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TANZANIA

TUESDAY 3 AUGUST, 2021

**National Pg 2**  
Public transport: Masks mandatory



**National Pg 3**  
Cultivation of pyrethrum in Mbeya



**National Pg 4**  
Banks partner to improve services



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President Samia Suluhu Hassan with her Rwandan host, President Paul Kagame, on her arrival at State House in the capital Kigali yesterday. She is in the neighbouring country for a two-day official visit. Photo: State House

## Sort out Lake Nyasa shipping disputes - PM

By Guardian Correspondent, Kyela

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) to consult their counterparts in neighbouring Malawi in finding solutions to regulatory disputes hampering trade flows in Lake Nyasa.

This instruction follows reports that three state-owned vessels operating routes to Malawi have been barred from carrying passengers and cargo from ports located on the Malawian side.

The premier inspected operations of the ships including MV Mbeya II, which was grounded and beached on the sand amid stormy weather on the lake nearly three

months ago, stranded near Matema Port as it headed to Mbamba Bay from Kiwira port, in Ruvuma Region.

"I am giving you until August 25 to resolve existing disputes. We want the ships to operate on both sides of the lake for increased productivity," he said, noting that the ships are also expected to transport coal from Liganga and Mchuchuma mines.

TPA should convene a business convention bringing together port operators from both sides to discuss existing challenges, and sensitise traders to use the ships plying Lake Nyasao ports to transport their commodities and industrial raw materials.

The premier aired this view after being

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### Digitalised Perkins replacing manual Braille machines

By Henry Mwangonde

THE government has launched a pilot project to introduce Orbit Reader 20, a new portable device to facilitate learning to visually impaired pupils to replace the Perkins braille machine.

The Tanzania Education Authority (TEA) and Sense International, an NGO working on inclusive education for children with deafness and blindness disabilities in Tanzania yesterday signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to implement the project in six schools for a period of six months.

The Orbit Reader 20 features 20 refreshable eight-dot braille cells, reading books via secure digital (SD) card, simple note-taking, 'bluetooth' and USB (flash drive) connectivity.

"As a stand-alone device, you can read content stored on an SD card that simply inserts into the back of the unit," said Carolyn Lugoye, managing

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### Eurowings, Edelweiss airlines flying directly to Kilimanjaro

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Hai

IT will be a flood of foreign travellers once the German leisure carrier Eurowings Discover starts flying into the country's second largest terminal, Kilimanjaro International Airport (KIA), from mid next year.

From June 3, 2022, Eurowings Discover, a new airline within the Lufthansa Group, will be introducing direct flights linking its Frankfurt hub to KIA, the key entrepot in the northern tourism circuit, plus the Abeid Amani Karume International Airport on Zanzibar.

Christine Mwakatobe, acting managing director for the Kilimanjaro Airports Development Co. (KADCO), made this observation when receiving the first group of tourists from Israel,



Despite its modest size, Kilimanjaro Airport that was otherwise Moshi airport can handle aircrafts as large as Boeing 747 and Antonov 124, featuring one of the largest aircraft hangars in the sub-region

starting their tour schedules yesterday, after landing at KIA on a charter flight.

She affirmed that from next October, the Swiss leisure airline, Edelweiss will be landing at Kilimanjaro from Zurich, linking Mount Kilimanjaro with Swiss Alps with direct routed flights, instead of landing at KIA as is usually the case.

"Both airlines will be dispatching aircrafts with capacity for 250 passengers, landing at Kilimanjaro Airport twice a week," she said.

Other than the two new airlines, Royal Dutch Airlines (KLM) lately announced an increase of flights to Kilimanjaro to four a week, while Qatar Airways has enhanced its weekly Kilimanjaro landings to five. There are also busy schedules for KIA, she said.

KIA has won accolades in the recent

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### WARNING SYSTEMS

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### Govt to revoke all licences from non-developed mines

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

THE government will revoke all mining licences of non-developed mining sites where license holders are preventing artisanal miners seeking to work those areas.

Minerals minister Doto Bitekoto affirmed this intention when closing the Trade and Mineral Technology Exhibition here yesterday, noting that after 60 days, he will not only revoke the non-operating licences, but will also make sure owners thereof pay due taxes to the government as so far they owe the Treasury over 9bn/-.

Some people hold mining licences for spots scattered all over the country, and whenever small miners discover that these areas hold minerals, licence owners come up to say they are legal occupants of those areas, and wonder where he was all this time.

The minister expressed his surprise that there are still people engaging in smuggling minerals outside the country, noting that it is unpatriotic

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NBC Bank managing director Theobald Sabi (L) and National Health Insurance Fund director general Bernard Konga (R) pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday holding copies of the MoU they had just signed for cooperation meant to enable farmers operating NBC accounts to access agricultural loans through the bank and benefit from a healthcare system through a farmers' insurance scheme known as "Ushirika Afya". With them is Registrar of Cooperatives Dr Benson Ndiege. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



## Sort out Lake Nyasa shipping disputes - PM

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informed that MV Njombe and MV Ruvuma are docked at Kiwira port for months for lack of cargo since traders in the Southern Highlands have diverted to other transportation services.

Kyela District Commissioner Ismail Mlawa was tasked with enhancing cooperation with officials on the Malawian side to avoid disputes which affect trade between the two sides of the lake.

In some districts bordering neighbouring states, district commissioners have managed to ensure closer business ties with their counterparts, the premier remarked, citing Tanganyika District in Katavi Region and Tanganyika parliamentary constituency in neighbouring Congo (DRC).

Regional Commissioner Juma Homera must also initiate regular meetings with his Malawian counterpart to enhance existing relationships, he directed. "This would also help to strengthen our diplomatic ties and boost business

activity," he asserted.

TPA senior officer Dr Baraka Mdimba told the premier that officials in Malawi have been barring Tanzanian ships from operating at its ports claiming to have other vessels for the task.

"There is a dispute which has lasted for years. We have been in a tug of war for a long period, but thanks to various interventions we are about to resolve it," he said.

Mwita Waitara, the deputy minister for Works and Transport, said that he visited the Kiwira port soon after one of the ships—Mbeya II was beached, where he found out that there was negligence by some supervisors

The government suspended the ports manager at Lake Nyasa and replaced some other officials who were responsible for supervising port activities, he told the premier.

The ship building contractor, Songoro Marine Transport Ltd has until August 25 to complete maintenance of Mbeya II so that it starts operating, he added.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured yesterday inspecting a Kyela District store stocked with cacao beans. To his left is Agriculture deputy minister Hussein Bashe. Photo: PMO

## Eurowings, Edelweiss airlines flying directly to Kilimanjaro

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past as the safest terminal in East Africa, and is strategically located at halfway point Arusha city and Moshi municipality, the former being the national parks hub vantage point and the latter the logistics centre for scaling Mount Kilimanjaro.

Despite its modest size, Kilimanjaro Airport that was otherwise Moshi airport can handle aircrafts as large as Boeing 747 and Antonov 124, featuring one of the largest aircraft hangars in the sub-region.

Currently handling flights from 15 international airlines with private and commercial chartered planes landing on an ad hoc basis, Kilimanjaro Airport lists 1.2m

passengers per year, about 45 percent being international passengers, 38 percent domestic and 17 percent being on transit.

Kilimanjaro International Airport has direct flight connections to Europe, the Middle East and several destinations in Africa, with airlines like KLM, Condor Air, Turkish Airlines, Qatar Airways, Ethiopian Airlines, Kenya Airways and Rwandair. Locally the terminal is frequented by the state carrier, Air Tanzania and Precision Air.

In 2013 Kilimanjaro Airport was declared overall winner of the 'Routes Africa Airport Marketing Award,' a highly regarded prestigious award where winners are voted for and picked by airline industry stakeholders. KIA won the Routes' 'best airport in Africa' title in 2014.

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director of Sense International.

An orbitreader is portable, easy to carry and can be connected to a computer to allow communication between a teacher and a pupil, she explained.

Prof Carolyn Nombo, deputy permanent secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology said the new device was essential to education. There is a need for the government to roll out the programme and purchase more of those devices for use in schools, she said.

"Technology is changing daily, therefore we need to ensure that we go with the changes and include the new tools in our endeavors to provide quality education," she stated, airing the view that the devices must be introduced in examinations to allow pupils their use when conducting national examinations.

## Digitalised Perkins replacing manual Braille machines

This is a welcome idea, the top official declared.

TEA Executive Director Dr Aneth Komba said the new device is a milestone in the provision of education to pupils with disability as it will enable teachers to understand the progress of their pupils.

The braille machine now in place costs about \$1000 while the new device is priced at half the cost, she stated.

Experts say that while the government has made significant policy progress regarding inclusive education, "implementation has been poor, hampered by weak capacity and a lack of ring fenced budgets to make sure the

work happens."

Disabled children are routinely stigmatized and viewed as unable to learn and so are rarely encouraged to go to school, while sometimes they are hidden away by their families.

School environments are in many ways physically inaccessible for such pupils while teachers are not trained enough on how to engage those with special needs, while there is a lack of inclusive resources such as Braille textbooks.

Tools, skills and resources are urgently required so that the right to an education can be enjoyed by everyone, activists maintained at the meeting.



Mkinga district commissioner Col Maulid Surumbu (2nd-R, gesturing) briefs Livestock and Fisheries minister Mashimba Ndaki (L, foreground), during the latter's weekend tour of the Horohoro village site where the government intends to develop a livestock open market. Photo: Correspondent Oscar Kasimiri

## Security agencies tasked to investigate source of fire out break at Msavu station

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

AUTHORITIES in Morogoro Region have formed a probe committee comprising all defence and security forces in the region and officials from Tanzania Electricity Supply Corporation (TANESCO) to investigate the source of fire at Msamvu power receiving and transmission station.

Morogoro Regional Commissioner, Martine Shigela said fire broke out at Msamvu power transmission station on Monday morning due to an electrical fault at a specific building. He said the incident resulted in power cut in Morogoro and some neighbouring

regions.

Shigela said the probe committee include officers from the national service, fire and rescue force, TANESCO and the Tanzania Intelligence and Security Service (TISS). He called on the residents to be patient as the technicians works to restore electricity services to affected regions.

The RC commended defence and security forces in the region for taking immediate measures to put-off the fire. He said the particular power station at Msamvu transmits electricity to between 50 and 60 percent of TANESCO customers in Morogoro.

"Most of the production activities

in our region have stopped; the fire incident has also affected businesses," said the RC insisting TANESCO experts are working to restore power services.

Acting commander of the Fire and Rescue Force, Neema Msokwa said they succeeded to put-off the fire and that they will issue a statement on the cause of the fire as soon as investigations are completed.

Morogoro Regional Police Commander, Fortunatus Muslimu said no person was injured during the fire accident, saying they have beefed up security at the area. He said the force is determined to ensure such incident does not happen in future.

TANESCO manager in Morogoro Region, Eng Fedgrace Shuma said the fire has mostly affected the station's power transmission part, but they have been forced to switch off the whole station to allow maintenance.

According to him, customers receiving electricity from the Msamvu power station will be connected to the other stations in Dodoma and Chalinze in Coast Region. He said electricity services will be restored in twelve hours.

"We are going to connect our customers with the Dodoma and Chalinze power stations as our technicians continue to repair the Msamvu station.

## 'No wearing of face mask, no transport'

By Guardian Reporter

DAR ES SALAAM Regional Commissioner Amos Makalla yesterday directed commuter bus operators not to carry any passenger without wearing a face mask in a move aimed at controlling the spread of COVID-19 pandemic.

RC Makalla made the directive during a meeting with members of regional defense committee which sat to evaluate the implementation of measures taken to fight the pandemic but also embrace level seat.

The regional boss said there has been laxity in implementing the safety measures announced by the ministry of health directing the police, District Commissioners and the Land Transport Regulatory Authority (LATRA) to administer the same.

Due to transportation challenges, the RC allowed bus operators to

carry at least five pupils but on condition of putting on a mask, calling upon Dar es Salaam city residents to adhere to safety measures as announced by health authorities.

On vaccines, Makalla said he was happy to see that Tanzanians have positively received news about vaccine.

The RC said about 10,000 people have forwarded their intentions to be vaccinated.



**The RC said about 10,000 people have forwarded their intentions to be vaccinated**

## Govt to revoke all licences from non-developed mines

FROM PAGE 1

to avoid tax and thus take to smuggling minerals out of the country. Tanzania has 50 minerals auction markets countrywide, while traders from neighbouring DRC also come to sell their minerals.

Regional Commissioner Dr Philemon Sengati said he was ready to wage war against smugglers of minerals, urging them to stop the habit as when found they will be bankrupted by confiscating all the minerals they hold.

Placing patriotism at the forefront for the economic development of the people of Shinyanga was essential, he said, vowing to be severe upon those who lack the sense of civility.

Prof Idris Kikula, the chairman

of the Tanzania Commission for Minerals, said the government is forced to cancel the mining licenses in the coming 60 days. The decision has to be implemented and the demanded tax paid for the benefit of the nation, he asserted.

The commission has already made the decision public, he said, urging license holders to prepare for the exercise, while also readying tax payment demanded by the government, he emphasised.

The Trade and Mineral Technology Exhibition at the Zainab Tellack grounds ended yesterday and is slated for next year, where among other things it provides opportunities to the public to familiarize themselves with operations of markets for minerals and minerals technology.



Stanbic Bank Tanzania CEO Kevin Wingfield (R) pictured in Dar es Salaam presenting a dummy cheque for 5m/- to Ava Group Investment's Judith Karia (L), who has emerged one of the top 10 winners of the second edition of the bank's Entrepreneurship Challenge. The initiative seeks to help entrepreneurs in the country to realise their goals. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## NBC and NHIF to provide farmers with health cover

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Commercial Bank (NBC) has entered into an agreement with the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF) aimed at enabling farmers within cooperatives in the country to access the health care system through a farmers' health insurance scheme known as "Ushirika Afya".

NBC bank will implement the initiative by submitting health insurance contributions directly to the Insurance Fund on behalf of farmers who operate NBC bank accounts and access Agricultural loans through the bank.

Speaking at a brief MoU signing ceremony, NBC Bank's Managing Director, Theobald Sabi and NHIF Director General, Bernard Konga said the initiative aims to accommodate more citizens - especially farmers - in the Health Insurance system and thus build the nation's economy responsibly while in good health.

"As a bank, in order to continue to do better we need to have a strong economy that is also based on a healthy workforce. The issue of quality health care for our clients, including farmers, is one of our priorities and that is the reason we did not hesitate to join "Ushirika Afya" initiative," Sabi said.

According to Sabi, through the scheme, a farmer will be contributed a total of 76,800/- per year. If the farmer has a spouse or children, a sum of 76,800/- and 50,400/- per child will be contributed respectively.

"This insurance will be provided by NHIF and will be available at all NBC branches across the country so I urge farmers to take advantage of this opportunity. For our part, bank officials are planning to visit cooperative farmers to ensure that they receive this good news through NBC bank," added Sabi.

For his part, Konga assured all farmers who will join the

program that they will have access to quality services more easily while noting that the institution is committed to simplifying services through improvements to its ICT infrastructure.

"I am confident that through the partnership between NBC and farmers across the country, this initiative will be a great success as the main goal is to reach farmers wherever they are so that we can increase the scope of beneficiaries of this fund," said Mr Konga citing that only 8% of Tanzanians use the health insurance service through the fund.

For his part, the Registrar of Cooperatives, Tanzania Dr. Benson Ndiege, while congratulating the two institutions for the important agreement, said that in order for the program to be successful, there is a need to ensure that cooperatives in the country become more self-reliant so that farmers continue to be part of the formal system.

"I would also like to emphasize that through this program farmers should be assured of access to quality services as intended to attract more farmers. However, I am not worried about the efficiency of this initiative as I am well aware of the strength of these two institutions - NBC and NHIF," he concluded.



**As a bank, in order to continue to do better we need to have a strong economy that is also based on a healthy workforce**

By Guardian Correspondent, Songea

## Government launches 71.95bn/- REA project in Ruvuma Region

THE government has set aside 71.95bn/- for implementing Phase III of Rural Energy Agency (REA) Projects Round II in all villages that are yet to be connected to electricity in Ruvuma Region.

Energy minister Dr Medard Kalemani revealed this at the weekend when launching the REA project for Ruvuma Region at the event held in Nalasi village in Tunduru District.

He said the money will be spent to distribute electricity to 265 remaining villages out of the region's 554 villages.

"After launching the project make sure you use electricity for

your own economic development, by starting small factories, the government has dishied out adequate funds to make sure all villages are supplied with power come December 2022.

"It is therefore up to you to start wiring your houses, you only have to pay 27,000/- connection fee," he said.

He explained that two local contracting firms have been picked to implement the project in all districts of the region -Songea,

Mbinga, Tunduru, Nyasa and Namtumbo.

The firms include NAMIS Contractors for Songea, Mbinga and Nyasa districts to cost 35.28bn/- and White City Contractors for Tunduru, and Namtumbo District at a cost of 36.67bn/-.

In regard to Tunduru District from where the project was launched, Dr Kalemani said the district has a total of 157 villages, out of which 72 already have been connected to power, with 85

remaining.

For his part, Ruvuma Regional Commissioner, Brig. Gen. Wilbert Ibuge called on the region's residents to protect power infrastructures and cooperate with the contractors.

He called on the youth in relative areas to grab the opportunities in non-skilled jobs for income.

He also called on the contractors to introduce themselves to local government officials for cooperation.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

## Pyrethrum farmers in plea for more buyers to spur price rise

PYRETHRUM farmers in Mbeya District have appealed to the government to assist them to find other buyers of the crop to increase competition that will raise its price.

The farmers from various villages in Umalila Ward in the District made the appeal on Sunday when receiving various items for the construction of infrastructures of schools, health and roads in their areas.

The items were provided by the Pyrethrum Company of Tanzania (PCT), the company that buys their crop as part of its responsibility to the community in areas they buy the crop.

Joseph Mwile, one of pyrethrum farmers said in the past they were selling the crop at between 2,400/- and 2,500/- per kilo but now the price has shot up to 2,700/- a kilo, saying the price was still low and unprofitable for them.

He said at least the price should be 3,000/- a kilo, and added that cultivation of pyrethrum was a very tedious undertaking and takes them a very long time before selling the crop.

"I have five acres, a cannot alone work on all of them, I must have labourers to help me, but at the price we are getting, it is hard to earn any profit, we therefore ask the government to find for us other buyers," he said.

Another farmer, Iyela

Mwaweza, a farmer from Pashungu Village said many fellow villagers cultivate pyrethrum, but since there is only one buyer we hardly earn any meaningful profit.

"Sometimes when you go to sell your crop, you are find the office closed and you are told there is no money, and you cannot sell anywhere else, this is a very big inconvenience facing us," he said.

PCT representatives promised to solve challenges under their ability and

appealed to other stakeholders to chip in.

PCT Pyrethrum Coordinator, Michael Bishubo said they will continue to work together farmers to improve crop's benefits to farmers and the nation in general.

Speaking on behalf of Mbeya District Council, the District Agricultural Officer Diana Masebo called on farmers not to be despaired as the government was all ready to assist them.



### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: No. RFP/2021/SUP/019 ESTABLISHMENT OF FRAME AGREEMENT (S) FOR THE PROVISION OF MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ALL UNHCR OFFICES IT EQUIPMENT IN DAR ES SALAAM, KIBONDO, KASULU AND KIGOMA

**1. Background:**  
The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Dar es Salaam invites reputable and qualified service providers to submit firm offers for establishment of Frame Agreement(s) for the provision of Maintenance, Repair and Support Services for all UNHCR Office IT equipment.

**2. Eligibility:**  
Service providers duly registered with relevant government authorities, with sound financial basis, relevant experience, reputed clientele and with knowledge of how to meet UNHCR's requirements are invited to participate in the bidding process.

Kindly download the tender documents in the below link:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1kcRh8-KD8uVaVOTuxAJK6qL0lxn3fCFm?usp=sharing>

If you fail to access the link, please write to [ndassa@unhcr.org](mailto:ndassa@unhcr.org) copy [ishobeza@unhcr.org](mailto:ishobeza@unhcr.org)

#### CRUCIAL DATES FOR THIS INVITATION TO BID

|   |   |
|---|---|
| Deadline for receiving requests for clarification | 16 <sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 2359 hours EAT    |
| Deadline for submission of offers                 | 09 <sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 1600 hours EAT |

UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.



### REQUEST FOR TENDER

#### DESIGN, MANUFACTURE AND INSTALL FUEL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM (FMS)

North Mara Gold Mine, a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation, which is ultimately owned by Barrick Gold Corporation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania requests the submission of Tenders from reputable, experienced, certified and qualified parties to provide the following services:

**Design, manufacture, supply and install materials including development FMS software for the effective Management of diesel stock and consumption**

#### Pre-qualification Criteria

- (1) Evidence of suitable HSE, OSHA compliance and site safety program
- (2) Certified ISO 1400, relative to design, manufacture and installation of materials used in management and distribution of petroleum products.
- (3) Traceable references of similar projects successfully executed both in scale and scope. (4) No less than five (5) years traceable experience with development and installation of Fuel Management systems particularly in the mining industry with monthly consumption >2 000 000 litres of diesel fuel per month.
- (5) Capacity to Engineer develop and implement site specific FMS software which must be integrated into the Barrick AME group of companies.
- (6) Evidence of suitable resources availability – equipment, systems and qualified personnel (Engineers, Technicians and Installers)

#### Expression of Interest

If your company meets the pre-qualification criteria and would like to be considered to receive the invitation to tender (ITT), an expression of interest (EOI) including your company profile and evidence of compliance with pre-qualification criteria may be submitted to [nm.proposal@barrick.com](mailto:nm.proposal@barrick.com).

Applicants must quote the reference "NM Fuel Management System" in the subject line of the email.

NB: The Company reserves the right to invite any other supplier(s) who did not submit an EOI through this advertisement.

#### Key Dates

- Last date to submit EOI August 6, 2021

North Mara Gold Mine Limited

## PM bans use of unofficial weights in crop purchases

By Guardian Correspondent, Rungwe

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has banned the use of unofficial weights and measures by traders including overweight bags (lumbesa) when buying produce from farmers saying they defraud them.

He issued the ban here on Sunday when addressing Iloilo Villagers in Kiwira Ward, Rungwe District saying the government's position is to ensure the "lumbesa" system is done away with.

He said the system have is more disadvantageous to farmers especially in regard to potatoes which is among crops widely cultivated in Mbeya and Njombe regions.

He said the acceptable weight system is the weighing machine and that an acceptable weight of a bag of produce should not be more than 100kgs, and added that any other system was sheer theft.

He instructed the Agriculture ministry to supervise the use of weighing scales at market places especially in villages to eradicate the use of unofficial weight systems, including plastic containers.

For his part, Agriculture Deputy Minister Hussein Bashe said he will soon convene a special meeting

with all Regional Commissioners in potato producing areas to discuss and put in place strategies against the "lumbesa."

He said farmers have been incurring great cost to grow crops but with little benefits due to the unacceptable practice by some traders who defraud farmers through unofficial weight systems.

"The cry against "lumbesa" has been around for a long time and that now the government must come up with a solution. In the proposed meeting we shall involve other stakeholders in order to come up with one voice," he said.

He also said his ministry will continue supervising other crops including priority crops including cvashew nuts, tea, coffee, oil palm, and others.

Earlier, Rungwe Member of Parliament, Anthony Mwantono said Rungwe District is among large potato growing districts but the challenge faced by farmers is low price and use of unauthorized weight.

He said farm inputs are sold to farmers at high cost compared to what they earn after selling their crops hence he appealed to the government to assist farmers to find solutions to these challenges.



Residents of Ifuwa village in Kilolo District, Iringa Region, pictured yesterday making bricks for use in the construction of four classrooms at a local satellite school, whose completion will spare primary school pupils in the area the bother of having to walk some 20 km daily to and from the current Ifuwa Primary School. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

By Guardian Correspondent, Njombe

THE Government has assured farmers that early this month a ship is expected to dock with 60,000 tonnes of various types of fertiliser.

This has been revealed here yesterday the Director of National Fertiliser Regulatory Authority (NFRA) Stephen Ngailo, saying 38,000 tonnes of CAN fertiliser, will come in between 10 and 12 of this month while a 33,000-ton ship will dock in before the end of the month while another ship with 16,500

## Govt: More than 60,000 tonnes of fertiliser on way to Tanzania

tonnes of the input will arrive soon thereafter.

"So if you add up about 50,000 of UREA fertiliser is expected in the country, and this is a very big quantity with more to come thereafter, hence I assure farmers

that the input will be available," Ngailo said.

He added: "Regarding prices the government is looking for ways to reduce fertiliser price, hence it is not asleep, it is working to ensure farmers get the farm input at

affordable prices."

Ngailo also said for Iringa, Njombe and Ruvuma Regions the fertiliser availability was satisfactory as the regions already have 800 tons of the fertiliser in stock.

"Iringa has 1,000 tons, Ruvuma

with more than 2,000 tonnes and Njombe with 5,000 tons hence we are certain more fertiliser will be sent to the region," he added.

He also called on Tanzanians to invest in establishing of fertiliser factories to do away with fertiliser

price rises.

For his part, the general manager of Mtwale General Traders based here, Sady Mwang'onda, assured farmers that adequate farm inputs and more fertiliser was on its way.

"We must prepare for the farming season, we have many trucks transporting fertiliser from dar es Salaam to here and as the season progresses we will also be bringing enough fertiliser to make sure farmers are not faced with any challenges," he added.



Neema Ikolo (gesturing), winner of Vodacom Tanzania's final draw of Vodacom Tanzania's eight-week 'Twende Mjini na M-Pesa' campaign, in jovial mood while seated in her prize car at presentation ceremony held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. The drive was meant to sensitise the firm's customers to use its digital services. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Police hold 7 over gold smuggling

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

THE Bulyanhulu ward executive officer in Msalala District Council, Shinyanga Region, Abdallah Kombo, has said seven people, allegedly including two policemen were being held by the police at Bugarama Police Station for smuggling three pieces of stones believed to be gold.

He said the incident occurred on Saturday at around 12:00 midnight when the seven, who were mining for gold at Mbaga Patinas Gold Mine when two policemen and some other miners were arrested for smuggling the stones believed to be gold.

"It is true, the incident happened and

some miners including the mine manager are being held by the police over gold smuggling, but I cannot speak much about this as the police investigations were still ongoing," he added.

For his part, Kahama District mining officer Joseph Kumburu, speaking to this paper said seven people were being held for smuggling stones believed to be gold.

He said as government, they had to intervene and interrogate the mine's management, while the remaining stones were cleaned up and 800 grams obtained, adding that the smuggled stones could have been of much more weight.

"What I know is that seven people were

being held, including mine officials but I have no information about any policemen being held," he said.

The chairman of Mbaga Patinas Gold Mine Joseph Makoba confirmed the incident but refuted of any policemen being involved, but added that as mine's licence owners they will make sure they stand by the government's interest including control of gold smuggling.

For his part, Shinyanga Regional Police Commander George Kyando, speaking to this paper on the incident said the matter was reported to him and directed the Regional Crime Officer to investigate after which he would be able to talk to the media.

## Standard Chartered and Tanzania Commercial Bank come together in effort to serve customers better

By Guardian Reporter

STANDARD Chartered Bank Tanzania Limited has enhanced convenience for clients to eighty more branches and over one thousand bank agents through a strategic partnership with Tanzania Commercial Bank.

The partnership allows corporate customers of Standard Chartered Bank to deposit cash to their accounts through the wide branch network of Tanzania Commercial Bank. There is an existing system connection that allows for any cash deposited in any branch of Tanzania Commercial Bank to reflect in the account of a Standard Chartered Bank customer in a near real time basis. The partnership has been running for 6 years.

Sanjay Rughani, Chief Executive Officer at Standard Chartered Bank, commented "Our purpose is to partner and connect people to prosperity. Standard Chartered Bank is keen on forming strategic partnerships that promote our customers experience and extend value to our customers. Through this enhanced partnership, we have opportunity to serve our customers better in additional 19 regions with Tanzania Commercial Bank footprints where we had no physical presence".

The enhanced strategic partnership that was signed by the two lenders yesterday will allow corporate customers of Standard Chartered Bank to deposit cash in 84 branches and 3,500 banking agents of Tanzania Commercial Bank. Initially, the partnership only involved 30 branches of previously known Tanzania Postal Bank recently re-branded to Tanzania Commercial Bank.

Standard Chartered Bank currently has 3 branches in Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Arusha. Initially the partnership was available in Mbeya, Tabora, Bukoba and Dodoma regions. With the enhanced partnership, customers of Standard Chartered Bank will benefit from the country wide network of 84 branches of Tanzania Commercial Banks located in over 20

regions including Arusha, Manyara, Kagera, Dodoma, Dar es Salaam, Iringa, Shinyanga, Kigoma, Mwanza, Lindi, Mbeya, Morogoro, Kilimanjaro, Mtwara, Njombe, Mwanza, Singida, Ruvuma, Rukwa, Tabora, Tanga and Zanzibar.

Mrs. Efeh Amoah, Head of Transaction Banking at Standard Chartered Bank, commented "Our customers can get various benefits from this partnership. For instance, our customers can deposit cash to a branch of TCB and it can reflect in their account in a near real time basis. Our customers don't have to manage any relationship with TCB as Standard Chartered Bank takes care of the relationship end to end. Our customers can have a centralized view of their country wide collections through Straight2Banks."

The enhanced partnership between TCB and Standard Chartered Bank will be a mutual beneficial relationship that serves a common goal of serving clients. Both banks have better-quality security systems that provide guarantee on the safety of the customer's deposits.

Mr. Saba Saba Moshingi, Chief Executive Officer at Tanzania Commercial Bank, commented "Our bank has 48 branches, 36 mini-branches and 3,500 banking agent country wide. Our partnership with Standard Chartered Bank will also enable some of our customers to make business transactions within Standard Chartered Bank. Hence, increasing business transactions between both banks".

Jema Msuya, Director of Technology and Operations at Tanzania Commercial Bank commented, "Through this enhanced partnership, our Bank will get the opportunity to deliver great customer services. Further to that, there will be an opportunity for more potential customers to know more about our Bank's offerings.

Standard Chartered Bank and Tanzania Commercial Bank encourages the public to maximize on this partnership hence elevating their business transactions.



NMB Bank Plc head of government business Vicky Bishubo (2nd-L) checks tables and chairs at the weekend shortly before presenting them to Selemani Jafo (R), to Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), for use by Mzenga Secondary School. Left is NMB East zone acting manager Harold Lambileki. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Use this opportunity well, Majaliwa tells youth selected to join vocational studies

By Guardian Correspondent, Busokelo

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has urged youth who have been selected to join vocational and technical studies through the government's special programme to utilize the opportunity well for their benefits.

He said President Samia Suluhu Hassan has allocated funds to facilitate training of young people in various technical fields for six months so as to produce appropriately skilled youth to work in various fields.

He made the remarks during the weekend here when launching a vocational educational training college at Kipapa village in Busokelo District, Mbeya Region.

He said that there are 45,000 young people countrywide who have been sent to various

government and private colleges to be trained on vocational education for six months.

He said that some youth have been sent in the areas of tourism and hotels so as to gain more skills and be able to serve in the sector after studies.

The premier noted that equipping young Tanzanians with essential vocational skills is important for the country to achieve its development goals.

He said that Busokelo College under the Vocational Educational Training Authority (VETA) is one of the colleges which will train youth from Rungwe, Kyela, Chunya and Mbeya Districts.

"I expect that all youth who seized the opportunity will make good use of it, President Samia also wishes to see every Tanzanian has something legal to do including

entrepreneurial activities to improve income," he said.

He further detailed that the government plans to train 80,000 youth which involve 60 percent of practical learning and the remaining 40 percent will involve class sessions.

VETA director general Dr Pancras Bujulu said the Busokelo training college has enrolled 127 students who will access vocational training through the programme.

He said among them, 26 students are taking carpentry, 45 tailoring, 28 home electrical, 18 computer repairs and 10 of them take electronics manufacturing.

Dr Bujulu said the program will greatly help the country by enabling the skilled students to employ themselves in the fields of carpentry, tailoring, driving and the use of machinery.

## RC Shigela to launch Covid-19 vaccination today

By Guardian Correspondent,

Morogoro

MOROGORO regional commissioner Martine Shigela is today expected to launch vaccination against Covid-19 to the targeted groups in Morogoro Municipality.

Shigela made the remarks when speaking to health experts in the region saying they were in essential preparations for vaccination slated for today in allocated centres.

"Our experts have informed me that everything was almost ready for me to officiate the launching with myself receiving the jab," he said.

The government, through the Health Ministry has distributed

Covid-19 vaccines to all mainland regions in 550 centres.

A statement issued last Friday by the Ministry's Permanent Secretary Prof Abel Makubi, among others directed regional and district medical officers to finalise all preparations for the exercise to begin today (August 3).

As for now the priority groups for vaccination include health workers and adults of 50 years and above as well as people suffering from various non communicable diseases.

Morogoro Region has been allocated with 26 vaccination centres including Morogoro Regional Referral Hospital, Sabasaba Health Centre, Mafiga Health Centre whereas for Morogoro district the centres will

be at Ngerengere Health Centre, Kisaki Dispensary and Morogoro District Hospital.

In Mvomero District vaccination centres are Melela health centre, Mvomero District Hospital and Madizini dispensary whereas in Kilosa District vaccination centres will be at Kilosa District Hospital, Mikumi Health Centre and Dumila Dispensary.

In Gairo District the centres will be at Gairo Health Centre, while in Kilombero District the centres will be Mlimba Health Centre, Mngeta Health Centre, and Idete Dispensary.

Ulanga District will have vaccination centres at Lupiro Health Centre, Mwaya health centre and Mahenge District Hospital at Ulanga.

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Business Council (EABC) yesterday signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation (MS TCDC), set to scale up business opportunities for youths in the region.

In his remarks during the signing ceremony, EABC CEO said: "The growing population, skills and knowledge of the youth is a great asset for the economic transformation of the EAC region and the continent especially now with developments such as the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), digitalization and e-commerce."

The partnership is set to see the two institutions organize and facilitate events, seeking to address policy and regulatory challenges hindering youths from investing in the region.

Makena Mwobobia, Executive Director of MSTCDC said: "This MoU shall boost youths' participation in the policy decision-making process at the EAC level and push a conducive environment for businesses plus amply active participation of youth in cross border and intra-Africa trade."

The agreement also commits to creating platforms to sensitize youths on developing issues, limiting them from accessing markets, thus curtailing the growth of their businesses: This, as well as create networking opportunities for increased business collaboration.

EABC CEO John Bosco Kalisa lauded MS TCDC

## EABC seals pact with centre to boost trade opportunities for youths in EAC

for establishing the 'Youth in Business, Trade and Enterprise' initiative that has played a key role in advancing the participation of youth in business and increased access to economic opportunities.

"EABC and MS-TCDC have agreed on establishing a Youth Business Advisory Desk, which will strive to promptly resolve issues inhibiting youths from scaling up their businesses," Mr. Kalisa said.

The agreement also outlines that the youths will benefit from training aimed at building their capacity building to address skill gaps in the market.

"EABC is keen on supporting and facilitating initiatives that will recognize

and empower cross-border trade and innovation among youth in business," Mr. Kalisa added.

The move is a positive step towards increasing intra-regional trade which stands at below 20% and comes at a time when the region is grappling to recover from the effects of Covid-19.

"EABC is keen on conducting in-depth studies on various sectors to provide factual policy reports and conduct research-based advocacy to assist youth to make informed choices," Mr. Kalisa added.

The agreement will also see the institutions endeavor to recruit and retain youths in business as part of the EAC SMEs Platform.



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TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is an aid-for-trade organisation that was established with the aim of growing prosperity in East Africa through increased trade. TMEA, which is funded by a range of development agencies, operates on a not-for-profit basis. TMEA is funded by the development agencies of the following countries: French Development Agency (AFD), Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Finland, Irish Aid, the Netherlands, Norway, United Kingdom, United States of America and the European Union. We work closely with East African Community (EAC) institutions, national governments, the private sector, and civil society organisations to increase trade by unlocking economic potential through increased physical access to markets, enhanced trade environment and improved business competitiveness. We believe that enhanced trade contributes to economic growth, a reduction in poverty and subsequently increased prosperity. TMEA has its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya with branches and operations in Arusha (at the East African Community), Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Hargeisa, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, and Uganda. TMEA is now expanding its trade facilitation programme and launching operations in Djibouti and Malawi.

We are looking for high calibre, results-oriented and experienced professionals to join our team in the positions below.

### Head of Human Resources

The job holder will be responsible for developing and delivering TMEA's human resources strategy including the acquisition, development and retention of staff to meet TMEA's corporate objectives. S/he is expected to provide strategic advice, leadership and direction in the development and implementation of a results-driven performance management culture, succession planning strategy, progressive staff welfare policies and strategies, organisational development initiatives and ensuring staff motivation and a conducive working environment.

The ideal candidate will possess an undergraduate degree with at least 12 years of relevant working experience OR a Masters degree with at least 10 years' of relevant working experience. In addition, the s/he will have a post-graduate diploma in Human Resource Management and a five years' leadership experience of a busy human resources function in a regional organisation, preferably in East Africa. S/he must also be a member of a professional human resources body.

### Director, Trade Policy and Facilitation

The job holder will be responsible for coordinating the alignment of trade policy and international trade practices and goals to TMEA's strategy and ensuring that the linkages between trade policy and facilitation are streamlined in all aspects of the Trade Environment work streams and clearly linked to organisational objectives at both the national and regional levels.. The Director for Trade Policy and Facilitation will also provide technical lead on trade policy and facilitation related support to country offices and partner organizations as needed, including the Integrated Border Management, work around the post Bali WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement; the Africa Continental Free Trade Agreement (AfCFTA) and related Trade in Services components.

The ideal candidate will possess an undergraduate degree with at least 12 years of relevant working experience OR a Master's degree with at least 10 years' of relevant working experience (i.e. experience in in leading the development and delivery of Trade and trade-related capacity development programmes to enhance the capacities of developing countries in trade policy development, formulation and implementation trade facilitation reforms, regional integration, and support to national governments). In addition, the s/he will have a minimum of five years' experience leading and managing programmes related to trade and regional integration / development co-operation in EAC countries.

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The Country Director (CD) will lead the country programmes with overall responsibility for delivering quality and results of these portfolios, in line with TMEA's Strategy and Project Cycle Management (PCM) Guidelines. S/he will manage and maintain strategic relationships with Governments, the private sector, civil society, and the donor communities. In

addition, the CD is responsible for managing the country teams to ensure good design and delivery of the programmes, and ensuring best practice is followed with TMEA corporate guidelines, procedures, and systems.

The CD will have the overall responsibility for leading the Uganda and South Sudan Country Programmes (UCP & SSCP) and developing, managing, and monitoring strategies and programme delivery. This will include the design, implementation, and delivery of programme activities in infrastructure development, trade facilitation, support to Government institutions and the private sector. S/he will develop and maintain effective programmes in line with TMEA's strategic plan, results framework and its management information and monitoring systems. The CD will identify opportunities for additional investments into TMEA's Uganda and South Sudan Programmes through fundraising from donors and other agencies.

The ideal candidate will possess an undergraduate degree with at least 12 years of relevant working experience OR a Master's degree with at least 10 years' of relevant working experience. In addition, the s/he will have a minimum of five years' experience in leadership, three of which should have been gained in Eastern Africa or the other countries in which TMEA operates, primarily in managing economic development co-operation programmes related to regional integration, trade facilitation, trade and investment climate reform, transport sector development, and/or institutional reform.

This post is open to Ugandan nationals only.

### Application details

The detailed job profiles for these posts can be accessed on our website [www.trademarkea.com](http://www.trademarkea.com).

These positions are available on contract to 30 June 2023 with the possibility of renewal. Please apply online through <http://www.trademarkea.com/work-with-us/> by Friday, 27 August 2021, 5.00pm Kenyan time. Attach your cover letter and detailed CV, including details of your qualifications, experience, and present position. Your application should also include a working e-mail address, daytime telephone contacts, and names and contact details of three referees. Interviews will be conducted in September and October 2021.

Please note that we will only consider applications received on-line through the link provided above. Applications received after the deadline will not be accepted. We reserve the right to accept or reject any application. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

TMEA is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to open and transparent recruitment processes. Qualified women and persons living with disabilities are particularly encouraged to apply.

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## SUA to outsource beekeeping tutors, says college head

By Guardian Correspondent, Mpanda

THE Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) has embarked on a strategy to source tutors from outside the university for teaching the new field in beekeeping at SUA's Mizengo Pinda Campus College in Katavi Region aimed at producing more beekeeping experts for the country.

This was disclosed here at the weekend by the Principal of SUA's Mizengo Pinda Campus College Prof George Mwamengele during the visit by SUA board members to inspect the college's projects during which he said the beekeeping field lacks experts since it was new one at the college.

He said before the establishment of the campus, SUA's main campus in Morogoro did not have the field, hence it was difficult to get experts after its establishment.

He said they expect to get instructors for the field from other colleges, including some from outside the country to ensure beekeeping field produces enough experts to make the beekeeping sector one of the sources for government revenue.

For his part, the college Vice Principal Prof Anna Sikira called on Tanzanian youth as well as those from outside the country to grab

the opportunity by joining fields offered by the college, saying they provide certainty for employment or self-employment.

"This is the only college in the country that will be offering beekeeping degrees, hence I advise the youth to grab this learning opportunity to be assured of employment," she said.

She said apart from beekeeping, the college also teaches agriculture, the fields still with many opportunities in the country.

For his part the SUA board chairman DR Tulole Bucheyeki said during his tenure as chairman he will make sure the campus produces enough experts in various fields for the country's development.

He said experts graduating from the campus will assist the nation to solve challenges facing various sectors including agriculture, tourism, industry and others to make them contribute to the country's GDP.

*"This is the only college in the country that will be offering beekeeping degrees, hence I advise the youth to grab this learning opportunity to be assured of employment"*



Bank of Africa deputy managing director Wasia Mushi is vaccinated against Covid-19 at the Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Women engaged in agriculture to land support from AfDB

By Guardian Reporter

THE African Development Bank plans to provide \$150m financing to women in the agricultural sector in a move to close the gap in financing for women in Africa by the end of 2021.

This was contained in a press statement titled 'African Development Bank affirms commitment to closing the gap in financing for women at United Nations Food Systems pre-summit' and published on the bank's website on Sunday.

The statement read, "The African Development Bank has reiterated its commitment to closing the financing gap for women and warned of the impact of gender inequality on food systems in Africa."

Bank's Vice President for Agriculture, Human and Social Development, Dr Beth Dunford, was quoted as saying, "Closing gaps in economic opportunities is not only essential for women's empowerment but for African economies, particularly for GDP growth, poverty reduction, and structural transformation for sustainable development."

"In sub-Saharan Africa, the financing gap for African women in agricultural value chains is estimated at \$15.6bn."

He added that women played a pivotal role in agriculture and agribusiness, and required more robust and responsive regulatory and policy frameworks for countries to benefit from their contributions.



**In sub-Saharan Africa, the financing gap for African women in agricultural value chains is estimated at \$15.6bn.**



Lawrence Juae (C), an engineer attached to an electric strategic project being implemented in Longido District, has a word with residents of Engikaret yesterday on ways to ensure maximum protection of infrastructure in the ward. Photo: Godfrey Mushi

## MCAs urge parties to prepare women for leadership before general elections

By Guardian Reporter

MALE Change Agents (MCAs) have urged political parties to prepare women for leadership positions before the General Election so that they can run for various leadership positions.

Members of MCAs made the call during a joint meeting with officials of the Tanzania Media Women Association, (TAMWA, Zanzibar), held at the TAMWA's office to assess participation of women during 2020 general elections.

Twenty-two men from Unguja and Pemba including supporters of various political parties, gender experts, and religious leaders set up a network three years ago to encourage the community to accept women as legitimate and capable leaders just like men.

The chairperson of the MCAs'committee, Mohammed Jabir Makame, condemned poor systems

in political parties leading to women failing to win constituencies because of absence of or poor preparedness by their parties including by not giving them the opportunity to lead within the party.

"Women are given the opportunity to run for the constituencies during the general election without being prepared in their parties, so it is not easy to win the constituency. Parties should first prepare potential women within the remaining four years before general elections, by giving them chances to lead within the party," said Makame.

He also said that previously, women were afraid to run for constituencies, but after being encouraged, many women turned out to run for constituencies as it happened in 2020 with 435 women showing interests and 216 contesting.

On the Pemba side, Omar Mjaka Ali, a male change agent said that

apart from women readiness, they also face economic constraints, which led to their failure to win in constituencies, because, right from the kick start of the electoral process funding is required (from picking up nomination forms through the entire campaign process).

Male Change Agent said also, that they have learned a lot from the movement geared to educate the community to accept women as leaders, including comparing the laws, Quran, and tales of the Islamic religion. They said in that mission, they were working with religious leaders so that community would realize that Islam as a system did not bar a woman to be a leader.

Statistics show that so far, women in decision-making bodies, especially for contested positions, are very few as according to the 2020 elections, women in the councils were 25 equal to 22.72

percent, House of Representatives 8 equal to 16 percentage, MPs 4 equal to 8 percent and for presidency 0.

Finally, male change agents team has called upon TAMWA - Zanzibar and other stakeholders to continue providing opportunities to empower women and young women to enter into leadership as well as continue to provide education to the community to accept potential women who can be leaders and do away with the misconception that religion is a barrier to prevent women to be members of parliament, member of the house of a representative or councilors.

Male change agents are working through a program to empower women in politics and leadership (WPEL) which is implemented by TAMWA-Zanzibar with the support from the United Nations Women agency (UN Women).

## Smallholder farmers want the full agricultural budget on the ground

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

AS this year's agricultural season knocks on, preparation of agricultural input must start now, smallholder farmers in the country have called on the government saying it is also important to ensure the budget allocated for agriculture is implemented accordingly.

Speaking at a meeting between the farmers and the Biennial Report task force in Dodoma recently, the farmers said normally the amount of the budget allocated for agriculture does not trickle down as planned earlier.

Barton Mwidone from Makang'wa ward in Chamwino district in Dodoma said that experience shows that after the National Assembly had allocated the budget, some of the money ends up covering meetings and seminars, something that does not help intended farmers at the grassroots level.

He said that most farmers struggle to get agricultural inputs such as fertilizers, pesticides and extension advisory services while they are already budgeted for.

"There are several villages where there are no single extension officer and even those with extension officers are usually not in the office because they don't have working tools such as bicycles for transport services," he said.

In some villages, extension officers have turned acting village executive officers, forgetting their main role of serving agriculture," he added.

Tatu Rajabu from Ilongelo village, Singida rural district called on the government to ensure it takes extension officers for fresher courses, training and further studies to update their knowledge and skills.

"You find that you have only one extension officer but he doesn't have knowledge of the outbreak of the new pests and diseases affecting crops, this makes it very difficult to educate farmers on how to arrest the pests and diseases," she said.

Sophia Bhoke from Buigiri, Chamwino wanted the government to provide soil testing kits so that smallholder farmers can understand soil status and what crop should be grown in that particular area.

"Weather forecast services are very important. Farmers are growing crops blindly without knowledge of the weather forecast

of that particular area," she said.

Msi ward councilor in Singida district Emmanuel Sima explained that sunflower farmers in Singida are struggling to get traditional sunflower seeds because the new record hybrid doesn't produce better edible oil due to lack of modern processing machines that can perform double refinery.

Commenting on the Biennial Report on the implementation of the Malabo Declaration, Project Manager for scaling up public investment in agriculture which is under ActionAid Jorum Wimmo said that it is important that the government should work with smallholder farmers at the grassroots level so that the collected data can reflect the real situation on the ground.

He said it is necessary that the data and recommendations provided by the farmers be integrated into government policies, regulations and plans.

"Small holder farmers have many challenges, to address these challenges, the government need to directly convene meetings with them, listen, learn and integrate their needs into policies, plans and plans," he said.

The 3rd Biennial Review (BR) Report is the powerful instrument for advocacy at the continental, regional and national level for triggering the necessary policy actions for agricultural transformation in Africa by 2025.

Throughout the process of BR process, members of the working groups including CSOs, and women farmers organizations conducting critical analysis to inputs the 3rd BR technical report. Therefore, ActionAid conducted value addition biennial toolkit to equip non-state actors with knowledge, analytical skills, monitoring and tracking and engage in the implementation of the CAADP Malabo Declaration.

The government said the budget has taken into consideration many challenges facing smallholder farmers. CAADP focal person in Tanzania Dainess Mtei from the Ministry of Agriculture said big part of the agricultural budget has been directed to improve extension advisory services.

She said all recommendations from the farmers and other stakeholders have been taken on board to enrich the Biennial Report on the implementation of the Malabo Declaration.

# Five Year Development Plan-III should make use of youth knowledge and skills - UNA

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

THE United Nations Association (UNA Tanzania) has called on the government and other stakeholders to ensure youth views, needs and priorities are seriously included and implemented in the five year development plan (FYDPIII).

Speaking during youth engagement meeting aimed at reviewing the FYDP III and getting recommendations in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, UNA Tanzania said besides constituting big percent of the population, most youth are talented in various aspects such as science, innovation and technology (STI).

UNA Tanzania program officer, youth and economic rights Lucas Kifyasi said if the FYDP III intend to successfully achieve its goals and objectives, it is better to tape in youth knowledge and skills.

Citing an example, he said that there are many innovative young people but don't have start ups and financing support such as soft loans and capital to scale up their innovations that could address or provide solutions to some of the problems facing communities.

The youth are also good at technologies but they face many challenges ranging from employment to capital.

"It is possible to secure soft loans or capital from financial institutions but what is missing is creating conducive environment for the youth to secure them, scale up their innovation and develop enterprise," he said. "We are learning a big lesson at this period of corona disease. If we could invest in innovation some five years ago, some of the problems such as lack of medical facilities to help fight the disease would have been locally made by innovative youth," he said.

That's why the youth are asking that their needs and priorities should be given required weight in

the plan to successfully achieve the FYDPIII objectives," he added.

He called on the youth to start innovating, to become job creators and engage in the decision making process.

UNA Tanzania communication and advocacy officer Godrida Magubo challenged the youth to thoroughly read the five year development plan (FYDP III) and understand their priorities in the plan. She said it is important that the youth should understand their priorities in the plan and how the government set to implement them with youth in mind.

The FYDP III is the final phase in the implementation of the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 and because it cuts across every other aspect of development plans, it should include both youth needs and priorities.

"It is important that the youth reads and understands the FYDPIII so that when the reviews are done, the youth can be proud of being part of the plan," she said.

For his part, Martha Luanda from Ministry of Finance and Planning said the FYDPIII has several priority areas in which the youth can make use and develop. These areas includes special economic zones, industries, agriculture, fisheries and value chain opportunities.

The five year development plan (FYDP III) is the final phase in the implementation of the Tanzania Development Vision 2025 and the last part of the long term perspective Plan (LTPP). It aims to put up a specific environment for building on the achievements obtained since the launching of the TDV 2025. For that reason, FYDP III will continue to implement the projects and programs aimed at opening up economic opportunities, build an industrial economy, strengthen competitiveness in domestic, regional and global markets as well as strengthen human development.



Finance and Planning deputy minister Hamad Masauni (C) follows a briefing by UTT Asset Management and Investor Services managing director Simon Migangala (3rd-L) during a visit to the agency, an institution under the ministry. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Correspondent James Kandoya

# Government promises to address challenges facing local engineers

THE government has assured local consulting engineers that it will continue addressing challenges facing them which include amending laws where necessary to improve working environment.

Minister for Works and Transport Dr Leonard Chamuriho said this in Dar es Salaam during the weekend at the 35th Annual General Meeting of the Association of Consulting Engineers Tanzania (ACET).

He said the government has a local content policy among others that requires investors to engage indigenous experts in project management.

Dr Chamuriho said that the objectives of the policy are to stimulate engagement of locals in the employment and domestic labour market, transfer of skills

and technology know-how to the indigenous, promote innovation, technology, research and enhance technological capabilities.

The minister said all these efforts are meant to develop local expertise to sustain Tanzanian engineering professionals' requirements.

He said since small firms have no muscles to compete with large foreign firms, therefore it is necessary for them to form partnerships or joint ventures so as to win.

He mentioned some of the challenges facing local consulting engineers which are stiff job opportunities, lack of confidence

and trust of the clients who prefer hiring foreign engineers.

Others are unfavourable bidding conditions which favour foreign funded projects, employing foreign experts as leaders in big projects and payment delays.

"The government is aware of the challenges facing the local consulting engineers. Rest assured that, we as government are working out on all these issues to improve working environment," he said.

He encouraged participation of the Tanzanians through partnership and/or subcontracts so that the locals could easily take over

when construction ended.

According to him, partnership and joint ventures turn into big firms which win the trust and confidence of serious big clients like Tanzania Roads Agency (TANROAD).

ACET President Eng Deogratias Mugishagwe mentioned some of the challenges including delays in payment and unfavourable bidding conditions which favour foreign funded projects.

"Having an effective local content is our main concern to create fair and free competition as well as win-win when bidding for tenders, the current one does not favour the locals much," he said.

## The Guardian Limited

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## The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO  
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

## Newsdesk

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

## Advertising

Mobile: 0782253676  
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz  
Website: www.ippmedia.com  
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## NSSF ought to move with caution into sisal industry

**P**LANS by the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) to venture into the sisal industry have lately issued to the public, which is definitely good news to the Tanga regional authorities and a range of stakeholders, and the welfare entity says this is in accordance with the law under which it was established. It says it allows it to invest in gainful projects, which is true, as it is for banks and others, but financial entities have auxiliary rules as to how 'investing in gainful projects' can be made. Questions seem to be lingering here.

NSSF board chairman Ali Iddi Siwa profiled the project to Tanga Regional Commissioner Adam Malima where he said the fund has set up a subsidiary company, Sisalana (T) Ltd, virtually as a substitute for Katani Limited after NSSF took over assets placed as collateral for a non-performing loan.

Explanations given focused on the need to recover the loaned money, and the conclusion follows that as the money was loaned to a key player in the sisal industry, the claimant of its assets continues with the business. Sisalana is thus being tasked with operating sisal decorticators, as well as fabricating sisal raw material products.

There is unfinished agenda on this matter, as it would appear that NSSF was gunning for a chance to do business in the industrial sector, whereas it is supposed to lend money to more or less assured investors so as to grow its money portfolio, earn auxiliary cash to regularly meet its pension or terminal benefits' commitments. Going into industrial business per se isn't statutorily part of the business of financial sector institutions, as auditing such activity requires a different set of protocols for which

even NSSF may be ill equipped. It also implies NSSF is subsidising the sisal sub-sector in Tanga region, for no valid rationale.

In that case the venture ought to be conducted on a temporary basis, meanwhile as NSSF looks out for a credible investor who repays the remaining loan and even a bit of its new expenditures on the project, and quit that field. Rationalising that it starts a formal sisal sub-sector operating company so that at the end of the day it earns back the loaned cash is not sufficient, as it obviates from the consideration that it may also money in that venture, and definitely social security isn't consonant with wholly owned industrial sector subsidiaries. It is more about participation either in lending, bond or equity in such enterprises, at most.

Sisalana will do business with Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS), whose parent agencies are prone to loss making. The firm processes sisal leaves to be sold by AMCOS at conveniently arranged prices, while NSSF gets levies after the produce cycle is completed. Still there is a longer term view that NSSF expects to use Sisalana to expand the sisal business "by adhering to investment rules and regulations governing social security funds," which it in actual fact appears to have over-stepped already.

Informed observers shall unavoidably look askance at the proposal that these efforts will gradually make sisal business in the country expand further and enable Sisalana to run more productively and profitably. Instead NSSF should put the company's shares for sale first, as liabilities. An old adage says one can't work for two masters: grow a sisal company, guard members' finances; Sisalana will be a major loss unit.

## Child marriages remain major challenge in SADC

**T**HERE has been a flurry of legal battles to end child marriages in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) region over the past few years. Successes have been scored on the legal front at both regional and national levels but equally so there have been some noticeable barriers in the fight against child marriages.

In 2016, the SADC Parliamentary Forum (SADC-PF) adopted a regional model law on eradicating child marriage and protecting children already in marriage. The model law defines a child marriage as "a statutory or customary union in which one party is a child or both parties are children" and defines a child as any person under the age of 18, in line with international human rights law. It goes on to state that "no person under the age of 18 shall marry".

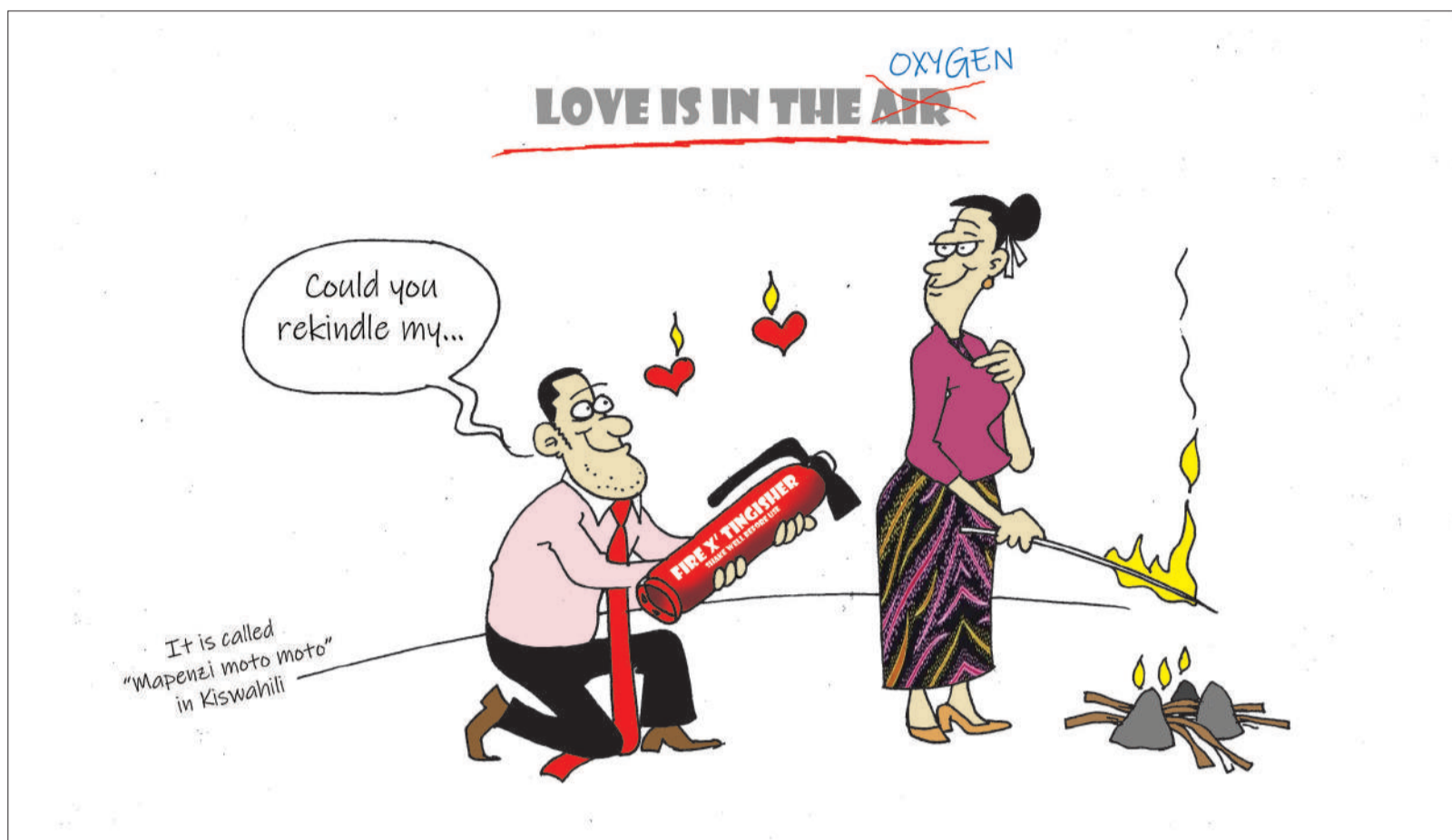
The Model Law was inspired by and has in turn inspired civil society organisations in the region to advocate for national laws to end child marriages, and where legal and constitutional provisions already exist, to push for implementation. As a result of this activism, the highest courts in the region have outlawed child marriages. In 2016, Zimbabwe's constitutional court in the case of Mudzuru and Another v the Minister of Justice and Others declared the country's Marriage Act (Chapter 5:11) and the Customary Marriages (Chapter 5:07) unconstitutional because the two laws allowed marriages of children under the age of 18.

In 2019, the Tanzania Court of Appeal in the case of The Attorney General v Rebecca Z. Gyumi similarly outlawed child marriages and declared the provisions in the Marriage Act allowing child marriages unconstitutional, despite spirited attempts by the State to defend the practice on the basis of culture and religion.

Legislatures in the region have done their part to fight child marriages. There have been numerous debates in parliaments across Southern Africa about the impact of child marriages on children, families and communities, with legislatures calling for a ban on the practice. Whilst in some of the parliaments, these debates are ongoing, in others, laws have been or are in the process of being passed to fight the practice.

In 2015, the Malawi Parliament passed the Marriage, Divorce and Family Relations Act which outlawed Child Marriages and a 2017 constitutional amendment increased the minimum age of marriage from 15 to 18 for both girls and boys.

Zimbabwe has a Marriage Bill in parliament, and the law seeks to comply with the 2013 constitution, the 2016 constitutional court decision and the SADC Model Law by legislating against child marriages. In 2019, the Mozambican Parliament passed the Law on Prevention and Combating of Premature Unions and revised the country's Family Law to prohibit marriages of children under the age of 18.



By Martin Jansen

**T**HE entire ANC and its social base are dependent on patronage fed by state resources. Their lives and livelihoods are under threat and they will defend it by all means necessary, within or outside the law.

"But we are not only rebuilding our country after the destruction of the past week; we are rebuilding after the devastation of decades of dispossession and exploitation. We need to fundamentally transform our economy and our society, deepening our efforts to create employment, lift millions out of poverty and ensure that the country's wealth is shared among all its people." (From the desk of the president – Monday, 19 July 2021.)

While South Africa is still reeling from the shock of last week's "protests" against former president Jacob Zuma's jailing for contempt, and the subsequent food riots and looting, we should not readily take comfort in the words of President Cyril Ramaphosa.

The obvious irony and hypocrisy are that it is his and the ANC government's failures of the past 27 years that have brought the country to the brink of civil war and failed-state status.

Based on the empty rhetoric and promises of the past decades – starting with the slogan of "a better life for all" in 1993 – we know we have no reason to believe that Ramaphosa and his government will be leading us to transform the economy and create the millions of decent jobs needed to lift the masses out of poverty and ensure that the country's wealth is shared among the people (as stipulated in the ANC's Freedom Charter of 1955).

Of immediate concern to all of us is the likely scenario for South Africa under an ANC government embroiled in the factional political battle that unfolded violently over past weeks, underpinned by desperate poverty.

A violent outcome to this battle was inevitable. If it is allowed to continue, it is likely to get worse. The battle is not simply about Ramaphosa versus Zuma and the latter's recent imprisonment. It is about who dominates the ruling party and thereby the government and state.

In this, there is much at stake – the power, influence and wealth which hundreds of ANC and SA Communist Party (SACP) members are dependent on for their livelihoods and social standing. State power and resources are the main means for sustaining and satisfying the voracious appetite for wealth of these black sections of the middle and bourgeois classes.

Patronage is the name of the game. Virtually the entire ANC and its respective groups and factions rely on an intricate formal and informal system of patronage that runs from the "Top Six" down to the local branches, and secures and maintains support through dispensing high- to low-level jobs in government and the state – from ministers and deputy generals to local branch members.

We are aware of the process of

## South Africa's political crisis is far from over: The fallout is likely to be chaotic and violent

corruption carried out by the ANC in government in the form of tenders and "mismanaged" procurement practices at all levels, to the direct theft of state resources. The ANC is rotten to its very core and in the process has wrecked and crippled all spheres of public service.

This process has proceeded concomitantly with the ANC's pro-big capital neoliberal economic policies and consistent anti-poor austerity measures – even under the Covid-19 pandemic – that have given impetus to the food riots and looting of the past week. Both these phenomena – state corruption and pro-business/anti-poor policies – have their roots in the origins of the ANC and the negotiated political settlement of 1993.

The late Stellenbosch University economist Prof Sampie Terreblanche summed up the settlement, as put by the apartheid ruling class to the ANC and which was accepted with sunset clauses and all, as: "We give you Pretoria, but leave Johannesburg alone."

This meant that the ANC would have state power for as long as it left the apartheid economy fundamentally intact. This was accepted by all the top leaders of the ANC – Nelson Mandela, Joe Slovo, Thabo Mbeki, Chris Hani, Zuma and Ramaphosa.

Maintaining WMC What had been the ANC's historical mission since its formation in 1912 – that of doing away with oppressive colonial and apartheid conditions to enable the black middle class reasonable freedom to thrive and access wealth accumulation opportunities – became intertwined with its role of maintaining the apartheid economic arrangements that not only left "White Monopoly Capital" (WMC) intact, but actually better off with nasty sanctions removed, making it better able to operate and expand globally.

In addition, the ANC's economic policies were soon to change from its pretend welfarist Reconstruction and Development Programme to its outwardly neoliberal pro-business Growth, Employment and Redistribution economic policy. That had been enthusiastically and vigorously implemented since the Mandela era and was championed by Mbeki and every subsequent ANC regime.

These penny-pinching, cost-cutting policies were implemented in every sphere of public service and parastatal companies – housing, education, public transport, healthcare and water and electricity provision. Coupled with mismanagement and corruption, it dealt a devastating blow to the majority of South Africans, being the black working class and the poor.

This dire situation of extreme poverty and inequality was aggravated by several local and global

economic crises that saw the country lose millions of secure and permanent jobs. In addition, to ensure that all opposition and resistance to these anti-poor measures were undermined and curbed – at the behest of big business and to secure its own political power – the ANC government passed several labour market reforms that more recently included labour law amendments which significantly weakened workers' right to strike.

Watershed moment The dismissal of Zuma as deputy president of the country in 2005 was a watershed moment for the ruling party and the country. It heralded the beginning of the ANC's factional battle that has negatively affected its already weak leadership and capacity to govern.

Zuma managed to galvanise all the wounded members of the party and its alliance partners (the ANC Youth League, the SACP and Cosatu) that successfully led to ousting Thabo Mbeki as the ANC's and the country's president at the 52nd ANC national conference in Polokwane in 2007. While mismanagement and corruption, such as the billion-dollar Arms Deal, had already been features of ANC rule since 1994, the Zuma presidency took it to another level with wanton looting and destruction.

By 2015 the main organisational components of the Zuma faction – the rump of the ANC Youth League, Cosatu and the SACP – had separated and distanced itself from Zuma.

But by then the wily Zuma, playing the long game, had secured majority support within party structures and all spheres of government with appointments of his cronies to strategic positions in government and the state. His top priority was to ensure that his yes-men controlled the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA), law enforcement and the armed forces. His main objectives were to maintain control over the state and sustain his network of patronage and support and remain out of prison then and forever.

A concerted effort It was his lucrative looting partnership with the Gupta family and its destabilising effects on the country that upset the appellation for White Monopoly Capital.

All efforts were made to terminate Zuma's role as SA president. Success was achieved with the help of the mainstream media, liberal NGOs and the trade union movement, and by providing a huge election war chest (an estimated R300-million) to the Ramaphosa faction to bribe delegates to elect him as ANC president at the 2017 national conference. This was achieved with the narrowest of margins over the Zuma faction's candidate, Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma.

Since then, the factional battle has

raged on with Ramaphosa gaining ascendancy and action against the Zuma faction using organs of state, with the legitimising role of the Zondo Commission of Inquiry into State Capture. This has resulted in pending prosecutions against leading members of the Zuma faction, such as party Secretary-General Ace Magashule, as well as Zuma himself, who was eventually jailed for 15 months for contempt of court.

For the Zuma-supporting "Radical Economic Transformation" (RET) faction, this was too much. It symbolically signalled defeat: an end to its political contestation for party dominance, which also threatened to collapse its patronage network and control over all access to state resources.

A determined fightback was required, with the main demand the release of Zuma from prison. Actions started with protests and acts of sabotage, attacking trucks on the strategic N3 freeway that links the economic hubs of Durban and Johannesburg and the businesses of WMC – the warehouses, factories and malls in KwaZulu-Natal and Gauteng.

This soon morphed into full-scale food riots by desperate, poor people, especially unemployed youth, that ended in more than 330 people being killed.

Lackadaisical response The initial inert response by the SA Police Service and security forces can be put down to leading sections still being supportive and sympathetic to the Zuma cause. After all, many of them are Zuma appointees and henchmen.

This political crisis is far from over and could get worse. Ramaphosa's cautious, incremental purge has allowed the Zuma/RET faction to plot and plan. With the Zondo Commission taking so long to conclude its business and lay the basis for extensive prosecutions of Zuma allies for their role in State Capture, there is sufficient space for them to muster support within the party to win leadership elections at the ANC's 2022 national conference.

Increasing their support base within the ANC and its membership on the basis of the threat posed to hundreds of corrupt leaders at all levels of the party as a consequence of recommendations of the Zondo Commission and the NPA could prove decisive in swinging the majority vote to the RET/Zuma faction.

The options open to Ramaphosa are to continue with his incremental purge through state organs and risk defeat at the next national conference, or to act decisively and immediately expel all the RET/Zuma-supporting dissidents, along with arresting and prosecuting those who plotted and carried out their ungovernability plans last week.



# How two African publishers are targeting specific communities

By Simone Flueckiger

**A**FRICA Uncensored and TelQuel, two media outlets based in Africa, recently shared the approaches and tools they developed in order to engage with - and empower - communities important to their organisations.

They were among the winners of the Google News Initiative's Innovation Challenge for the Middle East, Turkey and Africa, and showcased their funded projects at a WAN-IFRA Digital Media Africa conference.

With Piga Firimbi project, Africa Uncensored has been able to broaden its coverage by finding a way to engage with communities that don't necessarily have access to the internet or other digital tools.

Based in the Kenyan capital, Nairobi, Africa Uncensored is an independent media house "known for its hard-hitting investigative journalism and in-depth content", according to Editor Emmanuel Chenze.

It primarily distributes its content via its website and YouTube channel but it also partners with local, regional, and international media to bring its stories to a wider audience. Additionally, the organisation is involved in the production of local television series.

Africa Uncensored draws a lot of inspiration for stories from tip-offs from people in different communities who contact reporters via email or social media to tell them what is affecting them and what is happening around them. With the Piga Firimbi project, which stands for "blow the whistle" in Kiswahili, Africa Uncensored created a home for these types of stories.

However, the organisation was faced with the challenge of building a relationship with communities that don't necessarily have access to digital tools, especially those in Nairobi's informal settlements.

"These people also have stories to tell that are important," Chenze said, adding: "We needed to find a way of communicating with them, allowing them to get in touch with us, being able to respond to them, and bringing their concerns into the newsroom."

Africa Uncensored started using SMS messages to allow these communities to connect with them, a service that works throughout Kenya.

After sending a free SMS message featuring the keyword AUC to a specific number, senders receive a series of prompts, asking them to report what they are seeing and experiencing. The data are then aggregated in a dashboard, informing editorial decisions and story planning.

"The result could be a short piece that goes on the website or it could turn into a long-term project that requires more data, more research, more investigation," Chenze said, adding: "However, since the data are collected anonymously, it can be challenging to find people willing to speak on the record regarding these issues when the team investigates."

To be able to handle the influx of information and queries, Africa Uncensored focused on health last year, the issue on everybody's minds, but is hoping to soon include crime and other topics.

To inform people on the ground about the project, the organisation partnered with community radio stations. To which Chenze said: "The whole aim is to give them a voice and to make them visible again."

For its Diaspora project, TelQuel meanwhile created a dedicated platform for the Moroccan diaspora with the aim of engaging a community that makes up 13 per cent of the country's total population.

Founded in 2001, TelQuel is a French-language news media company based in Morocco, editing a weekly news magazine as well as news and service websites.

"TelQuel brings fresh air to the media landscape," said digital development manager Zakaria Choukrallah, adding: "We publish stories about taboo subjects and advocate individual freedoms, democracy, and transparency."

In May 2018, TelQuel introduced a freemium model, making it the second news company in Morocco to invest in the development of digital subscriptions. They have since garnered around 3,000 subscribers.

While Choukrallah acknowledged that this isn't enough to replace the advertising business, he called it a very important step in the Moroccan context.

The effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, which accelerated the decline of print and decreased ad revenue, drove TelQuel to develop new revenue streams, such as new audio and video formats designed to boost engagement, as well as products that target important niche audiences.

This gave rise to Diaspora par TelQuel, a project meant to engage the Moroccan diaspora, which represents nearly 5 million people, making up 13 per cent of the country's total population.

The community is mainly based in Europe, and its transfers in foreign currency represent 6.7 per cent of Morocco's GDP, making them of great interest to media organisations in terms of sustainability, as well as to other companies in sectors such as banking, insurance and real estate.

This is according to Choukrallah, who said: "We chose to address this audience because we already have it. Some 25 per cent of TelQuel's audience comes from outside Morocco."

TelQuel is focusing its efforts on audiences based in France, Belgium and Canada - a new destination for Moroccans - targeting highly educated profiles similar to that of its general audiences, as well as those that recently emigrated from Morocco who feel strong ties to their country of origin.

With the Diaspora project, TelQuel wanted to empower the voice of the Moroccan diaspora and provide more in-depth coverage that avoids clichés and differs from that of other news organisations.



"The diaspora is treated in the same manner by most media, focusing on arrivals in the summer, money transfers and success stories, but we think there is more to it than that," Choukrallah said.

"We report on what matters, by avoiding buzz and targeting specific populations and topics less covered by other outlets, such as business," he added. TelQuel has a network of 16 freelance journalists - 11 of them women - based in the three countries in order to be able to do on-the-ground reporting.

The editorial offer includes a series of format that tackles political, economic, cultural and societal issues. Each

episode has an average reading time of four minutes, Choukrallah said.

TelQuel also produces magazine-style long-format stories with a focus on illustrations and developed a monthly podcast, called Inside L'Ghorba, dedicated to the diaspora. "We are also promoting solutions journalism through a format called practical guides, articles that are edited as tutorials," according to Choukrallah. As a next step, TelQuel is planning to create and implement conversation tools to help foster debate among the diaspora community.

**A World Association of News Publishers dispatch.**

## IOGT·NTO·MOVEMENT

### AUDITED FINANCIAL RESULTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020.

The International Institute of IOGT-NTO Movement is a Swedish temperance organization, registered in Tanzania as an International NGO, but addressing the East African Region (Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tanzania, and Uganda). The Institute has a major focus to contribute to a world free from the harmful consequences of alcohol, narcotics, and other substances that we consider are obstacles to human welfare, security, and development. IOGT-NTO Movement has been working in Tanzania since 1993 and has its regional office in Dar Es Salaam and works through partnerships. Partners implement projects into their countries and report to IOGT-NTO Movement's regional office.

#### IOGT-NTO MOVEMENT SWEDEN EAST AFRICA OFFICE (EAO)

##### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

| Descriptions                             | Notes | 2020<br>TZS        | 2019<br>TZS        |
|--|-------|--------------------|--------------------|
| <b>Receipt</b>                           |       |                    |                    |
| Grant income                             | 3     | 693,726,769        | 683,975,483        |
| Other Income                             | 4     | 10,526,089         | -                  |
| <b>Receipt available during the year</b> |       | <b>704,252,858</b> | <b>683,975,483</b> |
| <b>Expenditures</b>                      |       |                    |                    |
| Partnership & Networking                 | 5     | 6,696,683          | -                  |
| Monitoring visits                        | 6     | 47,186,138         | 117,167,959        |
| Staff Costs                              | 7     | 412,093,497        | 342,211,171        |
| Administrative Costs                     | 8     | 238,276,540        | 188,996,525        |
| Method Assessment                        | 9     | -                  | 27,285,695         |
| Capacity Building, Thematic issues       | 10    | -                  | 8,314,133          |
| Refund to Forum SYD                      |       | -                  | -                  |
| <b>Total expenditure</b>                 |       | <b>704,252,858</b> | <b>683,975,483</b> |
| <b>Surplus for the year before tax</b>   |       | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>           |
| Taxation                                 |       | -                  | -                  |
| <b>Surplus for the year after tax</b>    |       | <b>-</b>           | <b>-</b>           |

These financial statements were approved by the Management on 17/02/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

*[Signature]*  
Brenda Mkvesha  
Regional Director

*[Signature]*  
Rose Nzali  
Finance and Administration officer



#### IOGT-NTO MOVEMENT SWEDEN - REGIONAL OFFICE EAST AFRICA

##### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2020

|   | Notes | 2020<br>TZS       | 2019<br>TZS         |
|---|-------|-------------------|---------------------|
| <b>Cash Flows from operating activities</b> |       |                   |                     |
| Cash Receipts from donors and other income  |       | 798,397,006       | 648,836,237         |
| Payment for programme expenses              |       | (713,975,769)     | (672,836,854)       |
| <b>Net Cash from operating activities</b>   |       | <b>84,421,237</b> | <b>(24,000,617)</b> |

##### CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT:

|                       | Notes | 2020<br>TZS | 2019<br>TZS |
|-----------------------|-------|-------------|-------------|
| Beginning of the year |       | 22,092,628  | 46,093,245  |
| End of the year       | 11    | 106,513,865 | 22,092,628  |

#### IOGT-NTO MOVEMENT SWEDEN EAST AFRICA OFFICE (EAO)

##### CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31ST DECEMBER 2020

| ASSETS                                       | Notes | 2020<br>TZS        | 2019<br>TZS       |
|--|-------|--------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Non-Current Asset</b>                     |       |                    |                   |
| Plant and Equipment                          | 11    | -                  | -                 |
| <b>Current Assets</b>                        |       |                    |                   |
| Cash and Cash Equivalents                    | 12    | 106,513,866        | 22,092,628        |
| Receivables                                  | 13    | 18,747,500         | 9,261,774         |
| <b>Total current assets</b>                  |       | <b>125,261,366</b> | <b>31,354,402</b> |
| <b>Total assets</b>                          |       | <b>125,261,366</b> | <b>31,354,402</b> |
| <b>LIABILITIES</b>                           |       |                    |                   |
| Accrued expenses                             | 14    | 16,124,053         | 16,361,238        |
| Deferred Grant                               | 15    | 109,137,312        | 14,993,164        |
| <b>Total Deferred income and liabilities</b> |       | <b>125,261,365</b> | <b>31,354,402</b> |

These financial statements were approved by the Management on 17/02/2021 and signed on its behalf by:

*[Signature]*  
Brenda Mkvesha  
Regional Director

*[Signature]*  
Rose Nzali  
Finance and Administration officer



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



PUBLIC NOTICE

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AUTHORIZED BY TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), established under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act No.12 of 2003, is mandated among other duties, to license communications, broadcasting and postal operators and type approve the electronic communications equipment for use in the United Republic of Tanzania.

In this respect, The Electronic and Postal Communications (Electronic Communications Equipment Standards and E-Waste Management) Regulations, 2020 makes it a responsibility of whoever imports, distributes, or sells electronic communications equipment in the United Republic of Tanzania to first obtain Type Approval certification from the Authority.

Accordingly, TCRA conducts type approval of electronic communications equipment to ascertain that they conform to the specified requirements or standards for their use in Tanzania. The equipment which require type approval includes but not limited to: -

- 1. Terminal electronic communications equipment such as Mobile Phones, Basic Telephone Sets, Data Modems, VHF/UHF Radio, Wireless Modules, GPS tracking devices, Short-range devices, etc.
2. Office communication devices such as PABX that are connected to common networks.
3. Network communication equipment such as Switching equipment, Base stations, Routers, Servers, Transmission equipment, etc.
4. Broadcasting equipment such as Television, Set-Top-Box, Radios, amplifiers etc.

The main objective of the Type Approval is to ensure that electronic communications equipment intended for use in the country complies with the national and international standards and do not pose any health or safety hazards to users; minimizing the harmful electromagnetic interference in public networks thus enhance the quality of service and ensuring interoperability of customer equipment with telecommunications networks and interconnection between networks.

Taking this into account, every importer, distributor, or seller of electronic communications equipment must ensure that electronic communications equipment are approved by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority before they are brought into the country. Type Approval of electronic communications equipment is performed based on the MODEL of the respective equipment through online Type Approval system accessible at https://otas.tcra.go.tz. TCRA would like to inform the public that the following are the electronic communications equipment approved for use in the country for the period from 1st April to 30th June, 2021.

Table with columns: S/No, APPLICANT NAME, EQUIPMENT NAME, MODEL, MANUFACTURER NAME. Lists various electronic equipment like mobile phones, printers, and modems approved by TCRA.

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact TCRA.

Issued by: DIRECTOR GENERAL
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA)
Mawasiliano Towers

20 Sam Nujoma Road
P.O. Box 474
14414 DAR ES SALAAM
TANZANIA
E-Mail: dg@tcra.go.tz
July 2021

# African scientist urges more friendly policies to spur biotechnology uptake

By Special Correspondent

AFRICAN governments should prioritise enactment of friendly policies combined with improved governance to drive biotechnology uptake in the continent, a scientist said on recently.

Emmanuel Okogbenin, director of program development and commercialization at the African Agricultural Technology Foundation (AATF) said at a virtual forum in Nairobi that robust policies are required to push the seed system development, achieve Sustainable Development Goals and the African Union (AU) Agenda 2063 on transforming the continent.

"For Africa to maximize the benefits of investment and science for improved prosperity of farmers and stakeholders as well as its economic growth and development, it is crucial to develop the seed systems for scaling technologies," Okogbenin said.

He called on African leaders to invest in new farming technologies including biotechnology alongside hybrid seeds and digital tools as well as machinery in order to transform food production in the continent.

Okogbenin said that harmonizing biotechnology policies and biosafety regulations is key to creating an enabling environment for its development and deployment.

He said that biotechnology is no longer viewed as an option but as a necessity that should be deployed



alongside conventional breeding methods to improve genetic gains for enhanced crop productivity and value chain transformation in Africa.

Okogbenin said that Africa is gradually evolving with advances in breeding, from classical to genetic engineering and now genome editing.

He called for the prioritization of accreditation of agro-input dealers and digital tools to increase access to quality agro-inputs.

Okogbenin urged African regulators to avoid the adoption of strict regulatory regimes that hinder the application of new innovations in plant breeding.

He said the technology is only complementing conventional breeding for maximum results adding that it will help Africa transform its agriculture systems and spur economic growth.

Okogbenin urged supportive voices for agricultural biotechnology with emphasis on farmer benefits and consumer preferences in order to sustain its uptake in Africa.

## From teen pregnancy to HIV, Malawi's youth radio shows tackle taboos

By Charles Pensulo, Blantyre

WHEN Doreen Sakala fell pregnant as a 15-year-old schoolgirl in Malawi, she felt alone and worried about her future - until one day she switched on the radio.

She was stunned to hear young people discussing the educational challenges faced by pregnant teenagers in the southeastern African country, where youth-led radio is helping tackle taboos from child marriage and sexual abuse to HIV.

"Listening to the radio opened up my eyes to the opportunities I can have if I work hard in school," Sakala, now 20, told the Thomson Reuters Foundation from the Mudzi Wathu radio station in central Malawi.

In many parts of rural Africa, radio is the only source of information. Across the continent, 54% of African youth use radio as their main news source, according to a pan-African survey by the South African-based Ichikowitz Family Foundation.

Five years after Sakala first began listening to the "Let's Shine" radio programme, she felt she was ready to go back to complete her secondary school education, and dreams of training to become a doctor.

"I want to finish my education ... (so I can) assist my baby and people in my community," she said.

The radio show that inspired her, which is made by and for young people, is part of an initiative led by Developing Radio Partners (DRP), U.S.-based charity that works with local radio stations in

low-income countries.

It is estimated to have reached three million youth since it went on air in 2017 in Malawi, where teenage pregnancies, child marriages and sexual violence have increased since the pandemic began last year.

Charles Rice, the head of DRP, said the rate of child marriages had declined in communities where the organisation is working with local stations.

"It really demonstrates the power that radio and well-trained reporters can have on critical social issues," he said.

### ROLE MODELS

About 400 youth reporters have been trained so far to research and host radio shows with nine stations across the country, covering culturally taboo topics including sexually transmitted diseases and contraception.

"We don't just train the reporters how to do journalism, we also provide them with life skills, and then they become role models for all youth in their communities," Rice said.

For many vulnerable youth, radio can inspire them to make necessary changes or seek help, said Meclina Chirwa, 32, who works as a presenter at Lilongwe-based Timveni Radio, which has also sought to address sensitive issues.

"On a daily basis, we receive over 200 calls ... We reach out to people that we can't reach physically," she said.

"We've had several scenarios where girls have been calling to

complain of abuse they are facing in their homes and we've followed up ... some of the girls ended up being in our care and support," she added.

Far from Malawi's big cities, the chief of Nzenje village near the Zambian border, said teen-led radio shows have contributed to the dissolution of six child marriages, with another three currently in the process of being dissolved.

Child marriage is illegal in Malawi, a country of about 18 million people, but convictions are rare and the practice remains common.

"While some rules protecting children are in place, most leaders have not been enforcing them ... these radio programmes have brought light to us when we were in the dark," said the village chief, Lawrence Lungu.

Despite facing ridicule from her peers when she returned to school five years after her baby was born, Sakala said she is determined to fight for her education, particularly because she knows she is not alone. "Other students were talking behind my back but I knew the reason why I was there so it was easy to ignore them," she said.

Chiko Moyo, a radio trainer for DRP, said the aim of the radio shows was not just to reduce the number of unwanted teen pregnancies, but also about showing teenage mothers their lives are not over.

"It's a question of mindset," said Moyo. "If you can change someone's thinking, you can change how they act."



Radio trainer Chiko Moyo guides the radio students through the editing process at Mudzi Wathu Radio in central Malawi.



### RE-ADVERTISED

## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF TOE DRAIN AT TAILINGS STORAGE FACILITY (TSF) - EXTENSION OF TOE DRAIN FOR NORTH AND SOUTHERN WALL BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

### I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring the service of Construction of Toe Drain at Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) - Extension of Toe Drain for North and Southern Wall and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of the below service.

#### Scope of work:

| REFERENCE NUMBER | SERVICE DESCRIPTION   |
|------------------|---|
| GGME0906         | Construction of Toe Drain at Tailings Storage Facility (TSF) - Extension of Toe Drain for North and Southern Wall |

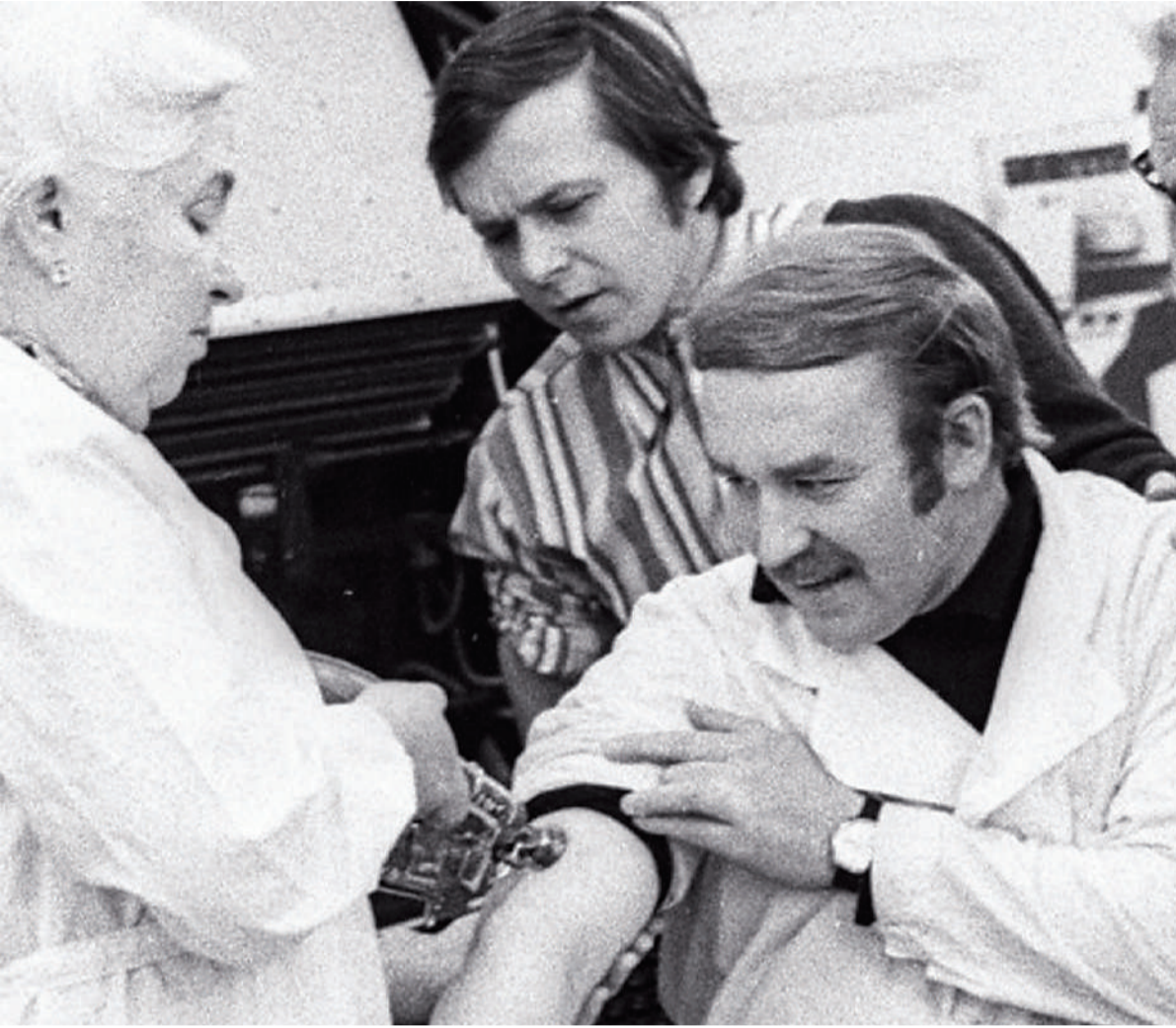
### 1. INFORMATION REQUIRED

| PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS  | 10%         |
|---|-------------|
| <b>COMMERCIAL</b>   |             |
| Company Profile   | 1.25%       |
| Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate  | 1.25%       |
| Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)   | 1.25%       |
| Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN   | 1.25%       |
| Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.  | 1.25%       |
| Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage %)   | 1.25%       |
| List of Directors   | 1.25%       |
| Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission                             | 1.25%       |
| <b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>  | <b>5%</b>   |
| Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)  | 2.5%        |
| At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position   | 2.5%        |
| <b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>  | <b>5%</b>   |
| OSHA Compliance Certificate   | 1.7%        |
| Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance  | 1.7%        |
| Safety and Environmental Policies   | 1.7%        |
| <b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>  | <b>5%</b>   |
| At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed) | 1.7%        |
| Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)  | 1.7%        |
| Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients  | 1.7%        |
| <b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME0906)</b>  | <b>75%</b>  |
| Experience on the same or related service or Project in question  | 25          |
| Availability of Equipment (owned/hired) to support provision of the service or project in question  | 25          |
| CRB Class for Civil Works   | 25          |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>100%</b> |

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than 0830 A.M 11<sup>th</sup> August 2021 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=

# The Soviets were champions at defeating diseases. But was everything so perfect?



**W**HILE the USSR was highly effective in controlling and eradicating all kinds of infectious diseases, there were factors that made it harder to ensure the country's epidemiological safety.

The Soviet healthcare system was considered, and is still considered by some, one of the best - or even the best - in the world.

According to statistics and information provided by the Soviet authorities, post-war USSR was highly effective in combating viral diseases and the healthcare system never faced anything that might be termed as an epidemiological crisis.

Personal hygiene propaganda and pro-vaccination campaigns contributed to the nation's health. However, judging by the living habits of the Soviet people, it is quite difficult to say with 100 per cent certainty that the number of infectious cases was low.

#### Major challenges faced by post-war USSR

The first challenge that comes to mind if we are talking about infectious diseases is the Russian flu, which was first recorded in 1977 and lasted till 1979. Despite the fact that this new strain was first identified in China, the virus was given the name 'Russian' (or simply 'Red') because the USSR was the first country to officially report on it.

The strain of the Russian influenza was 99 per cent similar to H1N1 (the one which also caused the Spanish flu pandemic in 1918 and the swine flu pandemic in 2009).

This is why it is considered that the great majority of patients were young people under 25 years old, whose organisms had never been exposed to H1N1 - which circulated worldwide in the 1940s-1950s.

However, when it comes to the number of infected people and the subsequent death toll, it is almost impossible to say anything with 100 per cent certainty.

Why? The problem was absolute secrecy. There are still no comprehensive data for this flu outbreak. That is why there are a lot of rumours about this influenza. There are those who say that the number of deaths from the disease in the Soviet Union exceeded 1 million people.

Conspiracy theory supporters advanced further, claiming that the Russian flu was of artificial origin and was meant to kill the youth. But these are just theories. If we look at the fact that an estimated influenza mortality rate worldwide was around 5-6 in every 100,000 people, we can infer that the death toll was not that high.

The summer of 1970 was marked by an outbreak of cholera in the south of the USSR. Astrakhan was actually the city which "bore the brunt" of the virulent disease. Until the end of August, nearly 200,000 people were vaccinated, while thousands of local residents and travellers were placed under quarantine. Thanks to the timely measures, the outbreak began to wane by early September.

Timely measures were the key to success by the USSR in stopping the epidemics. Additionally, we have to understand that the Soviet authorities didn't do half-measures and resorted to forceful methods of containing the outbreaks.

For example, in the case of cholera, 3,000 soldiers were sent to Astrakhan to keep order and to monitor the compliance of quarantine. Troops were also sent to Crimea and Odessa.

Another crucial factor in the USSR's success story was its mass immunisation campaign. Those born in post-war USSR were vaccinated against tuberculosis, diphtheria and poliomyelitis.

Over time, vaccines against pertussis (whooping cough), tetanus (lockjaw), measles and parotitis were added to the mandatory list. Just as in the case of virulent outbreaks, the vaccination campaigns accelerated (as in the case of cholera), thereby stopping the proliferation of diseases in the early stages.

This immunisation programme was also accom-

panied by a huge pro-vaccination campaign and propaganda of personal hygiene.

Slogans like, "Temper yourself if you want to be healthy" (condition yourself to the cold to become strong and healthy) or "Hurray for towels and sponges! Hurray for soapy foam!" entered into common parlance for virtually every Soviet citizen and were transmitted from generation to generation.

Soviet animation was an integral component of this campaign. For example, it is almost impossible to find a person born in the USSR who has never watched the 'Moydodyr' cartoon (it is still extremely popular these days).

The animated movie itself is based on the verses of renowned children's poet Korney Chukovskiy and seeks to encourage good hygiene practices.

Another example is a cult Soviet cartoon with the title: 'About a hippo who was afraid of vaccinations'. The story tells of a Hippo who was so scared of injections that he escaped from a hospital. However, he soon got sick and was delivered back on stretchers to hospital where he blushed with shame in front of a doctor. So, the idea of the cartoon is to let children (probably not only children) know that there is nothing scary about vaccination.

However, with respect to hygiene and sanitary, not everything was so perfect. The first example is the soda pop machines, which were widely widespread across the Soviet Union.

Who wouldn't want a glass of cold soda on a hot summer day? But the thing is that these machines only offered no more than two drinking glasses - and usually only one glass.

While the average Western citizen would point to poor personal hygiene, the Soviet people didn't think much about it.

These glasses could easily carry viruses and, for example, in the late 1970s, the Russian flu could have

easily been transmitted via them. But there are no data about it inasmuch as the studies concerning a linkage between the soda pop machines and the spread of infections had never been published or publicly discussed.

Another issue that may shock a modern person (especially living in the Covid-19 era) were reusable syringes, which were part and parcel of many Soviet citizens' medical kits.

The most common method of disinfecting those syringes was boiling them. However, as far as we know, boiling doesn't guarantee sterility.

This is because many viruses are notable for being able to survive boiling temperatures, for example Hepa-

titis B or C (I believe, our level of medical knowledge has increased greatly over the last year).

Anyway, despite the lack of data regarding the cases of infection, the Soviet system of epidemic control proved to be extremely efficient in controlling and eradicating infectious diseases in areas of transmission. But there are still too many questions that have been left unanswered.

*A Russia Beyond dispatch the Dar es Salaam-based Russian-Tanzanian Cultural Centre e-mailed to The Guardian for publication. Link: <https://www.rbth.com/business/334024-which-countries-supply-sputnik>.*



## SALE OF USED MOTOR VEHICLE

WaterAid Tanzania invites sealed bids for purchase of the following used Vehicles for sale

| Vehicle Registration no | Make   | Model        | Body Type | Color | Engine Capacity | Fuel   | Manual/ Automatic | Year of Manufacture | KMS used | Condition      | Tax       | Location |
|-------------------------|--------|--------------|-----------|-------|-----------------|--------|-------------------|---------------------|----------|----------------|-----------|----------|
| T 866 AVS               | Toyota | Land Cruiser | 5 Doors   | White | 4164            | Diesel | Manual            | 2008                | 360516   | Good Condition | Full Paid | DSM      |
| T906 CMX                | Ford   | Ranger       | Pickup    | White | 3200            | Diesel | Manual            | 2012                | 167288   | Engine Damaged | Full Paid | DSM      |

Interested buyers can view the vehicles from Tuesday 3rd August 2021 between 10:00 to 15:30hrs at

WaterAid Country Office, Plot no 1469 Rufiji Street opposite Namibian Embassy Office, Msasani Peninsula. +255 713 332736/0767551919

#### Conditions and Instructions

1. Bid letter must show: bidder's full name, postal address and telephone number; and must be submitted in a sealed envelope clearly marked '**TENDER FOR PURCHASE OF A USED MOTOR VEHICLE**'
2. The bid letter must be deposited in the Tender Box placed at WaterAid Country Office in Dar es Salaam. Alternatively, it may be sent by registered mail to reach The Country Director, WaterAid Tanzania, and P.O. Box 33759, Dar es Salaam before 10:00hrs on 20th August 2021 which is the deadline for submission of bids.
3. The bids will be opened at 10:30hrs 20th August 2021, at WaterAid Offices in Dar es Salaam. Interested bidders or their representatives who wish to attend are kindly welcomed.
4. The successful purchaser will be required to pay immediately a minimum deposit of 25% of the bid amount. The balance must be paid within 14 days after the day of sale otherwise the deposit will be forfeited, and the vehicle offered to the next successful bidder.
5. The successful purchaser must pay/clear all applicable duties and taxes within one month after full settlement of the sale price before collecting the vehicle.
6. Successful bidders will be notified immediately, followed by official letter.
7. WaterAid Tanzania reserves the right to accept or reject any bids without assigning any reasons whatsoever.
8. The successful bidder will be responsible for paying all taxes if any as required by applicable rules and regulations.

All bids must be addressed to:

**The Country Director, WaterAid Tanzania, P.O. Box 33759, Dar es Salaam**

Before 10:00hrs on 20th August 2021 which is the deadline for submission of bids.

**Note: WaterAid has a Mandatory Operating Procedure (MOP) and therefore for those who will visit our office for inspection, submission or tender opening will not be allowed to enter office premises without properly wash their hand and wearing masks**



### APPOINTMENT OF NEW COUNTRY DIRECTOR AT TANZANIA BREWERIES PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY

The Board of directors of Tanzania Breweries Public Limited Company (TBL), is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Jose Moran to the position of Country Director of TBL with effect from 1 July 2021.

Jose's career in the AB InBev Group spans 14 years of which he has spent 10 years working in African operations. Before joining TBL, he was Country Director for AB-Inbev Zambia - Zambian Breweries Plc. Prior to that he was Sales Director for AB-Inbev Mozambique - Cervejas de Mozambique.

Jose succeeds Philip Redman, who served in the role since February 2019. TBL's Board wishes Philip all the best in his future endeavours.

Jose brings a wealth of experience, expertise and continental knowledge to the position. He joins TBL from Zambian Breweries Plc where he oversaw a solid growth in volume and revenue with acceleration of market penetration and increased share in the clear beer segment. This will stand him in good stead as he assumes leadership of the TBL operations, and we look forward to work closely with him in driving TBL's innovative and growth agenda in the market and the continent.

Jose holds a Bachelor in Business Administration, Commercial Engineer and Master in Financial Management. He is fluent in English, Spanish and Portuguese, and is working hard on his Swahili.

Please join me in welcoming Jose to the TBL family and wishing him success as he takes up his new role.

Cleopa David Msuya  
Board Chairman  
Tanzania Breweries Public Limited Company



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# RC Mongella for revival of once-lucrative Arusha horticulture industry

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

**A**RUSHA's horticulture industry, which used to generate US\$779 million per annum before collapsing in 2019, needs urgent action to get back to its feet, regional commissioner, John Mongella has said.

Mongella told investors in the industry last week that the once buoyant horticulture industry which mainly exported to Europe before collapsing need to be revived because it is one of major sources of income for the region.

"Various sources show that demand for healthy food is growing globally," said Mongella told stakeholders while noting that Arusha region has high potential for the growth of the industry whose performance is on a free fall since 2019.

He suggested that in order to address challenges facing the mega industry is for the regional secretariat to cooperate with the horticulture industry's apex body, Tanzania Horticulture Association to do whatever it takes to rekindle the horticulture export industry.

With a potential for fetching the country between \$3 billion and \$6 billion a year, Tanzania's horticulture delves into production of five value chain crops, namely spices and herbs; roots and tubers; high volume and high value vegetables; fruits and flowers.

Mongella also suggested that Arusha regional secretariat should create a think tank to address challenges facing the private sector in the region and find solutions. Dubbed, a Business Facilitation Unit (BFU), the think tank, will include business people, key professionals from regulatory bodies and law enforcers.

"The idea behind the think tank is to help root out bureaucracy and ease compliance for investors and allow them ample time to do business seamlessly," the newly appointed Arusha Regional Commissioner, noted.

"Investors should concentrate on production and marketing their produce instead of wasting time navigating the corridors of red tape in their quest to comply with regulations," Mongella charged.

The RC was accompanied by heads of Tanzania Revenue Authority, Business Registration and Licensing Agency, Tropical Pesticide Research Institute, Land



Arusha regional commissioner, John Mongella (in cap) views packaged vegetables during a tour of horticulture farms at Usariver in Arumeru District last week. Second right is Taha Group CEO Jacqueline Mkindi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

Commissioner, Police Force, Tanzania TIB Investment Bank and the Labour Ministry to address concerns of horticulture stakeholders.

At its peak, the horticulture industry is estimated to have employed both directly and indirectly, over 6.5 million Tanzanians or an equivalent of eight percent of the population, mostly women and youth. The industry used to grow at 11 percent a year, a rate that has of late tumbled to only seven percent, thanks to an unfriendly production environment coupled with the coronavirus outbreak.

About 10 flower farms, which used to fetch the economy nearly \$24 million a year and create over 4,000 jobs in Arusha region, have closed shop. They include Arusha Blooms, Finlays, Flamingo, Shira Flowers, Allua Flowers and Zanziflora.

In addition to the government losing receipts in terms of taxes, fees, licenses and Pay As You Earn (PAYE) but the collapsed industry has also caused losses in the value chain include input dealers and packaging logistics.

"The industry extends its appreciation to the government for its willingness to consider reviving the flower farms under receivership," said Dr Jacque-

line Mkindi who is Taha Group CEO. Dr Mkindi noted that the government should, in collaboration with the private sector, consider forming a public-private partnership task force to see the possibility of writing off debts borne by the collapsed companies.

She said the task force should develop a strategy for promoting investment opportunities to potential investors both local and foreign to help revive the farms which employed millions of people.

"Any proposed investment plan must be within the horticultural value chains – flowers, fruits, vegetables, spices, herbs, tubers or value addition of the same," the Taha Group chief argued saying. "The process should strictly encourage competition to avoid monopoly and therefore mitigate risks of failure by single large investors. Where need be, some projects may be merged in order to justify economies of scale."

Dr Mkindi attributed the declining performance of the industry to big cost of logistics, as the country does not have a single cargo plane but also effects of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Contributing to the debate, Professor Nuhu Hatibu from Morogoro-based Sokoine University of Agriculture advised the regional secretariat to also consider creating a task force that will look into building a competent human resource capital for the industry. "A bridged skills gap would go a long way in attracting investors and increasing the quality of employment, as firms would not hire labourers alone," Prof Hatibu argued.

Seconding Prof Hatibu, World Vegetable Centre's Director General, Dr Gabriel Rugalema said Tanzania ought to invest in human resource and the horticulture value chain. "Everything results from research, political will is required for researchers to deliver," he stressed.

## British Council, EU team up to develop skills among youth for self-employment

By Francis Kajubi

**A**S the country is facing high levels of unemployment, British Council and European Union have teamed up to start a seven year skills development program targeting young people.

Speaking during a consultative workshop held in Dar es Salaam last weekend, British Council's Country Director, Catherine Sinclair Jones said the programme will enable job seekers acquire skills to self employ themselves or get employed.

Jones said the program which runs between 2021/27, targets to develop the country's human capital with a goal to enhance employability but also develop entrepreneurship skills for self employment.

"The British Council is committed to working with partners to support employment and education opportunities for the work-

ing class in Tanzania. We are delighted to have an opportunity to engage with the diverse actors across the TVET sector through this consultative workshop to see how these opportunities might be strengthened," said Sinclair-Jones.

She said the consultative workshop brought together key stakeholders from training colleges, National Council for Technical Education, Vocational Education and Training Authority, public and private sector companies and that key findings from a research carried out by independent consultants but also to discuss international models on the subject.

"As part of the project, the British Council will produce and publish a gap analysis and develop a diagnostic tool for the Association of Tanzania Employers in the context of Tanzania and international examples to assess the gaps in private sector engagement in techni-

cal and vocational education and training," she said.

The British Council has embarked on an EU funded project to support ATE in improving the participation of the private sector in vocational education and training so as to bridge the skills gap of job seekers.

"This programme is designed to support the expansion of private sector engagement and cooperation with the public sector to enhance technical and vocational education and training reform process in order to vocational education and training more demand-driven and employer-led," Jones added.

Addressing the participants, the EU Head of Cooperation, Cedric Merel said, "Central to Tanzania development strategies, the European Union will continue to work with all key stakeholders to address challenges facing this sector."



An unidentified official speaks during the British Council and European Union funded workshop held in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## EABL buys Sh6bn extra stake in Dar subsidiary

NAIROBI

**E**AST African Breweries Limited has completed acquisition of additional 30 percent stake in Tanzanian subsidiary for \$55 million (Sh5.98 billion), raising its ownership to 85 percent.

EABL, majority-owned by UK's Diageo, had disclosed plan to increase its stake in Serengeti Breweries in March 2020 after identifying the Tanzanian market as promising for growth of beer and spirits business.

"We got one minority shares. We decided to buy them out and they also wanted to sell. The shareholding changed from 55 to 85 percent," EABL managing director Jane Karuku said without giving further details.

British drinks group Diageo disclosed EABL acquired the 30 percent stake late last year for \$55 million (Sh5.98 billion) in cash and £16 million (Sh2.1 billion) in outstanding loans that EABL had earlier extended to the Tanzanian brewer.

"On 21 October 2020 and on 6 November 2020, EABL completed the acquisition of 13.3% and 16.7%, respectively of shares in Serengeti Breweries Limited for a total consideration of \$55 million (£42 million) in cash and £16 million in the form of shareholder loans outstanding to EABL," Diageo wrote in a note to investors.

Ms Karuku said the Serengeti business sustained "strong growth through investment behind the brands and ca-



EABL managing director Jane Karuku.

capacity expansion" for beer and local spirits production in the year through

June 2021. Revenue in the subsidiary increased 15 percent year-on-year, with

beer (10 percent) and spirits sales growing by double-digit.

The Serengeti was a major beneficiary of the giant brewer's Sh7.8 billion capital investment in the year ended June 2021, largely targeted at the Moshi plant which EABL has identified as a major player in its growth strategy for the spirits business.

The deal for the additional stake in the Tanzanian unit followed another acquisition of four percent in July 2019 for \$3 million (about Sh326.1 million under prevailing exchange rate), raising the brewer's stake to 55 percent.

EABL's bid to grow its stake in Serengeti through acquisition of minority shareholders has in the past courted controversy, with Tanzanian government aggressively protecting minority interest. Last year's transaction raised its legal and economic ownership in the subsidiary to 55 percent and 74.5 percent respectively.

Before the July 2019 deal, EABL owned a 51 percent stake in Tanzanian brewer, but had a larger claim in terms of assets and earnings at 72.5 percent. This was a result of conversation of Sh15.3 billion loans receivable from Serengeti into equity in the year ended June 2018.

## PanAfrican Energy contracts Exalo Drilling for rehabilitation of 3 wells at Songo Songo

By Smart Money Reporter

**N**ATURAL gas extracting company PanAfrican Energy Tanzania Limited has contracted Exalo Drilling S.A. for the work-over of three onshore wells on Songo Songo Island, commencing in September this year at a cost of approximately US\$21.4 million (over 49.6bn/-).

The work, which will see the wells recompleted with corrosion resistant chrome tubing, will return two wells to production and ensure the third well can continue to produce safely. The programme will increase the production potential from the world class Songo Songo reservoir and ensure PAET remains the leading gas supplier in Tanzania.

PAET already supplies gas to around 50 industrial customers in Dar es Salaam and is responsible for the production of gas that generates around 40% of all power generated in the country. The forthcoming work-over of the wells will ensure the company is ready to meet increasing demand for natural gas as the nation's industrialisation accelerates.

PAET's Deputy Managing Director, Bizimana Ntuyabaliwe said, "We are entering an extremely exciting period as a Company in Tanzania. 2021 is the 20th anniversary year since signing our Production Sharing Agreement with TPDC and the Government of Tanzania, and PAET is more dedicated than ever to supporting this nation's continued economic growth."

"This well work-over programme, which is conducted alongside the installation of a US\$38 million compression system, will ensure the Songo Songo gas field can continue to produce, and increase production, for many years ahead to meet Tanzania's energy requirements. It comes at a time when the company is



PAET's deputy managing director, Bizimana Ntuyabaliwe.

reviewing is strategy to expand the supply of gas, using novel methods to ensure more Tanzanians benefit from their rich natural resources," Ntuyabaliwe added.

PanAfrican Energy Tanzania's mission is to explore for, develop and produce natural gas as a safe, clean, reliable and cost-efficient fuel for use in power generation, industrial applications, transpor-

tation and secondary markets.

"Our core values are transparency, integrity and respect for others. We are working to help meet Tanzania's growing energy needs in a skilled, socially and environmentally responsible, safe and cost-effective manner that provides benefits to the people of Tanzania, our customers and investors," the company said on its website.



EcoGraf CEO Andrew Spinks.

## EcoGraf evaluating industrial site in Sweden

By Smart Money Reporter

EPANKO Graphite Mine investor, Australian based EcoGraf Limited has signed a land reservation agreement for an industrial site in Skellefteå, Sweden in northern Europe as a potential location for a European EcoGraf battery anode material facility.

In a statement, the company said as previously reported, EcoGraf has been investigating potential sites in a number of European locations, including Germany and has decided to advance this process in Sweden.

"The reservation agreement has been entered into with the Skellefteå municipality for a 65,000m<sup>2</sup> site within Skellefteå Site East, which is one of Skellefteå's main industrial areas and is located within the Västerbotten region," the statement said.

EcoGraf's statement further noted that the Swedish region benefits from an abundant supply of clean, renewable energy with the lowest industrial power costs in Europe, an educated and skilled labour force and a nearby port for ready access to key battery and industrial markets across Europe.

"After completing a preliminary evaluation to select the site, EcoGraf will now proceed to undertake a more detailed assessment of a potential new development in Skellefteå over the next 12 months. The industrial site is of sufficient size to include future expansions to accommodate increased production, further downstream value adding and

recycling," the statement noted.

Skellefteå has a long tradition of industrial development and is a leader in promoting innovation, entrepreneurship and sustainability, with the largest private sector in northern Sweden, the Australian Stock Exchange listed company noted in its statement.

EcoGraf is building a vertically integrated 'HF-free' battery anode material business supporting the global transition to clean energy and e-mobility. Over US\$30 million has been invested to date to create two highly attractive, development ready graphite businesses.

The first new state-of-the-art EcoGraf processing facility in Western Australia will manufacture spherical graphite products for export to Asia, Europe and North America using a superior, environmentally responsible HF-free purification technology to provide customers with sustainably produced high performance battery anode material.

In addition, the company's breakthrough recovery of carbon anode material from recycled batteries using its proprietary process will enable the recycling industry to reduce battery waste and use recycled carbon anode material to improve battery life-cycle efficiency.

To complement these battery graphite operations, EcoGraf is also developing the TanzGraphite natural flake graphite business, with development of the Epanko Graphite Project in Tanzania which will supply additional feedstock for the battery anode material facilities and provide customers with mine-to-market ESG supply chain assurance.

## Outrage as two-hour collapse of MTN services disrupts business

KIGALI

MTN services including mobile money, YOLO and buying internet or voice bundles were down for a couple of hours, Sunday August 1, triggering public outrage.

Jackie Manishimwe an MTN agent in Kimironko, Gasabo District was not able to work the whole day due to system failure because she couldn't deposit, withdraw money for any of her clients or make, then as the system came back it only lasted for a few hours and was down again till the time she went home.

Charles Dusabe, a trader, said that his business was slow because many people could not pay for commodities. Mobile money is arguably the most popular form payment. Dusabe said he was forced to sell his goods on credit, which might bring him losses in case customers don't pay back. Some MTN users took to Twitter to express their frustration, with one twitter user saying he couldn't pay his bill at the barber shop and was forced to stay at the shop till he was able to pay.

"MTN please fix Momo, because people cannot get any medical care at health centres, unless they pay through Momo" read one tweet of an MTN user. Rwanda Energy Group Limited also said that purchasing electricity was not possible using MoMo.

"Purchasing electricity using MoMo

is not working again. @MTNRwanda is working hard to solve the issue. Kindly be Patient." The tweet read. Chantal Kagame, Chief Executive Officer, Mobile Money Rwanda Limited told The New Times that there was a problem in the system that caused the services to go down.

"The platform wasn't stable, which made us shut it down, notifications are very important in mobile money transactions, so if you do not receive a notification, the transaction cannot be made, that is why the system was shut down to avoid any problems for our customers." She said

"We are trying to understand what happened, we will have a full report of what caused the problem in 24 hours, but we want to ensure our customers that we are working hard to sort the issue so it cannot happen again." she added.

Ernest Nsabimana, Director General of Rwanda Utilities Regulatory Authority (RURA) said they were very well aware of the problem that went down, but further actions will be taken once they have the full report.

"As regulators we are following up the issue, our team will investigate and give us a full report after 48 hours, then the report will show us what caused the problem if it was poor service delivery, or any other problem, then we will be able to take action according to what the report shows," he said.



Chantal Kagame, CEO of Mobile Money Rwanda Limited.

## Economic bodie report some recovery, but COVID a threat

MAPUTO

THE Confederation of Economic Associations of Mozambique (CTA), the country's largest private sector association, reports that the macroeconomic environment improved slightly over the second quarter of 2021, increasing from 46% to 50%. However, it predicts a poorer third quarter, due to the tightening of Covid-19 prevention measures.

Speaking during the second edition of the Economic Briefing, CTA president Agostinho Vuma reported that business activity recovered due to the relaxing of Covid-19 countermeasures, along with the start of agricultural marketing and of agricultural and fish product exports.

"As a corollary, the Business Robustness Index improved from 28% to 29%, influenced by the revival of economic activity in the sectors of Agriculture, Hotels and Restaurants, Trade and Services and Transport, which benefited from the factors referred to, including the easing of the Covid-19 containment measures that we observed from April to last June," Vuma detailed.

Assessing the business environment, the CTA president said that the second quarter of the year was marked by regulatory changes which had a positive impact on business activity, namely the easing of Covid-19 restrictive measures; the revocation of on-board assistance and inspection fees at border posts; and the launching of the Register of Secured Transactions.

Vuma indicated that the entry into force of the new Regulation on Costs of Administrative Jurisdiction, which institutes an increase in costs of about 170%, exacerbating transaction costs for companies still struggling with the harmful effects of the coronavirus pandemic.

As for the business outlook in general, the CTA chairman expects business performance to decline, due to the resumption of restrictive measures recently announced by the government in response to the emergence of the new Delta variant. According to Vuma, these measures will once again limit business performance, at a time when there are no stimulus or support measures for the business sector in place.

"Our great fear is that, in the absence of stimulus to the business sector, these restrictive measures could result in a worse situation than that observed in the first half of the year, a period in which around 802 jobs were lost in 90 companies," Vuma remarked.

## Preps for 4th edition of Arusha Auto Show gather pace, with stakeholders warming up



Cars on display during last year's Arusha Auto Show.

By Smart Money Reporter, Arusha

AN estimated 2,000 people who will include members of the business community, exhibitors and car fans in the country are bracing for the 4th edition of Arusha's biggest outdoor car show slated for later this month.

Dubbed 'Arusha Auto Show,' the fair has been organized with an eye to promote automobile and automotive industries with brand new cars like tourist vans, passenger buses, cargo trucks and saloon cars, on display.

Scheduled for August 7th and 8th at the spacious Cultural Heritage ground near Tanzania National Parks' headquarters, the show will draw all major car dealers in the country. Billed as the premier auto fair in the East African region, the show has been organised by an Arusha-based event company, Bulb Africa, which has done so since 2019.

"The event provides an opportunity for exhibitors to display their vehicles to the transportation and logistics industry," said Augustine Namfua who is the event's Portfolio Manager. Namfua, who is a mastermind behind the show, stated that the event usually brings together car fans, industry service providers such as insurance companies, financial institutions, tour operators, spare parts and car accessory dealers.

"This event provides commercial vehicle operators with far greater choice than any other exhibition serving the industry and so far it is the

only specific trade fair on automobiles and the most comprehensive business platform for the industry," he added.

As to why is Arusha hosting the fair since 2019, Namfua said the Northern tourist enclave city not only boasts of accommodating a fast growing middleclass population, but also enjoys ever-increasing and remarkable car culture more than any other region in the country. The organizers say the 4th edition which is subdued by the coronavirus, will attract less people this time around.

CFAO Motors Tanzania Limited which is one of key players that will take part at the Arusha Auto Show, said through its Sales and Marketing Director, Tharaia Ahmed that the company will showcase its brand new Suzuki Jimny motor vehicles.

"The new Jimny features compact dimensions that let you easily handle narrow mountain trails and thick forests where larger vehicles dare not tread," Ahmed explained adding that the mini car is superlight which enabled one to keep going. "At the same time, the new Jimny's agile maneuverability and excellent fuel consumption efficiency make it highly practical for everyday driving," she noted.

CFAO Motors Tanzania was established in 1952 and is the exclusive distributor of prestigious global brands including Volkswagen and Mercedes Benz in the country. It sells a wide range of new passenger vehicles and light commercial vehicles in its all authorized dealers scattered in 15 regions.

Arusha Art Limited's Director, Hemal Sachdev said they plan to showcase other vehicles like Eicher trucks and buses but also two and three wheeled Bajaj rickshaws. "Arusha Art is an authorised dealer of CFAO Motors, offering the latest models of Mercedes Benz, Jeep, Volkswagen, Nissan and Suzuki as well as a service centre in

Arusha city," Sachdev said.

Toyota Tanzania has also expressed its willingness to participate in the 4th edition of the show. "Being our first time, we find it the right time to showcase our products from motor vehicles, parts, challenger paints, ironman, bulldog products, general service and repairs," said the company's Arusha Branch Controller, David Masele. "For the tourism industry we have the new 2021 safari vehicles," Masele added while inviting car lovers and enthusiasts to turn up for the annual event.

Lube Junction's General Manager, Anand Barchha has announced sponsoring the show where his company will also take part. "Since Lubrication is a crucial element in the efficiency and life-expectancy of any rotating equipment, we hope that our presence will create more value" Barchha said.

"We will not only be providing free technical advice on lubrication solutions, but also use this opportunity to support the 'Boda boda' taxi operators through our clinic where they will be given free oil change service for customers who will buy shell advance motorcycle oil with us," he added.

Commenting on the annual event, Tanzania Association of Tour Operators' CEO, Sirili Akko said the Arusha Auto Show comes at the right moment as the city, billed as the pearl of the country's tourism and diplomatic activities, needs such events to stimulate the local economy.

"I'm sure Arusha Auto show's economic multiplier effects will trickle down to the common folks as it will attract a number of people not only from nearby cities, but from across the East African region," Akko said while commending the organiser for a job well done.

## 'Another 291m people won't have enough to eat this year'

NEW YORK

GLOBAL hunger will surge by about a third this year, driven by lingering income losses from the pandemic, according to the US Department of Agriculture.

The department's annual assessment of food security in 76 middle- and low-income nations that are past or current recipients of US food aid estimates an additional 291 million people in those countries won't have enough to eat in 2021. That comes on top of a huge spike in hunger last year as the pandemic unleashed economic distress.

The United Nations earlier this month estimated global food insecurity in 2020 had already hit the highest level in 15 years as income loss made healthy diets out of reach for about a 10th of the global population. Things are projected to get worse in 2021 as commodity inflation and disrupted supply chains sent world food prices to the highest in almost a decade, particularly bad news for poorer countries dependent on food imports.

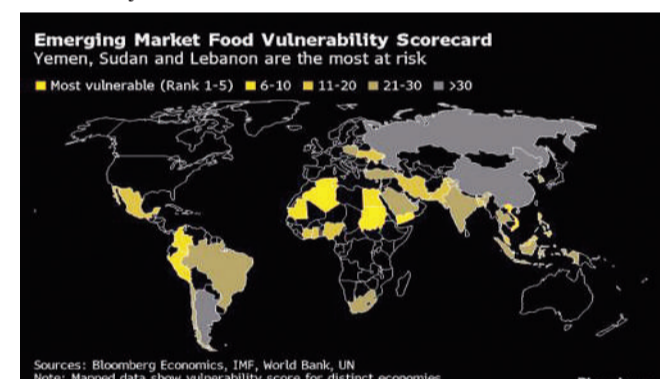
The large-scale human suffering that's driven by hunger is reaching new depths of bleakness. A study published in Nature Food journal this month projected the exacerbated under-nutrition among mothers and children in low- and middle-income countries will cost the world \$30 billion in future productivity losses. Rising hunger for hundreds of millions of people, primarily in Asia and Africa, also raises the risk of political instability.

Overall, 1.2 billion people in the 76 countries covered in the USDA report-representing 31% of their population-will be food-insecure this year. Prior to the pandemic, the USDA estimated 761 million people, or less than 20% of that population, fell into the category in those countries.

Most of the additional people the USDA expects to fall into food insecurity this year are in Asia, which accounts for 72% of the increase. Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Indonesia will see particularly large jumps in the number of people without enough food, according to the report. Sub-Saharan Africa accounts for 21% of the global increase in undernourished people.

Yemen, Zimbabwe and Congo are projected to have the highest prevalence of hunger, with more than 80% of the population in each of the countries unable to get enough to eat. The primary driver of rising food insecurity is the persistent drop in income in the countries compared with pre-pandemic levels, according to the report.

The authors cautioned that the projections didn't consider the potential impact of climate change, armed conflict or political or economic instability. The department classifies someone food-insecure if they are unable to maintain a diet of at least 2,100 calories a day, considered a minimal level to stay active and healthy.



VIEW FROM THE TOP

## What it's like to visit Zanzibar during the pandemic: 'Spice-scented sea air'

By Yvonne Kerr

THE narrow, bumpy streets of Zanzibar City are an assault on the senses after a five-and-a-half-hour flight. But then, kaleidoscopic markets, speeding mopeds and unruly riders on crotchety bikes slowly make way for lofty coconut palms, swaying calmly as if to welcome us to their exotic home.

For those looking to escape the UAE's summer heat, Zanzibar is a tonic. Proximity to the equator means both main islands forming the Zanzibar archipelago - Unguja and Pemba - have temperatures ranging from the mid-20°C to the low-30s year-round and, as you're never far from the coast, humidity is tempered by a refreshing sea breeze.

We hadn't allowed ourselves to get too excited about our Zanzibar trip until we had two negative PCR results in hand, the new norm for overseas travel. Dubai International Airport was eerily quiet and any queues moved fast. Before we landed in Abeid Amani Karume International Airport, five kilometres south of Zanzibar City, we had to fill out a travel visa document and a Covid-19 health form. Zanzibar visas cost \$50 (Dh180) per head.

It's a 90-minute drive from the airport to The Residence Zanzibar, near Kizimkazi on the south-west coast. Steeped in spice-scented sea air, our European-style villa comes with indoor and outdoor rain showers and a private pool.

Bikes are parked outside. I strap in my son, 2, and cycle through tropical gardens that are home to wild red colobus monkeys, a Zanzibar native. They dance through the palms overhead, delighting our children. One scampers over to snatch a banana from an outstretched hand.

Both boys happily ensconced in the kids' club, we explore the mile-long beach. It's too shallow for swimming so instead, we paddle in a glass-walled infinity pool. There's also an on-site spa, gym and open-air yoga studio.

Boasting coconuts, cloves and cardamom, mangoes and mangroves, lobster, lemongrass and limes, these Spice Islands may seem worlds from the UAE, but their intertwined trading histories explain the startling

similarities. As well as Swahili and English, Arabic is spoken here and 95 per cent of the island's 1.5 million residents are Muslim.

A 40-minute drive takes us east to Zanzibar White Sand Luxury Villas & Spa, the only Relais & Chateaux property in Tanzania, on the kitesurfing haven of Paje beach. This boutique hotel offers 11 luxury villas; ours is beachfront with its own dining lounge, sun deck and pool. We're invited to WhatsApp our private butler Joseph with any requests and so, when our youngest has a fever, we ask for a doctor, who arrives in 20 minutes. Harvey is fine after a good sleep and a dose of Panadol.

No expense has been spared in the rooms, which are fitted with Bosch speakers, a Smeg kettle and designer fittings. The hotel sits on four hectares of lush gardens - 100,000 tropical plants planted only six years earlier are thriving. There's a spa and gym, a games room, a shaded outdoor playground and a zoo where my boys lose themselves, plus babysitting for \$15 (Dh55) an hour that gifts us a modicum of peace. European-trained chefs serve a bounty of local seafood.

It's almost possible to forget about Covid-19. Masks are compulsory only for staff, temperatures are generally not recorded. "It's difficult to put a finger on why Zanzibar has escaped the brunt of Covid," says White Sand Villas' general manager, Adriaan Erasmus. "We closed for four months in 2020 but not due to Covid; instead because of a lack of tourism. Tanzania never went into lockdown. The hospitals show no strain. Vaccinations are rolling out now with frontline workers."

The all-inclusive Baraza Resort & Spa is one of four private resorts that make up The Zanzibar Collection along the eastern coastline. Staff are preparing to host Tanzania's president in the royal villa as we depart.

Here, white stone arches and billowing curtains contrast with majestic carved hardwood doors, brass lanterns and antique coffee pots that hark back to an Omani sultan's palace. The five-star resort is opulent but also welcoming for a young family. Our sweeping two-bedroom villa is one of 30 set among seven hectares of gardens, rich with



The writer and her two young sons on a snorkelling trip in Zanzibar.

jasmine, frangipani and bougainvillea. We have a garden and plunge pool, a day bed and two bathrooms.

It's a two-minute walk to the beach where kayaks and stand-up paddle-boards can be borrowed, and kite and windsurfing lessons are an option. A shallow reef stretches 1km from the shore, so it's safe for my toddler in

the gently lapping waves.

Hesitantly, we all venture out on a catamaran. This small, wide-open boat is a little confronting with children in the face of a strong sea wind, but our confident Swahili captain, Moussa, ensures a smooth 45-minute trip. So smooth, in fact, that my 2-year-old falls into a deep sleep.

I sample an early-morning reef walk at low tide. Donning reef shoes to protect my feet from cactus-like sea urchins, I become transfixed by a coral display that's normally camouflaged by deeper waters: cucumber snakes, giant clams, blue starfish, spider fish and purple urchins. Zanzibar is bent over the same waters as they attempt to catch octopi nearby.

We take our boys to the well-equipped kids' club after breakfast. There's a splash pool and mini foosball, as well as pool and air hockey tables for shorter legs. A babysitting service and daily itinerary are on hold owing to Covid-19. We're invited to cooking and craft workshops. I try both, weaving my own bag from coconut palm fronds, now my most prized souvenir, and preparing a local fish curry.

Before departing, we must again present two negative PCR tests and register them on a government app 72 hours prior. Our resort handles all this; a doctor visits and our results are printed out for us. The test costs \$120 per person. My sons aged 4 and 2 are exempt, as are all children under 10 in Tanzania.

I am keen to visit a turtle sanctuary on the north coast, but we decide against a four-hour return drive with little ones. We also miss exploring the labyrinthine alleyways, forts, museums and Portuguese churches of Stone Town, a Unesco World Heritage Site on the west coast, established by Sultan Said as the capital of Oman in 1840.

Stone Town also serves as a reminder of Zanzibar's scarred history as the centre of the East African slave trade for 200 years. We vow to return to this spice-scented idyll for more adventuring when our children are older.

# WORLD

## Ghani blames worsening security in Afghanistan on US pullout

KABUL

PRESIDENT Ashraf Ghani yesterday blamed Afghanistan's fast-deteriorating security situation on a "sudden" decision by the United States to withdraw its troops, but said his government had a plan to bring conditions under control within six months.

Taliban insurgents have moved in on three provincial capitals in the last few days, amid rapid advances nationwide since Washington said it planned a complete withdrawal of troops by September.

"The current situation is due to a sudden decision on the withdrawal of the international troops," Ghani told the Afghan parliament in a speech.

"We have had an unexpected situation

in the last three months."

However, the Afghan government had a security plan to bring the situation under control within six months, he added, and the United States supported the plan.

The Taliban would not move towards peace unless the worsening security situation was curbed, Ghani said.

Peace talks between the Afghan government and Taliban negotiators started last year in the Qatari capital of Doha, but have not made any substantive progress despite a few rounds.

The two sides committed to speeding up the talks, however, at a recent meeting in Doha between a high-level Afghan political delegation and the Taliban.

Ghani said the militants had not severed ties with terrorist groups, and had



Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, center, attends an extraordinary meeting of the parliament in Kabul, Afghanistan yesterday. (AP)

stepped up attacks on women and civil society activists.

It was time the Taliban and the Afghan government accepted each other and moved towards a peaceful solution, he added.

The Taliban rejected Ghani's accusa-

tions.

"Declarations of war, accusations and lies cannot prolong Ghani's government's life; his time has run out, God willing," the movement's spokesman, Zabihullah Mujahid, said on Twitter.

## Chinese embassy: WHO's virus origin tracing plan 'politicised'

LONDON

THE World Health Organization (WHO)'s work plan on the second phase of investigation into the origins of COVID-19 is politicized and lacks a spirit of cooperation, a spokesperson for the Chinese embassy in Britain said Sunday.

Responding to a question on why China rejected the WHO's work plan, the spokesperson said the plan "was heavily disrupted by politicization and was a document that lost scientific principles and lacked a spirit of cooperation".

"This work plan still listed the hypothesis that 'a Chinese violation of laboratory protocols had caused the vi-

rus to leak' as a research priority," despite the fact that the WHO-China joint mission report clearly concluded that "lab leak is extremely unlikely" and there is broad consensus in the international scientific community on this, the spokesperson said.

"One cannot help but think that this work plan is made to echo the 'lab leak theory' advocated by certain countries such as the United States. And the lack of transparency in the drafting process also added to the suspicion that the work plan is the product of political manipulation," the spokesperson said.

This work plan, put forward unilaterally by the WHO Secretariat, is inconsistent



This photo taken from the official website of the Chinese Embassy in the United Kingdom shows the building of the embassy in London.

with the requirements of the resolution of the 73rd World Health Assembly, which clearly stipulates that the WHO secretary-general will

continue to work closely with member states to identify the zoonotic source of the virus and the route of introduction to the human population, ac-

ording to the spokesperson.

This means that the formulation of the next-phase origin tracing work plan needs to be led by WHO member states, and the WHO has to reach consensus with its member states after full consultation, said the spokesperson.

The virus origins study is a serious scientific issue that requires the cooperation of global scientists, the spokesperson added.

"We hope the WHO can adhere to the spirit of science, professionalism and objectivity and work with the international community to jointly uphold the scientific integrity of origins study, resist politicization and safeguard the sound atmosphere of global

## Russia and Namibia introduce visa-free travel, says embassy

PRETORIA

AN agreement on a visa-free regime between Russia and Namibia entered into effect yesterday, expanding the opportunities for Russians to visit the southern African country, the Russian Embassy in Namibia reported.

"Citizens of Russia would be able to enter Namibia and stay there without visas for 90 days every 180 days unless the purpose of their entry is labor, education or permanent residence in the country," Russian Ambassador to Namibia Valery Utkin told TASS, noting that "the same rights were granted to [the African country's] citizens when visiting Russia."

According to the envoy, the initiative to conclude an agreement came from the Russian side during Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov's official visit to Namibia in March 2018.

"The agreement testifies to the traditions of friendship and cooperation between our countries as well as a high level of mutual respect and trust," Utkin noted.

"I hope that it will contribute to facilitating contacts in various fields, including tourism, promoting ties between people, business communities, and organizations."

Currently, some restrictive measures to combat the COVID-19 remain in force in Namibia. At the same time, those arriving in Namibia, including tourists, should present a certificate in English confirming the negative COVID-19 test result at the airport, which is valid for 72 hours. **Agencies**

## DPRK slams US-South Korea military drills, casts doubt on North-South summit

PYONGYANG

THE Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) on Sunday night urged South Korea to cancel its regular joint military exercises with the United States and said a North-South leader-level summit remains unlikely in the short term, the official Korean Central News Agency reported.

The joint military drills are "an undesirable prelude which seriously undermines the will of the top leaders of the North and the South wishing to see a step taken toward restoring mutual trust and which beclouds the way ahead of the north-south relations," said Kim Yo Jong, vice department director of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, in a statement.

"Our government and army will closely follow whether the South Korean side stages hostile war exercises in August or makes other bold decision," she said.

The DPRK has long denounced Seoul and Washington's military drills as a rehearsal for an invasion of the North. The two Koreas remain technically at war after the 1950-1953 Korean War was ended with an armistice rather than a peace treaty.

Kim also accused the South Korean government of "inflating the significance" of last week's restoration of the two Koreas' cross-border communication lines, which had been severed for over a year.

Those inside and outside South Korea "are freely interpreting" the meaning of restoring communication lines, and "it is a premature hasty judgment" to say that there is a public opinion about the issue of the North-South summit, she noted.

"What I think is that the restoration of the communication liaison lines should not be taken as anything more than just the physical reconnection," said Kim, adding that hasty speculation and groundless interpretation will only bring despair. **Xinhua**

## Cameroonian women express concern over security challenges, calling for dialogue

YAOUNDE

CAMEROONIAN women on Sunday voiced deep concerns over rising security challenges in the country and called for dialogue to end the violence.

They raised the concerns at the close of a three-day peace conference, dubbed National Women's Convention for Peace, with attendance of more than 1,000 women from the 10 regions of the country. "As women, we have buried our husbands and fathers, our brothers and uncles, our sisters and daughters; we have banded the wounds of our sons; wept and comforted our daughters who have been raped and battered, and saved them from being used as human bombs," said a statement released at the end of the conference in the capital, Yaounde.

The central African nation is experiencing an armed separatist conflict in the Anglophone regions, terror group Boko Haram insurgency in the country's Far North region and an incursion rebels and refugees from neighboring Central African Republic in the East region.

"We call on all key stakeholders to the conflicts to undertake concrete and immediate actions to pursue a continued and inclusive dialogue that addresses core issues around peace, solidarity and shared humanity in Cameroon and to end hostilities, immediately and permanently," read the statement. **Xinhua**

## EU carbon tax raises hackles near and far

THE European Union's ambitious carbon border tax scheme introduced recently has raised serious concerns from its trade partners and industries.

On July 14 the European Commission announced plans for a Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism, or CBAM, which will take effect in 2026, first targeting the iron, steel, cement, aluminum, fertilizer and electricity industries.

The European Commissioner for Economy Paolo Gentiloni said the mechanism was being introduced "to address the risk of carbon leakage, which can undermine our efforts when production is moved elsewhere to avoid EU carbon pricing".

Liu Youbin, a spokesman for China's Ministry of Ecology and Environment, told a news conference last Monday that the CBAM is essentially a unilateral climate measure to extend the climate change issue to the trade sector.

"It not only violates World Trade Organization principles but also undermines the world's multilateral free trade system, mutual trust in the in-



Flags of the EU fly in front of the headquarters of the European Commission in Brussels, Belgium, June 29, 2020. File photo

ternational community and prospects for world economic growth."

Liu stressed that the EU move runs counter to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and the 2015 Paris Climate Agreement.

An official of India's environment ministry, quoted by The Times of India last week, voiced similar concerns.

"India has always held a view that any such unilateral car-

bon border adjustment will be discriminatory and against the principles of equity and (common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities)," the official said.

Such a trade barrier will not help to bridge the trust deficit between developed and developing countries before COP26, he said, referring to the UN climate conference to be held in Glasgow, Scotland, in November.

In April Brazil, South Africa, India and China, in a climate

group known as BASIC, issued a joint statement calling the CBAM discriminatory.

US government officials have also expressed their reservations despite a push by some Democratic lawmakers for a similar scheme.

Jonathan Pershing, a member of the US climate envoy's team, said that implementing a border levy to price carbon-intensive imports and protect European industries will be "extremely complicated".

US Treasury Secretary Janet Yellen said that while carbon pricing can be an effective tool, it should also be recognized that some countries may use other means to curb emissions.

The US does not have a carbon pricing scheme at the federal level.

Russian Deputy Prime Minister Alexander Novak said in June that the CBAM "may clash with global trade rules and threaten the safety of energy supplies".

Hosuk Lee-Makiyama, an economist in Brussels who

is director of the European Centre for International Political Economy, said the CBAM assumes that every country must introduce a carbon price that is identical to that of the EU. But there are many legitimate reasons why carbon prices may be lower in another country, in the same way that land prices, wages or interest rates differ.

"The CBAM contradicts the idea that the fastest path toward a carbon-free society for each country might be different than the one that the Europeans have chosen for themselves," he said.

Hege Fjellheim, director of carbon research at Refinitiv, a provider of financial markets data, said that while the rationale for the CBAM is to create the right conditions for European industries to innovate, thrive and be green in a carbon-constrained world, it is also a clear "nudge" to other big emitters to improve their behavior to avoid a carbon cost on their exports to Europe.

**Agencies**

## Principal of rural primary school realises students' football dream

OVER the past 10 years, Ma Anwu, principal of Zhonglianchuan Primary School in Yuzhong county, Lanzhou city, northwest China's Gansu province, has established a football team at the school, led students to victory in many football games and broadened their horizons, bringing many changes to the rural school.

Because of Ma's persistence in incorporating football into school education, students from rural areas have not only gained access to and become fond of the sport, but enjoyed a happier school life.

It takes an hour and a half to drive from Yuzhong county to Zhonglianchuan Primary School, a boarding school located over 2,300 meters above sea level on the Loess Plateau of China.

Among 60 students at the school, one third come from single-parent families and nearly a half are "left-behind" children whose parents are working in urban areas. Most of the students have never left their hometown. In fact, most of the children in the locality began to work after finishing junior high school in the past.

Things started to change when Ma came. Students at Zhonglianchuan Primary School have not only been admitted to prominent high schools in

Lanzhou, but get a chance of becoming professional football players. Children in the mountainous region have embraced greater future, something that also exhilarates their parents.

Recently, Zhonglianchuan Primary School went through the final of a youth football league in Lanzhou for the fourth time. While football players of the school fought for a victory on the field, Ma, also the coach, was busy giving instructions and shouting encouragement to them. It was hard to imagine that the school team could give such a good performance in football games ten years ago.

In 2011, Ma, who had been engaged

in rural education for nearly 10 years, was appointed as vice principal of Zhong Lianchuan Primary School. Deeply concerned about poorer enrollment, Ma chewed over how to make good use of students' spare time to enrich their school life, attract students and explore new possibilities for them to apply for high schools and even universities. As a football enthusiast himself, Ma decided to develop students' hobbies of playing football.

After digging out several dusty footballs in the sports room, Ma set up a football interest group and encouraged students to learn the sport.

Without football kits and fields, he taught students in cloth shoes at a dirt playground about the size of a basketball court. Whenever they played, dirt would swirl in the air.

Encouraged by the enthusiasm of students, Ma started to watch football videos and read relevant books to learn about tactics and expand his knowledge of football.

Every day before school begins and after school since 10 years ago, Ma has helped students with football practice, including dribbling the ball and shooting.

Along with the improving techniques of players, the training condi-

tions have become more comfortable. The government of Yuzhong county has helped build a football field at the school, according to Ma, who has also managed to raise funds to purchase uniforms and football boots with moulded studs.

Despite difficulties and challenges, students never gave up. In the past nearly five years, Zhonglianchuan Primary School has won the championship at youth football leagues in Yuzhong county, Lanzhou city and Gansu province, and even ranked high during China's national youth football invitational tournaments.

**People's Daily**



# COVID-19 origin probe must be in right direction

HONG KONG

DETERMINING the origins of COVID-19 should be driven by science and solid facts, but the "lab leak" hypothesis should not be the focus of the investigation and politicizing the search won't help, experts said.

"I don't see any features in the (COVID) virus genome that do not occur in other coronaviruses," said Benjamin Neuman, chair of the Biological Sciences Department at Texas A&M University-Texarkana, in the United States.

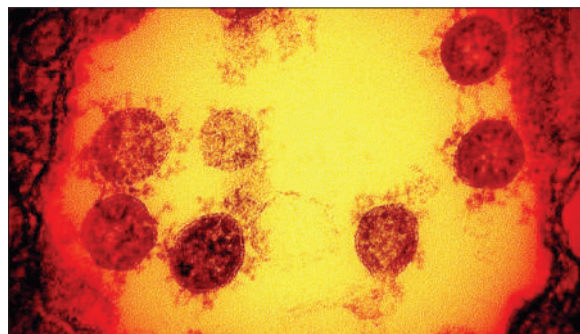
He said some people have tried to use specific features of the SARS-CoV-2 spike gene as evidence that it is an artificial virus, but all these features can also be found on other coronaviruses.

Neuman, a member of the international committee that named SARS-CoV-2, the virus behind the COVID-19 pandemic, said the explanation that best fits the full set of data is that this new virus probably originated outside a laboratory in nature, like other known coronaviruses.

"I suppose it would be comforting, in a very human way, to be able to point to a person or an event that is responsible for all the misery of COVID-19, or any other virus for that matter," said Neuman. "In stories, that sometimes happens, but not so much in nature."

In addition to the differences in the virus that have been the focus of many conspiracy theories, Neuman said, SARS-CoV-2 has hundreds of other mutations scattered throughout its genome. "These other mutations are distributed in roughly the same way as we might find in any naturally occurring coronavirus," he told China Daily.

"Without a time machine and possibly a magic wand,



I don't know how a reinvestigation would be able to turn up anything different," Neuman said.

China has submitted a proposal to the World Health Organization for the second phase of the COVID-19 origin study in an effort to support and coordinate with the organization in tracing the origins of the virus globally, Foreign Ministry spokesman Zhao Lijian said on Thursday.

A paper by 21 virologists, posted online in early June, reviewed the scientific evidence for the origin of the virus. It concluded that the virus' origin is overwhelmingly likely to have been zoonotic, transferred from an animal source to human infections, and that there is zero evidence for a laboratory origin.

Lead author Edward Holmes, an evolutionary biologist and virologist at the University of Sydney, said careful and critical analysis of the available data provided no evidence that SARS-CoV-2 originated in a laboratory.

According to the paper, focusing on a highly improbable lab origin distracts from the most urgent scientific tasks to "comprehensively investigate the zoonotic ori-

gin through collaborative and carefully coordinated studies".

Though there is no strong evidence yet on the origin of COVID-19, there are many studies and publications on bat coronavirus related to SARS-CoV-2, said Alongkorn Amonsin, director of the Center of Excellence for Emerging and Re-emerging Infectious Diseases in Animals at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok.

Alongkorn said that more research needs to be done on the pre-COVID exposure in animal, wildlife and human populations to discover the novel coronavirus' origin.

Neuman, from Texas A&M, said it is very important to find the very close relatives of SARS-CoV-2.

"The closest that we have are a couple of bat viruses that are each around a thousand mutations different from SARS-CoV-2," said Neuman, who added the differences could represent perhaps 50 to 100 years of evolutionary distance. "I think there are, somewhere in nature, more viruses similar to this," he said.

The most important issue for dealing with the pandemic now is vaccination, because more variants have emerged, said Obli Rajendran Vinodh Kumar, senior scientist at the ICAR-Indian Veterinary Research Institute's Division of Epidemiology.

China has repeatedly expressed opposition to attempts by some Western powers, particularly the United States, to politicize the virus origin probe by targeting a Wuhan research facility.

Beijing's position has been endorsed by many nations, with dozens of them recently writing to the WHO to denounce attempts at politicization of the issue and distortion of facts. **Xinhua**



A woman receives a COVID-19 vaccine next to a car at a drive-thru vaccination center outside an IKEA store in Berlin, Germany, on July 29, 2021. (AFP)

## Germany poised to offer shots to youngsters as vaccinations slow

BERLIN

GERMANY is poised to widen COVID-19 vaccinations to include all 12-17 year-olds, stepping up efforts to spur its flagging inoculation drive.

The move set to be agreed Monday goes beyond advice published by the government's independent vaccine commission.

The authority, known as STIKO, recommends inoculating those in that age group who have pre-existing conditions that put them at heightened risk from the coronavirus, or those who are in regular contact with people who are in particular danger.

"In other countries this is already happening and we think it's important not to lose any time," Bavaria Health Minister Klaus Holetschek said Monday in an interview with ARD television.

"If anyone is unsure, they should consult their doctor," he added ahead of talks with regional counterparts and Federal Health Minister Jens Spahn. "The key thing is that we're making an offer of vaccines to a group that is not yet protected."

As of Friday, 52 percent of the German population were fully vaccinated against COVID-19, and just under 62 percent had received at least one shot, according to the latest health ministry data.

The number of confirmed coronavirus cases in Germany increased by 847 to 3,772,109, data from the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) for infectious diseases showed on Monday.

The reported death toll rose by 1 to 91,660, the tally showed.

### Global tally

Coronavirus cases worldwide exceeded 198.28 million while the global death toll topped 4.22 million, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University.

**Agencies**

## Interstate relations must be governed by law and morality – Gorbachev

MOSCOW

FORMER Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev believes that relations among states must be governed not only by international law, but also by a code of conduct based on universal human morality, which will help avoid many crises.

"I am certain that it will be possible to overcome the paralysis of political will, which many politicians and civil society representatives are talking about a great deal these days, only on the basis of an ethical approach.

Relations between states in the globalized world must be governed not only by international law but also by a certain code of conduct based on universal human morality," Gorbachev said in an article entitled

"To Understand Perestroika and Defend New Thinking, uploaded in Russia to the website of Russia in Global Affairs magazine yesterday.

The former Soviet leader believes that "these rules of conduct must envisage restraint, due regard for the interests of all sides, consultations and brokerage in case of an aggravation of the situation and the risk of a crisis."

"I am certain that many crises would have been avoided if only their immediate partakers and external forces, in particular, had been guided by such rules of conduct," Gorbachev (pictured) believes.

As a historical example, he mentioned his visit to the United States in 1992, when the US leadership did not say a word about the US victory in the Cold War.

"But the US establishment has been unable to stick to this position. American politicians failed to stand the test of history, to match their historical responsibility," Gorbachev writes. "Instead of stating a common victory in the Cold War they decided to declare their own victory in the Cold War."

In his opinion, at that moment, there occurred "the disruption, the turn that predetermined so much in the further march of world events; it was also the root cause of the mistakes and failures that upset the basis of a new world policy."

"Triumphalism is a poor guide in politics. Apart from everything else it is also amoral," Gorbachev said. He stressed that his wish to "pair politics and morality" was one of the key principles of new thinking.



## Zambian president deploys army to quell violence before vote

By Bloomberg

ZAMBIAN President Edgar Lungu deployed the army and other security forces to join the police in maintaining law and order after the killing of two supporters of the ruling Patriotic Front.

Police arrested four suspects in connection with the murders that took place Friday in Lusaka, the capital. Reports of clashes between supporters of the ruling party and the main

opposition United Party for National Development have intensified as the southern African nation's general election draws nearer.

Security forces deployed in parts of Lusaka and will "fan out" as the need arises, Lungu said in comments broadcast on state television Sunday evening.

"I've allowed other wings of the defense force to join the police in maintaining law and order in those points where we



have experienced violence," he said. "The loss of those two lives and the injuring of many other people is not something to take lightly."

In June, the nation's electoral commission barred the ruling party and the UPND from campaigning in Lusaka and three other districts because of political violence ahead of elections on Aug. 12. The ban was lifted last month.

The commission has also limited how parties can can-

vass ahead of the vote because of surging Covid-19 cases.

Last week, Police Inspector-General Kakoma Kanganja ordered his officers to use force to ensure citizens follow pandemic restrictions. Police in the eastern town of Chipata prevented UPND leader Hakainde Hichilema from leaving the airport for about two hours, and fired teargas on his supporters gathered outside.

**Agencies**

## China's thriving foreign trade drives upgrading in ports

PORTS in China are witnessing increasing cargo throughput, broadening sea routes, and constantly improving the quality of foreign trade.

In the first half of this year, the cargo throughput of ports in China rose 9.2 percent year on year to nearly 2.36 billion tons, while their container throughput grew by 15 percent from the same period last year to about 138 million TEUs (Twenty-foot Equivalent Units).

By rolling out a series of measures to reduce costs and enhance efficiency, ports and customs in many Chinese cities have put shipping resources to better use and increased efficiency in foreign trade, providing support for continuous and steady growth in foreign trade.

Qingdao Qianwan Container Terminal Co., Ltd. (QQCT) based in Qingdao, east China's Shandong province, launched a total of 15 new shipping routes during the first six months of this year, among which ten connect the city with countries and regions participating in the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI). Zhang Jun, deputy general manager of QQCT told People's Daily.

This year, there has been a significant increase in the growth rate of the container throughput of Chinese ports, while the demand for container shipping services has been rising in the majority of ports, suggested the Outlook of Container Throughput at Global Top 20 Ports in 2021 report recently released by the Center for Forecasting Science under the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS).

According to a model-based prediction from the Center for Forecasting Science, nine of the top 20 container ports in the world will be from China, and the development of China's container transport plays a major role in boosting and underpinning the overall stable development of the world.

On July 14, 130 containers containing home appliances including refrigerators and ovens were loaded onto a ship at a wharf in Shunde district, Foshan city, south China's Guangdong province.

After customs clearance through an innovative customs clearance mode, these goods were transported to Nansha port in Guangzhou, capital of Guangdong, by inland river barge, and then, without going through customs procedures again in the Nansha port, carried to their destination country by



Photo taken on July 24, 2021, shows the busy Qianwan Container Terminal in Qingdao, east China's Shandong province. File photo

an international container vessel.

The new customs clearance mode allows exports and imports to finish all customs clearance procedures at nearby inland river ports on Zhujiang River in Guangzhou and be directly transferred to seagoing vessels when they arrive at Nansha port, according to Liang Zhangcheng, an official of the customs at Nansha port.

The customs clearance mode enables imports and exports to be directly transferred at Nansha port and pass the port quickly 24/7 all year round without having to wait for a schedule at wharves, Liang said.

In order to simplify the procedures and shorten the time for customs clearance, some cities are actively optimizing the business environment of ports by exploring smart port construction.

In Qinzhou Port area of the Beibu Gulf Port in south China's Guangxi Zhuang autonomous region, customs and port authority jointly launched a smart control system that helped realize information visualization at the container handling area. In addition, they have also promoted the implementation of reform measures including automatic entry of tally data to make it easier to transmit shipping bills.

The overall customs clearance time of imports at Qinzhou Port was 16.88 hours on average between January and June this year, 19.91 percent less than that of last year, according to Wang Xilong, chief of customs at Qinzhou Port.

At present, both the throughput and the fleet size of ports in China rank among the top in the world, making the country an in-

fluent major country in water transportation. The development of ports is crucial for giving play to the important role of sea transportation in foreign trade and stabilizing international logistics and supply-chain systems.

According to the National Comprehensive Three-dimensional Transportation Network Planning Outline jointly issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and the State Council in February 2021, China will promote the construction of a number of international hub ports and national hub ports.

"In the future, we will earnestly put into practice arrangements and requirements set out in key guidelines including the Outline for Building a Transport-strong Nation and the National Comprehensive Three-dimensional Transportation Network Planning Outline so as to facilitate high-quality development of water transportation," said Yi Jiyong, an official from the Water Transport Bureau under the Ministry of Transport.

Efforts will be made to speed up the construction of modern sea transport fleet, improve global sea transport service network, build up capacity for the transportation of key products, and enhance the resilience of container transportation, Yi said.

The country is also going to improve the comprehensive service capacity of ports, extend the industrial chain of port logistics, and promote integrated development of ports, industries, and cities, according to Yi.

**People's Daily**

## US blames Iran for ship attack, plans 'appropriate response'

By Bloomberg

THE US formally blamed Iran for a deadly attack on an Israel-linked oil tanker off Oman on Thursday, warning of an "appropriate response."

"There is no justification for this attack, which follows a pattern of attacks and other belligerent behavior," Secretary of State Antony Blinken said in a statement Sunday. "We are working with our partners to consider our next steps and consulting with governments inside the region and beyond on an appropriate response, which will be forthcoming."

Blinken's condemnation came after Israeli Prime Minister Naftali Bennett said Iran was "unequivocally" responsible. The UK issued a similar condemnation. None of them offered direct evidence.

"We expect the international community to clarify to the Iranian regime that it made a terrible mistake," Bennett said. "We have our ways of getting the message to Iran."

Two crew members - a Romanian and a Briton - died on board the Mercer Street, the first fatalities in years in the volatile Gulf of Oman shipping corridor. Earlier on Sunday, Iran denied responsibility.

"Israel should stop leveling such accusations against Iran," a spokesman for the Iranian foreign ministry, Saeed Khatibzadeh, said in a press briefing in Tehran on Sunday. "It's not the first time that Israel is making such accusations."

Blinken said he was "confident" Iran used "one-way explosive" drones in the attack on the oil-products tanker. UK Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab said "one or more" of the unmanned drones may have been involved.

Iran and Israel have traded multiple accusations of shipping attacks in recent months. They've happened amid efforts by world powers to restore a 2015 pact that limited Tehran's nuclear activities in return for an easing of US sanctions. Israel is against a lifting of sanctions or a revival of the deal.

A sixth round of talks in Vienna broke up last month without a deal. The US, European Union and Russia have been frustrated by Tehran's stalling over a seventh round of negotiations, for which no date has been set.

The 183-meter Mercer Street was sailing, empty of cargo, from Tanzania's Dar es Salaam to Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates, said London-based Zodiac Maritime Ltd., manager of the vessel.

Zodiac is controlled by real estate and shipping magnate Eyal Ofer and operates the Japanese-owned carrier. Ofer is among Israel's richest people, with a net worth of US\$11.3 billion, according to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index.

**Israel should stop leveling such accusations against Iran," a spokesman for the Iranian foreign ministry**



# SPORT



Caravans B cricket outfit's Anand Ram (R), gets the man of the match prize from senior national cricket squad's Salum Jumbe shortly after Ram's outfit confronted Sandy's Super Strikers in this season's Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League (MNML) Division B T30 clash, which took place last week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DC

## Caravans B cricketers notch victory over Sandy's Super Strikers in Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League

By Guardian Reporter

CARAVANS B squad beat Sandy's Super Strikers by two wickets as the 2021 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial League (MNML) Division B T30 raged on last week.

The tie had Caravans B team display their prowess with both bat and ball, confidently getting down to successful chase of their opponents' modest total.

Sandy's Super Strikers were skittled for 170 runs in 28.2 overs when they had the opportunity to start batting in the match.

Mohammed Ali that opened the innings with Anand Monani experienced a brief spell as he recorded 15 runs.

It thus was left to captain Monani to see to it his outfit took control, he gave his all with the bat and turned out to be the top run-getter.

Monani surpassed the half-century mark, notching 56 runs which were crucial to Sandy's Super Strikers' acquisition of their total.

He cleared the boundary on seven occasions as he executed the most impressive innings when his team took the crease.

Middle-order batsmen, Nanda Kumar and Td Sirinanda, had the outfit struggling to pile runs, with Nanda posting 14 runs.

Sirinanda's innings had the cricketer notching 11 runs, cracking a four.

Abhishek Rathod had as well sought to make his presence felt by showcasing good knocks and ending with 27 runs, blasting a boundary and a six.

Sandy's Super Strikers' pursuit on a bigger total suffered a knock, considering two key members of the batting order, Narendra Kumar and Bapu Javid Yakub, had brief spells.

Both batsmen were victims of Caravans B outfit's Nandu's tricky bowling.

Narendra could only manage to notch one run in his four knocks, whereas Bapu was dismissed for a duck by the Caravans

B squad bowler.

Caravans B team's youthful player Johnson Nyambo took three wickets in six overs in an overall stellar bowling display.

There was also a good showing that Nandu orchestrated, he posted two wickets in five overs.

Needing 171 runs to register a victory, Caravans B squad was forced to step up its game, as the batting unit faced fightback by Sandy's Super Strikers.

Anand Ram, one of Caravans B outfit's key players, made his experience pay off, given the cricketer confidently catapulted his team to victory.

Ram was the top run-getter, notching seven fours in a stint which ended with the performer notching 61 runs.

Anoop's 24 runs which included four fours were equally crucial for the squad's triumphant finish.

Caravans B outfit's chase had experienced a huge blow, given five of the squad's batting unit members were dismissed in quick succession.

Skipper Prabhu Subraman was one of the victims of early dismissal, as he was six runs short of a two-digit figure.

The chase thereafter enjoyed a momentous boost given the youthful Nyambo, deployed as a middle-order batsman, put solid showing.

The promising all-rounder notched 35 runs, nailing six boundaries.

Vivek Acharya and Nandu made certain of their outfit's pursuit of the victory, ending with not-out spells.

Acharya ended with 20 runs not out, cracking two fours, Nandu had five runs not out.

Mohammed Ali had sought to single-handedly see to it Sandy's Super Strikers defended their total, in which he posted six wickets.

In Ali's six-over spell, which included a maiden over, the performer notched a hat-trick of wickets, a rare feat in regional club competitions.

The results had Sandy's Super Strikers conceding a second defeat in a row. They were, in their opening clash, beaten by Dar Cricket Club (DCC) A by 76 runs.

“

The tie had Caravans B team display their prowess with both bat and ball, confidently getting down to successful chase of their opponents' modest total.

## SPORTS

## Tanzanian football in ascendancy after lifting CECAFA U-23 Challenge Cup



Tanzania's national U-23 football squad's fullback, Israel Patrick (L), challenges Uganda's U-23 side's attacker as the two teams faced off in this season's Council of East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA) U-23 Challenge Cup's match, which took place in Ethiopia last week. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CECAFA

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

DESPITE having to endure the nerve-shattering, nightmarish experience of a penalty shootout, the Tanzanian U-23 football team still revealed their irresistible class to overcome Burundi U-23 squad 6-5 in the final of the CECAFA U-23 Challenge Cup to deservedly lift the trophy.

Indeed, the boys' impressive triumph shows that there is a deep reservoir of abundant youthful talent that exists in our country, a reservoir that is just waiting to be tapped.

Moreover, the boys' victory augurs promisingly for the fortunes of the senior national team, the Taifa Stars too.

It should be noted that as is the custom in matters football, a few glittering gems from the Tanzanian U-23 team can be blooded into the Taifa Stars and one would be hardly surprised to see that urgent calls are made in the ensuing months for this to happen.

In addition, one would like to strongly encourage the stewards of our football scene to keep tabs on each member of this all-conquering U-23 team as it would be grossly neglectful if many of them are carelessly allowed to disappear off the radar of domestic football.

Let us now turn to the ongoing Tokyo Olympics, which, lest we forget, started under a cloud of gloom due to the COVID-19 pandemic which is ravaging the tech-friendly Japanese capital at the moment.

Thus far, there has been precious little for Africa to make merry about but that distinctly changed a few days ago when the female South African swimmer Tatjana Schoemaker outstandingly won the greatly coveted gold medal in the 200 meters breaststroke event.

Indeed, there is no escaping the bald truth that a victory for South Africa is a huge win for the continent as well, whose numberless sports devotees are hoping for a mighty haul of medals.

It is also obvious well that few quarters would oppose the cast-iron case that Schoemaker deserves to be showered with praise for her titanic strivings in the swimming pool at the quadrennial Tokyo Games.

Perhaps also keen to get in on the medal-winning act, the Ugandan Joshua Cheptegei exceptionally claimed the

silver medal in the men's 10,000 meters, an event, by the way, which he was the hot favorite to win.

That notwithstanding, silver medals are not just laid on a platter for mere mortals to receive and so, I'm pretty sure that many Ugandans are still walking on air as a result of Cheptegei's herculean achievement.

With regards to Africa's further prospects for medals, the saying 'hope springs eternal' seems appropriate here.

Besides, the Games are still not over and so the days ahead beckon enticingly with exciting possibilities for more medal-winning glory.

## Kenya's Tusker FC withdraws from CECAFA Kagame Cup, groups changed



Kenya's Tusker FC. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TUSKER FC

NAIROBI

KENYA Premier League side, Tusker FC, has withdrawn from the regional CECAFA Kagame Cup slated to run from Sunday to August 14 in Dar es Salaam.

The development has forced Council for East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA)'s Competitions Committee to change the groupings which now places four teams in each of the two groups.

Uganda's Express FC was to kick start the campaign with the side's first game of the tournament against Atlabara FC (South Sudan) at Azam Complex yesterday.

On Sunday, the competition's opening day, Tanzania's football outfit, Yanga, drew 1-1 with guest side, Nyasa Big Bullets FC (Malawi) at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium.

Nyasa Big Bullets FC center-back, Miracle Gabeya, headed into his club's net in the seventh minute to give Yanga the opening goal.

Gabeya's efforts to head away a dangerous cross whipped in from the left had the defender beating keeper, Rabson Chiyenda, as the center back was under pressure from Yanga's Waziri Junior.

Nyasa Big Bullets FC posted an equalizer as experienced forward, Chiukepo Mswoya, scored a penalty they had won as Yanga's center defender, Abdallah Shaibu, fell Aderpoje Babatunde in the penalty box.

Yusuf Mosi, the CECAFA Competitions Director, said the matches will be played at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium and the Azam Complex Chamazi.

"We expect a very competitive tournament with the best two teams

from each group going straight to the semi-finals."

"This event will also help some of our teams prepare better ahead of the CAF competitions starting in September" added Mosi.

Uganda's KCCA FC are the defending champions of the regional title they won in 2019 in Kigali, Rwanda.

Pool A: Young Africans (Tanzania), Nyasa Big Bullets (Malawi), Express FC (Uganda), Atlabara FC (South Sudan).

Pool B: KCCA FC (Uganda), Azam FC (Tanzania), Le Messenger Ngozi (Burundi), KMKM FC (Zanzibar).

The CECAFA Club Cup is a football club tournament organized by CECAFA.

It has been known as the Kagame Inter-Club Cup since 2002, when Rwanda President, Paul Kagame, began sponsoring the competition.

It is contested by clubs from the East and Central Africa region.

## Why is there so much drama in Olympic boxing?

TOKYO

WHEN Mourad Aliev sat on the boxing ring apron at the Kokugikan Arena for an hour after his disqualification for head-butting, the French super heavyweight took a metaphorical seat alongside all the boxers who believe they've been grievously wronged by Olympic refereeing and judging.

Over a century into boxing's stormy Olympic history, that gathering of angry fighters could fill an arena.

Ingemar Johansson. Jo Donggi. Byun Jung-il. Roy Jones Jr. Evander Holyfield. Floyd Mayweather Jr. Alexis Vastine. Michael Conlan. Vassily Levit. That's just a fraction of the boxers who felt victimized by controversial refereeing or messy judging in the Olympic ring over the decades.

For as long as boxing has been in the modern Games, fighters and fans have complained about it. Every attempt to improve the judging and officiating has been undone by another round of missteps.

The sport now is essentially defined by images of outraged boxers protesting their perceived injustices, from Byun's Seoul ring sit-in to Conlan's middle fingers to the Rio judges. Losing fighters cry conspiracy and corruption at almost every defeat, never explaining why a global cabal was created specifically to hurt them.

But how much of modern Olympic boxing's dismal reputation is rooted in genuine scandal, and how much is simple human inconsistency? What causes some of those controversial decisions?

The answers probably aren't as complex as boxing conspiracy theorists and piqued pugilists believe.

### THE FIGHTS ARE SHORT

Modern Olympic fights are three rounds. That's rarely enough time to decide anything in a quality boxing match. Many professionals are just starting to work in the third round, but an Olympian can be doomed before that.

"Sometimes a boxer is just getting going, and it's already over," U.S. head coach Billy Walsh said.

The fights are short by necessity, since boxers must compete multiple times in the 16-day tournament. The differences between fighters are often minuscule over nine minutes of competition compared to 36 in a pro title fight, but a losing boxer always fixates on what she did well.

Unless boxers are allowed to fight until one physically incapacitates the other – which is the way they actually competed at the ancient Olympic Games in 688 B.C. – decisions are an unfortunate necessity.

### JUDGING IS SUBJECTIVE

Every boxing decision is inherently subjective, despite what your friend who buys every pay-per-view wants you to believe.

A good example arose when Conlan lost a decision to Russia's Vladimir Nikitin. The touted Irish bantamweight provided the iconic image of those Games when he flipped off the judges, slowly rotating so everybody could see his opinion.

But that's the dilemma: Judging is an opinion.

Conlan and his supporters claimed the decision represented anything from endemic financial corruption to a conspiracy supporting a Russian team that

won one gold medal. To many others, Conlan boxed well and probably deserved the decision – yet he also got punched in the face repeatedly by Nikitin, who exploited Conlan's inconsistent defense. Nikitin fought courageously with a bloody face, and he landed enough to have a chance in a short fight.

Conlan believes he was robbed. Others believe he just wasn't dominant enough to remove objective doubt.

And these are all opinions.

### ALL OVER THE PLACE

Many bouts in Tokyo have featured five judges from five continents. It's an admirable dedication to representation, but judges from vastly differing backgrounds are rarely in lock-step on the intricacies of scoring.

The International Boxing Association (AIBA) made a much-praised return to the 10-must scoring system before Rio, and it dedicated extensive resources to coordinated judge education. Progress was being made.

AIBA was then suspended from the Olympics in 2019 after widespread financial problems alongside the usual complaints about the judging at the 2016 Olympics – where there were actually fewer inexplicable results than in Beijing or London under the old punch-counting system. Olympic judging has moved forward and backward for decades, and this dance marathon is tiring.

### HARSH PROTECTION STANDARDS

Referee Andy Mustacchio disqualified Aliev for head clashes with British opponent Frazer Clarke, who had cuts near both eyes. Aliev claimed he hadn't even been warned, although others at ringside disagreed. "Those are the rules of the sport," Clarke said. "We didn't make them."

Olympic boxing has rules encouraging early stoppages for violations, ostensibly to protect fighters. Professional referees usually prefer to extend a bout, since that's why everyone is being paid to be there – and that's often when it's getting good.

The Olympic sport often doesn't understand this flexibility: French lightweight Sofiane Oumiha was stopped Saturday when Keyshawn Davis stunned and wobbled him with punches that didn't even knock him down.

Aliev and Oumiha almost certainly would have been allowed to continue a pro fight. A zealous referee can end an Olympic fight for relatively minor reasons – even when it seems terribly unfair.

### SORE LOSERS

Simply put, many boxers are poor sports. That's a self-preservation instinct: Most fighters' careers are over when they begin to lose regularly. It's rare for any boxer to accept defeat when a close fight goes to a decision – and that's about 90% of Olympic bouts.

Some Olympic fighters behave admirably in defeat. Kazakh middleweight sensation Abilkhan Amankul was gracious Sunday after a narrow quarterfinal loss to Brazil's Hebert Sousa.

Most boxers are inextinguishably confident in themselves. They take a losing decision as a personal attack to be countered with two middle fingers up, or with a ring sit-in.

AP

# A frustrating end to a promising Olympics for Africa's footballers

By Ed Dove, Special to ESPN

WITH all four of Africa's Olympic competitors eliminated from the men and women's football events, ESPN runs the rule over the quartet and reviews their performances in Japan.

### IVORY COAST

How did they do? Took five points from a group containing Brazil and Germany, drawing with both and eliminating the latter to progress.

They were minutes away from eliminating Spain, before capitulating 5-2 in extra time after conceding a 93rd-minute equaliser.

Did they meet expectations? Draws with Brazil and Germany – both among the top five tournament favourites – were excellent results for the Petits Elephants, and their showing against Spain also surpassed expectations.

Star performer: Franck Kessie put his ongoing contractual impasse with AC Milan behind him to deliver a series of emphatic displays, often compensating for the defensive uncertainty behind him.

San Pedro goalkeeper Eliezer Ira Tape had a few uncertain moments – and did concede five against Spain – but looks to have a bright future, while Max-Alain Gradel rolled back the years and led by example.

Disappointment: Defensive lapses against Spain – notably from Manchester United's Eric Bailly, who should really have known better.

After managing contests effectively and stymieing Brazil and Germany, despite having players sent off against the former, their composure deserted them against La Roja.

Key moment: The inability to deal with a floated cross in the third minute of stoppage time against Spain was utterly disastrous.

Ebou Kouassi sent his initial defensive header directly up in the air, missed the ball – under no pressure, mind – as it dropped, and then watched on as Bailly was out-muscled by Rafa Mir who duly finished from close range to take the tie to extra time.

The Elephants, as they have done so often in the past, had snatched defeat from the jaws of victory.

Where to next? Kessie will likely sign a new deal at Milan, while Bailly will likely have to compete with another new centre-back – Raphael Varane – as he looks to rebuild his Manchester United career.

The likes of Wilfried Singo, Christian Kouame and even Kouassi will now look to establish themselves with the senior side.

What did they say? "Tokyo 2020 has revealed some [Ivorian] talents, but Tokyo 2020 has also revealed some failings – we don't need to go in depth on them, we already know what they are." – Ivory Coast goalkeeper Copa Barry, touching on the Elephants' disastrous defensive display.

### SOUTH AFRICA

How did they do? Lost their opening two matches against Japan and France, but still had a slight chance of progression heading into their final fixture against Mexico. Here, they were defeated comprehensively to fall at the first hurdle.

It could have been a different story for Amaglug-glug had the camp not been hit by positive coronavirus cases on the eve of the tournament; this led to absentees, quarantines, and undoubtedly affected their preparation.

Did they meet expectations? First Round elimination was par for the course, although South Africa may regret not demonstrating the same adventure they showcased in their 4-3 defeat by France in their limp opening loss against Japan.

Star performer: Honourable mentions go to Evidence Makgopa, Kobamelo Kodisang and Luke Fleurs, but Teboho Mokoena gets the nod here for his marvellous midfield displays. Surely a move



Barbra Banda (C) was Africa's best footballer at the Olympics, scoring consecutive hat-tricks, though Zambia were unable to find their way out of the group stage. (Agencies)

beyond the PSL beckons for the SuperSport United anchorman.

Disappointment: The 1-0 defeat by Japan was not a scoreline that truly represented the Blue Samurai's dominance, as South Africa lacked attacking coherence and proved utterly toothless on the day.

How might things have gone had their preparation been uninterrupted, allowing David Notoane to show a little more ambition in the opener?

Key moment: Three times South Africa led against France before a late capitulation, and if they'd held their nerve during the latter stages, a famous victory could have been on the cards. It would have transformed the complexion of their tournament.

The 86th-minute penalty awarded to France was an almighty stroke of bad luck as keeper Ronwen Williams clipped Arnaud Nordin, and it could have been a different story if Luther Singh had converted his 40th-minute spotkick.

Where to next? South Africa's Vision 2022 has been disrupted by COVID-19, although a fundamental rebuilding of the country's football is still taking place, and many members of this squad will be critical components of the side that attempts to bounce back from missing out on the AFCON under Hugo Broos.

What did they say? "We have to be accountable for the results that we faced here in Tokyo. Hopefully the boys will graduate and take this experience to Bafana Bafana as we strive to make a better team in the future." – Notoane.

### EGYPT

How did they do? Eliminated in the quarterfinals by Brazil, having navigated a tricky group. Egypt remained resolute to dispatch Australia in their final group game – eliminating Argentina on goal difference in the process – but the match against the Selecao proved one game too far.

Did they meet expectations? Similar story to the Ivory Coast: they overachieved in progressing – although not as impressively as the Elephants – but didn't truly give the best account of themselves in the quarters.

Star performer: Several to choose from: Akram Tawfik was a dynamo during the group, making more tackles than any other player in the tournament, sitting second in the interception charts and in the top five for dribbles completed.

Ramadan Sobhi excelled down Egypt's left in their memorable victory over Australia, Ahmed Hegazy's experience was brought to bear in the centre of the defence, while Mohamed El Shenawy was influential in the clean-sheet displays against Spain and the Olyroos, before a heroic last stand against Brazil.

Disappointment: What could Egypt have achieved against Brazil in their decisive knockout elimination had Mohamed Salah been present?

The Liverpool superstar was denied participation in the tournament by his club – despite his own desire to compete for the gold – and his presence on the opposite flank to Sobhi could have taken the Pharaohs onto the podium.

Key moment: The rugged 0-0 draw against Spain in their opening fixture.

El Shenawy, Hegazy and Tawfik in particular were outstanding as the European heavyweights – with six players taken from their 2020 European Championships squad – were kept at bay.

It gave the Pharaohs belief they could progress, ultimately gave them a decisive point, and set the tone for

an encouraging tournament.

Where to next? Elimination means the end of a cycle for Shawky Gharib's 2019 U-23 Africa Cup of Nations winners, although expect several members of this squad to be part of the senior Egypt team who attempt to rebuild the heavyweights' reputation at the senior AFCON next year.

What did they say? "Your career with the Olympic team has ended, but don't lose contact with your friends. If anything happened between you during the match, just forget about it and look to the future. You will now become members of the senior team and I wish you success." – Coach Gharib to his young charges.

### ZAMBIA

How did they do? Obliterated by Netherlands 10-3 in their opener, they rallied to hold China – somewhat fortuitously – during a 4-4 rollercoaster in their second game, before ultimately falling 1-0 to Brazil in their final fixture.

Did they meet expectations? Finishing third in the group, ahead of China, is an outstanding achievement considering Zambia headed into the tournament – their first outside of Africa – ranked 104th in the world, whereas China are 15th.

Star performer: Barbra Banda, who was Africa's outstanding performer across both the men's and women's competitions.

She netted consecutive hat-tricks – the first woman to achieve such a feat at the Games – and equalled Canadian Christine Sinclair's record for most goals scored in a single edition of the tournament (six), although this achievement was later surpassed by the Netherlands' Vivianne Miedema.

While she drew a blank in the Copper Queens' final fixture against Brazil, she has already become Africa's all-time top women's scorer in the Games.

"I'm aiming to become the best footballer in the world," the reigning Chinese Super League top scorer told journalists after the Netherlands defeat.

Disappointment: Zambia's wide-eyed enthusiasm soon turned into deer-in-the-headlines terror as they conceded 10 against the European champions in their opener.

Ignominiously, it's the record for the most goals conceded by a single team in the history of women's football at the Olympics, and it's an 'accolade' that's unlikely to be broken any time soon.

Key moment: Hazel Nali's last-minute save to deny Wang Shuang her fifth goal and secure a point for Zambia in their 4-4 draw with China. It was a result that felt like a victory for the Shepolopolo, and kept them alive heading into their final fixture against Brazil.

For 23-year-old Nali, it was personal redemption after she had been widely pilloried for her performance against the Dutch, and her emotional celebration said it all.

Where to next? Zambia were greeted with a customised cake upon their return to Lusaka, and will now aim to build on their Olympics by qualifying for next year's African Women's Cup of Nations in Morocco. Their experience in Japan should stand them in good stead.

What did they say? "You are world class yourselves, well done. You have represented your country and continent well, and we are proud of you." – Zambia President Edgar Lungu.

“

Referee Andy Mustacchio disqualified Aliev for head clashes with British opponent Frazer Clarke, who had cuts near both eyes. Aliev claimed he hadn't even been warned, although others at ringside disagreed. "Those are the rules of the sport," Clarke said. "We didn't make them

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

**A frustrating end to a promising Olympics for Africa's footballers**



Polisi Tanzania's midfielder Mathias Mdamu.

## Football stakeholders should donate for Mdamu- call

By Correspondent Nassir Nassir

POPULAR football players in Tanzania are calling on various members of the game's fraternity to continue donating for Polisi Tanzania midfielder, Mathias Mdamu, to improve his health after being involved in a car accident that broke his legs.

Mdamu was involved in the car accident with his teammates in Kilimanjaro last month, as the outfit was making its way to its camp.

The midfielder is out of contract with Polisi Tanzania after his contract ended this season.

Mdamu's family has considered sending him abroad for further medical treatment after the player's ongoing treatment in Dar es salaam.

Mdamu was involved in the accident involving a police team bus while they were training early last month in preparation for their two final matches.

Various soccer players that include the ones turning out for Mainland Premier League and First Division League clubs had last weekend played a charity match in Morogoro to raise funds for his treatment.

Benedicto Mdamu, who is Mdamu's brother, noted the condition of his younger brother still is not good, despite starting light exercise and the main issue is anemia, although they are grateful to see the response of stakeholders in helping his younger brother.

He said they were considering sending Mdamu abroad for treatment, but were first waiting to foresee his health and also finding out where his treatment will appropriate take place to restore him to his normal condition.

"There are various stakeholders who have been helping us. We are grateful and advised if possible to take him out for further treatment, but we have not yet decided, we want to be satisfied with the move and also know his costs, but this has been possible with the help of stakeholders with Mdamu's family," Benedicto disclosed.

Various prominent footballers, including Namungo FC midfielder Shiza Kichuya, have said that they want to ensure Mdamu return to the field. Kichuya called on sports stakeholders to come forward to help their fellow.

The Namungo FC midfielder was one of the players, who showed up on Sunday to play the match, to donate money for Mdamu's treatment.

Kichuya insisted the problem facing Mdamu can affect any human being. "It is not a matter of thinking twice to do it for a player who will get a chance to play, as it is something that our colleague, Mdamu, faced unexpectedly...it could happen to anyone," the midfielder noted.

"The main thing is we pray for our fellow so that he can resume his responsibilities because he has a family and football is his job."

Yanga and Taifa Stars defender, Dickson Job, said that although he missed the charity match due to his participation in the CECAFA Kagame Cup, he congratulates those who have volunteered to do so.

Job, who started his football career at Mtibwa Sugar and national U-17 team 'Serengeti Boys', noted: "I wanted to be there, but I'm stuck with the club's schedule, I thank my teammates for that act and I ask them to do as much as they can so that our fellow player can recover quickly."

## Buffaloes on rampage as they target COSAFA glory

LUSAKA

ASSISTANT coach, Carol Kanyemba, insists Green Buffaloes have their sights firmly set on a trip to Cairo when they contest the TotalEnergies CAF Women's Champions League 1 COSAFA Qualifier from August 26 to September 4.

The Lusaka-based army team will be among the favourites in the competition having been seeded in Group B, where they will take on Black Rhinos Queens of Zimbabwe and TURA Magic from Namibia, with the top two in the pool advancing to the semifinals.

The club has some recognizable names, such as defenders Lushomo Mweemba, Martha Tembo, and Anita Mulenga, and midfielders Ireen Lungu and Agness Musase, who were all part of the Zambia side that performed so well last month at the Tokyo Olympic Games.

They have also had national team stalwart Rachael Nachura training with the side under head coach Charles Haalubono.

Kanyemba is confident they will be successful, though she acknowledges the tough task ahead of them.

"We are going to Cairo! We want to be the first ones to represent Zambia at the CAF Women's Champions League," she says.

"The draw is good, but the challenge is there. Because the greatest challenge is having to face a team you have not met before. We don't know what they are coming up with.

"In this competition, every team is strong in its way because the first games against a new team are always scary. We will put in maximum effort and try our best to get out of the group. We have our homework to do, we know a few of the players [in the opponents' teams]."

It is considered to be an advantage to be in a three-team group, with two to advance to the semifinals, though Kanyemba knows that one off-day and it could be an early exit.

"I can't say there is an advantage because of the challenge [they face]. Only one team will not advance, and no one wants to be that team. There will be a lot of hard work in our group."

She says re-integrating the players who were at the Olympics is a key focus, given they have been with the national team for some time. "The Olympics brought a lot of confidence in the team. We believe in them [the players] because of the wonderful performance they put up. We hope they come back healthy to rejoin the team because they have been away a while.

"Systems are different from the club and the national team, so they have to blend in again with our system. With the little time we have, we need to work on our coordination. But the morale is high, and the confidence levels are high also."

The Football Association of Zambia has recently introduced a national women's league, rather than a provincial competition that had been played previously.

Kanyemba says this will benefit the women's game in the country, including Green Buffaloes.

"Women's football in Zambia is improving. Just recently they have introduced the national women's league, which has brought in a lot of competition. It is of the highest level and a lot of teams are getting the best out of it.

"Every team and every player is working hard to be the champions of the inaugural national league."

## Ruvu Shooting coach now seeks reinforcement for next season



Vodacom Premier League club, Ruvu Shooting.

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

RUVU Shooting head coach, Boniface Mkwasa, has stated he has already handed over his report to the team's management and indicated six signings to be done as the squad looks set to embark on improvement ahead of the next season.

The tactician's recommendations are, among others, a left full-back that will replace experienced fullback, Edward Manyama, who moved to Azam FC.

Mkwasa said despite the team's strong demand for improvement, he will start with seeking a player that will play in the left-back position due to the team's high demand for next season following Manyama's departure.

"We have a lot of needs in our squad, looking at the last season, we failed to achieve the goals of finishing the top four due to frequent injuries to my players, so for next season we do not want that to happen again," he said.

He also said that he has already submitted his registration report to

the leadership seeking to make adjustments to the goalkeeper's position.

The tactician disclosed he is moreover out to improve other areas to create a bigger squad for the upcoming season which he believes will be more difficult than the previous one.

"This season we have not reached our goal, finishing in the top four. The main reason is injuries our players sustained, we don't want it to happen next season," he said.

Mkwasa further noted next season's registration will see Ruvu Shooting focus more on bringing in players who will be of great help to the team to achieve their goals for the season.

The tactician revealed: "We don't have much time, given the league is expected to start in September, so we want to do everything early, sign good players and start preparations for next season."

It should be noted that

Ruvu Shooting once won the Mainland Tanzania Premier League's silverware on August 6, 1981, under coach Rafael Bahati Matole.

Ruvu Shooting also participated in the 2007 CECAFA Kagame Cup but the outfit was knocked out of the group stages by Kenya's AFC Leopards.

Ruvu Shooting had a run of less impressive results, only winning five times in the second round of this season's Mainland Premier League.

The Coast Region-based outfit lost 13 games and settled for one draw in one of the Premier League poor performances for the second round of the 2020/2021 season.

Mkwasa, former Yanga, and national team midfielder led Ruvu Shooting to the 11th position in the Premier League log with 41 points.

The outfit netted 34 goals and conceded 38 goals in a ratio that proves the side needs reinforcement for next season.

## 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)

**Nirvana** explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

**eastafrica RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planef Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

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