



National Pg 3
47 pc of Sim cards unregistered



National Pg 4
'Invest in prevention of NCDs'



National Pg 5
'Don't demolish old buildings'



Page 13

PM tells off PCCB on 2019 Uhuru Torch race frauds



Residents of Msalala, Ushetu and Kahama urban area in Shinyanga region line up at National Identification Authority offices waiting to be enrolled to get a number so as to register their Sim cards yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

On his part, the Ag PCCB director general Brig. Gen. John Mbungu said the work on the building took seven months to complete from 11 June 2018 to 25 January 2019, using up a total of 142,857,142/86 for its construction

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) to as soon as possible complete investigations on claims of embezzlement during the 2019 Uhuru Torch Race.

The directive was also tied to complete investigations on thefts in Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS) especially in respect of cashew nuts and sesame crops, including for Ruangwa District.

The premier gave the directive when inaugurating the PCCB building in Ruangwa District costing 142m/-, instructing the bureau to reinvigorate efforts to rein in corrupt officials.

He said in addition to PCCB conducting day to day activities, it should also implement various directives given to them by President John Magufuli at different times.

He said he has seen good work by PCCB in following up on investigations involving payment



'African grey parrots extend assistance in human-like behaviour'

WASHINGTON D.C

RESEARCH has found that apart from humans, some birds- especially African grey parrots- have similar tendencies.

The study, published in Current Biology mid last week, states that humans and other great apes have the willingness to help others - going out of their way even if the help seeker is a stranger. Birds from specific family spread their wing of help in a similar manner.

"We found that African grey parrots voluntarily and spontaneously help familiar parrots to achieve a goal, without obvious immediate benefit to them," says study co-author Desiree Brucks of the Max Planck Institute for Ornithology, Germany. To ascertain this fact, the researchers listed out a number of African grey parrots

TURN TO PAGE 2

Ministry moots procedures to control urban squatter growth

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

LANDS, Housing and Human Settlement Development ministry in partnership with city, municipal and district councils countrywide has prepared procedures to control the development of squatters in the various areas and instead plan for better land use.

Paulo Kitosi, an expert in urban planning at the ministry made this observation at a meeting to go through the first draft of the Mbeya City Master Plan.

He said the government has decided to embark on the procedure after realizing that many towns grow without proper planning for human settlements and other activities.

Kitosi said apart from the ministry liaising with councils, it will also collaborate with other development stakeholders to be called to give their



Acting Mbeya City Director Gerald Luzika said the implementation of the master plan will go in tandem with other plans that were set out in accordance with the laws

views on planning urban areas.

"The procedure will allot areas for human settlements, social services such as schools and health centres and commercial areas, as this will assist our urban areas to grow with proper planning," he explained.

The new procedures will also assist in reducing land conflicts in urban areas due to human settlements intermingling with other social activities, especially invasion of open areas, he stated.

Willy Kitorika from Urban Solutions Ltd - contracted to prepare the Mbeya City master plan - when tabling the first draft of the plan urged the government to liaise with local residents to educate them on the importance of their land.

Among things that urban area residents need

TURN TO PAGE 2

NBS, UNEP launch policy coherence test tracking

By Francis Kajubi

EXPERTS at the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) are working with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) to pilot test the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 17.14.1 which tracks the number of countries with mechanisms in place to enhance policy coherence of sustainable development.

Speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the opening of a two-day workshop for NBS and UNEP experts, Statistician General Dr Albina



Chuwa (pictured) said the collaboration will provide UN Environment - the custodian for this indicator - some valuable feedbacks and practical inputs from the piloting exercise that will be integrated in a refined version of the draft-methodology.

"The collaboration will also help NBS to proactively prepare for data collection and measurements of indicator 17.14.1. In Tanzania we will never be left behind in terms of reporting. In this respect, mechanisms for policy coherence have been identified as an important instrument to achieve the overall objective of SDG 17," she said.

The director noted that it is of paramount importance to track government efforts in setting up mechanisms for policy coherence to ensure policies at various levels of governance

TURN TO PAGE 2



As for the PCCB building, the premier said it was vital for a sensitive institution as PCCB to have its own building in the district governing structure

to cashew nuts and sesame farmers for the crops they sold, urging them to complete the work as soon as possible.

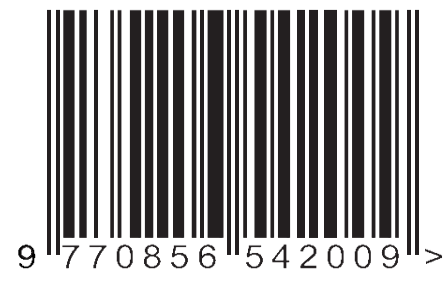
"Corruption affects the implementation of various projects and therefore the government has given a special push in dealing with all acts of corruption and theft, particularly during this period when big development projects are in full swing. Hence the government cannot afford to lose money needed to meet its various commitments."

Between July and September 2019 about 85.72bn/- was given out by the government including 50bn/- for pension claims, 22bn/- for various claims from public servants including gratuities for 3,017 retirees and salary arrears for 1,435 government employees, and 10.24bn/- paid out to service providers, he explained.

The premier noted that recent research by stakeholders in the fight against corruption including Transparency International (TI), the Mo Ibrahim Foundation and Afrobarometer show that for three consecutive years Tanzania has been doing well in the war against corruption, seeking to attain good governance.

He also directed establishment of anti-corruption clubs in schools so that students understand and report on corrupt incidences

TURN TO PAGE 2



NBS, UNEP launch policy coherence test tracking

FROM PAGE 1

are streamlined to work coherently and are mutually supportive and do not work against each other.

"The partnership will enable Tanzania achieves the No.17 goal in three dimensions of economic, social and environmental issues," she asserted.

UN Environment consultant Yannis Derbali said that promoting policy coherence for sustainable development is important in several ways, like achieving sustainable development in economic, social and environmental dimensions in a balanced and integrated manner.

"Policy coherence aims to identify trade-offs and mitigate negative impacts between policies. At a more ambitious level, it should also aim to foster synergies and produce policies that mutually reinforce each other," he said.

Stephen Chacha, executive director for Data Lab (T), said that UNEP shall present the methodology to capture the main types of policy coherence mechanisms at the workshop.

The various experts will also identify elements that contribute to effectiveness of each of the mechanisms, and a weighted scoring system for reporting towards indicator 1.14.1, he added.

PM tells off PCCB on 2019 Uhuru Torch race frauds

FROM PAGE 1

they may come across.

As for the PCCB building, the premier said it was vital for a sensitive institution as PCCB to have its own building in the district governing structure.

Reacting to the reported condition of PCCB buildings at the regional and district levels, he directed the Deputy Minister of State (Public Service Management and Good Governance) Dr Mary Mwanjelwa to handle the matter.

On his part, the Ag PCCB Director general Brig. Gen. John Mbungu said

the work on the building took seven months to complete from 11 June 2018 to 25 January 2019, using up a total of 142,857,142/86 for its construction.

On various investigations on AMCOS undertaken by PCCB, the acting PCCB CEO said they discovered that more than 30 AMCOS shortchanged sesame farmers by up to 1.23bn/-.

"We arrested and interrogated more than 300 AMCOS officials and succeeded to save 1.042bn/-, money that belonged to sesame farmers but short paid by AMCOS officials," he added.

Ministry moots procedures to control urban squatter growth

FROM PAGE 1

to be educated on is that whenever they want to develop their land they must abide by the laws of the country including possession of title deed of areas they want to develop, and other government permits.

Acting Mbeya City Director Gerald Luzika said the implementation of the master plan will go in tandem with other plans that were set out in accordance with the laws.

Some of the plans include types of buildings to be erected in various areas of the city as well as protection of the existing infrastructures including roads and water conduits, he pointed out.

Closing the meeting, Mbeya Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila said that going against the master plan implies the continuation of destruction of the city landscape. Political leaders in the city need to be at the forefront to protect the plan, he added.



Lions Club of Dar es Salaam, Mzizima coordinator Muzaffer Kadarbhai presents a gift to the deputy minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Dr Faustine Nduguiile at the launch of a free medical camp for vulnerable children organised by the Lions Club in collaboration with Africab Husain Polyclinic in Dar es Salaam over the weekend as part of the 56th anniversary of the Zanzibar Revolution. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

FROM PAGE 1

and blue-headed macaws. Both the species from the parrot family were willing to exchange tokens for nut treats. However, only the grey parrots wanted to give away their tokens to a neighbouring parrot, allowing them to taste the nut treats as well.

Parrots and crows have large brains in proportion to their body size and problem-solving skills to match. For that reason, they are at times considered as "feathered apes," explain Brucks and study co-author Auguste von Bayern.

However, earlier studies have explained that in spite of their impressive social intelligence, crows have not been seen to help other crows. In the newest study, Brucks and von

'African grey parrots giving out help in human-like behaviour'

Bayern solve the puzzles about parrots.

"Remarkably, African grey parrots were intrinsically motivated to help others, even if the other individual was not their friend, so they behaved very 'pro-socially,'" Bayern says.

"Surprisingly 7 out of 8 African grey parrots provided their partner with tokens, spontaneously and without having experienced the social setting of this task before and without knowing that they would be tested in the other role later on. Therefore, the parrots provided help without gaining any immediate benefits and seemingly

without expecting reciprocation in return."

An important note according to the study is that these grey parrots appeared to understand when their help was needed. When they could see the other parrot had an opportunity for exchange, they'd pass a token over. Otherwise, they wouldn't.

The researchers suggest that African greys and blue-headed macaws have differences in their behaviour which may relate to their separate social organization in the wild.

Despite those species differences, the

findings show that helping behaviour is not limited to humans and great apes but evolved independently also in birds.

It remains to be seen how widespread helping is across the 393 different parrot species and what factors may have led to its evolution.

The researchers say that further studies are required to investigate the underlying mechanisms of the parrots' helping behaviour. For instance, how do parrots tell when one of their peers needs help? And, what motivates them to respond?



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (L), deputy minister for State in the President's Office Public Service and Good Governance Dr. Mary Mwanjelwa (C) and Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau acting director general Brigadier General John Mbungu unveil the curtain to inaugurate PCCB offices in Ruangwa district, Lindi region yesterday. Photo: PMO

Three teachers killed in suspected militant attack near Kenya's Somalia border: Police

NAIROBI

SUSPECTED al Shabaab militants shot dead three teachers in Kenya near the border with Somalia on Monday and burned down a police station, police said, in what appeared to be the latest in a string of assaults by the group since the New Year.

A stray bullet wounded a child when the militants attacked Kamuthe primary school, in Garissa County, a police report seen by Reuters said. The militants also destroyed a telecommunications mast in the attack in the early hours of Monday, the report said.

The al Qaeda ally has targeted Kenya in frequent attacks, part of a retaliation campaign against the country for sending troops into Somalia in 2011 after a series of cross-border raids and kidnappings.

The group has stepped up the pace of its attacks in Kenya since the New Year.

Somalia and Kenya have porous

borders and often ad hoc methods for sharing intelligence.

Last week, four schoolchildren were killed during a gunfight between the Somali militant group and local police in Garissa. The attackers targeted a telecommunications mast in that assault as well.

The United States bolstered its presence in Kenya last week after al Shabaab killed three Americans in an attack on a military base used by U.S. and Kenyan forces.

Al Qaeda-affiliated al Shabaab has waged an insurgency in Somalia since 2008, aiming to topple the government and impose its own strict interpretation of sharia, or Islamic law.

Last month, at least 90 people were killed in a bombing in Somalia's capital Mogadishu in the country's deadliest attack in more than two years.

Al Shabaab militants on Sunday shot four men in a public execution in a region south of the Somali capital Mogadishu, an official from the group said

KAMPALA

Heavy rains seen slashing Uganda 2019/2020 cotton crop by a third

HEAVY rains that pummelled Uganda and the wider east African region in the third quarter of last year are expected to cut the country's 2019/2020 cotton output by a third, state-run sector regulator Cotton Development Organisation (CDO) said on Monday.

Cotton is one of Uganda's major cash crops alongside coffee and tea and is an important source of foreign exchange.

Uganda is expected to produce about 200,000 bales of cotton in the 2019/20

(June-July) season from an earlier production estimate of 300,000, said Douglas Bhosopo, a senior official at CDO.

In Uganda, the intense, relentless rains which started around late August, triggered widespread flooding, landslides and displacement of tens of thousands of people.

As the crop flowered, the rains made the soils over-moisturised, making

it difficult for the plants to extract nutrients, Bhosopo told Reuters.

"The rooting system cannot extract nutrients because there's so much moisture...the (cotton) bolls become small because the plant cannot sustain the flowers," he said.

"(Also) when it's raining ceaselessly and the skies are overcast...the skin of the bolls remains very soft and it becomes easy for pests to pierce it."

Uganda's cotton is mostly grown by small-holder farmers in the country's east and northern regions and is highly favoured for its organic quality.

Uganda was once a major African producer of the fibre but the sector declined sharply on the back of a mixture of political upheaval, competition from food crops and government neglect.

Lint production on the continent is

now dominated by the likes of Burkina Faso, Benin and Chad.

The country exports nearly all of her cotton as local ginning capacity is limited. The ceaseless rains also means it was difficult to spray the crops to ward off pests and diseases.

"When you spray and then rainfall follows immediately the chemicals are washed down before they have any effect," Bhosopo said.

The extremely wet conditions also allowed weeds to grow fast and become taller than the cotton plants, chocking off much-needed aeration around them.

In recent years, the Ugandan government has been handing out free seedlings to farmers to expand their acreage, and help boost the country's overall annual output to a target of about 500,000 bales.

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

Singida marks two years of cashew nuts block farming

SINGIDA Region marks two years since the ground-breaking establishment of block farming for cashew nuts crop having so far 12,000 acres being collectively cultivated in Manyoni District and of which harvests have started.

Speaking at the ceremony to say farewell to students from the Defense College who toured the Masigati cashew nuts farming project in Manyoni District, the Singida Regional Commissioner Dr Rehema Nchimbi said Singida Region continues with its economic and social revolution through

strategies to improve its residents economy.

"Within the period of two years we thank God that we have succeeded to bring about both customary and psychological changes to the wananchi's mindsets through the project resulting in many wananchi joining," said Dr Nchimbi.

She said apart from the acquired land in Manyoni District for the project, they have also secured another 500 acres in Itigi area and another 500 acres in Ikungi area all of which are being developed

through block farming.

She said the project's future plan is to increase the acreage for cashew nuts cultivation as well as establishing a cooperative for the area and including areas for warehouses and cashew nuts processing.

She called upon all wananchi countrywide to come to Singida to cultivate cashew nuts crop but also warned that the government will not hesitate to evict any person who will use the land for any other purposes.

She said researches by Tanzania

Agricultural research Institute at Naliendele (TARI-Naliendele) show that the area is best suited for cashew nuts cultivation than in many other areas and that the crop is harvested twice a year due to the area experiencing two dry seasons per year.

She said because of these special advantages various government institutions in the agricultural sector have started opening permanent offices to serve farmers and mentioned some of these institutions as TARI-Naliendele and

Cashew Nuts Board of Tanzania (CBT).

She said the green revolution on cashew nuts has changed Singida - "it is no longer Singida of the past when it was believed to be Singida of hunger, poverty, drought lacking any tangible opportunities, and even public servants were refusing to be transferred to Singida."

She said the strategies for the Region is to make it attain great strides in the development of the economy and added

that apart from its fertility and good climate, it has many other resources including historical attractions such as Kilimatinde villages which historically was a centre for the slave trade route in 1880s and a fortresses for both German and British rules.

The leader of the delegation from the National Defense College, Amb Peter Kallaghe hailed the efforts undertaken by the Singida Regional Commissioner adding that the agricultural revolution she is spearheading should be emulated by other regions so as to make Tanzania attain a middle level industrial nation status by 2025.

2 died, 7 injured in Shinyanga road accident

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

TWO people have died and seven others were injured after a passenger bus 'Bright Line' T 437 DFJ plying between Mwanza and Dodoma collided with a vehicle T 173 ANW when the bus driver attempted to avoid a motorcycle driver at Isela village in Shinyanga region.

Speaking at the scene, Shinyanga Regional Traffic Officer, Athony Gwandu said the accident occurred at 9 am. He named the deceased as Paulina Obedi (12) and the motorbike driver who was identified by one name as Saidi, a resident of Busongwa village in the region.

Gwandu said all the injured persons were rushed to Shinyanga referral hospital for treatment while the rescued passengers continued with the journey aboard another passenger bus. He said the Bright Line bus had carried 55 passengers from Mwanza.

"May I take this opportunity to remind all drivers including 'bodaboda' riders to adhere to traffic regulations to avoid road crashes", said the RTO.

Matei Onyango, a bus passenger said: "the driver was properly driving but suddenly the motorbike driver came in between forcing our driver to move on the other side of the road and collide with another car".

Onyango who was travelling with his two sons from Mwanza to Igunga in Tabora said most of the passengers sustained minor injuries.

On December 29th 2019, six people died on the spot in a road crash that involved a lorry T 364 AZZ and a passenger bus -T 846 AYU.

Dodoma Regional Police Commander, Gilles Muroto said the accident which occurred near Martin Luther secondary school when a Lorry driver was attempting to avoid a pothole thus knocking the passenger bus from behind.

Statistics from the Traffic Police Division shows that at least eight accidents occurred every day in the country from January to July 2019, lower than the average of 11 accidents that occurred during the same period in 2018.

Deaths toll stood at 744 during the first half of 2019, which is a 25 percent decrease. In the same period of the previous year, 994 deaths were recorded.

The number of road accidents in the country dropped by 27 percent, to 1,517, between January and June 2019 compared to 2,094 accidents during the same period last year.

A total of 1,529 persons were injured in accidents during the first half of 2019, a 27 per cent drop from 2,108 who were injured during the same period in 2018.

According to the Traffic Police Division, motorbike riders came second on the list of causes of road accidents, while over speeding and carelessness of pedestrians came third and fourth respectively.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister William Lukuvi draws the letter X on one of the houses which were built without city permits at Ndachi area Mnadani ward in Dodoma city over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Renatha Msungu

TCRA: Over 47 per cent of Sim cards still unregistered

By Guardian Reporter

AS only six days remain to the January 20th deadline for biometric registration of mobile sim cards, there are 22,796,472 active unregistered Sim cards, according to Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA).

TCRA Senior Official, Semu Mwakyanjala told this paper that data on the above number of unregistered Sim cards were recorded on January 7th 2020.

According to the regulator, until January 7th 2020, a total of 25,160,147 telephone lines (42.42 percent) were registered biometrically.

He said unregistered mobile phone lines accounts to 47.5 percent of total mobile phone users currently reaching 47,956,619.

"The number of people registering their telephone lines increases every day," said Mwakyanjala.

He further said that the biometric registration which requires holder's national identification numbers (NIN) and fingerprints is crucial for national security and crimes control.

The national identification numbers (NIN) are provided by the National Identification Authority (NIDA).

Last December when in Chato, Geita region, President John Magufuli announced to extend the biometric registration of telephone lines to January 20th, 2020 to allow SIM card owners who do not have NIN to secure them and register.

Earlier, Tanzania Communications and Regulatory Authority (TCRA) set December 31st as deadline for the biometric registration exercise which started in May 1st, 2019.

Magufuli directed TCRA to make sure all unregistered telephone numbers are switched off after January 20th, 2019.



Technical and Administration Specialists, Tanzania Natural Resource Management activity (NRM)

Tetra Tech International Development Services (<http://www.tetrattech.com/intdev>) headquartered in Arlington, VA is looking for qualified candidates to serve in a number of roles for an anticipated 5-year USAID-funded biodiversity conservation initiative Tanzania Natural Resource Management activity in Tanzania. We are looking for highly qualified specialists and experienced managers who are committed to strengthening capacity in Tanzania for biodiversity conservation in a manner that i) increases private sector engagement in conservation and NRM; ii) builds the capacity of public sector and civil society; iii) improves the enabling environment; and iv) enhances knowledge management across sectors. These positions are anticipated to be full time positions, based in Dar es Salaam, for a period of up to five years.

Positions for which qualified candidates are sought include:

1. Chief of Party (Project Director)
2. Director of Administration and Finance
3. Natural Resource Management Specialist
4. Private Sector Engagement Specialist
5. Biodiversity Conservation Specialist
6. Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Specialist
7. Sustainable Livelihoods Specialist
8. Knowledge Management and Communications Specialist

Qualifications:

- These are senior-level positions and require at a minimum:
- * A Masters' Degree from an accredited institution in a relevant specialization
 - * 7 years of relevant experience.
 - * Excellent communication skills in English, written and verbal.
 - * Tanzanian candidates, especially

women and people with disabilities, are encouraged to apply.

To be considered applicants must submit the following as part of the on-line process: * CV

Apply on-line at:

We have several positions posted. Please visit our website for more information. <https://careers.tetrattechintdev.com/ARDCareers/App/InternationalCareers.aspx> Applicants are encouraged to apply before February 7th, 2020. Applications that do not meet the minimum requirements listed above will not be considered. Please ensure that all necessary documents are uploaded, as incomplete applications and/or corrupt files may delay processing of your application or remove you from consideration. No phone calls will be accepted.

Tetra Tech is a leading provider of consulting, engineering, and technical services worldwide. Our reputation rests on the technical expertise and dedication of our employees - 20,000 people working together across disciplines and time zones to provide smart, sustainable solutions for challenging projects. We are proud to be home to leading technical experts in water, environment, infrastructure, resource management, energy, and international development. Tetra Tech combines the resources of a global, multibillion dollar company with local, client-focused delivery in over 400 locations around the world. We offer competitive compensation and benefits and are searching for innovative people to join our teams.

We are an equal opportunity employer: EOE AA/M/F/Vets/Disability.

FEZA SCHOOLS | FEZA SCHOOLS

ENTRANCE EXAM FORM V - 2020/21

Be Better Educated...



Combinations available:
PCM, PCB, PGM, EGM, HGE and HGL

APPLICATION FORMS AVAILABLE AT:

- DAR ES SALAAM
Feza Boys' Secondary & High School
0712 339 235
- DAR ES SALAAM
Feza Girls' Secondary & High School
0712 339 234
- FEZA SCHOOLS (ZANZIBAR)
0777 869 414



A bus with registration T 437 DFJ christened Briht Line plying Mwanza-Dodoma-Mwanza over turned at Isela village in Shinyanga district yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

Farmers in Mbeya discover 'gold' in sunflower farming

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

FARMERS in Mbeya Region have started shifting their attention to modern sunflower farming—the venture that has proved to be highly productive as compared to traditional ones.

In separate interviews, farmers said that the use of hybrid sunflower seeds, and production cost being lower than the income are among the factors that push them into engaging in the one of the income earning crops in the country.

They described the crop as a lucrative crop rather than relying on traditional crops such as maize whose prices are unreliable.

One of the farmers in Songwe area of Mbeya District, George Simchinga said: "In the past, sunflower wasn't a priority crop, because we didn't know its benefits. But, now everyone is getting into it."

Simchinga who has been in the industry for the past 20 years, said he used to grow the crop by mixing with maize "but now we have started growing the crop by separating it from other crops."

He said some government and non-governmental institutions have been visiting and providing them with good agronomic practices and hybrid seeds,

something that has been encouraging them to start producing the crop for handsome income.

"The companies producing hybrid sunflower seeds have been also visiting us and giving us a good agricultural education, but there are also institutions that have been mobilizing and teaching us such as the SNV Netherlands Development Organisation," he said.

He said he has now cultivated four acres for the first time in his life and that he has been told by experts that if he adheres to the better agronomic practices he will earn good money.

Experts say that open-pollinated varieties do not have high oil content but the new seeds will have up to 35-42 per cent oil content which is important because now farmers will get more income.

Currently, Tanzania imports 60 per cent of cooking oils despite having vast potential of sunflower seeds, according to a Bank of Tanzania report of 2017. The national average yield is 0.6 tonnes compared with the potential yield of 2-3 tonnes per acre.

Sunflower sub sector represents one of the key sectors of agriculture industry in Tanzania and is the most important vegetable oil with high value and on international markets.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mvomero

VICTIMS of floods in Kilimanjaro village, Mvomero district in Morogoro region are appealing to the government and other stakeholders to find them temporary places to stay while looking for permanent solution to their challenge.

According to them, since the flashfloods hit the village last month they have been looking for areas to stay something which has affected their daily life and school going children.

Late December, 2019, heavy rains destroyed about 60 houses and swept away seven graves at Kilimanjaro village, in Mvomero leaving hundreds of villagers homeless.

Mvomero flood victims appeal for government, well-wishers support

The made the appeal yesterday here when the Coca-cola company and the Member of Parliament (MP) Suleiman Sadiq Murad visited and supported them with humanitarian support worth 20m/-.

In a report read during the event, the floods left at least 467 residents homeless destroying 64 houses. "121 more houses are surrounded by water

thus affecting 526 people who also need humanitarian support for them to survive."

Amran Bakari, one of the victims said that; "We are leading a vulnerable life because we have now become a burden to our relatives who received us since December, so we are calling upon the government to help us."

Another resident Mwijuma

Kamwendo, a Kilimanjaro resident said the floods washed away her house and parents' graves.

"We are living at our relative's house, my children are also not going to school, this affects me a lot as I am also unable to conduct my daily income generating activities," she said.

Soon after the disaster occurred at the village, the Mvomero MP presented

the challenge to various companies and stakeholders seeking help, he received good response from Mtibwa Sugar which promised to rehabilitate infrastructures of the affected areas.

Support from Coca-cola Company and the MP included 200 mattresses, 500kg of rice, 500kg of beans, 200 mosquito net, 200 beddings and soft drinks.

Victor Aron, Coca-cola Communication and Public relation manager said the support is part of the company's corporate social responsibility.

He called for other companies to extend their support to the needy families to enable them survive.

Mvomero District Commissioner Mohamed Utaly wanted the council's management to fast-track the process of providing the residents with land plots to enable them start new life.

DC Utaly also urged the victims to make proper use of the humanitarian aid they receive warning that stern measures will be taken to those who will be found tempering with the aids.

Health stakeholders urged to invest in prevention of NCDs

By Guardian Reporter

HEALTH stakeholders have been urged to invest much of their efforts in the fight and prevention of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) to reduce the burden of morbidity and mortality in the country.

Deputy Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Dr Faustine Ndugulile made the call when speaking over the weekend at the official opening of free medical camp for vulnerable people in Dar es Salaam.

The medical camp was organised by the Lions Club in collaboration with Africab Husain Poly Specialized Clinic and aimed to provide free health check-ups to over 200 children from vulnerable environment.

Ndugulile said that non communicable diseases (NCDs) are rapidly increasing in developing countries including Tanzania thus needing more collaborative efforts to avert the killer diseases.

He said that; "Studies done in Tanzania and anecdotal evidence have shown that the prevalence of NCDs and related risk factors; hypertension, obesity, low physical activity are high especially in urban areas and in certain high risk groups, it's high time to direct all our efforts in preventing these instead of waiting until people fall sick", Ndugulile said.

For his part, Lions Club Dar es Salaam, Mzizima Coordinator Muzaffer Kaderbhai, said that the club organised the free medical camp for children under the age of 12 years most of them coming from orphanage centres and those who live in hardship.

The free medical camp was also part of the 56th anniversary of the Zanzibar

Revolution as well as supporting the fifth phase government efforts in developing the health sector in the country.

"Lions Club programmes include sight conservation, hearing and speech conservation, diabetes awareness, youth outreach, international relations, environmental issues, and many other programmes... It is for this reason Lions club of Dar es Salaam Mzizima has been involving in humanitarian activities like this one here expecting to provide free health check-ups for over 200 children," Kaderbhai, said.

He added that those who will require further and prolonged treatment will be supported to join health insurance schemes so as to access more specialized services.

Dr Murtaza Husain Rashid from Africab Husain Poly Specialized Clinic pointed out that the clinic aims at providing quality health care to Tanzanians particularly maternal health so as to reduce maternal mortality rate.

"Honourable deputy minister, our vision is to open more centres across Tanzania so as to reach more people who cannot afford to travel to Dar es Salaam in search of health services, we are appealing for the government's support to be able to achieve the goal," requested Dr Murtaza.

The World Health Organisation (WHO) estimates that deaths from NCDs in the African region will increase by 27 percent by the year 2030, which is 28 million additional deaths. In Tanzania, at least 31 percent of all deaths have been associated to NCDs, with the main killers identified as Cardiovascular Diseases at nine percent and Cancers at five percent.



Msigani ward police community officer in Dar es Salaam Corporal Suzan George addresses a public rally organised by Malamba Mawili street local government over the weekend aimed to fight against crimes. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Researchers with African interest advised to clarify concepts

ACCRA

THE Anthropology of Human Security in Africa (ANTHUSIA) Summer School has commenced at the University of Ghana - Institute of African Studies with a call on researchers who conduct research on Africa to clarify concepts.

Professor Elisio Macamo, the Director of the Centre for African Studies at the University of Basel in Switzerland who gave the advice said there was the need to be concerned about clarifying the concepts that they work with because knowledge production about Africa had always been static over the years.

Speaking on the topic: "African

Studies, Silence and the Aporia of Decolonisation", Prof Macamo, who is a Professor of Sociology and African Studies said before researching on Africa, there was the need to engage all the conditions that must be met to ensure truthful output about any knowledge generated.

He said there was the need for ethical narrative by scholars, explaining that, "we always need to be concerned with placing whatever we say about Africa within an overall normative framework."

He said there had been a particular legacy in the production of knowledge on Africa and this legacy came from the fact that the social sciences had a

specific place of origin, thus Europe, with a specific time, thus, the 19th Century. "Whenever we use the conceptual vocabulary to talk about Africa, we are actually talking about the world which informs that particular language and that is the imperial and colonial world, which is a world that often denies Africans of human dignity," Prof Macamo noted.

He said as researchers, there was the need to be aware for that legacy and critical towards it and to be critical means to be concerned with showing how we can meaningfully speak about Africa.

Prof Lette Meuert of the University of Aarhus said the ANTHUSIA Summer

School, which is a project funded by the European Union is a joint doctorate programme to train young scholars to attain PhD in African Studies and other related subjects.

She said the Summer School was a collaboration between four European Universities including Leuven University, Aarhus University, Oslo University and Edinburgh University with collaboration with 21 African Organisations, Universities and Non-Governmental Organisations.

Prof Ann Cassiman of the Leuven University said a total of 22 scholars are participating in the 10-day ANTHUSIA Summer School with six of them from the University of Ghana.



Police officer, ASP Fatuma Mtalimbo, makes a presentation to Tanzania Breweries Ltd staff during the anti-Gender Based Violence seminar organised by the company in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Don't demolish the old buildings at health centres, refurbish them - TAMISEMI

By Guardian Correspondent, Namtumbo

THE government has directed local government councils that were given funds for expansion of dispensaries and health centres not to demolish some of the existing buildings; instead they should make extensive examination thereof and if possible refurbish them.

This call was made in Ruvuma region by the Deputy permanent Secretary in the President's Office (TAMISEMI) responsible for health issues Dr Dorothy Gwajima while on her way from Songwe and Rukwa regions where she had gone to inspect various health projects.

Dr Gwajima issued the directives while inspecting Mtakanini dispensary in Namtumbo district council in Ruvuma region that received 400m/- for expansion but it had already started working on a maternity building.

After receiving the funds, there were misunderstandings among leaders of the area for demolition of the building on claims it was against the plan issued by TAMISEMI for the construction of dispensaries and health centres.

"Abandoning or demolishing of existing buildings without due

evaluation will be a waste of government funds, so our call from TAMISEMI they should conduct thorough evaluation of the buildings and some of them which can be refurbished, they should do so," Dr Gwajima said.

The construction coordinator from TAMISEMI, Dr Shaban Sonda said Mtakanini dispensary had received the funds for expansion work, but since they already had a maternity building, it was decided to use the money to refurbish it and construction of other intended buildings including the operation theatre.

Speaking during Gwajima's tour, the Ruvuma regional medical officer Dr Jairy Khanga said the region received a total of 1,2bn/- for expansion works for Mtakani, Matimila and Magagula dispensaries, but added that greater efforts will be directed towards the construction of maternity wards, operation theatre and laboratories, including medical staff houses.

TAMISEMI has embarked on improvements of infrastructures of its health facilities countrywide that aiming to ensure the nation has healthy people who will fully participate in the country's economic development.

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Morogoro

Don't charge exorbitant fees for traders in the newly built market, LAAC tells Morogoro municipal council

CHAIRMAN of the Local Authority Accounting Committee (LAAC), Vedasto Ngombale has called on the Morogoro municipal council to set up friendly fees for shops, parking, and open space in the newly built regional market.

The 15bn/- building, which is to be inaugurated next month is co-financed by central government, and World Bank under Urban Local Government Strengthening Program (ULGSP).

Ngombale made the call here over the weekend when speaking soon after receiving a brief report on the execution of the project.

He urged the municipal council to use the new Morogoro bus terminal as an example whereby most shops and open spaces are vacant due to high fees.

He also called them to learn from

Mbeya city council whereby business persons abandoned the multibillion shillings modern market due to exorbitant charges.

Ngombale urged them to set payable fees for people to occupy the 304 shops, 900 stalls, 36 stores, car parking slots with capacity of taking 143 small vehicles.

"Those fees should reflect people's

incomes otherwise they will leave the market and then you cannot collect the projected amount," he said, adding that the municipal council is hoping to get profit after 10 years, but they can only realise that if they can come up with better strategies to collect revenues from the building.

In his rejoinder, Morogoro municipal

director, Shailla Lukoba said the fees charged per each project inside the market are in line with the current market prices.

"But, I can assure the public that once the project officially starts next month as authority we'll re-check on how to adjust such fees so that they can be payable."

Morogoro municipal council

Mayor Paschal Kianga, said priorities will be given to business people who were operating in the demolished market.

He assured the business community in Morogoro municipality that distribution of shops, stores and other services will not be biased as "this market was built for the majority not the minority."

A BETTER CLASS OF SALE

Fly to exciting destinations from just USD 480

You don't need to lower your standards for a better fare. Save on a network of exciting destinations and enjoy an unbeatable inflight experience all the way. Sale ends 21 January 2020, book now.

DESTINATION	ECONOMY CLASS RETURN FROM USD*	BUSINESS CLASS RETURN FROM USD*	FIRST CLASS RETURN FROM USD*
Dubai	480	2,541	4,252
Delhi	723	2,652	5,073
New York	1,001	3,899	6,708

FLY BETTER



*Terms and conditions apply. Valid for sale from 6 January until 21 January 2020 for travel from 7 January until 30 November 2020. Return travel cannot commence before 13 January 2020. Fares to selected destinations are inclusive of all taxes and surcharges. Fares may differ due to currency fluctuations and/or government tax regulations as per journey booked. Blackout periods, flight restrictions and other terms and conditions apply. For more information, please contact your local travel agent, call Emirates on +255 22 211 6100 or visit emirates.com/tz

'Zanzibar pledges to continue working with development partners to improve economy'

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR government has vowed to continue working closely with development partners to improve economy of the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Deputy Minister for Industries and Trade Hassan Khamis Hafidhi made the remarks yesterday here when laying a foundation stone for the construction of Mkombozi primary school at Welezo in Magharibi A district, Mjini Magharibi region

"We always ready to cooperate with all stakeholders with willingness to working with us for the sake of our country and people, as we are aware that the aim of Zanzibar revolutions in 1964 was to fight oppression and bring development close to people through various sectors including education," he said.

He however said that the government will not entertain and allow donors and partners who support Zanzibar while having their self interests.

Minister Hafidhi said that Zanzibar recognizes efforts taken by various development partners in pushing forward the Isles development vision but they have to adhere to the country's laws.

"In an effort to improve the education sector in Welezo constituency, leaders in the area aim to construct a big school at Mtofaani...efforts are ongoing to look for donors," Hafidhi added.

For his part, assistant secretary from Rafiki Elimu organization Saidi Shaame Khamis said they decided to construct classrooms in some of schools in the districts of Magharibi A and B, Unguja after finding out that the districts have a lot of pupils and students.

"We are doing all these to compliment the government's efforts in the education sector... the completion of the classrooms will enable more children study in conducive environment thus improve their performances in class and national examinations," he noted.

Khamis further urged parents to invest in their children's education by ensuring that they enroll and supervise their development in class saying that no way families and the district could succeed in the race of fighting poverty without investing in education.



Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre public relations officer Gabriel Chiseo (C) talks with residents who are seeking hepatitis vaccination but the hospital has cancelled the exercise until further notice. Photo: Correspondent Godfrey Mushi

Conduct standards awareness education at our homes - SMEs

By A Correspondent Felix Andrew

SMALL and medium entrepreneurs in Central and Lake zones have requested the government through Standard watchdog to carry out awareness education on standards close to their homes.

Speaking yesterday some SMEs in Dodoma, Tabora and Kigoma regions hailed officials from Tanzania Bureau of Standards for educating them within their areas.

"We thank TBS for coming in our areas and educate us on various issues regarding its roles, we ask them to continue doing so in order to extend this awareness campaign to many people," said an SME identified as Juliana Kilato from Tabora.

She said the campaign would help them to understand how to obtain a mark of quality licence and address challenges facing them in quality related issues.

Speaking on the awareness campaign, the TBS Marketing Officer, Rhoda Mayugu, said in Kigoma, officials from the bureau managed to educate SMEs in Kakonko district, where as at Omuruganza market they reached 200 citizens and 838 Kakonko secondary school students and 20 SMEs.

She said the entrepreneurs were told on how to obtain the TBS mark of quality

Mayugu counseled SMEs to use the opportunity of certifying their goods free of charge through Small Industries Development Organisation so as to enable them reach markets outside East Africa boundaries.

She said interested entrepreneurs can channel their applications through SIDO and TBS would start immediately to certify their goods free of charge.

She added apart from educating entrepreneurs, they use the opportunity to explain new TBS roles

which were earlier done by the former TFDA.

According to her, TBS has assumed roles of food and cosmetics which was earlier done by TFDA.

She said in case an entrepreneur want to establish food or cosmetics business he should visit their office for permit.

In other areas, she said they educated wananchi on ways to identify certified products and importance of looking expiry date of any product before purchase.

She said they urged SMEs on establishment of customer service desk at TBS where they can forward complaints, advice and recommendations through electronic mail or toll free call

Regarding students, she said they are main target in the campaign and asked them to be good ambassadors in roles of use of certified goods. She said most of secondary students pledged to be quality ambassadors and counseled for more awareness campaign.



We thank TBS for coming in our areas and educate us on various issues regarding its roles, we ask them to continue doing so in order to extend this awareness campaign to many people

Armyworm invasion threatens Malawi's food security

MULANJE

AUTHORITIES in Malawi say an invasion by fall armyworms is threatening to create food shortages in the southern African country. Since the start of the rainy season in November, the worms have destroyed crops for a quarter million farming families.

Malawian farmer Tereza Manuel, 26, is among the farmers most affected by the invasion.

The mother of three normally harvests over 40 bags of maize from her two-acre garden, but this season she's expecting almost nothing.

"As for me, I have been adversely affected because my entire maize field has been attacked by the armyworms and I have nothing to rely on now," she said.

Armyworms are an invasive pest from the Americas that has devastated crops in Africa since 2016. An armyworm invasion in 2017 forced Malawi to declare 20 of the country's 28 districts as disaster areas. They feed on cereal crops like maize, a staple food in Malawi.

"We are going to face hunger in this area," said Aidah Deleza, a Senior Chief responsible for over a hundred villages in the Chikumbu region. "There are a lot of villages which have been affected and as I have said, it means

hunger now. So, we need government's intervention."

Malawi's Ministry of Agriculture blames weather patterns on the armyworm invasion.

The ministry is distributing free pesticides, but farmers say that the insecticides are inadequate and ineffective.

"The problem is that most farmers apply the pesticides when the worms are already grown," said Hillary Ching'anda, is extension worker in Ministry of Agriculture. "As a result, the worms don't die because they are old enough to resist the pesticides."

Farmers like Manuel are resorting to homemade remedies to ward off the pests.

"As farmers we are using our own traditional methods like applying soil, soup from small fish, leaves from the neem tree, and powdered soap," she said.

But Malawian farmers say they need more help to recover from the pest's damage.

"Since government appreciates that the invasion is huge, what we want is that it would consider providing us with seeds," said farmer Ayida John. "Or, they should give us food that will take us to the next growing season."

Malawi authorities say they will soon distribute seeds to affected farmers.



Tanzania Gender Networking Programme executive director Lilian Liundi, (2nd R) and other Dar es Salaam residents follow tentatively a presentation on gender issues at a workshop held over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Zanzibar mourns death of Omani Sultan

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Ali Mohamed Shein has sent his condolences to the new ruler of Oman Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq Al Said following the death of Sultan Qaboos bin Said al-Said (pictured) who died on January 10, this year at the age of 79.

In a statement, Dr Shein said that Zanzibar government and its people join the family, relatives and friends of Oman to mourn the death of the great leader.

"All the efforts and contribution of Sultan Qaboos in the development of Oman and the world at large will be remembered and honoured...I am praying that his soul rest in eternal peace," Dr Shein said.

The nation later named and sworn in Sultan Haitham Bin Tariq Al Said, the former minister for culture as the new ruler.

Sultan Qaboos was born November 18, 1940, according to the Oman News Agency. He was also a graduate of the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst in England and served in the British

army.

He seized power from his father in a bloodless coup in 1970 and established the country's written constitution in the 1990s.

As ruler, Qaboos also sought to solidify ties with western allies. Oman has a particularly deep-rooted relationship with the United Kingdom. Queen Elizabeth II visited Oman in 2010 to commemorate Oman's 40th national day. Despite small protests in 2011 that prompted an amendment to the constitution he created, Oman weathered the Arab Spring

uprisings that rocked other nations in the region, including neighbouring Yemen.

During his reign, Qaboos also encouraged the greater involvement of women to take roles in politics, businesses and sports, after allowing them to enter the workforce in the 1990s.

Sultan Qaboos bin Said of Oman, the world's longest-ruling king who reigned for 50 years, died on January 10, 2020, at the age of 79. His death was announced by the Royal Court of Oman on January 11, this year.





Utengule - Usongwe ward residents in Mbeya region join volunteer to collect sand for the construction of nine classrooms at Usongwe secondary school aiming at accommodating 400 students selected to join Form One this year. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

AfDB approves €8 million grant to support hydro power project in Great Lakes region

By Guardian Reporter

THE Board of Directors of African Development Bank Group has approved an €8 million grant drawn from the European Union's Africa Investment Platform (EU-AIP) to support the preparation of the Ruzizi IV Hydropower Project.

According to a statement issued by the pan African bank, the plant will be situated on the Ruzizi River between Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of Congo and will supply electricity to the DRC, Burundi and Rwanda.

When completed, Ruzizi IV is projected to produce 287 MW of electricity and exploit the Ruzizi River's full hydropower potential. Two power plants are already in operation: Ruzizi I produce 29.8 MW and Ruzizi II, 43.8 MW; a third, Ruzizi III, with a projected 147 MW output is under development with Bank support.

The project will provide electricity to millions of households, as well as small and medium-sized enterprises and industries, thereby improving the living conditions of the regional population. Greater and more reliable access to electricity will also improve the quality of basic social service delivery including health, education, and improved security.

"The African Development Bank played a major role in structuring and raising financing for Ruzizi III, and the lessons learned will be used to successfully develop and implement Ruzizi IV. The use of renewable and affordable electric power will help to reduce poverty, unemployment,

greenhouse gas emissions and deforestation, as well as stabilise security in the Great Lakes region," said Batchi Baldeh, the Bank's Director for Power Systems Development.

The €8 million grant approval follows a \$980,000 grant approved end-2018 by the New Partnership for Africa Development's Infrastructure Project Preparation Facility (NEPAD-IPPF), which is a multi-donor Special Fund hosted by the Bank, to co-finance this technical assistance.

Ruzizi Hydropower Plant Project IV meets the goal shared by Burundi, DRC and Rwanda to optimise exploitation of their energy resources by integrating electricity generation, transmission and distribution infrastructure. The project falls within the overall regional energy market framework being developed by the Nile Equatorial Lakes Subsidiary Action Programme (NELSAP) and the Eastern Africa Power Pool (EAPP).

Ruzizi IV also aligns with the Bank's High 5 priority to "Light up and power Africa", as well as the Bank's strategy on regional integration, and specifically, development of regional energy infrastructure.

"The African Development Bank played a major role in structuring and raising financing for Ruzizi III, and the lessons learned will be used to successfully develop and implement Ruzizi IV..."

Sikonge councilors endorse 2020/2021 budget with special focus on development projects

By Guardian Correspondent, Tabora

SIKONGE Ward Councilors have endorsed 2020/2021 budget estimates worth 22bn/-, focusing on the development projects.

In the proposed budget the council is set to establish Sikonge Business Park in a move to scale up business in the district.

This agreement was reached during the recent Sikonge Council

meeting held to extensively discuss and review the estimated budget for 2020/21.

Speaking at the meeting, Sikonge District Council Executive Director Martha Luleka said the collection for the coming financial year expected to come from various sources including 19bn/- government grants, 2bn/- revenue from the council and 542m/- from non government organisation.

Lalenga added: "The council plans to

ensure that 40 percent of its domestic revenue is directed to development project."

The director explained that the council has also plans to strengthen and build more capacity to management and supervision of development projects.

She said the council will ensure 10 percent of local revenue collections will go to women, youth and disabled groups.

Speaking during the meeting, chairman of Sikonge District Council, Peter Nzalalila congratulated the council for the good plan towards the new 2021 financial year.

Nzalalila called on the government to timely provide financial support for development projects so that they can complete the pending projects and create a better environment for the people and then bring them development.

BULAWAYO

AS a child, Kenyan meteorologist Saumu Shaka helped out on her parents' small farm growing maize and pigeon pea - and learned how the weather can hold food producers hostage.

"Looking back, the yield has declined over the years," said Shaka, 28, who works with the Kenya Meteorological Department.

A decade ago, her parents would get 25 sacks of maize from their six hectares in Taita Taveta County, southeast of Nairobi.

Today that has dwindled to five bags at most, because of erratic rainfall that can also spur crop-destroying pests.

As climate change fuels extreme weather and threatens harvests, Africa needs more scientific expertise to help small-scale farmers adapt, especially women who tend to be hit worst, said Wanjiru Kamau-Rutenberg, director of Nairobi-based group African Women in Agricultural Research and Development (AWARD).

According to the United Nations' Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), women represent nearly half of farmers in Africa and produce up to 80% of basic food crops.

They are also largely responsible for preparing, storing and processing food. But in many cases, the FAO says, they have limited rights, mobility and access to resources, information and decision-making power, making them more vulnerable and less able to adapt to climate change impacts than men.

"This means women's continued underrepresentation in climate change research is no longer acceptable," said Kamau-Rutenberg, noting that few have opportunities in science education.

AWARD is leading the One Planet Fellowship, a new initiative that will train 630 African and European scientists to use a gender lens to help African smallholders adapt to climate shifts, unusually offering Africans the opportunity to serve as mentors.

Under-investment in African scientific research capacity means "we still don't even know the specific ways climate change will manifest ... in Africa," said Kamau-Rutenberg.

In September, the three-year career development program welcomed its first cohort of 45 fellows from Kenya,

Women step forward in push to nurture African climate scientists

Tanzania, Nigeria, Zambia, Malawi, Benin, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Togo, Mali, Ethiopia and Burkina Faso - over half of them female.

The aim is to "set an example and dispel the myth that there are no African women scientists ready to step into leadership", Kamau-Rutenberg added.

AWARD collaborates on the initiative, worth nearly \$20 million, with the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, France's BNP Paribas Foundation and Agropolis Foundation, the European Union and Canada's International Development Research Centre.

"FIRSTHAND EXPERIENCE" As one of the inaugural fellows, Shaka is seeking home-grown solutions to the challenges faced by farmers like her parents, who are battling to grow enough food on a warming planet.

Her research focuses on cost-effective "climate-smart" agribusiness techniques to help young people boost jobs and food security, which she will promote on social media platforms.

African scientists "have firsthand experience and solutions that are practical and applicable to their societal set-ups within their individual countries", she said.

Women scientists, moreover, are better able to understand the specific challenges in designing community-tailored solutions to help fellow women, said the senior meteorologist.

Droughts and floods, for example, impose a health burden on women, who have to walk long distances in search of water and stay alert to the risk of waterborne diseases, she noted.

Pamela Afokpe, 27, an AWARD fellow from Benin, said "in-continent" experts could relate to the needs of African farmers more easily.

Afokpe, a vegetable breeder with East-West Seed International, is working to get more farmers growing indigenous leafy vegetables in West and Central Africa by helping them access high-yielding varieties resistant to pests and diseases.

Up to now, a limited number of African experts have contributed to the landmark scientific assessments published by the Intergovernmental

Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which synthesizes research and guides policymakers.

Out of 91 lead authors of the 2018 IPCC special report on limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, only eight were from Africa, as were just a tenth of the 783 contributing authors.

South Africa's Debra Roberts, co-chair of a working group for the IPCC ongoing sixth scientific assessment report and the first female co-chair from Africa, said the panel's work showed tackling climate change required all of society to respond.

"Women have different lived experiences and views on the problems and solutions," she said.

"We need to hear those voices if we are to be able to identify context-relevant solutions from the scientific literature. There is no one-size-fits-all," she added.

Over the IPCC's three decades of operation, there have only been three female co-chairs, two of them on the current report, she noted. "We have a long way to go still," Roberts told the Thomson Reuters Foundation in a telephone interview.

ENERGY PRIORITIES

Women also need to be involved in the practical design of climate solutions, such as expanding off-grid solar power and clean cooking, which can reduce drudgery and minimize health issues linked pollution, said agricultural experts.

As forest loss and climate change make resources scarcer, women have to go longer distances to gather fuel-wood, which puts additional pressure on their time, health and personal security, said Katrin Glatzel, a research fellow at the International Food Policy Research Institute in Dakar, Senegal.

In Mali, a public-private partnership has provided 1.6 million people with more efficient stoves, reducing pollution by half compared to a traditional three-stone fire, she noted.

Glatzel said it was important to include and empower female scientists and farmers in the switch to cleaner, modern energy, so that their concerns could be addressed.



African Underground Mining Services (AUMS) is an international leader in mechanised hard rock underground mining. AUMS is part of Perenti (Formerly the Ausdrill Group), an ASX 200 company and Australia's second largest integrated mining services provider. We are a global leader in hard rock underground mining; together with Barminco we operate across Africa in Tanzania, Egypt, Ghana, and Burkina Faso and in Australia and India. We are driven by the continued success at our operations and exceeding our client's expectations - both in terms of safety and performance.

The collective talent and expertise of our workforce is the key to our success, and we are looking for talented people to join our business. We seek to build teams who are loyal, committed to our company values and dedicated to helping our clients.

In return, we provide state of the art facilities, equipment and technology. We look forward to receiving your application for the following position.

Assistant Logistics Officer

- Geita Gold Mine, Geita (Dar based position)

Position purpose:

To assist Logistics Officer in coordination, accurate data entry, tracking of shipments and producing all paperwork required for the importing or exporting of goods both internationally and locally.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Complies with all HS&E policies, procedures and instructions.
- Complies with all company policies and procedures that are displayed and amended from time to time.
- Collaborating with others in pursuing safety goals.
- Maintain close communications with AUMS freight forwarders to ensure prompt clearance of international air and sea freight shipments
- Data entry of all shipments into the Pronto Shipment Module and maintain the shipments data base
- Communicate with customs, freight forwarders and site operations on logistics matters
- Check and process all shipping documents required for transportation
- Processing of invoices from logistics providers
- Excellent communication skills in Swahili and English
- Able to work under pressure and maintain deadlines
- Assist with month end logistics reporting activities

Essential Requirements:

- Certificate in Supply and or Business Administration.
- Up to 2 years of experience in coordinating logistics both internationally and locally.
- High level computer literacy with excellent Excel, Word and PowerPoint skills.
- High Level communication skills both written and verbal.
- Full understanding of shipping, custom clearance and import processes for air and sea.
- Valid Tanzanian Driver's License
- Previous experience in mining or heavy industry is preferable.
- Ability to solve problems and escalate issues prior to them occurring.
- Experience using Pronto software
- It is a Dar based position with some travel to site as required.

If you have the necessary skills, drive and experience to be an asset to AUMS Operations Team, we welcome your interest and encourage you to apply.

Only applications with a current Resume attached will be considered for employment.

Please send your CV along with a detailed covering letter via email recruitment@aumsg.com Application letters should reach the above on or before 27th January 2020, 18hr00.

BEWARE OF CONMEN! AUMS(T)Limited does not receive money in exchange for a job position. Should you be asked for money in exchange for a job offer or suspect such activity, please report this immediately by calling +255 682 660 124 or +255 682 660 256 or +255 682 660 893.

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

TUESDAY 14 JANUARY 2020

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

SDG goal for adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all is crucial

TOILET is a piece of hardware used for the collection or disposal of human urine and feces. In other words: Toilets are sanitation facilities at the user interface that allow the safe and convenient urination and defecation. Toilets can be with or without flushing water (flush toilet or dry toilet). They can be set up for a sitting posture or for a squatting posture (squat toilet). Flush toilets are usually connected to a sewer system in urban areas and to septic tanks in less built-up areas. Dry toilets are connected to a pit, removable container, composting chamber, or other storage and treatment device. Toilets are commonly made of ceramic (porcelain), concrete, plastic, or wood.

In private homes, the toilet, sink, bath, or shower may be in the same room. Another option is to have one room for body washing (bathroom) and another for the toilet and handwashing sink (toilet room). Public toilets consist of one or more toilets (and commonly urinals) which are available for use by the general public. Portable toilets or chemical toilets may be brought in for large and temporary gatherings.

Many poor households in developing countries use very basic, and often unhygienic toilets, for example simple pit latrines and bucket toilets which are usually placed in outhouses. Globally, nearly one billion people have no access to a toilet at all, and are forced to do open defecation (particularly in India). Diseases transmitted via the fecal-oral route or via water, such as cholera and diarrhea, can be spread by open defecation. They can also be spread by unsafe toilets which cause pollution of surface water or groundwater. Historically, sanitation has been a concern from the earliest stages of human settlements. The Sustainable Development Goal Number 6 calls for adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and end open defecation by 2030. In this wise a prototype of a toilet utilizing viscoelasticity has

been developed which is practically frictionless.

In Tanzania the number of households with better toilets in the country has increased up to 62.4 per cent in 2019 from 34 per cent in 2015, thanks to a two-year "The Home is Toilet" campaign conducted by the Ministry of Health.

This has been revealed by the Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender Elderly and Children, Umy Mwalimu at the climax of the national Environment Cleanliness Week meeting involving district and regional medical officers and other stakeholders held in Dodoma.

Minister Mwalimu said in the two years of the campaign households with better toilets have increased and those without toilets at all have gone down from 7.5 per cent to 1.9 per cent.

He said for villages, households that have toilets increased from 743 to 3,311 and for the institutions they succeeded in improving water provision and cleanliness to the environment at 1,267 health centres, while the target was 1,000 health centres.

She said these achievements must not be disregarded, adding that basically she conveys her thanks to stakeholders who worked in collaboration with the government for their participation in the campaign as the Ministry's plan is to attain 75 per cent by June 2021.

She said on the issue of garbage dumps, the government has deliberate plans in improving dump sites especially those within urban centres.

She however said environmental destruction from solid waste has continued to be a big challenge in urban areas; hence the government has mobilised itself to facilitate concerned local government institutions to improve their existing infrastructures.

She said the government has prepared guidelines for investment on solid waste to woo investment so as to improve the entire efforts in the supervision of solid waste disposal in the country.

Eliminating early, unintended pregnancy among adolescents is extremely timely

UNINTENDED pregnancies are pregnancies that are mistimed, unplanned or unwanted at the time of conception.

Sexual activity without the use of effective contraception through choice or coercion is the predominant cause of unintended pregnancy. Worldwide, the unintended pregnancy rate is approximately 45 per cent of all pregnancies, but rates of unintended pregnancy vary in different geographic areas and among different sociodemographic groups. Unintended pregnancies may be unwanted pregnancies or mistimed pregnancies. While unintended pregnancies are the main reason for induced abortions, unintended pregnancies may also result in live births or miscarriages.

Unintended pregnancy has been linked to numerous poor maternal and child health outcomes, regardless of the outcome of the pregnancy. Efforts to decrease rates of unintended pregnancy have focused on improving access to effective contraception through improved counseling and removing barriers to contraception access.

Unintended pregnancy typically occurs after sexual activity without the use of contraception. Such pregnancies may still occur despite using contraception correctly, but are uncommon: Of all the unintended pregnancies that occurred in 2008, for example, women who used modern contraception consistently accounted for only 5 per cent of the unintended pregnancies, while women who use contraception inconsistently or not at all accounted for 41 per cent and 54 per cent of all unintended pregnancies, respectively.

There are many factors that may influence a person or couple's consistent use of contraception; a woman may not understand her risk of unintended pregnancy, and/or may not be able to

access effective birth control to prevent pregnancy. Similarly, she may also not be able to control when/how she engages in sexual activity. Thus, many factors have been associated with higher likelihood of having an unintended pregnancy:

UNESCO in collaboration with the office of District Commissioner of Kisarawe in Coast region and the Tanzania Interfaith Partnership had launched a national campaign on early and unintended pregnancy.

The main objective of the campaign was to engage relevant stakeholders and motivate policy responses, social and behavioural changes that will contribute to reducing and ultimately eliminating early and unintended pregnancy among adolescents in the country.

The launch in Kisarawe, went hand in hand with a high-level religious dialogue on early and unintended pregnancy to create awareness on the need to come with strategies to address its contributing factors.

The campaign comes at a time where early and unintended pregnancy is a major public health issue in Tanzania with the 2018 BEST Report indicating that over 4800 girls failed to continue with their studies due to pregnancies.

For many adolescent girls, sex, marriage, and pregnancy are not voluntary or consensual, and many lack access to information to make informed decisions. In Tanzania, 12 per cent of young women between 15 - 24 years have sex before they reach 15 years of age - (Tanzania

Demographic and Health Survey and Malaria Indicator Survey - TDHSMIS 2015/16) Pregnancies among girls less than 18 years of age have irreparable consequences. Aside from the well-documented health risks for adolescent mothers, they may lose the chance to continue their education, may be forced to work at an early age, or endure greater levels of socio-economic deprivation.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

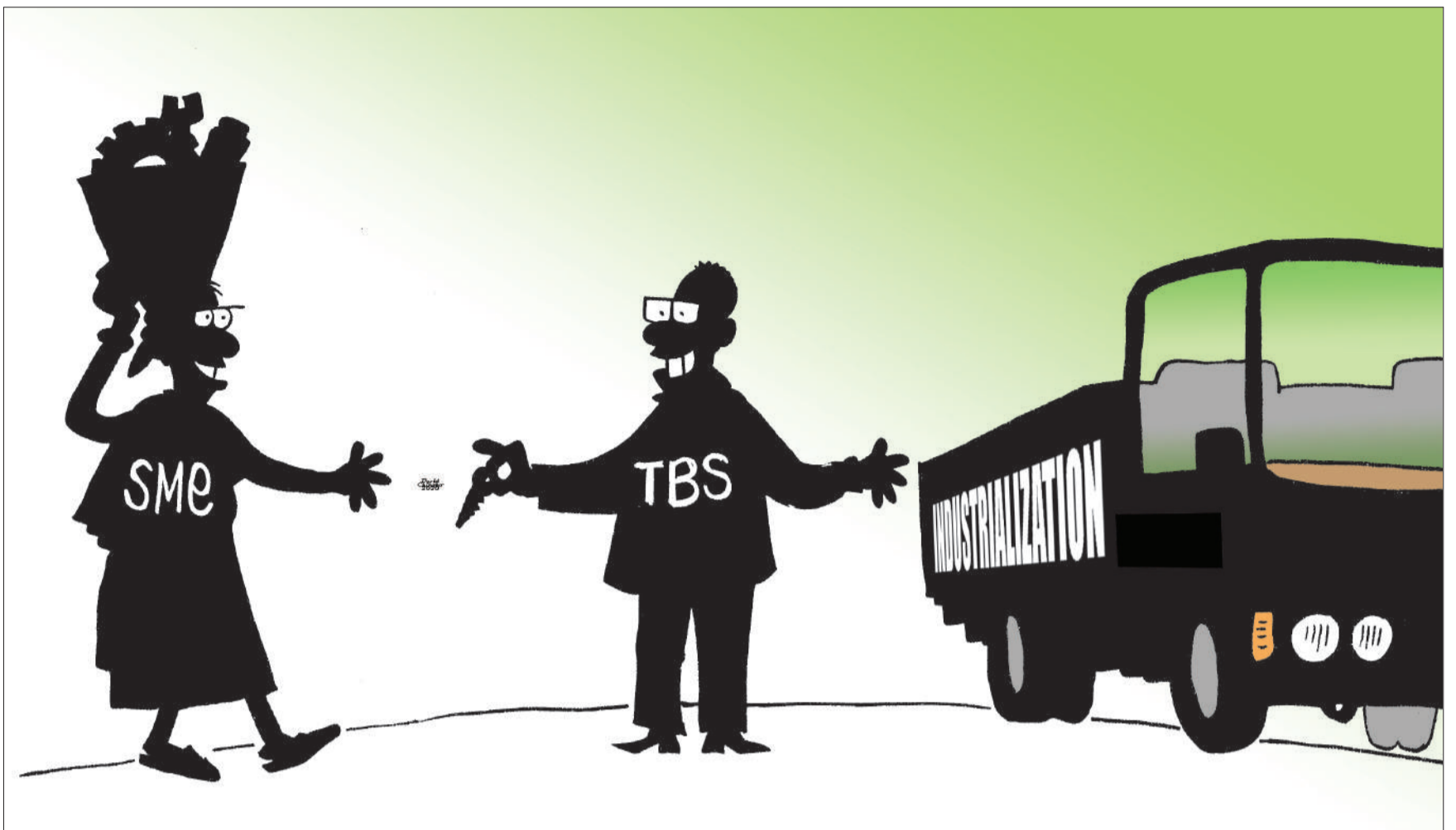
Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

Sales and Marketing: 0782253676
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com



What is new about the New Year?

By Nana Sifa Twum

VERY steadily, the world has been ushered into another new year. This time it is the year, 2020. The year 2019 has faded out and would never be encountered in life ever again. It is gone with all its woes and delights, all its challenges and achievements and all the sadness and happiness. It has given way to the ensued year, 2020.

A believed history of a year has it that, a populist Roman dictator, politician, and military general, Julius Caesar who created the Julian calendar thought that it would be appropriate for him to name the first month after himself as in 'Janus' which later became January. This he believed was to be the doorway to a new year. He made January 1st, the first day of the year "this also put the calendar year in line with the consular year, as new consuls also took office that day"

Some twenty years ago, ushering into the New Year and the 21st century, for that matter, was a bit scary because no one could read nor predicted what was in stock for the planet called earth. Several predictions had been made including the end of the world. True that it is, as per the good old book the bible, the world did not end at the beginning of the 21st century and it has also not ended now.

It was scary also due the fear and panic associated with the much publicised and speculated stoppage of all computers on the globe. This was popularly referred to as the Y2K Scare. It was described as the phenomenon at the turn of the century where computer users and programmers feared that computers would stop working on December 31, 1999.

Y2K is an abbreviation for "year 2000." As that year approached, many feared that computer programs storing year values as two-digit figures (such as 99) would cause problems. Many programs written years ago (when storage limitations encouraged such information economies) are still being used.

Such fear, panic and uncertainty have over the years characterised new years. Sometimes too, new years are faced with confidence and joy, depending chiefly on individual circumstances and situations.

Today, we find ourselves in another new year called 2020. It is finally here and the entire world assumed vigorous celebration to welcome it, as usual.

Outside Ghana, tens of thousands of people gathered in London to watch a fireworks display launched from the London Eye over the River Thames. There were also fireworks lighting up the sky over the Main River in Frankfurt, Germany with similar event over the Kremlin in Moscow

New year celebrations in Paris also



was marked with fireworks and a series of projections on the Arc de Triomphe. Fireworks illuminate the sky around Burj Khalifa, the world's tallest building, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates.

In Turkey, Crowds lit paper lanterns in front of the Ortakoy mosque in Istanbul.

While children spun makeshift sparklers as they celebrated the new year in Nairobi, Kenya.

Indians watched families danced in front of the Gateway of the country in Mumbai.

The Petronas Twin Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia was witnessed huge gathering of people welcoming the New Year with concert

Crowds also gathered at Shougang Industrial Park, one of the sports venues for the coming Beijing 2022 Olympics in China.

Protesters in Hong Kong, who have gathered on and off since June, took a moment to count down to the New Year. All these events are just about annual rituals.

In Ghana as usual, the church services were held to usher in the year 2020. Others were engaged in some other social and religious activities. Resolutions were made as forgiveness of sins, errors and mistake were sought from all over. In some cases, targets have been set towards marriage, career, education, finance, societal status, religious achievement, morality issues, political ambitions, interest, among many others.

During the beginning of a new year, people pray and wished for a new beginning and a clean slate to start a whole new life. Some wished that they wouldn't have lived in the year 2019 as the year was perceived to have not gone well for them, while at the same time there were others who might have

thought it was the best of years.

In the media, the year 2020 represents the fresh start of a new year after a period of remembrance of the passing 2019, including on radio, television, and in newspapers, which starts in early December. Publications have year-end articles that review the changes during last year. The year in retrospect has been lined-up on most networks. While the media review the activities of other organisations, they in most cases do not have time to review their own.

New year is the time when people celebrate the start of a year. While some people travel out of the cities to visit relatives and friends in the hinterlands others make the opposite journeys to enjoy the moments in the cities.

Just like time, the old year is irretrievable, it is gone and gone for ever. It is gone with all untapped opportunities and privileges, hence the urgent need for all to be extra alert for opportunities in the new year. Mistakes and errors such as arrogance, laziness, and lack of knowledge which contributed to the loss of opportunities must be corrected.

Celebrations of the New Year begs for a question which has not been addressed properly over the years. This is, what is new about the New Year? Is anything or something new about a new year?

This question is important because as the bell strikes for the time as it is the sunset or midnight as per one's believe, all things and indeed everything remains as it is. The sky is still blue, the sea, mountains, rivers and indeed all physical and geographical features are basically at where they are.

The road to our homes, office and other infrastructure edifices remain same. The faces of loved

ones, friends and colleagues do not change in anyway. Loved ones on admission at the hospitals at 31st night will still be on admission. They may only be discharged primarily due to improvement in their health conditions which has nothing, absolutely nothing to do with the New Year. So what is new about the New Year?

Evil doers in society continue with their diabolic activities, crime wave goes on. Nothing is halted by the appearance of the New Year.

As I was contemplating on this, I had a message which appeared to answer this question of what is new about the New Year.

"Many people live in the delusion that the New Year comes with special blessings that will turn things around in their favour. It is good to be optimistic, positive, and hopeful for better days ahead. But it is problematic to put such hopes in the change of a date".

There's no magic in the fact that the date has changed. Dates change every day. So the change in today's date doesn't bring anything new as in a new year and possess any magic to turn things around. The change you desire will result from your own actions, inactions, decisions, attitudes, choices, etc.

Despite the change in date, the resolutions, the prophecies, the watch night services, the wishes, and the declarations, nothing will change if you remain the same.

You can't get different results in 2020 when you keep doing the same things you did in 2019. It's a new year and you have the opportunity to review the previous year, pick up the lessons, make amends, and live a new life. The magic of the New Year is in a new life, not a new date. Enjoy 2020 by living a new life"

Open Street Map team delineates flood prone areas at Ilala Quarter

By Beatrice Philemon

WARD Executive Officers (WEO) and Mtaa (neighbourhood) Executive Officers (MEO) of 44 flood-prone wards in Dar es Salaam region have received Ramani Huria (informal) maps to use for land development, distribution of resources and come up with comprehensive planning in areas that are at risk of flooding.

Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team (HOT) mapping supervisor Godfrey Kassano said the map was handed over to them by HOT in relation to a four-year project, "Ramani Huria" funded by the World Bank.

"In each sub-ward we provided two maps (OpenStreetMap and satellite image) that show flood-prone areas and important areas which are at risk of being flooded."

HOT is an international team dedicated to humanitarian action and community development through open mapping. They work to provide map data which revolutionises disaster management, reduces risks and contributes to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. Kassano said the maps will also help them to address challenges of floods which adversely affect many people in flood-prone areas especially the Msimbazi Valley, and improve response to disasters in their localities.

"We have provided them maps with key details, including buildings, roads, assets (hospitals, churches, mosques, schools). The maps indicate the

flood-zone areas. Every year during the rainy season the region suffers devastating floods that damage roads, houses and cause millions of shillings worth of damage," Kassano said.

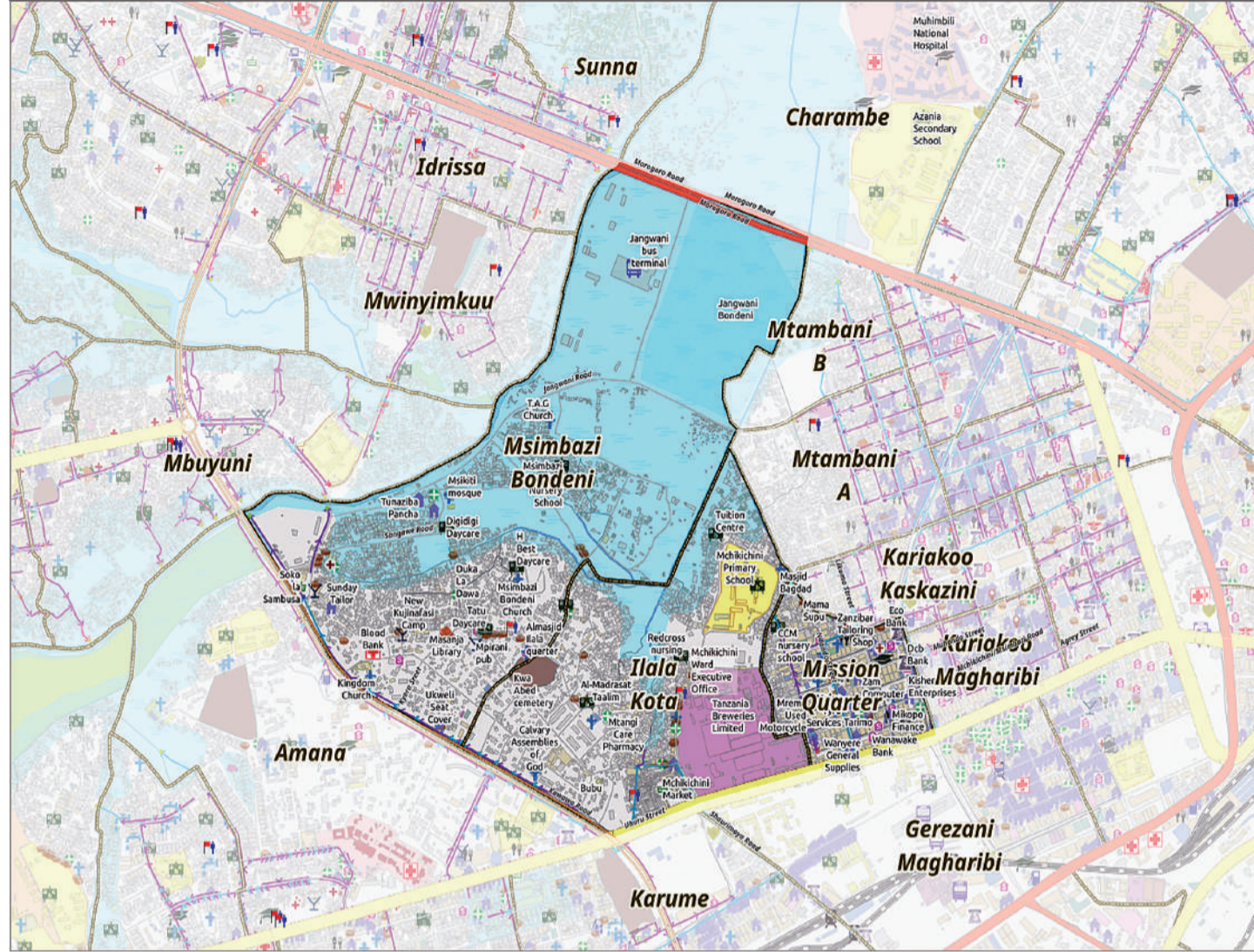
During the on-going project, the Ramani Huria team got a chance to visit houses along the Msimbazi Valley to see how many have been affected by flooding, the size of the floods as well as periods in which floods occurred in their respective areas.

"For example at Mchikichini Ward they identified three sub-wards that include Ilala Kota, Msimbazi Bondeni and Mission Quarter that are affected by floods on the settlements and assets in the area," he said.

The mentioned causes of flood occurrences are the narrow culverts, absence of drains, and the blockage of those drains due to solid waste accumulation in the waterways resulting in the overflow of streams when it rains heavily.

To address the risks and effects of flooding on the residents and infrastructure impact, community members think that there should be proper and safer evacuation areas to facilitate the process of rescue of flood victims when the situation so demands.

He said in those areas they met with sub-ward leaders, religious leaders, community-based organization representatives and appointed community members. During the meeting a short training session was conducted to ensure all participants are able to read maps, with participants asked



to identify known points on the map and supported until they could do it.

Ramani Huria will also extend its operations in 2020 to Temeke and Kigamboni districts and replicate similar methods that were used to map the 44 flood-prone wards in Ilala, Ubungo and Kinondoni districts.

For his part, Ilala Kota sub-ward officer, Kameta Mswima

expressed gratitude to the Ramani Huria Team and the World Bank for helping them to get maps.

The maps will assist them to take serious measures in areas that are vulnerable to floods at Ilala Kota sub-ward, prevent soil erosion in water barriers to protect housing, infrastructure and the environment from devastation caused by flooding, thus shoring up other development activities.

Currently, the Ilala Kota sub-ward is among areas most severely affected by

floods and every year during the rainy season residents suffer devastating floods that complicate sewage control, destroy houses and sometimes cause deaths. So far the sub-ward has more than 12,000 residents living in flood-prone areas.

For her part, Lize Mwakisu, a 65-year-old is among people at Ilala Kota regularly affected by heavy rains, her three houses and sofa sets were damaged while food stored in homes was rain-soaked and damaged, contrib-

uting to a spell of hunger, especially among low-income earners.

"Right now many people in our area have become homeless after flood-water destroyed their houses. Snakes enter into our houses and cause havoc and many people have got serious fungal infections, which have acute effects on their lives," she elaborated.

Other effects include the risk of cholera as people tend to open their sewers during rainy seasons. The human waste even gets to other people's houses posing more health risks to residents.

She said back in 1956 when some of the people settled there the situation was good, with no risk of flooding. People were living in a safe environment. Canals and drainage channels that were built over the last 60 years were also good, allowing water to flow or move quickly to allocated areas.

Decades later this is not the case, thus when floods occur in our area our houses are flooded and cause huge losses and even death. There is damage to infrastructure and property as well as infections such as fungus," the resident intoned.

She called on the Ilala Municipal Council to help them unblock and clean canals and drainage channels and widen them enough to allow storm water to flow easily and prevent floods in such areas.

Apart from that, she advised fellow residents to stop building houses that block drainage channels, while state authorities need to prevent such construction to prevent flooding.

Although the World Bank has helped communities access the data and maps, representatives sought more support in building canals and drainage channels in Ilala that may help to curb the flooding.

"Right now we are suffering a lot and we don't have a place to go because the majority of people living in this area are low-income earners," Lize said.

"Apart from that Ilala Municipal Council should be serious in stopping people building houses in flood-prone areas or sites otherwise they will continue to be affected by flood like ourselves," she urged.

The government needs to allocate special evacuation areas that will be used to transfer flood victims if more areas are affected by the floods, the resident added.

BY PETER FABRICIUS

THE Christmas season offered no respite from terror for the already suffering people of Mozambique's northernmost Cabo Delgado province. The litany of atrocities that had been reported steadily for over two years continued.

Minibuses and trucks ambushed; civilians burnt alive in vehicles or beheaded, one in front of his wife and children; 16 members of Mozambique's army killed in one attack on their base. Gruesome photographs of bodies beheaded and otherwise mutilated with machetes circulated on social media.

Depending on what and who you choose to believe, there have now been around 350 such incidents since the suspected insurgency by a local jihadist group now generally referred to as Ahlu Sunnah Wal Jammah (ASWJ) erupted with simultaneous attacks on police and military bases in October 2017. It soon morphed into a terror campaign brutally directed mainly at unarmed civilians.

The death toll of this insurgency, including security personnel, insurgents and civilians (by far the greatest number), stands at over 600. Many more have been injured or internally displaced, some intelligence sources say.

Yet the government in Maputo continues to present these atrocities as mere criminality. Its fellow members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) seem to be going along with that complacent view, at least officially.

No Mozambique insurgency has yet made it onto the agenda of SADC's Organ on Politics, Defence and Security which is mandated to address such re-

gional threats. This despite evidence of spillovers into neighbouring Tanzania and links with other jihadists up the east coast.

A large part of the problem in correctly characterising this phenomenon is that so little is known about the perpetrators. That in turn is because ASWJ makes no public claims to any attacks or deaths, and because the Mozambican government almost completely restricts access to the conflict zone for researchers and journalists.

This has also raised suspicion about what Maputo may be trying to hide. The Cabo Delgado coastline is a major conduit for smuggling drugs and other contraband - a trade also believed to help finance the ASWJ insurgency, but which may also involve government officials.

But if ASWJ has taken no public 'credit' for the attacks, the Islamic State (IS) ostensibly has. It has so far claimed responsibility for 27 of the attacks, according to some security analysts. This raises questions about how IS and ASWJ are related. Is ASWJ the local affiliate of IS? Is IS simply claiming credit to boost its public stature, especially since the loss of face caused by the fall of its caliphate in Syria and Iraq?

Or is the local outfit happy to be regarded as an IS franchise to boost its prestige by borrowing a global dimension? Analysts seem unsure, though most suggest ASWJ is indeed a home-grown organisation but with links to global IS. This may in part be through Islamic State Central Africa Province (ISCAP) which has claimed responsibility for some attacks.

At a symposium last month in Pretoria by ACCORD and the European Union Institute for Security Studies, one terrorism

Is Islamic State taking charge of Mozambique's jihadist insurgency?

expert suggested that ISCAP could well be no more than a small cell of the Alliance of Democratic Forces (ADF).

ADF originates in Uganda but has been terrorising eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo citizens for years. Like ASWJ, it has taken on some jihadist character. The ana-

Whether it is or not, SADC and South Africa should take the threat more seriously. File photo

lyst thought this ADF cell might have hitched its wagon to IS because it was losing influence within the wider ADF organisation.

However another security analyst at the symposium suggested that ISCAP and the IS influence in northern Mozambique generally should be taken more seriously than that, as it was growing. He suggested to ISS

Today that the arrival of Wagner, the private Russian military company in Cabo Delgado in 2019, had increased IS presence in the province, as ISCAP had redeployed ADF fighters to Cabo Delgado to counter the Russian forces.

Many analysts remain sceptical about the IS connection. However ISS Today's source claims to have been told by senior Mozambican military and police officials that several IS members were recently arrested in Cabo Delgado. He said a recent military press release about an attack in which police vehicles had been captured stated that ISCAP, in particular, had been responsible.

There is little doubt that ASWJ originally was and probably still is essentially a domestic phenomenon. Rooted

in the soil of Cabo Delgado, conditions common to such insurgencies seem to have given it birth and continue to give it life.

These include grinding poverty and a sense of marginalisation and inequality, both between the citizens of the province and the elite down south in Maputo and elsewhere in the country, and among certain ethnic groups and Muslim factions in Cabo Delgado. The recent discovery of vast gas reserves in the Rovuma Basin may be aggravating a sense of relative deprivation among the mostly young ASWJ foot soldiers who probably feel this windfall will pass them by as everything else has.

Nevertheless the putative affiliation to IS could be enhancing ASWJ's menace, including the potential for the transfer of deadlier technologies and skills as well as a ready supply of reinforcements. Whatever the links with international IS, there seems little doubt that the regional ramifications should be taken more seriously.

It was noted at the Pretoria seminar that the insurgency already straddles the border with Tanzania where similar attacks have occurred recently. When suspected perpetrators appeared in Mozambique's courts in 2018 they included nationals of nearby states. Senior Kenyan prosecutors and analysts have said there are jihadist links all the way from Somalia, through Kenya and Tanzania, to Mozambique.

One analyst at the seminar advised South African government officials present to take more notice of the threat, even if SADC clearly wasn't. It was a short route from Cabo Delgado to South Africa, he warned.

If SADC continues to ignore or at least minimise the problem, Pretoria should launch or intensify intelligence and security cooperation with Mozambique, Tanzania, Kenya and Somalia to get a surer grip on this cancer on South Africa's doorstep before it metastasises.

Peter Fabricius, ISS Consultant



2020 looks bleak as UN loses hope for climate change talks, banks on young people

By Nimi Mweta

GLOBAL diplomacy on climate change has come virtually to a standstill, as the United States, which finances around a quarter of UN agencies funds annually, walked out of climate change action global conferences. When such a conference was last held in New York, it is the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi, who led an impromptu delegation of lawmakers rather than the relevant department of the US government, under the current Republican administration. It is this situation that blocks effective global action outside national measures to cut pollution within a country, nothing else.

There will in this situation be plenty of sympathy in various quarters over the New Year message by United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres, presenting a gloomy assessment of the past year and pinning his hopes for a better future upon the world's young people. This inclination of the remarks of the world's top civil servant resulted in part from inconclusiveness, even paralysis of the more recent global consultations on climate change in various major capitals, where nothing especially tangible can still be agreed. There was a more lasting impression of youth activism and desperation for genuine leadership.

A write up from the United Nations European headquarters in Geneva said the secretary general looks forward to 2020 and the decade to come with a mixture of dread and hope. While welcoming the New Year, he said the uncertainty and insecurity of what lies ahead prompts reflection and concern. He was definitely right



about universal reflection and concern, but that formulation presumes more or less that there is time for us to reflect on these issues, as we are all

concerned. The point is, there is no time left.

All realistic predictions or merely watching the trends with-

out bothering to check up recent computer simulations of the climatic outlook for the incoming year would suggest higher sea

levels due to melting glaciers, and thus more intense storms, tornadoes, hurricanes, typhoons, etc. Tied with this weather pattern is irrational rainfall where rain accumulates and falls in a heap, washing away farms and causing landslides, drowning and losses of property. Some ghastly end of year pictures showed melting mountains on the Antarctica, which was in past decades and centuries totally covered by the now melting ice sheets.

As it is usually the case at high diplomatic levels, the UN secretary general did not dwell as much on the climatic situation as he ought to have done, but veered into popular issues especially among developing countries, or a persistent inequality and rising hatred. While each country understands inequality on its own terms, global diplomacy has wasted plenty of time seeking equitable sharing of the climate change burden, let alone the fact that even the technique of solving it remains undetermined. What is being haggled about is a sort of insurance cover where everyone feels comfortable, and then suspicions begin.

This kind of lobbying has occupied UN conferences on climate change since Kyoto in 1997 and up to Copenhagen in 2012, and for most developing countries it was an avenue for greater flow of UN funds, or cutting debts to international lenders.

Now there is a conservative administration in the US which sees climate change as a business opportunity, where rising sea levels present opportunities for insurance, etc. It is not that the US government sees little or nothing in the matter, as old academic disputes as to whether earth warming is cyclical patterns likely to return to normal are over and

done with. The US recognizes climate change as a real threat but sees little usefulness in conferences that ask the US to insure the world.

Guterres similarly expressed fears on a warring world and a warming planet as ever present threats to stability and peace, while underlining that climate change is not only a long-term problem but a clear and present danger. Realistically enough he said the world cannot afford to see the present generation fiddling around while the planet burns, but there was already a problem with that formulation, as it talks about generations instead of those who are in charge of global finances, failing to find a formula that works. With this failure of vision, the secretary general focused his hopes on young people - like activist Greta Thunberg who stole the show in Madrid. But when shall they take over the world's powerful treasures?

Expressing this hope as ranging from climate action to gender equality to social justice and human rights, there isn't much the UN chief executive could say except that this young generation is on the frontlines and in the headlines.

We can all be inspired by their passion, but it is the elders who must act, and with the diplomatic paralysis in global negotiations, it is apparent that the UN Secretariat hopes that more direct action by young people - if this situation or spirit can extend to the US itself, could help alter the stance of the Trump administration, or even affect the balance of forces ahead of this year's presidential election. Wide hopes in global radical quarters for Trump removal had by late 2019 all but collapsed.

Will the crypto craze continue in 2020?

By Ruan Jooste

WHILE the debate continues on whether this new type of digital coin will do away with central banks, state mints and monetary manipulation, what the future holds is dependent on understanding how it works and why it came into existence in the first place.

The original cryptocurrency and probably still the best known - Bitcoin - was created in 2008 by a bunch of anti-establishment renegades known as Cypherpunks, who disliked both big business and governments, and who wanted to do away with any interference and restrictions in the way they transacted with each other.

But the concept has evolved into something much larger and wider than just keeping the hands that exchange money away from prying eyes.

With the crypto space maturing rapidly, regulators, traders and consumers around the world are accelerating efforts to either embrace or regulate cryptocurrencies.

The pace escalated in 2019, no doubt motivated by Facebook entering the territory with its Libra project.

Luno, South Africa's largest cryptocurrency exchange, expects to see greater adoption of Bitcoin and altcoins in 2020, continuing the momentum gained in 2019.

One of the criticisms of Bitcoin and other cryptocurrencies is the lack of opportunity to actually use them says Marius Reitz, Luno GM for Africa. Reitz says throughout 2019 this could be seen to change rapidly, with new start-ups such as Flexa introducing slick crypto-payment platforms for retailers and:

"More importantly, there was a diverse array of retailers, both big and small, willing to integrate their services. We expect this trend to continue in 2020."

Starbucks, which owns almost 30,000 outlets globally, has announced it will be integrating Bakkt's crypto-payment service in the first half of 2020. Perhaps a major player integrating Bitcoin will motivate other retailers to accept crypto payments.

Bakkt got off to a slow start when it launched its Bitcoin futures exchange in September, but recently expanded its suite of products and launched new futures contracts in December on the



back of steady increases during the year, including a record 2,469 futures contracts traded on 22 November.

"This growth should continue into 2020 and inspire similar projects and competitors to offer new products."

But many believe the catalyst for change was the launch of Facebook's Libra project in 2018, which drew criticism from all sides, but despite the bashing, 21 organisations across the globe signed the Libra Association charter in October 2019 at the project's inaugural meeting in Geneva, with Andreessen Horowitz, Vodafone and Uber among the big names.

Libra nodes which process transactions are now being run by Coinbase, Uber, BisonTrails, Iliad, Xapo, Anchorage and Facebook's Calibra, which places it on track to deploy its mainnet (technical foundation) in 2020 as planned - regulatory concerns permitting.

With Libra planning to sign up to 80 more members to the project, its

potential impact is tremendous, says Reitz. "It's really a question of 'when' rather than 'if' and it is a game-changer for the sector.

"It also provides more options to institutional investors and traders," adds Reitz.

Cryptocurrencies continue to creep into more mainstream investment portfolios with increasing numbers of people allocating a percentage of their asset mix to this alternative class.

"We anticipate that more institutional investors - banks, hedge funds, pension funds and endowments - will buy into cryptocurrencies as they diversify their portfolios, now that they finally have the professional machinery to do so," says Reitz.

It is also expected that 2020 will bring more regulatory clarity in South Africa and abroad.

The Intergovernmental Fintech Working Group, comprising

members of the South African Reserve Bank, Financial Services Conduct Authority, National Treasury and the South African Revenue Service, is expected to release regulatory guidelines for the crypto industry in South Africa.

This follows advancements in regulatory guidelines across the world, and in particular by the Financial Action Task Force, an international regulatory body of which South Africa is a member. "With more regulatory clarity, we expect more adoption of cryptocurrencies, not just by the public, but by traditional financial institutions as well," says Farzam Ehsani, co-founder and CEO of VALR.com.

"While no banks in South Africa have entered the cryptocurrency space up until now, we expect a few to announce crypto offerings in 2020 and all banks

to follow suit in due course," he says.

Internationally, a number of guidelines are expected to come into effect. In October 2019, the G7 group of nations outlined the need for stablecoin regulation and implied that guidelines may be produced in 2020, while Japan also passed a bill to reinforce its existing cryptocurrency laws which come into effect in April 2020.

How these developments will impact the crypto space remains unclear, Ehsani says, but the industry is looking forward to some clarity on how they are expected to run their business.

The next break in 2020 is Bitcoin halving, which will take place in May. It is a recurring event in which the number of Bitcoin rewarded to miners is cut by half - from 12.5 to 6.25 Bitcoins.

These are programmed to take

place every four years, or once every 210,000 blocks until 2140 when all 21 million Bitcoins are estimated to have been mined.

Experts believe this increases demand for the cryptocurrency by further restricting supply. The last Bitcoin halving in July 2016 preceded Bitcoin's epic 2017 bull run.

However, with the traditional financial industry and some of the world's biggest technology companies now taking an interest in Bitcoin, the impact of the 2020 halving is more unpredictable than ever, with no guarantee there will be another 2017 bull run.

Simon Dingle, CEO of Inves Capital and author of In Math We Trust, says 2020 will be a significant year because of the Bitcoin halving. It's part of the network's automated, deflationary monetary policy.

"If previous halvings are anything to go by, it will precipitate a bull market toward the end of the year."

Earle Loxton, who heads DCX Capital, a Crypto startup that manages DCX10, an index fund of the top 10 global cryptocurrencies, agrees, but adds that their research shows a very strong correlation between the supply rate of Bitcoin and its price action.

"We are very bullish on the next 12-18 months' outlook. Whether the halving has been priced in according to the so-called Efficient Market Hypothesis rules or not, price will eventually be determined by how many Bitcoin are being sold vs what is bought across the spread," he says.

"Our logic says that after the halving there will simply be fewer sellers than buyers, fuelling the next rally."

The virtual world began 2019 with Bitcoin at \$3,843 with a daily volume of \$4.3-billion. In December 2019, the price was about \$7,200 with a volume of \$17-billion, having peaked at \$13,016.23 on 25 June with \$45-billion of Bitcoin changing hands.

Saving mothers and newborns in Lake Victoria's islands

By Lusekelo Philemon

SAVING lives of mother and their newborns remains a challenge in the largest Lake Victoria island-Ukerewe where people rely on fishing to earn a living. Its geographical location puts pregnant mothers in a tight corner particularly when it comes to safe delivery. Being one of the seven districts of Mwanza Region, Ukerewe is made up of 38 islands, though only 15 are inhabited.

But, authorities in the district are struggling to reduce the number of maternal and newborn deaths by putting in place necessary environment for safe delivery.

The move is in line with the harm reduction model, which is grounded in the principle of providing health education and other services without prior moral judgment, professionals provide information in order to reduce the risks associated with a specific practice.

To them (District Council), the death of a woman during pregnancy, at delivery, or soon after delivery is a tragedy for her family and for society as a whole.

In 2016, 15 women died in the district during delivery, whereby 14 died in health facilities and one at home and last year, reports show that only eight died (five in health facilities and three at home).

Most of these deaths are caused by postpartum hemorrhage, which is caused by poor nutrition—a result of poor dietary system,” says Dr Raphael Mhana, Ukerewe District Medical Officer (DMO).

He also cites worms as one of the contributing factors of maternal deaths in the district taking into accounts that most people living in Lake Victoria's islands drink water directly from the lake—this has been a challenge—particularly during pregnancy

“For those women who attend clinics are being given mebendazole -as part of the world Health Organization (WHO) recommendation ions. But, the challenge remains for those who don't attend health facilities,” he says.

Other causes, according to Dr Mhana, include malaria, which accounts for 51 percent in the district followed by eclampsia, HIV/Aids and TB infections.

In 2015, 42 per cent of women delivered in health facilities, but now this has gone up to 78 percent.

“To us this is a big achievement and I'm sure we'll meet the target due to the ongoing interventions.”

He reveals that the success story is a result of a number of interventions such as having all the essential medicines—ferrous sulfate, mesoprosol and oxytocin.

The availability of these drugs is between 90percent and 95 percent, for the past four years, he says. The district hospital has been improved to meet the demand and “we've also improved four health centers and so far we've 34 dispensaries.”

Other interventions according to Dr Mhana include refurbishing two health centers out of four to the extent of offering surgery services to pregnant mothers in the district with the population of more than 400,000 people.

Active involvement of key players in the health sector has been cited as one of the interventions that helped in calling down maternal deaths in the district.

Traditional birth attendants (TBAs) and community health workers are very helpful when it comes to improve maternal health in the district, the district chief physician says.

He also points out that community health workers who are in every village can help to address some of the maternal related challenges.

It estimated that Ukerewe with 76 villages has a total of 152 community health workers, who are being paid some allowances (8,000/-) for them to work smoothly. “The challenge is sustainability of these payments as most of them are being paid by some of our partners—NGOs. Our suggestions are for the government to see the possibilities of bringing on the government payrolls these people for their services to be sustainable.

He says having in place specialized mobile clinics to create awareness to the community on sexual reproductive health.

Despite the fact official data show that early pregnancies have been going down in recent years in 206/17—teen pregnancies were 127, 2017/18 were 72 and last year were 19, Dr Mhana says: “We're planning to have regular visits to schools to educate youth on the dangers of teen pregnancies and inform them on best ways of addressing the challenge, which has been plunging them into early adulthood responsibilities.”

He also suggests the need to have an adolescent friendly health service centers that would make teenagers feel comfortable and my not think of terminating pregnancies.

“Most teenagers fear of being stigmatized by the society. So, we need to put in place supportive environment that will make teen pregnancy feel free to access MCH service in health facilities. They need special attention rather than the current system, where they are being mixed with adults.”

District Executive Director, Ester Chaula admits that maternal deaths as a challenge thwarting development in the district, which is made up of several isolated islands, something that



Mothers and their babies at one of the health facilities in Nansio town, Ukerewe district attending Maternal and Child Health (MCH) clinics as captured recently in the district. Photo: Guardian Photographer.

makes hard to address the challenge.

Apart from geographical location, Chaula says limited number of civil servants in the health and other sectors has been worsening the situation as most people who are being relocated in the district refers the appointment as a penalties and there are lots of misconception and myths in the district.

There are those who don't want to work here due to witchcraft believe, something which isn't true,” she says, adding that the situation has putting health sector in a tight corner.

It was high time for the government to take Ukerewe as a special case when it comes to civil servants' employment, she suggests.

The government should come up with a new program by employing people who are ready to work in Ukerewe District. Advertise employment for Ukerewe District only. This will help to address this challenge, she says.

Ukerewe District Council is now building an ambulance speed boat to easy transport for pregnant mothers who are referred to the district hospital or regional hospital. The boat is being constructed by Songoro Marine Transport at

the tune of 191m/- and is expected to start operation this month.

“This new facility will help in saving mothers and their newborns in the Lake Victoria's islands,” Chaula says.

The 2015-16 Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey and the Malaria Indicator Survey (TDHS-MIS) show that Mwanza, one among six regions of the Lake Zone records high maternal mortality, high fertility rate, low contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR) and high HIV prevalence rate than the national rates.

While the national CPR stands at 32percent, Mwanza uses 18 percent and it has around 53 percent of births at health facilities. The Lake Zone fertility rate is 6.4 children per woman where 36 percent of children are stunted.

The neonatal mortality rate stands at 24 for every 1,000 live births while the HIV prevalence in the region is 7.2 percent, in contrast with 4.7 percent national prevalence rate, the report shows.

Tanzania's maternal and child deaths rate is one of the highest in the world at 556 per 100,000 live births. For comparison, the ratio

for all developing countries is 240 per 100,000 live births, and that for all developed countries is 16 per 100,000.

About 66 percent of mothers don't have postnatal check in first two days after birth, while unsafe abortion is also associated with high levels of morbidity, the report indicates.

TDHS-MIS 2015-16 points at increasing teenage pregnancy and motherhood, as 27 percent of girls between the ages of 15 and 19 are already mothers or pregnant with their first child, compared with the national average where 17 percent of girls between the ages 15-19 are already mothers and another six percent are pregnant with their first child.

According to the latest UN global estimates, 303,000 women a year die in childbirth, or as a result of complications arising from pregnancy. This equates to about 830 women dying each day - roughly one every two minutes.

The Fourth industrial revolution and digitisation will transform Africa into global powerhouse

By Njuguna Ndung'u

THE Fourth Industrial Revolution (4IR)—characterized by the fusion of the digital, biological, and physical worlds, as well as the growing utilization of new technologies such as artificial intelligence, cloud computing, robotics, 3D printing, the Internet of Things, and advanced wireless technologies, among others—has ushered in a new era of economic disruption with uncertain socio-economic consequences for Africa. However, Africa has been left behind during the past industrial revolutions. Will this time be different?

Improvements in Africa's ICT sector have been largely driven by expanding mobile digital financial services: The region had nearly half of global mobile money accounts in 2018 and will see the fastest growth in mobile money through 2025.

But artificial intelligence (AI) and blockchain are also attracting interest in Africa, as they have the potential to successfully address social and economic challenges there. And there are so many other areas in which 4IR technology can be transformational.

In recent years, the ICT sector in Africa has continued to grow, a trend that is likely to continue. Of late, mobile technologies and services have generated 1.7 million direct jobs (both formal and informal), contributed to \$144 billion of economic value (8.5 percent of the GDP of sub-Saharan Africa), and contributed \$15.6 billion to the public sector through taxation. Digitization has also resolved information asymmetry problems in the financial system and labor market, thus increasing efficiency, certainty, and security in an environment where in-

formation flow is critical for economic growth and job creation.

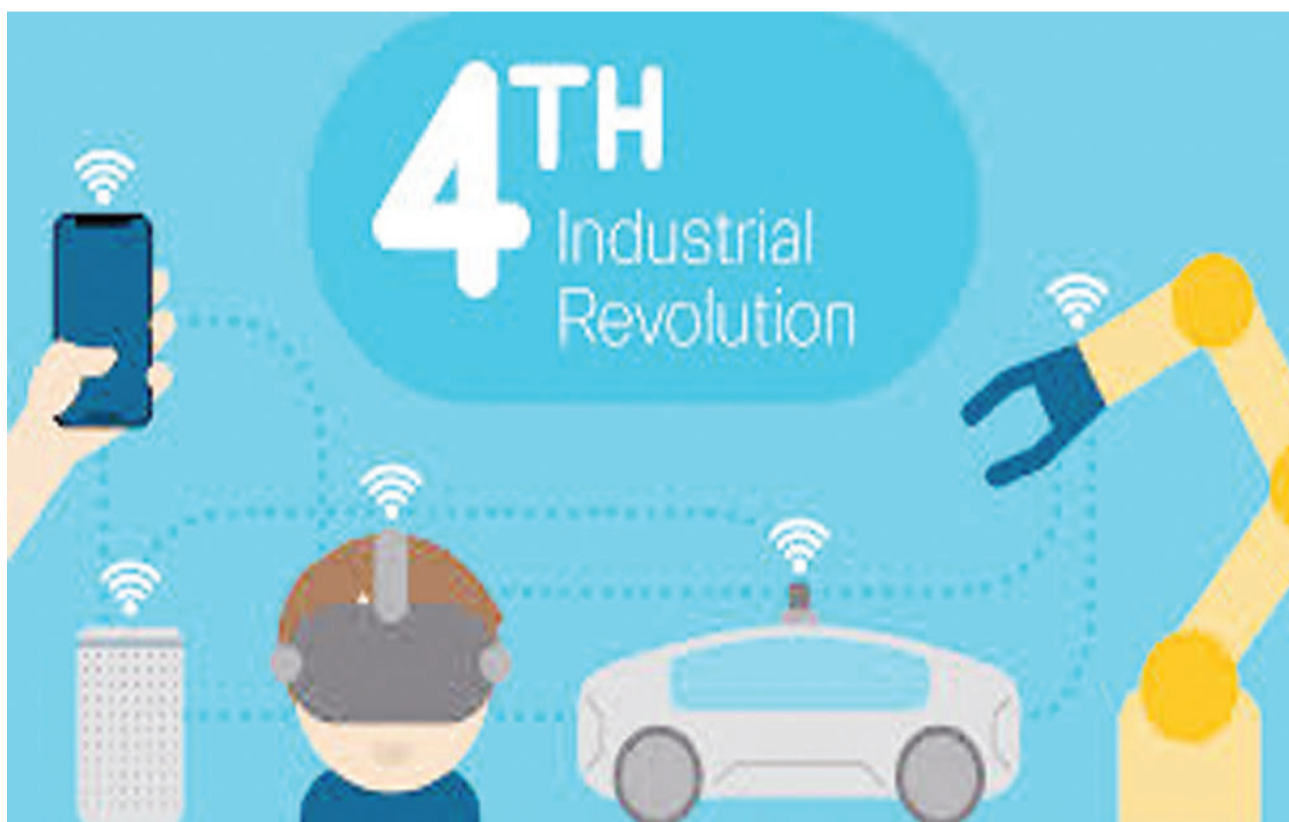
Failure to recognize and capitalize on 4IR opportunities, conversely, will impose considerable risks on African stakeholders: Without attempts to move beyond existing models of innovation, entrepreneurship, and digital growth on the continent, African businesses risk falling further behind, exacerbating the global “digital divide” and lowering their global competitiveness. Going beyond the existing models requires discipline in governance to allow an endogenous innovative environment. At the same time, institutions must protect the market through consumer protection laws and regulations that encourage competition.

Fighting poverty and inequality

The spread of digital technologies can empower the poor with access to information, job opportunities, and services that improve their standard of living. AI, the Internet of Things (IoT), and blockchain can enhance opportunities for data gathering and analysis for more targeted and effective poverty reduction strategies. Already, we have witnessed the transformational power of formal financial services through mobile phones, such as M-Pesa, reaching the underserved, including women, who are important drivers for sustainable poverty eradication. These financial services allow households to save in secure instruments to enlarge their asset base and escape cycles of poverty.

Reinventing labor, skills, and production

By 2030, Africa's potential workforce will be among the world's largest, and so, paired with the needed



infrastructure and skills for innovation and technology use, the 4IR represents a massive opportunity for growth. Indeed, the 4IR is dramatically changing global systems of labor and production, requiring that job seekers cultivate the skills and capabilities necessary for adapting rapidly to the needs of African firms and automation more broadly. Already, Africa's working population is becoming better educated and prepared to seize the opportunities provided by the 4IR: For example, the share of workers with at least a secondary education is set to increase from 36 percent in 2010 to 52 percent in 2030.

Increasing financial services and investment

Digitization has impacted economic growth through inclusive finance, enabling the unbanked to enter formality through retail electronic payments platforms and virtual savings and credit supply technological platforms. More broadly, digitization is enabling entrepreneurs and businesses to rethink business models that are more

impactful, sustainable, and connected to other sectors of the economy. For example, with fintech, digitization has gone beyond the financial sector to affect the real sector and households, transforming product designs and business models across market segments.

Businesses are able to design products and trade online, and individuals are able to operate financial services and payments for shopping and investments. The government is also migrating to online platforms to conveniently provide public services.

Other 4IR technologies are also having impact. For example, in West Africa and Kenya, blockchain has enabled efficient verification of property records and transactions, and expanded access to credit in some previously informal sectors of the economy. Since blockchains are immutable, fraud—and thus the cost of risk—is reduced. There are also immense opportunities for job creation in Africa. Given the informal sector is estimated to constitute 55 percent of sub-Saharan Africa's GDP (with significant heterogeneity

across countries), these tools can be transformational. Their consequences can cascade: Increased financial inclusion contributes to greater capital accumulation and investment, hence potential for employment creation.

Modernizing agriculture and agro-industries

Africa has yet to harness the full potential of its agricultural sector, and 4IR technologies provide an opportunity to do so.

Farming alone accounts for 60 percent of total employment in sub-Saharan Africa, and the food system is projected to add more jobs than the rest of the economy between 2010 and 2025. Farm labor and income is especially important in sub-Saharan Africa, where on-farm activities represent almost 50 percent of all rural income in countries like Ethiopia, Malawi, Nigeria, and Tanzania. Information on competitive pricing, monitored crop information, disease prevention tips, and disaster mitigation support has the potential to transform the agriculture sector to improve income, pro-

duction, and demand throughout the continent. Furthermore, as incomes rise across the continent, growing consumer demand for food and beverages will coincide with business-to-business growth in agro-processing.

Ghana-based companies Farmerline and Agrocenta offer farmers mobile and web technology for agricultural advice, weather information, and financial tips. Zenvus, a Nigerian startup, measures and analyzes soil data to help farmers apply the right fertilizer and optimally irrigate farms. The “Sparky Dryer,” a dehydration machine invented by a Ugandan engineer, uses biofuel to dehydrate produce and reduce food waste. African entrepreneurs and startups are also using the Internet of Things to help farmers optimize productivity and reduce waste through data-driven “precision farming” techniques.

Improving health care and human capital

African countries face numerous health challenges exacerbated by climate change, limited physical infrastructure, and a lack of qualified professionals. 4IR technology can help mitigate these threats and build sustainable health care systems, especially in fragile states.

Mobile technology has become a platform for improving medical data and service delivery: About 27,000 public health workers in Uganda use a mobile system called mTrac to report medicine stocks.

The SMS for Life program, a public-private partnership, reduces medicine shortages in primary health care facilities by using mobile phones to track and manage stocks levels of malaria treatments and other essential drugs. [18] Rwanda became the first country to incorporate drones into its health care system, using autonomous air vehicles to deliver blood transfusions to remote regions.

Technology has also improved disaster response: During the West African Ebola outbreak in 2014, WhatsApp became an easy method of dispersing information, checking symptoms, and communicating under quarantine.

The artist's way in the climate crisis

By Leonie Joubert

IT'S late, probably close to midnight, but out here in the Tankwa Karoo, there are no watches. It's always just now-ish.

An iridescent moon tracks across the vaulted darkness, a spotlight above a stage where a rare piece of theatre is about to play out.

Six giant conical wooden spikes rear up out of the gravelly desert floor, towering over the audience, which looks like a skirt of ants spread out on the ground at a safe distance. The largest is a 10-storey colossus.

Fire will not be the towers' destruction, explains their creator, artist Nathan Honey. Fire is their completion.

It is the autumn of 2015 at the AfrikaBurn music-art-self-expression festival, about four hours' drive from Cape Town. Subterrufuge, a piece of commentary on the dark arts of shale gas prospecting by Shell in the Karoo, is about to go up in flames.

In daylight, the piece blends into the stark landscape. Giant hollow cone-shaped towers, with a skin of two-toned cladding; browns at their base which merge with the gravelly pan on which they stand; melting into sky-blue at their apex. At night, lights hidden inside them cut shimmering profiles out of the dark.

The splendour of the piece is an intentional deception, says Honey. He could have made the sculpture an aggressive black or red, but he wanted it cloaked in beauty. It represents the shadowy self-serving interests of the gas hunters of the corporate mining world. Each of the towers is designed to be a violent intrusion rearing up out of the flat landscape, but he turned these hard, geometric, symbolically-violent shapes into something mesmerising.

"The colour is a reference to deceit, the kind of hiding of the truth that goes with exploitation by fossil fuel companies," Honey explains.

The name, Subterrufuge, carries the subtext of the double-dealings of the industry: "sub", meaning "under" or "below"; "terra", referring to land or territory; "fuge" alluding to "expelling" or "dispelling"; "subterfuge", the deceit used to achieve a goal.

Only about 20,000 people saw Subterrufuge in person, standing in its outdoor gallery from early 2014 until it burned in 2015, but photographs of the piece took it beyond this remote desert pan, and its fame spread. An academic wrote an anthropology paper on it. Environmentalists used it for their anti-fracking campaigns. Photographs made it into art magazines. Google Earth even captured it from space, its midmorning shadows pointing west. Yoko Ono, herself an anti-fracking activist, sent Honey an email, saying how much the piece had moved her.

When the time comes for Subterrufuge to burn, the moon is still high and the waiting crowd hums with excitement. Torch-bearers touch the ends of burning poles to the base of the largest tower, and within seconds, the flames sink their teeth into the desert-baked

wood.

The inside of the biggest tower glows yellow through its porous skin as the dried kindling inside it ignites, and the crowd melts into an ecstasy of whoops and cheers.

Honey explains why this moment was a triumph: the fire was started without any accelerants. You can't build an artwork in the Karoo that's opposed to the fossil fuel industry, and use diesel to set it alight.

Within seconds, the flames claw their way up the inside of the highest spike, making it shimmer with a ravenous heat. Soon, each spike is vibrating as the hungry flames spread, lunging out the side of the towers as the north-westerly wind curls the flames sideways. The heat sends a dervish of mini-twisters whirling away from the singing inferno, sucking up spirals of air, dust and ash as they swirl over the desert floor. They spin, gyrate, dissolve into nothing.

The towers roar. The audience shrinks back as the smouldering air smacks them in the face.

Stage left, one tower leans a fraction, as if resting a weary hip. Then, improbably slowly, the full might of the thing arcs sideways and slams into the ground, an explosion of flame and sparks. The audience erupts. Moments later, a second cone succumbs, buckling at the knees. Then another gives way, transforming into a storm of glowing particles. Another falls. Finally, the largest, the 10-storey behemoth, gives way at the waist, toppling sideways.

All that remains of the several tons of wooden ribs and cladding that made up this soaring sculpture is the flaming trunk of the biggest tower and the fading hoots of a satiated crowd.

In the year that this piece of protest art stood in the desert, it became the emblem of a small group of activists trying to push back against the exploits of the gas mining industry. Now, finally, the last strokes of the artwork that was Subterrufuge are drawn into the night sky in a volley of heat and flames, and cheering exultation.

The rangers' appointed to keep the crowd away from the flames eventually drop the perimeter and let the theatre-goers press in. Some shed their clothes to dance, radiant-skinned in the glow, while the rest of the crowd drifts off into the night.

Just like that, Subterrufuge is transformed into nothing but embers and memory.

Micro and macro: reawakening the nature-connection

Leli Hoch's feet crunch over the desert floor, issuing the rhythmic gravelly echoes from what was once the bottom of a shallow inland sea over 260-million years ago.

"As an artist, you have to respond to this," she says, her gaze sweeping across the rolling, seemingly barren expanse. "There is no way around it."

It's late autumn in 2019, and the German-born land artist is walking across the same desert landscape where Sub-



Artist Sonya Rademeyer performs 'Please forgive me' during the Tankwa Artscape artists' residency in 2019, enacting 'the state of experience of post-traumatic memory of the politics of land' in South Africa. File photo

terrufuge stood a few years earlier, on a private farm bordering the Tankwa Karoo National Park.

She's approaching an open-air installation by Overberg sculptor Niël Jonker, a piece woven into the landscape during the inaugural Tankwa Artscape artists' residency a year earlier. "Tankwa whatwat" is ambiguous and mythical, a serpentine body of driftwood flowing up out of the ancient sea-bed and coiling through the air, a metal canine head gazing south.

"For some, conceptual art must be a metaphor for what you want to say. It should be several levels removed from your thoughts, not a direct representation," Hoch muses. "For others, it's a story, and the elements of the piece should be readable. If you get the elements right as an artist you might be able to get the message through."

In May 2019, 12 artists headed out into the desert for the second Tankwa Artscape residency, which has evolved beyond being an opportunity just for sculptors to work within the landscape to produce a wilderness-inspired art piece. Now the residency is open to any artists working in performance, sound, movement, and ephemeral art.

Some of the art pieces from the residency were installations that will stand in the landscape indefinitely. Others were created for a once-off performance and recorded for posterity. All of them used what they found in the desert to draw inspiration as well as the materials for their creations: rocks, trees, the sound of moving air, lichen, existential wonder.

But the purpose of the residency isn't about the outcome, says Hoch, it's about the process that the artist goes through in the 10-day immersion in this unlikely outdoor studio.

"The artist goes out there naked, without any tools or preconceived ideas, and responds to what they see and find and feel. It's about starting to look, to see what's there, and doing something with it," says Hoch.

"Most will look at this and just see millions of black stones," she says, scanning the ground at her feet, "but there's the whole world down there. As an art-

ist, I can do something with it. But at the same time, it raises questions about my interference with what is there. So I ask myself, do I really want to touch that stone and place it elsewhere for my art piece just because I would like to do it? Or shouldn't I move it?"

The landscape here is confrontational, sharp-edged. There's no running water to soften the dry stream-beds. There isn't much vegetation to shelter under during the baking hours of the day. Plummeting nighttime temperatures seep a chill into the bone marrow. The wind can hurl through unpredictably, whipping up a blinding storm of scouring dust. But it's also a fragile landscape. A car tyre cutting through a puddle after a rare rainstorm can leave a scar in the ground that could bake into the surface of the Earth for decades. Clearing stones will leave a bare patch that may never revert to its original form.

Working in an unforgiving open-air gallery, but on a canvas as delicate as this, shifts consciousness and forces the artist to interrogate how they relate to and use the materials nature gives them.

"If I do choose to move the rock, I have to go through a process in my mind. What is my intention in moving it? Is it just an egotistical thing because I want to prettify something or become a famous artist? Does it make sense in a way that can justify moving that stone?"

Over the years, many of Hoch's own land art has worked in the miniature; pieces with embroidered dried leaves; transitory Palaeolithic-looking patterns dotted onto the gravel using stones and sun-bleached antelope scat; lily leaves and flower petals assembled briefly on the surface of a pond and photographed, before invisible currents drift them away and return them into the cycle of life.

When Niël Jonker explains the purpose of land art, following the creation of "Tankwa Whatwat" in 2018, he says creating art in this wilderness space "reminds you of your place" in the world.

Hoch's own path into small-scale land art started a kilometre above the ground when she was running a hot air ballooning business in Germany many years ago. Drifting high above the Earth, with the imperceptible movement of the air currents and barely a noise beyond the gas burners, "allows you to see the planet beneath you very differently".

The experience she describes is similar to what astronauts call the "overview effect": that moment when, from a high vantage, someone looks down over the Earth and realise that this is home. This is our only home.

"It gives you such a compassion and love for the planet," she says.

Back down on the ground, though, crunching over rocks whose age makes her own short life seem like a flicker of nothing on the scale of deep time, her lens pulls back into the micro.

"Here, this is the planet."

Her hands gesture to the rocks beneath her feet. "There's nothing in between you and it anymore. For me, this is the most basic and honest way to do art."

Storytellers as social disruptors
Early in December 2019, the United Nations climate negotiations wrapped up another round of talks geared towards thrashing out a global policy to reduce all carbon pollution rates to a level that aims to stop Earth's average temperature from slipping above a 1.5°C threshold in warming.

But these talks have been widely panned for their distinct lack of urgency.

Earth's temperature is already 1°C hotter than pre-industrial levels, a warming that is activating nine natural tipping points which could trigger run-away and irreversible global heating, according to a recent article in the journal Nature. There is only 0.5°C wiggle room, before Earth's temperature pushes through the Paris Agreement ceiling.

The "climate emergency" is finally blasting its way into the public discourse, though, and a few artists are joining the collective conversation.

Danish-Icelandic artist Olafur Eliasson has an exhibition on at the Tate Modern Gallery this year. Ice Watch is a collaboration with geologist Minik Rosing, which brings the reality of Greenland's melting glaciers into the heart of London. They have shipped in pieces of a glacier, calved off the Greenland ice sheet and into the Nuup Kangerlua fjord, and spread these out in front of the gallery in blocks weighing between 1.5 and 5 tonnes each.

Hauling the ice this far south came at the equivalent carbon cost of flying about 52 school children round-trip to Greenland to see the glacier in person, the artist-scientist duo says. But this way, bringing the glacier to London, "hundreds of thousands of visitors ... get to connect with the issue of the climate emergency" through having a "direct and tangible experience" of the reality of the melting ice.

Ice Watch moves the visual storyline away from the threadbare trope of the starving polar bear, which locks the narrative of the rapidly melting Arctic regions into one that's limited to conservation concerns for a single, distant species that few people can relate to. The installation reminds the viewer that the frozen Arctic is the planet's air conditioner, which impacts climate systems around the globe, and that the ice sheet is losing "around 200 to 300 billion tonnes of ice each year", a rate that is expected to increase dramatically.

The San Francisco-based ClimateMusic Project is using the emotive power of music to help "connect people more viscerally with an issue that, for many, is too abstract for them to feel motivated to act upon".

The project took sea level rise data from a scientific journal, converted it into graphs, and then used an algorithm to generate an audio frequency. A composer wrote a jazz and spoken-word piece, "What If We...?" based on this audio blueprint.

"This is what climate change sounds like," said The New York Times in its review of the performance in November 2019.

Closer to home, when Cape Town's dams were reduced to a muddy puddle after three years of the worst drought in recorded history, local singers and musicians Chuma Preshy Mgcoyi, Gershan Lombard (aka KhoisanBoy.Man), and the Jack Mantis Band collaborated on an anthem for the water crisis, aptly named "Day Zero".

Another person to take up the mic is poet, spoken word artist, and filmmaker Richard Williams, aka Prince Ea.

"Planet Earth is 4.5-billion years old," he rhymes in Man vs Earth.

"Let me put that in perspective for you. Mankind is about 140,000 years old. If you condensed that into 24 hours, that's one day, then we have been here for - drum-roll, please - three seconds. Three seconds. And look at what we've done ..."

His poem echoes the words of Richard Powers who, in his searing novel *The Overstory*, reminds us that in the time industrial humans have been around, we have turned half the planet into a factory farm for just one species.

Man vs Earth is a thumbnail documentary of the Sixth Mass Extinction, the brutality of industrial animal farming, en masse deforestation, and climate collapse.

"The real crisis is us," Prince Ea weaves through his poem. "These problems are symptoms of us, byproducts of us, our inner reflection, and loss of connection."

"We are all family, from the sunflower to the sunfish. And this is what we must recognise before it's too late. Time is of the essence, and only together can we make it to the fourth second."

'40 prayers for the Tankwa'

Artist Hanien Conradie's piece from her time on the Tankwa Artscape residency earlier this year reads like the mala beads used in a Buddhist prayer chant, or a rosary: the 2.6m by 1.2m prayer rug is stitched together from rectangles of black hemp, each one covered with 108 thumbprints applied during a daily ritual. Over the course of 40 days, Conradie mixed up a muddy paste from ochre soil collected near the mouth of a porcupine burrow out of the pan near where Subterrufuge once stood. Each day, a fresh batch of mud; each day, 108 thumbprints per sheet of hemp; each day, a devotion to the land from which the clay came.

Each prayer ritual came out differently. Some days, the clay was wetter, other days it was drier, or lumpier. Every thumbprint is unique.

Months after the initial trip to the Tankwa in early May, the piece is now complete and hangs vertically in her studio.

"40 prayers for the Tankwa" is steeped in what she describes as an animist cosmology which shapes her own world view. This "pre-industrial way of relating to the world" is one, she argues, that we need to draw on now in the face of the climate crisis.

"There is a relationship with everything we encounter, humans and other-than-humans alike," she explains. "In animism, everything is alive: a stone, a tree, everything we are relating to has a spirit and an agency of its own."

This cosmology is still often pooh-poohed as superstition by industrial society and Western culture, she says, but this relational way of viewing the world is emerging in schools of thinking such as eco-philosophy. Even new fields of science are showing how trees may communicate and work cooperatively.

"There is intelligence and aliveness in other-than-humans," she says. In September 2019, the global think-tank, the Club of Rome, held its annual summit here in South Africa.

Nearly half a century ago, in 1972, the Italy-based group released its famous Limits to Growth report in which Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) modellers showed that the global economy can't assume infinite growth on a finite planet. The organisers of this year's summit said they were coming "home to Africa" to see what the world can learn from the "mother continent" and other indigenous knowledge systems in order to find solutions to the climate crisis. Key to this, they said, was to draw on world views that put society back in symbiosis with nature.

Centre-stage at the summit was the African wisdom of ubuntu. "Ubuntu - I am, because we are - does not only apply to other humans," said Club of Rome co-president Dr Mampela Ramphela at the event, "it applies to all of nature, and speaks to the interdependence of life on Earth."

The group said that the key to addressing the climate emergency is the need to create an "ecological civilisation" and design an economic system that replaces predatory capitalism. One of the ways to disrupt the extractive way of relating to the natural world that is driving ecological overshoot and climate collapse, is to draw on indigenous knowledge systems that view us as part of nature, the group said.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD =038=

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

5 letter word: PEA, LOW, EWE, TEA, ATE, ARE, EMU, ONE
 4 letter word: LASI, MENU, POSE, AKIN, STAR, TREE, STEM
 5 letter word: AROMA, SKIRT, YETIS, AUGUR
 6 letter word: COHORT, ENCORE, APTNESS, TROPIC
 7 letter word: REBIRTH, MARACAS, TSARIST, APTNESS
 8 letter word: PURCHASE, PHARMACY, SEMESTER
 10 letter word: ABBREVIATE

WORD FIT

CROSSWORD

Clues: Across
 1 Bad language to God (9)
 2 Say with certainty (6)
 7 Choice that is easy to make (4,6)
 9 Deciduous tree (3)
 10 South Asian dish (5)
 11 Person who reads (5)
 12 Abbess (3) 13 Cheese (4)
 15 Circle (4) 19 Angles and lines (4)
 21 Complain (4)
 22 Daughter of your brother (5)
 24 The fifth sign of the ZODIAC (3)
 25 Floor cover (3)
 26 Having no name (8)

Down:
 1 Bleary (9)
 2 Say with certainty (6)
 3 Against religion (7)
 4 From outside (8)
 5 Owned and cultivated land (6)
 6 Report (8)
 8 The digestive system (5)
 14 Statements (6)
 16 Tree that grows in cooler area (4)
 17 Types of vegetable (5)
 18 Golf (3)
 20 In, at (4)
 21 Way of living (4) 23 Swelling (3)

Comments: 0789 43 73 09



CURRENT NEWS
CCTTFA offers 455.4m/- to facilitate studies

Page 14



TOP VIEW
The real price of Occidental's 'costless' oil hedge

Page 15



VIEW FROM THE TOP
US Champagne drinkers should expect costs to pop with new tariffs

Page 15

Be proud of locally-made goods, Retired President tells Tanzanians

By SmartMoney Reporter, Zanzibar

RETIRED second-phase president Ali Hassan Mwinyi has called on Zanzibar's business community to produce quality merchandizes that will be able to compete in the international markets.

Mwinyi who served as President of the United Republic of Tanzania between 1985 and 1995 made the call over the weekend here when speaking at the Maisara trade fair here.

He said every businessman is responsible for producing products that have the required standards and quality in order to be able to access the market easily.

Mwinyi said: "This will help the country to have more foreign currency and then boost the economy and improve their livelihoods."

He also called on people of Zanzibar especially youth to focus on agribusiness that is the only way which can help them to increased income.

"Despite the fact that I am old but I still value and respect the agriculture be-



Retired second-phase president Ali Hassan Mwinyi

cause it plays a key role in human life", Mwinyi said.

He explained that agriculture is the backbone of the nation; therefore it is good for youth to get into farming by employ themselves instead of waiting for the white-collar jobs which are not there.

The ex-president also urged graduates to change their mentality on white-collar jobs and instead they should think of becoming job creators and refrain from job-seeking syndrome.

The second phase government leader also urged Tanzanians to be proud of the locally-made goods for the betterment of the country's economy and job creation.

He congratulated the Government of Zanzibar for coming up with an annual business fair, which has brought together traders from Zanzibar and Tanzania mainland.

However, traders at the exhibition said that the biggest challenge is weather with the hot season that has been causing them to suffer from it.

The exhibition has started January 2 to 15, this year.

Oikos EA helping pastoralists add value to leather industry

By Smart Money Reporter, Arusha

OIKOS East Africa, through a European-Union funded project, has embarked on empowering pastoralists by processing livestock skins in a quest to create a commercial leather industry hub in the livestock-rich northern Tanzania region.

The idea is to use livestock hides, a by-product which are often thrown away, from within the villages forming Enduimet Wildlife Management area in Longido district, Arusha region, to make accessories and footwear for local markets.

Oikos East Africa's leather expert, Mr Gabriel Mollé, said a group of 25 beneficiaries comprising 18 women and seven men, have been trained on how to use organic ingredients including papaya, lime and mimosa, to do rawhide

tanning. "We have taught them on using vegetables, particularly papaya, raw skin tanning, leather preparation for use, beadwork and production of hand-made leather finished products in various designs" Mr Mollé explained, adding that the beneficiaries are now capable to make high quality leather products after a 14-day training stint at Mkuru Natural Leather Training Centre.

"To empower pastoralists to harness the leather industry is a game changer" he said, adding "These kinds of initiatives are critical for the livestock keepers as it offers diversification of income generation activities."

Indeed, the beneficiaries say they were given trainings of both theory and practical sessions to equip them with the knowledge and then the skills to turn a raw skin into leather, before us-

ing that leather to produce bags, belts, and key holders, among others.

"If I had tools I could just start producing belts and other stuffs. I've fallen in love mostly with leather processing lesson. I never knew before that you could process leather by using a small bucket" said Kilembu Nguchicha, a pastoralist from TingaTinga village.

Christina Lomayani from Irkaswa Village said she used to witness pastoralists throwing away goats, sheep and cows' raw hides because of a lack of market, but with the know-how she vowed to share the knowledge with others to ensure the skins are of an added value. Oikos EA official, Ms Mary Birdi, said that she hopes that the leather activity will create new decent employment and so more income for the pastoralist communities of Enduimet WMA.

According to Ms Birdi the training is



Maasai pastoralist learn on how to prepare rawhide to leather at Oikos EA training at Mkuru Natural Leather Training Centre in Longido district, Arusha region. Photo: Smart Money courtesy

part of the three years European Union (EU) funded CONNEKT (Conserving Neighbouring Ecosystems in Kenya and Tanzania) project, which strives to promote the sustainable use of natural resources as tools to fight against poverty and boost socio-economic development.

"The overall objective of the CONNEKT Project is to enhance sustainable livelihoods for people who live along animal migratory routes" she concluded.

It is understood, this project is executed by Oikos East Africa, a Tanzanian NGO based in Arusha operating since 1999 to promote the protection of biodiversity and the sustainable use of natural resources as tools to fight against poverty and boost socio-economic development.

Cap. Maasai pastoralist learn on how to prepare rawhide to leather at Oikos EA training at Mkuru Natural Leather Training Centre in Longido district, Arusha region. Photo: Smart Money courtesy



Digital advocacy trends for Tanzania in 2020

By Prudence Zoe Glorious

WITH increased global connectivity, even the on-called dark continent has caught on. According to GSMA's The Mobile Economy 2019 report for Sub-Saharan Africa, the numbers of unique mobile subscribers in the region will reach 600 million representing around 50% of the population.

African governments and businesses operating on the continent now have a strategic opportunity to reach a wider online audience in order to drive change, enhance economic competitiveness and create digital impact. Mobile technology has been at the center of Tanzania's digital transformation with the number of internet users reaching 23,142,960 of which 96% access the internet on their mobile devices.

According to the latest data from the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS), Tanzania's population stands at 55.8 million with the majority residing in rural areas. Mobile innovations are deployed to ensure the country's development goals are inclusive and sustainable. Efforts by the government to facilitate access to communication services through The Universal Communications Service Access Fund (UCSAF) have

resulted in an increase of internet penetration to the current 43% as per official figures from 10% in 2009 as per World Bank public data.

As the fourth industrial revolution wages on, what does the growth of mobile technology and services in Tanzania mean for private and public sector players? Companies can leverage mobile communications technology to forge new routes to market, and engage and form new relationships with consumers in order to reach their strategic objectives.

Through digital innovation, governments have the opportunity to improve service delivery efficiency and catalyze local economic development through smart agriculture and financial inclusion. In the year ahead we will experience; new formats, challenges, and ways of engagement. Here is our list of digital advocacy trends to help your company's communication efforts in 2020.

Conversation versus vanity metrics In 2020 your organisation will have to authentically engage with your online community and explore avenues for collaboration. In the current information economy, organiza-

tions need to dive into their online ecosystem and foster long-term relationships with customers by adopting new and engaging digital strategies.

In order to gauge effectiveness, your most important metric will be around conversations before likes. Influencing will move to credibility. The decline of the influencer hype will see a rise of knowledge experts and micro-influencers that are perceived to be credible and authentic with a more engaged following. Companies can jump on this trend through the community engagement of a knowledge expert or micro-influencer for conversion to new markets. Platform specific content and a mobile first approach

According to GSMA's Mobile Economy Report Series, there are 747 million SIM connections in sub-Saharan Africa. More people are spending time browsing the internet on their phones and have shorter attention spans. In 2020, companies will have to convey their messages in mobile friendly formats that are adapted for popular platforms through hashtags, stories format for social media and dark social messaging apps.

The right combination of content type and length will determine the success of online advocacy in the age of mobile devices. Storytelling humans are social beings and in the digital world, visual storytelling will continue to rise in 2020. More than ever, decision makers are less gullible and unresponsive to online ads and are looking to establish an authentic connection with ethical businesses.

Companies have the opportunity to create a compelling narrative that shares their story in an emotive way to capture the hearts and attention of their audiences in order to build trust. Humanised online content given the influx of information and content on the internet, an organization's online story is fighting for the attention of a hyper plugged in and well networked customer with a lot of content options. If you want to stand out in 2020, you will need to personalize your digital advocacy strategy and incorporate emotive storytelling.

NB: Prudence Zoe Glorious is a strategic advisor and digital communications expert at Africa Practice Tanzania.

CCTTFA offers 455.4m/- to facilitate studies for ten students from five central corridor member states



Capt Dieudonne Dukundane

By Francis Kajubi

THE Central Corridor Transit Transport Facilitation Agency (CCTTFA) has provided US \$ 200,000 (455.4m/- on yesterday's exchange rates) to facilitate studies for ten students from five central corridor member states at the Dar es Salaam Marine Institute (DMI).

Speaking to Smart Money recently, CCTTFA's Executive Secretary, Capt Dieudonne Dukundane, said the scholarships will enable students to graduate as Officers of Navigation Watch or Officers of Engineering Watch after completion of the Maritime Cadet Officers course in 2021.

"This is a four years project that started in March 2017. We will have ten students, two from each CCTTFA member state. Of the ten beneficiaries, there is only one female student from Tanzania" said Dukundane naming member states as Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda.

Commenting on the nature of the Tanzania's transit cargo, he said transit cargo has been on the increase at the port of Dar es Salaam noting in terms of traffic sharing, Tanzania's domestic cargo represent 66 percent of all imports while transit cargo through central corridor represent 22 percent in which DRC dominates the traffic (10%) followed by Rwanda (7%), Burundi (3%) and Uganda (2%).

"Increment of transit cargo handled at the port of Dar es Salaam is due to ongoing port improvements which include enhanced handling capacity and operational management. The trend is projected to reach 28 million metric tons by 2025", he said.

Dukundane applauded the government for making infrastructure development such as construction of the standard gauge railway (SGR) all the way to Isaka as well as construction of roads in Kigoma and other western zone regions will facilitate cargo transportation to neighbouring Burundi and DRC.

Capt Malima Manyasi is the Course Coordinator at

DMI; he said the maritime profession has advanced and that DMI has so far produced enough experts to serve the local market.

"Since its inception in 1978 DMI has produced more than 200 officers and more than 5,000 graduates of the low levels" said Manyasi adding the institute faces various challenges including lack of ships for practical trainings.

"We rely on the Shipping Corporation of Zanzibar for sea time trainings as the mainland has no ship sailing in the Indian Ocean", he noted.

One of the female cadet officers, Radhia Hamza said that she was studying business management at the college of business education (CBE) in Dar es Salaam when she got the chance to join DMI through the CCTTFA program.

"I got the opportunity through the association for women in the maritime sector in Eastern and Southern Africa (WOMESA) Tanzania Chapter to which I am a member. I never dreamed that one day I would become a ship Captain. I really enjoy the maritime sector and am positive that I will graduate with good grades because I love the profession" said Hamza.

Richard Domo, a student from DRC said that he got the chance through the Congolese Ministry of Transport where he underwent internship after graduating his first bachelor's degree in Public Administration.

"I find the course interesting. I just

appreciate the efforts made by the CCTTFA for investing in creation of new young professions of the maritime sector" said Domo.

The Central Corridor Transport Observatory Report of 2018 recommends authorities at Dar es Salaam Port to reduce charges imposed on a single freight cargo container which is currently US \$ 450 each for imports compared to Mombasa's US \$ 275.

It stated that Dar port also charges US \$ 266 per container of exports compared to Mombasa's US \$ 223 which makes it more expensive and less competitive.

"However, it is quite cheaper importing and exporting through Dar es Salaam port for the central corridor member states except for Uganda that is near Mombasa port," states the report.

CCTTFA Transport Observatory reports asserts that Tanzania can expedite full operationalization of the re-opened multimodal route of Dar es Salaam - Mwanza - Port Bell in Uganda which will be a game changer for the landlocked country's cargo transiting through Dar Port.

The Central Corridor Transit and Transport Facilitation Agency (CCTTFA) is an intergovernmental organization set up by and comprising Burundi, DRC, Rwanda, Tanzania and Uganda. CCTTFA was set up under and is governed by an Agreement signed by the Member States on 2nd September 2006.

UK, US and industry officials to meet before Huawei decision: Downing Street

LONDON

OFFICIALS from the British and U.S. governments and the telecoms industry will meet yesterday, before Britain is due to take a decision on the possible use of Huawei [HWTUL] equipment in future 5G mobile networks, Prime Minister Boris Johnson's spokesman said.

"We have strict controls over how Huawei equipment is currently deployed in the UK. The government is undertaking a comprehensive review ... There is a meeting today which involves U.S., UK government counterparts in national security and telecoms," the spokesman told the press.

Britain is expected to make a final decision on whether to deploy technology from the Chinese company this month. The United States is trying to persuade Britain not to use Huawei's equipment over what Washington says are security risks.



Cap. The Huawei logo is pictured at the IFA consumer tech fair in Berlin, Germany. File photo.

Ford's China vehicle sales drop 26 p.c in third straight year of decline

SHANGHAI

FORD Motor Co's China vehicle sales fell for a third consecutive year, by 26.1 per cent, as it battles a prolonged overall sales decline in its second-biggest market that has hit demand for its mass-market Ford brand and sports utility vehicles.

The U.S. automaker delivered 146,473 vehicles in China in the fourth quarter, down 14.7 per cent year-on-year, Ford said in a statement. In total, it sold 567,854 vehicles over 2019.

Ford has been trying to revive sales in China after its business began slumping in late 2017. Sales sank 37 per cent in 2018, after a 6 per cent decline in 2017.

Anning Chen, president and chief executive of Ford Greater China, said that while 2019 was a "challenging" year for the automaker, it saw its market share in the high-to-premium segment stabilize and its sales decline in the value segment start to narrow in the second-half of the year.

"The pressure from the external environment and downward trend of the industry volume will continue in 2020, and we will put more efforts into strengthening our product lineup with more customer-centric products and customer experiences to mitigate the external pressure and improve dealers' profitability."

The automaker plans to launch more than 30 new models in China over the next three years of which over a third will be electric vehicles. It has also said it would localize management teams by hiring more Chinese staff and aimed to improve relationships with joint venture partners.

Models launched in the fourth quarter include a new Ford Escape version - for which the automaker said orders received so far have been much higher than expected - and the Lincoln Corsair, the first localized Lincoln model in China.

Bill Russo, head of Shanghai consultancy Automobility Ltd, said Ford was dealing with a "perfect storm" of trends which were not favorable to multinational mass market brands, and while the automaker was addressing the need to update its showrooms with new and refreshed models, this was taking time.

"They managed to stop the bleeding and increase average selling price," he said of their 2019 sales figures. "Good sign, but they need to do more to localize their business model to address the growth in non-hardware related mobility and digital services if they are to recapture growth."

In China, Ford makes cars through a joint venture with Chongqing Changan Automobile Co Ltd and Jiangling Motors Corp Ltd. It has also said it would partner Zotye Automobile Co Ltd to sell lower priced cars.

Its larger U.S. rival General Motors Co last week said its sales in China fell 15% from a year earlier to 3.09 million vehicles in 2019, its second year of decline.

China's auto market is set to contract by 2 per cent in 2020 for the third year of decline, the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers (CAAM) forecast, due to a weaker economy and trade dispute with the United States.

Over 28 million vehicles were sold in 2018, down 3 per cent from the prior year, while 2019 sales are likely to have declined 8 per cent from the prior year, CAAM said.



A Ford model is seen during the China International Import Expo (CIIE), at the National Exhibition and Convention Center in Shanghai, China. File photo.

As businesses hold back, US consumers seen boosting big banks' profits

NEW YORK

CONSUMER lending is expected to propel profits for big U.S. banks when they unveil fourth-quarter results this week, though stress in corporate lending and uneven capital markets may cast a shadow over results.

Balances for individual borrowers keep reaching new records as the U.S. job market has stayed robust, prompting people to spend, and as interest rates have declined, prompting them to borrow especially on credit cards.

Overall, U.S. consumer-loan balances at the 25 largest banks reached \$1.19 trillion the last week of December, up 13 per cent from a year earlier, according to Federal Reserve data. The biggest annual increase came from cards, where outstanding debt rose 16 per cent.

The banks held another \$1.46 trillion in residential mortgage loans.

That spells good news for quarterly profits at JPMorgan Chase & Co and Citigroup Inc, which have been working to grow their card businesses in recent years. The Fed's decision to lower rates in 2019 boosted mortgage activity, which will help major home lenders like Wells Fargo & Co. Those three banks are scheduled to report results on Tuesday.

"The consumer-lending business is going to be very profitable for the banks," RBC Capital Markets analyst Gerard Cassidy said in an interview.

Americans borrowing to buy cars and pay for vacations has been a mainstay for industry profits recently. Consumer strength has helped offset weakness in trading, underwriting or business-loan demand at various points, with bank executives cheering it as a sign that the U.S. economy is not on the brink of recession.

Analysts expect tepid business borrowing to have continued through the fourth quarter. Global trade disputes, political uncertainties and market fluctuations have left CEOs wary of seeking financing to buy competitors or invest in operations, they said.

However, those issues could take a back seat to the thriving U.S. consumer.

As Americans' loan balances have climbed, their incomes have grown even faster. That debt is now about equal to disposable personal income after climbing to as much as one-third higher in 2007.

Analysts say they are also encouraged that banks appear to be lending more responsibly to consumers, partly due to new regulations. Consumer delinquency rates are low at 2.8 per cent, compared with an average of 4.3 per cent since 2003, according to Fed data. In the recession, the rate reached 8.2 per cent.

However, analysts cautioned that credit mistakes often occur in the best of times and that it is hard to see them with the economy growing for the 11th straight year.

Higher real-estate values have allowed property owners to raise cash by selling or refinancing. As competition has heated up in cards, some borrowers have been transferring zero-interest balances from one bank to another for a small fee, without paying off the debt.

The real price of Occidental's 'costless' oil hedge



The logo for Occidental Petroleum is displayed on a screen on the floor at the New York Stock Exchange (NYSE). File photo.

NEW YORK

IN just 12 days, Occidental Petroleum Corp pulled off one of the biggest hedges against falling oil prices ever placed by a U.S. energy company. It characterized the transaction as "costless" but market data and interviews shows that's not the whole story.

The aim of the complex financial maneuver, the company said, was to help preserve Occidental's generous dividend to shareholders as it sought to take over rival Anadarko Petroleum for \$38 billion last summer in the biggest industry deal for years.

"With the additional leverage from the Anadarko acquisition, these new hedges will strengthen our 2020 cash flow in a low oil price environment, and provide additional assurance that our dividend is safe, while we are deleveraging," Occidental's Chief Financial Officer Cedric Burgher told an earnings call in August.

However, to secure the hedge swiftly and discreetly and to avoid paying its bankers a fee for arranging it, the company took a bigger potential hit to future revenues with only limited protection against falling oil prices, according to a source with direct

knowledge of the transaction.

While Occidental disclosed the financial details of the hedge in filings, fulfilling its regulatory obligations, the fact that the company took on the additional risk to secure the transaction fast and to avoid banker fees has not been previously reported. Occidental declined to comment.

Hedges are used by a variety of companies. Airlines use them to protect against rising fuel prices and energy producers use them to lock in revenue, usually by buying a put option, a type of derivative contract, which gives them the right to sell oil at a predetermined future price.

Occidental used a complex series of transactions for its hedge, which was arranged by Bank of America Merrill Lynch and Citigroup, according to six sources with direct knowledge of the trades. The summer hedge covered nearly 110 million barrels of oil, or 300,000 barrels a day, each for 2020 and 2021, nearly enough to meet the annual oil imports of Australia.

The hedge meant the firm could sell the oil at a minimum of \$55 a barrel in 2020, even if crude prices fell below that, to a limit of \$45 a barrel; but the company's selling price was capped at \$74.09, and it would lose out on any revenue earned from oil prices rising beyond that mark.

Occidental capped revenues for 2020 and also 2021 but only got downside protection for 2020 - a lopsided deal sometimes referred to as a naked hedge. Limiting future revenue without getting a

guarantee against falling prices is unusual in the energy sector.

While Occidental has disclosed the details of the 2020 hedge in regulatory filings, the absence of a hedge against falling oil prices in 2021 was not explicitly mentioned. The company said the 2021 options were meant to increase the maximum selling price it would receive for 2020 sales.

"Occidental entered into the 2021 call options to substantially improve the ceiling price that the Company will receive for the contracted commodity volumes in 2020," it said in a filing.

Some analysts said investors should have been given more information about the potential implications of the hedge.

"It seems very strange that they left a naked hedge in 2021 which capped upside but offered no downside protection," said David Katz, president and CIO of Matrix Asset Advisors, which owns 0.3% of Occidental's shares.

However, other analysts said Occidental needed to secure a hedge quickly to defuse some of the pressure from investors.

"Doing this gives Oxy a lot of flexibility in 2020 with cash flow," said Trisha Curtis, President of PetroNerds, an energy analytics and advisory firm specializing in U.S. shale.

"You can't have an acquisition that big and then willy-nilly hope that oil prices hold up. Regardless of what it cost them, it was needed for a number of reasons."

US Champagne drinkers should expect costs to pop with new tariffs

WASHINGTON

LOVERS of Champagne and other French sparkling wines should brace for big cost increases if the United States makes good on a threat to impose 100 per cent tariffs on French goods in a dispute over the country's planned digital services tax.

A \$70 bottle of Moët & Chandon Grand Vintage could surge to \$130, for example, said David Parker, chief executive of Benchmark Wine Group, the largest U.S. supplier of fine and rare wines for wine retailers.

The U.S. government said in December it may slap duties of up to 100% on \$2.4 billion in imports from France of Champagne, handbags, cheese and other products over the tax, which it concluded would harm U.S. tech companies.

The Trump administration had already imposed 25% tariffs on many non-sparkling European wines in October in a dispute with the European Union over aircraft subsidies. It is separately reviewing whether to increase those duties and expand the list of products affected.

Washington did not specify an effective date for the proposed duties, but the two countries have given themselves two weeks to try to resolve the tax row before officials meet at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, in late January.

While the industry has largely absorbed the cost of the 25 per cent tariffs imposed in October, it won't be able to do that if tariffs rise to 100 per cent, industry executives say.

EU Trade Commissioner Phil Hogan will discuss these issues with U.S. Trade Representative Robert Lighthizer when he visits Washington this week.

If those efforts fail, the USTR's office could announce a new list of goods facing tariffs by late January, said Warren Maruyama, a partner at Hogan Lovells and former USTR general counsel.

The looming tariffs pose the greatest threat to the wine industry since Prohibition, industry officials said in Washington last week, referring to the U.S. ban on the sale of alcoholic beverages from 1920 to 1933.

Thanks to post-Prohibition regulation, the non-domestic U.S. wine business is divided into hundreds of

importers, wholesalers and retailers. The 21st Amendment allows states to control the sale, distribution, taxation and importation of alcohol.

"Because of the way Prohibition was repealed, essentially, every business in the wine business is a small business," said Benjamin Aneff, managing partner with Tribeca Wine Merchants.

An importer pays about \$30 for a bottle of Moët & Chandon, plus transport, said Parker, who is also a member of the board of the National Association of Wine Retailers, adding a 25% markup before handing off to a distributor.

Distributors generally add an additional 25 per cent markup, he said, then retailers tack on 20%, for the current price of \$70.

If the original import price doubles to \$60, U.S. wine businesses would be forced to pass along the increase, wine industry experts say.

"We believe that for a huge percentage of this category, we're simply going to lose the revenue in the United States," he said, and estimated the industry could lose 50,000 jobs.

The United States is the largest foreign market for French wine, importing nearly 700 million euros (\$771.54 million) of French sparkling wine per year, according to the Fédération des Exportateurs de Vins & Spiritueux de France (FEVS) trade group.

If the U.S. market for Champagne weakens due to higher prices, French producers can easily sell their products in Asia and South America, where demand is growing rapidly, experts say. By definition Champagne can only be produced in the northern French region of the same name.

U.S. vintners make sparkling wines that perform well against Champagne in blind taste tests. But there is no current surplus of U.S. wine production, and it takes seven to 10 years before a new vineyard matures and can produce good wines, experts say.

The U.S. Trade Representative's office is accepting public comments on the French tax issue through Tuesday, and an expanded list of European products that could face tariffs under the WTO aircraft subsidy issue through Monday.

It is not expected to act on either issue before the upcoming meetings with EU and French officials.

VIEW FROM THE TOP



Bottles of red wine are seen in the cellar of Chateau Le Puy in Saint Cibard, France, October 3, 2019. The U.S. decision to impose tariffs on French wines will penalize American consumers, the French wine exporters' federation had said. File photo.

WeWork debacle has unicorn investors seeking cover

SAN FRANCISCO

IN the months since office-sharing startup WeWork's botched public debut, mid- and late-stage investors in big start-ups have been pushing for more safeguards in case their firms fail to go public or sell shares at a lower valuation than pre-IPO financing rounds.

Fundraising terms are rarely made public, but more than a dozen Silicon Valley-based lawyers, entrepreneurs and venture-capital investors told Reuters that since WeWork's canceled public offering and other ill-fated IPOs, investors have been securing protections of their original investments in "unicorns" private companies valued at \$1 billion or more.

Tougher terms are the price to pay for ensuring late-stage funding and sustaining the pipeline of initial public offerings, but also can be detrimental for founders, employees and early-stage investors, which in turn could make M&A deals challenging.

A quarterly survey by law firm Fenwick & West, which tracks deal terms of startup clients, showed a sharp rise in those with senior liquidation preferences for later stage funding rounds in the third quarter, the time



WeWork corporate headquarters image in Manhattan, New York, U.S. File photo.

when WeWork's IPO plan unraveled. (tmsnrt)

Safeguards include a higher minimum price on shares in an IPO, "ratchets" that give investors more shares if the shares are priced

below what they paid, guarantees of a certain return on investments, and rights to block the IPO.

"Because many of these unicorn valuations

are super high relative to historical IPO values, growth investors are putting in more structure around IPOs," said Ivan Gaviria, a partner at Gunderson Dettmer, a Silicon Valley law firm that works with venture-backed companies and investors.

WeWork's lofty \$47 billion valuation tumbled to less than \$8 billion after it scrapped its IPO in September amid a public shareholder-founder dispute that led to the founder-CEO's ousting and a bailout by SoftBank.

The Japanese technology conglomerate, which has invested in several high-profile tech start-ups including Uber Technologies, has been among late-stage investors especially forceful in demanding more safeguards in the event of a failed IPO.

Over the past four months, every SoftBank-led funding discussion for mid-to-late stage Internet startups has involved tougher terms for founders and employees, especially for commitments of \$200 million to \$300 million or more, according to a person familiar with the discussions.

For instance, in December when SoftBank was in relatively advanced talks to invest in pharmaceutical delivery startup Alto

Pharmacy, the investment partners from its Vision Fund sought price protection clauses, as well as stronger corporate governance processes at the company, that person said.

SoftBank and Alto Pharmacy, which was previously known as ScriptDash, declined to comment. An investor with a liquidation preference would get paid first when the company folds or is sold.

To be sure, some experts note that the push for greater safeguards preceded the WeWork debacle, but most lawyers and investors Reuters has interviewed said it has intensified after the WeWork flame-out.

Some investors are even asking to get back even more money than they put in, said Ed Zimmerman, partner at law firm Lowenstein Sandler, who represents tech companies and investors. Sandy Miller, general partner at IVP, a later stage venture capital firm which is an investor in Uber, said many firms, including IVP, still prefer "clean term sheets" that put founders and all investors on equal footing.

However, an investor may want extra protection if founders push for higher valuations at a time when the market is leveling off.

WORLD

Iran denies shooting at protesters amid fury over downing of plane

DUBAI

IRAN'S police said yesterday officers had not fired at protesters demonstrating over Tehran's admission that it shot down a passenger plane, as video on social media recorded gunshots and pools of blood.

Iranian public anger, rumbling for days as Iran repeatedly denied it. Demonstrators turned out again on Sunday.

Videos on social media, posted late on Sunday, recorded gunshots in the vicinity of protests in Tehran's Azadi Square. Footage showed blood on the ground, wounded being carried and people who seemed to be security personnel running with rifles. Other posts showed riot police hitting protesters with batons as people nearby shouted "Don't beat them!"

"Death to the dictator," footage circulating on social media showed protesters shouting, directing their fury at Supreme Leader Ali Khamenei.

"They are lying that our enemy is America, our enemy is right here," another group outside a Tehran university chanted.

Reuters could not independently

authenticate the footage. But state-affiliated media reported the protests on Saturday and Sunday in Tehran and other cities, without giving such details.

"At protests, police absolutely did not shoot because the capital's police officers have been given orders to show restraint," Hossein Rahimi, head of the Tehran police, said in a statement carried by the state broadcaster's website.

Iran's latest showdown with the United States has come at a precarious time for the authorities in Tehran and their allies across the Middle East, when sanctions imposed by Trump have caused deep harm to the Iranian economy.

Iranian authorities killed hundreds of protesters in November in what appears to have been the bloodiest crackdown on anti-government unrest since the 1979 revolution. In Iraq and Lebanon, governments that include Iran-backed armed groups have also faced months of hostile mass demonstrations.

'CHOKED OFF'

Trump wrote on Twitter late on Sunday that National Security Adviser Robert O'Brien had "suggested today

- which some media have dubbed "Megxit" in a play on Britain's tortuous Brexit departure from the European Union - or who will pay for a transatlantic lifestyle.

Media frenzy

When the most powerful members of the so-called royal "firm" meet at the queen's Georgian mansion, Elizabeth, 93, and her son Charles, 71, will have to grapple with much more than family issues: Their decisions could shape the monarchy's future.

The queen will have to find a way to harness Harry and Meghan's global appeal, especially among young people, while giving them the freedom they crave and ensuring the bill to the British taxpayer is as modest as possible.

Though Elizabeth and her husband Philip challenged royal convention in their youth, she has served dutifully since 1952, earning the admiration of most Britons - including many republicans.

Prince Charles has long sought a leaner royal family, though it is unclear how Harry and Meghan would fit into that model - especially if they essentially become Hollywood superstars.

The couple's ambition to break out of their gilded royal casts has become a feast for British tabloid newspapers with which Harry and Meghan have

repeatedly clashed. Harry remains deeply affected by the hounding role the media played in the life and death of his mother, Princess Diana.

The newspapers have run a host of stories, based on quotes from unidentified royal insiders, about a split between Harry and his brother William and anger at the top of the family amid suspicion of leaks and ostracism.

Some British newspapers said Harry and

started working online - he makes tutorial workout videos for online platforms and writes fitness articles for knowledge-sharing websites. Besides, he is also a counselor of a fitness app who answers users' questions about fitness.

"I also receive orders on mobile applications from users who need private fitness instruction services. It takes me 2 to 3 hours a week," Li introduced.

Li is quite pleased with his current income. "I make about 15,000 yuan (about \$2,153.32) per month, not a penny less than how much I earned from the gym, but feel much freer, and I don't have pressure from selling fitness classes," Li said.

After becoming a food blogger of some repute on an online platform, Wen Sisi quit her job and started working full-time on the platform.

"What I do every day is making baking and pastry videos and writing cooking



In this Jan 11, 2020 photo, released by Iranian Students' News Agency, ISNA, a woman attending a candlelight vigil to remember the victims of the Ukraine plane crash, talks to a policeman, at the gate of Amri Kabir University in Tehran, Iran. (AP)

that sanctions & protests have Iran 'choked off', will force them to negotiate."

"Actually, I couldn't care less if they negotiate. Will be totally up to them but, no nuclear weapons and 'don't kill your protesters,'" he wrote, repeating his earlier tweets making similar calls to the Iranian authorities not to open fire.

Trump precipitated the escalation between the United States and Iran in 2018 by pulling out of an agreement between Tehran and world powers under which sanctions were lifted in return for Iran curbing its nuclear program. He has said the goal is to force Iran to agree to a more stringent pact.

Iran has repeatedly said it will not negotiate as long as U.S. sanctions are in place. It denies seeking nuclear arms.

The latest flare-up began at the end of December when rockets fired at U.S. bases in Iraq killed one American contractor. Washington accused pro-Iran militia and launched air strikes that killed at least 25 fighters. The militia responded by surrounding the U.S. embassy in Baghdad for

two days. Trump then ordered the strike that killed Qassem Soleimani, the Iranian general who led pro-Iran militia across the region.

Iran fired at U.S. bases in Iraq on Wednesday, though no Americans were hurt. The Ukrainian plane, on its way to Kiev and carrying many Iranian dual nationals, crashed hours later.

After days of denying blame for the crash, Commanders of Iran's Guards, a parallel force set up to protect the Islamic Republic and answering to Khamenei, issued profuse apologies.

Iran's president called it a "disastrous mistake". A top Guards commander said he had told the authorities on the same day as the crash that a missile had brought down the plane, raising questions about why Iran had initially denied it.

Canadians held vigils for the victims. Prime Minister Justin Trudeau told one event: "We will not rest until there are answers."

Canada's Transportation Safety Board (TSB) said it had obtained visas for two of its investigators to travel to Iran.

Agencies

Britain's royal showdown: Queen hosts Meghan-Harry crisis talks

SANDRINGHAM, England

QUEEN Elizabeth and her heirs were expected to meet Prince Harry later yesterday to thrash out a plan for him and his actress wife Meghan after they triggered a family crisis by deciding to step back from royal duties and spend more time in North America.

Harry's father and heir to the throne Prince Charles and his elder brother Prince William were to attend the meeting at the queen's rural Sandringham estate in eastern England, a palace source said.

The shock announcement by Harry, 35, and Meghan, 38, has exposed divisions in the Windsor family and prompted soul-searching over what it means to be royal in the 21st century.

The couple consulted neither the queen nor Charles on the announcement, made on Instagram and their own website, a step seen as impertinent and premature by a family whose roots go back through a thousand years of European history.

Meghan is currently in Canada with their infant son Archie. She may join the discussion by telephone.

She and Harry say they want a "progressive" new role for themselves and financial independence, which could mean working in the United States where Meghan is from.

But it was unclear how they will pull off a partial pullback from royal roles



In this, July 10, 2018 photo, Britain's Queen Elizabeth II, and Meghan the Duchess of Sussex and Prince Harry watch a flypast of Royal Air Force aircraft pass over Buckingham Palace in London. (AP)

repeatedly clashed. Harry remains deeply affected by the hounding role the media played in the life and death of his mother, Princess Diana.

The newspapers have run a host of stories, based on quotes from unidentified royal insiders, about a split between Harry and his brother William and anger at the top of the family amid suspicion of leaks and ostracism.

Some British newspapers said Harry and

repeatedly clashed. Harry remains deeply affected by the hounding role the media played in the life and death of his mother, Princess Diana.

The furor over the couple, who married last May in a glittering ceremony watched by millions round the world, comes after a tough 2019 for the royal family. Prince Andrew's friendship with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein came under uncomfortable scrutiny while Prince Philip received a police warning over a car crash.

The furor over the couple, who married last May in a glittering ceremony watched by millions round the world, comes after a tough 2019 for the royal family. Prince Andrew's friendship with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein came under uncomfortable scrutiny while Prince Philip received a police warning over a car crash.

The furor over the couple, who married last May in a glittering ceremony watched by millions round the world, comes after a tough 2019 for the royal family. Prince Andrew's friendship with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein came under uncomfortable scrutiny while Prince Philip received a police warning over a car crash.

The furor over the couple, who married last May in a glittering ceremony watched by millions round the world, comes after a tough 2019 for the royal family. Prince Andrew's friendship with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein came under uncomfortable scrutiny while Prince Philip received a police warning over a car crash.

The furor over the couple, who married last May in a glittering ceremony watched by millions round the world, comes after a tough 2019 for the royal family. Prince Andrew's friendship with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein came under uncomfortable scrutiny while Prince Philip received a police warning over a car crash.

The furor over the couple, who married last May in a glittering ceremony watched by millions round the world, comes after a tough 2019 for the royal family. Prince Andrew's friendship with convicted sex offender Jeffrey Epstein came under uncomfortable scrutiny while Prince Philip received a police warning over a car crash.

Libyan delegates arrive in Moscow for talks, diplomat says

MOSCOW

THE anticipated Libyan emissaries have arrived in Moscow and will soon join the Russian-Turkish meeting between the top diplomats and defense chiefs, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova wrote on her Facebook page yesterday.

"In line with the agreements reached in Istanbul between the Russian and Turkish presidents, the Russian-Turkish meeting at the level of heads of the foreign and defense ministries, devoted to the Libyan settlement, began today in the Foreign Ministry's Reception House.

The representatives of the Libyan sides have arrived and will soon join the talks," the diplomat said.

A photo posted by Zakharova shows that the Russian and Turkish foreign and defense ministers, as well as Russian Presidential Special Representative for the Middle East and Africa Mikhail Bogdanov and Director of the Foreign Ministry's Department for the Middle East and North Africa Alexander Kinschak are present at the negotiations.

The Russian and Turkish delegations are sitting in front of each other and there are some empty seats, with a 'Libya' sign placed on one of them.

There is no information if this is for the Government of National Accord or the interim cabinet of Abdullah al-Thani that controls the country's east jointly with the parliament supported by the Libyan National Army of Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar.

At midnight on January 12, a ceasefire entered into force between the conflicting sides in Libya as part of an initiative of Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan at the January 8 summit in Istanbul.

Head of the High Council of State, Khalid al-Mishri announced that the truce between the Libyan National Army and the Tripoli-based Government of National Accord led by Fayez al-Sarraj was expected to be signed in Moscow yesterday.

Agencies

Munich Security Conference chair praises 'Putin's method' for Middle East

BERLIN

CHAIR of the Munich Security Conference Wolfgang Ischinger has praised the Russian leadership's effective methods for resolving the crisis in the Middle East.

Ischinger, who chairs the world's leading forum for debating the most pressing challenges to international security, told ZDF TV channel that in order to have influence in the region one needs "political power of persuasion, clever diplomacy and military support if necessary."

"This is the method that [Russian President Vladimir] Putin is using to ensure his influence in Syria, Libya and certainly in the situation around Iran," Ischinger said.

Meanwhile, Ischinger criticized US President Donald Trump who had posted a tweet in support of protesters in Iran. "Providing too much support could result in the conflict escalation," the expert warned.

According to Tasnim News Agency, on January 11 a group of students gathered at Tehran's Amirkabir University of Technology (AUT) to voice protest after the Iranian Air Force accepted full responsibility for Ukraine's Boeing 737 crash.

The demonstration in Tehran drew up to 3,000 people. Now the situation in the Iranian capital is calm, police reported.

Agencies

Troops in central Russia to receive 850 new weapon systems in 2020

YEKATERINBURG

TROOPS in Russia's Central Military District will receive over 850 weapon systems in 2020, Central Military District Commander Colonel-General Alexander Lapin said yesterday.

"In 2020, the District's units and formations will receive about 850 new and upgraded weapon systems. The District's troops will get 19 aircraft, 10 radar stations, 145 items of armored vehicles' armament and the armor, and also armament for the troops' other military branches," the general said. Also, four sets of the S-400 "Triumf" medium-and long-range surface-to-air missile system will arrive for the air defense troops of the Central Military District, he added.

"The rearmament of two regiments with the S-400 'Triumf' anti-aircraft missile system will help boost the air defense of the Volga area and the Urals," he specified.

Jobs created in digital economy favoured by more young Chinese

CHINA'S booming digital economy has incubated many Internet-based occupations in recent years. These jobs, featuring flexible working hours and interesting duties, are attracting more and more young people.

In 2018, a total of 191 million Chinese worked in the digital economy sector, accounting for 24.6 percent of the country's employed population, according to a 2019 white paper on the development and employment of China's digital economy released by China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT).

Yu Pei is one of the many who joined the digital economy. After graduating from a national key university, she started working for a we-media company, writing articles and designing activities at home.

Li Wencan, who was once a fitness coach at a gym, also quit his job and

started working online - he makes tutorial workout videos for online platforms and writes fitness articles for knowledge-sharing websites. Besides, he is also a counselor of a fitness app who answers users' questions about fitness.

"I also receive orders on mobile applications from users who need private fitness instruction services. It takes me 2 to 3 hours a week," Li introduced.

Li is quite pleased with his current income. "I make about 15,000 yuan (about \$2,153.32) per month, not a penny less than how much I earned from the gym, but feel much freer, and I don't have pressure from selling fitness classes," Li said.

After becoming a food blogger of some repute on an online platform, Wen Sisi quit her job and started working full-time on the platform.

"What I do every day is making baking and pastry videos and writing cooking

tips," said Wen, who had just released baking courses on the platform and sees great prospects in her new profession.

There are more emerging occupations in China, such as private travel routes planner, writers for online media, and online marketing personnel. All these jobs are created during the digital transformation of the traditional service industry.

"The tertiary industry features high transaction cost, low proportion of fix assets, and low technological intensity, which makes it easier to achieve digital transformation, and that's how the massive Internet-based jobs have been created," said Yu Xiaohui, vice president of CAICT.

The service sector is what makes the digital economy job-rich, said Yu, noting that China had more than 1.3 million jobs related to digital transformation of the service sector in 2018. This figure ac-

counted for 37.2 percent of the total jobs in the sector, 4 percentage points higher from the previous year.

Tertiary industry's digital transformation has restructured and incubated new models of business like Internet-based platform economy and sharing economy, among which platform economy has shown the best performance and become a new engine for boosting entrepreneurship and employment, said Zhou Guangsu, associate professor with School of Labor and Human Resources of Renmin University of China.

Apart from offering full-time jobs, online occupations also serve as an additional source of income for young Chinese. According to research data from Chinese online job-hunting platform Zhaopin.com, 8.2 percent of Chinese laborers earned extra income from part-time jobs in the first half of 2019.

"Digital economy is restructuring our

patterns of employment," said Yu, explaining that individuals are now able to conduct business activities without entering traditional enterprises as they have access to resources such as market, R&D and production through Internet information technologies and Internet platforms.

Accordingly, the forms of employment are becoming flexible and diverse, and new types of jobs are emerging rapidly such as starting businesses, freelance work, and part-time jobs, Yu added.

Digital economy has caused four major changes in flexible employment in China, according to Yu.

The first change is the explosive growth in employment figures. Jobs created by digital economy have changed from supplementary to an important part of the employment market.

"Today, with the development of new

forms and new models of business such as online shopping and sharing economy, the number of people who choose flexible employment has risen rapidly, becoming an important component of China's employment market," said Yu.

Secondly, these jobs are expanding rapidly from certain industries to a wide range of occupations. Apart from commerce and trade, they also exist in logistics and live streaming.

Thirdly, flexible employment has expanded from lower-tier jobs to higher-tier jobs. More and more people with higher educational backgrounds and human capital are joining in the sector, especially in the knowledge-sharing industry.

Besides, the competitiveness of flexible employment has risen greatly in China, as it is no longer a backup plan, but a magnet for job seekers.

People's Daily



Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau pauses while speaking during a memorial for the victims of the Ukrainian plane disaster in Iran this past week, in Edmonton, Alberta, on Sunday. (AP)

Canada PM Trudeau tells Iran crash vigil he will pursue justice

EDMONTON

CANADIAN Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, his voice sometimes breaking, on Sunday told a vigil for some of those killed in an Iranian plane disaster that he would "pursue justice and accountability" for what happened.

Iran says it mistakenly shot down a Ukrainian airliner on Wednesday, killing 176 people. Fifty-seven Canadians died, most of them of Iranian descent, in one of the biggest single losses of life Canada has suffered in 40 years.

"You may feel unbearably lonely, but you are not alone. Your entire country stands with you, tonight, tomorrow, and in all the years to come," Trudeau told a standing-room crowd of 2,300 in a basketball gymnasium in Edmonton, Alberta, home to 13 of the victims. Most had direct links to the University of Alberta.

As Trudeau spoke, boxes of tissues were passed among the mourners who packed the bleachers. Black-rimmed photos of the dead stood on the stage, beside arrangements of rose petals, candles and plates of dates.

"This tragedy should have never occurred, and I want to assure you that you have my full support during this extraordinarily difficult time ... you give us purpose to pursue justice and accountability for you," said Trudeau, who has demanded Canada take part in the crash probe.

"We will not rest until there are answers."

Alberta Premier Jason Kenney lamented an "epic demonstration of human folly." Kenney, a political foe of Trudeau, told the vigil he was confident the prime minister would give his all to

find out what happened.

Family and friends wept and hugged, listening to tributes to their loved ones from young and old.

Ghazal Pakseresht grieved the short life of her friend and Persian school classmate, 14-year-old Daria Mousavi who died in the crash with her sister Dorina, 9, and parents Pedram Mousavi and Mojgan Daneshmand.

"She never got to fall in love, get married, have kids and grow old. In life we don't realize how important someone is to us until they're no longer with us," Pakseresht said of Daria.

Daniel Ghods said his girlfriend, Saba Saadat, a student of biological sciences, was a "glimpse of light" in his life, before she was killed in the crash.

"In this world we live in it's easy to become desensitized to the tragedies going on around us," Ghods said. "I ask everyone to maintain their humanity and be kind to one another."

Earlier in the day about 2,000 people packed into a Toronto university hall, voicing grief and rage.

"There is no justice in this world," said Masoud Niknam, mourning his brother Farhad, a dentist and married father of two children.

"I don't believe in anything anymore. We will have a hole in our hearts forever and that cannot be filled with anything."

"Everybody is angry, everybody is upset. I haven't seen Iranian people like this since 1979, the revolution," said Mehrdad Ariannejad, CEO of Tigran, a non-profit organization that organized the Toronto memorial.

The memorials follow several days of grief in Canada, including candlelight vigils in many cities.

Agencies

Haiti marks 10th anniversary of deadly quake

MEXICO CITY

HAITIANS on Sunday marked the 10th anniversary of the destructive 2010 earthquake that toppled buildings across the island, killing more than 300,000 people.

The powerful 7-magnitude quake hit at 4:53 p.m. local time (2153 GMT), with an epicenter just 15 kilometers southwest of the capital Port au Prince.

Another 350,000 people were left injured and some 1.5 million people were left homeless. United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres issued a video message to the people of Haiti, in which he renewed his organization's pledge to help the country rebuild for a better future.

"On this day we remember the hundreds of thousands of Haitians who lost their lives and the millions gravely affected by the devastating earthquake that struck their country 10 years ago," said Guterres.

"I renew the commitment of the United Nations to helping Haiti and its people build a brighter future," he said. He also paid tribute to the 102 UN staff members who died in the quake when the building that housed the UN mission to Haiti collapsed.

"I will never forget the shock and sadness across the United Nations as we became aware of the scale of the tragedy," said Guterres.

A week after the disaster, the UN Security Council authorized an additional 3,500 UN peacekeeping troops, who joined the 9,000 already deployed there, to help bolster the recovery and stability of the island.

Xinhua

Three killed in suspected militant attack near Somalia border

NAIROBI

THREE teachers were killed near Kenya's border with Somalia in a suspected attack by al Shabaab militants early yesterday, police said, in what appeared to be the latest in a string of assaults by the group in Kenya since the New Year.

A child was also wounded by a stray bullet when the militants attacked Kamuthe primary school, in Garissa County, a police report seen by Reuters said. The militants also burned down a nearby police station and destroyed a telecommunications mast in that assault

the attack in the early hours of yesterday, the report said.

Al Shabaab has targeted Kenya in frequent attacks, part of a retaliation campaign against the country for sending troops into Somalia in 2011 after a series of cross-border raids and kidnappings.

But the group has stepped up the pace of its attacks in Kenya since the New Year.

Last week, four schoolchildren were killed following a gunfight between the Somali militant group and local police in Garissa. The attackers targeted a telecommunications mast in that assault

as well.

The United States bolstered its presence in Kenya last week after al Shabaab killed three Americans in an attack on a military base in the East African country used by US and Kenyan forces.

Al Qaeda-affiliated al Shabaab has waged an insurgency in Somalia since 2008, aiming to topple the government and impose its own strict interpretation of sharia, or Islamic law.

Last month, at least 90 people were killed in a bombing in Somalia's capital Mogadishu in the country's deadliest attack in more than two years.



Pelosi says Republicans will pay price for denying impeachment witnesses

WASHINGTON

U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said House Democrats will determine today when to send formal impeachment charges against President Donald Trump to the Senate and warned that Republicans will pay a political price for denying a trial with witnesses.

Pelosi (pictured), speaking on Sunday on ABC's "This Week" program, said her caucus at a regular meeting on Tuesday morning would vote on the timing of sending articles of impeachment to the Senate and naming trial managers in the House.

"I have always said I would send them over. So there shouldn't be any mystery to that," Pelosi said.

Pelosi has delayed delivery of the charges for weeks to compel Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell to agree to include new witness testimony and evidence about Trump's pressure on Ukraine to probe former Vice President Joe Biden, a leading Democrat running for the nomination to face Trump in the November election.

Her gambit appeared to fail as McConnell slammed the door on that idea last week, saying he had enough Republican votes to start the trial without a commitment to hear from additional witnesses, including former Trump national security adviser John Bolton.

Bolton has said he would be willing to testify if subpoenaed by the Senate.

Pelosi insisted her delay helped make American voters aware of the need for a "fair trial" with witness testimony and evidence. If McConnell continues to block such proceedings, Republicans would pay a political price.

"I think that he will be accountable to the American people for that," Pelosi said.

The Senate, where Trump's Republican party holds a majority, is widely expected to acquit Trump of the charges, as no Republicans have voiced support for ousting him, a step that would require a two-thirds majority.

Agencies

Wang Yi on why Chinese FMs begin a year of overseas visits in Africa for 3 decades

HARARE

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi said Sunday there are three reasons for Africa being the destination of all Chinese foreign ministers' first overseas visit each year over the past three decades.

Speaking at a press conference with Zimbabwe's Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade Sibusiso Moyo in Harare, Wang said the tradition is a unique practice in international diplomacy and China has been staying true to its original aspiration.

First of all, this is based on the special feelings of friendship from generation to generation and sharing weal and woe between China and Africa, Wang said.

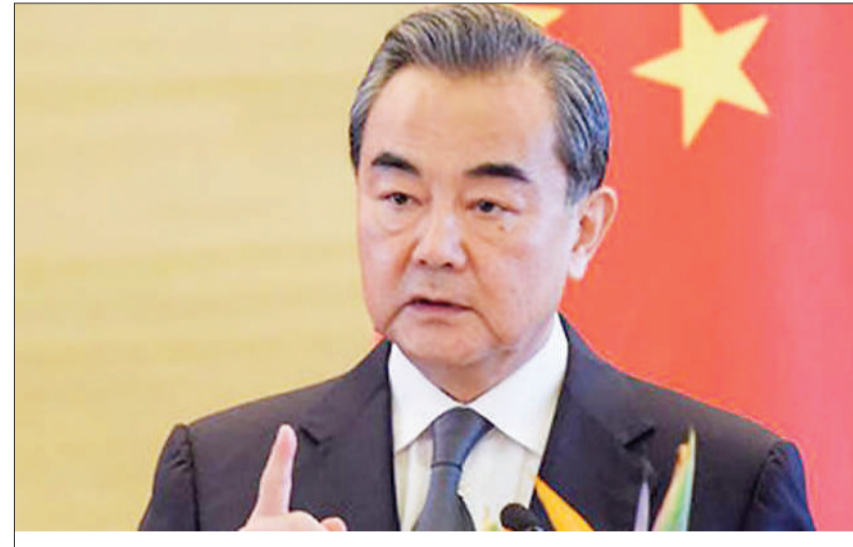
China-Africa friendship has a long history, the foreign minister noted. Especially in modern times, the two sides fought together for national independence and liberation, shared weal and woe, supported each other, formed a brotherly friendship, and became each other's trusted good friend, he said.

"In the period of development and construction, we joined together again and made progress hand in hand, and became good partners for mutual benefit and win-win progress," he said.

Wang said that for decades, no matter how the international circumstances have changed, the friendship between China and Africa has become even stronger, and the torch has been handed down on and on.

China-Africa relations have stood the test of time, eliminated disturbances, and become a model for international relations and South-South cooperation, he added.

Second, Wang said, the tradition is



Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi

based on the realistic needs of deepening cooperation and common development between China and Africa. China is the largest developing country, and Africa is the continent where most developing

countries are concentrated. "We are natural partners with complementary advantages and have unlimited cooperation space and potential," Wang said.

In recent years, the achievements of China-Africa cooperation include the establishment of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation, reaching consensus on building a community with a shared future, the joint construction of the Belt and Road, and China-Africa pilot projects for production capacity cooperation, all of which have brought ground-breaking influence on China-Africa relations, and helped bring China-Africa cooperation into a new era, he said.

China is full of confidence in the prospects of Africa's development and

the future of China-Africa cooperation, and will push China-Africa cooperation to the frontline of international cooperation with Africa.

The third reason, said Wang, is the important mission of strengthening international cooperation and safeguarding common interests between China and Africa.

The world is becoming less peaceful especially in recent years, as unilateralism and power politics have prevailed and the Cold War mentality has resurged, Wang noted, adding that developing countries, including African nations, have suffered greatly from this.

There is an urgent need to strengthen communication and coordination between China and Africa, demonstrate the power of solidarity and make a joint voice in order to safeguard the legitimate rights of the Chinese and African people to oppose external interference, pursue fairness and justice, and lead a better life.

Xinhua

Ireland's PM heads for poll with Brexit win in hand

BY BLOOMBERG

IRISH Prime Minister Leo Varadkar set the stage for a general election within weeks, gambling that a strong economy and his success toward shaping a Brexit deal will strengthen his hold on power.

Seeking to seize the political moment, Varadkar (pictured) said on Sunday he had decided on a date and would reveal it publicly after briefing colleagues. A vote is likely on Feb 7, the Sunday Times reported.

The son of an Indian immigrant father and an Irish nurse, Varadkar succeeded Enda Kenny as premier in 2017. On his watch, unemployment has continued to fall and the economy is among the European Union's strongest. A breakthrough with UK leader Boris Johnson helped clinch a deal



that will keep the Irish border invisible after Britain leaves the bloc -- and raised his profile.

For Varadkar, 40, it might be about cashing in his chips while he is on a high. "We have a deal on Brexit -- in many ways, that was the big job for this government," he said in an interview with broadcaster RTE in Dublin.

The UK is set to leave the bloc at the end of the month and begin talks on trade right after. Johnson wants that part concluded by the end of the year.

The EU's executive arm, the commission, is skeptical that can be achieved in 11 months. This delicate phase of talks will affect Ireland, which has strong commercial links with the UK across the sea.

The border between Ireland and Northern Ireland dogged the divorce talks between the UK and the EU for two years before Johnson agreed to keep Northern Ireland in the EU's customs union and large parts of its single market.

Momentum has recently built behind Varadkar, who will meet with Johnson in Belfast on Monday. On Saturday, Northern Ireland's power-sharing assembly reconvened, ending a three-year deadlock after a deal brokered by his government working in lockstep with UK administration.

Johnson and Varadkar will meet the

region's leaders, spearheaded by Arlene Foster, Northern Ireland's First Minister. Foster told the BBC on Monday she wants Johnson to explain how trade barriers will be avoided between the region and the rest of the UK after Brexit.

With Brexit and Northern Ireland dealt with, Irish opposition parties have increased pressure on Varadkar's minority administration, questioning its record on health and homelessness.

That's another reason to act fast. Polls suggest a tight race and the Greens could emerge as a deciding political force. Support for Varadkar's Fine Gael party and for Fianna Fail, the biggest opposition party, was level at around 27% each in the most recent survey.

Agencies

Australian prime minister's approval rating goes up in flames

MELBOURNE

PUBLIC support for Prime Minister Scott Morrison has slumped to its lowest levels amid widespread anger over his government's handling of Australia's bushfire crisis, according to a survey released by NewsPoll yesterday.

At least 28 people have been killed in the fires that have destroyed 2,000 homes, and razed 11.2 million hectares, nearly half the area of the United Kingdom

Morrison (pictured) has come under attack for being slow to respond to the crisis, even taking a family holiday to Hawaii while fires were burning. He acknowledged during a television interview on Sunday that he had made some mistakes.

"We have heard the message loud and clear from the Australian people," Treasurer Josh Frydenberg said on Monday, when asked about the poll result as he announced a A\$50 million (US\$34.56 million) wildlife protection fund.

"They want to see a Federal Government adopt a very direct response to these natural and national disasters," Frydenberg said.

The NewsPoll survey showed Morrison's approval rating dropped 8% since the last poll on Dec 8 to stand at 37%, scoring lower than opposition Labor leader Anthony Albanese.

It is Morrison's worst showing in the poll since he took over leadership of the ruling Liberal

Party in August 2018 when a backbench uprising ousted former prime minister Malcolm Turnbull.

No margin of error was provided for the poll, which surveyed 1,505 people from Wednesday to Saturday, although it was about 2.5% points in previous NewsPolls.

The poll was taken after Morrison announced a A\$2 billion bushfire recovery fund and called out 3,000 army reservists to back up state emergency workers - responses that were viewed as belated.

Morrison said on Sunday he would take a proposal to Cabinet to hold a Royal Commission national inquiry into the bushfires, including examining the re-



sponse to the crisis, the role and powers of the federal government and the impact of climate change.

After weeks of raging fires whipped up by erratic winds and temperatures over 40 degrees Celsius, conditions eased over the weekend with showers forecast for New South Wales (NSW), the worst hit state, over the next few days.

"If this BOM (Bureau of Mete-

orology) rainfall forecast comes to fruition then this will be all of our Christmas, birthday, engagement, anniversary, wedding and graduation presents rolled into one. Fingers crossed," the NSW Rural Fire Service said on Twitter.

Here are key events in the crisis:

-Australia's pristine 'AAA' sovereign rating is not at "immediate risk" from the fiscal and economic impact of bushfires raging across the country's east coast, S&P said on Monday.

-The Reserve Bank of Australia (RBA) said on Monday bushfire victims can submit damaged banknote claims to redeem their lost money.

-The Australian government

committed A\$50 million to an emergency wildlife recovery program on Monday, calling the bushfires crisis engulfing the country "an ecological disaster" that threatens several species, including koalas and rock wallabies.

-German engineering giant Siemens said it would fulfill its contract to provide signaling for a rail line to a controversial new coal mine being built by India's Adani Group in Australia's outback, drawing criticism from green groups on Monday.

-Frydenberg announced A\$50 million in funding on Monday for protecting wildlife and restoring damaged habitat, with a focus on threatened species, like koalas, with heartbreaking images of

rescues of burned animals having gone viral around the world.

-Since October, thousands of Australians have been subjected to repeat evacuations as huge and unpredictable fires scorched more than 11.2 million hectares, an area nearly half the size of the United Kingdom.

-Across New South Wales, 111 fires were still burning late on Sunday, 40 of them not yet contained, but none at emergency level.

-A number of fires burning in the Snowy Mountains region in New South Wales and into Victoria have merged across more than 600,000 hectares of land. They do not pose a threat, authorities say, despite being in an area hard to reach.

SPORT



Toronto Raptors forward Pascal Siakam, center, shoots over San Antonio Spurs' DeMar DeRozan during second half NBA basketball action in Toronto on Sunday Jan. 12, 2020. (AP)

DeRozan scores 25, Spurs rally from 18 down, beat Raptors

TORONTO

DeMAR DeRozan got another warm welcome in Toronto, and then helped San Antonio top the struggling Raptors.

DeRozan scored 25 points, Rudy Gay had 15 and the Spurs rallied from an 18-point deficit to beat Toronto 105-104 on Sunday.

"Being down what we was down and still being able to fight back and pull it out was big, especially on the road," DeRozan said.

San Antonio used a big fourth quarter to win for the third time in four games. Derrick White scored 13 points for the Spurs, and LaMarcus Aldridge had 11. DeRozan also collected eight rebounds and four assists while topping 20 points for the 11th straight game.

"He's been huge," White said of DeRozan. "Creating for us, scoring, doing just about everything. He made big plays down the stretch."

San Antonio trailed 82-69 to begin the fourth and fell behind 87-73 on a 3 by Matt Thomas with 10:14 left. The Spurs responded with a 17-0 run, taking an 88-87 lead on Aldridge's layup with 6:34 to play, then capping their spurt with a pair of free throws from DeRozan.

The Spurs led 100-91 with 2:37 left, but Kyle Lowry, Norman Powell and Serge Ibaka each made 3-pointers as Toronto tied it 100-100 on Ibaka's shot from distance with 1:17 left.

Siakam broke the tie by making the second of two free throws with 41 seconds left, but Marco Belinelli replied with a 3 for the Spurs, making it 103-101 with 28 seconds remaining.

After a Toronto timeout, Siakam missed a shot that would have tied the game. San Antonio's Lonnie Walker IV grabbed the rebound, Lowry fouled DeRozan, and the former Raptors star pushed the lead to four points by making a pair from the line.

Lowry replied with a deep 3, cutting the deficit to one, and Aldridge missed a pair of free throws with four seconds left. But Siakam's long 3-pointer bounced off the backboard at the buzzer.

DeRozan missed his first three free throws but made 11 straight the rest of the way. He didn't score until 1:25 remained in the first half and attempted just three shots in the first two quarters, but made six of nine attempts in the second half.

Playing in Toronto as a visitor for only the second time, DeRozan received loud applause when he was introduced before the game. Fans rose for a standing ovation when DeRozan was honored with a tribute video during a first-quarter timeout, part of Toronto's ongoing 25th anniversary celebrations.

"It's amazing to be able to get that much recognition," DeRozan said. "It never gets old."

When the Spurs visited Toronto last February, DeRozan turned the ball over in the final seconds, leading to a go-ahead dunk by Kawhi Leonard.

This time, there were no miscues in the final moments.

"I'm pretty sure it means a lot to him to come back here and get a win," said Spurs center Jakob Poeltl, DeRozan's teammate in Toronto and San Antonio. "Last year we were really close, we ended up losing a close game. This year it was a close game again and we ended up winning it."

Ibaka had 21 points and a season-high 15 rebounds for the Raptors, and Lowry finished with 16 points and a season-high 15 assists.

Toronto is 4-6 since a five-game winning streak ended with a loss at Indiana on Dec. 23. The Raptors blew a double-digit lead in the fourth quarter against Portland last Tuesday, and needed overtime to win at Charlotte the following night.

"Normally our fourth-quarter defense is great, but it wasn't tonight," Raptors coach Nick Nurse said.

San Antonio's comeback spoiled the returns of Siakam and Powell, each of whom had missed 11 games since a Dec. 18 win at Detroit. Powell scored 20 points and Siakam had 15, including 12 in the first.

"Obviously happy to be back," Siakam said. "Definitely a little tired but I'll take that after being out for a month."

While battling San Antonio's Bryn Forbes for a loose ball in the third, Lowry landed heavily on Toronto's baseline, just in front of where his family was seated. Lowry got up and gave his son a kiss on the cheek, then returned to the court.

Meanwhile, in New York, Kyrie Irving hadn't played in two months and all he did in his return was make 10 of 11 shots in the best shooting night of his career.

He knows it won't always be that easy. "I mean, I'm not going to shoot 10 for 11," he said with a laugh. "I hope I can shoot 10 for 11 every night."

The Brooklyn Nets will take whatever they can get after seeing how much a healthy Irving means to them.

The point guard scored 21 points in 20 minutes in his return from an injured right shoulder, leading the Nets to a 108-86 victory over the Atlanta Hawks on Sunday.

Irving made a career-best 90.9% of his shots after missing 26 games with an impingement. The shoulder looked fine and his handle looked as good as ever while he dribbled his way around a hopeless Atlanta defense.

Energized by his return that still seemed a ways away just a week ago, the Nets led by 39 points and won their second straight after dropping seven in a row.

"We had a certain confidence about us tonight that I think we were missing during that streak," Nets coach Kenny Atkinson said. "So great, great timing having him back."

Cam Reddish scored 20 points for the Hawks, who played without star guard Trae Young because of a left hamstring injury and lost their fourth straight.

The Nets made it such an easy night that their fans didn't need to worry about the scoreboard as they roared for Vince Carter's two 3-pointers in the fourth quarter. The 42-year-old former Nets star finished with eight points in his final road appearance against the franchise.

"Obviously to come back here, and some of the other stops I've played for, and just kind of to receive a standing O for one last time is just great," Carter said.

Irving began feeling pain in his shoulder early in the season, and he took himself out of the lineup after a game in Denver on Nov. 14. The Nets held up well without him for a while thanks mostly to Spencer Dinwiddie's strong play, but had faltered recently, especially in crunch time.

Irving got a cortisone shot on Dec. 24 and returned to full practice this week, just in time to return on his sister's birthday.

"It's not really a surprise for me," Irving said of his performance. "I put in the work and when I do that I feel like the results will come."

AP

Time to deliver

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

THROUGHOUT the eventful history of Africa's participation at illustrious sporting championships such as the Commonwealth Games and 'the mother of them all' the Olympic Games, a predictable pattern has arguably emerged regarding the kinds of sports in which countries from the continent are most likely to produce the goods or to spell it out more clearly to win a medal or two.

Indeed, if one were to meticulously trawl through the history books, one would most surely find that for a really hefty chunk of the 20th century, leading lights in sports from the continent chiefly claimed medals in athletics, boxing and football.

It is crucial to note at this critical juncture that some of the world's greatest-ever athletics immortals are Africans who bowled over spectators across the globe with the irresistible brilliance of their spectacular medal-winning feats.

For instance, who could forget the praiseworthy labors of legendary African athletes such as Kipchoge 'Kip' Keino, Filbert Bayi and the Ethiopian Haile Gebreselassie, who during his heyday was almost constantly blessed with a beaming visage.

Likewise, in the pantheon of African medal-winning heroes and heroines at the Olympics, the likes of the fiercely indomitable Lions of Cameroon and the ever-ascendant Flying Eagles of Nigeria occupy pride of place after both outfits claimed the gold medal for football at the Sydney



Bluefins' swimmer Husain Hassanali in action at the Taliss Championships that took place in Dar es Salaam earlier last year. He was part of the Bluefins' team which participated at the Isamilo Gala, which took place in Mwanza the same year. PHOTO: COURTESY OF BLUEFINS CLUB

2000 Olympics and the 1996 Atlanta Games respectively.

That very last point helps me to segue nicely to the real thrust of this commentary which shall take a stab at trying to address why African sportsmen have so repeatedly failed to excel in other sports at the Olympics besides, that is, athletics, boxing and football.

For the purposes of this commentary, this writer has selected swimming, table-tennis, and basketball so as to prove the point hitherto expressed.

Let us thus begin delving into the matter at hand by pondering about swimming. For longtime observers of the Olympic Games, the annals of sporting history will indisputably reveal that only

an utterly meager two African countries have consistently produced sublime displays in swimming at the Olympic Games and Commonwealth Games.

These nations are Zimbabwe and Post-apartheid South Africa. In the not-too-distant heady days when the Zimbabwean swimmer Kirsty Coventry was at the peak of her supreme powers, she picked up many a medal in various swimming events at the Commonwealth Games and the Olympics. Sadly though, Coventry's moment in the sun has passed.

As for South Africa, the world has been treated to the truly quintessential medal-winning exploits of South African swimmers' par excellence like Roland Schoeman

and Chad Le Clos among others at sporting events of global prominence ever since the once indestructible walls of Apartheid came crumbling down.

However, the million-dollar question which looms large over this issue is: beyond Zimbabwe and South Africa, why have other African nations so conspicuously failed to make their mark on the grand Olympics stage in swimming?

And, furthermore, why has the African Swimming Confederation (CANA) failed to ensure that other African nations also catch the eye at the Olympics?

Similarly, in the sport of basketball whose popularity has continued to expand globally at such a breathtakingly quickening pace, it is vital to note that no African country has won a medal of any variety at the Olympics to date.

Granted, these days, it has become almost customary to see African players starring in the big-money, most prominent global basketball leagues such as the European League and of course, the NBA.

Nevertheless, despite that, the glaring fact remains that the body charged with overseeing continental basketball, FIBA Africa, has not been able to see to it that African nations can pick up medals at the Olympics.

Thus, in this writer's book, non-performing sports bodies like CANA and FIBA Africa deserve to be put on high notice that their mediocrity at enormously esteemed sporting championships will no longer be tolerated.

DTB-Tanzania hoops team qualifies for RBA League 2020 season

By Guardian Correspondent

DIAMOND Trust Bank (DTB) Tanzania Limited men's basketball team yesterday qualified for the Dar es Salaam Regional Basketball League (RBA) 2020 season, making the bank the only financial institution in the country with both basketball and football teams in the elite competitions in the sports disciplines.

DTB-Tanzania men's basketball team, which is made up of the bank's employees, registered for Dar es Salaam Regional Basketball Association's Division I competition, commonly referred to as League One, in the 2019/2020 season.

League One consisted of 14 teams playing each other once during the season which began in September, 2019 and ended on Sunday.

The 14 teams, which featured in League One, were Polisi, DTB-Tanzania, Outsiders, Srello, External Heroes, Don Bosco Oysterbay, Ukonga, Changombe, Mbagala, Landforce, Kurasini I, Yellow Jackets, Kigamboni and Bahari Beach.

Polisi, Outsiders and DTB-Tanzania are the top three teams that have qualified for the Dar es Salaam Regional Basketball Association League - RBA.

The DTB-Tanzania CEO and Country Manager, Viju Cherian, speaking to the press yesterday, said: "We are more than proud as an institution to qualify for the Dar es Salaam Regional Basketball league -RBA in the first season of registration."

"Sports discipline is a trait that we highly embrace within our core pillars. We believe that a physically fit employee is not only efficient in their work, but also poised to live a disciplined lifestyle."

"We will continue to support sports and other extra-curricular activities within



Members of the DTB men's basketball team in a group picture prior to playing a recent match in the Dar es Salaam's Region Basketball Association's League One. The players are (L-R) Abdulkadir Seif, Athumani Manganje, Leonard Benedict, Frank Mwamezi, Acram Abdulmajid, Boaz Nsagalufu, Kanyota Saidi and Justin Laban Magugi. The team has qualified for the 2020 Dar es Salaam Regional Basketball Association League (RBA). PHOTO COURTESY OF DTB-TANZANIA

the bank as we foster a healthy employee work-life balance".

DTB-Tanzania basketball team qualified for the Dar es Salaam Regional Basketball Association League, clinching the third position in the 14-team League One.

The squad had played 13 games, winning 10 and losing three. DTB-Tanzania team collected 23 points.

DTB-Tanzania football team is also taking part in the Second Division League (SDL)'s 2019/20 season after featuring in

the regional division IV league in 2019, representing Kinondoni District Football Association (KIFA).

DTB-Tanzania has a network of 28 branches in Tanzania, 13 branches in Dar es Salaam (CBD).

They include Kariakoo, Magomeni, Dar es Salaam Main, Masaki, Mbagala, Mbezi, Mbezi Chini, Mlimani, Morocco, Nyerere, Uhuru and Upanga.

There are 15 regional branches that include two branches in Arusha and

Mwanza and one branch each at Dodoma, Iringa, Kahama, Mbeya, Morogoro, Moshi, Mtwara, Tabora, Tanga, Zanzibar and Singida.

DTB Tanzania is part of the Diamond Trust Bank group, a pan East African Bank with over 130 branches across Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, & Burundi.

The Bank is an affiliate of the Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development (AKFED), the economic development arm of the Aga Khan Development Network



Tanzania International Container Terminal Services (TICTS) Development Director, Donald Talawa (C), dribbles the ball at a special bonanza organized by TICTS and took place at Gymkhana Club venue in Dar es Salaam last weekend. The event, which involves the institution's workers with a view to upholding healthy lifestyle, is hosted at the venue every year. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

Champions-elect Liverpool in a hurry to end 30 years of hurt

LONDON

A 30-year wait to win a top flight title has been too long for Liverpool and Jurgen Klopp's men are in a rush to end that drought as soon as possible with the best ever start to a season in Europe's top five leagues.

Saturday's 1-0 win at Spurs in a rematch of last season's Champions League final was the Reds' 20th in 21 Premier League games this season with a 1-1 draw at Manchester United in October their only stumble.

That stunning run is even more impressive when extended over the past year.

A 2-1 defeat to Manchester City on January 3 2019 -- that ultimately cost them the title despite amassing 97 points -- was the last time Liverpool lost in the league.

Since then they have collected 104 points with 33 wins and five draws, whilst also winning the Champions League, UEFA Super Cup and Club World Cup.

"The problem is you don't get anything for best starts apart from numbers," insisted Klopp. "The only thing we are interested in is what we can get in the summer."

At Liverpool's current pace, spring will barely have sprung by the time the title is wrapped up.

They enjoy a 16-point lead over second-placed Leicester and have a game in hand, although City can cut the gap to 14 should they win at Aston Villa later on Sunday.

"It is not done yet because this league is so strong, because we face so many strong opponents," added Klopp.

"The moment when we have enough points that nobody can catch us anymore, then we start talking about it."

However, it seems a matter of when, not if, he adds the Premier League to two Bundesliga crowns won at Borussia Dortmund.

And the quality of opposition Klopp is wary of only strengthens his side's claim to be among the best in the history of English football.

The Premier League provided all four finalists for the Champions and Europa League last season and all seven English sides in European competition have made the knockout stages once again.

City rewrote the record books with their 100-point season in 2017/18, but Liverpool are on track to better even many of those landmarks.

"When Klopp came in it was end-to-end and exciting, they were an exciting team to watch, but now they are the best team to watch," former Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher told Sky Sports.

"We knew he was a top manager but I didn't think this development of the team over several years was possible. To get to this stage, they are the best team in the world."

After so many years when ending the three-decade wait for the title consumed Liverpool, now it may not even be the limit of their ambitions.

They have reached the Champions League final for the past two seasons and are the side to beat when the competition returns next month.

Even when Klopp fielded a youthful side with only one first-team regular for a Merseyside derby against Everton in the FA Cup last weekend, his kids came good in a 1-0 win.

The German will back his reserves to take care of Bristol City or Shrewsbury in the next round and the closer they get to Wembley, another shot at history may tempt Klopp into fielding a stronger side.

City completed English football's first ever domestic treble last season, but only Alex Ferguson's vintage Manchester United side of 1998/99 have claimed the Premier League, Champions League and FA Cup in the same season.

Match that achievement and the case for this Liverpool campaign to be the best English football has seen will be unarguable.

AFP

Valverde red card won Supercopa for Real - Simeone

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia

DIEGO Simeone said Federico Valverde's last-man challenge on Alvaro Morata won Real Madrid Sunday's Spanish Supercopa as Atletico Madrid were beaten by their local rivals on penalties in Saudi Arabia.

Valverde took Morata in the final stages of extra time when the Atletico striker was racing clean through on goal. The Uruguayan midfielder was sent off and Kieran Trippier sent the resulting free kick into the wall as the game ended goalless after 120 minutes.

Saul Niguez and Thomas Partey missed their penalties to set up Sergio Ramos to score the winning spot kick as Madrid won the Supercopa for the 11th time in history.

"It was the most important moment of the game," Simeone said in his postmatch news conference. "I told him [when he was sent off] that anyone would have done the same in his place."

Valverde, 21, had an otherwise exceptional night as Zinedine Zidane made it 10 trophies as Madrid boss, including nine wins in nine cup finals. His performance earned him the Man of the Match award.

"I think it makes sense to give him the award because he won the game with that challenge," Simeone added.

Despite the support from the Atletico boss, though, Valverde said he felt bad about the nature of his challenge, even if it helped Madrid win the game.

"I've apologised to Morata," Valverde said in a news conference.

"It's not good to do what I did, but I didn't have any other option. I'm happy to win the trophy, but I'm still feeling bad about that."

Madrid coach Zidane said: "At the end of the day, he did what he had to do. It's a bad foul, but he had to make it at that moment. He did well. What's important is that he's apologised to Morata because they know each other well."

This was the first trophy Madrid have won since Zidane returned to the club last March. Nine of them have come in cup competitions -- the other being a La Liga title -- and the French coach has never lost a final across his two spells in charge at the Santiago Bernabeu.

"I don't know, it's just this club," he said when asked for the secret to the success. "We always want to win, although this one wasn't easy. We had to have patience."

"At half-time, we were a little annoyed because we didn't know how we could score. We were up against a good team. You have to believe until the end and that's what we've done."

In previous years, neither Madrid nor Atletico would have been in the Supercopa, but a revamped format and an expansion to four teams meant they were both invited to the competition in Saudi Arabia, where it will also be played in 2021 and 2022 as part of a three-year deal worth €120 million.

Copa del Rey winners Valencia lost to Madrid in the first semifinal, with Atletico setting up an all-Madrid final by beating La Liga champions Barcelona in the other.

(Agencies)

Real beat Atletico on penalties to win 11th Spanish Super Cup

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia

THIBAUT Courtois proved the hero on Sunday as Real Madrid beat city rivals Atletico Madrid in a penalty shoot-out in Saudi Arabia to win their 11th Spanish Super Cup.

Courtois and Jan Oblak were both imperious during a goalless final in Jeddah but the Belgian came up trumps, saving Thomas Partey's penalty after Saul Niguez had already hit the post.

Sergio Ramos tucked away the winning spot-kick to ensure Real Madrid clinched their first trophy of the season, with La Liga and the Champions League next in their sights.

"I went through their takers on the bench," said Courtois. "Saul's surprised me but Thomas' I read, and he's got a very hard shot."

Atletico might have won it in extra-time when Alvaro Morata went through one-on-one but Real's Federico Valverde took a red card in exchange for cynically fouling the striker from behind.

"It was something you shouldn't do and I apologised to Alvaro but it was the only option I had left," said Valverde.

"It was the most important moment of the match," added Atletico coach Diego Simeone.

"If he had gone through it was a goal but I told him that anyone would have done the same in his position."

Victory maintains Zinedine Zidane's spotless record as a coach in finals.

He has now led Madrid to success three times in the Champions League, and two each in the Club World Cup, UEFA Super Cup and now Spanish Super Cup.

"I have won many things as a player and now as a coach," said Zidane. "But I congratulate the players. You can achieve anything if you work hard enough."

- Venue controversy -

The focus before the tournament was more on the decision of the Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) to move this year's Super Cup -- a four-team competition rather than a straight final -- away from Spain and to Saudi Arabia, despite the country's long-criticised treatment of women and record on human rights.

Before the final, RFEF president Luis Rubiales said he was "very happy" with how the format had



Spanish Super Cup: Real Madrid beat Atletico in penalty shootout to clinch title. (Agencies)

panned out. "We have to improve things because it is a country that has just started organising these sorts of events," he added. For all the controversy off the pitch, on the pitch, the tournament has delivered.

Real Madrid played brilliantly to beat Valencia on Wednesday while a pulsating 3-2 win for Atletico on Thursday has put Barcelona coach Ernesto Valverde on the brink of the sack.

And although the final lacked goals and quality finishing, there was drama until the end and joy on the faces of Real Madrid's players as Ramos hoisted another trophy under the fireworks.

Ramos had been guilty of sloppiness early on and Atletico should have capitalised.

The defender played a pass straight to Joao Felix on the edge of the area but Fe-

lix dragged wide and then Ferland Mendy gave the ball away, only for Morata to look for contact from Courtois and a penalty when there was neither.

- Courtois saves the day -

Both teams had good chances to win it late on, with Luka Jovic's deflected cross finding Valverde free five yards out but the midfielder's header hit his own knee before drifting harmlessly over.

Then Atletico might have nicked it as Kieran Trippier clipped an excellent pass over the top for Morata, who opted for accuracy rather than power and Courtois was able to push away.

Into extra-time and, with 105 minutes on the clock, Courtois did well to flash out a leg and block Morata's acrobatic effort while Oblak twice denied Real, first a curling shot from Luka Modric and then a

follow-up from Mariano Diaz.

Yet the most dramatic moment was still to come as Saul sent Morata clean through, with only Courtois to beat, before the chasing Valverde scythed him down from behind.

The red card was inevitable but Atletico only had a free-kick and, for four minutes, a one-man advantage. Trippier hit the free-kick into the wall and Real held on for penalties.

Carvajal found the corner but Saul struck the post, despite sending Courtois the wrong way. Rodrygo coolly put Real two ahead and Thomas missed, this time Courtois diving right and palming clear.

Modric swept into the corner before Trippier did the same. It was left to Ramos to hit the winning shot.

AFP

'Legend' Aguero makes history as Man City hit Villa for six

BIRMINGHAM, United Kingdom

PEP Guardiola said Sergio Aguero's legendary status had grown again after becoming the Premier League's top scoring foreign player with a hat-trick as Manchester City thrashed Aston Villa 6-1 on Sunday.

It may be too late to salvage City's defence of the Premier League title as they remain 14 points behind runaway leaders Liverpool, who also have a game in hand, but led by Aguero the champions moved ahead of Leicester into second to show they will not give up the chase.

Aguero eclipsed Thierry Henry's record as the top scoring non-English player in the Premier League by taking his tally to 177 goals and also surpassed Alan Shearer's league record for hat-tricks with his 12th since joining City from Atletico Madrid in 2011.

"He was a legend and the legend rises tonight," said Guardiola. "He is one of the most incredible players I've seen in this league."

"To score this amount of goals and hat-tricks means you have done for many, many years a lot of good things."

"You have to be consistent for many years so it's an incredible compliment to him."

Guardiola could afford the luxury of recalling Aguero among six changes to the side that also outclassed Manchester United in midweek to put one foot in the League Cup final.

Villa could be their opponents at Wembley on March 1 as they held Leicester 1-1 in the first leg of their semi-final on Wednesday, but on this evidence they would be powerless to stop City lifting the trophy for a third straight season.

The injury-hit hosts were without a recognised striker and first-choice goalkeeper after Wesley and Tom Heaton were ruled out for the rest of the season.

Former Spanish international 'keeper Pepe Reina was in the stands ahead of his loan move from AC Milan being completed and will be needed if Villa are to beat the drop after conceding 13 goals in their last four home games.

"It was a chastening experience," said Smith. "We are embarrassed by some of the goals we conceded today. 'We've come up against a top class team with a top class manager and got found out.'"

- Mahrez on the mark -

Orjan Nyland was beaten at his near post as Riyad Mahrez was allowed to cut onto his favoured left foot to open the floodgates on 18 minutes. The Algerian's old Leicester teammate Danny Drinkwater was making his Villa debut after troubled spells at Chelsea and Burnley since leaving the Foxes.

His lack of match practice was exposed for City's second as Drinkwater was caught in possession inside his own box by Gabriel Jesus and the ball broke kindly for Mahrez to drill home his ninth goal of the season.

Aguero then thumped home a third, although Nyland could have got a stronger hand to the Argentine's effort.

All that was missing from a complete City per-



177 not out: Sergio Aguero surpassed Thierry Henry's record as the top scoring foreign player in Premier League history (AFP Photo)

formance was a moment of inspiration from Kevin De Bruyne and the Belgian duly delivered with a wonderful curling cross to set the fourth on a plate for Jesus in first-half stoppage time.

City did not let up after the break and could have made it many more than six as David Silva picked out Aguero to calmly slot home his record-breaking

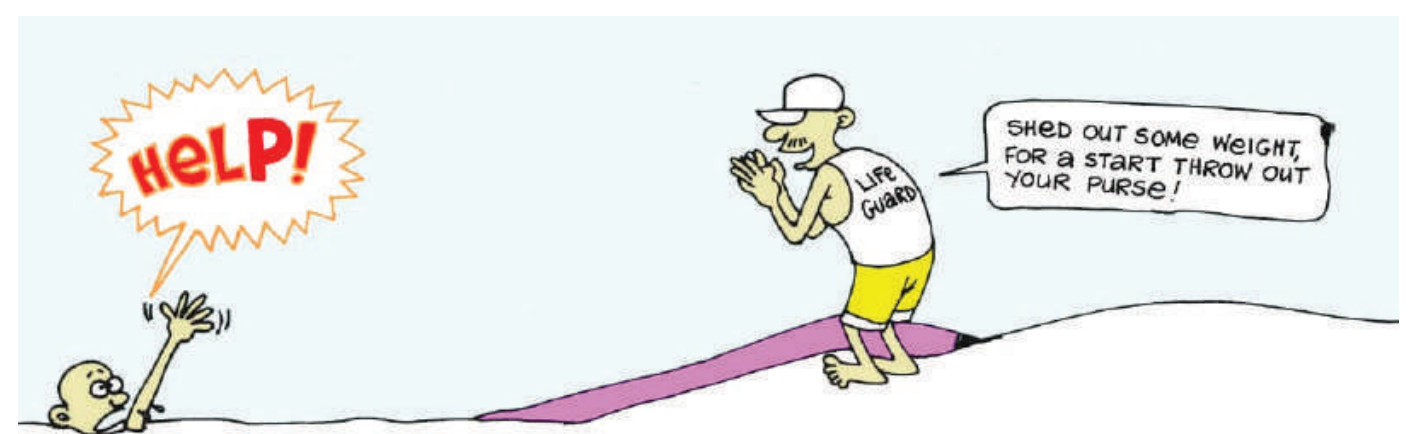
goal. The Argentine's hat-trick arrived eight minutes from time as he demonstrated his array of finishes by this time blasting his past the helpless Nyland.

"I'm so happy for the record. It is thanks to my teammates, they help me in these nine years," said Aguero.

"When I scored the second, I thought one more (and) I break the hat-trick

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Real beat Atletico on penalties to win 11th Spanish Super Cup

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



National U-17 women football team's player, Protasia Mbunda (R), gets the better of Burundi U-17 women team's player, Annonciatte Nshimirimana, when the squads clashed in the U-17 World Cup qualifier's first leg, which took place at National Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO:CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Chinese Cultural Center hosts Chinese New Year celebration

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE 2020 Chinese Year of the Rat, which will fall on January 25, was celebrated at Chinese Cultural Center in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

The event was filled with cultural performances which left people glued to their seats at the Chinese Cultural Center's auditorium.

Speaking at the opening of the performances, Wang Siping, the Chinese Cultural Center's Counselor, said the event should be used to strengthen the relationship that exists between Tanzania and China.

He said his country is committed to ensuring that the historical bilateral relationship between Tanzania and China benefits both countries as evidenced by numerous development projects that his country has financed as either grants or loans.

The counselor also said he was happy with the high number of people who attended the event and described it as a clear sign that the Chinese Cultural Center in the country is loved by many people.

"I'm very happy to see many smiling faces here, China is committed to ensuring that our historical relationship with Tanzania is growing from strength to strength for the benefit of people of the two countries," he said.

The guest of honour at the event, Abdulhaman Shimbo, on his remarks, thanked the Chinese government for the cultural exchange programs in which the event fitted quite well.

Shimbo, who is also the former Tanzania's Ambassador to China, asked for continued cultural relationship between the two countries, saying they are important as they promote people to people relationships.

"I was in China for four years serving as Tanzania's Ambassador to the country, I know how strong is the relationships between our two countries," Shimbo noted.

"It's my prayer that it goes from strength to strength, the good thing with cultural relationships is that it encourages relationships of people to people."

Chairman for China Alumni Association of Tanzania (CAAT) Liggy Vumilia hailed the strong relationship that exists between the two countries, saying it has benefited people of China and Tanzania.

Although it was predominantly a Chinese cultural event, the performances on the day were done by Tanzania and Chinese artists who were dressed in glittering Chinese dresses.

The stage was opened by Han-Style Clothing Dance, the artists danced to Chinese music as they skillfully waved in unison.

The performers were, as per the Chinese tradition, welcoming the New Year with smiles and joy.

Then came Singing Solo, in which a Chinese woman and a Tanzanian man sang the popular 'Malaika' song.

According to the artistes, music is a kind of magic, it can express emotions that words cannot express.

Shaolin was also performed. This performance was inspired by the 1982 popular movie Shaolin Temple.

Other performances were martial arts, poem recitation, traditional Chinese opera, Drunk Beauty and Classical Solo Dance known as hope for spring.



Athletes compete in a past Kilimanjaro Marathon in Moshi.

Kili Marathon 2020 registration's early discounting ends today

By Guardian Reporter

WITH only one and half months left to the prestigious Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon, organizers of the event have reminded participants that the early discounting period for registration ends today.

A statement issued by the race's organizer said registration is going on online and through TigoPesa hence participants should continue registering before midnight today to enjoy the 20 per cent discount.

According to the statement, participants can register either through www.kilimanjaromathon.com or through TigoPesa by dialing *149*20#.

For Tanzanians and East African citizens, they have been paying 15,000/- for 42 km and 21 km and 5000/- between October 1, 2019 and January 14, 2020 and from January 15, 2020 to February 16, 2020 they will pay 20,000/- for 42km and 21 km and 5000/- for 5km.

In the statement, the local race Director, John Bayo, advised that numbers will be limited again across all three events, Kilimanjaro Premium Lager 42km, Tigo 21km, and Grand Malt 5km Fun Run, to ensure the event sticks within the Official IAAF regulations of a safe carrying capacity.

This, according to Bayo, will ensure runners enjoy their time out on route without being overcrowded.

Organizers can also ensure they get all logistics in terms of the hydration and

medical support needed on route and at the finish in line with the numbers expected.

For Tanzanian residents/permit holders and SADC members they will pay USD 35 for 42km and 21km races and 5 USD for 5km Fun Run from October 1 2019 to January 14, 2020 but, as from January 15, 2020 to February 16, 2020, they will pay to USD 45 for 42km and 21km races and USD 5 for 5km Fun Run.

International runners will pay USD 70 for 42km and 21km and USD 5 for 5km from October 1 2019 to January 14, 2020 and from January 15, 2020 to February 16, 2020 they will pay USD 85 for 42km and 21km and USD 5 for 5km.

According to the organizers, entries will close at midnight on February 16, 2020 or earlier, if capacity is reached.

They also reminded runners to ensure they fetch their race numbers in advance of the event, at one of the collection points that will again be hosted in Dar es Salaam, Arusha and Kilimanjaro.

In Dar es Salaam, the exercise has been slated for 22-23, the procedure will later move to Arusha at Kibo Palace Hotel on February 25 and 26 between 14:00 and 20:00 and there will be registration for fun run on a cash only basis.

In Moshi, race number collection will take place at Keys Hotel on February 27 (10:00 - 17:00) and February 28 (10:00 - 20:00).

"Proof of identity and confirmation of paid entries need to be brought to these

points when collecting your race numbers," read the statement in part.

The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Brand Manager, Pamela Kikuli, said the response is overwhelming and there are all indications that the event will be big.

She called on Tanzanians to continue training intensively for the race in order to win most of the prizes.

The Tigo Corporate Communications Manager, Woinde Shisael, said most Tanzanians now understand how to register via Tigo Pesa. The approach, according to her, has made the registration exercise easy as compared to previous years when there was a lot of paper work involved.

Kilimanjaro Premium Lager brand is the main sponsor of the marathon and has held that position since the inception of the marathon 18 years ago.

Official sponsors for next year's event include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager, TIGO, Grand Malt, Kilimanjaro Water, TPC Limited, Simba Cement and Barclays Bank, while

The race's official suppliers are Kibo Palace Hotel, Keys Hotel, GardaWorld Security, Precision Air and CMC Automobiles.

The race will be held at the Moshi Cooperatives University in Kilimanjaro on March 1 and will play host to the IAAF route measured 42km, a 21km and a 5km Fun Run.

The event is organized by Wild Frontiers and locally coordinated by Executive Solutions Limited.

Company urges Tanzanians to value quality sports equipment

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

DAR ES SALAAM-based firm, GSM Group, has said there is a need for Tanzania's athletes to, among others, use quality sports equipment if the country is to enjoy progress in sports industry.

Martina Nkurulu, the firm's Marketing and Communication Manager, issued the comments at a function for opening the ANTA Store in Dar es Salaam last week.

The store will be selling high quality sports equipment for the country's sportsmen and women.

The shop is situated at Mlimani City and the function was attended by numerous sports stakeholders including prominent former football players, Zamoyoni Mogella and Ally Mayay, and professional boxer Mfaume Mfaume.

"GSM Group we are very delighted to inform our athletes that we have opened a sports equipment's shop which will be known as ANTA Store," Nkurulu disclosed.

"We appreciate the importance of high quality sports equipment and we know that for our athletes to perform well they need good sports equipment sold at reasonable price," he said.

Nkurulu said they invited the two former players as one way of appreciating their contributions to sports development in the country.

"We have invited our legends Mogella and Mayay, the aim is to value and appreciate their contribution to the development of sports in the country," he disclosed.

"ANTA Store will not be only selling football equipment but all sporting gears," he said.

Mogella, who once turned out for domestic rivals, Simba and Yanga, on his remarks, hailed GSM Group for setting up the shop which, according to him, will help athletes access high quality sports equipment locally.

Mayay said asked sports lovers in the country to make use of the shop to improve the industry locally.

ANTA was launched in China in 1994 and GSM Group are the only local suppliers of the ANTA sports equipment.

Philippine's boxer Manny Pacquiao and USA's Golden State Warriors basketball side's player Klay Thompson are some of the top athletes who work with ANTA.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



GSM Group we are very delighted to inform our athletes that we have opened a sports equipment's shop which will be known as ANTA Store

TONIGHT @21:00

NIRVANA is hip and edgy. It explores the latest trends in fashion, art, style and recreational activities. **NIRVANA** speaks to the trend makers, shapers and observers. It's a one stop shop for everything trendy.

eastafrica RADIO

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise