

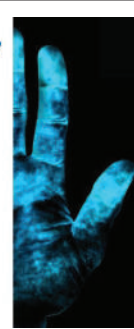


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### National Pg 2

Ummy tables budget estimates



### National Pg 3

US delivers medical equipment



### National Pg 4

Farmers to receive quality fertiliser



### National Pg 5

TARI partners to empower women



## World Bank ups credit flows as Samia readies to address MPs

By Guardian Reporter

THE World Bank has endorsed development projects worth 11.2trn/- (\$4.9 billion) to be implemented this fiscal year and to increase its funding to five more development projects to the tune of 2.6trn/- (\$1.15billion) in the next financial year.

A State House statement said that Mara Warwick, the World Bank country director for Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe, made this affirmation in a meeting with President Samia Suluhu Hassan at the Chamwino State House in Dodoma.

"This increase will make Tanzania one

of the top beneficiaries with a good number of World Bank funded projects," she said, noting World Bank commitment to support Tanzania's development endeavours.

The bank has enjoyed a good relationship with Tanzania for most of its post-independence period, supporting economic growth efforts and welfare improvement, now in view of the national development vision for 2025, she stated.

World Bank support will be directed to poor sections of the population including those living in a hazardous environment, the director noted.

This will be done through improvement of infrastructures, markets, primary

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan swears-in Chief of Protocol Yusuph Mndolwa who was also given the title of Ambassador, at State House ceremony held in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: State House

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## 'Hoima-Tanga oil pipeline work to start anytime now'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE construction of the major crude oil pipeline from Hoima in Uganda to the port of Tanga in Tanzania is expected to start any time from now.

Dr. Medard Kalemani, the Minister for Energy made this affirmation here yesterday, noting that the 1,445km long pipeline that will cost \$3.5 billion. It now has the green light "following the completion of paperwork that was being undertaken by government negotiation teams" from the two neighbouring countries.

Speaking at a brief ceremony to

receive the report of the national negotiation team yesterday, the minister said the government was going to work on the report which he said has explicitly stated what has been agreed upon.

Dr Kalemani appointed Asiad Mrutu of the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) as the national project coordinator, assisted by Tisamala Nyamaro, a senior official of the Ministry of Energy.

"Completion and submission of the report of the negotiation team marks the onset of the project expected

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## France unveils agro-based girls empowerment project

By Felister Peter

THE French embassy is preparing to finance an ambitious two year project dubbed 'Girls Empowerment Through Agro-Ecology and Permaculture (GAPE)' worth over 1.6bn/- (\$720,000) to be implemented in Dodoma, Tabora and Zanzibar.

The two-year project aiming at promoting young women's empowerment through organic agriculture will benefit 2,000 selected individuals, 90 percent of them expected to be women.

Speaking at the project launch in Dar es Salaam, French Ambassador Frederic Clavier said GAPE will be implemented

for two years (2021 and 2022) as part of the embassy's efforts to support this innovative approach for climate adapted agriculture. It helps to ensure the preservation of biodiversity and inclusive growth of smallholder agriculture, he stated.

Moving to empower young women was decided in view of the fact that 80 percent of smallholder farmers labour force are women, with 30.5 percent of women aged between 20 and 24 years being married before the age of 18.

With financial support and reinforcement of capacities to make their activities more expertly organised,

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## NMB Bank, Reliance Insurance in mobile phone damages cover

By Guardian Reporter

IN a quest to expand insurance services to benefit more Tanzanians, NMB Bank has partnered with Reliance Insurance to provide mobile phone insurance that will cover mobile phone damages for NMB Mkononi users.

The new insurance arrangement has come at the right time and is supporting the government's 10 years Financial Sector Development Master Plan that among others seek to have 80 per cent of adult people using financial services.

The NMB Bank chief of retail banking, Filbert Mponzi said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the new insurance product dubbed NMB Mkononi Insurance cover provides protection against accidental damage in the event of accident to mobile phone.

"With an increasing number of phone users in the country, there is an increasing need to drive greater efficiency and improve the overall consumer experience in the use of smartphones now used in a multiplicity of communication activities," he said.

With this insurance policy that will be provided by Reliance Insurance, customers will

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NMB Bank Chief of Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi and Reliance Insurance Chief Executive Officer Ravi Shankar launching the NMB Mkononi Insurance cover that shields brand mobile phone owners in case of damage, at a launch event in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Centre is Acting Director of Legal Affairs at the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA), Emily Kiria. Photo: Guardian Correspondent





## France unveils agro-based girls empowerment project

FROM PAGE 1

enabling the young farmers move closer to the more than 50 percent of women engaging in micro, small and medium-sized enterprises. With this support they stand a chance of achieving their targeted goals, he said.

The French embassy has in the past two years (2019-2020) supported a similar project to the tune of one million dollars, namely the 'preservation of biodiversity and support to smallholder farmers towards an ecological transition.' The project involved 6,000 smallholder farmers, 269 farmers' groups and eight farmers' associations in Mtwara region.

"We were able to observe the impact of economic empowerment projects on women, as training of women groups in agro-ecological practices and support in developing micro-enterprises created substantial leverages," the envoy stated.

He said research conducted in the past 20 years indicated that agro-ecology is one of the most effective ways to contribute to the development of sustainable agriculture.

The project will be implemented by the Foundation for Civil Society-FCS Trust Limited, Msichana Initiative, Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT) and the Practical Permaculture Institute of Zanzibar (PPIZ).

Rebeca Gyumi, Executive Director of the Msichana Initiative said the NGO is also targeting to empower girls with knowledge and skills to understand their rights. Girls and especially the victims of early motherhood will be capacitated to attain economic

resilience, she asserted.

"We reach 1,000 girls in Kongwa District-Dodoma and Nzega District in Tabora Region," said Gyumi.

Ikram Ramadhan Soraga, Operation Manager for PPIZ said that empowering a girl is to empower a community. Supporting women's organic agriculture activities shall increase productivity and enhance food security in the community, he declared.

The Isles institute will train girls and women on agro-ecology practices and entrepreneurship skills, with a total of 820 youths set to be reached in Zanzibar.

Janeth Maro, the SAT Executive Director said the NGO has been working with smallholder farmers practicing organic agriculture for over ten years. Under the GAPE project they are expecting to bring about positive changes to ensure no woman is left behind in the country's development agenda, the director underlined.

"Adolescent girls who have given birth will be assisted to establish income generating activities through agriculture. We also empower them on value addition to tap all the potentials in the crops' value chain," she said.

Tanzania has in recent years experienced an increase in frequency and intensity of extreme events such as strong winds, heavy rainfall and higher temperatures.

It is expected that by 2050, the temperature in Tanzania will increase by about three to four degrees. Last year, the country was ranked at fifth position in the highest annual forest loss rate worldwide.



French ambassador to Tanzania Frederic Clavier briefs journalists on a two-year project which aims to promote and empower young women through organic agriculture in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Photographer

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receive up to 500,000/- per claim and a maximum of two claims per 12 month period. The claims process is supported by NMB bank.

He added, a customer will not pay for the insurance rather using NMB Mkononi makes customer's phone automatically eligible and have the insurance cover.

The cover is valid on monthly basis and all an NMB Mkononi user needs is to make at least one transaction a month ranging from all airtime purchases, QR code payments, payments insurance premiums and household bills

## NMB Bank partners with Reliance Insurance to provide mobile phone damages for clients

like electricity and water.

The Reliance Insurance Chief Executive Officer - Ravi Shankar said the partnership is important at this point of time for which there is increased number of smartphones use in the country but above all would also play role in enhancing insurance services.

"This is definitely supporting government plan to push awareness and use of insurance services in the country targeting to reach 50 per cent in 2030," he

noted.

He added, through NMB's mobile phone insurance, we have created a tailor-made, product and service, based on our deep expertise and underwriting experience in the banking sector. We believe this will allow customers better ease of mind and hence leading to greater customer engagement.

The Acting Director of Legal Enforcement from the Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority

(TIRA) Emily Kiria commended NMB and Reliance Insurance for the initiative geared at making more people particularly those in the rural areas making use of insurance services in the country.

"This NMB and Reliance Insurance initiative will support the government's Financial Sector Development Master Plan to have 80 per cent of adult people using insurance services and enhancing awareness to 50 per cent by 2030," he said.



President Samia Suluhu Hassan welcomes World Bank resident representative in the country Mara Warwick at State House in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: State House

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to start any time now," he said, noting that while the teams engaged in heated debates, a lot of activities were going on.

The minister applauded the negotiating team under the chairmanship of Permanent Secretary Leonard Masanja for the good work to ensure that Tanzania is not just dragged into the project. The negotiation started in 2017 and took close to three years due to numerous contentious issues to resolve, and at the end the highly antagonist disputes were solved, he stated.

Submitting the report, Masanja said that the team completed its work on 17th April, with the team being tasked with demonstrating the economic merit of Tanzania's participation in the project. The report contains all the harmonized matters, he specified.

Dr Kalemami had earlier called on Tanzanians to exploit opportunities that come along

## 'Hoima-Tanga oil pipeline work to start anytime now'

with the project, with about 80 percent of the pipeline set to run through Tanzania, where around 18,000 local jobs will be created.

In May last year, the minister told the legislature that the project would start in April 2021, making the observation that an environmental audit has been completed and communities close to the pipeline will be compensated.

The project was still waiting for a final investment decision and the priority now is to complete the host government agreements (HGA), a shareholders' agreement (SHA), a land lease agreement (LLA) and a port agreement (PA), he had stated.

The priorities during the incoming financial year included completing these agreements and the framework of compensating

affected people, he stated.

Construction of the East African Crude Oil Pipeline was scheduled to begin in January 2017 and be completed in 2020, but was delayed due to disagreements on the provisions of the HGA, SHA and transportation tariffs.

The project is expected to become another pillar in revenue generation, job creation and increasing fuel availability in the country.

The pipeline is a 24-inch diameter, heated and buried crude oil pipeline running from Kabaale, Hoima in Uganda to Chongoleani in the neighbourhood of Tanga city, with six pumping stations two of which will be located in Uganda and others in Tanzania.

It will also have 27 heating stations and two pressure reduction stations, he added.

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and secondary education and installing digital systems in power projects for urban improvement projects in Zanzibar.

President Samia commended World Bank support, assuring the country director that the sixth phase government will cooperate with the bank at it makes further efforts to bring about development and ensuring growth and improved welfare.

She urged the bank to support projects that are geared to empower women economically since they are the ones responsible for family caring. The bank's support on installation of digital systems is commendable as it helps to increase efficiency and revenue collection.

Meanwhile, President Samia has sworn in Yusuf Mndolwa as ambassador and Chief of Protocol in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation at the Chamwino State House.

The event was attended by Vice President Dr Philip Mpango, Regional Commissioner Dr

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

MINISTER of State for the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Umyy Mwalimu yesterday tabled the 2021/22 budget estimates of 7.68trillion/-, which is an increase of 6.7bn/- as compared to this fiscal year budget of 7.0trillion/-.

About 2.95trillion/- has been allotted for development programmes, among others, repairing and constructing schools and hospitals. This is an increase by 29.3 per cent as compared to the current year whereby 2.28trillion/- was allocated.

Presenting the proposed budget here yesterday in the august House, Umyy highlighted six priorities to be implemented in the next financial year in line with the National Development Plan.

The priorities set are for improving provision of basic health services whereby it plans to spend 60.5bn/- construct 121 new health centres and spend the other 129bn/- to complete construction of 52 health centres in local government authorities.

According to the minister, the

## World Bank ups credit flows as Samia readies to address MPs

Binilith Mahenge, Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Deputy Minister Mbarouk Nassor Mbarouk and top government officials.

At the same time President Samia is on Thursday expected to address the National Assembly, the Speaker Job Ndagai announced yesterday.

Samia who was sworn-in as Union President on March 19 as sixth president following the death of Dr John Magufuli on March 17 due to heart failure, is expected to detail her orientations and evaluate implementation of directives issued in swearing in officials lately.

Speaking after the question and answer session, Speaker Ndagai told the lawmakers that President Samia will address the august House starting 4pm.

"President Samia will address Parliament on April 22, talk to Tanzanians through the legislature," said Ndagai, noting

that the event will be followed by an Iftar for MPs that the president will host at the gallery of the hemicycle.

"All our galleries will be full because we have invited retired presidents, ambassadors and various leaders to listen to the president's speech," he affirmed.

He urged MPs to make sure they attend the important event without fail. Those who have travelled to various regions should come back to the capital urgently so that they don't miss the occasion, he sounded out in caution.

"We should all be in Dodoma on that particular day; we need to listen to President Samia's important message to Tanzanians," he emphasised.

The presidential address comes a few days before the ruling party meets for a special general assembly on April 30 to formally install the president as party chairperson.

## Umyy Mwalimu tables 2021/22 budget estimates

next financial year would also see the completion of construction of councils' hospitals in 68 councils with planned allocation of 55.7bn/-, the project of constructing these hospitals started in the year 2018/19, including the Uhuru Hospital located in Chamwino District, Dodoma Region.

She said the government will embark on building 28 new hospitals in councils that do not have hospitals, with 14bn/- allocated for that purpose.

Another priority will be ensuring provision of better education from pre-primary schools to secondary schools.

Starting with the first phase, the government will begin constructing 10 out of 26 girls boarding secondary schools for science subjects. One school will be constructed in each region and once completed; the schools will have Form I to VI, with the capacity of accommodating between 1,000 and 1,200 students each through Secondary Education Quality

Improvement Project (SEQUIP). A total of 40bn/- has been allocated for the entire project.

She further detailed that her docket plan to spend between 650m/- and 700m/- to construct new 300 ward secondary schools for the wards that still do not have such schools also through SEQUIP.

In line with this, it will complete building 1,840 classrooms for secondary schools at a cost of 23bn/- and construct 300 houses for teachers at a cost of 50m/- each.

The PO-RALG is also mandated to implement free education policy, whereby it looks forward to spending 312bn/- and allocate the other 50bn/- for buying textbooks for primary and secondary schools.

In efforts to address current shortage of 1,048,561 desks in primary schools, the government will ensure that during the coming year a total of 710,000 desks are supplied to the schools.





Prime Minister Kasimu Majaliwa listens to vehicle engineer Baraka Samson during his visit at GFA-vehicle assembling factory at Kibaha, Coast Region yesterday. Second right is factory director Ally Jawad Karmali. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Ngorongoro residents decrying eviction plan

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

RESIDENTS of Ngorongoro Division in Ngorongoro District have lodged an appeal intended for delivery to President Samia Suluhu Hassan, regarding their future in view of the crisis at the Conservation Area.

The residents expressed shock at communicated intentions of the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority (NCAA) to remove around 70,000 out of the 90,000 residents within the beleaguered zone.

"It seems the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism as well as the NCAA management did not understand the President's statement issued on the 6th of April that something needs to be done to save the World Heritage Site," the communication asserted.

It was drawn up by representatives of local communities located within the country's most popular tourist destination, who were listed as Metui ole Shaudo from Olbalbal, a former chairman of the area's pastoralist council (NPC); Napokie Peshutio who represents women in the NCAA and James Moringe, a member of the council.

The Pastoralists Indigenous Non-Governmental Organizations (PINGOs) in association with the Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) organised a meeting at the weekend where the residents of Ngorongoro said they object to conservation "at the expense of native residents who since time immemorial have been playing an important role of conserving wildlife and natural resources in both Ngorongoro and Serengeti."

Ole Shaudo made this remark to emphasise that the conservation area is deeply part of the culture of the pastoralist group.

"The Maasai people share kinship with wild animals; for example the rhino belongs to the Mollel clan, the elephant is related to the Laizer and the baboons are part of the Lukumay clan," he asserted, hinting that each clan protects their related animals.

A fortnight ago, President Samia called upon experts in conservation matters to find ways of saving the heritage site, which reports show it is being overwhelmed by the rising population, threatening its future.

A census conducted by the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) indicated that the human population in the area reached more than 90,000 residents, up from 12,000 when the conservation was set up in 1959.

As the result, the NCAA management went out to start trimming down the number and as it happens, some 70,000 people will be required to vacate the conservation area, allowing the precinct to breathe.

Many families will be affected by the move and already a number of permanent buildings have been earmarked for demolition including one belonging to William ole Nasha, a deputy minister and MP for the area. The NCAA management expected to formally acknowledge the situation in a statement later.

**The Maasai people share kinship with wild animals; for example the rhino belongs to the Mollel clan, the elephant is related to the Laizer and the baboons are part of the Lukumay clan**

By Guardian Reporter

## US govt delivers medical equipment to combat COVID-19 pandemic in Z'bar

THE United States Government, through the US Agency for International Development (USAID) has delivered a shipment of COVID-19 supplies to the Zanzibar Ministry of Health.

USAID's Global Health Supply Chain activity recently procured respiratory and sanitation supplies valued at \$400,000. The supplies were delivered over the past month to the port of Zanzibar and onward to public medical facilities through the central medical store. The shipment includes respiratory equipment such as pulse oximeters, pediatric and adult nasal cannulas, masks; and sanitation supplies such as backpack sprayers, and biohazard disposal bags.

Speaking on the delivery of medical equipment, Dr. Abdullah S. Ali, director general of the Ministry of Health Social Welfare, Elderly, Gender and Children, Zanzibar remarked: "We believe in partnership relations that deliver quality health care to the general population. The consignment of medical supplies received will fill the existing gaps in the reduction of the burden associated with the COVID 19 threat in terms of mortality, morbidity and hospitalizations."

The United States government is committed to working side-by-side with all collaborators

in Tanzania's health sector to mitigate the effects of COVID-19. The U.S. is the single largest contributor to the international response to COVID-19, and over the last year, the United States has dedicated \$16.4 million to the COVID-19 response in Tanzania.

U.S. Ambassador to Tanzania Donald Wright said that the U.S. Government is pleased to partner with the Zanzibar Ministry of Health to provide these critical supplies.

"Our contribution of \$400,000 worth of respiratory support and sanitation supplies is a symbol of our commitment to this

partnership, and we look forward to working side by side with you and other stakeholders in the fight against COVID-19 and in our broader efforts to improve global health security," he said.

"We also welcome President Samia Suluhu Hassan's announcement that she intends to set up a taskforce to study COVID-19 and provide science-based advice on how to respond effectively. Additionally, the United States Government hopes a review of the evidence of vaccines is part of that process, as well as a commitment to enhanced reporting and data sharing."

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**APPLICATIONS FOR LICENCES UNDER THE CONVERGED LICENSING FRAMEWORK**

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority has received Licence applications from the following applicants: -

S/N	NAME OF APPLICANT	TYPE OF SERVICE	SHAREHOLDERS / NATIONALITY	SHARES %
1.	Pesapal Tanzania Limited	National Application Services	1. Pesapal Limited (Kenyan) 2. Agosta Liko (Kenyan)	99 1
2.	One Payment Tanzania Limited	National Application Services	1. 3G Direct Pay Ltd- (Ireland) 2. Meir Offer Gat- (Israel) 3. Erain Feinstein (Israel)	98 1 1
3.	Ndoto Media Limited	National Application Services	1. Beatrice Mchunguzi (Tanzanian) 2. Maxine Mchunguzi (Tanzanian) 3. Namala Tabaro (Tanzanian)	60 35 5
4.	Computer Sales and Services	Regional Application Services	Aliraza Mohamed Jessa (Tanzanian)	100
5.	Clouds Plus Productions Limited trading as TV 3	National Content Services (Subscription Broadcasting-Television)	• Joseph Mulebya Kusaga (Tanzanian) • Ramadhani Abdallah Bukini (Tanzanian)	80 20
6.	Clouds Plus Productions Limited trading as Red TV	National Content Services (Subscription Broadcasting-Television)	1. Joseph Mulebya Kusaga (Tanzanian) 2. Ramadhani Abdallah Bukini (Tanzanian)	80 20
7.	Wasafi TV Company Limited trading as Wasafi Max	District Content Services (Commercial Broadcasting-Free to Air Television)	1. Juhayna Zaghulu Ajmy (Tanzanian) 2. Nasib Juma Abdul Issaack (Tanzanian) 3. Ali Khatib Dai (Tanzanian)	53 45 2
8.	Best Christian Television Company Limited trading as Best Christian Television	District Content Services (Subscription Broadcasting-Television)	1. Claud John (Tanzanian) 2. Tumaini Mabamba (Tanzanian) 3. Anna Francis (Tanzanian)	80 15 5

Pursuant to Section 8 of the Electronic and Postal Communications Act, Cap 306 of the Laws of Tanzania, written comments are hereby invited from any interested person in respect of the grant of licences to the applicants to reach the Authority, within 14 days of publication of this notice. Such comments will be taken into consideration when the Authority considers the applications.

Comments should be addressed to:

Director General  
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority  
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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA  
MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY  
ISO 9001:2015 CERTIFIED

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**REQUEST FOR PRE-QUALIFICATION FOR THE SUBSEQUENT REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL, IN RELATION TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW ITU HEAD-QUARTERS BUILDING IN GENEVA, SWITZERLAND.**

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), is quasi-independent Government body established under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Act No.12 of 2003 to regulate the electronic communications, and Postal services, and management of the national frequency spectrum in the United Republic of Tanzania.

TCRA is a member of International Telecommunications Union (ITU) which is a specialized agency for information and communication technologies (ICTs) on behalf of the United Republic of Tanzania.

TCRA wishes to inform the public on the commenced preparation of the tender documentation for the selection of a General Contractor for the construction of the new building for ITU Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland.

ITU intends to publish a request for pre-qualification in September 2021. This request will invite qualified and reputable companies to submit an expression of interest and supporting documentation in order to be selected for participation in the upcoming Request for Proposal.

ITU will organize a webinar to present an overview of the New Building Project and the associated ITU Procurement procedures in October 2021. Information on the webinar will be included in the request for pre-qualification and displayed on the ITU web site.

Interested qualified Tanzanian firms are invited to access the United Nations Global Marketplace at [www.ungm.org](http://www.ungm.org) for more details on how to express interest in participating in this pre-qualification process.

Issued by:

Director General,  
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority,  
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## Govt to facilitate smooth transportation of farming produce to reach markets

By Getrude Mbago, Dodoma

THE government is planning to implement a special project dubbed "Roads to Inclusion and Social Economic Opportunities Programme (RISE)", a move which will facilitate smooth transportation of farming produce to reach markets in towns and thus promote inclusive economic growth.

The five-year project, which will be supervised by the Tanzania Rural and Urban Road Agency (TARURA), among others will invest heavily in renovating and construction road infrastructures in rural areas and towns.

Minister, President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) Umyy Mwalimu made the statement in the House here when presenting budget estimates for the ministry in the 2021/22 fiscal year.

The minister said that the project is set to spend US\$ 350 million (811.6bn/-) to its completion.

She said that the government is implementing the rural roads projects so as to enhance efficiency in transportation of people and goods, stimulate growth of towns and other sectors such as agriculture, industry, tourism and trade, and thereby increasing government revenue collections.

"In the project US\$300 million is a soft loan from the World Bank (WB) and US\$50 million will be issued by the government of Tanzania," she said.

The minister said that the project will see construction of roads totaling 535 kilometers whereby 400 kilometres will be constructed in districts roads network and 135 kilometers will be built in the district councils of Mufindi, Kilolo, Iringa (Iringa Region); Ruangwa (Lindi Region); Handeni in Tanga and Mbogwe.

Meanwhile, the government through TARURA will also continue constructing and renovating rural and urban roads, a work which is set to spend 627bn/- whereby 272bn/- will come from the Roads Fund and 127bn from the central fund.

Minister Mwalimu said the government will also of having a good roads network in rural areas under the implementation

of another project dubbed "Agri-connect: Supporting value chains for shared prosperity" with support from the European Union (EU)

The minister said that the implementation of the programmes will also contribute to promotion of private sector development and job creation in the agricultural sector and to increase food and nutrition security in Tanzania.

On Health, she said that the government will also construct 21 new health centres at a tune of 60.50bn/- in various wards in the country.

"In the 2021/22 fiscal year, we will also finalize construction of other 52 health centres and 68 districts hospitals at a tune of 129.2bn/- and 55.70bn/- respectively. These are the ones which their construction commended in the 2019," she said.

Mwalimu also said that the government will also commence construction of 28 new district hospitals where by 14bn/- will be spent to accomplish the work.

The minister further said the government will construct 300 day secondary schools the wards which do not have the schools so as to increase enrolment and facilitate comfortable learning.

She said the schools will be constructed under the Secondary Education Quality Improvement Project (SEQUIP) with each school spending a least of 650m/- to 700m/-

"The SEQUIP program is a five year initiative from 2020/21-2025/26 funded by the World Bank. And it was launched after successful implementation of the Education Programme For Results (EP4R) which also produced positive outcomes in the education sector," she said.

Mwalimu said that in the next fiscal year, the government will also facilitate construction of more special schools for girls so as to stimulate learning and facilitate girls to achieve their educational dreams.

"The move will also help cut down absenteeism and dropouts as more young girls will be attracted to stay in schools due to a conducive environment," she said.

She said that 312bn/- will be set aside to fund free education in the country.



Dodoma Regional Commissioner Dr Bilinith Mahenge speaks during the opening of a two - day training for the region's business community on the importance of registering their businesses organised by Business Registration and Licensing Agency BRELA over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Tanzania set to export purified gold - minister

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

TANZANIA to start exporting purified gold soon following the launch of Mwanza Precious Metal Refinery within this month, Minister for Minerals Doto Biteko revealed at the weekend.

He said upon the takeoff, the Mwanza based refinery to purify gold up to by 99.99 per cent, has the capacity of refining 480 kgs of gold per day, thus contributing immensely to the development of the sector.

The minister made the remarks during a seminar of members of the Parliamentary committee on Energy and Minerals over laws and regulations governing

the mining sector in the country, noting there are already three refineries in the country

Minister Biteko explained that the the refineries are in the regions of Geita, Mwanza and Dodoma with capacities of refining 500kg, 480kg and 50kg per day respectively.

He assured that once the Mwanza Precious Metals Refinery become operational it would make the country sell purified gold at a higher price.

"Price of the gold itself will increase because it would be totally purified and be sold at an end price. The plant will also create 100 employments at the initial phase of operation," he said.

He termed the development as a big revolution in the mining sector since such technology never existed in the past when gold mined in Tanzania had to be sent to Dubai or Swaziland for refining.

"We have made trials in this new refinery plant and we have got good results. Therefore, we will soon start purifying our gold in the factory," noted the minister.

He said some of regulations presented to the Parliamentary committee were those governing the Tanzania Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (TEITI) whereby the country has made a big step in meeting the

requirements.

Initially there were 18 requirements that Tanzania had not met, but currently only have remained only seven that seem to contradict with the country's laws.

Commenting, chairperson of the committee, Dustan Kitandula, said building capacity among members of the committee was crucial to improve their supervision on the sector and the government.

"Basically, we are satisfied that these regulations meet expectations, there are minor changes needed, but this cannot affect performance and supervision of the mining sector," he stated.

## JPM was not corrupt, says MP Luhaga Mpina

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

KISESA Member of Parliament Luhaga Mpina has used the speech by the Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi by vehemently lashing at critics who rubbish achievements of the fifth Phase government under late President John Magufuli claiming it was corruptible.

Addressing reporters here at the weekend, Mpina questioned- who among the corrupt can increase national income and control government expenditure, tame graft and increase development budget from the average of 26 per cent to 40 per cent and enabled the implementation of huge development projects from internal sources?

Mpina which corrupt person can set aside 1.01tr/- towards free education

from primary to secondary schools, increase budget for higher education students loans from 378.7bn/- in 2015 to 450bn/- in 2020 thereby enabling children from poor families to access to higher education?

He asked- "which corrupt person can raise the budget for drugs and medical equipment from 31bn/- in 2015 to 270bn/0 in 2020?"

He also asked which corrupt person who since he was Works minister, was able to open up road communications routes, and later as President in constructing networks of tarmac roads, purchase of 11 new planes and construction of new airports.

He also said late president Magufuli was able to increase distribution of electricity to villages from 2m018 villages in 2015 to

9,112 in 2020.

He also said the late President was able to revoke corrupt agreements that were swindling the nation including IPTL, Aggreko, and Ymbiont power that were costing the nation over 719bn/- per year.

Mpina further said the late President managed to eradicate corruption poaching, armed robberies, drug trafficking, killing of people with albinism and road accidents among others.

He added: "I support the Zanzibar president Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi for saying it is exceedingly rare to get leaders of Dr Magufuli's type."

He said Tanzania has witnessed the move by the UN General Assembly in its Special 75th session to honour the late president, and recognized his efforts in fighting corruption.

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

THE Ministry of Agriculture is set to ensure farmers receive quality fertilizer in time as well as continue with its strategies in research for quality seeds and soil testing in order to reap more benefits for them from farming.

The Agriculture minister Prof Adolf Mkenda gave the remarks here at the weekend when addressing reporters soon after a meeting of Tanzania Fertiliser Regulatory Authority (TFRA) board.

Prof Mkenda said for agriculture to be beneficial there must be plans in place that would ensure the increase of crops production including the availability of fertilizer while opposing recommendation for increase of indicative prices.

"The Ministry does not accept recommendations for the increase of

## Ministry vows to ensure farmers receive quality fertiliser on time

indicative prices because our plans and strategies is to increase production. We have the responsibility to reduce challenges facing farmers including the availability of quality seeds, soil testing and the application of low cost fertiliser," said Prof. Mkenda.

He called on the Board to work together with Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) to enable the provision of education on soil testing and the correct application of fertiliser.

"This Board has done a great job, but it can go further by working together with TARI and other stakeholders from this important sector for the increase of the

national income as well as crating more job opportunities," he said. He added: "In addition to applying quality fertiliser irrigation farming, and soil testing, I call upon the experts to go to areas where farmers conduct their activities."

For his part TFRA Board Chairman Antony Mshandete said they will continue to work on the Ministry's directives and other stakeholders in the sector in order to bring about great revolution in agriculture.

TFRA was established in 2009 through Act No 9 as an organ to oversee the law, policy and regulations governing the production, importing and application of fertiliser in the country.



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Absa Bank Tanzania head of marketing and corporate relations Aron Luhanga (3rd L) hands over part of 20 wheelchairs to Agnes Yohana, a mother of disabled student Santieli Mduma (seated) donated by Absa Bank Tanzania at a function held in Morogoro Region yesterday. On his right is Morogoro District Commissioner Bakari Msulwa and Absa Morogoro branch manager Godfrey Chilewa. 20 wheelchairs worth 20m/- will be distributed to primary school students in five regions; Morogoro (5), Dodoma (5), Iringa (2), Mbeya (3) and Zanzibar (5). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has said the life of late President John Magufuli was sufficient 'classroom' for leaders and all Tanzanians on how they wanted to live.

Dr Mwinyi issued the remarks on Sunday in Dodoma during a symposium to pray for late president John Magufuli in which President Samia Suluhu Hassan was official guest.

In his greetings Dr Mwinyi said Dr Magufuli was a leader who depended on God and believed that He was the creator of everything.

He said Dr Magufuli fought for unity and was very close with leaders and adherents of all religious denominations and every time he called upon these leaders to pray for the country.

He said this belief made him courageous in taking difficult decisions beneficial to the people

## Late JPM was sufficient 'classroom' for Tanzanians, says Dr Mwinyi

of the united Republic of Tanzania.

He said every time the late President used to mobilise for hard work via his famous slogan "Hapa Kazi Tu" the words derived from scriptures saying 'whoever does not work should not feed himself.'

He said the late President taught Tanzanians to think more about the meek and those with special needs, the issues that he accomplished in deeds including construction of modern hospitals, water supply services, rural electrification, construction of road infrastructures and solving challenges facing small traders.

In his greetings, president Mwinyi said Dr Magufuli did not mince words in lashing out at corruption, negligence and embezzlement of public funds

and left behind legacy in better use of national resources.

Dr Mwinyi said Tanzania was unique after being endowed with various natural resources in Africa and the entire world.

He said Tanzania continues to exhibit maturity in maintaining democracy and good governance as it has a good procedure in changing its top leaders, even at times when God decides to take away a national leader.

He added that Tanzania was now a country to be emulated in having its new President who is a woman - Samia Suluhu Hassan, the first woman President in East Africa.

In the circumstances, Dr Mwinyi appealed to Tanzanians to support President Samia to continue the work left by the late President Dr Magufuli.

## Majaliwa pledges to end investments challenges, review of unfriendly laws

By Henry Mwangonde

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday assured investors that the government will make everything possible to end challenges affecting investments in the country including reviewing unfriendly laws to make the country the best destination for doing business in the region.

Speaking when he toured the GFA assemblers industry in the Coast region, PM Majaliwa said the country's top leadership is determined to ensure investors enjoyed investing in various sectors in the country.

He said most of the challenges that were affecting investing in the country have been addressed adding that currently the government was working on addressing the few remaining.

"You should feel free to tell us when you have some burning issues because we as a government have opened doors for discussion and addressing the challenges that you face," he said.

The 12bn/- industry is designed to assemble various makes and models of light and heavy commercial trucks with a current capacity of 2500 units per annum.

The director for the industry Aljawad Karimal said the 12bn/- factory will be constructed in phases whereby the first phase about 4bn/- has been injected.

He said the factory has so far employed about 100bn/- people but decried delays in release of imported materials by relevant custom bodies.

"The automotive industry is growing but there are setbacks including delays of clearance of materials by some government entities which make the process to assemble take some time," he said.

He also requested the PM to help in addressing the electricity challenge which the factory was facing as there was power shortage. In response PM Majaliwa directed the electricity generation company Tanesco to address the

matter immediately.

The investor also requested the PM that the government should favour local investors by protecting them legally through tendering processes which will put locally made products as priority.

In his remarks, Regional Commissioner for the Coast Region Evarist Ndikilo said the region has 1,438 industries that have been constructed in the last five years and created 50,000 direct jobs.

The RC said the industries have contributed to the increase in revenue from 65bn/- per year in 2015 to 147bn/- in 2020.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan has recently ordered relevant authorities to be friendly in their engagement with local and foreign investors so as to regain their lost confidence.

The head of state lifted a lid on the hope foreign investors have in her administration, saying those who closed shop and left are willing to come back.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Uyole Center in collaboration with International Agricultural Research Institute (CIAT) has empowered two women farming groups in Mbeya and Songwe regions with bean threshing machines in a new drive to reduce post-harvest losses.

The women groups which have benefited from the support include Mshewe women group of Mbeya Council and Upendo women group of Senjele ward in Mbozi District, Songwe Region. The donated machines are fitted with Bean Solar Drier plant.

TARI-Uyole Director Dr Tulole Bucheyeki said that most farmers use traditional methods when harvesting beans, which affect the quality of the crop, hence fail to compete in the market, "that's why we've come up with these machines to improve quality of the crop."

"But also many farmers have their crops rotting due to poor

## TARI, CIAT partners to empower women farmers to fight post-harvest losses

drying system and thus making them unsustainable or the price lower than expected and these are the problems that many farmers face in our regions," said Dr Bucheyeki. He said: "In our recent study, we found that farmers lose between 25 and 80 percent of their produce during the two processes which are the process of threshing and drying."

CIAT Representative Sylvia Karemera said the machines handed over to farmers' groups are aimed to reduce the load during the operation as well as to increase the value of their produce by preventing crop rot and cracking.

Sylvia said in the process of threshing and drying the crops the most affected are women and children and that is why they were persuaded to help such groups.

"Sometimes farmers harvest their beans when the weather is not good and therefore unable to dry them properly, now we as

stakeholders have decided to help these machines to reduce their workload," said Sylvia.

She said the bean threshing machine has the capacity to grind eight types of crops including maize and urged farmers to make good use of the machines.

Some of the farmers who were handed over the machines thanked the institutions for their support, claiming that the machines would help them slow down as well as increase the value of their produce.

Chairperson of Upendo women group, Daud Bukuku said after receiving the machines they will harvest their produce on time and sell it at a more profitable price than before.

She said the drying machine would help them sell their products whenever they found customers unlike in the past where they were waiting for customers until the sun shone for drying.

By Guardian Correspondent,

Sumbawanga

TANZANIA Investment Centre (TIC) in Southern Highlands Zone has called upon Rukwa Region residents to work together with the centre to look for and entice investors to invest in the region since it has many investment opportunities, markets and good infrastructures.

The remarks were given here at the weekend by the TIC Zonal TIC Venance Mashiba during his inspection visit of meat factory, SAAFI Meat Limited in Sumbawanga municipality, Rukwa Region.

He said as for now Rukwa Region has opened up for investment as

## Rukwa region residents urged to work together with TIC to woo investors

the government has built roads and other infrastructures, the requisites for investment.

Mashiba said in addition, the region has enough land for investors, easily obtainable raw materials, ample labour as well as ready market, hence, he added, every investor was assured to reap profits.

For his part SAAFI Meat Limited Manager James Katubuka said in the past, the factory was performing well but after the establishment of the cattle auction at Kasesya, many cattle were being sold to neighbouring Zambia, hence the

factory's supply of raw materials dwindled.

Katubuka also said herders have been experiencing losses in selling their cattle wholesome while the government was losing income at the same time, as opposed if the livestock were slaughtered at the factory and then sell the meat to a neighbouring country.

Epifania Adolf, a resident of Sumbawanga Municipality appealed to the government to create better environment for investors as they have witnessed stationed investors reaping big profits as well as creating job opportunities.



NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

TENDER NO. PA/068/NDC/2020/2021/INV/01

EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

FOR

### CONSTRUCTION OF A MODERN TYRE MANUFACTURING PLANT AT ARUSHA

- BACKGROUND:** The National Development Corporation ("NDC") was established as a statutory body by an Act of Parliament in 1962, wholly owned by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania (URT), charged with responsibility of promoting economic development in Tanzania in partnership with the private sector. The NDC is mandated by the Government of URT to stimulate development of basic industries in Tanzania and to initiate and facilitate development of World Class Industrial infrastructure for sustainable and competitive industrialisation.

Arusha Tyre Manufacturing Plant (known as General Tyre East Africa Limited) is located in Njiro Industrial Area in Arusha Municipality, northern part of Tanzania. The installed capacity is 320,000 tyres per annum and there is an existing constructed new bay for plant expansion which has not been installed with production facilities. The Plant stopped its operations in 2009 due to lack of financial resources to run the operations/productions of the tyre plant. Following that, the Government of URT mandated NDC to construct a new and Modern Tyre Manufacturing Plant at the same premises in Arusha in partnership with strategic investor(s).

The existing tyre manufacturing plant is old, its technology is outdated and can no longer sustain in the global market competition.

- OBJECTIVE:** the overall objective is to secure an experienced and competent investor (Strategic Partner) in tyre manufacturing industry who has World Renowned Tyre Brand to partner with the NDC on behalf of the Government of Tanzania to establish a new and modern tyre manufacturing plant. The new tyre manufacturing plant will be operated by joint venture company to be formed between the NDC and the Investor.
- PROJECT OUTLINE AND SCOPE:** The NDC intends to pre-qualify competent investor(s) (Strategic Partner(s)) to partner with NDC and form a Joint Venture Company which will have the right to:
  - Carry out feasibility study and environmental and social impact assessment (ESIA) for establishment of Modern Tyre Manufacturing Plant;
  - Prepare Business Plan;
  - Construct a modern Tyre Manufacturing Plant with an assumed capacity of 900,000 tires per annum. The tires will be of different types; and
  - Operate and maintain the Tyre Manufacturing Plant.
- INTERESTED** investors, must provide information indicating that they are qualified to be strategic partners by submitting a company profile indicating their technical, personnel, managerial and financial capabilities; as well as the experience and past performance in the tyre industry for the past five (5) years. In financial capability, the interested investor(s) is/are required to provide Audited Financial Statements for the past five (5) years. The evaluation criteria for pre-qualifying the Strategic Partner will take into consideration of the above mentioned items.
- Interested eligible Strategic Partner(s) may obtain further clarification from the office of the Secretary - Tender Board, Development House, Kivukoni Front/Ohio Street, 6th Floor, P. O. Box 2669, Dar es Salaam, TANZANIA from 09:00 – 16:00 hrs. EAT on Monday to Friday inclusive except on public holidays.
- Expressions of Interest (EoI) must be submitted in four (4) hard copies (one original plus three copies) including electronic copy and delivered to the address below at or before 14th May 2021 at 14:00hrs EAT, 6th Floor, Room No. 605, clearly marked "Expression of Interest for Construction of a Modern Tyre Manufacturing Plant at Arusha."
- Late submission of Expressions of Interest shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
- The Corporation reserves the right to continue or reject the tendering process without giving reason(s) thereof and shall incur no any liability

The Managing Director,  
National Development Corporation,  
Development House,  
Kivukoni Front/Ohio Street,  
P. O. Box 2669,  
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Telephone: +255 22 2112893  
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# External Treatment of Traditional Chinese Medicine to Relieve Dysmenorrhea

**D**ysmenorrhea is one of the common menstrual diseases, which brings sufferings to many women. Dysmenorrhea refers to women who experience periodic lower abdomen pain during or before and after menstruation. Some may accompany with low back pain and those with severe pain may even experience syncope and shock. Dysmenorrhea is classified into primary and secondary ones. Primary dysmenorrhea refers to menstrual pain without obvious organ disease. Secondary dysmenorrhea is mostly menstrual pain caused by reproductive organ diseases, such as endometriosis and adenomyosis.

Primary dysmenorrhea is a common and multiple disease in gynecology. In recent years, people's living standards have improved. Women's unhealthy lifestyle habits are diverse, and the incidence of primary dysmenorrhea has gradually increased. Investigations and studies have shown that although dysmenorrhea is the most common symptom of women's menstrual period, up to 90.0% of women have been admitted to the hospital for menstrual abdominal pain, with significant regional characteristics, and the occurrence of different races is also different. Traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) has its unique features in treating primary dysmenorrhea.

Primary dysmenorrhea is generally classified into two categories in TCM. One is the "pain due to stagnation" caused by qi and blood stagnation in thoroughfare vessel and conception vessel; the other is the "pain due to not sufficient nourishment" when thoroughfare vessel and conception vessel are lack of the nourishment of qi and blood. Clinically, TCM roughly classifies the disease into syndromes such as stagnation of cold and qi, weakness of qi and blood, insufficiency of liver and kidney, blood stasis blocking the collaterals, or dampness-heat diffusing downward.

TCM holds the causes of dysmenorrhea can be categorized as "pain due to stagnation" and "pain due to not enough nourishment". It has a certain relationship with its understanding on women's menstruation. TCM believes that the production of female menstruation is dominated by the kidneys, most closely related to the liver and spleen, and also related to the heart. Starting from childhood, the kidney qi is gradually enriched under the qi and blood transformed by the spleen and stomach, which promotes the maturity of *Tianguai*, a unique term in TCM that can be understood as a substance that affects human growth, development and reproduction. This substance is derived from innate kidney qi.

After *Tianguai* matures, under the coordination with the conveyance and dispersion function of the liver and the storage function of the blood, the blood is vigorous in thoroughfare vessel. As qi and blood are sufficient with smooth qi movement, the menstruation becomes normal; when the qi and blood is weak with qi stagnation, the blood will stagnate and block, and menstruation



Ear acupoints

will be abnormal. Thus, the key to whether a woman's menstruation is normal or not lies in whether the qi and blood are unblocked and sufficient. Obstruction of qi and blood leads to "pain due to stagnation", and insufficient qi and blood which cannot be nourished result in "pain due to not sufficient nourishment".

TCM has a variety of external treatment methods in the treatment of primary dysmenorrhea, which are not only effective, but also convenient and safe.

## Acupuncture therapy

I still remember that when I was studying with a TCM physician in the hospital, a young woman came to the outpatient clinic. Her face was pale, and she held a heating pad in her hands, clutching her belly tightly. After carefully inquiring about the medical history, the physician diagnosed the patient with primary dysmenorrhea. He asked the patient to lie down on the bed and quickly gave acupuncture to the patient on 3-5 acupoints. As expected, her pain much relieved and her complexion gradually improved. This showed me the advantages of TCM acupuncture for the treatment of primary dysmenorrhea.

Acupuncture therapy is to stimulate the acupoints on the meridians of the human body with the use of acupuncture needles, to facilitate the effect of prevention and healing. One of the advantages of acupuncture is that it can quickly relieve pain without any side effects brought by taking western medicine. Acupuncture treatment for dysmenorrhea generally selects acupoints on conception vessel, the spleen foot-taiyin meridian, the stomach foot-yangming meridian, the liver foot-jueyin meridian, and the kidney foot-shaoyin meridian. Commonly used acupoints are Guanyuan (RN 4), Zhongji (RN 3), Sanyinjiao (SP 6), and Zusanli (ST 36).

Guanyuan (RN 4) and Zhongji (RN 3), on the conception vessel, along with Sanyinjiao (SP 6), are to regulate the qi and blood of the conception vessel and the liver, spleen and kidney meridians. For female, the qi and blood on conception vessel and the liver, spleen and kidney meridians are harmonized, and the patient will not feel pain when the blood stasis can be expelled. Zusanli (ST 36) is the acupoint on the stomach foot-yangming meridian, and it is the key acupoint for health preservation, with functions of supplementing qi and blood. Zusanli (ST 36) can be used for any dysmenorrhea caused by blood deficiency and insufficient nourishment.

## Tuina therapy

*Yellow Emperor's Inner Classic (Huangdi Neijing)* records that "Both blood and qi are delighted by warmth with the aversion to cold. Cold makes them difficult to flow while warmth improves the situation." That is to say, smooth qi and blood is

achieved by warm blood, and warm not only has the meaning of warmth, but also means smooth flow by warming. Tuina has the function of warming the meridians and promoting the flow of qi and blood. By stimulating the meridians and acupoints, Tuina can warm the meridians and dredge the collaterals, nourishing the liver and kidney and regulating the qi and blood in thoroughfare and conception vessels. Thus, it can alleviate the symptoms caused by dysmenorrhea to a certain degree.

The specific manipulation method is as follows:

First, rub the lumbosacral area, with no need for specific acupoints. Rub the palms until they are warm and then rub in the lumbosacral area up and down where the governor vessel and bladder meridian run until you feel warm in the local part.

Second, press the specific acupoints. Press Guanyuan (RN 4), Zhongji (RN 3), Zusanli (ST 36), Sanyinjiao (SP 6), and knead each acupoint with the fingertip for 1-3 minutes. It can warm the Spleen and Stomach for dispelling cold, warm the meridians and soothe the collaterals, promote blood circulation to eliminate blood stasis, so as to alleviate dysmenorrhea.

## Moxibustion therapy

Moxibustion therapy is a form of heat therapy in which dried plant materials called "moxa" are burned on or very near the surface of the skin. Moxibustion therapy has its unique advantages in the treatment of dysmenorrhea, especially for the syndrome of cold stagnation. In addition to the main complain of pain, such patients also suffer from cold waist and abdomen and cold hands and feet. As the most seen syndrome in clinic, the syndrome of cold stagnation may be related to the dietary habits. Most of them have the habit of having cold drinks and ice cream all throughout a year and they only wear thin cloth when the temperature is low in the early spring and late autumn. This will inevitably cause cold pathogen invading the human body, make blockage in the circulation of qi and blood, and gradually result in dysmenorrhea with the syndrome of cold stagnation.

Argy wormwood leaf has the effects of warming meridians and soothing collaterals and dispelling cold and dampness. By burning argy wormwood leaf, it penetrates via the meridian points with its heat and medicinal effect, reaching the *zang-fu* organs. It can dispel dampness and cold, clear the meridians and activate collaterals, and regulate qi and activate blood circulation.

Shenque (RN 8), Guanyuan (RN 4), Balia and Sanyinjiao (SP 6) can be chosen for treating dysmenorrhea with moxibustion therapy. Each point can be heated with moxa for about 10-20 minutes until the skin turns warm and flushed. When the therapy is applied, the operation of the practitioner should be slow in avoidance of burning hurt.

## Auricular therapy

Auricular therapy is also called ear acupuncture therapy. It is the stimulation of acupoints, represented on the auricle, external ear surface with granular Chinese materia medica, for the diagnosis and treatment of health conditions in the body. From the perspective of bio-holography, the ears represent in the shape of fetus in an upside-down orientation, with the distribution of the various auricular acupuncture points, in accordance with different parts and organs of the human body. Stimulating the corresponding ear points by sticking ear beans can soothe the meridians and collaterals, invigorate the circulation of qi and blood, and regulate the physiological functions of the *zang-fu* organs.

Auricular therapy can also relieve the symptoms caused by dysmenorrhea. Generally, the four acupoints, Shenmen (TF 4), Endocrine (CO 18), Liver (CO 12), and Internal Genitalia (TF 2), are commonly selected for ear acupoint pressing. As the main point for pain relief among all the auricular points, Shenmen (TF 4) has the effect of sedation and analgesia. The combined use of Endocrine (CO 18) and Internal Genitalia (TF 2) can promote blood circulation, remove blood stasis, regulate menstruation and relieve pain. Liver (CO 12) can regulate emotions and qi movement and

enhance the effect of pain relief. When dysmenorrhea occurs, the patient can use ear bean paste on the corresponding auricular points, with an alternation between the two ears. The patients should press the acupoints 3-5 times a day for 10 minutes each time. Only in this way can the effect of auricular therapy can be exerted.

## Chinese materia medica paste therapy

Chinese materia medica paste therapy is also a kind of TCM external treatment by stimulating the meridian points or specific attracted parts with Chinese materia medica paste. The most common types of this therapy include Sanfu Paste, Sanjiu Paste, Pediatric Navel Paste, Rheumatism Pain Relief Paste, etc. As one of the common methods of TCM clinical medicine, this therapy has good effects in alleviating the pain caused by primary dysmenorrhea, improving the quality of life and enhancing the treatment effect. Moreover, with non-invasive and painless features, it is a good choice for people who are afraid of acupuncture, moxibustion, or taking decoctions.

Generally, proper compatibility in herbs with the functions of promoting blood circulation and resolving stasis, dispelling cold and relieving pain, and regulating thoroughfare vessel and conception vessel are applied to make the Chinese materia medica paste in treating dysmenorrhea, such as Radix Aconiti Lateralis Preparata, Fructus Evodiae, Flos Caryophylli, Cortex Cinnamomi, Rhizoma Alpiniae Officinarum, Fructus Foeniculi, Olibanum, Myrrha, etc. It has the effect of warming the uterus, regulating qi and blood, regulating menstruation and relieving pain.

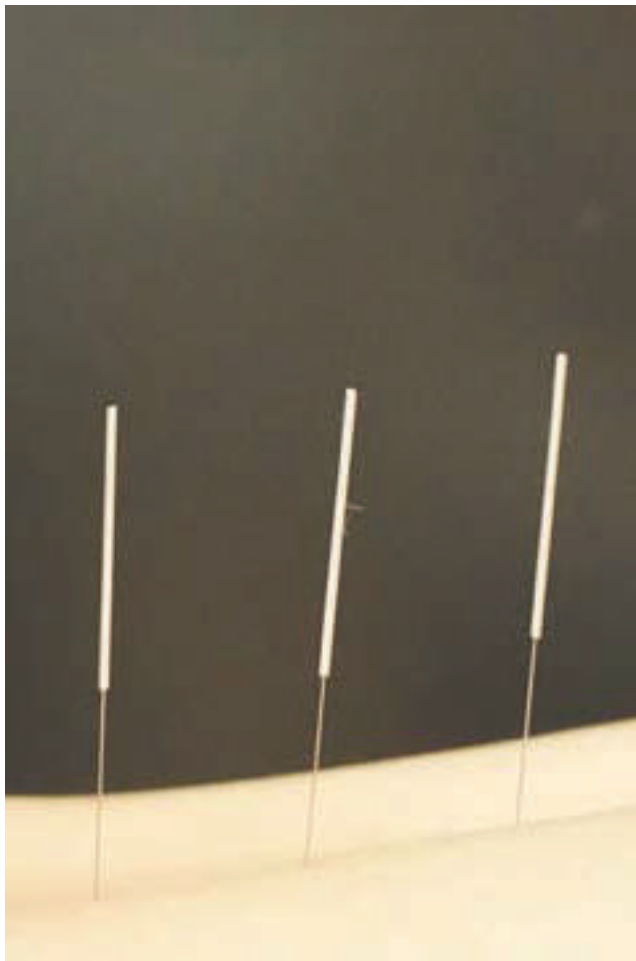
In terms of acupoint selection, Ciliao (BL 32), Guanyuan (RN 4), Guilai (ST 29), and Diji (SP 8) are commonly used for the premenstrual period; Pishu (BL 20), Shenshu (BL 23), and Zusanli (ST 36) points for the postmenstrual period; Ganshu (BL 18), Geshu (BL 17), Sanyinjiao (SP 6), Xuehai (SP 10) for the menstrual period. Except Guanyuan (RN 4), all the rest acupoints are selected on both sides, once a day, with one paste per acupoint.

In addition, women should actively have a good habit in personal health care in their daily lives, exercise regularly, and maintain a regular life schedule. This will not only help alleviate the symptoms due to dysmenorrhea, but also prevent its occurrence.

**Note:** The TCM methods mentioned in this article should be used under the guidance of professional TCM doctors.



A tool used for moxibustion



Acupuncture therapy

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# Government relinquishes 700,000 ha of reserves

By **Getrude Mbago, Dodoma**

THE government has relinquished over 700,000 hectares of protected areas to villages in the 2020/21 financial year in a move aimed at ending land conflicts in the country.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa made the statement in the House last week when presenting his office's budget estimates for the year 2021/22.

According to him, the nullified areas included 12 protected natural forests totalling 707,659.94 hectares and seven forest reserves with 46,715 hectares of land and allocated them to 920 villages surrounding the reserve forests.

He said that in 2019, the government made an assessment and found that there were 975 villages that faced land disputes and it was later decided that 920 villages should be allocated the annulled protected areas and reserves for settlements, farming and livestock keeping.

The Premier also said that the government also resolved land disputes totalling 23,783 in the country through land councils, something which has stabilised peace and stimulated economic activities in the areas.

He noted that in the 2020/2021 fiscal year, the government has implemented various strategies aimed at eliminating land disputes and ensuring the existence of plans and better use of land for investment, economic and social activities.

In addition, the Prime Minister said that in 2021/22 fiscal year, the government will implement a special programme and invest heavily in land surveying and planning to add its value so as to fight land disputes and increase revenue collection.

He noted that in 2020/21 the government has implemented various strategies aimed at

eliminating land disputes and setting up plans for better land use.

"Based on the measures which the government has taken, I now urge all leaders in the regional administration and local government to monitor the implementation of the decisions and ensure that no new land disputes arise in their areas," he stressed.

Majaliwa pointed out that economic growth and human development have contributed greatly to the increase in economic and social activities that have in turn sparked land use conflicts.

He said on July 10, 2020 the government approved 920 out of 975 disputed villages to remain in regional areas and continue economic and social activities.

Similarly, the government has approved 19 of the 55 villages which were in conflict with the security forces to continue with their economic and social activities in the areas.

The Premier said that previously, farmers and livestock keepers were spending sleepless nights looking for farming and grazing areas, something which affected their economic hurdles.

On Friday, the National Assembly approved a 116.78bn/- Prime Minister's Office (PMO) budget estimates for the 2021/22 fiscal year and out of which 93.30bn/- is for recurrent and 23.48bn/- for development expenditure.

The House also approved a 128.87bn/- budget for the Parliament office, of which 121.86bn/- being for recurrent budget and 6.99bn/- for development issues.

*2020/21 the government has implemented various strategies aimed at eliminating land disputes and setting up plans for better land use.*



Natural Resources and Tourism minister Dr Damas Ndumbaro (C) talks to Chala residents in Kilimanjaro Region to resolve the crisis with investor of Chala Safari Lodge Thomas Becker yesterday. Left is Agriculture minister who is also Rombo MP Prof. Adolf Mkenda, Natural Resources and Tourism Deputy minister Mary Masanja (2nd L) and Permanent Secretary Dr Allan Kijazi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By **Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma**

BUSINESS community in Dodoma Region has been challenged to formally register their businesses as it is required by Business Registration and Licensing (BRELA).

Dodoma Regional Commissioner, Dr Bilinith Mahenge made the plea over the weekend here when opening a two-day training seminar organised by BRELA to sensitize people to register their businesses.

Dr Mahenge told participants that in order to win in business it is important for them to formalise their activities and business adding that by doing so it has

## Register under BRELA, Dodoma business community challenged

many advantages.

"The first step to succeed in business is to formalise your business so that it can be recognised by the relevant authorities and BRELA are here in Dodoma for two days so make sure you utilise this opportunity of their presence," said Dr Mahenge.

In-charge of BRELA Dodoma Office, Gabriel Girangay said apart from what the participant will get from the seminar, their offices

are open for everyone who needs their services.

"Our office here is ready to attend you at any time and currently we prepare to reach all nine districts of Dodoma so that it can be easy for us to educate people about our general services," said Girangay.

He urged BRELA stakeholders that are in Dodoma and the neighbouring regions to utilise the available office in Dodoma instead of wasting time to travel

all the way to Dar es Salaam. Saada Kilabula from administration thanked the Regional Commissioner on behalf of BRELA Chief Executive Officer Godfrey Nyaisa for attending the meeting and officiate the opening ceremony.

She said this is a continuation of public education programme whereby in first phase six regions of Ruvuma, Njombe, Iringa, Singida, Dodoma and Morogoro will be covered.



**THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA**  
**MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TRADE**  
**BUSINESS REGISTRATIONS AND LICENSING AGENCY**



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**PRESS RELEASE**

**EXTENSION OF PERIOD FOR SUBMISSION OF INFORMATION ON BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP**

**Dar es Salaam, April 2021**

The Business Registrations and Licensing Agency (BRELA) cordially informs Company owners and the general Public that, the Minister for Industry and Trade through Government Notice No. 189 of 12th February, 2021 extended the time for submission of information on Beneficial Owners for a period of twelve months from 1st January, 2021 to the Companies registered before 1st July, 2020.

The requirement to submit beneficial ownership information arises from the amendments of the Companies Act, Cap. 212 which were done through the Finance Act, 2020.

This extension of time has been granted in accordance with section 459A of the Companies Act, Cap 212 which empowers the Minister to extend the time for submission of Beneficial Ownership information.

BRELA in collaboration with the Ministry of Industry and Trade is in the last stages of completing The Companies (Beneficial Ownership) Regulations that will specify the modality of submission and keeping of beneficial ownership information. Once the Regulations are published, BRELA shall start receiving the said information.

For more details, kindly contact us through email address [usajili@brela.go.tz](mailto:usajili@brela.go.tz), phone number +255 (0) 22 221 2800 or visit our office located at The Tanzania Federation of Co-operatives Building, 6th floor, Lumumba Street, Dar es Salaam.

**Issued by;**  
**The Information and Communication Unit BRELA**

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**INVITATION FOR BIDS**

**TENDER FOR PROVISION OF CLEANING SERVICES**

**MBEYA CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED (MBEYA CEMENT)** is a subsidiary of the LafargeHolcim Group with its industrial operations based in Songwe, Plot No. 1 Industrial Area, Mbeya. **MBEYA CEMENT** now invites sealed bids from eligible tenderers to provide Cleaning services to the company. Bidders are required to submit their sealed bid document (1 copy), properly enclosed in an envelope marked **TENDER FOR PROVISION CLEANING SERVICES, and physically delivered to:**

**THE SECRETARY,**  
**TENDER COMMITTEE,**  
**MBEYA CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED,**  
**PLOT NO 1, SONGWE INDUSTRIAL AREA**  
**P.O. BOX 529, MBEYA,**  
**Tel: +255 295 0000/6/8/13**  
**TANZANIA**

**At MBEYA CEMENT CO LTD's RECEPTION** located at Administrative Building, Songwe Mbeya.

Kindly request electronic **Tender Documents** via [mcc.tender@lafargeholcim.com](mailto:mcc.tender@lafargeholcim.com), with subject **REQUEST FOR TENDER DOCUMENTS – CLEANING SERVICES 2021** after payment of Tender Fee amounting TZS 100,000/= to one of below account.

**ACCOUNT NAME: MBEYA CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED**

1. Account no. 0140015051101 – Stanbic Bank
2. Account no. 0150065139500 – CRDB Bank
3. Account no. 62510014746 – NMB Bank

Payment Slip has to be sent to: [mcc.tender@lafargeholcim.com](mailto:mcc.tender@lafargeholcim.com). In case of delay of getting the tender document, please call direct line +255 29 50000/6/8/13

**DEADLINE FOR TENDER SUBMISSION: 03rd May. 2021, 4h30 PM, SITE VISIT SHALL BE HELD ON 27th APRIL 2021 AT 10H00 AM**



TUESDAY 20 APRIL 2021

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Skin-lightening creams are dangerous: Can the trade be stopped in Tanzania

SOME people apply skin lightener to their entire body to change their complexion, but this can be very risky. The active ingredient in some skin lighteners is mercury, so bleaching can lead to mercury poisoning. Mercury is a toxic agent that can cause serious psychiatric, neurological, and kidney problems.

Skin whitening, also known as skin lightening and skin bleaching, is the practice of using chemical substances in an attempt to lighten the skin or provide an even skin colour by reducing the melanin concentration in the skin. Several chemicals have been shown to be effective in skin whitening, while some have proven to be toxic or have questionable safety profiles. This includes mercury compounds which may cause neurological problems and kidney problems.

In a number of African countries, between 25 and 80 per cent of women regularly use skin whitening products. In Asia, this number is around 40 per cent. In India, specifically, over half of skin care products are sold to whiten skin.

While some countries do not allow mercury compounds in cosmetics, others still do, and they can be purchased online. Areas of increased pigmentation such as moles may be depigmented to match the surrounding skin. Attempts to whiten large areas of skin may also be carried out by certain cultures. This may be done for reasons of appearance, politics, or economics.

Many skin whiteners contain a toxic form of mercury as the active ingredient. Their use, however, may harm a person's health and is illegal in many countries.

Side effects may include sun sensitivity, skin redness,

thickening, or itching. Low concentrations may be used in cosmetics. Kojic acid has been found to be an effective lightener in some studies, and is also allowed to be used in cosmetics. Side effects, however, include redness and eczema.

Additionally, corticosteroids have become some of the most commonly incorporated lightening agents. Long-term usage over large areas of skin may promote percutaneous absorption, which can produce complications such as skin atrophy and fragility, glaucoma, cataracts, edemas, osteoporosis, menstrual irregularities, and growth suppression.

Chemically lightened skin is also more highly susceptible to sun damage and dermal infection. Long-term users of skin bleachers can easily develop fungal infections and viral warts. Pregnant users may also experience health complications for both them and their children.

In the United Kingdom, many skin whiteners are illegal due to possible adverse effects. Such products are frequently still sold even after shops have been prosecuted. Trading standards departments lack resources to deal with the problem effectively.

Studies have additionally linked paler skin to achieving various forms of social standing and mobility. Skin whitening is a major issue throughout Asia. In South Korea, light skin is considered an ideal of beauty and most South Koreans believe that having paler skin is the only way to look beautiful. Other motivations for skin whitening include desiring softer skin and wanting to conceal discolorations arising from pimples, rashes, or chronic skin conditions.

## Oil palm industry growth in Tanzania is significant

PALM oil is an edible vegetable oil derived from the mesocarp (reddish pulp) of the fruit of the oil palms, primarily the African oil palm *Elaeis guineensis*, and to a lesser extent from the American oil palm *Elaeis oleifera* and the maripa palm *Attalea maripa*.

The use of palm oil in food and beauty products has attracted the concern of environmental groups; the high oil yield of the trees has encouraged wider cultivation, leading to the clearing of forests in parts of Indonesia and Malaysia to make space for oil-palm monoculture. This has resulted in significant acreage losses of the natural habitat of the three surviving species of orangutan. One species in particular, the Sumatran orangutan, has been listed as critically endangered.

Humans used oil palms as far back as 9,000 years. In the late 1800s, archaeologists discovered a substance that they concluded was originally palm oil in a tomb at Abydos dating back to 7,000 BCE. It is believed that traders brought oil palm to Egypt.

Palm oil from *E. guineensis* has long been recognized in West and Central African countries, and is widely used as a cooking oil. European merchants trading with West Africa occasionally purchased palm oil for use as a cooking oil in Europe.

Palm oil became a highly sought-after commodity by British traders for use as an industrial lubricant for machinery during Britain's Industrial Revolution.

Palm oil formed the basis of soap products, such as Lever Brothers' (now Unilever)

"Sunlight" soap, and the American Palmolive brand.

By around 1870, palm oil constituted the primary export of some West African countries, although this was overtaken by cocoa in the 1880s with the introduction of colonial European cocoa plantations

In the same vein, Bulobora National Service in Kigoma Region has distributed 66,000 improved commercial seedlings of oil palm, *Tenera* variety worth more than 400m/- to different district councils. The move is aimed at engaging farmers in a massive cultivation and transformation of oil palm and end importation of edible oils in the country.

Recently Prime Minister's directive that the farmers should be given the improved seedlings for free, followed by awareness raising there had been very positive response. Bulobora as a large scale farming arm of the Tanzania People's Defence Forces was also directed to cultivate two thousand acres of improved seedlings of oil palm.

Apart from research and production of the improved commercial seeds, TARI was also assigned by the Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa to conduct monitoring of production, distribution and management of the seedlings wherever district council they are being produced and sent.

He advised that the farmers surrounding Bulobora National Service should also be considered in the exercise of distribution of the improved commercial seedlings of oil palm, *Tenera* variety so that they can cultivate them in their farms.

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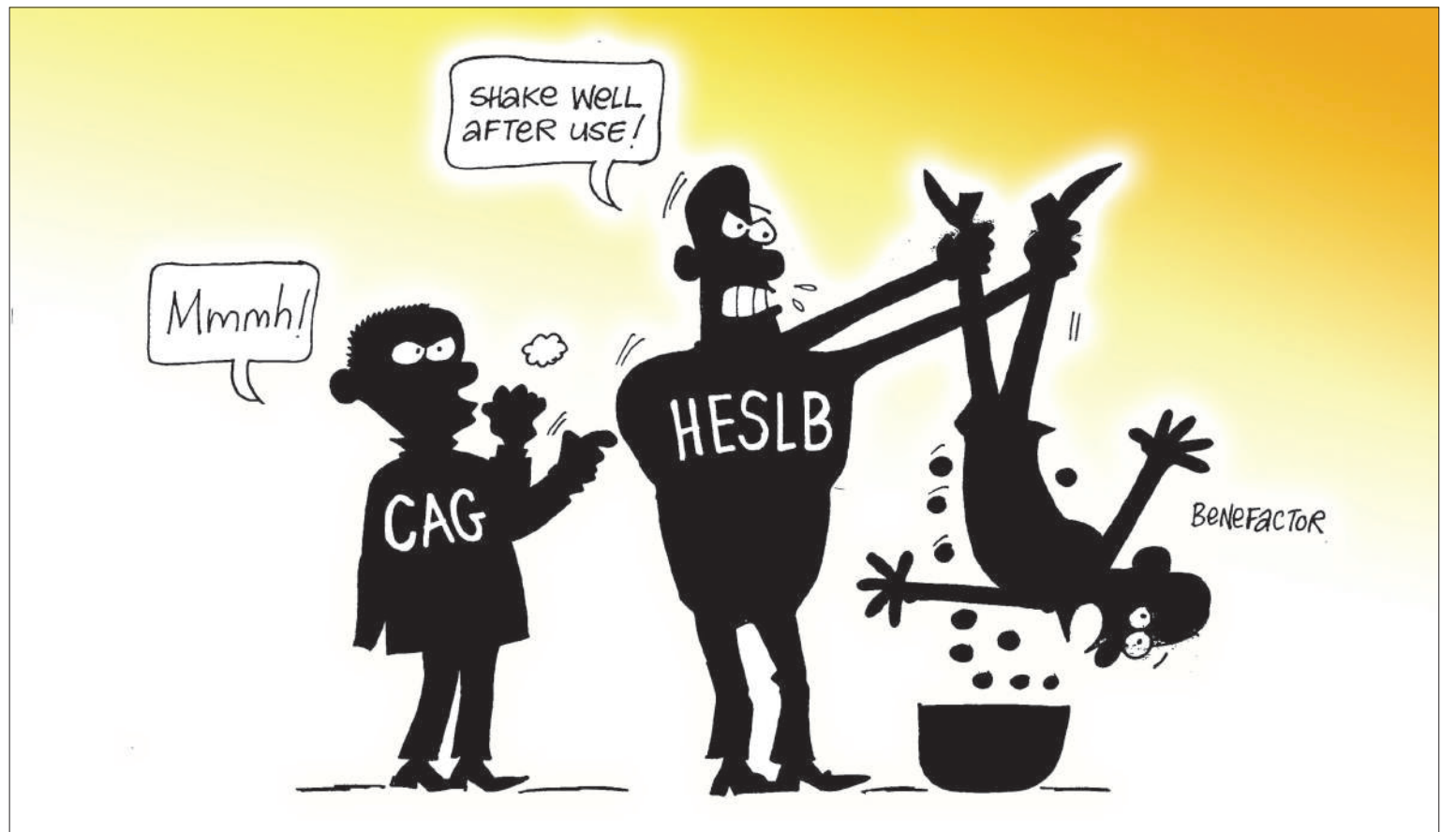
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By Rim El Gantri

WITH a special court that has yet to open a trial and a truth commission that is not up and running, international attention on victims in the Central African Republic is waning. Since 2015, the unfulfilled promises of justice made to these victims have failed to address their daily realities and needs for immediate moral, physical, and material reparations, writes Rim El Gantri, one of the authors of a recent study by NGOs ICTJ and Cordaid.

On March 30, Faustin-Archange Touadera was, again, sworn in as president of the Central African Republic (CAR), having won a second term after a difficult election fraught by insecurity and rising tensions fueled by rebel groups. In his inaugural speech, President Touadera promised to make ending impunity the "backbone" of his mandate. A few days before, he had also announced the organization, in the near future, of a "national dialogue".

Terms such as "justice," the "fight against impunity," and "national dialogue," however, are so frequently used in CAR that they risk turning off Central Africans who are still waiting for the concrete, transformative measures that the political transition had promised. Indeed, CAR has had to deal with a continuous cycle of violent conflicts that have weakened the state and its ability to function. These successive conflicts were supposed to have been resolved by various dialogues and forums and attempts to provide justice to victims, mainly through judicial institutions such as the national judicial system, the hybrid Special Criminal Court (SCC), and the International Criminal Court (ICC), and non-judicial bodies such as the upcoming national Truth, Justice, Reparations, and Reconciliation Commission (TJRRC).

### Forgotten Victims

A recent ICTJ-Cordaid study examines the provision of justice in CAR from a victim-centered perspective. It highlights the paucity of justice measures, institutions, and initiatives that were supposed to address Central African victims' needs but have not done so for several reasons. The most significant initiatives are those that followed the 2015 Bangui Forum on National Reconciliation, which called for the establishment of the SCC and paved the way for the creation of the TJRRC. Still, justice has so far eluded Central Africans, and a common feeling among victims is that they have been simply

## Why in Central African Republic reparations should come first



The fight against impunity will be the backbone of my second term," said Central African President Faustin-Archange Touadera at his inauguration ceremony

forgotten.

As victims who participated in the study recounted, they have had little success in accessing justice through the centralized national judicial system. This system is oftentimes dysfunctional and marred by corruption. And while it is very expensive for citizens, it perennially lacks resources and capacity. As a result, most Central Africans resort to traditional justice practices.

### National courts need more support

The SCC, which many victims thought would come to their rescue, created expectations that in turn fed into rising hopes among Central African more broadly that the 2016 elections would end impunity. In reality, victims have deplored the SCC's slow pace. Established in 2015, the court only began operating in 2018, and as of early 2021 it still has not initiated any criminal trial, disheartening victims, some of whom have died while waiting for justice. Many believe that the funds allocated to the SCC could have been better used by and for ordinary courts, despite the judicial system's manifold institutional failings. The Bangassou emblematic case, in which a state court handed down a guilty verdict related to war crimes and crimes against humanity, validated this belief and largely tipped the balance of public opinion in favor of national courts.

The TJRRC has similarly gotten off to a slow start. A steering committee was created in 2017 to hold national consultations and, based on the findings, draft the law that would establish the TRRC.

These consultations, however, were not organized until 2019. Parliament then only passed the draft law in April 2020, and in December 2020 commissioners were selected and appointed. Still today, the commission is not up and running.

### Astonishing Lack of Focus on Victims' Needs

According to victims interviewed in the study, while criminal accountability is an important element of justice, it is far from the only one. Victims have stressed that existing justice measures do not match the reality in which they live. Indeed, victims in Bangui, who themselves have pursued legal action against perpetrators, have joined with victims in areas outside the capital to demand "fair justice," which entails meaningful improvements in their overall life circumstances. In the rural town of Alindao, for instance, victims prioritize as a form of justice reparations for the moral, physical, and material damages they have endured as result of the crimes committed against them.

This is not surprising in one of the world's poorest countries, in which approximately half the population suffers from chronic malnutrition. What is astonishing is that the planning and design of justice processes in CAR so far has not focused on these immediate needs.

Those in CAR designing transitional justice processes must therefore consider first and foremost the conflict's social impact on victims and victims' immediate needs, as well as factors such as political context and security challenges.

### Reparations First

Other countries offer valuable lessons in this regard. In Colombia, for example, the government enacted a reparations policy in 2011, years before the 2016 peace agreement, which would play a critical role in ensuring victims participated in the peace process. In Morocco, while the government did not pursue criminal accountability, it prioritized reparations and established an Equity and Reconciliation Commission. The commission's findings and recommendations would later precipitate constitutional and legislative reforms that helped prevent a recurrence of violations.

Given the Central African Republic's specific set of challenges, it is crucial to explore and design innovative, victim-centered transitional justice strategies that advance economic development, guarantee non-recurrence, and address socioeconomic issues related to social identity, inequality, education, and poverty. Importantly, justice initiatives must be planned and implemented sequentially as part of a long-term transformative process. When designing reparations programs, victims should be consulted about their immediate needs and what measures they think can improve their life circumstances. The shape of such programs should not be determined by court decisions in criminal proceedings.

Ultimately, the success of any transitional justice process depends on whether victims meaningfully participate in them and whether they improve equal access to public services for all Central Africans, especially marginalized communities and minority groups. This remains largely to be done in the Central African Republic.

*Rim El Gantri is a senior expert in human rights and transitional justice at the International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ). She is currently head of program for Libya. El Gantri has provided technical assistance to various truth commissions and other mechanisms, as well as civil society organizations and victims' groups. In particular, she accompanied the design and birth of transitional justice processes in Tunisia (2011-2015) and in Nepal (2016). She holds a master's degree in Public Law from the University of Law and Political Sciences of Tunis and a degree from the International Academy of Constitutional Law.*



# China, EU should take on pioneering roles in global climate cooperation

BEIJING

**A**CROSS the planet Earth, polar glaciers are melting away at a faster pace, rising sea levels are eroding shorelines and submerging Pacific islets, bushfires are increasingly rampant, and a multitude of species are at risk of extinction.

Under such adverse circumstances, Chinese President Xi Jinping, French President Emmanuel Macron, and German Chancellor Angela Merkel will hold a virtual meeting on Friday on climate change, which testifies to a shared sense of urgency and responsibility to jointly tackle humanity's common existential threat. China and the European Union (EU) are both major players on the world stage, enjoying extensive common interests and solid foundation for cooperation in this regard.

They should and could thus act as pioneers in the world's collective campaign to curb the adverse impact of global warming. Climate change is now a major highlight in the overall China-EU cooperation though it started relatively late compared with that in other areas like economy and trade.

For the record, Beijing and Brussels have established a partnership on climate change back in 2005. In recent years, their climate cooperation has seen substantial progress in such areas as clean energies, carbon capture technologies and improving global governance.

They have also established a series of dialogue mechanisms and maintained communication at different levels. Climate cooperation has also been included as an important part of a China-EU investment treaty as the two sides have wrapped up a seven-year negotiation process of the agreement late last year.

Looking into the future, China and the EU can continue to build up momentum towards jointly mitigating climate change, and making even greater progress in more areas.

First of all, the two sides can forge tighter links and play a bigger role on the world stage, which entails stronger top-level political will and strategic consensus from all parties concerned.

During previous phone talks with several European leaders, including Merkel and Macron, Xi has repeatedly voiced China's willingness to work with the EU on climate change, stressed the need for green development and called for more dialogues on environment and climate.

The upcoming trilateral climate summit offers a fresh opportunity for Beijing and Brussels to renew their determination to foster their green partnership, and build a cleaner and greener world for the human race.

It is also an important task for the two sides to continue upholding the spirit of multilateralism and improve the global governance on climate change within the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change.

This year will see a number of high-profile and high-



The headquarters building of the European Commission is seen through Christmas decorations at Schuman Square in Brussels, Belgium, Dec. 8, 2020. (Xinhua)

stake international occasions on global climate cooperation: the 7th International Union for Conservation of Nature's World Conservation Congress in the French city of Marseille, the 15th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity in the Chinese city of Kunming in October, and the UN Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, Britain.

Beijing and Brussels need to step up mutual support and further coordinate their stances so as to push for greater global consensus at those major events.

Also, as China, the EU and other signatories are carrying out the Paris Agreement, it is important for all

parties to recognize and follow the principles of equity, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities.

In terms of pragmatic cooperation, the two sides can explore new areas such as circular economy, renewable energy and low-carbon technology. In addition, they might equally well help facilitate a green global economic recovery and promote sustainable development in the post-pandemic world by setting standards for green development requirements, including the carbon emissions trading system on global level.

Climate change is such a complicated global chal-

lenge that no single country can fix it alone, as well as a problem so pressing that brooks no delay in steadfast collaborations.

As long as China and the EU are determined to pull together, they can always make a positive difference for the general welfare and the long-term subsistence of humanity here on Earth.

Xinhua



## M&P EXPLORATION PRODUCTION LTD

1338/9 Mwaya Street Msasani Peninsula PO Box 80460 , Dar Es Salaam , Tanzania , Tel + 255( 0 ) 2 260 2194/6

# OPPORTUNITY FOR EMPLOYMENT

Maurel & Prom is an oil and gas exploration and production company listed on the regulated market of Euronext Paris specialising in the production of hydrocarbons. It manages corporate, environmental and social risks. Within Tanzania, the Mnazi Bay & Msimbati gas fields have been onstream and continuously producing since 2006 making Mnazi Bay a significant contributor to the gas supply for power in Tanzania. Maurel & Prom Exploration Production (T) Ltd. is seeking to recruit a dynamic and result oriented person to fill a vacancy of Junior Operator reporting to Operations Leader. The **Junior Operator** will have overall responsibility and accountability to ensure smooth operation of the plant at the required standard.

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- Ensure that recording and production reporting are carried out timely and to the required standards

- Liaise closely with Control Room Operator to adjust or regulate the process as may be required
- Promote and implement company's safety, Health and environmental policies
- Perform all laboratory tests including PH analysis, salinity, temperature, specific gravity, and conductivity, oil in water and triethylene glycol concentration analysis.
- Promote and contribute to culture of continuous improvement and teamwork
- Maintain good housekeeping at control room, sleeping room and washing room
- Perform any other duty as being assigned by your supervisor.

**TERMS OF SERVICE:**  
The successful candidate will be engaged on Permanent terms. All those who meet the above requirements and would like to apply for the position, should send their applications together with detailed curriculum vitae which includes three referees with their contacts to the under mentioned addressee on or before **30th April 2021**.

**Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**

**NB:** Maurel & Prom Exploration Production Tanzania Limited is an equal opportunity employer, therefore this position is open to all.

**HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR,  
MAUREL & PROM EXPLORATION PRODUCTION  
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# Kenya's poor need different lockdown restrictions to survive, scientists urge

NAIROBI

**A**FTER Joseph Mandu lost his job because of the country's coronavirus lockdown, he would still wake every morning and leave his home in the City Carton slum in Kenya's capital, Nairobi. But instead of heading to the restaurant he worked at as a pool-table attendant, he would walk around City Carton searching for odd jobs to earn an income so he could pay for the food his family needed to survive.

"I tried to find something to do because my wife could not understand a fact that I was totally not able to provide for the family.

"With schools closed, all our five children were there in our single room and they needed food, water - which can only be bought - and soap, among other things, that were beyond my affordability," Mandu told IPS, noting that he also owed his landlord Sh2000 (\$18) in monthly rent.

Mandu is not alone in the need to provide for his family.

Blanket containment measures imposed by Kenya's government to control the coronavirus pandemic have denied poor slum dwellers access to sufficient nutritious food and livelihoods, according to early findings from an ongoing evidence-based study to assess the impact of COVID-19 on dietary patterns among households in Nairobi's informal settlements.

The study noted that urban slum and non-slum households are impacted differently by the COVID-19 pandemic, and therefore differentiated policies and solutions are needed to address food security, nutrition and the livelihoods of these two consumer groups.

The researchers, led by scientists from the Alliance for Biodiversity International and the International Centre for Tropical Agriculture (CIAT), are now calling on the Kenyan government to consider the unique challenges that people living in urban slums face before imposing blanket measures to curb the spread of the disease.

"Through this study, we have seen that about 90 percent of households in the slums reported dire food insecurity situations, and are not able to eat the kinds of foods they prefer such as indigenous vegetables and animal sourced foods like milk and eggs, which had been more affordable and accessible before the pandemic," Dr. Christine Chege, the lead researcher on the project, told IPS. The Alliance provides research-based solutions to harness agricultural biodiversity and sustainably transform food systems to improve people's lives in a climate crisis.

The study found that more than 40 percent of slum households lack employment and their average month-



Joseph Lowasa Baraka at his vegetable and fruit kiosk in Nairobi. During Kenya's coronavirus lockdowns traders opted to stay away from congested market places and prioritised more secure digital platforms. (File photo)

ly household income is \$78.

Scientists collected primary data from 2,465 households in the Kibera and Mathare slums, as well as from middle-income residents within Nairobi city.

Household dietary diversity scores were calculated based on 7-day food consumption recalls.

So far, the government has turned to policies such as curfews, social distancing and closure of eateries, bars, churches to contain the spread of the virus. As of today, Apr. 19, Kenya has reported over 151,000 COVID-19 cases.

But the current measures to re-

strict spread of the virus has had a direct negative impact on livelihoods of tens of thousands of urban slum dwellers across the country.

Generally, slum dwellers live in crowded single-roomed, shanties where a number of households share bathrooms, sinks, and water points. There is little or no space for children to play and social distancing is impossible.

They also do not have personal means of transport and so many have to use crowded public transport, which includes the use of motor bikes that sometimes carry up to three passengers on a single bike.

For these communities sanitisers remain a luxury. And some people use one disposable mask for more than a week - not for protection against COVID-19 infection, but to avoid the wrath of law enforcers who are reportedly using it as an excuse to distort money, particularly from the poor.

One respondent from Kibera slum told researchers that she was on antiretroviral therapy for HIV but she was not able to eat a balanced diet, as advised by her medic.

These are just some of the reasons why slum dwellers, according to the study, need differentiated containment measures that will not completely deny them access to food and livelihoods.

While the findings note that non-slum households may benefit from a decrease or cap on rising food prices to improve their food security and nutrition, for slum

dwellers the solution is different and perhaps more complicated.

Researchers instead recommend strategies and interventions to assist slum dwellers in earning an income as a solution, first giving them economic empowerment in order to access nutritious foods.

"Once they are empowered economically, a second intervention would be towards lowering food prices," said Chege.

According to Joram Kabach of Twiga Foods, a company that currently supplies fresh fruits and vegetables from over 20,800 farmers across this East African nation straight to more than 30,000 small-scale vendors via mobile technology, there is need for the government to partner with the private sector to bridge the gap between food and nutrition security for slum dwellers, and containment measures for the COVID-19 pandemic.

"During the pandemic period, we observed a sharp increase in our daily turnover from Sh13 million (\$18,200) to Sh35 million (\$318,200)," said Kabach.

"This means that in line with the government guidelines for social distancing, traders opted to stay away from congested market places and prioritised more secure digital platforms, where orders are made via mobile phones and products delivered at doorsteps with much reduced human interactions," he told IPS.

In that regard, he observed that the government could cushion slum dwellers by offering them food vouchers, which can be redeemed from structured vendors who belong to structured platforms such as Twiga Foods. The company is also participating in the ongoing study.

Chege said she hoped that the research would influence policy design and implementation to include vulnerable poor consumers in the slums. **IPS**

# A growing new health crisis focusing on emergency rooms, medical history and vaccines

PARIS

**T**HIS year's World Health Day on 7 April was an opportunity for three entrepreneurs to share their insights and reflections on a rather complex year due to the health crisis and comment on their experiences developing impactful products and services in this sector.

Emeric Lemaire, co-founder of Arkhn, Samah Ghalloussi, CEO of AALIA.tech and Antoine Noel, co-founder and director of Japet, are all either associates of Liberté Living-Lab, (a tech for good innovation space hosting a multi-actor collective) or members of Tekhné, a start-up acceleration programme.

The annual World Health Days help to raise public awareness of a wide range of topics, and thus provide an opportunity to highlight three health issues, whether they concern professionals or the general public: medical data management, inclusion in the health sector, or the challenges of back health.

The health crisis has highlighted the problems of accessing and managing data in the health system. Some of the most striking examples of these problems include the poor management of the number of patients attending emergency rooms, limited access to medical history and therefore the risk factors linked to patients, as well as the recent administration of vaccines.

Emeric Lemaire, co-founder of Arkhn, whose mission is to enable more efficient and ethical access to hospital data, shares some lessons learned during this pandemic.

"Even if the past year has been very hard for our society because of the health crisis, there are some positive realizations for the future of the health system. In particular, some governments have taken measures to increase the resilience of hospitals, including investment in research and in their information systems: this is one of the main missions of the Segur (consultation of French healthcare system stakeholders)," said Emeric.

According to Emeric, proper data management would help to better control the Covid-19 pandemic. Firstly, because access to medical information is vital for understanding the Covid-19 virus and the development of treatments/vaccines.

Secondly, this would greatly benefit research, which requires rapid data access in order to recruit patients for clinical trials.

Finally, from an organisational point of view, efficient and accessible data management allows for better monitoring of bed distribution and the construction of efficient propagation models.

Despite the pandemic, Arkhn has grown and is now supporting around ten hospitals. The teams are developing a digital platform that facilitates access to all the data collected in health care institutions.

They are deploying a standard data warehouse in each health care institution which is accessible through a universal interface (an API - Application Programming Interface - using the FHIR standard, an international reference for medical IT). This centralises data from existing software, which is difficult to access at present.



Samah Ghalloussi, one of the entrepreneurs interviewed for the article with a worker of the French Red Cross. Credit: French Red Cross

Enabling data access in this way has a number of advantages namely for research purposes (setting up cohorts, conducting clinical research), for improving the capacity of care teams and maximising their efficiency (monitoring patients' progress, rapidly searching for medical information) and also for promoting the shared access of the data by the hospital's partners (software publishers, pharmaceutical companies, etc.).

This year's challenges? "To learn the lessons of this health crisis in order to build a health system more efficient for everyone and better able to respond to such pandemics."

For Samah Ghalloussi, Managing Director of AALIA.tech, there remains a major challenge in health care: inclusion. A real public health problem exists, on which AALIA.tech is working, which involves accessibility through language.

During the pandemic in France, an issue transpired

whereby a whole population that did not speak French well enough struggled to understand prevention messages and even access health care.

"There are already often basic communication problems between doctors and patients, which means that some patients do not always understand their treatments and how to take them correctly. When a patient does not speak French or does not speak it well, the problem is even more complex."

"If we are unable to translate messages into their own language, they will be less likely to manage their health correctly, which could lead to their condition becoming more aggravated or even worsened without the proper care and attention," said Samah.

AALIA.tech has therefore launched its product, currently in beta testing, to help emergency services by offering a voice assistant via an application that translates the health professional's questions into the patient's native language.

This technology takes into account the medical and cultural context of the patient, and allows for a fine-tuned understanding by not restricting the doctor to a list of questions, and not limiting them to a pre-established artificial language. The assistant has also been developed into an audio version to also help those who cannot read.

Back problems, common among workers, are even more likely to develop among the large number of home-based workers, who are often poorly equipped at home for extended periods of sitting. According to the medical journal *The Lancet*, an estimated 540 million people worldwide are affected by lower-back pain.

"The annual cost of back pain is more than €1.4 billion each year for the social security system. It is therefore essential to find solutions for people who suffer chronically from back pain as they represent 80% of the expenses. It is also essential to take preventative action to avoid entering this vicious circle," said Antoine, co-founder and director of Japet.

One of the main themes of the last World Health Day is the "Mobilisation of all public health actors", especially those who are not necessarily considered. According to Antoine, the mobilisation of companies is essential, as many risk factors are linked to professional activity.

To combat musculoskeletal disorders (MSD), Japet has designed exoskeletons for the labour market. This "Wearable Medicine" is defined as the combination of medical science and modern robotics.

The start-up markets its exoskeletons in France, Germany, South Korea and Hong Kong, and this year Japet intends to multiply its partnerships in Italy, as well as in several Asian and South American countries.

In addition, in the specific context of the epidemic, Japet is one of the many players who have mobilised. In 2020 they joined the French Red Cross accelerator to promote the integration of new occupational health solutions, and in particular to help staff working on the front line against the pandemic. **IPS**



## TARI researchers produce new improved maize seed varieties

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

TANZANIA Agriculture Research Institute TARI-Tumbi centre in Tabora Region has conducted fruitful research that has produced new commercial maize seeds hybrid, and Open Pollinated (OPV) maize seeds suitable for a wide range of ecologies and that aims at enabling the farmers to graduate from subsistence to commercial.

Under good agricultural practices, an ordinary farmer can harvest up to 30 bags per acre. The farmer can witness the bumper harvest within two month and half.

TARI-Tumbi Tabora centre Acting director Dr. Emmanuel Mrema named the improved maize seed varieties as Tumbi hybrid 501 (TH 501) on one hand, and the open pollinated ones which are T 105, and T104 on another hand.

On farm trials has shown good performance with high yield compared to others. At one of the farmers field that belongs to Robert Bundala from Tumbi village in Tabora, the maize have matured faster compared to other varieties from seed companies. Bundala said he has never experienced this bumper harvest before. "These improved maize seeds varieties from TARI Tumbi Tabora have good height and very strong stalk. When you open it inside, the cobs speaks it all, first they are big and full. The performance of these improved maize seeds in several fields has actually surprised everyone in this village," he said.

"These are the improved seeds, quality and suitable for the farmers across many regions in Tanzania. After planting, the maize takes less than three months to mature, said senior agricultural research officer John Lobulu Loatha.

He said the farmers should expect to have quality seeds and bumper harvest. Citing an example, he said the farmers can harvest more than 24 bags of maize per acre and at times, some farmers get 30 bags of maize per acre. Commenting on the open pollinated maze varieties-OPV, he said the farmer stands a better chance to harvest between 20 bags and 22 bags of maize per acre.

The improved maize seed varieties have been bred to resist some of the common pests and diseases. The improved maize seed varieties are also tolerant to moderate drought conditions.

The improved maize seeds are being produced at TARI-Tumbi in Tabora to cover some regions that have shortage of seed companies around. The regions are such as Tabora, Kigoma, Katavi, Shinyanga and some parts of Geita. TARI-Tumbi centre is also supplying the hybrid seeds to other regions such as Arusha, Kilimanjaro, Tanga, Morogoro and Dodoma.

"We are doing production of these improved maize seeds in collaboration with TOSCI which has the mandate to regulate the quality of seeds in Tanzania, said Loatha.

Tumbi centre has invested on hybrid seeds production particularly hybrid and open pollinated seeds to help the farmers and smallholder farmers in particular to access the improved varieties to increase productivity, he added.

TARI director general Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo said that of all strategic crops in the country, maize crop comes first. Many people in Tanzania depend on maize as both staple food and cash crop.

"That's you see our country has adopted agricultural policies that maintains a steady supply of maize through increased production and productivity. In order for this to work out, TARI has the mandate to conduct research and produce new improved seeds," he said.



TARI director general Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo explaining the importance of the improved maize seed varieties TARI Tumbi in Tabora region. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

However, one of the challenges facing low production and productivity of all crops such as maize is shortage of improved varieties in some areas. There are some regions such as Arusha and Kilimanjaro which has plenty of seed companies that constantly supply improved varieties produced by researchers but there are other regions such as Tabora, Katavi and Kigoma which have shortage of the seed companies. So, you find that many farmers around these regions still use traditional seeds which produce a maximum of eight bags or less per acre. As a result the farmers suffer low yields and crop failure due to poor seeds, a situation that has crippled food security for millions of smallholders in across the country. We are currently witnessing in some areas, smallholder farmers for example, experience poverty due to poor productivity.

Now, to address these problems facing the

farmers especially in the peripheral regions like Katavi, and Kigoma, TARI Tumbi in Tabora region has conducted research and produced two types of improved maize seeds varieties. They are hybrid and Open Pollinated (OPV) maize seeds. These are Tumbi hybrid 501 (TH 501), the open pollinated ones are T 105, and T104.

These have the capacity to produce more than 24 bags per acre and at some fertile regions such as Katavi, the farmers can harvest up to 30 bags per acre.

"One of our strategies as TARI Tumbi is to conduct research and produce more improved seeds for the farmers residing in the regions where there are no sufficient seeds companies and other regions as well. We want to reach all the farmers and smallholder farmers across Tanzania," he said.

"I therefore call on farmers in Tabora, Katavi

and Kigoma to go and collect the improved seeds from TARI Tumbi in Tabora region for increased production and productivity. The seeds have been certified," he added.

Therefore, TARI is generating and promoting application of knowledge, innovation and agricultural technologies as catalyst of change in achieving agricultural productivity, food and nutrition security. That's why we are embracing innovative technologies and sustainable agriculture, for economic growth that involves stakeholders in the country and global community, he said. TARI-Tumbi centre in Tabora is doing to research and produce new maize varieties of this most widely grown staple food is in line with the vision of our President Samia Suluhu Hassan who has tasked all Ministries and Institutions to work hard to spur the national economy, he said.

## Mkapa Foundation marks 15th anniversary with record-breaking performance



Benjamini Mkapa Foundation (BMF) Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Ellen Senkoro donating blood as part of the organisation's community engagement to commemorate the foundation's 15th anniversary. Attending to her is Rosemary Bulemi, a nursing officer from the National Blood Transfusion Service (NBTS). Photo: Felister Peter

By Felister Peter

THE Benjamin Mkapa Foundation (BMF) has since its establishment in the country been making a number of interventions aimed to compliment government efforts towards bringing a positive impact on the country's health sector.

The foundation has for 15 years worked closely with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children and the Prime Minister's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PMORALG) to address various challenges in the health sector.

In an interview with The Guardian BMF Chief Executive Officer, Dr. Ellen Senkoro said the foundation has since then expanded its scope of activities

from HIV/Aids to start supporting efforts to combat malaria, Tuberculosis (TB) prevention and curing initiatives, maternal health (prevention of maternal and infant mortality rates) and provision of reproductive health education to youth so that they able to avoid early pregnancies.

Throughout its operations a total of 20,687 women have benefitted with family planning services, cervical cancer screening was provided to 64,849 and tuberculosis screening to 40,017 people.

The foundation provides support by dispatching health workers to rural areas with intentions of increasing availability of skilled health workers at the health facilities (hospitals, health cen-

tres and dispensaries) and provision of capacity building training to district and regional leaders.

According to Dr Senkoro, the country has a 50 percent deficit of health workers especially in the peripherals. She said the dispatched health workers are a particular period enrolled into public services. She said the foundation employed 575 health workers in 2020 who were deployed to 13 regions facing serious shortage of health workers.

She added that in 2009, BMF started to support the improvement of health facility infrastructure such as operating theatre, laboratories and hospital buildings.

"Under the health facility infrastruc-

ture development project, we have managed to construct 482 houses for health care workers and different districts and regions," said the CEO noting a total of 12 operating theatres have been built at health centres.

She added: "We have so far implemented 20 projects; nine out of them are in progress in different regions. We were previously operating in 33 districts only, but we are currently implementing projects in 126 districts in both mainland and Zanzibar."

According to her, the foundation has in total employed over 4,000 health workers at different cadres as well as deploying teachers at various medical colleges. She said the community health workers (CHW) are deployed to provide

services at grassroots level where as a total of 2,700 CHWs have been dispatched to different places.

"Community health workers are important as we also used them to provide public education on the prevention of COVID-19, they spent time educating people on water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) services which are fundamental to fighting the virus and preserving the health and well-being of millions," Dr Senkoro asserted.

She said there are possibilities that CHWs would also be used by the foundation to educate the public on COVID-19 after a team of experts formed by President Samia Suluhu Hassan to brainstorm on the way forward completes its job.

The BMF CEO however highlighted the need for the government to prioritize allocating more health practitioners to areas in dire need because all the infrastructures have been completed. She also advised for the use of graduates through volunteerism, which has proved to be effective in some African countries including Ghana where the volunteerism policy is applied not only in the health, but in education and agriculture sectors.

On universal health coverage, Dr Senkoro said the foundation will like any other non-governmental organizations (NGOs) take part in educating the public on the importance of enrolling with health insurance services.

She said that universal health coverage is crucial because not all Tanzanians can pay directly from their pockets when it comes to settling medical bills.

According to the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF), the universal health coverage mainly targets to enable at least 26 percent of Tanzanians living below the poverty line to be enrolled with the health insurance schemes.

Last year data from NHIF indicates that only 4.4 million people equivalent to 8 percent of the country's population are enrolled with NHIF. Of the number, 60 percent are civil servants who are required to register with the fund in accordance with the law.



# Zuma's very public playing of the 'victim card' doesn't fool anyone any more

BY PAUL HOFFMAN

**W**HEN directed by the Constitutional Court to provide evidence in mitigation of his possible sentence on a finding that he is in contempt of its order that he obey the summons of the State Capture Commission, Jacob Zuma instead produced a long and rambling letter (instead of the short affidavit required). In the letter, he seeks to portray himself as the prisoner of conscience of the court.

What nonsense he spouts in his letter.

Most of the justices he attacks are his own appointees. Only Justice Sisi Kamphpe was in a green court gown before Zuma became president and only one or two of the justices are recent Ramaphosa appointments. The Chief Justice, Mogoeng Mogoeng, who is not on the panel hearing the contempt case, is Zuma's surprise choice for that post.

In the new South Africa, the first brush Zuma had with the law was in the form of a charge of rape that was laid against him when he was a private citizen, having been fired as deputy president by Thabo Mbeki after the conviction of Schabir Shaik on charges of corrupting Zuma (who was not charged).

In the rape case, which was finalised before he was voted into power at Polokwane in December 2007, Zuma was able to persuade the court that it was reasonably possibly true that he thought the complainant was consenting.

His defence was that the young lady in question, the troubled daughter of a Struggle stalwart who gave Zuma comfort and support, to his knowledge HIV positive, was his house guest. By wearing a kanga she somehow showed him her willingness to have unprotected sex with him, a man she called "uncle". This was at a time when she was less than half his age. His only precaution against contracting the dreaded disease was to take a shower after the sexual intercourse. His folly earned him the showerhead he still wears in Zapiro cartoons, a constant reminder of his moral turpitude.

The delegates at Polokwane who overlooked Zuma's flaws, the very flaws apparent from his own version of the alleged rape, have a lot to answer for to their fellow citizens. Once again at Mangaung, the ANC faithful (mis)placed their faith in Jacob Zuma.

Upon ascending to power, with a full measure of undercover, but somewhat ineffective, support from Cape Judge President John Hlophe, Zuma proceeded to eviscerate the criminal justice administration of SA. He did so by dissolving the Scorpions and putting his pals into positions of power in the prosecution service. No police commissioner in the new South Africa has ever seen out her or his term of office. The SAPS is widely regarded as the most corrupt institution in South Africa. Zuma exacerbated this intolerable state of affairs to suit his own agenda.

When Johannesburg businessman Hugh "Bob" Glenister sought to challenge the ability of the Hawks to do the work of the Scorpions, he obtained expert evidence from a professor at Stellenbosch University and a learned researcher at the Institute of Security Studies (ISS) regarding the circumstances applicable during the Zuma presidency as they relate to the combating of corruption. He did so because the court had ruled in earlier litigation that the decision of "a rea-



sonable decision-maker in the circumstances" was required when establishing adequately independent anti-corruption machinery of state that is able, effectively and efficiently, to deal with the corrupt.

The experts did not disappoint Glenister; they produced a long litany of evidence of "the circumstances" pointing toward that which every sentient being in SA now knows about the crookedness and perfidy of the Zuma administration.

Zuma's legal team, and the other lawyers representing his Cabinet members separately, instead of dealing with the facts adduced by the experts, as should in the normal course be done, elected instead to apply to strike out the material on the basis that it was vexatious and irrelevant to the decision to be made. They did so without traversing the material painstakingly placed before the court, a risky and irregular step.

The courts did not disappoint Zuma. In the majority judgment penned by the Chief Justice, the allegations of malfeasance and misfeasance by Zuma and his cronies in Cabinet were (mis)described as "odious political posturing" and the failure to answer them was conveniently overlooked. A little tinkering with the Hawks legislation followed. As a consequence of these missteps, the criminal justice administration still lacks the investigative capacity of true specialists, fully trained, clothed with structural and operational independence, properly resourced and with secure tenure of office.

Those whom some veterans of the Scorpions derisively refer to as "stasie speurders" (station detectives) were bumped up to populate the ranks of the Hawks. To this day, the Hawks report to the Minister of Police, Bheki Cele. He lost his job as police commissioner after being found to be "incompetent and dishonest" by the Moloi board of inquiry. The late Judge Khalipi "Jake" Moloi also recommended that Cele be investigated for corruption.

The Ramaphosa-era Investigating Directorate of the NPA is working on the Cele docket, but no charges have been formulated yet. This despite the fact that the alleged corruption preceded the hosting by South Africa of the Fifa World Cup in 2010. Cele, "a big man" in KZN politics, sails on with complete impunity and considerable status.

The Zuma-era State Capture project was enabled and perpetuated by the unwillingness of the courts to face facts and insist upon proper compliance with their own rulings about the characteristics of and criteria for the anti-corruption machinery of state. Instead, a rotten regime was propped up by the supportive and protective stance taken in the majority judgment of the Chief Justice written in November 2014 in the third of the Glenister cases.

As each fresh revelation of what was actually going on at that time in government and the state-owned enterprises tumbles out at the State Capture Commission, the embarrassment, if not mortification, of that majority should deepen. So cunning and clever was the argument put up by Zuma that the two justices who had penned the ruling of the court in earlier litigation could not agree on what they meant in that judgment!

And then, we come to Nkandla. A leaked report by the Public Protector in December 2013 led to the laying of charges of corruption, fraud, theft, embezzlement and procurement irregularities in the home improvements effected by the state, at taxpayers' expense, at the country seat of the Zuma family in Nkandla. Not a single criminal case has followed. The matters are reportedly still under investigation in Gauteng and KZN.

Civil proceedings concerning the matter of Nkandla did end up in the Constitutional Court. The delinquency of Zuma was by then undeniable. His counsel threw in the towel dramatically at the last minute.

A resounding judgment on the demerits of what Zuma had done and how Parliament had tried to cover it up followed. And yet, to the surprise of many who had read the report of the Public Protector called "Secure in Comfort", the Constitutional Court again dropped the ball in a manner favourable to Zuma.

Instead of ordering him to repay all of the unauthorised expenditure on his home, the Constitutional Court saw fit to identify only a few items for refund. This step invited a misreading of the report that had the effect of favouring Zuma by millions of rand. The gory details are in my book *Confronting the Corrupt in the chapter headed Firepool or Waterloo?*

The matter of the decapitation of the National Prosecuting Authority by Zuma also bears mention. The ensuing civil proceedings did not end well for Zuma or for Mxolisi Nxasana who was ordered to repay

his golden handshake. However, the Constitutional Court did not refer the self-evident criminality in the matter to the Hawks for investigation of the corrupt activities manifestly in evidence in the matter. The charges later laid by Accountability Now languish on the desk of a Zuma appointee in the NPA, seven years after they were laid against Zuma. All efforts to get a progress report have proved fruitless.

There are other matters in which the courts have been kind to Zuma. The spiriting away of Omar Al-Bashir, the butcher of Darfur, is one. The inordinate amount of time it took to finalise the review of the decision not to charge Zuma for his generally corrupt relationship with Schabir Shaik is another.

Zuma's questionable appointments frequently did not end well. Consider the fates of Riah Phiyega, Berning Ntlembeza, Des van Rooyen and others like them. Known Travelgate fraudsters were appointed by him to infest his Cabinet along with their "small-yana skeletons". Blots on the political landscape like Malusi Gigaba, David Mhlobo and Bongani Bongo are all Zuma appointees.

In his epistle to the Chief Justice, Zuma complains bitterly that he cannot understand why retired Judge Siraj Desai was not appointed to the State Capture Commission. Perhaps he has forgotten that Judge Desai was his counsel during Struggle-era criminal litigation. Perhaps he does not know that it would not be proper for Desai to accept the appointment given the history between them.

Zuma tries to rely on his pending review of the refusal by Deputy Chief Justice Raymond Zondo to recuse himself. He can't do so in circumstances in which many of his points are raised far too late to be valid. Also, he has not sought an interim interdict preventing the commission from hearing his evidence until after the review has been finalised.

He is acting on good advice in not seeking the interdict: he is most unlikely to get it. His case is so threadbare as not to justify the granting of the interdict. Without the interdict the refusal to recuse stands. It ought to be respected by Zuma because that is the way the law works. We are all equal before the law; there is no interdict-free special dispensation for Zuma.

Zuma is no prisoner of conscience. He is a thorn in the side of the rule of law and a minor threat to the constitutional democracy project on which South Africa embarked in 1994 with such high hopes and rosy expectations.

The court should regard his letter as containing information that is in aggravation, not mitigation, of his sentence. But, it is more likely that the letter will be ignored because it is not in the form of an affidavit, as required by the court directives.

Zuma cannot make up the rules as he goes along to suit himself. His very public playing of the "victim card" does not fool anyone any more. Zuma is defiantly contemptuous of an order of the highest court in the land. His recalcitrance is intolerable in any functioning constitutional democracy such as ours.

Zuma richly deserves such punishment for his contempt of the court as it deems meet. A stiff suspended sentence, suspended on condition that he cooperates with the SCC, is indicated.

DM

## 6 years on, Xi's Pakistan visit booms development, friendship with shared future

ISLAMABAD,

**F**OR hundreds of years, the lofty Karakoram mountain range has never been the hurdle between the two ancient civilizations of China and Pakistan, but rather a witness to the ever-deepening friendship between the two peoples.

The rolling mountain observed a new height of friendly exchanges between the two countries in 2015 when the plane taking Chinese President Xi Jinping (pictured) for a two-day state visit to Pakistan flew over it.

During the visit, the two sides forged their all-weather strategic cooperative partnership, and mapped out strategic arrangements and a long-term plan for future bilateral development.

Six years on, benefits of the fruitful visit thrive across the South Asian country. A closer China-Pakistan community with a shared future is becoming a reality and setting a fine example for the rest of the world.

### CPEC'S NEW CHAPTER

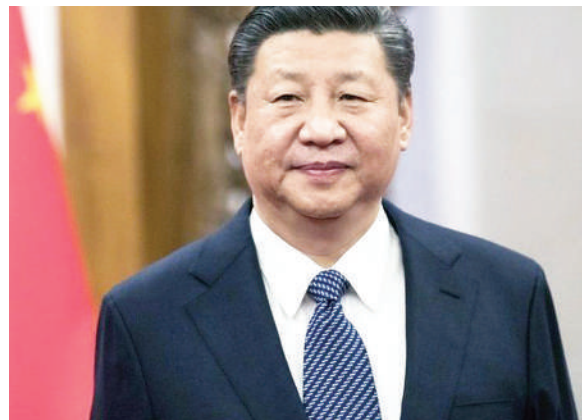
Back to 2015, Pakistan was deeply-marred by terrorism, and few countries in the world were willing to invest in the country, said Mushahid Hussain Syed, chairman of the Pakistani Senate's standing committee on foreign affairs. The South Asian country was looking forward to an economic take-off to stabilize its society.

"China and Pakistan need to align development strategies more closely to realize the dreams of our peoples," Xi said in a signed article published ahead of his Pakistan visit.

During the visit, the two sides signed more than 50 cooperation deals, and agreed to center the development of the China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC) with four key areas namely the Gwadar Port, transport infrastructure, energy and industrial cooperation.

The CPEC blueprint is now a reality. Three major coal-fired power plants with world's top environment friendly technologies have generated more than 71.5 billion kilowatt-hours of electricity since they were combined to the grid, ending Pakistan's history of power outages of an average of 12 hours per day.

In 2020, major CPEC energy projects generated about one-third of the total electricity injecting into the national grid, said Chinese Ambassador to Pakistan Nong Rong. With planned hydropower plants including Karot



and Suki Kinari under construction, Pakistan's energy structure will be further improved in the near future.

The CPEC has also enhanced connectivity. The Karakoram Highway Phase Two project, along with the Sukkur-Multan Motorway, CPEC's largest transport infrastructure project, has connected the heartland of the country with its remote northern region and financial center in the south. The eco-friendly Orange Line metro train in Pakistan's cultural center Lahore has served over 10 million passengers within six months.

Facing the Arabian Sea and the Middle East, the re-functionalised Gwadar Port has welcomed Afghan transit cargo, facilitating goods movement in the region and "helping make Pakistan the hub of transit trade in the region," said Pakistani President Arif Alvi. With a new international airport and a coastal expressway linking the airport to a newly-built free trade zone, Gwadar is sailing towards the dream of becoming a "New Dubai" in Pakistan.

According to data by the Chinese Embassy in Pakistan in March, the CPEC has helped Pakistan rake in 25.4 billion U.S. dollars in foreign direct investment (FDI) since inauguration, offering more than 75,000 jobs to local people. In fact, China has been Pakistan's largest source of FDI for the past seven years, and its largest trading partner over the last six years.

Xi's visit was very important, and what the two countries planned at that time "is in the pipeline, is happening, is going on," Alvi told Xinhua in a recent interview.

### ALL-WEATHER FRIENDSHIP

"My friend's lovely image dwells in the mirror of my

heart; I tilt my head slightly, and here it comes into my sight." Xi quoted an Urdu poem in the signed article to describe what Pakistan is like in his own heart.

The special friendship between China and Pakistan is a historical choice, and is deeply rooted in the hearts of the two peoples, who have always extended a helping hand to each other in times of need.

When the devastating earthquake struck China's Wenchuan in 2008, Pakistan shipped its entire reserve of tents to China. When Pakistan was hit by a severe flood in 2010, China dispatched its largest ever medical team to the South Asian country.

Amid the raging COVID-19 pandemic, Alvi wrote a letter to Xi to express condolences to the Chinese people, and visited China in March 2020. Pakistan's National Assembly and Senate have both passed a resolution on offering full support to China's anti-pandemic fight.

In return, China has sent medical teams and donated anti-epidemic materials to Pakistan. Besides, Pakistan became the first country to receive COVID-19 vaccine aid from China, and took part in the Phase III trial of a Chinese COVID-19 vaccine, ensuring more safety for its citizens while gaining first-hand medical experiences.

"In every situation, on every step, our Chinese counterparts are always providing us firm support," recalled Omeira Naseer, supervisor of the vaccine trial at Shifa International Hospital in Islamabad. "We have a very nice experience with our Chinese counterparts."

The mutual support and bilateral cooperation in the face of huge challenges have shown the world the true meaning of an all-weather friendship.

"By all-weather, we mean that our two countries will always move ahead together rain or shine. This description of China-Pakistan partnership is a most appropriate one, as it aptly defines the all-weather friendship and all-round cooperation between China and Pakistan," Xi said in 2015 at the Parliament of Pakistan.

As this year marks the 70th anniversary of the diplomatic ties between China and Pakistan, Alvi said the anniversary will be a new starting point, and the all-weather friendship between the two countries will be stronger in the future.

### SHARED FUTURE

"Over the years, thanks to the nurturing of generations of leaders and people from all sectors of both

countries, China-Pakistan friendship has flourished like a tree growing tall and strong," Xi said in the signed article.

Now younger generations have taken over the relay baton of exchanges. The Chinese education sector has welcomed an increasing number of Pakistani students, while more and more people in Pakistan are learning Chinese. Besides, there have also been closer cooperation between sister cities, media outlets and think tanks from both countries.

During the state visit six years ago, Xi noted that the friendship between China and Pakistan is based on trust and mutual support. "Our friendship is a pacesetter for amicable relations between countries."

Pakistan was the first Islamic country to establish diplomatic ties with China. Since then, the iron-clad relationship has set a good example of mutual learning and friendly cooperation between different civilizations.

China has always taken the development of its ties with Pakistan as a priority in its neighboring diplomacy, while Pakistan continues to give China top priority in its foreign policy. The two sides firmly support each other on issues concerning their respective core interests.

The high degree of mutual trust has enabled the two sides to keep a close communication and coordination at international and regional fora like the United Nations, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization and the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation.

"Committed to building a China-Pakistan community of common destiny, we cooperate to expand our converging interests and strive for common development," said Xi in the signed article.

Noting that China-Pakistan relations "have gone well beyond the bilateral context," Xi during his state visit in 2015 called on both sides to "increase coordination and collaboration on major regional and global issues."

Pakistani Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said in August last year that the all-weather strategic cooperative partnership between the two countries is beneficial to international and regional peace and stability.

The idea of "building a community with a shared future for mankind" proposed by Xi is the only option to defeat global challenges, said Alvi.

Xinhua





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## Bank partners insurance company to cover clients' handsets against damage

By Smart Money Reporter

**C**LIENTS of NMB Bank Plc can now relax when their expensive smartphones or cheap feature phones get destroyed because NMB Mkononi will compensate them up to 1m/- per annum thanks to a deal entered with Reliance Insurance Company Limited.

The bank's Chief of Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi said in Dar es Salaam this week while announcing the partnership that it is in line with government's 10 years Financial Sector Development Master Plan that seek to have 80 percent of the adult population access formal financial services.

Mponzi said the new insurance product, the first of its kind in the market, is christened NMB Mkononi Insurance and will protect against accidental damage of any mobile phone. "With an increase in the number of phone owners in the country, there is an increase in demand for protection of the gadgets so as to improve the overall consumer experience especially smartphones which are expensive," he said.

Under the insurance policy, NMB Mkononi clients will be compensated up to 500,000/- by Reliance Insurance, per claim with a maximum of two claims in a period of 12 months. Mponzi further noted that the clients will incur no extra expense to pay for premium as they will be covered by NMB Mkononi if they are regular users.

The cover is valid on monthly basis and that an NMB



NMB Bank Plc's chief retail banking, Filbert Mponzi speaking at a past event.

Mkononi subscriber needs to do is transact at least once a month to qualify for compensation. "As usual clients should transact through NMB Mkononi by purchasing airtime, make QR code payments and pay for household bills," Mponzi noted.

Commenting on the deal, Reliance Insurance's CEO, Ravi Shankar said the partnership is important because currently there is an increase in the number of smartphones owners in the market but in addition it will play role in enhancing insurance coverage to a broader part of the population.

"This is definitely supporting government's plans to increase insurance services penetration in the country with a target of reaching at least 50 percent by 2030," Shanka said while noting that through NMB Mkononi In-

urance, the two companies have created a tailor-made product and service based on expertise and underwriting experience in the banking sector. "We believe this will allow ease pressure on customers who own expensive smartphones," he added.

Acting Director of Legal Enforcement from Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA), Emily Kiria commended NMB and Reliance Insurance for the initiative which is geared at making more people particularly those in the rural areas access insurance services easily.

"This NMB and Reliance Insurance initiative will support the government's Financial Sector Development Master Plan to have 80 percent of adult people using insurance services and enhancing awareness to 50 per cent by 2030," he said.

## World Vision invests over 558m/- in public school infrastructure in Karatu

By Smart Money Reporter

**T**WO public schools in Karatu District of Arusha Region have received vital infrastructure to the tune of over 558m/- thanks to World Vision Tanzania's investment.

World Vision Tanzania's Endabash AP Project Manager, Goodluck Nnko said last week while handing over the infrastructure which included classrooms, toilets and water supply facilities to Endabash and Endabash Saramay Primary School that the not-for-profit organization is committed to assist the government improve schools in rural areas.

Nnko said the projects which have been financed by World Vision South Korea includes 10 new classrooms, administrative block, kitchen, toilet, hand washing bays, three repaired classrooms, 286 desks, 13 staff room chairs and tables but also a Canon photocopier cum scanner

and printer.

"This project was supposed to start in February last year but was delayed by the coronavirus hence started in July and has been completed this time around," Nnko said adding that the objective of the project is to improve the learning environment in rural public schools which will contribute to better performance.

He said the project was also aimed at improving provision of safe clean water to communities while complementing state efforts to encourage girls attend classes by providing better toilets and sanitary towels during monthly periods.

"This year, we are going to construct more toilets, staff rooms and water supply in several villages of Endamarareki Ward," he added while assuring Arusha Regional Commissioner, Idd Kimanta of World Vision Tanzania's commitment to serve rural communities in the region.

ment to serve rural communities in the region.

He said since 2009 when World Vision South Korea started funding the Endabash AP Project, 21 villages have received investments in water supply, school improvements and furniture and sanitary towels for girls to encourage them attend classes regularly.

Addressing the residents of the area, Kimanta challenged teachers, parents and students to ensure that the World Vision investment translates into better performance in national examinations so that the donors can appreciate.

"It's irresponsible that with such kind of better infrastructure, the passing rate be 50 percent, we need to target 90 percent here for this investment to translate into tangible gains," Kimanta said while advising communities to maintain and take care of the infrastructure.



Pupils of Endabash Primary School in Karatu district of Arusha region carrying placard calling for their protection during a handing over ceremony of infrastructure constructed by World Vision Tanzania with support from South Korean peers last week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

He said last year, Arusha Region emerged second position in Primary School Leaving Certificate Examinations and demanded this year he will accept nothing but pole position. "On behalf of the government, I thank World Vision for this wonderful investment," the Arusha RC added.

In a vote of thanks, Endabash Primary School Head-teacher, Fredrick Mafie promised the RC

to do everything possible and deliver on the new regional target while thanking World Vision Tanzania and its South Korean peer for the heavy investment.

"We will honour this investment but performing very well in this year's national examinations," Mafie pledged saying infrastructure remains a stumbling block in many public schools which affects performance.

## Bitcoin slumps 14 percent

NEW YORK

**BITCOIN**, the world's biggest cryptocurrency, fell as much as 14% to US\$51 541 on Sunday, reversing most of the big gains it made over the past week.

Data website CoinMarketCap cited a blackout in China's Xinjiang region, which reportedly powers a lot of bitcoin mining, for the selloff. Luke Sully, CEO at digital asset treasury specialist Ledgermatic, said in an e-mail that people "may have sold on the news of the power outage in China and not the impact it actually had on the network."

"The power outage does expose a fundamental weakness; that although the bitcoin network is decentralised, the mining of it is not," Sully added. Some widely followed blockchain analysts on Twitter pointed to a sharp drop in "hash rate" due to the outage. Hash rate refers to the volatility index that measures the processing capacity of the entire bitcoin network, and it determines the power required by miners to produce new bitcoins.

Hash rate  
"Typically shocks to hash rate do not cause price drops. A hash rate reduction slows transactions, which ironically makes it harder to move coins to exchanges for sale. The recent price drop is well within the bounds of typical volatility, it is noise not signal," said Edan Yago, co-founder at bitcoin-based decentralised finance protocol Sovryn.

The retreat in Bitcoin also comes after Turkey's central bank banned the use of cryptocurrencies for purchases on Friday. Edward Moya, senior market analyst at OANDA, said cryptocurrencies had been ripe for a pullback. "The market has become overly aggressive and bullish on everything," said Moya. "It could have been any bearish headline that could have triggered this reaction."

Many cryptocurrency markets operate 24/7, setting the stage for price swings at unpredictable hours. Historically, retail and day traders have driven the moves. Despite the sudden selloff, bitcoin is still up 89% so far in 2021, driven by its mainstream acceptance as an investment and a means of payment, accompanied by the rush of retail cash into stocks, exchange-traded funds and other risky assets.



The world's biggest cryptocurrency, Bitcoin.



# Over 1.4m hectares of forest cover now under gazetted village reserves



Villagers taking tree measures to ascertain the level of carbon credit as part of CBFM

By Beatrice Philemon

A record of over 1.4 million hectares of forest cover have been turned into Village Land Forest Reserves (VLFRs) across the country hence engaging villagers to directly manage such resources sustainably.

Under Community Based Forest Management (CBFM), the villagers take full ownership and management of such forests and thus prevent random deforestation.

Tanzania Forest Management Community Network's Northern Zone Coordinator, Daniel Lucas said last week that they have trained villagers in Kilindi district of Tanga region.

Lucas said of the 1.4 million hectares, 168,000 of them are already gazetted by the government paving way for sustainable har-

vesting by communities to earn revenue that will help them implement development projects.

"Following the gazettement by the government, it means that invaders cannot access any resources without permission from communities which manage the forests," he said while adding that as a result villagers in those areas have a mandate to decide on sustainable harvesting of trees.

"Communities are also given the right to harvest timber and forest products, collect and retain royalties and safeguard safety of the forests," he added.

The project is being backed by development partners including Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Switzerland, Belgium, the US, UK and

World Bank. With over 12,000 villages across the country, 589 of them or an equivalent to 12 percent are legally protected as Village Land Forest Reserves.

The Community Forest Conservation Network of Tanzania is an independent not for profit organization legally registered in 2007 under NGO Act of 2002. It is a network of over 112 local community-based organizations (CBOs) with over 15,000 members in the villages involved in Participatory Forest Management (PFM) across Tanzania.

The network provides a forum for capacity building, exchange of knowledge, advocacy and communication for across these groups and PFM villages in Tanzania.



Stuart Brown, Refinitiv's group head of enterprise data solutions.

## Refinitiv expands economic data coverage across Africa

JOHANNESBURG

BUILDING on its commitment to drive positive change through its data and insights, Refinitiv announced the expansion of its economic data coverage of Africa last week.

The new data set allows investment managers, central bankers, economists, and research teams to use Refinitiv Datastream analytical data for detailed exploration of economic relationships and investment opportunities among data series covering the African continent.

Securing reliable, detailed, timely, locally sourced content has not been easy for economists who have in the past had to use international sources which often can take many months to update and opportunities to monitor the market can be missed.

Because Africa is a diverse continent, economists and strategists need more timely access to country-specific data via national sources to create tailored business, policy, trading and investment strategies to meet specific goals.

Africa continues to develop critical infrastructure, telecommunications, digital technology and access to financial services for its 1.3bn people. The World Bank estimates that over 50% of African inhabitants will be under 25 by 2050. This presents substantial opportunities for investors who can spot important trends and make informed decisions

based on robust and timely economic data.

Stuart Brown, Group Head of Enterprise Data Solutions, Refinitiv, said: "Africa's growing, dynamic and fast evolving economies makes it a focal point for financial markets today and in the coming decades. As part of LSEG's commitment to empowering the global markets with accurate and timely data, we are excited about making these unique datasets available via the Refinitiv Data Platform. Our economic data coverage of Africa will provide our customers with deeper and broader inputs for macroeconomic analyses and enable more effective investment strategies and economic research."

Refinitiv® Datastream® has global macroeconomics coverage to analyze virtually any macro environment, and better understand economic cycles to uncover trends and forecast market conditions. With over 14.2 million economic times series map trends, customers can validate ideas and identify opportunities using Refinitiv Datastream. Access its powerful charting tools, 9,000 pre-built chart templates and chart studies for commonly used valuation, performance, and technical and fundamental analysis.

Refinitiv, a London Stock Exchange Group business, is one of the world's largest providers of financial markets data and infrastructure. With \$6.25 billion in revenue, over 40,000 customers and 400,000 end users across 190 countries, Refinitiv is powering participants across the global financial marketplace.

## Millicom offloads entire Tigo and Zantel shares to Axian consortium

BY SMART MONEY REPORTER

MILLICOM International SA's controlling stakes at MIC Tanzania Plc and Zanzibar Telecom Plc have been sold to Madagascar based consortium known as Axian Group.

The NASDAQ listed company said in a statement that it has signed an agreement for the sale of its entire operations in Tanzania in line with its strategy to focus on providing fixed and mobile services in Latin America after investing in the development of the telecommunications industry in Africa for more than 25 years.

"The Axian Group-led alliance brings together distinguished experts in mobile communications who have created and developed industry leading brands in the Indian Ocean, Africa and Europe.

Axian Telecom is the group's telecom arm, with leading operations in Madagascar, Reunion and Mayotte islands, the Comoros, Senegal and Togo," the statement said.

Millicom is pleased to have found a strategic investor such as Axian who is committed to furthering MIC Tanzania Plc's and Zantel's long-term commitment to provide accessible,

affordable and innovative services to the people of Tanzania.

In advancing its commitments, Axian plans to: Invest significantly in the telecom infrastructure to improve competitiveness, operations and accelerate transformation of the digital economy; Extend access to affordable mobile services and accelerate digitalization throughout Tanzania; Improve financial inclusion through affordable and innovative mobile financial services; and Encourage employees' professional growth and training in support of these initiatives.

"We would like to assure our stakeholders and the general public that, until we get the required regulatory approvals, our business operations remain the same and we will continue to serve our customers with the best products and services," Millicom International SA said.

Launched in 1995, Millicom's Tigo brand through its commitment to invest in Tanzania's digital transformation, became the first cellular network in Tanzania to operate a GSM and 3G network. In April 2014, it launched 4G in the capital Dar es Salaam and by the end of 2016, its 4G network coverage reached all regions in Tanzania.



Tigo Tanzania CEO, Simon Karikari.

## Rwanda Revenue authority gets border monitoring equipment worth Rwf750m

KIGALI

IN a bid to strengthen its monitoring capacity to boost revenue collection, Rwanda Revenue Authority on Friday received assorted equipment worth \$760,000 (approximately Rwf750 million) from the Japanese government.

The donation was made through Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), which includes a patrol boat, an x-ray baggage scanner, land patrolling vehicles, Personal Protection Equipment to protect border patrol officers against Covid-19 and assorted IT equipment among others.

Speaking at the hand over, the Japanese Ambassador to Rwanda, IMAI Masahiro, said that the border control equipment is in line with JICA's cooperation for regional trade facilitation in the East African region of which Rwanda is part.

"Japan will continue to work closely with the Government of Rwanda, the provision of equipment is in line with JICA's cooperation for regional trade facilitation in the East African region, which includes technical cooperation and capacity enhancement of RRA, in terms of infrastructure development facilitation," he said.

The country representative of JICA to Rwanda, Maruo Shin said that the facilities provided will not only help boost revenue collection, they will also help in terms of security mainly due to bolstered patrol. "The project also aims at achieving efficient border procedures by improving the capacity of border control at targeted borders in the region," he said.

The Commissioner General of Rwanda Revenue Authority, Pascal Ruganintwari commended the existing collaboration with the Japanese government, and said the equipment will assist in fighting smugglers, create a better environment of doing business in Rwanda and help his institution to fulfill its mandate. "JICA's contribution has been vital to Rwanda's social economic agenda, and also played a big impact, because in the last 10 years our customs revenue increased by 11.2%," he said.



# Practical challenges associated with rebates and provisions of VAT Act of 2014

By Evance Tairo

REBATES (also known as volume discounts/bonus discounts) are financial incentives or advantages given by a manufacturer/supplier, in order to motivate the customers or a group of individuals to purchase in bulk.

The supplier rewards those buying in bulk by providing a reduced price for each good or group of goods. Volume discounts allow businesses to purchase additional inventory at reduced cost and allow suppliers, to reduce inventories by selling more units to bulk buyers who are incentivized by the lower price.

The volume discounts can take on a variety of arrangements with the most common being retrospective in nature and are often tiered - that is, a specific discount is applied to X number of units within that tier. The discount increases as for tiers that include larger and larger numbers of units. Upon determining the discount amount, additional volume is supplied to the buyer of the same value of discount offered.



## Importance of rebates

Business practice between suppliers, distributors and retailers, demonstrates that the granting of discounts often constitutes the cornerstone of their relationships. As practiced throughout the world, some of Tanzania's suppliers employ rebates in encouraging their distributors, to buy large volumes of products and attain common loyalty between supplier and distributor. In Tanzania, suppliers of bulk products such as cement, petroleum, soap and cooking oil apply volume discounts in their distribution chain.

It is also important to note that, for most of these arrangements, distributors sell products down the supply chain with unit price higher



**The attacks are horrific and show a complete disregard for the life, welfare, and security of the local population," an Ex-Im spokesperson said in an emailed response to questions last week**

than the unit price they bought with from the suppliers. Their profits arise solely from the extra volume earned through the rebate arrangements. So, distributors' position in the supply chain exists only due to the presence of rebates.

## Rebates around the world in relation to value Added Tax (VAT)

Countries such as United Kingdom (UK) and South Africa, understand the importance of volume discounts to further trade, incorporated its practices in their VAT legislations over the years. In the UK, a supplier can issue a credit note upon a buyer

reaching a pre agreed volume of purchase to cover the discount.

The supplier is later allowed to reduce the amount of output by the discount allowed while the recipient decreases input by similar amount in their VAT returns. The adjustments can be done over multiple deliveries.

In South Africa, a supplier granting volume discounts can claim an input tax deduction in the tax period in which the credit note is issued to the recipient in respect of the rebate. The recipient on the other side, is liable to account for output tax on the discount received.

## Challenges associated with rebates and compliance with the VAT Act, 2014

As mentioned above, the volume discounts are retrospective in nature, meaning upon completion of a specified period (usually a month), the supplier assesses the purchases done by the distributor, and whether a certain pre-arranged target was met, to allocate the price reduction, and subsequently additional volume. This means sales done in a month, say January, the adjustment would be made in February, pertaining to issuing of credit notes.

Oftentimes, rebates applying for a certain month would be made available to the buyer after closure of that month, and in most cases also, filing of VAT returns and payment that results thereon. This necessitate adjustments to be made in the subsequent month's VAT return and VAT payments for both, the supplier (decrease of output) and the buyers (decrease of input) in adherence to the Act, which guides on post supply adjustments or adjustment events.

Offering of discounts retrospectively, however, is contrary with provisions of the Act, which provides for discounts to be considered at the time of supply. This poses a challenge on eligibility of making the post supply adjustment as required by the same Act.

Upon an adjustment event, the Act instructs for an adjustment note to be prepared within seven days, with requirements of the adjustment note elaborated in the VAT (General) Regulations, 2015 (the Regulations). The provisions of the Act along with that of the Regulations demand that, every invoice reversed should have a corresponding adjustment note.

However, suppliers involved with volume discounts usually make large quantity sales in many occasions, issuing a lot of invoices in the process. Further, the volume discounts offered do not only relate to a single invoice, but a lot of invoices to the distributors for a particular period. This renders issuing of credit note as a means of recording

rebates, an impractical activity, as each invoice is required to have a corresponding credit note as well as an adjustment note.

The two issues jointly, pose an immense challenge in the practical nature of the rebates in relation to VAT in Tanzania. In the event of an audit by the Revenue Authority, rebates usually result into significant adjustments on VAT payable by the Suppliers.

## Recommendations

It is important to understand that adjustments relating to rebates for both the supplier and the recipient in the VAT returns would not result into a loss of revenue by Tanzania Revenue Authority. Further, the importance of rebates cannot be understated in a growing economy such as Tanzania, in terms of driving forward trade (both domestic and exports) and expanding employment through the distributors.

The scheme can also be used to stimulate growth of industries by easing coverage through distributors, aiming to make profit through the volume discounts. Because of that, it is in the best interest of both, the taxpayers (distributors and the manufacturers) and TRA that a harmonious trade environment is provided to ensure that trade thrives, and tax revenues are collected correctly and as quickly as possible.

The adjustments done by the revenue authority usually results into disputes with the taxpayers that in most cases end in courts. This results into time wastage, exorbitant legal costs and disruption of trade, as a lot of human resources would need to be allocated on trying to resolve the issue. This is on top of the actual VAT amount that usually becomes payable by the manufacturers as a

## Tax evaders should face jail time to curb rising non-compliance - Judge Dennis Davis

PRETORIA



SAYS Sars should hone in on taxpayers who can afford a Ferrari, but pay less tax than working class South Africans. Retired Judge Dennis Davis wants tax evaders to end up behind bars. He believes it will be a real deterrent as the idea of going to jail certainly "concentrates the mind."

Davis (pictured) has been appointed as a consultant at the South African Revenue Service (Sars) for a year, with the option to renew, to assist the beleaguered tax authority. His mission is to increase its tax collection capabilities and expand the shrinking tax base.

Sars should be honing in on those recalcitrant taxpayers who are able to afford a Ferrari or two, but pay less tax than working class compliant taxpayers. "This can't possibly be justifiable on any basis. It irritates me and it should irritate all of us," he said during a PSG webinar on the future of tax in SA.

"The more you have a corrupt state, the more you will have an incapable state and the more effectively you substitute efficiency for rent seeking (manipulating public policy to increase profits). We have incredibly good rent seekers and very few people who are building a society which should be in the image of the Constitution."

He believes this will bring in a lot of previously undetected revenue. It will make people more eager to consider amnesty or a deal with Sars rather than ending up in criminal courts. He says the fact that people own luxury cars and mansions, but pay very little tax is offensive, particularly in a society with unbelievable levels of inequality. "People are able to get away with this with impunity. I find it very difficult to deal with."

## Reskilling Sars

Davis says Sars has been focussing on the wrong issues because it has lost the capacity to do what it is supposed to. He believes it should forensically hone in on the culprits and leave the others alone. He is more interested in those who are exploiting the system by evading customs duties, income tax, manipulating value-added tax and transfer pricing systems, or similar "shenanigans." This requires skilled people which Sars has lost during the years of state capture under the leadership of former commissioner Tom Moyane.

Sars and the audit profession have actively been seeking out retired people or people who are about to retire with solid forensic, tax and finance experience to regain the agency's former glory. The aim is to appoint between 200 and 300 experts as quickly as possible. Once that happens, things will change quickly, says Davis.

Finance Minister Tito Mboweni allocated R3 billion to Sars in the February budget, and part of that will be used to upskill the agency. The degradation of Sars has had a massive impact on tax collections and the state's ability to deliver on its mandate. "We do not have a failed state, but an incapable state, and to illustrate that we can only look at the (Covid-19) vaccine debacle." Davis says the problem with creating a competent Sars means that it will be operating in a sea of "mediocrity, incompetence and corruption."

## Criminal prosecution

In what will probably be its last report, the Davis Tax Committee, appointed by former Finance Minister Pravin Gordhan, will look at ways to reconfigure the legislation to allow Sars to institute criminal prosecution against taxpayers who are ultimately recalcitrant.

"Quite frankly, we do not think that the NPA (National Prosecuting Authority) in its present situation is able to do that," he said. There is a staggering amount of cases at the NPA at the moment - more than a thousand - which are collecting dust.

## Tax base

He says the country does not have "any wriggle room" to increase tax rates, so it is critical for to increase the current tax base. It is impossible to only have 5 000 taxpayers who declare a taxable income of more than R5 million a year, compared with the number of mansions and luxury vehicles in suburbs such as Sandton, Bryanston, Camps Bay and Bishops Court - even if you take out the property owned by foreigners.

Mboweni knows there is no room for increased tax rates, even in this crisis. He has paved the way for a reduction in the corporate income tax rate to 27% from the current 28%. This will be done by eradicating several unnecessary tax incentives. Davis is even keen to see corporate income tax decline to 22% or 23% and a decrease in the personal income tax rates.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

# Africa's cashew producers miss out on opportunities due to lack of processing capacity

GENEVA

AFRICA grows most of the world's raw cashews but only processes a fraction of them, missing out on opportunities offered by rising global demand, according to a report by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

The global market for cashews is booming, but the African countries growing more than half the world's supply aren't cashing in due to their lack of processing industries, the UNCTAD report titled Commodities at a Glance: Special issue on cashew nuts said.

"Countries that grow cashews but don't process them at a significant scale retain only a small share of the value created as the nut travels from the farm to store," Miho Shirotori, who leads UNCTAD's work on trade negotiations and commercial diplomacy, said. "African farmers, exporters and workers are missing out on a wealth of opportunities."

About 20 million jobs are at risk in Africa as the continent's economies were projected to shrink in 2020 due to the impact of the coronavirus pandemic, according to an African Union study. Up to 15 per cent of

foreign direct investment could disappear, the study found.

Between 2000 and 2018, world trade in raw cashew nuts more than doubled to 2.1 billion kilograms, and African producers - led by Côte d'Ivoire - accounted for almost two-thirds of the growth. But the continent's farmers and exporters receive only a fraction of the final retail price, the report said.

About 90 per cent of the raw cashew nuts traded in the global market are grown in western and eastern African nations. After Côte d'Ivoire, the leading cashew producers are Tanzania, Nigeria, Benin, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique and Ghana, according to UNCTAD.

However, less than 15 per cent of the continent's nuts are deshelled on African soil. The rest is exported mainly to Asia, where 85 per cent of the world's cashews are deshelled, the report said. Two Asian countries - India and Vietnam - accounted for about 98 per cent of the world's raw cashew imports between 2014 and 2018.

Even more value is added in Europe and North America, where 60 per cent of traded kernels are roasted, salted, packaged and



UNCTAD's head for trade negotiations and commercial diplomacy, Miho Shirotori.

consumed as a snack or an ingredient in a drink or other product UNCTAD said.

In 2018, the export price of cashew kernels from India to the European Union was about 3.5 times higher than what was paid to cashew farmers in Côte d'Ivoire - a 250 per cent difference in price, as per the report. And after secondary processing in the EU, the price of the cashew kernels was

about 2.5 times higher than when exported from India - and about 8.5 times more than when they left the farm in Côte d'Ivoire.

"This shows the potential for value creation in African cashew-growing countries, 14 of which are classified as 'least developed'," Ms Shirotori said. "And value creation can lead to better wages for workers and more money for the local economy."

The UNCTAD report highlights the potential for cashews to contribute to the UN Sustainable Development Goals, specifically on poverty reduction.

"Since production typically takes place on smallholdings in rural areas, there is a direct link between value addition in the cashew sector and the achievement of poverty reduction," the report said, highlighting that cashews are a source of income for an estimated 3 million smallholder farmers in Africa.

The report said that all 46 countries that produce cashews "on a significant scale" are developing economies, 18 of which are classified as "least developed countries." A dozen of the other countries growing the nut are Asian (four are LDCs) - accounting for 43 per cent of global production - and 14 are in the Latin American and the Caribbean region, which produces 5 per cent of the world's supply, the report found.

Meanwhile, global consumers' growing preference for healthier snacks and their increased preference for food products that are environmentally friendly and ethically sourced present opportunities for African processors, the report said.



## WORLD

## UN chief: US must cut emissions by 50% to spur global action

WASHINGTON/BRUSSELS

UNITED Nations (UN) Secretary General Antonio Guterres wants the United States to commit this week to at least halving its greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 - a move he said could unlock similar action from the world's other large emitters.

The United States, the world's biggest economy and second-biggest emitter of greenhouse gases, will host a virtual climate change summit on April 22-23. Washington has urged world leaders to use the event as an opportunity to pledge more ambitious emissions cuts.

Guterres said the White House's own pledge needed to set the bar high.

"My expectation is that the United States will be able to present a reduction of emissions for 2030, in relation to 2010 levels, above 50 percent," Guterres told Reuters in an interview.

"If it happens, I have no doubt that it will have very important consequences in relation to Japan, in relation to China, in relation to Russia - in relation to other areas of the world that have not yet entirely defined these levels," he said.

The White House is widely expected to unveil a target to cut emissions at least 50 percent by 2030, from 2005 levels. That would be equivalent to a 47 percent reduction by 2030 when compared with 2010 levels, according to research firm the Rhodium Group.

With climate change already worsening heat waves, strengthening hurricanes and making wildfires more ferocious, Guterres called this week's summit a "make it or break it" moment for climate action.

Scientists say global emissions must plummet this decade and reach net zero by 2050 in order to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels in order to prevent cataclysmic climate impacts.

"The worst risk is that we don't reach 1.5 degrees as a limit, that we go over it, and that we precipitate the world into a catastrophic situation," he said, urging all major emitters to set targets for drastic emissions reductions this decade.

Given the urgency of the climate crisis, Guterres said he hoped the next major UN climate summit, known as COP26, could be held in person in November in Glasgow.

The UN along with this year's British hosts are discussing how to ensure participants can be vaccinated and attend the conference in person, he said. "I appeal for all those that have the capacity to do so, to create the conditions of vaccination that will allow for a safe COP in Glasgow, with the physical presence of all those that need to be there," Guterres said.

The UN climate conference was already postponed by a year due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and Britain is field-



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres

ing questions about how the event - originally expected to draw 30,000 attendees - can go ahead given the uneven global rollout of vaccines, particularly in developing countries.

## Paris alignment

Throughout the pandemic, the world's top diplomat has been beating the drum for ambitious climate action, calling for an end to fossil fuel subsidies and a phaseout of coal-fueled power generation in wealthy countries like Japan and South Korea by 2030, and globally by 2040.

Renewable energy costs have plummeted in recent years, and advances in technologies like battery storage mean green solutions are increasingly cost competitive.

But Guterres said policies tied to the fossil fuel-based economy are still standing in the way of the transition to clean energy.

He urged governments to tax CO2 emissions rather than income, and to end subsidies to fossil fuels.

"The economy is on our side, the technology is on our side. Sometimes government regulations and govern-

ment strategies are not helping that to materialize," he said.

Developing economies also need financial support to decarbonize their economies, and the industrialized nations that are responsible for most of the excess greenhouse gas accumulated in the atmosphere must deliver this support, Guterres said. That includes meeting a goal to transfer US\$100 billion each year to help poorer nations cut emissions and adapt to the impacts of climate change.

So far, climate aid fallen shy of that goal, which was set in 2009. Estimates vary for what has been delivered, but a report by the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development last year said that only US\$79 billion was transferred in 2018 - the highest annual transfer at that point.

A new target for climate finance will be discussed at COP26. The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change has estimated that an average of US\$3.5 trillion per year will be needed just in energy investments between 2016 and 2050 to achieve the 1.5-degree target.

## Huawei: Optimizing portfolio to boost business resilience

SHENZHEN

ERIC Xu, Huawei's Rotating Chairman said Huawei is optimizing its portfolio to boost business resilience to cope with the uncertainty brought by geopolitical tension, the resurgence of COVID-19, and US bans.

Eric Xu made the statement when delivered a keynote speech at the company's 18th Global Analyst Summit. More than 400 people, including industry and financial analysts, key opinion leaders, and media representatives joined the 3-day event runs April 12 to 14 with the theme "Building a Fully Connected, Intelligent World".

"Business resilience is our guiding principle. We want to boost the resilience of our entire business, and since last year we have been working to optimize our portfolio with this goal in mind," said Eric Xu.

Huawei's 2020 Annual Report shows the company's sales revenue in 2020 rounded off at CNY891.4 billion, up 3.8% year-on-year, and its net profit reached CNY64.6 billion, up 3.2% year-on-year.

Eric Xu said one of the priorities is to further strengthen Huawei's software engineering capabilities.

"We're on the lookout for new business opportunities in the software sector. When we find the right fit, we will step up investment to increase the percentage of software and services in our revenue mix," said Eric Xu.

In late November 2018, Huawei decided to invest 2 billion US dollars into upgrading our software engineering capabilities. Eric Xu said the company is "pleased with the results thus far".

Autonomous driving software is one of the main focuses of the company software investment plan. According to Eric Xu, autonomous driving software is at the center of entirely unmanned driving.

"With intense investment in autonomous driving software, our hope is to drive these trends forward as they facilitate the integration of the automotive and ICT industries, which in turn creates long-term strategic opportunities for Huawei. Once unmanned driving becomes a reality, we will see disruption in practically all adjacent sectors and trigger the most disruptive industry transformation the world will see in the next 10 years," said the Rotating Chairman.

Agencies



Eric Xu Huawei's Rotating Chairman delivers a keynote speech at the 18th Global Analyst Summit.

## Sudan calls on African countries to support reaching comprehensive solutions on Nile dam

KHARTOUM

SUDAN has called on African countries to support efforts in reaching comprehensive and satisfactory solutions to all parties regarding the Grand Ethiopian Renaissance Dam (GERD).

Sudan's Foreign Minister Mariam Al-Sadiq Al-Mahdi on Sunday held a virtual meeting with Ambassadors of African Union (AU) Member States accredited to Sudan, said Sudan's foreign ministry in a statement.

The Sudanese minister briefed the African diplomats on the outcome of the Nile dam talks recently held in Khartoum, reiterating Sudan's firm position on the necessity of reaching a binding agreement before Ethiopia proceeds with the 2nd filling of the GERD, it noted.

She said that Sudan was looking forward towards African countries' support to reach comprehensive and satisfactory solutions to all parties.

Meanwhile, Sudan's Irrigation and Water Resources Minister Yasir Abbas reviewed the technical measures of the proposals presented during the talks.

He referred to Sudan's proposal to expand the AU mediation to include the United Nations, the European Union and the United States, stressing the importance that there be a political will to achieve the aspired gains of the GERD for the three parties.

During April 3-5, the Democratic Republic of Congo, the current chair of the AU, hosted the latest round of talks over the GERD with the participation of Sudan, Egypt and Ethiopia.

Sudan proposed a mediation quartet of the United Nations, the European Union, the United States and the African Union. Ethiopia, however, has announced its rejection to this formula.

Xinhua

## China expects to deepen global cooperation against poverty

BOAO, Hainan

CHINA has long maintained close cooperation with the international community in poverty alleviation and rural development, and expects to deepen such cooperation, Wang Zhengpu, head of the national administration for rural vitalization, said yesterday.

China's poverty reduction practices, including increased investment in infrastructure construction, targeted poverty alleviation and the mobilization of the country's impoverished

population, are applicable in other countries, Wang said at a sub-forum of the Boao Forum for Asia annual conference.

"Now that China has eradicated absolute poverty nationwide, we are willing to share our experience with the rest of the world and contribute to the global cause of poverty reduction," he said.

He added that China is learning from the experience of other countries in pushing forward its ongoing rural vitalization drive, and hopes for more support and assistance from the



international community.

Wang's views were echoed by Jeffrey Sachs, an American

economist and author of the bestselling book "The End of Poverty." Sachs attended the

sub-forum and gave a speech by video link.

Sachs said that China's poverty alleviation success is an important model and can provide assistance for Africa in the latter's own quest for development.

Sachs said he appreciated that China will share its broad-based, goal-oriented development experience with Africa, and cooperate with Africa in areas such as infrastructure, agricultural innovation and business development.

Xinhua

## Russia to permanently ban entry for eight US officials

MOSCOW

MOSCOW will shortly publish a list of eight senior US officials and public figures that will be permanently banned from entering Russia, the Russian Foreign Ministry said in a statement published on Friday.

"Soon, the official website of the Russian Foreign Ministry will publish the names of eight current and former American high-ranking officials and public figures involved in developing and implementing the anti-Russian policy course.

They will be permanently

banned from entering the Russian Federation.

This is a tit-for-tat measure in response to the sanctions against Russian officials black-listed by the US last month," the statement says.

The Russian Foreign Ministry stressed that the measures announced on Friday are only a part of Moscow's options.

"There are other options. Of course, we understand that our possibilities for a tit-for-tat economic response are limited.

But there are some options in this sphere, and they will be

used if Washington continues to move along the sanctions spiral," the ministry said.

Moscow calls on Washington to display wisdom and reject confrontation, the Russian Foreign Ministry said in its statement Friday, adding that now is high time to do so.

"It is high time for the US to display wisdom and reject the confrontational course. Otherwise, we will implement a set of decisions, sensitive to the US, such as ordering US diplomatic missions in Russia to reduce their staff to 300 peo-

ple," the statement says.

Thus, the ministry points out, real parity will be reached regarding the number of employees of diplomatic missions, with the exception of Russia's Permanent Mission to the UN in New York.

"Unfortunately, the threats of new punitive measures voiced in the statements of the American side demonstrate that Washington does not want to listen to us and does not want to value the restraint that we have shown despite the high degree of tensions that were

Agencies

## China's forests are taking up more CO2 than previous studies had calculated

THE Earth is warming at an unprecedented rate. This is due primarily to rising atmospheric levels of carbon dioxide (CO2), which has the ability to absorb and radiate heat.

As the Earth has warmed, we have begun to see major changes in all aspects of our interconnected physical and biological world. As the warming continues, some of these changes will become irreversible and will inevitably result in shifts in the way we live our everyday lives.

The Paris Agreement describes a global strategy that aims to keep global mean temperatures to within 2°C Celsius of those from the pre-industrial era in the late 19th

century, with an aspirational aim of remaining within 1.5°C. To achieve this aim, carbon (principally CO2 and methane) emissions have to at least halve every decade over the next century. Are these goals achievable?

The answer to my question relies on the global community pledging and, more importantly, enacting large, progressive reductions in carbon emissions.

The headline we reported in Nature in October was that China's forests are taking up more CO2 than previous studies had calculated.

We found that Chinese vegetation absorbed a mean value of 1.11 petagrams of carbon every year of our study period (2010 to 2016). A

petagram is a million, billion grams.

To put that into context, that is 45% of China's CO2 emissions. Our work revealed that previous studies underestimated the amount of CO2 that is absorbed via photosynthesis throughout the year in Yunnan, Guizhou and Guangxi provinces.

We also found large CO2 uptake in Heilongjiang and Jilin provinces during summer months, replaced by a diffuse source from respiration during winter months.

To convince our scientific colleagues, and ourselves, of the larger than expected magnitude of this carbon uptake we found from provincial-scale forest census it required afforestation rates that ranged 0.04 million to 0.44 million

hectares per year for the past 10 to 15 years.

That area is equivalent to adding between 56,000 to 616,000 football pitches of forest to individual provinces every year. Using satellite observations, we also found a significant upward rise in vegetation greenness and above-ground biomass. This additional evidence is consistent with a large carbon uptake.

The Nature study clearly shows the value of massive-scale and long-term afforestation, so I hope that China will sustain and build on these activities. Expanding the network of ground-based measurements to improve understanding how carbon is being absorbed and

stored in these forests and soils will help to develop national strategies to minimize that carbon being subsequently released into the atmosphere.

Our study also highlighted how independent satellite observations of CO2 were consistent with estimates of CO2 uptake inferred from the ground-based data.

This bodes well for the future role of satellite observations in quantifying national carbon budgets as part of the Paris Agreement global stock-takes.

The first Chinese CO2-measuring satellite, TanSat, was launched at the end of 2016 and is a successful start of a new national capability to monitor CO2 from space.

TanSat reinforces a long-term and fruitful collaboration between Chinese and European researchers on CO2 monitoring, supported by the Ministry of Science and Technology of the People's Republic of China (MOST) and European Space Agency (ESA). TanSat has recently become an ESA third party mission, encouraging wider collaborative science activities that use its CO2 data.

What does the future hold? I was genuinely excited to hear about China's net zero plans: CO2 emissions peaking before 2030 and carbon neutrality before 2060. Making this happen will take a herculean effort but one worth the effort.

Agencies



## CoronaVac vaccine has proven to be 'very effective,' says Chilean official

SANTIAGO

THE CoronaVac vaccine against COVID-19 from Chinese pharmaceutical company Sinovac has proven to be very effective in preventing infections, hospitalizations, admissions to intensive care units and deaths, said a Chilean official on Sunday.

Minister of Science, Technology, Knowledge and Innovation Andres Couve made this comment here while receiving the eighth shipment of the vaccines to the country.

The official cited a study the Chilean government presented Friday, which indicated that the CoronaVac vaccine has an efficacy of 67 percent in preventing symptomatic COVID-19.

The study also showed that the vaccine is up to 85 percent effective in preventing hospitalization, 89 percent effective in preventing admission to an intensive care unit, and 80 percent effective in preventing death caused by the virus.

Chile began mass vaccinations in February after the inoculation of health personnel in December 2020 and January 2021.

According to the latest data from the Chilean Ministry of Health, more than 7.6 million people have been inoculated against the virus in Chile to date, with 5.2 million having received both doses.

A total of 1,124,718 COVID-19 cases have been reported in the country, with 25,177 deaths, the health ministry said on Sunday.

Chile has been facing an increase in COVID-19 cases for several weeks. A large part of the Chilean population, including those in the entire Santiago Metropolitan Region, is now under quarantine to curb the spread of the disease, and the government has ordered the closure of the borders. *Xinhua*

## Iran always welcomes dialogue with Riyadh, foreign ministry says

IRAN'S foreign ministry spokesman said yesterday that Tehran always welcomed dialogue with Saudi Arabia, but he did not confirm nor deny direct talks this month between the arch-rivals.

The two countries severed diplomatic ties in 2016 and have been engaged in several proxy wars in the region as they vie for influence.

A senior Iranian official and two regional sources had told Reuters that Saudi and Iranian officials held discussions in Iraq in a bid to ease tensions as Washington works to revive a 2015 nuclear pact with Tehran and end the Yemen war.

The Financial Times first reported the meeting. "We have seen media reports about talks between Iran and Saudi Arabia, although the reports sometimes had contradictory quotes," Foreign Ministry spokesman Saeed Khatibzadeh told a weekly news conference.

"What is important is that the Islamic Republic of Iran has always welcomed dialogue with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and considers it in the interest of the people of the two countries, as well as peace and stability in the region," he added.

Saudi authorities have not responded to a Reuters request for comment on the talks.

One of the sources said the meeting, arranged by Iraq's prime minister who visited Saudi Arabia earlier this month, had focused on Yemen, where a military coalition led by Riyadh has been battling the Iran-aligned Houthis movement.

Sunni power Saudi Arabia had opposed the international nuclear accord with Shi'ite Iran for not tackling Tehran's missiles programme and regional behaviour.

It has called for a stronger deal this time around at talks in Vienna aimed at bringing the United States and Iran back into compliance with the pact, which then US President Donald Trump quit in 2018. Tehran breached several nuclear restrictions after Trump reimposed sanctions.

President Joe Biden's administration is also pressing for a ceasefire in Yemen which is grappling with what the United Nations describes as the world's largest humanitarian crisis. *Agencies*

## Russia's reaction to ouster of diplomats harsher than expected, top Czech official admits

PRAGUE

MOSCOW'S reaction to the expulsion of 18 diplomats from the Czech Republic was stronger than expected considering the existing practice in such cases, so Prague will analyze potential future steps in that regard, Czech Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Jan Hamacek who is also the acting foreign minister told journalists yesterday.

"The reaction of the Russian side [to the expulsion of diplomats] was harsher than we expected. More [Czech] diplomats were expelled (20 - TASS)," he noted.

"I put together a proposal for Prime Minister [of the Czech Republic Andrej] Babis on our further actions. First of all, I will inform him about it [and not the public]," the official said.

The high-ranking official made this statement after addressing a meeting of EU foreign ministers via videoconference. He informed his colleagues about the developments unfolding in "the Vrbetice case."

In 2014, a blast rocked an ammunition depot in this populated locality which, according to Czech authorities, allegedly involved officers of Russia's military intelligence. "I asked our allies to display solidarity with us."

I expect that as early as today we will see their expression of support of our actions [regarding Russia]. The Czech Republic fell victim to the operations of Russia's intelligence agencies," he asserted.

On April 17, Babis and Hamacek announced the expulsion of 18 employees of the Russian Embassy in Prague, who were allegedly "officers of Russian intelligence services." *Agencies*

# Japan's decision to dump nuclear wastewater into sea reveals a selfish

TOKYO

REALISM or selfishness? The image of Japan is now being questioned at home and abroad after the government announced its decision to discharge radioactive wastewater from Fukushima Prefecture into the sea.

For years, the island country has built up an image of politeness and restraint.

However, when it comes to the disposal of contaminated wastewater at the Fukushima Daiichi nuclear plant, Japan turned a deaf ear to fierce domestic and international opposition, completely ignoring the public health and food safety of the international community. The deep-rooted selfish nature beneath Japan's carefully cultivated image of self-discipline has been fully exposed.

Although it is normal for nuclear plants across the world to discharge radioactive wastewater into the ocean, the major concern over Japan's decision is related to the quantity of and the radioactive isotopes' density in the Fukushima wastewater.

Ten years after the nuclear disaster in 2011, Fukushima has so far collected 1.25 million tons of radioactive wastewater. Given the big amount of wastewater and the plant's location, any reckless dumping will pose a remarkably high risk to the interests of Japan's public, and the well-being of people in other countries and regions.

Over the past several days, China, South Korea, Russia and the European Union, as well as more than 300 environmental groups have expressed their ardent opposition and concerns to Japan.

UN human rights experts on Thursday published a joint statement, stressing the "considerable risks to the full enjoyment of human rights of concerned populations in and beyond the borders of Japan."

In addition to the contamination risks, Japan's unilateral decision to release radioactive water into the sea is wholly unjustified and illegal.

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, to which Japan is a signatory, requires contracting states take all measures necessary to ensure that pollution arising from incidents or activities under their jurisdiction or control does not spread beyond the areas where they exercise sovereign rights.

However, scientists have found proof that tritium, a radioactive byproduct of nuclear reactors in the wastewater could reach as far afield as the U.S. west coast



People rally to protest against the Japanese government's decision to discharge contaminated radioactive wastewater in Fukushima Prefecture into the sea, in Tokyo, capital of Japan, April 13, 2021. (Xinhua)

within two years, while traces of ruthenium, cobalt, strontium, and plutonium isotopes in the wastewater also raise concerns.

More worrying is that Japan's violation of its international obligations has won the support of the U.S. government, which said Japan "appears to have adopted an approach in accordance with globally accepted nuclear safety standards."

Washington's decision to give the green light to such a reckless move based on perceived safety is ludicrous. It's a classic textbook play of foregoing principles and adopting double standards.

"Would this open the door for any country to release radioactive waste to the ocean that is not part of normal operations?" This question raised by Ken Buesseler, a marine

chemist at the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution in Falmouth, Massachusetts, is alarming.

The oceans are the common property of all humankind. Any country should be condemned if it treats the oceans as its own sewer like what Japan is set to do.

The Japanese government must behave transparently on the issue, responsibly respond to the concerns of the international community and adopt a scientific attitude.

Facing the possibility of a more polluted ocean, the international community must never accept the selfish acts of a country eager to simplify a complicated scientific problem for its own convenience. *Xinhua*

## Professional farmers in SW China make spring farming intelligent



Farmers operate agricultural machines in Pengshan District, Meishan, southwest China's Sichuan Province. File Photo

ON a sunny and warm day of mid-March, Wang Chenglin was working with his fellow workers for sprout cultivation as spring farming kicked off in his hometown Jinzhu village, Pengshan District, Meishan, southwest China's Sichuan Province.

Machines were humming in a greenhouse for sprout cultivation. On their conveying belts, soils were packed into seedling starter trays were being packed with soil, watered, and sowed on the conveying belts of the machines.

After being taken off from the belts by forklifts, these trays had to went through week-long pre-germination and then placed in the fields.

Such a modern method cultivates around 400 mu (about 27 hectares) of seedlings each day, said Wang, adding that the germination is also great and matches perfectly with mechanized transplanting.

At present, the man, leading a cooperative, is working on the sprout cultivation for over 10,000 mu of paddy fields.

According to him, such a workload can be finished by around 10 workers within a month.

The cooperative has nearly 60 sets of harvesters, tractors, seedling machines and transplanters, the man said. In recent years, the cooperative has shifted its business mode from mechanized farming to whole-process rice cultivation entrustment. The growers can entrust their paddy fields to the cooperative and claim the crops after harvest in the next year.

At present, the cooperative is planting over 10,000 mu of rice each year, with a yield per mu of around 650 kilograms.

Pengshan District is piloting a national incentive scheme for professional farmers and a provincial plan that encourages cultivating more professional farmers. In recent years, local authorities have been working on the establishment of a training system for professional farmers, encouraging farmers to be engaged in professional farming.

It has trained a total of 1,000 professional farmers, including Wang.

They are injecting new energy into rural vitalization.

Since establishing the cooperative in 2011, Wang has been focusing on mechanized rice planting under the guidance of relevant departments. "I hope I can learn more about marketing, so that I can extend my business chain. At the same time, I will keep working on mechanization and strive to make better rice," he said.

*People's Daily*



**Machines were humming in a greenhouse for sprout cultivation. On their conveying belts, soils were packed into seedling starter trays were being packed with soil, watered, and sowed on the conveying belts of the machines**

## Zimbabwe marks 41st independence anniversary

HARARE



ZIMBABWE marked its 41st independence anniversary on Sunday, with a call by President Emmerson Mnangagwa for the nation to keep safeguarding its sovereignty.

"As a sovereign nation and people, the occasion of our Independence Day is a constant reminder of the need to preserve, safeguard and protect our liberation war heritage and the rich history of our country.

This is the foundation and hallmark of our nation, today and forever," he said in a televised speech. This year's independence day was once again commemorated virtually due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mnangagwa (pictured) implored citizens to reminisce on the previous years with great pride and joy, observing that more importantly, the nation should look forward to the years ahead with a bright flame of hope for the next generation.

Zimbabwe attained its political independence from Britain in 1980. "The importance of protecting the gains of this hard-won independence can, therefore, not be over-emphasized," he said.

Mnangagwa said Zimbabwe had begun the new decade of its independence with greater determination, resolve and confidence to achieve Vision 2030, which seeks to grow the country into a middle-income economy by 2030.

"A vision of an empowered people with a higher standard of living. A vision of a thriving and prosperous economy, which plays its part within the comity of nations," he said.

Mnangagwa said Zimbabwe was poised for an economic boom, based on a better agricultural season this year, recovering mining sector, modest success in improving economic fundamentals and steady efforts in containing the COVID-19 pandemic.

"Following successive seasons of drought, it is encouraging that the 2020/2021 summer cropping season was characterized by normal to above normal rainfall.

These interventions, coupled with timely provision of extension services, will see the country attain a bumper harvest this season," he said.

Mnangagwa said the mining industry is projected to rebound by 11 percent this year, guided by the strategy to achieve a 12-billion-U.S. dollar mining industry by 2023.

"Programmes that include increased exploration, expansion of existing mining projects, resuscitation of closed mines, opening of new mines, mineral beneficiation and value addition are being prioritized."

Mnangagwa noted that inflation, which had become a major source of macroeconomic instability, was being contained while the foreign currency auction system introduced in June last year had also enhanced transparency and accountability in the distribution and use of foreign currency. *Xinhua*



# SPORT



Vijana Queens Basketball Club's Marie Komba (R), seeks to dribble past Mgulani Queens' player during the opening clash of a basketball tournament, known as 'JPM Bonanza Trophy', which took place in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. Vijana Queens commanded 47-39 victory over Mgulani Queens. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Dar hoops teams boost preparation for RBA League

By Guardian Reporter

A new hoops competition has tipped off in Dar es Salaam as the sport's stakeholders seek to continue raising the game's standard.

The showdown, known as JPM Bonanza Basketball Trophy, is organized by Kurasini Heat outfit's player, Jimmy Brown, in cooperation with the club's coach, Mussa Sambala.

Brown noted the competition aims at seeing to it the city's basketball sides shape up well prior to this season's Regional Basketball Association (RBA) League's tip off, which has not been made public.

The player, who had as well turned out for JKT Club in the 2020 season, stated they have opted to form the tournament with a view to giving the RBA League outfits' players opportunity to stay in good shape.

He disclosed Kurasini Heat are further using the event to shape up for this season's FIBA Africa Zone Five tournament. "We do not know when will the RBA League tip off, we are told the league will get underway once the Basketball Dar es Salaam (BD) has held polls."

"I in this case communicated with my colleagues and we came up with this initiative."

He pointed out the tournament tipped off on Saturday with 13 teams participating in it.

According to him, the women's category involves five teams, whereas eight teams are playing in men's category.

The player mentioned the men's category teams as JKT, Kurasini Heat, Mchenga, Pazi, Vijana, Magone, Ukonga Kings and Mgulani Kings.

The women's category has brought together Vijana Queens, JKT Stars, Mgulani Queens, Ukonga Queens and Don Bosco Lionesses.

The women category's opening clash, pitting Vijana Queens against Mgulani Queens, had Vijana Queens trouncing Mgulani Queens 47-39.

Mgulani Queens fielded several seasoned players that include Nelly Anyingisye, Lulu Msana, Doritha Mbunda and Evodia Kazinja in the clash, which took place at Bandari Kurasini court.

The experienced players were nevertheless outplayed by Vijana Queens in three quarters of the tie before attempting to successfully make use of their experience in last quarter.

Vijana Queens had upper hand in the three quarters, posting 11-9, 15-8, and 10-6 lead, Mgulani Queens later bounced back in the fourth quarter to lead 16-11.

Mgulani Queens' Nelly posted 17 points, followed by Lulu and Zuhura Comoro who had five points and four points respectively.

Vijana Queens' Marie Komba had most points in her team, ending with 12 points, whereas Noela Robert who ended with eight points.

In the day's other clash, Ukonga Queens notched 39-35 win over Don Bosco Lionesses.

Ukonga Queens' Juliana Mashaka registered 10 points, fellow player Liliiana Maswaswa chipped in with nine points, Don Bosco Lionesses' Fatma Yasoda notched nine points.

## Simba SC, FCC to discuss outfit's investment

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

MINISTER for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Innocent Bashungwa, has announced that Simba SC was yesterday expected to hold talks with Fair Competition Commission (FCC) to discuss the future of investment in the side.

The minister's statement came shortly after he answered a question by Mlalo Constituency's Member of Parliament, Rashid Abdallah, on the issue, during a Parliament session.

Recently, Simba SC's Board of Directors' Chairman, Mohamed Dewji, posted a message on his social media account expressing his displeasure with the FCC for delaying the investment process at Simba.

Bashungwa said that the government has looked into the issue, so, it will do all it can to complete the matter as soon as possible and see to it Simba enter into a better system of operational change.

"The government has looked into this matter and we will work on it so that Simba can achieve it, so on Monday Simba will sit down with the FCC to continue seeing how they will achieve the transformation," he disclosed.

The government noted the obstacles that have emerged in the process were to be dealt with

yesterday when the FCC held talks with Simba SC.

Dewji last week pointed out through his social network page that he was not happy with the FCC, claiming that his club's leadership and the commission was delaying the investment.

The club's operational transformational process gives the investor 49% of the shares and 51% of the shares to members of the club through the FCC.

The FCC initially issued Simba SC a 21-day notice of the process.

Although the FCC has previously reported that one of issues it needs in the process is clarification on the exact amount that the investor Dewji should invest to overcome the confusion.

The statement, which came from the commission's director, stated that despite a number of unresolved issues, the commission sought clarification on the actual amount that the investor should invest as the terms of the previous agreement are different from those stated in the media.

Later Simba made it clear that the amount in the agreement is 19.6bn/- while noting that the investor has decided to pay more than the amount specified in the agreement to reach 20bn/-.

## SPORTS

# Polisi Tanzania suspend winger for indiscipline

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

KILIMANJARO's Polisi Tanzania have approved the decision reached by the outfit's Disciplinary Committee to suspend two players Rashid Juma and George Mpole for the outfit's remaining Vodacom Premier League matches.

A statement issued by the outfit's information officer, Hassan Juma, stated that the disciplinary committee sat for two days and summoned the accused six players of the team and made decisions that were reached by the team's leadership.

Reports from within the team have revealed that midfielder Pius Buswita and Juma have been punished for absenteeism while four other players, Hassan Maulid, Abdulaziz Makame, Gerard Mdamu and Mohamed Kassim, have been suspended for delaying joining the team's camp.

At the same time, four players, Buswita, Abdulmalik Adam, Tariq Seif and Makame, apologized and were punished by the disciplinary committee.

In those penalties, each player had been given a stern warning letter not to repeat indiscipline and each has been fined according to the seriousness of the case, as per the side's code of conduct.

Following the punishment, the four players have made their way back to the squad to join their teammates in preparation for the next Vodacom Premier League and Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) games.

The players have been prosecuted for turning up late at the side's camp late and leaving the team without the permission of the management.

The Polisi Tanzania revealed in a statement: "Juma was given a three-day leave of absence on February 27 but after that he did not return



Polisi Tanzania's winger Rashid Juma.

to the team and when he was asked to write a letter of resignation he did not do so."

The club noted: "Buswita remained in Mwanza after Polisi Tanzania's match Gwambina FC, which took place on March 13, despite the leadership asking him to return."

"A section of them have been late to join the team and have been punished with suspensions and deductions in their salaries," the outfit disclosed.

Polisi Tanzania's vice-chairman, Robert Munisi, confirmed the punishment.

"It is true that they have been punished for the offenses," he disclosed.

## Yanga forward in talks with three clubs

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

YANGA striker, Fiston Abdulrazak, whose contract with the outfit expires at the end of this season, has already begun talks with three different clubs who have expressed interest in signing him.

Fiston, who joined Yanga in January this year, has two months left in his contract with Yanga.

The Burundian attacker has yet to prove his worth after joining Yanga, unlike what many had expected of him.

He has scored one goal in the Vodacom Premier League and one in Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) showpiece and his team are leading the top flight with 54 points after 25 games.

The Burundian said: "Everyone may be wondering if I have been given a contract extension or what my fate will be without wanting to know if I am ready to extend my contract."

"Yes, I am in talks with more than three clubs and if we reach an agreement you will know, I also do not need to be asked questions about the contract," he disclosed.

He noted: "Let me keep my mind on my side's remaining matches, we still have a tough job fighting for the title."

The Burundian forward scored his Premier League goal against Polisi Tanzania in a match, which took place in Arusha.

He registered his only goal in the ASFC's round of 16 tie against First Division League (FDL) team, Mbeya's Ken Gold FC, to catapult Yanga to the competition's last eight.

Fiston recently said that he is aware of his potential and he signed a six-month deal as he has not been with the team for a long time due to the offers he receives.

"I've never been on the same team in a long time because I have a lot of offers and I don't have doubt about my quality," he disclosed.



Yanga's attacker, Fiston Abdulrazak. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA



## Mourinho sacked by Tottenham after 17 months in charge

LONDON

JOSE Mourinho was sacked by Tottenham on Monday just six days before they play Manchester City in the League Cup final as the Portuguese boss paid the price for a turbulent campaign.

Mourinho, 58, was dismissed after only 17 months in charge, even though he could have led the club to their first silverware since 2008.

Tottenham have been struggling in their bid to qualify for the Champions League via a top-four finish in the Premier League.

Spurs are currently seventh, five points behind fourth placed West Ham, and suffered a shock Europa League last-16 exit against Dinamo Zagreb.

"The club can today announce that Jose Mourinho and his coaching staff have been relieved of their duties," a Tottenham statement said.

The bombshell news came less than 24 hours after Tottenham announced they were one of 12 clubs planning to launch a breakaway European Super League.

Tottenham's academy coach Ryan Mason, a former player at the club, will take first-team training this week and is set to pick the team for Wednesday's Premier League clash with Southampton and the League Cup final at Wembley.

Tottenham chairman Daniel Levy said: "Jose and his coaching staff have been with us through some of our most challenging times as a club."

"Jose is a true professional who showed enormous resilience during the pandemic."

"On a personal level I have enjoyed working with him and regret that things have not worked out as we both had envisaged."

"He will always be welcome here and we should like to thank him and his coaching staff for their contribution."

Leipzig boss Julian Nagelsmann is the bookmakers' favourite to replace Mourinho, while Leicester manager Brendan Rodgers is also a contender.

Nagelsmann has also been linked with Bayern Munich, who are set to lose boss Hansi Flick in a move that could have persuaded Tottenham to act on Mourinho now rather than wait until the end of the season.

- Mourinho in decline -  
Mourinho's abrupt exit is the latest setback in a once-glimmering managerial career that now appears on the decline.

The former Porto, Chelsea,

Inter Milan, Real Madrid and Manchester United boss was appointed by Tottenham in November 2019, less than 12 hours after Mauricio Pochettino had been dismissed.

But unlike Pochettino, who led Tottenham to the 2019 Champions League final and regularly finished in the top four, Mourinho was unable to spark a response from his squad.

Tottenham finished sixth last season and went out of the Champions League in the last 16.

Amid reports of player discontent with Mourinho's conservative tactics and boring training sessions, the Portuguese coach had been losing his grip on the job for several weeks.

He had a public spat with on-loan Real Madrid star Gareth Bale about his fitness for an FA Cup defeat at Everton and claimed Toby Alderweireld was absent from the squad due to a late return from the international break when the Belgian was actually pictured at the training ground.

With Tottenham unlikely to qualify for the Champions League, there are also fears star striker Harry Kane will ask to leave in the close-season.

Only during his spell at Portuguese club Leiria has Mourinho posted a lower win ratio in all competitions (45 percent) in his managerial career than he did with Tottenham (51 percent).

Tottenham dropped 20 points from winning positions and blew a 2-0 first leg lead against Dinamo in the Europa League.

For the first time, Mourinho suffered 10 league defeats in a single season.

Having branded himself the 'Special One' after winning the 2004 Champions League with Porto, Mourinho won the Premier League title three times in two spells with Chelsea.

He also led Inter Milan to Champions League glory in 2010 and won La Liga with Real Madrid.

But his second spell at Chelsea ended in acrimony in 2015 when he was sacked after losing the support of key players.

A two-year spell in charge at Manchester United brought Europa League and League Cup glory, but again Mourinho's failure to keep his stars happy led to his sacking in 2018.

Mourinho's last game with Tottenham was a frustrating 2-2 draw at Everton on Friday that extended the team's winless run to three matches and prompted the axe to fall.

AFP

## English football counts cost of foreign investment as 'big six' plan breakaway

LONDON

ENGLISH football is reeling after plans by six of its biggest clubs to join forces with top Spanish and Italian sides to form the basis of a breakaway European Super League (ESL).

The plans put forward by Manchester United, Liverpool, Manchester City, Chelsea, Arsenal and Tottenham have been hit by widespread condemnation by the UK government, governing bodies, fans and former players.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson backed the Premier League and English Football Association's stance not to recognise the breakaway, describing it as "very damaging for football".

The breakaway clubs still plan to keep playing in their domestic leagues with the ESL replacing their participation in UEFA's Champions League.

However, English football may now be left to count the cost of the end game from decades of embracing foreign investment.

Of the six breakaway clubs currently playing in the Premier League, only Tottenham, whose billionaire owner Joe Lewis resides in the Bahamas, are British-owned.

Under the Super League proposals for a 20-team competition, the 15 founder members would be protected from the pitfalls of relegation, guaranteeing revenue

streams from television rights deals and commercial sponsorship from regular matches between the European elite.

A pot of 3.5 billion euros (\$4.2 billion, £3 billion), backed by US investment bank JPMorgan, has been put forward solely to support infrastructure investment of the founding members to offset the impact of the coronavirus pandemic.

The 20 teams would be split into two groups of 10, who would face each other home and away.

After an 18-game regular season, the top teams from each group would progress to the quarter-finals for a conclusion to the competition which mirrors the current format of the Champions League.

But it is the major American sports leagues that the plan most closely resembles.

Three of the English breakaway six are in American hands, who also have stakes in US Sports franchises.

- 'Imposters' -  
Manchester United have been under the control of the Glazer family, who also own NFL Super Bowl champions the Tampa Bay Buccaneers, since a controversial leveraged takeover in 2005.

John Henry's Fenway Sports Group own both Liverpool and the Boston Red Sox and Arsenal's billionaire owner Stan Kroenke controls the LA Rams and Denver Nuggets.

## European Super League Q&A: What this means for UEFA, leagues

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

ON Sunday, the European game was rocked by revelations that a number of leading clubs -- 12 were named in the press release -- agreed to establish The Super League, a midweek tournament that will effectively be a direct competitor for the UEFA Champions League.

Among them are Manchester United, Real Madrid, Liverpool, Juventus and Barcelona, with the league chaired by Real owner Florentino Perez. (Juve chairman Andrea Agnelli and Man United owner Joel Glazer will serve as vice-chairmen for this new competition.)

It's not the first time such rumours have emerged, but the timing is what makes this situation different. (Editor's Note: this story has been updated to reflect the confirmation of the Super League by the 12 clubs originally reported as involved.)

On Monday, UEFA are expected to approve changes to the Champions League that will include an expanded format, more games and tweaks to the revenue distribution. These changes were agreed only on Friday after protracted negotiations with Europe's leading clubs and the European Club Association (ECA). (They also voted to approve it, sources told ESPN.) All of this would now be overshadowed -- and rendered potentially meaningless -- if Europe's biggest clubs renege on that agreement and are really ready to walk out as early as 2022, as some have reported.

The implications, though, go far beyond this. UEFA isn't merely a competition organizer; it's a confederation whose job is to redistribute revenue and develop the game across the continent. The Champions League is its biggest cash cow, and a severely weakened competition would have a serious impact on the sport throughout Europe, which is part of the reason one UEFA executive told ESPN they were prepared to "fight until the end."

**Q: Haven't we been here before? Didn't you write back in October about how we were ripe for this sort of change?**  
A: I did, but it appeared that the genie went back in the bottle during the ECA's negotiations with UEFA over the expanded Champions League. The ECA wanted more teams and more games (to generate more revenue); they also wanted more governance and oversight over how the Champions League is run commercially, and they wanted changes to the revenue distribution. It took a long time -- originally, UEFA were hoping to announce this reformatting last month -- and it was a tough negotiation, but at the 11th hour late on Friday, the ECA hammered out a deal with UEFA. So you can imagine that when UEFA found out about the potential breakaway on Sunday, they weren't best pleased ... especially since ECA president Andrea Agnelli also happens to be the Juventus president. And Juventus are one of the signatories to this deal.

**Q: How would the new Super League work?**  
A: Details are still sketchy, but on Sunday night, the Super League finally released a statement. (And unveiled their website/landing page.) There would be 15 founding clubs -- 12 have been named, while the other three are presumably Bayern Munich, Borussia Dortmund and Paris Saint-Germain -- and another five could qualify annually "based on achievement the previous season." (That format, incidentally, is very similar to Euro League basketball, which was also born out of a breakaway.)

There would be two groups of 10 teams, with home and away fixtures. The top three in each group go straight to the quarter-finals, while the fourth- and fifth-place teams would enter a playoff for the last two spots. So, in total, each team would play a minimum of 18 games and a maximum of 25. (Right now, the maximum is 13;



UEFA has a critical day on Monday when it comes to the vote on Champions League reforms and the aftermath if this breakaway is actually going to happen. (Agencies)

under the new Champions League format, it would be 17).

The teams involved also say they will form a women's version of the Super League "as soon as practicable" and that they plan to continue playing in domestic leagues, like the Premier League or La Liga.

More than the format, what matters here is that the clubs would not be playing in the UEFA Champions League and would, instead, share the revenue among themselves. That's a huge departure from the basic model of European team competitions, in any sport, which is obviously different from the way U.S. sports operate.

**Q: How so?**

A: Take the NBA as an example. There are 30 teams, and each owner is effectively a shareholder in the league. They split the revenues among themselves and put in salary caps and luxury taxes to stay profitable. They don't need to ask USA Basketball or FIBA (basketball's equivalent of FIFA) for permission when they want to do things.

But in European football, clubs play in national leagues that are sanctioned by national federations. In England, the Football Association sanctions the Premier League, and UEFA is a governing body of which the FA is a member that organises competitions for clubs. The bulk of the revenue generated goes back to the clubs, but the rest gets redistributed among national federations, smaller clubs and for grassroots development.

**Q: And the breakaway clubs have a problem with this?**

A: There's no question that the "breakaway clubs" generate a disproportionate amount of the revenue. After all, more people (and sponsors) will pay to see Barcelona vs. Manchester United than Dinamo Zagreb vs. Club Brugge. They argue they should be entitled to a bigger piece of the pie (and have been arguing this for years, progressively getting more and more). But some also question why revenues that they generate should be redistributed to smaller clubs and FAs. And they say it's about votes and keeping the gravy train going, which to some degree is true. There are more small federations than big ones, and some of the smaller ones would struggle to survive without UEFA funding.

A number of the breakaway clubs also feel that if they ran the competition themselves, they could be more agile and innovative in generating more revenue, perhaps by playing on weekends or taking it on the road to Asia or North America. After all, these are global brands.

I guess it comes down to whether you view a football club primarily as a business to be grown and whose revenues ought to be maximized, or whether you see yourself as part of a greater whole, with a duty of solidarity to others. As I see it, the former is somewhat short-sighted. After all, the next great Real Madrid

or Manchester United star could come from Moldova or Northern Ireland, but if there's no functioning FA there because grassroots funding has been pulled, well...

That said, the statement does say they're confident the Super League will "provide significantly greater economic growth" for football, and there will be "uncapped solidarity payments" that will be "substantially higher" than those currently generated by European competition. In fact, they claim they expect it to be as much as "€10 billion over the course of the initial commitment of the clubs."

**Q: OK, so they ARE willing to share...**

A: Well, it's a bit vague. For a start, they don't tell you how long that "initial commitment period" actually is. Obviously, €10 billion over 10 years is different than €10 billion over 50 years. Second, if they're benchmarking against what UEFA calls "solidarity payments" -- the funds provided by UEFA to clubs to invest in youth development or local community schemes -- then that total in 2019-20 was €227 million. But, of course, UEFA also withhold some €160m to use "for European football" (their words) and, of the Champions League prize money of around €2.05 billion, another €60m goes to subsidize the Europa League and clubs eliminated in Champions League qualifiers.

More importantly, there are 32 teams in the Champions League; there will be 20 in this Super League. The 12 lowest-earning clubs in the Champions League made some €200m between them; obviously, they'd be cut out of the Super League. So by that definition, that's some €650m generated by the Champions League not going to the top 20 clubs.

It's also not entirely clear how the Super League plans to distribute that "solidarity" money.

**Q: So what happens Monday?**

A: UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin basically has two options. The vote on the Champions League reform is on the agenda. He can cave in and remove it from the agenda. This would kick the can down the road, and probably lead to more negotiations with the big clubs -- this time, presumably, without the ECA, since we saw how far it got them last time -- and perhaps more concessions in their favour, maybe a greater share of revenue or direct control over the competition or guaranteed places or whatever.

In fact, the Super League statement itself suggests they're ready to sit down and talk with UEFA "to deliver the best outcomes for the new League and for football as a whole," which in turn suggests they're willing to do a deal.

Or Ceferin can stand tall and call their bluff. Approve the Champions League format, call them out by name. They issued a joint statement with the English, Spanish and Italian

Football Associations as well as the Premier League, Italy's Serie A and La Liga in Spain saying they will "re-main united" in their efforts to stop "a cynical project" that is "founded on the self-interest of a few clubs." And they reminded everyone that clubs joining a breakaway league would be banned from playing both international competitions, like the World Cup, and domestic leagues as well.

**Q: Wow, that's extreme. So if, say, Manchester United broke away, they couldn't play in the Premier League, FA Cup or League Cup?**

A: In theory, yes. They have the power to do that, though it would likely end up in court. There's a legal case to be made that if you're a governing body and a competition organiser (which FIFA, UEFA and the FAs are), you can't exclude somebody from participating. So that part remains to be seen. But I think their best strategy, if they want to stop it, is to wait it out ...

**Q: What do you mean?**

A: For a start, even though 2022 has been mooted for the inaugural "breakaway season," I don't see how they can make it happen. Even if they're somehow not kicked out of their domestic leagues, there are a bunch of legal and regulatory hurdles that clubs need to jump through.

At clubs like Barcelona, Real Madrid, Bayern and Borussia Dortmund (the two German clubs haven't signed on to this, but a breakaway without them is hard to imagine) they would be subject to member votes. They're rumoured to have big financial backing -- and, indeed, their statement says the 15 founders will share €3.5 billion "solely to support their infrastructure investment and offset the impact of the COVID pandemic," meaning somebody with deep pockets is cutting them a big check -- and a global deal in place with a broadcaster (not ESPN), but would that be enough to offset potential losses in the short term?

More broadly, I just don't know that the appetite is there from fans closest to the clubs -- the people who go week in, week out.

**Q: But isn't the game global?**

A: It is, but the reality is that clubs generate more revenue from the creatures of habit who trudge down to the stadium every week than they do from equally passionate fans halfway around the world. In Germany and England especially, there is bound to be a backlash.

Right now, stadiums are closed, but fans will be back before the end of the season at, say, Old Trafford. The Glazers aren't exactly popular there; imagine if their own supporters let them know just what they think of the idea. Optics matter. Unless the breakaway owners can convince them that this is about something other than personal greed, it's going to be very rough for them.

I'll leave you with this quote released today from Sir Alex Ferguson, somebody whose Manchester United credentials are unimpeachable: "Talk of a super league is a move away from 70 years of European club football. Both as a player for a provincial team in Dunfermline in the 1960s and as a manager at Aberdeen winning the European Cup Winners Cup.

"For a small provincial club in Scotland it was like climbing Mount Everest. Everton are spending £500m to build a new stadium with the ambition to play in the Champions League. Fans all over love the competition as it is."

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# SPORT

European Super League Q&A:  
What this means for UEFA, leagues

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

## Matola praises Mwadui FC's approach despite Simba SC win

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC assistant coach Selemani Matola has conceded that the change in approach deployed by Mwadui FC made it tough for his team to penetrate the latter's defense when the two teams met in Vodacom Premier League clash in Shinyanga on Sunday.

The domestic top flight's defending champions eventually edged Mwadui FC 1-0.

After a goalless first half, skipper John Bocco scored the only goal on the 66th minute that gave Simba the 1-0 win, which helped them move second on the Vodacom Premier League's table.

Matola, former Simba midfielder, lauded their opponents' change of plan which made the game difficult for his club.

"[Mwadui FC]'s game plan was good, they approached us cautiously and were defensive, a situation which made it tough for our team to break them," Matola said.

He stated: "The field also made it tough for us, we struggled to play. Despite us dominating the game, it was not easy but in the end we managed to get a win."

He pointed out: "In their past two games [against Mbeya City FC and JKT Tanzania respectively], they were more open and attacked which was not the case when we played them. It seems they came for a point and on our part we wanted maximum points."

Nevertheless, the 42-year-old was satisfied with the win and has further shed light on why at one point Simba's Mozambican midfielder, Luis Miquissone, stood to warm up, preparing to come on, but he never did.

"It would have been easier for us if our opponents would have opened up to look for a win," Matola added.

He noted: "But we appreciate it because in the end, we got maximum points which is the most important thing. Away matches are usually tough and we do not expect easy matches."

"We wanted to bring in Miquissone [when the score was still 0-0] and attack more, but when we got the goal, we decided to leave him out and ensure the team is balanced from defence all the way to the attacking department."

After the win, Simba have gone above Azam FC to occupy second place on the league table with 52 points from 22 games.

The top flight defending champions are four points behind leaders Yanga, who have played three more games as the race looks to be a three-horse competition involving the top three sides.

Simba are aiming at winning the league title for the fourth time in a row.



Dodoma Jiji FC players celebrate after posting a goal against Prisons in a Premier League encounter, which took place in Rukwa last weekend. Dodoma Jiji FC edged Prisons 1-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Dodoma Jiji FC now takes aim at Azam FC

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

VODACOM Premier League's Dodoma Jiji FC has warned Azam FC to expect a tough run when the two sides meet in a league fixture, slated for Thursday at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma.

The hosts, who are making their debut in the top flight, are placed sixth in the league's standing with 37 points.

Third-placed Azam FC has notched 50 points. The two sides have played 26 games apiece and they are separated by 13 points.

Dodoma Jiji FC head coach Mbwana Makata believes his charges are in the right frame of mind ahead of the encounter.

"We lost our last match against Namungo FC but that does not mean we are a weak team. Let Azam FC underrate us at their own peril, it will be a difficult game, but we will prepare well as we know that losing two consecutive games will be difficult for us," he said.

Dodoma Jiji FC has potential to cause an upset in the Thursday clash as they have already posted victory over some of the league's experienced teams.

Going into the game, Azam FC oozes confidence as they won their previous two clashes.

The Dar es Salaam side notched 2-0 win over Mtibwa Sugar at the former's ground, Azam Complex.

The JKT Tanzania conceded 1-0 loss to Azam FC in the following fixture, which took place in Dodoma.

Dodoma Jiji FC beat Prisons 1-0 in Rukwa, the Dodoma team then conceded 1-0 loss to Lindi's Namungo FC.

Meanwhile Azam FC officials say they are looking forward to the Thursday game.

The team will welcome their top goal scorer Prince Dube who missed the JKT Tanzania tie due to suspension.

Azam FC information officer, Thabit Zacharia, disclosed they are preparing well ahead of the match.

He was adamant Azam FC is all out to collect three points.

"We are preparing well for our encounter against Dodoma Jiji FC, they are the hosts, it will be a tough game, but we are preparing well as our aim is to collect maximum points," he said.

The club said its 2020/21 Premier League trophy's dreams are still alive and it is working hard knowing that at this stage of the league anything can happen.

After the Thursday game, Azam FC will remain with seven games.

The side will lock horns with Yanga and later play Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC.

The team will later face Biashara United and Gwambina FC at home, then play away to Namungo FC.

Azam FC will host Simba SC and finish the league away to Ruwu Shooting.

Vivier Babati, Azam FC's assistant coach, is reported to have said they are working hard so that they can win all of their games.

"At this stage of the league anything can happen, we are working hard to win all of our remaining games, we are optimistic we still have a chance of emerging as the league's champions this season," he said.

## AT set to field athletes in four Olympic qualifiers



Athletics Tanzania (AT)'s vice-president, John Bayo.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) officials have said they have secured four events which will be used as qualifiers for the Tokyo Olympics which will be held later this year.

John Bayo, AT's vice-president, stated in an interview the four qualifying events will be held in Europe in May.

He said the events will be held in Denmark, Italy and Australia.

Bayo said AT plans to send two athletes (male and female) to each of the events.

"As I said earlier, we are doing our best to secure events for our athletes to secure Tokyo Japan qualifying events," Bayo disclosed.

"We have managed to get four events which have all been slated for May, the dates will be communicated later, we plan to send two athletes (male and female) to each event and

we are still looking for other qualifying races as our aim is to send more athletes to the Tokyo Olympics," he said.

Bayo, however, could not issue details on the four events, budget and other particulars, saying they are waiting for a government nod.

"We wrote the government for financial and material support, so we are waiting for a response. Once the response is out we will let the public know all the particulars of the trips," he said.

Currently, two athletes Alponce Simbu and Failuna Matanga have qualified for Tokyo Olympic Games.

Fourteen athletes are now in camp at Arusha College of Forestry, Wildlife and Tourism to prepare for Tokyo Olympics qualifying events.

The athletes, coached by Anthony Mwingereza and Thomas John, are camping in the area known as Olmotonyi in Arusha.

The camp runs up to the mid of July when the athletes who will qualify for the Games will enter Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC)-organized camp.

Initially, AT and coaches wanted to have more than 30 athletes in the camp but Bayo said financial difficulties the association is facing have forced the association to settle for 14 athletes.

He insisted the 14 athletes have potential to qualify for Tokyo Olympics slated for July 23 to August 8.

"We wanted to have more athletes in camp but due to financial difficulties we are facing, we thought it wise to have only athletes who have potential to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics," he said.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



**EATV TUESDAY**

**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**NIRVANA**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 MPYA  
12:30 Msosi Kitaani (r)  
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi  
14:30 BBall Kings Highlights (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 5SPORTS (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 5SELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music/Soap  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)

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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

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