



**National Pg 3**  
Climate change hampers grapes farmers



**National Pg 5**  
Management of post harvest losses



**National Pg 6**  
Dr Shein launches passenger lounge



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# Presidential election: Six parties face cash crunch

By Guardian Reporters

SIX opposition presidential candidates face a dilemma of whether to pursue their bids for the October 28 general election due to intense financial hurdles.

With a solid month remaining ahead of polling day, candidates said the campaign trail is thorny and potholed, disabling them to reach voters in all 26 regions countrywide.

The National Electoral Commission (NEC) set August 16 for political parties start campaigning for the presidency along with parliamentary and councillorship seats, up to October 27.

In separate interviews, the candidates said that as of yesterday they have only been able to cover a few regions in the Mainland and Zanzibar.

United People's Democratic Party (UPDP) candidate Twalib Kadege said: "We have so far completed the first 30 days of campaigning. I am not sure of being able to conduct campaign rallies in all the regions. These activities require a lot of funds, but our party doesn't receive government subsidy. It is only members' contributions that keep it going."

He also castigated inciting statements given by some presidential candidates saying such



CCM presidential candidate Dr John Magufuli addresses a campaign rally at Samora Stadium in Iringa yesterday. Photo: State House



## EALA launches delayed five-year strategic plan

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE East African Legislative Assembly has launched a five year strategic plan set to run from this financial year to 2024/2025.

EALA Speaker Ngoga Martin (pictured) said yesterday that the just launched document is the regional assembly's third strategic plan, projecting its activities from 2019 to 2024, meant to guide EALA operations under ten

broad thematic areas.

"This is a significant milestone to be proud of and on behalf of the Commission, the broad membership and Secretariat, I take great pleasure in introducing the new strategic plan," he stated.

"As with all healthy organizations, a periodic assessment of where you are and where you want to be is a prudent investment, taking into consideration that the EAC region and its people are developing quite rapidly. It is very clear that many of the assumptions and projections made five years ago have already changed."

The EALA Speaker reminded that the strategy was prepared in cognisance of the fact that institutional responses require setting and sticking to clearly defined priorities in areas likely to have the greatest impact to the people of East Africa.

The EALA Strategic Plan 2019-2024 was

## JPM touts regional clusters, job-expanding technologies

By Henry Mwangonde, Iringa

CCM presidential candidate, Dr John Magufuli, yesterday said if elected his government will in the next five years emphasize on creation of labour intensive industries which will generate jobs to more Tanzanians.

Addressing voters at Samora Stadium here, Dr Magufuli said to implement this, his government will establish industrial clusters in regions across the country which will facilitate the promotion of Tanzania's industrial agenda.

Dr Magufuli said this was the reason for the emphasis to have a strong source of income, where he has already launched the construction of the Julius Nyerere hydropower dam which upon completion will end the

**Iringa is strategically located, as this is where we have the main corridor to Southern Africa**

country's electricity woes and feed industries. "The aim of doing this is to reduce electricity prices so that our industries can grow, and thus create jobs for our people," he said.

The incumbent president who started his third round of campaigns after a short break said in the last five years the government has been implementing various infrastructure projects including the expansion of ports. About 1.5trn/- has been used for the purpose and upon completion the ports will ease transportation of goods from local industries to international markets, he said.

Government policies helped to create six million jobs in the last five years, with the current plan seeking to reach eight million

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## TCRA: Ihsaan FM must pay 5m/- for offensive content

By Getrude Mbagu

THE Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) has slapped Tanga-based Ihsaan FM radio with a 5m/- fine for violating broadcasting regulations.

The decision was reached by the content committee over what was aired by the radio station, which it considered to have violated pertinent provisions in stipulated regulations.

Presenting the ruling to reporters yesterday in Dar es Salaam, TCRA content committee vice chairman Joseph Mapunda (pictured)



said the content aired violated the Electronic Communications and Postal Code of 2018.

He said on September 9 between 21hrs and 23hrs, Ihsaan FM through its programme "Al Jawaabukl Kaaf," aired content which carried insults and abusive words.

"In the programme the radio invited a sheikh who was speaking insulting words with the broadcasters responding positively to the words. This is contrary to provisions in our regulations," he said.

Apart from the fine, TCRA also issued a stern warning to the radio, directing it to use its news programme to apologize to the public for three consecutive days.

"On Wednesday September 30, the radio should apologize to the public through the whole two-hour of its 'Al Jawaabukl Kaaf' programme," he said, urging media outlets to

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## Presidential election: Six parties face cash crunch

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conducts may make the opposition lose some votes. The parties need to concentrate on promoting their party's election manifestos, he urged.

Cecilia Mwangi, the flag bearer for Demokrasia Makini said that as of Monday she was able to cover only two regions, but has plans to reach eight regions.

Alliance for Democratic Change (ADC) candidate, Queen Sendiga, said: "I have been able to cover eight regions in 30 days, five in Zanzibar and three on the Mainland."

Sendiga stated that her party has decided to come up with a new campaign system where she would be following people in their own areas instead of convening campaign rallies.

Democratic Party (DP) candidate Philip Fumbo said that his plans are to reach voters in all regions, noting that financial constraints led to his being able to cover only eight regions.

Fumbo urged fellow aspirants to avoid making inciting statements during campaign rallies and instead conduct reverential campaigns.

Alliance for African Farmers Party (AAFP) candidate, Seif Maalim Seif,

said he has reached 15 regions in his campaigns, and targets to cover all regions within the remaining period.

Seif underscored the need for presidential aspirants to employ new campaign techniques by avoiding to conduct rallies.

He said it is costly to organize campaign rallies, proposing the use of new styles to reach voters in their areas.

Leopold Mahona, the National Reconstruction for Alliance (NRA) flag bearer, said that he has covered 13 regions and was hopeful to cover all the others.

He was planning to start using a helicopter to cover the remaining regions, as this would enable him to appear in several rapid rallies per day, he stated.

A total of 29m voters are registered for this year's election, from 23m five years ago, official NEC data indicates.

*"I have been able to cover eight regions in 30 days, five in Zanzibar and three on the Mainland."*



Zanzibar presidential candidate for ADA-TADEA Juma Ali Khatib (L) launches the party's campaign rally at Magaeni Sogea ground in Zanzibar yesterday. Right is his running mate Hassan Kijogoo. Photo: Correspondent Rahma Suleiman

## EALA launches delayed five-year strategic plan

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developed along with impactful priorities that EALA will pursue in discharging its statutory mandate of legislation, oversight and representation, he said.

EALA Acting Clerk Charles Kadonya said that EALA staff are committed to providing administrative and technical support necessary for the implementation of the plan.

"This will however depend in part on the expeditious recruitment of much-needed human resources to render the requisite administrative and technical support," he asserted.

The departmental staff will dedicate the best efforts to the achievement of the set objectives, while closely

monitoring implementation, he stated.

"To support this, we have set performance benchmarks directly linked to the strategic plan and the performance of staff will be regularly evaluated," he further noted.

The EALA Strategic Plan provides a framework for implementing and delivering the mandate and functions of the assembly as required by the EAC Treaty.

It provides a policy and development framework for the EALA Commission as well as the EALA Secretariat to address institutional challenges and to foster regional integration in line with the EAC Vision 2050 and the EAC Development Strategy (2016/17 - 2020/21) now nearing its conclusion, he added.

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job openings in the coming term, he declared.

CCM plans to create a special fishing zone along the country's shoreline, where fishermen will be sensitised to form groups too ease their accessing bank loans, he said.

The government similarly plans to establish strategic markets at borders posts so that farmers can easily find markets for their farm produce, he told the rally.

On agriculture, Dr Magufuli said upon re-election his government will

## JPM touts regional clusters, job-expanding technologies

employ extension officers up to ward levels to train peasants on modern farming methods, elaborating that the government will ensure the farmers availability of inputs like fertilizers, pesticides and seeds.

He said he plans to transform Iringa commercially by connecting

it with other markets by improved infrastructures like better roads and expansion of Nduli airport, among other projects.

"Iringa is strategically located, as this is where we have the main corridor to Southern Africa. Therefore we want it connected so that tourists can come

here and visit Ruaha National Park," he remarked to thousands of voters thronged the stadium.

Tanzania is a rich country and if re-elected he will further strengthen tax collection hence make the country slowly move away from donor dependency, the candidate added.



Civic United Front (CUF) presidential candidate, Prof Ibrahim Lipumba, addresses a campaign rally at Mnyabuhimilwa grounds in Geita Region on Monday. Photo: Correspondent Boniface Gideon

## TCRA: Ihsaan FM must pay 5m/- for offensive content

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adhere to the rules of broadcasting in electoral matters.

Media outlets must ensure that they comply with the rules, regulations and

licensing conditions in accordance with TCRA instructions, he emphasized.

"Broadcasters have a critical role to play in educating the public but this should be done according to rules and procedures governing broadcasting,"

he pointed out.

Recently two major media stations, Clouds TV and Wasafi FM were separately penalized and banned from airing programmes for seven days for violations of the profession's

regulations.

TCRA is a government body responsible for regulating electronic communications and postal services, and similarly manages the national frequency spectrum countrywide.

## 7,000 villagers in Kaliua and Uyui districts benefit from ten water projects

By Correspondent Allan Ntana, Tabora

MORE than 7,000 villagers in Kaliua and Uyui districts, Tabora Region have benefitted from water projects which included construction of bore holes in more than 10 villages.

Speaking to officials from the Ministry of Water who were in a tour to assess the project implementation, villagers acknowledged the government for establishing the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) for up-taking water projects in rural areas.

Katuga Mohamed, a resident of Kazana-Upate village at Igagala ward in Kaliua District, said the project had benefited more than 2,000 people in the village.

He added that reliable accessibility of clean and safe water had resulted into more villagers concentrating in income generating activities whereas previously they were spending too many hours in search of the precious liquid.

He said the villagers are now engaging on activities such as livestock keeping, farming and construction of houses.

Kazana-Upate village water committee chairman, Sadick Abeid noted that the project had facilitated water availability to more than 5,000 people in seven villages within Igagala and Kamsekwa wards.

He said availability of clean and safe water would also protect the villagers from waterborne diseases.

Mriso Bakari, a resident of Ideka village at Mabama ward in Uyui District said that previously they were drinking unsafe water from shallow wells.

"More women are now engaging in income generating activities; some of them had established food kiosks and shops. They are no longer walking long distances in search of water", he said.

Tabora Rural Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) regional manager, Eng Kapufi Hatari said that in the 2019/2020 financial year, a total of 33 water projects worth 960m/- were undertaken, adding that 28 out of them had been completed.

He added that the agency plans to implement more projects including construction of water dams in remote areas. He said the dams are likely to help the villagers to improve their welfare as well as having reliable water sources for their cattle.

Assistant director in the Ministry of Water (Policy and Planning), Teddy Mwijumba applauded RUWASA and the Tabora Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (TUWASA) for improving water availability in the region.

She said the projects had been implemented at required standards and that there is value for money. She said all the completed projects had been executed in accordance with the provided guidelines.

Mwijumba commended authorities from the Lake Tanganyika Basin Water Board for their involvement in identifying and conserving water sources in Tabora.

According to her, the government intends to end water woes in all the districts within Tabora Region calling upon the villagers and stakeholders to cooperate in protecting the infrastructures.





Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, Abubakar Kunenge, speaks at clerics and political leaders meeting to promote peace and tranquility in the country organised by Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA) in the city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

## Low grapes production attributed to climate change, Dodoma farmers

CLIMATE change that had contributed to the increase of rains in Dodoma Region this year is among the reasons for the drop of the region's grapes production this season.

At the weekend a reporter visited areas with grapes farms in Mpunguzi, Mbabala and Hombolo wards and witnessed insignificant grape production compared to previous seasons and farmers said this year production was not good and the harvests had all been sold away even before the end of the season.

"This year the harvest was insignificant due to too much rains, the seedlings were destroyed before flowering, whilst other did not bear the fruit at all, said Maneno Joseph, a grape farmer.

This paper also spoke with grapes dealers who said the crop is unavailable, one has to

wait for a long period of time to collect the required quantity.

Zawadi Manzije, a grapes buyer said: "Customers know that the grapes are grown here and sold cheaply, hence if one is compelled to buy at 1,000/- or even 2,000/- compared to the past price which was between 300/- and 500/- only."

Archarad Kato, owner of Alko Vintages wine factory said the demand for grapes had been great despite low production from farmers, and added that wine factory owners have been greatly affected as well.

Speaking on the issue, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture Gerald

Kusasya admitted the drop of grapes harvests this season due to both heavy rains and the world market due to coronavirus.

He said in the last season grapes production went up to 15,000 tonnes compared to 2015/16 season when the production was 8,336 tonnes.

However, he mentioned his ministry's strategies to increase production as including enabling the TARI-Makutoporato increase production of grapes seedlings from 100,000 to 300,000.

"The centre has been provided with funds from the ministry including a new tractor to expand production of seedlings for grape farmers.

## Dr Mwinyi a hard working leader - President Shein

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

CCM Vice Chairman (Zanzibar) and Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has said CCM has provided Zanzibaris with a hard working leader Dr Hussein Mwinyi who deserves to be their incoming president.

Dr Shein was speaking yesterday at the party's campaign rally at Gando, in Wete District, Pemba North District attended by thousands of party supporters.

He said many other candidates lack Dr Mwinyi's qualities such as discipline, hard work and professional experience.

He said Dr Mwinyi is a leader who is mindful of other people's problems and has held various positions in the Union government.

He said being President of Zanzibar, he knows well presidential responsibilities and since he knows Dr Mwinyi well, then he has the ability for the high job without a shed of doubt.

Dr Shein therefore called on all Zanzibaris and CCM supporters to give their votes to Dr Mwinyi as well as all other CCM candidates vying for other elective positions in the Isles.

He said the aim of CCM is to always see the people live in peace and tranquility and that will only be possible if they elect the party's candidates.

For his part, the Zanzibar presidential candidate, Dr Mwinyi said if elected he will ensure accountability in his government, and whoever will refuse to be accountable he will deal with them accordingly. He said that it will be his top most priority after being sworn in, as the issue is among those that thwart the country's development.

He said he will not like to see the government he will lead have officials who do not want to be held accountable, as they are a hindrance to planned developments.

Dr Mwinyi also said if elected he will strengthen and modernise Zanzibar's road infrastructures.

He said he would start with the roads in Pemba - the 21kms Chake Chake-Wete; 8.8kms Finya-Kicha road and those within Wete totaling 9 kms.

He said for Zanzibar to make development strides in the tourism, industrial and fishing sectors, it has to have good modern roads in all areas of Zanzibar and Pemba.

Dr Mwinyi also promised to fight gender based violence and child abuse as well illicit drugs.

In regard to seaweed farming, he said already the government has started construction of seaweed processing factory at Chamanangwe.

Meanwhile, Dr Mwinyi called on Zanzibaris to ensure they do not vote for parties that, he claimed, have lost direction.

He said CCM was the only party that cares for the lives of all people including the poor, farmers and coconut harvesters, hence the Isles cannot be developed by any other leader except one from CCM.

## Government already adopted electronic budget preparation, presentation system - ministry

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has fully adopted electronic budget preparation and presentation system, directing all the public and statutory organisations to use it in the 2021/2022 financial year.

The system dubbed, PlanRep, a web based planning and budgeting system will replace the manual excel computer system that has always been used by the government agencies, institutions and corporations.

A popular user-friendly planning and reporting database that has been in use by the local government authorities (LGAs) since 2017/18, designed to incorporate strategic plans, revenue projection, budgets, fund received and track expenditure and physical implementation will now be used by all the public organizations under TR's office.

"I hereby direct the Treasury Registrar not to analyse any budget prepared and presented in any other system other than PlanRep" said the deputy Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Finance and Planning, Mary Maganga.

Maganga said this while officiating the opening of a five -days training for 80 participants from 20 different government organisations.

They are part of the 944 officials from the 236 public organisations attending the capacity building training on the electronic budgeting system. The training is running concurrently in Dar es Salaam and Morogoro and Dodoma regions.

She called on administrative heads in all government agencies, institutions and corporations to adhere to the directive, saying the government had invested a lot of money in their organisations, thus the need for a strong control system.

The deputy PS noted that the government had invested 59.6tr/- in public institutions where it owns 266 shares by June, 2019, terming it a big investment that calls for strong administration to help trigger economic growth through non tax revenue.

She observed that in efforts to realise successes in public funds management there is need for a strong electronic system that will make the management of such resources easier.

"Existence of this system will reduce revenues loss, strengthen accountability, budget analysis

and follow up hence increasing revenues in the treasury"

"PlanRep will be a very working tool for the office of the treasury registrar and I hope other ministries and institutions in the central government will adopt the same system for efficient performance," she added.

She thanked the office of the treasury registrar for the good work of strengthening management of public funds in government agencies, institutions and corporations.

The deputy PS also commended the development partners, who through the Public Financial Management Reform Programme (PFMRP) which had enabled the building of the system by strengthening cooperation with the government.

Speaking earlier, the Treasury Registrar (TR), Athumani Mbutuka said his office in collaboration with the ministry of State, President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government in 2019/20 initiated PlanRep, web based planning and budgeting system to be used by government institutions.

He said the system which had been in use by the local government authorities since 2017/18 had been improved for use by all organisations under the treasury registrar's office.

He explained that PlanRep has been built by local experts bearing in mind the Government Financial Statistic- GFSM-2, Chart of Account that as reviewed, organisation and structure of institutions and other specific needs for the government.

The TR noted that at the building stage of the system, a total of 32 organisations including those doing businesses, services and control were engaged in user acceptance test whereby their recommendations were adopted.

Mbutuka said the system will help strengthen management of public funds in the organisations as well as easier and timely access to right information. "The system will help increase efficiency in management and monitoring of investments by the government organizations and corporations, increasing performance and increasing government revenue" he said.

He added that in addition the system, TR's office is also improving performance through electronic having built the Financial Analysis and Reporting System (OTR-MIS) and GIS/BIS.



### NOTICE OF THE HALF YEAR GENERAL MEETING 2020

[Issued under Article 13 of the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club Constitution 2017]

NOTICE is hereby given that the Half Year General Meeting of the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club will be held at the Rooftop Terrace of the Club on Tuesday 06th October 2020 commencing at 6:00PM.

#### AGENDA:

- To read the Notice convening the Meeting and confirmation of the agenda.
- To confirm the Minutes of the Half Year General Meeting held on Thursday 26th September 2019.
- To consider matters arising from 2 above.
- To receive the Report of the Management Committee and the audited accounts for the preceding year in accordance with Article 13(b)(i) of the Club's Constitution, 2017.
- To consider and pass a resolution to ratify holding the Club's Elections in the HAGM.
- To consider and pass a resolution to ratify the appointment of the Auditors.
- To elect the Chairman, the Honorary Treasurer, the Entertainment Member, the Grounds Member in accordance with Article 9 (d) of the Club's Constitution, 2017.
- To elect Trustees of the Club in accordance with Article 16(a) and (d) of the Club's Constitution, 2017.
- At the discretion of the Chairman, to consider any other business of which the Annual General Meeting is competent to discuss.

Issued in Dar es Salaam this 22nd day of September 2020

By Order of the Management Committee

*Ivan Tarimo*

Ivan Tarimo  
HONORARY SECRETARY

## DEATH AND FUNERAL ANNOUNCEMENT

It is with profound sadness that the Fernandes family announce the passing of their beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, relative and friend, Mwalimu **SALUS FERNANDES**, ex-Tambaza (formerly Agakhan Boys School), ex-I.S.T. and ex-Shabaan Robert School.

Funeral service will be held on Tuesday, September 28 at the Immaculate Conception Church on United Nations Road at 13hrs, followed by burial at Kinondoni cemetery at 15hrs.

Sunrise: September 28, 1929  
Sunset: September 26, 2020

Eternal Rest give unto his soul oh Lord and let perpetual light shine upon him, may his soul rest in Peace Amen.





# Tarime resident to serve 20 years in jail for possessing govt trophies and weapons

By Guardian Correspondent, Mara

CHACHA Mwita Magoko (20), resident of Karangatonga village in Ingwe Ward, Tarime District, Mara Region has been sentenced to 20 years in jail after he was found guilty of illegal entry to Serengeti National Park and possessing traditional weapons and government trophies.

The weapons included a spear and cables for animal traps as well as two legs of wildebeest valued at 1.84m/-.

Reading the judgment Tarime District magistrate Visensia Balyaruha said the sentence meted out should serve as warning to others who illegally enter wildlife reserves for poaching.

Earlier, State Attorney Bulembo Kasika prosecuting, alleged in court that the accused on February 14, this year was arrested by wildlife wardens inside Serengeti National Park without a

valid permit.

The accused pleaded not guilty to the charges and the prosecution called in four witnesses and the exhibits he was found with, while the defense side did not produce any witness.

TANAPA prosecutor Kasika prayed to the court for a stiff sentence to serve as lesson to others who may commit similar crimes.

District magistrate Visensia agreed with the prosecution and found him guilty.

In the first count of illegal entry to a wildlife area she fined the accused 300,000/- or one-year imprisonment in lieu of.

In the second count of being found in possession of traditional weapons he was fined 300,000/- or one-year imprisonment and in the third count of being in possession of government trophies he was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment, with all jail terms to run concurrently.

# TARURA calls for review of all rural roads construction projects under Agri-Connect

By Guardian Reporter

CHIEF Executive Officer of the Tanzania Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA) Eng Victor Seff has ordered for the review of all rural roads construction projects under Agri-Connect to ensure they meet the set standards.

Eng Seff said the review will enable the agency to identify some incomplete road sections and provide room for improvement.

He made the directive in Mbeya Region during a tour to inspect the projects under 'Agri-Connect' which are funded by the European Union (EU) under the supervision of TARURA.

"We had some architectural challenges in almost all the Agri-Connect projects, we have resolved the problems and we are now ready to repair all the incomplete road sections", he said.

He said that in Rungwe District, a total of

11 kilometers of roads had been constructed at tarmac level. He said the contractor, GS Contractors Ltd is proceeding with the construction of the 4.9 kilometer road from Masebe DSP-Mpuguso-TCC to Bugoba Kibaoni.

Eng Seff noted that the contractor, Summer Construction Ltd is constructing the Masebe-Lugoba-Lutete (7.2kms) which is expected to be completed in December, this year.

"Both contractors have promised to complete the projects by end of the year. Completion of the projects will facilitate transportation services in the city", he said adding that the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) is also constructing a number of trunk roads.

The TARURA boss expressed disappointment over the contractors, M/S Canopies International Ltd failure to construct on time the 10 kilometers road from Lupeta-Wimba-Zumbwe and Mileme Construction Ltd road project from Inyala to Simambwe

(916.7kms) in Mbeya Rural District.

"I am not satisfied with the pace of construction in Mbeya Rural District' I have directed engineers from the agency headquarters to cooperate with the contractors to ensure all the roads are constructed at the required standards and completed on time", he noted.

He said that most of the projects in the district have been completed by 20 per cent.

Eng Seff directed TARURA coordinator in Mbeya Region as well as the agency management in all the districts to start repairing all the ring-roads as most of them have been damaged.

The Agri-Connect project aims at facilitating smooth transportation of farmer's crops from farms to markets. Most of the cash and food crops cultivated in the region include coffee, tea, vegetables and fruits.

The farm products are mostly sold at markets in Iringa and Mbeya regions.



## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF VARIOUS GOODS AND OR SERVICES TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

### I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring various services and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of various goods and or services for any of the below listed services.

### Scope of work:

#### Provision of Various Services

REF NO.	SERVICES TO BE PROCURED
GGME0988	Provision of Removal and Disposal of Used Tyres
GGME0989	Provision of Removal and Disposal of Used Oil

### 1. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	2.5%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	2.5%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	2.5%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	2.5%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	2.5%
Company Shareholding Structure	2.5%
List of Directors	2.5%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission and details of capability of the contractor to hire local resources and procure local goods	2.5%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	6.7%
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	6.7%
Confirmation of Credit for a period not less than 30 days	6.7%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	
OSHA Compliance Certificate	2.5%
Environment Compliance Certificate	2.5%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	2.5%
Safety and Environmental Policies	2.5%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	
At least 3 Names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	2.5%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	2.5%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above)	2.5%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2.5%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA</b>	
Technical Capability	40%
A valid permit issued by the Vice President's office environment specifically for collection of rubber/tyres	10%
Roadworthy truck with capacity to carry between 5 and 8 used tyres	10%
An approved storage and disposal yard by NEMC	10%
Safety management plan including fire controls	10%
<b>Total Score in %</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA</b>	
Technical Capability	40%
A valid permit issued by the Vice President's office environment specifically for collection of used oils	10%
A roadworthy truck with capacity to carry between 10,000 20,000L at once	10%
Proof that used oil collected is disposed to the approved disposal facility	10%
Hydrocarbon management plan including spill response plan	10%
<b>Total Score in %</b>	<b>100%</b>

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the NAME AND REFERENCE NUMBER of the service they intend to express interest on together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 0830 A.M 12 October 2020 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.



## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF VARIOUS GOODS AND OR SERVICES TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

### I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring various services and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of various goods and or services for any of the below listed services.

### Scope of work:

#### Provision of Various Services

REF NO.	SERVICES TO BE PROCURED
GGME0954	Provision of Legal Services
GGME01008	Provision of Cleaning Services at Dar Office
GGME0999	Provision of Fuel Filling Services (Including Provision of Fuel Cards for Consumption by GGM Vehicles)

### 1. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	2.5%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	2.5%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	2.5%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	2.5%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	2.5%
Company Shareholding Structure	2.5%
List of Directors	2.5%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission and details of capability of the contractor to hire local resources and procure local goods	2.5%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	6.7%
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	6.7%
Confirmation of Credit for a period not less than 30 days	6.7%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	
OSHA Compliance Certificate	2.5%
Environment Compliance Certificate	2.5%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	2.5%
Safety and Environmental Policies	2.5%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	
At least 3 Names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	2.5%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	2.5%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above)	2.5%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2.5%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA</b>	
Technical Capability	40%
<b>Total Score in %</b>	<b>100%</b>

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the NAME AND REFERENCE NUMBER of the service they intend to express interest on together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 0830 A.M 12 October 2020 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.



By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

# Scientists urge govt to put more effort in management of post harvest losses

SCIENTISTS and agricultural experts have called on the government to put in place massive technical and financial investments in the management of post harvest losses.

Post harvest losses in Tanzania causes huge monetary loss in cereal grains, legumes, tuber and horticultural crops on annual basis due to poor storage infrastructures and lack of latest processing technologies.

Speaking in Morogoro during the 2nd National Post-Harvest Management Conference, stakeholders said post harvest loss is a critical problem that affects multiple value chains and is a potential threat to overall food security in the country.

Honest Mseri from Agricultural Non State Actors Forum (ANSAF) said without significant interventions such as massive investments to reduce post-harvest losses, it will be difficult to offset the food deficit in some regions and achieve national food security.

He said the government must fulfill the promise made in the National Post-Harvest Management strategy where it plans to contribute 41 percent of the total budget.

"In the National Post Harvest Management Strategy, the government set aside 111bn/- from 2019-2024 which means 20bn/-each year, and development partners 59 percent. But if we make assessment, how much has been contributed so far?, he asked.

He said there is also a need for greater investment in public goods and infrastructure to facilitate the development of post-harvest systems.

For his part the Executive Director



for ANSAF, Auda Rukonge, said that halving the losses by 50 percent was not enough, we must at least reach 75 percent by 2025.

He therefore called on the need for increased investment into the post harvest tools and processing technologies to reduce crop losses along the value chain.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture Gerald Kusaya (pictured) attributed post harvest loss to shortage of storage infrastructures especially in food producing regions saying it has led to poor storage of main crops such as maize and horticultural crops. "This situation causes loss of quality and eventually the safety of our health," he said.

The permanent secretary cited another reason as lack of sophisticated processing technologies. "As a result

some of our products are substandard, do not meet international standards. This causes poverty to individual person and the nation as a whole," he said.

He called on all stakeholders to play their role in the post harvest management saying the post harvest loss is a global problem, and therefore must be addressed in collaboration with other stakeholders.

He said amongst the seven commitments made by the Heads of State and governments in Malabo, the third commitment on ending hunger in Africa by 2025 is directly relevant to the efforts to reduce PHL by 50 percent come 2025.



## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF VARIOUS GOODS AND OR SERVICES TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

### I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring various services and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of various goods and or services for any of the below listed services.

#### Scope of work:

REF NO.	SERVICES TO BE PROCURED
GGME01004	Supply and Installation of Radio Tower at Nyamilima Pit

### 1. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%	
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>		
Company Profile	2.5%	
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	2.5%	
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	2.5%	
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	2.5%	
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	2.5%	
Company Shareholding Structure	2.5%	
List of Directors	2.5%	
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission and details of capability of the contractor to hire local resources and procure local goods	2.5%	
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>		
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	6.7%	
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	6.7%	
Confirmation of Credit for a period not less than 30 days	6.7%	
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>		
OSHA Compliance Certificate	2.5%	
Environment Compliance Certificate	2.5%	
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	2.5%	
Safety and Environmental Policies	2.5%	
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>		
At least 3 Names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	2.5%	
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	2.5%	
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above)	2.5%	
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2.5%	
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA</b>		
Certifications for working with high telecommunication towers from TCRA	10%	GGME01004 Supply and Installation of Radio Tower at Nyamilima Pit
CV for key technical team with experience on construction, assembling and reinforcement of standalone towers	10%	
Comprehensive Safety procedures (SOP) and installation standards for standalone towers (more than 50m height towers) including Job Safety Analysis (JSA) and Emergency Response Plan (ERP)	10%	
Documented and authorized methods of work	10%	
<b>Total Score in %</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the NAME AND REFERENCE NUMBER of the service they intend to express interest on together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 0830 A.M 12 October 2020 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.



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Website: www.anglogoldashanti.com

## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI) – PREQUALIFICATION OF GGME01003 SUPPLY OF MOLASSES FOR GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED AT GEITA MINE

### I. INTRODUCTION

- Geita Gold Mining Limited (GGML) ("The Company") is an AngloGold Ashanti Ltd (AGA) subsidiary located in North Western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria Goldfields of Geita Region, about 120km from Mwanza and 4 kms, West of Geita town.
- Geita Gold Mine Limited is looking for a Supplier to supply 250 Tonnes of Molasses with density of 1400-1500Kg/m3 which will be used for dust suppression to all Internal roads (21 Kilometres road length). The Scope of work shall include, Supply and deliver to GGML site, Load tests (Tonnages & Densities) before off-Loading and after un-Loading without compromising any statutory requirement.

### II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

- Brief Company Profile-Background, Ownership and Organisation of the company
- Certified copy of Certificate of Incorporation/Registration
- Certified copies of TIN and VAT registration certificates
- Tax Clearance Certificates
- Certified Copy of Valid Business License
- OSHA Registration Certificates
- Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 and details of capability of the contractor to hire local resources and procure local goods
- Audited financial statements, with Notes to the Financial Statements, for the last three (3) years

### III. QUALIFICATION FOR THE PROPOSAL PROVIDERS

The Company will give preference to contractors who meet its minimum requirements in terms of the following criteria.

- Reliability-** Approach that will be used to ensure un-interrupted supply performance in the mining areas and all other locations within the mine.
- Capability-** Contractors details of their capability to undertake the said supply to similar operations/clients. This may include supplier's assessment in terms of quality of key personnel, equipment and other facilities required or necessary to perform the works.
- Health, Safety and Environment** – Assessment of Health, Safety and Environmental Management practice within supplier organisation
- Permits & Certifications-** Contractors assessment in terms of evidence submitted to support Government permits, registrations, certifications, and any other statutory requirements relevant to the industry.
- Sustainability-** Assessment of Contractor in terms of their local labour sourcing plans and training plans. Potential bidder commitment to the social development of the areas where the mine is located.
- Competitive Bidding-** Interested parties must be willing to participate in the competitive bidding and provide competitive prices and should be informed that competitive pricing will be one of the considerations in the bid evaluation.
- Financial Capability-** Contractors assessment of financial capability necessary to perform the intended works.
- Local Content-** Assessment of compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the NAME AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01003 Supply of Molasses for Geita Gold Mining Limited at Geita Mine) of the service they intend to express interest on together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 0830 A.M 12 October 2020 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.



# Health ministry in final stages for 2003 national elders policy review

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children is in the final stages of reviewing the 2003 National Policy for the elderly in order to satisfy current needs.

The Ministry's Assistant Commissioner for Community Development dealing with Community Development and Elders issues Mwanaisha Moyo gave the remarks at the weekend when opening a meeting to evaluate the project for the accountability to Tanzania's elders.

The two-year (2018-2020) project is managed by KPMG (Accountability in Tanzania Programme) and sponsored by the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) and

implemented by Helpage International, a Non-Governmental Organisation in 19 regions of Tanzania, both Mainland and Isles.

Moyo said the policy was outdated hence they were reviewing it to see its achievements and obstacles that emerged during its implementation.

He said there were so many new things that had emerged which were not mentioned in the original policy, hence there will be improvements that will be announced in collaboration with stakeholders to formalise the lives of the elderly.

She said to ensure elder people remain safe, the government has prepared strategies to eradicate the killing of elder people whose implementation began in 2019 and will go through to 2923 in collaboration

with stakeholders including Helpage International that has seen the drop of the killings from 557 to 74.

She said in regard to elders who need care from the government, as of now the government is running 13 centres for them that have undergone great refurbishment.

Speaking on the Accountability in Tanzania Programme, Moyo appealed to Community Development officers to educate the society on how to take care of the elderly.

The head of Helpage International projects for Tanzania Leonard Ndamgoba said the programme is ending this year but had touched three main areas - incomes for the elders, better health services and the fight against killing of elders on witchcraft beliefs.



Small scale miners from Nsangano mine at Nyarugusu in Geita Region get a briefing from NMB Bank Geita branch public relations officer Jane Kitalonga (C) on the criteria of acquiring loans offered by the bank during the minerals sector exhibition over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



## INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF VARIOUS GOODS AND OR SERVICES TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

### I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring various services and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of various goods and or services for any of the below listed services.

### Scope of work:

#### Provision of Various Services

REF NO.	SERVICES TO BE PROCURED
GGME01012	Supply and Installation of Security Technology
GGME01001	Supply and Installation of Security Technology Inside Gold Plant

### 1. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%	
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>		
Company Profile	2.5%	
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	2.5%	
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	2.5%	
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	2.5%	
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	2.5%	
Company Shareholding Structure	2.5%	
List of Directors	2.5%	
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission and details of capability of the contractor to hire local resources and procure local goods	2.5%	
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>		
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	6.7%	
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	6.7%	
Confirmation of Credit for a period not less than 30 days	6.7%	
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>		
OSHA Compliance Certificate	2.5%	
Environment Compliance Certificate	2.5%	
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	2.5%	
Safety and Environmental Policies	2.5%	
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>		
At least 3 Names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	2.5%	
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	2.5%	
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above)	2.5%	
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2.5%	
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA</b>		
<b>GGME01012</b>		
Supply and Installation of Security Technology		
Technical Capability	40%	
Cathexis Registered Member	10%	
Approved supplier and installer of Axis Surveillance systems	10%	
Approved supplier and installer of Proxim Wireless equipment and must be a member of Duxbury Networking	10%	
Approved Supplier and Installer of Centurion and Turnstar systems	2%	
Approved Supplier and installer of Softcon Access control system	8%	
<b>Total Score in %</b>	<b>100%</b>	
<b>GGME01001</b>		
Supply and Installation of Security Technology Inside Gold Plant		
Technical Capability	40%	
Cathexis Registered Member	10%	
Approved supplier and installer of Axis Surveillance systems	10%	
Approved Supplier and Installer of Gallagher Power fencing equipment	6%	
Approved Installer and Supplier of INTREPID Long-Range Microwave Link - Intrusion detection	7%	
Watchmanager approved technical personnel	7%	
<b>Total Score in %</b>	<b>100%</b>	

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the NAME AND REFERENCE NUMBER of the service they intend to express interest on together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 0830 A.M 12 October 2020 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

# NEMC salutes media for support, cooperation

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Environment Management Council (NEMC) said yesterday it receives great support and cooperation from Tanzanian media houses in spreading knowledge on how to conserve and protect the country's environment.

NEMC Director General Samuel Gwamaka told a function of nature conservationists here that although NEMC was credited rightly with successes in environment public education campaigns the council would not have reached the masses without support from the media

houses.

"Sustained public campaigns on environment protection for which we are rightly credited, would not have been as successful if we had not enjoyed great support and cooperation from our media houses. They are our partners in reaching the masses; we thank them very much," he said, adding that schools and colleges had also been instrumental in spreading knowledge on environment protection. The council uses brochures whenever necessary, he said.

He told the conservationists that because Tanzania was now a middle-income country, Tanzanians should be

even more concerned with protection of the country's environment because, he said, a bigger economy was sustained by greater industrial production.

"Let us encourage our people to be watchful and ensure their surroundings are clean and safe. A bigger industrial economy brings with it greater responsibilities and challenges to protect environment," the expert said.

Dr Gwamaka said environment protection had global implications hence the logic behind the annual World Environment Day, on June 5. In marking the day, he said, Tanzanians are encouraged to plant trees.

# Immigration personnel should take swimming courses - TASU

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Secretary General of Tanzania Seafarers Union (TASU) Josiah Mwakibuja has advised the government to provide special training in swimming to Immigration personnel to enable them fight marine crime.

Mwakibuja issued the appeal at the weekend at the climax of celebrations to mark World Maritime Day held at the national level in Kyela District, Mbeya Region.

He said in order to control criminal activities while in sea patrols, the immigration personnel should be taught how to swim in order to control illegal immigrants.

"In these celebrations, immigration officials who make patrol in border areas should be provided with special

swimming lessons, including skills thereon to control illegal immigrants who use water means of transport," he said.

Mbeya Regional Commissioner Albert Chalamila said even people had the opportunity to learn various skills on rescue operations in Lake Nyasa.

The celebrations that brought together various marine transport units from both Tanzania Mainland and the Isles displayed various activities on the strengthening of the marine transport sector.

Chalamila called on Kyela residents to grab the opportunities from Itungi Port and the construction of three passenger and cargo ships to mobilise their children to study lessons on the marine transport sector so that they

can easily get employment in the sector.

For its part, the Marine Unit of Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF) said among its duties was to provide education on rescue operations during disasters.

The Director of Administration Personnel in the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications Lucas Kambelenje said the World Maritime Day provides opportunities in the maritime sector to listen to people's complaints and try to find solutions thereof.

He said the safety of passengers in a marine vessel depends on the expertise and working together with the people, hence education on rescue operations will assist to solve various challenges in the marine transport.

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein yesterday launched a newly built passenger lounge and airplane parking lot at Abeid Amani Karume International Airport, a move which will see expansion of services and stimulate economic growth.

The construction which will cost US\$128.75 million after completion commenced in February, 2011.

Speaking during the event Dr Shein cited modern and quality infrastructures as key to strengthening the economy.

He said that with the completion of the buildings and parking, the airport will be able to accommodate three major airplanes of "CODE E".

He said that investing in constructing modern airports will attract more guests and tourists and thus improve the country's income.

He said that Zanzibar has made great strides in improving the quality of airports infrastructure such as Abeid

# Dr Shein launches passenger lounge

Amani Karume International Airport which currently has three terminals.

According to him, airports are the engines of global economic development, they are catalysts for promoting and enhancing tourism as well as national and international trade ties.

He said that when he came into power in 2010, he promised to complete the construction of the airport initiated by the sixth phase government

"The construction of the buildings started in February 2011 but despite some challenges, the government managed to address them and completed it, I am so happy that today we are launching it," he said.

He said: "In the first contract, the

airport building was to be built at a cost of US\$70.4 million but the government conducted some few changes so as to expand the building and make it more attractive, so we signed two additional agreements with the BCEG company with additional funds of US\$11.8 million and US\$46.5 million 28,674.71 respectively at a total of US\$58.35 million."

For his part, Minister for works, Communications and Transportation Dr Sira Ubwa said that the completion of the project will also open employment doors for Zanzibaris.

He also said that the building will also improve the tourism market as more and bigger planes will be landing in the Island.





## INVITATION TO TENDER PREQUALIFICATION OF VENDORS FOR PROVISION OF VARIOUS SERVICES FOR NMB BANK PLC. FOR THE YEAR 2021

- NMB Bank Plc. is the largest commercial Bank in Tanzania in terms of branch network, customer base and profitability. NMB is committed to sustaining and enhancing the branch network in order to provide access to financial services to citizens in all areas of Tanzania, with special focus on rural areas;
- The Bank has set funds for year 2021, towards the cost of operations and maintenance of its facility for NMB HQ and its Branch network. It is intended that part of these funds will be applied to eligible payments under the contract (s) for provision of various services to the Bank;
- The NMB Bank Plc. Management Tender Committee now invites all eligible, qualified and competent vendors to submit their applications for prequalification of vendors for provision various services for the Bank as detailed in the below list;

**List of various services for NMB Bank Plc. for the Year 2021**

SN	Description of Services
1	Architectural Consulting Services for Various NMB Projects
2	Consulting Quantity Surveyors (QS) for Various NMB Projects
3	Engineering Consulting Services for Various NMB Projects
4	Provision of Structural Engineering Consulting services
5	Consulting Quality assurance (QAs) for Various NMB Projects
6	Provision of Data Cabling works
7	Provision of Physical Security Specialty Services
8	Supply of Stationeries
9	Office Equipments (Facilities)
10	Furniture and Furnishings
11	Installation, Service & Maintenance of Fire Detection & Alarm System
12	Travel Agency Services
13	Supply and installation of Blinds Curtains
14	Clearing & Forwarding Agents
15	Supply & Service of Strong Room Doors
16	Asset Valuation and Fixed Asset Management Solution
17	Supply of Electrical Equipments and Appliances
18	Borehole Drilling and Pump Installation Services
19	Guarding and Response Services
20	Supplying Tropical Fresh Flowers for Offices
21	Supply of Mobile Phones
22	Provision of Auditing and Tax Advisory Services
23	Disposal of Hazardous Equipments
24	Supply of Motor vehicles
25	Provision of Branding and Signage for Dar and upcountry
26	Provision of Printing Services for Dar and Upcountry (Fliers, Posters, Brochures, Calendars)
27	Supplying of Various Promotional Materials(T-shirts, Caps, Thermal Mugs, executive pen, Plastic pen, etc.
28	Provision for events and experiential service
29	Provision of Digital and social Media Services
30	Provision of Various Research Services
31	Provision of Translation and Copyright Services
32	Provision of Radio, Jingle and IVR Production
33	Provision of Creatives, Concepts and Designing for Campaigns
34	Provision of Photography Services
35	Provision of TVC and Video Production Services
36	Provision of Interior Designing and Decoration Services for NMB Premises
37	Supplying of Hospital Equipments
38	Supplying of Sports gears
39	Supply of staff uniform
40	Supplying of Building and Roofing Materials for Dar and Upcountry
41	Supplying of school Desks (for Donation Services)
42	Provision of Hotel Conference Services and Venue Hiring
43	Provision of Political and Economic Analysis (PEA) and stakeholder mapping services
44	Vendors for Social Media Influencers
45	Vendors for Provision of Catering & Drinks Services
46	Vendors for Legal Services
47	Provision of HR Consulting services (permit and visa follow up etc..)
48	Provision of wellness services
49	Supply, service and maintenance of Office Equipment - Safes, Shredders, strapping machine
50	Supply and Installation of Shelves for Storage Purposes
51	Supply of Teller Cash Boxes, cash in transit boxes
52	Electrical systems Contractors
53	Contractors for provision of cooling systems and maintenance
54	Provision of Network Passive connectivity services (Provision of Structural and Data Cabling works)

55	Supply of ICT Hardware and software
56	Provision of data and voice services
57	ICT Consultancy services (Design, Health check, Support, Development, ICT Audit, Deployment, etc.)
58	Contractors for fire detections and suppressions
59	Supply of Network Active equipment's (Routers/Switches, Firewalls, LB, etc.)
60	IT Service Management
61	Supply of ICT Equipments (Computers, Printers and Scanners etc.)
62	Supply, Installation and Servicing of Generators
63	Supply of SMS Services
64	Supply of ICT Consumables/Peripheries (Mouse, adapters, keyboards etc.)
65	Vendors for Provision of Printing services
66	Vendors for Provision of Printing cheque books
67	Vendors for Provision of Car tracking and fuel monitoring services
68	Supply of tyres and fitting services
69	Vendors for Provision of Service and Maintenance of Vehicles
70	Supply of Petroleum products
71	Vendors for Provision of Tours and Travel
72	Vendors for Provision of Accommodation Services (Hotels and apartments in Dar)
73	Supply of Bank Financial Cards (EMV Cards)
<b>Provision of Various Training services in the following categories</b>	
74	Leadership Program
75	Operations and Risk Management
76	Fraud
77	Risk & Controls
78	Bancassurance
79	Trade Finance
80	Business Communication Skills
81	Customer Experience training
82	Credit
83	Sales training
84	IFRS Update
85	Regulatory Reporting : Bank of Tanzania Regulations
86	Due Diligence and Supplier relationship management
87	National Payment System,
88	National Switch
89	TACH
90	PMP Training and Certification
91	Cyber Laws
92	Negotiation
93	Loan recovery/Collection and Monitoring
94	Data Centre management
95	Prudential Regulations Trainings
96	Cyber Crime Investigation
97	Agri-business
98	Records Management
99	Conflict Resolution
100	Pre-Retirement Training
101	Team Building
102	Islamic Banking

- The Selection of eligible and qualified vendors in respective services will be conducted through Open Competitive Tendering Procedures as specified in the NMB Bank Plc. Procurement Policy and Procedures;
- Deadline for submission of the documents is **Friday 16th October 2020 at 15.00HRS**. Applications will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of bidder's representatives who will choose to attend the meeting.
- Applicants must include one original and a copy of their tender document. The documents must be properly filled and enclosed in plain envelopes clearly marked "**Prequalification for Provision of (Put the name of the selected service) – Not to be opened before Friday 16th October 2020 at 15.00HRS**" hand-delivered or courier to NMB Bank Plc. through addresses provided below.
- Late applications, portion of applications, electronic applications and applications not received, opened and read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be considered for evaluation irrespective of circumstances.

**The Chief Executive Officer**  
P.O. Box 9213, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.  
NMB Bank Plc. Head Office Ohio/Ali Hassan Mwinzi Streets



# The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

TUESDAY 29 SEPTEMBER 2020

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Sustainable agriculture is the root of Africa's economic transformation

THE Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) stressed that Africa must transform or modernise its agriculture, primarily to feed itself and reduce dependency on imports for agricultural and food items, while fostering the sector to drive the industrialisation process.

Speaking on the topic, "Accelerating Sustainable, Economic Transformation in Africa's Agriculture Value Chains," at the Africa Sustainable Agriculture Summit 2019, held in Nairobi, Kenya, FAO Subregional Coordinator for Eastern Africa, David Phiri highlighted that hunger and malnutrition are on the rise again in Africa, after two decades of progress. Africa is now home to over 256 million people who are in dire food insecurity, of which over 132 million are in Eastern Africa.

"Governments should create an enabling policy environment, where the private sector, including in agriculture, thrives and creates jobs, particularly for the youth and women. Agricultural policies that spur farm productivity, commercialisation and the agro-processing industry are crucial for agricultural transformation," Phiri remarked.

Agriculture is the science and art of cultivating plants and livestock. Agriculture was the key development in the rise of sedentary human civilisation, whereby farming of domesticated species created food surpluses that enabled people to live in cities.

Agriculture is one of the economic drivers in Tanzania with the country benefitting from a diverse production base that includes livestock, staple food crops and a variety of cash crops. While the sector's GDP has more than tripled in the last 10 years, farmers and private sector actors still face considerable challenges. Declining export revenues; land acquisition hurdles; and smallholder farmers struggling to access economically viable technology, adequate storage facilities, markets and credit have affected private investment.

The history of agriculture began

thousands of years ago. After gathering wild grains beginning at least 105,000 years ago, nascent farmers began to plant them around 11,500 years ago. Pigs, sheep and cattle were domesticated over 10,000 years ago. Plants were independently cultivated in at least 11 regions of the world. Industrial agriculture based on large-scale monoculture in the twentieth century came to dominate agricultural output, though about 2 billion people still depended on subsistence agriculture into the twenty-first.

Modern agronomy, plant breeding, agrochemicals such as pesticides and fertilizers, and technological developments have sharply increased yields, while causing widespread ecological and environmental damage. Selective breeding and modern practices in animal husbandry have similarly increased the output of meat, but have raised concerns about animal welfare and environmental damage. Environmental issues include contributions to global warming, depletion of aquifers, deforestation, antibiotic resistance, and growth hormones in industrial meat production. Genetically modified organisms are widely used, although some are banned in certain countries.

The major agricultural products can be broadly grouped into foods, fibers, fuels and raw materials (such as rubber). Food classes include cereals (grains), vegetables, fruits, oils, meat, milk, fungi and eggs. Over one-third of the world's workers are employed in agriculture, second only to the service sector, although the number of agricultural workers in developed countries has decreased significantly over the centuries.

The Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow (CRAFT) project through its Climate Innovation and Investment Facility (CIIF) aims to leverage co-investments from private sector actors while promoting climate-smart solutions and innovations in targeted agricultural value chains. The project works with, and through the private sector to promote climate-smart agriculture-related innovations at farming systems and value chain level.

## Reducing food loss, waste requires the attention and actions of all

THIS year we observe the first ever observance of the International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste which is held on September 29 annually. It also comes during the global COVID-19 pandemic, that has brought about a global wake-up on the need to transform and rebalance the way our food is produced and consumed.

Reducing food losses and waste is essential in a world where the number of people affected by hunger has been slowly on the rise since 2014, and tons and tons of edible food are lost and/or wasted every day. Food loss and waste also puts unnecessary pressure on the natural resource base and on the environment, depleting the natural resource base and generating greenhouse gases.

Globally, around 14 per cent of food produced is lost between harvest and retail. Significant quantities are also wasted in retail and at the consumption level. When food is lost or wasted, all the resources that were used to produce this food - including water, land, energy, labour and capital - go to waste. In addition, the disposal of food loss and waste in landfills, leads to greenhouse gas emissions, contributing to climate change.

Therefore, actions are required globally and locally to maximize the use of the food we produce. The introduction of technologies, innovative solutions including e-commerce platforms for marketing, retractable mobile food processing systems, new ways of working and good practices to manage food quality and reduce food loss and waste are key to implementing this transformative change. Reducing food loss and waste requires the attention and actions of all, from food producers, to food supply chain stakeholders, to food

industries, retailers and consumers

Food waste or food loss is food that is not eaten. The causes of food waste or loss are numerous and occur throughout the food system, during production, processing, retail and consumption. Global food loss and waste amount to between one-third and one-half of all food produced. In low-income countries, most loss occurs during production, while in developed countries much food - about 100 kilograms per person per year - is wasted at the consumption stage.

Food waste is a major part of the impact of agriculture on climate change. The Food and Agricultural Organisation estimated in 2014 that food waste lost causes a global economic, environmental and social cost of \$2.6 trillion a year and is responsible for 8 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions. Moreover, food waste that is not handled or reclaimed properly, i.e. through composting, can have many negative environmental consequences. For example, landfill gas from anaerobic digestion of organic matter is a major source of the greenhouse gas methane, and un-reclaimed phosphorus in food waste, leads to further phosphate mining. Moreover reducing food waste in all parts of the food system is an important part of reducing the environmental impact of agriculture, by reducing the total amount of water, land and other resources needed to feed the global community.

The international community has identified reduction of food waste as an important part of developing a sustainable economy with Sustainable Development Goal 12 seeking to "Halve global per capita food waste". Moreover, climate change mitigation strategies prominently feature reducing food waste; for example Project Drawdown describes reducing food waste as one of the more effective ways to reduce carbon intensity.

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By Owei Lakemfa

THE United Nations, UN, commenced activities marking its 75th Anniversary on Monday, September 21, buoyed with floods of mainly congratulatory speeches in a world drenched in increasing despair and cynicism.

Its predecessor, the League of Nations had been born on June 28, 1919 under the Versailles Peace Treaty which ended World War I. Thirteen of the 15 parts of the Treaty, punished defeated Germany. The Treaty forced the disarmament of Germany, imposed on it heavy reparations, seized some of its territories and gave them to Poland, Czechoslovakia and Belgium.

They also confiscated (instead of granting independence) to Germany's colonies in China, the Pacific and Africa. These included Togo, Cameroon, Namibia and Tanganyika (Now part of Tanzania) and Botswana.

However, the League of Nations was consumed in the hellfire-like flames of the second European conflagration in 22 years which the conquerors styled the Second World War.

In truth, it was not the world that was at war; rather, the Europeans with their American cousins who had conquered the world as colonialists were settling their final scores in a bestial war in which they dragged the rest of humanity.

We in Africa fought on both sides of that war as objects of our various colonial masters and some of the hottest battles took place in colonies like Myanmar (The Burma War).

Some of the fiercest battles were fought in North Africa where the Germans led by the colourful "Desert Fox", Field Marshall Erwin Rommel, locked horns with the British led by Field Marshall Bernard Law Montgomery.

After the Second World War in 1945, some countries met to sign the UN Charter in San Francisco, United States, based on the principles of equality, human rights for all, peace, security and development in a shared world. Ironically, for the first time in its history, the UN could not gather in New York this year for its annual General Assembly due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

The Immediate Past President of the Assembly, Tijjani Muhammad-Bande of Nigeria explained that: "World leaders cannot come to New York because they cannot come simply as individuals. A President doesn't travel alone, leaders don't travel alone" and it is impossible to bring large delegations to New York.

World leaders were, therefore, enjoined to make pre-recorded video speeches for virtual meetings based on the theme: "The Future We Want, the UN We Need: Reaffirming our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism".

The UN is about nations uniting for

## UN at 75 holds lots of hope and hopelessness



universal good, but to borrow a phrase the Nigerian Presidency used for a former president, American President Donald Trump rather than work for global unity, is playing the role of 'Divide-in-Chief'.

On Monday, Trump failed to deliver the expected American video speech; Vice President Mike Pence did not, neither did Secretary of State Michael Pompeo nor the US ambassador to the UN, Kelly Craft. Rather, Pompeo and Craft chose that day to hold a press conference attacking Iran, announcing new sanctions and generally putting the world on notice that America is ready for war.

Iran dismissed the American address. The acting Deputy United States ambassador, Cherith Norman Chalet had to address the ceremony live from UN headquarters.

However, the next day when the American COVID-19 deaths topped 200,000, Trump sent an address pronouncing China guilty of having "unleashed this plague onto the world" and asking that it be punished.

Some countries in their speeches verbally attacked the US. Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, denounced "the world of hegemony, the world of imperialism" declaring that:

"Venezuela supports a multipolar world, a renewed UN system, a system that knows how to enforce international law and protect the people of the world." In his speech, Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez Parrilla said: "It seems that (the US) is at war with the planet... and its inhabitants".

Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, whose country assumed the UN General Assembly Presidency,

lamented that 820 million people in the world are hungry, 170 million people are in urgent need of aid and protection, while more than 70 million people had to flee their homes due to conflicts and oppression.

He argued that: "Despite the ideals that have been set out, the United Nations system can neither prevent conflicts nor end those that have already begun." In reference to the UN Security Council, he argued that:

"A Council with a structure that leaves the fate of seven billion people at the mercy of five countries is not fair, and it is not sustainable either... The world is greater than five."

Nigeria's President Muhammadu Buhari agrees, saying: "The demand for the reform of the United Nations Security Council is just and a place for Africa in the very strategic organ of the organisation is long overdue." South African President Cyril Ramaphosa and Egypt concurred, with the latter demanding two permanent seats for Africa with full powers, including the Veto.

The European Union, EU, said its commitment is preserving and strengthening multilateral relations with its partners across the globe, with the United Nations at its core. The UN General Assembly President Volkan Bozkir, focused on the body's achievements which he said includes arms control to prevent nuclear conflict, peacekeeping and electoral assistance.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres told members: "It is now time to mobilise your resources, strengthen your efforts and show unprecedented political will and leadership, to ensure

the future we want and the United Nations we need".

The President of the UN Economic and Social Council, ECOSOC, Muir Akram, said humanity is drifting towards erosion of structures that have been built to preserve peace and promote prosperity, and risking a "tragedy of epic proportions for all mankind". He called for a reversal.

Chinese President Xi Jinping's focus was on COVID-19 which has infected at least 31 million persons and killing about one million. The pandemic, he said, is a grave test for the entire world. Russian President Vladimir Putin supported China on the issue that the world puts up a united fight against COVID-19.

President Emmanuel Macron of France said: "The world today cannot be reduced to the rivalry between China and the United States, irrespective of the global weight of these great powers."

One of the most touching speeches came from Lebanon, the fractious, economically devastated, fire-ravaged but proud country. Its President, Michel Aoun, said despite all its suffering, Lebanon stands for multilateralism. This is in contrast to Trump's insistence on unilateralism. He had told the UN: "Only when you take care of your own citizens, will you find a true basis for cooperation."

The UN depends on multilateralism, so the American insistence on unilateralism including exiting the UNESCO, defunding the WHO, rejecting the Paris Climate Change Agreement and repudiating the Iran international nuclear deal, is a grave threat to its existence.



# Time had come for politicians to visit sangoma courtyards

By Gaudensia Mnguni

**W**HY do people often call politics a dirty game? Others will go further and say... Actually politics is not only a filthy game it is as well a 'killer game.' Why? Perhaps it is because some people have views that politicians particularly in Africa are said to work anticlockwise to harm their opponents when it comes to ensuring that they reign over them during elections.

Some politicians are seen as go-getters, they are over ambitious who never hesitate to do anything even to rally behind the traditional wizards to do whatever they can to make sure they emerge as victors in the elections or any economic or social endeavors.

At this time when the nation is going for the voting date- Wednesday October 28, 2020, there is no doubt that some candidates have already or will soon heavily rely on witchcrafts to make their ends meet. Some will even take their potential voters and supporters to the wizards to take an oath before the 'sangomas' that they will always rally behind them and never forsake them.

The victims are said to be the voters particularly who receive 'palm greasing' or kickbacks from the desperate politicians. They will be taken to the traditional sangomas and forced to swear before the two - the candidates and the wizards man to promise that they will vote for the man and if they go against the oath they will either suffer from a serious disease or become lunatics.

As elections loom, possibly it's time for traditional healers and doctors to prescribe medicines and therapies to the desperate politicians who are parading towards them, seeking for their help, so that they can win the hearts of their voters.

This time around the wizards have

prepared to do the work because they know many candidates are worried and definitely, will need protection against their enemies (opponents).

Not only that, some politicians feel that it is time to engage with the spirits or the gods to assist them to win the electoral battle.

The disparate politicians are said to use evil means to win votes and it is not a secret. In the past years particularly in 2000s Tanzania was named a hotspot for albinos' killings.

As it appeared in the local and international media- particularly the BBC, as of 2009 some 49 albinos were killed in the lake region and it was alleged that their body parties were used for 'magic medicine' to relieve the 'believers in witchcrafts' from misfortunes like preventing them from witches, diseases and much more to increase their successes in mineral mining businesses predominantly gold which is abundant in the Sukuma land.

In some cases murdering of albinos was connected with political gains. Even though the government has taken some serious measures to halt albi-no killings in the country, some people and politicians are continuing to use other means and ways plus witchcrafts to make their political ends meet.

Discussions with some voters on the 'juju' or 'uchawi' issues in politics in Tanzania revealed that this elections time is the moment for desperate politicians to bleed money as they are changing money for votes; some use cash to lure voters, the same money is used to buy fortunes and victory from the witch doctors.

It is sad that some politicians rely heavily on traditional doctors to 'open the sky for them' during elections. Those are said to be politicians without strategies who can be told by the wizards to do the impossible and yet they don't even think, instead they give them cash to accomplish the impossible and the unacceptable re-



Magicians in Africa are responsible for 'making things perfect' they are working in all sectors. Some are in rain and job making industry; some are wealth creators while others are responsible for aphrodisiac herbs production. File photo

quirements.

Some difficult tasks which the political candidates are assigned to do are like to bring to the witch doctors 'virgin fish obtained from the middle of the sea, roots of creeping plants, yellow sheep and even a green hen.'

Those politicians believe that wizards or gods are capable of doing anything or many things and most of the candidates are told to do some strange stuff during the elective campaigns such as walking with 'human skulls, skunk tails or skins, a fluffy cat or sometimes are directed to seat besides those animals particularly in their

cars seats.

The candidates without strategies are said to do anything which the healers direct them for example there were some stories that some are told to do odd things... a healer can tell the candidate "my boss since we parted ways in 2015 I have been living in destitution.. I tried to make ('denge' a popular local brew among Wapare in Kilimanjaro region, made of sugar cane juice), but it was hard to sell even a tot thank you for coming. We need you to bless our desperate liquor. At this point the politicians will share dirty brews and meals with sangomas and their assis-

tants in order to win votes.

As the politicians want to be seen as problem solvers, they will immediately do all the best they can to make sure that everything is under control to ensure that the bogus healers are content.

During election seasons it is time for the wizards to change their outlooks, some can even dress in crocodiles, black cow skins, some strange local regalia, wearing big necklaces with some beads, cowry shells, lion and vultures claws embroideries. In many cases, the 'waganga' walk with many assistants.

If you watch the candidates some are given special words to mutter whenever they come across their opponents, it is called a tool to rattle their adversaries.

# How to make nutritious food affordable for the 1 billion Africans

ADDISABABA

**O**NE of the biggest revelations of the COVID-19 pandemic has been that people with pre-existing, diet-related conditions such as obesity, heart disease, and diabetes, are more at risk of suffering severe forms of the disease leading to a need for intensive hospitalization.

In Kenya, for instance, the Ministry of Health in July reported that 16 percent of seriously ill COVID-19 patients had diabetes, while diabetes and hypertension alone accounted for 47 percent of the COVID-19 deaths linked to pre-existing conditions.

According to WHO data, these chronic diet-related conditions were among the main risk factors for illness and mortality in Africa prior to COVID-19. The current crisis is simply throwing fuel on the fire. It has highlighted the criticality of diet as the key determinant of health of individuals and populations, particularly in urban areas, where an increased uptake of highly-processed and unhealthy foods is increasingly undermining regional nutrition goals.

In fact, data from countries in East and Southern Africa published in the Journal of International Development show that highly-processed foods now account for more than one third of the purchased food market. Not all of these foods are unhealthy, but many are, and combined with the availability of cheap, convenient and tasty street foods, the result is cheap food that is high in saturated and trans fats, salt and sugar.

Long-term solutions must be sought, a process that demands the involvement of all the world's leaders from communities, governments, civil society and the private sector. The challenge is clear: how to incentivize food producers, processors, distributors and marketers to make nutritious food more available and affordable?

To change these devastating trends fresh foods such as vegetables, fruits, high-protein legumes, nuts, eggs and fish must become more widely available and much more affordable in Africa's food markets. Healthy diets are often inaccessible to most of Africa's population.

The UN estimates that 74% of Africans cannot afford healthy diets. That is nearly 1 billion Africans. This is shocking and unacceptable. These numbers are only likely to rise during this time of a pandemic, where job cuts have greatly reduced people's spending power and lockdowns have broken food supply chains, further increasing food prices, especially the prices of perishable fresh foods.

Temporary and very partial workarounds



include the expansion of social protection programmes such as in Nigeria providing targeted transfers to poor and vulnerable households. These financial packages help the vulnerable to meet their minimum dietary and nutritional needs, but they are not a complete or sustainable solution.

Long-term solutions must be sought, a process that demands the involvement of all the world's leaders from communities, governments, civil society and the private sector. The challenge is clear: how to incentivize food producers, processors, distributors and marketers to make nutritious food more available and affordable?

First public policy needs to be aligned with this goal. Too many policies are working against this aim. For example too few food production and consumption subsidies are going to nutritious foods; too little public agricultural research development and farmer extension focuses on these foods; too often public food procurement disfavors these items and in-

frastructure development ignores cold chain development.

Agriculture in Africa is a key economic driver and supporter of livelihoods. Productivity needs to be increased, biodiversity promoted and climate resilience attained. Is this possible? Yes. Already, farmers in countries like Zambia are recording up to a 60 percent increase in yields through the application of ecosystem-based adaptation techniques.

Elsewhere, in Burkina Faso, farmers have reclaimed 200,000 to 300,000 hectares of degraded lands by digging shallow pits in barren land and filling them with organic matter. The reclaimed land now produces an estimated 80,000 to 120,000 additional tonnes of cereal for the Burkina. The challenge is to replicate these successes throughout the continent.

Second, private investment into these more nutritious foods needs to be incentivised. Of the \$200 billion impact investment fund industry, GAIN estimates less than 0.3% goes to nutritious foods in Africa. Fund facilities that

stimulate private investment in small and medium sized companies that produce nutritious foods for low income populations need to be established that offer loan rates that are lower than market while targeting nutrition outcomes.

Institutional investors such as pension funds need to signal to the bigger companies with extensive value chains in Africa that they will favour companies producing more nutritiously beneficial foods.

Third, consumer demand needs to be shifted towards healthy foods. Too often healthy food campaigns pale in comparison to private sector campaigns for highly processed foods: they lack imagination, humour and flair.

Healthy eating campaigns must be engaging, aspirational and memorable. Food environments—where consumers come face to face with food—are stacked against the consumption of healthy foods which are often consigned to unattractive spaces in markets and stores. This needs to change too.

**The UN estimates that 74% of Africans cannot afford healthy diets. That is nearly 1 billion Africans. Credit: Busani Bafana/IPS**

Fourth, civil society campaigns can hold businesses and governments accountable for promoting healthy foods. Civil society activism is particularly essential to focus attention on silent crises such as unhealthy diets.

Together these four levers can incentivize businesses and other stakeholders to innovate and develop business models, products and services that make nutritious and safe foods more available, affordable, desirable, and sustainable. Africa cannot move ahead smoothly if 1 billion of its people cannot afford a healthy diet.

The approaches defined above are not exhaustive, but if well implemented will bring the continent closer to better nourishment, further improving the prospects of properly fighting emerging health challenges such as COVID-19, both from a health and economic perspective.



# Why so many older people are thriving

By Malibongwe Tyilo

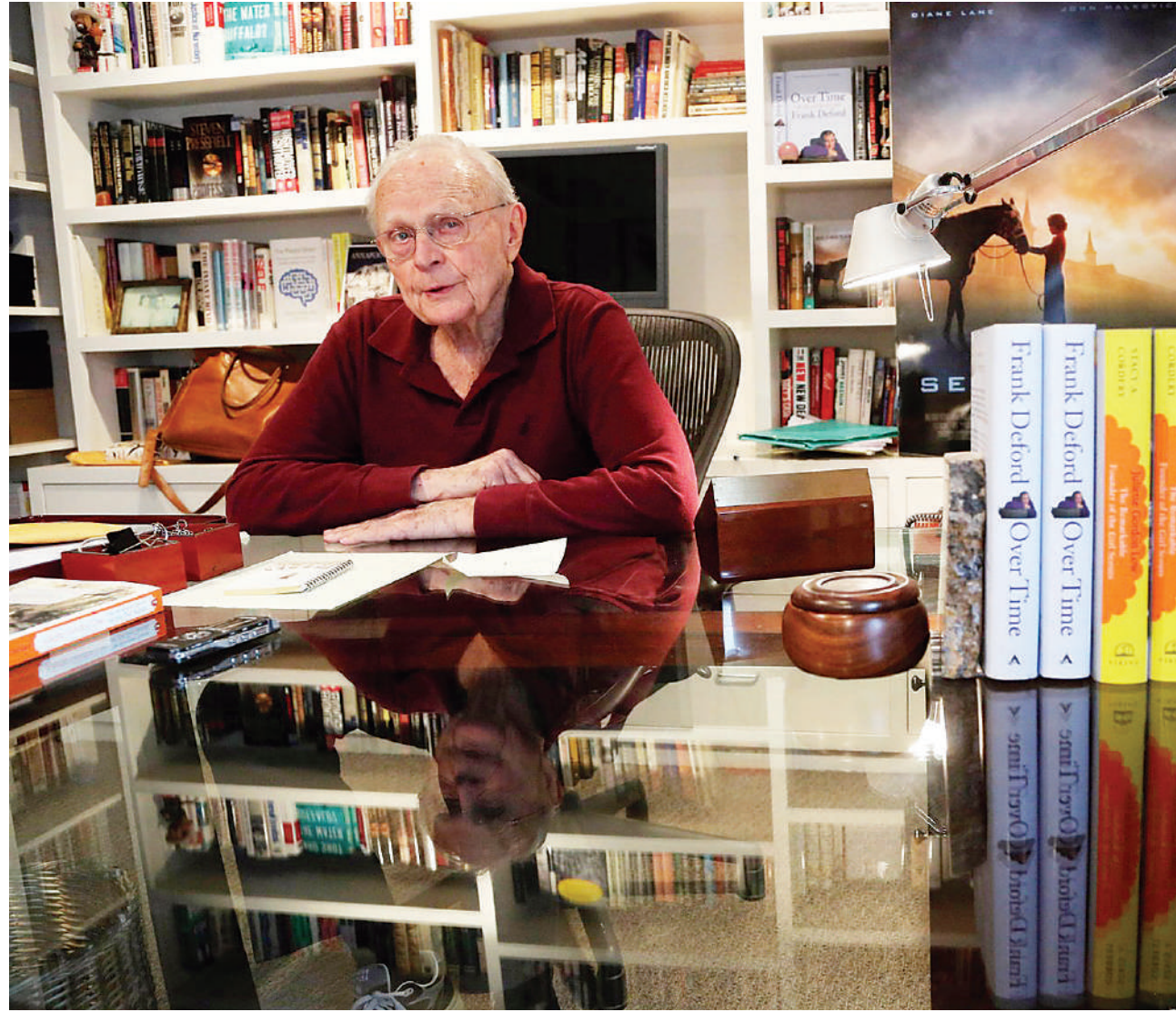
IN June 2019, the UN released the World Population Prospects 2019 report. Some of their findings were that "life expectancy at birth for the world, which increased from 64.2 years in 1990 to 72.6 years in 2019, is expected to increase further to 77.1 years in 2050," and, "by 2050, one in six people in the world will be over age 65 (16%), up from one in 11 in 2019 (9%)....The number of persons aged 80 years or over is projected to triple, from 143 million in 2019 to 426 million in 2050."

How much of an impact the coronavirus pandemic will have on those statistics remains to be seen. However, even if all the confirmed deaths were above the age of 60 – equating to nearly a million deaths, statistically that is unlikely to change the trajectory of the trend towards a larger older population.

The UN credits the growth of an older population to "the advancement of public health, medicine, and economic and social development, and their contribution to the control of disease, prevention of injury, and reduction in the risk of premature death," as well as a declining birth rate.

Outside of conditions such as dementia and Alzheimer's, it is also no longer taken for granted that significant memory decline is part of the ageing process.

A number of studies show a close link between lifestyle choices and cognitive decline among seniors. In 2016, the University of Texas' School of Behavioral and Brain Sciences,



published an analysis of major ageing research of the past 50 years.

One of their key findings was that, "as research developed, a multitude of variables were recognized to contribute to age-related memory deficits.

The shift from early single-mechanism views to involved multifactorial models is striking, and these intricate cognitive models mirror the vast complexity of the aging brain."

Simply put, the level of memory decline in old age is not a given, but rather something that is affected by a multitude of factors, many of which

are being continually discovered.

An article published by Harvard Medical School's Harvard Health Publishing website in 2010, broke it down to practical steps that can help guard against memory decline, stating that "experts think that advanced education may help keep memory strong by getting a person into the habit of being mentally active....Many people have jobs that keep them mentally active, but pursuing a hobby or learning a new skill can function the same way. Read; join a book group; play chess or bridge; write your life story; do crossword or jigsaw puzzles; take a class; pursue music or art; design a new garden layout."

In addition, they highlight the importance of diet and exercise, as well as guarding against diabetes, high blood pressure, sleep apnea, depression, cholesterol, and an underactive thyroid.

On the positive end, the increase in longevity as well as the implementation of healthy habits, is likely to result in a healthier population above the age of 60. While many might be looking forward to retirement at 60, the possibility of another 20, 30, or 40 years of life and minimal cognitive decline, might put into question the idea of retiring at 60.

If indeed, as the body of research suggests, ageing is in fact informed by various conditions, and not all 65 year old or even 80 years olds are in the same state of health or cognitive decline, how fair then is the mandatory retirement age of 60 or 65 that is implemented by many companies? And what of the very real economic

conditions? As reported by Ruan Jooste for Daily Maverick in September 2019, "A key issue that crops up often in retirement research is mounting financial pressure, which is preventing people from saving enough or at all for their golden years. Findings aligned very closely with a widely quoted National Treasury statement that only 6% of the country's population was on track to retire comfortably."

Work also provides a necessary sense of purpose for many. A 2017 study, by professors from Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, titled Association Between Purpose in Life and Objective Measures of Physical Function in Older Adults, concluded that, "Purpose in life was prospectively associated with a decreased risk of developing weak grip strength and slow walking speed, although the findings were more robust for walking speed than for grip strength."

These findings suggest that a sense of purpose in life, a modifiable factor, may play an important role in maintaining physical function among older adults."

Judging by the UN's report, the world's population will continue to get significantly older. Are the current systems in place – be they company policies with regards to retirement age, or youth-obsessed marketing strategies, or public services geared towards seniors – ready for the healthy, and mentally fit elder in the room? If not, are they getting ready?

DM/ML

## Africa scales up digital transformation to cope with COVID-19 crisis

NAIROBI

AFRICA'S digital economy has found a silver lining in the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic as more people opted for online shopping to halt the spread of the virus.

The digital transformation on the continent has been further expedited by Chinese players, including e-commerce titan Alibaba and telecom giant Huawei. Before long, African entrepreneurship passion will be lifted to a record high, as the 2020 Africa's Business Heroes prize competition, a program established by the Jack Ma Foundation's Africa Netpreneur Prize Initiative, is set to reveal its 10 finalists this fall.

### EXPONENTIAL GROWTH

The African people have had their first taste of success in digital transformation as e-commerce on the continent has been experiencing exponential growth amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Facilitated by Alibaba's Electronic World Trade Platform initiative, an online promotion event for Rwandan coffee via live streaming was held recently to help Rwandan coffee farmers pull through difficulties caused by the pandemic. Some 3,000 bags of coffee beans from Rwanda Farmers Coffee Company were sold out in a second. "Alibaba came at a time when it was needed the most. In a world that runs digitally, we have to adapt ourselves to e-commerce, and thanks to Alibaba Group, we are tapping into the opportunity since it's one of the best platforms in the e-commerce sector," Pie Ntwali, spokesperson of Rwanda's National Agricultural Export Development Board, told Xinhua.

To mitigate the economic impact of COVID-19, African e-commerce platforms such as SafeBoda, a motorcycle (bodaboda) taxi hailing app connecting market vendors with customers, are giving a boost. SafeBoda and other e-commerce platforms have seen a triple-digit increase in business following the outbreak of the pandemic, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) announced in August.

Governments in Africa are helping these e-commerce platforms flourish by fostering an enabling environment for e-commerce and the digital economy, in line with recommendations of an UNCTAD eTrade Readiness Assessment.

In Kenya, revenue streams generated by music aggregators, such as local platform Mdundo, have helped mitigate pandemic-related losses, through the download of artists' music tunes and ringtones for mobile phones. Mdundo, which is expanding its presence in 15 African countries and featuring more than 60,000 African artists, has more than 5 million active users. "Music downloads have been rising steadily with a 26-percent uptick in 2020's second quarter on the first quarter's 33 million downloads," Mdundo's CEO Wanjiku Koinange said, adding that COVID-19 was also changing the way creative content is being produced.

Under lockdown, the power of online technology has prevailed, making life easier for African residents to access essential services and household basic essentials like food, drinks and hygiene products by means of different online platforms, Alex Ntale, ICT chamber CEO of Rwandan Private Sector Federation, told Xinhua.

Kauthar D'Souza, a Tanzanian housewife residing in Kariakoo, a major market area in Dar es Salaam, said COVID-19 had doubled her online shopping needs. "Since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic I have been buying all my basic needs including food and clothing online," she said. "Online shopping is the best way of avoiding mass gathering as a way to protect ourselves against the COVID-19." "The e-commerce has showed great potential and it will be the best model of business in the future of commerce," said Ntwali.

### HUGE POTENTIAL

Bora Chitanda, a Tanzanian salesman working in marketing



Mike Manzi (C), a Rwandan student, bids farewell to his family and friends before departing for China to attend an undergraduate program at the Alibaba Business School, at Kigali International Airport in Kigali, Rwanda, on Sept. 9, 2019. (Xinhua)

industry, said the culture of online buying and home delivery in Tanzania that had been accelerated following the outbreak of COVID-19 should be maintained even after the disease was contained.

Experts and policymakers have called on African leaders to "think digital" during a virtual session of the African World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) implementation meeting held early this month under the theme of "COVID-19: A Catalyst to Achieving WSIS Outcomes." "This is a great opportunity for the continent to transform itself. The digital economy is an important sector, so we need to embrace technology and leapfrog if we are to survive," Head of the Information Society Division at the AU Commission Moctar Yedaly said, adding the Digital Transformation Strategy developed by the African Union is key to transforming Africa.

"Building a digital future is crucial if the continent is to become globally competitive, survive and claim the 21st century," read the outcome statement issued by the UN Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) after the meeting.

The participants also agreed harnessing digital technologies and innovation to transform Africa's societies and economies as a crucial impetus is "not only to promote Africa's integration but also generate inclusive economic growth, stimulate job creation, bridge the digital divide and eradicate poverty to secure the benefits of the digital revolution for socio-economic development." "The Information and Communications Technology (ICT) is an important engine for achieving sustainable development goals," said Jean Paul Adam, director of the Technology, Climate Change and Natural Resources Management Division at the UNECA. "However, our main challenge remains. The digital divide is widespread in Africa with a very low rate of connectivity. We can never meet the 2030 target if we do not urgently address the issue of connectivity across the continent," said Adam.

### CHINA'S EFFORTS

The good news for Africa is that China is helping the continent to shape the e-commerce ecosystem in a way not seen before, by pro-

viding e-commerce platforms, mobile payment technologies and smart phone devices.

E-commerce outlets in Africa such as Jumia are already achieving tremendous growth due to its connectivity with Chinese online firms, notably Alibaba and others. "China-Africa e-commerce partnerships are scaling up the digital dream that Africa has had, and helping the continent move towards innovation, technology and competitiveness," Edward Kusewa, economics lecturer at St. Paul University in Nairobi, Kenya, told Xinhua. Chinese smart phones have led to a social media boom especially among the continent's youth and have played a big role in the growth of Africa's e-commerce industry, according to Kusewa. Mobile money tools such as M-pesa have made digital shopping seamless, thanks to mobile devices made in China.

On Sept. 24, Joseph U. Ibeh, senior analyst at Space in Africa, made public his latest research report on mobile money, saying that there are currently more than 290 mobile money services deployed across 95 countries, mainly in Africa, Asia and Latin America. Citing the Global System for Mobile Communications Association (GSMA) State

of the Industry Report on Mobile Money, Ibeh said "Sub-Saharan Africa is not showing signs of slowing down in mobile money adoption as the GSMA forecasts that the region will surpass the half-billion mark by the end of 2020."

Africa's digital footprint has benefited greatly from China's technologies and digital platforms provided by both Chinese startups and the Chinese government, said Kusewa. Satellite communication, cable networks, telecommunications equipment, software development and hardware capabilities are some of the advancements that African technological infrastructure has gained over the past three decades from China. "The presence of Chinese firms like Huawei has assisted African nations scale up their uptake of the digital economy," said Kusewa.

On Sept. 16, Huawei Kenya kicked off this year's Seeds for the Future program, which seeks to develop ICT talent amid growing China-Kenya ties. Will Meng, CEO of Huawei Kenya, said that the program will be held virtually for the first time amid the COVID-19 pandemic, providing a five-day intensive training to 60 participants from around the country.

They will study 5G, big data, artificial intelligence, cloud computing to empower them to catch up with the latest technology trends. "By sharing ICT expertise and experiences in the global business environment, young people from different countries can learn about advanced technologies in the ICT industry and accumulate ICT expertise and skills through the Seeds for the Future program, contributing to the progress of the global ICT industry," said Meng during the virtual launch.

The program, which started globally in 2008, has so far benefited almost 200 students in Kenya since 2014 and is moving forward this year despite the disruptions from the COVID-19 pandemic. "We truly believe that talent is the key to success."

It is why we invest so much in supporting Kenyan ICT talent which will not only drive the ICT industry but power every other industry," said Zhou Pingjian, Chinese Ambassador to Kenya.

"Prior to the entry of Chinese firms, Africans relied on technology from western nations whose price was beyond the reach of most governments and private sector firms," said Kusewa.

"Today, African digitization efforts are growing rapidly and are largely associated with investments from China. Firms such as Huawei, ZTE, and China's Telecom have already started working to build core systems of ICT infrastructure across the continent," said Kusewa.

Further, China has called on all states to put equal emphasis on development and security, and take a balanced approach to technological progress, economic development and protection of national security and public interests.

"We welcome governments, international organizations, ICT companies, technology communities, civil organizations, individuals and all other actors to make concerted efforts to promote data security under the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits," said Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Sept. 8 during the International Seminar on Global Digital Governance.

"Africa is witnessing a robust digital infrastructure that is helping to spur innovation among small businesses. The continent has also realized that through partnerships with China, it can lower the cost of communication across African countries," said Zambian social economist Kelvin Chisanga.

Xinhua



## Media experts want special taskforce to review community radio charges

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

EXPERTS have called for the creation of a special task which will review charges being imposed onto community media outlets, to enable these non-commercial information broadcasters to operate in a friendlier environment and thus be able to reach out to a wider audience base.

The chairperson of the Tanzania Network of Community Radio Stations (TADIO), Prosper Kwizige was on view that, the Ministry of Transport and Communications; the Ministry of Information, Culture and Sports; the Ministry of Finance and the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) should form a joint task force which start common dialogue to aid that mission.

"The National Constitution through Act 18, recognises the right of all citizens to get information through proper channels but this is crippled by myriad of charges imposed on local media outlets, including community radios that could serve an important mission of taking services into rural villages," pointed out Kwizige.

The TADIO chair was speaking in Arusha, where the occasion to observe this year's International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) was hosted at national level.

It was pointed out during the meeting that running of services oriented media outlets such as community radio stations and news-

papers that usually don't sell advertising space or airtime is already an expensive venture, but when added charges get imposed, then the whole venture becomes unmanageable.

Held annually IDUAI which takes place on the 28th of September of each year, was designated by the United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)'s General Conference.

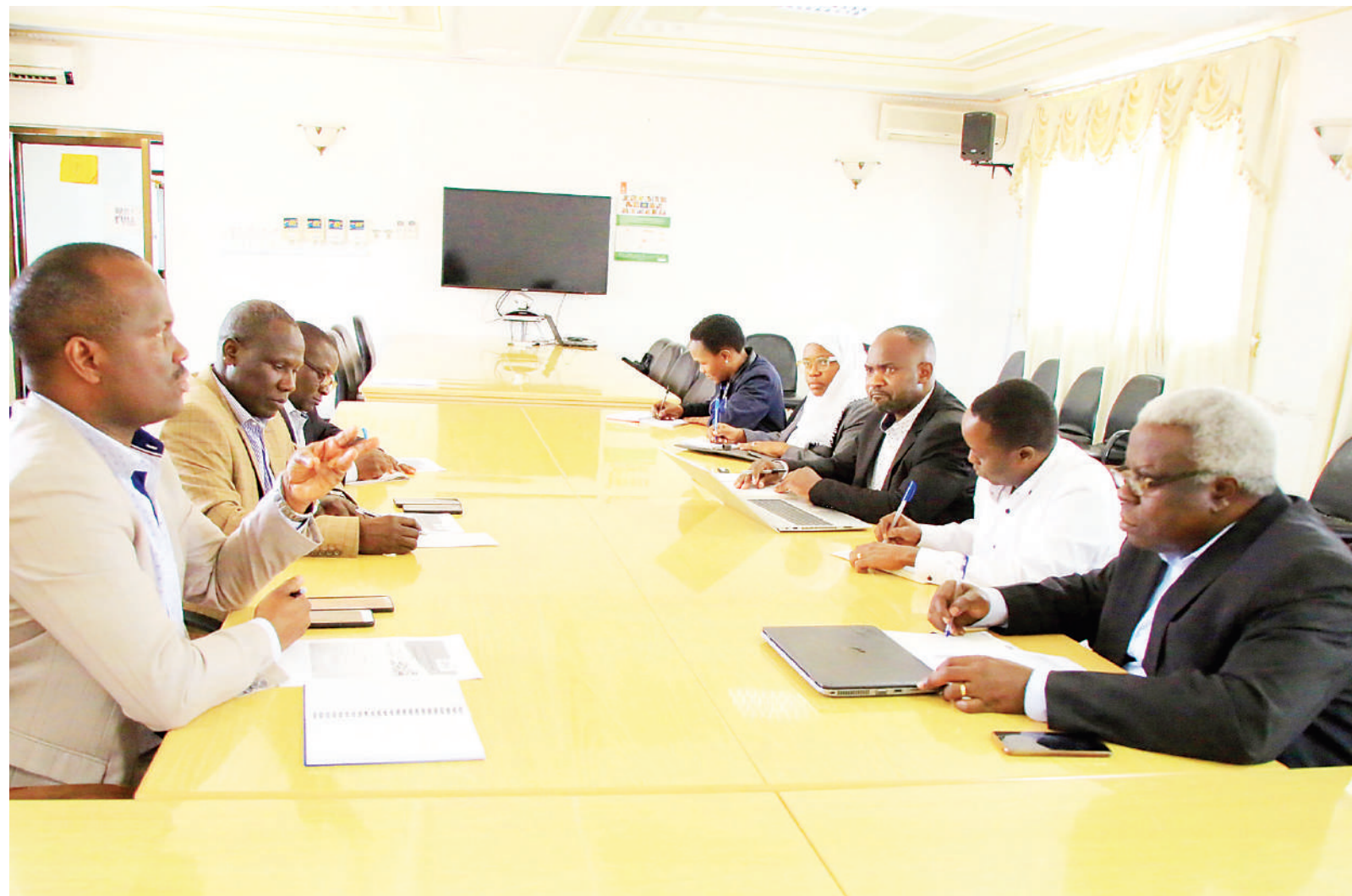
The UNESCO country representative in Tanzania, Tirso Don Santos said his organisation will continue to work in partnership with both the government and local media outlets for the sole mission of ensuring that all people access proper information.

For his part, Arusha Region Commissioner Idd Kimanta who graced the occasion said his office is open to work with all media organisations. He later launched a special website which will serve as new portal.

The International Day for Universal Access to Information was inaugurated in November 2015 and was first held on 28 September 2016.

The day has been recognised as International Right to Know Day since 2002 and was developed by international civil society advocates as from the year 2012. The UNESCO resolution creating the day was pushed by African civil society groups seeking greater information transparency.

So far, despite its importance, only about 7 African Union member states have adopted national right to information laws.



Agriculture ministry Permanent Secretary Gerald Kusaya (L) talks to agriculture sector skills council (TPSF-ASSC) members after receiving the council's strategic plan in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

# Report on investments issues, journos urged

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald, Tanga

THE media must disseminate information that encourages investments in various sectors such as health, economy, good governance and education, which are key for the country to harness the demographic dividend.

Managing director for Ujuzi Era Limited Dastani Kamanzi made the call yesterday here when speaking during the launch of a guide for journalists prepared by the Media Council of Tanzania

(MCT) under the support of Pathfinder International.

The guide is based on the result of the demographic dividend study presented in the Tanzania Demographic Dividend Report 2017, which examines Tanzania's prospects for harnessing the demographic dividend in light of its medium-term and long-term development plan articulated in vision 2025.

The guide intends to equip media practitioners, particularly journalists, with requisite knowledge and understanding on key

questions, steps, and appeals on which to base their contribution to the country's efforts to harness the demographic dividend in the country.

Kamanzi said: "There is growing recognition that demographic changes are critical to human capital development and to countries economic and social development prospects."

Tanzania demographic transition, from high birth and death rates to low birth and death rates started in the 1990's but remains sluggish and runs the risk of

undermining the country's economic growth prospects because population growth significantly increases the demand for investment in social services.

Statistics shows that, between 1990-2015, under five-mortality declined steeply and consistently, from 141 to 67 per live births, and life expectancy increased by 16 years.

The population growth rate has hovered over 3.0 percent since 1990's which implies that the population is doubling every 23 years. Tanzania's population is projected to increase from 53.9 million in 2015 to 186.9 million in 2065. Rural-urban migration is also increasing; young people are projected to increase from 17.8 million in 2015 to 62.3 million by 2065, with 56 percent below the age of 19.

Similarly, the total dependency ratio, aged 0-14 and over 65 to the total working age population 15-64 has been around 94, higher than the average for both sub-Saharan Africa and low-income countries.

"To attain the country's vision of 2025 that aims to transform the country from least developed to semi-industrialized economy, policy makers are increasingly exploring prospects for attaining the demographic dividend, the economic benefit that can take place when a country undergoes a rapid decline in mortality, followed by a rapid decline in fertility," he said.

Countries that have accelerated demographic transition and leveraged the youth bulge through proper investment in human capital and key sectors have achieved rapid economic transformation.

Kamanzi proposed the journalists to use their skills in reporting to encourage the government through policy makers to see the necessity of allocating enough investment in education, health, good governance and economy.

"A continuous flow of targeted and tailored messages is needed to educate diverse audiences about the opportunities and collective consulted actions that may be taken to hasten efforts towards harnessing the demographic dividend," the guide read.

## Dar entrepreneurs empowered with skills on how to combat COVID-19

By Getrude Mbago

FIFTY people with disabilities (PWDs), students and women entrepreneurs in Dar es Salaam have been empowered with skills on how to overcome social and economic impacts caused by Covid-19 pandemic.

Organised collaboratively by Save the Children Tanzania, Her Ability Foundation and the Integrating Capacity and Community Advancement Organisation (ICCAO), focused on capacitating the special groups with essential skills and knowledge which would support them take appropriate initiatives to fight the impacts. It also aimed to educate the groups on their rights as well the fight against violence.

Speaking during the event held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, advocacy and campaign manager at Save the Children centre, Nuria Mshare said that women and children are the major victims of the pandemic, so it was vital to support them regain power socially and economically.

She said that to support

economic recovery, soft skills training could help women-owned businesses bounce back and recover from the crisis.

"We brought them here to educate them on various issues concerning them, considering the groups. We wanted them to know their position, value and what they should do to improve their duality lives amid Covid-19 impacts," she said.

For her part, ICCAO executive director Zahra Salehe, Persons with disabilities face a number of challenges on how to protect themselves from Covid-19 as well as in overcoming impacts brought by the pandemic.

She cited an example that during the three-month school holiday, majority of children, especially those living in vulnerable rural families and those with disabilities lacked access to studies due to lack of access to online platforms, something which has affected their learning development.

Zahra said that there some of the children faced various violence challenges such as rape, beating and other brutal beating something which should also be considered on how

to help them especially psychologically.

Safarina Frank, a Form Two student at Mikochei secondary school said that Covid-19 pandemic affected several school children in the country, a situation which may also impact their social economic development.

"I am calling on the government, stakeholders and development partners to continue supporting special groups especially during disasters. Covid-19 outbreak should be a lesson and a wakeup call to all people," she added.

Another participant, Miraji Ramadhan, a Form Two student said that the pandemic has affected his development in studies as he spent a lot of time staying home.

"When in school, we get more time to study, take self-tests and quizzes. So the three months of holiday which we spent at home during the pandemic had affected my development," Ramadhan noted.

He also said that the training also helped them to know their rights and be able to report incidences of violence whenever they face or witness them.



Mbeya Urban CCM constituency parliamentary candidate Dr Tulia Ackson (Centre) participates at environmental cleanliness exercise in Mbeya city on Monday. Photo: Correspondent Grace Mwakalinga

# TAMWA commends police for arrest of a murder suspect

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA) in Zanzibar has appreciated efforts taken by the community to cooperate with the police force in ensuring the arrest of Haji Jaha Issa (25) who is allegedly suspected to be involved in the death of Hajra Abdallah Ab-

dallah (21). Unguja-South Regional Police Commander, Suleiman Hassan Suleiman said the suspect, a resident of Paje in South-Unguja was arrested on August 1, 2020 in Msihi village, Handeni District, Tanga Region.

Commander Suleiman said that police were tipped off by Good Samaritans who shared information

on the presence of the suspect in their village.

He said the villagers were suspicious after the suspect asked them to assist him with shelter so that he can hide from the police. He said that upon receiving the information, police officers arrested him and he was brought to Zanzibar on August 4, 2020.

Issa was arraigned at the Vuga High Court in Zanzibar on August 28, 2020. His case will again be mentioned on October 9, this year.

Commander Suleiman added: "The search and arrest of the suspect was simple following the good cooperation residents and police officers received from Msihi village.

It is almost seven months now since Hajra was murdered in Paje South-Unguja Region on February 26, 2020. Hajra's mother, Lela Leo commended the police force for arresting the suspect.

In view of the situation, TAMWA Zanzibar appeals to law enforcement agencies to ensure justice to the incident in order to uphold the

rule of law and end such oppressive acts against women.

TAMWA Zanzibar has so far recorded 17 murder cases involving women in four years from 2016 to 2020. Of the number, only four cases including that of the late Hajra have been brought before the court of law. According to the information that TAMWA Zan-

zibar has received, the cases are still pending due several reasons including failure to trace the suspects and lack of evidence.

There three similar cases going on at the High Court in Vuga, Unguja-Urban West involving the murder of Wasila Mussa (21), Samira Sultan (56) and Zawadi Paulo (35).



# Women, peace and security: Is SA a global champion but domestic loser?

By Gustavo de Carvalho and Liezelle Kumalo

**G**ENDER-based violence and women's empowerment are enormous challenges in South Africa. President Cyril Ramaphosa's words in June 2020 illustrated the seriousness of the problem: "As a country, we find ourselves in the midst of not one, but two, devastating epidemics ... At a time when [Covid-19] has left us all feeling vulnerable and uncertain, violence is being unleashed on women and children with a brutality that defies comprehension."

Amid this national crisis of violence against women, South Africa in August adopted its long-awaited national plan to implement United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325. This is the most important global policy on strengthening the role of women in peace and security situations.

South Africa's plan is long overdue considering that Resolution 1325 was passed 20 years ago. Despite the delay, the country has - during its current term on the Security Council - actively worked to improve women's participation in peacebuilding and their protection in situations of armed conflict.

South Africa thus faces a dichotomy: It is seen as a global champion in this area, but at home, its women face extreme violence on a daily basis and the country has until recently lacked its own Resolution 1325 action plan.

In comparison, other states championing the women, peace and security agenda - such as Sweden and Canada - have published multiple versions of their own national action plans. African countries like Liberia and Rwanda adopted their plans over 10 years ago. Canada has even appointed an ambassador exclusively dedicated to women, peace and security.



South Africa's plan is nevertheless unique, as it's neither entirely a foreign policy tool nor a domestic policy - it's a mix of both. It acknowledges that the country's international engagements on women, peace and security cannot be separated from the violence women experience within its borders. It is an important step in ensuring that progressive foreign policy improves the lives of South African women.

The UN Security Council meets on the sidelines of the 73rd session of the General Assembly of the United Nations at United Nations Headquarters

The absence of a plan to implement Resolution 1325 didn't prevent South Africa from making important strides at the national level on women's empowerment, however. Its Constitution provides full rights to women and every foreign minister since 1999 has been a woman.

Moreover, 43% of its parliamentarians, 31% of the defence force and 37.2% of police are women at both tactical and strategic levels. South Africa's Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka is the head of UN Women, the leading UN agency on gender equality.

Women, peace and security were arguably South Africa's most visible priority during its two-year term on the Security Council. The country led negotiations on Resolution 2493 during its first presidency month, in October 2019. Despite being unanimous, the resolution was agreed only after fierce negotiation by the South African mission to the UN. The talks overcame reservations from China, Russia and the United States about the use of language on human rights and sexual and reproductive rights.

The resolution asked UN member states to provide further information on the progress and setbacks on the women, peace and security agenda, pushing them to strengthen the prac-

tical steps needed to improve the position of women. One of South Africa's focus areas on the council was pushing for implementation and member state accountability.

Back home, however, women face many challenges. Despite not being in a conflict situation, South African women are far from secure. There is a high prevalence of gender-based violence, with 26% of women reporting intimate partner violence in their lifetime.

While initially driven largely by the Department of International Relations and Cooperation, other sectors of society were involved in developing South Africa's Resolution 1325 implementation plan. The aim was to produce a strategy that would acknowledge the country's foreign policy priority as well as the daily needs of and threats to women.

Beyond international relations, the process brought together departments such as defence, and women, children and people with disabilities. A range of academics, women's rights activists, policymakers and civil society also took part.

It was an important lesson for developing inclusive and accountable foreign policy. By framing what is essentially a foreign policy plan around its domestic problems, South Africa can legitimately debate gender violence across the world, whether societies are in conflict or not.

But South Africa needs to reduce gender violence at home if its global commitments are to go beyond rhetoric. With the plan adopted, the country must take action. The focus should be on identifying who will do what, budgeting for projects now and in the future, monitoring implementation and evaluating results.

The plan will only be effective if it is embraced by South Africa's government and society as a whole - not only by the international relations department. This means all relevant government departments, civil society and the business community must work together. Coordination with other initiatives on violence against women will avoid duplication and blind spots.

South Africa needs to demonstrate change on the empowerment and safety of its women. If not, the country risks being seen as a superficial global champion. For the sake of South African women and society as a whole, this is a battle that must be won on all fronts.

Gustavo de Carvalho, Senior Researcher and Liezelle Kumalo, Researcher, Peace Operations and Peacebuilding, ISS Pretoria

# China's tourism market to see robust recovery over combined holiday for National Day, Mid-Autumn Festival

**C**HINA'S tourism sector is expected to receive a further boost during the upcoming eight-day combined holiday for the National Day and the Mid-Autumn Festival, which will run from Oct.1 to 8.

This year's Mid-Autumn Festival falls on Oct. 1, coinciding with National Day, adding an extra day to the seven-day National Day holiday.

From Aug. 31 to early September, the number of people searching online for train tickets for trips during the upcoming holiday surged by 83 percent from last year. Tickets for certain trips during the holiday are all sold out, according to data from qunar.com, a leading online travel services platform in China.

Data from Chinese online travel services and social networking platform Mafengwo showed that the first small travel peak of this year's combined holiday for the National Day and Mid-Autumn Festival is expected to start ahead of Sept. 26, as many young people plan to ask for four days' leave so that they can enjoy more than 10 days of travel.

The major travel peak will arrive on Sept. 30 and Oct.1, while some tourists who plan to enjoy short and medium-distance tours will start their trips on Oct. 3 to avoid the travel rush, suggested Mafengwo.

80 percent of the people surveyed by aoyou.com, a Chinese travel services website, plan to travel during the upcoming holiday, with white-collar workers between the

ages of 26 and 45 accounting for 80 percent of the total.

It's also worth noting that modes of travel such as small-scale group tours, customized tours and road trips have become popular as people are now more aware of the necessity of epidemic prevention and control.

Customized tours are witnessing rapid development and rocketing popularity, with more than 40 percent of tourists preferring this novel way to travel for the eight-day combined holiday, according to relevant data.

The number of orders for customized tours during this year's Golden Week holiday has increased by 24 percent year on year, indicated data from Mafengwo.

In addition, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, more and more Chinese people have shown increasing preference for road trips which are freer and safer. Online searches on the topic "road trips during National Day holiday" have seen a 153-percent month-on-month surge, suggested big data from Mafengwo.

Southwest China's Yunnan province, Guizhou province, Sichuan province, Chongqing municipality, Tibet autonomous region and east China's Jiangsu province, Zhejiang province, Shanghai municipality, Shandong province, and Fujian province are the top 10 popular domestic tourist destinations for the combined holiday, with Yunnan being the most popular among tourists.

In addition to the traditional popular travel destinations



People visit the Mogao Grottoes in Dunhuang, Northwest China's Gansu Province, September 13. Photo : People's Daily

during the National Day and Mid-Autumn Festival holidays, such as Sanya, Lijiang, Kunming, Xiamen, Xi'an, Lhasa, Harbin, Guiyang, Chengdu, and Jiuzhaigou, other tourist destinations in the northwest of China have become hugely popular this year, with the number of relevant online searches surging by 475 percent from the previous year, according to data released by China's largest online travel platform Ctrip. Sightseeing tours of destinations such as deserts, great rivers and Danxia landforms as well as activities including camel-riding camel and visits to the ruins of the ancient Silk Road in northwestern China have become popular choices this year, suggested data from Ctrip.

This combined eight-day holiday will be the last statutory holiday in China this year, which is also one of the main reasons for the growing enthusiasm of Chinese people for travels.

With more tourists going out to enjoy their travels during the upcoming holiday, China's tourism sector is set to see a faster recovery, said Luo Jun, co-founder of Tujia, a Chinese online platform for vacation rentals, and Sweetome, a Shanghai-based global accommodation sharing operator.

People's Daily

## THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 141 00--

WORD FIT puzzle grid with clues: 3 letters: IRE, AGE; 4 letters: ARID, ADAM, MINT, ASIA; 5 letters: SENSE, ROOTS, TRUST, NEPAL; 6 letters: REMAIN, ASMARA, AFRICA, ARNICA, NIAMEY, INCASE; 7 letters: GERMANY, INCOMES, DELETED; 8 letters: GUARDIAN

CROSSWORD puzzle grid with clues: 1 the action of deducting; 2 Rocky city in Tanzania; 3 lament; 4 Islamic canonical law; 5 a formally concluded and ratified agreement between states; 6 the subject of a talk; 7 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER; 8 Modern Persia; 9 find by investigation; 10 hot drink for breakfast; 11 Insane; 12 Tripoli is her capital city

ANSWER KEY for the Word Fit puzzle: S T R A I L G H T; R O M E M D; P M O V E D; Z I A N Z A P; G O G O S P A; T E N S C A R; T R A M P A N T; G E A R; G R E C E T; A T E D D Y; T Y E R

ANSWER KEY for the Crossword puzzle: 1 DEDUCT; 2 DAR ES SALAAM; 3 MOURNING; 4 SHARIAH; 5 TREATY; 6 TALK; 7 CEO; 8 PERSIA; 9 DETECTIVE; 10 PORRIDGE; 11 MAD; 12 LIBYA







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# Geita Gold salutes authorities for friendly mining investment climate

By Smart Money Reporter, Geita

**T**HE government has been commended for streamlining bureaucracy in project approval and curbing corruption in public offices which has improved the investment climate in the mining industry.

Geita Gold Mining Limited's Vice-President for Sustainability, Simon Shayo said last week that the multinational company will continue to support efficiency and effective investments in line with the government's vision.

Speaking at the climax of Geita International Mining and Technology Exhibition held in Geita Town, Shayo also commended the government for addressing many fiscal related challenges for the past 20 years when the miner started operations. "The environment is much better now and very encouraging," he said.

Speaking at the closing ceremony, Mining Minister, Dotto Biteko said the reforms undertaken in the sector have increased contribution to gross domestic product from 3.2 per cent in 2015 to 5.2 per cent in 2020.

Biteko said that the sector is currently growing at an average of 17.7 percent with revenue collection on the increase to 528bn/- in 2019/20 fiscal year, almost four times compared to 2015 and that the target this year is



Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office in charge of Investment, Angellah Kairuki (L) handing over a certificate to GGML's representative after emerging as best exhibitor during Geita Mining Exhibition last week. Photo courtesy of GGML.

to collect 600bn/- in the 2020/21 financial year. "We are going to ensure that the mining investment climate remains competi-

tive to genuine investors both local and foreign," the Minerals Minister assured. In his closing remarks of the exhibition,

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said the government has taken measures targeting to boost both individual and national in-

come from the mining sector. In a speech read on his behalf by Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office in charge of Investment, Angellah Kairuki, Majaliwa said: "The government is now moving to survey and allocate fresh areas with proven reserves to small scale miners, invest in intensive training and research as well as supporting the involvement of local companies to supply services in medium and large scale mines."

He noted that the government has released funds to State Mining Corporation (Stamico) and the Geological Survey of Tanzania (GST) to procure the latest and sophisticated technologies used in the mining process and exploration.

Majaliwa further noted increased revenue from the mining sector has helped the government implement various development projects such as construction of health facilities, provision of subsidized education and increasing loan to higher students' loan board.

Chairman of the Geita Regional Miners Association, Christopher Kadeo, lauded the government in Geita for initiating the mining investment and technology exhibition which is a platform helping to improve technology among artisanal miners in the region.

Meanwhile, state owned Stamico said their participation at the third mining fair has helped create wider knowledge among small scale miners and entrepreneurs in the industry. Stamico's acting Managing Director, Dr Venance Mwase said, "The Corporation has procured the latest technology to help in processing and exploration of minerals in the country."

# IATA faults quarantine measures in Africa aviation recovery effort

NAIROBI

INTERNATIONAL Air Travel Association (IATA) has warned that the quarantine measures put in place by some African countries are hampering the recovery of the aviation sector. The news comes at a time when more African countries are opening up their airspace as they ease restrictions imposed by the Covid-19 in March.

IATA says 35 countries in Africa and Middle East have put in place mandatory quarantine for passengers from other nations, with the numbers having gone up by seven since August, arguing that that the measures are slowing down the recovery of the sector.

"The impact is that the region effectively remains in lockdown despite borders being open," IATA said in the latest communication. IATA wants governments in these

regions to implement testing as an alternative to quarantine measures when re-opening their economies.

"Mandatory quarantine measures stop people from travelling. We understand that governments' priority is on protecting the well-being of their citizens. Quarantine destroys livelihoods. Testing is an alternative method that will also save travel and tourism jobs," said Muhammad Albakri, IATA's regional vice president for Africa and the Middle East. In East Africa, Kenya has imposed a 14-day quarantine for visitors coming in from the countries that have not been listed in the safe list.

Kenya was forced to remove Tanzania from the list of those whose citizens would be required to undergo mandatory quarantine after Dar retaliated by banning Kenyan-based airlines from its space. Kenya

Airways started flying back the Dar route this week Monday after the ban was lifted last week by the Tanzanian authorities.

Rwanda's Ministry of Infrastructure announced that passengers entering the country will be required to take a second test upon arrival with the results expected within 24 hours. This will be in addition to the test that they would have taken in their home countries in the last 72 hours.

Rwanda requires international passengers to quarantine in selected hotel rooms that cost between Sh2,000 and Sh4,000 a day, implying that travellers will have to incur double cost to enter the country.

Budget carrier Jambojet delayed flying to Kigali when international flights resumed in August because of stricter Covid-19 requirements in that country that the airline said

would lead to low demand.

According to IATA, travellers are in support of testing. The latest report of passenger attitudes by the agency, in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) showed 72 percent of people surveyed agreed that those who test negative for Covid-19 should not have to quarantine, and that 80 percent of people feel that the pandemic is sufficiently under control in the country to open borders.

Quarantines, closed borders and movement restrictions continue to decimate travel demand in Africa and the Middle East. Traffic levels in Africa and the Middle East saw the largest drop of all regions in July compared to 2019 levels.

Total passenger traffic in Africa in July 2020 was 93.7 percent, below 2019 levels and in the Middle East 95.5 percent. Aviation supported more than 6.2 million jobs and \$56 billion



President John Pombe Magufuli has since June allowed international airlines and foreign visitors to come to Tanzania without being quarantined.

in GDP in Africa and 2.4 million jobs and \$130 billion in GDP in the Middle East pre-Covid-19.

The economic impact of the collapse in air traffic in 2020 due to the pandemic could be 3.5 million lost jobs and \$35 billion in GDP in Africa and

1.5 million lost jobs and \$85 billion in GDP Middle East. "Testing provides a safe alternative to quarantine and a solution to stop the economic and social devastation being caused by Covid-19," said Mr Albakri.

# UAE consumers expect a fully cashless society by 2030

ABU DHABI

THE Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated the UAE's transition to a cashless society as a growing number of businesses and individuals have stopped using physical cash due to safety and hygiene concerns, according to a new survey. Almost two-thirds of people in the UAE, or 64 per cent, expect the country to become fully cashless by 2030, the poll by Standard Chartered found.

The survey, which was conducted globally among 12,000 respondents aged 18 and above from August 17 to 21, also found that 73 per cent of the UAE's respondents believe Covid-19 has made them more positive about online shopping. However, prior to the pandemic, 72 per cent of consumers preferred to shop in-person versus less than a third online.

Almost half (47 per cent) of UAE respondents said they also prefer making online payments now rather than using in-person cards or cash payments, according to the survey. "The UAE is on a fast track in adopting digital banking and cashless payments and the pandemic has accelerated the digital drive," said Sonny Zulu, head of retail banking at Standard Chartered UAE.

This resonates with the findings of a Mastercard survey in April, which found that 82 per cent of UAE consumers prefer to make contactless payments due to safety and hygiene concerns amid the coronavirus pandemic.



A point of sale machine with a bank card are popular cashless vehicles.

The survey results are supported by ATM withdrawal data where Standard Chartered offers retail banking. Cash withdrawals from ATMs are now half what they were two years ago in 10 of the 12 surveyed countries, including Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Kenya, China, Malaysia, Pakistan, Singapore, Taiwan, and the UAE, while there was no noticeable drop in the UK and US.

Although 46 per cent of consumers in the UAE reported spending more in July, 89 per

cent of people in the Emirates say the pandemic has made them more careful with their expenditure against a global average of 75 per cent. "We see consumers in the UAE spending more on basics, such as groceries, health-care and digital devices than they did prior to the pandemic, and they expect this increase to continue in the future," Mr Zulu said.

# TGT women graduates given working tools, entrepreneurial skills

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

WOMEN graduates of Tanzania Growth Trust's 'Mkubwa' Project received working tools to enable them run their businesses while also adopting a saving culture through Vicoba.

TGT's CEO, Anna Dominick said in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during the tools handing over ceremony that 'Mkubwa' which is done in collaboration with We World Tanzania, has ensured growth of women most of who are single mothers and struggling. "We found these mothers incompetent and unable to send their children to school, we linked them and gave them entrepreneurship skills through training while explaining to them the importance of saving through Vicoba," Dominick said.

She explained that the program was set up with the aim of reaching out small and medium-sized business women but later found out that there is a large group of women left out and who are struggling to survive and deserve assistance.

She said her institution in collaboration with We World Tanzania provided them

with training and capital and also connected them with government loans networks through councils and they are already working with Kinondoni and Temeke councils.

Dominick stated that the women entrepreneurs who have been groomed by 'Mkubwa' will be monitored by their mentors so that they can grow in terms of income and be able to send their children to school.

The training which started in 2019 involved 20 young mothers, 10 from Temeke and 10 from Kinondoni Municipalities but this year, the number has increased to 57, 24 from Temeke and 33 from Kinondoni. The TGT chief executive further noted that next year, they aim to reach 60 mothers.

In remarks at the event, We World Tanzania Manager, Nyawaye Gesirari said in the three years of implementation the 'Mkubwa' program, they have been able to reach 140 households the majority being mothers who were unable to pay school fees for children. "We are currently aiming to enter the third phase of the program and plan to increase the number of beneficiaries to bring about better results," Gesirasi said.



## Universities urged to produce job creating graduates, not job seekers



MS TCDC graduate in a parade for the big day last week. Photo courtesy of MS TCDC.

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

INSTITUTIONS of higher learning including universities should produce graduates who will establish businesses that create jobs for non-graduates and unskilled labourers other than job seekers.

Principal of Tengeru Institute of Community Development, Dr George Bakari said last week during the 13th graduation ceremony of MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation that global dynamics of employment have changed much such that graduates who lack enterprising skills to establish businesses end up frustrated while looking for employment in a saturated labour market.

"Modern university graduates should establish businesses that create jobs, pay government taxes and contribute to economic growth as soon as they get out of school," said Dr Bakari while commending MSTCDC for discharging competent graduates into the market.

He said part of graduates training at universities should include creativity and innovation to equip students with skills to

become entrepreneurs other than job seekers because the labour market globally has no room to absorb all new graduates annually.

"These graduates who have been here for the past three years should have requisite knowledge and skills to come up with bankable ideas that will create businesses that employ others. Graduates from higher learning institutions should assist the country's economy grow rapidly through their innovative contributions," the TICD chief added.

He named some of the potential areas where graduates can start businesses as horticulture with vegetables and fruits being on high demand in urban centres and abroad; establishing small agro-processing plants to add value to commodities and poultry farming.

Addressing parents and graduates during the ceremony, MS TCDC Director of Programs, Sara Teri said among the graduates were 10 from outside the country who qualified to occupy senior leadership positions in community service and social administration anywhere on the African continent.

"We ensure that our graduates can self employ themselves and help governments address the problem of unemployment and poverty prevailing on the African continent," Teri said while noting that the graduates will also help create value in the private sector. She said the institute had to complete courses online because of challenges brought about by the coronavirus outbreak.

One of the foreign students who graduated, Vincent Otieno from Kenya promised to mobilise idle youths waiting for white or blue collar jobs to start own businesses and contribute to growth of the economy.

"I hope to mobilise and give knowledge and skills to youths so that they can play an active role national development and democratic governance," Otieno said adding that he hopes to be a solutions presenter to the community.

Established in 1967, MS TCDC is a joint project of Norwegian international aid agency, ActionAid Denmark and the host government aimed at producing graduates who can offer practical solutions to community development and social service administration.

## Bank invites guardians, students to get cheap loans for fees

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

PARENTS and guardians of students at all levels of education can access loans to pay school fees timely and avoid inconveniences from school administrators.

National Bank of Commerce's Head of Small and Medium Enterprises, Mussa Mwindyindaho said in Dar es Salaam last week during Tusiime Primary School's graduation ceremony for primary school leaver, that the loans only attract a modest interest rate.

Mwindyindaho who was responding to a request made by Tusiime Head-teacher, Laurent Gama said the bank has every product and service to help parents and students bridge the financing gap that families face when new school terms start.

In his speech, Gama said that many parents are not able to pay school fees on time so he requested the bank to establish the school fees bridging loan facility to assist parents and students and enable schools to function normally.

"At NBC we have specific products for parents and guardians to solve their school fees challenges hence they should come and talk to us," he said while asking school administrators to advise parents who need such services to visit NBC branches across the country.

Mussa commended Tusiime's management for maintaining dominance in the market thanks to good performance of students in national examinations. He urged the school to also train students in entrepreneurial skills so that they can survive the labour market.

"We have many entrepreneurs in the country but the problem we see with many is their copy and paste attitude of



NBC's Head of Small and Medium Enterprises, Mussa Mwindyindaho handing over bicycle to Tusiime Primary School pupil, Jovit Mwita after winning a competition during standard seven graduation ceremony held over the weekend in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole.

what their peers are doing. Many of them are not creative in producing things that others don't have to compete in the market," he hinted stressing that in a middle income economy personal competence is important.

In remarks at the same event, the school's Director Albert Katagira said as an incentive, they have given 30 percent discount on school fees for standard seven leavers who wish to will continue with secondary education at the school.

Katagira said the decision was made to appreciate to the parents and guardians their choice of the Dar es Salaam based private school. "But

this does not mean that we have a lot of money, we are doing this as corporate social responsibility to appreciate your support of our facility because you invested for the past seven years," he noted.

In a vote of thanks, Tusiime Head-teacher, Gama said currently, they are Information Communication Technology tools in teaching some subjects as a way of reducing use of papers because it contribute to global warming. He said the school is collaborating with one USA based institution to offer the online teaching and assignment to students.

## Belgium scraps Covid-19 test for arriving travellers from Rwanda

KIGALI

PEOPLE returning to Belgium from Rwanda will no longer be obliged to undergo testing for the novel Coronavirus (Covid-19) on arrival to the European country.

They are also not required to remain in quarantine, according to the latest updates to the interactive map on the country's Foreign Ministry's website.

Rwanda and South Korea are the only countries that travellers returning to Belgium won't require mandatory testing and quarantine. Until now, Belgium had banned non-essential travel outside the European Union, the United Kingdom, Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Iceland and Norway.

While Brussels strongly advises against visiting countries and regions coded red for Covid-19, it is no longer banning travel to such areas. It is also complying with European agreements on safe countries outside Europe.

However, of the 10 countries on the EU safe list, only Rwanda and South Korea are listed as orange by Belgian authorities. The others are coded red, so the Belgian foreign ministry strongly advises against travel to those countries or bans it in cases where the country concerned does not accept visitors from Belgium.

Meanwhile, Rwanda was a few weeks back put on the list of the European Union Council's epidemiologically safe countries. Other countries include Australia, Canada, Georgia, Japan, Morocco, New Zealand, South Korea, Thailand, Tunisia, and Uruguay. These are basically countries for which EU member states should gradually lift travel restrictions at the external border.

When the outbreak emerged, Rwanda instituted strict measures, including total a lockdown which lasted for close to two months. The country has also deployed massive testing across the country, with daily Covid-19 tests, mainly targeting high-risk areas across the country.

The testing is also greatly supported by the deployment of testing labs in different parts of the country, from just one, when the pandemic broke out in March this year. In recent days, testing has reduced, and this, according to Rwanda Biomedical Centre, is attributed to the fact that there are fewer contacts being traced to Covid-19 cases.

As of Saturday, September 26, the country had conducted 486,735 tests of which 4,779 cases have been diagnosed, and from these, 2,995 have already recovered. The national death toll stands at 27. As business slowly gets back to normal, Rwanda is easing some measures including the planned reopening of schools.

Air travel has been allowed to resume for nearly two months now, with RwandAir gradually expanding its travel network as demand picks, having started at the beginning of August, following the reopening of Kigali International Airport.

Having initially started with the Dubai route and other destinations on the African continent, the national flag carrier is expected to resume Brussels flights in Belgium on October 3. On the same day, flights to London's Gatwick International Airport will resume.

## Timber cost shoots 60 percent on State's school desks project

NAIROBI

A FOOT of cypress wood that retailed at Sh160 before the government announced the Sh1.9 billion stimulus package for artisans, currently goes for Sh250.

The cost of timber has increased by up to 60 percent, triggered by government's plan to buy school furniture from local carpenters. A foot of cypress wood that retailed at Sh160 before the government announced the Sh1.9 billion stimulus package for artisans, currently goes for Sh250.

Timber merchants have also increased the price of mahogany wood from Sh380 a foot before the announcement, to Sh500 currently. "The suppliers increased prices immediately the advertisement was put out," said Mr Justus Mwika, a carpenter operating on Ngong Road, Nairobi. This means consumers will pay more for finished timber products as carpenters pass on the cost to stay afloat amid the Covid-19 pandemic.

The carpenters have been grappling with low cut timber supply following an anti-logging ban in public and community forests since February last year. "The ban and now the government call for supply of school furniture has increased cost of wood by a big margin," said Mr David Munue, who uses timber imported from Congo.

He said a six by four bed that retailed at Sh6,000 currently goes for Sh7,000. The State invited carpenters to register with Deputy County Commissioners to be considered for supply of public schools desks ahead of reopening.

Aside from timber, the price of metal tubes (3/4 furniture pipe grade 16 to 18), an essential raw material for making school desks and chairs, increased following the announcement. "We are being told there will be 700,000 orders for desks but now the suppliers of those raw materials have hiked prices," said Mr Richard Muteti, the chief executive of the Kenya National Federation of Jua Kali Associations.

## French PE firm opens local office with eye on SMEs

NAIROBI

I&P, which manages four funds with an aggregate volume of \$142 million (Sh15.3 billion), said the local office will seek to support local SMEs but also provide it with a gateway to expanding into the region. "I&P is aiming at closing the SME finance gap," said the firm's chief investment officer Jérémy Hadenberg, who is responsible for the East African region.

"Expanding our geographical footprint allows us to diversify political and economic risks." The sub-Saharan Africa focused impact investor has hired ex-Prime Bank and Fanisi Capital executive Asif Noorani to head the local office.

"The entrepreneurial ecosystem is very dynamic in the region, and yet it appears that only a few investment funds are keen to invest amounts within IPAE 2's target range, most favouring larger deals," said Mr Noorani.

I&P has already invested in Afrigon, a Kenyan food flavours business, African Management Institute, a Kenyan management training company, and Finance Trust Bank, a Ugandan lender for micro entrepreneurs and small companies.

Since 2002, the fund has disbursed amounts ranging from Sh127 million to Sh636.6 million – which is its investment band – to over 90 SMEs in 16 countries in sub-Saharan Africa. I&P aims to invest equity and quasi-equity in start-ups and small businesses in West and Central Africa as well as in East Africa and Madagascar as a minority shareholder.

With headquarters in France, I&P has sponsored five African impact funds, which have together invested in more than 90 companies located in 16 African countries. I&P was created in 2002 by Patrice Hoppenot and managed since 2011 by Jean-Michel Severino. The fund employs 50 people working in Paris and seven African offices.



# Mantra says uranium mining at Mkuju River to start 2023

By Smart Money Reporter

THE country may have the first consignment of uranium minerals produced from the flagship Mkuju River Project in 2023 if all goes well, says Alexander Ryabchenko, Chairman of the board of Mantra Tanzania Limited. Ryabchenko recently told Smart Money in an interview that global market prices for the commodity have delayed the project, excerpts:

## Why have you decided to merge the two companies?

There was no decision to merge companies, there was an overall Rosatom's decision to take all the companies, which are a part of the group, under one brand, so it will be more recognizable and less confusing to business partners.

## Does this apply globally wherever Mantra and Rosatom have operations or it's in Tanzania only?

This applies globally wherever Rosatom operates.

## What exactly is being merged here, managements of Mantra Tanzania and Uranium One?

Nothing was merged, the corporate and management structures are the same, even the company name (Mantra) remained the same. It is just a change of logo and public brand.

Will this merger mean any major changes in the market in terms of corporate identity with new colours or logos?

The logo of each company, which is a part of Rosatom Group, changes began from August 2020.

## Will there be any layoffs of employees?

As the legal entity stays the same and is not affected by any changes, this switch is not affecting Mantra's employees.

## After this merger what next in relation to implementation of the Mkuju Project because your ownership permits ends in 2025?

The change of company's brand will not affect any future plans for the



development of Mkuju River Project, which are continuous and have a long term perspective.

## How much has been invested so far at Mkuju?

Mkuju River Project is an important uranium mining project for Rosatom. Of course, during the low uranium market price, which we have been experiencing during last 5-6 years, the management was trying to reduce investments to save the project's profits for the future, however the investments are being made without interruptions and our intention is to increase the amount during the next year.

## I recently saw a Mantra announcement seeking a contractor for Mkuju Project, have you picked one?

Mantra Tanzania decided to start its' pilot production designing process, that is why we started seeking for a contractor, which would be able to prepare the design project for further construction. Nowadays we have picked reputable contractors for the design stage and the work is being done.

If all goes according to your planning when will

## mining activities start at Mkuju?

Mining activities at Mkuju are highly dependent on the market price of uranium, however we are planning to start construction of our pilot plant in 2021/22 fiscal year with further pilot mining and pilot production in 2023, so we see that Tanzania will be able to announce its' first uranium production soon.

## What major obstacles are you facing in speeding up production at Mkuju Project?

We can say that the only obstacle is the global market price of uranium. The government of Tanzania is helping this project to start as soon as possible, so the only thing we have to wait for is the market force.

# A green compliant ship recycling facility comes to South Africa

JOHANNESBURG

GROWING environmental and labour concerns in the global ship breaking industry present a desperate need for green compliant ship recycling facilities.

The global ship recycling industry is dominated by ship breaking yards in South East Asia. In 2019, approximately 90% of all obsolete ships ended up on beaches in India, Pakistan or Bangladesh. These ship breaking yards demolish obsolete vessels under rudimentary conditions through a practice termed "beaching."

Beaching inevitably pollutes the ocean and its surroundings and creates unsafe working conditions, as most of the work is done manually. The demolition of ships is a hazardous and labour-intensive process. It can present great risks to the maritime environment and to the labour rights of its employees if the vessel is not

recycled in a safe and sustainable manner.

With a combination of changing environmental legislation and increased stakeholder pressure, green compliant facilities that offer competitive vessel purchase prices are gaining increased prominence in the global ship breaking industry.

The shift in the industry is further promoted by shipping companies implementing their own internal stringent ship recycling regulations that ensure that their end-of-life vessels are recycled in compliant facilities.

"We have audited and selected specific shipyards to recycle vessels up to our standard and have our own team on the ground to check if they operate in line with our policies," said Vice President of Chartering, Global Shipping Company.

This changing market dynamic will continue to open opportunities for certified green ship

recycling facilities in key locations. The planned ship recycling facility - 34South - located along the West coast of South Africa in the Saldanha Bay Industrial Development Zone offers a prime location for end-of-life vessels passing through the Cape of Good Hope and bypassing the tolls of the Suez Canal.

The 34South facility will maintain state of the art equipment by making use of a ship lifting system, ensuring that vessels are decommissioned in an environmentally safe manner compared to the rudimentary method of beaching.

The ship lifting system will support a common user philosophy and can create economies of scale by accommodating more than one vessel at a time. The 34South planned facility is supported by the Industrial Development Corporation (IDC) of South Africa, as its largest shareholder.

By Dr Janet Byaruhanga

# Why can't Africa manufacture the medicines it needs?

ALTHOUGH pharmaceutical products are currently manufactured in countries such as South Africa, Kenya, Morocco and Egypt, as a whole Africa currently imports more than 80% of its pharmaceutical and medical consumables. It is unsustainable.

But as far back as 2007, the New Partnership for Africa's Development (now the African Union Development Agency, Auda-Nepad) sought to address Africa's overreliance on imports of pharmaceutical products when it developed the Pharmaceutical Manufacturing Plan for Africa (PMPA), as mandated in the Assembly of AU heads of state decision of 2005.

## Pooled procurement

In 2012, the Assembly of Heads of State endorsed a PMPA business plan which consists of a package of technical solutions to some of the critical challenges confronting the continent's pharmaceutical industry.

Some of the proposed solutions include strengthening the regulatory systems and establishing a one-stop-shop for information, data and business intelligence for industry players—governments, the private sector, regional economic communities and so on. To boost local pharmaceutical production and

in turn improve public health outcomes, the PMPA business plan strongly encourages the procurement of medical products from Africa-based companies.

In addition to strengthening the procurement and supply chain management systems, the plan recommends the use of pooled procurement as a mechanism to incentivise local manufacturers to address maternal, new-born and child health.

Improved access, quality, availability and affordability of pharmaceutical products, as well as increased economic benefits through sustainability, competitiveness, and self-reliance of the industry, are some of the objectives of the business plan.

## Challenges

The PMPA business plan underscores the urgency in addressing the challenges facing the industry. One such challenge is a lack of affordable financing and modern technology, which hampers business expansion. Other challenges are Africa's small fragmented markets and weak regulatory frameworks.

Inadequate human resource capacity also impedes the growth of Africa's pharmaceutical sector as do poor procurement and supply



Dr Janet Byaruhanga

chain systems and policy incoherencies in countries' trade, industry, health, and finance departments. Due to a lack of financial capacity, companies make little or no investments in research and development and in protecting intellectual property.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

# Girls are quitting school to work in virus-battered rural Asia

BANGKOK

ONE of the first cutbacks that many poor families consider during tough financial times is education for their daughters. During the pandemic with in-class learning shuttered, some girls in rural areas of Asia countries are being pushed to drop out.

Lina, an 11th-grade student in Cambodia who dreamed of obtaining an accounting degree, is among them. Her parents want her to leave school and find work to help the family pay down its debt. Lina's story was shared with Bloomberg by Room to Read, a non-profit organization that promotes literacy and gender equality in developing countries. The group changed her name to shield her identity.

To determine the impact of the virus outbreak on girls' education, Room to Read conducted a survey of 28,000 girls in Bangladesh, Cambodia, India, Laos, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Tanzania and Vietnam. It found that 42% of girls surveyed reported a decline in their family's income during the Covid-19 pandemic and that one in two girls surveyed was at risk of dropping out.

"When families can't afford school and have to choose, they will often send boys," said John Wood, founder of Room to Read. Financial hardships and cultural stereotypes about gender roles play a major part in keeping girls in less-developed countries from completing their education, he said.

Although the full scope of the problem isn't yet clear because many schools remain closed for in-person classes, groups that promote girls' education including the World Bank and the United Nations' agency UNICEF are closely monitoring the situation worldwide.

"More disadvantaged families are going to have particular struggles because of the economic impact. This will make it particularly difficult for them to send their children to school," said Toby Linden, the World Bank's education practice manager for East Asia and Pacific. "One of the lessons from the pandemic is the important role the families have in supporting their children's education."

The pandemic has decimated jobs and reduced household income, threatening to drag as many as 100 million people into extreme poverty. As many as 20 million more secondary school-aged girls could be out of school globally, according to the Malala Fund, a non-profit organiza-

tion that promotes girls' education. In the Asia Pacific region, that would add to the 35 million girls and boys already not in school.

This is expected to exacerbate the education deficit for girls in poorer countries, where the rate of female secondary school enrollment was low before the pandemic. It risks setting back years of progress for girls' education and gender equality in some of the world's poorest nations.

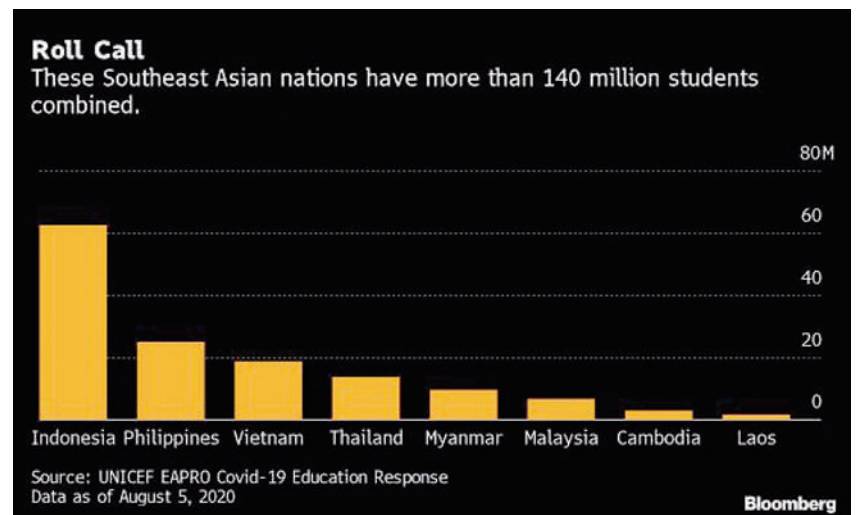
The 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa showed how devastating a loss of income was to girls' education. Poorer families needed their children to make money during the crisis, and children who found work were rarely encouraged to return to school when it reopened.

The female education deficit is one of the key factors hindering women's workforce participation and their wages. An extra year of secondary school education for girls can increase their future earnings by as much as 20%. Barriers that prevent girls from completing 12 years of education and limited learning opportunities cost countries as much as \$30 trillion in lost lifetime productivity and earnings.

"The worrying trend is that the reopening of schools doesn't automatically mean that all children will be back in schools," said Francisco Benavides, regional education adviser at UNICEF East Asia and Pacific. "The pandemic has a high economic impact for the region. If girls don't have access to learning opportunities, it's very likely that the families and society will be less able to adapt to economic shock."

Educating girls also has been shown to lead to greater gender equality. For example, in Thailand, women hold 32% of senior management roles, compared with an average of 27% globally, according to Grant Thornton data published in 2020. They make up 24% of chief executives and 43% of chief financial officers. Although Thailand is an outlier, it shows what can be achieved when women are educated.

Though other countries in the region also have made progress in girls' education in past decades, the virus means the region "will be going backward several years," according to Benavides. "We'll lose progress. The spillover effect will be massive because it may also impact the generation after this one. It can take us so many years to get back to where we were before. This won't help the Asian economy."



pharmaceutical manufacturers to build plants in Africa or partner with African pharmaceutical companies to manufacture generic products. There is a need for this form of strategic support for Local Pharmaceutical Production (LPP).

Russia and Bangladesh are examples of countries that have deliberately and successfully supported the development of LPP. As a result, these countries have experienced an increase in foreign direct investments in the sector. They have also benefited from training and skills development, accelerated technology transfer and job creation.

Inadequate human resource capacity also impedes the growth of Africa's pharmaceutical sector as do poor procurement and supply chain systems and policy incoherencies in countries' trade, industry, health, and finance departments.

Africa should be expected to reap these kinds of benefits were it to fully embrace strategic support for LPP. Besides, it would compel countries to strengthen regulatory systems. Already African manufacturers of pharmaceuticals have been brought into a federation to enable them to share information and business intelligence and to have a unified voice. And plans are underway to establish a fund for the sector, which will cushion companies' financial inadequacies.

No single company, government department or organisation can by itself address these challenges; it is precisely why the PMPA business plan advocates for multisectoral and multi-stakeholder collaboration. The good news is that some opportunities are available to be explored.

For example, the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), if successfully implemented, will address the challenge of small fragmented markets that have for a long time disincentivised pharmaceutical manufacturing investors.

African manufacturers, currently operating in small fragmented markets, cannot compete with their Asian counterparts that operate in vastly larger markets and therefore enjoy economies of scale. Economies of scale help businesses save money due to higher production volumes.

When all African countries ratify the AfCFTA, it will integrate a market of 1.3-billion people and potentially 2.2-billion people by 2050. African manufacturers can be expected to enjoy significant economies of scale and scope. Free trade under the AfCFTA should begin in January 2021. A pooled procurement mechanism will encourage leading global generic



## WORLD

## NYT: Trump paid no income taxes in 10 of last 15 years

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump paid extremely little in income taxes in recent years as heavy losses from his business enterprises offset hundreds of millions of dollars in income, the New York Times reported on Sunday, citing tax-return data.

The Times reported that Trump, who is seeking re-election in November, paid just US\$750 in federal income taxes in both 2016 and 2017, and paid no income taxes in 10 of the last 15 years, despite

receiving US\$427.4 million through 2018 from his reality television programme and other endorsement and licensing deals.

Trump was able to minimize his tax bill by reporting heavy losses across his business empire. The Times reported Trump claimed US\$47.4 million in losses in 2018, despite claiming income of at least US\$434.9 million in a financial disclosure that year.

Trump denied the report on Sunday, calling it "total fake news" at a White House news conference.



US President Donald Trump

In a statement to the Times, Alan Garten, a lawyer for the Trump Organization, said Trump had paid millions of dollars in personal taxes over the last decade, without weighing in on the specific income tax refund.

Trump has consistently refused to release his taxes, departing from standard practice for presidential candidates, saying they are under audit.

The Times said it had obtained tax-return data covering over two decades for Trump and companies within his business organization. It did not have information about his per-

sonal returns from 2018 or 2019.

The Times also reported that Trump is currently embroiled in a decade-long Internal Revenue Service audit over a US\$72.9 million tax refund he claimed after declaring large losses. If the IRS rules against him in that audit, he could have to pay over US\$100 million, according to the newspaper.

Agencies

## Jordanian king dissolves parliament in preparation for Nov election

AMMAN

JORDAN'S King Abdullah dissolved parliament on Sunday, officials said, paving the way for an election in November at a time of rising popular discontent over worsening economic conditions and curbs on public freedoms under emergency laws.

Under constitutional rules, the government must resign within a week.

In July, Jordan's electoral commission set Nov 10 as the date for a parliamentary election after the monarch called for nationwide polls to be held at the end of the parliament's four-year term.

The king issued a royal edict

ordering the dissolution of parliament, effective Sunday. The assembly comprises 130 lawmakers, mainly pro-government tribal officials, businessmen and ex-security officials.

The move is likely to be followed by a wider government shake-up to ward off popular disenchantment over economic hardship worsened by the economic blow dealt by COVID-19 and over allegations of official corruption.

Jordan's economy is expected to shrink by 6% this year as it grapples with its worst economic crisis in many years, with unemployment and poverty aggravated by the pandemic. "Citizens have lost confidence in this government,"



said Munzir al Huwarat, a political

analyst.

Liberal and independent politicians say the government has used emergency laws enacted last March at the start of the coronavirus lockdown to limit civil and political rights.

The authorities have arrested hundreds of teacher activists after dissolving their opposition-led elected union last July and detained scores of dissidents for criticism on social media.

King Abdullah appointed Prime Minister Omar al Razzaz in the summer of 2018 to defuse the biggest protests in years over tax increases pushed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to reduce Jordan's large public debt.

The elections will be held under an existing system that limits the representation of those of Palestinian origin in favour of native Jordanians who are the backbone of the country's political establishment.

Jordan's main political opposition comes from the Muslim Brotherhood movement but it faces legal curbs on its activities, leaving mostly pro-monarchy parties and some independent Islamists and politicians to compete in these elections, political analysts say.

Constitutionally, most powers rest with the king, who appoints governments and approves legislation.

Agencies

## President Xi eyes permanent friendship with Cuba

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping said yesterday that he highly values the unique friendship between China and Cuba and stands ready to help make the two countries good friends, good comrades and good brothers forever.

Xi, also general secretary of the Communist Party of China Central Committee, made the remarks in congratulatory messages exchanged with Raul Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba Central Committee, and Cuban President Miguel Diaz-Canel to celebrate the 60th anniversary of bilateral diplomatic relations.

In his message to Castro, Xi noted that Cuba is the first Latin American country to establish diplomatic relations with the People's Republic of China and that bilateral ties have over the past 60 years withstood the vicissitudes of the international situation and grown ever stronger.

Political mutual trust between China and Cuba has been continuously deepened and bilateral practical cooperation has yielded fruitful results, Xi said, adding that the two countries have stood together and joined hands to fight the COVID-19 pandemic,



The flags of China and Cuba are seen at Tian'anmen Square on Nov 8, 2018. File photo

which has raised their traditional friendship to a higher level.

Stressing that he highly values the unique China-Cuba friendship, Xi said he is willing to maintain close communication with Castro and take the 60th anniversary as an opportunity to help the two countries stay as good

friends, good comrades and good brothers forever.

In his congratulatory message to Diaz-Canel, Xi said that since the two countries established diplomatic ties 60 years ago, China and Cuba have forged a profound friendship with mutual understanding, mutual trust and

mutual support.

In recent years, China-Cuba friendly cooperation has been deepening in an all-round way, including active collaboration under the Belt and Road Initiative, which has brought concrete benefits to the people of both countries, Xi noted.

In the fight against the coronavirus disease, China and Cuba have stood together and helped each other, writing a new chapter in the friendship between the two peoples, Xi added.

He said he attaches great importance to the development of China-Cuba relations, and stands ready to work with Diaz-Canel to continuously deepen political mutual trust and expand practical cooperation in various fields, so as to create more benefits for both countries and their people.

On his part, Castro said in the message that Cuba is the first Latin American country to establish diplomatic relations with China and has always maintained sincere friendship with brotherly China, the Communist Party of China and the Chinese people.

Cuba thanks China for its firm support and is fully convinced that the 60-year-old friendship between Cuba and China will be passed down from generation to generation and last forever, he added.

Diaz-Canel said in his congratulatory message that the close friendship between the two countries has withstood the test of time and both sides have always appreciated each other's achievements in socialist construction as their own. *Xinhua*

## On World Tourism Day, Egypt signals revival of tourism amid COVID-19

SHARM EL-SHEIKH, Egypt

ON the occasion of the World Tourism Day (WTD), Egypt held several activities in the popular Red Sea resort city of Sharm el-Sheikh, indicating the revival of its tourism sector amid the novel coronavirus COVID-19.

Marking the WTD over the past three days, the activities were joined by 30 foreign ambassadors and their families as well as global reporters, accompanied by the Egyptian ministers of tourism and antiquities, civil aviation, information and environment.

The foreign ambassadors were satisfied with the anti-coronavirus pre-

cautionary measures implemented at Sharm el-Sheikh airport, hotels, hospitals and tourism facilities.

They also visited Sharm el-Sheikh Museum, which is scheduled to open in the coming days, and watched an Egyptian folklore performance as part of the activities.

A cycling marathon was also held and joined by the Egyptian tourism and aviation ministers, as well as the foreign ambassadors and their family members. The fun ride competition, which was won by the Cameroonian ambassador to Cairo, toured the streets of Sharm el-Sheikh.

The Cameroonian diplomat expressed happiness with winning the

race, while German ambassador suggested holding an international cycling marathon in Sharm el-Sheikh.

Egyptian Tourism and Antiquities Minister Khaled al-Anany said after the cycling marathon that "Egypt's celebration of the WTD in the presence of 30 foreign ambassadors and their families is a strong message to the whole world that Egypt enjoys security and safety over the novel coronavirus."

He noted that tourism in Egypt is returning gradually.

Until Saturday night, Egypt has reported a total of 102,736 COVID-19 cases, including 5,869 deaths and 94,374 recoveries.

Amid declining COVID-19 infections

and fatalities in Egypt, the country resumed international flights on July 1, after they had been suspended since March, as part of a coexistence plan to maintain anti-coronavirus precautionary measures while resuming economic activities.

"More than 250,000 tourists from 15 countries have visited South Sinai and the Red Sea since the return of tourism and flight resumption on July 1," the tourism minister told reporters in Sharm el-Sheikh.

Al-Anany said he was proud of the country's earnest implementation of the anti-COVID-19 precautionary measures at airports, hotels and tourism facilities, noting that he has recently vis-

ited several countries to reassure them about the safety of tourism in Egypt.

Egypt's tourism sector, a main source of national income and foreign currency for the country, has been greatly affected by the lockdown over the COVID-19 pandemic. Egypt's tourism revenues hit a record high of 13 billion U.S. dollars in 2019.

Moreover, the gathering also launched the "Eco Egypt" campaign to promote natural reserves and ecotourism in the country as part of the WTD activities.

In a speech during the opening of the campaign, Environment Minister Yasmine Fouad stressed that despite the outbreak of COVID-19 and its world-

wide impacts, work in Egypt did not stop.

"We will continue working so hard. So, when tourism is recovered, we will be fully prepared with a lot of new things to offer foreign tourists," said the environment minister.

Tourists in Sharm el-Sheikh are not as many as before the COVID-19 outbreak, and the Egyptian government implements social distancing by keeping the maximum occupancy rate of hotels at 50 percent.

Those working in the tourism field in Egypt had mixed feelings of hope for tourism recovery and happiness with its gradual return after nearly five months of suspension. *Xinhua*

## US judge suspends Trump ban on TikTok downloads

SAN FRANCISCO

A US federal judge ruled on Sunday in favor of TikTok to temporarily block President Donald Trump's order to ban downloads of the app in the US.

US District Judge Carl Nichols in Washington, DC, made the decision hours before the ban would take effect after Sunday midnight.

TikTok welcomed the preliminary injunction. "We're pleased that the court agreed with our legal arguments and issued an injunction preventing the implementation of the TikTok app ban. We will continue defending our rights for the benefit of our community and employees," the company said in a statement acquired by Xinhua.

John E. Hall, a lawyer for TikTok, had argued during a 90-minute Sunday morning hearing that the ban was "unprecedented" and "irrational."

"How does it make sense to impose this app store ban tonight when there are negotiations under way that might make it unnecessary?" Hall asked during the hearing. "This is just punitive. This is just a blunt way to whack the company. ... There is simply no urgency here."

The popular short-video platform requested an injunction on Sept 23 to temporarily block the Commerce Department's order to ban the app. The order, issued on Sept 18, bars Apple and Google's app stores from providing services for the apps' downloads and updates starting Sept 20.

A day later, the department delayed the ban to give the company an additional week till Sept 27 to finalize a deal.

The judge on Sept 24 ordered the Trump administration to either postpone its ban on TikTok or respond by the afternoon of to the company's request.

Late on Sept 25, the Justice Department filed its opposition to TikTok's request, saying the injunction would "infringe on the President's authority to block business-to-business economic transactions with a foreign entity in the midst of a declared national-security emergency".

The Commerce Department also ordered a separate set of technical restrictions on TikTok starting Nov 12, including barring data hosting within the US, content delivery services and networks that can increase functionality and internet transit or peering services.

Agencies

## London's Big Ben to re-appear after 3 years hidden from view

LONDON

LONDON'S world-famous Big Ben clock tower is about to become visible for the first time in three years after a multi-million dollar face-lift project completed a critical phase, authorities at the Houses of Parliament announced on Sunday.

The chiming clock in the Elizabeth Tower, one of the most photographed structures in the world, has been shrouded behind scaffolding and screens due to the intricate renovation work.

Over the course of the next six weeks, the newly restored tower will slowly be revealed. An expert team of scaffolders will work to take down the metal scaffolding in the restricted space around the Tower.

"Three years after the structure was scaffolded, this is a significant moment in the timeline of this complex conservation project," said a spokesperson for the parliamentary estate.

Lindsay Hoyle, speaker of the House of Commons, said: "Like everyone else, I have been looking forward to seeing the scaffolding come down on Elizabeth Tower, so the unveiling of the roof will be a memorable moment."

Extensive work has restored both the inside and the outside of the Elizabeth Tower, including the 3,433 roof tiles and the spire with its intricate flowers, cross and orb. The conservation work addresses crucial problems in the tower, including crumbling stone and a leaky roof.

The tower's signature metal cross and orb, which sits 96 meters above ground level, has also been repaired, with a team of expert gilders spending weeks to ensure the ornate details match the original design from 1859.

The Big Ben tower is a focal point of the culturally-protected Palace of Westminster which forms a part of a UNESCO World Heritage Site. *Xinhua*



A cyclist rides past the Elizabeth Tower, center, which houses the Big Ben bell in the Palace of Westminster in central London.





This photo of a television screen taken on March 26, 2020 shows leaders from G20 nations taking part in a video conference of an extraordinary meeting of G20 leaders. (AFP)

## G20 leaders to hold virtual summit during Nov 21-22

RIYADH

THE G20 leaders summit will be held virtually during Nov 21-22, Saudi Arabia said yesterday, as the COVID-19 pandemic thwarted Riyadh's hopes of hosting the gathering in the kingdom to boost its international standing.

The summit will be chaired by Saudi King Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, the Saudi G20 presidency said in a statement.

According to the statement, the Saudi G20 presidency will "build on the success of the extraordinary virtual G20 Leaders' Summit held in March and on the outcomes of over 100 virtual working groups and ministerial meetings."

Under the theme of "Realizing Opportunities of the 21st Century for All", the summit will focus on protecting lives and restoring growth by addressing vulnerabilities uncovered dur-

ing the pandemic and by laying down foundations for a better future, according to the statement.

Saudi leaders had hailed the kingdom's G20 presidency as proof of its leading role in the global economy, but the majority of the meetings have been held virtually due to the novel coronavirus.

G20, the world's premier platform for international economic cooperation, is leading the fight against the global COVID-19 pandemic.

"The G20 has contributed over US\$21 billion to support the production, distribution and access to diagnostics, therapeutics and vaccines," the statement reads.

It has also injected US\$11 trillion to safeguard the global economy and launched a debt suspension initiative for least developed countries allowing them to defer US\$14 billion in debt payments due this year. **Agencies**

## Cooperation key to prevent global recession

By LI XIANG

INTERNATIONAL cooperation is a crucial driver of global growth and a key solution to preventing the global economy from falling into a deep recession, senior economists have said.

The global economic outlook has been dimmed by the COVID-19 pandemic, and this has seriously disrupted business and social activities as the virus has not been effectively and fully controlled globally.

Major international agencies and some economists have raised their forecast on global growth this year, given the better-than-expected recovery pace, but they warn that the global economy still faces immense uncertainties and the international community may experience the worst economic recession since the World War II if governments fail to adopt effective policies.

Boosting international cooperation and collaboration among governments is the only way out for the global economy, said Chen Wenling, chief economist at the Beijing-based China Center for International Economic Exchanges.

Chen warned that the global economy is threatened by risks including high debt levels, high government leverage ratios, the possibility of ruptured global supply and industrial chains and a rising unemployment rate.

"Countries around the world face a critical test, which is whether we can reach consensus that international cooperation is the biggest driver of global growth and a key solution to preventing the economy from falling into a deep recession," Chen said on Friday at the sixth Global Think Tank Summit, held by the China Center for International Economic Exchanges. Forum participants shared that view and called for greater international collaboration in pressing for technological innovation and breakthroughs to fight the ongoing pandemic and to inject fresh impetus into global economic growth.

Wang Yiming, a senior economist and a member of the National Committee of the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, said countries should accelerate cooperation in the digital economy and promote green development, which are two important drivers of the global economic recovery.

Wang also said countries should make full use of multilateral platforms, including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the G20, to strengthen dialogues and resolve debt and financial risks globally.

The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development said in its latest report that the global economy is likely to contract by 4.3 percent this year and the contraction will leave global output by the end of the year over US\$6 trillion short of economists' expectations before the COVID-19 pandemic. That contraction and shortfall would be the equivalent of a complete wipeout of the Brazilian, Indian and Mexican economies. The UN agency also warned that global trade will shrink by about one-fifth this year and foreign direct investment flows by up to 40 percent.

Liu Yuanchun, vice-president of Renmin University of China, said at the forum that the technological revolution is one of the most crucial factors for the world to escape a lasting standstill in economic growth and countries need to break barriers and remove frictions that have arisen in trade, digital governance and the competition for talents. **Agencies**

## Supporting development of nuclear industry is Russia's priority - PM

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Prime Minister Mikhail Mishustin congratulated the nuclear industry workers on their professional holiday and assured that support for the industry is an absolute priority for the state.

"The nuclear industry is one of the key sectors in the Russian economy. Supporting and developing it is an absolute priority for the state," he said in an address written to mark



the 75th anniversary of the nuclear industry.

Mishustin (pictured) noted that the industry fulfills strategic tasks related

to the country's energy security and its defense capabilities, makes Russia a leader in the world market, makes it possible to apply innovative technologies and developments in all spheres of human life - from nuclear medicine to nuclear icebreakers, and floating nuclear power plants.

He thanked the veterans of the nuclear industry, who laid down the industry's traditions and pass them on to the new generations of Russian nuclear workers. **Agencies**

## US Supreme Court nominee Barrett would have final say on recusal calls

WASHINGTON

Democrats are urging U.S. Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett to recuse herself from any election-related cases because of President Donald Trump's comments that he expects the justices to potentially decide the outcome, but there is no way to force her to do so.

Although U.S. law requires justices to step aside when there is a conflict of interest or genuine question of bias, it leaves the individual justice to decide whether such a conflict exists. Aside from direct financial and personal conflicts, they rarely do so.

Trump on Saturday nominated Barrett to the vacancy created by the death of liberal Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Sept. 18. If confirmed by the Republican-controlled U.S. Senate, Barrett would give the court a 6-3 conservative majority.

On Wednesday Trump said he wanted the full complement of nine justices on the court as soon as possible in part because he believes the court will determine the outcome of the Nov. 3 presidential election.

"I think this will end up in the Supreme Court, and I think it's very important that we have nine justices," he told reporters at a White House event.

The Supreme Court has determined the outcome of a U.S. presidential election only once, in 2000, leading President George W. Bush to the White House.

Trump indicated that the Supreme Court would rule in his favor with nine justices on board. He alleged they would respond to an unspecified "scam that the Democrats are pulling" in relation to increased use of mail-in ballots as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

Trump has repeatedly and without evidence attacked mail-in balloting, a longstanding feature of U.S. elections.

### 'ETHICAL COMPLICATION'

Senate Democrats say they will probe Barrett on the subject during her confirmation hearing before the Senate Judiciary Committee in the hope she will pledge to step aside in election-related cases.

Democratic Senator Cory Booker, who serves on the committee, said on Sunday he would ask Barrett about recusal when he meets her.

"If she does not recuse herself, I fear that the court will be further delegitimized," he said on NBC's "Meet the Press."

There are no indications Republican senators share those concerns, with Republican Senator Mike Lee, speaking on ABC's "This Week," saying that recusal decisions would be up to Barrett.

During previous Senate hearings, Supreme Court nominees have routinely declined to commit on how



US Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett

they would approach cases that could come before them.

Federal law requires a justice to step aside from cases "in which his impartiality might reasonably be questioned." In a 2011 report, conservative Chief Justice John Roberts said he had "complete confidence in the capability of my colleagues to determine when recusal is warranted."

Legal experts told Reuters that under the way the law has been interpreted up until now, the new justice need not recuse herself from any election issue.

But New York University School of Law legal ethics expert Stephen Gillers noted that should a decisive election issue come before the justice, Democratic candidate Joe Biden could be justified in filing a motion asking her to recuse.

"I believe that would be a persuasive argument in this unique circumstance," he said.

He noted that in 2000, when the Supreme Court decided the election in favor of Republican Bush, none of the justices were appointed by either candidate, although Democratic candidate Al Gore was vice president to President Bill Clinton, who appointed both Ginsburg and Justice Stephen Breyer.

This time, there would be three justices on the bench appointed by Trump himself.

Both liberal and conservative justices have been pressed by critics in

the past to recuse themselves in cases with perceived conflicts. Litigants can file motions seeking recusal but rarely do.

In 2004, the Sierra Club environmental group asked conservative Justice Antonin Scalia to step aside in a case concerning then-Vice President Dick Cheney, a friend of the justice. Scalia refused, saying his impartiality could not reasonably be questioned.

During the 2016 presidential race, liberal Ginsburg criticized then-candidate Trump as a "faker," prompting cries by conservative critics of bias. Ginsburg later expressed regret for her remarks but did not step aside from any case involving Trump.

Despite calls from some conservatives for her to recuse herself, liberal Justice Elena Kagan participated in a 2012 ruling upholding President Barack Obama's Affordable Care Act, the healthcare law dubbed Obamacare. Kagan had served as Obama's top Supreme Court advocate when the law was enacted in 2010 but said she played no role in its conception.

Kagan, appointed to the court by Obama in 2010, recused herself from other cases on which she had worked in Obama's administration.

Justices routinely step aside when they have financial conflicts, such as owning stock in companies with cases before the court.

**Agencies**

## Hegemonic practices will not last long

THE U.S. is the only superpower of the world. However, some American politicians are making troubles at the backing of the U.S. dominance, and even abusing state power regardless of possible self-damage, to push for antagonistic policies against China.

They arbitrarily slandered China, violently interfered in China's domestic affairs, escalated political suppression against Chinese enterprises, and even tried to undermine China's normal exchanges and cooperation with other countries. Such practices are irrational, immoral and have no credit at all.

With constantly swelling Cold War mentality and ideology-driven extreme pressure, they proved to the world that unlimited desire for supremacy will finally lead to a destruction of public support.

Due to the frequent provocation of these U.S. politicians, China-U.S. relations are facing the most severe situation since the two countries established diplomatic ties. However, the development of China-U.S. ties will not be manipulated by them.

The time of the Chinese allowing others to tread on its neck is gone forever, and so is the time when hegemonists could do anything they wanted. When dealing with the U.S., China has never taken the lead to make troubles or lost its principles. Experiencing numerous ups and downs in the history, China has the capability and composure more than ever to cope with risks and challenges.

China is a responsible major country that firmly safeguards international justice. It is the U.S. side that unilaterally provoked economic and trade friction, frightened China with tariffs, and exerted extreme pressure to force China to accept its unreasonable demands.

For the good of the common interests of the two countries and global trade order, and in a strenuous effort to push for equality and mutual respect, China remains committed to resolving issues through dialogue and consultation, responding to U.S. concerns with the greatest patience and sincerity, properly handling differences while seeking common ground. After over ten rounds of high-level consultations between China and the U.S., the two sides finally reached a phase-one deal over economic and trade issues.

No one shall fantasize about undermining the core interests of China. China has sent a clear signal to firmly take countermeasures: it will never trade its core interests, or sacrifice its sovereignty, security and development interests for a moment of tranquility. Because history tells us, compromises will only lead to worse situations.

China-U.S. ties shall be underpinned by coordination, cooperation and stability, which is a responsible decision. China has always remained clear strategically, dealing with U.S. anxiety with calmness and rationality. Though some U.S. politicians are pushing for "America first" policies, China is always grasping the trend of time, and committed to building a win-win situation with global partners for mutual growth. While some U.S. politicians are trying to separate the global economic and scientific innovation systems, China adheres to expanding opening-up and building an open world economy.

They attempted to confront China by establishing so-called alliances, but China is resolute to build with global countries a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for mankind, based on mutual respect, equality, and seeking common ground while reserving differences. **People's Daily**

CHINA should intensify efforts to improve the ecosystem for sci-tech innovation and build platforms for scientists and scientific professionals to put their talent to good use, so as to make sci-tech innovations mushroom in a steady flow, stressed Chinese President Xi Jinping at a symposium attended by scientists in Beijing on Sept. 11.

China boasts a great number of scientific professionals and hefty R&D spending and has the preliminary conditions for competing with international advanced technologies in some fields, said Xi, who is also the general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee.

Technological innovation is the new engine for China's development. By holding it, China can grasp the key to the coun-

## China to improve ecosystem for sci-tech innovation

try's overall development.

Since the 18th CPC National Congress, China has made historic achievements and transformations in science and technology. The country's strength in science and technology sector is undergoing a transition from quantity accumulation to quality leap, and from breakthroughs in certain fields to improvement of systematic capabilities.

Still, it should be noted that the country is confronted with many practical problems in economic and social development, efforts to improve people's livelihood, and national defense construction, which makes it need innovation and scientific and technological solutions, more than ever, to boost eco-



Children are attracted by a subway train prototype designed by the CRRC Changchun Railway Vehicles Co., Ltd. at the 2020 China International Fair for Trade in Services (CIFTIS) held in Beijing, September 7. (Photo by People's Daily)

nomical and social development as well as improve people's living standards.

Backward development in science and technology is becoming an increasingly prominent problem in many fields.

China's planting and processing technologies for agricultural products are relatively lagging behind, while some key components, parts and raw materials are dependent on imports, oil and gas exploration and development, new energy technologies are underdeveloped, and the fields of biomedicine and medical equipment are also facing lagging development.

The current situation and China's tasks require the country to make sure that the scientific

and technological development must target the global science frontiers, serve the main economic battlefield, and strive to fulfill the significant needs of the country and benefit people's lives and health, so as to resolve faster some key issues that restrict the development of sci-tech innovation.

To achieve the goal, it is necessary to adhere to demand-oriented and problem-oriented strategy.

For starters, China needs to solve problems regarding defining scientific research topics. The choice of scientific research fields should be made on the basis of urgent and long-term needs of the country so as to truly tackle practical problems. **People's Daily**



## SPORT



Miami Heat's Jae Crowder (99) and teammate Andre Iguodala (28) celebrate a basket during the second half of an NBA conference final playoff basketball game against the Boston Celtics Sunday, Sept. 27, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. (AP Photo)

## The Finals are set: LeBron, Lakers will meet Butler, Heat

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla.

LeBRON James vs. the Heat.

Pat Riley vs. the Lakers.

Get ready for the NBA Finals – a title series like none other, to end a season like none other.

The matchup is set, with the Miami Heat and the Los Angeles Lakers emerging as the last two teams standing in the chase to be crowned champions of the most tumultuous season in NBA history. The Heat won the Eastern Conference title Sunday night, finishing off Boston a day after the Lakers won the Western Conference crown.

So, for the first time – well, excluding the league's inaugural season – two franchises that missed the playoffs the previous season will meet in the NBA Finals. Game 1 of Heat-Lakers is Wednesday night at Walt Disney World.

"We know why I came here," said Lakers All-Star forward Anthony Davis, whose first finals trip comes in his first L.A. season. "We want to win a championship. We're four wins away, a step closer to our goal."

James is bidding for a fourth NBA championship, as well as a title with a third different franchise – and he's about to become the first player to win a Finals MVP award with one team and then face that same team in a future championship series. His first two titles were with Miami in 2012 and 2013, the highlights of a four-year stint with the Heat that ended in 2014.

That, not coincidentally, was the last time the Heat had reached this stage. James left to return to Cleveland earlier than the Heat figured he would, Chris Bosh began his fight with blood clots – a condition that ended his career – not too long afterward and Miami descended from magnificent to mediocre in a hurry.

No more. With a young core led by Bam Adebayo and Tyler Herro, the veteran savvy of Goran Dragic and the addition a year ago of Jimmy Butler the Heat got back to title contention quicker than probably anyone envisioned, themselves included.

Then again, Riley – who won four championships in a seven-year span as coach of the "Showtime" Lakers – isn't known for patience.

He thinks big. That's why he and the Heat landed James and Bosh to play with Dwyane Wade in 2010. That's why they got Butler in 2019, even when the team had no free-agent money to spend. That's why they swung a deal to add Andre Iguodala, Jae Crowder and Solomon Hill in February, trading them for Justise Winslow, James Johnson and Dion Waiters; Waiters, oddly enough, ended up with the Lakers and will now face the Heat in this title series.

"To fit in here, you've just got to care about winning," Butler said earlier in this playoff run. "That's the No. 1 thing. Trying to win a championship. And we've got a group of guys that want that, night-in, night-out, every single day. There's only one goal in our mind, and that's to win it."

The Lakers have that same goal, of course.

Their motto in these playoffs has been "Leave A Legacy," a nod to the great Kobe Bryant – the Lakers legend who died, along with his daughter Gianna and seven others, in a helicopter crash on Jan. 26. The last Lakers' championship was in 2010, when Bryant got his fifth and last title. James has been in the finals every year but once since. There never was a LeBron vs. Kobe finals, to the dismay of many, but in its place comes a finals trip where James and the Lakers will play with Bryant in very much in mind.

## Dar soccer fans win cash prize from betting company

By Guardian Reporter

TWO Dar es Salaam soccer enthusiasts have won cash prize totalling 79,465,240/- apiece after placing right bets on soccer games played in various leagues in the world last weekend.

The followers, Felix George Simba and Twalib Mfingile, laid their hands on the cash prize once they took part in a betting game, known as 'Perfect 12', organized by a sports betting firm M-Bet Tanzania.

Allen Mushi, M-Bet Tanzania's Marketing Manager, stated the two enthusiasts raked in a total of 159,930,480/-.

Mushi said his company will keep on maintaining its status as home of champions, given the two winners are a fifth set of winners the company has produced since the start of this season.

"We had already said it is quite easy for a person to win through participating in M-Bet games," he noted.

"Mfingile and Simba have proved it is easy for one to win because of the type of matches M-Bet selects for soccer enthusiasts to bet on."

Mushi pointed out M-Bet is proud to help Tanzanians change their lives, noting that the company has produced a total of five winners

through the company's betting games.

Mfingile, who is based in Ifaraka, Morogoro, disclosed he will invest his cash in modern agricultural projects and other development initiatives for his family.

"I'm a soccer fanatic, I'm not supporting Tanzania's sides, I'm a great fan of Europe outfits and I have won the cash thanks to my ability to closely follow the latter's matches," he noted.

Simba noted he is pleased that he placed his bets and won, given his favourite club, English Premier League (EPL) side, Arsenal, is currently performing well in EPL.

"I usually experience difficulties placing bets on Manchester United's matches, nevertheless I managed to predict correct results of their matches, Arsenal are now enjoying a winning spell," Simba, a doctor that is based in Ruvuma, disclosed.

Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) official for Ilala District, Shaaban Mwanga, noted the two soccer enthusiasts' cash prize will go for tax deduction of 20 per cent to be directed to the government.

Mwanga congratulated M-Bet Tanzania firm for being one of the best tax payers to the government.

## At Fenerbahce, Samatta has chance to do a Romelu Lukaku somersault

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

CHANGE was in the air for Tanzania's senior national football team 'Taifa Stars' captain, Mbwana Samatta, as it became clear that he would have little playing time at his English Premier League club side of Aston Villa, and he more or less promptly joined famed Turkish soccer club, Fenerbahce S.K, on a 12-month loan.

While the record keepers have a thing or two to say as to this speedy loan transfer, it must at least be said that outwardly it looks quite remarkable, as players spend months – at times years – on the bench.

It is not just because he was available but top clubs wanted him on Aston Villa terms, first.

Local reports said other details of the loan remain sketchy still but it will cool nerves for his local fans after Aston Villa went on a spending spree after they narrowly avoided relegation.

While the other point of note in the preliminary local review of the transfer underlined that reports from Istanbul say the striker, who spent the past six months at Villa Park, will wear jersey number 12 at his new club, a rapid check showed something different.

It has to do with naming of the squad. The squad players were named on an online blog as (26) Marcel Tisserand, (37) Filip Novak, (4) Serdar Aziz, (32) Zanka, (35) Nazim Sangaré, (3) Mauricio Lemos, (20) Luiz Gustavo, (7) Ozan Tufan, (23) Deniz Türüç, (8) Mert Hakan Yandaş, (5) José Sosa, (6) Tolga Cigerci, (10) Mbwana Samatta, (11) Garry Rodrigues, (16) Ferdi Kadioglu, (13) Enner Valencia, (27) Mame Thiam.

The list leaves a guessing problem on its significance, as jersey number 12 did not say much on the player's significance at the Turkish hard battling side, unlike this list which suggests that Samatta is lined up for number 10, but as some numbers are



Mbwana Samatta

not positions, it can be so affirmed.

Yet from this citation alone, and the brouhaha around Mbwana losing a regular or even assured substitute position at Villa Park and the rush with which the Turkish giants went for his signature if only on loan says a few things about how well he is rated there.

That cannot be surprising as the Turkish premier league is in a sense comparable to the Belgian premier league where Samatta was playing earlier, in which case he is likely to be seen as a dependable front striker there.

With any luck and evidently with plenty of effort he could still produce a rare sparkle by that transfer.

There is also an interesting display of speed with which the new player was being accustomed to being part of the team, where a club Twitter page showing the number of jersey he will wear throughout the loan period was accompanied by words of welcome.

More significantly, the video is reported to begin with a journey on Istanbul metro train heading to Fenerbahce's headquarters' and later shows the door to its 'ükrü Saraco lu Spor Stadium opening leading to the changing rooms', and then to the Fenerbahce's

locker room with jersey number 12 hanging with Samatta's name on it.

How long does it take here to print a jersey with the player's name on it? A month?

This transfer definitely underlines where the player's more comfortable playing environment is likely to be, that is, in 'Serie B' premier leagues in Europe, having advanced above the upper limit in DR Congo's TP Mazembe in what were age-wise probably his best playing days, that is, from age 22 to 24 when he moved to KRC Genk then at 26 shifted to Villa Park, and now, before clocking 28 takes the metro train at Istanbul.

Clearly for a local player he has achieved everything, and more. People keep asking

whether Mbwana's level of play is rather inadequate for having failed to maintain a regular playing position – and even expected regular substitute – at Villa Park, but the competition tells a better story. The local newspaper reporting the shift said the club went on a 'spending spree' having just avoided relegation, and in that context it is clear Samatta would not be an object of transfer for an English Premier League (EPL) side on spending spree.

He was recruited for a paltry 8.5m pounds, whereas recent recruits include a 17m pounds transfer from Olympique Lyon, a side that reached the semi-finals of the UEFA Champions League in the past season.

Another is a 30m pounds transfer and a 24m pounds signing, one of whom was England young footballer of the year (golden boot) in previous season. Samatta succeeded to arrive at the EPL, not to stay there.

Yet the player is not off the radar yet, as he can be counted upon to make some headlines there, much as it is a little out of the main theatre of local soccer interest, focused on the EPL, the Champions League and Europa League.

Many will now start looking at the Turkish premier league owing to the player, which improves our level of cultural globalization, uplifts the betting a bit, and may as well see him in European circuit at whatever chase or stage. 'Watch this space.'

# Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival starts in Dar



China Cultural Centre in Tanzania's Director, Wang Siping (C), speaks to journalists in Dar es Salaam last week on the Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival, which started in the city yesterday. He has been flanked by officials from China's Embassy in Tanzania. PHOTO: COURTESY OF CHINA CULTURAL CENTER IN TANZANIA

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THIS year's Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival starts in Dar es Salaam today with online exhibitions, concerts and other activities.

China Cultural Centre in Tanzania's Director, Wang Siping, disclosed Chinese Mid-Autumn Festival is a traditional Chinese festival which has a long history, representing people's wishes for harmonious and prosperous life.

Siping called upon people to submit short videos on the theme of the Mid-Autumn Festival and

the videos' content should focus on folk customs, traditional food, intangible cultural heritage, traditional performing arts and tourist attractions which are related to the theme. The official said selected videos will be released at the China Cultural Centre in Tanzania and China National Tourist Officers' media platforms.

He said the online exhibitions, concerts, short video display, streaming and training classes start today and will climax on Monday next week.

Cooperation," he disclosed.

"It is jointly organized by the network of international cultural link entities, overseas China Cultural and China Tourism Officers, the event centers on inheritance of Mid-Autumn Festival," he said.

"Mid-Autumn is the harvest season and abundant crops are considered nature's reward for a year's hard work and with its full moon."

"It embodies people's longing for family reunion and it also illustrates the concept of unity of man and nature as in ancient China, it is a celebration of happiness and contentment."

He also said his country is committed to

ensuring that the historical bilateral relationship between Tanzania and China benefits both countries and lives long.

The counselor said Mid-Autumn Festival originates from his country but it is celebrated the world over as people share the moon, the earth and human civilization.

"We wish each other a long and happy life to share the beautiful moonlight, even though we may be miles apart," he said.



Messi and Barcelona: The inside story on how everything fell apart, and what's next - Part 3

By Multiple Contributors, ESPN

AT MANCHESTER CITY, there had been a growing acceptance that signing Messi for free was impossible, so they turned their attention to a negotiated settlement. After several days of crunching numbers, a source told ESPN that "if Barcelona let him leave for €100 or 150m, Messi will be a City player." City were also willing to include players of interest to Barca, such as young defender and La Masia product Eric Garcia, in a deal, although ESPN was told that others, including Gabriel Jesus, Bernardo Silva and Riyad Mahrez, would not be included.

All of that depended on Barca being willing to budge. Messi waited and maintained his silence, even skipping coronavirus testing ahead of a return for preseason training with new coach Koeman. Board members who'd been critical of Messi felt he should be fined for that; Bartomeu believed doing so would escalate the crisis. As Barca drafted burofaxes of their own to correspond with their absent captain, sources told ESPN that some versions specified that there would be no punishment, while others left the option open.

On the morning of Sept. 2, Messi's father and agent, Jorge, flew from Rosario, Argentina, to Barcelona for a meeting with Bartomeu that evening, but no progress was made. Bartomeu had one important thing as leverage: Messi could not stomach a legal battle. He was determined to leave, but not if the process descended into lengthy litigation. City were reluctant to take that road, too.

Everything changed on Sept. 4. In an interview with Goal's Ruben Uribe, Messi announced his decision to stay. "The president told me the only way to leave was to pay the €700m clause, which is impossible, and that the alternative was going to court," Messi said. "I would never take Barca to court because it's the club I love."

It could have ended differently. Some at Barcelona feel that Messi's

approach – both in law and in public relations – was flawed from the start. "He didn't choose the best communications strategy," one source told ESPN. "If he had timed it better, he could have finished off Bartomeu and he'd be at Manchester City by now." In this reading, Messi's fundamental mistake was a failure to articulate his decision to leave sooner, and to speak directly to the fans – perhaps, as many other players might have done, on their social media accounts – before the burofax was sent.

Others question whether the prospect of another year of an unhappy Messi is best for Barca. The No. 10 has channelled his anger on the pitch before with positive results for the team; he might do so again. But ESPN has been told that some players thought a fresh start, with a new coach and without Messi, might have been the best for everyone.

SO MESSI STAYS FOR NOW, but so do his doubts, expressed so clearly and concisely when he finally spoke out. "The truth is that for a while there hasn't been a project or anything," he said. "They've been juggling things and plugging holes."

But the story doesn't end there. Bartomeu will be gone soon and a new president is to be elected in March. He might not even make it until then if a vote of no confidence, launched on the back of Messi's burofax, goes against him in the coming weeks. There could be as many as 10 people in the running to replace Bartomeu, too – Victor Font is one of the early favourites to inherit the role and he has said that, in addition to bringing former Barca midfielder maestro Xavi Hernandez back as coach, he wants to make sure Messi stays. Not one of the candidates has said they want to build a Barca without Messi, despite the fact he will be 34 next summer.

Messi has leverage. With his deal officially expiring in June, he is able to negotiate with other clubs starting in January. No legal battle, no drama, at least of the sort we've witnessed this past summer.

Sensational Fati shows there is life after Messi

MADRID

LIONEL Messi might have grabbed the headlines this summer for all the wrong reasons as he attempted to leave Barcelona, but on Monday morning they finally belonged to someone else.

Despite being just 17, a lot is expected of Ansu Fati and he did not disappoint, putting in a magical display as Barca thrashed Villarreal 4-0 on Sunday.

Many have pondered what life is going to be like at the Nou Camp once Messi finally leaves, and with the Argentine apparently seeing out the final year of his deal before moving on next year, Fati gave a glimpse of what that might be like.

Lining up on the left-hand side of the front three, the Spain international was unplayable. He netted twice in the first 20 minutes before earning his side a penalty. Messi,

however, would not give his team mate the chance for a first-half hat-trick as he stepped up and scored himself.

Team mate Sergio Busquets was effusive in his praise post-match: "We need to keep calm, but we know what kind of facets he's got. They're tremendous. We need to let him play his football."

What will be most encouraging for Barcelona fans is that their reliance on Messi – Messidependencia as it is known in Spain – under new coach Ronald Koeman appears to be far less than under previous managers.

Messi was barely a figure in the opening 20 minutes, touching the ball just six times as Fati ran riot down the left-hand side. His electric pace, quick feet and directness caused the visiting defence no end of problems.

REUTERS

In reversal, Brazil court allows virus-hit Flamengo match

SAO PAULO

IN a last-minute ruling, a Brazilian court overturned an earlier decision and allowed a league match featuring top club Flamengo to go ahead Sunday, despite 19 players testing positive for coronavirus.

The ruling, which came 10 minutes before kickoff, was the latest twist in a dramatic saga around the match between Rio de Janeiro-based Flamengo, the reigning Brazilian league and South American champions, and Sao Paulo side Palmeiras.

Despite being forced to call up a raft of emergency substitutes from their under-20 side, Flamengo managed to hold their rivals to a 1-1 draw.

The match almost didn't happen. On Saturday, the labor court for the state of Rio de Janeiro suspended the fixture, ruling it was impossible to guarantee that more Flamengo players and staff were not infected.

But the Brazilian Football Confederation appealed, arguing the outbreak at Flamengo was "an isolated incident that cannot be attributed to the Brazilian Football Champion-

ship." Federal labor judge Vieira de Mello Filho ruled the Rio de Janeiro court had "exceeded the limits of its jurisdiction," given that the match was being played in Sao Paulo.

Both clubs had already headed to the stadium in case the match went ahead. Flamengo, Brazil's wealthiest club, had joined far-right President Jair Bolsonaro in pushing for the resumption of play after football was suspended for the pandemic.

But when hit by a massive outbreak of Covid-19, they changed their tune, seeking to have the Palmeiras match postponed.

Flamengo were already forced to use multiple substitutes at their last match, against Ecuadorian club Barcelona Tuesday for the Copa Libertadores, after seven players tested positive for the virus, where the Brazilian club nevertheless won 2-1.

They faced a flurry of criticism when pictures emerged showing players socializing onboard the club plane without face masks, even as more positive test results rolled in.

AFP

# Manchester City defence exposed by Leicester City, but help is on the way

MANCHESTER

MANCHESTER City are fortunate they have already agreed a deal for Ruben Dias because Benfica might have been tempted to put the price up after Jamie Vardy ran riot in Leicester's 5-2 victory at the Etihad Stadium.

Dias is set to move to Manchester in a deal that will cost around €71 million while Nicolas Otamendi is heading in the opposite direction in a separate agreement worth around €15m. For Pep Guardiola, it cannot be completed quickly enough.

Against Leicester, he watched City lose their opening home game of a top-flight season for the first time since 1989. He also watched Vardy turn it on against his team again. On a day when Guardiola was forced to start without a recognised striker because of injuries to Sergio Aguero and Gabriel Jesus, Vardy showed the value of a bona fide poacher. He scored three times – two from penalties he won himself – to take his tally against Guardiola's City to nine. No player has scored more.

"We struggled with Vardy," said Guardiola afterwards in an early attempt at understatement of the season.

It looked like City were heading for a routine home win when Riyad Mahrez scored against his former club after three minutes with a spectacular strike which arched into the top corner. Then Vardy took over.

Ten minutes before half-time, the 33-year-old was bundled over after a clumsy challenge from Kyle Walker and dispatched the penalty high into the net. His second shortly after half-time was the best of the lot.

He looked short of space when Timothy Castagne's low cross from the right reached him at the near post but it didn't matter as he produced an impudent flick to lift the ball over a bemused Ederson. Vardy's third was another penalty as City failed to deal with his lightning movement again and Eric Garcia – having a good game up until that point – clipped his heels. This time he went to Ederson's right to become the oldest player to score a Premier League hat-trick since Teddy Sheringham in 2003.

James Maddison came off the bench to make it four by beating Ederson from 20 yards and although Nathan Ake pulled one back with his first City goal, Leicester made it 5-2 with their



Leicester City's Jamie Vardy celebrates scoring their third goal to complete his hat-trick against Manchester City during their Premier League match at Etihad Stadium in Manchester, Britain on Sunday. REUTERS

third penalty of the afternoon after Benjamin Mendy had fouled Maddison. Vardy had already limped off so the responsibility fell to Yuri Tielemans to ensure Leicester became the first team to score five goals against a side managed by Guardiola in his 686 games as a coach. Leicester, meanwhile, are top of the league after three wins from three.

"We played really good in the first 30 minutes," said Guardiola. "We scored early on and I think they defended so deep, so it was not easy."

"In this situation it happened many times so we have to control the counter-attack and I think today the problem was that we put extra pressure on ourselves to score the second or third one when they just didn't want to play, they just wanted to defend and play on the counter-attack and just in that position we have to be more calm."

"Of course when you have the players to attack the box that we need. We were anxious to attack and say we are not creating chances, we got nervous and after we gave three penalties away. And when you do that you cannot do it."

Guardiola will hope the solution to his problems is already on the way. City looked at Napoli's Kalidou Koulibaly and Atletico Madrid's Jose Gimenez to strengthen the defence but after being put off by the price tags, director of football Txiki Begiristain has instead turned to Dias.

The Portugal international has been scouted by Manchester United in the past but City are the ones who will prise him away from Benfica – helped in part by their willingness to take Otamendi.

Ayeric Laporte will help, too. The Frenchman is yet to play this season after testing positive for COVID-19 over

the summer and was only fit enough for a place on the bench against Leicester. After another full week of training, he can expect to be back in the team for the trip to Leeds United on Saturday. Judging by Guardiola's almost constant instructions to Ake, the Dutchman – a £40m signing from Bournemouth – is taking time to get up to speed.

It didn't help Ake and the rest of the defence that Guardiola decided to swap Fernandinho for 17-year-old striker Liam Delap with the score at 1-1 but the Spaniard cannot be held responsible for the absence of basic defending. All three penalties were conceded after his players got the wrong side of a Leicester attacker.

Asked after the final whistle about Dias' impending arrival, Guardiola said: "It's not official. Let me wait until it's official, then I'll give you a statement." After a disastrous day, he will hope it's sooner rather than later.

Meanwhile, Manchester City manager Pep Guardiola has criticised Leicester's tactics after seeing his team suffer a 5-2 home defeat.

City dominated after former Leicester midfielder Riyad Mahrez gave them an early lead but their game plan crumbled after Jamie Vardy netted a 37th-minute penalty.

"They didn't want to play, they defended so deep and just wanted to counter-attack," Guardiola said after seeing a side he has managed concede five goals for the first time in his 686th game in charge.

"They scored the first time they arrived and had three penalties in total, so it was very difficult for us. The lack of creating chances made us nervous and anxious."

With both natural strikers Sergio Aguero and Gabriel Jesus out injured, City looked toothless despite having the majority of the possession.

At the other end, they looked like conceding every time Leicester came forward, with Vardy's speed causing all sorts of problems.

(Agencies)

## Suarez enjoying new lease of life after stunning Atletico debut

MADRID

LUIS Suarez said on Sunday he needed a change when he left Barcelona after marking his Atletico Madrid debut with two goals and an assist.

Suarez's sensational 20-minute cameo came as Atletico started their La Liga season with a thumping 6-1 victory over Granada.

He set up a goal two minutes after coming on as a substitute, his sumptuous pass finished off by Marcos Llorente, before scoring himself with a powerful header at the back post.

The 33-year-old then added another in injury time, following up his own shot to make it six for a rampant Atletico at the Wanda Metropolitan.

"Sometimes it is important to have a change as a player," said Suarez.

"I've come to a club that has given me a spectacular welcome, it shows in the atmosphere, you get a good impression from the beginning, and you can see that on the pitch."

Diego Costa said with a smile: "It's great. One of us bites, the other one hits."

Costa had earlier given Atletico the lead but it was the 31-year-old who made way for Suarez, and he raised doubts about his future after the match.

"I leave my future up to the club. I spoke with the club, with the coach, I made it very clear what was happening, that if I am here, I will fight," said Costa. "If they see the possibility of me leaving, I'll accept it. I don't want to be a weight."

Angel Correa and the impressive Joao Felix, who was perhaps the best player on the pitch, put Granada out of sight before Suarez stole the show.

- Atletico reinvigorated - Suarez might have had a hat-trick given he also won a penalty and had the ball under his arm to take it, only for the decision to be reversed by referee Javier Estrada.

But Suarez's performance off the bench completed the perfect start to the season for him and for Atletico, who might start to believe the scoring problems of last term could be behind them.

It was not only Suarez's contribution that would have pleased Diego Simeone but the displays of his other forwards, with Costa and Felix, perhaps invigorated by the Uruguayan's arrival, looking sharper. Felix was excellent. If the 20-year-old can find some consistency this season after a stop-start opening year, Atletico could challenge for the title.

They might have been two up in the first quarter of an hour as Costa did well to head in Correa's cross before Felix won a penalty, his dancing run into the box drawing a foul from Domingos Duarte.

But Saul Niguez's shot was brilliantly saved by Rui Silva, with Felix booting the ball into the stand in frustration, suggesting he might have been keen to take it.

Atletico's dominance briefly subsided and Granada might have gone in level at half-time, their best



Luis Suarez completed the scoring and an impressive 20-minute debut as Atletico beat Granada 6-1. (Agencies)

chance falling to Victor Diaz, who was denied at close range by Jan Oblak.

Instead, the visitors fell away in the second half as the excellent Felix set up one and then scored another. First, he picked out Correa at the back post with a curling pass and then finished himself, coming inside after a clever dummy by Costa.

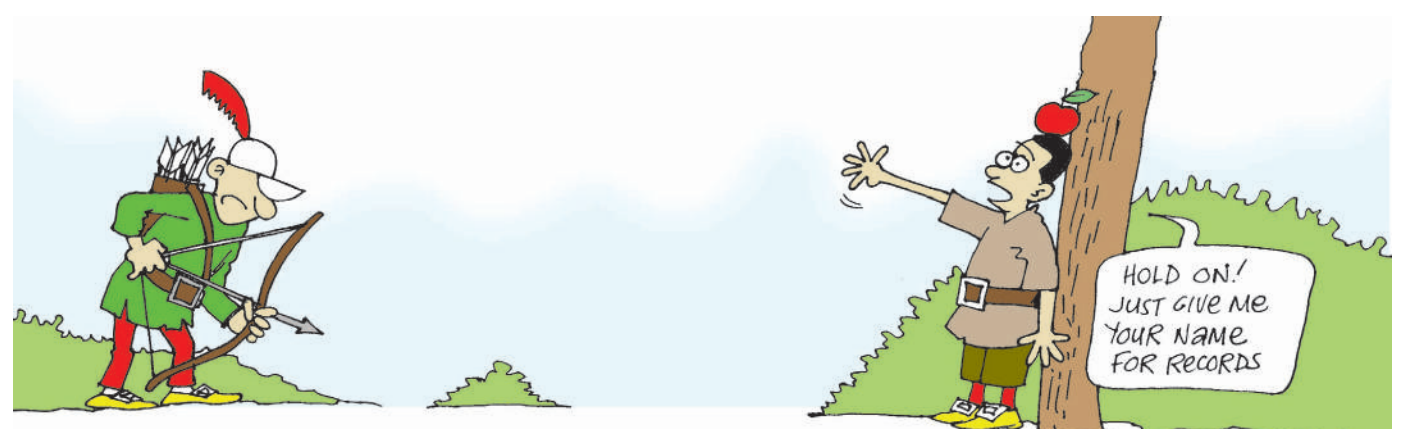
That was Costa's last significant contribution before he departed for Suarez, the Uruguayan coming on in the 70th minute.

He was set up a fourth in the 72nd minute, a cushioned pass on the volley allowing Llorente to find the corner.

Suarez then powered in a header at the

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko





# Taifa Stars now line up Burundi friendly

## SPORT

Manchester City defence exposed by Leicester City, but help is on the way

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Taifa Stars' players participate in training at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam early this year to prepare for international matches. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

**T**ANZANIA'S senior national football team, Taifa Stars, return to international football after an almost year-long absence due to Covid-19 crisis with one international friendly during FIFA's

October 5-14 international matches' window.

The Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) has confirmed an international friendly match that has been lined up for Taifa Stars during the upcoming international break.

Taifa Stars will play against Burundi at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam

on October 11.

"The Tanzania senior national team 'Taifa Stars' will play a friendly match against Burundi on the FIFA calendar on October 11, 2020, kick off at 4pm at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium, Dar es Salaam," TFF said in a statement on Monday.

Taifa Stars head coach, Etienne Ndayiragije, will use the FIFA international break to prepare his squad for the 2022 Africa Cup of Nations qualifiers. He is, on Friday, set to announce the squad to face Burundi.

The build up will also prepare some of the players for the 2021 African Nations Championship (CHAN) finals early next year.

Taifa Stars meet Tunisia in Tunis on November 9 before the return game in Dar es Salaam on November 17.

The matches were initially set for March 27 and March 31, and coach Ndayiragije had announced his squad before the Confederation of African Football (CAF) had announced the suspension of all matches as the global coronavirus pandemic escalated.

After two rounds of matches, Tanzania are placed third in Group J of the qualifiers for the 2022

AFCON finals with three points, following a home win against Equatorial Guinea and an away loss to Libya.

Tunisia are in first place in the group with six points followed by Libya who are second with three points but ahead of Tanzania on Head to head rule while Equatorial Guinea are bottom with zero.

The 2021 Africa Cup of Nations was postponed in June by CAF from January and February 2021 to January and February 2022.

A total of 48 nations, including hosts Cameroon, have been split into 12 groups each consisting of four teams, with two teams from each group progressing to the finals.

Tanzania ended a 39-year hiatus from the AFCON finals when they competed in the 2019 Egypt Africa Cup of Nations, where they finished rock bottom in a group comprising winners, Algeria, finalists Senegal and neighbours Kenya.

## Yanga leadership condemns fans' rowdiness in VPL

By Badru Kunambi, TUDARCO

YANGA's officials have said they have been saddened by rowdiness shown by some of the club's fans against a section of Simba SC fans in a 2020/21 Vodacom Premier League (VPL) match between Yanga and Mtwara Sugar which took place in Morogoro on Sunday.

Yanga edged Mtwara Sugar 1-0 in the clash that took place at Jamhuri Stadium.

A section of Yanga fans are reported to have roughed up some of Simba SC supporters that had attended the clash.

Yanga leadership, in a statement released yesterday, has, therefore, said it strongly condemns the unruly behaviour showcased by the supporters.

The squad's officials have called on security forces to investigate the matter and take legal action against the ones found guilty of committing such an act.

Yanga, the officials noted, believes that football is all about sportmanship, thus hostility should not be entertained in the game.

The leadership noted Yanga have age old rivalry with Simba SC, insisting it should not be termed as hostility.

Yanga's Acting Secretary General, Simon Patrick, was adamant there is need for his side's supporters to committedly support their team to post more wins in home and away games in the VPL.

The side, he disclosed, is this time around eager to successfully contest for the top flight title.

Ghanaian defender, Lamine Moro, recorded the lone goal for Yanga in the encounter, seeing to it the squad amasses three points.

The central defender, who was not marked by Mtwara Sugar defenders, connected home a well taken corner kick by Angolan midfielder, Carlos Fernandes, winning rapturous applause from Yanga supporters.

Yanga are placed third behind the league leaders, Azam FC, and second-placed Simba SC, following the former's victory over Mtwara Sugar.

Yanga have registered victory in three outings and settled for draw in one match to collect 10 points.

They are level with Simba on points but they are separated by goal aggregate. Azam FC is at the top of the standing, having amassed 12 points from victory in all four matches the side has featured in.

## Ihefu FC coach unhappy with players' lack of concentration

By Correspondent Adam Fungamwango

MBEYA'S Ihefu FC head coach, Maka Mwalwisi, has stated that his squad's 2-0 defeat to Mtwara FC in a 2020/21 Vodacom Premier League (VPL) clash came about because of his players' lack of concentration.

Mtwara FC made the most of their home venue, cruising to the comfortable win the clash, which took place at Mtwara Complex in Shinyanga last weekend.

Malwisi noted his players' failure to properly mark Mtwara FC strikers had the Mbeya club suffer the loss, given they had underrated their opponents.

Speaking after the final whistle, the coach said his players were confident of coming out victorious in the clash, given Mtwara FC were reeling from three defeats in a row going into the match.

"I should say my players let me down. They have committed glaring mistakes, if you look at the two goals, they were scored because of carelessness," he disclosed.

"In the first goal, my club's keeper was in good position to boot the ball away from his area, he though delayed and let Mtwara FC striker pounce and drill the ball in, it was merely six minutes into the clash," he noted.

"My players, later, lost composure and that proved costly given they let in the second goal."

Malwisi has, for that matter, asked his players to avoid underrating opponents in the VPL, maintaining they should instead put spirited performance and seek wins.

"They were too disappointed after the match, and they found out how competitive the VPL is and how challenging their coming matches will be,"

he noted.

"I hope they have learnt from the match," the coach, who helped Ihefu FC win automatic promotion to the VPL, disclosed.

Ihefu FC that has made its debut appearance in the VPL, won lots of plaudits for putting spirited showing against Simba SC in their first game, despite conceding 2-1 loss to the latter.

Ihefu FC players put stellar performance in the clash and won praise from domestic soccer pundits that predicted the club will scale great heights in domestic soccer.

The squad holds the 15th spot in the VPL table with three points after the completion of the fourth round duels, having conceded loss in three matches and won one game.



Mbeya's Ihefu Football Club's players take part in training session at Sokoine Stadium in the region recently to shape up for this season's Vodacom Premier League fixtures.

## ABC sails through to 2020 RBA League last four

By Nassir Nchimbi, TUDARCO

ARMY Basketball Club (ABC) has booked a place in the semi-finals of this season's Dar es Salaam Regional Basketball Association (RBA) League, edging Vijana Basketball Club 'City Bulls' in game three of the last eight stage.

The army club has now completed the semi-final list, which is also made up of National Service (JKT) Basketball Club, Oilers Basketball Club and Kurasini Heat.

All semi-final duels, as disclosed by RBA officials, will be played at the Bandari court.

The ABC notched 80-75 victory over 'City Bulls' in the game three of the last eight stage, played at the court on Sunday, to make certain of their progression to the last four.

The 'City Bulls' had come out victorious in the last eight's first match, ABC later bounced back in game two, cruising to 81-71 victory over the former.

Kurasini Heat breezed past Savio Club with a comfortable 90-59 victory over the latter in the second match of the three-game last eight, played the same weekend, to garner 2-0 lead.

Eric Lugora was the best performer for Kurasini Heat, as he scored 21 points and recorded eight rebounds and four assists to help his club advance to the semi-finals.

Oilers Basketball Club also won two of the three-game last eight series against Pazi Basketball Club.

Oilers clobbered Pazi 71-58 in the second match that saw the former's key player, Evance Davis, slot in 25 points and recording four rebounds, as many assists and one block for the squad.

The JKT Club was the first to advance to the semi-finals after beating Ukonga Kings 68-60 in the second match of the last eight stage which took place at the Bandari court.

The army squad, for that matter, booked a place in the last four with 2-0 victory in the three-game series.

The semi-finals will have ABC confront Kurasini Heat in the best of two games series.

Lugora and team mate Isaya Aswile are expected to lead Kurasini Heat in what is set to be a tough game against ABC that has, among others, reliable performer Emerico Augustino.

The JKT Basketball Club that is one of the competition's favourites will play against Oilers in the other semi-final.

Dependable performers including Evance Davis and Maxwell Ngonga are expected to lead Oilers in the encounter, which too promises to be quite tough given they will face equally well drilled JKT led by Baraka Sadick.

“

The JKT Club was the first to advance to the semi-finals after beating Ukonga Kings 68-60 in the second match of the last eight stage which took place at the Bandari court.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



**EATV TUESDAY**

**TONIGHT @ 9:00**

**NIRVANA**

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 MPYA  
12:30 Msosi Kitaani (r)  
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi  
14:30 Bball Kings Highlights (r)  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 5SPORTS (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasia  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music/Soap  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)

**Nirvana** explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

**eastafrica RADIO**

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

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