among others increase trade and investments between the two countries.

"We are going to improve road infrastructure including the Mpondwe-Beni road, Goli-Bunia Road, Bunagana-Rutshuru-Goma road and the bridge across river Semuliki to Bunya. These will improve trade, social issues and will guarantee security," Museveni said.

Museveni (pictured) said modern prosperity comes from business. "If we have factories, we sell more and expand and also provide goods and



services for the population. Africa imports a lot from China, Japan and India. Such goods should be made here," Museveni added.

Tshisekedi said economic cooperation and embracing of the African Continental Free Trade Area agreement is critical in stimulating economic growth; generating employment and facilitating the movement of goods and services. Tshisekedi was in Uganda to attend a two-day Uganda-DRC Business Forum 2019.

The two countries concluded several business agreement during the two-day state visit. Trade among the two countries is estimated to be about 532 million U.S. dollars, according to Uganda Bureau of Statistics.



Bolivia's Morales resigns after protests, lashes out at 'coup'

LA PAZ

BOLIVIAN President Evo Morales said on Sunday he was resigning to ease violence that has gripped the South American nation since a disputed election, but he stoked fears of more unrest by saying he was the victim of a "coup" and faced arrest.

Video footage showed clashes on the streets of La Paz and some buildings on fire Sunday night after the military called on Morales to step down and allies deserted him following weeks of protests since the Oct. 20 election.

Morales, in power for nearly 14 years, said in televised comments earlier that he would submit his resignation letter to help restore stability, though he aimed barbs at what he called a "civic coup" and later said police planned to arrest him.

"I am resigning, sending my letter of resignation to the Legislative Assembly," Morales said, adding that it was his "obligation as indigenous president and president of all Bolivians to seek peace."

However, underscoring the ongoing tensions, Morales later said on Twitter that the police had an "illegal" warrant for his arrest and that "violent groups" had attacked his home.

The commander of Bolivia's police force said in a television interview that there was no warrant for Morales' arrest.

The departure of Morales, a leftist icon and the last survivor of Latin America's "pink tide" of two decades ago, is likely to send shockwaves across the region at a time when left-leaning leaders have returned to power in Mexico and Argentina.

Vice-President Alvaro García Linares also resigned.

Some of Morales' leftist allies in Latin America decried the turn of events as a "coup," including Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro and Argentine President-elect Alberto Fernandez.

Mexican Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard said his country would offer Morales asylum if he sought it.

Alibaba sells 1.4 billion dollars in 96 seconds as Chinese shop for singles' Day

HANGZHOU

CHINA'S Singles' Day sales on Alibaba's e-commerce platform Tmall hit 10 billion yuan (about 1.43 billion U.S. dollars) at just one minute and 36 seconds after midnight yesterday.

At one hour, 26 minutes and seven seconds after midnight, sales on Tmall hit 120.7 billion yuan, surpassing the whole day of sales on Singles' Day in 2016.

Both figures set a new record for the Single's Day shopping festival on Tmall, which was first designed by Tmall on Nov. 11, 2009, and has become one of the largest online shopping sprees worldwide.

At the peak, 544,000 orders were placed in a second on Tmall, setting a new record for peak online traffic in the world, according to Alibaba.

The new records reflect China's rising economic strength, as well as the benefits of technology development and global trade, said Zhou Mi, a researcher with the Chinese Academy of International Trade and Economic Cooperation affiliated to the Ministry of Commerce.

As a whole, the purchasing power of Chinese customers is on the rise, enabling them to buy more high-quality products," said Zhou. "Meanwhile, technology development and more robust global trade have also helped lower the price of commodities."

More than 22,000 overseas brands from 200 countries and regions have participated in this year's shopping spree in China, according to Alibaba.

Sales of Tmall's first shopping festival totaled about 52 million yuan. Alibaba's Singles' Day sales reached 213.5



billion yuan last year.

Initial data provided by Tmall on this year's Singles' Day showed that China-made products are gaining increasing consumer recognition.

Among 148 brands with a turnover of over 100 million yuan in the first two hours of transactions on Monday, more than 80 are domestic brands, accounting for more than half of the total. Notably, sales of tech giant Huawei's flagship shop on Tmall surpassed one billion yuan in one hour and 19 minutes, while cosmetics brand Perfect Diary reached sales of 100 million yuan in just 13 minutes.

"Many products made or designed in China are both appealing and of high quality, and they also have the potential to be trendsetters," said Li Shengchao, a marketing director at Tmall's clothing section.

"The high online traffic on Singles' Day also offers an opportunity to showcase Alibaba's technological capacity. All online traffic of the core

ROK governor seeks US help for Mt Kumgang tours

SEOUL

THE governor of an eastern Republic of Korea (ROK) province, bordering the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), said Monday that he had sent a letter to US Vice-President Mike Pence asking help for the resumption of the suspended inter-Korean tour program in Mount Kumgang.

Gangwon Province Governor Choi Moon-soon told a press conference in Seoul that the letter was delivered to the White House during his recent trip to Washington for restarting the halted Mount Kumgang tour project.

Through the letter, Choi also asked Pence to help ROK people tour the DRRK's Wonsan tourist zone, expected to open next year, if the Mount Kumgang tour is hard to be resumed in the near future because of the international sanctions, the governor noted. The US vice-president attended the opening ceremony of the 2018 PyeongChang Winter Olympics that was held last February in the ROK eastern county of PyeongChang in Gangwon province.

The DPRK sent its athletes and cheering squad to the ROK-hosted winter sports event, becoming a starting point to the inter-Korean summits and the first-ever DPRK-US summit last year.

Putin: Criminal cases failed to stem theft at Vostochny spaceport construction site

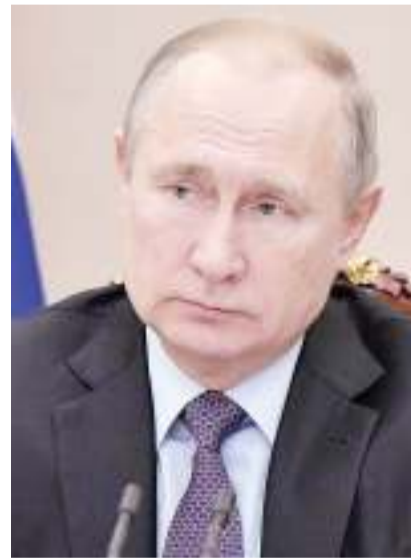
MOSCOW

DOZENS of criminal cases and jailings have failed to stem theft at the Vostochny spaceport construction site, Russian President Vladimir Putin said at a government meeting yesterday.

The Russian leader spoke about the need to ensure strict, purposeful and transparent spending of budget funds in the defense sphere and noted that he had numerously made similar demands in other areas, including the construction of Russia's first civilian spaceport in the Far East.

"It has been stated a hundred times: you must work transparently because large funds are allocated. This project is actually of the national scope!"

But, despite this, hundreds of millions, hundreds of millions [of rubles]



are stolen! Several dozen criminal cases have

been opened, the courts have already passed verdicts and some are serving their prison terms.

However, things have not been put in order there the way it should have been done," the Russian president said.

Putin said he hoped that as far as diversifying production in the defense industry was concerned, "everything will be arranged properly."

"I will ask the prosecutor's office and investigative agencies, as well as the presidential controlling department, to watch this closely," Putin said.

The Russian leader demanded that "effective control over procurement purchases" should be established in the defense industry.

The Vostochny spaceport in the Amur Region in the Russian Far East is the first national civilian space center. Large-

scale construction work to build the spaceport's infrastructure and technical facilities started in 2012.

The Vostochny spaceport's construction was accompanied by numerous problems.

According to the data of the Prosecutor General's Office, a total of 17,000 various violations were exposed during the construction of the Vostochny Cosmodrome in 2014-2018 and 140 criminal cases were opened while total damage was estimated at 10 billion rubles (\$150 million).

Dozens of individuals were convicted under various counts of Russia's Criminal Code, including former head of Dalspetsstroi (the general contractor for the spaceport's construction in 2009-2016) Yuri Khrizman.

Xi's trip to inject new impetus into cooperation and common development

THE trip of Chinese President Xi Jinping to Europe and Latin America is bound to inject new impetus into the development of China-Greece relations and China-Europe relations, and add new momentum to deepen the partnership among BRICS countries and improve of global governance.

At the invitation of Greek President Prokopi Pavlopoulos, Xi will pay a state visit to Greece from Nov. 10 to 12.

Xi's forthcoming state visit to Greece will mark the first state visit by a Chinese president to Greece in 11 years. It will further consolidate mutual political trust and traditional friendship between the two countries, deepen bilateral pragmatic cooperation,

boost the building of an open world economy, and create a new chapter of communication, mutual learning and harmonious coexistence between different civilizations.

As an ancient civilization in Europe, Greece has enjoyed lasting friendly interactions with China. The two countries have a natural affinity with each other, and have witnessed close exchanges on the international stage.

In recent years, China-Greece comprehensive strategic partnership has developed continuously, with friendly cooperation in various areas keeping expanding.

Greece has firmly supported and actively participated in the joint building of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). The Piraeus Port

project in Greece has become a flagship BRI project.

China and Greece have intensified efforts to promote exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations. The two countries have jointly launched the Ancient Civilizations Forum and advocated inclusiveness and common progress of civilizations.

This April, Greece became a full member of the China-Central and Eastern European Countries Cooperation Mechanism, further enriching the comprehensive strategic partnership between China and Greece while injecting new driving force into the development of China-Europe relations and connectivity.

China and Greece, as the birthplaces and inheritors of Eastern



and Western civilizations, can provide wisdom and inspiration for tackling the problems and challenges confronting today's world.

This May, Greek President Prokopi Pavlopoulos attended the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations in Beijing, where he expressed strong opposition to the so-called "clash of civilizations" argument.

Greek Prime Minister Kyriakos Mitsotakis recently led a large economic and trade delegation to the ongoing second China International Import Expo (CIIE), sending out a positive signal of safeguarding multilateralism together with China.

At the invitation of Brazilian President Jair Messias Bolsonaro, Xi will attend the 11th BRICS Summit which will take place in Brasilia, the capital of Brazil, from Nov. 13 to 14. Xi will also hold talks with Bolsonaro and the two will sign cooperation documents in various fields.

China and Brazil are the most representative emerging markets and the largest developing countries of the east and west hemispheres.

In less than a month after Bra-

zilian President Bolsonaro visited China, the two heads of state are going to hold talks again, which is helpful for giving full play to the strategic guidance of high-level exchanges between the two countries, constantly deepening political mutual trust, and expanding bilateral pragmatic cooperation in various areas.

The world today is faced with profound changes unseen in a century. Emerging markets and developing countries are rising collectively and unstoppably, while the aspirations for solidarity, collaboration, and gaining strength through unity is increasing with each passing day.

At the same time, the global economy is still facing many problems. Protectionism and unilateral

ism are becoming increasingly violent, and emerging markets and developing countries are confronted by worsening external environment.

In the face of unprecedented opportunities and challenges, more and more countries have paid greater attention to BRICS countries, whose leaders are going to discuss together the development of world economy at the 11th BRICS Summit under the theme of "Economic Growth for an Innovative Future".

Last year at the 10th BRICS Summit in Johannesburg, Xi looked back over the cooperation of BRICS countries and expressed his vision of the future development of the mechanism.

agencies

agencies

People's Daily

The
Guardian

SPORT



Donald Trump

Trump impeachment inquiry heads to live TV coverage

BY DAVID CRARY

BACK IN 1973, tens of millions of Americans tuned in to what Variety called “the hottest daytime soap opera” – the Senate Watergate hearings that eventually led to President Richard Nixon’s resignation.

It was a communal experience, and by some estimates, more than 80% of Americans tuned in to at least part of the Watergate telecasts. They were offered by ABC, CBS and NBC, as well as PBS, which won acclaim and viewers by showing not only the live hearings but also the full-length replays in prime time.

Seeing the witnesses lay out the case against the president moved public opinion decidedly in favor of impeachment.

But this time may be different. When the House impeachment inquiry of President Donald Trump begins its public phase on Wednesday, people will be watching on screens large and small.

Many, in fact, are likely to be watching the proceedings on more than one screen, with real-time reinforcement of their preexisting views of Trump on social media platforms and other venues that did not exist in Nixon’s time.

In the Watergate era, there was no Fox News or nationally prominent conservative talk radio shows, which today are favored by many of Trump’s supporters. Nor was there the equivalent of MSNBC, which caters to left-of-center partisans.

“People now have a far greater variety of options as to how to consume this,” said professor Tobe Berkovitz, a former political media consultant who teaches communications at Boston University.

“Everyone might watch the same hearing, but then people are going to divide into camps in terms of how they want to engage with the analysis,” he said. “You’re going to pick who you want to interpret and propagandize.”

Two decades before Watergate, Americans had their first collective immersion in live telecasts of a high-stakes Washington hearing when Sen. Joseph McCarthy, R-Wis., polarized the country with his relentless pursuit of suspected communist sympathizers.

Joseph Welch, a lawyer representing the Army, is remembered to this day for his question to McCarthy in 1954: “Have you no sense of decency, sir?”

The Watergate hearings produced a comparably memorable catchphrase, when Sen. Howard Baker, R-Tenn., summarized the gist of the complex inquiry into a politically motivated break-in: “What did the president know and when did he know it?”

A damning answer eventually surfaced after the Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, as the Senate’s Watergate Committee was officially called, obtained secret Oval Office tapes that implicated Nixon in a cover-up.

In the runup to President Bill Clinton’s impeachment by the House in December 1998 and acquittal by the Senate two months later, there was a similar dramatic twist when disclosure of Monica Lewinsky’s semen-stained blue dress undercut Clinton’s claim that he had never had sex with her.

Kathleen Hall Jamieson, director of the

University of Pennsylvania’s Annenberg Public Policy Center, said Americans expecting an equally dramatic moment in the upcoming impeachment telecasts may be let down, given that so much important testimony already has been presented in closed-door sessions.

“If you’re expecting revelation as opposed to confirmation, you’re going to be disappointed,” Jamieson said. “It’s going to seem anticlimactic unless something new is discovered.”

She noted another contrast between Watergate and the Trump inquiry. Nixon and his top aides struggled to communicate persuasively with the public as the investigation unfolded, whereas Trump and his advisers are making intensive use of advertising and social media “to make sure his base stays locked down.”

Mark Meckler, an early leader in the tea party movement, predicts a lot of Americans won’t even watch the broadcasts because they’ve already reached conclusions.

Many Trump supporters won’t tune in “because they think it’s a sham process,” he said. “And I don’t think most people on the left will watch because they already know the conclusion in their minds. To them, the president has been impeachable since before he was elected.”

But Darrell West, a longtime political science professor who is now vice president of the Brookings Institution, said the telecasts will boost public interest.

“They will put human faces on the closed-door testimony,” he said in an email. “Viewers will be able to observe what people say and how they say it as well as the manner in which they answer questions.”

West acknowledged that most people have made up their minds on Trump’s guilt or innocence.

“But the testimony doesn’t have to shift very many people to be politically influential,” he wrote. “If only 10% are affected negatively by the testimony, Trump’s removal number jumps from 50 to 60%.”

That would represent an enormous hit for him and could lead some Republican Senators to consider a vote to remove the President.”

Arthur Sanders, a professor of politics at Drake University in Des Moines, Iowa, recalled that public support for Nixon’s impeachment grew as the televised Watergate inquiry progressed, while most Americans remained opposed to Clinton’s ouster at every stage of his impeachment process.

“The Democrats hope this follows the Nixon model – Trump has always hoped it follows the Clinton model,” Sanders said.

Regardless of how the TV audience shapes up, Sanders knows of some Americans eager to follow the Trump impeachment drama.

“What’s going on now is horrible for the country, but it’s the best time to teach classes on American politics,” he said. “The students are so curious, trying to figure out what’s going on – what’s normal in American politics and what isn’t.”

As for PBS, it’s not planning a repeat of prime-time impeachment replays but says the daytime telecasts will be available on demand via all of PBS’ digital platforms.

Seven Mainland Premier League coaches fired, is anyone safe?

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE 2019/20 Tanzania Mainland Premier League season has claimed its seventh coaching casualty following the exit of KMC coach Jackson Mayanja.

Mayanja was not in charge when KMC registered their second win of the season with a hard fought 2-1 victory over Biashara United which was followed by a 2-1 loss against Kagera Sugar.

With assistant coach Mrage Kabange in charge and Mayanja nowhere to be seen near the stadium, reports suggested that he had been sacked following the 1-0 away defeat to Ruvu Shooting, but the club denied the rumours.

At this point it was clear his exit was only a matter of when not if despite the club chairman and Kinondoni Municipal Mayor Benjamin Sitta reassurance that Mayanja is still the head coach.

“Reports on the coach having left the team are not true. He is our coach and he is still with us. We had our agreements and expectations but unfortunately we are struggling so we had a meeting to iron out issues,” said Mayor Sitta.

On Saturday morning, a few hours after Kagera Sugar defeat the club issued a statement through its social media channels, announcing



Jackson Mayanja

Mayanja’s dismissal.

“The management of KMC would like to inform the media that they have parted ways with coach JM,” read part of the letter released to the press on Saturday morning.

“The decision has come after the bad results. We have mutually agreed with the coach to come to this decision. We thank him for the time spent with us and wish him the best,” it continued.

The Ugandan coach joins Malale Hamsini at Ndanda, Fred Felix

‘Minziro’ at Singida United, Amri Said from Biashara United and Athuman Bilal ‘Bilo’ at Alliance, Etienne Ndayiragije and Mwyni Zahera, to part ways with clubs this season.

Mayanja exit on Monday came after only four months and with only eight league matches in charge is another proof to the immutable truth that you are only ever a handful of bad results away from the sack in Tanzania.

Said saved Biashara United from

relegation last season after taking over in January and eventually opted to come back for another season after initially deciding to walk out. It proved a bad decision as, frustrated by lack of investment in the squad, he had a poor start and was eventually sacked after only five matches in charge this season.

As more coaches are fired earlier into their tenures, the overwhelming question is becoming, is any coach safe? After Simba’s goalless home draw with Prisons, is Patrick Assemu’s position safe? Will Juma Mwambusi’s position with Mbeya City remain safe if they fail to win the next two matches?

Now, more than ever, coaches are being viewed as the scapegoat if their team struggles. Mayanja has been fired despite injuries to key players, Saidi was relieved of his job despite the lack of squad investment in the squad.

Fair or not, coaches, not other club officials, are viewed as the problem. Even as some teams like Biashara United and Ndanda, have little funds to improve their squads, the blame always falls on the coaches.

As fans and officials fail to grasp the big picture and look for a scapegoat, coaches will continue to come and go. But with seven coaches fired with only a quarter of a season gone, the question remains:

Raptors end Lakers’ 7-game winning streak in 113-104 victory

LOS ANGELES

THE centerpiece of the Toronto Raptors’ championship team works at Staples Center now. Two more key components of last season’s sublime roster got injured right before the Raptors arrived in Los Angeles for the reunion.

In the opening weeks of life after Kawhi, the defending champs are learning they might be deeper than even they realized.

They definitely had enough to hold off Staples’ marquee tenants in a remarkable early-season win.

Pascal Siakam had 24 points and 11 rebounds, Fred VanVleet finished with 23 points and 10 assists and the Raptors snapped the Los Angeles Lakers’ seven-game winning streak with a 113-104 victory Sunday night.

Chris Boucher matched his career high with 15 points for the Raptors, who have won three straight and six of seven. Two days after they lost starter Kyle Lowry to a broken left thumb and top reserve Serge Ibaka to a sprained right ankle, Toronto still made a decisive rally with four reserves on the floor early in the fourth quarter before hanging on late for its 10th consecutive win over the Lakers.

“I think everybody that stepped out there didn’t only contribute, but they played awesome,” Toronto coach Nick Nurse said.

Norman Powell scored 14 points while starting in Lowry’s spot for Toronto, but every starter except Siakam was watching from the bench when the Raptors made a 17-6 run to start the fourth with nine points from Boucher. The Raptors also got 10 points from Rondae Hollis-Jefferson in his first game action since Oct. 26, while rookie Terence Davis reached career highs of 13 points, three assists and five rebounds in his 17 minutes.

“It was great,” VanVleet said. “Best show I’ve seen all year. Those guys, just seeing them play, I know Coach has been hard on some of those guys, and to see them break through and have a moment, they’ve been working so hard. That’s what the NBA is about, is waiting for your opportunity, and you couldn’t find a better place to have it than LA in the bright lights against one of the best teams in the league.”

Toronto led 104-92 with 3:50 to play on Davis’ third 3-pointer, but Kyle Kuzma hit back-to-back 3-pointers while LA scored eight straight points. The Lakers then missed four consecutive 3-pointers with the

chance to pull even, and Siakam threw down back-to-back dunks on the fast break to seal it, punctuating the Raptors’ repeated success in transition offense.

“Playing hard is the most important thing, and that’s what we did,” said Siakam, whose 3-for-15 start from the field prevented him from matching his 44-point effort in New Orleans two nights ago. “Everyone is understanding their role and playing to their strength.”

Anthony Davis scored 27 points and LeBron James had 13 points, 15 assists and 13 rebounds in his 85th career triple-double, but the Lakers lost for the first time since opening night against the Clippers. The Raptors used a zone defense at times, and they also regularly employed what Davis described as “a weird double-team” to force the Lakers out of their rhythm.

“They’ve still got championship players over there,” James said. “Don’t matter if they were short-handed. ... They were the better team tonight, for sure. We had good opportunities to win the game, but they turned up in that fourth quarter.”

Davis and James both had big games, but the Lakers’ supporting cast wasn’t helpful and their team defense didn’t

look nearly as sharp as it had been in recent games. Kuzma scored 13 of his 15 points in the fourth quarter.

“We’ve got to get our offense clicking,” Davis said. “We’ve got to be able to score a little bit more, just for nights when our defense might not be there or they are making tough shots.”

OH DANNY BOY

Danny Green went scoreless on 0-for-5 shooting in 27 minutes for the Lakers, who signed him to a two-year free agent deal in the summer. The sharpshooting veteran won a ring with the Raptors last year while shooting a career-high 45.5% on 3-pointers during his sole season in Toronto.

BIG SWAT

Boucher punctuated arguably the biggest game of his NBA career by blocking James’ layup attempt in the fourth quarter. The undrafted Canadian who was on the last two teams to win the NBA title blocked three total shots and went 7 for 11 from the field.

“I’m going to remember this forever,” Boucher said. “I always wanted to play against (James and Davis), and to get a win makes it even better.”

AP



Toronto Raptors’ Fred VanVleet (23) scores against the Los Angeles Lakers during the first half of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Nov. 10, 2019, in Los Angeles. (AP Photo)

SPORT

Liverpool beat Man City to boost hopes of historic title triumph

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Acting US Ambassador to Tanzania, Inmi Patterson (2nd R), on Saturday joined 10-time NBA champion and USA basketball legend Jim Clemons and international athlete Chinny Nwangbo to watch Tanzania's Jr. NBA finals, which took place in Dar es Salaam. Inmi, Jim and Chinny presented awards to Under 14, 16, 17, 18 winners at JMK Park in the city. Jim and Chinny worked with the Youth Development Program in Arusha last week and are set to finish their visit in Dar es Salaam this week. The Sports Envoy Program is sponsored by the State Department through the U.S Embassy in Dar es Salaam and is supervised by the NBA. PHOTO: COURTESY OF U.S. EMBASSY

Dar tennis players to feature in EA junior tourney

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA will be represented by eight junior tennis players at the coming East Africa U-14 tournament slated for the end of this month in Kenya, national junior team's coach Salum Mvita disclosed.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Mvita said the tournament will be held in Nairobi from November 28 to December 4.

He pointed out that all of the nation junior team's players are undergoing intensive training at their clubs.

Mvita stopped short of mentioning the players who will make the trip and the squad's head coach, saying there are other modalities which the national tennis governing body, Tanzania Tennis Association (TTA), is working on.

"The country will be represented by eight players at the coming East Africa junior circuit, for now I can not name the players as there are some modalities we are working on," he disclosed.

"Once everything is over we will disclose them, the only thing I can say is that the players are going intensive trainings."

He also pointed out that all of the players travelling to the event will be sponsored by either their parents or guardians.

The TTA, he disclosed, will solicit for sponsorship for the coach's transport and accommodation in Kenya.

Mvita said the East Africa U-14 Circuit is aimed at keeping junior tennis players from across the region active.

"The aim of the East Africa Circuit is to keep players from the region active. It also helps coaches from the region identify and nurture players who can win medals for their countries and also prepare them for rating," he said.



Senior national football team's players, Hassan Dilunga (R), and Iddi Selemani attend the squad's training session in Dar es Salaam yesterday. The squad is shaping up for the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations qualifier's clash with Equatorial Guinea, slated for Friday in the city. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

Full house as foreign based players arrive for Stars' camp

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

AHEAD of their 2021 Africa Cup of Nations (AFCON) qualifiers' game against Equatorial Guinea, senior national team "Taifa Stars" camp is expected to be full house today with the expected arrival of foreign based players.

Taifa Stars' head coach Etienne Ndayiragije called up six foreign based players, skipper Mbwana Samatta, Simon Msuva, Eliuter Mpepo, Farid Mussa, Hassan Kessy and David Kissu.

Local based players joined camp on Saturday, however according to assistant coach, Selemani Matola, foreign based players were all expected to have reported by Monday night due to club commitments.

"All is well in our camp, we have planned daily double training sessions at the National Stadium," Matola said.

Foreign based players will start reporting on Sunday night and we expect to have a full house by Monday night."

Morocco-based striker, Simon Msuva, played for his outfit, Difaa el Jadida, in the Throne Cup semi-final on Saturday night.

Captain Samatta was held up by his side

KRC Genk's fixture against Gent in the Belgium premier league on Sunday.

Goalkeeper Kissu, who has earned his first call up, was in action on Sunday when his club, Gor Mahia, thrashed their rivals, AFC Leopards, 4-1.

Rules and regulations set up by world football governing body, FIFA, stipulate that clubs have an obligation to release players five days before matches on FIFA international date.

This time the date starts four days before the 'Taifa Stars' game, giving the technical bench less time to assess his starting lineup.

Tanzania spent nearly 40 years failing to qualify for the Africa Cup of Nations finals until this year when they qualified for the AFCON 2019 finals in Egypt, is now seeking back-to-back qualification.

They have been drawn in Group J together with Tunisia, Libya and Equatorial Guinea.

Taifa Stars' qualification campaign starts by taking on Equatorial Guinea at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Friday.

It will be the first of the qualification double-header that will also see Taifa Stars

travel to Tunisia to take on Libya on November 19.

Taifa Stars squad:

Goalkeepers: Juma Kaseja (KMC FC), Metacha Mnata (Young Africans (Yanga) and David Kisu (Gor Mahia/Kenya).

Defenders: Salum Kimenya (Tanzania Prisons), Hassan Kessy (Nkana FC/Zambia), Mohamed Hussein (Simba SC), Gadiel Michael (Simba), Erasto Nyoni (Simba SC), Bakari Nondo (Coastal Union), Kelvin Yondan (Yanga) and Dickson Job (Mtibwa Sugar).

Midfielders: Jonas Mkude (Simba SC), Abdulaziz Makame (Yanga), Simon Msuva (Difaa El Jadida/Morocco), Eliuter Mpepo (Buildcon/Zambia), Iddi Suleiman (Azam), Salum Abubakar (Azam), Muzamil Yassin (Simba SC), Frank Domayo (Azam), Farid Mussa (Tenerife/Spain), Hassan Dilunga (Simba SC).

Forwards: Kelvin John (Unattached), Ayoub Lyanga (Coastal Union), Ditram Nchimbi (Police Tanzania), Shaaban Iddi (Azam), Miraji Athuman (Simba SC) Mbwana Samatta (KRC Genk/Belgium).

Mafoso names Lesotho provisional squad for COSAFA U-20 Championship

CAPE TOWN

LESOTHO U-20 national football team's coach Bob Mafoso has announced his provisional squad of 26-players for the upcoming COSAFA Men's Under-20 Championship to be staged in Lusaka, Zambia from December 4-14.

Mafoso, who will be heading into his second COSAFA Championship in charge of the Lesotho team, admitted that they had a disastrous campaign in 2018 having been eliminated in the group stage without registering a single victory.

His side failed to live-up to the expectations of 2017, where the Lesotho team went all the way to final while he was still working as the assistant coach to the experienced Leslie Notsi.

The Mountain Kingdom country lost 2-1 to the then Thabo Senong coached South African side in the final.

"We want to improve on last year's performance and get beyond the group stage though we know that it will not be easy. Last year was a bit difficult because I had just taken over the reins after an impressive run in the previous year, where the team reached the final," Mafoso said.

"We had also assembled a group of new players and it was always going to be difficult for them to emulate the team that came before them. It was a learning curve for all of us.

"We have a better chance of doing well this year because half of the team we have now played in the 2018 edition of the tournament. They have a bit of international exposure, but we still need to prepare well to be able to reach our targets."

Lesotho will know who they will face in the 2019 group stage when the draw is made for the tournament in Lusaka on Friday.

Lesotho provisional squad:

Goalkeepers: Motlatsi Sehapala, Khosholo Rasebetsane

Defenders: Shali Lekhotla, Thapelo Mohale, Thapelo Lebesa, Retselisitsoe Lekhula, Siyabonga Monyaka, Mokhetsi Tsotetsi, Itumeleng Leche, Tuntu Moroahae, Tebello Mosoeu.

Midfielders: Katleho Lefuthi, Katleho Rapuleng, Thabo Mohlala, Katiso Selili, Hlompho Ramanki, Percy Mohami, Rethabile Moroeroe, Relebohile Thulo, Tsele Rankhasa, Batlang Mokhele, Teboho Molematsetla, Kananelo Rapuleng

Strikers: Moteloa Khemisi, Tseliso Botsane, Poloko Majota

5 EATV **TONIGHT @21:00**

NIRVANA

TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ (live)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Dakika 10 Za Maangamizi
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA I
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 Nirvana
21:30 Wakilisha
22:00 Grace Na Asili Yangu
22:30 Bongo Hills

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05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Flexibles by David Chikoko



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