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Dodoma police recover stolen vehicles

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Govt to install CCTV in prisons

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Training on modern beehive making



Covid-19 delays NIDA installing massive printer

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

A NEWLY procured printing plant meant to hasten the production of national identification cards (IDs) has not been installed because of the coronavirus outbreak.

Home Affairs minister George Simbachawene said this in the National Assembly here yesterday when responding to MPs' queries on the performance of the National Identification Authority (NIDA) as per the report of the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) for June 2019.

"The new plant has arrived in the country but not installed due to the outbreak of the coronavirus," he said, noting that experts from Germany failed to come for the purpose as the country's airspace was closed.

"But we're expecting them soon," the minister said, noting that the German-made printing plant can produce 9,000 IDs per hour as compared to the current production of 500 IDs an hour.

The government has removed some unscrupulous NIDA officials as part of clearing the image of the authority, he said, citing intent to provide IDs to 27.7 million people by next year.



TRA should establish a department to follow up on exports and import of goods

Debating the CAG report, Jang'ombe MP Ali Hassan King' (CCM) said that he registered in 2014, but until now he hasn't got the national ID.

He said that by last month NIDA was expected to have issued 27m IDs, but they ended up producing six million only.

A large number of Tanzanians registered their SIM cards using other people's IDs, a situation caused by negligence by NIDA officials, he said, urging stringent measures against them.

Bunda MP Boniphace Getere (CCM) said that over 42bn/- was recklessly spent, with the money sufficient to build 240 dispensaries and 80 health centres across the country.

He proposed that a team should be formed to investigate issues of tax arrears and revenue collection gaps at the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

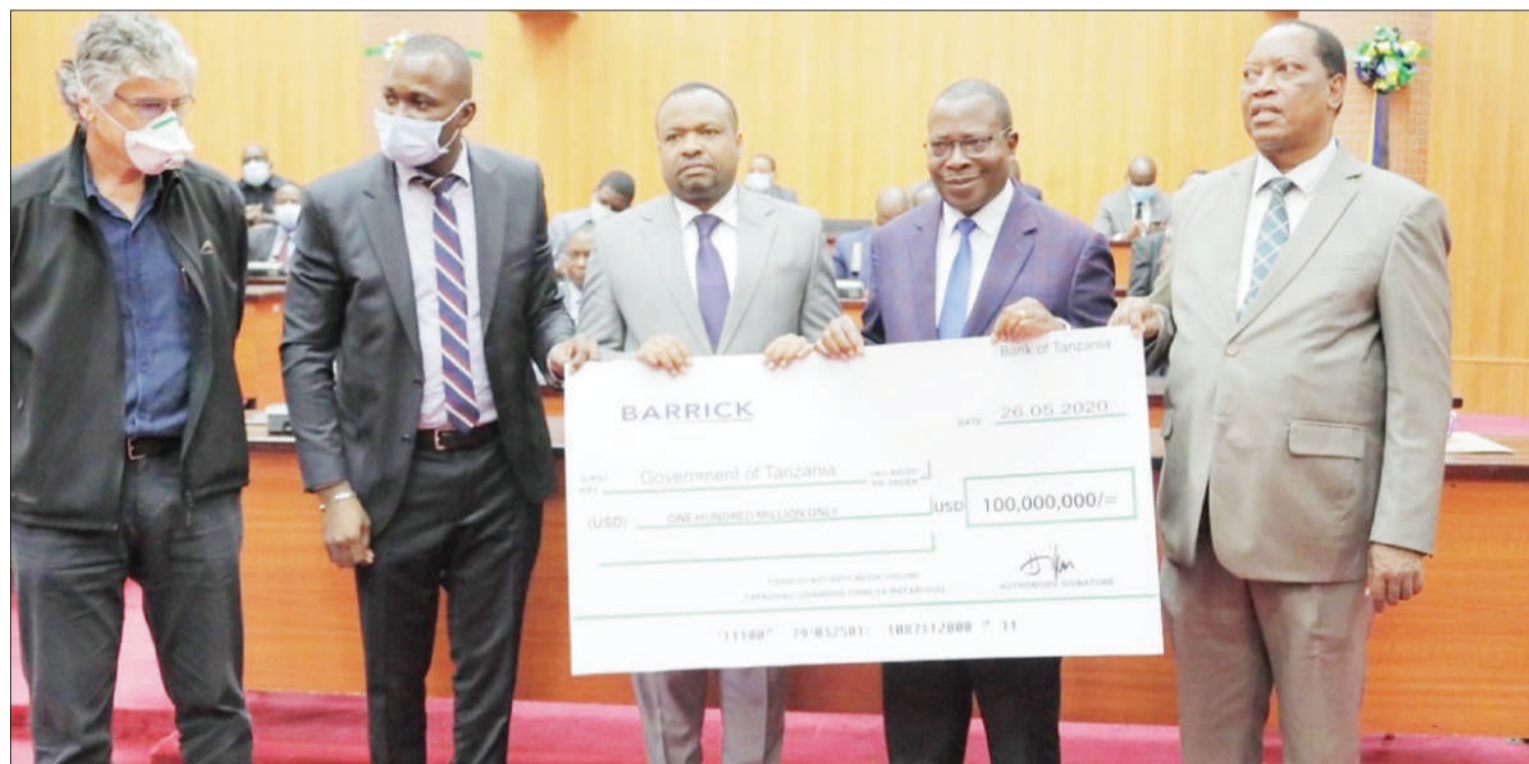
There is also a need for analysis of the performance of the port system, he said.

Other MPs tasked the government to quickly act on shortfalls and gaps highlighted by the CAG report, including the need to improve operational systems at the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA).

Bagamoyo MP Dr Shukuru Kawambwa said it was important that the government

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Govt receives initial \$100m from Barrick



Finance and Planning minister Dr Phillip Mpango (2nd-R) receives a dummy cheque for USD 100 million from Barrick Resident Representative Hilaire Diarra (2nd-L) in Dodoma yesterday. This is advance payment constituting part of the USD 300 million it was agreed that the company pay the Tanzanian government to end a long-standing row and pave the way for the establishment of the joint venture company known as Twiga Minerals Corporation. With them are Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi (R), who chaired discussions between the Tanzanian government and Barrick, North Mara Mine general manager Luiz Correia (L), and Minerals deputy minister Stanslaus Nyongo. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

FINANCE and Planning minister Dr Phillip Mpango yesterday received a cheque for US\$100 million (about 250bn/-) from Canadian mining firm Barrick Gold Corporation.

The money is an initial payment of an agreed settlement of US\$300 million to be paid by the mining firm to Tanzania in connection with a dispute.

The row originally involved Acacia Mining, which was taken over by parent company Barrick Gold last year, as it reached an accord with the government over tax issues.

Speaking after receiving the dummy cheque in Dodoma, the minister acknowledged the partial settlement of the agreed US\$300 million.

Barrick Gold resident manager Hilaire Diarra presented the cheque at an event attended by Foreign Minister and East African Cooperation Prof Palamagamba Kabudi, who led the government's negotiating team at the time.

Dr Mpango said that last December 19 the government agreed with Barrick on lifting a concentrate export ban and establishing a joint operating company known as Twiga Minerals Corporation.

The firm manages the Bulyanhulu, North Mara and Buzwagi mines. The two parties agreed on a

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Hygiene precautions stressed as colleges prepare to reopen

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

LOCAL government authorities must improve availability and access to water, sanitation and hygiene services to protect students from the coronavirus when schools, colleges and universities open early next week.

Gerald Mweli, the deputy permanent secretary in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Governments (PO-RALG) issued the directive yesterday after an inspection tour at public and private secondary schools here.

The tour was meant to assess how well they are prepared to control the spread of the virus after receiving Form VI students on the 1st of June, officials said.

He also allayed fears of parents and guardians as to how the government will ensure improved hygiene to safeguard students during the pandemic.

Mweli urged district executive directors to closely supervise preparations in schools to enable students to observe hygiene protocols like frequent hand washing with soap and running water or using alcohol-based hand washing rubs.

Apart from WASH facilities, school heads must ensure Covid-19 prevention measures issued by health experts are observed, like social distancing where possible.

Mweli similarly urged school managers to prepare students psychologically by focusing on lessons so as to shirk constant

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Govt quizzes US envoy on Twitter travel alerts

By Guardian Reporter

THE issuance of various unconfirmed traveller alerts through the social media yesterday brought the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation to summon the acting United States Ambassador Dr Inmi Patterson for explanation.

In the meeting at the ministry's Dar es Salaam offices, Permanent Secretary Colonel Wilbert Ibuge expressed sadness on the way the embassy has been issuing various statements especially travel advisories.

He said that those advisories are misleading people on how Tanzania was handling the Covid-19 pandemic.

The ranking diplomat was summoned to explain one travel advisory which stated that Tanzania still has lots of Covid-19 patients in Dar es Salaam.

He specifically mentioned the embassy's traveller alerts issued on May 13 and 25 through its Twitter handle that warned US nationals that Dar es Salaam region is not safe, having a lot of Covid-19 patients.

"The embassy claimed in its warnings

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SHARE FACTS ABOUT COVID-19

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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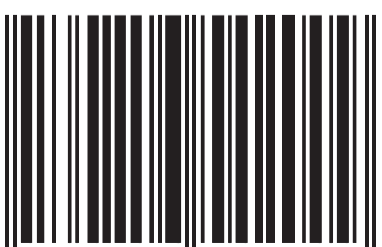
FACT 4 There are simple things you can do to help keep yourself and others healthy.

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

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

- Fever
 - Cough
 - Shortness of breath
- Seek medical advice if you
- Develop symptoms
- AND
- Have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19.

cdc.gov/COVID-19



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Kondoa District farmer Hadija Ngoro test-drives a tractor she has acquired on loan from an agricultural inputs fund. This was shortly after Agriculture minister Japheth Hasunga presented it to her at Kibaigwa in Kongwa District yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Paul Mabeja

Govt receives initial \$100m from Barrick

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formula for sharing future economic benefits from the mines on a 50/50 basis.

Barrick Gold agreed to carry out a feasibility study and provide US\$5million for construction of a smelting facility.

"The parties have also agreed on a payment schedule for the remaining balance of US\$200 million," Dr Mpango said, lauding the Canadian firm for "the goodwill gesture", showing support for Tanzania's new direction in the mining sector.

Apart from other commitments, Barrick Gold will form a link with the University of Dar es Salaam and provide up to US\$10m in ten years for training related to the mining industry.

There was similarly an accord on the payment of up to US\$6 per ounce of gold sold by the company, paid to the Maendeleo Fund set up by mining companies it owns in the country, to support local communities.

The mining firm will upgrade the Bulyanhulu-Mwanza road and build a housing compound and related infrastructure at a cost of US\$40 million, the minister further noted.

"We hope that both parties will duly fulfill all other commitments as agreed. The government is committed to the cause and in this you are witnessing the recent release of the 277 containers

of mineral concentrates among other things," he stated.

The government imposed a ban on exporting mineral concentrates in 2017 after a technical report showed flaws in taxing the concentrates, and a massive loss on the part of the government for more than 10 years.

Dr Mpango affirmed that Barrick is a major player in the sector that ought to be emulated by other mining firms. They should follow the gesture of commitment to the new direction of ensuring a win-win situation in mining operations, he emphasized.

Finance and Planning ministry Permanent Secretary Doto James said the money has already been deposited in government coffers.

Barrick Chief Executive Officer Dr Dennis Bristow was following this event from South Africa and applauded President John Magufuli and the negotiating team for ensuring that the parties reached a consensus. This was followed by the establishment of Barrick's Tanzania subsidiary, Twiga Minerals.

Dr Bristow promised continued cooperation with the Tanzanian government, noting that the gold mining firm would improve the infrastructure surrounding the mines.

"Our geologists are working hard to ensure that Tanzania regains its status as the world's largest gold producer," he noted.

Hygiene precautions stressed as colleges prepare to reopen

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fears on the disease.

"When students come to school from home, you become responsible for their wellbeing. You should prepare them psychologically and regularly reminding them to observe Covid-19 preventive measures," he stated.

Regional Administrative Secretary Maduka Kessy said the region is determined to ensure the city remains safe without new Covid-19 infections even after receiving guests and students.

"Dodoma has 19 learning institutions

including universities, colleges and secondary schools. We have taken precautionary measures to ensure the capital remains safe with no new infections," he asserted.

The RAS said that schools will be regularly inspected to ensure regular access to water, with donated Covid-19 preventive gear such as liquid hand washing soap and sanitizers distributed to schools.

"Until yesterday Dodoma had two Covid-19 patients who are in a good condition. They will be discharged at any time," the RAS said.

Plans are underway to start allocating health workers to schools as their presence there will ensure speedy services whenever a teacher or student feels unwell, he said.

Dodoma Salesian Seminary rector Father Oscar Rutechungura said the school management will facilitate hand washing for students and provide them with face masks.

"We are ready to receive students. We have re-arranged our dormitories and classes to ensure social distancing," he specified.

Universities, colleges and Form Six

students will resume classes after staying home for more than two months since the government closed schools on March 17th with the first case of the novel coronavirus.

The virus emerged in China late last year and has spread to most countries across the globe.

Last week, in a televised address from the Chamwino State House, President John Magufuli set the reopening of universities, colleges and Form Six classes on June 1.

The move follows a declining trend of Covid-19 cases countrywide.

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that several hospitals in Dar es Salaam are overwhelmed by Covid-19 patients - false and unconfirmed information," said Colonel Ibuge, as such statements may bring shock among Tanzanians and foreign visitors.

Colonel Ibuge reminded the embassy on the importance of issuing accurate information as

the government's doors are open for ambassadors to seek and verify information.

The permanent secretary meanwhile commended the US envoy for cooperation on various issues.

Tanzania and the United States have long historical ties and cooperate in health, education, trade, investment, defense and security sectors among other spheres, he added.

Government to receive MV Victoria, MV Butiama soon, says minister

By Guardian Reporter, Mwanza

THE government has said that MV Butiama, MV Victoria and a floating barge will be handed over anytime from now after undergoing major repairs that are now 100 percent complete.

Speaking soon after inspecting the building of a news ship - MV Mwanza, Deputy Minister for Works, Transport and Communications eng Atashasta Nditaye said the opening up will allow foreign experts to come for final inspection of the vessels and the barge.

"We could have already started operating them as the repairs are 99 percent complete and my belief is that the experts being waited for will arrive within the next few days so that the people start travelling in the vessels," said Eng Nditaye.

He said in addition to these projects, the construction work on another new ship - MV Mwanza was progressing and will be completed early next year.

THE Chief Executive Officer of Marine Services Company Limited (MSCL) Eric Hamisi thanked the government for completing payment for the major repairs to the ships and the barge and promised to closely supervise the ongoing work on MV Mwanza.

The project manager for the MV Mwanza project Eng Vitus Mapunda

said the project was progressing well and as of now they are finalising the construction of the hull before being placed on the floating dock.

Meanwhile, Nditaye inspected progress work on the renovation work on the passengers' waiting room at Mwanza North Port and gave one and half weeks for the work to be completed.

Ag manager for Mwanza Port Michael Palangyo assured the deputy minister that the project will be finalised in time so as to begin operation when MV Butiama and MV Bukoba start operations to serve people in neighbouring regions and islands in the lake.



We could have already started operating them as the repairs are 99 percent complete and my belief is that the experts being waited for will arrive within the next few days so that the people start travelling in the vessels



Natural Resources and Tourism deputy minister Constantine Kanyasu addresses conservation stakeholders yesterday on the prevention of wildlife corridors in the Tarangire National Park ecosystem. Flanking him are Babati district commissioner Elizabeth Kitundu (L) and Wildlife Director Dr Maurus Msuha. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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works on issues raised by the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) and the CAG report.

The venture between the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) and Mkulazi Holding Co. has already incurred a loss amounting to

8.8bn/-, he pointed out, citing CAG observations.

The MP said that if things remain the same pensioners' money will be at risk.

"The loss has been caused by the delay in the start of sugar production and if it goes like this, capital invested by NSSF will be totally consumed," he declared.

Most investments conducted by NSSF were unviable, he said, urging the fund to conduct an analysis on the matter as pensioners' money was at risk.

Singida West MP Elibariki Kingu (CCM) told MPs that public fund embezzlers were still in the public service, in which case strict follow up

was needed.

"TRA should establish a department to follow up on exports and import of goods," the MP suggested.

MPs urged the government to take action on responsible officials at the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism for the loss of 1.5bn/- in unbudgeted expenditure.



National Bureau of Statistics cartographer Martha Macha (C) briefs Statistician General Dr Albina Chuwa (R) on spatial features in Chemba District, Dodoma Region, at the weekend as the latter inspected Census-related geographical activities. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Covid-19 crisis won't halt NBS work, says Dr Chuwa

By Guardian Reporter

STATISTICIAN General Dr Albina Chuwa has insisted that notwithstanding corona pandemic the national statistics body will continue with its statistics operations but strictly ensure all necessary preventive measures are observed.

She was speaking in Chemba District, Dodoma Region during quality control inspection tour of the ongoing 2022 Population and Housing Census (the 2022 PHC) geographical work in the district.

Statistician General told Chemba district commissioner Simon Odunga that application of new technologies will dominate the work of the 2022 PHC by 80 which she described as a big step towards adoption of modern technologies in production of statistics in the country.

"80 percent of work will be done using new technologies as a result there will be enormous reduction of cost which is a relief to our government and indeed produce better quality and above all timely statistics," she said.

Dr Chuwa informed the District Commissioner who was accompanied by district administrative secretary, Zahara Issa Michuzi that census' cartographic work in the district is in the final stage and will be completed soon and promised to hand over the report to district leadership.

She said her visit to the district was "to validate the quality of cartographic work" which had so far been done because quality is key to ensure smooth implementation of census work.

"Today the management team will inspect some enumerated areas (EAs) demarcated by the cartographic team and see the quality of work," she said adding that the work will continue step by step in all 139 districts and 185 district councils.

Dr Chuwa said that Tanzania's population is expected to hit 63 million in 2022 where the agency is expecting to employ about 300 data collectors to do enumeration work during 2022 census.

She revealed that the 2022 census results among other things will be used to review implementation of National Vision 2025 and also in formulation of post-2025 national development vision.

During her one-day quality control tour, Dr Chuwa paid a courtesy call to the district commissioner where she briefed him on the ongoing cartographic work, her expectations from the district leadership and visited part of the enumeration areas already demarcated.

Chemba District Commissioner Simon Odunga meanwhile said he was impressed with the way the census' geographical work was being done in his district.

He told statistician general that with the technology which is used apart from demarcating Enumeration Areas (EAs), the cartographic team collects spatial information which is useful for the district development plans. "The technology used in the exercise allows gathering of spatial information which is very important and beneficial to the district as it helps us better understand our district which is crucial in planning and implementation of district development programmes," he said.

He added that having information about infrastructure, availability and location of socio-economic facilities, government offices and the like in the district is very important as it guides district leadership on how best to plan in provision of various services to the people.

For his part, head of Geographical Information System (GIS) at National Bureau of Statistics Benedict Mugambi said that his team has already completed census' geographical work in Chamwino, Bahi and Kondoa districts and sooner after completing the remaining part of Chemba district the team will head to another district.

He explained that his team is revising the 2012 geographic census frame for the 2022 Census including improving EAs boundaries associated with prominent features and socio-economic facilities.

Police in Dodoma recover stolen vehicles

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

POLICE in Dodoma have recovered at least 17 vehicles that are seemingly stolen from different parts of the country.

Addressing a press conference here yesterday, Regional Police Commander (RPC), SACP Gilles Muroto said the vehicles recovered had conflicting documents, for instance a vehicle having a file of another vehicle that was involved in accident and written off.

He said the vehicles were recovered during an operation held from 19th to 25th May, 2020 in the region whereby the 17 vehicles and other items were confiscated. "Police is still going on with investigations following the recovery of vehicles but from the information gathered so far, they were stolen," SACP Muroto added.

He called on those engaging in car

theft to stop and those who sell parts of stolen vehicles to also refrain from the habit, saying the police are out for them. "Let me emphasise that those who receive, store, transport, sell or use stolen vehicles should surrender them to police immediately before they are arrested during police operations," he added.

He said police in Dodoma have records of vehicles stolen within and outside Dodoma region, stressing those behind the theft of vehicles must be arrested in Dodoma or any other parts of the country.

According to SACP Muroto, there are different tactics used by those who steal the vehicles including use of cards and files of vehicles involved in accidents, others cut chassis and join it with another chassis.

In some vehicles, they rub off some numbers in the chassis number or add

some numbers to the original chassis number. He wondered why there are such alterations in the vehicles.

He named those arrested in possession of the vehicles as Helmen Stephen having Toyota Premion with registration number T.891 BXY which had a registration card belonging to another car.

Vehicle number T.864 CQA, IST was found in possession of Athuman S/O Juma Pambagu, 29 years old, a resident of Nzuguni in Dodoma who had a car whose chassis was cut and joined with another. He said the car was stolen and given another number and card.

Another car is Land Cruiser Prado with registration number T.661 CAV but the card read Land Cruiser COROLADO with chassis number TTEBZ991700033863, the number that has been cut and does not resemble the original one. It was found under

possession of Mwami S/O Mwaluganje Monya, 42 years old resident of Mpamaa in Dodoma.

Others are Toyota Prado with registration number T.680 BWU, Subaru with registration number T.237 DSJ, Toyota RAUM with registration number T.743 DLT.

Others include Toyota Alphard with registration number T.866 DFT, Toyota Axio with registration number T.578 DBU, Toyota IST with registration number T.895 DSR, Mitsubishi Fuso with registration number T.926 DLM, Scania with registration number T.450 AST.

The rest are Toyota RAV4 with number T.870 CAM, Toyota RAV4 with registration number T.682 BMT, FUSO with registration number T.992 BAK, FUSO with number T.383 CXC and Toyota Chaser with registration number T.380 APG.



CALL FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

May, 2020

Background

T-MARC Tanzania is a non-profit Tanzanian organization working to improve public health and promote social development. Our socially marketed products and behavior change communication initiatives address pertinent health issues in family planning and reproductive health, child survival, water and sanitation, nutrition and communicable/non-communicable infections like malaria, HIV/AIDS and cervical cancer.

T-MARC is currently implementing three projects: 1) USAID Social Enterprise which has focused on family planning and HIV prevention products, such as condoms, and oral contraceptives 2) USAID Tulonge Afya in partnership with Family Health International (FHI 360), this is an SBC focused project and 3) Comic Relief – Badilisha Tabia Tokomeza Malaria, it's an SBCC project which is focused on malaria prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

As part of the current initiatives to strengthen Monitoring Evaluation and Research (MER) system, T-MARC Tanzania wishes to have in place, an integrated database that will incorporate and make use of the customized open source platform to facilitate efficient and effective management of T-MARC program data. Currently, the organization has multiple platforms depending on the donor requirements to collect, collate, analyse and report data prone to questionable quality, access, visualization, security, representation and standard of collected data. For example, USESA project uses SFA system, USAID Tulonge Afya uses a separate online database system and Badilisha Tabia Tokomeza Malaria has a customized DHIS2 platform to collect, analyse and produce reports. The intended database is expected to integrate all the current fragmented systems to a common and unified system that link and support donor and national systems.

In light with the above background, T-MARC invites expression of interest from registered firms in Tanzanian with suitable set of skills, knowledge and experience to develop a database system.

Requirements

Specifically, prospective partners will be required to submit a brief note of not more than 4 pages detailing their areas of work and experience in database development.

Together with the brief note, please attach the following documents: -

- i. Cover letter detailing expression of interest and competencies
- ii. Certified copy of Registration Certificate, Business license, TIN Number and VRN
- iii. At least two references, one of them being the most recent client you have worked with.
- iv. Applicant's contact details (phone, email, website, physical address)

Note that the required documents are mandatory. Applications which do not include all the above documentation will not be considered.

Questions about this Expression of Interest may be submitted by email through procurement@tmarc.or.tz. Please provide us with your full contact details when submitting your interest for follow up purposes. Please note that participation in this call does not guarantee selection. EOI submissions will be evaluated according to merit. ONLY the selected firms will be informed about the outcome of their submission and will receive how to proceed further. Issuance of this EOI does not constitute an award commitment nor does it commit T-MARC to pay for any cost incurred to submit the EOI.

Next Steps

Expressions of Interest must be submitted to the following email address procurement@tmarc.or.tz before 1600 HRS local time on Tuesday 02nd June, 2020. No hard copy submission will be accepted.

**Managing Director
T-MARC Tanzania
Plot No. 215/217 Block D, Kuringa Drive, Tegeta
P.O Box 63266,
Dar es Salaam.**



Team Assistant

**Local Term Appointment (Three Years, renewable)
Location: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania**

The World Bank Country Office in **Dar es Salaam, Tanzania** is seeking a highly organized and energized professional, capable of operating effectively and discreetly in a very demanding, fast-paced and culturally diverse environment, to work as a **Team Assistant** based in Dar es Salaam office with the highest level of professionalism, diplomacy and tact.

S/he will work under the leadership of the Operations Manager and the day to day supervision of the Senior Executive Assistant who provides supervision and guidance to the ACS (administrative client support) staff. Selected candidate will provide administrative and client support to the Operational Staff. The job implies frequent interaction with other institutional units, staff in other locations (locally and internationally), Government officials, consultants and external organizations.

The duties and accountabilities include: (i) Operational and administrative support - Use desktop processing skills to produce complex texts, reports, presentations, charts, figures, graphs, etc., according to World Bank format and distribution. Collect and input data provided by Task Team Leaders into the central database, including processing new project status reports. Maintain up-to-date unit project files (both paper and electronic) and retrieve data from various sources and compile these for use. (ii) Information Management and Client interaction - Answer internal and external queries on the assigned portfolio or, as necessary, take accurate and comprehensive telephone messages, and route them to appropriate persons to handle. Maintain current distribution lists, phone/address lists of project/product contacts, and distribute documents for the team. Co-ordinate with service units and liaise frequently with team members both in Washington and in the Country Office; Track and report on appropriate aspects of the Team's operational activities (iii) Time management & Logistics planning - Co-ordinate time management and schedules, taking current and future priorities. Track assigned tasks/project steps/ timetables, provide assistance and/or information on project-related matters. Solve non-routine problems creatively and resourcefully.

Selection Criteria and Electronic Applications:

The successful candidate should be holder of preferably a Diploma in Secretarial Studies or Office Management or Business Administration with 3 years relevant work experience in a large International or Service or Private Sector Organization. S/he should be proficient in using advanced functions on Bank standard computer applications (Windows applications: Word, Excel, and PowerPoint) etc. For the full position description, complete selection criteria and required competencies, candidates are requested to submit an application at www.worldbank.org/jobs. Under the "New Job Portal" box - click Here to access the new job Portal > Search the Job No#: req7419 (in the Keyword or Req ID box). The World Bank is committed to achieving diversity of gender, race, nationality, culture and educational background. Individuals with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted. Closing date is 07th June 2020.

EAC lauds Burundi's peaceful election as Ndayishimiye wins

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) has congratulated the government and the people of Burundi for peaceful and successful nominations, campaigns and voting process with respect to the 2020 Elections that has just been concluded.

In a statement issued yesterday by EAC's senior public relations officer, Simon Peter Owaka, the regional trading bloc said: "The 87.8 per cent turnout for the process bears testimony to the desire of the people of Burundi to participate in determining their political future, which is critical to sustainable peace, security and stability."

The 2020 Burundi Elections hold an iconic place in the history of the nation, marking this the first peaceful and democratic transfer of power. "More significantly, the process was domestically driven through own funding," Owaka said.

In the spirit of the constitution promulgated in 2018, the community urged all parties to practice patience and sustain the peace currently prevalent in the country as the final phase of the electoral process is

underway.

"This will provide space for constitutional consideration and conclusion of contestations and ultimate announcement of the results by the Constitutional Court."

Burundians of all political persuasions are thus urged to guard the prevailing peace and sustain the tolerance that has so far characterized this electoral process.

The peaceful conclusion of the electoral process will not only be a big win for the people of Burundi, but for the East African Community as a region.

The EAC stands ready to work with the new government of the Republic of Burundi towards realising the vision of a prosperous, competitive, secure, stable and politically united East Africa.

General elections were held in Burundi on 20 May 2020 to elect both the president and the National Assembly. Evariste Ndayishimiye of the ruling CNDD-FDD was elected president with 71 per cent of the vote. In the National Assembly elections, the CNDD-FDD won 72 of the 100 elected seats.



Babati Urban legislator Pauline Gekul (2nd-L) inspects a water project in Nangara ward at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government has insisted that it will continue instituting legal actions against criminals contravening the Cyber Crime Act, in efforts to ensure that the social media is used in a civilised manner.

In a written response to a question posed by Ulanga lawmaker, Goodluck Mlinga (CCM) in parliament, the ministry for Works, Transport and Communications said that in

Govt vows to take severe measures against Cyber Crime Act offenders

ensuring that the law enforcers were intellectually aware, the government was currently training officers in the Defence and Security Organs so that they do not tolerate offenders.

In his main question, the outspoken Ulanga Member of Parliament (MP), said that cyber crime offences were increasing, demanding to know the government's strategies in curbing the

vice.

"There have been an increasing number of people who are misusing the social media resulting in several offences including sedition as well as

posting misleading information," what is the government doing to crack the whip against them?" he asked.

Responding, the ministry said apart from training law enforcers, the

government was intensifying efficiency on the implementation of the law as well as making sure that they keep eyes on proper use of cyber related matters.

"The government established the Cyber Crime Unit under the police force which is tasked to investigate cyber related crimes including, misleading information and sedition, among other offences," said the ministry adding that everything was being done in collaboration with the office of the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP).



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

FASTER PROJECT DESCRIPTION

FASTER (Faith-Based Action for Scaling up Testing and Treatment for the Epidemic Response) is designed as a new component of the global FOCUS (Faith-based Organization Capacity Strengthening for Universal HIV Services) project. Funded by the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), FOCUS was developed with the intent of building FBO network capacity, assisting FBOs to contribute to HIV multi-sector planning for expanded service delivery, and documenting successful approaches. Led by CRS, FOCUS builds understanding of how to leverage the faith-based community's contributions at subnational and national levels, reinforcing mutual responsibility and country-driven leadership.

FASTER takes FOCUS' objectives to the next level by creating an enabling environment in four (4) countries where public health, civil society, the private sector, and FBOs can accelerate normative pediatric HIV case finding, testing, linkage to care and treatment, and adherence support by strengthening and streamlining joint coordination and provision of pediatric HIV service delivery.

Position: CAPACITY BUILDING COORDINATOR – 2 POSTS
Band: 8
Project: FASTER
Location: DAR ES SALAAM
Reports To: TECHNICAL ADVISOR II, PEDIATRIC HIV

The Capacity Building Coordinator will work with National Aids Control Program (NACP) and FASTER Technical Advisor to coordinate and monitor implementation of Pediatric HIV mentorship program in Tanzania. He/She will plan, organize and execute mentorship trainings in accordance to NACP policies as well work closely with NACP and FASTER Technical Advisor to ensure the provision of high-quality training and technical assistance to pediatric HIV Mentors, Provide ongoing supervision and monitoring of the Regional and Council mentors performance through analyzing and producing reports and coordinate the work of the Regional and Council Mentors, as directed by FASTER Technical Advisor. This post includes frequent travel to the field.

Specific responsibilities.

- Provide guidance to FASTER project to enhance availability of trainings and performance of mentoring and integrated supportive supervision of health facility.
- Support the implementation of strategic plans for pediatric HIV mentorship at council and facility level that are based on evidence and are designed to support improvements in care.
- Provide technical leadership to and build capacity of Mentors, HCW and LGA officials to use available data and information to make strategic decisions for planning, budgeting and supervising systems for health service delivery, and supply chain.
- Contribute to generation and conduct regular review and analysis of project and quality improvement data for selected health facilities to determine progress towards goals and gaps and develop plans for technical assistance and Mentorship to address gaps.
- Provide support to LGA and health facility officials to explore

- opportunities to collaborate for improving quality of pediatric and adolescent HIV care.
- Coordinate scheduling of program-wide technical assistance activities for selected facilities.
- Provide clear documentation of programmatic achievements and keep project management team informed on monthly, quarterly, and annual basis.
- Perform other duties as assigned by supervisor which contribute to the achievement of project goals.

Requirements: Education, work experience and skills.

- Reputable first degree in Nursing, Medicine, epidemiology, public health or related field
- Master's in Public Health, public administration, Epidemiology, social science or improvement science will be an added advantage.
- At least 3-year proven work experience as a Training Coordinator, Trainer, Training Facilitator, or similar role in resource limited health care delivery or administration.
- Demonstrated skills in designing training package and implementing training in health care sector, especially in HIV programming.
- Experience working with PEPFAR funded projects implementing Quality Improvement activities.
- Skills and knowledge in Microsoft Office Applications
- Demonstrated ability to apply data into clinical decision making.
- Must be registered with the relevant regulatory body.
- Experience working with RHMTs and CHMTs is desirable.
- Excellent interpersonal skills, sound judgment, communication skills, and ability to identify and resolve policy and operational constraints effectively.
- Ability to handle multiple tasks simultaneously, set priorities, and work independently.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in English & Swahili.
- Willingness and ability to travel at least 70% of the time to project sites.

Disclaimer: These job descriptions are not an exhaustive list of the skill, effort, duties, and responsibilities associated with the respective position.

CRS' recruitment and selection procedures reflect our commitment to protecting children and vulnerable adults from abuse and exploitation.

TO APPLY:

Interested and qualified applicants are requested to submit their applications to CRS Human Resources Manager at TZ_HR@crs.org by 17h00 EAT on 06 June 2020.

Only submissions that meet the following criteria will be reviewed

- Subject line must read indicate the position applied for.
- CV must be in Word or PDF format and not exceed 4 pages.
- Cover letter summarizing qualifications and motivation. Cover letter must be in Word or PDF format and not exceed 1 page.
- Kindly note, only shortlisted applicants will be contacted

CRS is an Equal Opportunity Employer

By Guardian Correspondent, Nkasi

KATE village residents in Nkasi District, Rukwa Region were gripped with panic after a stray buffalo invaded the village preventing many of them going out to their farms.

Speaking about the incident the ward's Executive Officer Phillbert Kwimba said the buffalo was first spotted in the village on Monday and many villagers were afraid to get out of their houses. Kate division executive officer Bazilio Mazungwa said the buffalo was found in the home of one herder in the village at around 7a.m.

Panic as stray buffalo invade village in Nkasi

He said they have reported the matter to relevant government authorities in the district for assistance.

He said until yesterday there hadn't been any reports of a serious incident following the beast's intrusion in the village, but the villagers are exercising a high degree of alert.

Nkasi's Acting Natural Resources and Tourism Officer, Frank Wakungwa said

his department, in collaboration with Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA) have dispatched game wardens to the area to engage the beast who has strayed into human settlements.

He said there are two ways they will try either to return the animal to where it came from - the Lwafi Forest Reserve or kill it if it will be seen to be dangerous.



Small traders from Dar es Salaam's Vingunguti suburb in Ilala District go hunting for coconut juice customers, as found yesterday along Ali Hassan Mwinyi Road heading for Oysterbay and Coco Beach in Kinondoni District. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

ABOUT CRS:

Catholic Relief Services (CRS) is the official overseas relief and development organization of United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and has served people living in poverty and situations of vulnerability in over 100 countries since 1943. In Tanzania, CRS has served vulnerable communities for over 50 years and implements its programs through partnerships with the Government of Tanzania, International and local organizations and community entities for maximum impact and sustainability.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION:

The anticipated Accelerating and Massively Scaling-up Land and Livelihood Restoration program is a climate change initiative to be funded by G9-2030 donors aimed at supporting climate-vulnerable communities in Tanzania to improve the sustainability and resilience of their ecosystem goods and services and increase household resilience and adaptive capacity. While working with the Government of Tanzania and different stakeholders, the program will take a multi-faceted, evidence-based approach to scaling-up evergreening practices and will develop equitable agroforestry value chains and ecosystem-based businesses to underpin the sustainability of the scaling-up process. The anticipated program aims at improving livelihoods, food and nutrition security, and resilience to climate change for small scale farmers and/or pastoralist while restoring ecosystem services, particularly through evergreen agriculture, covering four zones in mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar. These zones include the semi-arid agro-ecological zone of northern and central Tanzania, Southern Zone and Southern Highlands.

This 5-year climate change initiative will be implemented through a coalition of national and international NGOs including CARE, CRS, World Vision and ICRAF in close coordination with the Government of Tanzania.

Position: PROGRAM MANAGER II- TANZANIA EVERGREENING INITIATIVE: 1 post
Band: 10
Project: TANZANIA EVERGREENING INITIATIVE
Location: MBEYA
Reports To: HEAD OF PROGRAMMING

Job Summary

The successful candidate will manage and provide technical oversight of the development and implementation of the Land Restoration Initiative, a constellation of projects under the Global Evergreening Alliance (GEA). CRS Tanzania will work in consortium with four partners to implement this program. The incumbent will manage the larger and complex projects that are part of the initiative, ensuring effective systems and processes are in place that support high-quality programming advancing Catholic Relief Services' (CRS) work in serving the poor and vulnerable.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Lead the development, implementation and consolidation of the Evergreen program. Provide management, guidance, and technical oversight of all aspects of program quality, program management, representation and human resource. Serve as the primary point of contact to Donor public and private partners and collaborators and other.
- Ensure the projects strategic objectives and results are accomplished and meet technical quality standards through annual and quarterly activity planning, budgeting and reporting. Lead quarterly technical review of implementation plans.
- Effectively manage and supervise CRS talent for the Evergreening Initiative team. Manage team dynamics and staff well-being while providing continuous coaching and mentoring. Strategically tailor individual development plans and complete performance assessments for direct reports; oversee the development of staffing plans and recruitment process.
- Coordinate with M&E department to oversee the design and implementation of the projects monitoring and evaluation system, using appropriate forms, CRS and donor policies, procedures, and tools for data collection and analysis as the basis for measuring, documenting and reporting outcomes.
- Lead the development of program—learning and adaptation; identify opportunities for learning, research and publication in the area of Evergreening Initiative and implementation of MEAL policies and procedures. Ensure integration of innovations and best practices and facilitate the dissemination of promising practices and lessons learned to contribute to the agency and GEA knowledge management agenda.
- Manage and mitigate risk: Ensure compliance with DONOR grants guidelines including oversight of partner budgets, finance and administration, and reporting to prime.
- Coordinate relationships with different parties including the government of Tanzania, Councils, consortium partner organizations and beneficiary communities. Contribute to coordination of roles and activities of staff from consortium member organizations in implementation in line with CRS partnership principles.
- Contribute to the proactive pursuit of opportunities for new funding to ensure growth of the Evergreening Initiative portfolio in line with agency, regional, and the CP, Government of Tanzania and GEA strategic priorities.
- Oversee technical assistance and capacity strengthening activities in Evergreening Initiative for partner organizations and their staff to enhance program quality and impact.
- Provide direct supervisory to program staff including technical advisor, Senior program officers and finance staff
- Assist with the hiring, orientation, and training of key staff across the consortium as needed to build a technically strong, well supported, motivated team.
- Provide direction and technical advice through quarterly coaching sessions and daily support to all market chain/ value systems staff across the consortium.

Requirements: Education, work experience and skills

- Master's Degree in Agriculture, Natural Resource Management, Agroforestry, Community Development, International Development, or similar related qualifications. Additional relevant experience specifically: climate change, value chain, Gender and financial inclusion may substitute for education background.
- Minimum of 7 years' experience managing large scale development grants required preferably in the areas of Landscape Management and Restoration, Climate Smart Agriculture and/or Evergreening Initiative.
- Experience in managing complex projects preferably with an international NGO.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, with ability to make sound judgment and decisions and offer innovative solutions
- Strong relations management abilities: ability to relate to people at all levels internally and externally. Strategic in how you approach each relationship and how to influence for results.
- Consortium management experience preferred.
- Good presentation and facilitation skills
- Proactive, resourceful, solutions-oriented and results-oriented
- Willingness and ability to travel at least 25% of the time to project sites
- Excellent Command of Swahili and English languages, in Swahili and English

Position: SENIOR MONITORING, EVALUATION, ACCOUNTABILITY AND LEARNING OFFICER – 1 Post
Band: 8
Project: TANZANIA EVERGREENING INITIATIVE
Location: MBEYA (WITH EXTENSIVE TRAVEL TO NJOMBE AND RUVUMA)
Reports To: PROGRAM MANAGER II

Job Summary:

The Senior MEAL Officer will manage implementation of Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability & Learning (MEAL) activities of the project, advancing Catholic Relief Services' (CRS) work in serving the poor and vulnerable. You will work closely with Program Manager and partner staff to implement high quality MEAL systems and tools which address indicators set out in the project proposal. Your skills and knowledge will ensure that the project delivers high-quality programming and continuously works towards improving the impact of its programming. The candidate is expected to forge strong collaboration with other MEAL staff within CRS especially CRS MEAL manager and a coalition of national and international NGOs to make sure that similar approaches and strategies are shared and applied across the agency but cultivating learning across the agency and coalition.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Provides technical inputs in quality MEAL system design, including tools and methods, appropriate to scope, context, and technical requirements of the project
- Oversees and manages routine data collection and reporting activities at project-level.
- Oversees implementation of periodic assessments and evaluation, and use of findings to support adaptive management
- Manages analysis of MEAL data, qualitative and quantitative to ensure quality reporting and sharing of learnings
- Conducts data quality assessment and provide recommendations for quality data collection and management practices.
- Integrates data analysis, reflection and interpretation and use with ongoing project

activities through quarterly reflection meetings, implementing partners meeting and external conferences.

- Ensures compliance with donor and agency MEAL requirements including design and implementation of beneficiary feedback and response mechanism.
 - Supports documentation and sharing of learnings and experiences in broader country program discussions.
 - Builds capacity of partners in MEAL
 - Plans and budgets appropriately for quality MEAL activities
- Requirements:** Education, work experience and skills
- Bachelor's Degree in Agricultural Economics/Agribusiness, Social Sciences, Statistics or other related field;
 - Minimum of 5 years of relevant work experience in MEAL related roles with progressive responsibilities.
 - Experience with an international NGO with minimum of two years of relevant field-based experiences in monitoring and evaluation, research and data management in one of the following agricultures and livelihood, climate change or agroforestry value chain related interventions.
 - Knowledge of technical principles and concepts of M&E, research, and data management.
 - Strong quantitative and qualitative analysis experience and skills with proven ability to work with statistical software such as SPSS/STATA and advance excel.
 - Experience in using ICT4 MEAL in data collection, management and visualization such as ODK, Arc Survey, Commcare and GIS mapping and remote sensing tools.
 - Demonstrated ability to build staff capacity and capacity strengthening best practices.
 - Experience and skills in networking and relations with donors, peer organizations, and faith-based and civil society partners. Understanding of partnership principles.
 - Strong skills in MS Office (Excel, Word, Outlook, PowerPoint) as well as SPSS & STATA.
 - Strong critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills with ability to make sound judgment.
 - Strong relationship management skills and the ability to work effectively with culturally diverse groups.
 - Strong written and verbal communication skills with ability to write reports.
 - Proactive, results-oriented, and service-oriented.
 - Demonstrated ability to build staff capacity.
 - Willingness and ability to travel at least 30% of the time to project sites
 - Excellent Command of Swahili and English languages, in Swahili and English

Position: MARKET SYSTEMS/VALUE CHAINS ADVISOR – 1 POST
Band: 9
Project: TANZANIA EVERGREENING INITIATIVE
Location: DODOMA
Reports To: PROGRAM MANAGER II

Job Summary:

As consortium lead in the sector, the Market Systems/Value Chains Advisor will provide strategic vision, leadership and technical assistance in improving the overall performance of the markets and value chains component of the Accelerating and Massively Scaling-up Land and Livelihood Restoration program. The incumbent will be responsible for increasing quantity, quality, and competitiveness of relevant agribusinesses, while ensuring the integration of improved quality and quantity of goods produced; and good agricultural practices are implemented. The incumbent will have a background in agro-forestry, agricultural production, rural market linkages, private sector engagement and capacity building in agricultural/agro forestry value chains.

Duties and Responsibilities

- To ensure the program's strategic objectives and results are fully and timely accomplished and meet expected technical quality standards across the consortium, the Market Systems/Value Chain Advisor shall perform the following:
 - Under the guidance of the Program Manager (and in collaboration with the Project Management Unit, led by prime recipient CARE), provide leadership, supervision, and oversight of project activities relating to all program activities (across the consortium) that seek to improve market systems and value chains for program beneficiaries, ensuring efficient and effective project implementation including the timely completion of high-quality work plans, accurate reports, and other mandated deliverables.
 - Work with the PD and M&E Manager in preparing relevant components of project work-plans with clear objectives and achievable benchmarks, reflecting strategic long-term and short-term priorities.
 - Collaborate with capacity strengthening staff to develop capacity building training to support implementing partners in the area of value chain and agribusiness development;
 - Provide overall support for market and agri-business development to the program;
 - Provide technical leadership to program activities across the consortium related to targeted value chains;
 - Lead the program team to identify and priorities key local natural resource-based value chains and markets linkages
 - Identify, strengthen, or where appropriate, establish CBOs, existing producer groups and Village Savings and Loans Associations, to facilitate local value chain development, bulking of on farm produce and provision of inputs, through community-based extension models.
 - Facilitate private sector engagement including but not limited to evergreening business forums between value chain actors and government stakeholders
 - Support the scaling of existing, or where contextually appropriate, establishment of new agroforestry value chains through technical and input access support, market and financial service linkages, standards and labelling, improved planting material, post-harvest handling including processing, preservation and storage.
 - Facilitate establishment and/or scaling of existing Natural Resource Based Enterprises (NRBEs) including value chains, with a particular emphasis on enterprises which are likely to deliver rapid benefits.
 - Perform any other duties as assigned by program management and the Head of the PMU
 - Provide direct support to the program Officer for Market Systems/Value Chain
 - Assist with the hiring, orientation, and training of key staff across the consortium as needed to build a technically strong, well supported, motivated team.
 - Provide direction and technical advice through quarterly coaching sessions and daily support to all market chain/ value systems staff across the consortium.

Requirements: Education, work experience and skills

- Master's degree in a relevant field including Agribusiness, agriculture, business and marketing, supply chain and/or food security and production. An advanced degree can be substituted with an additional 3 years of relevant experience.
- Minimum 5 years (8 years preferred) demonstrated experience with similar development projects focused on value chains and market systems development; including improving financial services for the poor.
- Demonstrated ability to work and coordinate effectively with a wide variety of stakeholders, including national and local government, donors, community-based organizations, and the private sector.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in both English and Kiswahili.
- Established relationship with and/or substantive knowledge of agribusiness firms in the agroforestry sector; both within Tanzania and internationally.
- Experience with EU project implementation.
- Extensive travels within Tanzania, and internationally as required
- Excellent Command of Swahili and English languages, in Swahili and English

Position: SENIOR PROJECT OFFICER-AGROFORESTRY – 1 Post
Band: 8
Project: TANZANIA EVERGREENING INITIATIVE
Location: MBEYA (WITH EXTENSIVE TRAVEL TO NJOMBE AND RUVUMA)
Reports To: PROGRAM MANAGER II

Job Summary: The Agroforestry Senior Officer will play an integral role in supporting the program to strengthen the institutional and regulatory systems for climate-responsive planning and development for adoption of Ever Greening practices, support the improvement and management of land or forest areas contributing to emissions reductions practices, work with community members and other relevant stakeholders to be able to adapt to climate change and related ecosystem risks and work with the value chain team to develop sustainable market and value chains of agroforestry products. CRS Tanzania will work with other four partners to implement this program hence the candidate is expected to forge strong collaboration with his/her peer staff from other organizations to make sure that similar approaches and strategies are shared and applied across the program. The program will be focused primarily in the Southern highlands mainly in Mbeya, Njombe and Ruvuma Regions.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Conduct Training of Trainers workshops (targeting staff, lead/champion farmers and government extension workers, and an equal or greater number of females), to build the capacity of public, private and community-based rural advisory and extension services
- Establish or enhance household and community-based demonstration sites for contextually appropriate Evergreening best practices
- Facilitate household-to-household visits, farmer field and business schools, citizen

and the support of experienced farmer-disseminators and community-based extension

- Provide through appropriate means tree seed, cuttings, seedlings and/or implements including where appropriate the enhancement or establishment of private and/or community-managed nurseries and woodlots.
- Support the implementation of Evergreening practices through low cost on-farm soil and water conservation practices.
- Empower and promote Evergreening champions within communities, schools, organizations and local government to advocate for and promote the adoption and practice of Evergreening approaches at scale.
- Conduct social behavior change and communication campaigns, community dialogues and sensitization activities to address inter-community and human-wildlife conflict resolution and peacebuilding
- Work with agroforestry team lead, other consortium members, government and private sector stakeholders to develop and adapt agroforestry approaches and strategies which will be applied across the program.
- Work with the value chain team to identify and promote climate-resilient agroforestry products value-chains, identify and assess markets for linkages
- Support the scaling of existing, or where contextually appropriate, establishment of new agroforestry value chains through technical and input access support, market and financial service linkages, standards and labelling, improved planting material, processing and storage, etc.
- Facilitate establishment and/or scaling of existing Natural Resource Based Enterprises (NRBEs) including value chains, with a particular emphasis on enterprises which are likely to deliver rapid benefits.
- Work with the MEAL Manager to conduct national level tree, soil and crop yield baselines with technical support from research institutions and other consortium members
- Build capacity on using appropriate remote sensing tools, agroforestry science, community managed or assisted natural regeneration and field data collection and analysis
- Validate tree cover data of farm and rangeland and relevant community-managed areas, using appropriate remote sensing and field level tools
- Facilitate the documentation of all agroforestry best practices and learnings and share them with the MEAL Manager for wide sharing

Requirements: Education, work experience and skills

- Master's Degree in Agroforestry, Agriculture, Natural Resource Management, or related subjects. Additional relevant experience especially on climate change can substitute for education qualifications.
- Minimum of 5 years' experience managing community programs is required, preferably focusing in the area of Landscape Management and Restoration, Climate Smart Agriculture or Evergreening Initiative.
- Experience working in a consortium settings preferably with an international NGO.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, with ability to make sound judgment and decisions and offer innovative solutions
- Strong interpersonal skills. Ability to relate to people at all levels internally and externally being strategic in how you approach each relationship and how to influence for desired results.
- Good presentation and facilitation skills
- Proactive, resourceful, solutions and results-oriented
- Willing and able to travel up to 60% in Mbeya, Njombe and Ruvuma.
- Excellent Command of Swahili and English languages, in Swahili and English

Position: SENIOR PROJECT OFFICER-GENDER AND FINANCIAL INCLUSION-1 Post
Band: 8
Project: TANZANIA EVERGREENING INITIATIVE
Location: MBEYA (WITH EXTENSIVE TRAVEL TO NJOMBE AND RUVUMA)
Reports To: PROGRAM MANAGER II

Job Summary:

The successful candidate will provide overall technical advice, guidance, and support to a wide range of program design and implementation issues with a focus on Gender Equality and Social and financial Inclusion in line with Catholic Relief Services (CRS) program quality principles and standards, and G9Ark guidelines. He/she will lead the program team in delivery of high-quality, gender-responsive and transformative approaches and financial inclusive programming for the poor and vulnerable. His/her technical knowledge, advice and guidance will contribute to determining how effective, adaptive and innovative the project's gender and financial inclusion approaches will be.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Contribute to the development and implementation of project strategies, standards, tools, and best practices in gender that effectively engage partners, donors and governments. Lead project's gender audit contributing to improvements in gender mainstreaming across G9Ark's programming.
- Provide gender technical and social/financial inclusion solutions to the project team, for strategic planning and applying program design and implementation standards, best practices, partnership principles, tools, and M&E, ensuring high-quality implementation with a gender lens.
- Lead or contribute to the development of the technical design for large and/or complex proposals, including conducting relevant gender or other social analyses, defining subsequent appropriate gender strategies and gender-responsive and transformative approaches, as relevant. Advise project team on integrating donor strategies, priorities and technical gender requirements into CRS' approach.
- Conduct periodic assessment of gender and financial inclusion opportunities; and propose responsive measures to increase meaningful impact of the program investment to beneficiaries especially most vulnerable populations
- Contribute to capacity strengthening initiatives in gender integration and financial inclusion for the program staff and partner organizations through developing learning and training strategies and agendas/curriculums, conducting trainings and workshops, and mentorship.
- Support the program to develop gender and disability inclusive regulatory frameworks that improve incentives for climate resilience and their effective implementation.
- Lead the project team to develop and conduct gender responsive community vulnerability and Capacity assessment at regional/ district levels
- Lead the implementation of gender sensitive investments that support the delivery of the program (For example: access to resources, representation, decision making, and leadership)
- Customize existing or develop new implementation manuals and refine local extension manuals in gender, youth-inclusive and where appropriate local language for evidence-based and contextually appropriate application of Evergreening practices

Requirements: Education, work experience and skills

- Master's Degree in Gender and Development or related field (s) including international development, development economics, sociology, Community Development, Monitoring and Evaluation.
- Minimum of seven years relevant working experience in an advisory or management role with progressive responsibilities, ideally with an international NGO with minimum of three years' experience programming interventions in gender equality, gender-based violence, female/girls empowerment and or social/ financial inclusion.
- Demonstrated expertise with facilitation, capacity strengthening and partnership building through formal and informal training in gender equality and related subject matter (male engagement, women/girls' economic empowerment and other gender transformative approaches across sectors.)
- Demonstrated application of technical principles and concepts in gender integration. General knowledge of other related disciplines (specifically Protection Mainstreaming, Monitoring and Evaluation programming) to ensure proper cross-sectoral/integrated approach.
- Proven experiences in mentoring, coaching, facilitation and training applying adult learning principles and practices. Additional considerations for experience mentoring a remote team of experts/community of practice.
- In-depth knowledge of financial inclusion practices and models such as SILC/VS-LA.
- Experience with programmatic gender analyses, assessments and evaluation, including applying data collection tools and methodologies, with experience in qualitative data analysis, and data presentation.
- Experience and skills in networking and relations with donors, peer organizations, and faith-based and civil society partners. Understanding of partnership principles.
- Excellent relationship management skills with ability to influence and get buy-in

- from people not under direct supervision
- Good capacity to work with individuals in diverse geographical and cultural settings.
- Strong strategic, analytical, problem-solving and systems thinking skills with capacity to see the big picture and ability to make sound judgment
- Strong presentation, facilitation, training, mentoring, and coaching skills
- Proactive, resourceful and results-oriented
- Willing and able to travel up to 60% in Mbeya, Njombe and Ruvuma
- Excellent Command of Swahili and English languages, in Swahili and English

Position: MARKET SYSTEMS/VALUE CHAINS OFFICER – 1 Post
Band: 7
Project: TANZANIA EVERGREENING INITIATIVE
Location: MBEYA (WITH EXTENSIVE TRAVEL TO NJOMBE AND RUVUMA)
Reports To: MARKET SYSTEMS/VALUE CHAINS ADVISOR

Job Summary:

The Market Systems/Value Chains Officer will support the implementation of key market and value chain strategies and approaches and will assist in improving the overall performance of the markets and value chains component of the Accelerating and Massively Scaling-up Land and Livelihood Restoration program for Southern Highlands. The incumbent will be responsible for increasing quantity, and competitiveness of relevant agribusinesses, while ensuring the integration of improved quality and quantity of goods produced; and good agricultural practices are implemented. The incumbent will have a background in agro-forestry, agricultural production, rural market linkages, and capacity building in value chains.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Lead the program team to identify and prioritize key local natural resource-based value chains and market linkages
- Build the capacity of key value chain actors including training on agri-business/farming as a business; ensuring the participation and empowerment of both youth and women.
- Identify, strengthen, or where appropriate, establish CBOs, new and existing producer groups including Village Savings and Loans Associations; to facilitate grading and bulking of on and off farm produce, developing value chains, locally produced/available products and facilitating community-based extension.
- Facilitate private sector engagement including but not limited to evergreening business forums between value chain actors and government stakeholders
- Support the scaling of existing, or where contextually appropriate, establishment of new agroforestry value chains through technical and input access support, market and financial service linkages, post-harvest management including processing and storage, adherence to standards and labelling and use of improved planting material.
- Facilitate establishment and/or scaling of existing Natural Resource Based Enterprises (NRBEs) including the development and promotion of various value chains; with a particular emphasis on enterprises which are likely to deliver rapid benefits.
- Work with the agroforestry team lead to identify and promote climate-resilient agroforestry value-chains and assess market for linkages
- Work with the MEAL team to conduct crop yield baselines with technical support from research institutions, the local government and other relevant consortium members.

Requirements: Education, work experience and skills

- Degree in a relevant field of Agribusiness, Agriculture, production, business and marketing, supply chain management and/or food security and livelihoods.
- Minimum 3 years demonstrated experience with similar projects focused on agroforestry, market systems access and development; including improving financial services for the poor.
- Demonstrated ability to work and coordinate effectively with a wide variety of stakeholders, including national and local government, donors, community-based organizations, and the private sector.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills in both English and Kiswahili.
- Established relationship with and/or substantive knowledge of agribusiness firms in the agroforestry sector within Tanzania.
- Experience working in a consortium setting, preferably with an international NGO.
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills, with ability to make sound judgment and decisions and offer innovative solutions
- Strong interpersonal skills. Ability to relate to people at all levels internally and externally. Strategic in how you approach each relationship and how to influence for results.
- Good presentation and facilitation skills
- Proactive, resourceful, solution and results-oriented
- Willing and able to travel up to 80% in Mbeya, Njombe and Ruvuma
- Excellent Command of Swahili and English languages, in Swahili and English

Position: ACCOUNTANT – 1 Post
Band: 8
Department: FINANCE
Location: MBEYA
Reports To: HEAD OF OFFICE/MBEYA

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Review and validate supporting documentation before processing of financial transactions to ensure all required documents are accurate and complete and authorizations are in place.
- Conduct assessment and Monitoring of sub recipient financial system and internal control using CRS standard checklist, properly document Capacity assessment results and outcomes in each sub recipient file and follow up sub recipient implementation of the corrective action plan and provide technical assistance.
- Set and monitor sound accounting and financial reporting procedures for sub-recipients and partners following established standards. Ensure setup and maintenance of all data required for processing financial transactions financial accounting package.
- Record financial transactions following appropriate authorizations.
- Review and analyze various accounts to detect irregularities. Advise on corrective actions and prepare correcting entries and adjustments, as necessary.
- Monitor disbursement/receipt schedules, alert relevant stakeholder of due payments/liabilities and maintain appropriate communication and follow-up to facilitate timeliness of financial resource management and compliance with set deadlines.
- Prepare various periodic and ad hoc financial reports and perform variance analysis to assist management with decision-making. Assist with budget maintenance for proper management of financial resources.
- Provide information to Mbeya Head of office, Dar es salaam Finance staff, sub-recipients, and partners on financial accounting policies and procedural compliance issues.
- Deliver training and other capacity building to sub recipient and other staff.
- Perform assigned treasury (cash payment/receipt, cash forecast, etc.) duties.
- Prepare bank reconciliation
- Perform any other task assigned by Supervisor

Requirements: Education, work experience and skills

- B.A. degree in Accounting, Finance, Economics, Business Administration with courses in accounting.
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA), ACCA or equivalent
- Minimum of four years' experience in a position with similar responsibilities, preferably with an international or local INGO, Auditing firms or a financial/banking institution.
- Knowledge of the relevant public donor regulations preferred.
- Proficient in MS Office packages (Excel, Word, PowerPoint, Visio), Web Conferencing Applications.
- Knowledge of financial accounting package.
- Willingness and ability to travel at least 50% of the time to project sites.
- Excellent Command of Swahili and English languages, in Swahili and English

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- Cover letter summarizing qualifications and motivation. Cover letter must be in Word or PDF format and not exceed 1 page.
- Kindly note, only shortlisted applicants will be contacted

CRS is an Equal Opportunity Employer

Government all for CCTV in prisons in move to control criminal incidents

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government has embarked on an initiative to install detectors and Closed-Circuit Television Cameras (CCTV) to identify and control criminal activities in prisons across the country, the National Assembly heard here yesterday.

The ministry of Home Affairs said in a written response to a question by special seats Member of Parliament Rukia Ahmed who wanted know the government's plan to control crimes in prisons.

The MP had in her principal question asked what the government was doing to tame the matter.

The ministry admitted that it was true that at times there are incidents of law breaking in prisons ranging from trafficking, entrance of illegal products and materials in prisons and uncalled for use of force to prisoners by wardens.

Others according to the ministry include prisoners trying to escape, exchange of obscene language, damage of prison properties against rules put in place.

The ministry also listed down a number of laws that has been put in place to facilitate the operation of prisons in the country including The Prison Act of 1967, The Prisons Service Regulations of 1997, The Prison Offences Regulations and the Prisons Standing Order of 2003.

"These laws and guidelines have

enlisted the kind of offences, actions to be taken against a warden or prisoner upon confirmation that he conducted the offences," the ministry said.

Criminal incidents in prisons have continued to occur for years in the country with an example of a recent incident where two remand prisoners and one prisoner at Butimba Central Prison in Mwanza City last month were killed after they allegedly attempted to escape.

In 2005, at least 15 prisoners sentenced to death in the main Ukonga maximum security prison in Dar es Salaam, started a hunger strike protesting about their harsh prison conditions.

The inmates reportedly were protesting against a poor prison diet and being severely beaten whilst being held in overcrowded prison cells.



These laws and guidelines have enlisted the kind of offences, actions to be taken against a warden or prisoner upon confirmation that he conducted the offences



Iringa Regional Police Commander Juma Bwire shows journalists in Iringa municipality yesterday an assortment of items suspected to have been stolen and later recovered in a police crackdown. Photo: Correspondent Francis Godwin

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibaha

MKURANGA resident in Coast Region, Mishee bin Ally (90) has at last acquired a new residence after some good Samaritans decided to build for him a permanent house following the collapse of his former house leaving him in difficult times especially during rainy seasons.

Speaking yesterday when he was presented with the house, Mishee thanked citizens from various areas of the country who contributed towards building of the house and beseeched upon them to continue assisting other

Mkuranga residents build house for 90-year-old man

people in need.

He said earlier he had been living in an old thatched house that leaked during rainy seasons and during dry seasons sunlight pierced through the roof into the rooms.

The coordinator of the building work Irene Makene said the house was built

through contributions from citizens who were touched by the old man's plight, adding that the house has one room, a toilet and an outer structure for a kitchen.

Makene who is also the coordinator for Tanzania Development Information Organisation (TADIO) said the building

has cost more than 3m/- and now they are finalising plans to buy a bed and a mattress.

Some people who contributed towards the building said they were touched by the old man's plight after seeing pictures of his former house and how he was living.



Zanzibar Education and Vocational Training minister Riziki Pembe Juma (C) has a word with the Minister of State in the Zanzibar President's Office (Regional Administration and Special Forces), Zanzibar Haji Omar Kheri (R), and Education and Vocational Training deputy minister Simai Muhamed Said outside of the Zanzibar House of Representative yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Rahma Suleiman

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Environment Management Council yesterday called for formulation of appropriate code to guide sand mining in river valleys in order to protect environment, create jobs for youths and increase public revenue.

The call was made here by the NEMC Director General, Dr Samuel Gwamaka, in Matosa area, Ubungo District, Dar es Salaam Region, after meeting young people mining sand in Matosa valley, through which Mbezi River flows.

Dr Gwamaka said well-coordinated sand mining could be a source of public revenue and employment to young people, hence the need for sand mining guidelines.

NEMC stresses need for sand mining regulations

He proposed that NEMC, the Commission of Minerals and district councils should work together to formulate guidelines, explaining that Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner Paul Makonda had already issued a circular to that effect. The RC, he said, appealed to Minerals Ministry, NEMC and district councils to work together so that sand mining could be done sustainably.

One of the miners on the site, Jeremia Kitomali, called on the government to give sand miners permits because, he said, miners were arrested by authorities while they were reportedly doing a good job to the nation. He argued that sand miners removed dirty from river beds and banks, facilitating proper flow of water in rivers. "When we remove dirty and sand to river beds and banks, water flows properly," he

argued.

Dr Gwamaka called on Matosa youths to form sand mining groups that would be recognised by local authorities. Groups, he said, would mine sand in a manner that does not harm environment or be a source of damage to costly public infrastructure. He said only organised groups would be recognised under proposed guidelines.

Biteko settles 20-year-old conflict over mining rights

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

THE Minerals Minister, Dotto Biteko, has resolved the 20-year-old conflict between small gold miners at Mwabomba Gold Mine in Ushetu District in Shinyanga Region and Caston Myabi Tanzania LTD, a mineral research firm.

The firm arrived at the site 20 years ago to do research with permission of the small miners in the area, and after the completion of the research, it quietly started looking for a license to own the area in order to kick out the small miners.

Biteko resolved the conflict early this week when speaking to the Mwabomba small miners and Caston Myabi Tanzania LTD, saying after the government went through the complaints from both sides it has decided that the firm's new application for a mining licence should be suspended forthwith.

However he said as of now the miners have to submit fresh application in order to continue with their mining activities in the area which the government had given them.

"If Caston Myabi Tanzania LTD wants to own the area he must agree with the miners themselves on how they will compensate each other... but the government will not grant them the license to own the area," Biteko said.

He added: "I will ask the Commission for Mines in collaboration with the ministry to plan new procedures in issuing mining licences to miners in order get rid of unnecessary conflicts between investors and small miners.

"We cannot accept to see our small miners being kicked out of mining areas everywhere they start mining activities. Continue with your activities but ensure you pay the required taxes in time and you must not smuggle the minerals out of the country."

Idahina Ward Councillor Yuda Majonjozi said the resolution to the conflict will assist in increasing mining activities and that as of now the miners have paid more than 500m/- in taxes to the government.



We cannot accept to see our small miners being kicked out of mining areas everywhere they start mining activities. Continue with your activities but ensure you pay the required taxes in time and you must not smuggle the minerals out of the country

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

Factory to start producing animal, chicken feeds from donkey bones

THE Shinyanga-based donkey meat processing factory Fang Hua is set to start producing animal and chicken feeds from donkey bones which were initially thrown away.

The company director, Jiao Zhil told The Guardian that the formula is ready and that donkey bones which

were previously considered as useless by-products will now have a value.

Zhil said some industries in China have come up with a technology of

extracting oil from the bones. The extracted oil is suitable for making body lotions that smoothen the skin.

"We have almost everything in place for the production of chicken feeds from bones and we also export them for oil extraction in China," he said adding that they no longer throw away donkey bones like it was before.

The factory is currently exporting donkey meat and skin to China and Asian countries.

Donkeys now face a population crisis because of the huge demand for their skins, bones and meat in China, where they are used to make health foods and traditional medicine.

The company's operations manager, Mingyang Yan said the company

processes at least 30 donkeys per day, noting that they have requested the government to allow them slaughter more donkeys.

She said they have come up with a multiplication programme to ensure they have reliable source of donkeys. This, she said is done through contract farming with farmers within Shinyanga municipality and its environs.

Under the programme, the company has signed contract with some 110 people with 751 donkeys in different district councils in Shinyanga Region.

"The company has entered two types of contracts with farmers aimed at increasing production of donkeys

and the continuity of our business," she said. In the first contract farmers are paid 300/- per month for every donkey in effort to help them raise the animals and later sell to the company.

In the second contract, the company has given farmers donkeys and pay them 5,000/- per donkey every month.

She said the company also has production farm in accordance with the government, requiring them to have their own farm in effort to have sustainable production of the donkey products.

However, she noted that the company despite having employed 67 workers and paying the rightful taxes and levies faces a lot of challenges when exporting the products.

She said they sometimes find it difficult to get challenges in getting export documents since the services were moved from Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA) to Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).



Dodoma Regional Police Commander Gilles Muroto shows journalists yesterday some of 17 cars suspected to have been stolen and later recovered in a police crackdown. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Coffee production in northern zone plunges

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

COFFEE production in northern zone has decreased from 6,706 tonnes in 2014/15 to 5,882 in 2018/19 financial year due to various reasons including population growth, the National Assembly was told yesterday.

The Ministry of Agriculture said in a written response to a question by special seats Member of Parliament Shally Raymond (CCM) who wanted to know the government's plan to revamp the production of the cash crop.

In her principal question, the MP asked; "What was the government doing to revamp the production of the crop whose drop has had a negative impact to the lives of the people in northern regions."

In response, the ministry of Agriculture said the drop in production was due to various reasons including decrease in land for cultivation because of population growth which has made farmers to turn coffee farms into residential areas, tourism and the shift to other types of farming such as horticulture and the fruit production.

The ministry further said the drop was also due to changes in rainfall patterns which has led to drought and fall of irrigation activities which were the pillar of coffee production in regions of Arusha and Kilimanjaro.

This has also led to weakening of the Kilimanjaro Native Cooperative Union (KNCU) which was very influential in sensitising farmers on coffee

production. The ministry said the government has taken various initiatives including reviving the KNCU so that it continues offering services to farmers as it was in the past.

"In implementing this, the government has taken various initiatives including taking serious actions against all those who embezzled funds and contribute to the fall of KNCU," said the ministry.

Other initiatives according to the ministry include working together with the Tanzania Coffee Research Institute (TaCRI) to offer training to extension officers at ward levels as well as training them on better ways to develop nursery trees which reduces production costs up to 50 percent.

Over 450 convicted of sexual offences under SOSPA - Home Affairs ministry

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

ABOUT 456 people have been convicted of sexual offences through the implementation of the Sexual Offences Special Provision Act, 1998 and sentenced to serve jail terms as per the legislation, it was revealed yesterday.

The Ministry of Home Affairs said in a written response in parliament that, out of that number, the adults were 373 while the remaining 83 convicts were students who impregnated their fellows.

"Recent statistics show that between

January and December 2019, about 2,839 schools girls were impregnated and 1,244 pupils were lured and convinced to drop out of school, and between January and March 2020 about 992 children were raped while 133 others were convinced by men to drop out of school," said the ministry.

The Home Affairs Ministry was responding to a question by Illeje lawmaker, Janeth Mbene who questioned the ministry over the rising rape cases as well as school drop outs.

"Recently there have been a raging debate over school pregnancy as

well as drop outs, while in 1998, this House enacted a law known as SOSPA, which amended various laws to have a legislation dealing with the offences," she noted, adding: "How many criminals have been convicted with such offences," she queried.

The Illeje MP equally wanted to know the number of convicted adults and fellow students as well as the number of drop outs.

In the response, the ministry admitted that several cases were at different legal stages while others had been heard and determined by the judiciary.

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast,

Bukoba

College in Misenyi offers training in modern-day beehives making

GERA Folk Development College in Misenyi District, Kagera Region has started offering training to students and surrounding communities on how to make modern beehives and marketing techniques.

College project coordinator, Alfred Jones said in an interview that the institution has already made 50 modern beehives out of the required 250.

He said the project is funded by the Tanzania Education Authorities (TEA) to a tune of more than 100m/-.

Jones noted that community members benefiting from the project include entrepreneurs groups who will receive the training free of charge. He said plans are to start conducting the trainings as soon as the government allows gatherings which have been banned due to the outbreak of Covid-19.

"We will come up with a tracking system where each of the beneficiaries

will be traced to make sure they conduct beekeeping activities professionally. We expect them to increase productivity," he noted.

Gera Folk Development Collage Deputy Principal, Fransis Mwangosi said the college is determined to lead the community towards improved beekeeping activities as well as marketing of honey.

Mwangosi said that farmers have for a longer period complained of being left unassisted especially on issues of coordinating markets for their products.

Conchesta Kanywa from Kanyigo ward and Erneus Rutaihua from Gera ward are among the beekeepers who are optimistic that through the training their productivity will increase.

Apart from producing honey, bees also create many important products like bees wax, a natural wax produced

through wax glands found in the bees' outer body. Bees wax serves as a building block for honey comb cells which are found within the hive and are used as housing for young bees as well as pollen storage centers.

Tanzania has the potential to produce over 100,000 tonnes of honey per year but the current production stands at over 50,000 tonnes, according to the Tanzania Forest Service (TFS).

Data from Tanzania Honey Council (THC) indicates that the country's production potential is huge having about 38.8 million ha of forests and woodlands ideal for beekeeping. Utilization of this potential is only about 7 per cent.

Tanzania has a total land of 945,203 square km where 4.53 per cent is arable and 6.2 per cent is water. The forest cover of Tanzania is 38.8 million ha which is 39 per cent of the land cover.

TANGANYIKA LAW SOCIETY



RE ADVERTISED

TENDER NO: TLS/2020-2024/HQ/G/T01

For

Supply of self-ink Advocate stamps and seal with hidden security features

TENDER NOTICE

Date: 27th May, 2020

Subject: - Tender for the supply of Self inking stamp and seal with hidden security features to the Tanganyika Law Society.

The Governing Council of the Tanganyika Law Society, guided by its legal mandate to control ethics of its members and protect the general public from malpractice of the law strives to end unqualified practice of using unqualified personnel on administration of oaths and notarization of documents to the members of the public and clients in general. The unqualified practice has different forms including "vishoka" whereby TLS has noticed uncontrolled use of advocates stamps and seals. The unqualified practices have caused serious problems to TLS members, the Judiciary, Government authorities such as Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), Immigration departments, Police, Prevention and Combatting of Corruption Bureau (PCCB), Financial Intelligent Units (FIU), National Identification Authority (NIDA) and other bodies needing seals, stamped and/or sworn documents. As such, unqualified practitioners including vishoka have been using stamps of deceased advocates.

Tanganyika Law Society initiates the process of controlling and regulating advocates stamps, seals and oaths to all its members so as to protect the public, Judiciary, Parliament and all government bodies in general.

Sealed tenders are invited for the supply of the desk self-inking stamps and seals with hidden security features to the Tanganyika Law Society as per the details given in the technical specification, on the following terms and conditions.

- i. Payment will be made to the contractor after the successful completion of each work.
 - ii. The contract for the said work will be for a period of three years.
 - iii. The contract can be terminated by the Society at any time if the work of the contractor is not found satisfactory.
 - iv. The period of contract can be extended for a further period of one (1) year, if required on the same terms and conditions.
 - v. The tenderers will have to deposit a sum of Tsh 50,000/= in the form of a fixed deposit receipt or Bank Cheque to Tanganyika Law Society NBC Bank account No 011101018617. The tenderers received without the mentioned deposit will not be considered. The deposited amount is not refundable to unsuccessful bidders even after the tender has been finalized.
2. If you are interested in undertaking the abovementioned work under the terms and Conditions as contained in this letter. You may submit detailed tender addressed to the undersigned in a sealed cover which should be prominently marked with the words "Tender for the supply of Self Inking Stamps and seal with hidden security features." The Tender shall be submitted TLS Headquarter (Wakili House) at the first floor reception where by the Secretary of the TLS Executive Director will be receiving the tender not later than 16:00 HR of 15th June, 2020.
 3. In this connection, the tenders may kindly note the following points.
 - a) The tenders should also give necessary details if they have undertaken similar works in other Organizations.
 - b) Tender received after the specified date and time will not be considered.
 - c) The Society reserves the right to reject any tender as a whole or in part in case the tenderer doesn't meet the specified criteria.
 - d) The representative duly authorized by the tenderer may be present at the time of the opening of the tenders. The representative should carry a letter to this effect.
 - e) Demonstrate the ability and convenient way to deliver the stamps and seal to all TLS chapters and sub chapters.

Eligibility Criteria:-

- i) The Bidder should have carried out work of preparing self-inking stamps and seals with security features for at least one reputable organization during the last 3 years.
- ii) The bidder should enclose documents in support of their claim in this regard.

Selection Criteria:-

The firm which meets the eligibility criteria and seem to have the right capacity to complete the job in time shall be awarded the Tender. In case two firms quote the same rate the Bidder who has more experience shall be awarded the tender. The decision of the Tender Board of this Organization shall be final in this regard.

N/B. Not the firm with the lowest rate will necessarily be awarded the tender.

The tender will be opened at 16:00 HR of 15th June, 2020 at TLS Headquarter (Wakili House) 2nd Floor at the meeting room.

The stamps with hidden security features will have the following advantages.

- a. Protect TLS members against criminal liability
- b. Protect consumers against malpractices and masquerade
- c. Build trust of the advocate client
- d. Market the advocates business

For full tender document visit → <https://tls.or.tz/career/invitation-for-tender-supply-of-self-ink-advocate-stamps-and-seals-with-hidden-security-features/>

Yes, crime doesn't pay, but justice must prevail

DAR ES SALAAM police on patrol have reported having killed seven suspected bandits, in the process also seizing a pistol with three bullets.

According to the Dar es Salaam Special Police Zone Commander, Lazaro Mambosasa, the incident occurred early on Monday when suspected criminals attempted to force their way into a warehouse at Mwenge in Kinondoni District.

Apparently, the presumed criminals walked into a trap as officers from a special police task force were there already, assigned after the unit was earlier tipped off on the planned invasion at the warehouse.

In situations of this sort one doesn't have to tally all the details and picture how the incident took place because, on the whole, there is a contention between law enforcers and those holding the law in contempt.

Normally, no one is carted to a place and then suddenly suspected to be a bandit. Rather, when a trap is laid and one walks into it, there is little pain about details.

There is a maxim in constitutional law that the law is derived from the people and, as everyone is presumed to know, people in the streets don't tolerate bandits - a particularly when one is caught red-handed.

The punishment for the wrongdoer, which derives from tradition that earlier governed religious norms, is death, which is harsh but is what tradition provides for.

In constitutionally ruled culture that is called modernity such people are arrested and taken to court, for some people "to face the wrath of the law".

There is a reason for bandits to find

the circumstances more complicated in carrying out their armed contempt of both the law and the rest of society. It is the change from a situation where they would be put in remand prison, and are soon bailed if they were not armed or if they caused no deaths.

Chances of police officers entering some form of contract with criminals get much fewer when such action could imperil the officers' own jobs and tarnish their public image.

There is also always a tendency to panic when one sees the police closing in and soon imagining that they can shoot their way out without notice.

With the number of informal sector activities having narrowed down somewhat, this including chances of easy cash for 'mission town' sort of jobs, everyone wishes to keep his or her job.

Hopefully, confirmed criminals now have fewer gullible police offers or magistrates to talk to once they are apprehended, and if they put themselves in the firing line, they ought to know what comes next.

In the final analysis, equity - though not the law - provides that whoever lifts a gun (like the pistol the zonal commander showed in illustration) to go and obtain cash is ready to kill.

Implicitly, such a person is also ready to be killed.

That is essentially what may happen when one lifts a gun and goes off to 'hunt,' whether actually holding the firearm or as an accomplice.

But there is also the need for law-enforcers to act most professionally, including by exercising maximum caution before actually pulling the trigger. Our hope is that this is indeed always the case in circumstances of this nature.

Nature of roads vital in curbing of incidence of wildlife killings

MANAGEMENT can break down not because nothing is taking place but results are poor or deceptive to levels of despair.

There is something of the sort where a social and economic invasion on a vital part of the Tarangire-Makuyuni ecosystem appears to be under threat.

There are two sides to that issue, the first relating to rapidly moving vehicles that have kept killing wild animals for the past decade.

Wild animals are killed on a 50-kilometre stretch of the road running from the Makuyuni Junction of the Arusha-Dodoma road in Monduli District to the Mgori section in Babati District, in Manyara Region.

This situation has been documented by zoological researchers through a year-long study conducted along the road stretch in the Tarangire-Manyara ecosystem. They say trucks hit and kill an average of 400 wild animals of different species every year in the zone.

It is reported that dusk is the prime time for animals to be hit, mostly by cargo trucks then traversing the area. Yet it appears that solutions including those recommended by the Natural Resources and Tourism ministry - relating to appropriate installation of road signs - have yet to ease the severity of the situation.

This issue was discussed at length some years ago, and it was resolved that the Tanzania Roads Agency (Tanroads) plan to erect warning signs as appropriate, including bumps, another option being the imposing of penalties for the killings.

Many stakeholders were said to have rejected the idea of erecting bumps on major roads, even after cases of pupils being hit by speeding drivers on busy roads.

That is likely to remain so, but Tanroads ought to think more seriously of corrugating the stretch by special tarmac in question to ensure slower speeds. The idea - not very palatable, one must say - would be to let drivers move at their own optimal speed without finding it necessary to religiously check for road signs or risk paying fines.

Scientists and road experts know what depth of corrugation shall attract what sort of speed and for what kinds of vehicles. As trucks are the ones blamed for most of the killings of wild animals, their owners and drivers must be made to feel the pinch.

Still at Tarangire, the 'Kwa-Kuchinja' wildlife corridor has been invaded by trespassing residents, and the Natural Resources and Tourism ministry has underscored the need to demarcate wildlife corridors with beacons.

The idea, as with the highway or busy tourist road stretches, is that residents of the respective areas should be clear about their limits in terms of extending farms, building houses or grazing livestock within the precincts.

A senior researcher with the Arusha-based Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute said the 31 wildlife corridors mapped all over the country were designed from studies leading up to 2009. That is more than ten years ago, and a research update started last year was halted owing to the Covid-19 pandemic.

But there are evident lessons. The 'Kwa-Kuchinja' corridor used to measure 81 square kilometres, but now this all-important wildlife passage has shrunk into a mere 5.2 km in width.

Remedial measures are needed here too instead of expecting local residents to fear the wild beasts and stop building dwellings or farming in such corridors.

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By Amanda Menas

“EVERY interview - whether it's with a victim of Covid-19 or the president of your country - is a fight for control,” said long-serving TV documentary writer and director Julian Sher at a recent ICFJ webinar.

He advised that to keep interviews on track, reporters should set a strategy ahead of time, then be firm about sticking to it. “We do have an uncomfortable job. We sometimes have to push the limits, and I'm very comfortable with being human about it,” he said.

At the same time, reporters should keep in mind that no interview is perfect. “I've done thousands of interviews in the last 30 years, and inevitably most of them don't work out the way I want them to,” he said, adding: “The goal is not to do a perfect interview; the goal is to figure out how to do the best interview one can.”

Sher shared examples and hints on how to use interviews to get the answers the public needs and to hold the powerful to account.

Here are key quotes from the conversation, the first being on how to prepare for a tough interview. Once you have done your research, choose a strategy for your interview. First, figure out whether this will be primarily an informational

How to ask the hard questions about the coronavirus disease

interview, an emotional interview, or an accountability interview. The best conversations with sources have elements of all three types, he said. Ask yourself how much of the interview should focus on each, and craft your questions accordingly.

When you speak with the source, start by asking questions to solicit information. Next, ask questions related to emotion. At the end, wrap up with questions about accountability.

He shared examples of each type of question: Informational: When did you first learn about the COVID outbreak? Emotional: What did the deaths of the nurses you knew so well mean to you? Accountability: How guilty do you feel because you refused to supply masks and other protection?

On how to redirect an interview: If you start to lose control to the source, be firm. Shift the focus back to your questions, perhaps by using humour. If necessary, take an aggressive approach.

If the source's answer becomes so long that it risks eating time you need for other questions, “I think you should interrupt, but you can do it in a polite way.”

Don't be afraid to keep repeating a same question. “It sounds a little ridiculous, but if somebody is not answering the question, you keep asking it until they answer or until at least you prove to your audience that they are afraid to answer the question.”

On keeping questions simple: “When a question mark comes out of your mouth and you are still talking, you have to figure out, ‘Why am I still talking?’ That was a question mark! Stop talking!”

On why not to let a source lure you into a debate: “If you get into a debate, you will always lose because it's an unfair fight. The person you are interviewing is allowed to lie, deflect or make things up. You can't.”

On how to respond when challenged: When US President Donald Trump's response to CBS News' Weijia Jiang's question about US Covid-19 testing was: “Ask China that question”, Jiang, who is Chinese American, did not back down. Instead, she asked him repeatedly why he had directed that advice to her specifically. “Don't be afraid to stand up for yourself,” Sher said, sharing a clip of the exchange as part of the session.

“She (Jiang) stands up, but she asks a journalistic question.”

“If leaders or politicians try to limit your questions or prevent you from getting information, NEVER break the law. Never put yourself at risk of going to jail or being harassed. But you do have to be courageous.”

On finding answers during a pandemic: “It's becoming increasingly clear that countries that have put science first, and have put the scientists in front of the national news conferences, versus governments... that have pushed politics over science, that's having deadly consequences... If you're covering these officials, ask them why.”

• *In partnership with its parent organisation, the International Centre for Journalists (ICFJ), the International Journalists' Network (IJNet) is connecting journalists with health experts and newsroom leaders through a webinar series on Covid-19. The series is part of the ICFJ Global Health Crisis Reporting Forum. This article is part of the initiative's online coverage of reporting on Covid-19.*

Stay or go? International freelance journalists facing challenges during Covid-19 pandemic

By Kristi Eaton

AT first, passengers coming from a list of countries with coronavirus disease outbreaks were quarantined when they arrived in Uganda. Then, Uganda's borders closed completely on March 21.

Around that time, some of Sally Hayden's friends booked last-minute flights to their home countries. She, however, never considered leaving.

“There have been far fewer cases across Africa than in Europe and the US, and it seemed safest to stay put,” said Hayden, who has reported across Africa, the Middle East and Europe.

She covers migration and human rights issues, as well as general news and investigations for outlets including Al Jazeera, The New York Times and BBC.

“I also thought it was important to keep reporting from here on the impacts of the restrictions, as well as any potential escalation in cases further on,” she noted.

As Covid-19 has swept across the globe, freelance journalists working

outside their native countries - who are already in an unpredictable profession - faced a new quandary: stay in their new home, or return to their native countries?

Some, like Hayden - originally from Ireland - decided to stay, and have never been busier.

“I'm still going out to report while observing social distancing measures,” she said, adding: “I've been reporting on the army enforcing restrictions, on the impact of a national shutdown on families who were already living in poverty, and on the deaths of mothers and children unable to get to hospitals due to a transport ban.”

Others made the decision to return to their native countries, unsure when they will return to the place that had become home over time.

Kiratiana Freelon, a US citizen based in Brazil, returned to Chicago on a one-way ticket, her possessions left untouched in her apartment in the South American country.

Freelon covers social justice issues, with an emphasis on Afro Brazilian people, as well as politics and breaking news. Her work has been published in

The Washington Post, Zora, AfroPunk and others.

“Brazil went on lockdown the weekend of March 12,” said Freelon, adding: “Around that time, intra-state and inter-state buses stopped running. I had to stay in my apartment in Rio de Janeiro and only go out for groceries.”

Also around that time, she started talking to friends and other expatriates to see if they were going to leave Brazil, and reports: “Very few of her expatriate friends had plans to leave. At this time, my mother started to worry about me, and I started to feel trapped in my apartment all alone in a foreign country.”

While back in the US, Freelon translates articles for the largest newspaper in Brazil, Folha de São Paulo, and continues to freelance.

Freelancing, however, has been a challenge. She's had some surprising wins with patience, like finally placing a feature in an online magazine that she had been negotiating before the Covid-19 struck. Although it took a long time to hear back, she was happy with the success.

India-based freelancer Somdyuti

Datta Ray meanwhile echoes many of the challenges Freelon is facing. Datta Ray works in her home country, but reports for international publications. Her work has appeared in Business Insider, BI Prime, Arré, O.School, Horizon Guides and KrAsia.

“I've collected plenty of rejections and even more unanswered emails in the last month, and understandably so. I'm assuming that editors are equally swamped at this moment,” she said.

But she continues working as much as she can, communicating with sources over the phone while under lockdown at her house.

Freelon doesn't anticipate many of these challenges going away any time soon. “Somehow I survive. But with freelancing looking dire now, I'm on the hunt for a stable remote job,” she said.

• *A dispatch by IJNet (International Journalists' Network), a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists. Kristi Eaton is a freelance journalist and Tulsa Artist Fellow based in Tulsa, Oklahoma, in the US.*

By Special Correspondent

Cocaine: What began as religious tradition has become global abuse

THE word cocaine refers to the drug in a powder form or crystal form.

The powder is usually mixed with substances such as corn starch, talcum powder and/or sugar or other drugs such as procaine (a local anesthetic) or amphetamines.

Extracted from coca leaves, cocaine was originally developed as a painkiller. It is most often sniffed, with the powder absorbed into the bloodstream through the nasal tissues. It can also be ingested or rubbed into the gums.

To more rapidly absorb the drug into the body, abusers inject it, but this substantially increases the risk of overdose. Inhaling it as smoke or vapour speeds absorption with less health risk than injection.

Cocaine is one of the most dangerous drugs known to humankind. Once a person begins taking the drug, it has proven almost impossible to become free of its grip physically and mentally.

Physically it stimulates key receptors (nerve endings that sense changes in the body) within the brain which, in turn, create a euphoria to which users quickly develop a tolerance. Only higher dosages and more frequent use can bring about the same effect.

Today, cocaine is a world-wide, multibillion-dollar enterprise. Users encompass all ages, occupations and economic levels - even schoolchildren as young as eight years old.



Cocaine use can lead to death from respiratory (breathing) failure, stroke, cerebral haemorrhage (bleeding in the brain) or heart attack. Children of cocaine-addicted mothers come into the world as addicts themselves. Many suffer birth defects and many other problems.

Despite these dangers, cocaine use continues to increase - likely because users find it so difficult to escape from the first steps taken down the long dark road

that leads to addiction.

What began as a religious tradition in the Andes has turned into abuse throughout the world.

What began as a religious tradition in the Andes has turned into abuse throughout the world.

Coca is one of the oldest, most potent and most dangerous stimulants of natural origin. Thousands of years ago, ancient Incas in the Andes chewed coca leaves to get their hearts racing and to speed their breathing to

counter the effects of living in thin mountain air.

Native Peruvians chewed the leaves only during religious ceremonies. This taboo was broken when Spanish soldiers invaded Peru in 1532. Forced Indian labourers in Spanish silver mines were kept supplied with coca leaves because it made them easier to control and exploit.

Cocaine was first isolated - that is, extracted from coca leaves - in 1859 by German chemist Albert Niemann. It

was not until the 1880s that its popularisation in the medical community started.

Austrian psychoanalyst Sigmund Freud, who used the drug himself, was the first to broadly promote cocaine as a tonic to cure depression and sexual impotence.

In 1884, he published an article entitled "Über Coca" (About Coke) which promoted the 'benefits' of cocaine, calling it a "magical" substance.

Freud, however, was not an objective observer. He used cocaine regularly, prescribed it to his girlfriend and his best friend and recommended it for general use.

While noting that cocaine had led to "physical and moral decadence", Freud kept promoting cocaine to his close friends, one of whom ended up suffering from paranoid hallucinations with "white snakes creeping over his skin".

The chemist also believed that "for humans the toxic dose of cocaine is very high, and there seems to be no lethal dose". Contrary to this belief, one of Freud's patients died from a high dosage he himself prescribed.

In 1886, the popularity of the drug got a further boost when coca leaves were included as an ingredient in

a soft drink. The euphoric and energising effects on the consumer helped to skyrocket the popularity of the drink by the turn of the century.

From the 1850s to the early 1900s, cocaine and opium-laced elixirs (magical or medicinal potions), tonics and wines were broadly used by people of all social classes.

Notable figures who promoted the "miraculous" effects of cocaine tonics and elixirs included inventor Thomas Edison and actress Sarah Bernhardt. The drug became popular in the silent film industry and the pro-cocaine messages coming out of Hollywood at that time influenced millions.

Cocaine use in society increased and the dangers of the drug gradually became more evident. Public pressure forced led to the removal of cocaine from the popular soft drink in 1903.

By 1905, it had become popular to snort cocaine and within five years, hospitals and medical literature had started reporting cases of nasal damage resulting from the use of this drug.

In 1912, the US government reported 5,000 cocaine-related deaths in one year and by 1922, the drug was officially banned. However, in the 1970s cocaine

emerged as the fashionable new drug for entertainers and businesspeople.

Cocaine seemed to be the perfect companion for a trip into the fast lane. It "provided energy" and helped people stay "up".

At some American universities, the percentage of students who experimented with cocaine increased tenfold between 1970 and 1980. In the late 1970s, Colombian drug traffickers began setting up an elaborate network for smuggling cocaine into the US.

Traditionally, cocaine was a rich man's drug, owing to the large expense of a cocaine habit. By the late 1980s, cocaine was no longer thought of as the drug of choice for the wealthy. By then, it had the reputation of America's most dangerous and addictive drug - linked with poverty, crime and death.

In the early 1990s, the Colombian drug cartels produced and exported between 500 and 800 tonnes of cocaine a year, shipping not only to the US but also to Europe and Asia.

The large cartels were dismantled by law enforcement agencies in the mid-1990s, but they were replaced by smaller groups - with more than 300 known active drug smuggling organisations in Colombia today.

As of 2008, cocaine had become the second most trafficked illegal drug in the world.

• **Report published courtesy of Foundation for a Drug-Free World.**

Education post-COVID-19: Customised blended learning urgently needed

By Werner Olivier

Many well meaning education benefactors and commentators in South Africa have expressed that in the light of the COVID-19 pandemic online self-guided learning could solve some of the current teaching problems and address the educational backlog. What learners need, the reasoning goes, is to get free internet access to educational support materials on offer online.

Nothing could be further from the truth.

In fact, self-guided online learning is doomed to fail. Research shows an exceptionally high drop-out rate - even in developed countries. Learners simply have no incentive to keep at their studies without peer pressure, a teacher at hand or a structured learning environment.

In South Africa in particular, with socio-economic disparities and related problems, the drop-out rate would be even higher. More so in key subjects like mathematics and physical science where prior knowledge, conceptual understanding and self-motivation to succeed are critical.

Self-guided online learning is doomed to fail. Research shows an exceptionally high drop-out rate - even in developed countries. Learners simply have no incentive to keep at their studies without peer pressure, a teacher at hand or a structured learning environment

The only answer, in the country's unequal teaching environment, is a customised version of blended learning. Blended learning integrates computer-assisted online activities with traditional face-to-face teaching (chalk-and-talk).

When used by a trained teacher, this approach can add valuable new dimensions to the learning process. It can allow learners to work at their own pace and teachers to fill content gaps.

Blended learning in South Africa

In many developed countries, blended learning is a well-established practice. It has enabled these countries to adapt to the demands of the current pandemic. Digital remote learning and teaching is backed up by dependable infrastructure and skilled, motivated teachers.



Students learn with tablets in a school in South Africa. File photo

By contrast, the differences between South African schools have been thrown into sharp relief. The binary system of a privileged minority of schools and the rest remains, despite the political changes more than 25 years ago.

More than 80% of public schools are under-resourced. They are ill-equipped to respond to the teaching and learning challenges of the 21st century - let alone the latest demands of the pandemic.

The current lockdown has suddenly compelled teachers to adopt predominantly online, blended learning teaching practices. But nearly 90% of all households in South Africa are still without access to the internet at home. Very few schools had adapted to blended learning

before lockdown and few schools would be able to adopt it during the lockdown. Therefore the schools that had fewer resources and skills will fall even further behind.

This is especially disappointing since the current cohort of pupils (born after 2000) have long expressed their preference for a blended learning model. Even the recent recognition by the South African government that science, technology, engineering and mathematics are important in the Fourth Industrial Revolution has had little effect on the skills development of teachers, infrastructure or modernisation of resources in schools.

Therefore, in the South African context, mainstream blended learning is not the complete

answer. We need to go beyond blended learning.

Customised blended learning model

Since 2002, the Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Centre in Nelson Mandela University in Port Elizabeth has wrestled with these challenges.

The bad news is that there's no way to make the teaching and learning of maths and science easy. But we've developed a number of interventions that have lifted the twin burdens of poor training and lack of infrastructure from the shoulders of teachers. Skills development linked to the use of user-friendly and interactive digital resources has allowed teachers to focus on attaining a high quality of teaching with subsequent learning

successes.

Over the past decade, the centre has experimented with various combinations of online and offline self-directed teaching methods. It has worked specifically on blended learning for mathematics and physical sciences in secondary schools.

The greatest success has been a blended learning system that uses a combination of online and offline interactive resources with pre-installed apps that are aligned with the South African school curriculum. These can be used as a guide for teaching, home-schooling, after-school study and tutoring. We call it techno-blended learning: a structured approach, using mostly offline apps in an integrated way, with the full participation of a trained or experienced adult mentor or guide.

One of the centre's more recent interventions is a mini personal

computer called the GammaTutor™. This is an offline device pre-loaded with interactive learning material. These resources have been specifically designed for South African school conditions.

The GammaTutor: a tutor in your pocket.

The GammaTutor software package is primarily intended for teachers: when plugged into any data projector, a TV or digital screen, it doubles as a flexible maths and science teaching assistant in the classroom and a learner support resource for after school hours. It fits in the palm of a hand, requires no data and is navigated by the click of a mouse. Its small size makes the device easy to keep safe and to take where it's needed.

What needs to be done

It's well known that major educational challenges exist in schools as a result of the country's multi-language society - particularly in the teaching and learning of mathematics. The GammaTutor™ application offers mathematics concept explanations in eight indigenous languages.

The device covers the full curriculum for high school maths and physical sciences, presented in video, PDF or animated PowerPoint format - along with glossaries, exam revision support, translations from English into indigenous languages and many additional teaching support materials. It can be used for interactive teaching online and remotely.

The response from teachers, learners and stakeholders to this approach of teaching and learning has been overwhelmingly positive. Where these interventions have been applied, in pilot schools in the Eastern Cape province, the results have been gratifying. Marks have improved significantly and successful learners have been able to progress to university.

The new urgency for remote teaching caused by the COVID-19 pandemic has created an opportunity for the country to adopt policies to accelerate blending learning practices among teachers and learners. The Govan Mbeki Mathematics Development Centre offers lessons learned through more than a decade of research.

AGENCIES

Comprehensive strategy needed to reduce interactions that can lead to more Covid-19 infections

By Derek Thompson

COVID-19 has mounted a sustained attack on public life, especially indoor life. Many of the largest super-spreader events took place inside - at a church in South Korea, an auditorium in France, a conference in Massachusetts.

The danger of the indoors is more than anecdotal. A Hong Kong paper awaiting peer review found that of 7,324 documented cases in China, only one outbreak occurred outside - during a conversation among several men in a small village.

The risk of infection indoors is almost 19 times higher than in open-air environments, according to another study by researchers in Japan.

Appropriately, just about every public indoor space in the US has been shut down or, in the case of essential businesses such as grocers, adapted for social-distancing restrictions. These closures have been economically ruinous, transforming large swaths of urban and suburban life into a morbid line of darkened windows.

Today, states are emerging from the lockdown phase of the crisis and entering a troubled period of reopening. But offices, schools, stores, theatres, restaurants, bars, gyms, fitness centres, and museums will have no semblance of normalcy until we learn how to be safe - and feel safe - inside.

To open these spaces, we must be guided by science and expertise. Fortunately for us, researchers are discovering the secrets of how Covid-19 spreads with a combination of clever modelling and detective work.

Before we review the relevant studies and draw out lessons for the future of the great indoors, a brief word of humility. Our understanding of this disease is dynamic.

Today's conventional wisdom could be tomorrow's busted myth. Think of these studies not as gospels, but as clues in a gradually unravelling mystery.

Covid-proof the office

On March 8, South Korean public-health officials learned of a Covid-19-positive patient working in a call centre in downtown Seoul. The office was located in one of the densest parts of the city, on the 11th floor of a 19-storey mixed-use building with hundreds of offices and apartments.

More than 1,000 people worked or lived in the building, sharing several elevators and a lobby. The possibility of mass infection was high.

But investigators found that the outbreak was surprisingly concentrated. Of the 97 people in the building who tested positive for the disease, 94 worked on one floor - in the call centre. Of those 94, all but a handful worked in one densely packed phone bank.

On one side of the floor, the disease was transmitted to two-thirds of employees. But less than 5 per cent of the rest of the floor tested positive, as did less than 1 per cent of the remainder of the building.

In its conclusion, the Korean Centre for Disease Control and Prevention writes that the spread of the virus was almost entirely limited to the one floor "despite considerable interaction between workers on different



floors in the elevators and lobby".

This would suggest that the main facilitator wasn't common touch points, such as doors and elevator buttons, but rather common airspace.

When people talk - or sneeze or cough - they produce respiratory droplets that can come to rest in other people's mouths, noses and lungs. Talking for hours in close quarters, in an unventilated space, can create an ideal petri dish for Covid-19 transmission.

It would be irresponsible to use the Korean study as an illustrative example if it were an outlier. But its main finding is fully in line with the emerging scientific consensus.

On Thursday, the CDC updated its summary of Covid-19 transmission to clarify that the virus "does not spread easily" from touching surfaces or objects - like, say, elevator buttons. Instead, they wrote that "the virus is thought to spread mainly from person to person ... through respiratory droplets".

What does the science of indoor transmission mean for the future of the white-collar workplace? In a document shared with the World Bank, the South Korean government set out a 50-point plan for making offices safer.

Masks are recommended for all employees. Desks and chairs are to be spread out or arranged in a "chess" or zigzag pattern so that no two individuals are sitting directly across from each other.

Cubicles stage a triumphant return, as partitions between co-workers become necessary to block the vocal spray from coughs, sneezes and loud phone conversations.

What of small gatherings, live workshops and corporate dinners? You can forget about these mixtures of work and social life. "Return home soon after work," the Korean government advises. Long walks outside may replace the water cooler.

Office meetings, once merely obnoxious, are deemed simply noxious. The South Korean government devotes a full page and 12 bullet points to the subject of meetings, but those recommendations can be

boiled down to three words that will make meeting haters rejoice: fewer, smaller, shorter.

For meetings that are necessary, large and long, South Korea recommends masks for all participants and, if possible, open windows. Ventilation, in general, will become a watchword. Many offices may have to overhaul their vent technology or hire professionals to improve airflow throughout the entire office.

Most of these changes would amount to an earthquake for corporate culture, making the office less social, interactive and serendipitous - and more like the amalgamation of many private workstations.

Until we have a vaccine, and perhaps even after, many workers may determine that if they're going to feel as alone in the office as they do at home; there's no point to commuting in the first place.

The future is uncertain, and alternative scenarios are possible, especially if offices adopt widespread tests and temperature checks for months or years before the broad administration of a vaccine. These tests, while strict, might make some people feel safer inside the office than in any other public venue that lacks similar health transparency.

With the confidence that work is the safest place other than their own home, some employees might treat the office as a multipurpose isolation unit. Drinking at work, under the protective shield of temperature checks, would make for a safer coronavirus-era ritual than gathering colleagues at an actual bar.

Covid-proof the restaurants

On January 24, a Chinese family of five sat down to lunch in a crowded restaurant in Guangzhou, the most populous city in southern China. They had arrived in the city the previous day from Wuhan.

It was a balmy afternoon in Guangzhou, with mid-day temperatures rising into the high 70s, and the restaurant on the third floor of a five-storey building was buzzing with more than 80 patrons - and no windows.

The family gathered around a table along the back wall, between two local families, as an air conditioner pumped cool air across the three tables.

When they left the restaurant, a member of the family felt a fever coming on and, after checking into the hospital, received a diagnosis of Covid-19. Within two weeks, multiple people from each of the three tables - and ten lunch patrons from the Guangzhou restaurant in total - had been diagnosed with the disease.

When the Guangzhou Centre for Disease Control and Prevention investigated the matter, it published a diagram that told a simple story: one asymptomatic person in a restaurant had infected nine others in the direct path of the air conditioner. None of the dozens of other patrons or servers got sick.

It seemed to the researchers that the vector of transmission in the restaurant wasn't a plate of food, an elevator button, or any matter of human touching - but air. Strong airflow from the AC unit had ferried coronavirus-poisoned droplets from table to table.

"We conclude that in this outbreak, droplet transmission was prompted by air-conditioned ventilation," the researchers wrote.

Many of the necessary interventions for restaurants will adhere to the same philosophy that guides the reimagining of the office. Masks may become commonplace on servers, as might barriers between tables.

In an interview with The Atlantic, the chef and restaurateur Tom Colicchio recommended reducing interactions between patrons and waiters by asking diners to order their meals online before they arrive or on tablets at the table, like in an airport.

Social distancing in the kitchen might mean fewer chefs, which could make complex dishes and extravagant plating impossible.

"Until there's a vaccine, I don't think dine-in restaurants will get back to normal in this country," Steve Salis, a restaurant owner in Washington, DC, said.

"We could introduce things like finger bowls or

hand wipes, like you have at some Japanese restaurants, but for every cuisine. We could add public sinks in the dining room, where people can get up and wash their hands at a counter," noted Salis.

He added: "We might have to retrofit our restaurants to make them easier to clean. Tables and bar stools will have to be socially distanced... to make them more private."

Another idea: Put everything outside. Some American cities, including Berkeley, California and Cincinnati, have done just that - by announcing the closure of streets to free up outdoor dining space for restaurants.

But for many cities, wide-scale al fresco dining is unrealistic not only because of necessary road use but also because we can't ask the weather to change. There will be snow in Boston, wind in Chicago, and rain in Seattle. An open-air restaurant is a lovely thing, but ceilings were invented for a reason.

Restaurants will respond to the pandemic as they already have - by cobbling together a variety of businesses, including delivery and curbside pickups, and selling specialty groceries.

Even so, their outlook is dire. Chef and restaurateur Colicchio said that more than half of American restaurants may not reopen.

"In my case, for at least two of my restaurants, most of the business comes through private parties and conferences," he said, adding: "For the foreseeable future, that's gone."

Covid-proof public entertainment

On the evening of Tuesday, March 10, a total of 61 singers gathered for choir practice just north of Seattle. It was a standard rehearsal, as members sang in close quarters, shared snacks, and stacked chairs together at the end of the two-and-a-half-hour session.

Five days later, the choir director sent an urgent email to the group, saying several members had developed fevers. The following Tuesday's rehearsal was cancelled.

But by then, it was too late. A whole 53 of the 61 singers became ill, making for an

"attack rate" of 87 per cent. Three members of the choir were hospitalised. Two died.

The Washington choir represents the most aggressive outbreak I have come across, with an attack rate almost twice as high as the happened at the Korean call centre. It had many features we've already established to be dangerous: an intimate crowd gathered in a small room, sharing air, food and surfaces. But what if singing accelerated the transmission of the disease?

In a study subsequently published in the Centres for Disease Control and Prevention's "Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report", researchers emphasized that "the act of singing, itself, might have contributed to transmission, because choir members were belting out more of the virus."

Some people - known as "superemitters" - release more particles into the air when they speak, because they are unusually loud or slobbery talkers. But even normal gabblers can release an exceptional number of droplets if they're singing or theatrically projecting their voice.

Many super-spreader events have been ceremonies that involve group prayers and exclamations, such as religious gatherings. On February 16, a 61-year-old Korean woman with Covid-19 triggered hundreds of infections when she prayed with 1,000 worshippers in a large windowless church in Daegu, South Korea. To this day, more than 60 per cent of Korea's Covid-19 cases are in Daegu.

Two days later, in France, several hundred Christian worshippers from around the world packed into a dark auditorium in the small town of Mulhouse for an annual festival. French authorities have since linked more than 2,000 global cases to this one meeting, including cases in French Guyana, Corsica, Burkina Faso and Switzerland.

These stories combined with the science of large-droplet and airborne transmission suggests that social distancing isn't enough: We need saliva control too.

Other countries are doing so, already. Germany has reportedly banned singing at religious services, and South Korea has prohibited spitting in its professional baseball league.

Spittle rules won't be enough to make our public entertainment places safer, either. We will need a comprehensive strategy to reduce the sort of interactions that can lead to more infections.

"When we go back to sports stadiums and theatres, people are going to have to adjust their expectations," says Joseph Allen, an assistant professor of exposure assessment science at Harvard's T. H. Chan School of Public Health.

First, he said, full-capacity stadiums will be impossible in the social distancing age, and most attendees will be advised to wear masks.

Second, everything that can be made touchless should be, including ticketing and concessions. "To avoid clustering at the hot-dog stands, stadium food vendors should serve as much as possible directly to people's seats," Allen said.

Third, public entertainment venues will have to re-imagine queuing. "Our theories about crowd control, which are dominated by concerns for physical security, typically squeeze large

numbers of people into a scarce number of heavily guarded entrances," he said.

But in a pandemic, tightly packed queues are the very hazard we want to avoid. "It'll be very important to reduce crowding at the entrance of stadiums and theatres by adding additional entrance points or staggering admissions by time to avoid overcrowding," Allen said.

When you put all of these stories, studies, blueprints and advice together, it amounts to a relatively straightforward pandemic playbook. For memory's sake, let's reduce the major takeaways to a convenient acronym: SAFE.

Social distancing: This one you probably knew before you read this article. Keep a healthy distance between yourself and others - six feet is a good general rule - especially when you are near them for an extended period of time.

Airflow awareness: Every noncontact activity - talking, eating, working out - becomes significantly safer when you take it outside. As the previously mentioned Japanese study and Hong Kong survey indicated, the odds of transmission in a closed, indoor space are several orders of magnitude higher than in open-air environments.

Face masks: Wear them. They're not just for you; they're for everybody around you.

Expectoration (sorry for using a fancy word for spit to make the acronym work): Covid-19 appears to spread both through large-droplet transmission, such as from sneezes, and through the airborne transmission of smaller, aerosolised droplets, such as those that spray out of the mouths of talkers.

Beware especially of indoor environments and activities that naturally include lots of gabbling - or chatting - (such as a long office meeting), singing (such as a choir practice), shouting (such as a high-school gym), or heavy breathing (such as an intense indoor workout class).

As an indoor person myself - and a lover of theatre, sports and restaurants - it's painful to think about the range of activities that will be pinched in the next year and the businesses and lives that will suffer for it.

Towards the end of my reporting for this piece, I emailed a national security worker who also teaches singing in the Washington, DC, area. She has heard that in-person singing may be off-limits until a vaccine is widely available, a possibility that would shutter musicals and vocal lessons for a year or longer.

"Despite all the chaos and intense news, this has been the thing that has hit the hardest," she said. So, she's planning to offer singing lessons on Zoom.

America's public spaces will have to show a similar flexibility and resiliency to make it through the next year. Even as the US reopens, some old rituals - such as going to bars, group workouts, and packed concerts - will have to remain paused.

People will still drink and sweat and sing, just differently. Eventually, the old world will come back.

The great indoors will return. But until then, Americans will have to balance their rituals and nostalgia with a humble respect for our unfolding understanding of Covid-19.

• A syndicated dispatch from The Atlantic.

By Guardian Reporter

National Museum goes digital to lure more tourists amid Covid-19

SINCE 1977 the world has been celebrating the World Museum Day, which represents a unique moment for the international museum community. The museum world over organize museum activities to celebrate the day that including processions, exhibitions and different outreach programmes.

The objective of International Museum Day is to raise awareness about the fact that museum are an important means of cultural exchange, enrichment of cultures and development of mutual understanding, cooperation and peace among the people.

The International Museum Day gives chance for professionals of museums to meet people and inform them about the challenges museums face.

The event always highlights a theme that keeps changing each year that's at the heart of the preoccupations of the international museum community. This year's theme is "Museum for Equality: Diversity and Inclusion".

With this theme the International Museum Day 2020 aims at becoming a rallying point to both celebrates the diversity of perspective that make up the communities and personnel of museums and champions tools for identifying and overcoming bias in what they display and the stories they tell.

The celebrations are organised on May 18, every year and events and activities planned to celebrate the day can last for a day, a weekend or entire week.

More and more museums across the globe take part in celebrating this important day.

According to the International Council of Museum (ICOM), more than 37,000 museums participated to celebrate International Museum Day last year in about 158 countries and territories.

This year 2020 the story is different because of the outbreak of Covid-19 in the world. The disease is causing widespread anxiety and quarantine measures in different countries around the world. People are staying home to limit the spread of the illness and venues that normally draw large crowds including museums have shut their doors.

While thousands of museums in the world closed down because of Covid-19, Tanzania museums are open to the public to execute its legal duties to acquire, conserve, research, communicate and exhibit the humanity tangible and intangible heritage plus its environment for enjoyment, study and education purposes.

These duties of promoting Tanzania's cultural and natural heritages are done with a lot of health precaution as directed by the Government through the Ministry of Health, Community Development, and Gender, Elderly and Children and that of the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Some of those health measures are washing hands with soap and running water and if you do not have water use sanitizers, wearing masks and social distancing.

The National Museum of Tanzania like other Museums in the world having working hard to make sure that despite the corona pandemic museum stakeholders and audience have access to museum products and exhibition through the use of digital media including social media.

As part of the celebration of World Museum Day, the National Museum launched video clip titled: "Makumbusho Salama" (Safe Museum).

The launching was held at the Museum and House of Culture in Dar es Salaam with the aim of sending a message to the public that visiting a museum is safe despite of the Covid-19.

According to the clip that was live in the social media and some media outlet any person visiting the museum in Tanzania will have to put on mask, wash hands with running water stationed at the entrance of the museum.

Speaking at the launching the Director General of the National Museum of Tanzania, Dr Noel Lwoga assured tourists and Tanzanians who wish to visit the museums that they are safe because all precautions are taken on board. The National Museum of Tanzania plans to have more and more online products and exhibition so as to reach the wide range of museum stakeholders including those who are outside Tanzania.

"Our plan is to ensure that even people who are not able to visit the museum in Tanzania can visit wherever they are," Dr Lwoga says.

According to Dr Lwoga, the digitalisation of museum products represents a great opportunity for heritage promotion and extension of relationship with visitors beyond the museum some of who are longer able to move because of age and vicinity.

"We believe, with improvement of our digital platforms that include website and social media—instagram, twitter, and facebook we stand to win more audience to our museums," he says.

The village Museum organised an exhibition on traditional medicine as part of the International Museum Day celebration with the aim of awareness creation of what villagers used before the hospitals were built in different rural areas. Community members from Makonde and Fipa tribes demonstrated what types of leaves were used and the entire process.

The Village Museum Director, Dr Gwakisa Kamatula underscored the importance of diversity and community inclusion in the museum operations. The Village Museum has a rich natural and culture assets because apart from traditional houses of different tribes, the village has vast land of over five acres of forest with different types of leaves and trees.

"With this exhibition we are showing people on what plants and leave

can be used to cure different illness," he says.

Biology Conservator at the museum, Agness Robert says traditional medicine has many benefits and has long history in Tanzania.

"Some of the plants used for steaming therapy has health nutrients and when used give relief to the patients.

"The village museum has a number of medicinal plants that could be used to cure different illness," she says.

Mary Mangazine from Fipa tribe who was invited specifically for the steaming therapy exhibition say in the past there were no hospitals

The National Museum of Tanzania, Director General Dr Noel Lwoga responding to a phone call during a live programme at the launching of "Makumbusho Salama" video clip in Dar es Salaam recently as part of celebrating World Museum Day. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



but people were getting sick and treated with traditional medicine. She says a number medicinal plants were used to cure by steaming therapy and drinking.

Despite firing the warning shot, the health watchdog said it recognizes that traditional medicine has many benefits, and Africa has a long history of traditional medicine.

It also said that medicinal plants such as artemisia are being considered as possible treatments for COVID-19 but first need to be tested for efficacy and adverse side effects.



NOTICE OF THE 25TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Reference is made to the Press Release postponing the Annual General Meeting ("AGM") which was scheduled to be held on 16th May, 2020.

NOTICE is hereby given that the **TWENTY FIFTH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING** of CRDB BANK PLC will be held on **Saturday, 27th June, 2020 at 9.00 a.m.** virtually that means that shareholders will be expected to participate via digital means.

The Bank will be holding this year's Annual General meeting by virtual means because of concerns of safety of shareholders given the large number of shareholders and the size of standard meeting venues that do not, in the wake of COVID-19, provide the kind of sitting space per member that meets the social distance guidelines. The safety and wellbeing of our shareholders and other stakeholders is important to us. As a responsible institution, we join hands with the Government in fighting the spread of the corona virus by ensuring that we comply with the advised safety measures including avoidance of mass gatherings and ensuring social distancing.

The Bank will send to all shareholders via their mobile phones ID and password information on how a shareholder can access the virtual meeting and participate. A special resolution will be passed to permit the holding of the Annual General Meeting by virtual means.

The following Agenda will be transacted:

1. **Opening of the Meeting.**
2. **Election of the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Meeting.**
3. **Special Resolution to amend the Articles of Association to allow the AGM to be held virtually.**
4. **Adoption of the Agenda.**
5. **Introduction of Board Member representing DANIDA Investment Fund (DIF) to shareholders.**
6. **Confirmation of the Minutes of the Twenty Fourth Annual General Meeting.**
7. **To discuss Matters Arising.**
8. **Adoption of the Directors' Report and Audited Financial Statements for year 2019.**
 - a) **Directors' Report.**
 - b) **Audited Financial Statements for the year ended 31st December 2019.**
 - c) **Declaration of Year 2019 Dividend.**
9. **Approval of Directors Remuneration.**
10. **Appointment of the External Auditors.**

11. **Election of two Independent Non Executive Directors.**
12. **To deliberate on Proposals received from Shareholders.**
13. **Any other business with leave of the Chair.**
14. **To set the place, date and venue of the next Meeting.**
15. **Closing of the Meeting.**

NOTE:

1. *The Shareholders Register will be closed on 26/06/2020 and will be opened on 27/06/2020.*
2. *All proposals to be discussed under Agenda no. 12 must be received by the Secretary not later than 4.00 p.m. on Friday, 12th June, 2020.*
3. *The 2019 Annual Report and Papers for the Meeting and proposed resolutions will be available on the Bank's website (<https://www.crdbbank.co.tz>) and can be collected from CRDB Bank Branches from Friday, 12th June, 2020.*
4. *Shareholders are requested to appoint proxies to attend the Meeting on their behalf. The proxy form is available on the Bank's website (<https://www.crdbbank.co.tz>).*
5. *Completed proxy forms should be sent to the Company Secretary via email address shareholders@crdbbank.com or delivered to any CRDB Bank branch, or a photo of the completed proxy form sent through WhatsApp no.0767 757215 to reach the Company Secretary not later than 4.00 pm. on Monday, 22nd June, 2020.*

All communication should be addressed to:

Company Secretary
CRDB Bank Plc
Office Accommodation Scheme- Azikiwe Street,
4th Floor
P. O. Box 268
DAR-ES-SALAAM.
Tel. no. 022 - 2114237, 2117442 - 7
E-mail - shareholders@crdbbank.com

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD


J. B. Rugambo
COMPANY SECRETARY

20th May 2020

JOHANNESBURG

Study: Young entrepreneurs will bolster peer-to-peer driven employment growth

Investments in supporting successful transitions from school and university directly to entrepreneurship could unlock significant employment gains in Africa.

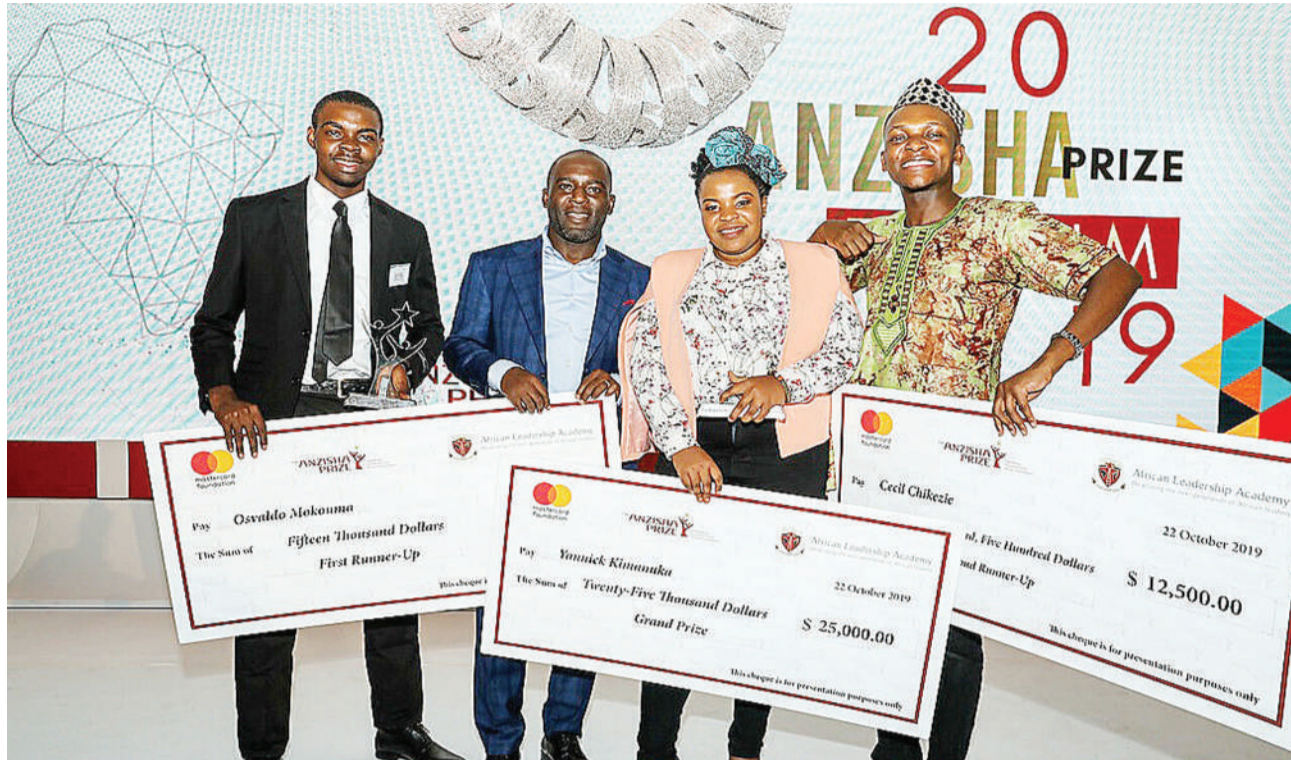
This is according to a new research paper from the Anzisha Prize, which has worked with very young African entrepreneurs for over a decade.

To produce the report, Anzisha Prize commissioned in-depth desk-top reviews and new field research by leading academics and held workshops with key stakeholders across the continent over more than a year.

"We really wanted to respond to this lack of data around the questions we were dealing with in a way that could credibly influence policy," says Anzisha Prize executive director Josh Adler.

Adler elaborates: "In our most recent analysis, just 77 of our 122 Anzisha Fellows had created over 2,000 dignified work opportunities and 56 per cent of those jobs were for young people under 25. In addition, three of our Fellows have placed a total of 825 people in jobs - 60 per cent of them being under 25. We wanted more evidence to support what we were seeing in our programme, so commissioned all this research activity."

The Very Young Entrepreneur Scenario



research project kicked off in late 2018 with a green paper and a series of participatory workshops to explore what the future might hold for Very Young (15 to 25 year-old) Entrepreneurs in Africa. Dozens of organisations participated over several months, with clear recommendations emerging for five key stakeholder groups - educators, parents, investors, incubators and policy makers. Most interestingly, a pattern emerged around who the most important yet poorly served

stakeholder group is: and it was parents. "We are hoping that this research will lead to far more organisations that are trying to tackle employment and education in Africa focusing their energies on parents," notes Adler, adding: "We see parents as the forgotten stakeholder of the entrepreneurship ecosystem." The report is careful not to paint youth entrepreneurship as a panacea. Rather, very young entrepreneurship and successful

transitions from school to entrepreneurship are under-invested so significant gains could be realised if that share of wallet was increased. It also provides an important counter perspective on a commonly held view that older entrepreneurs are more successful and more impactful. "Through the Anzisha Prize, we have observed that young entrepreneurs are more likely to hire other young people," Peter Materu, Mastercard Foundation

chief programme officer, meanwhile says. The foundation threw its weight behind the Anzisha Prize right from the latter's inception.

"Now, we have evidence that builds the case for supporting and encouraging entrepreneurship at a very young age. This has helped us better understand how to do that," notes Materu.

He adds: "Entrepreneurship, especially at such young ages, is certainly not for everyone. But this report is shaping a narrative that positions young people as economic change agents."

Key insights that stand out from the research process underpinning Anzisha's scenario work include that very young entrepreneurship sits at the intersection of three established policy spaces - education policy, small enterprise policy and youth policy - and often gets lost in between.

Secondly, while there are many initiatives taking place to support the growth of youth entrepreneurship in African countries, there is very little evidence available to measure progress and determine impact - and even less so when the focus is on very young entrepreneurs.

Thirdly, very young entrepreneurs create jobs for other young people across the continent, despite the lack of investment in this age group.

Fourthly, very young entrepreneurs have less access to credit than older ones. New innovations in lending and investment are needed to support the job creation potential of very young entrepreneurs.

Fifthly, for many very young entrepreneurs, the dominant source of financing remains family and friends.

And sixthly and lastly, early exposure to entrepreneurship and quality entrepreneurship education integrated into existing education systems are essential in fostering entrepreneurial aspirations.

The Anzisha Prize seeks to fundamentally and significantly increase the number of job-generative entrepreneurs across the African continent.

This is done through testing, implementing and sharing models for identifying, developing and connecting high potential, very young entrepreneurs (15 to 22 years old) and their parents

and teachers.

These efforts are meant to ensure the ecosystem's collective success in creating a pipeline of entrepreneurs with the capabilities for scale.

The Anzisha Prize is a partnership between the African Leadership Academy (ALA) and the Mastercard Foundation.

For its part, ALA is determined to transform Africa by developing a powerful network of entrepreneurial leaders who will work together to achieve extraordinary social impact.

Each year, ALA brings together the most promising young leaders from all 54 African nations for a pre-university programme in South Africa with a focus on leadership, entrepreneurship and African studies.

The academy continues to cultivate these leaders throughout their lives, at university and beyond, by providing on-going leadership and entrepreneurial training and connecting them to high-impact networks of people and capital that can catalyse large-scale change.

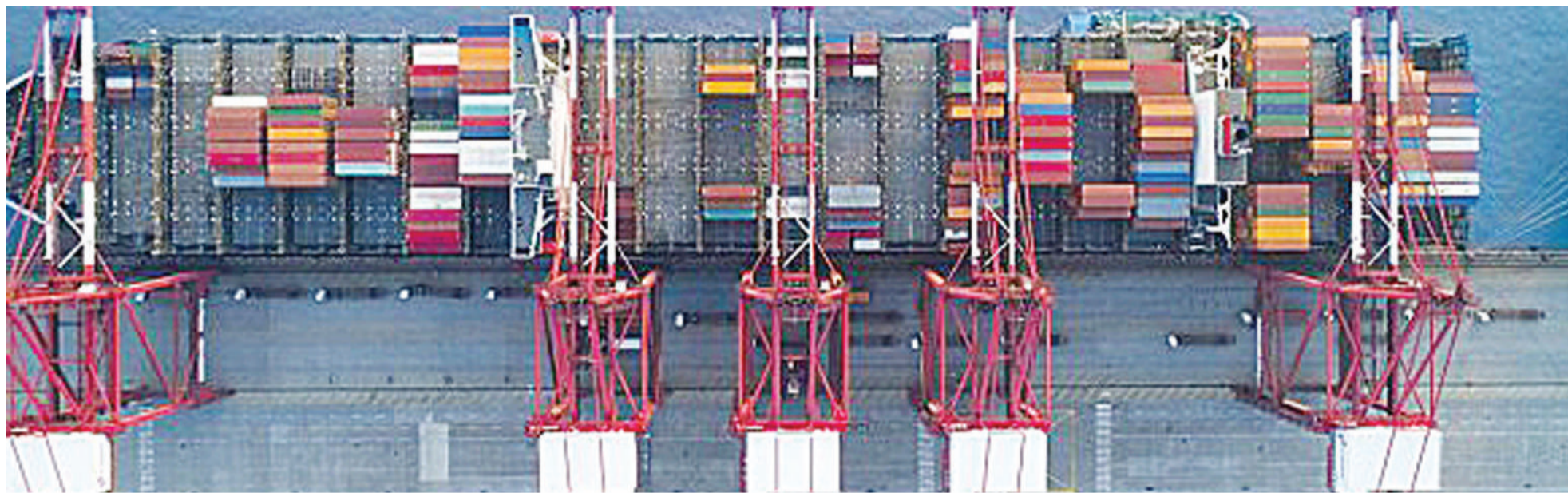
AGENCIES

Security vs efficiency, smart ports in a post-COVID-19 era

BY RICHARD CHELIN AND DENYS REVA

Around 90 per cent of Africa's trade is seaborne. The World Trade Organisation has predicted a decline in consumer spending due to COVID-19 that will decrease international trade by up to 30%. This will have far-reaching effects on export-dependent African economies. However in the wake of COVID-19, ports will become the core of Africa's economic recovery and growth.

Improving the efficiency and capacity of African ports is a major policy goal for the African Union and the Regional Economic Communities, as well as organisations such as the Port Management Association of Eastern and Southern Africa. In the past, African ports



As African ports pursue technological innovation to boost trade, new cyber-security risks will emerge. File photo

have had to contend with delays and backlogs due to low levels of automation.

Even before the global COVID-19 crisis, ports authorities worldwide were under pressure to increase efficiencies, reduce environmental impacts and enhance their facilities' security.

But the pandemic has now made the effective functioning of ports a matter of national security.

With rapid and more accessible technological advances and innovation has come the development of smart ports. A smart port is one that uses automation and new technologies such as

artificial intelligence, big data, internet of things and blockchain to improve its performance.

COVID-19 has now made the effective functioning of ports a matter of national security

The aim is to boost a port's safety and security, optimise management and allow for better

planning. Automation is critical for enhancing the competitiveness and efficiency of a port, with programmed equipment handling day-to-day operations. Examples include cranes, self-driving trucks and pallet sensors.

Big data enables new planning guides and facilitates port logistics through the collection and correlation of information on ship positions as they arrive at or leave the port. Through the internet of things, ports are transformed into maritime information-network hubs. Relevant data about vehicles, ships and cargo movement is collected and used in real time to coordinate with shipping and logistics partners.

Ultimately this will lead to near-complete automation of processes, connected through the internet of things, optimising the costs and time for many operational activities. For example the Port of Rotterdam launched its own internet of things platform to allow port officials to identify the best timing and location for a ship to dock, greatly improving operational efficiency.

South Africa has some of sub-Saharan Africa's busiest ports. It embarked on a project to modernise its port infrastructure to increase its competitive edge under the smart port concept. The

Transnet National Ports Authority chose Durban as a pilot for the new project.

South Africa, Egypt and Kenya's lack of readiness for a cyberattack on its ports is worrying

There have been some notable advances, such as the establishment of an e-commerce platform, and a database that connects the port systems, surveillance cameras, sensors and tracking tools. Drones are also being used for navigation of ships, monitoring and data gathering.

However, with new innovations come new risks. As ports worldwide pursue competitiveness and efficiency, a smart port poses cybersecurity challenges. Numerous high-profile incidents and cyberattacks in recent years show the vulnerability that higher reliance on technology brings. And such attacks can occur at any point along the supply chain.

The most notable incident occurred in 2017. Maersk, the world's biggest shipping line, came under a cyberattack by a NotPetya virus, causing massive disruptions to the international supply lines and US\$300 million in damages. As a result, the fully automated Rotterdam port terminal shut down for over a week. Other cyberattacks include the targeting

of port servers and systems at the Port of Barcelona, and a series of ransomware attacks on the port of San Diego and Long Beach.

Criminals may also try to exploit a port's critical data to steal high-value cargo or allow illegal trafficking through a targeted attack. In 2013, at one of Antwerp's port terminals in Belgium, a drug cartel took control of containers' movement and retrieved data on those containing drugs.

South Africa has an opportunity to set the standard for Africa in responding to port cyber threats

A 2019 report by the European Union Agency for Cybersecurity highlighted the problems ports face in implementing cybersecurity measures. These include a lack of digital culture in the port ecosystem, little awareness and training regarding cybersecurity, difficulty staying current with the latest threats and new risks of digital transformation.

South Africa is at the forefront of this trend and handles the highest amount of cargo in sub-Saharan Africa. But it ranks only 56 out of 175 on the 2018 Global Cybersecurity Index which assesses countries on the level of their cybersecurity commitment. Other African countries with busy ports such as Egypt, Kenya and Nigeria rank 23rd, 44th and 57th respectively.

On the National Cyber Security Index which measures the preparedness of countries to prevent cyber threats and manage cyber incidents, South Africa ranked 99 out of 160 in 2019. Nigeria ranked 45th with Egypt and Kenya 77th and 76th respectively.

South Africa, Egypt and Kenya's lack of readiness for a cyberattack on its ports is worrying. An attack similar to the Maersk incident on any of these ports would incur huge damages to their national economies.

Agencies

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 90 00--

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

3 LETTERS: ART, HUT, RIB
 4 LETTERS: COST, TING, LEAD, TASS, STAR, ROME, UNIT, (7 WORDS)
 5 LETTERS: ASIDE, DOORS, TSARS, SKULL GRATE (5 WORDS)
 6 LETTERS: ENDURE, ARREST, BEAGLE, SERENE ASSIGN (5 WORDS)
 7 LETTERS: MEXICAN
 8 LETTERS: HARANGUE
 10 LETTERS: CALAMITIES

1 2 3 4
 5 6 7 8
 9 10 11 12
 13 14 15 16
 17 18
 19 20

- CLUES: Across**
- able to operate independently
 - a list of meals
 - a tripod frame used to support an artist's canvas
 - Chief city of Jordan
 - the whole quantity
 - an inlet
 - group of musicians playing together
 - an enzyme which breaks down RNA into smaller molecules
 - afflicted
 - the chief male character in a book
 - the chemical element of atomic number 68
- Down:**
- an unspecified amount
 - former monetary unit of India
 - a thing that is borrowed
 - an instrument for sewing
 - community of Muslims
 - festival of the Christian church celebrating the resurrection of Christ
 - unusual
 - ended, stopped
 - person who donates something
 - beard in Kiswahili
 - exclamation expressing triumph
 - a kind of rock in which metal is found

WORD-FIT

CROSSWORD

By Magezi: 075529240 fehmagezi@gmail.com

BUSINESS

EXPANSION

Bolt raises €100m for use on Africa, Europe expansion

LUXEMBURG

Cab hailing company Bolt has raised €100-million from Naya Capital Management to boost its growth strategy.

The company confirmed plans to introduce and expand newer services such as scooters, bikes and delivery services in their largest markets, Europe and Africa. The company operates in more than 150 cities across the two regions.

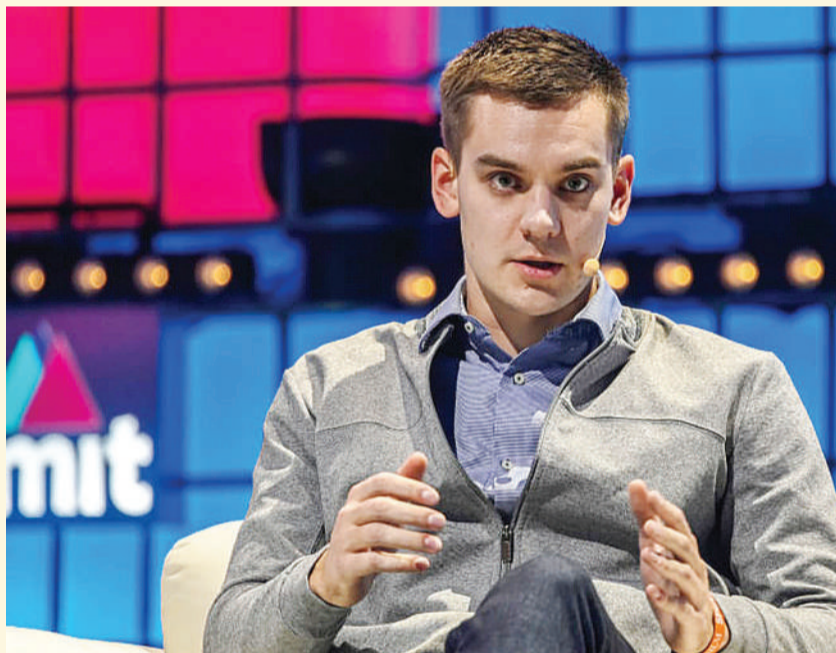
Markus Villig, CEO and co-founder, Bolt said: "We continue to improve our operations to meet the demands of our customers. Even though the crisis has temporarily changed how we move, the long-term trends that drive on-demand mobility such as declining personal car ownership or the shift towards greener transportation continue to grow."

He added: "We are happy to be backed by investors that look past the typical Silicon Valley hype and support our long-term view. These enable us to continue offering affordable transportation to millions of custom-

ers and the best earnings for our partners during the post-COVID world."

As the COVID-19 pandemic hits most markets, ride hailing companies such as SWVL, Uber and LittleCab have expanded their delivery services, especially in the African markets. This has boosted the uptake of e-commerce and online shopping. Bolt also has accelerated its expansion of its food delivery service. It has also announced the launch of Business Delivery, a service to aid vendors in need of a distribution partner and offer same-day delivery.

"It also launched Bolt Protect, a service primarily aimed at essential workers that still need to move around, with cars that are fitted with protective plastic sheeting installed between the passenger and driver seats, limiting the airflow between the driver and riders inside the car," the company stated. The latest investment from Naya Capital Management now brings the total investment amount raised by Bolt to over €300-million since inception.



Markus Villig, CEO and co-founder of Bolt.

PATRIOTISM

Africa urged to buy local products to support startups

NAIROBI

Billionaire-businessman, Tony Elumelu has urged Kenyans and the general African community to adopt homegrown solutions and support enterprises that engage local populace in economic activities.

Speaking in a virtual New York Forum Institute-convended roundtable Mr Elumelu (above with President Kenyatta) said the Covid-19 pandemic provides Africans with an opportunity to come up with own solutions for their socio-economic problems.

This, he said, should be supported by government-led martial plans that deliberately support locally made products and startups. "I see this pandemic as an opportunity to reset Africa that has all it takes to emerge into a strong digital economy. We need a martial plan that galvanises the entire continent into a major source of solutions that is less dependent on the 'circularity of debt' from developed nations," said Mr Elumelu who is the chairman of the Nigeria-headquartered UBA bank, a

pan-African lender with subsidiaries in Kenya and 19 other African countries.

The roundtable attended by Presidents Uhuru Kenyatta, Niger's Mahamadou Issoufou, Allassane Ouattara (Cote d'Ivoire), Macky Sall (Senegal) and Sierra Leone's Julius Bio vouched for entrenchment of homegrown solutions that locals relate with easily. During the session titled 'Resilient World: An African call for a new world order', President Kenyatta said Kenyan youths have set up tech start-ups "that are assisting communities to continue accessing key supplies and services such as food and medicine."

Teams from University of Nairobi, Kenyatta University and Dedan Kimathi University of Technology, as well as private enterprises TotoSci, Mutimoto Motor company, NJA Technologies and Metal Equipment have presented prototype ventilators to Kenya Bureau of Standards (Kebs) for scrutiny. Kebs has also released ventilator specifications that will guide local innovators towards meeting the required standards.

TARIFF-BARRIER

Local glass manufacturer Kioo Limited likely to trigger Dar, Nairobi trade row

By Guardian Reporter

IN contravention of the East African Community's free market protocol, Kenyan authorities have imposed a 25 percent excise duty on Kioo Limited's glass exports to the country.

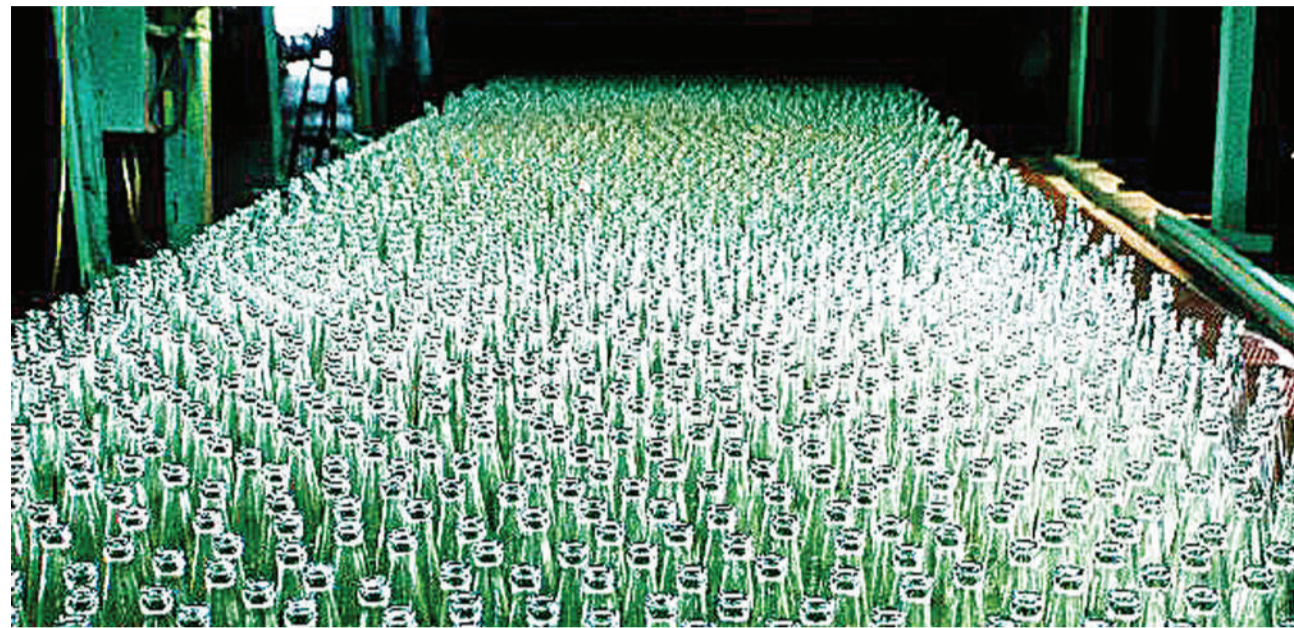
In a statement released yesterday, Kioo Limited it has raised the issues with the relevant ministries in the country but has also approached East African Court Justice to urgently intervene as the tax imposed is a clear violation of the EAC's Customs Union Protocol.

Kenya recently enacted the Business Laws (Amendment) Act, 2020 which amended the Excise Duty Act of 2015 by imposing the new tax on imported glass bottles (excluding glass bottles for packaging pharmaceutical products) at a rate of 25 percent with effect from March 18, 2020.

"Under the Excise Duty Act, there are no exemptions granted to goods imported into Kenya from East African Community partner states and the new excise duty rate of 25 percent will therefore apply to glass bottles imported into Kenya from Tanzania," the Dar es Salaam based company said in its statement.

The company further added that the amendment will result in an increase in the cost of imported glass bottles compared to those which are locally manufactured in Kenya hence impose a tariff barrier.

"The integration pillars of the East African Community include, the establishment of a Customs Union and a Common Market. Articles 75 and 76 of the Establishment of the East



Inside Kioo Limited's ultra-modern plant in Dar es Salaam. File photo.

African Community Treaty, respectively provided for establishment of the Customs Union and Common Market," said the statement.

The company explained that under the Customs Union Protocol, member states commit to deepen and strengthen trade among themselves hence agreed to eliminate internal tariffs and other charges of equivalent effect as well as eliminated non-tariff barriers to boost intra-regional trade.

The statement added that the Customs Union Protocol on the establishment of the East African Community Common Market is aimed at accelerating economic growth and development by providing for free movement of goods, labour, services, capital and the right of establishment within the EAC

bloc.

"Kenya's recent actions with respect to the excise duty on glass from Tanzania contravene the provisions of the EAC Treaty. Kenya is an important market of glass and glass products manufactured by Kioo," the company lamented.

It also said that this will affect Kenyan glass purchasers as they will have to rely only on glass produced within Kenya adding that there are two glass producers in Kenya and they, together, cannot meet the total domestic demand but also do not currently have the capability to supply the technology that Kioo offers.

It said that Tanzania and Kenya have more or less the same cost structures and market potential because while Tanzania has local gas available, Kenya

has local soda ash both of which are major cost drivers in the business and almost neutralize the advantage to both countries.

"During current Covid 19 outbreak when markets are already badly affected, this has come as a body blow to Kioo Limited," the statement noted saying the company converts locally available materials into value added finished product as championed by President John Magufuli's industrialization drive.

Kioo is one of the largest manufacturers of container glass for the soft drinks, beverage, beer, liquor and food industry in the EAC bloc with the most modern and technically capable plant which offers best quality, light weight and cost reduction opportunities to customers.

GREEN-ECONOMY

Rwanda unveils \$11bn climate action plan

KIGALI

Rwanda has become the first African country to submit a new national climate plan, whose implementation requires \$11 billion (10.2 trillion), as an essential tool to implement the Paris Agreement.

The Paris Agreement, signed in 2015, aims to limit global warming to 2 degrees Celsius with an ambition to contain any increase at below 1.5 degrees. The updated pledges to fight climate change are being submitted ahead of COP-26.

The 26th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 26) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) was planned to take place from 9-19 November 2020, in Glasgow, UK but it has been postponed to 2021.

According to the submitted new climate plan to fight climate change through 2030, the total estimated cost for mitigation measures is estimated at around \$5.7 billion, and over \$5.3 billion for adaptation priorities, representing a combined funding requirement of around \$11 billion.

Rwanda's mitigation contribution seeks a 38 percent reduction in gas emissions equivalent to 4.6 million tonnes of carbon dioxide in 2030. The emissions that include gases carbon dioxide, methane nitrous oxide, and hydrofluorocarbons are from the sectors of energy, industrial processes and product use, waste, and agriculture, forestry and other land use and others. And 24 adaptation interventions are



An 8.5MW solar power plant in Rwamagana District.

proposed in eight sectors of water, agriculture, land, and forestry, human settlement, health, transport, and mining. "The Government of Rwanda will continue to commit significant resources to climate change relevant strategies. Rwandan communities, the private sector, and NGOs can also contribute significantly to these climate change-related activities through public-private partnerships" reads part of the new climate plan.

It also says that the Rwanda Green Fund (FONERWA), will continue to play a vital role in financing low carbon projects and programs. However, the full implementation of the strategic mitigation actions are conditional on the support of international stakeholders.

"The implementation of the prior-

itized policies and actions assume the continued use of existing and planned national and international financial sources. Rwanda intends to meet its conditional contribution through the use of climate finance and international market mechanisms where appropriate, building upon the experience of the Clean Development Mechanism (CDM) and other existing market mechanisms," says the report.

These, it says, include the potential involvement in international cooperative approaches under Article 6 of the Paris Agreement. The Agreement is a comprehensive framework for action on climate change, guiding the steps all nations will take to reduce their contribution to global warming.

The Agreement also includes the pro-

vision for the US \$100 billion per year of climate finance and technology transfer to support developing nations to deal with the impacts of climate change and make the transition to a green economy.

Rwanda is already experiencing the impacts of a warming planet, including increased and longer droughts and more frequent and severe floods leading to landslides and therefore needs climate finance for mitigation and adaptation.

Since the 1970s, the average temperature in Rwanda has increased by 1.4°C. If no substantive action is taken to mitigate global climate change, it is predicted that the average temperature in Rwanda will rise by 2.5°C by the middle of the century.

MTN Nigeria to issue 50bn naira in bonds

LAGOS

Africa's biggest mobile carrier MTN will issue almost 50 billion naira in Nigeria, as the telco seeks new sources to support operations.

The company announced yesterday that proceeds from the issuance will be used to support the telco's working capital and general corporate purposes. Reportedly, this is the first time MTN Nigeria has gone to the domestic debt capital market.

MTN is the largest mobile operator in Nigeria, with a total of 68.5 million

subscribers, as well as 26.8 million active data subscribers. In the three months ended March, the telco's service revenue increased by 16.7% to NGN328.5 billion.

The company has continued to perform well in the West African nation despite the devastating impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. MTN Nigeria recorded double-digit growth in digital and fintech revenue for the three months ending March. Its digital revenue grew by 63.7%, while fintech was up by 36.1%, with MTN saying there was an improvement in the uptake of

its digital offerings in the three months.

Similarly, MTN recorded fintech revenue growth of 36.1% (+10.8% quarter-on-quarter) in the first quarter, which it says was driven by an increase in the adoption of MTN Xtratime, an airtime lending service.

"70 000 MoMo agents were added in the quarter, bringing the total number of registered agents to 178 000 nationwide. The total volume of transactions processed by agents during the quarter was over 5.6 million, about 80% of which were airtime vending. Transaction fees for all

money transfers using the MoMo agent network were suspended for an initial period of one month starting 23 March, as part of the Yello Hope Package," it said at the time.

MTN notes its enterprise business in Nigeria continued to improve, with revenue growth of 12.7%. "Enterprise business includes revenue from mobile and fixed connectivity, cloud and ICT solutions, and devices. It cuts across voice, data and digital services for SMEs, public sector and large enterprise customers."

CONTINUITY

SBL: We will resume issuance of scholarships in agriculture after coronavirus disease lockdown



SBL's Corporate Affairs Director, John Wanyancha.

By Guardian Reporter

The disbursement of scholarships targeting students pursuing agriculture related training courses being offered by Serengeti Breweries Limited will resume effective from June 1 when colleges and universities are set for reopening.

SBL's Corporate Affairs Director, John Wanyancha said in a statement yesterday that the company has concluded agreements with two more agricultural colleges in Iringa and Kagera regions that will admit 20 students who will get SBL's Kilimoviwanda scholarships.

Wanyancha said the other two colleges, Bagamoyo based Kaole Wazazi College of Agriculture and Kilacha Agriculture and Livestock Training Centre in Kilimanjaro which have existing contracts the brewer, will resume with their admitted 20 students under the program.

The SBL Kilimoviwanda Scholarship Program targets students from farming communities whose families cannot afford to pay for their studies. Currently, the program is sponsoring a total of 40 students to pursue higher education countrywide.

"We believe this program will go a long way in strengthening the existing pool of agricultural experts in the country which is necessary in helping farmers

increase productivity and ultimately their incomes," Wanyancha said.

The scholarship program is in line with the company's objective to increase its uptake of cereals used in beer production including maize, barley and sorghum. Last year, SBL procured over 17,000 tonnes of grains from local farmers, equivalent to 70 per cent of its annual raw material requirement.

"SBL's ambition is to increase its sourcing of local raw materials to 85 percent locally and that's why we find it important to support the government in training specialists such as field extension officers, agronomists and others," he added. The brewer currently source grains from a network of 400 farmers in various regions across the country.

Incorporated in 1988 as Associated Breweries, SBL is the second largest beer company in Tanzania, with its beer brands accounting for over 25% of the market by volume. SBL has three operating plants in Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Moshi.

SBL's brands include Serengeti Premium Lager, Serengeti Lite, Pilsner Lager, Pilsner King, Tusker Lager, Tusker Lite, Kibo Gold, Guinness stout and Senator. The company is also home to world's renowned spirits such as Johnnie Walker Whisky, Smirnoff Vodka, Gordon's Gin, Captain Morgan Rum and Baileys Irish Cream.

RELIEF

Distell 'pleased' after alcohol sales allowed, but raises concerns too

JOHANNESBURG

JSE-listed alcohol beverages group Distell on Monday welcomed President Cyril Ramaphosa's announcement that the sale of alcohol for home consumption will be allowed as part of the country's move to Level 3 of the Covid-19 lockdown. It noted that the sale of alcohol would be under strict conditions, such as restricted trading hours and days. However, it also warned of possible chaos.

"The president confirmed that these conditions had not been finalised and would be done so following further discussions with the sector. Distell is a part of the South African Liquor Brand Owners Association (Salba) and is working alongside other industry participants such as the Beer Association of South Africa (Basa) and VinPro," it said in a statement. "The industry associations have been engaging with government to develop practical trading proposals that will support government's Covid-19 objectives," it added.

Commenting on Ramaphosa's announcement, Distell CEO Richard Rushton said: "We welcome the move by government to allow the alcohol industry to return to responsible trading. The alcohol industry currently contributes to nearly a million jobs [in its] value chain and supports nearly 800 small and medium enterprises. We are working with government and providing input on the draft proposals."

Distell also raised concerns about what it terms "the unintended consequences of restricted trading", such as overcrowding and the continued illicit trade of alcohol. The group also called for the inclusion of taverns to be allowed to sell alcohol.

"In India, where after a six-week ban on the sales of alcohol, similar decisions were taken to open up with restricted trading which lead to over-crowding and fighting at outlets. This outcome would be counterproductive to strict safety protocols and government's overall Covid-19 objectives," Distell said.

"Illicit trade has also seen a dramatic rise since the ban, which may continue should trading be banned over the weekends when customers typically consume alcohol. Industry associations have presented several proposals and solutions to ensure safe off consumption trading of taverns," it noted.

"These solutions include safety protocols for trading, including e-commerce, and also addressed transmission risks across the value chain and the safety of the workforce, suppliers, retailers and consumers. One of the solutions include a 'click and collect' model which has been developed with taverns to ensure social distancing measures are followed, in the same way that traditional restaurants will be allowed to operate," it said.

Distell said taverner associations have committed to ensuring adherence to health and safety regulations, as well as social distancing at all times. "This forms a part of industry's educational and training initiatives aimed primarily at the 34 500 tavern owners to ensure they provide a safe environment for customers in which to trade. Part of the support for taverns includes supplying the free personal protective equipment packages, including sanitisers, masks, gloves, as well as education and training material to meet strict Covid-19 safety protocols," it pointed out.

"Distell is committed to contributing to a safe operating environment as the government opens up the economy. We also appreciate the uncharted territory we all find ourselves in and the steps taken to date to combat the rise of Covid-19," said Rushton.

"We can learn from other countries in opening up our industry and have proposed pragmatic and safe solutions to avoid these risks. We also see these 34 500 tavern owners as an important part of economic inclusion in both protecting lives and livelihoods," he added.



Some of Distell's products at a manufacturing plant.

APPLAUSE

Zanzibar minister happy with Asian direct selling firms for Ramadhan-time assistance

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR'S Deputy Minister for Labour, Empowerment, Elders, Women and Children, Shadia Mohamed has commended an Asian direct selling company, QNET for donating groceries to the isles orphanage to mark the end of the Holy Month of Ramadan.

Mohamed who received the 5.4m/- assortment of food items and other groceries on Monday called on other corporate entities to emulate QNET's exemplary corporate behaviour. "I thank QNET and encourage other corporate organizations to replicate the humanitarian and kind act particularly during this time as we fight against spread of COVID-19," Mohamed said after receiving the donation on behalf of Mazizini Children's Home.

Commenting on the Asian company's Ramadan donations which went to a dozen or so countries worldwide, QNET Regional General Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa, Biram Fall said, "The Ramadan charity campaign has been one of our key campaigns every year. It is indeed a very meaningful, heart-warming and fulfilling initiative for QNET."

"Such campaigns promote empowerment of the community and are also very inspiring for our staff and our independent representatives," Fall said while noting that it's the third year in succession that the company has implemented its corporate social responsibility activities in Tanzania.

In previous years, such donations including financial support to orphanages were made in Dar es Salaam and Dodoma. The company also made similar donations in over 15 countries around the world including Kenya, Ivory Coast, Mali and Cameroon in African.

QNET has been operating for over 20 years and offers a wide range of products in the area of health, wellness, lifestyle and education through an e-commerce platform. QNET products are designed to help people live healthier and improve their lifestyle and livelihood.



QNET's regional general manager for Sub-Saharan Africa, Biram Fall.

GROWTH

7.9% increase in mobile banking subscribers in Malawi

LILONGWE

Malawi's Central Bank quarterly report on National Payments System indicates the country has 900 000 mobile banking subscribers (representing an increase of 7.9%), affirming that mobile banking remains the most widely used channel.

The volume and value of mobile banking transactions rose by 18.5% and 32.7% to K8.4-million and K125.1-billion, respectively, when compared to the figures recorded during the last quarter

of 2019. The Reserve Bank of Malawi (RBM) explains that overall there was a slowdown in payment channels mainly due to reduced economic activity following the onset of agricultural planting season.

"Although on seasonal trends this is expected to reverse during the second quarter of 2020 as it is the beginning of agricultural produce trading season, the economic impact of COVID-19 pandemic currently being experienced is expected to have a reducing effect on the level of transactions in all payment

streams," reads an excerpt from the report.

The report also established that the country's payments infrastructure, National Switch (Natswitch), which clears ATM, PoS and mobile money transactions, is being under-utilised. During the first quarter of 2020, the report found that the value of mobile money transactions processed by Natswitch amounted to K2.3-billion, which was a decline of 4.2% from the preceding quarter.

"The above suggest that users or

subscribers have been slow in utilising the interoperability of the mobile money services and are performing very few transactions going across the two mobile money services," the report stated. RBM continued to monitor implementation of the E-money Regulations, issued under the Payments Systems Act and effective from July 2019.

The regulations govern operations of e-money services in the country, including consumer protection and protection of customer funds.

According to the regulation, K199.7-million in respect of interest earned in mobile money trust accounts held at commercial banks was distributed to mobile money subscriber accounts during the quarter.

"In this regard," says the report "the Regulation is expected to enhance confidence amongst users of mobile money in the country thereby increasing adoption and usage of the services." Consumers Association of Malawi executive director John Kapito told ITWeb Africa that in as much as

the advent of digital transactions has eased life, service providers need to eliminate network glitches that prohibit consumers from using their services, which sometimes is the only option available.

Kapito added that the importance of using digital financial services has gained prominence because of COVID-19. "Network problems become a discouragement to consumers and somehow it could be eliminated, then the numbers will rise even more."

APPRECIATION

Japan shares hit 10-week peak, S&P 500 tests 3 000

TOKYO

Asian shares forged ahead on Tuesday while US stock futures challenged a major chart barrier as investors looked past Sino-US trade tensions to more stimulus in China and a re-opening world economy.

Japan's Nikkei led the way with a rise of 2% to its highest since early March when the economic impact of the coronavirus was just becoming clear. MSCI's broadest index of Asia-Pacific shares outside Japan added 1.4%, while South Korea rose 1.1%.

While Wall Street had been shut on Monday, E-Mini futures for the S&P 500 climbed 1.3% to test the 3 000 level. EUROSTOXX 50 futures added 0.6% and FTSE futures 1.8%. Chinese blue chips firmed 0.8% after the country's central bank

said it would strengthen economic policy and continue to push to lower interest rates on loans.

While largely reiterations of past comments, they helped offset the war of words between Washington and Beijing over trade, the coronavirus and China's proposals for stricter security laws in Hong Kong.

European sentiment also got a lift when a survey showed German business morale rebounded in May as activity gradually returned to normal after weeks of lockdowns. "US-China tensions continue to simmer in the background, but equity investors appear more interested on the prospect of economies reopening around the globe," said Rodrigo Catril, a senior FX strategist at NAB.

"On this score, Japan ended its nationwide state of emergency, Spaniards have returned to bars in Madrid

wearing masks and England will reopen some businesses on June 1." Bond investors suspect economies will still need massive amounts of central bank support long after they reopen and that is keeping yields low even as governments borrow much more.

Yields on US 10-year notes were trading at 0.65% having recovered from a blip up to 0.74% last week when the market absorbed a tidal wave of new issuance. The decline in US yields might have been a burden for the dollar but with rates everywhere near or less than zero, major currencies have been holding to tight ranges.

The dollar was a fraction firmer on the yen on Monday at 107.83 but well within the 105.97 to 108.08 band that has lasted since the start of May. The euro was a shade firmer \$1.0910, having spent the month so far wandering



A man passes by a Nikkei stock market electronic billboard in Tokyo.

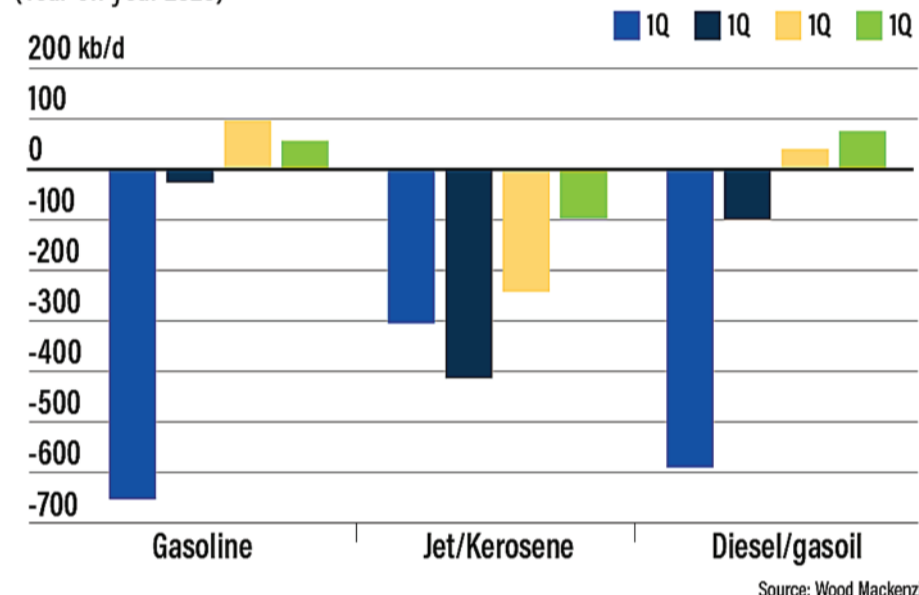
between \$1.0765 and \$1.1017. Against a basket of currencies the dollar was 0.2% lower at 99.788, but still sandwiched between support at 99.001 and resistance around 100.560. Analysts at CBA felt the dollar could break higher should China-US tensions actually threaten their trade deal.

"Although not our central scenario, if the US or China were to withdraw from the Phase One deal, USD would sharply appreciate while CNH, AUD and NZD would decline," they wrote in a note to clients.

In commodity markets, gold edged up 0.1% to \$1 731 an ounce. Oil prices were supported by falling supplies as OPEC cut production and the number of US and Canadian rigs dropped to record lows for the third week running. Brent crude futures rose 34 cents to \$35.87 a barrel, while US crude gained 82 cents to \$34.07.

CHANGES IN CHINA'S OIL PRODUCTS DEMAND

(Year-on-year 2020)



Source: Wood Mackenzie

RECOVERY

Oil hovering above \$34 on signs of markets rebalance

NEW YORK

The world's two leading crude commodity benchmarks continue to hover above \$34 per barrel on hopes of a recovery in energy demand as countries prepare to ease lockdowns.

Brent, the international crude benchmark, was up 1.27 per cent at \$35.98 per barrel, while West Texas Intermediate, the key US gauge, was up 2.32 per cent to trade at \$34.02 per barrel at 1.11pm UAE time.

The benchmarks have registered gains in recent weeks as top producers around the world, notably the Opec+ alliance, began cutting back more than 9.7 million barrels per day in May and June. Russia, which was earlier hesitant to carry out deeper production cuts, expected markets to rebalance in June or July. Energy Minister Alexander Novak said cuts exceeded those agreed earlier.

"Finally, WTI crude is preparing to test \$35 per barrel on optimism that the worldwide business reopening should boost the basic energy demand and on news that Russia cut its oil production to meet its 8.5 million bpd target in May and June, after unwillingly agreeing to lower supply with other Opec+ countries," Ipek Ozkardeskaya, a senior analyst at Swissquote Bank, said.

Meanwhile, China, the world's biggest importer, is expected to see demand recover to 13 million bpd during the second quarter, a 16.3 per cent jump from the previous quarter, when economic activity came to a virtual standstill, according to Wood Mackenzie.

"Since April, the Chinese government has gradually lifted the coronavirus containment measures. Specifically, China is now easing restrictions on social, commercial and travel activities," said Yuwei Pei, research associate at Wood Mackenzie. "More people are returning to the office after a period of telecommuting. In addition, private car use is now seen as the safest mode of mobility, shifting passengers from public transport to

private cars." However, while a revival in Chinese demand is a cause for optimism, the country is far from fully recovered. Beijing made a rare decision not to set a gross domestic product target for 2020 as it assesses the full impact of the coronavirus pandemic on the economy.

Demand for oil, when compared on a year-on-year basis, is down 2.5 per cent. But demand for petrol and diesel is expected to increase from the third quarter onwards, the Edinburgh-headquartered Wood Mackenzie said.

Petrol demand is already recovering quickly in China and is likely to return to pre-pandemic levels by June. The consultancy forecasts that petrol demand is expected to reach 3.4 million bpd in the second quarter, registering just a 0.8 per cent decline year-on-year.

Meanwhile, demand for jet fuel, which is used in the aviation sector, will continue to fall for the remainder of the year as the financially battered industry grapples with a slow return to travel in the absence of a vaccine for Covid-19. Wood Mackenzie forecasts that jet fuel demand could drop 51 per cent quarter-on-quarter to 400,000 bpd during the second quarter, as aircraft remain grounded because of weak travel demand following the pandemic.

Oil demand for the second half of the year is expected to rise by a modest 2.3 per cent to 13.6 million bpd compared with the same period last year. "China's oil demand recovery trajectory will depend on how the pandemic pans out globally," said Ms Yuwei.

"Even if China avoids a second wave of infections, as long as the pandemic remains globally, the country will maintain strict border controls, thus restraining aviation," she said. "Besides, the ongoing global economic downturn is likely to have an adverse impact on China's exports and investments, putting downward pressure on industrial and commercial transport activity."



ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

ITV	CAPITAL
<p>MONDAY 25 May</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 Habari 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: Isidingo the need 10:00 Watoto wetu 11:00 ITV Top 10 rpt 12:00 Al Jazeera News 12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Ewura 13:00 Mjue Zaidi 13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt 14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 15:00 Movie: 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Aibu yako rpt 18:15 Mapishi 18:45 Kesho leo 19:00 Aya ya Jamii 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 21:45 Kipindi Maalum: Utawala bora na utumishi 22:15 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:00 Al Jazeera 00:30 DWTV</p> <p>TUESDAY 26 May</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 Habari 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Jungu Kuu rpt 11:00 The Base rpt 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Aya ya jamii rpt 13:00 Kipindi maalum: TMDA na Jamii 13:30 Shika Bamba rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza Huru 16:30 Watoto wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Yu wapi 18:15 Mapishi rpt 18:30 Uchumi na biashara 19:00 Jarida la wanawake 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Tanzania Yetu 21:30 Chetu ni chetu 22:15 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 DWTV</p> <p>WEDNESDAY 27 May</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa</p>	<p>9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 09:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Uchumi na biashara 11:00 The Base rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Dakika 45 13:45 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Utawala bora na utumishi 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mizengwe rpt 18:30 Kipindi Maalum: Ewura 19:00 Ijue Sheria 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Kipindi Maalum: Tatu Mzuka 21:10 Aibu Yakol Hata wewe? 21:15 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco 21:45 Ripoti Maalum: 22:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 2:00 DWTV</p> <p>THURSDAY 28 May</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto 10:30 Shamba lulu rpt 11:00 Habari za saa 11:05 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Ijue Sheria 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Ripoti Maalum rpt 13:30 Tanzania yetu rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Uchumi na biashara 19:00 Jarida la wanawake 19:30 Usafiri wako 20:00 Habari 21:00 Malumbano ya hoja 21:30 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 DWTV</p> <p>FRIDAY 29 May</p> <p>5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 09:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo</p>

WORLD

EU ends export curbs on protective gear

GENEVA

THE European Union (EU) removed controls on the export of personal protective equipment for fighting the coronavirus.

The export restrictions on spectacles and visors, mouth-nose equipment and garments such as gowns lapsed yesterday after being introduced in mid-March for six weeks and then prolonged for 30 days to help ensure sufficient supplies within the EU.

The trade limits - in the form of a requirement for an authorization to sell the gear outside the 27-nation bloc - initially also applied to face shields and gloves, which were excluded when the measures were prolonged in late April.

Meanwhile, the head of the European Commission said that a global campaign to fund the development of vaccines and therapies against COVID-19 has so far raised 9.5 billion euros (US\$10.4 billion).

The pledging campaign, which the United States shunned, raised US\$8 bil-

lion from global leaders and other institutions on May 4, when it was launched.

Global tally

Confirmed COVID-19 cases worldwide has surpassed 5.5 million while the death toll topped 346,000, according to data compiled by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering (CSSE) at Johns Hopkins University.

The United States is the hardest-hit country, with more than 1.6 million confirmed cases and over 98,000 deaths, according to the CSSE. Besides the US, countries with over 200,000 cases also include Russia, Britain, Brazil, Spain and Italy, according to the data.

The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases across Africa surpassed 111,348 and the death toll surged to 3,348 as of Monday afternoon, the Africa Center for Disease Control and Prevention said.

Albania

The number of confirmed corona-

virus cases across Albania has exceeded 1,000, health authorities reported on Monday.

Speaking at a daily briefing, Eugena Tomini, an expert from Public Health Institute, said that six new cases were registered in Albania over the last 24 hours, raising the total tally to 1,004.

As of Monday, Albania has reported 32 deaths from coronavirus.



A nurse puts on protective gear prior to entering a room with a patient infected with the novel coronavirus, at the intensive care service of the Nantes CHU hospital in Nantes, western France, on May 19, 2020. (AFP)

Angola

Angola on Monday replaced the state of emergency with the state of calamity, in a move that set the ground for gradual resumption of regular life disrupted by the COVID-19 pandemic in the country, according to a document from the Council of Ministers.

According to the final communique of the council, the move will take effect on May 26, and will last until June 9, with specific regulations for various public and private activities.

The government cannot neglect the serious economic consequences that have resulted from the halt of the social life and how it affected fundamental rights of the citizens, according to the document.

Luanda, capital of Angola, the only city reported with positive cases of COVID-19, remains under sanitary cordon during the state of calamity. So far, Angola has reported 70 cases, with four deaths and 18 recoveries.

Belarus

Belarus reported 946 new confirmed COVID-19 cases on Monday, taking its total tally to 37,144.

Out of all the country's confirmed cases, 14,449 people have recovered so far, while 204 people with chronic diseases have died from the epidemic, according to the health ministry.

Agencies

Political advisors refute anti-China COVID-19 bills at US Congress

BEIJING

SOME U.S. Congress members' anti-China bills related to COVID-19 response are "groundless" and "deceitful," members of China's top political advisory body attending its annual session have said.

"China has been upholding the principles of openness, transparency and responsibility, and took the initiative to release the information at earliest possible time," said Huang Luqi, a member of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC) National Committee.

Huang cited a detailed timeline chronicling China's response to COVID-19 from Dec. 27, 2019, when three cases of pneumonia of unknown cause were reported by a doctor in Wuhan, followed by the Wuhan health authority's notice to the public on Dec. 31 and China's report to the World Health Organization (WHO) on the same day.

"The accusations from the United States are completely groundless," said Huang, president of the China Academy of Chinese Medical Sciences, who led a medical team to Wuhan on Jan. 25 and joined the fight against the epidemic.



Medical workers wait to submit COVID-19 samples for nucleic acid test at the center for disease control and prevention in Fengman District of Jilin City, northeast China's Jilin Province, May 17, 2020. (Xinhua)

Kong Quan, deputy head of the

Committee of Foreign Affairs of the CPPCC National Committee, said a very small number of U.S. politicians turned a blind eye to global joint anti-epidemic efforts, shunned international exchanges, dialogue or cooperation, smeared

other countries' achievements in epidemic control, and even slandered the WHO that has played the role of coordination and guidance in the global COVID-19 fight.

Li Baodong, also deputy head of the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the CPPCC National Committee, dismissed the fallacy that "China is controlling the WHO," a rhetoric that has been repeated by U.S. politicians.

The WHO has 180 U.S. staffers but only 35 Chinese. In the 21-member WHO leadership team, only one is from China but 11 others are from the United States, European Union, Canada and Australia.

"Judging from the personnel numbers, how can one say the WHO is being controlled by China?" Li asked. "This is a total distortion of facts."

Hu Yu, president of the Union Hospital in Wuhan, fired back at the claim that the novel coronavirus was "made in Wuhan." "The place where an outbreak is first re-

ported is not necessarily the place where the virus originates."

The doctor said that identifying the source of the virus is a serious question of science, and the right answer can only be given by scientists and medical experts on the basis of evidence.

Liu Hongcai, deputy head of the Committee of Foreign Affairs of the CPPCC National Committee, said both Chinese and American people are the victims of the epidemic, which is a natural disaster. "The coronavirus has nothing to do with political systems or ideologies."

Liu said China's epidemic response, which has achieved major outcomes in a short time, has won support from across the country and recognition around the world.

"Shifting the blame will not solve any problem, neither will it save lives," Liu said. "Concentrating more efforts on international cooperation proves to be the way to defeat the virus."

Xinhua

UK junior minister resigns over PM adviser's lockdown drive

By Bloomberg

DOUGLAS Ross, a junior minister in the Scotland Office, resigned yesterday saying the prime minister's senior adviser's explanation of why he travelled during the coronavirus lockdown was based on decisions "others felt were not available to them".

Dominic Cummings, Boris Johnson's closest adviser, refused to resign on Monday, saying he had done nothing wrong by driving 250 miles to northern England when Britain was under a strict lockdown to prevent the spread of the coronavirus.

Johnson, who worked with Cummings on the campaign to



Britain's Prime Minister Boris Johnson (center) is greeted by Conservative party candidate for Moray, Douglas Ross (right) as he arrives for a general election campaign visit to Diageo's Roseisle Distillery near Elgin, north east Scotland. (File photo)

leave the European Union, has stood by his adviser, saying at the weekend that the aide had followed the "instincts of every father" when he travelled with his wife for help with childcare.

Ross, a junior minister, said in a letter he accepted Cummings' statement on Monday when he "clarified the actions he took in what he felt were the best interests of his family. However, these were decisions many others felt were not available to them".

"I have constituents who didn't get to say goodbye to loved ones, families who could not mourn together, people who didn't visit sick relatives because they followed the guidance of the govern-

ment. I cannot in good faith tell them they were all wrong and one senior adviser to the government was right."

A Downing Street spokesman said: "The prime minister would like to thank Douglas Ross for his service to government and regrets his decision to stand down as Parliamentary Under Secretary of State for Scotland."

Cummings decision to travel during the lockdown has prompted fury among some in Britain, and several lawmakers from the governing Conservative Party criticised the aide over the weekend after receiving angry messages from voters.

Agencies

US politicians reveal their cold-bloodedness in pandemic response

NEW YORK

Viruses are common enemies of human beings and the COVID-19 pandemic poses common challenges for all countries. It is a humane and just act for countries to do their best to help others in the pandemic while maintaining strict prevention and control policies at home.

However, some U.S. politicians and their followers are being cold-blooded even though they always speak of Bible verses. They described China's donation to other countries as "politics of generosity," medical teams as "geopolitical expansion," and material supports as

"mask diplomacy." Their narrow mind and vicious manipulation are really astonishing.

Saving lives comes before everything as life is invaluable, and goodwill shall be repaid with greater kindness - those are China's traditional virtues. China received strong support from the international society when it had a hard time battling the novel coronavirus, and it is grateful to and will never forget the assistance offered by each country.

After China achieved initial progress in containing the virus, it immediately started offering assistance for other countries, launching the most intensive and wide-ranging emergency humanitarian operation since the founding of

the People's Republic of China in 1949, from Tokyo to Paris, from Teheran to Madrid, and from the shore of the Black Sea to the cape of Africa.

China is taking concrete actions to build a community with a shared future for mankind.

This spring, batches of medical supplies arrived at major airports around the world from China; huge amounts of cash were donated to international organizations such as the World Health Organization (WHO); teams of Chinese medical experts traveled across countries to help relieve the pandemic; and cross-continental teleconferences were held between Chinese and foreign experts to exchange anti-pandemic exper-

iences.

Facts shall not be distorted, and any act tarnishing truth shall not be tolerated. Never estimate the generosity of others with narrow-mindedness, as every effort made by global countries to save lives deserves respect and recognition.

American dignitaries said publicly that the status of the United States as a global leader over the past seven decades has been built not just on wealth and power but also, and just as important, on the legitimacy that flows from the United States' domestic governance, provision of global public goods, and ability and willingness to muster and coordinate a global response to crises.

However, what on earth did the U.S.

do for itself and the world in the pandemic?

At the initial phase of the pandemic, the White House ignored the warning from the WHO and failed to take effective measures, which later led to a drastic surge in infections. Besides, it also passed the buck to China, the WHO and immigrants. Turning a blind eye to the urgency of pandemic relief, the U.S. enhanced its sanctions on Iran, Syria and Venezuela, and told countries not to accept the help from Cuban medical teams with various ridiculous excuses. It even threatened to stop funding the WHO, an important international organization that helps the world fight the pandemic, and arbitrarily requested to

replace the WHO chief.

There's no refuge in the world as the virus is still rampant around the globe, and only mutual assistance and cooperation can help the world get through the difficulty. It is a fundamental point, as well as an international consensus.

On the contrary, the U.S. refused to join a UN initiative to research, manufacture and distribute a possible vaccine and treatments for COVID-19. "In the past two months, our lives have changed beyond all recognition. The only thing that has remained the same is President Trump's failed foreign policy," said Washington Post in a recent article.

People's Daily

HKSAR government refutes remarks by foreign politicians on national security legislation

HONG KONG

THE government of China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) on Monday refuted some foreign politicians' comments as "double standards and hypocrisy" on the Chinese national legislature's national security legislation for the HKSAR.

Every country has a right, and indeed a duty, to protect national security and sovereignty. To suggest that China does not have the right to legislate to protect national security in the HKSAR smacks of double standards and hypocrisy, said a spokesman of the HKSAR government.

"Even the provisions of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights stipulate that international covenants on rights and freedoms cannot undermine national security," the spokesman added.

Much of the criticism and commentary from the foreign politicians and pundits is "no more than alarmist speculation and innuendo that completely ignore the constitutional reality that Hong Kong is an inalienable part of China," the spokesman pointed out, stressing that Hong Kong "cannot and must never become a base for subversive activities or organizations seeking to destabilize our country."

The spokesman noted that the proposed legislation will only target acts of secession, subversion, terrorist activities as well as activities interfering with HKSAR's internal affairs by foreign or external forces. "The vast majority of law-abiding Hong Kong residents, including overseas investors, have nothing to fear."

Noting that violent protesters have returned to the streets of Hong Kong in recent days to wreak havoc yet again, the spokesman pointed out that these protests have had a massive impact on the economy and social stability in Hong Kong and cannot be allowed to continue.

"No country would or could turn a blind eye to a resurgence of the violence and anarchy that has plagued our society for almost a year," the spokesman said.

"Sadly, and perhaps tellingly, those who claim to be acting in Hong Kong's best interests turn a blind eye to the explosives, petrol bombs, firearms, weapons, attacks on bystanders, wanton vandalism, online trolling and disinformation campaigns used by radical protesters and their hidden handlers to stoke fear and chaos and destabilize society," the spokesman said. "By doing so, their truly deceitful intentions are exposed."

The decision by the National People's Congress, the highest organ of state power, to enact the national security law will establish and improve the legal framework and enforcement mechanisms for the HKSAR to safeguard national security, the spokesman said. "It will be a boon as it will make Hong Kong a safe city."

The spokesman emphasized that the legitimate rights and freedoms enjoyed by Hong Kong residents under the law and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication, will not be affected. Hong Kong's high degree of autonomy and the cardinal principle of "Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong" as enshrined in the Basic Law will remain intact.

"Hong Kong will remain a free, cosmopolitan, open and welcoming city under the rule of law," the spokesman said. "The long-term stability and prosperity of this vibrant international metropolis under the unique and well-tryed 'one country, two systems' will be further assured."

No country would or could turn a blind eye to a resurgence of the violence and anarchy that has plagued our society for almost a year



Chief Executive of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) Carrie Lam (R) and other government officials and members of the Executive Council attend a press conference in Hong Kong, south China, May 22, 2020. (Xinhua)

Wuhan sanitation worker volunteers to serve makeshift hospital during pandemic, records experiences in diary

AFTER a 34-day service in the Fangcang makeshift hospital in Wuchang district, Wuhan, Sanitation worker Gao Shangyuan finally came back to Wuchang's Youyi Avenue where he worked before, in a brown cap and orange uniform, with the same old electro-tricycle.

The 53-year-old man, who disinfects the wards and disposed waste at the hospital every day two months ago, recorded his personal experiences in combating the novel coronavirus in a diary - a habit that he has always stuck to in work.

Gao volunteered to clean the Fangcang hospital at Hongshan Stadium, Wuchang district immediately after he saw the hospital's recruitment information on Feb. 6.

"The team leader called at 10:00 am today, telling me to assemble this afternoon and then head for the hospital," Gao wrote in the diary.

"I'm really honored to be a volunteer at the hospital and excited to do my part in the fight against the pan-

demuc," he added.

Gao must be extremely cautious when disposing the waste to avoid polluting the environment outside the hospital. It took him and his team about 5 hours to clean two inpatient wards on the first day of their service.

"It became easier today, but I'm still tired," Gao wrote, adding that the protective suit always made him sweat and his goggles were always blurred by his breath.

"My clothes were always soaked after a day was over, and it's not exaggeration," he said in the diary on Feb. 8, the third day of him working at the hospital, describing how hard it was to combat the virus.

He said he sometimes couldn't stand the fatigue as he had slipped discs, diabetes, and periarthritis of the shoulders. Gao didn't tell his son about his work at the hospital, but the latter found out from a picture he posted on social media on Feb. 9.

"My son called today and I missed it. When I called him back, I heard him



Gao Shangyuan (second from left) poses for a photo with medical workers. (File photo)

weeping," Gao wrote on that day.

"He was worried about me, blaming me for not telling him earlier and said he also wanted to be a volunteer so that we could take care of each other."

Gao wrote on February 11 that he made video calls every day to his son as a safety check. "I raised him alone

wrote in the diary.

Gao noted that it was encouraging to receive the award on behalf of the sanitation team. "This award doesn't belong to me as an individual, but all the members on the team," he said.

Gao received a message on instant messenger WeChat from Wang Haixu, a medical worker from Liaoning province who went to Hubei to assistance, on March 14, when Gao completed his service and was quarantining himself at a hotel. Wang said that, "I think we all are comrades-in-arms in this battle, both the medical and sanitation staff. We just had different duties."

"I was surprised at it," Gao noted, glad that his efforts were appreciated and valued.

After replying Wang, he went on with his diary. "It is such a meaningful experience fighting together with the medical workers at the hospital. I want to extend my gratefulness to them for assisting Wuhan. They are real heroes."

People's Daily

Mnangagwa castigates West for continued interference in affairs of African states

HARARE



ZIMBABWE President Emmerson Mnangagwa has castigated the West for meddling in the internal affairs of African countries and called on Africans to deepen the culture of democracy and good governance as taught by the continent's founding fathers.

In his address to the nation on the eve of the 57th anniversary of the founding of the Organization of African Unity, now the African Union,

Mnangagwa (pictured) said former colonial powers had no authority to lecture Africa on democracy as the continent had fought to achieve the democracy being enjoyed to this day.

Africans should not be shy to express the rich cultural heritage, languages and identities, he added. He said Zimbabwe continued to suffer from unwarranted interference and endure illegal sanctions imposed as punishment for reclaiming land.

"However, we are buoyed by the fact that we have re-united with our land, which is now irreversibly reposed into our hands, we its true owners," he said.

"As we commemorate and celebrate the unity of our continent, we in Zimbabwe deeply thank our SADC region and the whole continent of Africa for standing with us."

Xinhua

Nigerian president says peace a prerequisite for Africa's development

ABUJA

NIGERIAN President Muhammadu Buhari on Monday said peace, along with security, unity, and harmony, is a prerequisite for sustainable development in Africa.

In a message to African leaders to mark the "Africa Day 2020" launched by the

African Union Commission in collaboration with the World Health Organization (WHO), Buhari said Africa has given the world new hope by choosing the theme "Silencing the Guns in the Context of the COVID-19" for this year's celebration.

For African leaders to ensure that every effort is made



to guarantee the success of silencing the guns on the continent, the Nigerian president said, there was the need to emphasize sensitizing Africans to the inseparable connection between peace and development.

"Peace, security, unity, and harmony are prerequisites for development in Africa," Bu-

hari said while calling on African citizens to innovate on how "silencing the guns" can be used to achieve peace and grow African economies. He also urged regional economic groups, civil society organizations and the private sector in Africa to take full ownership of the theme of this year's celebration to strengthen

collaborative efforts among member countries of the African Union.

The Africa Day is observed annually on May 25, to commemorate the founding of the Organization of African Unity (OAU), the precursor of the African Union, which was created on May 25, 1963, in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Xinhua

Russia suggests post-Soviet security bloc boost biosecurity cooperation – Lavrov

MOSCOW

RUSSIA has offered the countries of the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), a post-Soviet security bloc, to consider priority measures on fostering biosecurity cooperation, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said yesterday.

Speaking at a meeting of the CSTO Council of Foreign Ministers via a video link-up, Lavrov stressed that the coronavirus infection is a serious test for the entire system of international relations and a challenge for every state and inter-state structures.

"Today we have to carefully analyze what conclusions need to be drawn in relation to our organization's activities. It is clear that there is a demand to tap the CSTO's potential for responding to such threats in the interests of ensuring the health and well-being of citizens of our countries. Therefore, we offered today to consider priority measures for developing cooperation in biosecurity area," Lavrov said, opening the meeting.

The CSTO's ministerial meeting is held in the format of a video conference for the first time ever, he noted. "Certainly, this format cannot replace live communication, but it certainly will not prevent us from working today as always in a friendly manner and effectively," Lavrov said.

Fighting terror

According to Russian Foreign



Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov

Minister Sergey Lavrov, cooperating with the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO), the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) would bolster the effectiveness of the war on terror, the top diplomat stressed in his opening remarks at an online conference of the CSTO Council of Foreign Ministers on Tuesday.

"It would be useful to synchronize the CSTO's anti-terrorism programs with the respective projects of the CIS and SCO, to ensure the maximum consolidation of the organizations' potentials on that track.

We are planning to discuss this issue today," the top diplomat disclosed.

The CSTO must keep concentrating on identifying foreign terrorists, specifically natives of CIS member countries. "The creation of a reliable barrier would be facilitated by completing the effort on drawing up a single list of organizations that CSTO countries deem as terrorist," he pointed out.

Lavrov also threw the spotlight on the threat of illegal drug trafficking, first of all involving Afghan-produced drugs, whose profits are used to bankroll terrorist activity. The foreign minister reiterated the important role

of the CSTO's Channel anti-drug operation in the battle against illegal drug trafficking. "We want Channel to continue expanding geographically and attract new participants. This year, we will sum up the results of enacting the CSTO's antidrug program for 2015-2020," the Russian chief diplomat concluded.

Participation in United Nations peacekeeping missions

The foreign ministers of Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO) countries are working to create a legal basis for the organization's participation in United Nations peacekeeping missions, Russian top diplomat Sergey Lavrov informed.

"We believe that it is important for the CSTO to maintain dialogue on the entire range of security issues in the Euro-Atlantic region in order to coordinate approaches," he pointed out. "Efforts to boost the CSTO's peacekeeping capacity require special attention, so today, we will continue to discuss ways to handle practical matters and improve the legal framework. I am sure that it will allow CSTO units to participate in United Nations peacekeeping operations," Lavrov added.

The CSTO is a post-Soviet security bloc consisting of six member-states - Armenia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia and Tajikistan. Afghanistan and Serbia are observer states. Agencies

More African countries should heed UN call for global ceasefire - Guterres

UNITED NATIONS

MORE African countries should heed the UN call for a global ceasefire to push back deadly COVID-19, said UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday.

Marking Africa Day, the annual commemoration of the foundation of the Organization of African Unity, now the African Union (AU), on May 25, 1963, the UN chief said in his message that the COVID-19 pandemic "threatens to derail progress" which would enable countries to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and declared unilateral ceasefires. I implore other armed movements and governments in Africa to do likewise.

The AU has established a task force to develop a continent-wide strategy and appointed special envoys to mobilize international support, said the UN chief.

Its Peace and Security Council has also taken steps to counter the negative impact of COVID-19 on the implementation of critical peace agreements and reconciliation efforts.

He noted that the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention established a response fund, while African member states have undertaken "robust measures to contain the spread of the virus and mitigate the socio-economic impacts."

Guterres welcomed the AU's support for his global ceasefire call, an imperative that also reflects the AU's 2020 theme: "Si-



lencing the Guns: Creating Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development."

"Armed groups in Cameroon, Sudan and South Sudan have responded to the call and declared unilateral ceasefires. I implore other armed movements and governments in Africa to do likewise. I also welcome the support of African countries for my call for peace in the home, and an end to all forms of violence, including against women and girls," he added.

Some 20 African countries are scheduled to hold elections this year, some of which are likely to be postponed due to the pandemic, with potential consequences for stability and peace, noted the secretary-general.

"I urge African political actors to engage in inclusive and sustained political dialogue to ease tensions around elections and uphold democratic practices."

Last week, the UN issued a policy brief outlining the im-

pacts of the pandemic on the continent.

"We are calling for debt relief and action to maintain food supplies, protect jobs and cushion the continent against lost income and export earnings.

African countries, like everyone, everywhere, should also have quick, equal and affordable access to any eventual vaccine and treatment."

An opportunity now exists, for African governments to "use this moment" to shape new policies that bolster health systems, improve climate protection and pursue climate-friendly pathways, he said.

Targeting measures to those employed in the informal sector, the vast majority of whom are women, will be an important step to recovery, said Guterres, as will empowering women to ensure their full participation and leadership.

"The inclusion and leadership of young people will also be crucial every step of the way," said Guterres.

Xinhua

China gives satisfactory response to COVID-19 pandemic

CHINA has made great strategic achievements in prevention and control of COVID-19 while the disease continues to rage around the globe.

The pandemic is a rare global crisis and a common challenge confronting mankind. China, as the first country in the world to report the disease to the international community and to fight the pandemic, has mobilized all the people and resources in the country and made huge sacrifices to contain the disease.

It is one of the first countries in the world to bring the situation at home under control, building a defense line for the region and benefiting global efforts to prevent and control the disease with valuable experience.

Things will never be difficult till they are done. Now, more and more people have come to realize how crafty and dangerous the virus can be. However, three months ago, no one had probably expected the disease to sweep across the world in such a violent way.

To cope with such a sudden attack and menacing crisis, China had faced unimaginable risks and difficulties, including to prevent and control a virus that it hadn't even had a clear understanding of, to curb the spread of the virus during the travel rush of the Chinese New Year, to leave no patient unattended, and to identify effective treatment methods and medicines.

Some called China's battle against COVID-19 a miracle in

the history of mankind's fighting against infectious diseases, saying that China has taken a closed-book exam before other countries in the world and managed to contain the rampant virus when less than 0.006 percent of its people were infected.

Such an "answer sheet" of China is hard-won and heart-touching. It has recorded the painstaking efforts of the country.

Since the initial stage of the pandemic, Chinese President Xi Jinping has referred to the crisis as a big test for the Chinese nation, and guided relevant efforts and deployed resources for the battle against the pandemic in person.

On the first day of the Chinese Lunar New Year, Xi chaired a meeting of the Standing Commit-

tee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee to facilitate further research, deployment, and mobilization for prevention and control of COVID-19, particularly treatment of patients.

On Jan. 23, two days before the meeting, the epidemic prevention and control headquarters of Wuhan, capital of central China's Hubei Province and also the previous epicenter of the COVID-19 epidemic, shut down the city's outbound channels at airports and railway stations and put the whole city under lockdown.

On Jan. 22, three medical teams from the Chinese People's Liberation Army were dispatched to Wuhan to aid the city in its fight against COVID-19.

In China's nationwide efforts to fight the epidemic, the whole society has shared the consensus that early identification, early reporting, early quarantine, and early treatment is the most effective way to curb the spread of the disease.

The country has treated COVID-19 patients in designated hospitals, dispatched leading medical experts to the front line of the battle, and concentrated resources and strengths on treating patients and saving lives.

A total of 42,000 medical staff were sent from various parts of the country to Hubei Province to help with COVID-19 fight.

To relieve pressure on hospitals in Wuhan, China built two makeshift hospitals, the Huoshenshan

Hospital and Leishenshan Hospital, to treat COVID-19 patients in the city. Both of the two hospitals were built in ten days.

"In face of this unknown virus, China has taken the most courageous, flexible and aggressive control measures," said a report of the World Health Organization (WHO).

China's epidemic prevention and control measures have successfully broken the virus' chains of transmission and prevented hundreds of thousands of people from being infected, indicated a research report published on Science Magazine.

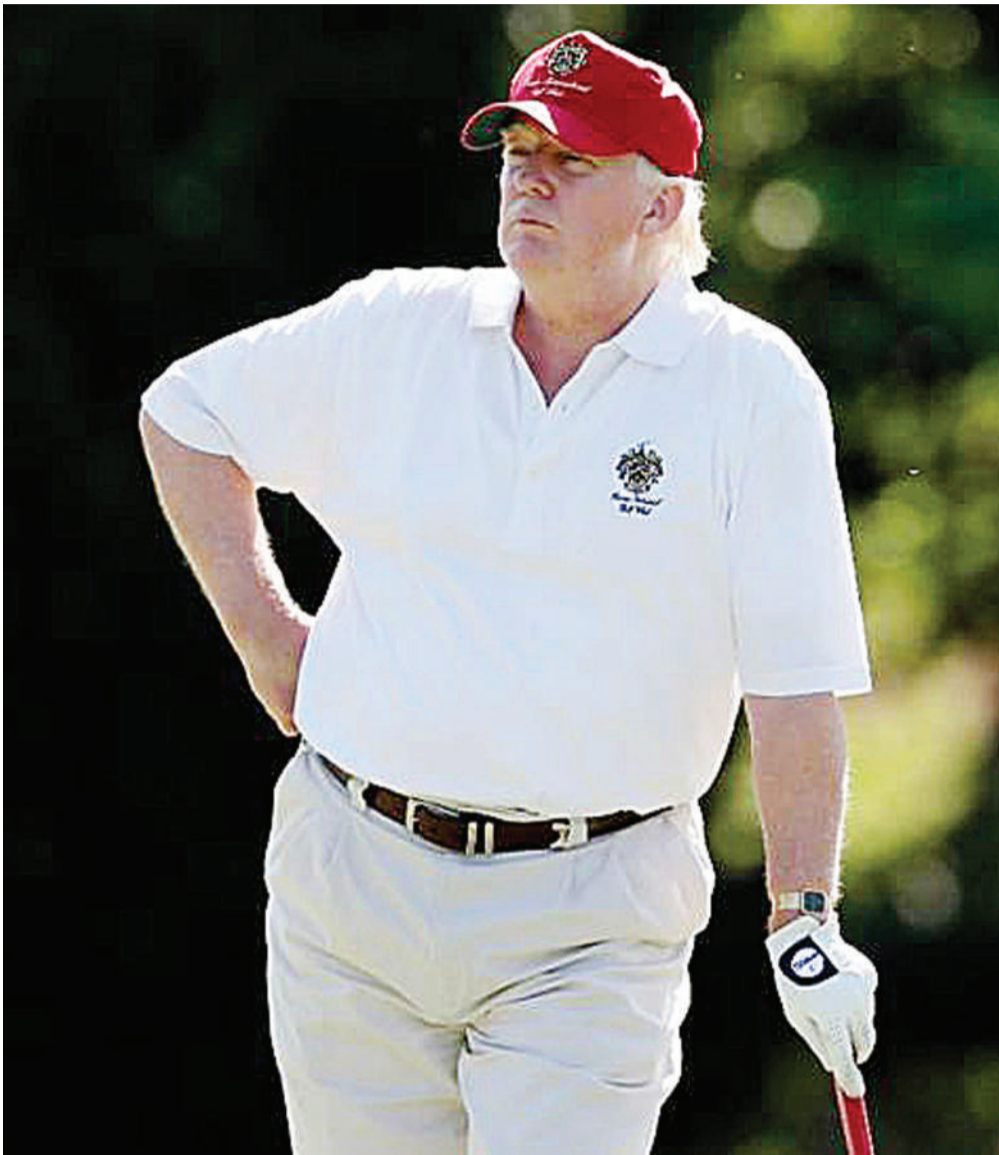
The "answer sheet" of China has witnessed the steadfastness and perseverance of Chinese people. Like other countries suffering

from COVID-19, China is also a victim of the pandemic, pointed out a commentary of The Straits Times, a well-established English newspaper in Singapore.

While many Chinese people were infected with the virus and lost their lives during this unprecedented pandemic, a lot of staff members working on the front line also died at their posts.

In an effort to curb the spread of the disease, China pressed the pause button on its economy and society, became the first country in human history to lock down a megacity with more than ten million inhabitants, and activated the first-level public health emergency response across the country.

People's Daily



Donald Trump

Trump now fumes on Twitter as media slams pandemic golf outing

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump on Monday fumed at negative media coverage of him playing golf over Memorial Day weekend, as the US death toll from the coronavirus pandemic neared 100,000.

"The Fake and Totally Corrupt News makes it sound like a mortal sin!" the golf-loving president said on Twitter, noting that the game at his own course in Virginia was the first time he had played since early March.

The timing of his outing, as the nation approached a milestone in deaths from the pandemic, sparked widespread criticism in the media, with commentators recalling Trump's own past attacks on his predecessor Barack Obama for playing the game during the 2014 Ebola outbreak.

"There are times to play and times that you can't play. It sends the wrong signal," Trump said at the time.

"You know when you're president you sorta say, like, 'I'm gonna give it up for a couple of years and I'm really gonna focus on the job,'" he said in 2014.

- 'Hypocrite' -

After being raked over the coals at the weekend, Trump lambasted the media as being "sick with hatred and dishonesty."

AFP

Holyfield open to third Tyson fight for charity

LONDON

FORMER heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield has said he is open to facing one-time rival Mike Tyson in a trilogy fight for charity on the condition that Tyson asks for the bout to be set up.

Tyson, 53, fought two epic bouts with Holyfield, 57, during their professional careers, including their controversial 1997 encounter in which Tyson bit off a chunk of Holyfield's ear.

'Iron Mike' had released several training videos in recent weeks fuelling speculation he could be returning to the ring, while Holyfield announced his return for a charity bout on Instagram earlier this month.

"If I ask him it's almost like me being a bully saying I want to go against somebody

I've beaten twice," Holyfield told the BBC. "I don't want pressure on me that 'you just want to fight Mike because you know you can beat him'."

"If he hits me I'm going to hit back. I'm going to be 58, he'll be 54, you talk about being in good health and doing things the proper way that respects it. I don't have no problem with it."

Tyson, the first heavyweight to hold the WBA, WBC and IBF titles, retired after a loss to Kevin McBride in 2005, while Holyfield called time on his career nine years later.

If they do return, they will be following in the footsteps of Floyd Mayweather Jr and Manny Pacquiao in coming out of retirement for an exhibition fight.

REUTERS

Omar describes life as a fearless fighter in new memoir

MINNEAPOLIS

Now, Omar is out with a new memoir that offers her own spin on her path to prominence, starting with her childhood in Mogadishu.

"This is What America Looks Like: My Journey from Refugee to Congresswoman," set for release Tuesday, offers no revelations on some of the controversies that have dogged Omar. Instead, it sketches rugged years that Omar says made her a fearless fighter, unafraid to skirmish with President Donald Trump and her frequent conservative critics.

A YOUNG FIGHTER

In her memoir, written with Rebecca Paley, Omar recounts taking on a much taller boy when she was just 7, rubbing his face in the sand after he picked on someone weaker.

"I wasn't afraid of fighting. I felt like I was bigger and stronger than everyone else – even if I knew that wasn't really the case," she wrote. It's a theme woven throughout the book, including after she arrived in America and settled in Arlington, Virginia, knowing almost no English.

Omar got into fights in middle school to show she wasn't afraid, she writes, and she describes incidents in which she choked one boy until he foamed at the mouth and kept hitting another girl even after being told the girl was pregnant.

"Fighting didn't feel like a choice. It was a part of me. Respect goes both ways," she wrote.

LIFE IN SOMALIA

Omar said she grew up the youngest of seven in a loud, opinionated middle-class family, living in a guarded compound in Mogadishu. Her father's clan was one of the country's most powerful, and her mother, who died when she was in preschool, was Benadiri, a Somali ethnic minority. Omar, who described herself as a tomboy, said the only place she fit in was within the walls of her family home. Civil war broke out when she



In this Feb. 29, 2020 file photo, U.S. Rep. Ilhan Omar, D-Minn., speaks at a rally in Springfield, Mass. At a young age, Omar earned a reputation as a fighter -- a bit of a misfit who saw fighting as a way to survive and earn respect. In her new memoir being released Tuesday, May 26, 2020, Omar provides details about her life, as she went from a refugee and immigrant to congresswoman for Minnesota. (AP Photo)

was 8, and after her family's compound came under attack by militia, the family escaped and eventually made it to a refugee camp in Kenya, where Omar spent four years before the family moved to the U.S.

LOVE AND STRUGGLES

Omar recounts meeting her first husband, Ahmed Hirsi, in Minneapolis when she was 16. She said they were in love, and shortly before she turned 19, their families decided they should marry.

By 2008, Omar was struggling. Finances were a stressor, she had two small children, and she began questioning her relationships, including her marriage. Since the couple had married religiously – not civilly – to get divorced, Hirsi had to simply declare the marriage ended, Omar wrote.

She then had what she called "a Britney Spears-style meltdown" in which she shaved her head and eloped with a man, Ahmed Nur Said Elmi, whom she wrote she "spent so little time with that

I wouldn't even make him a footnote in my story if it weren't for the fact that this event turned into the main headline later on."

In the book, Omar doesn't name Elmi or say how they met or when their relationship ended. She later reunited with Hirsi and had a third child. Her book also doesn't mention her recent divorce from Hirsi and new marriage to a man who works as a consultant for her.

"SPECULATION AND CONSPIRACIES"

Since Omar ran for state lawmaker in 2016, she has been met with allegations that Elmi, the man she married during her split from Hirsi, is her brother. Omar again denies those claims, saying they originated from a post in an online Somali discussion forum that she said was a last-ditch effort to sink her campaign.

"That Somalis were some of my harshest critics might seem absurd. But they refused to accept me because I refused to kiss the ring. It goes back to my inability since

childhood to submit to bullies," she wrote.

PUBLIC LIFE

Omar was elected to the state Legislature in 2016, knocking off a 44-year incumbent. She describes a statehouse "hostile to my presence" because of her determination to attack the status quo, and recounts confronting a fellow Democratic lawmaker unhappy she'd won a leadership position.

The lawmaker told Omar she was different, and eventually said it was because she walks into a room "like a man."

"A white man," Omar said she responded.

As a congresswoman, Omar has come under fire for controversial statements, and has been the subject of attacks and falsehoods by critics. She said in her book that she defends her policies, and her identity is not up for debate.

"I am, by nature, a starter of fires," she wrote.

AP

Dancing with disinfectant: China's nightclubs back in the groove



People wear face masks at a nightclub after it reopens, following a shutdown due to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) outbreak, in Shanghai, China May 22, 2020. REUTERS

SHANGHAI

NIGHTCLUBS in China have mostly come back to life as owners and customers feel increasingly comfortable the novel coronavirus epidemic is under control, but disinfectant, disposable cups and masks have become part of the experience.

At 44KW, a club for electronic music lovers in the financial hub of Shanghai, customers sat, danced and mingled with little sign of social distancing on the weekend.

The club re-opened in mid-

March after closing for about six weeks, but it took a while for business to get back to normal.

"There really weren't many clients as most people were quite worried about their safety," said Charles Guo, founder of 44KW.

"Our client flow began to recover quickly towards the end of April", Guo said, adding that business was back to last year's average levels by mid-May.

But not everything is like the old days.

The club checks the temperature of every customer and gets them to register their

details.

Staff, including bouncers, bartenders and waiters wear masks and gloves all the time. Customers don't have to wear masks but many do.

Some glasses have been replaced with plastic cups and the club has installed hand sanitizer dispensers throughout.

Door handles and toilets are disinfected every hour while the entire club is disinfected every day before and after opening, Guo said.

Clubs have been at the centre of coronavirus flare-ups in other

Asian cities. A cluster of cases linked to clubs emerged in South Korea this month, triggering fears of a second wave of infections and leading to clubs and bars being shut again.

"I checked with my friends about what types of precautions were taken at each venue before deciding which one to go," 23-year-old clubber Cao Douzi told Reuters outside 44KW.

China, where the coronavirus emerged late last year, has seen a sharp fall in cases since March.

REUTERS

Barca under pressure to sell players - sources

BARCELONA

BARCELONA are racing against the clock to bring in around €70 million in player sales before the end of June to balance the club's accounts, sources have told ESPN.

There is genuine concern among the club's hierarchy that, despite ongoing negotiations regarding a number of players, they will not be able to hit that target due to the complications generated by the coronavirus pandemic across football.

Arthur Melo, Ivan Rakitic and Arturo Vidal are three of the players Barca are open to moving on. However, all three have voiced a desire to remain at Camp Nou in recent weeks despite interest from elsewhere.

Junior Firpo, Samuel Umtiti and Nelson Semedo are among the other members of the squad the club hoped would generate money. But sources told ESPN finding buyers for Junior and Umtiti is proving difficult. Interest has been shown in right-back Semedo, but nothing is imminent at this stage.

Barca predicted revenue for the 2019-20 campaign would top €1 billion for the first time in the club's history. As part of that prediction, they accounted for €124m to arrive in the form of player transfers and/or loans -- although club sources have told ESPN that amount has been increased since the numbers were released last October.

Last August, Barca sold Malcom to Zenit Saint Petersburg for €40m but that is their only major sale so far. They have also recouped small amounts from the departures of Carles Perez, Abel Ruiz and Alejandro Marques, in addition to loan fees for Philippe Coutinho and Jean-Clair Todibo.

Therefore, they still need more sales before June 30, when the financial year ends, while there's the added difficulty that the season is set to extend beyond that point. La Liga hopes to restart on June 11, with 11 games still to be played, and the Champions League looking to return in August.

It is not clear how that is going to affect transfers, not just for Barca but for other clubs around Europe. It also means if Barca do manage to sell players, they risk ending the campaign with a

dangerously small squad.

Even without player sales, the €1bn revenue target will not be hit. The club's vice president Jordi Cardoner told ESPN that the coronavirus crisis has already cost the club between €120 and €140m.

Barca have lost about €50m from ticket sales and the museum, €39m in TV income and between €20m and €25m in commercial income from shops, football schools, "legends' activities" and so on.

As a result, sources told ESPN Barca may have to ask players to take further wage cuts with the club likely to knock €200m off their budget for next season due to the pandemic.

The players have already agreed to a 70% reduction to their monthly salaries for as long as the state of alarm -- which started on March 14 -- remains in place in Spain.

The losses could have consequences for president Josep Maria Bartomeu and his board further down the line. Club members could file a motion against them if the losses exceed the profits made in the four previous seasons, which total €64.8m after taxes.

However, one source said the board do not believe it will go that far, with members likely to be sympathetic to the circumstances surrounding the losses.

Another source said La Liga could also put the squeeze on Barca and force them to present a plan to put the brakes on the losses. La Liga president Javier Tebas has already warned financial regulations will be strictly enforced next season.

Tebas has told clubs they will not be allowed to spend beyond their means and wants wage cuts enforced to deal with the financial consequences of the coronavirus pandemic.

Barca's latest accounts, up to June 30, 2019, show a net debt €217m, while the club is also grappling to bring down the biggest wage bill in football. Sporting salaries for the 2019-20 season across the club's various teams account for €507m of the annual budget, which is down €18m from the previous year.

(Agencies)

Lyon boss asks PM to reconsider early end of French season

PARIS

LYON president Jean-Michel Aulas is asking French authorities to backpedal on their decision to end the football season prematurely amid the coronavirus pandemic.

The men's league was canceled four weeks ago with 10 rounds remaining. Paris Saint-Germain declared champion, and Lyon finished outside the European places in seventh.

In a letter on Monday to French Prime Minister Edouard Philippe and Sports Minister Roxana Maracineanu, Aulas argued the premature conclusion of the season will have catastrophic consequences for French clubs, which could face losses of "700 to 900" million euros (\$760 million to \$980 million).

Alongside Amiens and Toulouse -- the two clubs demoted to the second division -- Lyon took action against the league decision but their case was thrown out last week by a Paris administrative court. Lyon now wants France's highest administrative court, the Council of State, to issue a ruling on the matter.

In the letter, Aulas said the fact that the French league was the only one among the seven biggest European leagues to opt for an early end should convince authorities to reconsider their move.

In Europe, the Dutch and Belgian leagues have also ended their 2019-20 seasons early.

Aulas has argued for the French

league to be given a chance to be completed by late August with a temporary playoff system, but with PSG staying the champion given its large lead before play was stopped.

"The Bundesliga resumed matches on May 16, Spain will resume matches on June 8. Italy, Russia and Portugal have resumed collective training and England is working on a resumption after June 19," Aulas wrote. "How can France not be downgraded very quickly and see its professional football devalued?"

On June 2, the French government is expected to make further announcements related to France's lockdown exit strategy.

"Many developments and hopes are expected on this date, so that France can gradually regain a good dynamic," Aulas said. "Could we imagine that June 2 is also a great opportunity to rectify the mistake concerning French football and to allow, with a health protocol used everywhere, to give the starting point for a gradual resumption of training (in June) and, why not, a resumption of the 2019-2020 season over the months of July or August?"

Lyon, meanwhile, still hopes to reach the quarterfinals of the Champions League after beating Italian champion Juventus 1-0 in the first leg of their round of 16 match on Feb. 26. The return leg in Turin was suspended.

AP

Spanish clubs allowed to train with groups of up to 14 players

MADRID

SPANISH league clubs are allowed to train with groups of up to 14 players as the league stays on track to restart in less than three weeks.

Only 10 players were allowed in group training last week because of confinement restrictions that are gradually being lifted across the hard-hit nation where nearly 27,000 known people have died with COVID-19.

Group training sessions are part of the penultimate phase before teams can be considered ready to return to competition. Full squad sessions are expected to begin next week, depending on how the coronavirus pandemic progresses.

"We've gone through some very difficult and complicated moments during this pandemic and we don't want to jump the gun," Spanish league president Javier Tebas said late Sunday in his weekly interview with league broadcaster Movistar.

Players were allowed to practice only individually during the first stage of training.

Tebas said the competition is expected to resume without fans on June 11 -- a Thursday -- with the Seville derby. He said the popular first-division match between rivals Sevilla and Real Betis would be a good way to mark the return to competition and "honor those who have lost their lives" during the pandemic in Spain.

Tebas said it remains impossible to guarantee the June 11 start date because the decision ultimately depends on how the pandemic and the training phases progress. That would be nearly three months after soccer came to a halt in Spain and most of Europe.

"We need to align the phases, meet



In this photo provided by Atletico Madrid, team players take part in the first group training session in Madrid, Spain, Monday May 18, 2020. All Spanish league clubs can begin group training sessions this week despite stricter lockdown restrictions remaining in place in parts of Spain because of the coronavirus pandemic. (Atletico de Madrid via AP)

with the Spanish soccer federation and the Spanish sports council to finalize everything," he said.

Tebas said the schedule for the first four rounds after the league resumes is expected to be announced in early June, with all matches expected to take place in empty stadiums. Spanish authorities don't expect fans to be allowed in sports events at least until after the summer.

The league president said kickoff times will take high temperatures into account during the Spanish summer. The Sevilla-Betis game is expected to start at 10 p.m. local time (2000 GMT).

"Our plan for kickoff times during the week would be to play in the af-

ternoon or evening, between 7:30-8 p.m. or 9:30-10 p.m.," he said. "Over the weekend, there would be three slots: 5 p.m., 7:30 p.m., 9:30 or 10 p.m."

The league was suspended in mid-March with 11 rounds remaining. Defending champion Barcelona has a two-point lead over Real Madrid.

Meanwhile, Atlético Madrid said Monday that forward João Félix has sprained his left knee.

The clubs said tests have shown that the Portuguese forward "suffered a low grade" ligament sprain and his return to training will depend on how he responds to treatment.

The club did not immediately say how long Félix is expected to be side-

lined because of the injury, but he is not likely to miss many matches after the Spanish league resumes. The league wants to restart on the second weekend of June.

Teams have been undergoing group training sessions as the Spanish government gradually lifts confinement restrictions because of the coronavirus pandemic.

The league was suspended in mid-March with 11 rounds remaining. Atlético was in sixth-place, 13 points behind leader Barcelona.

Félix joined Atlético in 2019 amid high expectations after signing from Portuguese club Benfica, touted as a replacement to Antoine Griezmann.

AP

From 'dust' to glory, Liverpool's 'miracle' of Istanbul

PARIS

STEVEN Gerrard said Liverpool did not "believe in miracles" and Jamie Carragher thought his "dreams had turned to dust", but 15 years ago Rafael Benitez's side pulled off one of football's greatest heists to beat AC Milan in the Champions League final.

The English side were underdogs before kick-off in Istanbul despite edging out Chelsea in the semi-finals and a strong Juventus outfit in the last eight, but were completely written off when 3-0 down at half-time in their bid for a fifth European Cup.

But, roared on by 40,000 travelling supporters in the club's first final in the competition since the Heysel disaster of 1985, Liverpool fought back in a crazy six-minute spell before eventually triumphing on penalties.

The much-fancied Milan, who had won the title in 2003 at Old Trafford, took the lead inside 50 seconds through captain Paolo Maldini's volley -- the first time Liverpool had conceded first in a Champions League game since their famous group-stage win over Olympiakos.

It was to get worse for Liverpool as, with defensive midfielder Dietmar Hamann sitting on the bench despite a brilliant performance against Chelsea, winger Harry Kewell hobbled off injured midway through the first half.

"The 2007 (Milan) team was technically inferior to the 2005 team, who remain the best team with the best performance in a final," then-Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti later said when asked about the teams he took to three Champions League finals, winning the other two, including against Liverpool in 2007.

"The 2005 team were better than the one in 2003."

That class shone in a blistering first-half display by the Italian giants, as Hernan Crespo tapped in after a rapid 39th-minute counter-attack which started with Liverpool appealing for a penalty after an apparent handball by Maldini.

"The quality of (Andrea) Pirlo, Clarence Seedorf and Kaka cut us to shreds," Gerrard later wrote in his autobiography.

- Gattuso 'thought it was all over' - Just when it looked like Liverpool might limp into half-time only two goals behind, Milan delivered what appeared to be the killer blow as Ka-



Manchester United are more capable of weathering the coronavirus storm when it comes to the hit on club finances, but the sport is facing a crisis from top to bottom. (Agencies)

ka's defence-splitting pass released Crespo to chip a sumptuous finish over the advancing Jerzy Dudek.

"You could just tell by Gennaro Gattuso's demeanour that he thought it was over," said Gerrard. "All I was thinking of then was, 'How do we get a bit of pride and respect back?'"

Carragher wrote in his autobiography: "My dreams had turned to dust. I wasn't thinking about the game any more. My thoughts were with my family and friends. I was so sorry."

Liverpool's supporters at the Ataturk Stadium tried to lift the team with an almost mournful half-time rendition of "You'll Never Walk Alone".

"It lifted us, but it would be wrong to say that it made us believe in mira-

cles," said Gerrard.

Benitez rang the changes, bringing on Hamann for injured full-back Steve Finnan at half-time and switching to a 3-5-2 formation.

Carragher said that Liverpool were thinking that if they scored one goal, "pride might be restored", and captain Gerrard twisted his neck to head John Arne Riise's cross into the top corner nine minutes after the restart.

What happened next was remarkable. Vladimir Smicer, on for Kewell and playing his last game for Liverpool, collected the ball 25 yards from goal and blasted a low shot past Milan goalkeeper Dida just two minutes later.

In the 59th minute, Gerrard was fouled by Gattuso and Xabi Alonso

completed one of football's greatest comebacks, scoring on the rebound after Dida had saved his initial penalty.

- 'Let's just get to extra time' -

Liverpool's momentum was short-lived, though, and it was a long road before they eventually reached penalties.

"After that goal I thought, 'Let's just get this to extra time and penalties,'" admitted Gerrard.

Djimi Traore's goalline block to deny Andriy Shevchenko helped the Reds reach extra time, where they needed an incredible double save from Dudek to keep out Shevchenko and two last-ditch challenges by Carragher on the Ukrainian to take the final to spot-kicks.

"We also played very well in extra time," said Ancelotti. "Carragher told me they couldn't take it anymore and they wanted to go to penalties."

Unlike two years before, when Shevchenko scored the winning spot-kick against Juventus, it was not to be Milan's night on penalties.

Serginho blazed wildly over and Pirlo's effort was saved by the dancing, advancing Dudek, and although Dida kept out Riise, Dudek palmed away Shevchenko's tame shot to finish off a memorable final which will forever be remembered as the 'Miracle of Istanbul'.

"Correct me if I'm wrong, but have you ever seen a better Champions League final?" asks Gerrard. "They were a better team than us but we beat them."

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Simba SC seeks supremacy in VPL

SPORT

Henderson has felt 'safe' since return to Liverpool training

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Simba players take part in training in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for the Vodacom Premier League. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Faustine Feliciane

MAINLAND Premier League defending champions, Simba SC, have said they are targeting to lift the domestic top flight silverware for 10 years in a row.

The Dar es Salaam side has won the league's trophy for the past two years.

Simba's Information Officer, Haji Sunday Manara,

stated they have no doubt they will win the league's trophy this season, insisting they are simply waiting for the time to lay their hands on the trophy.

They are lately holding the top spot in the top flight after recording 71 points in 28

games, with 10 duels left.

Simba have notched 23 victories, suffered three defeats and managed draw in two duels.

Azam FC, deemed Simba's closest challengers, are placed second in the log after posting 54 points in 28 out-

ings.

"It is a matter of time, we will win the top honour and, should it please President John Magufuli, we are planning to take the trophy to his home, Chato, because we will have won it for the third year in a row," the Simba official

stated.

He said they are confident they will lift the silverware given they have a strong squad, with each of the team's players being in fine form.

"Some of our players are outside Tanzania, but procedures are in place to see to it players, including Meddie Kagere, Francis Kahata and Sharaf Shiboub, that are in their respective countries, make their way back," he disclosed.

Kagere had gone to his home country, Rwanda, whilst Shiboub and Kahata headed to Sudan and Kenya respectively after the indefinite suspension of sporting activities, put in place in a bid to fight Coronavirus disease.

The top flight is set to resume as President Magufuli granted permission for restart of sporting activities, starting with soccer tournaments, from June 1.

Meanwhile, reports from Rwanda have it Kagere has been given special permission by his country's government to jet into Tanzania and join his club.

Rwanda has closed its borders with neighbouring countries in an effort to fight Coronavirus disease.

Rwandan coach, Thierry Hitimana, who coaches Mainland Premier League's Namungo FC, has also got the special permission to join his club.

A Rwandan sports journalist, Claver Kazungu, disclosed Kagere received the permission and started procedures for his trip to Dar es Salaam.

The reports said Kagere had a brief stay in Mwanza yesterday and is set to make his way to Dar es Salaam today.

TONIGHT @ 7:00

EATV SAA 1

WEDNESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Planet Bongo (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Nirvana (r)
16:00 Skonga (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Kiblashara Zaidi

EATV SAA 1
Coverage of the days current events accompanied by interviews with prominent people on diverse topics ranging from national to social interests.

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Madushanka suspended for drugs possession

COLOMBO

SRI Lanka fast bowler Shehan Madushanka has been suspended from all forms of cricket with immediate effect.

Sri Lanka Cricket took the decision after Madushanka was arrested and later sent on remand custody for alleged possession of illegal drugs.

Madushanka was in possession of a little over two grams of heroin when arrested on Saturday, Sri Lanka Police's media division had confirmed to ESPNcricinfo.

As per an SLC release, the decision to suspend will remain intact until SLC conducts a full inquiry of the matter.

Madushanka had been arrested for the possession of heroin and remanded by a local magistrate in Panpala, northeast of the city of Negombo.

The cricketer has not appeared for Sri Lanka in the last two years and has not been in the frame for selection recently.

He is, however, an active cricketer and was playing in Sri Lanka's domestic competitions before the Covid-19 curfews came into effect.

The player had been in possession of a little over two grams of heroin when arrested on Saturday, Sri Lanka Police's media division confirmed to ESPNcricinfo.

He was then produced before a magistrate on Sunday, and is currently in remand, awaiting a High Court appearance.

He is not understood to be among the players required to begin training in June with the national squad.

Sri Lanka Cricket CEO Ashley de Silva said the board had been made aware of the arrest on Monday morning, but had not made any decisions on the player's future.

The board is expected to discuss the issue at their next meeting, on Wednesday.

AGENCIES

Meddie Kagere joins Simba SC preps for VPL

By Correspondent Adam Fungamwango

SIMBA SC ace striker, Rwandan Meddie Kagere, and Namungo FC head coach, Thierry Hitimana, are set to make their way back to their respective sides after receiving special permission from their country's government.

The Mainland Premier League sides are some of the top flight squads which have foreign professionals, who are currently in their respective countries because of the indefinite suspension of sporting events, put in place by Tanzania's government, in an effort to contain Coronavirus disease.

President John Magufuli recently granted permission for restart of sporting activities, starting with soccer tournaments, from June 1.

Rwanda government has closed its borders with neighbouring countries and imposed a lockdown in a bid to contain Coronavirus disease.

Rwandan sports journalist and commentator, Claver Kazungu, speaking from Kigali, stated the two were given the special permission after informing the government of their plan to get back to their respective clubs.

"The Rwanda government has closed the borders with neighbouring countries, the country's nationals can not even go to such countries like DR Congo and Burundi, which are more accessible," Kazungu stated.

"Kagere and Hitimana nevertheless were presented with the permission given they are looking to make their way back to their outfits outside Rwanda."

Kazungu noted it was easier for the two to be presented with the permission given a section of Rwanda government's top officials are avid sports fans.

The top government officials, according to him, as well have close relationship with Kagere and Hitimana and for that matter it was easier for the former to help the later get permission.

Hitimana's Namungo FC occupies the



Simba SC forward Meddie Kagere

fourth spot in this season's top flight table, having posted 50 points in 28 games.

Kagere, Hitimana and other professionals, who are plying their trade in the Mainland Premier League, had headed to their respective countries after the indefinite suspension of sporting activities had been put in place in Tanzania.

There were nevertheless fears that Kagere and Hitimana might not make their

way back to their respective sides because of the decision by Rwanda government to close its borders with neighbouring countries and impose ban on international flights.

Simba SC Chief Executive Officer, Senzo Mbatha, recently stated his club will do all it can to get its foreign professionals, Kagere, Zambian Cleotus Chama, Kenyan Francis Kahata and Sudan national, Sharaf

Eldin Shiboub, that are in their respective countries.

Namungo FC Chairman, Hassan Zidadu, had early this week pointed out they do not know when will Hitimana get back to their club following the Rwanda government's decision.

The Namungo official added Hitimana's absence at the squad had become a thorny issue.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

