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## DNA from 41 skeletons hints at first herders in East Africa

By Guardian Reporter and agencies

NEW research clarifies food production in sub-Saharan Africa some 5,000 years ago, as well as how herding and farming spread through the continent in ancient times.

"The origins of food producers in East Africa have remained elusive because of gaps in the archaeological record," explains Mary Prendergast, a co-first author and professor of anthropology at Saint Louis University in Madrid, Spain "Our study uses DNA to answer previously



**Today, East Africa is one of the most genetically, linguistically, and culturally diverse places in the world," says bio-archaeologist Elizabeth Sawchuk, a co-first author of the paper and research assistant professor in the anthropology department at Stony Brook University**

unsolvable questions about how people were moving and interacting."

By way of an ancient DNA-based study of 41 human skeletons, the researchers reveal a multistep spread of the first herders into East Africa. Their findings appear in Science.

The research team analyzed genome-wide data from the skeletons, which come from East African archaeological sites and are now at the National Museums of Kenya and Tanzania, and the Livingstone Museum in Zambia, and date to the Later Stone Age, Pastoral Neolithic, and Iron Age.

Herding of cattle, sheep, and goats was the first form of food production to spread through most of Africa. This way of life—known as pastoralism—continues to support millions of people in East

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# Gold, cash in smuggling bid given to Ministry of Finance

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

**SINCE** Mwanza Resident Magistrate Roda Ngimilanga handed the ruling on March 23, the convicts have not appealed. That means the items now belong to the government," he declared.



Khatibu Kazungu (3rd-R), Deputy Permanent Secretary in the Finance and Planning ministry, inspects a box with gold worth over 27bn/- shortly before it was handed over to him by Director of Public Prosecutions Biswalo Mganga (3rd-L) at the Mwanza branch of the Bank of Tanzania yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Rose Jacob

**G**OLD weighing 325.31kg worth over 27bn/- and 305m/- in cash that were seized by police in Mwanza in January this year were yesterday handed to the Ministry of Finance and Planning after its owners were convicted of smuggling and did not appeal.

The mineral and cash were handed over to the Deputy Permanent Secretary, Khatibu Kazungu by the Director of Public Prosecutions, Biswalo Mganga at the Mwanza office of the Bank of Tanzania where the expensive industrial mineral was being kept.

Mganga said the handover follows recent conviction of four people who were found guilty of economic sabotage and fined, with the court ordering forfeiture of the items.

The four who were accused of smuggling gold, tax evasion and attempting to bribe four police officers some 700m/- to facilitate the smuggling, escaped going to jail for 15 years each after paying 529m/- in fine, the DPP said, noting that the convicts did not appeal.

"Since Mwanza Resident Magistrate Roda Ngimilanga handed the ruling on March 23, the convicts have not appealed. That means the items now belong to the government," he declared.

On that fateful day in January, the police in collaboration with the Mwanza regional safety and security committee seized over 300 kilogrammes of gold at the city's Kigongo Ferry.

The arrested persons were also found in possession of 305m/- which was hidden in a car boot—Toyota Kluger T 726 DPJ. Police said the gold batches were kept in a Toyota Mark II-T 208 DLT.

President John Magufuli later said he was personally following closely on what was going on between the gold smugglers and some police officials in Mwanza as they were about to take the gold out of the country.

Speaking during a swearing in of ministers and permanent secretaries at the State House, Dr Magufuli revealed how the suspects were "escorted" by eight police officers who were attempting to solicit Sh1 billion in bribes.

"They were to be given 1bn/- in total...They had been given 300m/-, then another 400m/-... They were to be given another 300m/- upon reaching Sengerema when they were detained at a road block," the president had narrated.



**They were to be given 1bn/- in total...They had been given 300m/-, then another 400m/-... They were to be given another 300m/- upon reaching Sengerema when they were detained at a road block**

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## Researchers reveal hidden form of acute malnutrition in children

By Guardian Reporter, Manyara

RESEARCHERS have warned of a new type of malnutrition that severely affects digestion system in children but with little physical symptoms like other forms of malnourishment.

The study that was conducted by 11 researchers from various countries, including four from Tanzania, has found that children with this type of malnutrition develop infections in their stomach, leading to impaired digestion but do not look sick nor do



**If your child looks fine and playful, that does not mean that it is not malnourished. That child could be suffering at unnoticeable rate but with severe consequences**

they suffer from diarrhea and vomiting as symptoms.

Sharing the findings of the study yesterday at Haydom Hospital in Mbulu, Manyara region, one of the researchers Estomih Mduma said that many children in the country could be suffering from this hidden type of malnutrition because its victims look pretty fine physically but really sick in the stomach.

"If your child looks fine and playful, that does not mean that it is not malnourished. That child could be suffering at unnoticeable rate but with

## Ministry starts full-time gender violence, child abuse desk

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children has introduced a special desk and toll free number for the public to report cases of gender-based violence and child abuse.

The ministry's Child Rights and Development Assistant Director Sebastian Kitiku said here yesterday that the desk will open soon and will offer services for 24 hours.



This will enable victims as well as witnesses of gender-based violence and child abuse to report the cases without delay for ministerial authorities to take appropriate measures. He said the toll free number to be used in the new initiative is 116.

This comes after a recent human rights report launched mid last month by the Legal and Human Rights Centre indicated that sexual violence against children almost tripled last year, making it the most violated human right.

Kitiku revealed the initiative in a presentation on the situation of gender-based violence and the national action plan to curb the vice at a training session for 51 community radios staff from across the country.

The introduction of the desk is meant to effectively address issues which are more often left unattended due to challenges in reporting cases and accessing justice at the grassroots.

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## Researchers reveal hidden form of malnutrition in children

FROM PAGE 1

severe consequences," Mduma said. He added that the scientists are now working on the next stage—to find ways of curbing this hidden health challenge that is silently taking a toll on children unnoticed.

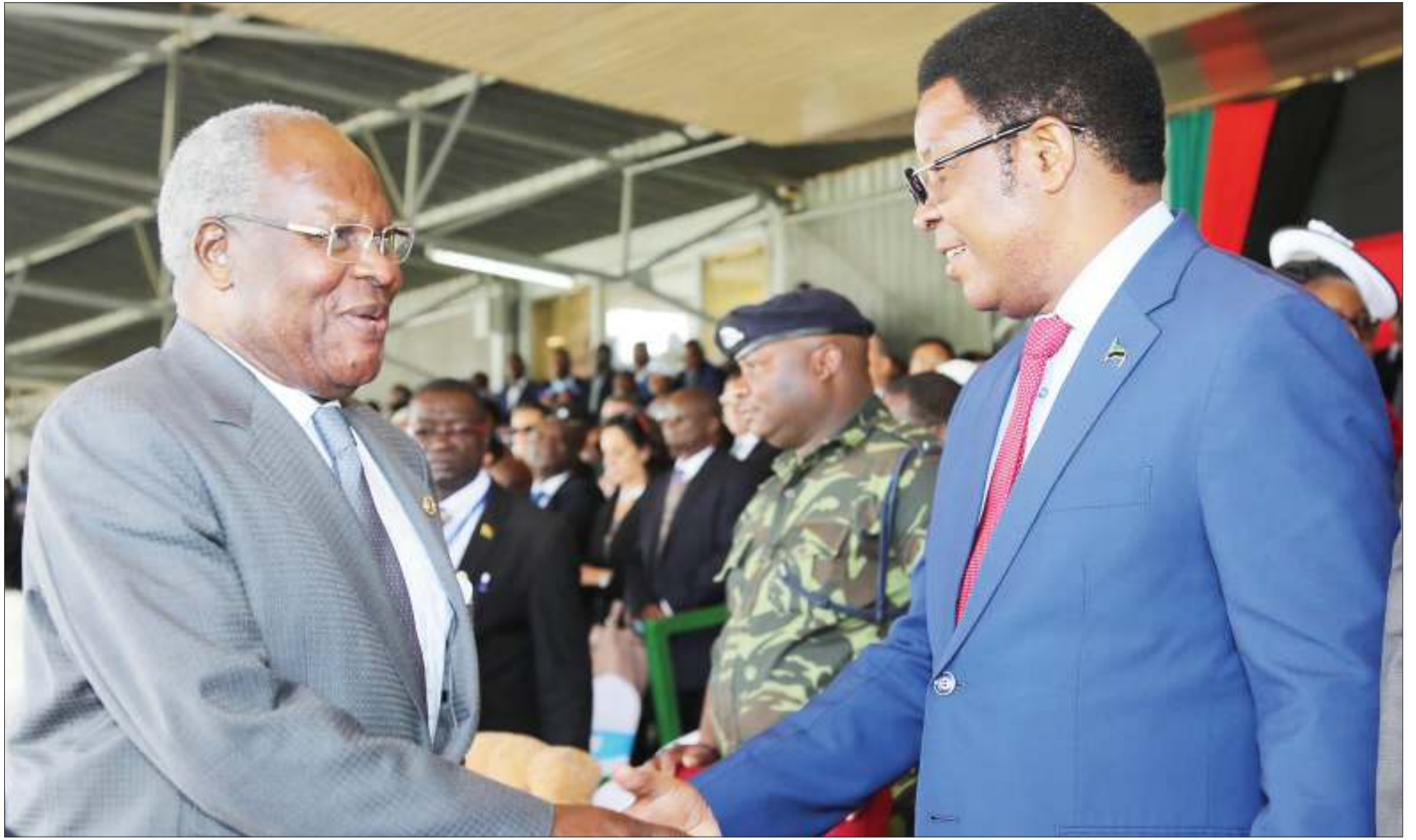
The scientist said 53 per cent of deaths of children below the age of five in the world are currently linked to malnutrition.

Manyara Regional Medical Officer Dr Damas Kayera said health officials in the region have a lot to do to improve nutrition because Manyara is one of the worst affected regions in Tanzania.

"The rate of stunting in Manyara is 36 per cent which is above the national average rate of 34 per cent," Dr Kayera said.

In 2015, more than 2.7 million Tanzanian children under 5 years of age were estimated to be stunted and more than 600,000 were suffering from acute malnutrition, of which 100,000 were severe cases. It is estimated that the country will lose USD20 billion by 2025 if the nutrition situation does not improve.

In contrast, by investing in nutrition and improving the population's nutritional status, the country could gain up to USD 4.7 billion by 2025. Under nutrition is wrecking children's lives. Globally, 161 million chronically undernourished children are not getting the right nutrients and care at the right time.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa exchanges greetings with former Malawian President Bakili Muluzi during the swearing-in of Malawian President Arthur Peter Mutharika in Blantyre yesterday. The PM represented President John Magufuli at the ceremony. Photo: PMO

## DNA from 41 skeletons hints at first herders in East Africa

FROM PAGE 1

Africa today. The new genetic results help to reveal the origins of pastoralism in this part of the world, and the circumstances that allowed herding, and later farming, to become prevalent.

"Today, East Africa is one of the most genetically, linguistically, and culturally diverse places in the world," says bio-archaeologist Elizabeth Sawchuk, a co-first author of the paper and research assistant professor in the anthropology department at Stony Brook University. "Our findings from the DNA analysis

of the skeletons trace the roots of this mosaic back several millennia. Distinct peoples have coexisted in the Rift Valley for a very long time."

Archaeological research from the East African Rift Valley shows this region played a significant role in the development of food producing societies and the transition from foraging to herding. Although livestock first appeared in northern Kenya around 5,000 years ago, archaeological data have not been able to paint a complete picture of when and how people and livestock spread farther south, and how distinctive herding societies

developed.

The spread of food production involved multiple complex movements of people into East Africa at different times, which included the mixing of groups with ancestry derived from northeast Africa with local East African foragers. This admixture between herders and foragers diminished after around 4,000 years ago.

Their descendants diverged to form culturally diverse groups of Pastoral Neolithic herders in the Rift Valley, but continued to form a closely related genetic cluster over thousands of years. By 1,200 years

ago, movement into the region of additional peoples from both north-eastern and western Africa during the Iron Age, some of whom began farming, contributed to ancestry profiles similar to many groups living in East Africa today.

Genetic analysis also provides insight into the evolution of lactase persistence, the ability to digest milk into adulthood, in East Africa. Although this genetic adaptation is found in high proportions among Kenyan and Tanzanian pastoralists today, it was rare among these ancient herders, contrary to previous predictions.

Sawchuk and fellow researchers conclude that future archeological and ancient DNA research in the Turkana Basin, the Horn of Africa, and other parts of north-eastern Africa will be necessary to confirm the earliest stages of the spread of herding into the region, and where the initial admixture between north-east African populations and East African foragers occurred.

The study involved close collaboration among archeologists, geneticists and museum curators to develop an advanced process for the DNA analysis. Sawchuk, an expert on the study of human remains,

analyzed the bones of individuals in this study. She and Prendergast also used the study to develop an ethical protocol for sampling human remains that they hope becomes the model for ancient DNA research in the future.

Funding came from the National Institute of General Medical Sciences as part of the National Institute of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Howard Hughes Medical Institute, the Allen Discovery Center, the John Templeton Foundation and the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study.

## Mutharika inaugurated as Malawi's president after successful re-election

BLANTYRE

MALAWI'S re-elected President Peter Mutharika to officially earn a second term of office after a highly contested tripartite election.

In his inaugural speech titled "Renewing Our Vision," Mutharika called for the country's unity and peace, and urged stakeholders to focus on country's future and development.

He said, "Let us remember that we have more that unites us than anything that divides us. Let us unite to develop this country." He went on to promise enhanced diplomatic ties with the international community, saying his government is set to open a new chapter of active presence in regional and international relations.

Mutharika also reinforced commitment to his campaign promises that have been outlined in his manifesto and said his government will work hard in the second term to build the country from the development foundation of the past five years.

"In the next five years we will prioritize production. Our problem has been power shortage but now we are working to resolve power shortage decisively."

The ceremony was attended by delegates from over five countries including Zambia, Tanzania and Mozambique, and Mutharika received congratulatory messages from presidents Emmerson Mnangagwa of Zimbabwe, among others.



National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai (6th-L), who is Kongwa legislator, has a quick word with residents of the constituency who paid him a visit in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: National Assembly

## Botswana bans live pig importation

GABORONE

THE Botswana government has imposed a ban on the importation of live pigs and its fresh products following an outbreak of the African Swine Fever reported in South Africa.

The Department of Veterinary Services of Agricultural Development and Food Security Ministry has advised farmers

and the general public that importation of live pigs has been banned following an outbreak of the African Swine Fever that has been reported in South Africa.

According to a statement released by the department on Tuesday, due to the outbreak of the highly contagious disease that affects both domestic and wild pigs, there would be no importation of live pigs and its

fresh products.

"The ban of live pigs and fresh products from South Africa has been introduced and farmers are advised to contain their pigs in pigsties and report any ill or dead pigs both domestic and free range," said the statement.

The African Swine Fever is a highly contagious disease of domesticated and wild pigs, which was responsible for serious

economic and production losses in many countries.

African swine fever virus is a large, double-stranded DNA virus in the Asfarviridae family. It is the causative agent of African swine fever. The virus causes a haemorrhagic fever with high mortality rates in domestic pigs; some isolates can cause death of animals as quickly as a week after infection.

## Ministry sets up 24hr desk on gender violence, child abuse

FROM PAGE 1

The move comes amid complaints from community radio practitioners over the failure by some public authorities to cooperate whenever children and women's rights were violated in various areas.

Anna Elias, a scribe from Sengerema Community Radio said there had been some cases where some teachers impregnated schoolgirls only to be transferred from one school to the other. They committed that offence repeatedly with no legal measures taken against them.

"The ministry should help us to curb the culture of impunity where perpetrators of sexual abuse are left to go scot free even as they ruin the lives of girls," said Anna. She faulted the Law of Marriage Act saying some of its provisions gave permission for a girl child of 14-15 years to get married with parental consent contrary to the Law of the Child Act of 2009 where a girl of such age is defined as a child who should be in school.

Maajab Madiva, a journalist from Pangani community radio raised concern over increasing sexual abuse committed between children where more often community members failed to take any measures saying they were minors. He said the ministry needs to provide guidance on what ought to be done.

In a rejoinder, Kitiku said the judicial system has special courts and juvenile delinquency centers where they too can be convicted of such offences to reform them.

UNESCO in close collaboration with Dodoma FM and technical support from the Ministry of Health is conducting the training to enhance knowledge of 51 community radio practitioners in designing effective and interactive programs in Sexuality & Reproductive Health (SRH), HIV and AIDS, Gender based Violence (Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Girls Education).

Specifically, the training focuses on developing the capacity of community radios in addressing sexual behaviors that elevate the risk of HIV infection, early and unintended pregnancy and gender-based violence amongst adolescents and young people through interactive radio programs in line with relevant social and behaviour change communication (SBCC) strategies at the national level.

The capacity-building program has been made possible through funding from Swiss Development Cooperation (SDC), the Swedish International Development Agency (SIDA) and the Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA).

# We are committed to improving vocational training centres - minister

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE government has expressed its commitments towards improving vocational training centres to increase the number of skilled labour force which will help it to realise its dream of becoming a middle income economy by 2025.

The Minister for Education, Science, Technology and Vocational Training Prof Joyce Ndalichako, revealed yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the official launch of Skills for Employment in Tan-

zania (SET) programme, which is being funded by the embassy of Switzerland.

The programme is targeting 16,000 youth of between 15-20 years and the Swiss Agency For Development and Cooperation (SDC) will contribute 55 billion Tanzania Shillings for over a period of 12 years to support the government in addressing the labor market relevance.

She said skilled labor force is important for the social and economic development of any national and the government is doing everything possible to see

that it is addressing the labor market relevance, quality and accessibility of vocational skills development.

Ndalichako who thanked the government of Switzerland for the support, said the quality vocational development skills can make an important contribution towards reducing poverty.

"The government is very committed to see that we have the qualified labor force, in this financial year budget the government has set a side 40 billion shillings for establishing modern voca-

tional training centers in 25 districts of the country, we are also currently improving and equipping all the focal development collages, the aim is to have skilled labor which can meet the market demand" she said.

The minister also said she is happy that SET program will work closely with Vocational, Training, and Education Authority (VETA) the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) Morogoro Vocational Teachers and Training College (MVTTC) other training institutions

and other stakeholders to create more opportunities in Agriculture and Agribusiness.

On her remarks, Switzerland ambassador to the country, Florence Tinguely Mattli said her country is pleased with the country desire of becoming a middle income country, saying under this the economy of the country is expected to transform from low productivity agricultural economy to semi-industrial.

She said to realize this dream the country needs well educated people

who can work effectively.

"Vocational Skills Development can play a key role to make jobs more accessible and productive with better income... a competitive and dynamic economy requires a well educated population, but currently over 80 percent of Tanzania youth are employed in informal, low skilled and low value jobs, young women and rural youth are especially affected by this type of work, these vulnerable employments prevent them to move out of poverty" she said.



Ubungu district commissioner Kisare Makole (2nd-L) receives sanitary equipment and supplies from Songas PR manager Nicodemus Chipakapaka at yesterday's launch in Dar es Salaam of Environment Week, part of whose thrust will be in line with the spirit of the ban on plastic 'shopping' bags. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## 'Govt has spent 3.87bn/- on food to children with special needs'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government spent 3.87bn/ on food to children with special needs in schools between 2015/16 and 2018/19, deputy minister of State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, Mwitwa Waitara told the House yesterday.

However, he said the main challenge is lack of the right data on such children from the local government authorities, adding that the government is doing everything possible to help them.

Waitara was responding to a question by the Special Seats MP, Conchesta Rwamaliza (CHADEMA) who had wanted to know what the government was doing to help children with special needs.

She argued that some parents of children with special needs take them to school and neglect them, without going back to check on their development as well as providing basic needs.

"Why is the government not releasing funds to help support such children who are suffering in schools?" questioned the lawmaker.

She also wondered why the government was leaving the task of caring for the children to the district councils at a time when the councils do not have enough revenues.

The deputy minister noted that children with special needs have same rights to get education like their counterparts, noting that it is why the government introduced fee free education in the country.

He said through the system, the government provide food to all children with special needs in public day and boarding schools at the same time purchasing learning equipments whenever funds are available.

Meanwhile, Special Seats MP, Mariam Kisangi (CCM) on her part noted that the number children with special needs is on the increase in Dar es Salaam while schools to accommodate them are not enough, calling on the government to introduce department for special children in all the schools.

The deputy minister noted that the government is just doing the same since it has been realized that having special schools for children with special needs is isolating them, thus the efforts to have inclusive education system.

## TTCF urges govt to enact severe anti-tobacco laws

By Guardian Reporter

THE Executive Director of the Tanzania Tobacco Control Forum, Lutgard Kagaruki, has called on the government of Tanzania to enact stern laws aimed at protecting citizens and the environment against the hazards of smoking.

Kagaruki made the call yesterday in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the event to commemorate the World No Tobacco Day, themed: "Tobacco and Lung Health."

This year's commemoration of the day called for African regional coordinated actions for a full implementation of the World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control (WHO FCTC).

She said the day was aimed at encouraging adoption and implementation of stern and comprehensive tobacco control measures.

"Enacting stern laws is the only way to improve the health and well-being of people and save lives," Kagaruki said.

She further said while Africa has made progress in imple-

menting the WHO FCTC, especially in creating smoke-free environments, Tanzania continued to lag behind its peers.

"Tanzania remains the only east African country without a comprehensive tobacco control law in line with the WHO FCTC," she said.

She said the 2012 Tanzania Steps Survey Report compiled by the Ministry of Health, the National Institute of Medical Research and WHO showed that 4.1

percent of people in Tanzania smoked tobacco.

"Tobacco smoke is known to be a major pollutant containing more than 7,000 chemicals, 70 of them is known to cause cancer," she quoted the report's findings.

She said tobacco was responsible for 17,400 deaths annually in Tanzania with both smokers and non-smokers affected.

According to experts, lung diseases caused by smoking include COPD, which includes emphysema and chronic bronchitis. Cigarette smoking causes most cases of lung cancer. If you have asthma, tobacco smoke can trigger an attack or make an attack worse. Smokers are 12 to 13 times more likely to die from COPD than non smokers.

See the related story on page 13

## 'Govt is yet to disburse 2.2bn/- to Handeni District Council'

By Correspondent James Kandoya, Handeni

THE government is yet to disburse 2.2bn/- to Handeni District Council in Tanga region to control pupil dropout in schools including teen pregnancy.

Deputy Permanent Secretary in the President Office-Regional Administration And Local Government authority (PO-RALG) Tixon Nzunda said when closing the Global action week for education (GAWE) held in Handeni district Council, Tanga Region.

GAWE is a flagship event for the Civil Society Education movement, and has been running successfully since 2003 in the country.

This year, the commemoration is organised by the (Ten/MET) in collaboration with the Handeni District Council and kicked off from May 27th to 31st under the theme: "My Education My Right".

He said Handeni failed to comply with government directives aiming at improving the school performance to reach national passing level.

Nzunda added that the government will disburse the fund to improve the performance as per government rates.

He cited Mbozi District Council that had done marvellous in controlling school dropout and therefore deserved to receive 1.9bn/-

"The only option for you is to do better, failure to do that the fund will be channelled to other councils performing better," he said. DPS said Handeni must ensure that all pupils enrolled standard one complete standard seven adding it must borrow a leaf from other district council which did well.

He mentioned other criteria as to ensure the proportional distribution of teachers in schools noting there was uneven distribution of teachers between one school and the others

### Invitation for Quotations

#### Drilling Work at Machochwe Village Serengeti District



WaterAid Tanzania is part of an international Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), dedicated on improving access to clean and safe water, decent sanitation and hygiene services. We work in partnership with the Government of Tanzania to support achievement of national targets on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) through the Water Sector Development Programme (WSDP) Phase II

WaterAid Tanzania is inviting bids, from registered and competent companies, for conducting geophysical survey and drilling of borehole in the project "Community water supply" to be implemented at Machochwe village in Serengeti District Council.

The project is implemented by WaterAid Tanzania in collaboration with Serengeti District Council. The project is funded by EABL Foundation (SBL Tanzania)

All eligible interested bidders should write email to [ZuenaMasumay@wateraid.org](mailto:ZuenaMasumay@wateraid.org) requesting the Bills of Quantity. The deadline for requesting BOQ is 21 June, 2019.


Bidders should provide documents to evidence their qualifications including but not limited to:

- A duly completed and signed priced offer as per the Bills of Quantities (BoQ).
- Valid licenses and legal documentation to operate in Tanzania e.g. incorporation certificate, business license and relevant tax certificates, licenses from CRB and MoW
- Major equipment(s) for carrying out the works, a list of recent performed contracts of similar nature including the names and addresses of the employers for verification
- The company profile. Recent financial statements of the bidder/bank statement
- Three references' contacts you have worked with in the last 2 years.

Eligible interested bidders should submit one original and two copies of their respective bids each in separate sealed envelope to WaterAid Tanzania Office before **24th June 2019 at 10:00am East Africa Time; Bids shall be addressed to: "Country Director – WaterAid Tanzania, P.O. Box 33759 Plot No.1469 Rufiji Street: Off Haile Selassie Rd - Msasani Peninsular Dar es Salaam: Tanzania."** and clearly marked "Bid for Conducting geophysical survey and drilling work in the project titled Community water supply" at Machochwe village.

The opening will be on 24th June 2019 at 11:00am at WaterAid Tanzania Offices located at Plot No.1469 Rufiji Street: Off Haile Selassie Rd - Msasani Peninsular, Opposite Namibian Embassy in Masaki Area, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. Bidders and/or representatives are welcome.

All enquiries relating to this advertisement should be sent via e-mail to [ZuenaMasumay@wateraid.org](mailto:ZuenaMasumay@wateraid.org)



### SHAABAN ROBERT SECONDARY SCHOOL

## FORM 1 ADMISSION 2020 REGISTRATION FOR ENTRANCE EXAMINATION

Application forms for the Entrance Examination are available at the school office for a fee of TShs. 25, 000/= Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 2: 00 p.m. with effect from **Monday 3rd June 2019.**

A student who has completed or is completing standard VII and born on or after January 2006 is eligible to write the Entrance Examination

**The Headmaster  
P.O Box 736  
DAR ES SALAAM  
Tel. No. 2114903/2114935  
Mobile: 0693 081 688  
Email: [info@shaabanrobert.sc.tz](mailto:info@shaabanrobert.sc.tz)**

# Dodoma disburses more than 2.5bn/- in loans to 978 groups

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DODOMA regional authority has disbursed more than 2.5bn/- in loans to 978 groups and companies formed by youth in the region in 2018/19 as business startup capital, the National Assembly heard yesterday.

He said this while responding to a question from Special Seats MP, Esther Mmasi (CCM) who

had wanted to know what the government was doing to help youth in the region since the government has relocated to Dodoma.

She argued that the government should safeguard informal jobs for young people in the region especially those who have graduated with different skills.

"What is the government doing to help youth

in Tanzania who are engaged in the informal sector, especially those from Dodoma region who are likely to be left out as many people come to Dodoma?" she asked.

In response, Mavunde who is also the MP for Dodoma Urban said the government has taken various steps to empower youth in the region.

He said through various efforts, youth in the region have formed 12 companies and have been

given loans with few conditions.

The regional authority has also formalized youth engaged in the informal sector and issued them with identification cards to help them operate freely.

He said at least 1,240 young people from the region have been trained in life skills, empowering them for self employment in different sectors like construction and business, among others.

According to the deputy minister, the region has also formalized skills acquired outside formal sector whereby 245 young people with artisan skills have benefited.

He added that through various stakeholders that offered training on greenhouse to 18,800 nationwide, some 800 of them are from the eight district councils in Dodoma region.



A small trader sells second-hand clothes, mostly shirts, at Ilala Mchikichini in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. The going price was given as anything from 1,000/- to 2,000/- each, largely depending on quality. Photo: John Badi

## Global vector control organisation ready to help Karibu/Kili Fair with medical services

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

THE Global Vector Control Standard organisation has agreed to provide medical services to more than 5,000 visitors who are to attend this year's Karibu/Kili Fair—an international tourism fair, to be held in Arusha from June 7 to June 9.

Coordinator of the fair, Dominic Shoo confirmed that the organisation will be there at the fair before and after the inauguration of the international event.

The organisation will also equip hotels, in recognised high risk geographies, with the vital tools they need to control the spread of vector-borne diseases such as malaria, dengue, Zika and others transmitted by vectors like mosquitos, reducing the risks and increasing confidence amongst international travellers.

He said that about 450 tour companies and a number of international airlines have confirmed to take part at the fair that is to attract more than 5,000 people.

This year, he said, the fair is determined to promote Ruaha National Park—the largest park in Tanzania and its size is the similar with New Jersey—a state in the north-eastern and mid-Atlantic regions of the United States.

The event will be held at the Friedkin Recreation Center (TGT grounds) few kilometres from Arusha central business district (CBD) and is to involve tour operators, exhibitors from 15 countries from across the world.

Shoo said the participation of foreign countries in the fair will help promote the east African country's abundant tourism attractions.

The official said more than 400 local exhibitors of tourism attractions will be joined by other participants from the 15 countries.

Shoo said: "This year's tourism fair has the character of a business networking event for the tourism industry.

Tourism is the largest foreign exchange earner of Tanzania, contributing an average of 2 billion U.S. dollars annually, which is equivalent to 25 percent of all exchange earnings, according to the government data.

It also contributes to more than 17 percent of the national gross domestic product and creating more than 1.5 million jobs, 500,000 of which are direct.

A report released in June 2017 rated Tanzania's tourism industry as one of the fastest growing sectors in the country with figures showing a surge on tourist arrivals.

The 2016 International Visitors' Exit Survey Report indicated that the number of tourists who visited the country continued to rise.

# UN-Habitat to partner with African governments to roll out green houses

NAIROBI

UN Habitat said yesterday it plans to partner with African governments in order to roll out green houses in the continent.

Vincent Kitio, chief urban energy unit at UN-Habitat, said in Nairobi that Africa cannot be the next frontier if it continues to develop houses that pollute the environment.

"We believe in the next five years all buildings standing in

Africa should be green houses and be able to generate energy for their household use," Kitio said during the first UN-Habitat Assembly that ends on Friday in Nairobi.

Kitio said that some east African countries have made progress in developing policies to promote green buildings.

The UN agency has already developed a lot of tools, guide books, technical notes and a charter with a list of principles

that can be implemented by countries to catalyze their transition toward green housing.

The UN official said that moving towards green buildings has a number of challenges which can however be overcome.

"One of the key hurdles for the adoption of green buildings is the high upfront cost associated with renewable energy technology," he said.

According to Kitio, in order to build green houses, the real

estate sector must be trained to design green buildings.

"We can overcome this challenge by investing in education and conducting a review of curriculum of schools of architecture to promote sustainable building designs," he said.

Development partners on Wednesday vowed to raise 152 million U.S. dollars towards meeting UN-Habitat's urban dimensions of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

More than 100 partners who met on the sidelines of the first UN Habitat Assembly in Nairobi at the partnership and pledging conference said the funds will be used to help countries implement the New Urban Agenda and urban dimensions of the SDGs, especially Goal 11 to make cities inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable.

"I take this opportunity to thank the governments and development partners for the

pledges that are very important in executing our work as per the strategic plan of 2020-2025," Maimunah Mohd Sharif, executive director of UN Habitat, told journalists.

Sharif said that the UN-Habitat aims to help countries reduce spatial inequality and poverty, enhance prosperity of cities, strengthen climate change action, improve the urban environment and mitigate and respond to urban

crisis. She said that the strategic plan will be guided by the principles of social inclusion and human rights for all, including women, children, and other vulnerable groups.

"One of the UN Habitat's roles would be as a center of excellence to provide a point of reference on data, norms, standards, legal frameworks, policies, strategies and urban innovations," she added.

## African Union, UN-ECA vow to support infrastructure connectivity across Africa

ADDIS ABABA

The UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) and the African Union (AU) have agreed to expedite infrastructure connectivity efforts to ensure full implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement.

The AU and ECA revealed their joint commitment towards the success of the African free trade pact during the meeting of ECA's Executive Secretary Vera Songwe with AU's High Representative for Infrastructure Development, Raila Odinga, at the ECA headquarters in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa, the ECA said in a statement issued on Friday.

"The two agreed that fast-tracking trans-boundary infrastructure on the continent was

the only way to ensure full implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) for the benefit of its citizens," an ECA statement read. The two officials' meeting came a day after the African free trade pact took effect on Thursday, following the agreement's ratification by 22 countries last month, meeting the minimum threshold for it to take effect and is set to enter into force on May 30.

Songwe and Odinga, among other things, discussed ways through which the ECA can support ongoing efforts to "ensure the continent speedily tackles its infrastructure challenges."

Accelerating regional integration was also said to be the major aspiration of the two pan African institutions, as the two officials agreed that "Africa needed to fast-track trans-boundary ener-

gy and transport infrastructure, including key road corridors, if that is to become a reality soon."

"One of the things we are busy working on here at the ECA is the nexus between trade and infrastructure and how we can use it, particularly in the Horn of Africa where we are trying to see how we can use the regional integration and trade conversation to build and capitalize on the peace momentum," said Songwe.

They also stressed cooperation in Africa's key trans-boundary infrastructure projects including the Trans-African Highways Network, the Lamu Port-South Sudan-Ethiopia Transport Corridor, which is said to be "East Africa's largest and most ambitious infrastructure project," as well as the Democratic Republic of Congo's Grand Inga Dam, among others.



RSA Ltd Tanzania director Manmohan Bhamra (2nd-R) briefs Trade and Industry minister Joseph Kakunda (R) earlier this week on activities at the Moshi-based firm's vehicle body building factory. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

# More investors eyeing pigeon pea farming

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

FARMERS of pigeon peas and other related legumes may soon have a reason to smile as more investors are putting up plants to process the crops in the country, the House heard yesterday.

Deputy Minister Industry, Trade and Investment, Stella Manyanya told the House that the government has managed to convince investors to come and invest in pigeon peas and other leg-

umes processing in the country.

She said Indian company, Mahashree Agro Processing Limited, is building a factory in Morogoro region with a capacity to process 700,000 tonnes of the crop per year, adding that it will be operational from June 2019.

Other industries processing the crop in the country include those belonging to Quality Pulse Exporters Limited of Dar es Salaam, Agro Processing Pulse whose investors are from Kenya and India and the Samson Agro Export Lim-

ited from India.

"The government is working hard to ensure factories processing peas are available in the country, noted that deputy minister, adding that in effort to broaden the market, people should consume more of the peas crops since they are good health.

Manyanya made the explanations in response to a question asked by the Nachingwea MP, Hassan Masala (CCM) who had wanted to know what the government was doing to help

find market for pigeon peas farmers who despite producing in mass have no readily available market.

"Peas farmers in the country have for a long time failed to get market for their products, what is the government doing to help them?" he asked.

According to the deputy minister, the government has both short and long term strategies, adding that the long strategy include inviting investors to establish factories in the country.

She added that the short term strategies include looking for market within and outside the country, noting that the good results have been seen since March, 2019 following government trips in search for market for agricultural produce in Malawi, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Zambia.

The deputy minister said following the trips, Malawi has shown interest in purchasing 7,000 tonnes of pigeon peas this year and the process has started.



Mihayo Juma (2nd-L), Deputy Minister in the Zanzibar Second Vice President's Office, shares a light moment with senior officials from the Office at the House of Representatives grounds in Zanzibar yesterday. Left is deputy permanent secretary Abdallah Mitawi. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

## 'Ethiopia, Sudan to experience drier than normal conditions'

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

MUCH of Ethiopia, parts of Eritrea and South Sudan are likely to experience drier than normal conditions, while Sudan and Djibouti will have above normal rainfall in the next three months, according to the latest regional climate forecast for Africa.

The forecast, presented at the 52nd Greater Horn Of Africa Climate Outlook Forum, held from May 27-28, 2019, provided the weather forecast for the third quarter of the year (June-September).

According to the forecast, Djibouti and surrounding lowlands of Ethiopia and Eritrea, most parts of Sudan, parts of south-western Ethiopia, western Kenya and the Lake Victoria region of Uganda and Tanzania will have above-normal rainfall.

But, rainfall will be delayed by one-three weeks in the northern Rift Valley, the western equatorial sector, the coastal regions of Kenya and northern Somalia and in Sudan. Moreover, the forecast also indicated an early cessation of rains in eastern Ethiopia, northern Uganda and the cluster bordering Ethiopia, South Sudan and Kenya. This would lead to long dry spells in the region during the season, it added.

The temperature over the northern, eastern and south-eastern Greater Horn of Africa as well as a region over north-western South Sudan is projected to be warmer than the normal surface temperatures. This indicates cooler to near normal temperatures across central parts of the Greater Horn of Africa.

The highlands of the equatorial sector are expected to experience cool and cloudy conditions during June to September.

A recent study had also projected an increase in the annual mean near surface temperature by more than 1 and 1.5 degrees celsius over most parts of the Greater Horn of Africa, under 1.5 degrees celsius and 2 degrees celsius global warming levels, respectively.

The forecast will help experts, non-profits and other development partners who participated in the forum to formulate mitigation strategies of the potential impacts of the consensus climate forecast in their respective specific sector.

# Motorbikes light homes, irrigate farms in Kenya

NAIROBI

TO many people across the world, a motorbike is a machine for transport, which moves goods and people from one point to another.

In Kenya, however, the machines that are predominantly Chinese-made have become more than just carriers of goods and people.

Savvy Kenyans are using the motorbikes, which are ubiquitous in rural and urban areas, to light homes and irrigate their farms.

The new uses make the ma-

chines, which have created jobs for close to a million youths across the east African nation, more valuable and cherished.

The machines have also eased transport problems in towns like Nairobi where traffic jams are chronic and in rural areas, they reach places where there are no vehicles.

To light homes, Kenyans in rural areas are using the machine's battery, with the motorbike itself coming in handy when charging it.

Bernard Bwire, a resident of Budalangi, in Busia, western Kenya, is among those using motorbike battery to light his home.

"I got the knowledge from a friend in Luanda, some 70km away, who I visited sometime in December 2018," he recounted.

"I liked the idea and I still thank him for it because I was struggling with using a kerosene lamp," he added.

To light his home, the motorbike taxi operator explained that he ensures that the battery is fully charged, a thing that he does as he uses the machine during the day.

"The battery charges as I ride the bike, so this does not require extra time or money as long as I use the motorbike," he said.

In the evening when he returns

home, Bwire removes the battery from the machine, takes it into his house and fixes two bulbs on it to light the house.

"For over two months, I was operating with one battery which inconvenienced my family since my job sometimes requires I work late into the night. But I bought another battery recently thus I interchange," he said.

With this mode of operation, Bwire saves 200 shillings (2 U.S. dollars) that he used to spend every three days on kerosene to light his home. His family is also saved for pollution associated with use of kerosene.

According to Kenya's ministry

of energy, half of households in Kenya use wood fuel and kerosene for cooking and lighting.

There are close to a million motorbikes in the east African nation, a majority which are used in the transport business, according to Motorcycle Assemblers Association of Kenya.

Up to 15,000 bikes are registered in Kenya every month, latest data from the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics shows.

Therefore, with the number of people turning to motorbike batteries to light homes rising, the machines are slowly transforming lives.

On the other hand, motorbike

taxi operator Lawrence Wachira who is based in Nyeri is one of small farmers using the machines to irrigate their farms.

To do the work, Wachira connects a small water pump that he bought at 100 dollars onto his motorcycle which then powers it.

"What I do is ensure that the bike has fuel before I attach it to the pump. I then start it and powers the pump that draws water from a pan into my farm where I grow onions, tomatoes and cabbages," he said, adding that fuel worth a dollar pumps over 10,000 litres of water.

Using the motorbike, Wachira

has been able to easily juggle between his transport work and farming since initially, he spent a lot of time watering the crops every evening, missing income from the other job.

Ernest Manuyo, a business lecturer at Pioneer Institute in Nairobi, termed the motorbike a wonder machine because of the new ways Kenyans are using it.

"This machine is not only boosting incomes and easing transport but the new uses show it is key to food security and even boosting health by reducing respiratory diseases associated with kerosene," he said.

## Vehicle emissions the leading cause of air pollution in Kigali

By Special Correspondent, Kigali

Data on the sources of air pollution indicate vehicle emissions are the leading cause of air pollution in Rwandan capital city Kigali, Rwandan Minister of Environment Vincent Biruta said on Thursday.

Research indicates that vehicle emissions are the leading cause of air pollution in Kigali and other urban areas of Rwanda, while domestic wood, charcoal cook stoves and burning in fields are the primary contributor to poor air quality in residential and rural areas, Biruta said, when opening the 2019 National Seminar on Air Pollution in Kigali.

Monitoring data have indicated that concentrations of some types of particulate matter in Kigali are elevated and at times above globally acceptable standards, he said. He also said Rwanda is being af-

ected by all major pollutants but particulate matter and nitrogen dioxide are the pollutants of main concern.

The seminar, co-organized by Rwanda Environmental Management Authority and the Ministry of Environment, is part of week-long events of the National Environment Week organized ahead of the World Environment Day which falls on June 5.

It brought together the scientific community and other stakeholders to discuss ways to develop solutions to beat air pollution.

Activities being conducted during the National Environment Week include raising community awareness to prevent air pollution through protection of forest ecosystems, inspection on plastic pollution, motor vehicle inspection, seminar on air pollution, among others.



Education, Science and Technology deputy minister William ole Nasha pictured in Dodoma yesterday closing the first vocational training exhibition of its kind to be held in Tanzania. It drew participants from more than 100 colleges and various other institutions of learning. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

## UDSM and Beijing university sign MoU on legal matters

By Guardian Reporter

THE University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), with Beijing University of China to cooperate on legal matters between the two nations.

The signing ceremony went along with the launch of Sino-Africa centre for legal studies at the Confucius Institute of the University of Dar es Salaam (CI UDSM).

Speaking during the event in Dar es Salaam on Thursday, the Head of Private Law Department School of Law at UDSM, Dr James Jesse said that the MoU will enable the two (UDSM and Beijing universities) to conduct programme exchange for law students thus enable the graduates to have knowledge

from different legal system learning.

"We will cooperate on various issues pertaining to legal studies, including conducting researches, programme exchange and having short programmes," he said.

Dr Jesse said students and lecturers from the Law School at UDSM will also be able to travel to Beijing University for various activities, and those from China coming to Tanzania for study tours and other issues.

In his remarks, chief guest, the Associate Professor at the Law School at UDSM, Bonaventure Rutinwa said that the launched centre for legal studies will increase proficiency, mutual study and communication of Sino-Africa legal issues.

"Our students will become

more encouraged for having knowledge from different legal systems," he noted.

The Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam (CI UDS) was established in October 2013 under the agreement between CI Headquarter (Hanban), UDSM and Zhejiang Normal University.

With the vision of being one of the leading Chinese language training and testing centers, as well as one of the major Chinese cultural and academic exchanges centers in Africa, CI UDSM is one of the places for Tanzanian people to learn Chinese language and Chinese culture.

CI UDSM is committed to offering various kinds of Chinese language programmes for a wide range of learners from different ages and education backgrounds.



Tanzania Civil Engineering Contractors Association chairman Mohamed Versi addresses the opening session of the association's stakeholders validation workshop and annual general meeting in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## US farmer dedicates time, money to helping others

IOWA, US

ABOARD his all-terrain vehicle, Larry Passmore, 89, zipped across the fields near his Creston home, maneuvering about the garden with practiced dexterity as he prepared for the start of the growing season.

His dog Tag followed along with his daily duties, chasing his ATV and sniffing ahead for critters trying to penetrate the fencing surrounding two of his four acres.

A few days from his 90th birthday, Passmore is already looking ahead to the next season and the plans he was mak-

ing for the proceeds of this year's crop.

A giving spirit has driven most of his life, pushing him to donate land, money and more to those in need across the Flathead Valley.

Born near Browning, Passmore began working and living in the Flathead valley in 1936, and built a successful career as a farmer here.

However, at the age of 65, his life found a new purpose with a call to take his knowledge across the globe to benefit the Maasai people of Tanzania. Passmore took his first trip to Africa with a church in 1994. On that safari trip to Tanzania, he encountered a Maasai tribe, a people he de-

scribed as good-natured and quick to learn.

However, he said his interaction with the Maasai shed light on the limited prospects for young girls in their community.

By around the age of 12, Maasai girls become eligible to be sold by their fathers as brides and are traded for cattle. The older men in the villages typically own the most cattle and can, therefore, afford to buy to most young girls. One man, Passmore said, could have between five and 25 wives.

Many of the girls Passmore encountered in Tanzania wanted more from their lives, but had no opportunities to pursue

an education or career of their own.

Upon his return to the United States, Passmore said that at 65 years old, he felt he'd made enough money for himself and that it was time to start working for the benefit of others.

A successful cattle rancher and crop farmer, Passmore compiled the profits from the year's harvest and made plans to return to Tanzania the following year.

In 1995, he arrived in Africa determined to use his good fortune and knowledge to help the Maasai tribe, sharing with them his agricultural knowledge and putting up \$25,000 to

establish a school for middle- and high school girls.

"It's an investment in something a little more lasting, although I enjoy the heck out of this stuff, too," he said, referring to his sizable garden.

Over the last 25 years, Passmore has made trips to Tanzania every two or three years, fostering relationships with locals and sharing with them his gifts and his Christian faith.

Since 1995, the school he established has produced around 1,000 graduates, some of whom have left Africa to continue their educations in Europe or the U.S.

People within the Maasai

community in Tanzania continue to support and feed themselves using practices and equipment brought to them by Passmore, producing crops such as coffee, beans and more.

Back home in the Flathead, Passmore also began donating produce from his bountiful garden to local nonprofits around six years ago.

Organizations including Samaritan House, A Ray of Hope, Flathead Food Bank, Northwest Montana Veterans Food Pantry and Salvation Army together receive over two tons of produce each year from Passmore's personal garden.

Last year, Passmore said he

started setting aside a portion of the crop to be sold, with the proceeds funding a scholarship for girls attending his school in Tanzania.

"You've got to be a little bit crazy," he said. "I don't keep anything for myself. I don't need to; why would I?"

According to Passmore's wife, Shirley, Passmore is considering another trip to Tanzania next year for the 25th anniversary of the school he founded.

"In 24 years, I've made a difference," he said. "It gives you a purpose. A life with no purpose, if it's just me, myself and I, where are you really going?"



Rehabilitation of Dar es Salaam's Goba-Tegeta 'A' bridge, which has been damaged by weeks of pounding rain, well in progress yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## Royalty-free genes reduce GMO seed costs in Africa

By Christopher Bendana

SMALLHOLDER farmers in sub-Saharan Africa will be able to access improved seeds at low cost, thanks to the use of royalty-free genes in genetically modified (GM) crops.

The African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) negotiated with patent holders to donate certain genes royalty-free for humanitarian purposes, said Dr. Emmanuel Okogbenin, director of technical operations for AATF. The goal is to enhance crop productivity through such GM traits as insect-resistance and drought-tolerance, thus improving farmer incomes and the overall economic prosperity of African countries, which depend significantly on agriculture.

The price of royalty-free seeds will be determined by market forces and other economic factors, including costs incurred by the African seed companies that multiply the foundational seeds bred by public institutions, such as Uganda's National Agricultural Research Organization (NARO), as is currently the case with hybrids. For vegetative crops like bananas and potatoes, the cost will reflect the expense of developing plantlets through tissue culture.

The issue of foreign seed companies possibly dominating Africa's seed industry and "enslaving" farmers has been a hot-button concern promoted by non-governmental organizations opposed to GM technology. They've claimed that foreign seed companies will impose high prices on GM seeds, keeping them

out of reach of the majority small scale farmers and making them "slaves" of the biotech multinationals.

"If the genes were not free, farmers could pay as much as twice the price of products lacking such genes," Okogbenin said. In South Africa, GM seeds that do not have royalty-free genes can sell for 100 percent more than equivalent non-GM seeds.

Dr. Godfrey Asea, a maize breeder and director at NARO's National Crops Resources Research Institute (NaCRRI) in Namulonge, said the royalties paid for patented crops typically account for three-to-five percent of the sales price.

Royalty-free genes brokered by AATF have been used in the TELA program, a regional project running in East and Southern African to develop drought-

tolerant maize varieties that also provide resistance to the stem borer and fall armyworm pests, Asea said. NaCRRI has used free donated genes to breed salt-tolerant and nitrogen- and water-efficient rice varieties, as well.

Other royalty-free genes include one for the control of maruca, a pest that affects cowpea, according to Suleiman Okoth, an AATF program officer. Some confer high-yielding traits, while others improve nutrition, such as vitamin A-fortified banana. Others offer protection against banana bacteria wilt and potato wilt.

Okoth said AATF has so far secured more than 12 royalty-free genes for use in both conventional and GM crop breeding. "The goal is to help small-scale farmers move from subsistence to

commercial farming," he said.

Dr. Murenga Mwimali, a scientist at Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research Organization (KALRO), another national research institute that has benefited from royalty-free genes sourced by AATF, said the donated technology allows farmers to easily access improved crops, thus improving their ability to address the challenges of food security and nutrition.

Dr. Jerome Kubiriba, head of the banana program at Uganda's National Agricultural Research Laboratories in Kawanda, said a donated gene incorporated into banana has shown 100 percent resistance against bacterial wilt, a disease devastating banana crops throughout the continent.

## World Bank urges Uganda to increase investment in education

KAMPALA

THE World Bank has urged Uganda to increase investment in education if the country is to develop human capital and sustain strong economic growth.

In its latest edition of the Uganda Economic Update released here on Thursday, the Bank said that the east African country needs about 2 billion U.S. dollars of additional public funds till 2025 to ensure that all children complete primary schools and acquire basic literacy, numeracy and skills.

This financial need might be halved if solid education system improvement measures are implemented in line with best international experience, it said.

"Such measures include providing better pre-primary learning opportunities for poor children, eliminating repetition and dropouts, reducing the number of subjects taught at secondary schools, optimizing teacher workload," the report said.

Compared with other countries in the east African country, Uganda spends only 2.6 percent of Gross Domestic Product on education, lower than 3.2 percent to 5.2 percent spent by Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Burundi, the bank said.

It recommended that Uganda increase public spending on education from current 10 percent of the national budget to the regional average of 16 percent by 2025.

# When local becomes lekker for the economy

By Llewellyn le Hané

NAMIBIANS are proud people, we are proud of our country, our heritage and of local products. We love Windhoek and Tafel Lager and at a braai we cannot imagine having anything else but Namibian meat to put on the coals, definitely not on briquets.

Buying local and supporting local and independent businessmen and women is stimulated as much as possible. With Team Namibia championing local products as much as they can, and rightly so. Especially during this difficult economic downturn and drought we are facing as a nation it becomes essential that people buy local and support local.

However, the notion of buying local doesn't extend to all products and services. We produce

and manufacture many things in Namibia, including cars, Peugeot has built a facility to assemble cars at the coast. However, with certain things it's impossible to buy local.

What has surprised me, especially in running a business is seeing how frequently local businesses, organisation and entrepreneurs just get overlooked. It is as if some of the largest and most profitable organisations in Namibia have no problem in taking the money from Namibians, but wouldn't ever think of employing a third party service provider to assist with their particular challenge. With the recent directive of the Finance Minister Calle Schlettwein, where 'buying local becomes law', we will hopefully see an upsurge in contracts going to local organisations.

To be honest, Green, as an IT Service Provider

and Integrator has managed sustained and continuous growth, but it has been a continuous struggle, especially coming from previously disadvantaged backgrounds as so many of us do. Companies like Green and other Namibian organisations have built capacity, knowledge, products and invested heavily in being able to provide corporations based in Namibia with high quality and high levels of expertise in their given field. Now with the new directive when Request

For Proposals and tenders are made public, we will hopefully see a lot more -Namibian companies being chosen over foreign ones.

This new directive will stop real damage from being done to the Namibian economy and is widely welcomed. No longer will South African, or foreign companies get the contract,

rather a Namibian based organisation will now be awarded the contract. This will mean skills that are acquired during the implementation of a certain project will now stay in the country to be passed on.

Part of becoming a knowledge-based society, where service and skills are the basis for growth in our economy, we need to be able to develop these skills. It is a pointless investment to equip people with skills and then not utilise these skills.

Unused skills get lost over time. Vast sums are invested in sending local Namibians on trainings and seminars in Namibia as well as abroad so that they may acquire the necessary skills in ICT, finance, ITIL and other sectors. This is stimulated by private companies and the government. With the new directive in place, Na-

mibian organisations can implement and put their newfound skills into practise. It will not only stimulate the Namibian economy, but also increase our pool of talent and our skillset, all marketable skills that can be monetised and exported.

Namibian companies that now take up Minister Schlettwein's challenge are taking a bold step to contract local Namibian companies to the benefit of our local economy grow, allowing it to grow in a sustained manner. Of course, Namibian organisations will not always have all the answers, but we have a lot more skills, knowledge and expertise than we are given and give each other credit for.

Perhaps if we are truly dedicated to buying local products, goods and services we will be able to say, "Local is lekker."



Construction of Gabon's maritime operations centre under way at Port Gentil.

## Gabon navy gets new maritime operations centre

LIBREVILLE

GABON'S navy has accepted a new maritime operations centre (MOC), which was built by the United States Navy's Seabees. It will support Gabon in protecting its maritime borders and countering illicit trafficking.

The US Navy this week said Seabees assigned to US Naval Mobile Construction Battalion (NMCB) 133 turned over the MOC to the Gabonese navy at a ribbon cutting ceremony at Port Gentil on 3 May.

"The ceremony signifies the completion of the physical building and recognizes the collaboration between the two countries," the US Navy said.

The MOC project, a 2,100 sq. foot structure, began in June 2018 by Seabee detachments assigned to NMCB-II, followed by NMCB-I, and brought to completion by NMCB-133. Seabees worked side-by-side with the Genie Militaire (Gabonese military engineers) to finish the task.

"The work that has taken place between the U.S. Navy Seabees and Gabon's Genie Militaire is an example of a true partnership," said Maj. WooWon Chung, Office of Security Cooperation at the U.S. Embassy Libreville. "This has been a successful effort by the U.S. Embassy Libreville, U.S. Africa Command, U.S. Navy and Gabon."

The facility will be outfitted with modern equipment which will support Gabon in protecting their maritime borders. In addition, the maritime operations centre will support future military exercises with the US Navy, such as Obangame Express.

"Efficient, economical, and cooperative, a MOC is an awesome tool for maritime security and safety," said Lt. Cmdr. Ghislain Moussavou, assigned to Naval Instruction Centre. "Indeed, this MOC is not only an instrument for collective security in the Gulf of Guinea, but also a platform for national synergy and a decision-making tool for the Navy."

Port Gentil is a peninsula located in the Gulf of Guinea, a location that is vital to the joint efforts to ensure maritime security, regional cooperation, and combating illicit sea-based activity.

Apart from initiatives like that in Gabon, the United States has been establishing maritime domain awareness systems across Africa as part of the continent-wide Regional Maritime Awareness Capability (RMAC) programme.

The RMAC programme, authorized under section 1206 of the National Defense Authorization Act of 2006, permits the US Department of Defense to expend US funds in support of training and equipping foreign militaries to undertake counter terrorism and stability operations.

Particular focus was placed on West and Central African coastal nations to become self-sufficient in maritime safety and security and able to stop illegal activities, protect natural resources, and foster safety at sea, leading to greater prosperity and stability in the region. The RMAC system is integrated into the Maritime Safety and Security Information System, a global database to track ships all over the world.

The RMAC system receives, integrates, displays, records and distributes data from sensors and systems including maritime and air surveillance radars, GPS, Automatic Identification System (AIS), cameras and automated dependent surveillance system-broadcast (ADS-B). Other sensors can include UAVs, satellite tracking data etc.

RMAC was established in 2007, resulting in installation taking place in Nigeria, Djibouti and Kenya. Nigeria's RMAC system was installed by October 2009 and includes 13 sites (six radar, five headquarters, one liquid natural gas plant and one vessel). Through its integral radar, camera and AIS, Nigeria's RMAC provides round-the-clock surveillance of the maritime environment up to 35 nautical miles from the coast. Nigeria recently acquired the Falcon Technologies Falcon Eye mass surveillance system to monitor its territorial waters.

From 2015 new installations began in Senegal, Benin, Togo, Gabon and Tanzania. A Maritime Trade Information Sharing Centre (MTISC) was established in Ghana in 2015. Sao Tome and Principe also has the RMAC system, which it acquired as part of the establishment of its Coast Guard, with four radar sites and one headquarters as well as AIS receivers, day/night cameras and satellite communications links. Before 2005 the island nation had no coast guard but by 2008 its 85 strong coast guard was able to conduct its first rescue-at-sea exercise using the RMAC system.

Djibouti has 16 RMAC sites (six radar, eight camera-only sites, one HQ and one US Joint Task Force-Horn of Africa site). Kenya has five sites (four radar, one HQ); Gabon has one radar site and one HQ, Senegal has three radar sites and one HQ, Benin has two radar sites and one HQ; and Togo has one radar site.

Maritime security is a pressing issue in the Gulf of Guinea, with a large number of incidents being recorded in the region this year. For instance, the International Maritime Bureau reported that on 14 May, four robbers armed with automatic rifles and knives boarded an anchored bulk carrier of

## East Africa feed lab lays foundation for future growth

By Guardian Reporter

THE success of a feed laboratory in Tanzania represents just one of the building blocks needed to lay the foundation for future growth in the livestock and poultry industries in East Africa.

The Central Veterinary Laboratory (CVL) conducts, on average, more than 230 feed sample tests monthly, analyzing the quality of raw materials and feed additives used in growing livestock industries in the country.

By supporting this laboratory and these end users, the U.S. Grains Council (USGC) is helping to build markets from the ground up while working to create future market access for U.S. coarse grains in Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia.

"The council's support to the CVL is a key component of the council's

program in East Africa, funded for the next two years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Agricultural Trade Promotion (ATP) program," said USGC manager of global strategies Katy Wyatt, who recently traveled to Tanzania to check in on the lab's progress and assess market opportunities in Kenya and Ethiopia. "Ensuring reliable and trusted feed laboratories are in place will catalyze the growth in professional, high-quality feeds that will ensure a healthy and viable feed sector develops in the region."

Six years ago, the CVL was struggling to attract the feed industry to utilize its facilities due to a lack of trust and access to the lab's services. As a result, leading livestock and poultry producers in Tanzania were forced to rely on inconsistent and inferior feed

ingredients or mix their own feed on the farm, USGC explained.

"Poor-quality feed is largely the result of inconsistent access to quality raw materials and feed additives among feed manufacturers -- leading manufacturers to produce and sell feed that causes livestock and poultry to underperform and mortality rates to increase," Wyatt said. "Without access to and without utilizing an effective analytical feed analysis and quality assurance systems, producers in Tanzania were at a significant production disadvantage."

USGC, recognizing the long-term potential in the market, stepped in and helped the CVL develop its feed operational standards -- both lab management and technical expertise -- under a Food for Progress grant that will

formally end in 2019. With USDA's ATP program funding, the council will continue to strengthen the analytical and technical expertise available by working with lab staff to calibrate and validate lab equipment, its near-infrared spectroscopy machine and the mineralizer.

"Addressing the need for a more consistent supply of high-quality feed is important to helping East African poultry and livestock producers meet the demands of a developing continent," Wyatt said. "As population growth puts an even greater strain on countries to meet growing demand for food, investment in the agricultural sector is a key priority."

Africa's population is anticipated to increase from 1.1 billion to more than 2.3 billion between now and 2050. This growth, coupled

with a growing middle class and changes in consumer behaviors, raise questions as to how the continent will meet growing demand for high-protein animal foods, including meat, eggs and milk.

According to the U.N. Food & Agriculture Organization, annual poultry and egg consumption will increase by 3.3% and 3.1%, respectively, through 2050. These growing poultry and livestock industries will require similar growth in animal feed production on the continent to meet this demand.

USGC will continue to support these industries through programs like the CVL to help regional producers learn how to improve their businesses. Doing so, the council noted, helps pave the way for imports of feed grains and co-products from the U.S. to capture this long-term feed demand in Africa.



US Grains CouncilThe U.S. Grains Council helped the Central Veterinary Laboratory in Tanzania develop and professionalize the lab's feed operational standards.

## We can reduce the damage caused by natural hazards

**D**ISASTER Risk Reduction (DRR) aims to reduce the damage caused by natural hazards like earthquakes, floods, droughts and cyclones, through an ethic of prevention. Disasters often follow natural hazards. A disaster's severity depends on how much impact a hazard has on society and the environment.

Disaster risk reduction is a systematic approach to identifying, assessing and reducing the risks of disaster. It aims to reduce socio-economic vulnerabilities to disaster as well as dealing with the environmental and other hazards that trigger them. It has been strongly influenced by the mass of research on vulnerability that has appeared in print since the mid-1970s. It is the responsibility of development and relief agencies alike.

It should be an integral part of the way such organisations do their work, not an add-on or one-off action. The most commonly cited definition of DRR is one used by UN agencies such as UNISDR, also known as the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction, and UNDP: The conceptual framework of elements considered with the possibilities to minimize vulnerabilities and disaster risks throughout a society, to avoid (prevention) or to limit (mitigation and preparedness) the adverse impacts of hazards, within the broad context of sustainable development.

The evolution of disaster management thinking and practice since the 1970s has seen a progressively wider and deeper understanding of why disasters happen, accompanied by more integrated, holistic approaches to reduce their impact on society.

The modern paradigm of disaster management—disaster risk reduction (DRR)—represents the latest step along this path. DRR is a relatively new concept in formal terms, but it embraces much earlier thinking and practice. It is being widely embraced by international agencies, governments, disaster

planners and civil society organisations.[3]

Many see climate change as having a direct impact on the prevalence and seriousness of disasters, as well as causing them to be more frequent in the future. There are growing efforts to closely link DRR and climate change adaptation, both in policy and practice.

African governments have been urged to understand disaster risk, strengthen disaster risk governance, invest in resilience, and enhance disaster preparedness.

Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General (SRSG) for Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR) Mami Mizutori made the call during the sixth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction in Geneva, Switzerland.

The meeting has been organized by the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) and hosted by the government of Switzerland.

She said that to realize that governments should come up with better strategies to manage risks to human life and material property, ranging from air pollution and biological hazards, through to earthquakes, drought, and climate change.

The UN official said that there is an urgent need for governments to take practical action on the implementation of Sendai framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which outlines seven clear targets and four priorities for action to prevent new and reduce existing disaster risks.

Mizutori said the Sendai framework set five targets and seven indicators, and 192 agreed to implement for the betterment of their people and economic.

She noted that the UNDRR global assessment report on disaster risk reduction outlines major potential risks to human life and property, including climate change, air pollution, biological hazards and prolonged drought.

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## How patriotism, focused leadership and 'culture of it's time' shaping our progress

By James S. Shilue

**A**TITUDES, values, and beliefs that are sometimes collectively referred to as "culture" play an unquestionable role in human behaviour and progress. Liberia experienced a catastrophic shift in its body politics in 1980 with the violent removal of the settlers oligarchy described by one Pan Africanist as "Black imperialism." One hundred and thirty three years of one party rule was violently replaced on April 12, 1980 by Master Sergeant Samuel Doe, an indigenous Liberian, who ascended to the Nation's highest office, accusing his predecessor of bad governance characterised by corruption, oppression, suppression, nepotism, etc. At the onset of the military takeover, Doe received overwhelming support from Liberians promising to be people centred as was evident in the famous slogan of the erstwhile PRC era "In the cause of the people, the struggle continues".

Despite the initial support received from majority of Liberians, Doe's ten-year rule was also characterised by bad governance and failure to unite the country. Liberia was ignited and on a "time bomb". Just as Liberians were preparing to celebrate Christmas, the country was invaded by Charles McArthur Taylor on December 24 1989. Taylor described Doe as 'authoritarian' and accused him of the same vices that Doe accused Tolbert of, thus justifying Taylor's use of 'freedom fighters' to liberate the country. However, Taylor went beyond liberating the country but institutionalised bad governance and turned Liberia into a 'pariah state'-preying on the natural resources of the nation and neighbouring countries to sustain his despotic regime. Taylor's greed and quest to control the region saw the birth of a plethora of criminal and rebel groups- all plundering, looting, raping women and amassing wealth illegally.

Liberia eventually tuned into a theatre of wars and after fourteen years of wanton destruction, the conflict finally ended in 2003. With human and material resource supports from regional and international actors, an interim government was formed to oversee and manage Liberia's post war reconstruction and recovery processes. A Democratic election was held in 2005 and Madam Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf

was elected as president of Liberia. Madam Sirleaf, who ruled the country for two terms (2006-2011 and 2012-2017) was the first democratically elected female president in Africa. She inherited a totally broken country but was determined to restore Liberia's image as well as rebuild damaged infrastructure.

The years 1980's to 90's saw many African countries transitioned from an era of de-colonisation to that of globalisation. Rwanda, an East African country, descended into bloodbath on April 6, 1994 at the time the world's media were all focused on the election of Nelson Mandela. A plane carrying Rwanda's President, Juvénal Habyarimana and Cyprien Ntaryamira, the Hutu president of Burundi, was shot down in Kigali, the capital of Rwanda. The double assassination of these two presidents triggered what some described as state-sponsored genocide of approximately eight hundred thousand Rwandans, mostly folks from the minority Tutsi population and moderate Hutus. The mass slaughter was carried out in 100 days.

Rwanda and Liberia experienced bloody wars that killed so many people in the two countries. Whilst former President Juvénal Habyarimana's death sparked the war in Rwanda, in Liberia, Doe was captured and killed on September 9, 1990 by a sprinter faction of Taylor NPFL within eight months after Monrovia was captured yet the Liberian war did not end. Instead, Liberia witnessed the proliferation of several fighting groups. Unlike Taylor and surrogates fighters, Paul Kagame as a rebel commander, had a well thought plan and once he contained real and potential threats after capturing Kigali, Kagame ended the bloodbath and shifted his strategy towards reconciliation than revenge.

As part of his strategy to move his country forward, Kagame articulated his country post war recovery plan in a document called "Vision 2020", which he published when he was first sworn in office. Although seen as too ambitious owing to its aspiration of turning Rwanda into a middle-income country by raising average earnings from \$237 per year to \$900 and halving the number of people below the poverty line, his dream is gradually becoming a reality.

Also, President Sirleaf upon her ascendancy to power, launched her development as-



piration through PRS I, PRS II, AFT, and Vision 2030. The latter development agenda, focused on creating more jobs, building infrastructure, generating energy, making Liberia a middle income country, prioritizing national healing and reconciliation without much emphasis on Agriculture and education. Two post war countries with clear recovery plans but one is succeeding while the other is retreating. Does it have to do with the countries or the leadership and 'cultures of the two countries? The problem lies with leadership and what kinds of 'Vision' the leadership aspires to achieve.

Experiences throughout the world have shown that broad-based, productivity-driven agricultural growth can serve as the motor for increasing incomes, improving livelihoods, capitalising the rural economy, and providing the basis for sustainable economic growth. Unfortunately, since the war ended in 2003 various Liberian governments' development agenda have not properly aligned to what Liberia has greater comparative advantage in and certainly aspirations have not been backed by appropriate policy and budgetary allotments. The draft national budget for the 2018/2019 fiscal year is US\$488.8 million, with US\$8.3 million being appropriated for agriculture. Rwanda has consistently prioritised

education and agriculture, since its war ended. Liberia has been spending very minimal on agriculture around one to two per cent of its budget on agriculture, despite Africa-wide consensus since 2003 that spending must be raised to ten per cent.

We see a striking contrast to what the leadership of Rwanda has done in terms of agriculture. For example, Rwanda has increased its budget allocation to agriculture sector edging closer to meeting the Maputo and Malabo declarations which require member states of the African Union to allocate at least 10% of their annual budgets to agriculture. Rwanda's budget allocation to agriculture in the FY 2018/19 is at 7% from 5%. This makes Rwanda one of the few states in Africa to have achieved this level of agriculture funding.

Putting resources in areas where countries have comparative advantages can boost productivity, stimulate growth, increase incomes and attract external funding and support. Because Rwanda has got its act right, foreign assistance continues to expand Rwanda's economy by investing in programs such as education, youth workforce development and the coffee sector. Rwanda benefited from foreign assistance since the genocide, with 30 to 40 percent of the nation's budget coming from aid. The Rwandan government's initiative, Rwanda Vision 2020, focuses on long-term goals to grow from an agricultural and subsistence economy to a diversified economy less dependent on foreign aid. For Liberia, there is a dependency syndrome with a mentality that donors will help us to even clan our neighbourhood. **To be continued.**

## We should conserve our natural heritage for future generations

**W**ILDLIFE traditionally refers to undomesticated animal species, but has come to include all organisms that grow or live wild in an area without being introduced by humans. Wildlife can be found in all ecosystems. Deserts, forests, rain forests, plains, grasslands and other areas including the most developed urban areas, all have distinct forms of wildlife. While the term in popular culture usually refers to animals that are untouched by human factors, most scientists agree that much wildlife is affected by human activities.

Humans have historically tended to separate civilisation from wildlife in a number of ways including the legal, social, and moral sense. Some animals, however, have adapted to suburban environments.

This includes such animals as domesticated cats, dogs, mice, and gerbils. Some religions declare certain animals to be sacred, and in modern times concern for the natural environment has provoked activists to protest against the exploitation of wildlife for human benefit or entertainment.

The global wildlife population decreased by 52 per cent between 1970 and 2014, according to a report by the World Wildlife Fund

In Tanzania, the European Union (EU) funded project is expected, upon completion in 2020, to improve wildlife protection alongside better livelihoods of the communities in the Serengeti-Maasai Mara ecosystem.

It was revealed during a two day regional wildlife conference that was held in Arusha, bringing together 70 local communities, government representatives, NGOs and other stakeholders

from Kenya and Tanzania.

The conference was aimed at promoting best practices and share experiences among wildlife project implementers from Kenya and Tanzania, as well as fostering regional dialogue and cooperation regarding laws and policies governing wildlife conservation across the region.

It was organized by the NGO Vi-Agroforestry in the framework of a project called "Initiative for Conservation of Serengeti-Mara Transboundary Ecosystem (SEMA)" funded by the European Union for an amount of 856,000 Euros (2.193bn/-).

The project is part of a larger EU funded programme worth 30 million Euros (76.868bn/-) that supports Trans-frontier Wildlife Conservation in Eastern and Southern Africa countries.

A total of 11 grants have been provided to non-state actors to implement the activities in close collaboration with local communities, with three projects targeting the cross-border areas of Kenya and Tanzania.

Despite its ecological and economic significance, the ecosystem faces a number of conservation and policy challenges that need to be addressed.

The participation of all stakeholders from both countries is important to ensure effective conservation and livelihood improvements that in turn will allow us to achieve sustainable management of the ecosystem.

SEMA project contributes to conservation of Mara-Serengeti trans-boundary ecosystems through empowering local communities to adopt sustainable livelihoods and it aims at enhancing regional cooperation and partnerships among stakeholders in Kenya and Tanzania.



# Ramadhan in Middle East is for fasting and Facebook, data show

DUBAI, United Arab Emirates

**T**HE Muslim holy month of Ramadhan, with its long days of fasting and prayer meant to draw worshippers closer to God and away from worldly distractions, is being reshaped by technology.

People in the Middle East spend close to 58 million more hours on Facebook during Ramadhan and watch more YouTube videos – everything from beauty tips and recipes to sports and TV dramas – than any other time of the year, making the holy month not only the most important one for Muslims, but also the prime time of the year for advertisers.

For Facebook, which also owns Instagram, and Google, which owns YouTube, Ramadhan brings a welcome boost of business in the region.

"Consumption and time spent on our platforms does indeed increase," said Ramez Shehadi, Facebook's managing director for Mideast and North Africa.

People stay up a lot more at night during Ramadhan and have more downtime – especially before iftar, the evening meal that breaks the daylong fast, and the "suhoor," when people gather to eat before another day of fasting. Many also work shorter hours during the day.

All that translates to 5% more time spent on Facebook's platforms, or what is nearly 58 million more hours, Shehadi said. Put another way, there are almost 2 million hours of additional time spent daily on Facebook in the Mideast during Ramadhan.

Ramadhan is also the peak season for advertising in the region,

as TV dramas and soap operas get a 151% increase in viewership on YouTube during the holy month, according to Google.

"Our revenue is a function of people's engagement," Shehadi said. "The more that they engage on our platforms, the more that advertisers want to be able to reach those that are engaging. That's what drives our revenue."

So much ad revenue is spent during Ramadhan that Google launched "The Lantern Award" to celebrate the most creative and engaging ads of the month.

Yet Ramadhan is not just about abstaining from food and drink, including water, during the day. It's also about disconnecting from vacuous distractions and focusing on contemplation, introspection, acts of good, charity and connecting with God.

It can appear then as a contradiction that this is also when companies ramp up their efforts to get people to buy more, view more and engage in excess consumerism.

Google does not disclose total watch time for YouTube during Ramadhan, but says that in Egypt, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, for example, viewing of sports videos jumps by 22%, travel videos by 30%, and action games, simulation and video games by 10-20% during the holy month.

People also spend 27% more time watching religious content on YouTube in Ramadhan.

"To us, YouTube brings people together. We see a lot of people wanting to watch things together," said Joyce Baz, Google's head of communications in Mideast and North Africa.

She added that Google products, like its search engine, are there "to simplify people's lives



so that they can focus on things that matter like being with their loved ones and family." Google's "Qibla Finder," for example, helps Muslims find the direction of Mecca to pray toward, wherever they happen to be.

Google says this year's top trending search queries during the first week of Ramadhan in Egypt, Iraq and Saudi Arabia included a surprising mix of Game of Thrones, prayer times,

**In this Monday, May 20, 2019 photo, Facebook's Managing Director for the Middle East and North Africa, Ramez Shehadi speaks to The Associated Press at the Facebook office in Dubai, United Arab Emirates. (AP)**

Ramadhan TV shows, movie timings and English Premier League results.

Meanwhile, some of the most popular downloaded apps in the Mideast on the Google Play store during Ramadhan include games like Stack Ball, streaming apps like Vu and Shahid and online retailers Noon and Jolly Chic.

Iftar evening meals are a major social affair during Ramadhan, ranging from lavish spreads at home to decadent five-star hotel buffets.

This translates into a 16% spike in

beauty product searches and an 18% spike in searches for beauty tips on YouTube, compared to the rest of the year.

Also, according to Google maps, trips to the malls increase by more than 20% in the last weeks of Ramadhan in preparation for the Eid al-Fitr holiday, which ends the holy month.

Fatima el-Barbar, an Egyptian mother living in Dubai, said she searches more for recipes and watches her favorite TV dramas online during Rama-

dan. But she said that between her job, taking care of the children, preparing iftar each night, her daily prayers and reading the Quran, the Muslim holy book, there's little time for the internet. "I actually have less time for the internet in Ramadhan than in other days of the year," she said.

To help companies better understand consumer habits in Ramadhan, Google identified six categories of audiences: dedicated watchers, devoted fasters, foodies, groomers, travelers and shoppers.

"YouTube is a companion during Ramadhan, a platform where viewers can watch what they want, whenever they want throughout the day," Google says in its own pitch to advertisers.

To more authentically connect with roughly 180 million users in the Middle East, Facebook and Instagram launch special Ramadhan icons to give people more customized ways of expressing themselves online. Instagram also has a campaign to promote acts of kindness during the month.

"We're trying to be magnifiers and propagators of goodness as opposed to what might seem on the surface like an extension of consumerism," Shehadi said. "It resonates with the ethos of Ramadhan and certainly the ethos of Facebook, which is around bringing people together around things that matter to them."

Haitham el-Ghoneim, a Jordanian resident in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates, said he uses Facebook to connect with friends during Ramadhan, sharing traditional greetings for the holy month and checking on his family in Jordan.

Still, he doesn't think the rest of it – all that time spent online, on games, scrolling and ads – is a good thing. "It's not being spent in a useful way. It's mostly fake news, or jokes and things that have no benefit," he said.

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

**N**ATURAL resource governance in Africa and East Africa region in particular is still a big challenge, and the situation will continue to be even worse if African leaders, the policy and decision makers will not change their mindset and learn from the past failures and success, experts in the field have said.

Researchers, academicians and experts in natural resources and extractive industry in particular from the East African region who met in Dar es Salaam recently said that some of the challenges are signing controversial contracts and enacting laws and policies that tend to favour the investors but have no or little benefits to the primary beneficiaries.

They also named lack of the national debate, government monopoly of the law making process with only few officials without consulting the right people with the right skill-set for the right field saying are other challenges that will always cost the region dearly.

The experts were discussing the legal and regulatory regimes of the minerals, oil and gas sectors at the national and regional meeting on extractives that drawn experts in the field, academician and other stakeholders from the East Africa region.

Citing an example of extractive industry, they said the region is arguably one of the richest part of the world in terms of oil, minerals and gas but signing controversial agreements and contracts with big investors has exploited the region blessed with abundant natural resources without much benefit for the citizen in their respective countries.

They also cited lack of coordinated approach and common

understanding at national and regional level on how gifted extractive industry should be governed as other reasons for the poor performance of the industry in the region.

During the panel session on what should be done to bridge the gaps in managing and governing extractive resources the panelists said there is no need their competitions in the region, instead leaders should unit and have coordinated approach, they should learn and borrow a leaf from other successful countries in the industry.

Currently, each country in the region has been enacting laws governing the extractive industry without coordinated approach, the move that has contributed to failed governance of the endowed natural resources.

Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT) Executive Director Dr. Rugemeleza Nshala said experience shows that in many countries in the region and elsewhere in the Africa tend to confine themselves with few government officials meeting indoors to enact laws without consulting other experts from other organizations and institutions to get their inputs so as to improve their laws and policies.

He therefore recommended that there is a need to hold the national debate that would involve experts from all walks of life to debate thoroughly and honestly and came up with common understanding, the path and way forward on how the extractive industry should be governed.

"Have we tried to learn from the past? I think before enacting laws we must ask ourselves, who are the primary beneficiaries? Some government officials in the region enacted laws without looking at or borrowing a leaf and experience from other successful countries on the sector, as a result, we have ended

## Natural resource governance in Africa still a big challenge

up denying the rights of the primary beneficiaries," he said

Citing an example of the failures and success in Botswana, Cameroon, Equatorial Guinea, Arab countries, Venezuela, Norway, Gabon he said that there is a need for the East African countries to learn a lesson from them before enacting policies and laws on extractive industry.

"If I go further why Norway for example a country that had

no experience, in the oil industry in the 1960's eventually came up with ten principles on the extractive industry," he said

Africa Co-Director for Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI), Silas Olan'g said natural resource governance in Africa and the East Africa in particular is still a big challenge.

"When we talk of natural resource governance we are talking about the making which is the process and the implementation of choices and when

we talk of choices we mean policies and the laws that actually govern the implementation of the process. I think that is where we are having a bit of a gap," he said.

As NRGI do kind of governance comparison situations in more than 81 countries, the last resource governance index came out in 2017, unfortunately, Africa performed poorly compared to other five regions that were covered in the index. Why did they perform poor? After looking deeper which particular part is Africa failed the continent, we realized that Africa failed more into the implementation of the laws," he said.

Africa is setting policies, very good policies that govern the natural resource exploration and extraction then makes law as an instrument to achieve a particular policy objective. Failure to implement the laws or the rules that were set that will not help to achieve the policy objective that benefits the country and citizens. This means it compromises a lot on the benefits that could have achieved from extracting your resources.

What does the natural resource governance index telling us in terms of Africa that is where the big gap is between implementing what we have in terms of the policy objectives and the laws. So, we looked across countries and out of 31 assessments in 29 countries we realized that actually 26 countries had gaps in terms of what is stated in the law and practice and that is a big gap across the region. The best performer in the region is actually Botswana. In fact implementation gap is a serious problem across the region.

"Now we have realized that mineral development agreements tend to deviate from the provisions in the law because they have negotiated and when you negotiate the terms in the law in different forms you put in the contract then you have a problem, he added.

Another thing is the lack of participation in the policy making and that is now the process. Governance is about the making which is the process. So, lack of participation in the making will leave the policy making and the law making in the hands of few people who sometimes not real experts in the field

or area and because they don't want to consult broadly then we have these badly policy choices. In some countries in the region there are very good at that and at times you find that some natural resource laws are passed under certificate of urgency and you wonder why urgency on our own natural resources?, he asked.

Extractive specialist who works for Open Institute in Kenya Jonah Mngola said that resource governance in Africa is a very big challenge, in some instances we perform well and some other instances we don't.

Commenting on transparency and accountability framework, Mngola who is also a program lead for the Institute said the issue comes with different political interests where you try to strike the balance of all key stakeholders to realize the vision for these resources. So, we will always have these problem of governance unless we empower the ordinary citizens to hold leaders accountable to them.

"I think there is a need to empower the citizens to hold these leaders accountable to them by making sure that the extractive industry benefits them," he said.

Mining is an activity that deals with the exploitation of non-renewable resources, which are mostly found in remote areas. These minerals include energy minerals such as oil, gas, coal and uranium, metallic metals made of ferrous metals (iron ore, niobium, tantalum, titanium); precious metals (gold, platinum and silver); and base metals (bauxite/aluminium) cobalt, copper, lead, magnesium, molybdenum, nickel and zinc). Non-metallic metals include construction minerals, industrial minerals (bentonite, industrial carbonates, kaolin, magnesite, potash, salt, sand, silica and sulphur) and precious stones (diamonds and gems)

Developing countries have larger reserves of phosphate, tin, sulfur (petroleum and gas), fluorospar, columbium, cobalt, copper, iron and nickel, whereas developed countries are endowed more with potash, magnesium, titanium, chromium, manganese, zinc, lead, silver, tungsten, vanadium, bauxite, molybdenum, and mercury.



**Lawyers' Environmental Action Team (LEAT) Executive Director Dr. Rugemeleza Nshala (left) making a point during a panel session at the national and regional meeting on extractives held in Dar es Salaam. Others are Africa Co-Director for Natural Resource Governance Institute (NRGI), Silas Olan'g (centre) and Extractives specialist from Open Institute in Kenya, Jonah Mngola (right). Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu.**

# Decolonising migration research and potential pitfalls, reflections from SA

By Kudakwashe P. Vanyoro

THE author argues that for on-going debates about "decolonising the university" in South Africa to have any meaning, what has to be decolonised first is the mental border that remains inscribed in South African notions of decolonisation.

Calls for decolonisation are on the rise. In this context, there are those individuals that ask the common question: how do you enact the decolonial shift? These bodies predominantly fail to imagine decolonisation because their everyday reality does not prompt them to dwell in this kind of radical, transformative thinking. Blinded by their privileges, they are unable to grasp it. And then there are those who would eagerly like to enact the decolonial shift. However, caught up in their zeal, they approach it with such a narrow perspective.

Here, I offer two interpretations of what it means to "decolonise migration research". Firstly, I argue that, decolonising migration research cannot take place without a reinvention of "academic citizenship". This requires a more introspect examination of "coloniality" and how current implied understandings of the term lead to the exclusion of foreign academics who are imagined as falling "outside" of South Africa's mental and physical borders. Secondly, I argue that decolonising migration research entails addressing "colonial" categories of migration governance, language and epistemologies through the dismantling of the very "systems of knowing" that sustain them. I then invite the reader to also consider the potential dangers of a decolonisation agenda. Ultimately, I use these reflections to imagine the possibilities of a genuine decolonisation agenda of migration research.

Reinventing "academic citizenship" Decolonisation has indeed assumed central importance in the constitution of academic citizenship in South Africa in attempts to level the academic playing field. Historically, academia as an institution has favoured white male scholars and there is a disproportionate representation of black and female



academics in the country. There is a negation of black African migrants in these debates, characterised by the reinforcement of mental and physical colonial borders. In short, black foreign academics are symbolically excluded from the decolonisation debate, which is seen as "window-dressing" meant only for black South Africans

In this regard, decolonisation and processes of affirmative action in South Africa portray double standards pertaining to which bodies can lay claims on how the university ought to be decolonised. This "status quo" is no different when it comes to the experiences of female and LGBTIQ academics who are oppressed by heteronormativity. The autochthony and nativism flaunted by these "essentialist de-colonialist" renders many black, African migrant bodies absent and unrepentantly excluded.

The marginalisation of black African foreign academics is not perceived as similar to that of black South Africans. I am in no way suggesting that the experiences of these two groups are the same, only that they too have been displaced

in some way by the chronic effects of colonialism [i]. Refugees who are academics in the country, for example, have suffered as a result of conflicts in their own countries that are either inherently colonial or the results of direct neo-colonial interference by Western imperial powers. Sadly, often, they are also seen as part of the problem. This framework of decolonisation erases the colonial experiences of black African migrants. By insisting on a world view that revolves around national and ethnic categories, this kind of decolonisation reinforces colonial constructions of difference and the colonial symbolism that African physical and mental borders carry.

Observing similar trends, renowned scholar Achille Mbembe has argued that "one cannot be in favour of decolonisation and at the same time indulge in xenophobia or see no connection whatsoever between his or her plight and that of black students

coming from the rest of the continent" [ii]. This contradiction suggests that the focus of decolonisation in South Africa needs to be broadened to consider migration as a social process and displacement as a product of neo-colonialism. There also needs to be a re-engagement with "critical border thinking" [iii] in which mental borders emanating from colonial physical borders are dislodged.

Such a reorientation ought to incorporate notions of time-space that are missing in the overly-spatialised decolonisation mantra.

We should develop a reading of coloniality as a kind of temporality: a "chronotope", that is, a discourse that operates with different configurations of time and space that give it its particular oppressive character.

Then we can also begin to interpret decolonisation as an act that should tackle not only the spatial but temporal aspects of colonial-

ism. This way, we may begin to effectively decolonise our colonially constructed language and discourse about who belongs and who doesn't.

Through critical border thinking, we can demystify physical and mental borders. We cease to make our decolonisation complicit in state agendas that are bent on securitising the borders from African migrants. If we insist on borders, we provincialise our decolonisation. We would be misguided and then miss the political, subjective and epistemic aspects of what decolonisation entails.

That which ought to be decolonised is the mental border that remains inscribed in South African notions of decolonisation.

How can we be guided by Africa's borders when they are a physical manifestation of colonial discourse: a body of knowledge propagated through the ideas and theories of specific Western philosophers, statesmen and legal scholars that "invented" Africa solely as a geographic space to be exploited?

Why must we then recalibrate these borders into our university walls? Decolonising migration research hence cannot take place without a reinvention of "academic citizenship".

This requires a more introspect examination of "coloniality" and how current implied understandings of the term lead to the exclusion of foreign academics who are imagined as falling outside of South Africa's mental and physical borders.

**Decolonising migration research methodologies**

Decolonising migration research also entails addressing "colonial" categories of governance, language and epistemologies through the dismantling of the very "systems of knowing" that sustain them.

Black racialised bodies have already suffered the inferior-

ity that imperial classification assigned to everybody that does not comply with the criteria of knowledge established by white, European, Christian and secular men. Yet, native/ethnic and foreign researchers continue to use inherently colonial language to research and translate migrant experiences into data. It is sinister that most of our African languages have been disqualified as languages without any epistemic significance. This, of course, impinges on our subject formation and our continued subjugation. How can we be trusted in our thinking if we are doubted in our rationality and wounded in our dignity? How can we sing a foreign/alien song in our own land?

It is equally sinister that as "native" speakers, we are compelled to write and think in English. We are expected to research our own "native" communities and somehow manage to effectively interpret and write their experiences.

Are "their" experiences not intricately woven into their language? It is my view that we cannot free ourselves from colonial categories and ways of knowing until we can allow our work to speak for itself linguistically and epistemologically.

Migration analytical categories and assumptions are increasingly being challenged by calls for designing and conducting migration research beyond the categories of popular discourses, without interrogating why these categories prevail.

There are calls for decolonisation of migration research to engage with the continuities of sedentary logics of coloniality operating through a new chronotope of "containment development".

Indeed, as Loren Landau has argued, Europe has invested heavily in new sociologies of knowledge designed to identify real and potential defectors from containment development.

## How money let down politicians in elections

By Luke Onyekakeyah

AS the inauguration of the new state governors comes underway tomorrow, May 29, 2019, many politicians who lost in the election are biting their fingers not necessarily for the fact that they lost but the fact that they spent millions, some billions and yet lost.

It is like a dream for those who had put all their hope in money as the only factor they needed to scale through and win but it turned the other way round. They lost openly after spending the money for the simple fact that Nigerians have become wiser; they have come to realise that selling their conscience and staking their future on a platter of "hot porridge" because of hunger has, over the years, been counterproductive.

Nigerians have come to realise that any politician who has nothing to present to the electorate as his achievements but only relies on the huge money he is ready to offer is a mercenary, an invader, whose sole aim is to invest in the election with the hope of recouping his investment if he wins.

This strategy is now discredited. It has been exposed as fraudulent. There is a new consciousness among Nigerians that whatever money is brought out by any politician is public money that ought to have been used to provide water, healthcare, roads, schools, etc, but had been stolen.

The result is that Nigerians have decided, never again, to let such crooked politicians have their way. The new consciousness is that when such ill gotten funds are put forward to entice the electorate, Nigerians will wholeheartedly collect the money and still vote the politician out. This happened in 2015. It has repeated in 2019 on a greater dimension and will continue in 2023. Politicians should learn their



lesson.

Those who think they would use money to buy votes had better think twice. Take this bitter truth - people will collect your money and still vote you out! It is ironic. Those who steal public funds waiting to use it to buy people's conscience in elections will no longer be winners but losers. There are many such losers across the states reeling in utter disappointment. It is a dramatic turn of events.

I doff my cap for those who took the money and still voted politicians out. It is new patriotism. Nigeria needs it to build this society. That has

set the stage for future elections. Such lost investment cannot be recouped. It is gone forever.

One thing is certain: a politician who tries to buy votes cannot be a good leader. If he won the post he was gunning for, the people would be in for trouble. Such politicians are like hit men on a business mission. Maybe, if they had presented well-articulated agenda, they could win.

Sadly enough, that is the attitude of many politicians jostling for one position or the other. And that is why Nigeria is in trouble.

There are few, very few politicians who are sincerely committed to the people's welfare. The interest of the people is secondary. Arguably, every contestant has an agenda - and that agenda is personal. It is called the ego mentality - ego, me, mei, mihi, me - everything for me!

It is unfortunate that what we're treating lackadaisically is something that should attract prosecution and jail term in other climes. What we are faced with is a clear case of bribery, where both the giver and receivers are

guilty. But trust Naija, you don't pursue cases such as this here because there is no evidence. That explains why one aspirant who lost governorship ticket in Kano State in 2015 decided to engage thugs to recover his money. It was easy to engage thugs because the delegates were few and known.

What happens when an aspirant shares out billions to electorates across the state or country? How do you recover such money if you lose? How many thugs would be enough to go after each

member of the public who took money only to vote you out? Nowadays, the stakes are high.

And just as the people have become wiser, ready to feast on free money anyone floats budget to buy votes, politicians should also be wary by doing the right thing. Instead of amassing wealth to pay for votes at elections, politicians should be objective and state why and how they want to lead.

Without money flying in all directions, people, probably the right people, will still win. Having said that, the truth is that with the level of frustration among the populace, there is a high risk in hoping to sail through by floating money. People have been hoodwinked for too long; there is no trust in the polity.

As a matter of fact, many people now believe that election time is money-making time. Of course it is. Many people position themselves to take money from any would be Father Christmas politician and still vote him out.

There are politicians who will sink in financial debt after losing election; who would find it extremely difficult to come out. And the mere thought of a bad situation could lead to irreversible health conditions. The truth is that there are those who know they are not sellable to the public but who believe that money can do all things. Those are the ones who would bite their fingers more when they lose.

As the 2019 elections are over and the 2023 edition is in view, let those politicians who want to throw money about gear up - it is party time.

# What Rwandan exporters need to tap into EU market

By Collins Mwai

RWANDAN exporters are yet to make the most of the European Union duty-free trade opportunity, according to the European Union and International Trade Centre.

Rwanda enjoys duty-free access to the European market for all products but arms and ammunition.

However, despite these opportunities, statistics from the International Trade Centre show that local firms are not making the most of the trade window.

For instance, in 2017, Rwandan firms exported about \$53.5m worth of goods to Europe. However, statistics showed that Rwanda had untapped potential to export products worth well over \$14.5 million.

Currently, the EU is the world's largest single market with a population of 503 mil-

lion people and more than 25 per cent of the world's GDP, making it a good target for any business.

National Agricultural Export Development Board chief executive, Bill Kayonga, told The New Times that working closely with exporters, they have been able to identify the key challenges and are working out solutions.

Among the major impediments include the high logistical costs to access markets which, in turn, calls for exporters to be strategic in value chains they invest in.

Kayonga said that, given the high costs associated with logistics, exporters ought to consider strategies that export high quality, and unique and on-demand products which can enable one to cover the high costs.

"One of the challenges we face is that we have high logistics costs, we need to be very strategic in the kind of logistics

and value chain we invest in, we need to go for high quality, high-end products so that we can be able to cover the high logistics costs," he said.

For instance, he said that exporters can make the most of the trends such as the current demand in high-quality organic products which fetch better prices and are in high demand.

Market information and knowledge on market structures is also a critical component that influences the success of an exporter.

An exporter with insights into market information, such as product demands, and market structures is likely to have an edge over those without it.

"Even the products we export compete with products on the shelves, so you have high market penetration costs. It is important to have market intelligence, market information, build relationships over time," he said.

"Some of our private sector members, especially budding SMEs, are finding opportunities from penetrating the EU, UK, Dubai, China and Japan markets for products such as coffee. The volumes are still low, and the value is still low. We are building capacity, skills to be able to support the SMEs to be more competitive," he added.

Export receipts for Rwanda have grown four-fold in the last decade, from \$400 million in 2007 and \$1.6 billion in 2016. However, statistics show that there are also challenges related to the growth and survival of small exporting firms.

A previous World Bank Rwanda Economic Update showed that the local export sector is increasingly characterised by high entry and exit rates. With an estimated 30 per cent survival rate of companies in the export sector, the diversification and emergence of relatively new firms has been slow.

Top 5 per cent of the firms (about 65 companies) were found to be exporting nearly 80 per cent of the produce as of 2017. This, if addressed, fetch more receipts.

Kayonga said that they have several interventions across the value chain, from availing land and provision of cold rooms, an export development fund as well as linkages to markets among others. Major opportunities, he said, lie in the horticulture sector given the demand and prices.

"The prices are good, one can make a profit. You can be able to grow three crops a year and produce all through the year, it is a good opportunity," he said.

Other aspects that have an opportunity despite being on a small scale, include orthodox teas, essential oils among others.

The NAEB boss also called on local exporters to prove they are reliable when working with

the various clients as it's a major factor in international trade.

Among the interventions are trainings, such as one hosted by the EU delegation in Rwanda, International Trade Centre, NAEB and the Private Sector Federation on Wednesday this week on market access, compliance to standards, market intelligence among others.

The first training was themed around the agro-processing and manufacturing sector.

Nicola Bellomo, the head of the European Union Delegation to Rwanda, said that the market has multiple opportunities for Rwandan traders given that it has 28 countries and is diverse.

Among the gaps that ought to be fixed to make the most of the opportunity he said, is capacity and approach by local firms especially in their understanding of the market.

By bridging these gaps, he said that Rwanda can make the most of the Made-in-Rwanda

brands and its positive reputation to increase exports.

Among the major opportunities for exporters, he said, are horticulture products, specialty coffee, as well as creative industry products such as garments.

Local exporters who spoke to The New Times said that a common challenge is lack of adequate market information on the European market and its structures.

For instance, Vestine Umutoni, a producer and exporter of handicrafts and African themed clothes, said that despite awareness of the demand for their producers in Europe, her and her cooperative have had challenges building ties with firms that purchase for European stores.

She said that, during her recent visit to three EU countries, she met store owners only to learn that most of them have firms that procure products for them.

## New initiative changes men's traditional gender roles in Singida

By Beatrice Philemon

A 61-year-old farmer, Ali Ismail lives in Mnununga—a village located 19 kilometres from Singida town.

Ismail is one of men in the district who for many years maintained gender roles—a social role encompassing a range of behaviours and attitudes that are generally considered acceptable, appropriate, or desirable for people based on their actual or perceived sex.

But, now, Ismail is a different person. His perception has changed completely.

This came after attending gender equality training offered by the Singida Nutrition and Agro-ecology Project (SNAP)—an initiative aimed at promoting agro-ecology, gender equality, food security and enhance women's role at household and community level.

The three-year project is being implemented by ActionAid Tanzania in 20 villages with support from US-based McKnight Foundation.

Ismail says at the beginning he was of the view that the project is for women and children.

"But, after attending one of the training I realized that it is for all people, hence, I decided to participate fully in the project," Ismail recounts.

Before attending the training on gender equality, it was very difficult for men like Ismail in the district to do family chores.

"Our thinking was that all family and house responsibilities were for women. But, this new initiative has changed our perceptions," a father of 14 says.

He reveals: "After this project, we're sharing family responsibilities. Right now men are working together with our wives in all activities from the kitchen to the farms. It is now common to see men accompany their wives to health facilities, looking for firewood, fetching water and other family chores."

"I thank ActionAid Tanzania for coming up with this new intervention through SNAP project," he says.

The project has also empowered women on land rights issues as they can access and own land.

Highlighting on nutrition issues, Ismail says: "During the training, we learnt that porridge is not allowed for babies below the age of six months. Before that it was common to see babies start drinking maize porridge at the age of one and two months. But, now we're fully aware on nutrition issues."

"I am very glad because SNAP project had brought significant impact on children's dietary diversity over a relatively short period and successfully in addressing barriers to child nutrition, agro-ecological practice, food insecurity," he says.

Pili Shaban also concur with Ismail's testimonies, saying the project is an eye-opener to her, as she is more confident than it was before.

"Right now, I can demand my right. I can sit together with men to discuss various development issues," she says, lauding ActionAid Tanzania and McKnight Foundation for their endeavours to empower men and women of Singida in various issues.

On political issues, women in the area are free to contest in election, the move that has changed the situation, to the extent that leadership position is shared by both men and women.

The three years project (2016-2019) was aimed to promote agro-ecology, gender equality, food security and enhance women's role at household and community level.

Apart from ActionAid Tanzania, and Cornell University, the project was implemented in collaboration with local government authorities, Nelson Mandela University and Ilonga Agricultural Research Institute (ARI).



Ali Ismail

## Let's seize the opportunity for resilience in storm-hit Mozambique

By Mami Mizutori

MAMI Mizutori is the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction and head of the UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Mozambique and the city of Beira do not want to go down in history as the beginning of the end for those who continue to live in hope that action on climate change will soon become evident in a sharp reduction in greenhouse gas emissions.

It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe could have been hit by a category 3 storm in March even without global warming. But we'll never know because as the WMO Statement on the State of the Global Climate in 2018 confirmed, the last four years have been the hottest on record, and to divorce Cyclone Idai from that reality would be extremely foolish.

The same applies to Cyclone Kenneth which struck six weeks later. The twin storms left more than 1,000 people dead, and affected some three million more including hundreds of children who remain separated from their parents and are living with relatives or in temporary shelters.

The one certainty we have come to know in this era of climate change is that unpredictability is all around us when it comes to the weather.

Mozambique, like much of the southern African coastline, is now vulnerable not only to rising sea levels in the southern Indian Ocean but is facing the frightening prospect that warming seas are making events like Cyclone Idai more likely, despite the brake imposed by the protective land mass of Madagascar.

Many factors play a role in a disaster of this magnitude which results in hundreds dead, thousands injured, cholera outbreaks, many displaced and homeless, crops destroyed, health facilities and schools damaged beyond repair, and roads and transport links collapsed.

Drivers include poverty, the rapid pace of urbanisation which is difficult to control in low and middle-income countries, the destruction of protective eco-systems such as mangrove forests, and population growth in low-lying areas close to the sea.

Over the last two decades, the world has also seen an inexorable rise in the frequency and intensity of extreme weather events which seems to be in lock-step with the year-on-year rise in greenhouse gas emissions despite the Paris Agreement and the existence of a global plan to reduce disaster losses, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction.

Four years have passed since both were adopted, along with the 17 Sustainable Development Goals for which they are key instruments. Those four years have seen economic losses continue to soar alongside widespread drought, wildfires, floods, storms and heatwaves.

One event stands out in the experience of southern Africa and Mozambique - and that was one of the most powerful El Niño events on record in 2015/16, which, combined with the effects of climate change and desertification, led to a regional drought emergency across southern Africa affecting the food security of some 40 million people.

The world is becoming an increasingly fragile place, especially for those countries like Mozambique which lack the resources to adapt to climate change in a manner that will reduce the scale of future loss of life and eradicate poverty.

There is now an important opportunity to focus on resilience, building back better and future-proofing infrastructure against climate risk in Mozambique as donors meet in Beira later this week.

## Africa's elephant poaching is in decline, analysis suggests

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

ELEPHANT poaching rates in Africa are declining, according to a study published in the journal Nature Communications.

The annual poaching mortality rate fell from a high of more than 10% in 2011 to less than 4% in 2017, but the researchers warned that current levels were still unsustainable and could spell trouble for the future of the animals on the continent.

An estimated 350,000 elephants remain in Africa, but 10,000 to 15,000 are killed by poachers every year.

The team, from the University of York, University of Freiburg and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species, analysed data from 53 protected sites across 29 countries between 2002 and



An estimated 350,000 elephants are left in Africa.

2017.

They observed a decline in the annual poaching mortality rate - the percentage of elephants killed through poaching each year - and found it was linked with reduced demand for ivory across China that may be linked to a drop in the Chinese economy. The number began to fall before the introduction of a ban on ivory trade in the country in 2017, they said.

Differences in poaching between sites was found to be linked with levels of corruption and poverty.

"We are seeing a downturn in poaching, which is obviously positive news, but it is still above what we think is sustainable so the elephant populations are declining," said Dr Colin Beale, co-author of the study from the University of York.

"The poaching rates seem to respond primarily to ivory prices in south-east Asia and we can't hope to succeed without tackling demand in that region."

The researchers called for continued investment in law enforcement to reduce poaching, alongside action to cut ivory demand and tackle corruption and poverty.

Severin Hauenstein, from the University of Freiburg, said: "This is a positive trend, but we should not see this as an end to the poaching crisis."

After some changes in the political environment, the total number of illegally killed elephants in Africa seems to be falling but, to assess possible protection measures, we need to understand the local and global processes driving illegal elephant hunting."

By Carl Manlan

# Investing in Africans' health

**A**FRICA'S health sector represents a massive investment opportunity, estimated by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa to be worth USD 66 billion annually. Yet African leaders and donors continue to discuss Africa's health-care systems in terms of funding gaps. In fact, those gaps will close only when Africa is viewed as an investment destination, not a foreign-aid recipient.

A strong health-care system is a prerequisite for economic development. But the development aid to Africa that is designated for health is not predictable enough to sustain the kinds of long-term investments that are needed.

Importing pharmaceuticals, for example, costs Africa an estimated USD 14 billion annually. Creating the conditions for local pharmaceutical manufacturing would not only slash that bill; it would also result in the creation of 16 million jobs. (This is yet another reason to support the African Continental Free Trade Area, AfCFTA. Yet aid is often promised according to three-year timelines, with no guarantee that it will actually be delivered when needed to fund planned programs.)

Of course, domestic public resources could be used for this purpose. But low economic growth and high debt-servicing costs have left many African governments with limited fiscal space. Yet, with a greater focus on improving tax collection, Africans stand a better chance of increasing their domestic revenues. And budgets are often subject to shifting political leadership and priorities, which can preclude consistent, long-term investment.

The result is that health-care spending in Africa is woefully inadequate. In 2015, the continent accounted for just two percent of the USD 9.7 trillion in global health-care spending, even though it represents 16 percent of the global population and 26 percent of the global disease burden.

Increasing health-care spending in Africa is not a matter of ramping up aid; the limits of external generosity are clearly already being reached. Rather, it is about getting private actors - especially Africans - to seize the relevant business opportunities.

The scale of those opportunities should not be underestimated. Rapid population growth, coupled with longer life expectancy, means that countries' health-care needs will skyrocket in the coming years. By 2030, 14 percent of business opportunities in global health are expected to be in Africa, and the continent's health and wellbeing markets will be worth USD 259 billion.

Meeting the health-care needs of a growing African population - and thereby ensuring that the continent has a healthy workforce to drive economic transformation - will require funding that is more predictable and sustainable, guided by reliable long-term strategies. Here, the African diaspora should take the lead.

As it stands, health-care spending funded by money from the African diaspora is more likely to be used to pay the medical bills of a sick relative (or, more broadly, on consumption) than to be invested in strengthening the system. Such investment would require pooling and channeling resources (via trusted intermediaries) toward projects that can meet the needs of entire communities at any given moment. And this presupposes a shift in focus from top-down solutions to the development of resilient systems that start at the community level.

For example, two million community health workers will be needed by 2020 to ensure that every African has access to quality care. This is not a new solution; community health workers were key to the health care received by my own parents in Côte d'Ivoire in the 1950s. But predictable funding is needed to build a system that can meet today's health-care needs, while creating two million jobs. Other targeted investments include disease management, a market estimated to be worth USD 14 billion, and remote patient monitoring, estimated to be worth USD 15 billion.

The more stable the investment environment is, the more willing private-sector actors will be to fund the kinds of large-scale interventions needed to unlock Africa's productive potential. Establishing special economic zones, which have been successful in countries like Ethiopia, will further boost predictability and confidence, driving further progress.

As leaders gear up for the World Health Organization's 72nd World Health Assembly in Geneva this month, it is worth highlighting the limits of do-



nor-driven development in Africa. To lay the foundations for economic transformation - including by implementing AfCFTA - Africans at home and abroad must step up.

In the long term, the economist John Maynard Keynes reminded us, we are all dead. But long-term health investment is for the living. It means that those whose lives are just beginning will be able to build a more prosperous future and ensure that future generations, too, enjoy longer, healthier, more productive lives.

Meanwhile, it's just amazing how we can sometimes get used to being deprived of our basic necessities, which are also our rights as citizens. One such necessity is proper access to electric power.

The past couple of months, I had to stay home for personal reasons, and had the chance to notice just how much electric power is a luxury in this country. I am fortunate enough to work in an institution that runs generators in case of power outage, so we do not notice how many times and how long electric power stays interrupted during the day. But now that I am on leave and staying at home temporarily, I got to understand that electric power is indeed a luxury and not a basic necessity in this country.

And the funny thing is, I do not get angry each time power is interrupted. Maybe it is because my life does not depend on it, or maybe it is because I got used to it and got numb to the problem. But how about those millions of Ethiopians whose lives depends on proper access to electric power? How about the millions of small businesses that close doors on customers because of power outage? I wonder if any research has been done to evaluate the economic losses the country suffers, say in a day, as a result of repeated and continuous power interruptions.

I bet the losses will be estimated at billions of birr! I always wonder if the dam constructions that we hear about on the news have done any job in reducing the power shortage in the country. It is like the Ethiopian saying that goes like 'Lam alegn besemay wetewanem alay', which translates loosely to 'Although I have a cow, I never get to see her milk'. The way I see it, power

shortage is not getting any better compared to the last decade.

We hear that car accidents are one of the most important killers in the country, and that the government should do better to reduce the problem. Has anyone thought that maybe one of the most important reasons for the increasing number of life losses are caused by the absence of street lights in the cities? We hear that millions of youngsters are unemployed in this country. Have we ever thought that maybe one important reason for this is the discouragement that power outage is causing among youngsters to start their own small businesses?

I am not an engineer or haven't done any research to suggest what should be done to reduce power outage. But I am certain about one thing - people should always have a plan B in case these power outages happen. Electric power outage should stop being an excuse for not providing services not doing your job and sitting idly! Plan B can be procuring generators for instance. And this is particularly true for big governmental, non-governmental and private instructions. Plan B can be working manually as in old days. Plan B may be investing on other sources of energy. Plan B may be costly but it is not more costly than closing doors on customers or sitting idly! We need to come into terms with the fact that electric power is a luxury we would gladly accept if given but also that it is something we should try to live without by investing on plan B!

It would not be an exaggeration to say that government entities have arguably been at the forefront in making the lives of many a living hell in Ethiopia. Frequent disruptions in the services delivered by the state-owned utility monopolies and municipalities have long been perennial sources of deep-seated grievance across the country.

The change that has been underway for over a year now is being managed by institutions that are largely ailing and need to undergo a fundamental reform themselves dashing the hopes of those eagerly awaiting its outcome and worse proving to be a curse for numerous others.

The judiciary, law enforcement organs and government bureaucracy have also been found very much wanting despite expectations that they would champion the change or at least not derail it by ensuring the prevalence of law and order as well as contributing to the creation of a fair and inclusive environment. All this is attributable to failure in political leadership and elements bent on roiling the nation.

A cursory analysis of the reality on the ground reveals the proliferation of forces which have no misgivings about lighting fire to a tinderbox with intent to destabilize the country.

Meanwhile, the police, in disregard of the "principle of legality", have descended to confiscating goods on which the legally applicable taxes and duties have been duly paid. A recent news report that the police had seized seven grams of gold during a raid on illegal establishments makes us cringe in shame and wonder if the ignorance lies with the police itself or journalistic standards.

Flouting long-established laws and norms differentiating what is legal from what is not is without due regard to the ensuing consequences sets a dangerous precedent. It's perplexing why issues that can be easily managed are to become wellsprings of chaos. In this day and age when solutions can be found for the most intractable of problems blowing trivial matters out of proportion and thereby fomenting turmoil is an insult to the nation and brings shame on it.

Let's examine the record of one of the public companies

supplying a basic service, namely the power utility, for illustrative purposes. The company has always exhibited a trait that all monopolies share - a shabby treatment of customers in the belief that it's accountable to no one. It routinely turns the switch on an off at will without consulting or giving a heads up to clients to whom it owes a contractual obligation to provide a reliable power supply. From time to time brownouts as well as blackouts occur for days on end without any official explanation or apology whatsoever.

The practical absence of a culture of customer-focused service delivery in the company continues to make life an ordeal for millions. And true to form it announced a week ago that it had implemented electricity rationing a week earlier following a public outcry over long stretches of blackouts for several months. Barely a few days thereafter, though, a change to the time when the blackout would be in effect was abruptly disclosed. These missteps have further eroded public trust in the company. Why is it caught up in all this mess? Couldn't the blunder have been avoided if it had users' best interest at heart? Time will tell.

The kind of disarray described above abounds elsewhere, subjecting Ethiopia to humiliation and serving to underscore the arguments of the detractors the on-going change; it also betrays the depth and extent of the government's inadequacies. A simple example suffices to demonstrate the mess brought about by the inadequacies.

The propensity of Ethiopia's rulers to designate events and places on whim rather than on the basis of a clearly defined framework continues to be perpetuated to this date as manifested in the May 28 celebration of the downfall of the Derg regime for 28 years running. May 28 was never designated as a

public holiday by law. The legislation designating September 12 as a public holiday marking the Derg's ascent to power is still on the law books.

Some two decades ago the Debre Zeit Road was renamed Ginbot 20 [May 28] Road. The name was never popular and eventually became forgotten. Sadly the practice has restarted, earning the venerated institution responsible for the folly public opprobrium. If the agents of the change taking place in Ethiopia are to succeed in their endeavor to steer the reform on the right course, it's imperative to put a put a stop to the disorderliness blighting the country.

It's appropriate to bring up here what Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed (PhD) said last Sunday about "kicking up dust" and "leaving a footprint" at a dinner dubbed "Dine for Sheger", a fundraising initiative to raise funds for the "Beautifying Sheger" project. He stated that kicking up dust is easy adding the dust engulfs the surrounding area and makes it resemble a war zone instead of a place where life thrives. He went on to say that though the individuals who kick up the dust may rejoice in their act, they were bound to weep when the dust suffocates them as well.

The premiere noted that leaving a footprint, however, is a long, quiet and arduous task which tests one's patience and takes time to lead to recognition or appreciation in the eyes of others. He underscored that everyone who left a footprint had encountered all this.

The message intended to be conveyed by PM is valid for each and every Ethiopian but more so for public office holders. As the number of government officials that sow confusion while they themselves are muddled is shockingly high, they should choose between kicking up dust and leaving a footprint. Otherwise, they would be guilty of slighting the nation and bringing shame on it.

## BUSINESS

## IMMIGRANTS

## China Town in Nairobi

## NAIROBI

A sign on Chaka Place in Nairobi's Kilimani stood out like a sore thumb for a few days. The sign written in English and Chinese did not stay up for long following an uproar on social media.

It simply said that Kenya, like many other countries where Chinese immigrants have settled, finally has its own Chinatown. Signage aside, the Chinese in Kenya have settled in, creating a little hub in Nairobi where they eat, shop and visit clinics as authentic as they are in China.

Unlike most Chinatowns around the world that take up large spaces, in Kenya they have set up businesses in pockets of spaces. There are two Chinatowns in Nairobi's Kilimani; one at Chaka Place and another near Yaya Centre.

You can hardly miss them as eyes are drawn to the bilingual signs in the thriving community of shops and restaurants with a variety of produce from meats to dried foods. There is a supermarket, a grocery, butchery and a store with several live fish and shellfish. The immigrants and a few Kenyans helping in the back run many of these. At the corner, there is a Chinese herbs clinic.

Some food shopkeepers are willing to speak to us but after a few minutes of nodding and trying to communicate through their Kenyan employees as translators, it proves a hard task. Some shy away and cover themselves when they see a camera.

A few kilometres from this first Chinatown, there is another with container shops, landmarked by dragon-entwined lampposts and bilingual signs. There is a supermarket at the back, barbershop and porcelain shops. The restaurants are small, most of them with just a kitchen, two benches and plastic stools.

This Chinatown is more spacious and more open than the first one. In the parking lot, men smoke Chinese cigarettes. The shops open either in the morning or in the afternoon, unlike Kenyan shopkeepers who keep their doors open from dawn to dusk.

One of the managers explains that each shop owner has his own targeted clientele hence they do not all open or close at the same time.

## Why Kilimani

Another shop owner said in

the mornings, he is usually at work elsewhere and comes to the restaurant in the afternoon. "I have other things going on and my brother whom I work with usually goes to the dry port in Embakasi most mornings before we meet here," he says, adding they import most of the products that they sell in Chinatown that they pick from Embakasi.

He says he is from mainland China. He came to Kenya to seek a better life given the overcrowding back home that made life hard to cope. Although the supermarkets have instant noodles, cookies, and crackers, there are also fresh foods from Kenya. In the supermarket at Studio House Chaka Place, the butchery section is the first thing that one notices. There are different types of unprocessed meats.

China's population has swollen to nearly 1.4 billion people and this is many mouths to feed. In 2017, more than 35,000 processing and manufacturing plants churned out food for the residents. According to the International Migration Report by the United Nations, there are over 10 million Chinese immigrants all over the world and a Chinatown in every major city in the world.

## But why settle in Kilimani?

Nicholas Agola, a consultant at the Chinatown says that the Chinese are calculative and they picked Kilimani out of convenience. "They like to be closely knit and also desire to be safe given that they are a minority here. The Chinese Embassy is just a few minutes' walk from Kilimani and so that they would settle here is a no-brainer," he says.

The second Chinatown is built next to Xinhua News Agency as well as China Global Television Network Africa headquarters. This means they have a ready market for their products. "They have a niche market and it is not by chance that they built their businesses around the Chinese population. This means that they expect hundreds of clients from these offices to frequent their shops, supermarkets and restaurants daily," says Nicholas.

Language poses a great barrier for the Chinese in Kenya and Nicholas who studied International Relations at the Beijing University speaks the language fluently, so he spends most of his days at the back office teaching the Chinese English.



TCF executive director Lutgard Kagaruki speaks at a past event in Dar es Salaam.

## CALL

## Lobby makes appeal for review of law on diseases related to tobacco

By Guardian on Saturday Reporter

THE government should speed up the process of reviewing of Tobacco Products (Regulation) Act, 2003 (TPRA, 2003) to align with World Health Organization's Framework Convention on Tobacco Control to curb diseases caused by the commodity.

Tanzania Tobacco Control Forum's Executive Director, Lutgard Kagaruki said in Dar es Salaam yesterday to mark 'World No Tobacco Day' that evidence is plenty on tobacco related diseases hence the need to curb cultivation and consumption of the commodity.

Kagaruki lamented that although Tanzania is signatory of the FCTC, the government has failed to update the anti-tobacco law to curb cultivation and consumption of the illicit leaf which is blamed to cause

millions of deaths annually through diseases such as cancer and trachea related inflammation.

Tanzania joins the rest of the world to commemorate World No Tobacco Day; an annual event to encourage the adoption and implementation of strong and comprehensive tobacco control measures to save the lives of millions of people around the world from the devastating consequences of tobacco use, Kagaruki said in a statement.

"The theme chosen by the World Health Organisation to mark this year's commemoration is 'Tobacco and lung health.' It is a day that reminds us of the harm caused by tobacco to our health, and helps unleash more efforts to implement the WHO Framework Convention on Tobacco Control," she stated.

She noted that breathing is key for life and, there is strong evidence suggesting that peo-

ple who breathe cleaner air tend to live better and healthier lives while stressing that tobacco smoke is known to be a major pollutant which contains more than 7,000 chemicals with 70 of them known to cause cancer.

"According to the Tanzania Steps Survey Report (2012) of the Ministry of Health Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDGEC), National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) and WHO, an average of 14.1 percent (men 26 percent and women 2.9 percent) Tanzanians smoke. In addition, 17.5 percent and 24.9 percent of the population get exposed to second hand smoke at home and workplaces respectively. Tobacco is responsible for 17,400 deaths annually in the country," the TCF's chief executive added.

There is no safe level of exposure to tobacco smoke as it affects both smokers and non-

smokers with the former facing up to 22 times more likely to develop lung cancer in their lifetime, compared to non-smokers.

"Non-smokers exposed to second-hand smoke at home or in the workplace have a 30 percent higher risk of developing lung cancer. Both maternal and paternal smoking slow lung growth in children and cause lower respiratory tract illnesses such as bronchitis and pneumonia, particularly during the first year of life," she argued.

While the African region has witnessed notable progress with regard to implementation of the WHO FCTC, particularly, creation of smoke-free environments, Tanzania continues to lag behind its peers in this area. Within the East African region, the country remains the only one without a comprehensive tobacco control law that is in line with WHO FCTC; Zanzibar has an effective law

and, recently, Ethiopia enacted the strongest tobacco control in Africa. Kagaruki pointed out.

Tanzania ratified the WHO FCTC in 2007 after which it was agreed that a new FCTC compliant tobacco control law be enacted, to replace the flawed and outdated Tobacco Products (Regulation) Act, 2003 (TPRA, 2003). Unbelievably, to-date, i.e. more than 10 years after the ratification, the law is yet to be enacted.

This year's celebration calls for African regional coordinated actions for a full implementation of the WHO FCTC, the only way to improve the health and well-being of people and save lives. Tanzania Tobacco Control Forum (TCF) calls upon government to join the rest of the region by making tobacco control a national priority and to enact a FCTC compliant tobacco control law; to provide Tanzanians their right to a healthy environment and tobacco free lifestyles.

## SAVINGS

## Digital IDs could save Africa \$50bn annually, report shows



ECA executive secretary Vera Songwe.

## ADDIS ABABA

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa's economic report 2019 shows that digitising tax administration and investing in data collection could help to broaden the tax base. Around 500m Africans have no official ID, which contributes to their exclusion from banking systems. Implementing digital ID systems can help to overcome this problem, the report showed.

"By improving tax assessments and administration, [digital identification] 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," the report showed.

Rwanda managed to boost revenue collection by 6 per cent of GDP by introducing e-taxation while South Africa used online tax payments to trim compliance costs by 22.4 per cent.

Highlighting how digital identification can help identify and track taxpayers, Vera Songwe, said: "Without IDs, people can't participate in financial activities provided by banks. With digitalisation, they can receive a digital identity for use in their banking - all they have to do is own a smartphone, while biometrics will do the rest."

Songwe pointed to countries in the East African Community that are growing at almost double the rate of those in the rest of the continent on the back of their investment in technology, infrastructure and better fiscal policies that help startups to flourish.

"Despite the fact that the continent as a whole is only growing at 3.2 per cent, the East African horn is growing at 6.2 per cent. 'They are one of the highest competitors of information technology that we can see. They are investing in fiscal policies, and they are collecting revenues better,' she said.

These policies have seen Nairobi's tech hub grow into

a \$1bn Silicon Savannah that is home to 200 startups and tech giants such as Microsoft and Intel. Entrepreneurs from across the continent's startup spectrum took part in a side-session led by the African FinTech Network that gathered fintech companies from across 20 countries to thrash out how governments can promote policies that advance innovation and lift the continent's rising tech hubs.

Songwe said that companies such as M-Pesa and Nigeria's Flutterwave were building the blocks for Africa's silicon-shaped future. Flutterwave recently partnered with Visa to create the continent's very own equivalent of PayPal, called GetBarter. In another first they allowed Visa cardholders on the continent to send and receive funds at home or internationally, helping to process \$1bn in transactions in 2018.

"There is enough evidence that Africa can be digitally transformed. But what is holding us back?" Nigeria's former ICT minister Omobola Johnson asked. It's not fund-

ing, as startup investment in Africa jumped to record levels in 2018, increasing almost four-fold to raise \$725.6m across 458 deals, according to WeeTracker's 2018 venture investment report.

Most of this funding came not from philanthropists, but from hard-nosed investors seeking strong returns in the continent's budding technology sector. "In 2018 alone venture capitals and funds invested \$350m-\$700m into mobile tech companies that are solving African challenges, and it's literally doubling every year," said Johnson, who now works as a senior partner at tech-focused venture capital firm TL Capital.

She said that what was stopping African innovators from competing with the world's tech giants was poor regulation and a lack of understanding on the part of banks: "The biggest challenge for fintech companies today is regulation policy and the fact that many central banks do not innovate and do not understand what it takes to scale and build a tech-

nology company."

Another stumbling block for Africa's digital revolution is infrastructure and basic access to electricity, phones and the internet. Connectivity loops societies into emerging technologies from the banking sector to education, agriculture, and finance. It will also be a core driver of productive employment opportunities and future healthcare.

Only 43 per cent of the continent has access to electricity, less than half the global access rate of 87 per cent, according to the latest survey by the World Bank. The number of people without electricity is also expected to snowball with Africa's population boom.

Another issue is the affordability of the internet. "The internationally agreed target is for IGB of data to cost no more than 2 per cent of the average national monthly income. In Africa this currently stands at 8.76 per cent, compared to 3.5 per cent in Latin America or 1.54 per cent in Asia," Songwe noted.

## PROMISING

# Ten Startups to watch in Tanzania in 2019

DAR ES SALAAM

As you know, we are at TechnAfrica, passionate with startups all around the African continent. We have started now that series of watchlist of startups in different African countries, and let's continue this with Tanzania.

Tanzania is part of East Africa, and has a population of 60 million people. The country is making innovative and technological advancement by the establishment of economic zones, industrial parks and innovation hubs.

Most global innovation ecosystem reports and maps still consider Tanzania among the countries with few spaces to support entrepreneurs. That was a fact a few years ago but it isn't anymore. With spaces cutting across sectors, locations, and communities they serve, Tanzania innovation ecosystem is among the most diverse innovation ecosystem.

With 43 million mobile subscriptions, which represent more than 70% of the population and 38% of the mobile users connected to internet, Tanzania has a huge advertising audience on Social media where Facebook and Instagram represents 6.7 millions of active users every month. Here are 10 startups that we have selected in Tanzania for 2019, that are disrupting different industries with new technologies.

bimaAFYA (health insurance) enables a person from Low income population and Informal sector afford a Lowest premium, Highest benefits, Mobile distributed, Mobile

phone managed benefits platform and Mobile money paid micro-health insurance. It is designed for the 80% of the poor, informal sector African population eliminating 99% of the insurance administration costs through a highly innovative

Telescript has built a low-bandwidth, easy-to-use hardware, web and mobile-based platform to facilitate telemedicine in developing countries, and place patient information in the hands of physicians in an intuitive and easy-to-use format. They have created a vertical solution including a data management (ibm bluemix), software (mobile application) and wearable device solution with the point of focusing

Tanzania Tech think about how Africa need to understand about technology, they provide tech news in Swahili language so that many people in Tanzania can understand whats going on in technology industry.

Dundiza Tanzania is a proprietary online site that helps young people and women in Tanzania and Africa to save their money wisely either daily, weekly, monthly and yearly using their own mobile phones. This financial savings site is free to the users, however for those users who save yearly get a chunk of interest for long term savings. Basically, young people and women in Tanzania and Africa

Harlos's product is used shipping containers which help people solve the problem of flexible storage, movable offices during projects and stylish store for business. Their customer are manufacturing companies, construction companies and small business



A bimaAFYA placard.

on food and retails.

They accelerate Tanzania towards cashless economy by offering a mobile wallet app that combines convenience and reliability with secure world-class payment technology and infrastructure which involves the core function of 'Scan to Pay' feature by use of QR code technology

FixChap is a digital platform through which clients can book repair requests and get connected with verified servicemen within their

locations. Servicemen are sourced from the national vocational training institutions, they have centers countrywide with networks of trained youths. This enables home owners and office owners to be attended by competent people.

Primeware is a Digital Solutions Firm, serving local and multinational companies from various industries. They provide solutions for Web, Mobile and Messaging platforms to help your business stand

out in today's digital age. They are also the leading chatbot development and data analytics firm in East Africa.

GreenFeed is safe, quality and affordable animal feed made from fresh food waste. GreenFeed can be fed to poultry, pigs, cattle, dogs and shorts. It is made from food scraps. Fresh Food scraps are collected from markets, homes, groceries, restaurants and other public places. They are sorted, washed with water, shredded and sun dried. The feed is then mixed with other ingredients as per animal

ded and sun dried. The feed is then mixed with other ingredients as per animal

ClickPesa enables customers to make payments for goods and services using their existing m-money, bank accounts, bitcoin wallets and any other store of value. ClickPesa makes merchants accept all forms of electronic payments from multiple channels (i.e. web, POS/Mpos) in one single infrastructure.

## How varsity assignment turned into business venture

KIGALI

It has been a year since Anitah Kansime established her own business - a yoghurt manufacturing company operating in Nyagatare District.

Graduating from college after specialising in vocational studies in agriculture, most would have expected her to follow the much trodden path of seeking employment in a local company. However, she chose a different path - she wanted to be her own boss.

She was ready to start off a business building on an idea she had had for a while that would require the few resources she had at the time.

First, she explored the possibility of growing beetroot and producing juices and wines out of it. This, she figured would not be as productive considering that there were many entrepreneurs involved in it who had been doing it for a long while.

It is then that she remembered a course unit, during her university studies whereby together with her colleagues, they had successfully produced yoghurt as part of a course work. The result of the exercise she said "were perfectly."

"So I decided to try it again. I did it once, twice, thrice and it came out well," she said. Having a cousin who had done the same course, she sought him out to inquire where she could



Entrepreneur, Anitah Kansime.

get the materials to commence the operations.

At the start, she had a capital of about Rwf400,000, raised from small savings from her tasks working for a number of farmers earning about Rwf45,000. She also had some money she had received as a graduation gift from her family members.

"The materials I required were affordable enabling me to start the business. I could afford them. Then I decided to give it a try," she

said. She chose to set her business in Nyagatare considering that the area has plenty of milk, which was the main raw material for yoghurt.

"There were also cases of malnutrition in the place. Yoghurt is a nutritious drink. So, I wanted to present it as a solution and intervention to end the status quo," she said. Kicking off she was producing and selling about 38 liters of yoghurt.

The business has been working out, despite being a couple of chal-

lenges that would deter its growth. These challenges include lack of capital to grow aspects of her enterprise. For instance, she still lacks a refrigerated car to transport her products to date.

Yet, this has not stopped her from making strides. She has managed to increase her production by about four times from the time she started, as she is currently producing about 150 litres of yoghurt per week. This is in different flavours including vanilla, mixed fruit,

straw berry, plain, chocolate, and beetroot.

"It's all about strategizing. You must be able to bring up something unique," she said. "I introduced rare flavours like beetroot as a new thing on the market as a strategy," she said. She however recognised that people still need to learn more about the new flavours like beetroot in order to grow her market. The largest volume of her production is strawberry yoghurt, since people prefer it.

She is able to sell all her weekly production during the course of the week, during the sunny season. In the rainy season, it takes longer. "People take more yoghurt in the sunny season. When it's rainy, they don't take it as much," she said.

Though transportation being an issue, her immediate market is the Eastern Province where she says that her marketing strategy is door-to-door. "I go to different shops and say: look, it's a new product, it's delicious and affordable," she said. Her products go for 280 Rwf (the 250ml bottle), and 500 Rwf for the 500ml package.

"The business's growth is promising. I think I am holding it back since I don't have enough capacity to produce in larger quantities and frequency of production," she said. She aspires to reach out to all the market in Rwanda, but she knows this requires more capital and she has to look for ways.

"If I could get a way of getting capital, it would solve everything. The product is good, going by the feedback we get. If I can get a car, more machinery, and improve the technology used, I can do much better," she said.

## COMPETITIVENESS

## Brand Africa top 100 best brands in 2019

JOHANNESBURG

Today, 24 May 2019, at the JSE, at an event with industry leaders from across Africa, hosted by the JSE in partnership with Geopoll, Kantar and Brand Leadership, Brand Africa announced the Top 100 brands in Africa in their 7th annual Brand Africa 100: Africa's Best Brands. Nike, MTN, Dangote, Ecobank and BBC were recognised as the most admired brands on the continent.

Since 2011, the Brand Africa 100 has been surveying and ranking the most admired brands spontaneously recalled by African consumers. In a relatively stable Top 100 list, the US sports and fitness mega brand, Nike, retains the overall #1 brand in Africa spontaneously recalled by consumers.

South African telecoms brand MTN is the #1 African brand spontaneously recalled brand, while surging Ethiopian brand Anbessa Shoes, at #2, swapped positions with Nigerian conglomerate, Dangote, which is the #3 most admired brand of African origin. However, when consumers are prompted to recall the most admired African brand, Dangote retains the #1 position.

Overall, African brands faltered to an all-time low 14% share of the Top 100 most admired brands in Africa. Faced with a relentless focus on the African opportunity and investment by non-African brands, Africa's share of the most admired brands has been rapidly declining over the past 3 years from a high of 25% in 2013/4 to lows of 16% in 2015/6, 16% in 2016/7 and 17% in 2017/8.

Non-African brands have entrenched their positions in Africa, with North American brands, dominated exclusively by United States of America brands (28%), leading with a growth of 17% versus 2017/8.

The strength of USA brands was boosted by the entry and/or re-entry of stalwart American brands such as #71 Levi's, #91 Chevrolet and Pepsi's Miranda at #80, who are all among the 20 new entrants. European brands (41%) are up by 2.5% and Asian brands (17%) down by 10%, round up the continental spread of brands Africans admire.

The Brand Africa 100 rankings are based on a survey among a representative sample of respondents 18 years and older, conducted in 25 countries across Africa. Covering all African economic regions, collectively these countries account for an estimated 80% of the continent's population and 75% of the GDP.

In a reconfigured category listing where technology and electronics and telecoms categories were separated and new categories of luxury and personal care were introduced or re-introduced, the Top 100 is dominated by technology and electronic brands (18%) and telecoms (7%), consumer (non-cyclical) (16%), auto manufacturers (11%), luxury (10%), automobile (11%), apparel (8%), retail (7%), food (4%), non-alcoholic beverages (5%), personal care (4%), sports & fitness (4%) and media (1%) categories are the top categories.

Overall, the 2018/19 Brand Africa 100 list, which is calculated from 15,000 brand mentions illustrates a very diversified range of brands in Africa and shows year on year consistency with 80% of the Top 100 brands having been in the Top 100 Most Admired Brands in previous years.

The highest gains are dominated by apparel and luxury brands Vans (+65), FILA (+50) and a resurgent Levi's (+29). The sports category, led by Nike (#1), remains a strong performer, due to strategic repositioning or expansion in their positioning towards lifestyle high profile endorsements, and partnerships which have freshened and broadened the brands' appeal, particularly to youthful and young consumers.

The biggest faller was Peak Milk, dropping from 33 to 98, possibly due to the dairy industry globally seeing a significant drop in sales of cows' milk as alternatives are becoming more and more popular amongst consumers. Victoria's Secret and Indomie dropped 36 and 33 spots respectively.

Because of the transformational and catalytic impact of media and financial services in Africa, Brand Africa has a separate promoted

## ON RECORD

## Billions at play - the future of African energy book to be written

LAGOS

Centurion Law Group Founder and CEO NJ Ayuk has been saying for years that Africa's oil and gas resources can fuel socio-economic revitalization throughout the continent. Now he's writing a book that explains how it can be done.

The book, "Billions at play: the future of African energy," which is slated for release in October 2019, will be packed with captivating, useful ideas, stories, examples and information that Africans can use to take command of their future, from new oil revenue management models, gas to power, to the deal-making techniques and behind the scene strategies that Ayuk has

successfully employed with multinationals and African governments.

Additional topics covered in the book include the importance of including women in oil and gas leadership, monetizing petroleum resources, American investment in Africa oil and gas in the era of President Trump, local content, addressing energy security concerns, new African game changers, and the value African countries achieve by participating in The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), among others.

"We've heard more than enough about the challenges facing Africa," said Ayuk, who also is the co-author of Big Barrels:

African Oil and Gas and the Quest for Prosperity and Executive Chairman of the Africa Energy Chamber.

"Instead of dwelling on our problems, we should be working together to reverse Africa's Resource Curse. Don't get me wrong, this book will not be an idealistic treatise for a better world. It will have more of a 'stop complaining, get up and get to work' kind of message - backed up with practical ideas for strategically harnessing Africa's petroleum resources."

Ayuk says that one of his main goals for writing the book is to inspire a healthy dialogue about the future of the African energy industry that is seeing new changes in Nigeria, Senegal, Ghana, Kenya,

South Sudan, Algeria, Uganda, Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Cameroon, Gabon, South Africa, Angola, Libya, Niger, Congo, Chad, Mauritania, Tanzania and many other new players.

"I know there will be readers who disagree with my points, and I welcome that," he said. "We can't make meaningful, positive changes for everyday Africans until we start discussing a way forward. The more we advocate personal responsibility, limited government, free markets, individual liberty, and an enabling environment for investment, Africa's oil industry and African stand to benefit than relying on foreign aid and assistance."

FAITH

# What is the economic impact of Ramadhan?



The al-Rabat Sweets and Bakery, founded by Iraqi immigrants in the UAE, is pictured during the Muslim holy month of Ramadan, in Sharjah.

DUBAI

**R**amadan is a time for spiritual reflection and regeneration, a strengthening of belief through feeding the mind rather than the body. But what is the impact on economic growth and development in Muslim-majority countries?

The issue is a complex one, even if it is sometimes dealt with simplistically. If 700 million Muslims deny themselves sustenance during daylight hours for a month, and often shorten working days by several hours, surely this will hit productivity?

Yet others have argued that if properly observed, a Muslim worker after fasting, can be more focused on important tasks and emerges as a better person, and a better employee. Several attempts have been made to measure the role Ramadan plays in economic growth. The most comprehensive is a 2014 report by the US-based National Bureau of Economic Research, using data from Muslims fasting in 167 countries over 60 years.

The study, by Filipe Capante and David Yanagizawa-Drott, concluded that researchers had “established causal evidence for a negative effect of Ramadan fasting on economic growth in Muslim countries.”

But it also reported that this was “accompanied by an increase in the levels of self-reported happiness and life satisfaction among Muslims.” The NBEC study also found - after comparing summer Ramadans with those that fell in winter - that the length of the fast was significant in measuring the loss of productivity.

In the Southern Hemisphere, a Ramadan in July is a season of shorter days, while in the Northern Hemisphere they are much longer, allowing a direct comparison. “Longer prescribed Ramadan fasting has a robust negative effect on output growth in Muslim countries,” the report said, claiming that lengthening the fast by a single hour could reduce output growth by 0.7 per cent.

This was only observed in Muslim majority countries, however, as was another finding: that Ramadan makes people happier. “Put

simply, it makes them happier in spite of making them relatively poorer,” the authors concluded, pointing out that the two effects could cancel each other out.

Dr Rummy Hasan, a lecturer in science policy research at the University of Sussex in the UK, said he believed Ramadan did restrict economic growth. Based on a typical reduction of the working day by two hours in Muslim countries, and factoring in the loss of productivity from fasting workers, he calculates the holy month “has a three per cent recessionary impact every year. There is no getting round it.”

He found the total loss of 42 working hours for each employee during Ramadan is not made up during the rest of the year. “The reduction in working hours are not compensated for afterwards,” he said.

This view is contradicted by the National Bureau of Economic Research study, however. It also does not take account of the boost to the economy during Ramadan and Eid, with increased spending especially in the hospitality and leisure sectors.

A 2015 poll by YouGov in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) found that almost exactly half of respondents said they were as productive during the holy month as the rest of the year, but that six out of 10 said their spending went up during Ramadan. Almost a third also said they put off making major purchases until the Ramadan sales.

Another survey, by the Islamic marketing consultancy Ogilvy Noor, last year calculated that Ramadan was worth £200 million (Dh1bn) alone to the economy of the UK, a non-Muslim majority country. Online shopping has proved another stimulus, with internet sales last year rising by 106 per cent in the second week of Ramadan, while travel plans made once Ramadan was over rose by 51 per cent leading up to Eid Al Fitr in the Middle East.

Productivity in Ramadan, is a joint survey from 2011 by Dinar-Standard, a growth research consultancy, and Productive Muslim, described as the world’s first personal development platform for Muslims.

LAXITY

# Millennials work less than their parents yet suffering more from workplace stress

LONDON

Millennial burnout is a phrase that has been thrown around a lot in recent times. It refers to the notion that millennials - those born in the '80s and '90s - are overloading themselves to the point that they struggle with everyday tasks.

But a new study has found that millennials are actually spending far less time in their places of work than the generations that came before them. Yet, despite these shorter hours and more freedoms in the workplace, millennials also feel like they are under much greater pressure.

More than 1,500 people under the age of 45 took part in the study, conducted by fitness network HUSLE, which asked people to compare their work-life balance to that of their parents. On paper, the results showed that those questioned deemed their working life to be more easy-going than their parents' - 85 per cent said their hours were more flexible, while 86 per cent claimed to have more freedom.

Around 30 per cent of those asked recalled their parents working longer hours, however, most did not believe their parents would have known what the phrase “work stress” meant, saying they were more likely to “just get on with things.”

But despite the seemingly easier working conditions of those surveyed, 14 per cent said they had taken time off work because of stress, while 12 per cent said they had sought medical help. More than a quarter said they felt anxious and stressed about work, with a fifth saying they had lost sleep because of work stress.

Social media, technology and the inability to switch off seem to be a big factor in adding to stress. Two thirds of those surveyed said they struggled to turn their phones or laptops off outside of office hours, while more than 90 per cent said they felt social media fuelled pressure to have the perfect career and life.

It also helps that there is more conversation around mental health for millennials than previous generations enjoyed, and this openness helps people to talk about how they are feeling and find ways to deal with it.

If you are feeling workplace stress, here are five ways to help switch off after a long day:

**Exercise**  
It might sound cliched and like the last thing you want to do after a long, stressful day, but taking some time for yourself to exercise can help to clear your mind, release endorphins and let go of anything still niggling you from the day. Working out in the evening has also been proven to help you get a good night's sleep.

**Meditate**  
Whether you're new to meditation or a seasoned practitioner, only five minutes a day can be enough to help you re-centre your mind and clear away any negative thoughts. Gone are the days of having to go to classes, too. There are now plenty of free-to-download apps that can guide you through how to get started.

**Cook**  
Cooking can be time consuming, and after a long day, the temptation to grab something quickly or order takeout often prevails. But there is something cathartic about getting lost in preparing a good, healthy meal. It gives your mind something to focus on, and you will feel like you have achieved something for yourself when you sit down to enjoy it.

**Listen to a podcast**  
While listening to music may help some people to de-stress, your favourite songs can sometimes not be enough to stop the mind from wandering back to work-related thoughts. Finding a podcast to listen to is not only great for keeping your attention, but depending on what podcast you choose, it will also teach you something new, have you laughing out loud or let you in on the lives of one of your icons.

**Socialise**  
While you may just want to go home and hibernate after a long day, making plans to see friends or family can help break up a long working week and give you an outlet for anything that might be bothering you. While catching up over social media might sometimes seem preferable, there is nothing like face-to-face interaction, and you'll be glad you made time for those you love.



<p><b>TUESDAY 28 May</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:30 HABARI</p> <p>8:00 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>8:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>9:30 Isidingo</p> <p>9:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>10:00 Watoto wetu</p> <p>10:30 Shamsam za pwani</p> <p>10:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>11:00 Shamsam za pwani</p> <p>11:25 Igizo: Mtego</p> <p>11:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>12:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>12:30 Aifa ya jamii rpt</p> <p>12:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>13:00 Uchumi na biashara</p> <p>13:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: TFDA</p> <p>13:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>14:00 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino) rpt</p> <p>14:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>15:00 Meza Huru</p> <p>16:30 Watoto wetu</p> <p>17:00 The Base</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 The great queen Seonduk</p> <p>19:00 Jarida la wanawake</p> <p>19:30 Isidingo</p> <p>20:00 HABARI</p> <p>21:00 Tanzania yetu</p> <p>21:30 Kipindi Maalum: Chetu ni chetu</p> <p>22:00 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino)</p> <p>23:00 Habari</p> <p>23:30 The Base</p> <p>00:30 CNN International</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY 29 May</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:30 HABARI</p> <p>8:00 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>9:30 Isidingo</p> <p>9:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>10:00 Watoto wetu</p> <p>10:30 Korean: The Great queen Seonduk</p> <p>10:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>11:00 Korean: The Great queen Seonduk</p> <p>11:15 Jagina</p> <p>12:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt</p> <p>13:00 Dakika 45</p> <p>14:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)</p> <p>15:00 Meza Huru</p> <p>16:30 Watoto Wetu</p> <p>17:00 The Base</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 Mizengwe rpt</p> <p>18:30 Ijue Sheria</p> <p>19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TFDA</p> <p>19:30 Isidingo</p> <p>20:00 HABARI</p> <p>21:00 Aibu Yakof! Hata wewe?</p> <p>21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco</p> <p>21:40 Kesho leo</p>	<p>22:15 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino)</p> <p>23:00 Habari</p> <p>23:30 The Base</p> <p>00:30 Al Jazeera</p> <p>2:00 CNN International</p> <p><b>THURSDAY 30 May</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:30 HABARI</p> <p>8:00 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>8:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>9:30 Isidingo</p> <p>9:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>10:00 Watoto wetu</p> <p>10:30 Igizo: Kivuko</p> <p>10:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>11:00 Igizo: Kivuko</p> <p>11:15 Uongozi</p> <p>11:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>12:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>12:30 Ijue Sheria</p> <p>12:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>13:00 Sanaa na wasanii</p> <p>13:30 Tanzania yetu</p> <p>13:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>14:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)</p> <p>14:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>15:00 Meza Huru</p> <p>16:30 Watoto Wetu</p> <p>17:00 The Base</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 Mapishi</p> <p>18:30 Jagina</p> <p>19:00 Usafiri wako</p> <p>19:30 Isidingo</p> <p>20:00 HABARI</p> <p>21:00 Malumbano ya hoja</p> <p>23:00 HABARI</p> <p>23:30 The Base</p> <p>00:30 CNN International</p> <p><b>FRIDAY 31 May</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:30 HABARI</p> <p>8:00 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>8:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>9:30 Isidingo</p> <p>9:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>10:00 Watoto wetu</p> <p>10:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo</p> <p>11:00 Hawavumi lakini wamo</p> <p>11:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>12:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco</p> <p>12:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>13:00 Jagina rpt</p> <p>13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt</p> <p>13:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt</p> <p>14:15 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)</p> <p>14:55 Habari za saa</p> <p>15:00 Meza Huru</p> <p>16:30 Watoto wetu</p> <p>17:00 The Base</p> <p>17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p>	<p>18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe</p> <p>18:30 Shamba lulu</p> <p>19:00 Uchumi na biashara</p> <p>19:30 Isidingo</p> <p>20:00 HABARI</p> <p>21:05 Kipima joto</p> <p>23:00 HABARI</p> <p>23:30 The Base</p> <p>00:30 CNN International</p> <p><b>SATURDAY 01 June</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:00 HABARI</p> <p>8:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>9:00 Watoto wetu</p> <p>10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt</p> <p>11:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt</p> <p>11:30 Usafiri wako</p> <p>12:00 Mapishi</p> <p>12:30 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)</p> <p>14:45 Igizo rpt: Kivuko</p> <p>15:15 Igizo rpt: Elininyo</p> <p>15:45 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe</p> <p>16:00 Igizo rpt: Kimya Millele</p> <p>16:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt</p> <p>17:00 Shamsam za Pwani</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 Mapishi</p> <p>18:30 Igizo: Elininyo</p> <p>19:00 Sanaa na wasanii</p> <p>19:30 Jungu Kuu</p> <p>20:00 HABARI</p> <p>21:00 Igizo: Kimya Millele</p> <p>21:30 Hawavumi lakini wamo</p> <p>22:00 Moja bet</p> <p>22:15 Isidingo rpt</p> <p>01:00 CNN International</p> <p><b>SUNDAY 02 June</b></p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi</p> <p>6:00 HABARI</p> <p>6:40 Kumekucha</p> <p>7:00 HABARI</p> <p>8:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>09:00 Watoto Wetu</p> <p>10:00 Isidingo</p> <p>11:45 Aibu Yakof!</p> <p>11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt</p> <p>12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: Maisha</p> <p>14:00 Tamasha la Michezo</p> <p>15:00 Mwangaza</p> <p>16:00 Korean drama: The great queen Seonduk</p> <p>16:45 Mjue zaidi</p> <p>17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo</p> <p>18:00 Jiji Letu</p> <p>18:15 Mapishi</p> <p>18:30 Mizengwe rpt</p> <p>18:45 Matukio ya wiki</p> <p>19:30 Igizo: Mtego</p> <p>20:00 HABARI</p> <p>21:05 Mizengwe</p> <p>21:00 Bongo Movie: Maisha 2</p> <p>22:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)</p> <p><b>Tues 28 May</b></p>	<p>06:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>08:00 CNN International News</p> <p>09:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>10:00 Kumekucha</p> <p>10:30 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>11:30 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>12:00 The Decor rpt</p> <p>12:30 Mizengwe rpt</p> <p>12:45 Albu Yakof!</p> <p>13:00 Series rpt: Godwin</p> <p>13:45 Series rpt: The land of wind</p> <p>14:15 Local pgm rpt: Business Edition</p> <p>15:00 Bundesliga kick off</p> <p>15:30 Out and About rpt</p> <p>16:00 Capchat rpt</p> <p>17:00 Usafiri wako rpt</p> <p>17:30 Meza huru</p> <p>19:00 Innovation</p> <p>19:30 Jagina</p> <p>19:30 Ripoti Maalum</p> <p>20:00 Series: Godwin</p> <p>20:45 Series: The land of wind</p> <p>21:30 Capital Prime</p> <p>22:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt</p> <p>22:30 Iron Chef rpt</p> <p>23:30 Al Jazeera</p> <p><b>Wed 29 May</b></p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>08:00 CNN International News</p> <p>09:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>08:00 CNN International News</p> <p>09:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>10:00 Kumekucha</p> <p>10:30 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>11:30 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>12:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt</p> <p>12:30 Culinary delight rpt</p> <p>13:00 Series rpt: Godwin</p> <p>13:45 Series rpt: The Land of wind</p> <p>14:30 Local Pgm: The Monday Agenda Rpt</p> <p>15:15 Capchat rpt</p> <p>16:15 CNN International</p> <p>17:00 Innovation rpt</p> <p>17:30 Meza Huru</p> <p>19:00 Sports Gazette</p> <p>19:30 Chetu ni chetu</p> <p>20:00 Series: Godwin</p> <p>20:45 Series: The land of wind</p> <p>21:30 Capital Prime News</p> <p>22:00 Dakika 45:</p> <p>22:45 The Decor</p> <p>23:15 Al Jazeera</p> <p><b>Thurs 30 May</b></p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>08:00 CNN International News</p> <p>09:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>10:00 Kumekucha</p> <p>10:30 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>11:30 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>12:00 Series rpt: Godwin</p> <p>13:45 Series rpt: The land of wind</p> <p>14:30 Business Edition rpt</p> <p>15:00 Korean Drama rpt: Emperor of the sea</p> <p>16:00 Dakika 45 rpt</p> <p>17:00 In good shape</p> <p>17:30 Meza Huru</p> <p>19:00 Turning the spotlight</p> <p>19:30 Tanzania yetu</p> <p>20:00 Series: Godwin</p> <p>20:45 Series: The land of wind</p> <p>21:30 Capital Prime News</p> <p>22:00 Capchat rpt</p> <p>23:00 Al Jazeera</p>	<p><b>Frid 31 May</b></p> <p>06:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>08:00 CNN International News</p> <p>09:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p>10:00 Kumekucha</p> <p>10:30 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>11:30 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>12:00 Innovation rpt</p> <p>12:30 Kumekucha Michezo</p> <p>13:00 Kumekucha Kishindo</p> <p>13:00 Innovation rpt</p> <p>13:00 Series rpt: Godwin</p> <p>13:45 Series rpt: The land of wind</p> <p>14:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt</p> <p>15:00 Korean Dram rpt: Emperor of the sea</p> <p>16:00 CNN International</p> <p>16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt</p> <p>17:30 Meza Huru</p> <p>19:00 Drive it</p> <p>19:30 Eco@Africa</p> <p>20:00 Aibu yakof!</p> <p>20:15 Local Pgm: Business Edition</p> <p>20:45 Series: The land of wind</p> <p>21:30 Capital Prime News</p> <p>22:30 Malumbano ya hoja rpt</p> <p>00:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p><b>Sat 01 June</b></p> <p>08:00 CNN International</p> <p>09:00 Drive It rpt</p> <p>09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt</p> <p>10:00 Culinary delight rpt</p> <p>10:30 Innovation rpt</p> <p>11:00 Out n'about rpt</p> <p>11:30 Sports Gazette rpt</p> <p>12:00 Usafiri wako rpt</p> <p>12:30 Eco@Africa rpt</p> <p>13:00 Business edition rpt</p> <p>13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Emperor of the sea</p> <p>14:30 Telenovela rpt: The land of wind</p> <p>17:15 Tanzania Yetu rpt</p> <p>17:45 Bundesliga kick off</p> <p>18:15 Capchat rpt</p> <p>19:15 Mizengwe</p> <p>19:30 The Decor</p> <p>20:00 Iron Chef.</p> <p>21:00 Out n' About</p> <p>21:30 Movie: The last hitman</p> <p>23:00 Grapes of Justice rpt</p> <p>01:00 Al Jazeera</p> <p><b>Sun 02 June</b></p> <p>08:00 CNN International</p> <p>09:00 In good shape</p> <p>10:00 Capchat rpt</p> <p>11:00 Sports Gazette rpt</p> <p>11:30 Iron chef rpt</p> <p>12:00 Jagina rpt</p> <p>12:30 Bundesliga Kick Off rpt</p> <p>13:00 Shamba lulu</p> <p>13:30 Series rpt: Godwin</p> <p>15:15 Aibu yakof!</p> <p>15:30 Drive it rpt</p> <p>16:00 Dakika 45 rpt</p> <p>16:45 Mizengwe rpt</p> <p>17:00 The Decor rpt</p> <p>17:30 Meza huru</p> <p>19:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt</p> <p>19:30 Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights</p> <p>20:00 Korean Drama rpt: Emperor of the sea</p> <p>21:00 Shift</p> <p>21:15 Capchat live</p> <p>22:15 Series rpt: The land of wind</p> <p>00:00 Al Jazeera</p>
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## WORLD

# Trump threatens up to 25 per cent Mexico tariffs over migrant surge

WASHINGTON/MEXICO CITY

US President Donald Trump, responding to a surge of illegal immigrants across the southern border, vowed on Thursday to impose a tariff on all goods coming from Mexico, starting at 5% and ratcheting much higher until the flow of people ceases.

Trump's move dramatically escalates his battle to control a wave of tens of thousands of asylum seekers, including many Central American families fleeing poverty and violence, that has swelled alongside his promises to make it harder to get US refugee and his efforts to build a wall on the Mexican border.

The announcement rattled investors who feared that worsening trade friction could hurt the global economy. The Mexican peso, US stock index futures and Asian stock markets tum-

bled on the news, including the shares of Japanese automakers who ship cars from Mexico to the United States.

The president's decision, announced on Twitter and in a subsequent statement, was a direct challenge to Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador and took the Mexican government by surprise on a day when it had started a formal process to ratify a trade deal with the United States and Canada (USMCA).

It raised the risk of devastating economic relations with the biggest US trade partner for goods. Mexico, heavily dependent on cross-border trade, rose to that ranking as a result of Trump's trade war with China.

The measures against Mexico open up a new front on trade and if implemented are bound to trigger retaliation that would hit heartland, Trump-supporting farming and industrial



states.

Higher tariffs will start at 5% on June 10 and increase monthly up to 25% on Oct 1, unless Mexico takes immediate action, he said.

"If the illegal migration crisis is alleviated through effective actions taken by Mexico, to be determined in our sole discretion and judgment, the tariffs will be removed," Trump said.

Lopez Obrador responded in a letter he posted on Twitter, calling Trump's policy of America First "a fallacy" and accusing him of turning the United States into a "ghetto," that stigmatized and mistreated migrants.

"President Trump, social problems are not resolved with taxes or coercive measures," he wrote, adding that a delegation led by Foreign Minister Marcelo Ebrard would travel to Washington on Friday. He did not threaten to retaliate, saying he wanted to avoid confrontation.

Lopez Obrador pushed back against Trump's assertion that Mexico let immigration happen through "passive cooperation," saying: "you know we are fulfilling our responsibility to stop (migrants) moving through our country, as much as possible and without violating human rights."

Determined to avoid a break down in Mexico's most important bilateral relationship, since Trump threatened to close the world's busiest

land border over the migrant surge, Lopez Obrador's government has drastically tightened controls on the movement of migrants, detaining and deporting thousands in recent months, while calling for US aid to tackle root causes.

"We're in a good moment building a good relationship (with the United States) and this comes like a cold shower," said Mexico's deputy foreign minister for North America, Jesus Seade.

He said the 5% tariff on all imported Mexican goods will be disastrous if carried out.

The measure "has no justification," and could directly affect up to 1.5 million Mexicans and would have an economic impact of US\$2 billion, the Mexican official said at a press conference.

Mexico would respond "energetically" in the face of threats from US President Donald Trump, said the official, who is also Mexico's chief trade negotiator of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

"This threat, taken to action, would be extremely serious, and Mexico will not stand with arms crossed while it is in the process of ratifying (the) USMCA," and if Mexico were to apply a similar measure, "it would mean a trade war," the official stressed.

Agencies

## Tokyo recognized USSR's ownership of Kuril Islands in 1956 Declaration, Lavrov says

TOKYO

THE wording of the 1956 Japan-Soviet Joint Declaration on a peace treaty shows that Tokyo then considered the Southern Kuril Islands as an inalienable part of the Soviet Union's territory, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told reporters yesterday.

"We have never rejected the 1956 Declaration, unlike Japan, which was forced by the Americans to put its implementation on hold, by signing a treaty on a military alliance in 1962," Lavrov said.

Since the first days of his presidency, Russian President Vladimir Putin has stressed that Moscow will have a responsible approach to all commitments undertaken by the Soviet Union, he noted.

Lavrov recalled that under the Declaration Russia and Japan agreed on taking steps to achieve a peace treaty, and this implies the recognition of the outcome of World War II.

The Declaration says that after signing this agreement Moscow will be ready to solve the border disengagement issue as a good will gesture and to meet the Japanese people's interests, he noted.

"The mere fact that the basis of such a prospect was defined as the Soviet Union's good will gesture and its intention to take into account the interests of the Japanese people means only one thing - at the moment of signing the declaration both sides considered these islands as an inalienable part of the Soviet territory," Lavrov said.

"Without recognizing this fact it is impossible to move forward on the basis of the declaration."

## Assange suffering from 'psychological torture'

GENEVA

WIKILEAKS founder Julian Assange has suffered "psychological torture" from a defamation campaign against him by the media, judges and senior political figures, a United Nations human rights investigator said yesterday.

Nils Melzer, the UN special rapporteur on torture who visited Assange in a high-security London prison on May 9, voiced concern at fresh US criminal charges laid against Assange and reiterated a call for him not to be extradited.

Assange was too ill on Thursday to appear via video link from a British prison in a hearing on an extradition request from the United States, his lawyer Gareth Peirce told Reuters. He is in a health ward.

"Assange has been deliberately exposed, for a period of several years, to progressively severe forms of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, the cumulative effects of which can only be described as psychological torture," Melzer said in a statement.

The Swiss law professor, an independent expert, was accompanied on the prison visit by two medical experts specialized in examining potential victims of torture and other ill-treatment, the statement said. They spoke with Assange in private and conducted a "thorough medical assessment".

"It was obvious that Mr. Assange's health has been seriously affected by the extremely hostile and arbitrary environment he has been exposed to for many years," Melzer said.

"In addition to physical ailments, Mr. Assange showed all symptoms typical for prolonged exposure



to psychological torture, including extreme stress, chronic anxiety and intense psychological trauma."

The United States is seeking the extradition of Assange, who was dragged from the Ecuadorian embassy in London on April 11 after his seven-year asylum was revoked, for one of the biggest ever leaks of classified information.

The Australian, now 47, had skipped bail and taken refuge there in 2012 to avoid extradition to Sweden over a sexual assault investigation that was later dropped. Sweden reopened the investigation in early May. Assange denies the rape allegation.

The United States has charged Assange with espionage, saying he unlawfully published the names of classified sources and assisted ex-Army intelligence analyst Chelsea Manning in obtaining access to classified information. He faces 18 US criminal counts and decades in prison if convicted.

"My most urgent concern is that, in the United States, Mr. Assange would be exposed to a real risk of serious violations of his human rights, including his freedom of expression, his right to a fair trial and the prohibition of torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment," Melzer said.

Agencies

## Pacts set to be signed during Xi's state visit to Russia

BEIJING

BEIJING and Moscow will sign around 30 cooperation documents during President Xi Jinping's state visit to Russia next week, including two joint statements on bilateral ties as well as on global strategic stability, Vice-Foreign Minister Zhang Hanhui said on Thursday.

Xi will kick off a three-day state visit to Russia on Wednesday at the invitation of Russian President Vladimir Putin, and attend the 23rd St. Petersburg International Economic Forum to be held between June 6 and June 8.

The two presidents will witness the signing of an array of agreements on business deals in areas such as trade, investment and energy, Zhang said at a media briefing in Beijing.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of diplomatic ties between China and Russia, and Xi's visit will mark a milestone for

both countries, Zhang said.

The two heads of state will take part in strategic planning to upgrade bilateral ties, and "jointly usher in a new era of high-level development of China-Russia relations", he said.

In response to a question about the influence of ongoing Sino-US trade friction on cooperation between Chinese and Russian enterprises, Zhang said Beijing and Moscow share a broad consensus and common interests, and will work together to deal with external challenges.

"We have the confidence, resolve and ability to safeguard our country's sovereignty, security and dignity as well as its development interests," he added.

"The China-Russia relationship neither targets a third party, nor will it be weakened by discord sowed by any third party," Zhang said.

Zhang underlined the important role of head-of-state diplo-



macy in Sino-Russian relations, saying the two presidents have had 28 meetings on various occasions since 2013. Their last meeting took place in Beijing in April.

Oleg Timofeev, an associate professor of China studies at Peoples' Friendship University of Russia, said the frequent meetings between the two presidents

demonstrate the good political relations between China and Russia. Thanks to their personal relationship, the countries' ties are best they have ever been, he said.

Natalia Pecheritsa, a professor and director of the Center for Asian and Pacific Countries at Russian New University said Xi's visit will have a positive effect on

bilateral cooperation in various fields, not only in political and economic fields, but in cultural and educational areas as well.

Vladimir Yakunin, chairman of the Dialogue of Civilizations Research Institute, said that against the backdrop of growing global discord, Xi's visit demonstrates the strategic relationship of the two countries.

During Xi's visit, the two leaders will attend a series of events commemorating the 70th anniversary of the establishment of bilateral ties, which will include the official opening ceremony of a panda facility at Moscow Zoo, Zhang said. A pair of giant pandas were delivered to Moscow Zoo in April for research cooperation.

St. Petersburg State University, Putin's alma mater, will award Xi an honorary doctorate during the visit, Zhang said. Putin was granted the same honor by Tsinghua University, Xi's alma mater, in April.

Xinhua

## Huawei calls on US to adjust its approach to tackle cybersecurity effectively

SHENZHEN

HUAWEI has filed a motion for summary judgment as part of the process to challenge the constitutionality of Section 889 of the 2019 National Defense Authorization Act (2019 NDAA). It also called on the US government to halt its state-sanctioned campaign against Huawei because it will not deliver cybersecurity.

Banning Huawei using cybersecurity as an excuse "will do nothing to make networks more secure. They provide a false sense of security, and distract attention from the real challenges we face," said Song Liuping,

Huawei's chief legal officer. "Politicians in the US are using the strength of an entire nation to come after a private company," Song noted. "This is not normal. Almost never seen in history."

"The US government has provided no evidence to show that Huawei is a security threat. There is no gun, no smoke. Only speculation," Song added. In the complaint, Huawei argues that Section 889 of the 2019 NDAA singles out Huawei by name and not only bars US government agencies from buying Huawei equipment and services, but also bars them from contracting with or awarding grants or loans to third parties who buy Huawei



equipment or services—even if there is no impact or connection to the US government.

Song also addressed the addition of Huawei to the "Entity List" by the US

Commerce Department two weeks ago. "This sets a dangerous precedent. Today it's telecoms and Huawei. Tomorrow it could be your industry, your company, your consumers," he

said. "The judicial system is the last line of defense for justice. Huawei has confidence in the independence and integrity of the US judicial system. We hope that mistakes in the NDAA can be corrected by the court," Song added.

Glen Nager, Huawei's lead counsel for the case, said Section 889 of the 2019 NDAA violates the Bill of Attainder, Due Process, and Vesting Clauses of the United States Constitution.

Thus the case is purely "a matter of law" as there are no facts at issue, thereby justifying the motion for a summary judgement to speed up the process.

## Hungary Prime Minister seeks thorough probe into fatal boat accident

BUDAPEST

HUNGARIAN Prime Minister Viktor Orban said yesterday he had asked for a thorough investigation into a boat accident on the Danube River in central Budapest that killed at least seven South Korean tourists this week.

"One is shaken by this ... an accident happened where passengers had almost no chance for survival," Orban told state radio, offering condolences to relatives of the victims.

"I have asked the authorities to car-

ry out a strict and thorough investigation," he said.

Hungarian police said late on Thursday they had taken into custody the captain of a cruise ship involved in the accident.

The 64-year-old man is suspected of endangering water transport leading to a deadly mass accident. In line with Hungarian laws, the suspect was identified only as Yuriy C., referencing his first name and the initial letter of his last name.

The boat was on an hour-long sight-

seeing tour of Budapest when it collided with a larger luxury passenger boat during a rainstorm on Wednesday evening, causing it to capsize and sink with 33 South Korean tourists and tour guides and two Hungarian crew aboard.

Seven South Koreans were rescued, seven died, and 19 South Koreans were among the 21 people still missing. Hungarian rescue officials said on Thursday there was little chance of finding survivors.

Hungary's state TV reported that

all those rescued have been released from the hospital except one who is being treated for broken ribs.

South Korean rescue teams and officials including South Korean Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha arrived in Budapest on Friday.

"The most important emphasis of our government is the protection of Korean nationals overseas," Ministry of Foreign Affairs Secretary Oh Sai Juengh said upon his arrival in Budapest.

A crane ship was docked near the

wreck in preparation for recovery operations. Police have said the rescue efforts were hampered by high water levels, strong currents and bad visibility.

The sunken boat was located early Thursday near the Margit Bridge, not far from the neo-Gothic Parliament building on the riverbank.

Video released by Hungarian police showed the sightseeing boat, identified as the Hableany (Mermaid), traveling closely side by side and in the same direction as a German-built

Viking cruise ship as they approached the bridge Wednesday night.

The Hableany then appeared to steer slightly to its left, into the path of the 135-meter long cruise ship, which continued to sail on at the same speed. The two collided and the sightseeing boat was then seen tipping on its side between the bridge's two supports.

"As the Viking comes into contact with (the Hableany), it overturns it and in about seven seconds, as it turns on its side, it sinks," Police Col. Adrian Pal said.



# Flying has become more unsafe. Don't just blame Boeing

By Bloomberg

FLYING has become deadlier than it has been for years and it's hard to pin it solely on Boeing Co's infamous 737 Max.

Aircraft accidents occurred more frequently in almost every region worldwide in 2018 as the death toll climbed to a four-year high of 523, according to the International Air Transport Association. The fatal crashes of Ethiopian Airlines Flight 302 and Aeroflot Flight 1492 ensure that this year will be another bad one.

So what happened to the safest form of travel? It's one of the biggest questions hanging over airline and aircraft executives as they congregate this weekend in Seoul at IATA's annual meeting for the industry's largest gathering since the two Boeing 737 Max disasters.

What's clear is that demand for air travel is growing so fast – IATA expects it to double in the next 20 years – that airlines, plane makers and regulators are struggling to keep up. Meanwhile, the pressure to keep costs low has intensified with the proliferation of no-frills carriers catering to travelers unrelentingly obsessed with ticket prices.

And the reality is that safety, whether it be the training of pilots or add-on features in planes, costs money and there's a limit to how much the industry can spend safeguarding human life.

"You get what you pay for," said Geoffrey Dell, a safety scientist at Central Queensland University in Australia who's been an air-safety investigator since 1979. "Everyone is moving back to a minimum regulatory standard. It's

designed to give you the best outcome for the cheapest price."

## Still safe

To be sure, flying is still relatively safe. Some 4.3 billion travelers, the equivalent of more than half the world's population, flew safely in 2018.

The chance of an accident is little more than one in a million. And it's been more than a decade since fatalities topped 1,000 in a given year, something that would regularly happen from the 1960s until the turn of the century.

Yet that didn't stop Montreal-based IATA, whose member airlines represent more than 80% of air traffic worldwide, from painting an unusually bleak picture in its safety report for 2018, which was released in April.

While the industry has made huge advances, it's been too slow to address catastrophic events such as the loss of control in mid-flight, according to the association.

Safety is also under pressure because airlines are increasingly asking manufacturers for specific aircraft to tap travel trends.

That's placing a burden on Chicago-based Boeing and European rival Airbus SE to deliver aircraft on time and on budget, said Ian Thomas, a senior aviation consultant at CAPA Consulting in Sydney. He noted Qantas Airways Ltd's public request for both manufacturers to make a plane that can fly Sydney to London non-stop by 2022.

"Safety and quality are important but price continues to be the main driver," said Thomas.

## New problems



Rescuers work at the scene where an Ethiopian Airlines flight crashed, near Bishoftu, or Debre Zeit, south of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, March 11, 2019. (AP)

Other pressure points have emerged. The surging demand for flights means that the world will need about three-quarters of a million new maintenance technicians and about the same number of new pilots by 2037 just to keep pace, according to Boeing's projections.

In the twin Boeing Max tragedies, preliminary probes exposed some of the risks associated with the complexities of modern aircraft. In both the October crash in Indonesia and the March disaster in Ethiopia, which killed 346 people, evidence emerged that an on-board system known as MCAS took control of the aircraft from the pilots and repeatedly forced both planes to dive.

The model – Boeing's fastest-selling jet ever – has been grounded globally since the second crash.

Then there's the issue of pilot training. Flight-handling errors, such as incorrect power or flap settings, contributed to about one-third of the 339 fatal and non-fatal accidents between 2013 and 2017, according to IATA.

Flight-simulator time is so expensive that piloting skills at some airlines that don't have their own machines have eroded, according to Central Queensland University's Dell.

While training levels vary depending on the airline, there's a clear need to prepare pilots to handle situations beyond syllabus items like landing-gear failure, according to Dirk Dahmen, Air-

bus training manager at Qantas and an A380 captain. As he puts it: "We need to train our pilots to deal with the unpredictable stuff."

Reversing the deadly trend of accidents is likely to require progress on multiple fronts, beyond recreating unusual scenarios in simulators. Regulators around the world also need enough resources to do their jobs, isolated from unnecessary influence from plane makers, said Richard Aboulafia, an aerospace analyst with Fairfax, Virginia-based Teal Group.

There's one tragic indicator when safety margins get too thin. "You've got a pile of wreckage that tells you you went too far," said Dell.

Agencies

## African transport ministers pledge support for green urban mobility

NAIROBI

TRANSPORT ministers drawn from Sub-Saharan Africa region on Thursday vowed to rally behind efforts to promote green mobility in cities amid congestion and air pollution.

James Macharia, Kenya's cabinet secretary for transport and infrastructure, said that African governments are keen to enact policies required to transform urban mobility and make it responsive to social, economic and environmental needs of citizens.

"Efficient and green mobility is key to boosting the resilience of African cities as they grapple with rapid growth and carbon emissions," said Macharia.

He spoke at a high level session on innovative urban mobility for sustainable cities in Africa held on the sidelines of the first UN-Habitat Assembly underway in Nairobi.

The high-level session was organized by UN-Habitat in partnership with the World Bank-affiliated Africa Transport Policy Program and the International Association of Public Transport.

Macharia said that innovative policies combined with investments in new technologies are key to boosting safety and ecological health of urban transport systems in Africa.

"Significant investments should be accompanied by policy reforms to ensure urban mobility is environmentally friendly and free from accidents," said Macharia.

He said that Kenya has prioritized introduction of bus rapid transport (BRT) system and speed trains in line with a master-plan on transforming urban mobility.

Xinhua

## Congo opposition leader's body returns home for funeral

KINSHASA

THE body of longtime Congolese opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi was returned to home soil on Thursday night for burial more than two years after his death, after a political standoff ended.

The arrival from Belgium fulfilled one of the first promises his son Felix made after unexpectedly coming to power as Congo's president earlier this year. A somber Felix Tshisekedi gently touched the casket, draped in the national flag, upon its arrival in the capital, Kinshasa, as thousands gathered.

Etienne Tshisekedi, 84, was the face of Congo's opposition for decades until his death in February 2017 in Brussels. Supporters say he was so potent a threat to former president Joseph Kabila that even his corpse had to remain abroad.

The arrival of Tshisekedi's remains underscores just how dramatically the political landscape in Congo has shifted. While he once claimed the presidency after a disputed election he never held the office, but the commemoration of his life will have all the markings of a service for a statesman.

Tens of thousands will pay tribute at a stadium on Friday and presidents from six other African nations are expected to attend the memorial service on Saturday.

Tshisekedi, known for his fiery criticism of Kabila and his trademark flat cap, died from a pulmonary embolism in Brussels and didn't live to see his political nemesis, Kabila, leave power.



Congo opposition leader Etienne Tshisekedi

At the time of his death, tensions were at an all-time high as critics feared Kabila would not cede power in the mineral-rich nation while elections were repeatedly delayed.

Family members and Tshisekedi's UDPS party were unable to reach an agreement with Kabila's government for the repatriation of his body, as the regime feared a funeral could lead to a resurgence of opposition demonstrations calling for Kabila's ouster.

"Even in death Tshisekedi makes Kabila afraid," Jean-Marc Kabund said in 2017 when he

was the UDPS party's secretary-general.

Tshisekedi was one of UDPS's founders in 1982 as opposition grew to then-dictator Mobutu Sese Seko, who ruled Congo for decades. Two years after the country allowed multiple political parties in 1990, Tshisekedi became prime minister in an uneasy on-again, off-again partnership with Mobutu.

He went into exile in 2000 after repeated clashes with the government of Joseph Kabila's father, Laurent, who became president after Mobutu's depar-

ture and was assassinated in 2001. At one point, Tshisekedi was banished to internal exile in his home village about 700 kilometers west of the capital but he made a triumphant return in 2003.

Tshisekedi's international prominence grew in 2011 when he ran against Kabila for president. He later declared himself president after an election marred by allegations of vote-rigging by the ruling party. He was placed under de facto house arrest but later left for Belgium for medical treatment.

Tshisekedi kept up his criticism until the end, at one point accusing Kabila of treason for not stepping down at the end of his mandate in late 2016. A court ruled that Kabila could stay on until the next election was held, but Tshisekedi called it a "coup d'état" that was carried out with the blessing of the constitutional court.

Kabila's government, under international pressure, eventually cleared the way for an election, though Felix Tshisekedi's victory early this year was disputed. Another opposition candidate, Martin Fayulu, maintains he won. Critics suggested that Felix Tshisekedi had reached a backroom deal with Kabila as the most palatable candidate after Kabila's chosen candidate fared poorly.

Those fears were exacerbated when Kabila's party won a majority in legislative elections, earning the right to choose Congo's prime minister. Concerns remain that Kabila aims to run for the presidency again in the next election.

## AU, Chinese officials agree to expedite China-Africa cooperation under BRI

ADDIS ABABA

AFRICAN and Chinese officials on Thursday spoke highly of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) as a positive impetus to further drive the momentum in China-Africa cooperation.

They made the joint remarks during the Belt and Road Dialogue for China-Africa Cooperation, which was jointly organized by the African Union (AU) and the Chinese Mission to the AU in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa on Thursday.

Liu Yuxi, Head of the Chinese Mission to the AU, told the high-level dialogue that China and Africa, which have enjoyed fruitful cooperation over the past decades, have a great opportunity to further deepen their comprehensive strategic and cooperative partnership through the BRI and the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC).

"A large number of projects involving railways, roads, bridges, airports and seaports and industrial parks are being implemented, bringing genuine benefits to Chinese and African peoples and enriching the China-Africa Comprehensive Strategic and Cooperative Partnership," Liu said.

Noting the BRI's vital importance to spur Africa's overall connectivity, digital economy, energy and industrial development, Liu said that the high-level dialogue mainly

"aims to provide a platform for China and Africa to jointly address the challenges facing the development of infrastructure, human and financial resources and for Chinese and African businesses to explore business opportunities."

"Africa is an indispensable part of the international cooperation under the BRI. China and Africa should work together within the framework of the BRI and FOCAC to promote policy coordination, facilities connectivity, unimpeded trade, financial integration and people-to-people affinity, and orient BRI cooperation on a path of high-quality development. Firstly, policy coordination is a platform," he added.

"If China and Africa can join hands in cooperation under the BRI, greater progress will be made to keep China-Africa cooperation on a steady path to long-term development," said the Chinese envoy.

AU Commissioner for Infrastructure and Energy Amani Abou-Zeid said that "Africa and China believe that Africa is an important partner in the Belt and Road cooperation."

"In implementing the FOCAC action plan, the two sides are exploring and advancing cooperation that promotes continental, regional and sub-regional connectivity," Abou-Zeid said.

"We look forward to working closely and diligently with China under the Belt and

Road Initiative to enhance the envisaged infrastructure connectivity as well as people to people connectivity for the good of our two peoples and the world at large," Abou-Zeid said.

Ethiopia's former Prime Minister Hailemariam Desalegn, while addressing the high-level continental meeting, also stressed the need to further expand partnership under the BRI from bilateral schemes to a multilateral platform by bringing Africa, under the AU, and China together.

"Today is about how we can strengthen our existing cooperation beyond the bilateral mechanisms towards strengthening frameworks to multilateral engagements," Desalegn stressed, as he described the need to expedite BRI implementation on continental and global levels.

"This is a real time to think out of the box and think on program-wide approach," Hailemariam said, adding "the Belt and Road Initiative gives us this opportunity."

Raila Odinga, AU high representative for infrastructure development in Africa, noted that infrastructure deficit is Africa's major challenge towards development, calling for greater collaboration and partnership among China and Africa under the BRI platform to spur Africa's infrastructure connectivity and energy development.

Xinhua

## Pressing challenges call for closer cooperation, new perspectives in Asia-Pacific security

SINGAPORE

AS the 18th Shangri-La Dialogue kicked off here yesterday, defense representatives are expected to present views on pressing security challenges in the Asia-Pacific and call for closer cooperation and new perspectives.

Chinese State Councilor and Minister of National Defense Wei Fenghe will be leading a delegation to the event eight years after

a Chinese defense minister took part last time.

## INCREASING TERROR THREATS

Pressing security challenges have been emerging in the Asia-Pacific region, with the most notable being terror attacks in Christchurch, New Zealand on March 15, which killed 50 people and injured many more, and in Sri Lanka on April 21, which claimed the lives of more than

250 people and injured 500 others. The attacks have shown that terrorists planned their attacks very meticulously and could strike anywhere, especially some "safe and peaceful places," analysts noted.

The international community needs to join hands in fighting terrorism in Asia and around the world, and a sharp intelligence base, both domestically and internationally, and intelligence-sharing and a strong will of all countries

are required to combat terrorism, Maninderjeet Singh Bitta, a leading anti-terror expert in India told Xinhua.

Prof. Greg Barton, a counter-terrorism expert at Deakin University of Australia, emphasized especially the challenge of social media. "The dissemination of information, fake news and conspiracy theory, the formation of identity groups are some main challenges for security agencies to deal with," he said.

Meanwhile, other non-tradition-

al challenges such as human and drug trafficking, piracy and armed robbery against ships, and sea pollution are also posing threats to the Asia-Pacific.

## CHINA'S PERSPECTIVE OF- FER HOPE FOR ASIA-PACIFIC SECURITY

China always advocates cooperation and has played an important role in maintaining security and stability in the Asia-Pacific region. Chinese State Councilor and

Minister of National Defense Wei Fenghe is to deliver a speech on China's security cooperation with the international community, meet heads of foreign delegations and have an exchange of views on a wide range of issues.

China has put forward a concept of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, and a path of security featuring wide consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits in the Asia-Pacific region.

This security concept is in tune with globalization and the historical trend of the times featuring peace, development, and mutually beneficial cooperation. Rooted in regional integration, it has gathered the wisdom and consensus of the countries in the region, reflected the urgent need of all parties to cope with security challenges through cooperation, and opened broad prospects for regional security cooperation.

Xinhua



R. Kelly

## R. Kelly charged with 11 new sex-related counts in Chicago

CHICAGO

PROSECUTORS charged R&B singer R. Kelly on Thursday with 11 new sex-related counts involving one of the women who accused him of sexually abusing her when she was underage, including counts that carry a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison, making them the most serious he faces.

Cook County prosecutors charged the Grammy award-winning singer with four counts of aggravated criminal sexual assault, two counts of criminal sexual assault by force, two counts of aggravated criminal sexual abuse and three counts of aggravated criminal sexual abuse against a victim who was at least age 13 and under 17 at the time.

The four aggravated criminal sexual assault counts carry maximum terms of 30 years in prison. Kelly is due in court to hear the new charges next Thursday.

Kelly was already facing 10 counts of aggravated sexual abuse involving four women over roughly a 10-year period that started in the late 1990s. Three of the women were minors when the alleged abuse occurred.

The new charges pertain to a single victim, identified in the court filing by the initials "J.P." Prosecutors didn't specify in the filing if she is the same person as one of the original four accusers who was also identified as "J.P."

R. Kelly's lawyer, Steve Greenberg, told The Associated Press the 11 sex-related counts "are not really new."

"They are the same conduct, just charged differently," Greenberg said. "Same alleged victim, same timeframe, same facts."

Greenberg has long said Kelly expected to prevail at trial and in his comments Thursday, he said he expects the "same results."

Kelly pleaded not guilty to the original charges and denied any wrongdoing after his

February arrest. He has been free since Feb. 25, when a suburban Chicago woman posted \$100,000 bond, or 10% of the \$1 million bond the judge set in his case.

According to the new court filing, the first eight counts are from encounters that allegedly occurred between Jan. 1 and Jan. 31, 2010. Three others pertain to alleged encounters between May 1, 2009, and Jan. 31, 2010.

Among other things, prosecutors allege that Kelly used force or threatened to do so to pressure the accuser into sex or to perform oral sex on him. She was underage at the time, extending the statute of limitations for bringing charges to 20 years from her 18th birthday, they wrote.

Kelly doesn't face federal charges, but attorney Michael Avenatti told the AP on Thursday that he expects the singer to face "serious federal charges" in the coming weeks.

Avenatti, who says he represents three Kelly victims, two parents and two whistleblowers, said he has provided "significant evidence" against Kelly to federal prosecutors in multiple U.S. attorneys' offices. He said he and his clients have been cooperating with prosecutors "for the better part of four months."

Greenberg said if Kelly ever does face federal charges, "we will deal with it." But he said Avenatti isn't a credible source for how the matter is unfolding.

"This man is accused of repeatedly stealing from his clients ... to fund an opulent lifestyle he hadn't earned," Greenberg said.

Avenatti, who said after Kelly's arrest that he had turned over video to prosecutors showing Kelly having sex with an underage girl, faces federal charges, including ones accusing him of trying to shake down Nike and cheating his most famous client, porn star Stormy Daniels, out of \$300,000.

AP

## Raptors take NBA Finals opener, beat Warriors 118-109

TORONTO

THE first NBA Finals game outside the U.S. was a party 24 years in the making.

Then Pascal Siakam and the Raptors really gave Toronto something to celebrate.

Siakam scored a playoff career-high 32 points and the Raptors made a smashing NBA Finals debut, beating the Golden State Warriors 118-109 on Thursday night.

The Raptors hardly looked like newcomers to the NBA's biggest stage, controlling the action most of the way against a Golden State team beginning its fifth straight NBA Finals appearance.

"I think we did pretty good job at home," Siakam said. "The fans are amazing, man. I just want to say that. From coming out for warmup to the end of the game, it was just the support and then going crazy. I've never seen anything like that."

Kawhi Leonard added 23 points and Marc Gasol had 20 for the Raptors, who weren't in awe of the setting or their opponents who had played 22 NBA Finals games in the last four years.

"We know that they're human. They're a great basketball team, talented players, high basketball-IQ players," Leonard said. "You just got to go out there and compete, take the challenge."

Stephen Curry scored 34 points and Klay Thompson had 21 for the Warriors, who had won all four Game 1s in the last four years. All those had come at home, but this time Golden State doesn't have home-court – or home country – advantage.

"Our goal was to get one and it's still on the table for us," Thompson said. "So I know we'll respond like the champions we are."



Toronto Raptors' Pascal Siakam drives to the basket against the Golden State Warriors during the second half of Game 1 of basketball's NBA Finals, Thursday, May 30, 2019, in Toronto. (AP)

Game 2 is Sunday night in Toronto, which is hosting an NBA Finals game for the first time after the Raptors entered the league as an expansion team in 1995.

The Raptors were perhaps a little jittery at the start, with Kyle Lowry firing a pass well out of bounds on their first possession.

But they quickly settled in afterward, building a 10-point lead by halftime.

Siakam then went 6 for 6 in the third quarter to keep Golden State from gaining much ground, and the Raptors kept their lead around double digits for much of the final quarter, countering every

attempt the Warriors made to catch up.

"We didn't play very well tonight at all and we still had a chance the entire game," Draymond Green said. "And it was a great atmosphere. This is a team or a city, a country, that hasn't seen a finals ever here, so we expected it to be a great atmosphere and it was. But we can still play better and I know we will."

All four of the Warriors' previous finals were against LeBron James and the Cleveland Cavaliers, and they struggled to figure out a new opponent. Toronto shot 50.6 percent from the field and the Warriors never found an

answer for Siakam, the finalist for Most Improved Player who has a nice start for an NBA Finals MVP resume.

The native of Cameroon and nicknamed Spicy P was red hot, shooting 14 for 17 from the field – and he tipped in his own shot on the last of those misses with 54 seconds to play.

Fans began arriving at Jurassic Park outside the arena in the morning. There were lengthy lines at the arena entrances hours before the game, with some of the few fans who weren't wearing Raptors red sticking to their original purple uniform with the dinosaur logo.

AP

## ...Warriors sputter at times, fall in Game 1 of NBA Finals

TORONTO

MAYBE it was the rust. Maybe it was the Raptors.

Either way, Golden State's offense was not at its usual high-octane level on Thursday night in Game 1 of the NBA Finals – and for the first time in a long time, the Warriors are facing a 1-0 deficit in a playoff series.

The Warriors shot 44 percent, turned the ball over 17 times and fell to the Toronto Raptors 118-109 in the series opener. The loss ended a run of 12 straight Game 1 wins for Golden State, going back to the opener of the 2015 Western Conference finals – as well as a run of five consecutive wins in Game 1 of an NBA Finals, going back to 1975.

"Their defense was great and it wasn't our best night," Warriors coach Steve Kerr said. "But we just got outplayed, so simple as that. Move on to the next one."

The next one is Sunday night in Toronto.

Golden State was playing

for the first time in 10 days, and trailed for nearly 43 of the game's 48 minutes. The Warriors trailed by 10 at the half, marking the fourth consecutive game where Golden State faced a double-digit deficit at some point.

In the last three of those contests, Golden State rallied to beat Portland.

The Trail Blazers missed some opportunities. The Raptors wouldn't let this one slip away.

"You try not to have any droughts on offense, because you know their ability to score quick," Raptors coach Nick Nurse said.

Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson combined for 16 field goals; the rest of the Warriors combined for only 18. Draymond Green, who did have a triple-double, shot 2 for 9. Andre Iguodala was 3 for 7, missing all four of his tries from 3-point range.

"Give their defense credit," Thompson said. "We didn't get too many transition opportunities and we're at our best when

we're running and playing with the time of randomness that kind of has teams scrambling. And it was there a little bit tonight. But like I said before, our goal was to get one (game in Toronto), so we got some tape now and we'll go to the drawing board and we'll come back and be much better on Sunday."

This is a matchup of offense vs. defense, the freewheeling Warriors against a Toronto team that has now peeled off five consecutive wins since falling behind Milwaukee 2-0 in the Eastern Conference finals. The Raptors turned that series around by clamping down at the defensive end, particularly against Bucks star and likely MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo.

This time, it was against every-

one. Through the first 41 minutes, the Warriors were shooting 38 percent. They shot 8 for 10 to end the game, a flurry that made the overall shooting number look respectable but ultimately

was in vain. By the time they got hot, the Raptors were nursing a double-digit lead and never teetered on the brink of collapse in the final minutes.

"The bad is we're down 0-1," Curry said. "But it's not the end of the world. ... Our confidence remains the same. Block out all the noise about how it's our first this and that, kind of the doubt around our team. Come out and play hard, get Game 2 and take it from there. I say it a lot, but I like the vibe we had in the locker room."

Golden State's two-time reigning NBA Finals MVP in Kevin Durant isn't expected back for Game 2, either. The Warriors have said he won't play until he can return to a full-fledged practice, and earlier Thursday coach Steve Kerr said it was unlikely that Durant participates in a practice before the team heads home to the Bay Area to prepare for Game 3 on Wednesday night.

AP



Serena Williams

## Mother Serena shows her compassionate side

PARIS

THE tennis world is more used to seeing the ruthless side of 23-time Grand Slam champion Serena Williams, but since becoming a mother the American's maternal instinct is spilling over into her professional life.

The 37-year-old chose to engage her compassionate side in the dressing room of the Miami Open in March when she came across teenager and compatriot Amanda Anisimova who was distraught after having lost to Anett Kontaveit.

After her second round win over Kurumi Nara in the French Open on Thursday, Williams was asked by reporters if becoming a mother had made her approach younger players on the Tour in a different way.

"Yeah, I feel like... I always wanted to do that," she said. "It's just always been in me. But

I didn't know if it was the right thing to do. I do it to my friends all the time."

"I really take to all the young girls out there that are doing well. I was heartbroken when she walked into that locker room, and I wanted to be there for her, because I have been there," added Williams, who gave birth to daughter Olympia in September 2017.

"And it's an interesting position, because no one ever says anything, even though I feel like a lot of people want to."

"I just decided, I'm not going to do that anymore. I've always wanted to. I'm just going to go for it now and do what my emotions want me to do and not do the 'professional thing', because maybe that's not professional."

It was a surprising move by Williams, who is often seen as a single-minded athletic machine.

But she chose to go out of

her way for Anisimova who was extremely grateful for the support from her compatriot.

"When I had a tough loss at the Miami Open, it was a really long match and I was super upset in the locker room. Serena actually came up to me and we shared a little bit of a chat," Anisimova recalled after beating France's Harmony Tan 6-3 6-1 in the second round at Roland Garros.

"That was really nice of her, and I'll remember it forever."

Meanwhile, top seed Naomi Osaka admitted being a nervous wreck as she narrowly avoided a meek first-round exit at the French Open this week but said she was at full throttle as she outslugged former world number one Victoria Azarenka on Thursday.

After going toe-to-toe for almost three hours on Court Suzanne Lenglen, 21-year-old Osaka prevailed 4-6 7-5 6-3 after

losing the opening four games of the second-round clash.

In arguably the best women's match of the tournament so far, Osaka slammed 52 winners to the Belarussian's 35 to stay on course for a third successive Grand Slam title.

"Every point was kind of, like, pedal to the metal," Osaka said after racking up a 16th successive win in Grand Slam matches.

"Today I kind of felt like a challenger. I know she went to the semis here before, so obviously she has a lot more experience here. She won Grand Slams and she was number one before I was. I'm still kind of new at this."

Osaka lost the first set 6-0 against Anna Karolina Schmiedlova on Tuesday before recovering to win.

Thursday's match followed a similar pattern, but it was several levels higher in terms of

quality.

"I actually played well today," Osaka said. "You know, against Vika, she has the ability to hit winners."

"Today it was more like you went to the line faster, because once you go back against someone as aggressive as her, you're kind of stuck there forever."

Osaka will hope to avoid finding herself in more bother against Czech Katerina Siniakova as she tries to reach the fourth round here for the first time.

But should she fall behind, she knows she can turn it around.

"I have this mindset that I feel like I can win if it gets down to the wire, if I have to break a person. I feel like I have the ability to do that," she said.

"But I probably shouldn't wait until the last minute."

REUTERS

## Ramos: I want to finish career with Real Madrid

MADRID

REAL Madrid captain Sergio Ramos says he is not leaving the club this summer.

Ramos, 32, contradicted Madrid president Florentino Perez's Monday night claim on Spanish radio station Onda Cero that the Los Blancos defender had asked to be released from his current contract.

"I want to make it clear over my future," Ramos told a hastily convened news conference at Madrid's Valdebebas training facility on Thursday. "There has been a lot of speculation. I am a madridista, I want to retire here, to finish out my contract, and to rebuild for the future after what has been a bad season."

"The day I leave, I want to go out on a high, after a victory. If I leave it will be as my level has dropped, but I will not join a team which competes with Real Madrid."

The Spain international said he had discussed an offer from an unnamed Chinese club with both Perez and Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane, the details of which soon appeared in the Spanish media.

"There is an offer from China on the table. I am not a person who lies," Ramos said. "But I have not asked to leave for free. That is lies. A lot has been said and I want to clarify things. I told [Perez] about

the offer I had, I spoke with the coach [Zidane] about it too.

"There is a long way from the possibility of leaving to actually leaving. It was a private meeting, and then it all got blown up. I did not like how it got out. But I want all this Ramos stuff finished now. I'm staying at the club."

Ramos has in the past flirted with other clubs, including Manchester United, before signing contract extensions on improved terms with Madrid. He said that was not the situation this time.

"It's been a long time since I spoke with Florentino about my contract," Ramos said. "It seems that people always think the Spanish players are looking for more money. I am happy with what I earn. I would play for Real Madrid for free."

Despite all the misunderstandings of recent days, Ramos said that he was sure his relationship with Perez was mended already.

"In the end, the president and I have a relationship like father and son," Ramos said. "We love each other a lot, even though there can be tense moments. But who has not fought with their father? It is about feeling loved."

"There were things here this year that I did not like, that hurt me, and the best thing was to talk it out face-to-face and to say that I am focused on staying here."

(AGENCIES)

## Vertonghen: Tottenham's UCL run 'craziest ever'

LONDON

TOTTENHAM defender Jan Vertonghen has said his side's run to the Champions League final has been the "craziest ever" and there were several moments he thought Spurs were on the verge of exiting the competition.

Lucas Moura's last-minute winner in the semifinal second leg against Ajax had followed a stoppage-time goal by Manchester City which had been overturned by the video assistant referee in the return match of the quarterfinals. Mauricio Pochettino's team also faced the prospect of elimination from as early as the group stages after picking up just a point from their first three matches.

A draw in the final game away to Barcelona proved enough to secure qualification and, speaking to ESPN FC, Tottenham captain Hugo Lloris had identified that result as the "main moment" for the club in the competition.

"How many games have we played to get here eventually, 12 games? In every single one of them, something crazy happened," Vertonghen said ahead of Saturday's final. "At the end of my career, I'll hopefully look at this and think this was the most beautiful and craziest year of them all."

"In the group stages, we got one point after three games. The Barca away game -- there are so many [moments] I can't tell them all but it's been crazy."

Spurs have also progressed to the final without their talisman Harry Kane, who is in line to make a return on Saturday after declaring himself fit earlier this week.

Kane missed the return against City as well as both legs against Ajax, with Moura, Son Heung-Min and Fernando Llorente delivering crucial goals in the striker's absence. Vertonghen was sidelined for most of the first half of the campaign, and has been passed fit for the final after being rested for the final day of the Premier League season.

"I think every player has been used in the Champions League and played his part," Vertonghen said. "It's been the craziest one ever and being at the end of that crazy campaign now is something unbelievable."

"We all played our parts and hopefully we can hold the trophy at the end of the game."

Vertonghen signed for Tottenham two years before Pochettino's arrival in 2014 and has seen the club transform into Premier League and Champions League contenders.

(AGENCIES)

## Liverpool's Alisson 'saddened' by Karius gaffes

LONDON

LIVERPOOL goalkeeper Alisson has told ESPN he was "saddened" by predecessor Loris Karius' mistakes in last season's Champions League final.

Jürgen Klopp's side have made it to the Champions League final for the second consecutive season and will face Tottenham in Madrid on June 1. Last season, they were beaten 3-1 by Real Madrid in Kiev, with Karius at fault for two of Los Blancos' goals.

And Alisson, who was in goal for Liverpool's semifinal opponents Roma last season, offered support to Karius.

Asked how he felt watching Karius' mistakes, he said: "I was saddened. We know the feeling of making a mistake in a competition as big as the Champions League; it's something that can stick with you for the rest of your career."

"But in life we always have the chance to make it better. I try to stay aware of everything. When I do something well, I don't let it get to my head. And when I make a mistake, I don't let it either."

(AGENCIES)

Alisson joining as a replacement for Karius in the summer was pinpointed as one of the main reasons behind Liverpool's improvement in form this season. But the Brazil international said he does not feel any extra pressure given Karius' mistakes -- and added that the responsibility is shared among the players.

"I don't think you can put it one guy's shoulders," he said. "The team has 11 guys."

"When we win, everyone wins. And when we lose, everyone loses. It wasn't Karius who lost that match, Liverpool did. This year we have a new opportunity, my first one."

"We will do everything to win and try to ease the pressure of being in the Champions League final."

Meanwhile, midfielder Fabinho said the Liverpool players are stronger because of their defeat in Kiev last season.

"We do not talk about what happened [in Kiev] in the dressing room much," he told ESPN. "I have not asked anyone what the days after the final were like either."

## Selection dilemmas face Klopp and Pochettino for final

MADRID

LIVERPOOL manager Jürgen Klopp has a midfield conundrum and his Tottenham counterpart Mauricio Pochettino must decide whether Harry Kane is ready for action as both bosses face selection dilemmas for today's Champions League final.

The unusually long, almost three-week, break between the end of the Premier League season and the European final in Madrid has allowed injury worries to ease for both managers - but that only adds to the difficult decisions that will have to be made.

For Klopp, who has seen Brazilian forward Roberto Firmino return to fitness in time for the clash at the Wanda Metropolitano stadium, there is probably only one big call to make.

The German is likely to stick with his trusted back-four from the title run-in with Joel Matip partnering Virgil van Dijk in the centre of defence.

With Firmino expected to start - Klopp said this week that the striker "should be fine" - then Liverpool will be able to use their preferred attacking 'trident' with Sadio Mane and Mohamed Salah playing either side of the Brazilian.

That would, however, mean no place in the starting lineup for Belgian forward Divock Origi, who scored twice in the 4-0 crushing of Barcelona in the semi-final, second



Mauricio Pochettino

Jürgen Klopp

leg.

Brazilian Fabinho has made the deep, holding midfield role his own and Dutch midfielder Georginio Wijnaldum, who also claimed a brace against Barca, is likely to play just ahead of him.

That leaves one more midfield slot with two English players competing for one place - James Milner and Jordan Henderson.

Picking Milner would make a lot of sense from a tactical point of view as he is capable of temporarily tucking into the left-back role to cover Andy Robertson, when the Scotsman charges forward.

Yet Henderson is Liverpool's captain and has delivered some strong displays of his own this season and it would be a massive blow to

him should Klopp leave him on the bench for the big game.

FULLY-FIT KANE

The long wait for this game has benefited Spurs in particular with striker Kane recovering from his ankle injury and declaring himself fit and ready.

A fully-fit Kane would surely start but Pochettino will have to decide whether his top scorer is 'match fit' after seven weeks on the sidelines.

If Kane does start - in tandem with South Korean forward Son Heung-min, who has struck 20 goals this season - then that could well mean no starting place for Lucas Moura.

That would be a cruel decision, however, after the Brazilian's sensational hat-trick in the semi-final, second-leg win over Ajax Amsterdam

which took Spurs to Madrid, but the Argentine coach has never flinched from such calls.

Moura could then be held in reserve as an impact substitute, a role that would take full advantage of his devastating pace.

Pochettino has utilised a number of different formations this season though and he could play a similar three-pronged attack to Liverpool with Son and Moura playing wide roles and Kane down the middle.

That variation would require Christian Eriksen and Dele Alli to play deeper midfield roles than they normally prefer - although both have done so at different times this season.

Presuming though that Pochettino opts for a four-man midfield then Moussa Sissoko is likely to be the deepest with Harry Winks playing just ahead of him. A more cautious option would be to ask Victor Wanyama to partner Sissoko.

Possible teams:

Tottenham Hotspur (4-2-2-2): Hugo Lloris; Kieran Trippier, Toby Alderweireld, Jan Vertonghen, Danny Rose; Harry Winks, Moussa Sissoko; Dele Alli, Christian Eriksen; Son Heung-min, Harry Kane.

Liverpool (4-3-3): Alisson Becker, Trent Alexander-Arnold, Joel Matip, Virgil van Dijk, Andy Robertson; Fabinho, Jordan Henderson, Georginio Wijnaldum; Mohamed Salah, Roberto Firmino, Sadio Mane.

REUTERS

## Alisson is the real reason Liverpool are in the Champions League final

BY RYAN O'HANLON, SPECIAL TO ESPN.COM

FAIR warning: Depending on your personal affinities, the following exercise may be either painful, hilarious or offensive. OK, now let's quickly go through all of the once-in-a-lifetime incidents that happened in last year's Champions League final between Liverpool and Real Madrid.

First, Mohamed Salah, he of the 44 goals and 16 assists in his debut season with Liverpool, badly injured his shoulder after a (pick your adjective of choice) collision with Sergio Ramos. He was subbed off in tears after just 30 minutes. In the first half-hour, Liverpool outshot Madrid 9-2; after Salah left, the balance shifted to 12-4 in Madrid's favor over the final hour.

Then, in the 51st minute, Liverpool keeper Loris Karius collected an over-hit through ball and proceeded to throw the ball directly into Karim Benzema's foot, seeing it deflect in to make it 1-0. After Sadio Mane evened the score in the 55th minute, Gareth Bale was subbed on with half-an-hour to go. Three minutes later, he scored on a contorted bicycle kick from the top of the penalty area. Bale scored again in the 83rd minute with a harmless-looking shot from 35 yards out hit right at the chest of Karius, who proceeded to aimlessly push the ball into his own net.

From Liverpool's point of view, there's not much to be done about a game like that; it's a matter of volatility. You can't budget against your best player getting injured in the most important game of the season, and Real Madrid are Real Madrid because they have a player like Gareth Bale, who has decided multiple cup finals all by himself, sitting on the bench. Shake your fists at the soccer gods and then move on. Oh, and get yourself a new goalkeeper.

A year after the debacle in Kiev, Liverpool are back in the Champions League final. This time, they're favorites and this time, it's not despite the guy in goal. No, they're here because of him.

Last summer, Liverpool shattered the transfer fee for a goalkeeper when they brought in Alisson from Roma for £56.25 million. (It was then broken weeks later when Chelsea bought Kepa from Athletic Bilbao for £72m.) For a squad that had been mostly built on undervalued players, this seemed to mark a change in the way Liverpool did things... or, perhaps it wasn't.

"He maybe added one-third of the points that Liverpool gained this season," said Paul Power, an analyst with the data company STATS. "You know, it's chicken feed, basically, what they

paid for him."

Goalkeepers have long been a frustrating puzzle for decision-makers, coaches and talent evaluators alike. As StatsBomb's Derrick Yam wrote in a paper for this year's Sloan Sports Analytics Conference: "A goalkeeper in the England Premier League faces only 12 shots a game, 80 percent of which miss the goal frame completely or were blocked before they reach the goalkeeper. It's not uncommon for a goalkeeper to go an entire game without making one save."

On top of the scarcity of events, there's an issue of context. The style of defense a team plays will affect the type and total of shots they allow. Stopping shots for Burnley -- a side that concedes a ton of chances but tries to keep as many men behind the ball as possible -- is a vastly different exercise than stopping shots for Liverpool, a team that doesn't allow many shots but has fewer bodies back in defense whenever they do. Traditional numbers like "clean sheets" or "save percentage" don't account for these effects, and they also don't account for the quality of the finish.

All of these moving parts seem to show up in just how little clubs seem to value the players they put in goal. Before Liverpool's deal for Alisson, the world-record fee for a keeper was Juventus's £47.6m transfer for Parma's Gianluigi Buffon... in 2001. Among the 50 most expensive transfers ever, just three are keepers. Ederson, the fourth-most expensive shot-stopper, cost less than "punch-line players" like Paulinho, Andy Carroll and Shkodran Mustafi, whose high fees have paid more for comedy than competence.

Power, however, is working to change how keepers are assessed and, in turn, how they're valued. At STATS, he helped create a model



Alisson

that uses artificial intelligence to determine what each keeper's specific skills actually are. As he put it: "What's his ability to come off his line? What's his ability to make his body big? Is he better at shots to his feet or hands, or both?"

With that information, they're able to determine how likely a specific keeper is to save a specific shot. The model can then simulate how each keeper in the Premier League would have fared against every single shot taken across the competition that season: a useful way to compare the performance of players up and down the table. It can also help give a sense of how a keeper's performance would translate across the unique shot profiles that each team concedes.

According to the model, Alisson was the best keeper in England this year, and he was the ideal fit for Liverpool's defense. The 26-year-old Brazilian saved 0.31 goals per game more than the average keeper would have. Despite a late-season swoon, Manchester United's David De Gea was second at 0.27.

"In the 2017-18 season, when Liverpool conceded shots, the shots were very dangerous," said Power. "So Liverpool needed a goalkeeper

who was able to cope in one-on-one situations where the defense just completely collapsed and the keeper had to do something amazing. Alisson's true strengths were that he was able to make these kind of superhuman saves. He would have saved at least seven goals that [Simon] Mignolet or Karius would have conceded."

A goal is worth around one point and Liverpool improved by 22 points from last year to this year, but Alisson's impact wasn't just limited to domestic play. In the final Champions League group stage game against Napoli, with Liverpool up 1-0 in a game they had to win in order to qualify for the knockout round, he made a point-blank save to deny Arkadiusz Milik in the 89th minute.

"There aren't many keepers who could have done that," said Power. "There are maybe seven or eight in the world."

After the four-goal Champions League semifinal comeback against Barcelona at Anfield, much of the focus was on the fact that unheralded squad players Divock Origi and Georginio Wijnaldum each scored twice, or that Trent Alexander-Arnold's quick corner won the game, or that Barcelona collapsed, dramatically, for the second time in as many years. But none of that matters if Alisson doesn't pitch a shutout and Barcelona get an away goal. He made five saves, including two on "big chances," which the data company Opta defines as a "situation where a player should reasonably be expected to score."

Alisson's counterpart on Saturday in Madrid will be Tottenham's Hugo Lloris, who also rates highly in the STATS system. He saved the fourth-most goals above average (0.21 per game) in the Premier League this season.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# Simba satisfied by 2018/19 season feat

## SPORT

Selection dilemmas face Klopp and Pochettino for final

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**5 EATV** **TONIGHT @ 21:00**

**MONDAY**

11:00 DADAZ (LIVE)  
15:00 FUNGUKA  
16:00 UTAKA  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 KURASA  
18:00 #NEWS  
18:30 MUSIC  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:30 MJADALA  
21:00 UJENZI  
21:30 SPORTS LIVE  
22:30 BONGO HITS

**UJENZI** Watch this informative show on the domestic construction process both on site construction and interior/exterior designing whilst using the latest technology and appliances that have made construction easier

**eastafrica RADIO**

05:00 EA Breakfast  
09:00 Supamix  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**

## Tanzania's soccer fans ready for UCL final

By Guardian Reporter

OVER 1000 soccer fans in Tanzania are expected to watch the 2019 UEFA Champions League (UCL) final between Tottenham Hotspur and Liverpool which will take place in Madrid, Spain.

Madrid is the venue for the second all-English UEFA Champions League final as Tottenham Hotspur, at this stage for the first time in their history and a Liverpool side bidding to put aside the pain of their defeat by Real Madrid in the 2018 showpiece.

And, Tanzania's football fans will share in the moment, at various outlets across the country, where Heineken, the UCL sponsors, presents the biggest viewing parties ever.

The Heineken viewing parties, besides the main showpiece which is the UEFA Champions League Final, will also feature chances to win awesome Heineken merchandise.

"The core focus for Heineken is to bring unique experiences to fans of UEFA Champions League in Tanzania. As the most prestigious platform for European football stars, this premier-sporting event has become global and fits perfectly with the Heineken brand," Lungisa Adams, Heineken Tanzania Country Manager, noted.

"We're looking forward to seeing both these great clubs," Lungisa said.

"Both almost went out in the group stage and now made it to the final. We'll get an epic match."

Through the course of the UEFA Champions League season, Heineken has continued its remarkable tradition of celebrating the beautiful game with fans, bringing all the action from Europe to Tanzanians more than 5,000 miles away with its premium viewing experiences.

Heineken, has been a long-standing sponsor of the UEFA Champions League since 1994. This illustrious collaboration with club football's biggest and most watched competition has seen Heineken become one of the most recognizable brands in the world of football.

Over the last 25 years, fans have seen the brand share the passion of the beautiful game while bringing all the most remarkable and unique moments from the competition to fans around the world.

The Dutch brewers are a keen sponsor of global sports tournaments and unlike other industry players steers clear from sponsoring specific teams.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE 2018/19 Mainland Premier League winners, Simba SC, have said they are satisfied with the success they have achieved this season.

The club's board of directors' chairman, Mohamed Dewji, issued the comment at the climax of this year's Mo Simba Awards ceremony in Dar es Salaam on Thursday.

The awards are handed over to the club's best performers and others, who contributed a lot to the side's success.

The Msimbazi Street based side this season reached the quarterfinals of the CAF Champions League and managed to defend the domestic premier league.

He said the team was very outstanding in the CAF Champions League's matches as they won six games at home. They also registered resounding wins in the Mainland Premier League.



Simba players attend a training session at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam to shape up for one of the Mainland Premier League's matches.

Dewji added this year's success is attributed to many factors which include strong management, good support from the government and Tanzania Football Federation (TFF).

Unwavering support from the club supporters and fans, who he said were filling the National Stadium to its capacity, as well, motivated the squad to achieve good results.

"We were very delighted by the success achieved in the just ended season, we reached the CAF Champions League quarterfinals, on the way to this memorable achievement we beat some of top African clubs like Al Ahly of Egypt, AS Vita of Congo and Nkana of Zambia," he noted.

"On the local scene we beat our immediate opponents, Yanga and Azam, all this came about because of hard work and

the support we were getting from our stakeholders."

"I think CAF has to award Simba supporters for being the best and the latter also managed to fill the National Stadium to capacity in all of the side's games."

He went on to tell all Simba players that the club is a big brand which needs to be respected, maintaining any results the team gets touch the lives of many people.

"Let me tell you here, Simba is a big brand... it has many followers, please whenever you are playing for Simba you must know that the results touch the lives of many people, many sacrifice the little they have for the sake of this team," he said.

He also promised that Simba will next season do well in both domestic competitions and CAF games, saying preparations are

in place.

The awards' ceremony guest of honour, Speaker of National Assembly Job Ndagai, thanked Dewji for his investment into the outfit, saying now the fruits are there for everyone to see.

"Everyone has seen that Simba is the best team, it is my hope that next season the team will do better than the just ended season," he added.

He also challenged the players and technical panel to improve on results, especially of matches played outside the country.

Ndagai also asked the outfit's supporters to buy original merchandise from the club as this will help the club improve its income.

During the colorful awards ceremony which was attended by many top dignitaries that included Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Paul Makonda,

artistes and other personalities, Meddie Kagere won the club's player of the year award. He contested for the alongside John Bocco and Clatus Chama.

Makonda promised to hand over cash prize of 1m/- to each player that received an award and 10m/- to the squad's keeper Aishi Manula due to his best performance.

He singled out the return leg of the CAF Champions League quarterfinal against TP Mazembe, which took place in Lubumbashi, where Manula was outstanding.

The side's best goal of the year award went to Chama, who netted last minute goal against Nkana at the National Stadium in the CAF Champions League.

He was competing with John Bocco and Meddie Kagere. The golden boot award went to Kagere who has 23 domestic league goals to his credit.

Players' player award went to Erasto Nyoni due to his hard working and charming mood, he was also presented with the best defender award. He was competing with Paschal Wawa and Shomari Kapombe who missed out the best part of the just ended season because of an injury.

The youngest player award went to Rashid Juma who beat Adam Salamba and Paul Bukaba. Mwanahamisi Shurua won the best female player while Aishi Manula was named the best goal keeper, beating Deogratius Munishi to the honour.

Ghanaian import James Kotei was named the best midfielder, beating Jonas Mkude and Mzimiru Yasin. Captain Bocco won the best striker of the year award, outclassing Kagere and Emmanuel Okwi.

Former sponsor of the club, Azim Dewji, was awarded the lifetime achievement prize.

The club's head coach, Patrick Aussems, hailed the club management for providing many of the team's needs and said they have achieved many things this season because of the commitment from the management.

## Gymkhana Club to host senior tennis tourney

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona



A Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) tennis player battles it out in a competition which took place recently.

DAR ES SALAAM Gymkhana Club (DGC) will next month host a three-day open senior tennis tournament, organizers disclosed yesterday.

Inger Njau, who is one of the competition's organizers, said the tournament has been slated for June 20-23 June at the venue and they expect many senior tennis players to compete at the event.

She said the tournament has been sponsored by SBC Tanzania, Alliance Insurance and Oryx Energies and players will compete in various categories, which include singles and doubles events for men, ladies and veterans.

Inger said prize money has been set aside for winners in single event for men and ladies categories while runners-up and winners in other categories will be presented with trophies.

She said in the veteran category the lower age is 35 years and it is not open to either coaches or practice partners.

She thanked the sponsors of the tournament. Inger however stopped short of mentioning the prize money the winners will receive.

"We really thank our sponsors for coming to sponsor this event, as the club we haven't hosted the seniors' tournament for a long period, I'm asking all senior players to come and compete at the tournament," she said.

She said closing date for registration is evening of June 16 and registration forms will soon be available at places to be announced.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

A SLEEPING PILLOW IS ACTUAL A SLEEPING PILL...

