



National Pg 2 Regulations to protect environment



National Pg 3 500 tourists from Hangzhou city



National Pg 6 'Involve communities in wildlife conservation'



Page 13



Grace for youth from 'Operation Magufuli' of the National Service

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli has directed that all youth who had graduated from the National Service 'Operation Magufuli' to be employed in various government institutions.

Speaking yesterday to reporters in a press conference, the Permanent Secretary in the President's Office (Public Service Management and Good Governance), Dr Laurean Ndumbaro (pictured) explained the president's order.

The press conference was aimed at informing the public on various issues concerning the country's public service four years into the fifth phase government.

"The government has been building for the youths' diligence, unity, solidarity, patriotism, discipline and love for work by sending them to National Service training, hence in recognition to their contribution, President Magufuli has stressed that they should be employed."

Dr Ndumbaro mentioned the qualification for the NS graduates as including two years NS training, and should submit their personal details, education or other professional certificates along with

Govt deregisters 208 tiny airports for irregularities



A commuter bus transporting passengers for upcountry destinations, a move meant to rescue the situation following congestion for space in regular large buses at the Ubungu Bus Terminal in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

He called upon all operators in the country whose licences have expired to apply for renewals as soon as possible

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) has de-registered and prohibited operating at least 208 small size airports (aerodromes) for violating licensing and registration requirements.

The regulator said that owners of the prohibited aerodromes have been operating without a valid certificate, contrary to civil aviation regulations.

TCCA Director General Hamza Johari told journalists at a press conference yesterday that in back May, TCCA issued an advisory circular, which directed that as of 31 December, 2019 for aerodromes operators to comply with licensing and registration requirements.

"In this respect, all operators of private and public aerodromes are now given up to 31 March, 2020 to comply with licensing, certification and registration requirements as prescribed in part iii, iv and part v respectively of the Civil Aviation (Aerodromes), Regulations, 2017," he enunciated.

He urged airport operators whose licenses have expired to apply for renewal, noting that currently there are 643 aerodromes out which 208 have

TURN TO PAGE 2

Germany grants 21.6bn/- to key ecosystems authorities

By Guardian Reporter

GERMANY has committed over 21.6bn/- (euros 8.5million) to Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) to bolster conservation efforts due to increased pressure on the country's ecosystems.

The conservation drive will be implemented through traffic management for protected areas through digital solutions, administered by TANAPA and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism.

The programme is based on the realization that the pressure on ecosystems in Tanzania continues to be high, not only from the outside due to the needs of a growing population, but also on the inside from rising numbers of tourists as well as transit traffic.

"Germany is committing an additional 8.5m euros to beef up conservation efforts as we recognize the immense efforts by the Tanzanian government in combating poaching and sustaining conservation," a

German Embassy statement said in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

It lauded Tanzania on the 60 years of successful conservation at the Serengeti National Park and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area, one of the world's most significant ecosystems.

Jörg Herrera, the Chargé d'Affaires of the German Embassy said that despite massive challenges, Tanzania had successfully fulfilled the duty of conserving the Serengeti for future generations, "a duty for which the world owes and shows you deep respect."

He said that Tanzania has a duty not only to conserve the ecosystem for its own citizens but for the global community, pointing out that the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) declared the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Conservation Areas

TURN TO PAGE 2

Serengeti residents want park airstrips shut down

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Fort Ikoma

RESIDENTS of Serengeti District and surrounding precincts have pleaded with the government to ensure that all airstrips found within Serengeti National Park are moved out of the protected area.

Speaking on behalf of the residents, Serengeti MP Mwita Chacha told Vice President, Samia Suluhu Hassan that airstrips in the national parks were built by keeping ordinary people at bay, as they aren't allowed to enter the protected areas to work or trade.

"Planes disturb animals, and it is also dangerous for passengers during landing or take-off if there are wild beasts on the track. But most important, our people need to secure employment at such airstrips but cannot venture into the national parks," the MP

maintained.

The MP made the appeal when the Vice President called him at the podium in Fort Ikoma, during a ceremony to mark the 60th Anniversary of Serengeti National Park and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority held jointly in the Serengeti on Monday.

With the two conservation entities of Serengeti and Ngorongoro marking their six decades since being gazetted in 1959, Vice President Suluhu inaugurated a special time capsule to capture the next six decades of the two parks.

"We wish that there was something to mark the occasion when Serengeti became a national park and Ngorongoro was made a conservation

TURN TO PAGE 2

REACH A WIDER AUDIENCE THIS FESTIVE SEASON AT AMAZING DISCOUNT

UP TO 25% OFF

ON RATE CARD
OFFER VALID UP TO 31ST DECEMBER 2019

ON ALL ADVERTISEMENT BOOKING SPACE.

The Guardian - Super brand leading English Daily
Nipashe - Your favorite swahili daily

TO BOOK YOUR SPACE

PLEASE CALL US TODAY ON
MOBILE NUMBER +255 782 253676,

Email:advertise@guardian.co.tz OR VISIT US AT MIKOCHE NI LIGHT
INDUSTRY AREA, OPPOSITE ITV/RADIO ONE, DAR ES SALAAM.
Website: www.ippmedia.com

Terms and Conditions Apply

“The press conference was aimed at informing the public on various issues concerning the country's public service four years into the fifth phase government

NS Passing Out certificates to his office, via email ps@utumishi.go.tz.

Under 'Operation Magufuli' it is estimated that nearly 800 youth graduated from two-year NS training from different camps across the country.

Dr Ndumbaro also used the occasion to warn all employers who reemploy public servants who were dismissed due to forged education and professional certificates on reasons that they were dismissed erroneously or that they were employed before May 20, 2001 on the basis of Std Seven education completion.

He said the government will not hesitate to take steps against any employer who will contravene lawful government directives on public servants who had forged certificates.

Speaking on the issue of cheating and favouritism in promotions, Dr Ndumbaro said his office has discovered that some employers were submitting fake details to his office when recommending promotions, without following laid down

TURN TO PAGE 2



Serengeti residents want park airstrips shut down

FROM PAGE 1

area, 60 years ago," said Dr Allan Kijazi the commissioner of conservation and CEO for the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA).

He was welcoming the Vice President to unveil the time capsule as well as inaugurate a milestone placard to mark the double occasion.

Serengeti, which used to operate as a game reserve featuring hunting activities, was transformed into a national park in 1951, then covering the plains as well as the Ngorongoro Crater. But in 1959 the area was split to form the park to become the Ngorongoro Conservation Area.

During that year, the two entities were officially gazetted, with some Maasai residents living in the Moru kopjes of Serengeti moved down to Ngorongoro and others transferred to the adjacent Loliondo Game Controlled Area.

Addressing the gathering, VP Suluhu said that the government is committed to ensure that all protected areas remain unspoiled.

"This is what the head of state, President John Magufuli sent me to remind the people of Serengeti and Tanzania as whole," she affirmed.

The recent addition of six new national parks increases protected areas to 22 national parks, one conservation area and over 25 game reserves.

However, for the residents of Ikoma, the increase of wildlife has come with

a price.

They complained losing 30 heads of cattle, while the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr Khamis Kigwangalla asserted that some of the ferocious cats will be captured and transferred to other parks that have few or no lions.

For his part, the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Regional Cooperation, Prof Palamagamba Kabudi, said Tanzania is also embarking into diplomacy tourism, citing the recent successful SADC conferences held in Dar es Salaam and Arusha.

The VP also issued awards of recognition to people who have worked diligently in the tourism and conservation entities to outstanding recognition during the past 60 years.

Tanzania has committed 35 percent of the country's total land to conservation, and the country recently unveiled the largest national park in East Africa, the new Nyerere National Park that was annexed from the Selous Game Reserve.

Dr Kigwangalla also commented on how some countries use Tanzania's tourist destinations in commercial flights such as the Ngorongoro Crater and Mount Kilimanjaro, saying such habits are to our advantages as the fact remains that they are in Tanzania.

The minister's remarks came about after discussion erupted in social media over a neighbouring country airline branded with two of our key tourist destinations seen on their flights.



Zanzibar Finance Minister Mohammed Ramia Abdiwawa (2nd R) signs loan agreement with Arab Bank director general Dr. Sidi Ould Tah (R) under which USD 13.5 million offered to Zanzibar government for schools building apartments. The ceremony was held recently in Khartoum, Sudan. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt deregisters 208 tiny airports for irregularities

FROM PAGE 1

their operations curtailed due to failure to comply.

TCAA conducted a three month inspection of aerodromes countrywide using military aircraft where they got details that led to the decision.

Operators are required to have a certificate or license, which is subject to renewal every two years.

The Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) is the government body regulating air travel and airport

services, providing air navigation services to local and international flights, responsible for evaluating aviation safety and licensing aviation personnel.

It also contributes to financial oversight of air travel infrastructure development, the registration of aircraft, investigation of air accidents as well as local area search and rescue.

In conjunction with the Tanzania Airports Authority it is also involved in operations of airports and aerodromes, the statement added.

Grace for youth from 'Operation Magufuli' of the National Service

FROM PAGE 1

procedures.

"My office will continue to take appropriate action against all employees who will be found to be cheating by misinforming the Office of the President (Public Service Management and Good Governance) so as to recommend promotions to public

servants who had no qualifications for such promotion," he declared.

Public servants in the country must perform their duties professionally by adhering to laws, regulations and procedures governing the public service instead of becoming the cause of problems and unnecessary conflicts, he added.



Dodoma residents purchase goods as part of the festive season yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Revive culture of reading books, Tanzanians urged

By Guardian Reporter

The author of "Talk to God", a group of English poems, being popularised by local churches to Tanzanians who know English, Masija Buchafwe, has urged literate adult Tanzanians to revive the culture of reading books by encouraging young people to become avid readers of books.

He told reporters in Dar es Salaam in a soft-launch of his title, that unlike in the 1950s through to 1970s, young

Tanzanians today were not enthusiastic readers of books or even long texts. "Tanzania is the country I know. In my opinion, this country longer has passionate young and old readers of books; yet knowledge is in books," the author lamented calling on parents and teachers to persuade young people to read book of varied nature.

"People with knowledge read, those who don't reader have abysmal knowledge," the author argued, asking Tanzanians to stop isolating themselves

from books.

He described the tendency of running away from books as a "dangerous collective cancer of that will shield millions of young Tanzanians from knowledge and advancement."

Buchafwe said it took him some 16 years to prepare the poems and get a publisher who has condensed the poems into 84 pages. "Producing a book is a challenging job," he quipped.

The poems are essentially on the glory of Jesus, but the author said he

would love people of other faiths to read the book and give him critical feedback "at least from literal point of view. I would love to receive critical views from people studying literature in schools and colleges and people in the habit of reading books," he appealed.

The author has a master's degree in mass communication from St Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT) and has translated into Kiswahili two books: Think Big and God Sent a Man.

Germany grants 21.6bn/- to key ecosystems authorities

FROM PAGE 1

World Heritage Sites for Nature many years ago.

Rooted in the friendship between founder president Julius Nyerere and Prof. Bernhard Grzimek of the Frankfurt Zoological Society, Tanzania and Germany have been close partners in conservation since the 1960s.

Recently, the focus of cooperation has been on the protection of Serengeti

National Park and Selous Game Reserve that is now the main part of Nyerere National Park.

Germany also implements a programme to support Mahale and Katavi national parks. The Frankfurt Zoological Society plays a significant part in this cooperation arrangement, with Serengeti being at the core of the organization's Africa programme, the envoy added.

Government now reviews various regulations for protecting state's environment

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has reviewed various regulations for protecting environment with the purpose of ensuring proper management of one of precious sector in the country.

According to the statement released yesterday by the Minister in the Vice President Office (Environment) George Simbachawene, among the regulations reviewed includes the Environment Management (hazardous wastes control and management) Regulation of 2009, fees and charges of 2008 and its amendments of 2016 and 2018.

The government has already prepared new regulations for electronic based wastes of 2019.

The new regulations include the Environmental Management (Hazardous Waste Control and Management) Regulations, 2019.

The new regulations have considered the environmental management Act, 2004 on Section 133 (1) and (3).

The regulation gives power to the Minister responsible for environment to issue permits for importing or transporting hazardous wastes.

Moreover, the 2009 regulations did not recognize the Export Controller as expressed in the Export Control Act, which is under the Ministry of Trade and Industries on the supervision of goods that are transported outside the country.

In the 2019 regulations, the Export Controller will be served with a copy of permit that has been issued by the Minister for environment and other documents so that he/she could issue a licence to export goods as required

under the Export Control Act.

The new 2019 regulations have been prepared by considering the types of wastes as required by the Basel contract, which is all about the transportation and disposal of hazardous wastes.

Minister Simbachawene added that the 2009 regulations did not consider much the conditions to be adhered by the person who is issued a permit to transport hazardous wastes.

He said in the 2019 regulations, the person responsible for transporting wastes is guided through regulations.

He added that in the 2019 regulations, the National Environmental Management Council (NEMC) has been categorically mentioned and its responsibilities have been identified on managing hazardous wastes.

Moreover, the government has lowered the fees and charges for hazardous wastes. He said the charges will now start from 1m/- to 5m/- basing on the type of wastes.

Moreover, the government has prepared new regulations to oversee the disposal and management of electronic wastes. The Minister said that earlier, electronic wastes were being managed under the hazardous wastes regulations but the government has decided to form new regulations due to the increase of electronic wastes that need to be disposed.

"We will not spare any person who will be found violating the said regulations and other regulations related to environment, stern measures that include paying fines will be imposed," said Simbachawene.



Kamuguruki villagers at Nyakatende ward in Musoma rural, Mara region ploughing their farm as part of modern agriculture practices to increase productivity. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Two children die in Babati district after consuming poisonous cassava

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

TWO children from one family have died while three others survived after eating raw cassava a root that's poisonous if not prepared correctly at Endorbo area in Endaghay Village, Gidas Ward, Babati district in Manyara region.

Manyara Regional Police Commander SACP Paul Kasabango on Sunday confirmed the incident and mentioned the names of the deceased as Mwanahamisi Hamad (4) and Bashiru Hamad (6), both residents of Gidas Ward.

He said the cause of the death was the cassava that had poison which they ate and later died at Endaghay dispensary to where they were referred.

He said the three who survived were Paulina Bura (19), Selina Safari (41) and Christina Joseph (28).

He said the police were still investigating the incident and the three who survived have already been discharged after treatment at Manyara

regional hospital.

However, the mother of the deceased Stella Joseph said the children died after eating raw cassava, the peels and leaves thereof that had not been correctly prepared.

She added: "After eating the food they suddenly started vomiting and we immediately discovered they had been eating poisonous cassava."

She also appealed for assistance from citizens because she was still at Manyara Regional Hospital where her two-month old son Isaka Hamad was admitted suffering from kwashiorkor. She added that whoever will be touched should contact her at mobile number: 0684353059.

She said she has been separated with her husband, father of the children so she has no one else to turn to for assistance.

Medical expert at the hospital Dr Yesige Mutajwaa said the children died after eating cassava that had cyanide poison which is found in the cassava that had not been correctly prepared.

By Francis Kajubi

Tanzania set to receive 500 tourists from Hangzhou city

TANZANIA is set to receive more than 500 tourists from Hangzhou city in China between February and early March next year, the Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) said yesterday.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam, TTB chairman, Judge (rtd) Thomas Mihayo said that the new initiative will contribute to boosting the number of tourists to achieve the intended target of 2 million tourists by 2020.

Mihayo said that already the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism had entered an agreement earlier this year with TOUCHROAD international

Holdings Group from China of flying tourists from Hangzhou city of Zhejiang Province in East China to Tanzania and had already flew 300 tourists from Hangzhou by May this year.

"The first route to Hangzhou will be on 24th February 2020 with Boeing 787-8 Dreamliner that is currently flying to Mumbai. The second flight will departure Dar es Salaam on 2nd March 2020 and will return the following day. We are expecting 262 tourists from each route that will make a total of 524 tourists visiting Tanzania," said Mihayo.

Recent statistics released by the

ministry show that the number of tourists entering the country increased from 1.3 million in 2017 to 1.5 million in 2018 whereby tourist activities generated USD2.4 billion which is an increase of 7.2 per cent from USD2.3 billion earned in 2017. He asserted that the global growth of tourism last year stood at an average of 6 per cent but for Tanzania the sector grew at 13 per cent. The sector leads in attracting foreign currency had contributed 17.5 per cent of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth.

Edward Nkwabi, sales and distribution manager Air Tanzania Company Limited

(ATCL) said that the plane will departure Dar es Salaam with a group of not less than 200 business community members whom will fly to Hangzhou to learn and explore business opportunities.

"After the two trips we will have to break for at least a month to give time for tourists whom will visit Tanzania to explain about the beauty of our nation to their friends and relatives in Hangzhou city and other provinces of China so as they can be convinced to visit Tanzania. We hope that regular trips will commence early in May when there will be one trip per week," said Nkwabi.

On his part, Touchroad International Holdings Group chairman, He Liehui, said that his company is well prepared and is delighted to work with the TTB and ATCL in cementing the ties between Tanzania and China in the tourism sector. "Currently we are working with a local tour guide company in facilitating tourists from China. We are working with Excellent Guides Tanzania that is responsible of the hospitality that tourists need while they are in Tanzania. I call upon local tour guide companies to work with us in the new Tanzania-China journey," said Liehui.



AROUND THE WORLD

with special fares

Fly Emirates to exciting destinations with our limited time offer

Enjoy over 4,500 channels of inflight entertainment, gourmet meals and free Wi-Fi onboard. Book by 31 December 2019 for travel from 7 January until 30 November 2020*.

DESTINATION	ECONOMY CLASS RETURN FROM USD*	BUSINESS CLASS RETURN FROM USD*	FIRST CLASS RETURN FROM USD*
Dubai	480	2,541	4,252
Bangkok	734	3,313	5,634
Ahmedabad	812	2,050	4,350
London	845	3,322	6,081
Guangzhou	898	3,747	5,930

FLY BETTER

*Terms and conditions apply. Valid for sale from 17 December until 31 December 2019 for travel from 7 January until 30 November 2020. Return travel cannot commence before 13 January 2020. Fares to selected destinations are inclusive of all taxes and surcharges. Fares may differ due to currency fluctuations and/or government tax regulations as per journey booked. Blackout periods, flight restrictions and other terms and conditions apply. For more information, please contact your local travel agent, call Emirates on +255 22 211 6100 or visit emirates.com/tz

Be honest while answering survey, census questions, urges Statistician General

By Guardian Reporter

STATISTICIAN General Dr Albina Chuwa has urged the public to be honest by correctly answering survey and census questions as that enables Tanzania to produce quality statistics.

She said production of statistics is a collective process and in order to be able to produce quality statistics it calls for everyone to play its part accordingly.

"Responsibility of the public, according to Statistics Act No. 9 of 2015, is to accord cooperation to data collectors from National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) through providing honest and correct answers during interview" she insisted.

Dr. Chuwa told Iringa and Mbeya residents that correct, clear and honest answers is what makes quality statistics which portray real situation as a result government can take evidence-based decisions.

Statistician General made the remarks over the week in Iringa and Mbeya regions during the supervision visit of the on-going 2019 Energy Access and Use Situation Survey II (EAUSS).

She said information collected from individuals or households in the Survey will be kept confidential in accordance to the Statistics Act No. 9 of 2015 and will not be disclosed to anyone who is

not involved the Survey.

Dr. Chuwa told Iringa and Mbeya residents that the aim of EAUSS is to update the national and regional statistics on energy access and use for proper planning and decision making at various levels.

She added that these statistics will show the progress made in improving accessibility of energy and studying its benefits and impact towards improving livelihood of Tanzanians especially rural population.

She told them apart from the energy survey, NBS is currently conducting other surveys including Feed the Future End Survey- a programme supported by US government through USAID and Accelerated Water and Sanitation for All Program Phase II which is implemented in Iringa and Mufindi district councils in collaboration with UNICEF.

Statistician General said, February, 2020 Tanzania will conduct National Sample Census of Agriculture 2018/19 and they should prepare to effectively participate.

In Mbeya, Dk. Chuwa addressed residents of Muungano, Forest Ward in the city and Ilaji village of Mahongole ward in Mbarali district council. In Iringa, she visited Uhominyi village in Image ward and Mtili village in Mtili ward, Mufindi district.



Energy deputy minister Subira Mgalu talks with Mchangani villagers at Kome island in Sengerema district, Mwanza region. The deputy minister was in the district to inspect rural electrification project. The event took place over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Zuena Msuya

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Tanzania Education Authority (TEA) through Skills Development Fund (SDF) has provided 136m/- to facilitate youth training on various agricultural technologies to enable them employ themselves.

TEA project director, Waziri Salum said the training which was coordinated by the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) is meant to enhance productivity in the agriculture sector which is key for industrialization drive.

TEA provides 136m/- to facilitate youth training

The youth had been provided with skills on how to make various modern agricultural tools including tractors and power tillers.

Addressing journalists during closure of the training over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, Salum said they are satisfied with the quality of training provided to the youth. He said monies for skills development were provided by the government and the World Bank.

He also commended TPSF for supervising the training which was conducted for six weeks involving 135 Tanzania youth from across the country.

"We have been working closely with TPSF in improving the skills of youth in the agriculture sector. They are the ones who connected us with Agricom Africa—a local company dealing with importation, distribution and

marketing of agricultural equipment, which had provided training to the youth.

Salum added the agriculture sector is important taking into consideration that Tanzania gears to become an industrialised nation. He said apart from agriculture, TEA also works to improve skills in other areas namely, tourism, transportation, energy, construction, and Information and

Communication Technology (ICT).

"Our union with TPSF is in line with the national industrialisation drive and attainment of the middle income status by 2025", he said calling upon youth to use the knowledge acquired to empower themselves economically and create jobs for fellow youth.

He said since unemployment is a global challenge, the can use the skills to establish small workshops for

manufacturing of different agricultural tools.

SDF coordinator, Masozi Nyirenda said the fund has also been providing subsidy to youth and women interested with the skills development training. He said the trainings are meant to promote job creation to women and young people. "With the fund we aim at improving social skills to Tanzanians to enable them employ themselves as well as sharpen their skills in different sectors including tourism, transportation, energy, construction and ICT", said Nyirenda.



PRESS RELEASE

THE DUE DATE FOR TAX AMNESTY UNDER THE TAX ADMINISTRATION (REMISSION OF INTEREST AND PENALTY) ORDER NUMBER 282A, 2018

Dar es Salaam, 19th December 2019:

Tanzania Revenue Authority (henceforth "TRA" or "the Authority") wishes to remind the taxpayers that on 14th June 2018, the Minister for Finance and Planning announced a tax amnesty ORDER under the Tax Administration (Remission of Interest and Penalty) ORDER Number 282A, 2018 for taxpayers with outstanding tax liabilities and those who voluntarily disclosed or affirmed their tax liabilities and were ready to settle their outstanding principal taxes due within a period and conditions prescribed by the ORDER.

The referred tax amnesty ORDER was designed to operate within a limited period of time commencing from 1st July 2018 through 30th June 2019. Nonetheless, with justifiable cause, the Government, through the Tax Administration (Remission of Interest and Penalties) (Extension of Period of Payment) ORDER, 2019, extended the period for payment of principal taxes to 31st December 2019 for taxpayers who had:-

- Applied to the Commissioner General for remission of interest and penalty;
- Been granted remission;
- Executed a settlement agreement with the Commissioner General for remission of interest and penalty under the Tax Administration (Remission of Interest and Penalty) ORDER Number 282A, 2018;
- Agreed to pay the principal tax assessed in lumpsum or installment; and
- Up to 30th June 2019, failed to liquidate the agreed amount of principal tax assessed.

Based on that background, therefore, eligible taxpayers with the remission of interest and penalty are hereby reminded to use this opportunity to liquidate their principal tax liabilities as specified in the settlement agreement either on or before 31st December 2019. It should further be noted that where an eligible taxpayer, who has been granted with a remission under the Tax Administration (Remission of Interest and Penalty) ORDER Number 282A, 2018, fails to meet or implement any of the terms of the settlement agreement, the Commissioner General shall rescind the settlement agreement and proceed to demand the eligible outstanding principal tax, interest, and penalty as if no remission was granted. With this final reminder, kindly be informed that, with effect from 1st January 2020, the Commissioner General shall institute the recovery measures against all the defaulters of the referred amnesty to collect any outstanding principal tax, interest, and penalty WITHOUT further notice.

Kindly, be so informed and comply accordingly.

"Together We Build Our Nation"

Msafiri Mbibo.
ACTING COMMISSIONER GENERAL



PUBLIC NOTICE

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN TANZANIA REVENUE AUTHORITY (TRA) AND TAXPAYERS' REPRESENTATIVES

Dar es Salaam, 20th December, 2019:

The Tanzania Revenue Authority ("TRA" or "Authority") recognizes and appreciates the importance of communication through discussions that concerns tax issues between the Authority and our taxpayers. This is one of the key pillars that ensures efficient Tax Administration with regards to our key functions of assessment, collection and accounting for Government Revenues. Also, through these discussions, taxpayers have the opportunity to gain better understanding that helps them to fulfill their legal obligation of paying taxes voluntarily and on time.

Thus, we would like to inform all taxpayers and the general public that, according to Section 27(1)(a) of the Tax Administration Act No. 10 of 2015, taxpayers have a right to be represented by a person/persons that they have formally chosen to represent them. Such representation however, shall be in accordance with Section 27(1)(b) of the above mentioned Act, that emphasizes that it is the responsibility of the taxpayer to inform the TRA Commissioner General in writing of his/her authorised representative. However, since the taxpayer's information is confidential between the taxpayer and TRA (as provided for in Section 21 of the aforementioned Act), any representation other than the taxpayer himself, must comply with the requirements of Section 27 (1) (b) of the Act, in which the taxpayer must notify, in writing, the TRA Commissioner General regarding such representation. It should be noted that, any person who is not the owner, Director, or a Manager of a company has no right to represent a taxpayer if they have no Power of Attorney that empowers them and duly registered by the registrar of documents.

Furthermore, professional representatives like Advocates, Tax Consultants, can only represent their clients (taxpayers) upon being appointed by them and the said appointment be communicated to the TRA Commissioner General in writing as per Section 27(1)(b) of the Tax Administration Act No. 10 of 2015. In addition, much as Tax Consultants are recognized by Section 28, they are also obliged to be registered by Tanzania Revenue Authority as per Tax Administration Regulations No.5 of 2016.

With regard to customs matters administered by TRA through its Customs and Excise Department, Section 6 of the Tax Administration Act No. 10 of 2015 empowers the TRA Commissioner General through the Tax Administration Act to enforce Customs & Excise matters where there are no contradictions to the customs procedures as provided for in the East African Community Customs Management Act (EACCOMA 2004).

Hence, the registered Clearing and Forwarding Agents as per Section 145 and as per the requirements of Section 146, 147 and 148 of the said Act, Advocates and any other agents/representatives that are authorised from time to time by Taxpayers to represent them and introduced to the Commissioner of Customs officially shall be recognized as authorised representatives as per Section 27 of the Tax Administration Act 2015. It should be further noted that having an Identify Card or being dressed in a company's uniform is not necessarily the authority for representation as per the requirements of the law.

Therefore, I urge all taxpayers and the public at large to take note of the above explanation to ensure that communication between TRA and taxpayers is legal and binding. It should also be noted that discussions with persons who are not legitimate taxpayers' representatives, is not only a violation of Section 21 of the Tax Administration Act No. 10 of 2015 but also leads to non binding decisions which may either not be honored by taxpayers or not legally binding to any party.

We thank you for your continued cooperation.

"Together We Building Our Nation"

Msafiri Mbibo.
ACTING COMMISSIONER GENERAL

Stakeholders stress need for law guiding implementation of national ageing policy

By Felister Peter

DESPITE Tanzania being the second African country to come up with National Ageing Policy (NAP) after Mauritius, the government is yet to come up with a law for implementation of the policy which gears to improve elders' welfare.

workshop to assess the impact of the pension scheme on recipients and their families in Zanzibar, stakeholders were concerned that lack of a specific law affects implementation of the National Ageing Policy promulgated in 2003.

Regina Malima from Arusha organisation working with elders suggested for the government to prepare the law for million elders to

benefit with the existing policy.

Malima added: "Since 94 percent of all the senior citizens in the country do not have social protection, it was crucial to ensure fully implementation of the policy. We were among the first countries to come with the policy but, yet most of our elders are not covered by pension schemes".

According to the 2012 national census,

older people in Tanzania account to 5.6 percent of the entire population, but the number of pensioners who receive monthly pension is about 6 percent of old age population, the remaining 94 percent are left out of pension system.

In her presentation titled: 'Feasibility of Universal pension in Tanzania: Fiscal Space Analysis', Dr Irene Isaka from the Institute of Finance Management said political will is needed to ensure social protection to all the elders.

She was of the view that, the government in Tanzania mainland should look for alternative sources of revenues to cater for elders monthly pension as it has been done in other African countries such as Bolivia, Mongolia, Zambia, Ghana, Liberia and the Maldives.

She said Ghana, Liberia and the Maldives have introduced taxes on tourism to support social programmes while Algeria, Mauritius, and Panama, have complemented social security revenues with high taxes on tobacco.

Dr Isaka however noted that some of

the elders in the country are covered by social protection through Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF). "There are several sources of revenues which if properly tapped could help expand coverage of social protection and improve the lives of elders. Central bank reserves could also be used for the same," suggested Dr Isaka.

She said total social assistance spending is low in Tanzania amounting to 471.7bn/- (\$ 217 million) or 0.45 percent of the GDP in 2016.

As a percent of GDP, Tanzania spends less than a third of the African average of 1.55 percent on all its social assistance programmes, she noted.

Minister for Labour, Empowerment, Elders, Youth, Women and Children, Maudline Castico said introduction of the social protection scheme in Zanzibar has helped to improve the welfare of elders. She said some elders have been able to establish small businesses using the monthly pension payments.

"I know some elders who have

started poultry business and some bought bicycles that are hired to tourists. The government introduced the elders pension scheme in honour of their contribution to country's development," said the minister.

In Zanzibar, the pension scheme especially for senior citizens was introduced in April 2016 and has so far covered 27,930 elders in both Unguja and Pemba islands. The scheme involves Zanzibaris aged 70 years and above who receive 20,000/- every month.

It is estimated that one in every six people in the world will be aged over 65 by 2050.

According to ILO, about 68 percent of people above retirement age worldwide receive an old age pension, although it differs from one region to another. In Europe and Asia about 95.2 percent are covered while in Americas about 86.2 percent of its older people are covered by old age pensions. In Africa only 29.6 percent of older population receives a pension.



Camel flour business manager, Tawaqal Sumba (L) hands over 20 sacks of wheat flour to Nunge elders residential centre officer, Frank Munuo in Kigamboni district, Dar es Salaam region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Embrace ICT for swift development, Tanzanian youth told

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIAN youth have been challenged to embrace the use of Information Communication Technology (ICT) as a tool for creating wealth and ensure development.

Senior official from the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications, Eng Richard Mgema made the call in Dodoma when speaking at the function to wrap up university students' competition on online security which was organised by Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA).

Mgema urged the youth, to defy the odds and embrace the use of ICT by cultivating a desire to learn as the technology has been changing on daily

basis and "in this case Tanzania is not isolated when it comes to the use of ICT".

"So, the need for online security training is important for users, who mostly are the youth," he said, adding that students who participated in the competition have gone through different selection hence winners will compete with their counterparts in other countries on online security.

The official said there have been lots of ICT transformation in different sectors in the country including in financial industry, hence more youth are needed in online security so that people's money are secured.

Head of TCRA central zone Antonio Manyanda said that about 1056 university students were enrolled for

the competition and 600 of them got through and then 50 students from eight universities were changed to the third phase of the screening.

"Most of the participants of this competition are those who are pursuing courses which are related to ICT aged between 18 and 24," he said.

TCRA's Director of ICT, Connie Francis said: "During this competition we found out that girls are in forefront when it comes to issues related to information and technology and we've been encouraging them to chip in and explore opportunities embedded in this area."

The official called on youth to transform their skills into ideas, be creative and have the right attitude and strategies to explore opportunities.



JOB ADVERTISEMENT

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

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

In return, we provide state of the art facilities, equipment, technology and opportunities to work on projects in Australia and Overseas. We look forward to receiving your application for the following position.

Local Content Specialist

- Geita Gold Mine, Geita

Position purpose:

The purpose of the Local Content Specialist is to plan and implement policies and procedures that will enable AUMS to comply with Tanzanian local content laws and ensure AUMS's sustainability as a preferred underground mining contractor within Tanzania.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Must ensure that all relevant legal requirements related to local content are adhered to across the supply chain function and accurate reports provided to the relevant authorities.
- Keep abreast of all relevant government guidelines and legislation.
- Raise legislative changes and non-compliance with the management team, providing solutions for changes requiring implementation.
- Coordinate the compilation of the periodic reports from other functions into a predetermined template.
- Seek opportunities for improvement in relation to Training, Research and Development, Investments in Infrastructure, Immigration and New Technologies that can contribute to the growth of Tanzanian content in the underground mining industry.
- Participate in management meetings and official governmental committee's related to local content.
- Develop mechanisms and improvements to the periodic reports on local content performance against the statutory requirements.

Essential Requirements:

- Degree qualified in either Legal/Commercial/Supply.
- Previous experience in East African Communities having accountability for Local Content Compliance
- Strong and demonstrable commitment to safety, quality and the continuous improvement in the company's local content plan.
- 8+ years' work experience in multinational organisations.
- Must have high level analytical and problem solving skills, along highly developed management skills.
- High level of personal and professional integrity.
- Must be able to work independently as required and interact frequently with other functions within the organisation and third parties.
- Must be fluent in English both verbally and written.

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

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

Please send your CV along with a detailed covering letter via email recruitment@aumsgm.com Application letters should reach the above on or before **06th January 2020, 18hr00.**

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



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

USAID/Tanzania is currently seeking qualified candidates for the following position:

Development Partners Governance Working Group Secretariat (short-term consultancy)

Detailed information and application instructions can be viewed on the USAID/Tanzania website:

<https://www.usaid.gov/tanzania>

And the American Embassy in Dar es Salaam

website:

<https://tz.usembassy.gov>

Deadline for applications is January 06, 2020 at 5:00 p.m.

The U.S. Government is an Equal Opportunity Employer

21558401

TAMWA motivates women in Pemba to vie for leadership posts, fight GBV

By Guardian Correspondent, Pemba

THE Tanzania Media Women Association in Zanzibar has called upon women in Pemba Island to vie for various leadership posts to be able to demand for their rights, participate in decision making and fight against increasing incidences of gender based violence (GBV).

Coordinator of Tanzania Media Women Association in Zanzibar, Fathiya Mussa Said made the remarks over the weekend when addressing women at different times during her tour at Uwonde-Mtambwe in Pemba. The visit was meant to sensitize women to massively pick nomination forms in the coming general elections in October 2020.

The meeting held at Uwonde primary school grounds was also attended by clerics and leaders of various political parties. The party leaders insisted to provide fair playing ground for both, male and female candidates vying for posts within the parties.

According to her most of the violence incidences in the society are done by men, who are the ones sitting in decision making councils thus making it difficult for them to come up with proper strategies to end GBV.

"You shouldn't be staying at the back and wait for men to make decision on your behalf. You have all the qualifications needed to become good leaders at your constituencies," the coordinator noted.

Representing the Zanzibar Imams Association (JUWAZA) in Pemba, Sheikh Yusuf Abdalla Ramadhan said there is nothing bad for women to vie for political posts since the aim is to defend and promote the rights of people for a better welfare.

Omar Mjaka Ali from CCM said despite the party having some special posts for women, they also allow them to vie for different positions within the party at district, regional and national level.

He said the party has put in place a platform where all members are allowed to vie for posts as per their

choices.

Issa Hafidh from Chadema said the party recognizes the importance of women hence establishment of the women wing. He urged women to take part in the election process by ensuring they are also voted into power instead of being voters. "The increased GBV cases that you are today complaining of would have ended if you join forces and come up with better laws to punish the culprits," he said.

Tamwa is implementing a project to sensitize more women to vie for various political posts in the country. Under the project, sensitisation campaigns are conducted at villages and ward levels within the Isles to increase the number of their representation at all levels including in the Zanzibar House of Representatives.

Some interviewed women complained of being denied chances to participate in politics by their husbands who still believe that such posts should be held by men. They also mentioned poverty as one of the obstacles failing them to take part in elections.



Agriculture minister Japhet Hasunga inspects Makwale irrigation scheme in Kyela district during his official visit in Mbeya region recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

Merry Christmas
and
Happy New Year

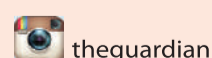


The Guardian
www.ippmedia.com

Nipashe
www.ippmedia.com
MWANGA WA JAMII



Your partnership is much appreciated.
We enjoyed working with you
And wish you the very best during the
holiday season and beyond



theguardian



The Guardian Digital



theguardiantz



theguardianld



nipasheTZ



nipasheTZ



The Guardian digital



nipasheTZ

615563501

'Take wildlife conservation to grassroots'

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

VILLAGERS and their tribal leaders living adjacent to conservation areas including national parks have a role to play in curbing poaching and illegal wildlife trade. The youth, most of whom are alleged to be part of the illegal trade know who is involved in the crime and how it is conducted while tribal leaders can give instructions to the youth and such instructions are obeyed and implemented.

"But efforts to end poaching and curbing illegal wildlife trade has recorded little success because they don't focus on the key role players," explained Gutera Magesa, a resident of Serengeti District, when participating in the Fourth Community Based Natural Resources Management (CBNR) Forum in Arusha recently. Among other things the forum dwelt on conservation of wildlife in Tanzania, particularly the role and contribution of communities in achieving zero-poaching in Tanzania.

Magesa argued that wildlife management should start at the community level because these are direct losers if wild animals are wiped out and they are the direct beneficiaries when wildlife thrives. Since the youth in the community are part of the poaching network they also have a solution to the problem because they know who is involved and how the crime is conducted.

"The grassroots poaching network is strong, tricky and complicated and no one from outside the community can dismantle it. Any strategy to deal with poaching and illegal trade must place a big role on communities and authorities must be willing to work with these community members," he said.

Magesa who is a 'reformed' poacher also stressed the importance of acknowledging the role of traditional leaders in wildlife management because they know the youth who are involved in perpetrating the crime and they have the power to stop them. "Maybe it's hard to believe but it is true that if a tribal leader orders people not to go to the park to poach those who disobey end up getting killed or sustaining fatal injuries. I was a poacher so I know what happens in our community and the power of our tribal leaders," he said.

Sharing his experience in combating wildlife and illegal wildlife trade, an officer from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Robert Mande, explained that relying on law enforcement alone has not only been expensive but it has also rarely given expected results.

The employment of more game warders who use sophisticated firearms and the use of helicopters to track poachers have not produced very significant results in curbing poaching and illegal wildlife trade. "In fact these have made communities bear heavy costs of conservation through paying heavy fines, deaths and loss of livelihoods, among others," he told participants in the forum.

"It is time we appreciated that communities can be powerful and positive agents of change in achieving the zero-poaching goal. We must empower them so that they can see the increasing value of wildlife not only in terms of money but also in improved living conditions," explained Mande.

During discussions some participants argued that the target should be to make poaching and illegal wildlife trade no longer viable for those involved and ensure that the net benefits of conservation are greater than those of poaching. There were also views that when it comes to community engagement as a means to achieve zero-poaching there has been a lot of rhetoric but little action. They underscored the need to tackle the negative impacts of wildlife management on villagers.

They also highlighted the importance of supporting sustainable livelihoods among communities so as to reduce dependence on poaching as the only source of livelihoods for some individuals.

The Community Based Natural Resources Forum was organised by Tanzania Natural Resources Forum with the view to collect opinion from various stakeholders and advise the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism on how best to attain zero-poaching through community conservation efforts. This was the fourth forum in the series.



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Management and Development for Health (MDH) is a non-profit, non-governmental organization whose primary aim is to contribute to address public health priorities. All job positions below require significant field work and travel up to 70% of the time. MDH seeks to recruit qualified individuals to fill the following positions:

1. RETENTION AND COMMUNITY LINKAGE (RCL) OFFICER: 1 Post ; Tabora Reporting to Regional Retention & Community Linkage Manager

Job Summary: The Retention and Community linkage (RCL) officer works with and supports the MDH RRCL Manager to ensure efficient implementation, M&E and reporting of all antiretroviral therapy retention and community linkage (RCL) services in her/his respective region, including patient tracking, net loss follow-up, and health facility-community linkages. She/he is responsible for the field implementation, coordination and reporting of all RCL initiatives in her/his respective region under the guidance of the RRCLM and in collaboration with DPMs and other MDH staff and relevant regional, council and health facility staff.

Duties and Responsibilities

- To support implementation, M&E, and reporting of ART Retention and Community linkage services under the Afya Kwanza project, as well as other relevant activities.
- To support implementation of initiatives to address program, donor and national priorities - such as patient tracking, SMS reminder, promise-to-come and SDM- in line with national guidelines
- To provide TA to the DACC, CBHC Co and HFs in planning, implementation, M&E and reporting of ART Retention and community linkage services
- To support RRCL Manager to assess and implement initiatives to address skill and resource needs in ART retention and community linkage services through supportive supervision, mentorship, on-job training, CQI and other approaches in collaboration with CBHCCo
- To support timely collection and submission of ART care, tracking and relevant community data – as well as support strengthening of the related M&E systems - in collaboration with the M&E team
- Strengthen existing and support establishment of additional Adherence support groups to facilitate ART adherence and retention in care
- Strengthen effective internal and external referral system is in place to ensure smooth patients movement across sites and minimize net losses.
- To support RRCL Manager in writing technical program documents including reports, best practices, lessons learned and other relevant documents
- To support and advise the RRCL Manager on all ART retention and community linkage issues and perform other relevant duties as assigned by the RRCL Manager
- Perform any other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

Requirements. Education, work experience and skills

- Degree or Advanced diploma in Medicine, Nursing or related field with relevant national registration
- At least 3 years of experience working in public health programs/ services
- At least 3 years of experience in design, implementation, management and M&E of ART retention, community linkage or related clinical and public health programs and services
- Experience in using CQI, PHE and OR techniques to address public health challenges
- Experience in writing reports, best practices and lessons learned
- Excellent command of Swahili and English languages, in written and oral communication
- Experience in basic computer applications such as MS Word, Excel, Power point and internet
- Ability to work under pressure and stringent deadlines

2. DISTRICT COMMUNITY FIELD OFFICER:4 Post; Tabora Reporting to Regional Retention & Community Linkage Manager

Job Summary: The District Community Field Officer is responsible to manage the day-to-day field implementation of a community-based HIV prevention program. One of the primary roles will be to coordinate and supervise community-based HIV services for target beneficiaries. The Field Officer will work closely with the Project Coordinator and be the primary liaison with healthcare service providers from health facilities

Duties and Responsibilities

- Develop a work plan for day-to-day program implementation at the district level including supervision of field activities
- Ensure community-based testing activities are implemented day-to-day according to the national guidelines and best practices.
- Supervise the delivery of field-based HIV prevention services to beneficiaries by community outreach volunteers, including scheduling and implementing outreach campaigns.
- Support HIV testing and pre- and post-test counselling with beneficiaries, and facilitate referrals for HIV positive clients.
- Mentor and supervise peer outreach volunteers regularly and frequently during outreach sessions and lead weekly outreach volunteer meetings and capacitate Field staff
- Ensure adequate supplies of commodities and tools to outreach volunteers and healthcare workers
- Organize healthcare workers who are engaged from health facilities to provide services in community-based activities via on-site supportive supervision and mentoring.
- Support the identification/screening, recruitment, and training of community outreach volunteers from peer groups to implement the outreach services.
- Regularly conduct routine mapping/re-mapping of hot spots and size estimation.
- Participate in the training/orientation of healthcare workers in the selected health facilities on the community-based program.
- Perform any other duties as assigned by the supervisor.

Requirements. Education, work experience and skills

- Degree, Advanced Diploma/ Diploma Level Medical trained personnel (Nurse, Clinical officer, Laboratory technician) who have current qualifications and training in phlebotomy and HIV testing duties
- Minimum of 3 years' experience providing HIV testing and counselling services, experience in supervising staff,
- Experience in using MOH systems, tools and procedures for HIV testing and care management at community and facility level
- Excellent speaking, reading, and writing skills in English and Kiswahili
- Excellent computer skills, at minimum with Microsoft Office packages.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality regarding clients' health status and sensitive information contained in data sources.
- Flexibility to work after normal working hours and weekends at informal gatherings and entertainment centers and travel extensively to remote areas, including islands.

3. DISTRICT COMMUNITY FIELD ASSISTANT :4 posts; Tabora Reports to the District Community Field Officer.

Job Summary: The Field Assistant supports day-to-day field implementation of a community-based HIV testing and prevention program. Field Assistant will work closely with the Field Officer(s) to ensure delivery of community-based HIV testing services for target beneficiaries.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Participate in the work plan development for daily implementation at district level of field activities.
- Conduct day-to-day program implementation at the site level including preparing logistics for field activities.
- Support the delivery of field-based HIV prevention services to beneficiaries by community outreach volunteers, including rollout of day and night mobile outreach campaigns.
- Support HIV testing and pre and post-test counselling with beneficiaries, and facilitate referrals for HIV positive clients.
- Mentor and supervise peer outreach volunteers regularly and frequently during outreach sessions and lead weekly outreach volunteer meetings.
- Prepare adequate supplies of commodities and tools to outreach volunteers and healthcare workers.
- Work closely with healthcare workers and community outreach volunteers to ensure all data collection tools are entered appropriately, and conduct on-job mentorship for community outreach volunteers.
- Assist with identifying/screening, recruitment, and training of community outreach volunteers from peer groups to implement the outreach services.
- Perform any other duties as assigned by the supervisor

Requirements. Education, work experience and skills

- Advance Diploma/Diploma level trained personnel (nurse, clinical officer, laboratory technician,) who have current qualifications and training in phlebotomy and HIV testing duties.
- Minimum of 2 years' experience providing HIV testing and counselling services with demonstrated familiarity with MOH systems, tools and procedure for HIV testing and care management
- Excellent speaking, reading, and writing skills in English and Kiswahili.
- Excellent computer skills, at minimum with Microsoft Office package.
- Ability to maintain confidentiality regarding clients' health status and sensitive information contained in data sources.
- Flexibility to work after normal working hours and weekends at informal gatherings and entertainment centers and travel extensively to remote areas, including islands.

4. VMMC QUALITY IMPROVEMENT MANAGER : 1 post; Geita/Kagera Reports to the Deputy Director of Programs/VMMC Senior Manager.

Job Summary: The VMMC Quality Improvement MANAGER (VMMC- QIM) focus on Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) programs and services including capacity building of health care providers (HCPs) on CQI design, integration, monitoring and evaluation of CQI initiatives on program priorities, as well as documenting and disseminating program best practices and lessons learned- in collaboration with other program and government staff at the region, relevant ministries and MDH HQ.

Duties and Responsibilities.

- To lead and oversee planning, implementation, M&E and reporting of CQI initiatives
- To lead implementation of VMMC CQI and PHE initiatives to address program, donor and national priorities, including demand creation, service delivery and outreach campaigns, client follow-up and adverse event (AE) monitoring
- VMMC-HIV integration and linkages and others in line with national guidelines
- To provide TA to the R/DMOs, R/DACCs other CHMTs, QI teams and HFs in planning, implementation, M&E and reporting of VMMC CQI initiatives
- To lead preparations and coordination of technical site visits by the central government EQA, PEPFAR agencies, and other donor institutions to assess quality of VMMC services, including PEPFAR's Site Improvement through Monitoring Systems (SIMS), and required subsequent remedial actions.
- To conduct needs assessment on CQI interventions in VMMC and organize efforts to address them, incl. capacity building and health system strengthening, in collaboration with RPMs, R/DACCs and other CHMTs
- Routinely track, document and facilitate timely reporting of VMMC adverse events per national guidelines
- To ensure timely collection, accuracy and submission of VMMC and related CQI data including supervising and overseeing VMMC data officers' daily and support strengthening of the related M&E systems
- Perform VMMC data quality assessment in collaboration with VMMC data officers
- Analyse and utilize CQI initiatives to inform plans, priorities and resource allocation and write reports, best practices and lessons learned for wider dissemination
- To implement robust capacity building programs on CQI implementation capitalizing on supportive supervision, mentorship and on-job training in line with national guidelines
- To supervise program staff under her/him in her/his respective region
- To actively participate in writing technical program documents including project proposals, work-plans, reports and other relevant documents, as required by the RPM.
- To support the VMMC Manager, VMMC Officers and RPMs on all CQI issues and perform other relevant duties as assigned

Requirements. Education, work experience and skills

- Medical Doctor degree with current registration from the Medical Council of Tanzania
- Master's degree in Public Health or related field is an added advantage.
- At least 3 years of experience working in public health programs/ services
- 5 years of experience working in VMMC program
- Excellent command of Swahili and English languages, in written and oral communication
- Experience in basic computer applications such as MS Word, Excel, Power point and internet
- Ability to work under pressure and stringent deadlines

TO APPLY:

Interested candidates should submit an application letter, CV, and three work related referees by January 5, 2020, to the Human Resource Director through e-mail hr@mdh-tz.org or dropped by hand at the MDH Head Office in Mikocheni, along Mwai Kibaki Road, Plot No. 802. Only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

TUESDAY 24 DECEMBER 2019

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

Consider other approaches to reduce crimes

THURSDAY last week Tanzanian police said the number of traffic accidents in the country decreased by 26.2 percent and crime went down by 2 percent between January and November this year.

Police spokesperson David Misime, told reporters in Dodoma that in 2018 3,689 people were involved in road accidents compared to 2,722 involved in accidents in 2019.

On crime incidents he said these declined from 54,867 reported in 2018 to 53,685 reported between January and November, this year.

He however was quick to add that the slim achievements made in controlling accidents and criminal acts were not a cause for celebration by the police as they are continuing "to work hard to make these two social evils history."

A very ambitious promise in any translation, though, we would add, it could be possible in at least reducing these dismal incidents, if they are pushed by some political will and earnestness.

However the gist of this commentary is on crime incidents and not road accidents. Though the police spokesperson did not delve deep in the types of crime he was talking about that have gone down, we believe these mostly involve ordinary people at the lower (or let's say the unfortunate) end of the society that are mostly reported daily at thousands of police stations across the country. We also exclude here other crimes - such as high collar crimes and the like.

Basically a crime is defined as an action or omission which constitutes an offence and is punishable by law. In other words a crime is a fact, a matter of law and it is not an opinion.

As society changes, some actions which used to be criminal are no longer

so. Likewise some actions which were legal can become prohibited, it all depends on the contemporary moral fibre of the society and their view by the authorities.

The causes of crime are also complex. Poverty, parental neglect, low self-esteem, alcohol and drug abuse can be connected to why people break the law. Some are at greater risk of becoming offenders because of the circumstances into which they are born.

However some people tend to focus on personal weakness as the reason a crime is committed. If someone chooses to offend, that is his/her responsibility and if caught, he/she should suffer the consequences. Those contributing to this line of thought believe that if punishments were stronger and the police and courts had more powers, there would be less crime.

Others feel that the society is unequal and some people are at greater risk of being influenced by criminal behaviour, often through the actions of parents or friends. Those holding this view feel that social conditions which create the catalyst for crime need to be addressed.

This could be through better housing, better basic social services including better education and healthcare and improved employment opportunities and a more equal society to make crime less of an attraction. If people are in work and are content with life they will be less likely to break the law.

We believe the authorities and other stakeholders should start concentrating on this second line of opinion - general human development - on belief that if many people are preoccupied by gainful activity they would not need to commit such petty crimes.

World Bank funding for refugees, host communities welcome

SIGNIFICANT initiatives are being instituted in global agencies in view of rising or still intense migratory pressures around the world, whereby comparison Tanzania does not appear to have been placed on first order of priority. Despite that we are a host country for hundreds of thousands of refugees basically from two neighbouring countries, the situation elsewhere is dire in many regards, either in the flow of refugees or in the dim prospects of normalization of situation, and return. This is the picture that comes up in assessing an announcement that the World Bank is offering up to \$2.2 billion in grants over a three-year period for projects focused on refugees and host communities. It is an ongoing challenge.

The global lender is delivering this assistance under its Window for Host Communities and Refugees, or WHR, a funding package intended to address long-term development needs of displacement in 14 low-income countries hosting a fairly large numbers of refugees, where those listed include Uganda, Ethiopia, Pakistan and Bangladesh. The reports say that around 85 per cent of the 19.9 million refugees under the mandate of United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) are hosted by low-income countries. This isn't surprising as it is in such countries where poverty is highest and governance is poor.

The \$2.2bn funding channel is credited to a recently approved 19th replenishment of the International Development Association (IDA), known as the soft loan window of the World Bank Group, targeting low income member countries. Despite that the replenishment actually takes effect mid next year, its policy ripples and lending priorities are already being felt, and when the financing is finally conducted, it will a matter of

record rather than any new decisions being done. Still it is possible there is something of an innovation in this context, as refugees often sit in a no man's land, and looked after by relief agencies.

The World Bank is beginning to take notice of a situation which has stymied policy making in various countries with regard to refugees, thus also impacting on the sort of vision that handling refugee issues demands, in relation to the timeline.

A top official for the bank said that some people view refugees as temporary when the reality is different, that they may have to stay much longer than expected. In that case, it becomes imperative to think about how you can ensure education, health, clean water, basic infrastructure, and protect against gender-based violence, he pointed out. There are refugee zones that have become virtual refugee nation-states as in the case of Palestine, with the UN agency for the issue, UNRWA in an embattled situation as the chief contributor, the United States, was gradually pulling out.

In Tanzania only small portions of refugees failed to return, and significantly, the context of departure matters as to the possibility of return. Refugees who moved out in the wake of the 1972 Burundi large scale murders of educated Hutus (that means, with secondary school education) often did not find the energy to go back, unlike those fleeing interparty violence in relation to the third mandate for Burundi President Pierre Nkurunziza in 2015.

In the Democratic Republic of Congo, large numbers of refugees who left Rwanda as part of the Hutu militia exterminating Tutsis and moderate Hutus have practically no such idea, and instead seek to build new generations of fighters, and perhaps try to invade in the future.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

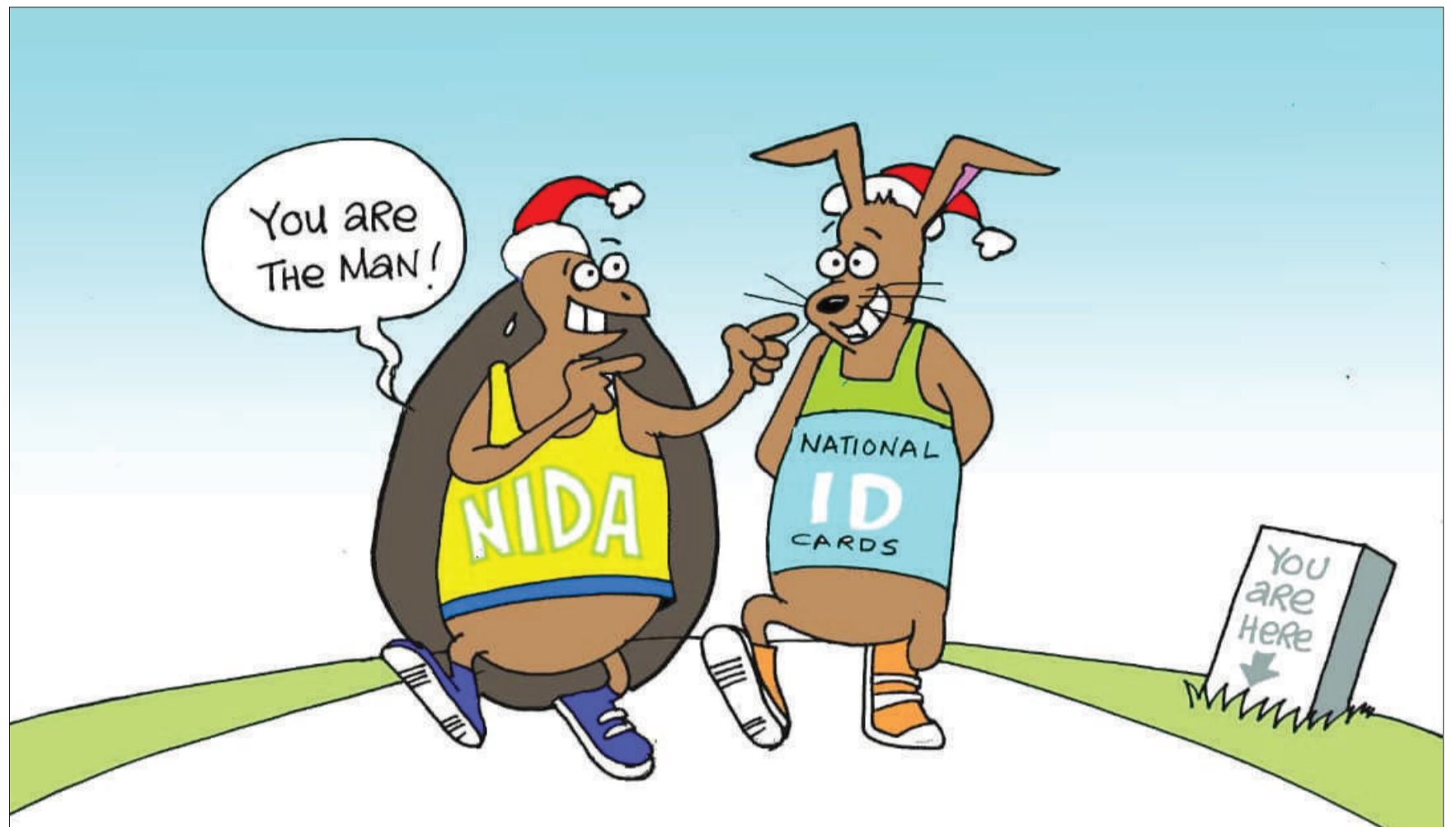
Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

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



'A huge win for Liberians, a great day for America'

By John F. Lloyd

FOLLOWING the overwhelming vote by the United States Senate in favor of Permanent Residency (Green Cards) for Liberians on Deferred Enforced Departure Status (DED) and those formerly on TPS, sources on Capitol Hill are confident that the provision, which is included in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020, will be signed into law by President Donald J. Trump.

The Rhode Island legislator lauded Liberians on Wednesday as he offered official briefings to the Liberian community at his Capitol Hill office in Washington DC in the immediate aftermath of the recent approval by the United States Senate of a bill to grant Permanent Residency (Green Cards) to Liberians on Deferred Enforced departure (DED) status.

The United States Senate voted overwhelmingly on Tuesday grant to Permanent Residency to Liberians on Deferred Enforced Departure Status (DED) and those formerly on TPS. The Senator asserted his confidence that the provision which is included in the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020 will be signed into law by President Donald J. Trump. He mentioned strong support by Sen. Tina Smith, MN, and the Republican Chairman of the U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee, James Risch, ID.

Leading Liberian advocates at the briefing included Liberian Community Association President Lucy Wilson Kear, of Washington DC, and leading Liberian lobbyist, John F. Lloyd who was among the original proponents of Senator Reed's legislative effort which began in 1998. They were joined by representatives of key Washington DC based lobbying groups including Patrice Lawrence of UndocuBlack, Diana Konate of African Communities Together (ACT), Dorian Spence of the Lawyers Committees for Civil Rights.

The historic victory for Liberians came through a legislative maneuver by U.S. Senator Jack Reed (D-RI), the Ranking Member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, and leading champion for Liberian immigration protection in Congress who attached the Liberian immigration protection provision to the NDAA. The bill was approved overwhelmingly on Tuesday in the U.S. Senate by a vote of 86-8. It came after a similarly overwhelming passage last week in House of Representatives by a vote of 377-48.

Senator Reed included a provision in the NDAA backed by Congressman David Cicilline (D-RI) and the rest of the Rhode Island delegation, to allow eligible Liberians in the U.S. currently on the temporary immigration status of Deferred Enforced Departure (DED)



Liberian activists sing and dance prior to their Deferred Enforced Departure immigration status rally at the Minnesota State Capitol

to continue living legally in the U.S. and get on a pathway to earning U.S. citizenship. In order to be eligible to apply for permanent residency under the law, applicants must have been living in the U.S. continuously since November 20, 2014, not been absent for more than 180 days in aggregate, and be otherwise eligible and admissible for permanent residence.

The provision would however prohibit eligibility for anyone convicted of a violent crime, or an individual who has ordered, incited, assisted, or otherwise participated in the persecution of any person on account of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group, or political opinion.

It would also require the Secretary of Homeland Security to create a process whereby applicants may seek a stay of deportation if they have filed an application for legal resident status and authorize the Secretary to allow individuals to work in the US while their application is being considered. It would mandate work authorization for anyone whose application has been pending for more than 180 days.

If granted, legal permanent residence would be approved as of the date of arrival in the United States.

The NDAA provision was based on S. 456, the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act, which Senator Reed introduced in the U.S. Senate. Congressman David Cicilline (D-RI) introduced companion legislation (H.R.1169) in the U.S. House of Representatives. The legislation is estimated to impact about 4,000 Liberians who have been legally living in the United States.

The successful passage of the provision has ignited jubilation by Liberians across America and culminates years of unrelenting lobbying by Liberian community leaders in the U.S.

In his statement issued after introduction of the provision,

Senator Reed noted, "after decades of uncertainty, this is a huge win for my Liberian brothers and sisters and a great day for America. This provision will adjust the status of Liberians on DED and those formerly on TPS to enable them to apply for permanent residency. Liberians who've legally lived here for years, paid taxes, and made so many positive contributions to their various communities, especially in Rhode Island, deserve the opportunity to get on a path to becoming full citizens. Everything they have in America they've earned through hard work and hard work should be rewarded," said Senator Reed. "These individuals came to America seeking safety from devastating wars and disaster. They've made a home here, built their lives, and strengthened our communities. America is their home and they shouldn't be evicted. Forcing them back to Liberia now would create real hardships both here and in Liberia. By extending their legal status, we are providing much needed certainty and a measure of security for individuals while helping foster Liberia's post-war recovery."

"I'm pleased that the House advanced this critical legislation," said Congressman Cicilline. "Rhode Island is home to more Liberian nationals per capita than any other state in our country. I am proud to continue standing up for them and for all those who have found refuge and contributed to our society."

The West African nation of Liberia, founded in 1822 by former slaves from the United States, was plagued by civil war in the 1990s and more recently by a major Ebola outbreak. Under these conditions sought refuge in the U.S. through the strong advocacy of their community leaders. As part of its humanitarian response, the United States offered certain Liberians an opportunity to live, work, and pay taxes in the United States under the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and

Deferred Enforced Departure (DED) systems, extended by both Republican and Democratic administrations beginning in 1991.

Last March, President Trump extended DED for qualified people from Liberia for one year, through March 31, 2020.

"Many Liberians are making important economic and civic contributions and should be allowed to stay. Some who were brought here as children have grown up and now have children of their own who are U.S. citizens. This bill will help provide much needed certainty and stability to families who were facing an uncertain future and possible deportation," said Senator Reed, who originally introduced the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act in 1999 and has reintroduced the bill in every session of Congress since that time.

Original Senate cosponsors of the Liberian Refugee Immigration Fairness Act include Senators Tina Smith (D-MN), Ben Cardin (D-MD), Dick Durbin (D-IL), Amy Klobuchar (D-MN), Chris Van Hollen (D-MD), and Sheldon Whitehouse (D-RI). Cicilline's companion legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives was originally cosponsored by Jim Langevin (RI-02), Pramila Jayapal (WA-07), Jim McGovern (MA-02), Ilhan Omar (MN-05), Dean Phillips (MN-03), and Eleanor Holmes Norton (DC-AL).

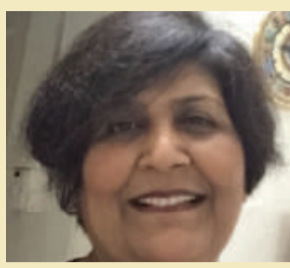
Rhode Island has one of the largest populations of Liberians per capita, and Senator Reed has been working since 1999 to allow this community to legally remain in the United States. Many members of the Liberian community in the United States financially assist families and communities back in Liberia and make important contributions to Liberia's reform and development. Liberia's continuing recovery efforts could be reversed if these remittances end, harming the United States' foreign policy interests in the region.



CURRENT NEWS

NMB's community investments in education, health and disaster relief benefit millions

Page 15



CORPORATE WELLNESS

Narcissist personality disorder at workplace

Page 15



OUTLOOK & ANALYSIS

New strain of foot and mouth disease in livestock forces govt to swing into action

Page 14

SIDO's Guru Planet Limited empowering women to produce alternative charcoal

By Francis Kajubi

In a bid to wean women from using fossil fuels as a source of energy for their households, Small Industries Development Organization through Guru Planet Limited, has taught them how to make alternative charcoal from newspapers and insulated boxes.

A 35 year old mother of three, Warda Omary who is based at Tabata Muslim in Dar es Salaam, said last week that as a food vendor (Mama Lishe), she has been using normal charcoal to cook for many years but is now eager to change and adopt green energy sources.

Omary who is Chairperson of the women's entrepreneurial group lobby, Tabata Muslim Union for Nation Building popularly known as UWAJAMJETA, said the ten months old made group has learned a lot from Sido's GPL.

"SIDO taught us how to make the alternative charcoal through GPL which has almost the same intensity as timber made charcoal and can cook even beans," said Omary stressing that through GPL which is linked to Sido, her group is now targeting to produce the alternative charcoal commercially to sell to the market.

According to her, alternative charcoal does not emit smoke hence is environmentally friendly compared to fossil



Normal charcoal sacks heading to a market in Dar es Salaam. File photo.

fuel charcoal which emits carbon dioxide blamed to cause climate change. She said although UWAJAMJETA has not yet started making the alternative charcoal commercially, they future is to exploit the available market.

She also hinted that since when they started making the charcoal almost five months ago, the main challenge has been availability of raw materials and technology to produce massively hence only two sacks of 35 kilograms each have been produced over the pe-

riod. "Another challenge is we put a lot of energy to make the charcoal. Pounding wet boxes and newspapers needs a lot of energy. After that you need to mix charcoal dust with the pounded materials that causes me chest pain and sometimes coughing," she noted.

Machines to produce alternative charcoal are made by Vocational Education and Training Authority but are very expensive with one unit being sold at between 3-5m/- based on capac-

ity. "Our group does not have the financial capacity to buy such machines. It would be better if we had these machines loaned to us," she argued.

Giving an expert analysis of the main challenges facing alternative energy sources to charcoal and firewood, Abraham Baisi who is a chemical engineer but also Founder and CEO of Syn-troleum Petrochemical Group Limited, said that alternative charcoal has low combustion capacity but also very demanding to produce. Engineer Baisi said low combustion is due to raw materials used to make it that cannot transmit heat easily.

He noted that for the alternative charcoal to burn, it must be mixed with wooded charcoal or must be mixed with charcoal dust when making it. Eng Baisi added that the charcoal can also be improved by blending it with Ammonium Nitrate which has harmful effects on people's respiratory system.

In the 2017/18 Household Budget Survey by National Bureau of Statistics, it stated that charcoal consumption has slight-

ly increased by 28.8 percent during the period compared to 28.2 percent in 2011/12 period.

The report stated that 61 percent of urban residents use charcoal for cooking compared to 12 percent of rural residents with Dar es Salaam being market leader and had consumption increased to 59 percent in 2017/18 from 46.2 percent in 2011/12 period. Morogoro came next with 44 percent followed by Mwanza at 40 percent with Kigoma and Rukwa both 36 percent.

A Medical Doctor at Magu district council hospital in Mwanza region, Nehemiah Nnko told this paper that charcoal dust affects the functioning of the human body systems negatively with respiratory system, digestive system and the body's excretory system as the most affected.

"The dust causes allergies to the lungs. It eventually causes asthma and nasal cancer (Paranasal Cancer). It also causes cancer of the esophagus (Nasopharynx Carcinoma)," said Nnko. He added that charcoal dust causes allergies to the skin called Allergic Dermatitis that lowers the functioning of digestive system.

Rwanda launches drive to connect all households with a smartphone

KIGALI

On Friday evening, a short social media video was posted on the MTN Rwanda Twitter account featuring MTN Rwanda's Chief Executive Mitwa Ng'ambi pledging 1000 Smart Phones on behalf of her firm and 100 phones in her personal capacity.

The phones will be given to the population without smartphones across the country. Ng'ambi challenged three other people; President Paul Kagame, ICT Minister Paula Ingabire and BPR Atlas Mara's Chief Executive Officer Maurice Toroitch to join in and put smartphones in the hands of Rwandans. The initiative is dubbed Connect Rwanda.

The initiative has fast picked pace over the weekend. President Paul Kagame accepted the challenge and 1500 smartphones from the local phone manufacturer Mara Phones. Several public and private sector players have also taken up the challenge pledging to avail phones, both in their personal capacities and on behalf of their organizations.

Among the pledges and commitment include by Bank of Kigali, BPR Bank, Ministry of ICT, Ministry of Youth, I&M Bank Rwanda, KTRN Rwanda, Pascal technologies among others. The challenge has not been a sole province for large firms, small and emerging enterprises as well as individuals are also taking part in committing 1 phone, two phones or more.

Individuals and firms have been making pledges which will be collected by MTN Rwanda as part of the campaigns. MTN has also committed to fit all phones with a sim card loaded with IGB of data per month for the first three months.

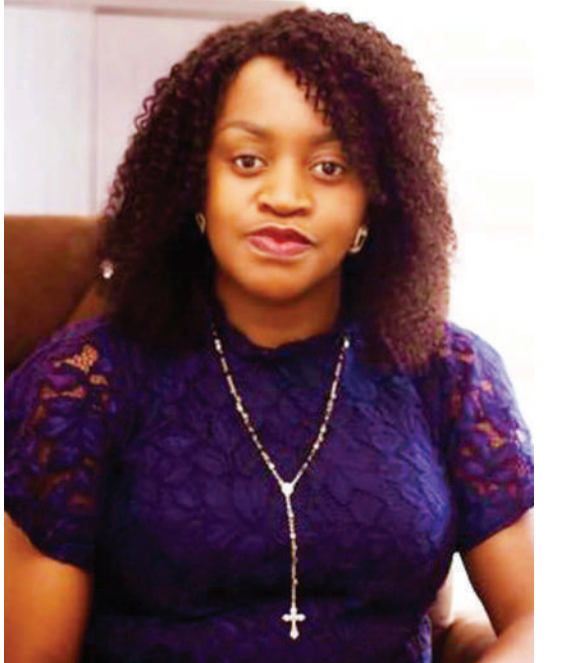
While the campaign can be termed as a marketing genius as it promotes the visibility of brands involved, it could serve a great deal towards smartphone penetration and digital adoption in Rwanda.

While there are no available statistics on the current smartphone penetration in the country, smartphone penetration is likely to be within the 20 per cent range. Speaking at the Rwanda Patriotic Front Congress, on Saturday, Minister of ICT Paula Ingabire said that the initiative could be an ideal way to ensure that all Rwandan households have a smartphone in 2020. There are an estimated over 2.8M households in the country.

Access to smartphones across the country serves more purposes than just connectivity. Increased smartphone penetration will among other things boost public service delivery as well as map out new markets that were previously inaccessible such as healthcare services, insurance, financial services among others.

With a majority of government services currently being offered on Irempo, Public service delivery portal, increased smartphone access will improve the uptake of the services and the efficiency of service delivery.

For private companies, increased smartphone penetration means access to a larger market, room for innovation and reduced operating costs. For instance, In Rwanda, access to smartphones could see a growth in the formally banked population which is currently around 26 per cent, insurance penetration, increased savings among others.



MTN Rwanda's Chief Executive Mitwa Ng'ambi.

Tigo Cotton Project pays farmers 189m/- digitally for this season's crop

By Smart Money Reporter

OVER 120 cotton farmers in Simiyu and Shinyanga regions who are registered under Tigo Cotton Project have received 189m/- through their Tigo Pesa wallets as payment for their commodity sold during the 2018/19 season.

The cotton farmers through their Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Unions signed a contract with Tigo Tanzania Limited to have their payment remitted through Tigo Pesa mobile money payment system.

Simiyu and Shinyanga Tigo Regional Manager, Phares Sadock said they are happy to partner with AMCOs and have so far managed to settle the payment to the cotton farmers smoothly. "We are happy to be partnering with the farmers' cooperatives through the Tigo Cotton Project because we believe that this service will provide a practical solution to their payments and daily financial transactions," Sadock said this week.

Elaborating how the system works, Sadock said



Simiyu and Shinyanga Tigo Regional Manager, Phares Sadock briefing journalists on the Tigo Cotton Project when he paid a courtesy call to cotton farmers in Zanzui village of Maswa district in Simiyu region this week. He is accompanied by Zanzui AMCOs members. Photo courtesy of Tigo.

that farmers are first required to register and subscribe to receive the service through their AMCOs and thereafter are provided with information on collection, transportation, auctioning and purchase of their cotton produce through the AMCOs.

Once the money from the sale is received into the accounts of the AMCOs, Tigo

Pesa agent through Tigo Cotton Project transfers the payments directly to farmers who have registered to receive the payment through Tigo Pesa platform. The farmers are alerted of the payments through text messages. The farmers are then afforded the convenience to withdraw, transfer or conduct other

transactions as they wish from their mobile phones.

"With over 100,000 merchants available in every corner of the country, transacting upwards of 1.48bn/- every month, Tigo Pesa undoubtedly subscribes to financial inclusion which also is a boost to the national economy," he added.

The Tigo Regional Manager

further noted that they have already made payments to farmers from Zanzui, Kidabu, Gumali and Nuya AMCOs saying during the next season in 2020/21, the target is to reach more farmers from different AMCOs in the two regions.

Sadock also commended Bank of Tanzania for allowing Tigo to make

Kenya pushes Uganda to cut poultry levies

NAIROBI

Kenya has protested to Kampala over levies charged on poultry products exported to Uganda, citing a lack of a level playing field as Nairobi does not impose similar taxes.

According to the State Department of Livestock, Uganda levies goods from Kenya 18 percent in value-added tax (VAT), a six percent withholding tax and a one

percent railway levy. A Kenyan delegation is currently in Uganda following up on the implementation of the bilateral talks between the two countries in March held in Nairobi.

"We are following up on these levies that have been imposed on our poultry products, it is making our goods uncompetitive in the Ugandan market and there is need to abolish them," said

Livestock PS Harry Kimutai. The PS, who is part of the delegation in Uganda, said Kenya has discussed the matter with the Ministry of Trade to help find a lasting solution.

"Given that this is a trade issue, we have requested our counterparts in the ministry to negotiate on our behalf and come with a remedy in accordance with the East African Community Protocol,"

said Mr Kimutai.

Last week, Trade Cabinet Secretary Peter Munya said there was a need to level the playing field by ensuring that Kenyan goods are not charged extra levies in the spirit of EAC protocol. "Some of our goods are being charged extra levies and this goes against the rules of EAC. We need to level the playing field," said the Cabinet Secretary in a recent interview.

The Kenyan delegation is in Uganda to also follow up on the increased volumes of milk coming from the landlocked neighbour, which has impacted negatively on local producers. The technical officers from the ministries of Agriculture and Trade left for Uganda on Monday last week for a verification mission that will unravel the mystery of high volumes of milk coming in from the country.

Numbers from the Kenya Dairy Board presented to the parliamentary Committee on Agriculture a fortnight ago indicated the volume of milk imports from Uganda have been surging in the last three years. Data showed that milk imported from EAC, with the most volumes coming from Uganda, hit 110.7 million litres between January and September from 3.0 million litres in 2016.

New strain of foot and mouth disease in livestock forces govt to swing into action

By Smart Money Reporter

WILDLIFE tourism filmmakers will soon have their way when the government will relax some of the stringent rules to issue permits for the exercise which is of interest to both local and foreign motion picture makers.

By Beatrice Philemon

A new strain of foot and mouth disease which has attacked livestock in the country this year hence denying exports to foreign markets, has forced Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to start collecting saliva samples for laboratory investigations.

Director of Veterinary Services at Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Professor Hezron Nonga said they have received numerous complaints from livestock keepers that a new strain of FMD is ravaging animals which have already been vaccinated.

"We are collecting samples from all affected parts of the country for the purpose of scientific investigations to establish this new strain and help veterinary researchers come up with a solution," said Prof Nonga.

He further noted that collected FMD saliva samples will be sent to vaccine manufacturers in Botswana, Kenya and South Africa so that they can develop a special vaccine dedicated for Tanzania only because the new strain seems to be unique for the country.

So far, the country has five known FMD virus sero-types or strains that include SAT1, SAT2, SAT3, O and A which are endemic in different regions across the country, the Veterinary Services Director, added noting that preliminary investigations show that cattle may have gotten the new strain of FMD from wild animals.

He dismissed the livestock keepers' complaints that counterfeit vaccines are to blame



Bagamoyo based widow, Mwanaheri Jumanne attending his foot and mouth disease affected herd of cattle at her farm at Ng'ombwe village in the district.

for the outbreak saying authorities are ahead of illegal importers of copycats hence not possible to have such rampant proliferation.

"The FMD vaccines that are imported into Tanzania undergo verification by Tanzania Medicine and Medical Devices Authority before going into the market," Prof Nonga argued while advising farmers to calm down as the state moves to find a solution. Affected livestock so far includes cattle, sheep, pigs, goat which have been in contact with wildlife animals such as buffaloes, wildebeest and warthogs.

Recently livestock keepers in Bagamoyo complained against widespread FMD attacks which has badly affected their animals blaming fake vaccines as the main

cause. Mwanaheri Jumanne, a resident of Ng'ombwe village in Bagamoyo district, said for several months this year, vaccines have failed to protect their animals.

"I thought the vaccines is counterfeit because since 2018, I have spent a lot of money to purchase different types of vaccines to prevent the spread of the FMD outbreak among my cattle but it hasn't worked properly," Jumanne noted.

She told experts from Agricultural Sector Policy and Institutional Reforms Strengthening (ASPIRES) staff and journalists who visited her dairy farm that because of the FMD outbreak, she has failed to sell her animals to both local and international markets which

include Comoros. She said the disease has also affected milk output at her farm.

"Since 2018 when my dairy cattle were infected by foot and mouth diseases, milk production has declined from 276 litres to 190 litres per day," she lamented while urging the state to intervene and get a solution. Bagamoyo district partly hosts Saadani National Park.

Elaborating on dairy cattle farming, Mwanaheri who is a mother of five, says she begun to embark on dairy cattle farming in 1994 starting with three dairy cattle and later on get 20 dairy cattle from his brother Dr Shukuru Kawambwa who is a lawmaker for Bagamoyo.

Nigeria's digital-only bank set to lead market disruption



Kuda's Ore Fakorede.

LAGOS

As digital technology continues to spur financial access to millions globally, a digital-only bank in Nigeria, Kuda, has joined the surge in the country's FinTech space with a business model set to disrupt the banking sector.

Licensed by the Central Bank of Nigeria, Kuda reportedly raised US\$1.6 million in pre-seed funding trailing the likes of OPay, Interswitch and PalmPay which have all raised huge sums in the course of 2019.

It provides full banking services through its Android phones and iPhones apps to allow Nigerians with internet access to run a current account, save money automatically and earn up to 15% annual interest without the burden of bank charges.

According to the Financial Inclusion Global Initiative, 55% of account owners in high-income economies and 30% in developing world economies have made at least one direct payment using a mobile money account, a mobile phone, or the internet.

The growth in the digital financial services (DFS) ecosystem is expected to continue regardless of its vulnerability to a variety of security threats, as the DFS Security Assurance Framework has been developed to bridge the knowledge gap and risk management.

Kuda comes shortly after the Central Bank's reported plan in November to license more payment providers in an effort to expand access to financial institutions (FIs) and improve Nigeria's financial inclusion rate to 80% by the end of 2020. Aside seeking to break users' attachment to existing brick-and-mortar bank branches, it also aims at cutting on charges.

"Being digital-only makes us nimble and places us at the forefront of financial innovation," says Kuda's Ore Fakorede. "It also removes the heavy costs that

come with running a network of physical branches like traditional banks do. In combination, these give us an edge to outperform traditional banks in the long term.

This saved cost helps power their business model to exclude fees on card maintenance, account maintenance and excessive transfer which saves customers thousands of naira monthly. It also helps provide customers with free debit cards at no cost nationwide thus differentiating their offer from digital wallets.

"We already give our customers who sign up with their Bank Verification Number (BVN) 25 free transfers every month for life," Fakorede adds. "We make money by investing deposits in risk-free, government-backed securities as well as from transaction fees we charge merchants. In the future, we will make revenue from interest charged on loans."

With more licenses to be issued to FIs leading to competition in coming years, Fakorede maintains Nigeria has enough time to adopt new technology required to make the gradual process of digital automation happen as FinTech has improved rapidly in the country over the last few years.

"Digital technology is key to financial inclusion because of the pervasive reach it offers," he says. "An easy example is the proliferation of mobile money and agent banking services facilitated largely by mobile phones.

We may not give ourselves enough credit for this growth, and that may be why we underestimate how much progress has been made. We can only continue to move forward. As more Nigerians embrace the simplest forms of digital technology, financial inclusion will grow in leaps and bounds, and basic financial services will reach even the farthest parts of the country."

Mobile operators respond to smartphone surge in Tanzania

JOHANNESBURG

Smartphone adoption is on the increase in Tanzania, propelled by increasing roll-out and uptake of 3G and fast LTE internet accessibility as operators Tigo and Vodacom Tanzania add more base stations.

The Tanzanian Communications Regulatory Authority said earlier this year that the country's internet penetration rate now stands at 43%, with the total number of internet users in the country jumping to 23.1 million as at the end of 2018.

"Out of the 43.6 million mobile phone subscribers, 22.2 million of them were connected to the internet services through their handsets," said the TCRA in a report released in February this year. According to recent research by data and analytics firm, GlobalData, there is a surge in smartphone adoption and this will likely drive further internet penetration in the country.

The analysis by GlobalData says usage of smartphones in Tanzania will grow at a relatively fast compound annual growth rate (CAGR) of 19% and will "account for more than 30 million mobile subscriptions" by the end of 2024.



Vodacom Tanzania Head of Communication and Public Relations, Jacqueline Materu (C) with Tecno Tanzania officials when they unveiled a Tecno Camon promotion in Dar es Salaam recently. File photo.

This means that smartphone usage in Tanzania will surpass that of feature phones. Feature phones are currently the dominant cellphone types in use in Tanzania, says GlobalData as they account for 70% of total handset subscriptions in the country.

"This smartphone growth is largely driven by increasing 3G and 4G network deployments by mobile operators such as Vodacom and Tigo. For instance, Vodacom added more than 300 4G sites, covering 23% of the population, and added more than 190 3G sites,

reaching 52% of the population in 2018," said Lorenzo Solazzo, technology analyst at GlobalData.

Solazzo added that telecom operators in Tanzania were "increasingly offering affordable 3G and 4G smartphones to stimulate mobile data usage" which would also underpin future growth. Tigo is currently offering its subscribers discounted Tecno S3 3G smartphones which are retailing at about US\$29.

This is further strengthened by data-centric offerings that include free access to over-the-top (OTT)

applications. Most of the operators in Tanzania have daily, weekly and monthly bundle plans targeted for social networks.

"Moreover, the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) mandated that the country's mobile operators' mobile broadband coverage should reach 90% of the population by 2024, providing opportunities for further 3G and 4G deployments in more rural areas and thus more mobile data usage," explained Solazzo.

Cabinet rejects farm-size limits in land reforms

PRETORIA

South Africa's cabinet rejected proposals to limit the size of farms and to establish a dedicated fund in the nation's land-reform process, Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development Minister Thoko Didiza said.

An advisory panel set up by President Cyril Ramaphosa in July submitted a report containing 73 recommendations on the land-reform process. Of those, the cabinet endorsed 60 and noted three others, according to the Department of Agriculture.

The proposal on farm sizes was rejected because "agricultural conditions vary across the country," Didiza told reporters on Thursday in Pretoria, the capital. "While in one place where rainfall is good and the land fertile, a far smaller farm would be needed than a farm in one of the more arid areas."

A recommendation by the panel that a dedicated land-reform fund be established was also dismissed "because we

believe that the optimum and judicious use of funds can be done through the current budgeting process," she said.

The ruling African National Congress adopted expropriation of land without compensation as a policy in 2017 to address racially skewed ownership patterns dating back to colonialism and white-minority rule. It's seen by Ramaphosa's foes within the party as a test of his resolve to push through decisions unpopular with the business community.

The panel's other proposals included considering a tax on land that exceeds the maximum threshold for one owner and levies on underutilised land. It also suggested dissolving the Ingonyama Trust under which the king of South Africa's most populous ethnic group, the Zulus, holds 2.8 million hectares (6.92 million acres) of land on behalf of his subjects. The ANC plans to change the constitution to make it easier to seize land without paying for it. Separate legislation has been drafted outlining the circumstances under which the state can do this.

NMB's community investments in education, health and disaster relief benefit millions



Isandula Primary School pupils sampling some of the desks donated by NMB Bank Plc earlier this year as part of the bank's corporate social responsibility initiative.

By Smart Money Reporter

THOUSANDS of pupils, students and ordinary people from across all regions of the country have benefited from NMB Bank Plc's community investments in education, health and where need arises, relief aid after disaster strikes.

"These desks will enable us work hard and pass our examinations because we can sit comfortably and listed to our teachers," said Neema James, a standard four pupil at Mitindo Primary School in Misungwi district of Mwanza region after receiving 63 desks from NMB earlier this year.

Mitindo is one of the more than 623 public schools which have received desks from the bank which has also donated construction materials and medical equipment to public health centres across all regions of the country.

Though Mitindo still has a shortage of desks, the 63 that were donated reduced the deficit significantly as testified by its Head-teacher, Joyce Mangi who paid tribute to NMB's management and staff for the support.

"The 63 desks have accommodated over 200 pupils who were sitting on the floor because of shortage of desks," said Mangi who added, "We can only ask local communities to also cultivate a culture of contributing to public school like NMB does because the government alone cannot address all the shortfalls."

Indeed since assuming power in November 2015, President John Magufuli made good his promise universal free education for primary and secondary schools as a means of empowering needy families.

"We can only help poor families improve their livelihoods by investing in their children's education which my government will do," Dr Magufuli said during presidential campaigns in 2015. His campaign promise however, came with numerous challenges which include inadequate classrooms, desks, laboratories, staff rooms, teachers

houses and hostels, to name but a few.

To supplement government's investments in the social services which include education and health, NMB Bank Plc, which is the country's largest commercial bank, adopted a policy of allocating at least a percent of its profits to support such sectors of the economy.

"So when we sit down and look at what we have actually achieved, we feel happy to notice that over 93,000 students across the country are now sitting on desks that have been donated by the NMB Bank," said acting Managing Director, Ruth Zaipuna.

Zaipuna said, so far this year, the Dar es Salaam based lender has donated a record 31,150 desks and 1,150 computers to a total 623 schools countrywide. The bank has also donated construction materials, medical equipment and medicines to public facilities facing shortages or hit by disasters.

"We have also donated libraries, laboratory equipment, built classrooms, hostels and kitchens in some schools through corporate social responsibility staff initiative program," noted Zaipuna while unveiling that in the past five years, the bank has spent about 6bn/- as investment in various community projects. Beneficiaries of NMB's support are many and found across the country as testified by Walla Secondary School's Headmistress, Neema Kitiku whose school received 174 desks from NMB during the year.

"Before NMB came to our rescue with 174 desks, half of our students were sitting on the floor. You can therefore understand what this help means to us, it's a big relief to both teachers and students," Kitiku said noting that the donation has solved the problem by 80 percent.

NMB's commitment to invest in social services comes without any binding legal obligation as is the case in other sectors of the economy where specific laws exist to force companies invest in community projects as part of their CSR.

A good example is the 2017 Extrac-

tive Industry law enacted by Parliament which compels oil, gas and mineral extraction companies to produce annual CSR plans jointly agreed upon with the relative local government authorities.

The law requires licensed mining companies to pay 0.07 percent of their gross revenues as CSR to local councils in their areas of operations. However, the law is silent when it comes to other businesses obligation to invest in social services. NMB has thus ignored absence of the law to force corporations in the banking and other industries have plans and budgets to support community projects. During the current year, NMB also funded construction of classrooms to accommodate the increasing student numbers with a total of 369 public schools benefiting from the support.

"As outlined in our CSR policy, we need an educated and healthy workforce to develop Tanzania. This is why during the past four years, we have extended hospital equipment to a total of 333 public health facilities countrywide," the NMB acting Managing Director, added.

Like in education, the bank's donations in the health sector - particularly equipment like test kits, hospital beds for in-patients and delivery beds for labour wards as well as construction materials - are meant to complement government's efforts in improving health facilities across the country.

NMB has always been on the frontline when it comes to helping people hit by natural calamities across the country as was the in 2016 when floods destroyed homes and infrastructure in Hai, Kahama and Geita districts as well as similar occurrences in Iringa and Lindi in the same year.

In 2017 when, again the country was hit by natural disasters that left thousands of people in need of support, the bank came in handy and spent over 90m/- to help flood victims in Kilosa, Morogoro; victims of Cholera in Zanzibar, and a fire outbreak in Mara region.



Kekeletso Lekaota stands among the cannabis plants growing in a greenhouse at MG Health in Lesotho.

A tiny African kingdom wants to export its cannabis to the world

MASERU

The cannabis industry in Lesotho is taking off after becoming the first African country to legalise the drug for medicinal use. Kekeletso Lekaota spends her work days nurturing rows of cannabis plants for harvest. Pruning a few yellowed leaves from stems with thick, flowering heads, she says the job requires a soft touch and delicate hands.

It's a crop Lekaota had no experience with 18 months ago, when she saw an advertisement for a grower in her local newspaper. Now, the 27-year-old trains others how to cultivate the plants for MG Health, a supplier of pharmaceutical-grade cannabis products, at a farm and oil extraction facility in Lesotho, the tiny, mountainous kingdom bordered on all sides by South Africa.

"I didn't know what cannabis was - it was only when I was applying for this job that I realised it's dagga," Lekaota said, using a word for weed derived from the local Khoisan languages, as she readied the greenhouses for their required 12 hours of darkness.

Marijuana has been widely cultivated across Lesotho, one of Africa's poorest countries, since time immemorial - long used as medicine by the native Basotho people. It's easier to grow and more lucrative than other crops such as maize and sugar cane, and the nation's abundant water and fertile soil provide ideal conditions. Many families rely on the extra income from selling illicitly to recreational drug users, to cover basic costs such as sending their children to school.

The Lesotho government is now trying to spur development of legal plantations supplying the burgeoning global medical cannabis industry to broaden its tax base - currently dominated by exports of diamonds, water and wool - and create jobs. About two-thirds of the country's 2.2 million people live in rural villages, and many survive off subsistence farming. Cannabis is a critical piece of the gov-

ernment's agricultural strategy, which it hopes will help fund basic infrastructure such as roads, electricity and water pipes.

In 2018, Lesotho became the first African nation to issue licenses for the cultivation of cannabis for medicinal purposes. Foreign investors including Canadian companies Supreme Cannabis, Canopy Growth and Aphria have since poured tens of millions of dollars into a handful of facilities, drawn by the low cost of production.

MG Health, Lesotho's biggest commercial producer, received CS10 million (\$76 million) from Supreme Cannabis last year in exchange for 10% of the business then known as Medigrow Lesotho (Supreme has said it eventually wants to export medical cannabis oils from Lesotho to Canada). MG Health plans to employ as many as 3 000 workers locally - up from about 350 currently - once it reaches full production in a few years, says chief executive officer Andre Bothma.

The company harvests a strain of marijuana with low levels of tetrahydrocannabinol (THC) - the compound that gets you high - to comply with regulations. It exports nonpsychoactive cannabidiol (CBD) oil extracts and other medical cannabis products primarily to South Africa, and is working on entering markets in Europe and the Middle East, as well as Australia.

"We have first-mover advantage in Africa and we think the market is huge," Bothma says. CBD is a fast-growing piece of the \$340 billion global cannabis market. In the US alone, CBD sales are expected to quintuple to about \$20 billion by 2024 from six years earlier, according to BDS Analytics.

As cannabis rules loosen around the globe, companies are turning to low-cost regions for supply. MG Health says that even in its start-up phase, it's producing in Lesotho for about 93 cents a gram, less than the \$1 or more per gram that it cites as the norm elsewhere. But Lesotho will face competition for

investment from other regions known to be cheap, including Colombia and Jamaica, as well as other African nations that may follow in its footsteps and legalise production.

To get large plants with thick flowering heads, growers need controlled temperatures of between 20 and 28 degrees Celsius (68 to 82.4 degrees Fahrenheit), plenty of air circulation to prevent mildew growing and, when in bloom, a strict regime of 12 hours of light and an equal measure of dark, according to MG Health.

As a medical product, it's imperative that the CBD oil produced is standardised and uncontaminated, and quality control testing for MG Health is conducted by the independent LuCan Laboratories. Workers have to shower at work and wear layers of protective clothing, which are then washed and pressed at the end of each day.

The fledgling legal industry in Lesotho has given big ideas to illegal growers, who produce strains known for their strong psychoactive effects and sell to South Africans. They can avoid arrest by producing in remote locations and bribing authorities.

Kotsoana Clementi, a 43-year-old who grows pot illicitly in his village about a 1.5-hour drive from the capital of Maseru, says he would like to partner with one of the Canadian cannabis companies on a legal business. While Clementi stands out among other villagers with his blue collared shirt, Guess jeans and polished black shoes, the operation in his small stone house lacking electricity is rudimentary.

After harvesting his weed between March and May, Clementi fills hundreds of packets and seals them with the flame from a paraffin lamp and the rounded end of a spoon. He charges R15 apiece and can sell 380 packets a day - an amount worth almost \$400 (he says he keeps 60% of the sales and the rest goes to drug mules and bribes for border police).

VIEW FROM THE TOP

CORPORATE WELLNESS



By Bhakti Shah, MPH

Narcissistic Personality Disorder (NPD) is a serious psychological disorder that involves patterns of self-centered thinking. People with NPD typically have a lack of empathy and consideration for other people, coupled with an excessive need for reaffirmation, admiration or acknowledgement. They may come across as cocky, manipulative, selfish, patronizing or demanding - which may manifest itself in professional

Narcissist personality disorder at workplace

and personal relationships, leading to serious and diverse problems. Individuals in the workplace have difficulty in handling even the most constructive criticism and are more likely to engage in counterproductive work behavior, especially when their self-esteem is threatened. NPD is typically an external coping mechanism for low self-esteem or feelings of low self-worth.

And yet, individuals with NPD tend to be extroverted, open to risks and new experiences, demonstrate high level of confidence and are driven to achieve results over caring for others.

In the increasing diverse working environments, a spectrum of people with varied experiences, backgrounds and behaviors are encountered. There are times when you and your teams must deal with strong personalities within your organization or externally when dealing with clients, suppliers and other stakeholders. It is therefore important to figure out how to deal with them in positive and productive ways.

The following criteria defines NPD:

- A grandiose sense of self-



importance, exaggerating their abilities and achievements.

- Persistent fantasies of unlimited success, power, brilliance, etc.

affirmation and praise.

- A strong sense of entitlement and expectation of special treatment
- Exploitative of others, taking advantage of them for personal gain
- An inability to empathize
- A perception of being envied while envying others who seem more gifted
- A projected sense of arrogance

Rather than withdrawing from individuals with NPD, strategically limit your interactions and time spent in active engagement. Stick to the core objectives, established performance metrics and overall vision of success. Avoid agreeing to out-of-scope or grandiose schemes, which will prevent you from being manipulated.

Allowing the negative energy of these

individuals in your space becomes your responsibility. Keep communications direct and precise. Avoid open-ended questions or responses to them. The secret to effectively engaging with these individuals is to minimize responses to closed-ended "yes" or "no" statements.

In the end, the primary take away is not to react emotionally. Always be professional, on-task, focused on the job.

Reply back to bhakti@impactafya.com or call +255 754 694 643 with your feedback. We welcome your suggestions for corporate wellness tips you'd like to see covered in our future columns.

Bhakti Shah, MPH is the Founder and Managing Director of ImpactAfya Ltd, collaborating with Workplace Options, USA to provide Corporate Wellness and EAP Solutions in East Africa. Bhakti is also the Advisor for the Africa Business Portal and the Past President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Tanzania.

Website: www.impactafya.com | Facebook, Instagram & Twitter: @impactafya

WORLD

After Ethiopia crash, victims' relatives say they were hounded by US law firms

NAIROBI/ADDIS ABABA

DAYS after the March 10 crash of a Kenya-bound Ethiopian Airlines Boeing jet that killed all 157 people on board, strangers began calling or visiting bereaved families, saying they represented U.S. law firms.

They showed up uninvited at memorials and at homes full of weeping relatives. They cold called. They left brochures. In one case a grieving husband was offered money for an appointment. One woman offered counseling and another said she was creating an emotional support group, without disclosing they were working for lawyers.

Reuters interviewed 37 relatives of the victims, or their representatives, and found that 31 complained of inappropriate approaches by those saying they represented U.S. law firms.

In some instances, the behavior may have been illegal or unethical under U.S. laws and rules barring solicitation and deceptive practices, several legal ethics experts said.

Six firms were particularly aggressive in courting prospective clients after the Boeing (BA.N) plane nosedived into an Ethiopian field: Ribbeck Law Chartered and Global Aviation Law Group (GALG) of Chicago; The Witherspoon Law Group and Ramji Law Group from Texas; and Wheeler & Franks Law Firm PC and Eaves Law Firm of Mississippi.

Witherspoon, Wheeler and Eaves denied any wrongdoing. Ribbeck, GALG and Ramji did not respond to requests for comment.

Ribbeck Law and GALG have jointly filed two lawsuits against Boeing seeking "all damages available under the law" without being specific about the size of the claims. Three suits filed by Ramji have been dismissed. The other firms haven't filed any suits.

By Thursday, there were 114 cases filed against Boeing in Chicago federal court on behalf of 112 crash victims, according to lead counsel for the plaintiffs, Robert Clifford. More than three dozen law firms are representing them. No trial date has been set.



Family and friends of victims of the Ethiopian Airlines Flight ET 302 plane crash, look at debris after a commemoration ceremony at the scene of the crash, near the town of Bishoftu, southeast of Addis Ababa, Ethiopia March 13, 2019. (File photo)

Boeing has said it is "cooperating fully with the investigating authorities" and said that safety is its highest priority.

It has acknowledged errors in failing to give pilots more information on 737 MAX software involved in a Lion Air crash that killed 189 in Indonesia in October 2018 and the Ethiopian crash five months later, but Boeing has not admitted any fault in how it developed the aircraft. The 737 MAX is currently grounded.

Boeing declined to comment on the lawsuits.

UNINVITED GUEST

An uninvited stranger turned up at Paul Njoroge's family home in Kenya just hours after a memorial service for his wife, his three small children, and his mother-in-law, who all died in the crash. Njoroge said the visitor gave him promotional materials for the law firm Wheeler and Franks.

"I said, I don't know who directed you to this place. Everyone here is praying," Njoroge told Reuters. Two other families said they received visits around the time of memorial services from Wheeler's lawyers or people who said they represented the firm.

James Ndeda, who Wheeler represented after he was injured in the 1998 embassy bombing in Kenya, said he visited Njoroge. The firm's part-

ners, Bill Wheeler and Jamie Franks, asked Ndeda to help the firm connect with crash victims' families, Ndeda said. Wheeler sent him literature featuring his firm and another Mississippi firm, Eaves Law Firm. Ndeda said he went to visit victims' families either by himself, sent employees or accompanied Bill Wheeler or Jamie Franks, and sometimes Leo Jackson, an investigator with Eaves. Jackson declined to comment.

Wheeler and Franks, and Eaves, said in a joint emailed statement they only met families if invited. "The story you have been told is completely wrong," they wrote.

"We contacted no families without an invitation." They declined to answer further questions.

MANY OVERTURES

Ethiopian Bayiye Demissie, whose flight attendant wife Elsbet was a victim, told Reuters a man who said he was from The Witherspoon Law Group called him three days after the crash. Bayiye said he was too upset to speak.

People saying they represented more than 30 firms contacted him over the next few months, including Witherspoon again, and GALG, said Bayiye. The constant calls about compensation hurt because it felt like people were suggesting he could benefit from his wife's death, he said.

Agencies

Australia's PM defends climate stance amid wildfire disaster

PERTH, Australia

AUSTRALIA'S embattled Prime Minister defended his government's climate policy yesterday, as authorities warned the wildfires crisis ravaging the country's most populous state could fester for months.

Around 200 wildfires were burning in four states, with New South Wales accounting for more than half of them, including 60 fires not contained.

The disaster has led to renewed criticism that Prime Minister Scott Morrison's conservative government has not taken enough action on climate change.

Morrison rejected calls to downsize Australia's lucrative coal industry. Australia is the world's largest exporter of coal and liquefied natural gas.

"I am not going to write off the jobs of thousands of Australians by walking away from traditional industries," he told Channel Seven.

Morrison made the rounds on several Australian television networks Monday morning in the aftermath of his much criticized family vacation to Hawaii during the wildfires crisis.

He eventually cut short his holiday and returned to Sydney over the weekend before visiting evacuation and emergency control centers and the families of two firefighters killed battling blazes last Thursday southwest of Sydney.

"We all make decisions. You do as a parent, I do as a parent. We'll seek to balance our work life responsibilities and we all try to get that right," Morrison told Channel Seven.

More than 3 million hectares of



land has burned nationwide during a torrid past few months, with nine people killed and more than 900 homes destroyed. Almost 800 homes have burned in New South Wales, which last week was paralyzed by a seven-day state of emergency amid catastrophic conditions. There will be desperately needed

relief this week for New South Wales, with cooler conditions forecast.

New South Wales Rural Fire Service commissioner Shane Fitzsimons, however, painted a bleak long-term picture.

"We've got to keep in mind that we're not expecting any rainfall to make any meaningful difference to

these fires until January or February," he said.

"That's still a way to go. We're still talking four to six weeks at best before we start to see a meaningful reprieve in the weather."

Morrison's coalition government won a surprise third term in May. Among its pledges was to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 26% to 28% by 2030 – a modest figure compared to the center-left opposition's pledge of 45%.

Morrison on Monday insisted Australia would meet its emission targets.

"I'm going to maintain the course of responsible management, responsibly addressing the changes of climate change and responsibly ensuring that we can grow our economy in what is a very tough climate at the moment," he said. Agencies

China-Japan-South Korea leaders' meeting expected to find ways for future peace, prosperity - ex-TCS chief

SEOUL

THE 8th leaders' meeting between China, Japan and South Korea, set to be held in Chengdu this week, was expected to try to find ways for future peace and prosperity in the region as well as closer cooperation among the three nations, a former chief of an international group said.

"During the upcoming meeting, the three leaders are forecast to assess the outcomes (of the trilateral cooperation) for the past 20 years and discuss the direction (of future cooperation) for the next 10 years," Lee Jong-heon, former secretary-general of the Trilateral Cooperation Secretariat (TCS), told Xinhua on Saturday.

This year marks the 20th anniversary of the trilateral cooperation. "For

the past 20 years, rapid globalization caused side effects and brought about challenges. Thus, the three countries entered a period of challenges," Lee said.

To overcome the common challenges and secure a persistent peace, stability and prosperity in Northeast Asia, the three countries made a lot of efforts to better understand each other's national policy and the way of thinking via the leaders' meetings, ministerial-level meetings and other cooperation between government agencies for the past 20 years, he noted.

"A lot of advances have been made (in these efforts)," said the former head of the TCS, an international organization that was launched in September 2011 and headquartered in the South Korean capital Seoul with an aim to

promote peace and common prosperity among China, Japan and South Korea.

China, Japan and South Korea have signed a trilateral investment agreement and held 16 rounds of free trade agreement (FTA) negotiations so far. The three countries faced an important opportunity of speeding up free trade negotiations as the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP), a mega trade pact, has made positive progress.

Describing trade protectionism and unilateralism as the biggest challenge faced by the three countries as well as the entire world, Lee said China, Japan and South Korea should fight together to defend free trade and minimize the effect of unilateralism and trade protectionism as they were the biggest



beneficiaries of the free trade regime.

"Trade protectionism and unilateralism is not a trend that can last forever even though it will last for the time being," said Lee who noted that if the three countries can maximize respective comparative advantages and create synergy, it would be able to produce a significant economic effect and overcome the challenges.

Referring to the "China-Japan-South

Korea-X" as a new trend of future cooperation for the three countries, the former TCS chief said that if China, Japan and South Korea can create a successful model and bear concrete fruits with the concept, it would be of great significance for future trilateral cooperation.

The fundamental meaning of the "China-Japan-South Korea-X" was the trilateral cooperation in the fourth and fifth markets or other sectors by using their respective advantages to avoid overlapping competition while maximizing potentials the three countries have, he noted.

Japan and South Korea give priority to foreign trade and investment, owning notable strengths in information, big data and other high-tech sectors. Meanwhile, China has a huge market

and latecomer advantage in 5G and the internet.

Lee said China, Japan and South Korea all had a great potential in the digital economy sector, noting that if the three nations can restructure their industries well under the new paradigm of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, they would be able to open a new bright future.

In terms of differences and disputes facing the region, he said the three countries had difficulties in bilateral relations over historical and territorial issues.

He noted that the difficulties should be overcome as the external challenges, such as unilateralism and protectionism, cannot be surmounted by one country, but by the three countries together. Xinhua

Macao enjoys favourable environment for scientific innovation after returning to China

THE first space exploration satellite developed by Macao will be launched the next year, announced the State Key Laboratory of Lunar and Planetary Science (SKLplanets), Macau University of Science and Technology (MUST), ahead of Macao's celebration of the 20th anniversary of its return to China.

Aiming to measure the geomagnetic field and space environment of the South Atlantic Anomaly and study on dynamo theory, the satellite is expected to uncover the mystery of Bermuda Triangle that has perplexed the world for hundreds of years.

"It just comes too soon, which has gone beyond my imagination," said Zhang Keke, director of the SKLplanets and chief scientist of this satellite project.

Zhang, a Fellow of American Geophysical Union and the Royal Astronomical Society in the UK, joined the SKLplanets last year. Three months after he went to Macao, he, on behalf of the SKLplanets, proposed to the China National Space Administration (CNSA) to develop a scientific exploration satellite.

"My proposal was supported by the CNSA, and rounds of discussions were held. The plan was approved by experts in Feb. this year, and received assistance from the Science and Technology Development Fund (FDCT) three months later," introduced Zhang, who has worked in the UK and the US for over three decades.

Astrophysics studies call for extremely high requirements on capital and talents, therefore the develop-

ment of the satellite wouldn't have been possible without the firm support from the central government and the government of Macao Special Administrative Region (SAR), or the SKLplanets program.

The SKLplanets is one of the state key laboratories approved by China's Ministry of Science and Technology in Macao last year. Besides, Macao is also home to the State Key Laboratory of Quality Research in Chinese Medicines, the State Key Laboratory of Analog and Mixed-Signal VLSI and the State Key Laboratory of Internet of Things for Smart City.

These four state key laboratories were all built after Macao's return to China, serving as a new high ground of the region's scientific innovation and development.

MUST President Liu Liang noted that scientific innovation barely existed in Macao before its return to China, and it was after the return that the region has seen continuous improvement in this regard under the support of the nation and scientific research institutions from the mainland.

The state key laboratories in Macao carry the expectation of China for Macao's scientific and technological development, and also symbolize a start of the region's participation in the national scientific and technological progress. "Human resources were what Macao needed the most after returning to the motherland," said Ma Chi Ngai Frederico, President of FDCT's Administrative Committee.

Thanks to the continuous application of policy, law and capital assis-

tance by the government of Macao SAR, batches of science and technology talents were nurtured.

In 2000, the Legislative Assembly of Macao approved the Basic Rules for Policies Regarding Science and Technology, setting the tone for future technological progress of the region. Four years later, the government of Macao SAR instituted the FDCT to assist scientific researches. This year, the organization's assistance to local scientific studies made a record high of 535 million pataca (\$66.4 million).

A 23-year-old Macao resident named Feng Xuejian recently registered an Internet company. He once competed in the WorldSkills Competition as a junior college student on behalf of Macao and won a gold medal in web design - the best performance achieved

by Macao over the years.

"People used to say that in Macao, a man could not make a living by his interest, but things are different now as the region is building a better and better environment for innovation and entrepreneurship, where the young generation is able to achieve success through their skills and wisdom," Feng said.

"A globally influential scientific innovation center will be built in the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, where a Guangzhou-Shenzhen-Hong Kong-Macao science and technology innovation corridor will prosper," said Ma Chi Ngai Frederico, adding that Macao enjoys unique geographical and platform advantages on the west bank of the Pearl River. People's Daily



China remains world's 2nd largest destination of foreign investment in first 11 months of 2019

CHINA maintained steady growth of its foreign direct investment (FDI) this year despite the global investing downturn.

The FDI inflow of the country rose 2.6 percent in the first 11 months of this year, ranking the second in value worldwide.

China's fixed-asset investment grew 5.2 percent in the same period from a year ago, flat with the rate in the first 10 months of 2019.

On the morning of Nov. 23, BASF (Guangdong) Verbund Site Project officially commenced on Donghai Island of Zhanjiang, south China's Guangdong Province. With a total investment of \$10 billion, the project represents the German chemical giant's largest foreign investment so far, and will be the third-largest BASF site in the world.

"The petrochemical project of BASF is the first wholly foreign-funded large-scale integrated petrochemical project in China. It marks a new level of China-Germany cooperation in the manufacturing industry," Meng Wei, spokesperson of China's National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) said at a recent press conference.

The number of large-scale foreign-owned projects worth billions and even tens of billions of U.S. dollars has increased, which is a distinctive feature of China's foreign investment this year, Meng introduced.

U.S. automaker Tesla's gigafactory in Shanghai is also Tesla's largest foreign investment project, Meng said, adding that the gigafactory started construction in Jan. and began production near the end of 2019.

Many Internet users hailed the construction progress as "China speed", said Meng, noting it fully demonstrates the effective combination of enterprises' aspirations for investment and the administrative efficiency of the Chinese government.

"It's believed that a number of large-

scale foreign-funded new projects in such fields as new energy, new-type petrochemicals, and electronic information will settle in China in the near future," said Meng.

Rapid progress in construction of large-scale foreign-funded projects has shown foreign investors' strong confidence in China's development, noted Meng, stressing that the NDRC will continue making efforts to optimize environment for foreign investment so as to further boost progress in China's endeavor to promote a new round of opening-up.

The NDRC will make joint efforts with relevant departments to facilitate the implementation of China's new foreign investment law and supporting regulations and policies, Meng introduced.

The foreign investment law will come into effect from Jan. 1, 2020, together with the implementation of the recently adopted draft regulation on implementing the foreign investment law.

The new foreign investment law and regulation will provide better protection and services, and guarantee a fairer market for foreign investors.

Next year, China will amend its negative lists for foreign investment market access again to further expand opening-up, said Meng. She explained that the country will allow wholly foreign funded enterprises to operate in more sectors, place no restriction other than the negative lists, and ensure national treatment for foreign-funded enterprises.

Besides, China will continue deepening reform in delegating powers, enhancing regulation and strengthening public services for foreign investments by improving management systems, simplifying procedures for examination and approval, and providing better services for the implementation of foreign-funded projects, Meng noted.

People's Daily

Kenya's chief of defense forces visit troops fighting in Somalia

NAIROBI

THE Kenyan chief of defense forces, General Samson Mwachethe on Sunday visited soldiers serving in the Africa Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) and hailed their success in pacifying key areas under their command and promoting peace in the Horn of African state.

Mwachethe (pictured) while visiting troops in Kuday Forward Operating Base (FOB) in Badhadhe District, Lower Juba in Somalia, said that it was because of the soldiers' dedication to duty that Kenya is safe.

"I have come here today to bring Christmas and New Year greetings,

first from our Commander-In-Chief, His Excellency President Uhuru Kenyatta and also from KDF fraternity at home.

They are proud of you and of the successes you have achieved during your tour of duty," said Mwachethe.

The visit was aimed at enabling him to see and hear from Kenyan troops to ensure better support in the future and wish them best wishes during the festive season.

"Even when you are here, we want you to know that we are thinking of you, we can never forget you. We wish

you well and success in the execution of your mandate in Somalia," said Mwachethe. He said the presence of Kenyan soldiers in Somalia had translated into peace dividend for the greater horn of African region.

"We are in Somalia because we know that if Somalia is free of Al Shabaab and terrorism, Kenya will also be free of the scourge," said Mwachethe.

"We must therefore ensure that we destroy the enemy here, to guarantee the destruction of the enemy at home. Our actions and successes here will safeguard a Kenya, devoid of fear of terror attacks that have from time to time been launched at home," he added.

Xinhua



Mnangagwa urges main opposition party to join political parties' dialogue

KWEKWE

ZIMBABWEAN President Emmerson Mnangagwa said on Sunday the door was still open for any political party in the country to join the Political Actors Dialogue (POLAD) platform, and contribute to the country's development.

This was in apparent reference to Movement for Democratic Change (MDC) leader Nelson Chamisa who has shunned POLAD, insisting on bilateral talks with Mnangagwa mediated by an outside broker.

Mnangagwa (pictured) launched POLAD in May his year to heal election-related rifts, and afford to lose parties a platform to contribute their ideas to national development.

To date, 17 out of the 23 political parties that participated in the 2018 general elections have signed up to POLAD.

Addressing POLAD members at his farm in Kwekwe, Mnangagwa said he had told former South African President Thabo Mbeki, who was in the country last week, that there will not be two platforms for dialogue in Zimbabwe.

The former South African leader held a series of meetings with the country's political leaders on the need to heal electoral rifts, and ensure national cohesion.

He brokered a political settlement in the country in 2008 after disputed elections which resulted in the formation of a government of national unity between former President Robert Mugabe and the late MDC leader Morgan Tsvangirai.

"I discussed with Mbeki that we cannot have two platforms discussing the same issues. There is only one platform and that platform is POLAD and I am not moving away from that," he said.

The Zimbabwean leader added that POLAD should now be transformed from only tackling political issues to finding economic solutions to the country.

He said this is the reason why he ordered his cabinet to be readily available whenever POLAD members request their audience.

"Among other things, POLAD has interfaced with the ministers of Finance, Industry as well as the Reserve Bank Governor (John Mangudya) in order to influence policy on issues affecting the country," Mnangagwa said.

However, the MDC, which believes without any evidence, that it won the presidential election last year, insists on talks on the election outcome, with a view to sharing power with the ruling ZANU-PF party.

Xinhua

Main India opposition party to stage protest against new law

NEW DELHI

INDIA'S main opposition party will stage a silent protest in the capital yesterday against a contentious new citizenship law, a day after Prime Minister Narendra Modi defended the legislation at a rally in New Delhi and accused the opposition of pushing the country into a "fear psychosis."

The protest, led by Congress party chief Sonia Gandhi, comes at a time when tens and thousands of demonstrators have taken to India's streets to call for the revocation of the law, which critics say is the latest effort by Modi's government to marginalize the country's 200 million Muslims.

The party's former president, Rahul Gandhi, urged young people in New Delhi to join the protest at Raj Ghat, a memorial dedicated to Mahatma Gandhi.

"It's not good enough just to feel Indian. At times like these it's critical to show that you're Indian & won't allow to be destroyed by hatred," Gandhi tweeted.

Twenty-three people have been killed nationwide since the citizenship law was passed in Parliament earlier this month in protests that represent the first major roadblock for Modi's Hindu nationalist agenda since his party's landslide reelection last spring.

Most of the deaths have occurred in the northern state of Uttar Pradesh, where 20% of the state's 200 million people are Muslim.

Authorities have so far taken a hard-line approach to quell the protests. They've evoked a British colonial-era law banning public gatherings, and internet



Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi addresses a rally of his Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party in New Delhi, India, yesterday. AP

access has been blocked at times in some states. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has asked broadcasters across the country to refrain from using content that could inflame further violence.

The communication shutdown has mostly affected New Delhi, the eastern state of West Bengal, the northern city of Aligarh and the entire northeastern state of Assam.

Undeterred, protesters have continued to rally throughout the country.

The new law allows Hindus, Christians and other religious minorities who are in India illegally to become citizens if they can show they were persecuted because of their religion in Muslim-majority Bangladesh, Pakistan and Afghanistan. It does not apply to Muslims.

Protests against the law come amid an ongoing crackdown in Muslim-majority Kashmir, the restive Himalayan region stripped of its semi-autonomous status and demoted from a state into a federal

territory in August.

The demonstrations also follow a contentious process in Assam meant to weed out foreigners living in the country illegally. Nearly 2 million people, about half Hindu and half Muslim, were excluded from an official list of citizens - called the National Register of Citizens, or NRC - and have been asked to prove their citizenship or else be considered foreign.

India is building a detention center for some of the tens of thousands of people who the courts are expected to ultimately determine have entered illegally. Modi's interior minister, Amit Shah, has pledged to roll out the process nationwide.

On Sunday, Modi denied the existence of a detention center, accusing the Congress party of spreading fear that Indian Muslims would be jailed there. He also contradicted Shah, saying that there had been no discussion yet of whether to execute a nationwide citizens registry.

Agencies

Saudi Arabia sentences five to death, three to jail in Khashoggi case

RIYADH

SAUDI Arabia's public prosecutor said yesterday five people had been sentenced to death and three more to jail terms totalling 24 years in the case of the killing of Saudi journalist Jamal Khashoggi in Istanbul in October last year.

Khashoggi was a US resident and critic of Saudi Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, the kingdom's de facto ruler. He was last seen at the Saudi consulate in Istanbul on Oct 2, 2018, where he was to receive papers ahead of his wedding. His body was reportedly dismembered and removed from the building, and his remains have not been found.

The killing caused a global uproar, tarnishing the crown prince's image. The CIA and some Western govern-



ments have said they believe the Saudi crown prince ordered the killing, but Saudi officials say he had no role. Eleven Saudi suspects were put on trial over his death in secretive proceedings in Riyadh.

Saudi Public Prosecutor Shalaan al-Shalaan, while reading out the preliminary verdict in the trial, also said Saud al-Qahtani, a former high-profile Saudi royal adviser, had been investigated but was not charged and was released.

Al-Qahtani, however, has been sanctioned by the United States for his alleged role in the operation.

The court also found the Saudi consul-general in Istanbul, Mohammed al-Otaibi, not guilty. He and nine others who were not named were released from prison after the verdicts were announced, according to Saudi Arabia's state-run Al-Ekhabariya TV channel.

After holding nine sessions, the trial concluded that there was no previous intent to murder, according to state TV. The trial was attended by a handful of diplomats, but closed to the press and wider public.

Agencies

Victims of Nanjing Massacre relive their experience and call for peace

This year marked the 82nd anniversary of the Nanjing Massacre, a six-week mass murder and mass rape committed by the Japanese invaders that began on December 13, 1937.

A memorial for the victims of the Nanjing Massacre will be held in Nanjing, the capital of East China's Jiangsu Province on Friday, December 13, which is the sixth national memorial since December 13 was set as a national anniversary in 2014.

Only 78 survivors from the mass massacre are still alive after two of them died on December 4 and 5, according to a video released by The Memorial Hall of the Victims in Nanjing Massacre by Japanese

Invaders.

With the passing of these survivors who witnessed the brutal and inhuman incidents, their descendants have taken over the responsibility of passing down the memories from the mass massacre to future generations and the world.

"I am Ma Xiuying, 97, a survivor of the Nanjing Massacre, and this is my great granddaughter, Ma Wenqian," Ma introduced in a video released by The Memorial Hall.

The Japanese invaders killed Ma's third brother, and they stabbed her in the leg.

"My great grandmother was 16 when the Japanese invaders occupied Nanjing," said Ma Wenqian,

adding that "My great grandmother's third brother was captured by the Japanese army, and she was stabbed in the leg when she and her mother were trying to save her brother."

As the fourth generation of the survivors, Ma Wenqian worked as a volunteer instructor in The Memorial Hall during her freshman year of college.

"I will explain the history of this event when I am asked by some friends in other cities, allowing them to know that a blood covered tragedy once took place in this city," Ma Wenqian said.

"Although the miserable history is something in the past, it left profound lessons that shouldn't be

forgotten," said Pu Chuanjin, son of Pu Yeliang, another survivor of the Massacre.

"We love peace, and I hope the younger generations value a happy life today and safeguard the peace," Pu Chuanjin said.

Pu Chuanjin's father was captured by the Japanese invaders and was forced to do hard labor for them.

"Japanese invaders captured my father and a young man, who was shot dead by a Japanese soldier when he was trying to escape, and my father was forced to do hard labor for them," said Pu Yeliang.

Ma Tingbao, 84, hid in a refugee camp together with his family

when the Japanese army invaded Nanjing on December 13, 1937.

"One day, the Japanese invaded the refugee camp to capture young people," said Ma Minglan, daughter of Ma Tingbao.

Japanese invaders took these young people to a wharf with a truck, and killed all of them, including Ma Minglan's grandfather.

"My father's heart still has open wounds from the war and he told us over and over again that this event in history should never be forgotten, especially in the good times when our country is stronger."

Xia Shuqin survived the Massacre as she passed out after being stabbed three times, but seven of

her nine family members were brutally killed by the Japanese invaders. Her granddaughter Xia Yuan shared the experience to the world on behalf of her grandmother.

"My grandmother is 90 years old, and the heavy responsibility of narrating history has been transferred to my generation," said Xia Yuan. "It is not passing down hatred, but that period of history just left so much pain and scarred us deeply. Only these memories can keep us from meeting the same disastrous fate again."

Although the truth of the Nanjing Massacre has been proved by irrefutable evidences and ac-

cepted by Japanese and Western societies, it is still waiting for the long overdue acknowledgement from some right-wing politicians in Japan.

The memories from the Nanjing Massacre are the memories of families, a country and the world.

The Memorial Hall of the Victims in Nanjing Massacre by Japanese Invaders had compiled the information from family trees of 761 descendants of 82 survivors by the end of November, and the information has been synchronized into a database.

Among them, 396 are male and 365 are female, and the eldest descendant of the survivors is 79.

Global Times



Simba SC forward, Medie Kagere (L), challenges Arusha FC defenders when the sides met in a third round clash of this year's Federation Cup, held at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. Simba won 6-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Russia accuses doping whistleblower of modifying key data

BY JAMES ELLINGWORTH

RUSSIA is blaming the World Anti-Doping Agency's star witness for modifying key laboratory data. His lawyer says that's nonsense.

The Russian Investigative Committee, a major law enforcement agency, alleges that former Moscow anti-doping laboratory director Grigory Rodchenkov remotely changed test results from abroad after fleeing to the United States in 2015.

"All the evidence obtained by the investigation shows that Rodchenkov and unidentified persons intentionally made changes in the electronic database to distort the parameters and indicators of Russian athletes' doping samples," Russian Investigative Committee (IC) spokeswoman Svetlana Petrenko said in a statement Saturday.

Since leaving Russia, Rodchenkov has become a key witness for WADA, which ruled this month that the doping data – known as the LIMS database – was doctored to protect Russian athletes who failed drug tests while the data was in the custody of the IC.

Handing over the files in January was meant to be a Russian peace offering which could uncover past doping offenses involving star Russian athletes. It's turned into another legal battleground in the saga nearly six years on from Russia hosting the Winter Olympics in Sochi.

Rodchenkov's lawyer told the AP the new allegation against his client is a "farce."

"Rodchenkov could not and did not log into the LIMS database," Jim Walden told The Associated Press. "We are not aware of anyone else that logged in. The point is that this is all a charade."

WADA this month banned Russia from next year's Tokyo Olympics over the data manipulation, though Russian athletes can still compete as neutrals.

The IC alleges the data was edited from abroad in 2015 and 2016, but hasn't fully explained WADA's allegation that there were thousands of changes made in the weeks before Russia handed over the data archive in January 2019. WADA says the changes were aimed at removing incriminating evidence against Russia. The IC's Petrenko said that "access to this data by laboratory staff could not have been restricted due to the ongoing operation of the laboratory."

Her statement also doesn't address another key WADA claim, that false messages implicating Rodchenkov in corruption were spliced into the data archive.

Before the handover, WADA had its own copy of the database for comparison, provided in secret by an unnamed whistleblower. Russia says the source was Rodchenkov, something his lawyer denies.

Petrenko protested that "foreign partners" hadn't made Rodchenkov available for questioning.

"This is just another Russian lie," Walden told the AP. "They know where I am. I haven't received a single request for an interview."

With Russia planning a legal challenge to WADA's sporting sanctions, the next step for Rodchenkov could be testifying at the Court of Arbitration for Sport in the spring. His lawyer said he's ready.

"If WADA or any other agency needs Grigory to testify, Grigory will uphold his promise to cooperate fully to help atone for his role," Walden said.



Mara's Mwiringo Primary School's pupils sing at a commemoration of the school's 50th anniversary, which took place at Busambara Ward in Musoma recently. Several education stakeholders, among others, the former teachers and pupils, attended the ceremony PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Nuggets beat LeBron-less Lakers 128-104 for 6th win in row

LOS ANGELES

BUOYED by a perfect five-game homestand, the Denver Nuggets hit the road and kept on winning.

Paul Millsap scored 21 points and the Nuggets dominated the second half in defeating the Los Angeles Lakers, who were without LeBron James, 128-104 on Sunday night for their sixth win in a row.

"Our last homestand gave us confidence to come on the road and win," Millsap said. "We have so many weapons."

The Nuggets had six players in double figures. Gary Harris added 19 points, Nikola Jokic had 18 points, Malik Beasley had 16 points and Will Barton III had 14 points and a career-high-tying 13 rebounds for the Nuggets, who pulled away to a 23-point lead early in the fourth.

"It feels good to get a win in L.A. even if LeBron wasn't playing," Jokic said.

James missed his first game of the season because of a thoracic

muscle strain. That left the Lakers without his 25.8 point average and 10.6 assists.

"It's kind of hard to next-man-up LeBron," said Kyle Kuzma, the only other Laker in double figures with 16 points. "He does so much. Shots come easier when he's on the floor because everyone just looks at him."

With James looking on in street clothes, Anthony Davis did his best to make up for it with 32 points and 11 rebounds. He scored 11 points playing all 12 minutes of the first quarter.

"It's tough when he's out but we still got to find ways to win," Davis said. "We lost our energy defensively. We got to continue to defend and once we get that edge back we'll be fine."

Davis slipped and tweaked his right leg in the third quarter, but felt good enough to play 7 1/2 minutes in the fourth.

"Hopefully nothing significant happens," he said.

The Lakers can't afford to have Davis go down at the same time as James with a

Christmas game against the Clippers looming. The Western Conference-leading Lakers have lost three in a row since winning seven straight.

Kuzma returned after missing five games with a sprained left ankle.

"This is probably the healthiest I've been all season," he said. "Just got to get my legs back a little bit."

Millsap was questionable to play because of a left knee contusion, but he consistently scored with Davis and Kuzma in the lineup late in the second quarter. His 3-pointer put the Nuggets up 55-53 at the break.

Denver scored 73 points in the second half while holding the Lakers to 51 points.

"It was the best game we've had from start to finish this season," Nuggets coach Michael Malone said. "Our starters played well and our second unit played outstanding. When we do that we are hard to beat."

The Lakers successfully challenged a goaltending call

against Davis midway through the third that took a basket away from the Nuggets. But Denver responded with a 23-11 run to take a 91-78 lead into the fourth. Seven players scored during the spurt, led by Millsap with seven.

"We came out more aggressive in the second half and got rebounds and knocked down our shots and played excellent defense," Millsap said.

The Nuggets opened the fourth with a 17-7 run with Harris and Beasley doing all the scoring that gave them a 108-85 lead. Beasley had nine points, making two 3-pointers, and Harris had eight.

"We played a great team basketball game," Jokic said.

Meanwhile, in Oklahoma City, Paul George's return to Oklahoma City was spoiled by a player the Thunder got back when they traded him.

Shai Gilgeous-Alexander matched his career high with 32 points and the Oklahoma City Thunder rallied to beat the Los Angeles Clippers 118-112 on Sunday night.

George, who finished third in the MVP voting last season, was sent to the Clippers for Gilgeous-Alexander and Danilo Gallinari in a deal that began the restructuring of the Thunder roster. George was cheered when he was introduced during the starting lineups.

"It was great," he said. "It made me feel appreciated, just being here. I enjoyed my time here."

George scored 18 points, but he made just 6 of 17 shots and had five turnovers. Gilgeous-Alexander made 12 of 25 field goals.

Oklahoma City trailed by 18 points in the second quarter, making it the third time in seven days the Thunder overcame a deficit that big to win. This time, the victory came against the No. 2 team in the Western Conference standings.

"That's a really good team over there," Thunder guard Chris Paul said. "Obviously, they've been in all type of different situations. It's good. It's really good, especially the way we were down in the first half."



Los Angeles Lakers guard Troy Daniels, front and Denver Nuggets center Mason Plumlee hit the floor for a loose ball during the second half of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Dec. 22, 2019, in Los Angeles. The Nuggets won 128-104. (AP Photo)

Saudi Arabia cuts loose with bevy of models and a rave

DIRIYAH, SAUDI ARABIA

SUPERMODELS and social media mavens, their makeup artists and hair stylists in tow, posed at a concert in leather pants, chunky sweaters and trendy black combat boots. What was unusual about these Instagram posts was that they were all deliberately tagged in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.

The bevy of Instagram stars, former Victoria's Secret models, including Alessandra Ambrosio, and Hollywood actors like Ryan Phillippe, Ed Westwick and Wilmer Valderrama were invited to Saudi Arabia over the weekend to promote the kingdom's most eye-popping effort yet at showcasing the dramatic changes taking hold in this country, where more than half of its 20 million citizens are under 25 years old.

The efforts are aimed at boosting the economy while polishing Saudi Arabia's image abroad and appealing

to the young. It's a staggering pivot from just three years ago, when religious police would storm restaurants playing music and harass women in malls for showing their face or wearing red nail polish.

Now, the kingdom has movie theaters and concerts. Women are allowed to drive and travel without male permission, and they can sit with men, unsegregated at restaurants. The kingdom began issuing tourist visas this year. Female visitors are not required to wear the conservative black-flowing robe known as the abaya and headscarves in public.

At Riyadh airport, a booth welcomes tourists with pamphlets on etiquette in Saudi Arabia, labeled "Our Code of Conduct."

"Both men and women are asked to dress modestly in public, avoiding tight fitting clothing," it explains. "Women should cover their

shoulders and knees in public."

Apparently, not all the V.I.P. guests flown to Saudi Arabia on private jets got the memo – some opted for stomach-baring bralettes under open coats.

The blast of glossy social media posts helped draw attention to the visit's purpose – to promote MDL Beast, a three-day musical extravaganza in Riyadh that drew more than 130,000 visitors on its first day alone, according to the General Entertainment Authority. Ticket prices started at just 75 riyals (\$20), but organizers were eager to ensure a big turnout so tickets were also handed out for free to some government employees.

More than 70 world-renowned DJs were invited to perform across five stages to the backdrop of surrealist performances – including one with a woman in a skintight sky blue leotard writhing from a hot air balloon over

a crowd of young Saudi men.

Men and women cut loose and danced at the unprecedented rave-like event. Thousands waited for hours to get in.

A popular social media account, Diet Prada, named and shamed some of the celebrities present, accusing them of allegedly accepting six-figure sums for attendance and geo-tagged posts to "rehabilitate the image of Saudi Arabia."

Earlier this year, hip-hop star Nicki Minaj pulled out of performing in the kingdom over concerns about women's rights, gay rights and freedom of expression.

When asked by The Associated Press, the entertainment authority that licensed MDL Beast said some people had been compensated for promoting the event, but denied such high sums were paid to individuals.

While the social changes ushered in by Crown Prince Mohammed bin

Salman have been sweeping, so too is his crackdown on criticism and political expression. The prince has overseen the country's war in Yemen, which has led to the world's worst humanitarian crisis, and the arrest of women's rights activists, clerics and writers.

He's also drawn international condemnation for the killing of Saudi writer and Washington Post columnist Jamal Khashoggi in Turkey, slaughtered by Saudi agents inside the Saudi Consulate in Istanbul last year.

The incident tarnished Prince Mohammed's international image though his popularity is undeniable at home.

"The changes are really incredible and, God willing, we are heading toward even more," said Mona Hassan, a mother out with her grown daughters at a family-friendly carnival in Diriyah, near Riyadh. "We

are with Mohammed bin Salman wherever he takes us and whatever happens."

The fully veiled Hassan said she wasn't raised on this kind of entertainment, but has no problem with her kids enjoying it.

Saad al-Otaibi, who traveled 300 kilometers (186 miles) from al-Duwaidmi to attend the Diriyah festival, wanted to ensure it was family-friendly and affordable before bringing his wife and kids.

"All the changes are positive, not negative," he said. "But one comment is that the prices are expensive," he said, repeating a refrain others have quipped about on Twitter.

The Diriyah festival, which opened a month ago, has included sporting events like the world's heavyweight boxing championship.

Solskjaer says 'no excuses' after Man Utd implode against Watford

WATFORD, UNITED KINGDOM

OLE Gunnar Solskjaer said there were "no excuses" after Manchester United collapsed to a humiliating 2-0 defeat against Premier League bottom side Watford on Sunday following a David de Gea howler.

The chastening pre-Christmas loss comes after a six-match unbeaten spell that included morale-boosting wins against Tottenham and Manchester City and leaves United languishing in eighth place in the Premier League.

Not even the returning Paul Pogba could save his misfiring team, who again struggled to impose themselves against one of the league's lesser lights.

The key moment came in the 50th minute when De Gea somehow allowed a tame effort from Ismaila Sarr to creep through his hands and in at the near post.

Watford doubled their lead four minutes later when Troy Deeney fired home from the penalty spot after the otherwise impressive Aaron Wan-Bissaka brought down Sarr with a misjudged sliding tackle.

"I'm very disappointed because we have to get more points against teams, like today," said Solskjaer.

"I'm sure they were low in confidence because they must be when you're bottom of the table.

"We were high in confidence because we've done well lately but it just wasn't there. There was no intent or urgency to make us deserve to win the game."

"There's no excuses at all," he added. "We prepared well and there's nothing I can put my finger on."

Nigel Pearson coaxed a battling performance from Watford in his first home game in charge and they deservedly won just their second league match of the season to give themselves hope of survival.

But for United it was another story of failing to make the most

of their domination of possession.

Under Solskjaer, they have won 73 percent of the Premier League games in which they have had less possession than their opponents, compared to just 36 percent when they have enjoyed more.

There was no hint of the drama to come in a largely uneventful first half.

Anthony Martial scuffed a shot wide as United, backed by vocal away support, enjoyed the bulk of early possession while Watford looked a threat when they came forward.

The away side looked certain to take the lead in the 34th minute when Jesse Lingard was put through on goal by Martial but the midfielder's chip landed on the roof of Ben Foster's net.

- Watford stun United -

The game slipped from United's grasp early in the second half.

Will Hughes sent a free kick into the area and the ball fell to Sarr, who did not hit it cleanly but somehow the ball wriggled through De Gea's gloves.

United did not properly recover before Wan-Bissaka's foul enabled Deeney to make it 2-0 from the penalty spot.

Solskjaer threw on Mason Greenwood, Pogba and Juan Mata in a desperate search for some inspiration.

Foster denied Pogba and Marcus Rashford late on as Watford claimed a first home win of the season to move level with Norwich City in 19th on 12 points -- still six points from safety.

"It was important after last week's performance at Liverpool that we tried to emulate the positive aspects," said Pearson, whose side impressed despite losing 2-0 at Anfield.

"I didn't think we played quite as well as we did last week but the work ethic of the team was exceptionally good today," he added.

AFP

Milan humbled 5-0 at Atalanta, worst league loss in 21 years

MILAN

AC Milan slumped to its biggest Serie A defeat in 21 years as it was humiliated 5-0 at Atalanta on Sunday.

It was only the fourth time Milan had lost a Serie A game by a five-goal margin, with the last time coming in May 1998 against Roma.

"We got our whole interpretation of the match wrong, we faced it in the wrong way and it became difficult to change our attitude," Milan coach Stefano Pioli said. "On a tactical level, a technical level and a physical level Atalanta was better than us."

"This is a defeat which really hurts. We are responsible for our performance and today we played well below our level. A game like this should not be allowed to happen. We have to put in performances on the pitch worthy of the shirt that we wear."

Atalanta moved into fifth place, four points behind Roma and the final Champions League berth, heading into the winter break. Milan is 10 points behind Atalanta and down in 11th.

Atalanta broke the deadlock in the 10th minute through Alejandro "Papu" Gomez but it wasn't until after the hour that the floodgates opened.

Mario Pasalic scored against his former team in the 61st and Josip Ilicic made it 3-0 two minutes later.

Ilicic doubled his tally as Milan fell apart and substitute Luis Muriel sealed the humiliation five minutes after coming off the bench.

In a weekend of contrasting fortunes, Inter Milan beat relegation-threatened Genoa 4-0 on Saturday

to move level on points with Juventus at the top of the Serie A table heading into the winter break. The league resumes on Jan. 5.

FIRST POINTS
Napoli coach Gennaro Gattuso picked up his first points in charge of the southern-based club as it won 2-1 at Sassuolo - but it needed an own-goal in stoppage time to do so.

Pedro Obiang tried to clear the ball from Napoli midfielder Eljif Elmas but succeeded only in turning it into his own net.

It was Napoli's first league win in nine matches.

Gattuso had lost his first match as Napoli coach last week against Parma and his side was poor in the first half on Sunday.

Napoli was lucky only to be 1-0 down at halftime. Sassuolo teenager Hamed Junior Traore had scored his second goal in as many matches, volleying in from a tight angle.

The visitors improved after the interval and Allan leveled in the 57th with a swiveling shot.

Napoli forward Jose Callejon hit the crossbar and had a goal ruled out late on.

Obiang had also hit the woodwork earlier before scoring at the wrong end.

OTHER MATCHES
Parma midfielder Alberto Grassi scored a stoppage-time equalizer to secure a 1-1 draw and prevent Brescia from spending the winter break out of the relegation zone.

Mario Balotelli had come off the bench to break the deadlock.

Brescia managed to cut the gap to safety to one point after Lecce lost 3-2 at home to Bologna.

AP

Football racism inquiry call after Spurs-Chelsea clash halted

LONDON

THE Professional Footballers' Association called for a government inquiry into racism in football after Chelsea's 2-0 Premier League win at Tottenham on Sunday was marred by alleged racist comments from the crowd, the latest in a string of recent incidents.

Chelsea manager Frank Lampard said the problem needed "to be dealt with strongly" and Tottenham promised "a thorough investigation" after referee Anthony Taylor halted play during the second half when Antonio Rudiger complained of hearing monkey noises from spectators.

Chelsea manager Frank Lampard said the problem needed "to be dealt with strongly" and Tottenham promised "a thorough investigation" after referee Anthony Taylor halted play during the second half when Antonio Rudiger complained of hearing monkey noises from spectators.

Moments earlier the Chelsea defender had been involved in a second-half clash with Son Heung-min that saw the South Korean sent off.

Shortly after the stoppage, an announcement made over the public address system warned that "racist behaviour among spectators is interfering with the game" and Taylor spoke to both managers, Lampard and Jose Mourinho.

Two further public address announcements followed after play was resumed.

"It's just such a shame that racism still exists in 2019. When will this nonsense stop?" Rudiger tweeted.

"There must be witnesses" - "I really hope that the offenders will be found and punished soon, and in such a modern football ground like the Tottenham Hotspur Stadium with dozens of TV and security cameras, it must be possible to find and subsequently punish them."

"If not, then there must have been witnesses in the stadium who saw and heard the incident."

The PFA said in a statement late Sunday: "We are disgusted and dis-



Antonio Rudiger

mayed that once again, a Premier League fixture has been tainted by abuse from the stands towards players.

"It has become clear that football players are on the receiving end of the blatant racism that is currently rife in the UK, but they are not alone."

"Racist abuse in football is not just an issue for black and ethnic minority players, it is an issue for everyone who loves the game."

"The PFA calls for a government inquiry into racism and the rise in hate crime within football."

- Rising problem -

Two weeks ago a man was identified and arrested for an alleged racist gesture caught on TV cameras during the Manchester derby between City and United, while an Italy's Serie A apologised last week after an anti-

racism campaign featuring posters with images of monkeys was widely condemned.

UEFA chief Aleksander Ceferin earlier this month pledged European football's governing body was working to tackle the rising problem after a spate of incidents across the continent including the hurling of racist abuse at England players during a match in Bulgaria.

But Ceferin accused British Prime Minister Boris Johnson of fuelling the problem.

"When a politician that calls women with burqas post boxes or mailboxes then says publicly that he condemns you UEFA (for not tackling racism) -- do you reply to that? Do you believe it's honest? Come on," said Ceferin.

Former Manchester United player

Gary Neville also accused top UK politicians.

"We've just had a general election in this country with both main parties and the leaders of both main parties accused constantly of fuelling racism and accepting racism in their parties," said Neville on Sky Sports.

"If it's accepted in the highest office in the country, we're not talking at a micro-level."

"Maybe we have to empower the players to walk off the pitch and stop the entertainment while it is happening," he added.

- 'Accepted in highest level' -

The ugly scenes overshadowed the Willian double that gave Lampard a memorable triumph at the expense of his former Chelsea manager Mourinho.

Lampard insisted there was never any question of his team leaving the pitch in protest.

"Of course, we know there is a protocol," he said. "It needs to be dealt with strongly."

Tottenham manager Mourinho condemned racism but still took a swipe at Rudiger, accusing him of play-acting by clutching his ribs to get Son sent off.

"I hate racism in society, I hate racism in football. I'm disappointed that things like that can happen. The club is a very proud club in this kind of situation and internally we will try to deal with it," he said.

Lampard outwitted his old boss so effectively that Chelsea dominated from start to finish.

Willian's superb opener was followed by a clinical penalty from the Brazilian as Chelsea held onto fourth place and moved six points clear of seventh-placed Tottenham.

AFP

Real Madrid enters winter break 2 points behind leader Barca

BARCELONA, SPAIN

REAL Madrid finished 2019 with growing concerns over its attack and trailing Barcelona by two points as the Spanish league starts its winter break.

Zinedine Zidane will face questions about Madrid's scoring slump after it was held 0-0 at home by a tame Athletic Bilbao on Sunday. The slip at the Santiago Bernabeu came after drawing 1-1 at Valencia and 0-0 at Barcelona over the past week.

One goal in three matches is a paltry return for one of the richest clubs in the world.

"Having had so many chances, we are a bit angry at ourselves, but this is football," Zidane said. "In the last three games we have had many scoring chances but few goals. I don't think it is bad luck or a lack of killer instinct. The important thing is that we are creating chances. We will keep that up and the goals will come."

The league resumes in the first week of January.

MISSED OPPORTUNITIES
Madrid dominated possession but the goalkeeping of Unai Simon, the woodwork, and the lack of a scoring touch saved Bilbao.

Toni Kroos, Nacho Fernandez, and Luka Jovic all sent shots off the goalframe for the hosts.

Simon stopped Vinicius Junior in front of his goal after the young Brazilian had cut back around the final defender in the game's first scoring opportunity in the 12th minute. Vinicius squandered two more opportunities, not cleanly connecting with Luka Modric's cross before he failed to control a loose ball in the goalmouth.

Simon deflected Kroos' point-blank effort in the 19th onto the crossbar after Bilbao's passive back line had let him advance through the box. Simon also saved shots on goal from Karim Benzema.

Bilbao's attack consisted in the rare long ball won by Inaki Williams or a quick counterattack. Williams had Bilbao's only threat saved by Thibaut Courtois in the 20th.

Fernandez smashed a header off the crossbar in the 59th shortly after replacing Eder Militao, who injured his right eye. Late substitute Jovic headed off the base of the post with



Athletic Bilbao's goalkeeper Unai Simon, right, saves as Real Madrid's Toni Kroos tries to score during a Spanish La Liga soccer match between Real Madrid and Athletic Bilbao at the Santiago Bernabeu stadium in Madrid, Spain, Sunday Dec. 22, 2019. (AP Photo)

four minutes remaining.

"It was a hard-earned point," Simon said. "We were helped by the woodwork, but we did a good job and I think we did enough to deserve the draw."

Bilbao is in seventh place, immediately above Valencia.

CORREA'S SPARK

Angel Correa again proved to be Atletico Madrid's ideal substitute when he went on in the second half to score one goal and set up another in a 2-1 win at Real Betis.

Atletico's first victory in

six league games on the

road left it in fourth place and seven points behind Barcelona. Sevilla is third.

Correa's first touch of the ball intercepted a pass from Alex Moreno and left him alone to round Betis goalkeeper Joel Robles and net the 58th-minute opener.

The Argentina forward then passed for Alvaro Morata who used the inside of his right boot to redirect Correa's low cross past Robles with six minutes to play.

Marc Bartra scored for

Betis in injury time.

Atletico coach Diego Simeone praised Correa for his ability to come off the bench and revitalize the team.

"I don't like the word 'supersub,' since he is an important player for us and has started matches, but when he comes off the bench he knows what to do. He has something special," Simeone said.

STAYING CLOSE

Real Sociedad withstood an attempted comeback by 10-man Osasuna to earn a 4-3 away victory that kept

it one point behind Atletico in fifth place.

Sociedad led by three goals after Mikel Oyarzabal, Cristian "Portu" Portu-gues, and Martin Odegaard all scored in the opening half hour.

But Osasuna rallied to 3-2 before defender Facundo Roncaglia was sent off with a direct red card for elbowing an opponent in the face with 20 minutes left. Substitute Alexander Isak made it 4-2.

Chimy Avila scored his second goal for Osasuna with an excellent solo effort, lifting the ball over a defender and heading it into the corner of the net in the 84th.

AT THE BOTTOM

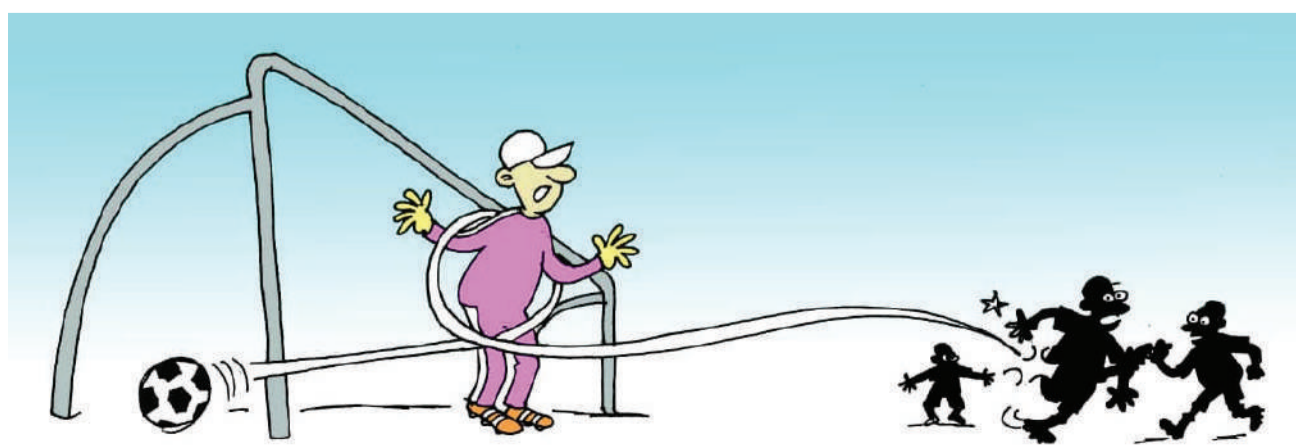
Celta Vigo stayed in the relegation zone after Levante got two goals from Roger Marti to erase Iago Aspas' opener and rally for a 3-1 win at home.

Espanyol lost 2-0 at Leganes in a clash between the bottom two teams in the league.

Last-place Espanyol is three points behind Leganes and five points from safety.

AP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Football racism inquiry call after Spurs-Chelsea clash halted

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

TONIGHT @21:00

TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ (live)
13:30 Kati Za Wana
14:00 Dakika 10 Za Maangamzi
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SLEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 Nirvana
21:30 Wakilisha
22:00 Grace Na Asili Yangu
22:30 Bongo Hits

NIRVANA is hip and edgy. It explores the latest trends in fashion, art, style and recreational activities. **NIRVANA** speaks to the trend makers, shapers and observers. It's a one stop shop for everything trendy.

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Simba SC players ought to work harder- coach



Simba SC players, Tyrone Santos (L) and Gerson Fraga, celebrate after the latter had netted for the outfit in this year's Azam Sports Federation Cup's clash against Arusha FC, which took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. Simba won 6-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

By Correspondent Joseph

Mchekadona

SIMBA SC head coach, Sven Vandenbroeck, has disclosed that he was not fully impressed by his side's performance against Arusha FC in the Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC)'s third round clash, which was held at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

Simba won 6-0 against Arusha FC, which features in First Division League (FDL), and the Belgian tactician who sat on the Msimbazi Street-based side bench for the first time demanded more from his side.

In a post-match media briefing, Vandenbroeck said he was happy with the results, but said his squad's overall performance was not that impressive

and demanded more from his charges.

The coach said he will work on some few weaknesses which he saw.

He said he although his outfit came up against a lower side, there are many things which he has observed and he will work

on them for his team to be at their best.

"We had control of the game. With the performance of the team I can say I'm happy, but this is just one game, I saw some problems which I will work on before our next assignments," he said.

The coach further said his fo-

cus is now on the coming Vodacom Premier League and Federation Cup matches.

He also disclosed that he has not met with his club's entire squad since some of the players were among members of Mainland Tanzania soccer team, Kilimanjaro Stars, which took part in this year's Senior Challenge Cup in Kampala.

He noted once he meets all players he will have a good picture of the team.

Some of Simba players, who were with Kilimanjaro Stars in the just ended regional competition, include Aishi Manula, Gadiel Michael, Mohammed Hussein, Miraji Athuman, Jonas Mkude, Erasto Nyoni and Said Ndemla.

In the Sunday match against Arusha FC, Simba scored through Clatous Chama, Gerson Fraga, Deo Kanda, Ibrahim Ajibu, Meddie Kagere and Francis Kahata who netted one goal each.

The goals helped Simba post comprehensive win and stand a good chance of being among the ASFC title contenders.

On his remarks, Arusha FC head coach Juma Masoud congratulated Simba SC for the win and said the results is a true reflection of his side.

He said his club did not prepare well ahead of the encounter. "This is what we deserved, we did not prepare well to face them (Simba)... I'm wishing them all the best," he said.

Kili Marathon early discounting almost ending

By Guardian Reporter

AS the Christmas holiday is here, organizers of the next year's Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon have reminded participants that they have less than a month to enjoy the early discounting period, which will see the runners pay less if they register before January 15, 2020.

A statement issued by the organizers said registration is going on online and through Tigopesa hence participants should continue registering to assure themselves of the race numbers and also get a discount during the mentioned period.

According to the statement, participants can register through either the race website www.kilimanjaronmarathon.com or Tigopesa by dialing *149*20#.

In the statement, the local Race Director, John Bayo, advised that numbers will be limited again across all three races (Kilimanjaro Premium Lager 42km, Tigo 21km and Grand Malt 5km Fun Run) to ensure the event sticks within the official IAAF regulations of a safe carrying capacity.

This according to Bayo will ensure runners enjoy their time out on route without being overcrowded. Organizers, he noted, can also ensure they get all logistics in terms of the hydration and medical support needed on route and



Tanzanian athlete Emmanuel Giniki touches the finish line of 21 kilometers race, popularly known as Tigo Kili Half Marathon, while receiving hype from the crowd shortly before he was declared a winner of the past edition of the race held in Moshi, Kilimanjaro PHOTO:

at the finish in line with the numbers expected.

On early discounting, the organizers reminded participants that the early discounting has been running from October 1, 2019 to January 14, 2020.

For Tanzanians and East African citizens, they will pay 15,000/- for 42km and 21km races and 5,000/- for 5km between those dates and from January 15, 2020 to February 16, 2020 they

will pay 20,000/- for 42km and 21 km and 5000/- for 5km.

For Tanzanian residents/permit holders and SADC members they will pay USD 35 for 42km and 21km and 5 USD from October 1 2019 to January 14, 2020 but as from January 15, 2020 to February 16, 2020 they will pay to USD 45 for 42km and 21km and USD 5 for 5km.

International runners

will pay USD 70 for 42km and 21km and USD 5 for 5km from October 1, 2019 to January 14, 2020 and from January 15, 2020 to February 16, 2020 they will pay USD 85 for 42km and 21km and USD 5 for 5km.

According to the organizers, entries will close at midnight on February 16, 2020 or earlier, if capacity is reached.

They also reminded runners to ensure they

fetch their race numbers in advance of the event, at one of the collection points that will again be hosted in Arusha, Dar es Salaam and Kilimanjaro.

Dar es Salaam's Mlimani City Mall will host the exercise from February 22-23, 2020, - Dar es Salaam, the exercise will later will take place at Kibo Palace Hotel in Arusha from February 25-26, next year, and at Keys Hotel in Moshi, from

February 27-28 next year.

"Proof of identity and confirmation of paid entries need to be brought to these points when collecting your race numbers," read the statement in part.

The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Brand Manager, Pamela Kikuli, called on participants of the 42km to go for their numbers early enough and train hard for the challenging race.

"We want the prices to remain home hence Tanzanians should register in numbers," she said.

Kilimanjaro Premium Lager is the main sponsor of the marathon and has held that position since the inception of the marathon 18 years ago.

Official sponsors for next year's event include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager, TIGO, Grand Malt, Kilimanjaro Water, TPC Limited, Simba Cement and, Barclays Bank while.

The race's the official suppliers are Kibo Palace Hotel, Keys Hotel, Garda-World Security, Precision Air, CMC Automobiles.

Next year's race will take place at the Moshi Cooperatives University venue on be on March 1, 2020.

It will play host to the IAAF route measured 42km and 21km races, and 5km Fun Run.

The event is organized by Wild Frontiers and locally coordinated by Executive Solutions Limited.

New Zealand's Boulton says ready for second test after bowling against New Zealand

MELBOURNE

NEW Zealand received a boost on Monday with Trent Boulton appearing to be back to full fitness from a rib injury as he bowled against his own team mates in a warm-up match ahead of the second test against Australia.

The left-arm pace spearhead missed the 296-run first test loss to Tim Paine's side in Perth after sustaining the injury in New Zealand's previous series against England.

However, the 30-year-old proved in a warm-up game on Sunday that he was ready to take the new ball again on Thursday when his side return to the MCG for their first test since 1987.

Boulton turned out for a Victoria XI against his team mates, bowling 11 overs for 23 runs and snaring the wicket of opening batsman Tom Latham.

"I was a proud representative of Victoria yesterday. It was good fun and nice to get some overs under my belt, field for a bit, and get some time in my legs," Boulton told reporters on Monday.

"It's all going well, I feel like I've ticked the right boxes in terms of my rehab and preparations, and I'm looking forward to getting out there."

"It was more about rhythm and loading from my point of view."

Latham said his team mate was back to his old self, welcome news for New Zealand as they look to level the three-match series.

"Boulton is tracking pretty well and he was running in pretty hard," he said.

"He was his usual self in the nets the other day, bouncing around, which is a good sign. It's great to have the quality of Trent come back into the side."

New Zealand's preparations for the test were disrupted due to extreme heat in Melbourne with one day of their warm-up match against the Victoria XI abandoned before play began.

The MCG pitch will be scrutinised heavily after a first-class game between Western Australia and Victoria was abandoned earlier this month because it was considered dangerous.

Groundsman Matt Page, however, told reporters on Monday the wicket for the Boxing Day test would be a fair contest between bat and ball and Boulton said he was looking forward to seeing how it played.

"We're probably expecting something definitely different in terms of the wicket here, from how it's played over the last few years," he said.

"From my point of view, I'm going to be looking to pitch the ball up, swing it around and hopefully get some wickets that way."

REUTERS

Flexibles by David Chikoko

