



## National Pg 2

EACJ to rule on case challenging MSA today



## National Pg 3

Call for increased investment in nutrition



## National Pg 4

Africa joining forces with partnerships



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Plea for timely implementation of projects



# WFP to scale up assistance on EA drought, floods

WFP has so far bought all the 36,000 metric tonnes of maize available in the country as of January this year. The maize worth about \$ 9 million was purchased from the Tanzania National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA)

By Felister Peter

THE World Food Programme (WFP) has promised to provide humanitarian support to countries in East Africa including Tanzania as drought has started taking its toll in some regions due to rainfall deficit and persisting dry conditions.

"Drought is currently taking shape in East Africa. As a humanitarian organization dedicated to address hunger we will support any of the areas reported to have food deficit," said WFP country representative Michael Dunford when addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Dunford said delayed rains in some parts of Tanzania are likely to threaten food security. WFP will be ready to assist the country in future as it is now doing in Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Malawi which have been hit by serious flooding

and damage, he stated.

WFP in Tanzania has already dispatched a staff team to provide various humanitarian provisions to flood victims in Malawi and Mozambique. The country mission is ready to respond to assistance requests from Kenya following persisting drought in the country's northwest region of Turkana, he pointed out.

WFP has so far bought all the 36,000 metric tonnes of maize available in the country as of January this year. The maize worth about \$ 9 million was purchased from the Tanzania National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA).

"We are now working on logistics to transport the food to targeted areas including refugee camps. WFP is responsible of feeding all the refugees in Tanzania with support from various donors including the US government," he pointed

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Empakai Crater, a most-frequented tourist attraction found deep inside Ngorongoro Conservation Area, as captured recently. Photo: Correspondent Emmanuel Kwitema



## Cabinet paper awaited in innovation policy review

By Guardian Reporter

THE government is set to come up with a new policy on science and technology so that it involves all issues related to innovation.

The Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Prof. James Mdoe revealed this on Monday at a reception hosted by the Swiss Embassy in partnership with the Human Development Innovation Fund

(HDIF).

The occasion was the launching of the 5th Innovation Week organized by HDIF in collaboration with the Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (COSTECH) with support from UK-Aid.

Prof Mdoe said that the decision to review the policy came after realizing that the 33-year-old policy doesn't involve innovation, which is an important parameter towards in the country's industrialization agenda.

He said the proposed policy will create room for Tanzanian innovators to be identified, recognized and their activities will also be promoted for the country's socio-economic development.

"As government, we're fully aware that there are many innovators in the country, but are not exploited. The new policy will help us to do so," Prof Mdoe said, noting that the policy review is at an advanced stage and

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# It's joy crossing Ngorongoro Crater: Witness account by first-time visitor

By Correspondent Emmanuel Kwitema

WHAT an amazing experience crossing Ngorongoro Crater for the first time! Indeed, it was breathtaking.

I have been travelling from Arusha to Mara and back several times when going home for annual leave but never had I had an opportunity of crossing the crater itself before.

This time I did. As members of a delegation, we were coming back from Naiyobi ward in remote Ngorongoro District where we had been for an assignment. We were supposed to have gone back to Waso in Loliondo, Ngorongoro District, and cross the last gate before 18:00 hours.

After we were through with the assignments, we were supposed to return to Loliondo, but time was not in our favour as it was approaching 15:00 hours.

We were warned that things could get worse if we took the long route we had followed when



**These are among tourist attraction sites where local and international tourists can explore. It's high time for Tanzanians as well to use holidays and arranged visitations to travel as local tourists around the country to explore the beauty of our motherland**

to Naiyobi past the famous "View Point", where tourists and other visitors often stop to have a bird's view of Ngorongoro Crater.

The only option we had to beat the deadline was to cross the crater. When permission was granted, we had to pass through Lemala Gate - which led us through the crater. Crossing it for the first time was an amazing experience to me! I saw a wide range of beasts grazing comfortably in their natural habitats.

Among those at close range were elephants, huge herds of wildebeests, buffaloes and zebras. I am told these are traditionally good friends usually seen grazing together - various types of animals and birds. The buffalo closest to our vehicle was staring at me, as if asking me for a good photograph, but I was too scared stiff to react!

Although we spent about an hour crossing the area, the experience I got will forever remain in

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## \$5.5m meat processing plant for Coast Region

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA will be self-sufficient in livestock related products following ongoing construction of \$ 5.5 million meat processing factory - Tanchoice at Soga in Coast region.

The facility which will be the biggest meat processing factory in East and Central Africa will have the capacity to slaughter 14,000 cattle per day.

Speaking yesterday after laying the foundation



stone for construction of the factory, Livestock and Fisheries Minister Luhaga Mpina said the government is determined to protect local manufacturers as well as investors by taking strict measures and control import of livestock-related products.

Mpina assured investors of security and market protection, insisting that no substandard milk or beef will penetrate the country's market.

He attributed the successes in controlling

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# Media Services Act: East African court's ruling set for today

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Court of Justice (EACJ), is today scheduled to pronounce its judgment on a case filed by the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT), Legal Human Rights Centre (LHRC) and Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC).

The three bodies are challenging some provisions of the Media Services Act Of 2016 which they claim contravene the spirit of the Treaty of East Africa Cooperation.

The Respondent in the case is the Attorney General of United Republic of Tanzania.

The case, filed on January 11, 2017 came up for scheduling conference on March 13, 2018 before a panel headed by Justice Monica Mugenyi.

Other justices were Dr. Faustin Ntezilyayo, Fakihi Jundu, Audace Ngiye and Dr Charles Nyawello. Following the scheduling conference both parties filed their submissions and later on November 14, 2018 the matter came up for hearing.

Advocates jointly representing the applicants - the Media Council of Tanzania, Legal and Human Rights Centre and Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition in the case which has lasted for over two years include Donald Deya, Fulgence Massawe, Jebra Kambole, Mpale Mpoki, and Jenerali Ulimwengu.

The Applicants alleged that several provisions of the Media Services Act No. 12 of 2016 violate fundamental and operational principles of the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community (EAC).

They cited violations on Article 6 (d) and 8(1) (C) - contravening the principles underpinning freedom of the press, which is a cornerstone of the Community's principles of democracy, rule of law, accountability, transparency and good governance.

In the first session, advocates for the Applicants and Respondents in the case were given time to present submissions

and affidavits to the East African Court of Justice.

In that session the respondent was represented by a team led by Principal State Attorney, Mark Mulwambo.

Earlier, Advocate Deya argued before the court that the MSA 2016 infringed freedom of expression and of the press, good governance, rule of law and transparency pointing out that several provisions of the Act were in contravention of the Treaty for the East Africa Community.

He sought the Court to order repeal or amendment of the contested provisions to bring the law in conformity with the East African Treaty.

Principal State Attorney Mulwambo representing the Attorney General argued that freedom of expression is not absolute and that the Media Services Act is reflective of the Constitution of Tanzania and the East African Treaty.

He said the disputed sections are not an infringement of the Constitution or the Treaty for the Establishment of the East African Community.

He said that "we shall pray for dismissal of the reference... we shall also pray for costs or any other order".

Media stakeholders filed the case challenging the Act they deemed as toxic to media and development in general two months after it was enacted.

The new media law was enacted by the National Assembly on November 5, 2016 and President John Magufuli assented on November 16, 2016.



**we shall pray for dismissal of the reference... we shall also pray for costs or any other order**



An Agricultural Council of Tanzania meeting in progress in Dar es Salaam yesterday, with ACT board chairperson Jacqueline Mkindi (C) presiding. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## \$5.5m meat processing plant for Coast Region

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smuggling of livestock products to 'Operation Nzagamba' which is implemented in partnership with the police, intelligence and security department, National Environmental Management Council and the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Governments.

The operation aims at taming and regulating the sector as well as ensuring that the government is not losing any revenue, he further stated.

"We cannot live in a country where the market is dominated by substandard imported milk, meat and beef," he said,

directing incoming factory managers to make sure construction is completed by September.

The government is taking measures to ensure construction of more meat processing factories at Longido, Morogoro, Chato and Ruvu, the minister noted.

He assured Tanchoice investors that the government will soon provide reliable water services as well as improved road infrastructures.

Tanchoice meat processing factory director, Rashid Abdilah, commended the government for controlling importation of livestock processed products. "There is a big market for

livestock related goods in Tanzania, but it was flooded with substandard smuggled products which were illegally circulated into markets," he said, noting that the control of illegal imports ensures fair competition and guarantees the local market.

As a result of 'Operation Nzagamba,' the government on Sunday destroyed eight tonnes of toxic pork and meat that entered in the country illegally, endangering peoples' lives.

The meat tonnage from different countries was impounded in various supermarkets in the country in an operation that also saw a large amount of expired milk being seized and

destroyed. Mpina declared that the government will not tolerate importation of expired meat and dairy products, damaging domestic investments in the livestock industry.

He warned unscrupulous traders engaging in illegal importation of sub-standard and rotten foodstuffs to stop doing so "as the government was awake all the time and it would not spare anyone once caught."

"The government has continued to strengthen surveillance in border areas to make sure that the whole chain engaging in this illegal activity is smashed," he added.



Home Affairs minister Kangi Lugola speaks at a meeting of the Parliamentary Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security Committee in Dodoma yesterday. With him are Home Affairs ministry permanent secretary Maj Gen Jacob Kingu (L) and Prisons Commissioner General Phaustine Kasike (R). Photo courtesy of Home Affairs ministry

## It's joy crossing Ngorongoro Crater: Witness account by first-time visitor

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my memory; nothing will ever erase it. I salute the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) staff for its tireless efforts in maintaining the natural habitat of the areas under their supervision.

Perhaps I should also share what I encountered on my way to Naiyobi Ward. Have you ever known the Empakai Crater? This is another place well worth visiting. Although it is far from Ngorongoro Crater and the road is hopelessly rough, still you need to visit the place.

As we were approaching the ward,

we had to pass near Empakai Crater. Although not commonly known to the wide public, the area looks like a bowl with plenty of water in it.

Actually, no one will ever advise you to stop upon reaching the crater but sheer instinct will force you, as it happened to us: we had to stop our car and disembark to have a good view of the same.

I was wondering if this depression was known to visitors/tourists! The area is completely isolated and, to my surprise, ours was the only vehicle that day heading to Naiyobi via Empakai Crater. Perhaps NCAA should look into the possibility of repairing that particular stretch of the dust road so

that tourists can access the place more easily.

It was at Naiyobi that I had a really good view of the famous Ol Doinyo Lengai Mountain literally, Mountain of God) which stands at 2960 meters above sea level. The mountain is the only active volcano in Tanzania - with frequent minor eruptions. I soon later discovered that Naiyobi Village lies just at the foot of the mountain!

The Ngorongoro Conservation Area was declared one of the seven UNESCO-recognised World Heritage Sites in Tanzania. The others are Stone Town of Zanzibar, Serengeti National Park, Selous Game Reserve, Kilimanjaro National Park, Kilwa Kisiwani Ruins,

Songo Mnara Ruins and Kondoa Rock-Art.

These are among the tourist attraction sites in Tanzania where local and international tourists can wander and wonder. It's high time more and more Tanzanian nationals also spent their holidays and other free time moving around the country to explore and enjoy the infinite beauty of our motherland.

**Emmanuel Kwitema is a photojournalist with Under The Same Sun - a charitable organisation that, among other things, promotes the wellbeing of persons with albinism through education and advocacy.**

## WFP inches up support with EA drought, floods

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out, elaborating the organization plans to buy another 120,000 metric tonnes of food products after the 2019 harvest season.

Dunford said that transport challenges will soon be resolved following the recent signing of an agreement between WFP and Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) to improve efficiency of railway transport.

Last week, farmers in Kilosa district, Morogoro region raised concern that prolonged drought has affected maize production, their key staple food, touching off decreased production that may send thousands of people into hunger this year.

The farmers told visitors that their maize crop has dried up in the fields while they can't do more planting as

the planting season approaches its end. Berega ward councillor Wilmod Machela said that farmers are helpless as villages like Kiyegeya, Berega, Mgugu and Dumbalume have lost crop potential by up to 80 percent owing to drought.

If the drought continued to the end of the month, the ward would face severe hunger as the villagers invested heavily in the maize crop as a food and cash crop.

Agriculture research officer Ismail Ngolinda from the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI-Illonga) in Kilosa said drought has been a big challenge in recent years. He recommended that farmers should try moderately drought tolerant maize varieties such as the Water Efficient Maize for Africa (WEMA).

## Cabinet paper awaited in innovation policy review

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soon it will be submitted to the cabinet.

After that, guidelines will be developed that will help to identify, recognize innovators and then come up with the best approach on how to develop various innovations.

Apart from commending this year's Innovation Week, Prof Mdoe urged Tanzanian innovators to focus on innovations, which are meant to provide solutions to people's problems.

For her part, the Swiss Ambassador to Tanzania, Florence Tinguely Mattli said that Tanzania has a big potential when it comes to innovation, suggesting the need for a collective effort to support such efforts for the country's socio-economic development.

There are many innovators in Tanzania who use simple and cost-effective technology with locally available materials, she stated.

Ambassador Mattli cited bamboo-made straws from the slopes of Usambara Mountains as an example of cost-effective innovations.

Tanzanian inventors need to continue working on innovations that help to improve the country's social service delivery, she told the gathering.

This year's Innovation Week is themed: "Scaling and Sustaining Innovation for Human Development."

Innovation Week is meant to inspire current and future leaders to take risks with new ideas, collaborate across sectors and transform Tanzania through the scaling of innovation, organisers noted.





A potentially risky ride towards downtown Dar es Salaam, as witnessed yesterday along a road at Keko Magurumbasi in Temeke municipality. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

MARRAKESH, Morocco

AFRICA needs to build more resilient economies if it is to have the resources to meet its development goals and targets over the next few decades. This requires the prioritisation of domestic revenue mobilisation efforts and the tripling of current rates of growth.

These were some of the takeaways from the just-concluded UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) Conference of Ministers (COM2019) held here.

The weeklong conference brought together policy makers who were also urged fast-track the digitalisation of their economies as a means of improving efficiencies, creating jobs and modernising systems and institutions.

Delegates heard that an increase of 12-20 per cent in tax collection can raise up to \$400bn and go a long way in funding \$600bn financing gap Africa faces. But that will also require fiscal prudence to strengthen a social compact between government and its people.

The conference agreed that digitalisation provides an opportunity to raise taxes as well as greater transparency and better governance, but delegates were also cautious about the challenges involved - in terms of what to tax and where to tax it, making it ever easier to shift profits and compounding the estimated \$50bn loss the continent faces from illicit financial flows.

The African Continental Free Trade

'Africa needs to prioritise domestic revenue mobilisation, triple growth'

Area (AfCFTA) was also a key topic of discussion with the initiative now on the brink of being operationalised. This required 22 countries to ratify the agreement but Ethiopia ratified it during the event, cutting the number to 21.

"The AfCFTA is a great opportunity to accelerate what has been done bilaterally with some African countries. This will help bring growth to a higher level in a co-development approach," Mohamed Benchaaboun, Morocco's Economy and Finance minister said on the trading bloc that could be one of the largest in the world.

However, the enormity of the challenges of implementing the agreement should not be under-estimated, speakers cautioned.

The conference brings together African ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development or their representatives. This year it was held under the theme - 'Fiscal policy, trade and the private sector in the digital era: A strategy for Africa'.

The discussions raised emphasis on how and why African countries should take full advantage of the opportunities offered by digitalisation to accelerate growth to double digits by 2030.

ECA Executive Secretary Vera Songwe highlighted the fact that although Africa is still growing, with GDP growth expected to increase to

3.4 per cent in 2020 from 3.2 per cent this year, it needs to triple if the continent to realise its goals.

Delegates also heard how African countries can grow their economies faster by boosting investment from 25 per cent of GDP currently to 30-35 per cent, and substantially improve productivity if the continent is to achieve Agenda 2063 and UN 2030 Agenda.

The ECA's flagship publication - Economic Report on Africa 2019 - was also launched during the conference.

Among other issues, the detailed report reveals that debt levels remained high as African countries increased their borrowing to ease fiscal pressures - most precipitated by the narrowing of revenue streams that has gone on since the commodity price shocks of 2014. The report also examines the relationship between fiscal policy and debt sustainability in Africa, saying: "Digital identification can broaden the tax base by making it easier to identify and track taxpayers and helping taxpayers meet their tax obligations."

It adds: "By improving tax assessments and administration, it enhances the government's capacity to mobilise additional resources. Digital ID systems yield gains in efficiency and convenience that could result in savings to taxpayers and government of up to \$50 billion a year by 2020."

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

21 arrested for allegedly engaging in organised criminal activities

POLICE in Mbeya Region are holding 21 people including business people from Malawi for allegedly engaging in crime.

Some suspects were arrested while engaging in traditional healing activities without having permits.

Mbeya Regional Police Commander, Ulrich Matei said yesterday that the

suspects were caught during a special patrol conducted by the police force in various areas in the region.

He said that in Mwambuluko area of Kyela District, the police intercepted a truck with registration number T 268 BNH carrying 88 bags of maize en route to Malawi without having legal

documents. "The maize which were owned by traders from Malawi Dorin Kaonga (35) and Glory Kafwila (32) were on the way to be transported through an illegal border Nyasa ferry in Songwe river," he said.

In Mapinduzi B area in Itewe ward, Mbeya District, the police arrested

Paschal Patrice (30) and 19 others conducting traditional healing activities without having permits.

The suspects were arrested in a house belonging to one Mwarabu, a Dar es Salaam resident.

"After being informed, the police force team conducted an inspection

in the house where they found the suspects with a bag full of various traditional medicines and equipment used for treating patients," he said.

Commander Matei said that the investigation on the matter was ongoing and once completed, the suspects will be taken to court for further legal

measures. He further explained that the Police Force was well prepared to fight any kind of crime in the region where he warned the general public to avoid engaging in criminal acts as doing so was against the country's laws and the police force would not spare anyone arrested for any crime.

WFP underscores need for elements of nutrition at every level of child growth

By Felister Peter

THE World Food Programme (WFP) has underscored the need for elements of nutrition to be included at every level of children growth for them to be healthier and reach their potential in education.

Tanzania is among the countries with high prevalence of chronic malnutrition whereas 34 per cent of children under the age of five years are stunted, and 50 per cent of children between 6 and 59 months are anemic.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, WFP special advisor on mother and child nutrition, Princess Sarah Zeid of Jordan said the problem is also facing women and girls who are at reproductive age.

According to the Tanzania Demographic Survey, 2015, 45 per cent of women at reproductive age suffer from anaemia. Princess Zeid noted that despite good governance and leadership system, Tanzania has yet done enough to reduce maternal and child deaths.

She said that WFP works to support improve the nutrition of children and families in Dodoma and Singida regions with beneficiaries coming from Bahi, Chamwino, Ikungi and Singida Rural districts. She said that WFP through its programme-Boresha Lishe enhances awareness of nutrition knowledge for local communities and regional and district officers.

WFP country representative, Michael Dunford insisted on people to consume balanced diet saying a country cannot consider itself food secure while its people have malnutrition.

"Many people do not consume nutritious food. We help provide nutritional

food to the residents in two regions. It is our hope that the government will adopt our Boresha Lishe model and apply it to other districts across the country", he said.

WFP nutrition officer, Nema Shosho said the organization has been building the capacity of nutrition officers at village, district, regional and national level where it works closely with the Min-




istry Prime Minister's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) and the Tanzania Food and Nutrition Center (TFNC).

Shosho asserted that under the Boresha Lishe programme, they have been able to provide capacity building trainings on nutritious food to nearly 50,000 women. She said the women were also trained on cultivation

of vegetables and issues related to sanitation.

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

PROPERTY FOR SALE

Ali Hassan Mwinyi Rd - Dar es Salaam

1. Bank of Africa Tanzania Ltd is a Private Commercial Bank operating in Tanzania serving Corporate, SME and Retail customers.
2. Request for bids for SALE OF PROPERTY: Bank of Africa (T) Limited is seeking for competitive proposals for the purchase of the buildings with the below description;

| S/N | LOCATION (PHYSICAL ADDRESS)                 | DESCRIPTIONS                                       | PROPERTY TYPE | SIZE      |
|-----|---|--|---------------|-----------|
| 1   | Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road Plot No 38, 2 blocks | Main Block (19 rooms)<br>Extension Block (5 rooms) | Commercial    | 3,338 sqm |

Further clarification for SALE OF PROPERTY can be sought from Bank of Africa Tanzania Head Office between 0830hrs to 1700hrs between Monday and Friday or call us on +255 699 000 267 | +255 222214000.

Prospective bidders interested in submitting proposals are invited to attend a mandatory walk-thru inspection of the facilities with representatives from the bank on 2nd April 2019 at 10.00am.

3. Selection shall be in accordance with the International Competitive Selection procedures set out in the Public Procurement Act 2011 and Public Procurement Regulations of 2013.
4. Bids should be submitted in physical sealed envelopes only and delivered to the address below by or before 3.00pm on Friday 5th April, 2019, and be clearly marked eg. "BID FOR PROPERTY - ALI HASSAN MWINYI ROAD PLOT No 38".

All applications should be addressed to:

**THE MANAGING DIRECTOR,**  
**BANK OF AFRICA TANZANIA,**  
**OHIO STREET/KIVUKONI FRONT,**  
**P.O.BOX 3054,**  
**DAR ES SALAAM.**



INVITATION TO BID

DATE: 28th MARCH, 2019

AIRD TANZANIA one of UNHCR implementing partner based in Kasulu and Kibondo in Kigoma region, is inviting supplies/contractors to Bid according to the tender listed below:

**TENDER REF NO: AIRD 006/2019** Construction of 10 blocks of semi permanents classrooms in Nyarugusu camp into two lots

**TENDER REF NO: AIRD007/2019** Procurement of Construction materials for Congolese shelters for Nyarugusu camp into two lots

**TENDER REF NO: AIRD 008 /2019** Construction of 3 blocks of permanent classrooms and 2 administration blocks in Nyarugusu camp into three Lots

**TENDER REF NO: AIRD 009 /2019** Construction of 3 blocks of permanent classrooms in Nduta camp into three Lots

**TENDER REF NO: AIRD 010 /2019** Construction of Registration center using hydra form bricks in Zone one in Nduta camp into two lots

1. Interested eligible Companies may obtain further information and collect tender documents at AIRD Kasulu office or AIRD Kibondo Sub office FREE OF CHARGE, Monday to Thursday 7h30 am to 17H:00 and Friday from 7H:30 am to 13H30 from 28th MARCH 2019. MAKING SURE YOU SIGN IN THE COLLECTION REGISTER. Tender documents can also be received through e mail address [aird2019tender@gmail.com](mailto:aird2019tender@gmail.com) HOWEVER ALL SUBMISSION SHOULD BE DONE AT AIRD KASULU OFFICE.
2. Prices must be quoted in Tanzania shillings and should be inclusive of all taxes and transport costs, and shall remain valid for (120) days from the closing date of tender.
3. The tender document should be presented separately into two well labeled envelopes. One for technical proposal and the second one for financial proposal with the tender name and number and the lot. Contractors should write their company name also on the envelopes.
4. Completed tender documents are to be enclosed in plain sealed envelopes marked with Tender name and reference number and the Lot number and deposited in the Tender Box at AIRD Kasulu Office; the bidders must sign in the submission register maintained at the reception office. The sealed bids which should have the contractor or supplier name and the tender name and reference number with the Lot number, technical tender documents separated to the financial tender documents into two different envelopes should be addressed to:

The procurement committee-AIRD  
 P. O. Box 428 kasulu  
 Kasulu

So as to reach the office NOT LATER THAN 17:00 Hrs. ON THURSDAY 11th APRIL 2019 FOR ALL THE TENDERS.

Tenders will be opened FRIDAY 12th APRIL at 10:00 Hrs in the presence of the bidders or their representatives who will choose to attend at AIRD Kasulu office.

Thank you  
 AIRD PROCUREMENT COMMITTEE



## 'African family-founded, managed businesses can raise equity by joining hands with partnerships'

By Guardian Reporter, Kigali

ON the final day of the Africa CEO Forum in the Rwandan capital, Kigali, experts shade a spotlight on Africa's family businesses and discussed ways they can be nurtured into continental brands to enhance their contribution towards economic growth and job creation.

The discussion moderated by Luc Rigouzzo, managing partner at Methis sought to pick insight from panellists on how owners of family businesses around the continent can find the right partners to take their ventures to the next growth-level.

At the centre of the conversation for the panellists to weigh-in was the question of how African family founded and managed businesses can raise equity by joining forces with strategic partnerships.

"Partnerships are crucial in the growth of family owned businesses but they should be centred around shared values of honesty, hard work and commitment," said Amit Patel, the Chief Executive Officer of Ramco Group, a Kenyan based conglomerate with 40 companies under its roof.

Mohammed Dewji, a CEO of a family founded business also weighed in; he is the owner of MeTL Group, a Tanzanian commodities trading business founded by his father in the 70s. He said:

"Planning Succession is crucial if the family business is to last more than 3 generations. Members of the family should be trained from a young age and not when they are ready to be employed," he said.

Dewji is a living testimony of how family founded businesses can be

grown to become continental brands. In his case, he is famed for having increased MeTL's revenues from \$30 million to over \$1.5 billion between 1999 and 2018, according to Forbes Magazine.

Today, MeTL Group has investments in manufacturing, agriculture, trading, finance, mobile telephony, insurance, real estate, transport and logistics, and food and beverages and contributes 3.5 percent to Tanzania's GDP, were its headquartered, on top of employing over 28,000 people in eleven African countries.

Yohannes Mekbebe, Managing Director of Yeshi Group, another family businesses in Ivory Coast also weighed in, and reaffirmed the potential of family founded businesses to contribute significantly to Africa's growth if given the right support and capacity building of founders. "Seeking partnerships should not only be limited to companies that will add more equity but also actively looking for partners who have expertise and the technical knowhow to grow a business," he said.

Dr Leila Bouamatou, Managing director of General Bank of Mauritania said male members usually take all the senior positions in family owned businesses to the detriment of females, something she said negatively impacts sustainability.

As a solution to opening up space for women in family owned businesses, Rita Zniber Chief Executive Officer of Diana Holding based in Morocco called upon family businesses in Africa to borrow a leaf from those in Asia which ensure females and males have an equal role in the management of family businesses



NIC Bank Tanzania Ltd executive director Mick Karima addresses students of Dar es Salaam's Kisutu Girls and Tambaza secondary schools who made a joint study visit to the bank in the city yesterday. Photo: John Badi

## Consumer goods giants launch plastics recycling alliance

By Guardian Reporter, Kigali

SOME of the global consumer goods giants operating in Africa yesterday launched plastics recycling alliance at the Africa CEO Forum 2019 in Kigali, Rwanda.

Members of the environmental protection alliance include Diageo, Unilever, the Coca Cola company, and Nestlé.

According to its members, the alliance aims to turn the current challenge of plastic waste in sub

Saharan Africa into an opportunity to create jobs and commercial activity by improving the collection and recycling of plastics.

The Africa Plastics Recycling Alliance has been established for companies to facilitate and support their local subsidiaries to engage proactively in market level public private partnerships, industry collaboration and alliances; share knowledge, encourage innovation and collaborate on technical and other solutions appropriate for Sub-

Saharan Africa as well as participate in local pilot initiatives and engage with the investment community, policy makers and others to accelerate the development and financing of the necessary waste management infrastructure and systems.

"Plastics will remain an important packaging material if we are to give African consumers the safe and affordable products they need. Unfortunately, a lack of collection and recycling capacity in many African markets coupled with growing

populations is creating a growing problem of plastics waste.

We see an opportunity to tackle that problem in a way that creates jobs and reduces dependency on imported materials while alternatives to plastics are developed. Collaboration within and across markets will be key to success so we are proud to launch the Africa Plastics Recycling Alliance today to increase those efforts and play our part as companies in finding solutions that work for Africa," members said in a joint statement after the launch.

### GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - TANZANIA JOB DESCRIPTION

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Job Title:       | Technical Manager                         |
| Department/Unit: | Program Management                        |
| Location:        | Dar es Salaam (GHSC TA-TZ project office) |
| Reports to:      | Deputy Chief of Party                     |

**OVERVIEW:**  
The Global Health Supply Chain Program Technical Assistance - Tanzania (GHSC TA-TZ) project, supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), provides expert technical assistance to Tanzania to strengthen country supply chain systems across all health elements, e.g., malaria, family planning (FP), HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH), and essential medicines. In coordination with in-country and development partners, GHSC TA-TZ assists Government of Tanzania (GoT) by providing strategic planning and implementation assistance; improving the delivery of health commodities to service sites; providing capacity building support to broaden stakeholders' understanding and engagement of the supply chain system; and strengthening enabling environments to improve supply chain performance.

**JOB SUMMARY:**  
The Technical Manager reports directly to the Deputy Chief of Party (DCOP) and is tasked with leading engagement-wide project management and oversight activities. Specific responsibilities include: overseeing schedule, scope, budget, and quality performance/compliance for dozens of activities and work streams, working with team leads and specific work streams to monitor and report their progress against scheduled milestones and outputs, including identifying, tracking and reporting delivery, schedule, and cost risks. The Technical Manager will be a key participant in the annual work planning process and is expected to heavily contribute heavily to the development of annual work plans. Where directed, the Technical Manager will represent the project in stakeholder meetings with government stakeholders and implementing partners including but not limited to major donor organizations. He/she will provide overall management and guidance to the execution of the 2019 Tanzania Health Supply Chain Summit.

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**  
Specific responsibilities will include, but not be limited to, the following:

- Lead team members through the the annual work planning process and developing the annual work plan
- Monitor and report scope, schedule, and cost performance vs. the work plan as part of a consistent, repeatable approach to engagement-wide project management
- Work closely with team leads and work stream personnel to ensure delivery, schedule, cost, and quality compliance
- Identify, track, and report risks to delivery, schedule, scope, cost, and or quality as part of a consistent approach to engagement-wide risk management; develop and implement plan for addressing those risks
- Identify dependencies between projects, workstreams, and activities including managing and monitoring the performance of one project / work stream team and the degree to which its activities and outputs impact others
- Monitor the performance of personnel against assigned tasks and where applicable discussing with DCOP opportunities to better align resources to specific tasks in order to maximize team potential
- Identify and coordinate STTA needed; review and finalize STTA SOWs as needed
- Review and update workplan implementation progress and share with technical teams; provide inputs to activity concept notes
- Provide technical advice and expertise and serve as a resource for project staff implementing supply chain improvement initiatives
- Lead the activity on the Tanzania Health Supply Chain Summit, working in close collaboration with the Program Officer
- Organize and develop agenda for scheduled technical

meetings, with a focus on the progress of and risks to specific workstream activities

- Support information sharing and knowledge management within and across staff
- Collaborate with MEL Director to track performance, identify performance issues and identify corrective actions.
- Identify lessons learned, best practices, and success stories across the technical work
- Review technical reports and deliverables from team members for scope and quality compliance
- Ensure completed technical deliverables are submitted to USAID.
- Complete and submit timely written technical and trip reports.
- Prepare presentations, participate and/or represent the project in stakeholder meetings.
- Perform other duties as assigned.

#### QUALIFICATIONS:

Applicants for this position should be Tanzanian nationals or lawful residents who possess the following minimum qualifications:

- Extensive experience overseeing and performing project management activities for large complex consulting engagements, preferably in the health sector
- A qualified Pharmacist, and/or advanced degree in Public Health, Supply Chain, Health Sciences or a related field
- Minimum of five years of experience in private or public sector health, ideally in supply chain operations, with preference given to candidates with prior experience supporting Tanzania's public health supply chain
- Knowledge of health supply chain best practices and trends
- Experience in supporting teams to implement supply chain activities
- Proven strong leadership skills and ability to build strong interpersonal relationships
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills
- Ability to handle multiple tasks, set priorities and work independently.
- Excellent technical writing and oral presentation skills highly desired.
- Excellent written and verbal English
- A proven ability to work as part of a team and to be self-managing
- Knowledge of Microsoft Office, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint
- Experience working with the Government of Tanzania and other NGOs preferred.
- Previous work experience with USAID-funded projects desirable
- Ability to travel for an extended period away from duty station to support technical activities

Interested candidates are invited to send their cover letters, Curriculum Vitae with names and contact details of 3 work related references, enclosing certificate copies of relevant education and training.

Submission may be sent to - [ghsc.recruitmentz@gmail.com](mailto:ghsc.recruitmentz@gmail.com) by 12th April 2019.

Only candidates meeting the minimum requirements will be contacted. If you have not heard from us within two weeks after the closing date, kindly assume that your application was not successful.

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#### Position Profile

- A holder of a Bachelor degree from a recognized university, national vocational qualifications or an appropriate subject such as leisure, travel, tourism, or languages.
- At least Two (2) years of professional work experience.
- Must have walking experience and competent with a rifle.
- Excellent English and communication skills.
- Effective Time Management and Attention to detail.
- Have in-depth knowledge of the guiding industry.
- Work effectively in a team, flexible and eager to grow.
- Self-motivated and driven to success.
- Valid Driving License and 4x4 driving experience.

#### Function and Responsibilities:

- Plans tours and leads visitors through points of interest while providing useful and interesting information to the company Clients.
- As a Guide must be able solve everyday problems, such as transportation snafus, and take charge in any emergencies occurred while on duty.
- Transporting and accompanying tourists.
- Translating and Interpretation of relating tour guiding matters to the clients on behalf of the company.
- Transporting and accompanying tourists.
- Span the roles of educator, host and escort including preparing and giving presentation to the company's clients.

A market related salary will be reward for this challenging but rewarding position.

If qualified please send your CV to [Recruitment@tgts.com](mailto:Recruitment@tgts.com) before 4th April 2019

## AfDB governors from West Africa happy with project implementation

ABIDJAN

GOVERNORS representing the West Africa region of the African Development Bank (AfDB) held consultative meetings here on Monday with the institution's President and senior management, taking stock of the bank's accelerated engagement in the region.

The governors noted that 370 AfDB transformative projects valued at US\$11.3 billion between 2010 and 2017 had changed lives and made a difference in the region.

These were the second annual consultative meetings, aimed at sharing views with the governors, after the first ever meetings in the bank's history were initiated by AfDB President Akinwumi Adesina last year.

"Our ultimate goal is to ensure that the governors are much closer to the bank, and that you are integrally involved in the wider vision and direction, particularly as it pertains to the challenges and needs of your respective regions," Adesina said in his opening remarks.

"Today, I am filled with hope. Hope because Africa is changing. Hope because across the continent, despite challenges, you can see a rising determination to turn things around," he added.

During the consultations, the ministers appealed for greater focus on women to close the gender gap, address climate change, and increase attention to development in fragile states.

Referring to AfDB the economic arm of the African Union, the governors also highlighted the need for the bank to be involved in global issues in order to influence and help shape the conversations around foreign investments.

They also focused on institutional capacity building, nutrition, data collection as well as regional integration and digital connectivity.

Sierra Leone Finance minister Jacob Jusu Saffa underscored the need "to mobilise domestic funds and use our pension funds more efficiently", comments which were echoed by his Nigerian counterpart, Mahmoud Isa-Dutse.

"Infrastructure is very critical. We hope the bank will continue to support and add value to our one government data platform, Liberia's Agriculture minister Mogana Flomo said.

Ministers from Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea and Guinea Bissau similarly called for increased support for institutional capacity building.

Economic growth trends show positive signals: GDP growth rate was projected at 4 per cent last year and to rise to 4.1 per cent this year.

However, this does not give the full picture: the economies of 45 per cent of the countries will grow at above 5 per cent. These figures on West Africa's regional economic outlook were shared by AfDB Vice President and chief economist Celestin Monga in his presentation before the governors.

The governors, all Finance or Economic Planning ministers in their respective countries, were taken through the bank's interventions and lendings over the past year in presentations by the bank's senior management.

The year 2018 was a strong one for AfDB's flagship projects and innovative financial instruments with 65 projects, in 15 countries, valued at US \$ 2.8 billion, approved for the region.





**EMPOWERING AND STRENGTHENING OUR EDUCATION SYSTEM**

Patmo Schools, Tabata Segerea, Dar es salaam was faced with a challenge of high enrollment turnout in January, 2019. A right timely solution would have to be identified, prepared, delivered and installed quickly for new pupils without disrupting daily routine of learning.

**SOLUTION.**

After evaluating Patmo schools' need, Ando recommended our 11 m by 4.4 m flat pack prefabricated steel structure double classroom solution that include our precoated roofing sheets. This unit provides two classes of 5.5 m by 4.4 m size of each classroom divided by an interior EPS board partition, would offer the flexibility, timely and easy installation that the school needed to accommodate 40 new enrolled pupils and keep its building budgets under control.

Finally, Patmo schools agreed to our solution. Ando mobile structure and roofing team; determined to meet our client expectations, design and pre-engineer works was done at our manufacturing premise simultaneously setting a light concrete floor base at Patmo Schools within five working days. On the 6th day we delivered the steel structure component for assembly at the site.



A typical prefabricated steel structure classroom.

Our team of Steel structure installer working on 8 hours shift, 4 working days had fully assembled the two classrooms with minimal disruption of school study routine activities.

As Ando Superbrands East Africa, we are proud for our participation on offering a state of the art, innovative educational environment to Patmo Schools in our effort to contribute and strengthen our education system through construction industry.

**QUICK FACTS**

We are the pioneer in the following:

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- Our innovative aspiration has been our driving and guiding force. Our most recent entrant is the decorative color coated sheets that offer a fresh, paternal and exciting look to a modern roof

- Establishment of a state of the art production unit for prefabricated steel structures catering for commercial offices, administration buildings and accommodation.



Interior arrangement of classroom layout.

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**ONLINE LICENCE APPLICATION MANAGEMENT  
SYSTEM (OLAMS)**

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) would like to inform the Public that it has launched Online Licence Application Management System (OLAMS), for receiving and processing licences. The system will enable applicants to access TCRA licensing services wherever they are. The System can be accessed at: <http://clams.tcra.go.tz/frontend/web/user/sign-in/login>

For the time being, this system is mandatory to be used for all applications for the following licences: -

1. Online Contents Services (online radio, TV, blogs, Online forum and Social media);
2. Cable Television;
3. Importation of electronic Communication Equipment;
4. Distribution of electronic Communication Equipment;
5. Sell of electronic Communication Equipment;
6. Installation and Maintenance of Electronic Communication Equipment;
7. VSAT;
8. Aircraft Station; and
9. Ship Station.

Before lodging an application, the applicant must have certified and scanned copies of the following: -

1. Certificate of incorporation or Registration;
2. Certificate of tax payer identification number (TIN);
3. Tax Clearance Certificate; and
4. National Identification Card or Driving Licence or Voters Registration Card or Zanzibar Residence ID or Passport for all the directors/ shareholders/ company secretary/ proprietor/partners.

For lodging an application or for more information on this notice visit the link below <http://clams.tcra.go.tz/frontend/web/user/sign-in/login>

Should you require any assistance on lodging an application, please contact the following TCRA offices: -

| SN. | ZONE                   | REGIONS   | CONTACTS  |
|-----|------------------------|---|---|
| 1.  | Eastern Zone           | Applicants from Dar es Salaam, Morogoro, Lindi, Coast Region and Mtwara | Email: <a href="mailto:easternzone@tcra.go.tz">easternzone@tcra.go.tz</a><br>Tel: 0784 558270 |
| 2.  | Northern Zone          | Applicants from Arusha, Tanga, Kilimanjaro, and Manyara                 | Email: <a href="mailto:arusha@tcra.go.tz">arusha@tcra.go.tz</a><br>Tel: 0272 548947           |
| 3.  | Central Zone           | Applicants from Dodoma, Singida, Tabora, and Kigoma                     | Email: <a href="mailto:dodoma@tcra.go.tz">dodoma@tcra.go.tz</a><br>Tel: 0262 350021           |
| 4.  | Lake Zone              | Applicants from Mwanza, Shinyanga, Geita, Kagera, Mara and Simiyu       | Email: <a href="mailto:mwanza@tcra.go.tz">mwanza@tcra.go.tz</a><br>Tel: 0282 505082           |
| 5.  | Southern Highland Zone | Applicants from Mbeya, Iringa, Njombe, Ruvuma, Songwe and Rukwa         | Email: <a href="mailto:mbeya@tcra.go.tz">mbeya@tcra.go.tz</a><br>Tel: 0252 502940             |
| 6.  | Zanzibar Office        | Applicants from Unguja and Pemba  | Email: <a href="mailto:zanzibar@tcra.go.tz">zanzibar@tcra.go.tz</a><br>Tel: 0242 230562       |

From the date of this notice, applications for licences mentioned above shall be submitted online. Applications which will be submitted to TCRA without using the online application system will not be processed.

Issued by

Director General,  
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority,  
Mawasiliano Towers,  
20 Sam Nujoma Road,  
P. O. Box 474,  
14414 DAR ES SALAAM.

By Guardian Correspondent, Babati

FORMER Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda has called on local government authorities to ensure they give water construction projects to competent contractors, who can deliver on time.

Pinda made the call here recently when he was in the ruling party official visit in Manyara Region, where among other things, he inspected different development projects.

He suggested the need for LGAs to ensure that projects are executed with the 'value for money' aspects, so that people get what they are desired to.

In his visit, the former PM discovered that some of the water projects were not moving with the speed which was intended because some of the contractors weren't given money on time to proceed with their projects.

He also vowed to inform the responsible authorities of their needs to work on contractors' claims and ensure projects are completed within the scheduled time.

One of the contractors implementing

## Pinda appeals for timely construction of projects

water projects in Babati District, Black Lion Investment Co. Ltd appealed to the government to release funds on time for his firm accomplish those projects.

John Makune, director of the construction firm said delay in releasing funds also deny people from getting water services as planned.

"As contractors we're interested to see water projects are completed in time so that the targeted population start getting water for socio-economic developments," he said.

According to Makone, his firm has been contracted to build water project in Imbilili village in Babati District Council worth 487m/-, but only 30m/- was released for the construction work.

"We've executed the project by 75 per cent using our own resources, but now we're stranded. That's why we're

appealing to the government to release the remaining amount so that the project is accomplished," he said.

Other water projects include that of Mwankoko B in Singida Municipality which is being implemented by Kwirasa Investment Co. Ltd and the project is worth 702m/- where he was paid 650m/-.

Another project being implemented is in Kazi Ngumu village located in Kite-District Council worth 176m/-, which has been completed by 75 per cent.

In his visit in Manyara Region in October last year, Deputy Minister for Water, Jumaa Aweso assured water contractors that the government will pay them on time.

He called on contractors to keep in mind the value for money phrase when executing their projects and ensure that the projects last longer.



Dr Luka Siyame (L), a consultant with the Dar es Salaam-based International Eye Hospital, examines Happiness Kumburu at a camp held in the city yesterday on the sidelines of an international health and scientific research meeting for East Africa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Bank donates 200 roofing iron sheets to Kilindi

By Guardian Reporter

BancABC has donated 200 iron sheets worth 5m/- to Kilindi District in Tanga Region in efforts to support education development in the district.

The roofing sheets were handed over to the Kilindi District Commissioner Sauda

Mtondoo.

Speaking during the handing over ceremony, BancABC representative, Emmanuel Nzutu said that the support is meant to assist the district improve teaching and learning environment.

He said: "BancABC through our Mkopo Rahisi proposition, strives to have positive

and sustainable impact in the districts in which it operates by supporting education sector which is one of our corporate social responsibility (CSR) pillars."

"We at BancABC understand the vital role education plays in uplifting of communities in Tanzania and so supports educational projects

and initiatives that improve the quality of education and widen access among rural and disadvantaged communities," said Nzutu.

He further said: "In support of government's initiative of free education, we are supporting this through donating 200 roofing iron sheets to Kilindi District."

"We would also like to inform you that we have a loan proposition that's ideal for all who work for the government, easy loans through which one will have the option of paying for as long as six years and can also top up the loan whenever they want to," he said.

He also added, unlike other loans, applicants will have the chance to decide on the projects they want to invest the loan in for example paying school fees, buying a vehicle, house repair, paying rent, and completing construction infrastructures.

We also have the advantage of buying off your loans elsewhere so you can only service one loan, he said.

"Loans will be covered through credit life insurance in the event that the applicant dies and his family will be given 500,000/- cash for funeral expenses."

"We are urging our customers and even those who do not bank with us to try this new facility as with this, we get you one step closer to your dreams."

For her part, DC Mtondoo commended the bank for extending the support to the district's education development, calling other institutions to emulate the spirit by complementing government's efforts to scale up education sector.

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

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**NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC**

1. The general public is hereby notified that there will be a movement of special load from MTIBWA to DAR by vehicle with registration number(s) **T785 CAD/T166** ADN of **S.S.F CO.LTD** The journey is scheduled to start on 31/03/2019:

2. Special load dimensions:  
Length - 21.80m  
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3. Route From **MTIBWA** to **DAR** via **MIKESSE** Travelling time will be only day time (06:30 am-06:00 pm)

**We regret for any inconvenience caused.**

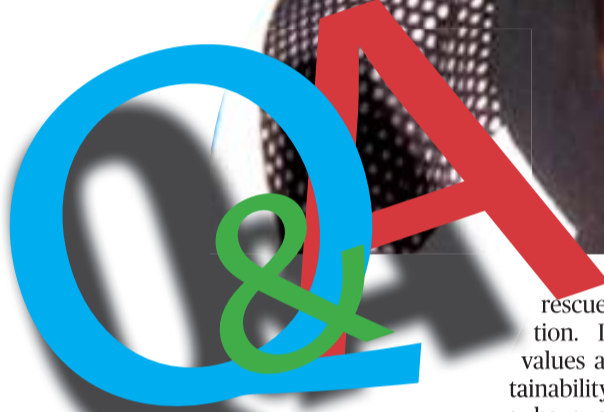




Insurance

# "Keep your ears to the ground - great things are coming"

AAR Insurance managing director **VIOLET MORDICHAJ** sheds light on the company's current development strategy which is focused less on market share and more on sustainable development



general has shown great improvement over the last 4-5 years. However, a couple of challenges may still need to be addressed if we are to see better results. The greatest challenge I see is in developing sustain-

able products that can serve the people and at the same time give returns to the insurer. We seem to always get it wrong when the price of our products either does not meet the cost of healthcare or does not meet the customers' affordability. Once we get this right then the problems to accessibility will have been solved.

**Q: And what are the pillars of AAR's ongoing development strategy?**

**A:** Our development strategy is built on pillars that encompass corporate

governance at its core. Our strategic pillars support customer satisfaction; strategic execution; product development and leadership excellence. We believe that these pillars lay a strong foundation for sustainable business growth.

**Q: What are your ambitions in term of market share and sales, and what are the challenges ahead?**

**A:** Like many other businesses, the past couple of years have brought unique challenges for us. New challenges help to spur innovative ways

of doing and growing the business. At this point, our strategy has focused less on market share and more on sustainable development to ensure that our stakeholders enjoy peace and prosperity as a result of our innovative products. For many years we have specialized in health insurance and we have by now perfected our art in delivering this service. We are now keen to work towards complementing our medical products with other general insurance products in order to offer our customers holistic insurance partnerships. Keep your ears to the ground - great things are coming.

**Q: AAR is still mainly focused on urban areas; how is the plan to go rural going?**

**A:** Yes it is true that AAR has physical offices mainly in the urban areas. However, our presence is not only in the urban areas. Our services spread across the country in partnership with medical service providers (health facilities). Our business model also allows for flexibility to work with intermediaries anywhere in Tanzania.

**Q: What should the next national budget consider as incentives for the insurance industry?**

**A:** Looking at it from a medical insurance perspective, I believe the government is doing a great job in harnessing the country towards universal health coverage. I must applaud the authorities for making this progress. I however also implore the government to include in its next budget an investment in creating a Health Funders Board to regulate the cost and standards of medical facilities. This will support medical insurance companies by far in accurate actuarial analysis for pricing of our products.

**QUESTION: Can you give a brief overview of the current situation with health insurance in Tanzania?**

**ANSWER:** For the past five years, health insurance in Tanzania experienced a significant growth gross premium written (GWP). The growth is forecasted to continue on a positive trend due to various factors including an increasing middle class population which will likely create more demand for health insurance products. However, ratios appear to be rising at an alarming rate and we need to stop to and look back at where exactly the problems are and seek to resolve them before we go further.

to satisfy the demand for their services?

**A:** I suppose your numbers are based on the overall insurance coverage, i.e. both life and non-life. You will be impressed to note that an estimated 33% of the total population have some sort of health insurance coverage, most of whom are insured by public health schemes and a small portion (say 1%) by private health insurance players.

To answer your question... yes, the current number of private medical insurance players has sufficient capacity to satisfy the demand for medical insurance services.

**Q: It is estimated that only 7% of Tanzanians use insurance services. Is the current number of medical insurance industry players enough**

**Q: What are the greatest challenges to health insurance penetration in Tanzania?**

**A:** Health insurance penetration in



able products that can serve the people and at the same time give returns to the insurer. We seem to always get it wrong when the price of our products either does not meet the cost of healthcare or does not meet the customers' affordability. Once we get this right then the problems to accessibility will have been solved.

**Q: What is the key to AAR's success and leadership in health insurance in Tanzania?**

**A:** As you may already know, AAR is built from a foundation of medical



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# The Guardian

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THURSDAY 28 MARCH 2019

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

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Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO  
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

## Newsdesk

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

## Advertising

Manager Sales and Marketing: KAUTHAR DSOUZA  
0767223311  
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz  
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## We ought to find competitive markets for maize farmers

THE Portuguese firstly introduced maize production in Tanzania on Pemba Island in the 16th century, by 17th century maize production spread to other parts of Tanzania including the Tanzania mainland. Production of maize expanded until recent years, Tanzania is a leading country for maize production in East Africa.

Forty-five per cent of Tanzanian land is used for maize cultivation in which 4.5 million of households utilize their land for maize cultivation. The contribution of smallholders is 85 per cent of total national cultivation with the rest of contribution being from community farms, large farms (private and public). Cultivation of maize is conducted in two different rainfall seasons of the year, which are:-

About 47 per cent of maize grown on vuli (bimodal) season and 41 per cent grown in masika (unimodal) season.

Consumption maize is the main staple grain consumed in Tanzania, providing 80 per cent of dietary calories and more than 35 per cent of utilizable protein to the population. The majority of smallholder farmers produce maize for their personal consumption and sell a portion to the market as a significant source of income. Typically about 40 per cent of maize production in Tanzania is sold in the market, mostly locally.

In the same vein, the Minister for Agriculture, Japhet Hasunga has threatened to dissolve the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA) if it fails to find own funds to purchase 500,000 metric tonnes of maize from farmers.

He urged the need for the agency to undergo mega changes to ensure that it performs other roles including searching for markets apart from purchasing crops.

He made the statement recently in

Dodoma when launching a special maize cleaning machine donated to NFRA by the World Food Programme (WFP). The machine worth 400m/- has the capacity to clean 100 tonnes of maize per day.

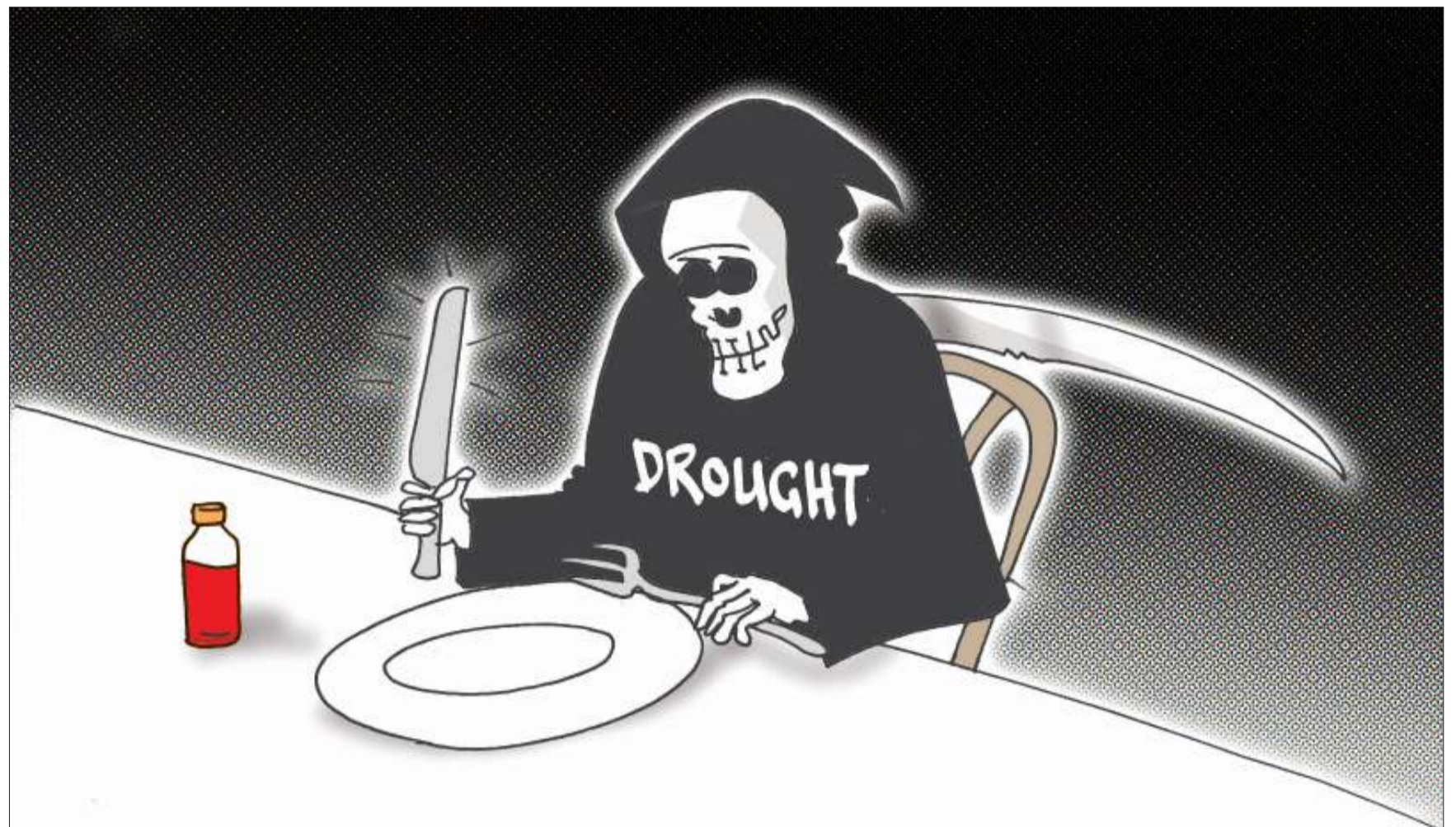
The 36,000 metric tonnes bought are not enough because they had all been taken by WFP.

He challenged the agency to make sure it has the best maize storage facilities to make the crops safer from insecticides for five years. He said the current storage facilities can keep maize for three years only while in the maize can be stored for between 10 and 15 years. "You must upgrade your purchasing mechanisms to digitalised systems", he noted urging them to opt for cheaper transportation means. He said that NFRA transports a single sack of maize at 7,500/- while farmers can transport the same at the cost of between 2,000/- and 3,000/- only.

Commenting WFP's move to purchase maize from Tanzania, Hasunga said the plan is in line with the governments' strategy towards achieving the sustainable development goals as well as the Second Phase of the Agricultural Sector Development Plan (ASDP II).

The minister expressed dismay over increasing number of undernourished people especially in food basket regions. He challenged extension and nutrition officers to sensitize people to eat balanced meals.

Earlier, NFRA acting executive officer, Vumilia Zikankuba commended WFP for supporting the government in buying the maize from farmers. She said that WFP has so far taken 20,400 metric tonnes out of 36,000 metric tonnes. WFP Representative in Tanzania, Michael Dunford said they are looking into how they can support small scale farmers to practice commercial agriculture.



## Cities hold the key to sustainable electricity supply



By Louise Scholtz

**D**URING the latest spate of extreme load shedding, much has been written about an imploding Eskom hobbled by financial woes, State Capture and mismanagement; similarly, the pain that load shedding has inflicted on small- and medium-sized businesses and households. However, very little has been said about the myriad ways that load shedding impacts on municipalities and the missed opportunity to empower our cities for a new energy future.

Load shedding impacts directly on municipal revenue from electricity sales used for the maintenance of electricity infrastructure, the cross-subsidisation of poor households and other services not covered by water charges and rates. This revenue is critical for the efficient functioning of municipalities and their financial sustainability.

The rolling blackouts have also stimulated increased demand for solar panels and batteries. While this is positive from an energy security and climate perspective, the increased uptake of own generation has the potential to erode municipal revenue from electricity even further.

Notably, load shedding not only impacts on the provision of electricity services, but also affects other municipal services. Rand Water has warned they will not be able to pump enough water to supply Gauteng and Mpumalanga in the face of ongoing load shedding.

Residents have been urged to start saving water to avoid complete outages. Adding to the severity of this is that Rand Water does not have enough water tankers to supply water to its area of responsibility should outright outages occur. Last, there are issues

relating to security, crime and the general functionality of cities.

Dark streets and disabled alarm systems are an additional headache for law enforcement, with the City of Johannesburg's reportedly intensifying policing, but also the impact on people's ability to move around the city at night. Health services are affected, as is productivity, with increased traffic pile-ups caused by non-functioning traffic lights and interrupted internet connectivity.

Collectively these issues impact adversely on the ability of cities to attract talent and the investment needed to grow new businesses and the critical need to stimulate job creation. Unfortunately, existing electricity legislation, aimed at entrenching the dominance of Eskom in the generation, transmission, distribution and retail of electricity, makes it nigh impossible for municipalities to respond effectively to the crisis.

In short, and without going into detail, cities are obliged to purchase electricity from Eskom. They are also limited in the extent to which they can generate their own embedded electricity or build freestanding renewable energy plants, and lack permission to purchase electricity generated through renewable energy sources from independent power producers (IPPs) directly.

Some cities have been able to mediate some of the impacts. Cape Town, for example, uses the Steenbras pumped storage system to store electricity for later release into the grid during periods of Eskom load shedding. Arguably, if metros were able to procure directly from IPPs, this would have the potential to take the pressure off a struggling Eskom to make good on its off-take agreements with IPPs.

Increasing the metros' role in the

energy sector is also aligned with the unbundling of Eskom proposed by President Cyril Ramaphosa in his 2019 State of the Nation Address in February. From a climate perspective, it is a no-brainer. Fossil fuel-generated electricity is a major contributor to the greenhouse gas emissions of South African cities.

In the case of Cape Town, Johannesburg, Tshwane and eThekweni, all of which have pledged to become carbon neutral by 2050, the shift to renewable energy and away from their existing model is non-negotiable.

Given that cities consume more than two-thirds of the world's energy and account for more than 70% of global CO2 emissions, they have the transformative potential to contribute to South Africa's international climate obligations under the Paris Agreement. Metros also have the opportunity to leverage against future electricity price hikes by Eskom through sourcing renewable energy on a tariff structure, and in so doing improving their long-term financial sustainability and the ability to deliver affordable electricity to consumers.

Tariff certainty would send long-term pricing signals to the market – creating market stability and certainty, which would allow for the growth of local markets. Increased and certain demand from metros would also support the renewable energy sector as a whole, driving localisation of component manufacture and assembly, technology transfer and local economic development.

Municipalities and particular metros are increasingly vocal about the need for regulatory reform that will allow them to generate their own renewable energy and/ or purchase directly from IPPs.

This points to trends elsewhere towards decentralised generation

and other energy services as local renewable energy becomes cheaper than the electricity provided by Eskom. Moreover, had this been the historical case, metros would have been in a much better position to avoid load shedding either partially or completely, depending on the amount of renewable energy they had access to.

Cape Town has taken the matter even further and has instituted an action against the Minister of Energy, essentially applying for permission to purchase renewable energy directly from IPPs to enable it to offer its citizens "the best possible energy solution and service". The case has yet to be heard and the outcome is being watched closely by other metros such as eThekweni and Nelson Mandela Bay, which have similar ambitions. Procurement from IPPs is, of course, not the only option for municipalities.

Increased embedded generation and self-build also offer much potential. Both options require capital investment which most municipalities will neither be able to finance from their own budget nor attract external investment. However, metros, some of which with better investment ratings than the national government, should have no difficulty in attracting external investment through loans or green bonds.

Municipalities and metros, in particular, are not the only stakeholders that are impacted by the current woes of the electricity sector and impacted by future plans of sectoral reform. They are one of many players in what will be a complex social and technical process with risk and costs. Unlocking their potential, however, would go a long way towards addressing existing bottlenecks and challenges, while providing some of the building blocks for an emerging inclusive and sustainable energy plan.

## We should acquire knowledge and generate solutions to pest problems

**P**EST control is the regulation or management of a species defined as a pest, a member of the animal kingdom that impacts adversely on human activities. The human response depends on the importance of the damage done, and will range from tolerance, through deterrence and management, to attempts to completely eradicate the pest. Pest control measures may be performed as part of an integrated pest management strategy.

In agriculture, pests are kept at bay by cultural, chemical and biological means. Ploughing and cultivation of the soil before sowing reduces the pest burden and there is a modern trend to limit the use of pesticides as far as possible. This can be achieved by monitoring the crop, only applying insecticides when necessary, and by growing varieties and crops which are resistant to pests. Where possible, biological means are used, encouraging the natural enemies of the pests and introducing suitable predators or parasites.

In homes and urban environments, the pests are the rodents, birds, insects and other organisms that share the habitat with humans, and that feed on and spoil possessions. Control of these pests is attempted through exclusion, repulsion, physical removal or chemical means. Alternatively, various methods of biological control can be used including sterilisation programmes.

Pest control is at least as old as agriculture, as there has always been a need to keep crops free from pests. As long ago as 3000 BC in Egypt, cats were used to control pests of grain stores such as rodents. Ferrets were domesticated by 500 AD in Europe for use as mousers. Mongooses were introduced into homes to control rodents and snakes, probably by the ancient Egyptians.

The conventional approach was

probably the first to be employed, since it is comparatively easy to destroy weeds by burning them or ploughing them under, and to kill larger competing herbivores. Techniques such as crop rotation, companion planting (also known as intercropping or mixed cropping), and the selective breeding of pest-resistant cultivars have a long history.

Red weaver ants, here feeding on a snail, have been used to control pests in China, Southeast Asia and Africa for many centuries.

Chemical pesticides were first used around 2500 BC, when the Sumerians used sulphur compounds as insecticides. Modern pest control was stimulated by the spread across the United States of the Colorado potato beetle. After much discussion, arsenical compounds were used to control the beetle and the predicted poisoning of the human population did not occur. This led the way to a widespread acceptance of insecticides across the continent.

With the industrialisation and mechanisation of agriculture in the 18th and 19th centuries, and the introduction of the insecticides pyrethrum and derris, chemical pest control became widespread. In the 20th century, the discovery of several synthetic insecticides, such as DDT, and herbicides boosted this development.

The SUA Pest Management Centre is committed to improving management of important pests of crops, animals and humans. The centre is doing remarkable work to acquire knowledge and generate solutions for pest problems in Tanzania and elsewhere in the region.

SPMC's research activities are broadly destined at understanding the biology and ecology of important vertebrate and invertebrate pests of crops, animals and humans; and eventually developing sustainable technologies and/or strategies to manage such pests.



# Farmers for improved maize varieties that are tolerant to moderate drought

By Gerald Kitabu

Farmers in Kilosa District, Morogoro Region say they have battled life without rain since end of January this year. Drought conditions have put farmers in a very precarious situation as their crops are gradually drying up.

According to farmers at Berega ward, prolonged drought has caused huge loss to their maize and other food crops. One of the farmers Moses Chisengo from Mbuyuni village in the district said that he cultivated five acres of maize, but because of drought, four acres of maize have dried up.

He said that from December last year and early January this year there were normal rains in all the wards but things changed towards the end of January leaving most of the crops still young in the farm.

"It is saddening that four acres of maize out of five have all dried up. If they are put on fire, they will all burn to ashes," he said.

Chisengo said as the situation stands now, many farmers will be affected by hunger because they invested all their financial resources and energy on maize which is the key crop. He said the government should help the farmers get improved maize varieties.

Another farmer, Steven Msisili, from Tumbalume village also planted five acres of maize. They have also completely dried up as a result of drought.

"In 2017/18 agricultural season, many farmers invested in agriculture and had good harvest. So, this year around, they expanded their farms to get more harvest. Unfortunately climate change has caused drought sending many farmers into loss and hunger, he said.

I planted maize in a five-acre plot and harvested 120 bags of maize last season. I increased farming area this season but to my shock, all the maize have dried up," he added.

He said that it is high time the government considered supplying improved maize varieties which are tolerant to drought so that farmers can survive drought conditions.

Berega village executive officer Anna Daudi confirmed that many farmers are struggling to rescue their crops but in vain. It is now a year since the only agro-extension officer retired, to date, there are no agro-extension officers posted into the village or the ward. So, since last year farmers have never been trained or received agricultural advice.

The farmers said that the government should supply improved varieties which are tolerant to moderate drought to help the farmers get good harvest. The drought may cause decreased production.

Speaking to this paper over the weekend, they said that their maize crops have dried up pre-maturely in the field adding that currently they can't plant anything because agricultural season is almost ending.

Ward councillor for Berega ward in Kilosa district Wilmod Machela said that all the farmers are helplessly as their villages of Kiyegeya, Berega, Mgugu and Dumbalume have been affected by drought by 80 percent.

He said that if the drought continues to the end of this month, the ward is expected to face severe hunger as the villagers invested heavily in maize for



**Kilosa farmers represent many farmers who face similar situation across the country as a result of prolonged drought**

both food and commercial purposes.

"There are farmers who took loans from different financial institutions, their maize have dried up. I don't know how they will pay back their loans," he said.

Kilosa District Council Chairman said that this year's drought has put many farmers especially on hilly areas in trouble because many rivers have dried up and they cannot practice irrigation agriculture."

"We have no solution to drought. I can tell you that large part of the area in the district has been affected by this drought. Only farmers residing in low land areas can survive because at times, they have little water in some rivers which they can use to practice irrigation agriculture," he said.

Kilosa farmers represent many farmers who face similar situation across the country as a result of prolonged drought. Many complain that they are experiencing drought since early February 2019.

A press statement issued last week by the intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), Climate prediction and Application Centre (ICPAC) said Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and other countries in the Horn of Africa will continue to experience rainfall deficits in April as drought is expected to worsen due to persisting dry conditions and unusual high temperatures.

There is high chance of drier than usual conditions in the Coast regions of Tanzania.

The above mentioned countries will experience drought and higher than usual temperatures which are affecting forage and water availability for people, livestock and wildlife, said part of the statement.

According to ICPAC, the dry conditions will persist throughout March 2019, the drought conditions have been contributed by the tropical cyclone observed across the Coast of Mozambique during the first and second week of March.

Scientists believe that the best response to Tanzania's agricultural challenges such as food and nutrition insecurity, poverty, and drought is to build up a diverse portfolio of research options ahead of the onset of the problems.

Agriculture research officer, Ismail Ngolinda from Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI)-Ilonga, Kilosa said drought is a big challenge in recent years and in some places it has shrunk crop productivity, paralyzing household income and the food security at different levels and strength. He recommended that the farmers should try moderate drought tolerant maize varieties such as Water Efficient Maize for Africa (WEMA)

I would advice that improved maize varieties should be used, good agricultural practices should be followed together with the use of latest technologies, said Dr. Nicholas Nyange, former Chief research officer and OFAB advisor.

Research scientists and GM experts said they have



Moses Chisengo, a farmer from Mbuyuni village in Kilosa District, walks through one of the maize fields affected by drought. Photo by Gerald Kitabu

evidence that biotechnology as a tool can provide new opportunities for achieving productivity gains in agriculture, health, food and environment.

Due to advancement of science, technology and innovation, some countries have developed maize varieties that are tolerant to moderate drought conditions.

According to GM expert, Dr Emmarold Mneney, during the last three decades, conventional biotechnologies including tissue culture, diagnostics and molecular marker technologies have produced vast numbers of useful products that have contributed to higher productivity and household income in many countries.

Of recent, modern biotechnology or genetic modification (GM)

technology has been used to generate products that offer several benefits to human kind such as more effective drugs and food additives; more nutritional dairy and other products; more resilient and productive crops and tree species.

Also in the list are the new sources of renewable energy; and safer, more effective treatment of industrial and agricultural waste.

Furthermore, applications of biotechnology have led to new products and processes that have a competitive edge over the traditional ones in terms of effectiveness, productivity, cost and safety.

When opening a meeting that brought together different researchers from academic, agriculture and research institutions in Dar es Salaam recently, Minister

for agriculture Japhet Hasunga asked researchers to conduct research on strategic crops including maize for industrial raw materials and ensure food security in the country.

When the government carries out annual food security assessment exercise to determine the state of food security in the country, normally maize comes first. Maize, a primary staple crop in the country and which is considered a high priority by the government is used to determine the number of people, districts and regions likely to have enough food or food shortage. However, in recent years the crop's performance has started to decline due to many challenges such as drought, diseases and loss of soil fertility in many areas.

## Linking smallholder farmers to financiers is key to achieving more crop per drop



By: Mr. Japhet Justine Managing Director, Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank

Water is arguably our most important and yet undervalued resource. Not only does it sustain life, but it is a critical enabler of the activities that drive our economy. Agriculture, a mainstay of Tanzanian livelihoods, constitutes 30 percent of the country's GDP, employs nearly 70 percent of the population, and accounts for over 80 percent of water consumed.

Put another way, water and food security are inextricably linked.

Traditional methods like gravity, open canal or flooding irrigation are extremely inefficient resulting in up to 45 percent water losses. Modern technologies like drip irrigation can not only improve water efficiency but have the potential to also increase yields up to 50 percent, especially in combination with water storage approaches like rainwater harvesting.

But while Tanzania is endowed with nearly 30 million hectares of irrigable land, less than 500,000 hectares are currently under irrigation. As a result, food production is falling far short of what is possible.

Despite accounting for just 1.6 percent of irrigable land, irrigated crops account for nearly a quarter of the national food requirement at present. Irrigation helps reduce reliance on increasingly erratic rainfall,

protects against droughts, and increases yields. Expanding the amount of land under irrigation would provide both a safeguard against the worst impacts of climate change while at the same time supporting economic growth in line with the nation's goal of achieving middle-income status by 2025.

But Tanzania's smallholder and emerging farmers, who account for a majority of agriculturalists in the country, lack access to the types of irrigation technologies that could boost their productivity and help safeguard the country's food security in the face of a growing population and an increasingly unpredictable climate.

The high costs of identifying investment-ready farmers is a key constraint for banks and loan providers who want to provide irrigation financing to smallholder and emerging farmers.

Despite the existence of savings and loan products, many farmers are ill-equipped to conduct comprehensive business planning, identify appropriate sources of finance, prepare compelling financing proposals, and negotiate loan terms.

Even when the above-mentioned barriers have been addressed, such investments require a high degree of confidence in the market. As such, strong cooperatives, access to markets, and offtake agreements with buyers and processors are also needed.

If we are to achieve The National Irrigation Master Plan's target of 1 million hectares under irrigation by 2035, we must make it easier for the country's smallholder farmers to access financing.

Reducing the risks regularly associated with financing small-scale commercial agriculture is critical to achieve our ambitious irrigation targets while also ensuring that precious water resources are used efficiently and sustainably.

This is why the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB), in partnership with Tanzania 2030 Water Resources Group (2030 WRG) – a public-private-civil society partnership supported by the World Bank – alongside the Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT), National Irrigation Commission (NIRC), Private Agricultural Support Trust (PASS), Tanzania Horticulture Association (TAHA), and Rikolto are working together to link smallholder and emerging farmers with financiers.

Once our consortium's full ambition is realized, the initiative will see a substantial increase in smallholder farmer's access to irrigation solutions. It is expected that those participating in the project will increase their productivity by 30 percent on average, while simultaneously decreasing water abstraction by up to 50 percent.

There has been tremendous progress over the last decade in terms of developing the types of blended-finance solutions that meet the needs of smallholder and emerging farmers. Now it's time to connect the dots for the benefit of the economy, people, and planet.

### ### About TADB

The Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank Limited (TADB) facilitates the development and transformation of the agriculture sector by providing short, medium and long term finance to agriculture projects in Tanzania that promote economic growth, food security and the reduction of income poverty. Our vision is to be a world-class model agriculture development bank that supports and promotes Tanzania's agriculture transformation from subsistence to commercialized modern farming and agri-business for economic growth and poverty reduction. TADB was established under the Company Act, 2002 CAP 212 in September 2012.



# Why industrialisation stands as one of most talked about subjects among policymakers

By Muharram Maccatta

Industrialization has been a campaign promise across the African continent, with its acknowledged ability to bring prosperity, new jobs and better incomes for all. Yet the continent is less industrialized today than it was four decades ago.

In fact, the contribution of Africa's manufacturing sector to the continent's gross domestic product actually declined, according to the reliable information in the media, from "12% in 1980 to 11% in 2013", where it has remained stagnant over the past few years.

The Economist Intelligence Unit, a British business research group, reckons that Africa accounted for more than "3% of global manufacturing output in the 1970s", but this percentage has since halved.

It warns that Africa's manufacturing industry is likely to remain small throughout the remainder of this decade. At no point in recent history have calls for Africa to industrialize been stronger than they have been lately.

Across the continent, industrialization is arguably the most talked about subject among policymakers. So why has action on the ground failed to move the needle on this important development market?

High commodity prices triggered by China's seemingly insatiable appetite for natural resources have fueled rapid economic growth in Africa since the 1990s.

Many thought the boom would revive Africa's waning manufacturing industry. Yet to the dismay of analysts, it failed to live up to expectations.

Instead of using the windfall to set up or stimulate manufacturing industries, African countries—with a few exceptions—wasted the money on non-productive expenditures.

Now falling commodity prices and a cooling Chinese economy have conspired to expose the myth of the "Africa rising" story line. The International Monetary Fund estimates that growth "in 2016 will fall below 4%".

"The Economist", a UK-based publication, warns will lead "many to fret that a harmful old pattern of commodity-driven boom and bust in Africa is about to repeat itself."

Had African leaders heeded advice from experts and pumped profits from the commodity boom into stimulating manufacturing companies, the results could have been different. So what are the options for Africa over the next few years? The only viable option is to industrialize.

Experts ought to agree that one of the main reasons for Africa's slow industrialization is that its leaders have



failed to pursue bold economic policies out of fear of antagonizing donors.

A typical example was demonstrated by countries such as Ghana and Zambia, for instance, they used profits from the commodity bonanza to solve short-term domestic problems, such as by increasing salaries for civil servants.

As it were, the strongest criticism of this policy vacuum came not from the debate, but from the op-ed pages of "The Financial Times", a British daily.

Africa stands on the cusp of a lost opportunity because some of her leaders—and those who assess her progress in London, Paris and Washington—are wrongly fixated on the rise and fall of GDP and foreign investment flows, mostly into resource extraction industries and modern shopping malls.

We implore African countries to reject the misleading notion that they can join the West by becoming post-industrial societies without having first been industrial ones.

Additionally, we call for "policy imagination"—creativity in crafting policies—and urge African policymakers to avoid being bound to any single theoretical policy. "African countries need to have the self-confidence to develop alternative policies and stick to them."

Asia's development of its industries is instructive: state-led development policies were responsible for lifting the region's economies out of poverty during the late 20th century—a point some of us clearly recognize.

We hereby insist that governments must lead the way, with a firm hand on the wheel and by setting policy that

creates an enabling environment for market-based growth that creates jobs.

We are adamant that markets must work for society and not the other way round. It is a pride to point out that Ethiopia and Rwanda as notable examples of how Africa could industrialize its economies.

African policymakers are sometimes hesitant to take alternative policies for fear of dictates and conditionality of the leading developed countries particularly in the West.

Yet "The Economist" sees things differently. In its analysis of why Africa has failed to industrialize, it observes that while many countries reindustrialize as they grow richer, "many African countries are deindustrializing while they are still poor...partly because technology is reducing the demand for low-skilled workers."

Another reason, says the magazine, is that weak infrastructure—lack of electricity, poor roads and congested ports—drives up the cost of moving raw materials and shipping out finished goods.

But the publication acknowledges that Africa's "favourable geography, rising urbanization and extensive agricultural resource base underscore the potential of the region's manufacturing industry."

It is outspoken that rich nations that "preach free market and free trade to the poor countries in order to capture larger shares of the latter's markets and to pre-empt the emergence of possible competitors.

Hence the support of smart protectionism, making the case that it's not

only necessary but can be pursued using the rules set by the World Trade Organization (WTO), a UN body that makes rules and mediates trade disputes among nations.

The ECA has given the same advice, maintaining that African countries can legitimately pursue smart protectionism as practiced by the West.

Nearly all countries that have industrialized started with degrees of protectionism, but we cannot practice crude protectionism anymore we are engaged in a global debate that includes trade negotiations.

If we have to make the rules work for Africa, that basically means smart protectionism; many experts have called on Africa to practice "so-called sophisticated or smart protectionism"—that is, to impose temporary tariffs to shield budding industries from the negative effects of cheap imports—as part of its strategy to industrialize.

Probably the world's most effective critic of globalization, it's argued that rich countries have historically relied on protectionist approaches in their quests for economic dominance.

As if to prove the point that rich nations are indeed practicing protectionism, the WTO reported in June 2016 that there is a rapid increase in trade restrictive or protectionist measures by the world's leading economies that make up the G20 group.

Between mid-October 2015 and mid-May 2016, the report says, G20 economies had slapped "145 new trade-restrictive measures at an average rate of 21 new measures per month, a significant increase com-

pared to the previous reporting period at 17 per month."

It's usually noticed that Ethiopia is leading by example. It has shown industrialization can happen in Africa. What the continent needs is political commitment and the audacity to implement the right policies, even in the face of strong external opposition.

For capitalism to work for Africa, just as it has for China and much of East Asia, public policymakers must shake off the shackles of orthodoxy.

Ethiopia, Rwanda and to a lesser extent Tanzania have proved adept at navigating the bumpy path to industrialization. The common thread among them is that they have embraced policies that target and favour their own manufacturing industries.

In addition to pursuing what experts call a "developmental state model," under which governments control, manage and regulate economies, they have adopted investor-friendly policies.

And most importantly, they have shown a commitment to and ownership of these policies. State control over economic policies appears to have contributed to less corruption in Ethiopia and Rwanda or Tanzania.

The SDGs apply to every country in the world. The concept that world leaders had when they developed these goals was that they would underlie every national development plan of all countries.

That means existing spending by governments should be adjusted to align to the SDGs. A lot of the money will come from existing national budgets. But of course extra money will be

needed. Some of these goals are going to be expensive.

But they will be needed particularly in poorer countries to help ensure that there are opportunities for everybody and nobody gets left behind.

For that matter, development financing is critical, supplemented in some cases by private sector investment. To ensure that development funds are available, [donors] will be asked to maintain their assistance and not to reduce it because of domestic pressures.

The most important requirement for governments is for fair and transparent systems to ensure money needed for the public sector benefits the people.

This is the core set of principles underlying the SDGs. If, by any chance, [money is] moved from countries without proper accountability or if there is diversion of money [to avoid paying] taxes not just in poor countries, then this undermines the realization of SDGs.

That's why proper use of tax revenue and proper use of government finance is absolutely key for the SDGs to be realized. Because the SDGs were agreed to by all world leaders, and they knew already that there were some activities in their countries that directly reflected what's in the SDGs.

The idea is not to completely redesign national plans but instead to align them with the SDGs. In some places that means leaving things as they are. In others, it means changing them so that they are better aligned.

We've seen the reality of life particularly for poor and vulnerable people. Their lives are interconnected. Issues in agriculture, in climate, in gender equity, in health and education tend to be linked in a very intense way.

You can't take one area, one aspect of human existence and deal with it out of sync with another aspect. So we actually do believe that all the different issues identified in the SDGs are important.

And if you take one part out it is like taking a big stone out of the middle of the arch of the bridge; the whole of the bridge will collapse. We believe all of them are important.

In the news we hear about situations where things are not good. But for every account of things going badly, there are thousands of accounts of things going well.

They just don't get in the news. It's an optimism that makes us feel certain that people will come together and achieve the goals by putting special emphasis on climate change, on gender equity, on protracted crises, on human rights, and on financing for development.

## Could Nigeria's court ruling ease the conflict in southern Cameroon?

BY GOLDA KAJODE

On 1 March, in the case between 12 Cameroonian separatist leaders and the Federal Government of Nigeria, Justice Anwuli Chikere of the Federal High Court in Abuja ruled that the forced deportation of the 12 leaders and 39 other Anglophones from Taraba State was illegal and unconstitutional.

The judge said that irrespective of whether they posed a threat to the Nigerian state or not, the Federal Government did not follow due process and thus violated both the Nigerian constitution and articles 32 and 33 of the UN Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees.

Stating that their human rights were violated, Justice Chikere ordered their return to Nigeria. He also decided the government should pay compensation of 5 million each to the 12 and 200 000 each to the 39 other deportees. The 12 are leaders

of the self-proclaimed independent territory of Ambazonia, an outlawed territory in Cameroon's mostly Anglophone regions, where some English-speaking residents seek to restore what was formerly British Southern Cameroons.

While seeking refuge in Nigeria, the individuals, including their leader Sisiku Julius Ayuk Tabe, were seized in January 2018 at the Nera Hotel in Abuja and extradited to Cameroon. The UN, particularly the UN High Commission for Refugees, which had records of the 12 as refugees and asylees, strongly condemned the act and called for their return. After being held incommunicado for over 10 months in Cameroon, they are now on trial before a Yaoundé military tribunal for terrorism-related crimes.

The ruling has given new impetus to the hotly contested issue. Legally, justice seems to have been served but politically, the implications are unclear. There is a need to closely examine the legality of the court's

ruling, to ascertain what it means in practice. Can the court compel the Nigerian government to enforce the ruling? Will the Cameroon government heed the court's decision by releasing the leaders?

As it stands, there is no extradition treaty between the two countries. This is contrary to Cameroon's communication minister Issa Tchiroma's argument that the arrest and transfer of the 12 from Nigeria to Cameroon conformed with the law. He cited three security accords signed by Cameroon and Nigeria in 1963 and 1972 which, although not extradition treaties, define rules of cooperation in matters of security between the two countries.

Inasmuch as the ruling censures the Federal Government of Nigeria, it does present options to resolve the deepening armed conflict in the two English-speaking North West and South West regions. Anglophone militias in these areas are battling pro-regime soldiers in their quest to separate and establish a new country.

These Anglophone separatists want emancipation from the French-dominated Cameroon.

The separatists will no doubt expect some reaction from the government of Cameroon to the court's ruling. If the Paul Biya administration were to ignore an overture from the Nigerian government to return the deportees, and find the deportees guilty of terrorism - which could include the death penalty - this could escalate tensions. It would mark a turning point for the conflict and a missed opportunity for restoring peace in the country.

Although capital punishment is a far-fetched outcome, a guilty verdict is not an unlikely scenario. This is a country where state authority remains heavily centralised in the executive branch, and legislative decision making is often opaque and without consultation. This is evident in the government's unilaterally designed conflict mitigation strategies, such as the creation of a Bilingualism Committee in response to the

perceived linguistic marginalisation of the English-speaking regions.

Similarly, government created the ill-fitted National Committee for Disarmament, Demobilization and Reintegration. The committee has been unable to make inroads in disarming militants, many of whom have shown no signs of surrendering their arms without dialogue.

These government initiatives don't reflect a real analysis of the root causes of the current crisis. Linguistic marginalisation is a simplistic explanation that belies the decades-long exploitation of citizens by the ruling elite, who depend solely on patronage. Even more troubling have been government actions to vilify Anglophone communities in the wake of the crisis, and the failure to hold security services accountable for attacks on civilians.

Cameroon's government could instead use the Nigerian court's ruling as an opportunity to start a process of national reconciliation. Having suffered setbacks in its legitimacy,

government could restore trust and social cohesion with citizens by prioritising peacebuilding rather than state-building.

By heeding the Abuja High Court ruling and repatriating the 12 leaders who are seen by their followers as the legitimate brokers of peace in any dialogue process, chances are the Cameroonian leadership can set a new course towards stability.

It could capitalise on the faction of Anglophone 'federalists' who hope for a return to the former federal system of government without the structural exploitation and under-development of the two Anglophone regions by the Francophone political centre of power. This has been at the heart of the 'Anglophone problem'.

The process of finding a durable solution would ideally be facilitated by the international community through the UN. Central to such a dialogue and reconciliation process will be a commitment to holding both separatists and security forces responsible for crimes committed against innocent civilians. It must also provide justice for the thousands who have been killed, and redress for those rendered homeless due to the burning of their villages, resulting in the massive exodus into Nigeria in the first place.



# 'Crises in rural areas threaten progress in poverty reduction'

Washington, D.C.

Rural areas continue to be in a state of crisis in many parts of the world, threatening to slow the progress towards the global Sustainable Development Goals - particularly as regards climate targets and improved food and nutrition security. The crisis is marked by a deepening cycle of hunger and malnutrition, persistent poverty, limited economic opportunities, and environmental degradation, according to the 2019 Global Food Policy Report (GFPR) released yesterday by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI). The report says rural areas remain underserved compared to urban areas

and face a wide array of challenges across the globe: rural areas struggle with environmental crisis in China; severe agrarian crisis in India, and acute shortage of jobs for the growing youth populations in Africa. To overcome these challenges, the report calls for rural revitalization and highlighting policies, institutions and investments that can transform rural areas into vibrant and healthy places to live, work and raise families. "Revitalising rural areas can stimulate economic growth and begin to address the crises in developing countries and also tackle challenges holding back achievement of the SDGs and climate goals by 2030," said IFPRI director general Shenggen Fan. "Rural revitalisation is timely, achiev-

able, and, most important, critical to ending hunger and malnutrition in just over a decade," noted Fan. A majority of the world's poor live in rural areas: rural populations account for 45.3 per cent of the world's total population, but 70 per cent of the world's extremely poor. The global poverty rate in rural areas is currently 17 per cent, more than double the urban poverty rate of 7 per cent. "Rural transformation requires a holistic economic approach to connect rural and urban economies. Strengthening these connections can spur growth and diversification in the farm and non-farm sectors, closing socio-economic and quality-of-life gaps between urban and rural

areas," said Achim Steiner, Administrator, United Nations Development Programme and co-author of the lead chapter in the report. The report emphasizes that rural areas could become premiere hubs of innovations in just under a decade. It recommends revitalising rural areas with a focus on five building blocks. These are creating farm and non-farm rural employment opportunities, achieving gender equality, addressing environmental challenges, improving access to energy, and investing in good governance. Job creation is critical to reducing poverty in rural areas, especially in the rural areas of Africa south of the Sahara, where poverty is high and youth populations are large.

Policies that encourage investments in rural transport networks, telecommunications and human capital in African countries can prepare rural youth for new jobs in rural and urban areas, and bridge rural-urban gap, according to the report. Ousmane Badiane, director for Africa, IFPRI and co-author of the report chapter on Africa, meanwhile noted: "Rapid urbanisation in Africa is creating new opportunities for rural transformation and revitalisation, mainly due to growing demand for food in urban areas, and investments in new staple food processing technologies as seen in the case of Ghana, Mali, Tanzania and Senegal." In south Asia too, there is a greater emphasis on growth in rural employ-

ment and agricultural productivity by strengthening the agriculture-based rural non-farm economy, said Pramod Joshi, IFPRI director for South Asia and co-author of the report chapter on South Asia. To ensure that all can participate and benefit from growth and transformation of rural areas, the report recommends investing efforts in reducing general disparities. "Empowering women can improve agricultural productivity, overall well-being of mothers and children, and increase their capacity to contribute to rural revitalisation," said Hazel Malapit, IFPRI researcher and co-author of report chapter on gender equality.



Entrepreneurs attend batik-making training co-organised by an NGO known as TVMC and the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) held in Shinyanga municipality yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

## Africa discusses digital-era policy, business and the private sector

MARRAKESH, Morocco

The annual Economic Commission for Africa Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development - COM2019 - opened here on Wednesday, with emphasis on the importance of digitalisation in enhancing African economies as the continent celebrates the first anniversary of the highly hailed and historic signing of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area - (AfCFTA). The weeklong event, which has also drawn various seasoned experts and policy-makers from inside and outside Africa, will weigh and evaluate this year's theme - Fiscal Policy, Trade and the Private Sector in the Digital Era: A strategy for Africa. That will be against the backdrop of recent economic and social development on the continent.

With the value of the global digital economy estimated at over \$11.5 trillion and set to rise to over \$23 trillion by 2025, the effects of digital trade and economy in Africa are points of key debate. That is according to according UN Economic Community for Africa (UNECA) executive secretary Vera Songwe. "The potential of Africa is, and has always been, promising... The continent has all the pre-requisites for rapid economic transformation in the next decade...but the importance of digitalisation and the digital economy in driving growth and structural transformation, as well

as optimising fiscal performance in Africa cannot be overstated," she said. "It is currently estimated to represent 15.5 per cent of global GDP and is expected to reach 25 per cent of global GDP in less than a decade and there has been a rise in the digital innovation hubs on the continent, such as the Silicon Savannah in Nairobi and the Kumasi Hive in Ghana, not to mention more solution-oriented technologies such as Flutterwave which has enabled global payment processing in Nigeria through a single, seamless platform," elaborated Songwe. "In 2018, this application was reported to have processed \$1 billion worth of transactions... Such digital developments can have a transformative effect across the economy by reducing barriers to entry and expanding market reach for businesses, creating jobs, and boosting both domestic and foreign trade in goods and services," she emphasized.

Zouhair Chorfi, secretary general at Morocco's Ministry of Finance Morocco and incoming chair of the Committee of Experts of the CoM (Committee of Ministers), added further: "Digitalisation is a great opportunity for Africa. It can transform Africa by increasing competitiveness, promoting strong integration, reducing the cost of doing business. Morocco is ready to play its part." His predecessor, Isadig Bakheit Ilfaki Abdalla, also

proffered on the issue: "With the advent of digital age, Africa can leapfrog and use new technologies to push the continent's drive for sustainable development." The conference's deliberations were scheduled to centre on, among other issues, leveraging digital technologies to mobilise Africa's domestic resources, strengthen competitiveness and speed up growth in all developmental sectors. It was also set to provide a platform for delegates to review fiscal policies for the implementation of the AfCFTA. Adopted on 21 March 2018, the agreement is now two ratifications away from the 22 member countries needed to enforce the trade bloc that envisages, among much more, a gross domestic product of more than \$3trn and the creation of 300,000 direct and more than 2 million indirect jobs. Africa's largest economy, Nigeria and the host country Morocco are among those yet to ratify. The week was further expected to see a broad array of sessions and side-events. Highlights will include the launch of the ECA 2019 Economic Report on Africa - which assesses performance of fiscal policy and analyses both challenges and opportunities in Africa. There will also be the launch of the African Fintech Network and a roundtable on trade and private sector development in the digital era.



### ST. JOSEPH UNIVERSITY IN TANZANIA

P.O.BOX.11007Plot no 111&113, Kibamba"B"Dar-Es-Salaam, Tanzania  
Phone: +255 784 757010, 0713 757010 Email: dvc- tz rma@sjuit.ac.; hrmo@ sjuit.ac.tz

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| Assistant Lecturers(12-Posts)   | Psychiatry (2);Medicine (3);Radiology (2);Nursing (4) Parasitology (1)   |
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FORM 58

IN THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA  
(DAR ES SALAAM DISTRICT REGISTRY)

AT DAR ES SALAAM

PETITION FOR PROBATE

PROBATE CAUSE NO. 10 OF 2019

PETITION FOR PROBATE OF THE ESTATE OF THE LATE HATIM  
AMIR KARIMJEE

PETITIONERS

RAZIA HATIM KARIMJEE AND

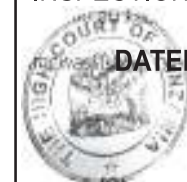
YUSUF ALY KARIMJEE

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(Made under Rule 75)

ALL PERSONS CLAIMING TO HAVE ANY INTEREST IN THE ESTATE OF THE ABOVE-NAMED DECEASED ARE HEREBY CITED TO COME AND SEE THE PROCEEDINGS IF THEY THINK FIT BEFORE THE GRANT OF PROBATE IS MADE TO THE ABOVE-NAMED PETITIONERS.

OBJECTIONS TO THE GRANT SHOULD BE FILED ON OR BEFORE THE 15TH DAY OF APRIL, 2019.

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DATED AT DAR ES SALAAM THIS 11TH DAY OF MARCH, 2019.

DEPUTY REGISTRAR

215143201





# Working Class: Achievements and the unfinished war of emancipation - Part 5

## BOOK REVIEW

**Title:** Working class and the power of capital  
**Author:** Michael D. Yates

BY FAROOQUE CHOWDHURY

What has the working class achieved so far in its war for emancipation? Are not the exploited of the earth encountering unfinished work in their struggles against the most experienced and resource-rich class the world has witnessed till today? These questions are apposite while examining the class struggle on the world stage.

Michael D. Yates has probed the questions in chapter 4 of his recently released book *Can the Working Class Change the World?* (Monthly Review Press, New York, October 2018). The chapter - "What hath the working class wrought?" - proclaims:

"A signal achievement of the working class and peasantry in the Global South, both in those countries that made socialist revolutions and those that did not, is the assault they made upon colonialism and imperialism. Before substantive changes could occur in the lives of the masses of people, the control wielded by colonial powers had to be broken and imperialism had to at least be weakened. Workers and peasants did this throughout the impoverished nations of the world."

No other class has made this achievement, has delivered this duty to millions of millions. It's unprecedented. It's historic. It's a service to humanity, to the peoples of the world. Because imperialism and colonialism are scourges on the face of the earth, threats to the survival of life on this planet. The two - imperialism and colonialism - assault peace, and distort the lives and aspirations of peoples to make life dignified and prosperous. The two unceasingly carry on war against dreams and initiatives to make life humane.

What has the assault on imperialism and colonialism achieved? Peoples, billions in number, in countries once colonized know the answer. First, they can plan their next journey - towards a society free from exploitation, towards a life with dignity. Now, they have a stand on the world stage, a voice once unheard and ignored. It's broadly the same assertion declarations, charters, and proclamations, including the US *Declaration of Independence* and the English and US *Bills of Rights* made: All women and men are equal, all men and women are endowed with certain unalienable rights that include life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness. It's an achievement that lays a foundation for building up humanity's eternal yearning: freedom, freedom from all exploitation, all distortions, all trampling, all muzzling down, all chains, and this freedom is a prerequisite for building up a life happy, peaceful, and prosperous.

The proletariat in Soviet Russia made a far more advanced declaration almost immediately after the Great October Revolution as it declared: Abolish all exploitation, completely eliminate the division of society into classes, mercilessly crush the resistance of the exploiters, establish a socialist organization of society. ("*Declaration of Rights of the Working and Exploited People*", V I Lenin, *Collected Works*, vol. 26, Progress Publishers, Moscow, erstwhile USSR, 1972)

The declaration, forgotten most of the time by the mainstream, and even by a part of the pro-people political forces, is one of the most significant political achievements the exploited have so far made as it laid the legal foundation for rights of all the exploited, against all sorts of exploitation, and invalidated all claims of the exploiting classes. The revolutionary political document declared sovereign power of the working people. The historic document declared the abolishing of private ownership of all land, and parasitic sections of society; supremacy of the power of the working people over the exploiters; the complete conversion of all banks, factories, mines, railways,

and other means of production and transport into the property of the workers' and peasants' state; complete break with the barbarous policy of bourgeois civilization, which has built the prosperity of the exploiters; freedom of humanity from the clutches of finance capital and imperialism; and democratic peace between nations on the basis of free self-determination of nations. The *Declaration* is fundamentally different from all declarations of rights the bourgeois and feudal political systems, compromises between them issued until today. It directly and unequivocally stood for rights of the exploited. The declaration made assault on exploitative property relations, and declared measures for empowering the working people to resist the exploiting classes. (Farooque Chowdhury, "The Great October Revolution: *Declaration of Rights of the Working and Exploited People*", *Countercurrents.org*)

"Struggles against [the] class enemy" [of the exploited], writes Professor Michael Yates, "have resulted in tremendous and positive changes in the lives of the oppressed and expropriated." He refers to the lives of nearly all workers during capitalism's early days in Europe, to the condition of the peasantry in pre-1949 revolution in China. Improvements in these areas are monumental.

However, the economist does not miss the fact of life:

"And yet, workers and peasants are nowhere close to their full liberation".

This is the unfinished war of the working class.

It's - the struggle of the exploited for emancipation - a long struggle. None can ignore this fact. A complete and permanent victory will follow long, innumerable struggles against capital and all its accomplices in lands across the globe, developments within struggles of the exploited and within the decaying force - the imperialist world order.

The chapter focuses on achievements "the working class has achieved in its struggle against exploitation, the first aspect of capitalist oppression."

On "the second element of this subjugation, expropriation," the chapter claims:

"[L]abor unions and political organizations have done some good. Most unions and political parties are committed to racial, ethnic, and gender equality. It is common for collective bargaining agreements to contain broad no-discrimination clauses. [...] [T]he race, ethnic, and gender composition of union leadership mirrors the share of these groups in the larger population. [...] A few unions, notably those with majority women membership, have female presidents, and both women and minorities now have greater access to better-paying jobs than was once the case. The gap between the wages of women and men is lower in the rich European countries than in the United States, and this can be largely attributed to the demands coming from the labor movement and worker-centered political parties."

However, as self-criticism, the chapter says boldly: "[T]he labor movement in the Global North has done very little to oppose the theft of peasant lands in the Global South."

Absence of resistance to theft of the peasant lands in the Global South is not the only area of failure of the labor in the Global North. Along with buying/leasing in of vast tracts of lands in Africa and establishment of export processing/special economic zones by powerful capital in countries of the Global South, powerful parts of world capital are exporting environmentally harmful technology, industrial wastes and commodities, and medical products harmful to health to the Global South. The labor in the Global North has also failed to organize effective resistance to this assault by capital. It's part of labor's unfinished war against the world capital.

These failures originate in (1) capital's power to corrupt a part of labor leadership, and (2) labor's lack of

success in formulating a revolutionary theory on the related area. It's an exhibit of the level of political awareness and struggle the labor is waging in the Global North.

However, Michael Yates writes, "[i]n their own countries, Northern labor has championed policies and programs, as well as collective bargaining provisions, that make workplaces healthier spaces and countries less polluted."

He mentions the Great October Revolution in Russia:

"The Revolution was successful, in that the Bolsheviks managed to consolidate state power. However, this was only after years of civil war, aided and abetted in the most brutal manner by the imperial powers, mainly Great Britain and the United States."

Although the revolution, the economist writes, was not successful in consolidating the Soviet power and build a working class society, great gains were "made for the workers and peasants of Russia, and after the Second World War for the countries in the Soviet bloc. Guaranteed employment, excellent education and healthcare, run by the state and free of charge, subsidized rent and food, exceptional art, literature, music, and science, and a considerable erosion of patriarchy are some of the Revolution's major achievements, not to mention its primary responsibility for the defeat of the Nazis in the Second World War."

Regarding the question of absence of success in some areas by the revolution in Russia, Lenin's observation should be mentioned:

"[W]e have sustained the greatest number of reverses and have made most mistakes. How could anyone expect that a task so new to the world could be begun without reverses and without mistakes! ("Fourth anniversary of the October Revolution", *Collected Works*, vol. 33, Progress Publishers, 1976)

Michael Yates cites socialist revolutions in China, Vietnam, and Cuba as achievements of the working class. In China and Vietnam, Professor Michael Yates writes, "great improvements were made in schooling, health, and overall social welfare for the masses of people. Cuba's Revolution has made tremendous advances in the lives of the people. Education, healthcare, organic farming, urban agriculture, and medical research in Cuba are world class. Progress against racism, patriarchy, and homophobia in the country is also remarkable."

Cuba is spectacular in terms of time. Cuba is unprecedented in terms of political atmosphere. Cuba is exemplary in terms of the existing world order. Why, anyone can ask. Russia and China are vast landmasses, are rich with huge natural resources. China had Soviet Russia on its back. Cuba had nothing of those. Cuba is still braving an imperialist economic blockade. Cuba is encountering a hostile world market. Moreover, Cuba is at a stone's throw distance from the most powerful imperialist power. In addition to these, Cuba was standing alone during the time - the time of Gorbachev. It was a time of betrayal. It was a time of setbacks. It was a time of fallen "heroes." It was a time when survival was a success. Cuba stood bravely. Cuba stood with the Red Flag. Cuba not only strode the current, but also made achievements with its political process - a form of democracy with people's participation. It's a striking performance by ordinary people with the Red Banner, the color of the exploited. In the history of the world, no other class has survived and performed at this level within such a hostile world environment. And, Cuba is referenced not to belittle revolutions in Russia and China, but to highlight sense of dignity, courage, tenacity and achievement of the working class.

The chapter of the book begins with a reference to a 2016-general strike by the workers in India: the largest such strike in the world. About 180 million workers in every Indian state, in all sectors and in nearly every occupation, walked out. Tens of

millions of women struck.

The chapter reminds with a modest tone: "Nothing remotely similar could take place in today's United States, or in any rich capitalist country."

This is a fact of working class life, which in many terms depends on capital, making the struggle, and gains and setbacks uneven, almost unpredictable. "And yet, from capitalism's birth centuries ago, those harmed most by its imperatives have resisted. Their defeats have been many, their victories too few", says Michael Yates in the chapter that takes an account of gains and losses. Hence, the labor educator says:

"[The working class through] their struggles have changed the world. Peasants have resisted with their own organized violence the expropriation of their farms and common lands. Wage workers, including those unemployed, have marched, picketed, boycotted, struck, sat-in, sabotaged, stole and destroyed their employers' materials, and petitioned governments. They have contended capital's power in every institution of their societies, from schools to media to religion. There have been times when both peasants and workers have engaged in armed battle with both capitalists and governments. In a few cases, alliances of workers and peasants made revolutions - in Russia, China, Cuba, Vietnam. Women were critical in all these alliances."

No other class has struggled so much, has not paid so much. And, all these struggles, all these payments - supreme sacrifices in innumerable number - were for the entire humanity, for freeing the humanity from the clutches of capital, the most barbaric and brutal force human history has encountered. This is a major gain in this world, which demands a radical change.

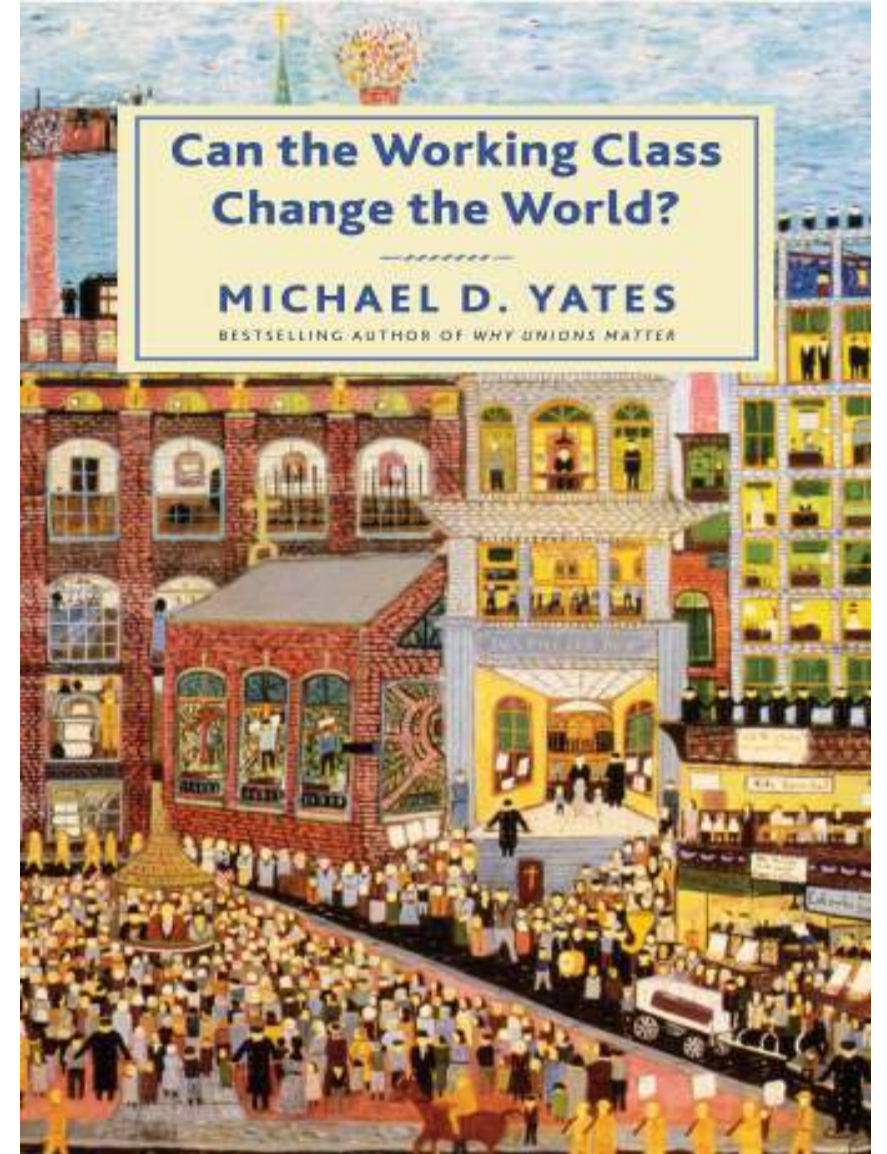
Michael Yates writes: "Unions are a universal response of the working class to capital's oppression. [...] Not only do they win higher wages [and] benefits [...], unions also weaken the control employers have over hiring, promotion, layoffs, discipline, the introduction of machinery, the pace of work, and plant closings." This is no less important gain for the working class.

Citing data, he discusses unionization/union density and its positive impact in countries across the US, Europe, and in many countries in the Global South. He says: "Three critical functions of labor unions are that they give workers a voice on the job, guarantee due process, and educate their members about a wide variety of important subjects."

The labor economist, one of his many duties, recollects, "I have had personal experience as a labor arbitrator, and on more than one occasion I reinstated a fired employee, with full back pay, after determining that the company had wrongfully discharged him." Hence, one of the gains by the working class: "Every year, unions win thousands of arbitrations". On the global scale, in struggles against the world capital, the total number of arbitrations won is huge, which is not a negligible achievement by a class in chains.

One of the achievements of the working class is told in a mainstream literature as it refers an argument: "[A]t a crucial moment in history - the period between WW1 and WW2 and then in the early post-war years - in some countries, [...] the labor movement and its political allies were able [...] to force capital into a historical compromise, whereby labor accepted the capitalist organization of the economy, but in exchange obtained not only a recognition of its prerogatives as labor market intermediary [...], but also protection against all sorts of social risks, and a growing expansion of social rights." (Lucio Baccaro, "Labor, Globalization and Inequality: Are Trade Unions Still Redistributive?", International Institute for Labor Studies, ILO, discussion paper, DP/192/2008, Geneva, 2008) This tells of an achievement and of an unfinished war.

For union organizers, the chapter



presents, in brief, a good lesson, as it says:

"The formation of a union is a collective effort, and engaging in it, confronting the boss, is bound to make workers think about what they have done and what they hope to achieve. That is, labor unions are bound to raise the consciousness of those who form them. At the same time, labor organizers always try to educate prospective members, and the union itself provides educational materials and may even have developed more formal educational programs for the rank and file. The best unions insist that new members learn the history of the union, the provisions of the relevant labor laws, the political platform of the union, and the details of bargaining and filing grievances. They might have special meetings, short courses, and longer schooling opportunities for the rank and file. Good unions also work hard to involve members in every facet of union work. Active participation in grievances, strikes, picketing, boycotting, and political agitation helps to further strengthen working-class consciousness, making workers stronger in their convictions and willing to live the precept that an injury to one is an injury to all. A working-class way of looking at the world begins to take shape, and this prepares workers for whatever struggles ensue during their lives."

This is absent in many unions, especially in many countries dominated by lumpenocracy in the Global South. In these economies, dominating capital engages hoodlums to organize/control unions. At the same time, a group of NGOs, on behalf of capital, organizes "unions" - a trick with workers, and a bitter reality made possible by a vacuum of revolutionary working class politics and unionization. In cases, organizations with medieval ideology organize "unions" in countries. In cases, a group of big unions from the Global North organizes "unions" in the countries in the Global South with the purpose of taming the working class. In all these mal-efforts, huge money is spent, employees with a fat salary are engaged, and ludicrous foreign trips for these employees, the so-called "union" organizers, are organized. All these efforts forget the slogan of class struggle, shy away from imparting lesson of class politics. It's an area, where the working class faces one of its unfinished wars.

Burning examples of working class initiatives are, among many, in the landless peasantry's fights in Brazil, and in Shankar Guha Niyogi's heroic

struggles in India.

Niyogi, the martyr from the rank of the working class, initiated a struggle while adventurism was taking a high toll. Shankar Guha Niyogi was the founder of the Chhattisgarh Mukti Morcha, a labor union in Chhattisgarh. After the formation of the Communist Party of India (Marxist-Leninist) (CPI (M-L)) on April 22, 1969, he was associated with the CPI (M-L) for some time. However, CPI (M-L)'s failure to adapt Niyogi's mass line-based activities to the party line of boycott of mass line and mass organizations led to his expulsion from the party. He went underground and began taking his ideas and method of work to the ordinary workers through a Hindi weekly, which he named *Sphulinga* (Spark), inspired by Lenin's *Iskra*. He continued the work of organizing the people through movements, e.g. movement for the construction of the Daihan dam, movement of the peasants of Balod for irrigation water, movement of the *advasis* (indigenous people) against the construction of the Mongra dam. Unions organized by Niyogi include Chhattisgarh Mines Shramik Sangh, whose red-green flag carried the message: red for workers' self-sacrifice and green for the peasantry. The first struggle of miners under Niyogi's leadership was a struggle for dignity: do not obey the agreement signed by the leaders, lackeys of factory management. Many struggles by the workers, police atrocities, martyrs, and victories by the workers are marks of struggles led by Niyogi. Unique forms of struggles, organizing cultural activities, and establishing athletic clubs, schools and hospital - Shaheed (Martyr) Hospital - for the workers are signatures of his struggle and organization. On September 28, 1991, assassins hired by class enemies - capitalists - murdered Niyogi, a comrade to follow. One important section of the chapter is on labor politics. In this section, Michael Yates writes: "[U]nions [...] sooner or later they must confront government. The state, at every level, is intertwined with capital, labor's primary adversary. [...] The largest and most powerful states have virtually unlimited taxing and spending power. Governments make and enforce laws; they have the only legitimate (in the sense of being formally legal) police power. The courts ultimately determine the meaning of the laws. Important components of government regulate a wide array of activities and groups of workers that might concern business [...]"

**To be continued**





Thursday 28 March 2019

## Africa CEO Forum: What is required to unlock EAC's untapped potential?

By The Banker Reporter and agencies

Despite considerable progress in the East African Community, the region's private sector has challenged governments to do more to serve businesses in the region which would in turn facilitate integration.

Speaking at the ongoing Africa CEO Forum, business leaders said that often, the region has missed out on low hanging fruits that could have been achieved through cooperation. Among the missed opportunities include the Single African Air Market policy which has potential to increase performance of regional airlines.

RwandAir Chief Executive Officer Yvonne Makolo said that the open skies policy, if implemented, would increase passenger numbers and drive down costs. Makolo said that protectionist trends in some countries are only serving to limit growth of the regional airlines' expansion.

"If countries properly implement open skies agreements, fares would fall, and flight frequencies go up," she said. A section of the business community said that they do not feel adequately involved in the integration agenda.

Tanzanian businessman Ali Mfu-



RwandAir Chief Executive Officer Yvonne Makolo (R).

ruki said that most of the drivers in EAC integration have been political and not business oriented. This, he said, risked prioritising aspects that have little impact on the welfare of business integration.

For instance, he pointed out that there have been lots of efforts on initiatives such as political federation and monetary union at the expense of simpler but more impactful interventions such as movement of labour and skills.

"I cannot hire an accountant from another country right now and yet there is focus on a single currency? We are probably focusing on the wrong things," he said. "Time has come for business to drive this EAC cooperation in partnership with governments. I am not saying we should replace governments," he added.

KCB Group Chief Executive Joshua Oigara said that, inclusion of the private sector would speed up economic integration not just for purpose of trade per se but as a vehicle for bringing about faster economic development.

Oigara warned that the new surge of protectionist policies across the world require a coalition of powerful interest groups to organise a campaign aimed at changing the status quo in their own context.

Among the major opportunities going forward, he said, is e-commerce which would ease trade for small and medium businesses. Over 1800 delegates from across Africa and beyond are in Kigali for the Africa CEO Forum.

It is a platform where business leaders deliberate on issues affecting them, opportunities for growth, and key challenges, and pitch to international investors business opportunities on the continent.

Held annually, the Forum is organised by Jeune Afrique Media Group; Rainbow Unlimited, a Swiss company specialising in the organisation of economic promotion events; and International Finance Cooperation, the lending arm of World Bank Group.

## French development agency, TDB in pact to finance climate focused projects in Africa

By The Banker Reporter

REGIONAL development bank TDB has signed a memorandum of understanding with French development agency, AFD to jointly commit US\$120 million in financing climate change mitigation projects.

Representatives from Agence française de Développement (AFD) and the Trade and Development Bank (TDB) signed the agreement recently in Nairobi on the side-lines of the fourth session of the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-4).

The 2015 Paris Climate Agreement and the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have given a renewed impetus to development finance, focusing in particular

on the tremendous importance of the climate agenda and on the convergence of national and international agendas in terms of sustainable development, the two parties said in a joint statement. The activities of multilateral and bilateral development banks such as TDB and AFD clearly fall under these renewed mandates.

With the statement letter, AFD and TDB were expressing their interest to pursue discussions regarding the structuration of a US\$120 million credit facility in 2019. The projects that will be targeted will be climate-oriented and will include renewable energy projects, lower-carbon and energy efficiency projects, agriculture, forestry and land-use, non-energy GHG reductions, water, waste management,

resilient infrastructure and buildings.

Both institutions are also committed to jointly promote the role of multilateral and bilateral banks for climate finance.

AFD and TDB are both members of the International Finance Development Club (IDFC), which has a strong focus on the climate agenda. AFD will facilitate and support TDB's increased engagement in this area of focus, including by harmonizing its climate finance data with IDFC methodologies in advancement of the Paris Agreement objectives.

"AFD is committed to 100 percent compatibility with the Paris Agreement, which calls for low carbon resilient development pathways for all. With this credit line of US\$120 mil-

lion, we are happy to support TDB in its endeavor for financing inclusive and sustainable climate strategies for SMEs in renewable energy, agriculture, resilient infrastructure, and more," said Rémy Rioux, AFD's CEO and Chairman of IDFC.

"AFD and TDB are members of the IDFC, the leading network of 24 national and regional development banks, totalling US\$4 trillion in assets, and US\$ 850 billion of annual commitments. IDFC doubled its climate finance commitments since 2015, reaching US\$ 200 billion in 2017. Our network demonstrates that development banks can champion climate-friendly investments, a key message of the One Planet Summit," Rioux added.

"TDB and AFD's relationship goes back some 8 years ago," said TDB President and Chief Executive, Admassu Tadesse who also noted that the first cooperation agreement was signed in 2012, and then followed by a US\$ 75 million credit facility and US\$ 0.5 million technical assistance program focused on infrastructure and project finance in Africa in 2017.

"This supported the implementation of three renewable energy projects among others. The growing partnership with AFD will enable TDB to continue stepping-up its climate efforts, which have been growing robustly in recent years, which is reflected in the fact that 69% of TDB's energy portfolio is in renewable," Tadesse noted.

## IMF advocates global corporate taxation reform to help low-income countries

NEW YORK

Global corporate taxation requires an urgent reform, as low-income countries are losing significant amounts of revenue due to tax competition and profit-shifting, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) said in a paper on Monday.

According to the IMF, the countries outside the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, commonly known as the OECD, lose about 200 billion U.S. dollars in revenue per year, or about 1.3 percent of gross domestic product (GDP), due to multinational companies shifting profits to low-tax locations. Christine Lagarde, managing director of the IMF, said that the revenue thus lost to the low-income countries could jeopardize their efforts to fight poverty and meet development challenges. "The current situation is especially harmful to low-income countries, depriving them of much-needed revenue to help them achieve higher economic growth, reduce poverty, and meet the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals," said Lagarde.

Meanwhile, Lagarde also questioned "faith in the fairness of the overall tax system" due to "the ease with which multinationals seem able to avoid tax, and the three-decade long decline in corporate tax rates." "Advanced economies have long shaped international corporate tax rules, without considering how they would affect low-income countries," said Lagarde.

Besides, the IMF paper specially noted a taxation dilemma in the newly thriving digital economy, saying this new business model that mainly builds on intangible assets just proved how outdated the current tax system was. "Countries with many users or consumers of digital services find themselves with little or no tax revenue from these companies," said Lagarde, "because they have no physical presence there."



TDB's President and CEO, Admassu Tadesse (L) and Rémy Rioux, CEO of the French Development Agency (AFD) and Chairman of the IDFC after the signing ceremony. File photo.



## Lindi agribusinesses, industrial developers urged to use NMB Bank services, products

By The Banker Reporter, Lindi

**S**MALLHOLDER farmers, agro-dealers and processors in Lindi region have been requested to use NMB Bank Plc's services and products available in all the five districts of the south eastern coastal region.

NMB Southern Zone Manager, Janeth Shango said in Lindi earlier this week while making a presentation at a regional business and investment forum, that the bank has room for various groups and individuals to open accounts and deposit their money, borrow money and get advice on business and investment basics.

"When you deposit money with us, it will not only be safe but also earn interest rate at different periods of the year," Shango said while pointing out that the bank has a variety of products and services good to businesses and investors.

She said by maintaining individual or group accounts with NMB, clients also stand a chance to get affordable loans easily which they can invest to grow their businesses further. "We at NMB want to see Lindi region grow, its small businesses graduate into companies while subsistence farmers graduate into commercial farmers," the Southern Zone Manager noted.

She further noted that NMB has invested heavily in agriculture and agro-processing in all regions of the country because the bank's leadership backs government efforts to modernise farming and develop the industrial sector.

"At NMB we issue loans of all sizes based on needs ranging from micro, small, medium and large scale commercial farmers. But we also have loans for agro-dealers, agro-



NMB Bank Plc's Senior Agribusiness Manager, Carol Nyagoro addressing delegates to Lindi business and investment forum held in Lindi town on Monday this week. The bank was one of the sponsors of the forum.

processors and transporters," she underlined.

Speaking at the same forum, the bank's Senior Agribusiness Manager, Carol Nyagoro said business people and the general public can access the bank's services from five physical branches in the region and

105 agents.

"But we also have dozens of automated teller machines which provide services in all the five districts of the region," Nyagoro said while noting that so far 450bn/- has been given as loans to agribusinesses out of the allocated 500bn/- this

year.

"We still have money available for farmers and agro-dealers to borrow at reasonable interest rates," he added saying the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange listed bank has a 30 percent stake belonging to Treasury.

## Huawei, Redington alliance set to push East Africa tech

NAIROBI

Multinational ICT firm Huawei has signalled its intent to drive advanced technology such as 5G, AI, IOT and cloud computing deeper into the East Africa market via its distribution alliance with Redington Gulf, a global provider of end-to-end supply chain solutions for ICT.

In 2018 Huawei Enterprise signed a Framework Distribution Agreement with Redington in Kenya, which implied Redington's dedication to Huawei products, and increased logistical capability in the region to accelerate ICT development in East Africa.

Regional media reports stated that Huawei would avail products including datacentre facilities, ICT hardware and software to Kenya.

Products, including a portfolio of consumer devices such as smartphones and wearables, would feature on Redington's supply chain for distribution to a wide market including consumers, retailers, SMEs and enterprises.

On 27 March 2019 the companies will host a joint partner summit in Nairobi, Kenya, to detail the alliance's market strategy for the year ahead. The theme selected for the summit is 'building ICT ecosystem, creating

shared value' and the company has also scheduled a Gala Awards Ceremony to recognise the contribution of enterprise partners.

Stone He, chief executive officer of Huawei Kenya, expressed confidence in the ICT ecosystem in the local market. "Working with Redington and all partners in the Kenyan ICT sector has enabled us to bring world class ICT equipment and services to our local businesses, which helps them to fast track their digital transformation and adapt to their business needs in the 21st Century."

In early March 2019 Huawei announced that it had started offering commercial cloud services in South Africa, following confirmation in February that it would launch its first availability zone for cloud services.

Huawei plans to operate more datacentres in Kenya, as part of a broader expansion of its cloud services on the continent.

In the same month pan-African connectivity firm Seacom announced plans to avail a dedicated fibre connection from Kenya to South Africa's public cloud networks and datacentres, a move the company said was driven by the recent launch of Microsoft datacentres in South Africa.

## Emirates in Easter festive season fare reduction for Dubai flights

By The Banker Reporter

TRAVELLERS to Dubai can now buy return tickets from Emirates Airlines between March 26 and April 9 but can travel up to end September this year. The offer also includes a third luggage of 23 kilograms for economy class and 32kgs for business class.

In a statement, the airline stated that the price of the ticket includes airport taxes. Dubai, which is Emirates hub, is a shopping district with a great escape for visitors with year-round sunshine, world-class shopping malls and restaurants.

Visitors to Dubai can enjoy some of the city's must-see places like Global Village - multi-cultural festival park and shopping destination - as well as

theme parks such as Wild Wadi Waterpark and IMG World of Adventures.

On all Emirates' flights, customers can look forward to hours of entertainment on the award-winning inflight entertainment system, ice, which offers over 4,000 channels of on demand audio and visual entertainment, the statement added.

In addition to the on-board comforts and products, customers will experience the world-famous hospitality from Emirates' multinational cabin crew who come from 135 nationalities and speak over 60 languages, while enjoying chef prepared regional and international cuisine, using the freshest ingredients, accompanied by a wide range of complimentary wines and beverages, the statement added.

## GTBank wins eight out of 12 CBN E-Payments awards

LAGOS

Africa's most innovative bank, Guaranty Trust Bank Plc has dominated the 2019 Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) E-Payments awards winning eight of the twelve awards available to all banks in Nigeria.

Mr Segun Agbaje, the Managing Director of Guaranty Trust Bank while receiving the awards said the bank will continue to provide customers with superior banking experience across all digital touch points.

The bank won the awards for efficiency and excellent service delivery in virtually every E-payment channel.

"We are proud to be recognised by the CBN EPIS Efficiency Awards for our efforts in driving excellence in electronic payments and providing customers with a superior banking experience across all digital touch points," Agbaje said.

"These awards serve as extra motivation for us and we will continue to find new and exciting ways to reduce our customers' pain points and offer them benefits beyond banking," he added.

The managing director also said the bank had been leveraging on technology in providing effective service to its customers.

"At GTB, we are passionate

about building the bank of the future that connects our customers directly to all the everyday things that matters to them. That is why we are constantly leveraging the best of technology to, not only make financial services cheaper, more personal and readily accessible.

But also to create amazing digital experiences in a way that adds real value to our customers' lives," he said.

NAN also reports that the CBN EPIS Efficiency Awards is organised to celebrate financial institutions, merchants and other stakeholders at the forefront of driving electronic payment in Nigeria.

"Now in its fourth year, the awards are based on objective analysis of all E-payments data collated by the Nigeria Inter-Bank Settlement System (NIBSS) over a full calendar year.

"The eight awards won include: the Best Customer Experience Award, Real-Time Payments Transaction Efficiency, Cashless Driver, USSD Channel Champion and Cashless Driver, Point of Sale (POS) Transactions.

"Others include are Cashless Driver, Card Usage on Point of Sales (POS) Terminals, Direct Debit Driver Award, E-Reference Operations Efficiency and ID Services Driver."



Segun Agbaje, GTBank Managing Director

## South Africa's Industry minister hopes Moody's will cut some slack

JOHANNESBURG

Trade and Industry Minister Rob Davies is hopeful that Moody's will consider improvements underway and the impact these will have in the medium term, when the rating agency makes its decision on South Africa's credit rating.

The minister was speaking on government's role in SA's economic recovery, at an event hosted by the Cape Town Press Club on Tuesday. Responding to a question about the possibility of a credit rating downgrade this week, Davies said he hoped Moody's would "cut us some slack".

Davies, who has interacted with Moody's a "few times", said it was important for the ratings agency to understand that the country was trying to put things right. Moody's is the only ratings agency which has SA ranked at

investment grade at Baa3 with a stable outlook.

Numerous economists Fin24 have spoken to expect Moody's to keep the rating at investment grade, but to downgrade the outlook to negative.

Early on Tuesday morning, Investec chief economist Annabel Bishop issued a market outlook on the impact of the rating decision, highlighting that Eskom's debt burden and the impact of load shedding on economic growth could risk an actual credit downgrade to junk status.

A downgrade would result in outflow of between \$8bn to \$10bn, with consequences such as higher petrol prices, inflation and interest rates. Moody's views the national budget in February 2019 as credit negative, with debt ratio projections to peak at 60% by 2023/24 and the fiscal deficit expected to widen to 4.5% for 2019/20.



South Africa's Minister of Trade and Industry, Dr Rob Davies.



# What African central bankers will discuss in the next 7 days

**JOHANNESBURG**

Central bankers in Africa's largest economies will consider very different conditions when deciding on interest rates over the next seven days than they did two months ago, and will mostly come to the same conclusions.

Since the Monetary Policy Committees last met, Ghana's currency slumped, Nigeria concluded its election, South Africa announced higher-than-expected power-price increases and a Kenyan court set aside a law that caps borrowing costs.

All of them are forecast to keep their policy rates unchanged.

Here is a round-up of what these MPCs may focus on in the next seven days:

**Nigeria, March 26**

Monetary policy rate: 14% Inflation rate: 11.3% (February)

With Nigeria's election done, the vote-related spending that pushed inflation up from a 30-month low is probably also a thing of the past. The focus turns to boosting an economy that the International Monetary Fund estimates

will expand only 2% this year. Governor Godwin Emefiele is forecast to hold the key rate at a record high, where it's been since July 2016, to tackle price growth. Inflation remains above the central bank's target range of 6% to 9%.

The market has "already priced in some measure of monetary easing in the second quarter," said Omotola Abimbola, a macro and fixed-income strategist at Chapel Hill Denham. That's based on the central bank's use of open-market operations to rein in liquidity and protect the naira.

**Kenya, March 27**  
Central bank rate: 9% Inflation rate: 4.1% (February)

A court ruling this month annulled a law limiting the interest rate lenders can charge consumers, but implementation of the annulment has been suspended for 12 months. So the judgment about interest-rate caps, which Governor Patrick Njoroge has said complicated monetary-policy transmission, should have little sway on the MPC's decision.

While Kenya's inflation rate is at a six-month low, a drought that's left more than a million people in need of food aid could boost price growth, limiting room for cuts after the



Chief economist for Africa and the Middle East at Standard Chartered Bank, Razia Khan.

MPC held the rate at its last three meetings. "We see little scope for further rate easing in this cycle, nor is it likely to be needed given the economy's recovery trajectory," Razia Khan, the chief economist for Africa and the Middle East at Standard Chartered Bank, said by email. "We think the next move in interest rates is up, and forecast a 50 basis-point hike at the September MPC meeting."

**South Africa, March 28**  
Repurchase rate: 6.75% Inflation rate: 4.1% (February)

South Africa's inflation rate stayed below the 4.5% mid-point of the central bank's tar-

get band for a second month in February. While electricity costs will increase by more than the MPC assumed in its January price-growth forecasts, it's not enough to trigger more policy tightening in an economy still recovering from last year's recession and reeling from rolling electricity blackouts.

The central bank's inflation forecast of 5.3% for next year means there's no option for a cut, but there's also no scope to increase rates because economic growth is

under pressure, Elize Kruger, a senior economist at NKC African Economics, said by phone.

**Egypt, March 28**  
Deposit rate: 15.75% Inflation rate: 14.4% (February)

Egypt surprised markets with a 1 percentage-point cut in interest rates at its February meeting, capitalising on improving growth, a continuing resurgence in foreign inflows into domestic debt and an appreciation in the pound to what was, at the time, a two-year high against the dollar.

However, an acceleration in headline inflation for a second straight month in February complicates Egypt's shift toward a cycle of monetary easing. Economists are divided over whether the central bank will take advantage of pound strength and robust inflows to cut again, or keep rates unchanged to avoid quickening inflation as the country heads toward the Muslim fasting month of Ramadan, when food prices can rise.

**Angola, March 29**  
BNA rate: 15.75% Inflation rate: 17.8% (Luanda, February)

Polycymakers in the southern African nation will probably keep the BNA rate on hold while focusing on normalising foreign-exchange supply and reforms aimed at attracting more international investment, according to Phumelele Mbiyo, an economist at Standard Bank Group.

**Ghana, April 1**  
Policy rate: 16% Inflation rate: 9.2% (February)

Ghana's \$3 billion Eurobond issuance last week helped the cedi pare some of the losses that followed the central bank's surprise rate cut in January and caused the currency to weaken as much as 16% against the dollar.

While there have been talks about reversing January's easing, such a move "would confuse the market and will most likely only be implemented if the government needs to entice more foreign inflows," Celeste Fauconnier, an Africa analyst at FirstRand Group's Rand Merchant Bank unit, said in a report. "The cedi's comeback has also been aggressive enough for authorities to take a step back and assess the effects of the recent market turmoil." The currency has weakened 3.3% against the dollar this year.

What Bloomberg's economists say:

"Inflation is within the target range of most African central banks but the weakening of the cedi following the Bank of Ghana's rate cut in January is a warning that many economies are vulnerable to a weakening of financial flows. We expect central banks to stay on hold in March but highlight upside risks to inflation."

# Mobile commerce booming globally, but not in S.Africa

**JOHANNESBURG**

Although mobile commerce is booming globally, South Africans still prefer using desktops rather than smartphones when shopping online.

This is according to a new online shopping report from global e-commerce platform, Picodi.com, which found that only one out of every three online shopping transactions made in SA in 2018 was on a mobile device.

The data also showed South Africans tend to spend less when using smartphones. When they shopped on their phone, the average order value was R428, which was R294 less than when using desktops (R722) and R416 less than when using tablets (R844). Picodi found iOS users spend more than Android users at R501 and R417 respectively, on average.

The report used the internal data of Picodi.com for 2018, and for currency conversion used the average exchange rate for March 2019.

The report also found South African women far outnumber men in online shopping, with women making 67% of online purchases and men just 33%.

Unsurprisingly, it's the younger generation that prefers online shopping. Around 42% of all online shoppers were aged between 25 and 34. This was followed by people aged 18 to 24, which made up 21% of shoppers; 35- to 44-year-olds made up 19% and the remaining 18% were consumers over the age of 45.

According to the research, the average order value of a South African shopper was the highest in December at R625, followed by November and September at R619 and R489 respectively. The lowest order value was recorded in January (R269), June (R285) and February (R293).

When looking at shopping activity, it turns out Novem-

ber had the highest number of transactions, with almost one-fifth (19.2%) of all the transactions made during the year. The second busiest month when it comes to the number of transactions was July (9.7%), followed by August (9.3%). The lowest number of transactions was noted in January (5.1%).

The report found consumers in SA shop more on Wednesday and Sunday on desktops and more on Monday and Friday on mobile.

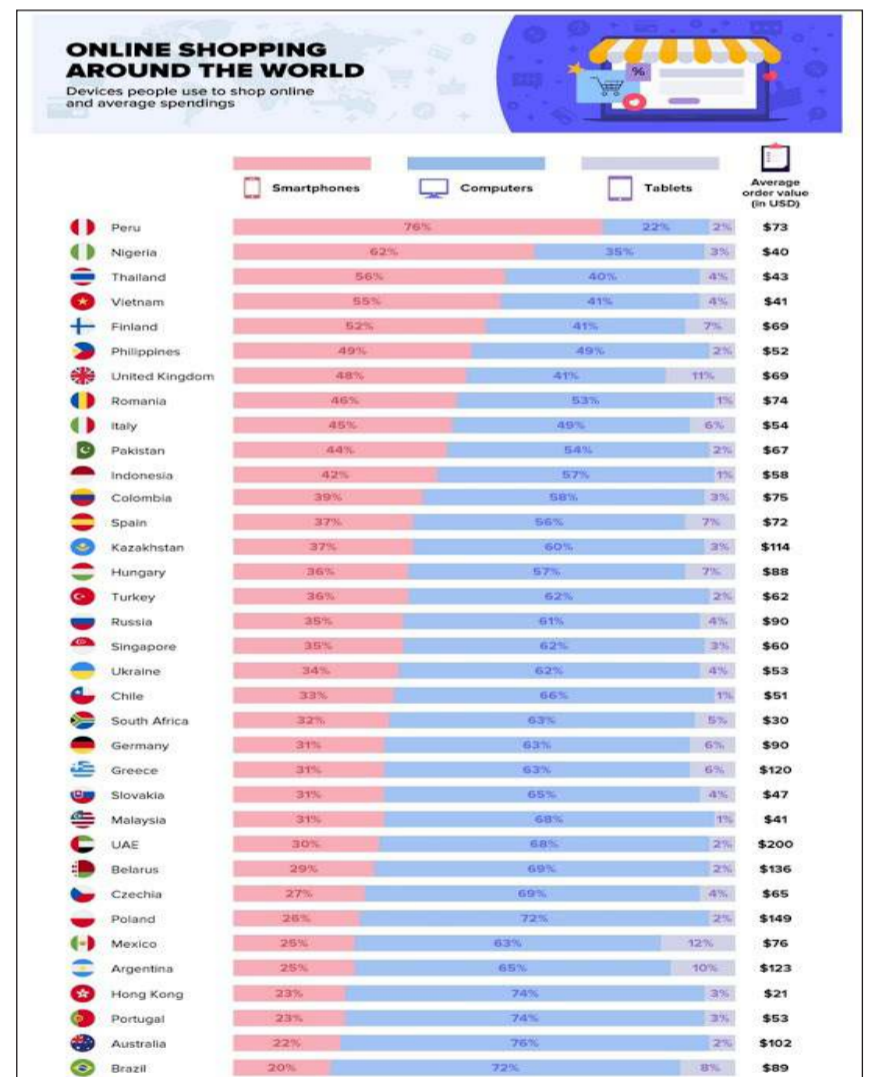
The most popular time of the day to shop online using computers is in the morning, from 6am to 12pm, which was when half of all purchases were made. In the case of mobile devices, the peak of sales occurred between 6pm to 12am when desktop sales wind down. The most popular categories for online shopping among South Africans were clothing, food on delivery, groceries, home

and garden, and sport. Picodi also analysed data from 35 countries and compared the devices people use to shop online and the average order value. South Africa was among the countries where desktop shopping takes preference, with only 32% of online orders in SA made on mobile devices.

Peru topped the rankings with 76% of online purchases made with the use of smartphones. Close behind was Nigeria where 62% of transactions were made using smartphones and Thailand where it was 56%.

When it comes to the average order value, South Africans spent \$30 on average which was far lower than the global average of \$79. Emiratis spent the most money per order, at \$200, while the lowest average order value was from customers in Hong Kong, who spent just \$21 on average.

**BANKING & FINANCE**



World online shopping infographics.

# FMDQ warns banks against dollar-denominated loans

**LAGOS**

Commercial banks taking dollar-denominated loans should hedge the facility against risk of currency fluctuations, FMDQ OTC Securities Exchange Managing Director/CEO Bola Onadele has said.

Speaking during the financial markets workshop in Lagos, he said banks borrowing dollars needed to protect themselves through hedging. "Anyone that takes foreign currency loan should hedge, that is the opportunity the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has provided," he said. He explained that hedging/derivatives were primarily risk management instruments that enable participants to price and transfer (hedge) financial risks such as market/price risk, foreign exchange risk, and interest rate risk.

According to him, hedging reduces the risk of exposures to unforeseen circumstances. Hedging is

a risk management strategy used in limiting or offsetting probability of loss from fluctuations in the prices of commodities, currencies, or securities.

Speaking further, Onadele said: "The banks that are borrowing dollars when they have to pay back, they have to pay back in dollars. They have to protect themselves, through hedging. Anyone that takes foreign currency loan should hedge, that is the opportunity the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) has provided. The rates are low in dollars, so you are tempted to borrow in dollars at four per cent instead of borrowing in naira at 20 per cent."

He said that derivatives improve risk management and business planning, increases credit to critical sectors of the economy to drive growth, increase capital flow from Foreign Portfolio Investors, increase liquidity in the system and promote Market Efficiency and So-

phistication as well as financial system stability.

He said that 92 per cent of the world's 500 largest companies manage their price risks using derivatives, adding that notional principal of derivatives increased by 642.17 per cent from \$93.02 trillion in 1998 to \$690.37 trillion in 2018, which is over eight times the world's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

The OTC derivatives account for 86 per cent of the amount and will lead to rise in use of exchange-traded and centrally-cleared derivatives.

Also speaking at the event, Chairman, Swaps & Derivatives Workgroup and FMDA President, Samuel Ocheho, said the workshop with the theme: Legal Documentation as Driver to Introducing New Products and a Healthier Financial Market in Nigeria was organised by the Swaps and Derivatives Workgroup

of the FMDA to sensitize people, members of the FMDA and other market operators on the need for hedging products and proper documentation in the market.

The International Swaps and Derivatives Association (ISDA) Africa Chairman, Brett Gallie and Partner at Clifford Chance, Derivatives and Structured Trades, Matthew Grigg were also at the event to support the Nigerian derivatives market.

Continuing, Onadele said that pension fund managers also needed to understand the impact of hedging on their operations, especially as interest rate that was 17 per cent today could suddenly become 11 per cent in the nearest future.

"The CBN brought naira settled OTC FX futures and now everybody is able to hedge and plan. As the commodities market in Nigeria grows, all of us will understand that playing vanilla derivatives is good for risk management. What we are

preaching now is plain vanilla derivatives to protect the pension and the price," he said.

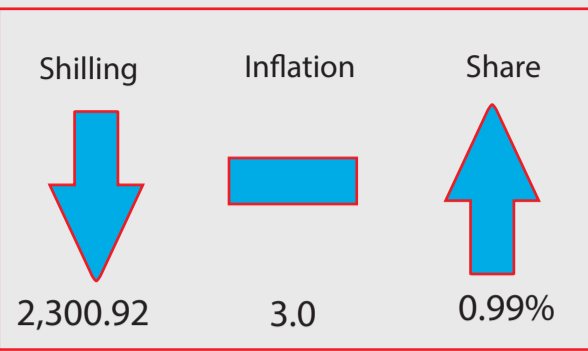
According to Ocheho, FMDA is a partner in progress in developing the Nigerian financial and derivatives market, adding that the programme was supported by FMDQ OTC Securities Exchange to impact positively on the derivatives market.

"There is need to have proper documentation for all the products that we are doing in the financial market. In Nigeria, we do not want to lose revenue. One way to ensure that our oil price remains high is by creating a hedge product for the oil price. Most government doesn't want to hedge because they believe the price is expensive. The level of adoption of hedging in Nigeria is still very low because most people do not understand why they need to hedge. I understand the reason is cost but hedging gives you a better way for planning," Ocheho said.



**There is need to have proper documentation for all the products that we are doing in the financial market. In Nigeria, we do not want to lose revenue. One way to ensure that our oil price remains high is by creating a hedge product for the oil price. Most government doesn't want to hedge because they believe the price is expensive**





**Total Market Capitalization**

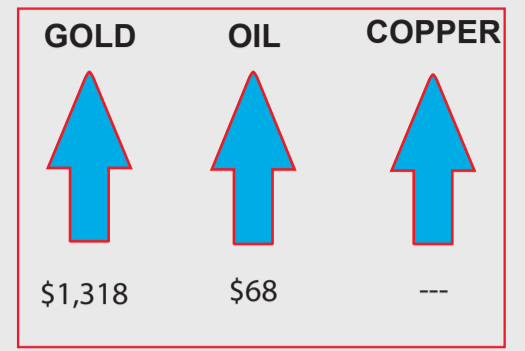
TZS 19,947.90 bln (USD 8,751.32 mln)  
Indices March 26, 2019  
TSI 3,481.50 +0.13  
DSEI 2,069.00 +2.21

**AVERAGE PRICES FOR FOOD CROPS TSH/100KG**

|                |           |                |           |
|----------------|-----------|----------------|-----------|
| Maize          | 52200.00  | Finger Millet  | 141100.00 |
| Rice           | 184166.67 | Wheat          | 128666.67 |
| Sorghum        | 78761.90  | Beans          | 175208.33 |
| Bulrush Millet | 80333.33  | Round potatoes | 73583.33  |

**Exchange Rates (DSE)**

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



**Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange**

Date: Mar 26, 2019

| Company | Closing | Prev   | Chg (%) |
|---------|---------|--------|---------|
| TOL     | 660     | 660    | +0.00   |
| TICL    | 385     | 385    | +0.00   |
| TCCL    | 600     | 600    | +0.00   |
| TCC     | 17,000  | 17,000 | +0.00   |
| TBL     | 11,400  | 11,400 | +0.00   |
| SWIS    | 2,000   | 2,000  | +0.00   |
| SWALA   | 490     | 490    | +0.00   |
| PAL     | 400     | 400    | +0.00   |
| NMG     | 1,360   | 1,420  | -4.23   |
| NMB     | 2,340   | 2,340  | +0.00   |
| NICO    | 165     | 160    | +3.13   |
| MUCOB   | 400     | 400    | +0.00   |
| MKCB    | 800     | 800    | +0.00   |
| MCB     | 500     | 500    | +0.00   |
| MBP     | 490     | 490    | +0.00   |
| KCB     | 1,000   | 1,000  | +0.00   |
| KA      | 120     | 120    | +0.00   |
| JHL     | 9,500   | 9,550  | -0.52   |
| EABL    | 4,680   | 4,680  | +0.00   |
| DSE     | 1,300   | 1,300  | +0.00   |
| DCB     | 340     | 340    | +0.00   |
| CRDB    | 125     | 125    | +0.00   |
| ACA     | 6,100   | 6,000  | +1.67   |
| TPCC    | 2,020   | 2,020  | +0.00   |
| TTP     | 120     | 120    | +0.00   |
| USL     | 10      | 10     | +0.00   |
| VODA    | 800     | 800    | +0.00   |
| YETU    | 600     | 600    | +0.00   |

**DSE MARKET SUMMARY**

|      |          |       |
|------|----------|-------|
| TSI  | 3,481.50 | +0.13 |
| DSEI | 2,069.00 | +2.21 |

**TRADING STATS**

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Market Cap (bln) | 19,947.90     |
| Equity Turnover  | 22,483,800.00 |
| Total Volume     | 24,640        |
| Total Deals      | 7             |

**TOP MOVERS**

|      |       |        |
|------|-------|--------|
| NICO | 165   | 15,000 |
| TPCC | 2,020 | 9,640  |
| TCCL | 600   | 0      |

**GAINERS & LOSERS**

| Company | Price | Change |
|---------|-------|--------|
| NMG     | 1,360 | -4.23% |
| JHL     | 9,500 | -0.52% |
| NICO    | 165   | +3.13% |
| ACA     | 6,100 | +1.67% |

**Interbank Foreign Exchange Market (IFEM)**

| Date        | Amount Traded (Mn USD) | High     | Low      | Weighted Average |
|-------------|------------------------|----------|----------|------------------|
| 26/Mar/2019 | 3.00                   | 2,313.00 | 2,298.55 | 2,300.92         |
| 25/Mar/2019 | 2.50                   | 2,310.00 | 2,298.60 | 2,300.89         |
| 22/Mar/2019 | 3.20                   | 2,315.00 | 2,298.65 | 2,300.91         |
| 21/Mar/2019 | 2.25                   | 2,318.50 | 2,298.70 | 2,300.92         |
| 20/Mar/2019 | 3.50                   | 2,316.00 | 2,298.75 | 2,300.89         |
| 19/Mar/2019 | 4.00                   | 2,315.00 | 2,298.80 | 2,300.87         |
| 18/Mar/2019 | 3.67                   | 2,315.00 | 2,298.90 | 2,300.34         |

**Inter-bank Local Money Markets**

| Date        | Volume (million-TZS) | High | Low  | Weighted Average Rate (WAR) |
|-------------|----------------------|------|------|-----------------------------|
| 26/Mar/2019 | 35,000               | 6.00 | 5.00 | 5.21                        |
| 25/Mar/2019 | 26,000               | 6.00 | 5.00 | 5.13                        |
| 22/Mar/2019 | 30,000               | 5.30 | 5.00 | 5.10                        |
| 21/Mar/2019 | 66,450               | 6.50 | 5.00 | 5.37                        |
| 20/Mar/2019 | 66,450               | 6.50 | 5.00 | 5.68                        |

**Tanzania Shilling On Average bases**

The USDTZS decreased 4.0000 or 0.17% to 2,336.0000 on Thursday March 21 from 2,340.0000 in the previous trading session. Historically, the Tanzania Shilling reached an all time high of 2360 in March of 2019 and a record low of 1014.30 in December of 2004.

**Gold edges up as falling yields, growth worries lift safe-haven demand**

\* Gold saw worst one-day pct fall in nearly 2 weeks on Tues  
\* Market eyes Brexit vote at 1900 GMT

**LONDON, March 27 (Reuters)** - Gold prices inched up on Wednesday as a lacklustre stock market and falling bond yields reflected worries about a global economic slowdown and lifted safe-haven assets.

Spot gold was up 0.2 percent at \$1,318.26 per ounce as of 1104 GMT, after falling 0.5 percent on Tuesday. U.S. gold futures rose 0.2 percent to \$1,318 an ounce.

"The falling yields are reducing the opportunity cost of holding the bullion, which is supportive for gold prices," said Quantitative Commodity Research analyst Peter Fertig.

Stock markets are turbulent and bond yields are coming down on concerns about a slowdown in the global economy, Fertig said.

The 10-year U.S. Treasury yield fell further, having fallen below the yield for three-month bills on Friday for the first time since 2007, inverting the yield curve. An inversion is widely seen as indicating an economic recession.

Global equity markets were flat on Wednesday, with European stock markets paring most of their early gains.

Facing rising threats to growth, the European Central Bank could further delay a planned increase in interest rates if it needs to and may look at measures to mitigate the effects of negative interest rates, ECB President Mario Draghi said on Wednesday.

In the latest economic data from the United States, homebuilding fell more than expect-

ed in February, while consumer confidence ebbed in March, offering more evidence of a sharp slowdown in economic activity early in the year.

"There clearly is a slowdown in the global economy and if we start seeing more signs of a potential recession, that should be even more constructive for gold," said ING analyst Warren Patterson.

Gold has gained more than 13 percent since touching more than 1-1/2-year lows last August, on the back of a dovish U.S. Federal Reserve and global growth concerns.

Market participants are now keeping a close eye on the British parliament's vote on Brexit plans scheduled at 1900 GMT.

British Prime Minister Theresa May is expected to indicate a date for quitting her post as the price for getting her twice-defeated Brexit deal ratified, while parliament tries to select its own alternative from a multiple-choice list of options.

Indicative of investor sentiment, holdings in the world's largest gold-backed exchange-traded fund, SPDR Gold Trust, rose 0.41 percent to 784.26 tonnes on Tuesday.

Among other precious metals, palladium was down 1.7 percent on Wednesday at \$1,514 per ounce.

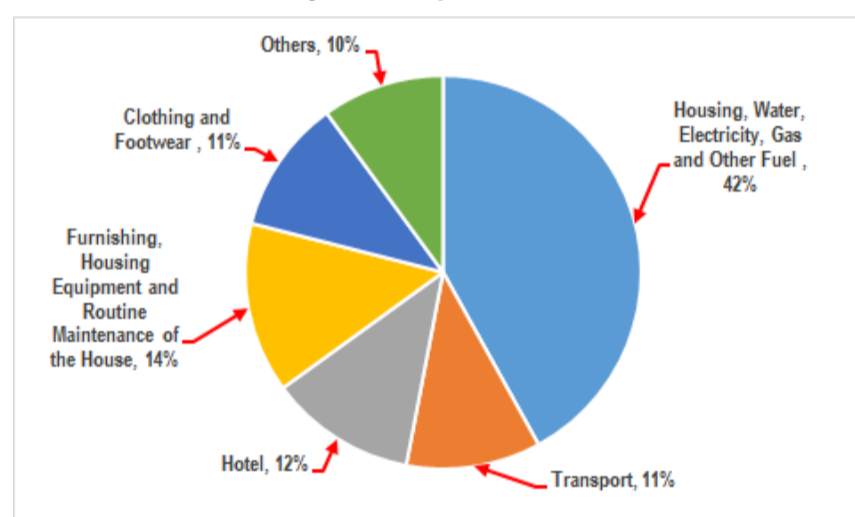
Silver was unchanged at \$15.44 an ounce, while platinum was up 0.8 percent to \$861.70.

**All Share Index :25 March 2019**

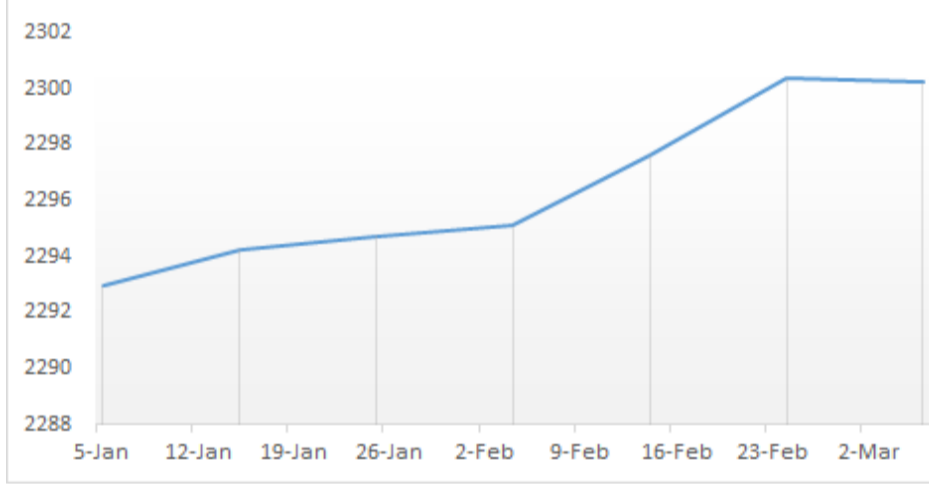
| Africa            | Actual | Change | Daily  | Weekly | Monthly | Yearly  |
|-------------------|--------|--------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| NSE-All Share     | 31,074 | 64.96  | -0.21% | -0.16% | -4.31%  | -25.04% |
| JALSH-All Share   | 55,379 | 728.00 | -1.30% | -2.45% | -1.54%  | -1.42%  |
| FTSE/JSE TOP 40   | 49,090 | 702.41 | -1.41% | -2.58% | -1.75%  | -0.96%  |
| Egypt EGX 30      | 14,672 | 110.80 | -0.75% | -1.60% | -1.44%  | -14.22% |
| Casablanca CFG 25 | 10,993 | 27.68  | 0.25%  | 0.05%  | -2.85%  | -16.07% |
| Nairobi 20        | 2,887  | 31.54  | 1.10%  | -0.31% | -2.36%  | -24.95% |
| NSE All Share     | 160    | 0.97   | -0.60% | 1.22%  | 3.21%   | -16.74% |
| DSEI              | 2,092  | 20.47  | 0.99%  | 1.69%  | -2.47%  | -11.25% |
| TUN               | 6,946  | 63.22  | 0.92%  | 1.69%  | -3.03%  | -1.45%  |
| GGSECI            | 2,402  | 4.42   | 0.18%  | -0.61% | -2.32%  | -27.04% |
| NSX Overall       | 1,297  | 2.58   | -0.20% | -3.21% | -5.66%  | -6.96%  |
| SEMDEX            | 2,171  | 0.61   | -0.03% | -0.85% | -1.35%  | -5.09%  |
| Gaborone          | 7,879  | 1.59   | 0.02%  | 0.01%  | 0.07%   | -8.65%  |
| Zimbabwe Index    | 404.89 | 15.04  | -3.58% | -9.21% | -20.24% | 39.32%  |

DSEI increased 20 points or 0.99% to 2092 on Friday March 22 from 2071 in the previous trading session. Historically, the Tanzania All Share Index DSEI reached an all time high of 3686.97 in January of 2019 and a record low of 1161.30 in December of 2010.

**Inflation 3.0% - February 2019: Top Movers**



**Fluctuation of a Shilling**



**Oil prices slip as market eyes U.S. inventories**

**LONDON 27 (Reuters)** - Oil prices edged lower on Wednesday, reversing earlier gains, as further disruptions to Venezuela's crude exports were offset by a report that U.S. inventories rose last week.

Brent crude futures were down 10 cents at \$67.87 a barrel at 1140 GMT. U.S. crude futures were down 36 cents at \$59.58 a barrel.

Venezuela's main oil export port of Jose and its four crude upgraders were unable to resume operations following a massive power blackout on Monday, the second in a month.

Crude exports from the key OPEC member have dropped sharply since Washington in January banned U.S. refiners from buying Venezuelan oil.

Oil prices have risen more than 25 percent this year, supported by supply curbs by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries and other major producers, along with U.S. sanctions on exports from Venezuela and Iran.

"Yo-yo price swings have become the norm in the oil market," PVM analyst Stephen Brennock said in a note. "Market focus switched back to supportive supply considerations. They include, most notably, Venezuela's deepening oil woes."

In the short term, prices were pressured by a report from the American Petroleum Institute, a trade organization, saying U.S. crude inventories rose 1.9 million barrels last week, while analysts had forecast a 1.2 million barrel drop.

The Department of Energy (DoE) will release official weekly figures later on Wednesday.

Brent crude traded in a relatively narrow range of \$64 to \$69 a barrel throughout March, reflecting the tension between tightening supplies and concerns over global demand.

"We seem to have reached a state of equilibrium after the recent headline-driven choppy trading, and we need to see some new impetus for price direction," said Jeff Halley, senior market analyst at OANDA in Singapore.

At the same time, disruptions in the United States have also lent support.

The U.S. Coast Guard on Monday reopened portions of the Houston Ship Channel with restrictions on waterways affected by a petrochemical leak and fire outside Houston that have disrupted ship traffic.

The disruptions to transport and refining operations will weigh heavily on U.S. inventories, Stephen Schork, editor of Pennsylvania-based The Schork Report, said in a note.

Also, crude flows from two key shale basins to the Cushing, Oklahoma delivery point for U.S. crude futures slowed in March due to winter production outages, dealers said.

Hedge funds and other money managers have increased bets that demand for oil will be sustained, even as the market rallied last week.

**Fuel Wef. Wednesday, 6th Mar 2019**

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

**Foreign Exchange- Mar 25**

|           | Actual  | Chg     | %Chg    |
|-----------|---------|---------|---------|
| EURUSD    | 1.12842 | 0.00202 | 0.18 %  |
| GBPUSD    | 1.32293 | 0.00223 | 0.17 %  |
| AUDUSD    | 0.70977 | 0.00363 | -0.51 % |
| NZDUSD    | 0.68108 | 0.00942 | -1.36 % |
| USDJPY    | 110.30  | 0.32    | -0.29 % |
| USDCNY    | 6.72951 | 0.00671 | 0.10 %  |
| USDCHF    | 0.99274 | 0.00156 | -0.16 % |
| USDCAD    | 1.34053 | 0.00243 | 0.18 %  |
| USDMXN    | 19.2804 | 0.1774  | 0.93 %  |
| USDINR    | 68.8700 | 0.115   | -0.17 % |
| USDBRL    | 3.8768  | 0.0001  | 0.00%   |
| USDRUB    | 64.8313 | 0.4228  | 0.66 %  |
| US Dollar | 96.74   | 0.1664  | -0.17%  |
| USDKRW    | 1136.62 | 1.75    | 0.15 %  |

**Exchange Rates for 27 / March /2019**

| Currency in 100 Units            | Spot Buying    | Spot Selling   |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| <b>EAST AFRICAN CURRENCIES</b>   |                |                |
| Kenya SHS                        | 2,260.06       | 2,278.14       |
| Uganda SHS                       | 57.86          | 61.93          |
| Rwandan Franc                    | 252.09         | 255.18         |
| Burundi Franc                    | 218.12         | 219.76         |
| <b>OTHER SELECTED CURRENCIES</b> |                |                |
| USD                              | 227,813.86     | 230,092.00     |
| Pound STG                        | 301,876.15     | 304,986.95     |
| EURO                             | 257,406.88     | 260,072.99     |
| Canadian \$                      | 170,010.34     | 171,659.21     |
| Switz. Franc                     | 229,281.26     | 231,480.89     |
| Japanese YEN                     | 2,064.65       | 2,084.73       |
| Swedish Kronor                   | 24,687.24      | 24,926.01      |
| Norweg. Kronor                   | 26,699.86      | 26,957.38      |
| Danish Kronor                    | 34,491.64      | 34,831.29      |
| Australian \$                    | 162,476.85     | 164,147.63     |
| Indian RPS                       | 3,308.36       | 3,340.96       |
| Pakistan RPS                     | 1,543.67       | 1,631.86       |
| Zambian Kwacha                   | 18,794.64      | 19,094.77      |
| Malawian Kwacha                  | 290.39         | 311.04         |
| Mozambique-MET                   | 3,610.36       | 3,640.70       |
| Zimbabwe \$                      | 42.63          | 43.49          |
| SDR                              | 317,269.53     | 320,442.23     |
| Gold (T/O)                       | 299,896,445.27 | 303,072,580.56 |
| S. African Rand                  | 15,860.94      | 16,002.84      |
| UAE Dirham                       | 62,027.30      | 62,635.63      |
| Singapore \$                     | 168,701.02     | 170,324.97     |
| Hong Kong \$                     | 29,024.57      | 29,314.07      |
| Saud Arabian Rial                | 60,747.12      | 61,351.32      |
| Kuwait Dinar                     | 750,869.68     | 758,103.52     |
| Botswana Pula                    | 21,209.47      | 21,605.64      |
| Chinese Yuan                     | 33,934.71      | 34,271.50      |
| Malaysia Ringgit                 | 55,973.92      | 56,492.02      |
| South Korea Won                  | 201.04         | 202.70         |
| Newzealand                       | 157,419.38     | 159,085.61     |

**World Commodities (\$) 25 March 2019**

| Energy          | Price   | Day    | Weekly | Monthly | Yearly  |
|-----------------|---------|--------|--------|---------|---------|
| Crude Oil Brent | 58.7675 | -0.27% | -0.53% | 5.90%   | -10.34% |
| Silver          | 66.8884 | -0.25% | -0.97% | 2.57%   | -4.61%  |
| Natural gas     | 2.7223  | -1.31% | -4.44% | -4.81%  | 4.02%   |
| Gasoline        | 1.9101  | -0.96% | 1.29%  | 20.22%  | -5.14%  |
| Heating oil     | 1.9641  | -0.18% | -0.20% | -1.67%  | -2.47%  |
| Ethanol         | 1.4263  | 0.49%  | 0.30%  | 6.82%   | -0.13%  |
| Naphtha         | 533.34  | -0.27% | 0.21%  |         |         |



## WORLD

## Algerian army chief calls for president to be declared unfit

ALGIERS, Algeria

ALGERIA'S powerful army chief called Tuesday for starting the constitutional process to have President Abdelaziz Bouteflika declared unfit for office, possibly paving the way for the ailing president's ouster after 20 years in power.

General Ahmed Gaid Salah's statement comes after more than a month of mass protests against Bouteflika's long rule. The 82-year-old leader has rarely been seen in public since he suffered a stroke in 2013.

Gaid Salah said in remarks carried on Algerian television that "the only

guarantee for political stability" is to apply the article of the Algerian constitution that empowers the Constitutional Council to determine if the president is too ill to do his job, and to ask lawmakers to declare him unfit.

His remarks, which he made during a stop at an army base in southern Algeria, carried special weight since the army chief is one of the country's top power brokers and deeply loyal to Bouteflika.

Yet the general's comments were met with little joy in the streets, where protesters have been demanding the overhaul of a system that has safeguarded a leader who hasn't ad-



Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika

ressed the nation in years.

In massive marches each Friday since Feb 22, demonstrators have demanded that Bouteflika step down, accusing him and his entourage of corruption, hoarding the gas-rich country's wealth and being out of touch with ordinary Algerians, especially struggling youth.

"In this context, it becomes necessary, even imperative, to adopt a solution to get out of the crisis which reflects the legitimate demands of the Algerian people," Gaid Salah said in his televised address

from a military base in the southern city of Ouargla.

In what seemed like paradox, some of Bouteflika's top supporters welcomed the general's proposal, while opposition parties railed against it. They included the Front for Socialist Forces, which denounced what it dubbed a move against "the popular will ... the departure of the system and its men, not just the head of state."

Another opposition group, the Rally for Culture and Democracy denounced, what it called "an attempted coup d'etat."

## Spain: FBI offered data stolen in DPRK embassy raid

MADRID

SPAIN has issued at least two international arrest warrants for members of a self-proclaimed human rights group who allegedly led a mysterious raid at the embassy of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) in Madrid last month and offered the FBI stolen data from the break-in.

A National Court judge who lifted a secrecy order in the case Tuesday said an investigation of the Feb 22 attack uncovered evidence that "a criminal organization" shackled and gagged embassy staff members before escaping with computers, hard drives and documents.

The intruders also urged DPRK's only accredited diplomat in Spain, business envoy So Yunsok, to defect. Judge Jose de la Mata said in a written report on the Spanish investigation. So refused to do so and was gagged, according to the report.

The assailants identified themselves as "members of an association or movement of human rights for the liberation of North Korea."

The DPRK is also referred to as North Korea. That group is the Cheollima Civil Defense, according to a US official who spoke on condition of anonymity to discuss details of the incident. The shadowy activists have the self-declared mission of helping defectors from the DPRK.

De la Mata identified citizens of Mexico, the United States and the Republic of Korea (ROK) as the main suspects being investigated on charges that include of causing injuries, making threats and burglary. He named Adrian Hong Chang, a Mexican citizen living in the United States, as the break-in's leader.

Hong Chang flew to the US on Feb 23, got in touch with the FBI and offered to share material and videos with federal investigators, according to the court report. The document did not mention what type of information the items contained or whether the FBI accepted the offer.

The FBI said in a statement that its standard practice is to neither confirm nor deny the existence of investigations. The agency added that "the FBI enjoys a strong working relationship with our Spanish law enforcement partners."

An official with Spain's National Police who

wasn't authorized to be named in media reports confirmed to The Associated Press that arrest warrants were issued for Hong Chang and one other suspect. No one had been charged as of Tuesday.

The assailants purchased knives and handgun mock-ups when they visited Madrid in early February and used them during the attack, according to the investigation document.

While in Madrid, Hong Chang also applied for a new passport at the Mexican embassy, the investigation found, and used the name "Oswaldo Trump" to register in the Uber ride-hailing app.

The DPRK embassy hasn't pressed charges in Spain, and officials in Pyongyang haven't officially commented on the attack.

Spanish police learned about the break-in after the wife of an embassy employee escaped by jumping from a window. When officers went to check on the situation, Hong Chang allegedly greeted them at the door and pretended to be a diplomatic official, the investigation found.

He sent the officers away with assurances everything was fine, paving the way for the invading group to make a getaway in the embassy's cars.

A police investigator with knowledge of the case told the AP that "this attack, whatever it is, would have gone unnoticed if it wasn't for the woman who escaped."

So, the DPRK diplomat, didn't respond to written questions from The Associated Press and declined to talk to reporters during a recent encounter outside the Madrid embassy.

The timing of the incident, which happened less than a week before a high-stakes US-DPRK summit on denuclearization derailed in Hanoi on Feb 28, led to speculation the incursion was carried out to obtain data related to DPRK's former ambassador to Spain.

Kim Hyok-chol, who was expelled from Spain in September 2017 following Pyongyang's sixth nuclear test and its missile launches over neighboring Japan, has become DPRK's top nuclear negotiator with the US.

Asked if Washington had any connection to the embassy break-in, US State Department spokesman Robert Palladino answered, "The United States government had nothing to do with this."

Agencies

## 'China's ability to alleviate poverty impresses me most'

THE China Development Forum (CDF) 2019, with the theme "Greater Opening-up for Win-Win Cooperation", kicked off in Beijing on March 23. During the event, Jean-Sébastien Jacques, CEO of Rio Tinto, said that China has greatly impressed him, especially when it comes to poverty alleviation.

Hosted by the Development Research Centre of the State Council, the CDF invited leaders of global businesses and international organizations, as well as foreign and Chinese scholars, to attend the forum to enhance exchanges and mutual trust, and to promote pragmatic cooperation and high-level dialogues.

During an exclusive interview with People's Daily Online, Jean-Sébastien Jacques shared his views on China's unified foreign investment law, the Belt and Road Initiative and sustainable development.

"I'm very optimistic about the future," Jacques noted when talking about the partnership with China.

"We've been cooperating with China for more than one hundred years, although we have only run for 146 years. Our first shipment was a borax shipment from California to China. Our first ship-



Jean-Sébastien Jacques is having interview with People's Daily Online. (Photo: People's Daily Online)

ment of iron ore was in 1973.

Since then, we have shipped more than 2.5 billion tons of iron ore to China. Our relationship is not only about selling iron ore, copper, borax, and diamond; we are buying more and more from China.

In the last ten years, we've bought 10 billion dollars of goods and services from China, 1.3 billion dollars last year only. It's about enhancing the relationship to the next level," he said.

"The all-round opening-up policy will help us move forward. I'm sure that there will be lots of op-

portunities for many industries."

Jacques emphasized that the new unified foreign investment law is "a very good piece of news." "It will attract more capital and foreign investment into China. I have no doubt there will be more opportunities in the future. We will work with the existing partnerships we have and make good use of the new policy to create wealth for the benefit of both China and Rio Tinto."

Jacques first traveled to China 20 years ago. He was amazed by China's new buildings, urbanization, and infrastructure construc-

tion. "The most impressive thing to me is China's ability to lift people out of poverty. I have never seen any nations lift so many people out of poverty as China has done," he noted.

Jacques also believed Rio Tinto could benefit from the Belt and Road Initiative. "There are two key drivers for Rio Tinto. One is GDP growth, and the other one is trade. The Belt and Road Initiative kicks both of these boxes. It is good for Rio Tinto and the mining industry," he said.

Rio Tinto recently released reports on climate change and sustainable development. "We want to be part of the solution. One is the quality of the product to improve energy efficiency. The other one is investing in new technologies," he noted.

Jacques also spoke highly of China's commitment to improve environmental protection.

"China has done a lot. I came to China four times last year, and I saw the blue sky every time. Maybe I am lucky, but I don't believe so. The changes have taken place already."

"We are looking forward to a closer relationship, win-win benefits, and partnerships. Our future is positive," Jacques concluded.

## NYC suburb county bans unvaccinated minors from public spaces due to measles outbreak

NEW YORK

A COUNTY in the northern suburb of New York City has banned unvaccinated children under the age of 18 from public spaces as the state of New York is combating the worst measles outbreak in decades, local authorities said on Tuesday.

Rockland County, which sits around 64 km north of Manhattan, has seen over 150 cases of measles

infection since October.

A majority of the infected are minors who have not been vaccinated, according to local health officials. The ban begins at midnight Tuesday and will last for 30 days.

The public spaces in the ban include schools, restaurants, businesses, shopping centers and places of worship. Parents and guardians will be held accountable if any violation is found and their cases

will be referred to the district attorney's office, according to authorities.

"The circumstances we're facing here clearly call for that," Rockland County Executive Ed Day said during a press conference. "We will not sit idly by while children in our community are at risk."

Rockland is among several counties in the state that are experiencing the longest measles outbreak

since the disease was announced as eliminated from the United States in 2000. It began last autumn when a local child came back from a trip to Israel, where a battle against measles had been going on for months.

State and local health departments have urged parents to get their children vaccinated as soon as possible, even earlier than the scheduled age of one.

## Belt and Road Initiative is one of most important initiatives in 21st century

BEIJING

THE Belt and Road Initiative is one of the most important initiatives of the 21st century. Nothing is more important for world peace and prosperity than building much-needed infrastructure in the developing world, especially in the poorest countries.

A priority of the Belt and Road Initiative is to plan, finance, construct and operate critical infrastructure – roads, railways, airports, ports, power plants, telecommunications.

No country in the world has China's experience in building such infrastructure, so Belt and Road projects are naturally

suit for win-win cooperation, within the framework of "achieving shared growth through discussion and collaboration."

As China continues to transform and restructure its economy, it needs high-quality growth of the country's manufacturing industries. By leveraging this domestic expertise, it is of great significance for China to develop new modes of globalization.

Infrastructure construction seems ideal, which is just what China is experienced in and what developing countries need to kick-start their economies. This is the essence of win-win: mutual benefits make Belt and Road operation sustainable.

From the very beginning of China's Belt and Road Initiative, President Xi Jinping has stressed "achieving shared growth through discussion and collaboration." This guiding principle reflects China's overarching policy of seeking win-win in international cooperation and in maintaining equal relations with all countries.

Today, in our new complex international environment, China's principle of "shared growth through discussion and collaboration" takes on even greater significance.

"Discussion and collaboration" can ensure the quality of Belt and Road Initiative projects. It is only

through detailed discussions and sophisticated collaboration that optimal project structure and operations can be achieved, and this is especially relevant for infrastructural construction.

Key, of course, is to match loan servicing schedules, interest and principal, with reasonably conservative forecasted revenues directly or indirectly generated by the project, which can include national or regional economic growth.

One aspect of China wisdom is that learning from the past can improve the future. Some developing countries may not be experienced in structuring the financing for large infrastructure

projects.

Thus, in the project planning discussions, China, which has much experience, can advise and bring "best practices" to the project. Again, this is the benefit of "discussion and collaboration".

"Shared growth" means that Belt and Road cooperation takes win-win as essence and pursues common development of all involved sides.

Over the past five years, a series of successful projects under the Belt and Road framework have generated new opportunities for the economic and social development of host countries.

Best is to take "shared growth" seriously: what is shared is what

is had by both sides. For host countries, infrastructure enables and stimulates economic growth. China also reaps more development opportunities, such as diversification of trade, and opens the doors of its inland provinces wider.

By boosting (over time) the economies of developing countries, China benefits from increasing trade, as does the entirety of the world. Belt and Road cooperation is an initiative seeking mutual benefit, win-win result and common growth.

From the world's perspective, poverty, under-development, and deep inequalities are seemingly intractable problems – and

economic development, catalyzed by infrastructure construction, is an essential part of the solutions. Economic development must come first, then all other problems can be addressed. Nothing good can happen without economic growth – this is the essence of the Chinese experience.

From China's perspective, after decades of remarkable growth, economic transformation is necessary, and this includes industrial transitioning and geographical rebalancing within China and expanding China's opening up by enhancing globalization. All of these can be achieved by the Belt and Road Initiative.





Lennon Lewis

## Cleaning up the mess in boxing's heavyweight class

LONDON

LENNOX Lewis always wanted to fight everybody, and did so often enough to become the last person to hold all the major heavyweight titles at the same time.

That meant Riddick Bowe, even after Bowe threw a title belt in a garbage can to avoid him.

It also meant Mike Tyson, even after Tyson threatened to eat his children.

"Just prison talk," Lewis said. "At the time I didn't even have any children."

The best fighting the best. That was always Lewis' philosophy, and it culminated in a 2002 annihilation of Tyson that cemented his legacy as an all-time heavyweight great.

It's also what makes it painful to look at the mess that is the heavyweight division today.

There's no lack of good, possibly even great, fighters. But so far – for reasons that start with greed and go beyond the fighters themselves – there's been a lack of great fights.

"My aim was always to be the undisputed champion," said Lewis, who now works for Fox Sports as a ringside analyst. "These boxers now aren't really talking about that."

That could change if fighters, their promoters and the various television platforms somehow find a way to work together. But that was unlikely to begin with, and even more unlikely now that the major participants in the heavyweight sweepstakes have aligned themselves with promoters and broadcasting platforms that don't play well together.

Anthony Joshua versus

Deontay Wilder is the fight everyone wants to see. Tyson Fury is right in the mix, and there are a number of fringe title contenders who on the right night might make heavyweight history.

But a highly anticipated rematch between Wilder and Fury of their December draw is off because Fury signed with Top Rank and ESPN while Wilder is fighting – at least for now – under the Showtime banner. Wilder against Joshua seems to be even further from reality as the two camps can't agree on broadcasters, terms or even if they really want to fight each other.

So Joshua is fighting at Madison Square Garden in June, but instead of Wilder he's got an opponent in Jarrell "Big Baby" Miller who is a decent fighter but hardly a household name. Wilder is fighting Dominic Breazeale on May 18 at Barclay's Center in Brooklyn, while Fury returns to the ring June 15 against Germany's Tom Schwarz in Las Vegas.

And we're suddenly no closer to a first undisputed heavyweight champion since Lewis beat Evander Holyfield 20 years ago to win all the belts.

"The heavyweights nowadays, they want to be undisputed but the business machine takes over and managers take over," Lewis said. "They want longevity, but they're basically slowing down the process."

The staggering number of sanctioning organizations remains mostly the same since Lewis' day, which by itself makes unifying any title – much less that of the coveted heavyweight division – difficult. But the process is an even more daunting task now, with television networks and streaming services vying

to represent fighters who figure to deliver eyeballs to whatever screen they're on.

That has already disrupted the middleweight division, where a third fight between Canelo Alvarez and Gennady Golovkin was put on hold after Alvarez signed what is claimed to be a \$365 million deal with the streaming service DAZN. Golovkin finally followed Alvarez earlier this month, signing his own deal with DAZN that could possibly pave the way for the third fight in September.

Joshua is also with DAZN, while Wilder – who has fought mostly on Showtime – is pondering his next move. Fury, though, recently upended talks for a rematch with Wilder of their December fight by signing with Top Rank, which has a long-term deal with ESPN.

Fox, meanwhile, has ties to Wilder through its deal with Premier Boxing Champions, which also represents Efe Ajagba, the Nigerian heavyweight who has created buzz in his short career by knocking out pretty much everyone who has gone into the ring with him.

The explosion of boxing across networks and streaming platforms should ultimately be good for the sport because of the interest being generated. But it also threatens some awfully good potential matchups because there are too many competing interests outside of the fighters themselves.

And that concerns Lewis, who is rooting for the best meeting the best.

"I look at it differently. I would want them as soon as possible," Lewis said of the top fights. "But they can do what they want. It's their era."

AP

## Bledsoe scores 23 to lead Bucks past Rockets, 108-94



Milwaukee Bucks' Sterling Brown shoots past Houston Rockets' Danuel House Jr. during the second half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, March 26, 2019, in Milwaukee. The Bucks won 108-94. (AP Photo)

MILWAUKEE

ERIC Bledsoe stole the show in a marquee matchup between the Milwaukee Bucks and Houston Rockets on Tuesday night.

With top-billing going to MVP front-runners Giannis Antetokounmpo and James Harden, the feisty Bucks' guard turned in one of his best all-around performances of the season as the Bucks pulled away for a 108-94 victory on Tuesday night.

Bledsoe poured in 23 points, including 16 in a decisive third quarter, and tightly guarded Harden for most of the game.

"I just try to play to my strengths," Bledsoe said.

Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer praised Bledsoe's all-around performance.

"To do what he did on both ends of the court, pretty special," Budenholzer said. "I think he loves that challenge. I think he's an

incredible defender."

Antetokounmpo had 19 points and 14 rebounds for Milwaukee, which improved to an NBA-best 56-19.

Harden scored 23 points and Chris Paul had 19 for Houston, which lost for just the third time in 17 games. Harden shot just 9 of 26, including 1 for 9 from 3-point range with Bledsoe closely guarding him throughout most of the game.

"We had our open shots. We couldn't know them down," Harden said. "We competed but they went on a run in that third quarter and that was it."

After a tightly contested first half, the Bucks grabbed control in the third, sparked by Bledsoe's clutch shooting. Leading by five at halftime, Milwaukee built a 19-point lead in the third. Bledsoe went 4 of 5 on 3-pointers in the period after missing his only two attempts in the first half. His third-quarter output, which included a single-handed 11-0 run, nearly matched the 18 points scored by Houston.

"Everybody got energy out of

that and we played even harder," Antetokounmpo said.

Milwaukee held the Rockets at bay for most of the final quarter, maintaining a double-digit lead throughout before clearing the bench with about a minute left.

The Rockets jumped out early, building a 10-point first-quarter lead without Harden doing the bulk of the scoring. Danuel House Jr. paced Houston with nine points in the period, making all three of his 3-point attempts. The Bucks struggled in the opening period, shooting just 8 of 25, including 3 for 13 from deep. Khris Middleton missed all six of his shots in the first quarter.

Milwaukee fought back in the second and eventually grabbed the lead. A key sequence came midway through the quarter when, after a basket by Ersan Ilyasova, Bledsoe stole the inbounds pass, scored and then stood face-to-face with Harden under the basket as the crowd roared.

The Bucks led 58-53 at the break, paced by Antetokounmpo's 13 points

and eight rebounds.

Houston coach Mike D'Antoni blamed an uncharacteristic rash of turnovers in the second quarter for allowing the Bucks to grab the lead.

"We got sloppy," D'Antoni said. "We turned the ball over four times in transition, errant passes that they capitalized on."

Meanwhile, in Minneapolis, Doc Rivers read the preseason predictions that said his team might win 35 games, at best. Neither the Clippers coach nor his players took much stock in all that.

Now, they're playoff-bound.

Danilo Gallinari scored 25 points and Los Angeles clinched a postseason spot Tuesday night with a 122-111 win over the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Rivers' club is back in the postseason after falling short a year ago. The Clippers finished 42-40 last season, missing the playoffs after making it six straight years – four under Rivers.

"I'm just really happy for our guys," Rivers said. "Before the year, we went through all the articles about us and how bad we were going to be. I just told them, they don't know us."

The Clippers (45-30) became the fifth Western Conference team to secure a postseason berth. With seven regular-season games to play, Los Angeles still has a shot at earning home-court advantage in the first round.

Lou Williams added 20 points off the bench for the Clippers, who outscored Minnesota's reserves 53-25. Williams had 45 points the last time Los Angeles played at Target Center.

The Clippers have won six in a row, the longest active streak in the NBA, and are 11-1 in March.

"It's so hard to make the playoffs in the West," said guard Patrick Beverley, who said he was fine after exiting the game with a hip pointer. "To be in the category with some of the teams that we're in the category with, it's truly a blessing."

Los Angeles led by 25 before Minnesota trimmed the deficit to 104-98 in the fourth quarter on a 3-pointer by Karl-Anthony Towns. It was the closest the Wolves had been since the first quarter.

## Jussie Smollett hoax charge dropped by Chicago prosecutors, prompting mayor's rebuke

CHICAGO

CHICAGO prosecutors on Tuesday dropped charges accusing "Empire" actor Jussie Smollett of staging a phony hate crime, a stunning move that drew the fury of the city's police superintendent and mayor, who called the decision a "whitewash of justice."

Smollett, who is black and gay, told reporters on Tuesday that he had always been truthful when he said two masked men threw a noose around his neck and poured chemicals on him while yelling racist and homophobic slurs and expressing support for U.S. President Donald Trump in January.

But Mayor Rahm Emanuel lambasted the surprise reversal by Cook County prosecutors, emphasizing that a grand jury concluded the attack was a hoax and hammering Smollett as indecent for claiming to be a victim.

"This is a whitewash of justice," Emanuel told a news conference. "From top to bottom, this is not on the level."

The mayor's comments capped a dizzying three hours that began at a brief court hearing on Tuesday, when prosecutors abruptly announced they were abandoning the case. In a statement after the hearing, the office of the Cook County State's Attorney cited Smollett's prior community service and his willingness to forfeit his \$10,000 bond, calling it a "just disposition."

Smollett, his lawyers and his family hailed the move as vindication of his account, which had touched off a furor in the United States, where Trump's 2016 presidential victory has



Jussie Smollett

fueled increasingly heated political divisions.

"OWED AN APOLOGY"

The backlash from Emanuel and Chicago Police Superintendent Eddie Johnson - who said he was unaware of prosecutors' plans beforehand - made clear the Jan. 29 incident remains clouded by unanswered questions.

"Do I think justice was served? No," Johnson told reporters. "I think this city is still owed an apology."

Prosecutors did not respond to requests for a response to those comments.

The Cook County State's Attorney's office said it viewed the outcome as appropriate, though prosecutors also said they stood by the initial decision to charge Smollett with filing a false

report.

First Assistant State's Attorney Joseph Magats told the Chicago Sun-Times that the decision to drop the case did not mean Smollett is innocent of the charges, or that he was a victim. He said prosecutors used the same criteria in determining Smollett's fate that they do for any defendant, noting that the actor has no felony criminal background and was not accused of a violent crime.

"The fact there was an alternative disposition in this case is not and should not be viewed as some kind of admission there was something wrong with the case," he told the newspaper.

Initial reports of the attack bolstered critics of the president

who say his rhetoric has encouraged racial violence, and Smollett earned widespread sympathy from celebrities and some Democratic presidential candidates.

But police arrested Smollett on Feb. 21, accusing the actor of paying two brothers \$3,500 to stage the attack in an effort to use the notoriety to advance his career.

The allegations against Smollett gave fresh ammunition to Trump's supporters, who argue the press is too quick to embrace any news that casts the president in a negative light.

The brothers were arrested after getting captured on surveillance footage near the site of the alleged assault. Police said in February they had confessed to their role in Smollett's plot and were released without charges. One of them had worked with Smollett on "Empire," Fox's hip-hop TV drama, according to police.

Smollett, who plays a gay musician on "Empire," had pleaded not guilty to the charges against him on March 14.

"I've been truthful and consistent on every single level since day one," Smollett told reporters earlier on Tuesday outside a Chicago courthouse, where he posed for photos with supporters after a brief court hearing during which prosecutors abandoned the case.

Emanuel said Smollett's actions dragged Chicago's reputation through the mud and also would make it harder for victims of hate crimes to have their stories believed.

"How dare him? How dare him?" a visibly angry Emanuel said. "Is there no decency in this man?"

REUTERS



# UEFA investigating racist incidents in England match, strong action urged

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

EUROPEAN football's governing body UEFA said it is investigating racist incidents at Monday's Euro 2020 qualifier between Montenegro and England in Podgorica, and both players and an independent monitoring group urged it to take strong action.

England defender Danny Rose was subjected to monkey chants and Raheem Sterling, scorer of England's final goal in the 5-1 win, was also targeted, with racist abuse heard throughout the game.

UEFA said on Tuesday it was opening an investigation into charges of "racist behaviour" during the game. The case will be dealt with by the UEFA Control, Ethics and Disciplinary panel on May 16.

The English Football Association welcomed the investigation into what it called "abhorrent racist chanting".

"This is unacceptable at any level of the game and we welcome UEFA's decision today to take disciplinary action," the FA said in a statement.

Montenegro's football association (FSG) said they were ready to ban fans who could be shown to have been involved.

"If the proceedings prove that there was racist behaviour in the stadium, The Montenegrin Football Association (FSG) will take all the necessary measures to identify the irresponsible individuals who might have caused such incidents and will ban them from all future matches organised by FSG," the body said.

The FSG said this was the first incident they had suffered at an international game.



Raheem Sterling

"There is no room for such behaviour in a multi-cultural and a multi-ethnic society like Montenegro," it said.

Sterling, who cupped his ears to a section of Montenegro supporters after scoring, said the country's fans should be banned from attending matches.

As well as a complaint from the English FA, UEFA will also examine the referee's report and the official report from their own match delegate.

Independent monitoring group FARE had an observer at the game and said they will also submit a

report.

UEFA said they will not comment until their disciplinary body has received those reports while FARE said their evidence would be sent to the Swiss-based body.

"We had an observer present who picked up evidence of racial abuse. Our monitoring team have been compiling the evidence we have before presenting it to UEFA," FARE said in a statement.

"We hope that UEFA will act decisively, the sanctions that could be applied for an offence of this kind range from a partial stadium closure to full stadium closure."

'WORK STILL TO BE DONE'

England manager Gareth Southgate said he had no doubt that the abuse took place.

"I definitely heard abuse of Danny Rose when he got booked at the end of the game," said Southgate.

Sterling called for strict sanctions from UEFA.

"You've got to punish the whole fans, who can't come to the games," he said. "You've got to do something that will really make them think twice, because if their team can't play with fans it's going to be difficult for them."

There have been racist incidents in English football this season as well, and the FA said the problem was not confined to a specific country.

"Despite progress, English football still has its own incidents of discrimination," it said in a statement.

"Our experience is that by combining both sanctions and education, whilst working alongside campaigners such as Kick It Out, real progress can be made.

"But there remains much work to be done."

REUTERS

## Solskjaer 'parks bus' like Mourinho - Van Gaal

LONDON

FORMER Manchester United manager Louis van Gaal says Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's tactics are similar to Jose Mourinho's and the only difference is that the Norwegian is winning.

Solskjaer has been praised for implementing a more attacking style of football since taking the reins at Old Trafford in December, but Van Gaal, sacked by United in 2016, said that is not the case.

"The coach after me [Mourinho] changed to park-the-bus tactics and played on the counter," Van Gaal told the BBC.

"Now there is another coach who parks the bus and plays on the counter. The main difference between Mourinho and Solskjaer is that Solskjaer is winning.

"The way Manchester United are playing now is not the way Ferguson played. It is defensive, counter-attacking football. If you like it, you like it. If you think it is more exciting than my boring attacking, OK. But it is not my truth.

"It is very important that Manchester United qualifies for the Champions League, as it was when I was manager. But they can also win the Champions League because they play a defensive system and it is very difficult to beat them, which, whether you like it or not, is the result of Mourinho's work."

Like Mourinho, Van Gaal was also criticised for what some supporters branded boring football during his two years at the club.

It is something the Dutchman, 67, fiercely denies, while also claiming the FA Cup he won during his spell is his "greatest achievement" despite lifting league titles in Netherlands, Spain and Germany and winning the Champions League with Ajax in 1995.

"You say it was boring. Why was it boring?" said Van Gaal. "Maybe it was boring attacking, but that was because the opponent parked the bus. Then you have to play at a higher tempo, which is difficult.

"I have a philosophy. I was convinced of it and by winning trophies in four countries, I proved the philosophy worked.

"What I don't like is [Ed] Woodward contacting my successor, knowing in his mind he will replace me and he keeps his mouth shut for six months.

"Every Friday I had to go into press conferences and be asked what I thought about the rumours. What does that do to the authority of the coach?"

"To win the FA Cup when, for six months, the media has a noose around my neck, is my biggest achievement."

(AGENCIES)

## Rashford chase like dating model - Barcelona source

LONDON

BARCELONA are closely following Marcus Rashford's contract situation but are realistic about their chances of landing the Manchester United forward, sources have told ESPN FC.

Rashford, 21, has been on Barca's radar for a long time. His deal at Old Trafford expires in 2020 and the Catalan club are waiting to see if he ends up committing to an extension.

Sources have told ESPN FC that United's stance is that there is no chance they will sell the England international and they are already talking about a new contract. A high-ranking executive said that a good metaphor for Barca's interest in Rashford is like wanting to date Cindy Crawford or a supermodel - it's unlikely to happen.

Barca feel Rashford has everything they're looking for in a striker as they continue to scour the market for a long-term replacement for Luis Suarez, 32.

"We don't want to approach a player that still has a contract with Manchester United," the Barcelona executive told ESPN FC on Tuesday. "He's a great player but has [18 months] to run on his contract at Old Trafford.

"Even though it seems talks over a renewal have stopped for now, I'm sure United will try to convince him [to stay] however they can. He's one of the pillars of their future."

Barca's search for a new No. 9 is likely to take them elsewhere. Serbian international Luka Jovic remains on the table, although sources say he is not the club's top target.

Sources inside the club have also confirmed to ESPN FC that Everton forward Richarlison is one of the many other attackers being followed. Barca have watched him play several times this season - for his club and for Brazil - but are not yet considering making a bid.

"He is a good player and we like him, but there are other options better placed than him," the source said.

Meanwhile, reported Arsenal and

(AGENCIES)

# Man United desperate to keep De Gea -- but at what cost?

LONDON

THERE's a refrain from fans when a popular footballer wants a new contract: "Pay them what they want." But how far do you take this? What do Manchester United do when negotiating in a market full of bluffs and lies - beyond building up as much intelligence as possible to make the best decision?

United have the second-highest wage bill in world football. Barcelona, their opponents in the Champions League quarterfinals, have the most expensive - and they also have the best player in world football, Lionel Messi. Barca's wage bill is now 73 percent of their revenue, a figure the club view as unsustainable and want to cut. Barca players will be sold this summer to achieve that. And that's at Barca, a not-for-profit club owned by members.

At United, there are demands to push the wages up further with several players wanting substantial rises as their contracts run down. They know what the club's top earner, Alexis Sanchez, is on - £300,000-a-week plus bonuses according to reports - and they



David De Gea

want parity or an even healthier fraction of it. Could you blame them, especially if they're contributing more to the team? And just about every player is contributing more to United than the Chilean who arrived with a fanfare but has been a flop. If United acquiesces to these demands then they'll have the highest wage bill in football, yet would anyone say this United

team deserves that rate of pay?

However, this isn't the United of "no value" in the transfer market of a decade ago, when they missed out on £30 million Karim Benzema. They are now big, big payers. United have money and Ed Woodward has always been bold on the subject of the club being able to pay well. I asked him not long after he'd taken over what

would happen if the club had another Cristiano Ronaldo who wanted to leave, and he said: "We won't lose on price."

The implication was that United could match anyone, but that was in 2013. Price matching has now become a potentially reckless action.

That brings us to David De Gea, without question one of the best

goalkeepers in the world but with a deal that expires in 15 months. United were able to delay the inevitable contract wrangle by, in November, activating a clause in the Spain international's contract that keeps him at Old Trafford until 2020. But now fresh terms must be agreed.

By paying Sanchez such an inflated wage, it has a knock-on effect as contracts for other star players come up for renewal, and that is certainly the case with De Gea.

United are prepared to make De Gea the best-paid goalkeeper in the world. It's not enough for him and, not only that, his agent's fees have staggered the club.

Yet United need to have a good relationship with the top agents who are the gatekeepers to the top talents.

The club are under pressure because, in De Gea's case, he's chosen his own pace at which to negotiate, a decision that made sense given the state United were in at the start of the season under Jose Mourinho.

De Gea can run the contract down and leave for free if he chooses. It's his life, he can have his reasons. If he wants to go back to Spain then he couldn't be blamed, but then United can demand a huge fee this summer, too. And he'd still need those vast wages.

What could United have done differently? De Gea was already the best-paid goalkeeper when he signed his last deal. He sent out positive indications about renewing again but, so far, nothing has been agreed. De Gea's talents aren't in question, nor his professionalism. Look at it coldly: he's signed a contract that he'll honour. And he might sign another if it's big enough. He also knows that it would cost a mighty transfer fee to replace him.

(AGENCIES)

Gwiji by David Chikoko



port things because they don't have faith that things will be dealt with appropriately or they would make a difference."

Sterling called for strict sanctions such as stadium closures to be imposed to "make them think twice" about racist abuse.

Southgate said he wanted an approach that focused on prevention by educating young people about racism.

"I can't discuss sanctions," Southgate added. "What is the right sanction? Is it a big fine? Is it the closing of sections of a stadium? What is honestly going to make any difference?"

"The difference for me is educating people. ... Kids are born into the world and they don't have a bone of malice in their body, so it is what we impose on them as adults. We can criticise authorities for sanctions, but the problem is deeper than sanctions."

(AGENCIES)



# SPORT

UEFA investigating racist incidents in England match, strong action urged

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Tanzania's professional boxer, Hassan Mwakinyo (R), shakes hands with Nipashe newspaper's Managing Editor, Beatrice Bandawe, when the boxer visited The Guardian Limited's offices in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. Mwakinyo, who is SportPesa Tanzania ambassador, had won an international non-title Welterweight fight in Nairobi, Kenya last weekend. PHOTO: HALIMA KAMBI

## Majaliwa to grace revived Sokoine Half Marathon



Athletes compete in a past Ngorongoro Half Marathon in Arusha.

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

**A**FTER taking a five-year break, the Sokoine Memorial Half Marathon returns this year but, instead of taking place in Monduli District as usual, the 21km event moves into Arusha city where it will be held on April 6.

The Chairman of the Sokoine Memorial Foundation Committee, Lembris Kipuyo, stated here during a press conference that, the half marathon is organized in association with the family of the late Edward

Moringe Sokoine, former Prime Minister who died in road accident back in 1984.

"There will also be special memorial mass in reminiscence of the late Sokoine to be held at the former Prime Minister's residence in Monduli Juu, on April 12, but a week before the church oriented event, the committee will organize the Sokoine Memorial Marathon in Arusha City," Kipuyo disclosed.

The last time that the Sokoine race took place was back in 2014. The organizers did not explain why the event went underground for over four

years before resuming this April.

It is also expected that the Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa, will grace the Sokoine Half Marathon.

According to Alfredo Shahanga, the committee member, the race will be flagged off at Clock Tower junction, billed to be the centre of Africa.

From Clock Tower, the athletes are to run along the main Sokoine Road all the way to Ngarenaro, then divert at Nairobi Corner junction moving up along Nairobi Villa Road towards Arusha Technical Centre.

The athletes will later turn left entering the Namanga Road then

down to Kisongo area and race back to the city, ending up at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Memorial Stadium along Col Middleton Road.

Other events to colour the race include the Fun Run, covering 5 kilometres, and the children race of 2 kilometres.

Registration for all events has started at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Memorial Stadium.

There will also be a mini registration centre in Monduli Township in Monduli District. Prizes for winners of the Sokoine Marathon are yet to be announced.

## Tanzania's junior athletes for Genocide Memorial Youth Games

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ELEVEN junior athletes, who will represent Tanzania at the first National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) Zone V Genocide Memorial Youth Games in Rwanda, will be presented with the national flag in Dar es Salaam today.

Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) Secretary General, Filbert Bayi, said the athletes will leave the country on Sunday for the five-day event that will be held in Huye District.

He said Tanzania will be represented by athletes and handball players at the multi-discipline youth games.

Other sporting events, to be competed at the games, are basketball, taekwondo and beach volleyball.

"The junior athletes will be presented with the national flag tomorrow and depart for Rwanda on Sunday, all preparations are ready," Bayi disclosed.

However, he stopped short of mentioning the players who will make the trip and the delegation leader.

All 11 Zone V countries, namely Kenya, Burundi, Tanzania, Uganda, Eritrea, Ethiopia, South Sudan, Sudan, Somalia, Egypt and hosts Rwanda, are expected to take part in the games.

According to Rwanda's National Olympic and Sports Committee, the hosts are also planning to invite guest nations, France and Senegal, hosts of the 2022 Youth Olympic Games.

The event has been organised by the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA)'s Zone V in conjunction with Rwanda's National Olympic and Sports Committee, and the Government of Rwanda in the spirit of Olympism and the power of sports to reconstruct the country from the genocide ideology.

During the course of the games, youth players will get an opportunity to be inculcated on values of Olympism.

"We will use the games to fight Genocide ideology and promote reconciliation and social cohesion," organizers disclosed.

"We will be taking evening sessions to teach the youth players on the effects of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi while also focusing on regional conflicts like in South Sudan."

## Buttler dismissal deemed legal by MCC

LONDON

MCC, the guardians of the Laws of Cricket, have defended the controversial circumstances of Jos Buttler's "Mankad" dismissal by R Ashwin on Monday, stating that it is not against the Spirit of Cricket for a bowler to seek to run out a batsman at the non-striker's end.

However, in a statement issued in the wake of Ashwin's "instinctive" (and match-changing) actions for King's XI Punjab against Rajasthan Royals, MCC also acknowledged the ambiguity of the current wording of Law 41.16, pertaining to the "non-striker leaving his/her ground early".

Given that the ICC's interpretation of the Law clarifies that the "expected moment of release" comes

when "the arm reaches its highest point" in a bowler's delivery stride, MCC concluded "it was understandable" how Bruce Oxenford, the TV umpire, had seen fit to give Buttler out.

The incident occurred in the 13th over of Rajasthan Royals run-chase, with Buttler going strong on 69 from 43 balls and seemingly guiding his side to victory in their opening fixture of the tournament.

Ashwin, however, changed the course of the innings by pausing in his delivery stride, with Buttler's bat still anchored in his crease as he backed up alongside the bowler, and waiting for him to leave his ground before whipping off the bails.

It was the second time

in Buttler's career that he had been dismissed in such a fashion - the first came in an ODI against Sri Lanka in 2014 - and amid the ensuing furore, MCC was at pains to underline the importance of the law, which ensures that batsmen are unable to "back up at liberty, several yards down the pitch".

However, on this occasion, MCC stated that the legality of the dismissal came down to the umpire's interpretation of the law, given that Buttler had not been seeking to gain an advantage in the moments before Ashwin chose to abort his delivery stride and attempt the dismissal.

The relevant part of Law 41.16

states: "If the non-striker is out of his/her ground from the moment the ball comes into play to the instant when the bowler would normally have been expected to release the ball, the bowler is permitted to attempt to run him/her out."

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## Flexibles by David Chikoko

HOW COME THE PHONE REPAIRS MAN NEVER PICK HIS PHONE?

