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National Pg 2
TABD pledges govt cooperation



National Pg 3
Huge cocaine, heroin haul sized



National Pg 5
ICT centre planned for Dodoma



National Pg 6
Govt highlights need for girls' health



President Samia Suluhu Hassan joined by Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (2nd L seated), Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (2nd R), the Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments) Umy Mwalimu (R) and Deputy Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (L) in a group photograph with regional administrative secretaries moments after swearing them into their posts at the Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: State House

Investments: Samia urges good sense, not just laws

By Correspondent James Kandoya

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday reminded senior administrative officials to use good sense to boost investments, instead of being held back by law provisions. She made this remark when addressing senior administrative officials for various regions, cautioning them to undertake their duties diligently, as she will not tolerate underperformance.

The president said she was aware that those entrusted with such positions at local government levels abuse such positions, like arrogating land for their own use against interests of people in those areas. Instead of sorting out conflicts they seek to acquiring large parcels of land and thus enter into the cycle of endless land disputes, she cautioned. "One among your duties will be to resolve land disputes in your respective areas. My

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'COVID-19 recovery aims at reinventing the growth model'

By Guardian Reporter

RECOVERY from the COVID-19 pandemic provides an opportunity to drive a new growth model for the African continent, the 2021 Ibrahim Forum Report has declared. The report which looks at the economic impact of the pandemic in the continent after one year was launched yesterday by the Mo Ibrahim Foundation in a networked conference, ahead of the 2021 Ibrahim Governance Weekend (IGW). It presents new analysis on challenges facing the continent as exposed by the pandemic, including weak health capacities, setbacks in human development, rising instability and a vulnerable economic growth model, analysts said. The comprehensive report on the impact of COVID-19 across the continent serves as an urgent wake-up call, pointing out clear avenues where Africa could 'build back better.' Sudanese investor Mo Ibrahim, the founder and chairman of the Mo Ibrahim Foundation, said that Africa has demonstrated strong leadership in its response to COVID-19. "However, the data also shows where we are falling short. We now have an opportunity to harness

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LNG plant: 70.5trn/-, five years pact inked

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE construction of the much-anticipated Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) plant is now set to commence in July 2023 and complete in June 2028, the National Assembly heard yesterday. Tabling the 2021/22 budget estimates, Energy Minister Dr Medard Kalemani said the government has set aside 3bn/- for implementation of Host Government Agreement (HGA) negotiations and the Production Sharing Agreements (PSAs) to be pursued during the next financial year. "The cost of this project is estimated at \$30bn (70.5trn/-)," he said, lining up a number of strategic projects to be implemented during the next five years aimed at generating 5000 megawatts

In the third phase of the rural electrification drive will also be prioritised

to stock sufficient capacity for a major industrial drive countrywide. Tabling estimates, he said the ministry expects to spend 2,386trn/- on power projects, an increase of eight percent from last year's estimates. In the coming financial year, the ministry will implement strategic projects including the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project (2,115 MW), Ruhuji (358 MW), Somanga Fungu (330 MW) and Mtwara (300 MW). Yet others are Rumakali (222 MW), Kinerezi I (185 MW), Rusumo (80 MW) and Malagarasi (49MW), he elaborated. Apart from the projects, the government will continue to strengthen other energy sources including the North-West Grid Extension kV 400;

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MPs decry gender disparity at key hydropower project

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE Parliamentary Standing Committee on Energy and Minerals has cited gender inequality as among shortcomings in the implementation of the 2115 Mwalimu Julius Nyerere hydropower project. In its report tabled in the National Assembly yesterday, the committee found that out of the 7,132 workers employed in its various departments, only 263 (four per cent) are women. "Hiring of workers in various sections of the project did not consider gender balance, hence the small number of women who were hired," committee



chairman Dunstan Kitandula implementation of the project include poor roads leading to the site. Other challenges to the

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PROJECTS

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Foreign and Security Parliamentary Committee chairman Mussa Zungu (R) talks with European Union deputy ambassador Emilio Rossetti in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Parliament

TABD pledges to enhance cooperation with Agriculture ministry, says government

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TANZANIA Agricultural Development Bank (TABD) has pledged to enhance cooperation with the ministries of Agriculture and Livestock and Fisheries to ensure the aims of the ministries' budgets for FY 2021/2022 are attained to spur the country's economic growth.

Speaking here recently soon after the endorsement by the Parliament of the two ministries' budgets, TABD managing director Japhet Justine said the budgets aimed to make big improvements to the livestock and fisheries sectors, hence the Bank will continue cooperating in order to achieve the government goals to enable the country attain industrial economy by 2025.

He added that TABD has continued to provide loans to farmers, livestock keepers, fishermen through their cooperatives to satisfy the needs of many more people in the sectors to spur production increase.

"RADM has contributed in the 2020/21

budget implementation by issuing loans to improve value chains in the livestock and fisheries sectors that ensure goods produced from these sectors get reliable markets," said Justine.

He said his bank was able to issue the loans to investors in dairy industries as well as improving their infrastructures, the step that succeeded to create reliable market of milk from livestock keepers from the country's various areas.

Meanwhile, Justine said already TABD has empowered fishermen groups by providing them with loans via fishing boats, fish-drying barns as well as cold chain operations to ensure fish catches retain quality up to the markets.

Earlier, tabling his ministry's budget estimates in Parliament, the Livestock and Fisheries minister, Mashimba Ndaki said big achievements have been realised including if livestock populations in the country from 3

He said goats increased from 21.29 to 24.5 million and sheep from 5.65 to 8.5 million.

'COVID - 19 recovery aims at reinventing the growth model'

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lessons from the pandemic to build an African-led recovery," he stated.

Such a recovery must seek to champion good governance, strengthen continental integration and put young people at its centre, he elaborated, underlining that this will be the focus of the 2021 Ibrahim Governance Weekend "and I look forward to our discussions, involving voices from across Africa and beyond."

Using the latest data, the report provides a comprehensive picture of the Covid-19 impact across Africa, highlighting structural weaknesses in health and economic systems. It also explores how COVID-19 has deepened existing development and security challenges and is exacerbating a pre-existing youth unemployment crisis, economists noted.

However, the report also outlines the continent's strong and unified response to this crisis, and points to opportunities for African leadership to create lasting change for generations to come.

"An African-led recovery, underpinned by stronger continental integration, economic diversification, a green strategy and digital leapfrogging can pave the way for a more self-reliant, self-sufficient Africa," the report asserted.

Investments: Samia urges good sense, not just laws

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government will have no mercy on any of you found to be part of the problem," she said.

She emphasized that appointees must undertake their responsibilities diligently, as in doing so they will be promoting peace, speeding up development, increasing people's revenues and the national income.

These lines of precaution made the greater part of the president's address after swearing in recently-appointed Regional Administrative Secretaries (RAS), and a scatter of other top officials, including CEOs of the Fair Competition Commission (FCC) and the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF).

She made passing reference to the two appointments saying they were just swapping offices, but hinted at having detailed instructions for them for which an appointment at State House will be given to each of them, namely FCC Chief Executive Officer William Erio and the Director General of WCF, Dr John Mduma.

Others sworn in were the Director of Criminal Investigations (DCI) Commissioner of Police Camilius Wambura and the Commissioner of Police (Finance and Logistics) Hamad Khamis Hamad, whom the president said were well versed in those areas and ought to do a good job in their new functions.

President Samia also directed that public officials need to work using regular law enforcement procedures and not taskforce enforcement methods, so as to ensure that people get their rights.

"The law is at hand, make use of it and not otherwise, to fast track people's development," she stated, urging them to collaborate with public officials and political leaders in their zones of work as they are all implementing the CCM election manifesto even if they have different political persuasions for some of them.

She said top regional officials are responsible for all development projects taking place in their respective areas. "Go and inspect

to see whether it meets value for money and report to higher authorities," she pointedly insisted.

"Work out on land disputes and inheritances where women are the most affected and suffer a lot," the president underlined.

She demanded that they take prompt action on absenteeism, negligence and other ills, and directed that people facing disciplinary measures from the Public Service Commission should not be piling up appeals on such actions.

"I'm aware that there are civil servants who tend to appeal after being punished for poor attendances in their duty stations," she observed, urging stern position taking on such situations.

"When performing your duties, you should also consider effecting promotions where they are due," she said, noting that many civil servants who have criteria aren't promoted to the grades they deserve.

Citing the issue of gender proportionality, President Samia said the number of women in recent appointments was 46 percent, which shows the contribution women make in bringing about development.

Their ability to deliver will be a stimulus to select more women in decision making organs or vice versa, the president quipped.

On Monday, President Samia made a number of changes to the Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) line up and appointed top officials of the Fair Competition Commission (FCC) and the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF).

William Erio, erstwhile heading the National Social Security Fund (NSSF), shifts to head the FCC, replacing Dr John Mduma who shifts to the WCF.

Former CCM Deputy Secretary General (Mainland), Rodrick Mpingolo became RAS for Katavi while

Batilda Buriani, a former cabinet minister and envoy to Kenya and to Japan at different periods was picked RAS for Shinyanga.

Four die, 20 injured in Shinyanga road crash

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

FOUR people have died following a road accident on Tuesday morning involving a passenger bus owned by Classic company that was travelling from Kampala in Uganda to Dar es Salaam.

20 other passengers were injured. The road crash occurred at 4:00 am at Didia corner in Shinyanga District.

Some of the passengers travelling in the bus, including Fotuna Wilbert, said after reaching the corner, they saw the bus swerving from side to side whilst speeding, the situation that the driver failed to control and finally the crash.

Another passenger, Maimuna Mohamed said she was sleeping at the time and the sound of the crash woke her up and saw many passengers with injuries who

were rushed to Shinyanga region's referral hospital for treatment.

Shinyanga Regional Police Commander, Debora Magiligimba, confirmed the road crash and named those who died as Wahida Yusuph, Joseph Joseph, Rehema Haji and Nasoro Hamisi who broke his right arm.

The RPC said other 15 people with injuries were treated and released as their conditions were not serious, adding that the bus was carrying 43 passengers, saying others escaped without any injuries.

"The cause of the accident was speeding and the driver Maxison Mkuru failed to negotiate a sharp bend resulting into the crash," the RPC said.

She also said the bodies of the deceased have been preserved at Shinyanga region's referral hospital whilst the injured were doing well.



Tanzania Revenue Authority commissioner Alphayo Kidata talks with Kasulu and Kigoma districts business community leaders in Kigoma Region on taxation challenges facing them. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

MPs decry gender disparity at key hydropower project

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especially during rains, the report noted.

The parliamentary committee further advised that going forward in the coming financial year, the government should increase oversight but ensure timely funding of the project so that the dam receives water in November this year as scheduled and begin operations next June.

On rural electrification, the committee urged monitoring of contractors who have been tasked with rural electrification projects so that they complete on time as stipulated in their contracts, noting further that "creating a wide scope for

implementation of rural electrification projects would help."

Later, MPs issued mixed views on the issues raised by the minister in his budget estimates speech, with many urging heightened monitoring of rural electrification projects which they said were being delayed unnecessarily.

Jesca Kishoa (Special Seats, Chadema) commended the government for finalizing the signing of the host country agreement with Uganda for the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) but cautioned the government to beware of funding dillydallying already noticed on the project.

"Let us alert economic intelligence systems of this country. This is a serious

matter, we need to be very careful with the politics around the project," the legislator intoned.

The MP for Ndanda, Cecil Mwambe said rural electrification projects have been delayed due to less oversight and contractors facing delays in payments, urging the minister to come up with a strategy on how to start utilizing gas from Mtwara which is only 10-percent used at present.

"Masasi is an old district. The government should create a new electricity line to serve the people of the area who are suffering with blackouts because the line passing there serves a big population connected at various points," he added.

LNG plant: 70.5trn/-, 5 years pact inked

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Singida -Arusha -Namanga kV 400 Rufiji -Chalinze -Dodoma kV 400.

Others are Chalinze -Kinyerezi kV 400; Rusumo -Nyakanazi kV 220, Geita -Nyakanazi kV220; Ibadakuli (Shinyanga) -Imalilo (Simiyu) kV 220; Tabora-Kigoma kV 132 and Tabora-Katavi

15kV 132; uplifting power stations like Handeni and Kilindi in Tanga region, he specified.

In the third phase of the rural electrification drive will also be prioritized, the minister asserted

The government will continue with plans to implement the East Africa

Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) from Hoima in Uganda to Chongoleani port area in Tanga, he told MPs, highlighting top projects as

the Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) plant, natural gas exploitation at Mnazi Bay in Mtwara Region and the Eyasi Wembere plain oil exploration project.

The ministry is set to transport natural gas to attract more investments in the sub-sector and facilitate operations of the Tanzania Electricity Co. (TanESCO), the Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC), the Rural Electrification Agency (REA) and the Petroleum Upstream Regulatory Authority, (PURA), he added.



NMB Bank acting chief internal auditor Benedicto Baragomwa hands over ignition key of motor vehicle 'Tata Ace' 'kirikuu' to the lucky winner of 'NMB Bonge la Mpango', Paulo Swai (R) at the ceremony held at the NMB Tandika branch in the city yesterday. Looking on are Dar es Salaam zonal manager Donatus Richard (3rd R) and NMB Tandika branch manager Ahmed Nassor. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt urges employers to engage technical colleges students for their practical training

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has appealed to employers in the country to provide opportunities to students from technical colleges for practical training in their areas of work before they are employed.

Closing the vocational education training colleges exhibition here on Tuesday, the Education, Science and Technology minister Prof Joyce Ndalichako said such practical training for students will assist in identifying shortfalls when they return to their colleges.

She said they have identified the challenges in regard to the lack of areas for practical training for students, the issue that should be taken as important challenge by employers.

The minister said the move will assist the youth for market job opportunities.

"Employers and other education stakeholders closely work together with technical colleges, build up close relationship to eradicate this challenge regarding lack of places for students to do practical training," she stressed.

She said vocational training education was the main lever in spurring fast transformation because they prepare graduates to trust themselves and become self-reliant.

Earlier, Dodoma District Commissioner, Josephat Maganga requested institutions that provide loans to see how to expand their scope to assist the youth who invent various things.

"When they are provided with capital, these youths will be able to use their skills to spur industrial

development for the country," he added.

National Council for Technical Education (NACTE) Secretary General, Dr Adolf Rutayuga said the exhibition have had good response compared as those in the past.

"In 2019 94 colleges participated, but this year the number has risen to 114. In regard to universities, in 2019 five participated, but this year the number rose to 12," he said.

He also said 25 firm participated this year compared to 15 in 2019.

He further said statistics show that 14,500 people visited exhibition pavilions in 2019 whereas this year they were visited by 14,730 people.



Employers and other education stakeholders closely work together with technical colleges, build up close relationship to eradicate this challenge regarding lack of places for students to do practical training

'Govt intercepted 426 grams of cocaine, 363 heroin respectively between 2019 and 2020'

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government intercepted 426 grams of cocaine and 363 grams of heroin between 2019 and 2020 following joint operations by security agents aimed at controlling the use of drugs.

Minister of State, Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Labour, Youth, Employment and Persons with Disability), Jenista Mhagama said in written response to a

question by Malindi legislator Mohammed Suleiman Omar.

The minister said during the period, 28 tonnes of Indian hemp and 34 kilogrammes of khat were intercepted with 124 suspects arrested.

"Out of the number, 23 have been sentenced to while 40 cases are in progress involving 83 suspects," she said.

The MP had in her preliminary question, wanted to know government plans in fighting

drug abuse in the country but also asked the number of suspects who have been arrested from 2019.

The minister said in combating drug abuse, the government has taken various initiatives including enacting new laws on the same which established an anti-narcotics authority, an agency with the mandate of investigating and dealing with issues related to drugs.

The minister said also that

in collaboration with various security agencies including the Tanzania People's Defense Forces (TPDF) and the marine department of the Tanzania police force joint operations have been carried in all the country's entry points.

"The government has now identified a network of huge drug dealers as well as their mode of transporting which has contributed to the control in entry of the drugs into the country.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
VICE PRESIDENT OFFICE UNION AND ENVIRONMENT
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NEMC)

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR CATEGORIZATION AND PRACTICING CERTIFICATE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTS

1. Section 83 of the Environmental Management Act, 2004 directs that the Environmental Impact Assessments and Environmental Audits shall be conducted by Experts or Firms of Experts whose names and qualifications have been registered as such by the Council; and **Regulations 14, 15, 25, 26 and 51 of the Environmental Management (Registration And Practice of Environmental Experts) Regulations, 2021 (published by GN NO.267 on 19th March, 2021)** confer powers to the Council to categorize and issue Practicing Certificate to individuals and Firms as Environmental Expert and Firm of Environmental Experts respectively;
2. The Council hereby invites eligible registered individuals and/or Firms to apply for Categorization and Practicing Certificate as Environmental Experts or Firm of Environmental Experts;
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4. Application fee for Practicing Certificate of individual citizen and local Firms is Fifty Thousands Tanzanian Shillings (**Tshs. 50,000/=**). You may contact the accounts department vide telephone number +255 677069967 in order to obtain a control number to effect payments.

QUALIFICATIONS: Applicants should be:

- i. NEMC Registered Individual Environmental Expert or Firm of Environmental Experts;
- ii. Eligible and do not have any outstanding payment of annual fees.

The applications should be accompanied with all relevant attachments as prescribed in the application form found at National Environment Management Council Offices or NEMC website (www.nemc.or.tz), together with evidence of payment of application fee and should be submitted to the following address not later than 10th July, 2021.

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National Environment Management Council
35 Regent Estate, P.O.BOX 63154,
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This advertisement is applicable to all Environmental Experts who were registered before coming into force of the Environmental Management (Registration and Practice of Environmental Experts) Regulations, 2021

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THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
VICE PRESIDENT OFFICE UNION AND ENVIRONMENT
NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL (NEMC)

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR REGISTRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTS (INDIVIDUAL AND/OR FIRMS)

1. Section 83 of the Environmental Management Act, 2004 directs that the Environmental Impact Assessments and Environmental Audits shall be conducted by Experts or Firms of Experts whose names and qualifications have been registered as such by the Council; and **Regulations 18 and 19 of the Environmental Management (Registration And Practice of Environmental Experts) Regulations, 2021 (published by GN NO.267 on 19th March, 2021);** confer powers to the Council to register and certify individuals and Firms of Experts as Environmental Expert and Firm of Environmental Experts respectively.
2. The Council hereby invites eligible and qualified individuals and/or Firms to apply for registration as Environmental Experts or Firm of Environmental Experts.
3. Applications shall be submitted to the Registrar of Environmental Experts by filling a Form to be obtained from the National Environment Management Council Offices or NEMC Website (www.nemc.or.tz). Where an individual and/or Firm intends to apply to conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment Study and Environmental Audit, two separate applications shall be submitted.
4. Application fee for registration of individual citizens and local Firms is **Tshs. 100,000/=** and **Tshs. 500,000/=** respectively. You may contact the accounts department vide telephone number +255 677069967 in order to obtain a control number to effect payments.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Individual Applicants should:

- i. Possess at least a first degree in a relevant discipline or its equivalent from an accredited University or Institution;
- ii. Have undergone training in Environmental Impact Assessment and/or Environmental Audit from recognized higher learning institution;
- iii. Have knowledge and experience in environmental management in general and competence in carrying out Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and/or Environmental Audit (EA);
- iv. Provide at least two full successful Environmental Impact Assessment or Environmental Audit studies involved in and a letter of recommendation from an individual or firms that supervised your work;
- v. Provide names of at least three referees one of whom should be a registered Environmental Expert in Mainland Tanzania; and
- vi. Fulfillment of other requirements as stipulated in pertinent laws for practicing individual environmental experts.

Applying Firms should be:

- i. Incorporated in Mainland Tanzania;
- ii. Firms registered under other laws, may apply to be registered as Consulting Firms of Environmental Experts Under these Regulations;
- iii. Firms of Experts to be registered under these Regulations shall, within its members, have at least two registered Environmental Experts who are eligible and have Valid Practicing Certificate and two specialists from different specializations to constitute a Multi-disciplinary Team;
- iv. Firms shall, together with the application forms, present: The name/names of persons who have been certified and registered to practice; The kind of expertise the firm intends to offer in the conduct or preparation of Environmental Impact Assessment or Environmental Audits; and The certificate of registration of Business name.
- v. Fulfillment of other requirements as stipulated in pertinent laws for practicing firms of environmental experts.

The applications should be in duplicate and accompanied with all relevant attachments as prescribed in the application form found at National Environment Management Council Offices or NEMC website (www.nemc.or.tz), together with evidence of payment of application for Registration fee and should be submitted to the following address not later than

Successful applicants will be informed about subsequent requirements for completing the registration process.

The Registrar of Environmental Experts
National Environment Management Council
35 Regent Estate, P.O.BOX 63154,
11404 Dar es Salaam.
Tel. No: +255715265158 or +255754 366 968.

For: **DIRECTOR GENERAL**

Headquarters, 35 Regent Street, P.O Box 63154, 11404 Dar es Salaam, Phone: +255 22 2774852; +255 22 2774889; +255 0713 608930/0735 608930 Fax: +255 22 2774901
 Email Address: dg@nemc.or.tz Website: www.nemc.or.tz

SWEARING-IN CEREMONY PICTORIAL AT CHAMWINO STATE HOUSE



President Samia Suluhu Hassan swears in Capt (rtd) George Huruma Mkuchika as Minister of State in the President's Office (Special Duties) at Chamwino State House in Dodoma yesterday.



Newly appointed Shinyanga Regional Administrative Secretary, Ambassador Batilda Salha Buriani, taking the oath of office yesterday.



Rodrick Lazaro Mpegolo takes the oath to take the duties of Katavi Regional Administrative Secretary



Various appointees take the ethics oath after being sworn in by President Samia Suluhu Hassan at Chamwino yesterday.



President Samia swears in Dr. Athumani Juma Kihamia as Arusha Regional Administrative Secretary



Eng. Mwanaasha Tumbo swears before President Samia to become Coast Regional Administrative Secretary



President Samia swears in Ngusa Dismas Samike as Mwanza Regional Administrative Secretary.



Hassan Abbasi Rugwa takes the oath before President Samia for the post of Dar es Salaam Regional Administration Secretary.



The president swears in Fatuma Ramadhani Mganga to proceed as Dodoma Regional Administrative secretary



Musa Ramadhani Chogero swears to become Geita Regional Administrative Secretary



Newly appointed Tanga Regional Administrative Secretary Pili Hassan Mnyema takes the oath before President Samia in Dodoma yesterday.



Prisca Kayombo takes the oath as Simiyu Regional Administrative Secretary. All Photos: State House

East African residents 'scared' of eating fish

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

WITH the consumption of fish among East African residents stagnating at just 8 percent, people in Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Tanzania, Burundi and South-Sudan should essentially be scared of such a diet.

That is despite the fact that the East African Region has the largest Lake (Victoria) on the continent as well as the deepest water body in the form of Lake Tanganyika as well as hundreds of all season rivers.

In the wake of that, the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organization (LVFO), a specialized institution of the EAC based in Jinja, Uganda, has unveiled a 10 million euros project that seeks to promote aquaculture (fish farming) in East Africa.

In a speech read on his behalf by the EAC Director General Customs and Trade, Kenneth Bagamuhunda at the launch of the project in Arusha, EAC Secretary General Hon Dr Peter Mathuki, said that the TrueFish project was designed to address or remove impediments to growth in aquaculture faced by investors, for instance, lack of technical skilled operators, lack of investment finance and business planning and incomplete networks.

"The second objective of the TrueFish project is to address identified threats which could undermine the sustainability of aquaculture development, or could impact negatively on the environment, food security or livelihoods especially biosecurity risks such as fish diseases and introduction of non-native species that has led to the loss of biodiversity," said Dr Mathuki.

The Secretary General singled out some of the challenges facing the fishing industry on Lake

Victoria as steadily declining stocks of Nile perch and tilapia, fish diseases, uncontrolled proliferation of fish farms and rising water levels.

LVFO Executive Secretary Prof Shigalla Mahongo, disclosed that the European Union Commission was financing the project under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) Regional Indicative Programme to the tune of 10,150,000 Euros.

"The EDF contribution is 10 million Euros, while 150,000 Euros is co-financed by potential grant beneficiaries," said Prof Mahongo.

Prof Mahongo said that despite various efforts of the countries around Lake Victoria to ensure sustainability of the traditional fishing methods, demand for fish had increased considerably due to increased population, increased incomes and urbanization.

"Whilst human population in the LVFO Partner States was only 23.5 million in 1954, a reference period when Nile perch was introduced in Lake Victoria, the human population grew seven times by 2018 to 165.5 million. Therefore, the capture fisheries of Nile perch and tilapia are no longer able to satisfy the ever-increasing demand for fish in the region," said Prof Mahongo.

The Executive Secretary said that despite global aquaculture production surpassing harvests from capture fisheries for the first time in 2014, fish farming in the EAC region was still at its infant stage, accounting for approximately only 7 to 8 percent of fish consumption.

"The overall demand for fish in the region will continue increasing thus developing aquaculture to meet the ever-increasing demand for fish is inevitable," said the executive secretary.



Kahama District Commissioner in Shinyanga Region Anamringi Macha administers tapeworm drugs to Majengo primary school pupil Jeremia Palikana (12) during the vaccination campaign yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE government will from this financial year start implementing projects to address serious water challenges facing residents of Kibaha in Coast Region.

Minister for water Juma Aweso made the statement in response to a question posed by Kibaha Urban legislator, Silvester Koka.

The minister informed the National Assembly that the ministry will in the 2021/2022 financial year start to implement various projects in the area whereby already laying of water

Government vows to address water challenges facing residents of Kibaha

pipes has started to a distance of five kilometer.

"The project will benefit thousands of residents including those at Pangani and Kibahaa industrial sites," said the minister.

The MP in his preliminary question asked why the projects to address water challenges facing the area implementations were going at a slow pace.

In response the minister said the government has already finalized the phase of laying down the pipes in the ending financial year which involved dispersing pipes to a distance of 27 kilometers and is benefiting 6,500 residents of Mbwawa ward since April this year.

On Pangani ward, the minister said feasibility studies have been conducted including construction

of a six million liter tank.

In 2017, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa threatened to take actions against contractors who are tasked to carry out duties but fail to finish on time.

The PM was inspecting the expansion of the Chalinze water supply which has taken a long time as the first phase was in September 2001 and ended in 2003.



Kilimanjaro Regional Police Commander Amon Kakwale shows 11 motorbikes which were impounded for various alleged crimes yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Mary Moshia

Dr Mwinyi: ZSSF's main aim is to assist workers live well in retirement

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has called on top Zanzibar Social Security Fund (ZSF) officials to recognize that the aim of the Fund is to assist workers to enable them live well after retirement.

Dr Mwinyi made the remarks here on Monday after meeting the Fund's top officials led by its Director of Operations Nassor Shaaban Ameir.

Dr Mwinyi said there was a great difference among retirees in the Isles compared to those of other countries where retirees live much better lives than when they were in employment.

"In many foreign countries you will find older people visiting tourism areas, and when you inquire why, you arte told it was their chance for good times as they are being paid well as retirees, hence we have to change our concept regarding social security funds for retirees," he said.

He said people have been making contributions to ZSSF during their employment, hence they develop high expectation that they will reap well after retirement, but added what happens is quite different.

He said among ZSSF responsibilities is to ensure they invest the funds wisely for good profit to ensure the retirees live well, and not merely being paid what they had contributed when they were in employment.

He explained that one way to assist retirees is to provide them with housing because workers in Zanzibar often lack any hope to get good housing due to lack of financial ability.

"Hence, it is pertinent for ZSSF to construct low cost houses for their customers," he added.

In the circumstances, President

Mwinyi called on the ZSSF to be more serious in the whole issue of its investments by ensuring the projects they invest in reap profits.

He also said there was a need for ZSSF to supervise well the establishment of Health Insurance Fund.

Earlier, ZSSF Director of Operations Nassor Shaaban Ameir said the aim of the Fund was to take care of its members in problems that reduce their income due to various reasons including old age, diseases, incapacitation, death and other disasters.

He also said the need for the possibility of establishing new benefits including medical treatment benefits as well as building of low cost housing in various areas in collaboration with the government depending on the availability of land.



In many foreign countries you will find older people visiting tourism areas, and when you inquire why, you arte told it was their chance for good times as they are being paid well as retirees, hence we have to change our concept regarding social security funds for retirees

ICT national centre planned for Dodoma

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Commission for Information, Communications and Technology plans to establish a national and five zonal centers to serve Tanzanian ICT practitioners and ensure technology on Tanzanian roots.

The Acting ICT Commission Director General, Eng Samson Mwela said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that zonal centers will work closely with the national

center and will have their offices in Dar es Salaam (for coast zone), Dodoma (central), Arusha (northern), Mwanza (western) and Mbeya (southern). The zonal centers will cater for youths and small entrepreneurs, he explained.

Having technological centers spread countrywide will also create an environment that will attract investments in many parts of Tanzania, he explained.

"Our aim in implementing this

programme is to decentralize services to reach more people countrywide and create a national technological base. Further, we want to ensure young people, small entrepreneurs are acquainted with doing business using modern technologies and more importantly ensure our people use technologies and systems that are home-grown. The foreign technologies we are using are very expensive," he said.

He said in each zone center there will be a 'soft center' that will promote innovations. The commission will work together with ministries, tertiary institutions, vocational centers, the commission for science and technology and the private sector.

Mwenda also revealed plans for establishing a national workshop for servicing and repairing software equipment and devices.

Govt highlights need for continued education on girls' menstrual hygiene

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

THE government yesterday highlighted the need for continued education on girls' menstrual hygiene to reduce stigma and discrimination.

Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Mwanaidi Khamis said this in Dar es Salaam when speaking at a function to donate sanitary pads to primary and secondary school girls within the region.

Khamis said that girls during menstrual period face a lot of challenges including stigma and discrimination, hence the need to educate the public and take efforts to stop such behavior for the girls to attend schools freely.

She gave an example of the research conducted in Sengerema, Mufindi, Chato and Temeke municipalities that showed 48 percent of girls in schools miss classes during their menstrual periods the thing that affects their academic performance.

According to her, another research conducted by National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR) in collaboration with the safe menstrual revealed that stigma is still one of the major challenges affecting girls during their menstrual periods.

"Only 28 percent of school girls have a good understanding of their periods. Girls still facing a number of challenges including financial constraints to afford purchase the sanitary pads, availability of clean and safe water alongside with healthy toilets," said Khamis.

KEDS Tanzania Limited Director, Victor Zhang urged societies to be supportive and committed in making sure that girls have safe menstrual and they don't lose their smiles, their sleep

and by focusing on menstruation.

Zhang said that KEDS Tanzania stands with the government in the movement for empowerment of girls and women in the country and they believe the future is female and that the better way to achieve girls goal is to start supporting them while in schools so that they can study hard and attain their dreams.

"We want to see girls in the country live their dreams by studying hard without missing their classes. We join hands in making sure that a young girl with dream to become a pilot does not miss out her captaincy by failing to complete her studies due to unsafe menstruation, a girl who dreams to become a doctor don't miss her opportunity to save lives die to unsafe menstrual" said Zhang.

Speaking on behalf of other secondary schools, Zanaki Secondary school head girl Siti Othman said that many girls have been missing classes during their menstrual periods something which makes them perform less compared to boys academically.

Othman said that not all students can afford sanitary pads, before they used to collect money from each girl in a weekly basis at their school to buy sanitary pads but now they have stopped, therefore it is hard for them to get sanitary pads.

"On behalf of my fellow girls, I would like to urge other stakeholders to support girls by donating sanitary pads because they are helping us a lot in our education" said Othman.

KEDS Tanzania Limited donated 14000 sanitary pads, washing powder, bar soap as well as medicated soap worth 30 million for more than 20 secondary and primary schools in Dar es Salaam region.

Govt urged to revert to the 2004 Tobacco Bill

By Guardian Correspondent

THE government has been urged to revert to the 2004 Tobacco Bill that was never tabled in the National Assembly but had listed various ways to control tobacco use, including banning smoking in public to save the lives of Tanzanians.

The call was given on Monday by medical specialist for children who is also the Senior Lecturer at Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS) Dr Francis Furia in an interview with this paper.

Dr Furia was reacting to the government's statement issued during celebrations to mark World No Tobacco Day celebrated every 31 May.

He said the law should abide by recommendations of World Health Organisation (WHO) in control of the use of tobacco issued in 2007 including the control of smoking.

"All neighbouring countries including Kenya and Uganda, even in the Isles part of Tanzania, have in place laws that abide by WHO recommendations in the control of tobacco use," said Dr Furia.

He said even though the government has made tobacco crop as a strategic crop, there was the need to look into the possibilities of looking for other alternative crops.

"Various researches show that there are alternative crops with more economic benefits than tobacco including sunflower, tea, peanuts and sim-sim that if improved can earn the country foreign exchange," he said.

Dr Furia who is also the representative of Pediatric Association of Tanzania (PAT) said it was time to officially revert to the tobacco law enacted in 2004 but which was never tabled in

Parliament.

Managing Director of Tanzania Tobacco Control Forum (TTCF), Lutgard Kagaruki, has advised that all cigarettes advertisements in the media and social networks should be pulled out.

"It is sad being informed that tobacco use destroys the lives of smokers as well as those near the smokers but there are still advertisements that mobilize people to smoke, it is time to stop all this to save the lives of Tanzanians," said Lutgard.

In his statement during the World No Smoking Day celebrations, the Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elders and Children, Dr Dorothy Gwajima said nearly six million people die every year from tobacco use, or staying near those who smoke.

She said in the country, an average of 14 per cent of Tanzanians use tobacco and that those who get affected from tobacco smoke was increasing while 17.5 percent are affected from those smoking at home and 24.9 per cent at work places.



All neighbouring countries including Kenya and Uganda, even in the Isles part of Tanzania, have in place laws that abide by WHO recommendations in the control of tobacco use



Lushoto District Commissioner Januari Lugangeka (L) hands over the Uhuru Torch to Handeni District Commissioner Toba Nguvila at Segerera in Tanga Region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchala

Mbeya-WSSA urged to find new water sources to alleviate water shortages

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

MBEYA Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (Mbeya-WSSA) has been called upon to conceive new water sources including digging deep wells to reduce persisting water shortages instead of depending on long term projects.

The call was made here early this week at the special meeting involving water stakeholders convened to discuss water business plans for the period of

between 2021 and 2024.

One of the participants, Sheikh Ibrahim Bombo said Mbeya Region has many water sources hence there was no reason to have any shortage of water, and called on Mbeya-WSSA to be more creative.

He said the City of Mbeya has many water sources that have not been tapped and stressed if they are utilized water shortage would be alleviated.

"It is unconceivable for our city, dubbed 'Green City' to be in a

situation where everywhere one passes there are signs of water shortage and then expect the Kiwira river water source to come to end the problem," said Sheikh Bombo.

Mbeya-WSSA chairperson, Edna Mwaigomole said they abide by the stakeholders' advice during the implementation of the authority's plans.

She said as for now they will continue to wait for the implementation of the huge Kiwira River Water project, and

added that was a long term project that requires a lot of funds.

"Since this is a very long term project, we shall continue to look for other water sources to deal with the current water shortage, and the Kiwira Project will be the long term solution," Mwaigomole said.

Mbeya WSSA Managing Director, Gilbert Kayange requested Mbeya Region's water stakeholders to work together with water experts to implement their responsibilities fruitfully.



Bajaj and motorbike riders park their motorcycles at police station in Mbeya town during a meeting with traffic police yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

By Guardian Correspondent, Simanjiro

SIMANJIRO District Council in Manyara Region has ultimately received a clean audit certificate from the Controller and Auditor General (CAG) for the 2019/2020 financial year despite having 93 audit queries raised.

This was revealed on Monday this week by the District Executive Director, Yefred Myenzi at the special councilor's meeting called to deliberate audit queries raised by the CAG.

He said the council has managed to close 82 queries after the CAG was satisfied by the responses given.

He said 11 queries were still

Simanjiro District Council ultimately receives clean certificate from CAG

outstanding while 10 were administrative and one query was still being worked upon.

Manyara Regional Commissioner, Charles Makongoro Nyerere praised the council for receiving the clean audit certificate from the CAG for three years running.

Nyerere said the council has made good efforts in implementing various development projects that enabled it receive a clean audit certificate.

"This is my first district to visit since my appointment as regional commissioner by President Samia Suluhu Hassan in the region, I am pleased that I have started well," he said.

Manyara Region Acting Administrative Officer, Kennedy Kaganda praised council officials for receiving clean audit certificate and advised them not to produce any new audit queries.

He called on council officials to

involve internal auditors in their work, saying many audit queries were produced by department's heads.

Simanjiro District Commissioner, Eng Zephania Chaula said the council has no ghost projects and praised officials for their cooperation.

The council's chairman Baraka Kanunga said they will never go back after receiving clean audit certificates for three years running.

Tanzania exports first consignment of soybean to China

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

TANZANIA has successfully exported the first consignment of 120.2 tonnes of soybean to China after the two countries reached an agreement last year.

China's annual soybean demand is about 103 million tonnes, of which 15 million tonnes are produced in China and 88 million tonnes are imported from abroad.

Tanzania is one of the countries that export soybeans to China. In China soybeans are the main source of protein for animal feed and edible oil.

Deputy Director of the Second Inspection and Inspection Division of Huangdao Customs in China, Kong Fanming said: "We strictly carry out monitoring on the safety risks of imported grain. We have improved the efficiency of customs clearance for imported grains to help enterprises reduce import costs and provide high quality and low price for the country."

Tanzania's soybean passed through a designated processing plant after inspection and quarantine by Huangdao Customs under the Qingdao Customs.

In February, Deputy Minister for Agriculture, Hussein Bashe told the National Assembly that the country has secured soybean market in China and that Tanzania is among 12 countries which have been permitted to sell soybean in China, but the production is still low compared to the demand in the Asian nation.

He said the government has taken various steps to increase production by improving availability of seeds.

Bashe further said that the government has also allowed traders to import soybean from

neighbouring countries and re-export them in order to maintain the market as it works to increase production.

China, the world's biggest importer of soybeans, has opened its market to Tanzania as it seeks to reduce its reliance on the United States and Brazil for supplies of the oilseed.

Other African countries with such deals include Kenya (avocados, tea, coffee and roses), Ethiopia (coffee and soybeans), Namibia (beef), Botswana (beef and by-products), South Africa (fruit) and Rwanda (coffee).

According to statistics, the annual output of soybeans in Tanzania is about 10,000 tonnes.

The main producing areas are Ruvuma, Iringa, Mbeya, Morogoro and Manyara provinces. At present, the main agricultural products that Tanzania exports to China are sesame, sisal, tobacco and cashew nuts.



We strictly carry out monitoring on the safety risks of imported grain. We have improved the efficiency of customs clearance for imported grains to help enterprises reduce import costs and provide high quality and low price for the country



Special Seats MP Rose Tweve airs her contribution to Constitutional and Legal Affairs ministry's budget estimates in the National Assembly in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Judgement of case against Zanzibar liquor board postponed to June 7

By Guardian Reporter

JUDGMENT in the case filed by the Zanzibar Council of Imams (JUMAZA) against Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board has been postponed due to the delay in writing up the ruling by the Zanzibar High Court Judge, Rabia Hussein Mohammed.

Judge Rabia was compelled to postpone the case's judgment to June 7 in order to get more time

to enable her issue the decision whose hearing had been finalized.

Speaking to reporters outside the Zanzibar High Court, the Advocate for the plaintiffs Omar Shehe Omar said they agreed to the judge's decision to put back the date for judgment.

He said the case had sought to show that the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board violated Section 33(1) of the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act (No 9 of 2020) by decision to

issue permits for the importation of alcoholic drinks to eight firms instead of three as provided for under the Act.

He also said the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board failed to respect Section 28(k) of the same Act that had set a condition for bars to be more than 1,000 meters away from areas with basic social services including schools, health centers, mosques, churches, madrassas, markets or bus stations.

JUMAZA Secretary General, Sheikh Muhammed Ali Amour said they received without any qualms Judge Rabia's decision in postponing the date for the judgment of the case.

However, the Chairman of the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board Abdulrazak Abdulkadir said the board issued licenses to eight firms instead of three after giving consideration of the government's revenue collection.



Education, Science and Technology minister Prof Joyce Ndalichako addresses at the climax of the second exhibition of education and vocational training held in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

Kenya and Burundi sign seven agreements to strengthen ties

By Kevin Cheruiyot

KENYA and Burundi have signed several agreements that are aimed at strengthening cooperation between the two East African nations.

President Uhuru Kenyatta and his Burundian counterpart Evariste Ndayishimiye signed the agreements at the Kisumu State Lodge.

Evariste Ndayishimiye arrived in the country on Monday morning for his two-day official visit.

The cooperation agreements which were signed touched on agriculture, public service, foreign affairs, trade, sports, and culture.

Addressing the press shortly after leading their respective delegation in bilateral talks, Uhuru said the two countries have agreed to strengthen and deepen their long-standing fraternal relations with the aim of fostering sustained socio-economic development.

"The cooperation between our two countries is built on a solid foundation of shared values and principles; to foster sustained socio-economic development and transformation of our two countries, a vibrant and united East African Community, and an integrated and prosperous Africa," Uhuru said.

He added that there are enormous untapped business opportunities between Bujumbura and Nairobi, and directed relevant ministries to review and address bottlenecks inhibiting the growth of trade and investment between the two East African countries.

Uhuru also announced a resolution by Kenya and Burundi to prioritize education in their post-Covid-19 recovery plans, and that the two countries would back the 4th replenishment campaign of the Global Partnership Education (GPE), which aims to raise at least USD5 billion for

investment in education.

The two leaders said that they will continue working together in advancing the African agenda on the global stage, and reiterated their countries' commitment to the progress of the East African Community (EAC).

"On regional cooperation, we exchanged views on various development matters in the East African Community (EAC); and reaffirmed our commitment to continue working together in championing the EAC integration agenda and the African Union Agenda 2063. On international cooperation, we reiterated our commitment to continue working closely at the level of the United Nations (UN), with a view to advancing the Common African Agenda for Integration and Sustainable Development," Uhuru said.

As part of efforts to strengthen Kenya-Burundi bilateral ties, two leaders agreed to review the 2018 Joint Permanent Commission for a Cooperation agreement with a view of ensuring expeditious implementation of agreed-upon agreements.

Ndayishimiye expressed his gratitude to Uhuru and the people of Kenya for the role the country played in stabilizing Burundi through international peace-keeping efforts, as well as through trade facilitation.

"We are enjoying the ties between our two countries both in investments and trade. I recall the role Kenya played in peacekeeping in Burundi and the facilitation of trade through the port of Mombasa, and Kenyan investors already working in Burundi," the Burundi leader said.

The Burundi leader who is accompanied by First Lady Angeline Ndayubaha Ndayishimiye was received by his host Uhuru and First Lady Margaret Kenyatta.

By Guardian Reporter

Use Mtwara port to rescue Lindi-Kibiti road from frequent damage, says govt

Works and Transport Deputy Minister Eng Godfrey Kasekenya has called on transporters to utilize Mtwara Port for inland transport as well as for import and export of goods to rescue the Lindi-Kibiti road from frequent damage.

Kasekenya made the remarks here on Tuesday in parliament when responding to a question from Special Seats Member of Parliament Anastazia Wambura that sought to know why the Kibiti-Lindi road was frequently

damaged despite repairs, "What is the government's plan to solve the situation in order to reduce frequent accidents on the road?" the MP had asked.

The Deputy Minister explained that as for now the Lindi-Kibiti road was passable by many vehicles with heavy loads, more than specified in the feasibility study used to construct it and that the situation stems from heavy

industrial and mining investment made in the southern regions in recent years after the road's construction.

"The establishment of huge factories, including the Dangote Cement factory in Mtwara Region and the existence of huge coal mines in Ruvuma Region contributed in the increase of heavy load carrying trucks than had

originally expected.

He told parliament that to face up with the road destruction challenge, the government continues with its plans to institute major repairs that would make it withstand heavy load carrying trucks.

In the 2021/2022 financial year, more than 7bn/- has been set aside for repairs to the Lindi-Kibiti road.

THURSDAY 3 JUNE, 2021

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Impromptu inspections helpful but reform methods last longer

THERE was plenty of déjà vu (the usual expression meaning 'I have seen it again' and implying it will be repeated, or that it is routine) was on air as President Samia Suluhu Hassan moved to suspend Kariakoo Market Corporation (KMC) top managers, and in a different tour, scorned BRT II progress. This mode of inspection evidently reminds the public of the way the late fifth phase President John Magufuli worked, unlike earlier phases where visits tended to be cordial rather than combative. The trend is likely to persist.

The question that comes up is how far getting things done shall continue to depend on the president making impromptu visits to public facilities and ongoing vital projects, where they habitually experience rot and laxity. Then they pick up the broom and sweep aside the CEO or a number of managers as in the KMC case, but there is an open ended possibility that they return to their posts, all or most of them. In the past week, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa suspended senior Treasury officials for ten days, at the least.

For those who habitually use the centrally placed supposedly international market, little that was reported was out of the way, as rot or laxity, especially as issues of consuming corporation funds didn't apparently come up. What the president appears to wish for is an upgrading of the market so that it is a higher placed facility and not a congested and blocked zone, but that won't be easy as the market caters for numerous small traders within the city and in the suburbs outside the city centre. It is something that can be discussed as markets have been constructed in other parts of the city, rapidly modernized recently.

While Kariakoo market may have appeared surprising, there is still Congo Street not far from there which is perhaps the most congested trading place in the city, and where most people regularly visit to seek a bargain, irrespective of what else is found in other markets around the suburbs. Undercutting its role risks upsetting a tested commercial and social ecosystem, as it enhances the purchasing power of numerous buyers. There are ways of managing that space but it needs to retain its social function instead of making it upper class and out of reach for those who depend on it.

At the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) phase two construction site at Mbagala Rangi Tatu and Mbagala Zakhem the president found the pace stands at 16 per cent implementation rate instead of the projected 60 per cent. President Samia had earlier noticed where the problem is, that long gaps in paying contractors lead to payment with interest, and that brings people together to plan for it. The president was generally satisfied with performance at the Mwananyamala Regional Referral Hospital in Kinondoni District, donating 200 bed sheets on the spot.

One aspect that comes up from the visits is the lack of a shareholder in those organizations who has an interest in its proper performance and realizing government objectives. BRT is a mercantile project where one builds and leaves, and those who run buses increasingly ground them. Even hospitals can do with a motivated stakeholder like a charitable medical agency preventing staff from pinching drugs. When it comes to BRT the difference in efficiency with private buses is telling; a partner would make a difference

World Bicycle Day promotes healthy lifestyle for all

A bicycle, also called a bike or cycle, is a human-powered or motor-powered, pedal-driven, single-track vehicle, having two wheels attached to a frame, one behind the other. A bicycle rider is called a cyclist, or bicyclist.

Bicycles were introduced in the 19th century in Europe, and by the early 21st century, more than 1 billion were in existence. These numbers far exceed the number of cars, both in total and ranked by the number of individual models produced. They are the principal means of transportation in many countries and Tanzania is no exception. They also provide a popular form of recreation, and have been adapted for use as children's toys, general fitness, military and police applications, courier services, bicycle racing, and bicycle stunts.

The basic shape and configuration of a typical upright or 'safety bicycle', has changed little since the first chain-driven model was developed around 1885. However, many details have been improved, especially since the advent of modern materials and computer-aided design. These have allowed for a proliferation of specialised designs for many types of cycling.

The bicycle's invention has had an enormous effect on society, both in terms of culture and of advancing modern industrial methods. Several components that eventually played a key role in the development of the automobile were initially invented for use in the bicycle, including

ball bearings, pneumatic tires, chain-driven sprockets and tension-spoked wheels.

Although bike and cycle are used interchangeably to refer mostly to two types of two-wheelers the terms still vary across the world. In India for example a cycle refers only to a two-wheeler using pedal power whereas the term bike is used to describe a two-wheeler using internal combustion engine or electric motors as a source of motive power instead of motorcycle/motorbike.

In April 2018, the United Nations General Assembly declared June 3 as International World Bicycle Day. The resolution for World Bicycle Day recognises the uniqueness, longevity and versatility of the bicycle, which has been in use for two centuries, and that it is a simple, affordable, reliable, clean and environmentally fit sustainable means of transport.

Professor Leszek Sibilski, Polish social scientist working in the United States, led a grassroots campaign with his sociology class to promote a UN Resolution for World Bicycle Day, eventually gaining the support of Turkmenistan and 56 other countries. The original UN Blue and White June3WorldBicycleDay logo was designed by Isaac Feld and the accompanying animation was done by Professor John E. Swanson. It depicts bicyclists of various types riding around the globe. At the bottom of the logo is the hashtag #June3WorldBicycleDay. The main message is to show that the bicycle belongs to and serves all of humanity.

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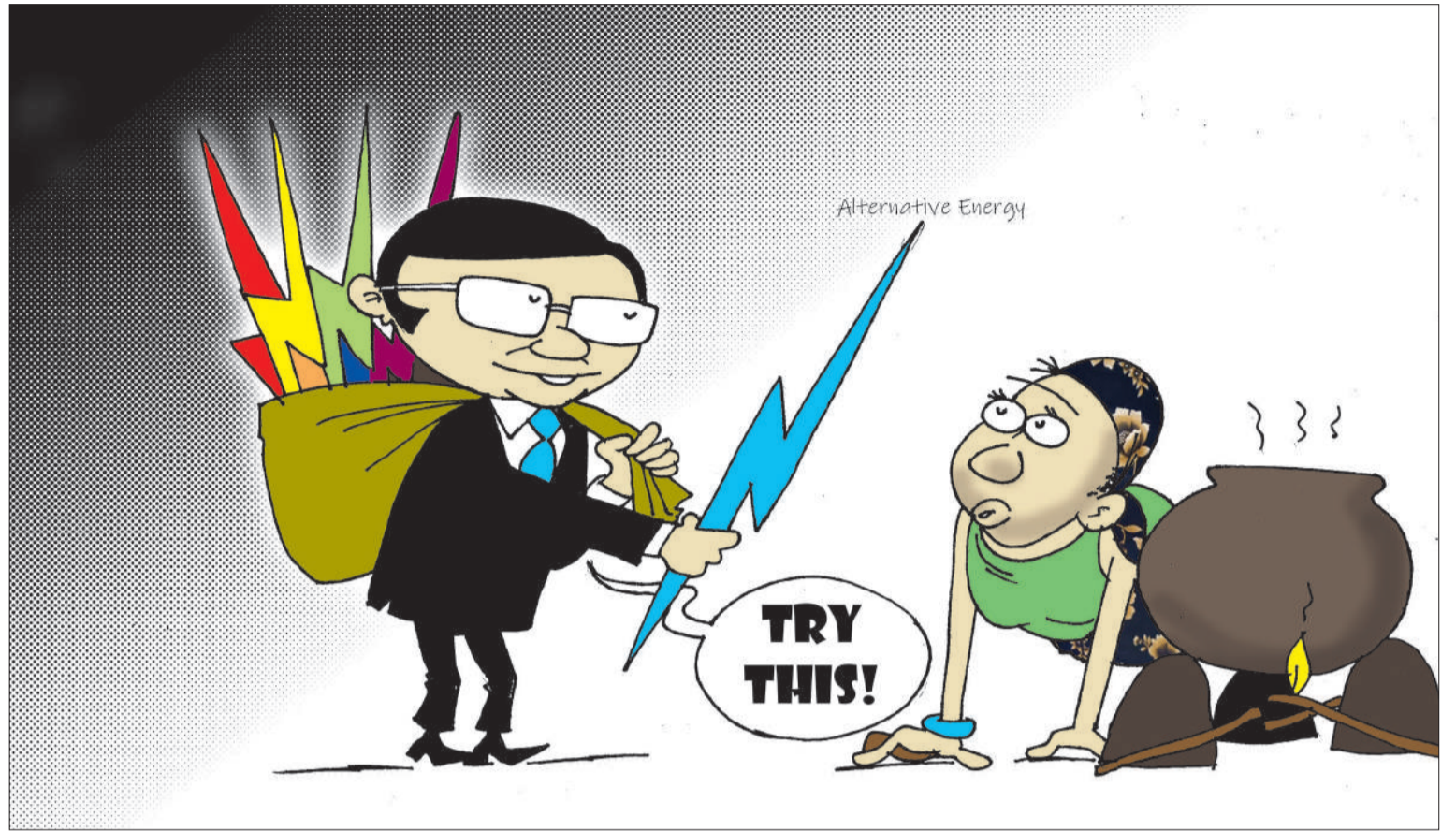
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By Togba-Nah Tipoteh

SUICIDE is any situation in which one takes one's own life. Suicide is committed every day here in Liberia and elsewhere in the world. What I am focusing on today is the suicide danger in Liberia due to the lack of knowledge about the dangerous situations of sanitation, public health pandemic and medication. Passing through neighborhoods and the market places, you see and smell the garbage.

Would you believe that we eat garbage? Yes, we do every day when we buy food from the market places because much of the food is placed on the ground, in the midst of garbage, for sale. One of the local television stations performed a good service recently by showing how water was produced in the midst of garbage in Monrovia. In the middle of the garbage, water is bottled, bagged and packaged for sale. Most people who ride vehicles in the country take commercial transport. From motorbikes to kekkehs to taxis to buses, the mask wearing and social distancing protocols are violated as the order of the day. Even religious preachers get on

Stopping the suicide danger

the buses to preach as a way making some money from the passengers. These vehicles pass in front of police stations and by police officers every day without being stopped, except in cases where the officers want to get their "small thing" (money) from the drivers. Much of the traffic jams are not due to the many holes in the road but come from the officers trying to get their "small thing".

The garbage at the Monrovia Center Street Graveyard is life threatening. Many persons can be seen searching the Graveyard garbage for some things that they can use. One local television station did a documentary on persons who sleep in the Graveyard, on persons who engage in commercial sexual activities in the graveyard and on persons who steal coffins from the graveyard. Coffins are stolen from the graveyard because there is a market for graveyard coffins.

I was at a funeral recently where mask wearing and social distancing were poor. I had to place some big object next to me

so that no one would sit near me. I saw a pastor squeezing on a bench with his arm around a woman, perhaps his wife. Someone asked me why I have not been to church for a long time. I told the person that church is not a building but a matter of the heart. Some people go to the church building, singing praise to God, but when they get outside of the church building they follow the will of the devil.

Right on Broad Street at the Centre of Monrovia, I stopped to buy some thing. Then a street seller, without mask, told me that corona was not in Liberia and that was why he was not wearing a mask. Another time, when a motorbike rider saw me with my mask, he yelled out to me saying "you the one spreading corona with your mask; so don't bring it to me". One time recently, I went about 300 miles outside of Monrovia and met someone selling medicines that he should have stopped selling two years ago. I told him that he should stop selling the expired medicines; he told me that he bought the same medicines in Monrovia a week

ago. Some persons, some governments and some international organisations have begun praising Liberia because they say that corona is going down in Liberia. They are not telling the truth because they do not know what is going on in Liberia, with only one corona testing center in Liberia and it is located in Monrovia. Many people are dying daily with no knowledge of the cause of death, in the absence of testing centers and pathologists, except in the cases of crashes and explosions or some war incident.

Clearly, there is urgent need for much more awareness raising on the public health protocols and the setting up of corona testing centers. For its part, the organization, servants of Africa fighting epidemics (SAFE), as set up by the late Dr. Mary Nema Brownell and the Sheikh Kafumba Konneh, and chaired by me, we are stepping up our awareness raising, stressing hand washing, mask wearing and social distancing, with a coverage of over one million persons so far.

By Special Correspondent

THE nascent democratic development in the West African sub-region once again received a jolt with the ouster of Mali's interim administration headed by President Bah Ndaw and Prime Minister Moctar Ouane, in a coup led by Colonel Assimi Goita.

Colonel Goita was the leader of the coup that removed the country's substantive president, Ibrahim Boubacar Keita, last year following weeks of anti-government protests over rising insecurity, alleged corruption and a failing economy.

After days of uncertainty and following mediation by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), it was agreed that an interim government be constituted to oversee an 18-month transition to civilian rule.

Colonel Goita had sought to head the interim government but ECOWAS preferred a civilian, which did not go down well with the Colonel from all indications.

The latest intervention led by Colonel Goita came after a government reshuffle, which saw two senior military officers replaced. Colonel Goita, who remained the real power in the

Mali must return to democracy

country, objected to the move by the interim president and acted to remove the government, accusing it of failing in its duties and of seeking to sabotage the country's transition to civil rule.

Although Colonel Goita has promised that the transition will still go ahead and that elections will still go ahead as planned next year, many observers both within and outside Mali are sceptical.

Colonel Goita's action is seen in many respects as an opportunistic move, taking advantage of Mali's multi-faceted challenges to seize power once again.

But with the condemnation that followed the coup by the African and international community, including ECOWAS, African Union, The United Nations, European Union, it remains to be seen how the military in Mali will manoeuvre successfully through all the recriminations that have been ranged against it.

From the reactions so far, Colonel Goita and his colleagues face the possibility of being isolated, further exacerbating the situation in Mali. What this means is that the modest gains made in the transition to democracy will be further jeopardised, putting the country in more uncertainty.

Nigeria, which led the move by ECOWAS to negotiate the exit of the military when they struck it last year with former President Goodluck Jonathan appointed to spearhead the talks, has moved swiftly to get the regional body to act on the Mali situation.

At an extraordinary summit of ECOWAS leaders on Mali which met on Sunday in Ghana, Mali was suspended for nine months with the possibility of the imposition of further sanctions. France, the former colonial power which threatened to withdraw its troops as a result of the coup and the United States of America, have also threatened further sanctions on the military regime in Mali.

We commend ECOWAS for taking such a firm stand and it must be sustained in order to bring home to the Malian junta that their action will not be allowed to stand.

All this should convince Colonel Goita and his colleagues that their action is unacceptable and that they will bring further problems to themselves and their country should they not retrace their steps.

We note that President Buhari is presently involved in a similar action in Chad, following the

death of its former ruler Idriss Deby, and the continuation of military rule in that country. We are encouraged that the president has impressed it upon the Chadian military to stick to their pledge to end their rule and return the country to civil democratic rule without further delay.

We believe the same posture must be maintained in the case of Mali. The reasons adduced for the military coup in Mali can be no justification whatsoever for the truncation of the interim administration. The world expected the military in Mali to show more understanding and patience with the interim administration as it grapples with the enormous challenges of the country while it prepares for the transition to civil rule as demanded by Malians.

We believe it is not too late for the military junta now in place to step down and bring back the ousted interim president and allow the interim administration headed by him to see through its work. That is the only reasonable and realistic way to prevent Mali from falling into further uncertainty and chaos. The era of coups is over and Mali must return to democratic rule.

Reclaiming life after adversity



It is 8:30 am on a chilly Saturday morning punctuated with light rain showers. Griffin prompts the driver to reverse the pickup truck into the entry porch. They begin unloading his stuff. A couch, office desk and a chair that he purchased with the proceeds from his first work contract. These items reminded him of the hurdles he had gone through in a bid to make ends meet.

He was there moving back to his parent's house at the age of 26 when he should be out there conquering the world. He felt like a total loser, a disgrace to his entire lineage but deep down he knew he had met his Waterloo.

He had envisioned building an electronics import business empire, raking in millions and never having to work for anyone or need a degree. Unfortunately, he did not conduct an extensive market research. The same week his shipment landed, a giant Telco rolled out a series of cheaper Tablet-PCs. He ran into massive losses and returned to college humbled, spending the next several months paying off debts. But once a hustler always a hustler and in his final year of campus, he was running a construction consultancy company on the side which landed him a project and contracted three of his lecturers to do the job for him. This was his university life highlight. However, the succeeding contract came with drama. After spending his last coin to undertake the project, the client disappeared without paying a dime. In his naivety, he trusted too much



and had forgotten to sign a contract. Who would want to pull down a young man trying to build an empire, right? He was completely broke and too embarrassed to ask for help. At his wits ends, he started writing for online magazines in order to stay afloat. Everything else he had touched had turned into dust. During this low moment in his life, he channelled his frustration into creativity and writ-

ing and in a few months, his projects in both companies went well.

He was working 8am-4pm in one company and 5pm to 11pm in the other from Monday to Friday and most weekends. He did not have a life outside of work. Nonetheless, his quick rise up the ranks did not sit well with a number of older and senior colleagues. To them, he was not only an outsider but also someone who was yet to pay his dues like they did over the years. They began frustrating his projects at every turn and his boss became inordinately toxic.

At first, he took it to the chin, trying to keep level-headed but the aggression chipped at his soul every single day, leaving him trapped, constantly stressed and walking on eggshells. He would have to either sell his soul to the devil or return to a life of uncertainty. He chose the latter; he had to face his demons head-on. So, he de-cluttered his life and gave away most of his possessions including gadgets clothes and shoes. He then hired a pick up to ferry what was left to his parent's home, the only safe haven he could think of. As the crew finished unloading, his old man walked out of the house. If at all he was surprised

to see him, he didn't reveal it considering he hadn't notified him of his coming.

At 26, his old man built his mother a house unlike him. He also lost his father at a young age, faced adversity forcing him to single-handedly take charge of his family, educate siblings and change his fortunes. Having gone through that tough life he also made sure his sons lacked nothing. Sons were supposed to be better than their fathers in all aspects of life, he thought to himself. Sadly, for him he may never be half the man his old man is despite all advantages life gave him. "Come in and have some breakfast," his father fries two eggs, toasts bread and serves him with some coffee.

Griffin's parents never ask him why he's back home. Instead, they seem genuinely happy to see him and welcome him back like the prodigal son. After two weeks, he opens up about his struggles and why he needed time off the city to heal. "Son, there is no shame in a man asking for help. You made the right choice to come back home. Even when you are fifty years old, you always have a place in this home." The next day, his parents give him a house to move into, ap-

pointed him as a manager to the family ventures complete with an office and access to a car.

He works twice as hard masquerading as an entrepreneur does but deep down he knows he's only lucky and not the self-made man he pretends to be. Time off the city changed his outlook towards life. He took time off social media in an effort to reconnect with his inner-self, hang around people who he's known for years. He had been harbouring hate, avoiding dealing with grief, trying to seek acceptance, unconditional love and support in all the wrong places because he was too embarrassed to ask for help.

He learnt that being a man should never be an excuse to bottle up everything. Men are also human after all and there is no shame in stumbling. It takes courage to continue and failure is such a great teacher. The true measure of a man is not defined by the invincible cloak wrapped around personas in public but by how men continually respond to the challenges of life. After almost a year of working for the family, he handed over the reins and moved back to the city a bit wiser with a single goal. To reclaim his life and work on becoming a better man.

Problems behind the apparent malfunctions of Pan-African Parliament

By Ismail Lagardien

The Pan-African Parliament (Pap) has seen no small amount of disgraceful misbehaviour among some of its members over the past several days. Much of it has provoked schadenfreude, and mischievous giggles, with the customary Afro-optimism. The main line is the old canard that "Africans can't govern themselves".

The apparent malfunctions of the Pap are caused by several problems; ideological, cultural, power, size, sequencing and policy. The latter two belong together.

The ideological - the founding concepts - of the Pap is problematic. For what may seem politically the right idea, Pan-Africanism is based at the outset on race. It was based on the idea that "black," "coloured" and "native" African people - from the Tuareg and Berbers, to the Xhosa and Khoisan, necessarily shared some kind of harmony of interests. This is evident in the work of one of the outstanding thinkers and earliest protagonists of Pan-Africanism, WEB Du Bois (1868-1963), from Boston, US, who is often considered to be "the father of Pan-Africanism" and who made a crucial argument (one of many), regarding "the Negro".

Universalising US particularities

While Du Bois was no doubt a fine thinker, it's fair to say that he took the particular conditions of African Americans, and universalised them across the world, specifically to the African continent. For instance, he explained that having emerged in "this American world," the "Negro" had entered a world "which yield[ed] him no true self-consciousness, but only lets him see himself through the revelation of the other world... this double-con-



sciousness, this sense of always looking at one's self through the eyes of others, of measuring one by the tape of a world that looks on in amused contempt and pity". From this, Du Bois wrote, emerged "two unreconciled strivings", the most prominent of which is a "history of this strife, this longing to attain self-conscious manhood, to merge his double self into a better and truer self". With this as a starting point, it was assumed that if only the "African", "black", "coloured" or "native" were unified they would attain "self-conscious manhood" and emerge "a better, truer self".

Closer to home and to the present time, Julius Nyerere is remembered as the most progressive Pan-Africanist. Nyerere, too, based his Pan-Africanism on the ideal that if Africans united nationally and continentally, they would find their place in the world and tackle all the problems of life. A particular curiosity was his belief in Kiswahili as a transnational linguistic vehicle that would secure unity and solidarity for all Africans. Although it cannot be thoroughly expressed here, there is sufficient evidence to support the idea that the ideological basis of Pan-Africanism was race.

Cultural divergence, big time
Much like India, Africa is one of the most diverse places in the world. This tends to be glossed

over. One point that has to be raised is that during the final phase of its colonisation, India had a single (British) colonial power, which left India with a single fairly uniform bureaucracy and administration. We can set aside the horrors of Partition for now. It is no small matter!

Nonetheless, during the last phases of African colonisation there were French, German, Spanish, Portuguese and descendants of (Dutch and French) Huguenots, as well as British colonists. There were, also, strong elements of Arabian influence, especially along the eastern parts of the continent. Each left behind its own bureaucratic customs, practices, repertoires, and religious beliefs. Besides the hundreds of indigenous language groups (and religious beliefs, customs and traditions), Africans also speak a range of European languages.

And so, Nyerere's belief that transnational linguistic unity is necessary for Pan-Africanism is weak, and lacking in a sense of history. People of the same language groups have fought and killed one another in sometimes horrific ways. And others who speak different languages (as in Switzerland) have lived in perfect harmony for many years. Language is a terribly weak vehicle to achieve unity, but it can help prevent ethnolinguistic fraction-

alisation - once you get past the agreement of which language should be the national or transnational language.

The issue of which language or culture should prevail as a unifying force is a cornerstone of Chinua Achebe's understanding of Africa's complexity.

"I don't think anybody can suggest to another person, 'Please drop your culture; let's use mine.' That's the height of arrogance and the boast of imperialism. I think cultures know how to fight their battles.... It is up to owners of any particular culture to ensure it survives."

Nyerere's idea of a transnational unifying language is problematic. Whether one agrees with it or not, very many people have tied their very identity to their language. Nyerere, remains, nonetheless, the (African) father of Pan-Africanism. A certain Jacob Zuma once described him in the following way: "Mwalimu, the teacher who taught the African continent about peace, democracy and unity - Mwalimu, the freedom fighter who became one of the founding fathers of the Organisation of African Unity, he laid the foundation for the African continent to start its long and arduous road towards peace and unity."

Nyerere was sufficiently honest to admit that African unity would be difficult to achieve. Speaking

at the University of Zambia on 13 July 1966, he spoke about the possible conflict between African nationalisms and Pan-Africanism:

"Indeed I believe that a real dilemma faces the Pan-Africanist. On the one hand is the fact that Pan-Africanism demands an African consciousness and an African loyalty; on the other hand is the fact that each Pan-Africanist must also concern himself with the freedom and development of one of the nations of Africa. These things can conflict. Let us be honest and admit that they have already conflicted."

There are faint echoes of Nyerere's statement in Achebe's reminder that "Africa's postcolonial disposition is the result of a people who have lost the habit of ruling themselves. We have also had difficulty running the new systems foisted upon us at the dawn of independence by our 'colonial masters'."

What sets Pan-Africanism apart from successful examples?

If one ignores all of the above and focuses only on getting Pan-Africanism right, we may want to look at the overriding objective, get the sequencing of policies right and take the better examples of the European Union (EU) and Asean (Association of Southeast Asian Nations). In both cases, more especially in Europe, the main objective was to prevent the conflicts of 1914-1945. And they started small. In some ways the Benelux (Belgium, Luxembourg and Netherlands) customs union of 1948 was the precursor to the formation of the EU. The key was the free movement of goods, services and people, and the creation of institutions.

Asean was created (with the Bangkok Declaration of 1967) with the specific objective of amity among Southeast Asian countries.

In both cases, and with varying degrees of success, both regions have avoided mass-scale war, opened political-economic relations and created institutions to support these relations. In the simplest of terms, there was regionalisation (people started cooperating) before official regionalism, as a specific policy. In other words there were, putative-

ly, increased cross-border flows of goods, and capital people within a specific geographical area, before there were political policies to create a formal arrangement.

Pan-Africanism's fault-lines may be found in its insistence on race or ethnicity, and the assumption that Berbers and Xhosas share a harmony of interests, and are prepared to shed aspects of their sovereignty for the greater good. Africa is probably too big and overwhelmingly diverse, with intense sensitivities about racial, ethnic or cultural identities. The main problem, with the Pap, as far as I can tell, is that it placed the cart before the horse. It's like applying that trope, "Build it and they will come." In simpler terms, there is barely enough intra-Africa movement of goods, services and people (the basics of regionalisation), to speak of regionalism - but there is already a Parliament.

Let me end this (really brief) discussion by paraphrasing the Italian pioneer of unification, Massimo d'Azeglio (1798-1866): We have built a Pan-African Parliament, now let's build Africans (who agree with one another, and share the same vision). What he actually said, in 1861, was "We have made Italy; now we must make Italians." Sadly, he also had a very low opinion of the people of Italy, whom he described as "20 percent stupid rascally and bold, 80 percent stupid, honest and timid, and such a people has the government it deserves".

I will, of course, say no such thing about us, Africans, but if we elect politicians who threaten to kill their foreign counterparts in Parliament, we do, actually, deserve them.

Investing in women key to achieving Sustainable Development Goals

BANGKOK, Thailand

Last year, the Asia-Pacific region recorded its worst economic performance in decades. With the pandemic far from over, the region's recovery is slow, fragile and highly uneven both across and within countries. As the region struggles to recover, how can countries rebuild their economies and revive their development?

The answer can be found in the flea market of Suva, the Facebook commerce online stores of Bangladesh, and the digital learning centers across Viet Nam. In these and so many other spots across the Asia-Pacific region, it is clear that women entrepreneurs are a driving force of recovery and the mainspring of commerce and technology. While we have always known that women entrepreneurs play an essential role in supporting inclusive economic growth in the region, the pandemic has made it more evident than ever that countries ignore women's role as job creators, employees and contributors to economic expansion at their peril.

Advancing women's equality in the Asia-Pacific region could add as much as US\$ 4.5 trillion - a 12 per cent increase - to the region's GDP annually by 2025. With the economic slump that countries now face, none can afford to continue to miss out on this largely untapped dividend.

That is why ESCAP - in collaboration with the Government of Canada - initiated the Catalyzing Women's Entrepreneurship (CWE) programme. The programme addresses three fundamental barriers that are hindering the growth of women-led businesses.

The first is lack of access to finance. The programme works to unlock private capital and use this capital to support women enterprises. This capital - whether as loans, equity, or blended finance - is used to provide targeted support to women entrepreneurs. It has created partnerships and used blended finance to support a range of gender-smart investment mechanisms, including a FinTech challenge fund, impact investment, and a women's livelihood bond. To date, the programme has supported over 7,000 women to access formal financial services and has unlocked over US\$50 million in private capital for women entrepreneurs.

The second barrier is policy. Existing policies and laws often do not recognize the specific issues women-led Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) face.

The programme is working to influence national Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) policies and laws



with Government partners in six countries. For example, in Cambodia, the programme worked with the Ministry of Industry Science Technology and Innovation to review the national SME policy and included special measures for women-led MSMEs.

COVID-19 has illustrated that businesses need to have greater resilience and the ability to ensure continuity through times of crisis. This is even more critical in places where other challenges like vulnerability to disasters and climate change have

been in play. In Viet Nam, the past year has seen an extreme impact on agricultural farmers - a vast majority of them being women - because of the drought and saltwater intrusion. Based on consultations with female farmers and provincial officials in Ben Tre province - the largest agricultural bed of the country - the programme is developing a strategy to address the impact of climate change on female farmers in the Mekong Delta region.

The third barrier to growth in women-led businesses is skills. Women entrepreneurs need support to become equipped with digital and business skills to manage, sustain and grow their businesses. The CWE programme has assisted women entrepreneurs to use digital tools in their financial management and leveraging e-commerce to reach new clients and expand to new markets. In Cambodia, CWE is helping women entrepreneurs to use the Kotra Riel mobile app, which allows them to record income and expenses, and more importantly, to prepare financial records for their loan and financing applications.

All of these barriers have been in play in the aftermath of the pandemic. As a result, the impact on women and women entrepreneurs across the region has been disproportionate to their male counterparts. Women have continued to take the burden of unpaid care work and homeschooling. Sectors in which women employees work - such as the garment sector - have been hit harder than other industries, impacting women's employment. Women entrepreneurs, who predominately make up the informal sector, face a range of financial and digital literacy constraints affecting business continuity.

Over the past year, we heard incredible stories of the resilience of the women entrepreneurs that our programme is supporting. We have seen women entrepreneurs repositioning their businesses and building back not only better but more agile, more capable and better prepared for shocks.

Take for example our partner iFarmer, in Bangladesh that quickly established new digitally enabled supply chains to keep women-led businesses running and providing food delivery. Or the women enterprise recovery fund, in collaboration with our partners at UNCDF, that is co-financing fintech solutions that support women entrepreneur's resilience and recovery.

But the scale of the challenge also requires a change in our response. In 2021 we will continue to scale up our work, leverage more capital, replicate and scale up our financing initiatives and share what we have learned. To increase the footprint of the programme, we are also leveraging regional partnerships, including with organizations like ASEAN.

Building back better means ensuring that women entrepreneurs not only survive this crisis but thrive coming out of it. This requires scaling up the resources directed to women-run businesses exponentially. Now that we have the model for success, we are looking for partners from across the private sector and development landscape to help us do just that. Because quite simply, the smartest investment for the SDGs is in the women of Asia and the Pacific.

AGENCIES

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAYVO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI 09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI 01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO)

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Rwanda encourages bicycle taxis for city transport

By James Tasamba

THE landlocked African country Rwanda is perhaps the only country, where bicycle taxis are seen circumventing traffic jams and transporting men and material in the capital Kigali.

Speaking to Anadolu Agency on eve of World Bicycle Day, which is observed on Thursday, Damascene Majoro, a bicycle taxi driver said till a few years ago, using a bicycle on Kigali's tarmac roads was prohibited, and quite often police used to impound bikes and impose heavy fines.

But realising the potential of bicycle, not only as a mode of cheaper transport but also its pollution-free nature and contribution to public health, authorities have lifted the ban. The same government prohibiting their use a few years ago is now promoting them as an environmentally friendly mode of transport in the city.



Majoro carries passengers from Kigali's Airport road to Remera junction in the suburb of Kabeza in the Kicukiro district. He earns 3,000 Rwandan francs (\$3) on weekdays but sometimes even high-

er. He said since the ban on cycling was lifted, the cycle has become a money-spinner, allowing him to shoulder the responsibility of his family.

Fulgence Habimana, 23,

who is also the owner of the bicycle taxi was earlier detained twice for riding a bicycle on the roads of Kigali.

"Authorities claimed that bicycles were responsible for road accidents,

which was unfair," he said.

When the ban was lifted, he hired a bike and used to pay 1000 Rwandan francs (\$1) a day to the owner. But now he has bought his bike.

"With this income, I can

save and pay school fees for my children in time. I can confidently advise my fellow youth who are idle to get their hands out of their pockets and join this job," he said.

In absence of dedicated

bicycle lanes, the riders have to compete for space with pedestrians, buses, speeding private cars, motorbikes, as well as cargo trucks.

"Sometimes we do not feel safe on the road, but we have to work because we need the money. If the road is widened that would be helpful," said Majoro.

Sylvain Uwimana, who regularly uses a bicycle taxi for commuting said it is much cheaper transport for low-income earners like her.

The bicycle taxi drivers have now formed a group, where they deposit 500 Rwandan francs (\$0.5)-1,000 Rwandan francs (\$1) every day from their earnings. This amount is used for their social security needs.

Authorities also now admit that allowing the youth to earn a livelihood by engaging in cycling has helped to minimize crimes, as most of the riders are school dropouts without other formal employable skills.

Take a cue, the Kigali city authorities in partnership with a private entity, have now launched a campaign to promote non-motorized transport to save the environment and improve the health of citizens.

As part of this campaign, the partner Gura Universal Link is installing modern green mobility ridesharing docking stations across two networks in the city center and Gisementi-Kimironko corridors, city authorities said in a recent statement.

Each station has provision for at least five bikes.

The city authorities are offering these bikes free of charge for the first three months to make people habitual of using them.

All the bikes are GPS-tracked and cannot be opened by anyone who is not profiled in the system. Those not registered and without authorization code will not be able to open the lock of the bike. The locks are fortified with a barcode and can be tracked through the GPS.



Mozambique's displaced children live in despair as world marks children's day

MAPUTO

At least 2,000 minors spent International Children's Day, 01 June, without their families in northern Mozambique, due to the armed conflict in that region, according to the United Nations Children's Fund (Unicef) in Mozambique.

Since 2017 the armed violence in Cabo Delgado has separated children from their families, according to Claudio Julaiá, emergency specialist for the UNICEF in Mozambique.

"The needs of these children are immense. They need food assistance and shelter as well as psychological support," he added.

Most of the 2,000 children are sheltered in the homes of displaced families with solidarity in reception centers, but according to UNICEF, it is not an 'easy process'.

"What we have done is to iden-

tify, in reception centers or in the neighborhoods, families who are willing to take in these children. We give these families training and additional assistance," he said.

According to Cláudio Julaiá, there are at least 364,000 children amongst 700,000 displaced by the conflict are spread across five provinces, namely Cabo Delgado, Niassa, Nampula, Zambézia and Sofala. UNICEF termed this as worrying.

"Almost 90 percent of the displaced children are in Cabo Delgado, and many of these children live in the homes of relatives. It is worrying to see that the number has been increasing," he said.

In addition to food assistance, UNICEF has been focusing on psychological support for minors, shaken by violence.

At this moment, around 1,700 children have been assisted in

terms of psychosocial support, through an initiative called 'friends of the children'.

"Children have the opportunity to play and have access to recreation to help overcome the trauma," he added.

The increase in the number of children in need of help in Cabo Delgado worries the organization at a time when Unicef is warning of a \$31 million budget deficit for its operation.

"The funding situation is not good," Claudio Julaiá said, adding that the increase in the number of displaced people in recent months leaves the situation 'more complex'.

"At this point, we have some resources that will help people at Cabo Delgado, but naturally, if we don't receive additional resources, then we will reach a point where

we won't have the capacity to continue supporting these children," he warned.

Armed groups have terrorized Cabo Delgado since 2017, with some attacks claimed by the 'jihadist' group Islamic State, in a wave of violence that has led to more than 2,500 deaths according to the ACLED conflict registration project and 714,000 displaced people according to the Mozambican government.

The number of displaced persons increased with the attack on the village of Palma on 24 March, an incursion that led to dozens of deaths and injuries, with no official figures announced yet.

The Mozambican authorities announced they controlled the town, but that attack led the French oil giants Total to abandon their operations.

Zimbabwe and Zambia pursue joint venture industry projects

By Prosper Ndlovu

ZIMBABWE and Zambia are working on setting up industrial joint ventures riding on the recent signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) aimed at facilitating close collaboration between the two countries towards rejuvenating the manufacturing sector.

Industry and Commerce Minister, Dr Sekai Nzenza, told regional ministers who attended the 4th Comesa Committee of Ministers of Industry last Thursday that the joint venture efforts would assist the two countries to unlock higher economic potential in line with regional industrialization ideals.

The two neighbouring countries will seek to utilize complementarities of national resources in key sectors to drive value-addition of skills, technology and marketing, among other capabilities, said Dr Nzenza.

"So far, the governments of Zambia and Zimbabwe have signed a Memorandum of Understanding to form a Joint Industrialization Cooperation Programme, which will facilitate deeper collaboration by setting up joint ventures," she said.

"Priority sectors include agriculture and agro-processing, mining and mineral beneficiation, petrochemicals, fertilizers and pharmaceuticals, capital goods industries, textiles, forest and timber-based industries, building materials and knowledge economy, among others."

Minister Nzenza said Zimbabwe and Zambia were well positioned to develop and facilitate regional value chains based on their comparative advantages. For instance, she said copper from Zambia could be smelted at Mhangura in Zimbabwe while cotton from Zimbabwe could be ginned at Mulungushi Textiles in Kabwe, Zambia.

"Such intra-regional trade could justify infrastructure projects such as the Lion's Den to Kafue railway, right up to the Beira Corridor," said Dr Nzenza.

"The intention is to establish common agro-industrial parks based on comparative advantage. Such an initiative requires a harmonized framework of managing Special Economic Zones and industrial parks at regional level."

The 4th ministerial committee meeting deliberated on key regional integration issues and closed with adoption of the draft implementation strategy for the domestication of the Comesa Local Content Policy Framework.

The regional industry framework is anchored on management of

Special Economic Zones and Industrial Parks and seeks to enhance industrial production during and after the Covid-19 pandemic in an inclusive and sustainable way.

This is a critical step for the Comesa market, which represents 42.6 percent of Africa's population and 27.2 percent of the continent's Gross Domestic Product. In the past five years average GDP growth rate for Comesa has been hovering around 4.89 percent.

In 2014, the region attracted investment of around US\$15 billion representing 27.8 percent of Africa's total foreign direct investment inflows. According to the African Economic Outlook, real GDP in Africa grew by an average of 3.6 percent in 2015, higher than the global average growth of 3.1 percent and more than double that of the European Union.

The United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (Uneca) reports that: "the continent has many growth opportunities and has become a magnet for investment driven by improved governance, better macro-economic policies, abundant human and natural resources, urbanization and the rise of the middle class, steady population growth, good economic performance, rising FDI, and huge market potential".

This resurgence has led to growing recognition of Africa as an emerging market and a potential global growth pole, ready for economic take-off.

Regional economic experts have stressed the need for the Comesa region and the African continent for structural transformation through industrialization. This also entails embracing the precepts of the 4th Industrial Revolution and introducing innovation of new technologies to industry and commerce.

Dr Nzenza has said that industrial development was a critical pillar of the Tripartite Free Trade Area Agreement and the African Continental Free Trade Area, which came into force in January this year. She briefed the regional gathering that Zimbabwe was already seized with this drive as espoused in the National Development Strategy 1 (2021-2025), which focuses on "structural transformation and moving up the value chains".

The implementation of specific strategies to facilitate industrial development are in line with the country's Vision 2030 of transforming Zimbabwe into a prosperous and empowered upper middle-income society.

Somaliland: The power of democracy

By Greg Mills, John Githongo, John Steenhuisen, Abbasali Haji, Chipokota Mwanawasa and Tendai Biti

A dirty white, bullet-pocked house, without electricity and running water, does not merit a second glance in the town of Burao high in the east of Somaliland. Yet this former colonial governor's residence shaded by a giant acacia was the site of the Grand Conference of the Northern Peoples in Burao, held over six weeks, concluding with the declaration of Somaliland's independence from Somalia on 18 May 1991.

Since then, the Somalilanders have stuck with a winning formula, despite the absence of international recognition and the tepid democratic enthusiasm of much of the Horn of Africa.

Only Somaliland is not ranked as "unfree" (with a score of 42/100) on Freedom House's political rights and civil liberty rankings. Ethiopia (22), Djibouti (24) and Somalia (7) all rank as unfree, the same as Uganda (34), Rwanda (21), Burundi (14), Egypt (18), Sudan (17), South Sudan (2), and Eritrea (2) in the next regional ring. Only Kenya (48) to the south enjoys "partly free" status.

Somaliland uses democracy to keep its people together. Its steady democratic performance and progress is a breath of fresh air in a continent where right now it's an uphill struggle for democrats.

Only seven countries of 49 in sub-Saharan Africa are now in the 'free' category. This is the lowest figure since 1991, with less than 10% of the population of the continent now living in countries classified by Freedom House as "free".

The reasons are simple. Incumbents have little interest in changing things, even though a vast majority of Africans regularly polled prefer democracy to other forms of government, despite the popularity among elites of the Big Man thesis.

Somaliland also shows that you don't have to be rich to be democratic. Despite a tiny national budget of just \$250-million for its 3.5 million people, tough geography and a hostile climate, Somaliland is to the contrary showing the way for much richer African countries how to do it.

"A place that has made something out of virtually nothing" is how former Nigerian president Olusegun Obasanjo describes the progress made by Somaliland. His trip there in May 2019 was the first by an African president since the territory redeclared its independence in May 1991.

In June 1960, Somaliland gained its initial independence from Britain before making an ill-fated decision to join former Italian Somaliland five days later in a union that was envisaged ultimately to include French Somalia (now Djibouti), the



Voters stand in line before casting their ballots under Sheikh's 42°C heat. File photo

Somaliland-dominated Ogaden region of Ethiopia (now Region 5) and a chunk of northern Kenya.

In the centre of the capital, Hargeisa, is the independence memorial, comprising a MIG-17 fighter-bomber erected on a plinth. This commemorates the event when, having lost control of the province, Siad Barre ordered his air force, operating from the local airport, to bomb the city which had been briefly captured by local Somali National Movement (SNM) liberation fighters in May 1988. Flown by Zimbabwean mercenaries, among others, this resulted in many thousands of civilian casualties.

By the time of Siad Barre's fall three years later, the main cities of Hargeisa and Burao had been razed to the ground. Not for nothing was Hargeisa known as the "roofless city" after systemic looting by Mogadishu had stripped it of roof sheeting and even doors and their frames.

Somalilanders have since sought stability on the principle of maximum ownership and the reality of minimum resources.

Peace did not require vast external financing. There was none available anyway at the time. In fact, the absence of outsiders may be precisely the reason for its success, at least compared with its southern neighbour, Somalia, which has lurched violently from peace conference to initiative, peacekeeping mission to external military intervention, and failing government to fragile coalition seemingly with little discernible progress. In Somalia, "conflict entrepreneurs" have fed off both the fighting and the talking in a top-down process financed by

donors mostly taking place outside the country.

Somaliland's peace conferences were by contrast managed and financed by locals, bringing their own food and shelter. The last conference in 1993 was held over five months under the trees in the western city of Boroma.

Such dialogue, long a feature of Somaliland society, was organic, bottom-up rather than top-down. Somalilanders concentrated on achieving peace, not on acquiring comforts and financial rents for delegates from a peace process. Despite its obvious dysfunctionality, Somalia somehow refuses to countenance Somaliland's right to a divorce, clinging chauvinistically to the notion that the marriage can be repaired. And Africa blindly stumbles on with hopes for reunion and fears of the impact of accepting the current two-state reality.

The recovery since has similarly demanded persistence and the principle of inclusion.

The former British protectorate has developed a stable, democratic system of politics, merging modern and traditional elements. In 2002, Somaliland made the transition from a clan-based system to multiparty democracy after a 2001 referendum, formalising the Guurti as an Upper House of Elders, which secures the support of traditional clan-based power structures. There have since been regular elections and a frequent turnover of power between the main political parties. The 2003 presidential election was won by Dahir Riyale Kahin by just 80 votes in nearly half a million from Ahmed Mahamud Silanyo.

The tables were turned in 2010,

with Silanyo winning 49% of the vote to his opponent's 33%. Muse Bihi Abdi, a former SNM fighter, who had earlier served as a Soviet-trained fighter pilot in the Somali Air Force, was elected in November 2017, receiving 55% of the vote, becoming the country's fifth president, and cementing a tradition of peaceful handovers of power rare to the region.

On 31 May 2021, around the 30th anniversary of Somaliland's independence and the 20th anniversary of its multiparty democracy, despite Covid-19, the parliamentary and local district elections went off smoothly, with 1.1 million voters registered by the National Electoral Commission (NEC), and the establishment of 2,709 polling stations countrywide.

Unlike Somaliland's previous six elections, which were mostly funded by outsiders, 70% of the \$8-million budget was financed internally. And despite delays in the election, caused by a standoff between the presidency and opposition parties over the nomination of members of the NEC, and challenges with the iris biometric voter registration system, these were the most competitive yet, with 246 candidates for 82 parliamentary seats and 966 for 249 district municipality posts across the six regions.

Critics say that Somaliland's democracy has been facilitated by the dominance of a single clan, the Isaaq, unlike Somalia, which has to balance the competing interests and ambitions of four major clans and several smaller ones. But this argument understates the differences between the Isaaq's sub-clans and sub-sub clans, ignores the inter-

nal violence that accompanied the birth process, which had to be resolved, and overlooks the tremendous hard work that went into it.

The focus on the relative integrity of the clan system, president Abdi contends, also underestimates the impact of the democratic culture of the SNM. "For 10 years," he says from his offices in Hargeisa, "the SNM was struggling for democracy, refusing the dictatorship of Siad Barre. The democracy we now have was also based on the constitution of the SNM, which was very democratic, in which there were regular elections every two years, and in which the central committee operated like a parliament."

He cites the example of former president Silanyo who was removed in the 1989 SNM elections and yet accepted the change. "We have a tradition of accepting results and changing power, and accepting leadership even outside of the SNM, which is very unusual," he points out, "among African liberation movements".

Donors have helped in sponsoring the local civil society group that provides election oversight: in 2021, the European Union was the principal contributor to the \$2-million budget of the Somaliland Non-State Actors Forum (Sonsaf), which deployed nearly 900 monitors countrywide and ran an Election Situation Room in Hargeisa staffed by 16 operators collecting and collating countrywide incident reports between April and July 2021.

This is how donors can spend money well and wisely in supporting local governance initiatives and the cause of peace and stability.

Of course, as with any democracy,

there are challenges of consolidation. Delays to the election process have resulted in officials serving well beyond their original mandates, while journalists face problems of access and pressure from authorities. There are instances of minor clans being subject to political and economic marginalisation, and violence against women remains a serious problem in a highly patriarchal society.

We observed the 31 May election in Sahel region, including Burao, the former colonial capital of Sheikh and the villages of Ina Dhakool and Qoyta, the latter the site of a casualty clearing station during the civil war. For all of its diplomatic isolation, Somaliland is strongly globalised. The link with the diaspora is in the names of Burao's suburbs, including Xaafada London, Abu Dhabi and Jarmalka (Germany).

Yet Somaliland is synonymous with grinding poverty and dirt-scramble hardship. A high percentage, too, of the population is illiterate, requiring assistance at the polls, many of which were run by university students. The slow pace of voting is accompanied by constant grumbling on a high Somali volume setting. Regardless, the enthusiasm was palpable, not least among the very old and young. Preference is patiently given to disabled and woman voters. A voting age of 15 might seem low, and a cynical way of vote-stealing, but it serves as a radicalising mechanism for the largest demographic: 70% of Somaliland's 3.5 million population is under the age of 30. The younger generation sees democracy as a means of diluting the impact of the clan system.

Democracy demands and creates a high-trust and transparent environment. Assisted voters, about one-fifth of those in our area of observation in 46 polling stations, would be asked their preference to be filled in by the presiding officer, and showed immediately to the agents representing the three parties in the station. These practices help to ensure votes are respected. The crowds were not voting just for political parties; they voted for nationhood and the pride for self-determination.

Somaliland's commitments to improving democratic norms and standards and its regular change of leaders at the polls have made it a regional democratic superpower. Its progress should shame those much richer African countries where incumbents are rolling back democratic progress, since this threatens their power and financial privilege.

Those African leaders – government and oppositions alike – committed to democracy should recognise Somaliland's undoubted progress from war to peace. The opposite also holds true.

DM

RADIO One RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05.00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06.00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06.30 AM NIPASHE 06.50 AM MATANGAZO 07.00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07.10 AM MATANGAZO 07.15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07.25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07.40 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 07.50 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08.10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 08.20 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 08.30 AM BRAND TALK 08.40 AM NEWS BRIEF 08.50 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 09.00 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 09.10 AM NEWS BULLETIN 09.20 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 09.30 HRS DJ SHOW 09.40 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 09.50 HRS HOJA YA LEO 10.00 HRS DIRA YA DUNIA BBC 10.10 HRS SPOTTI LEO 10.20 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 10.30 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 10.40 HRS NEWS BRIEF 10.50 HRS AFRO TIZI 11.00 HRS DAKIKA 45 11.10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 11.20 HRS AFRO TIZI 11.30 HRS NEWS BRIEF 11.40 HRS AFRO TIZI 11.50 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 12.00 HRS AFRO TIZI 12.10 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 12.20 HRS AFRO TIZI 12.30 HRS NEWS BRIEF 12.40 HRS AFRO TIZI 12.50 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 13.00 HRS AFRO TIZI 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Thursday 3 June 2021

CRDB Bank to establish Islamic window, foundation this year

By The Banker Reporter

IN a bid to serve the growing number of Moslems seeking banking services as per Sharia regulations, CRDB Bank Plc is in the final stages of establishing an Islamic Banking window.

The Dar es Salaam based lender which has also been given permission by Bank of Tanzania to open a subsidiary in DR Congo, also plans to establish a foundation that will manage its corporate investments in the community.

Addressing shareholders at the 26th annual general meeting last week, CRDB Group Managing Director and CEO, Abdulmajid Nsekela and Board Chairman, Dr Ally Laay said plans to establish the Islamic Bank window and foundation are in their final stages.

"The foundation will manage our corporate social investments which are largely focused on improving community services in education, health and related fields," Dr Laay said while adding that the bank is committed to help the government improve delivery of social services in the country.

In a rejoinder, Nsekela said all approvals from regulators have been secured and that anytime this year, the Sharia complaint banking services will be rolled



CRDB shareholders attending the 26th annual general meeting held at Arusha International Conference Centre last week. File photo.

out through the country. "Studies have shown that there is increasing demand for Islamic banking services and products in the market which we must exploit," Nsekela said.

He assured shareholders who approved a 22/- per share dividend that during next year's AGM, "We will be operating in DRC," while stressing that the bank which has a subsidiary in Burundi, is also planning to extend

its reach to both eastern and southern African countries.

Earlier during a sensitization seminar of the shareholders on capital markets investments, Finance and Economic Planning Minister, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba challenged CRDB leadership extend services to all landlocked countries which use Dar es Salaam port as their gateway to global markets.

Dr Nchemba urged the bank's

management to go past Burundi by establishing subsidiaries or opening branches in such hinterland countries to ease payment for cargo transiting through Dar es Salaam Port. "CRDB Bank is a market leader that should now go regional because we have seen other countries' bank opening up subsidiaries or branches in Tanzania," Dr Nchemba argued saying the country's Tier 1 capital bank should extend to

DR Congo, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

"Because you are a public owned bank with government's interest, you can even open a branch at our embassies so that you can facilitate payment for cargo by clients in these landlocked countries as is the case with Burundi," Dr Nchemba who is an economist by profession suggested.

He said Treasury and Bank of Tanzania will offer all necessary support to ensure that huge banks in which the government has a stake are assisted to go regional. "In the next few days, I will be meeting leaders of banks and will start with public banks in which the government has shares to discuss what policy and regulatory changes are needed to boost growth and lower interest rates charged on loans," the Treasury exchequer hinted.

He paid tribute to CRDB Managing Director and Board Chairman for sustaining growth of the market's largest bank by net assets value and network saying Treasury is happy to learn that this year's dividend will dwarf that of last year.

Yoyo pilots bank card-linked loyalty, integrates with Zapper

LONDON

Yoyo has launched its bank card-linked loyalty solution in South Africa, and in a separate move, is working with Zapper to broaden interoperability in the QR code space. Yoyo, which rebranded from wiGroup in 2020, is piloting its bank card-linked loyalty solution in the Netherlands, Germany, Iceland, Portugal and South Africa.

Offering a single frictionless process, customers automatically earn retail loyalty as part of the payment flow, without the need for additional steps. According to the company, the solution streamlines checkout for customers while unlocking the relationships and data that retailers of all sizes need to grow.

Yoyo creates transactional software products that enable consumers to connect with businesses and brands through the use of loyalty, rewards and m-commerce technologies. The international group resulted from a merger between local company, wiGroup and UK-based Yoyo. It currently works with well-known local brands such as Kauai, Vida e caffè, Burger King, KFC, Bootleggers, Famous Brands, Wimpy, and Mugg & Bean.

South Africa has a well-established retail loyalty scene, with over 70% of consumers belonging to at least one programme - according to Truth & BrandMapp's annual white paper - but recent numbers show that this is declining year on year.

Research shows that participants want the rewards and loyalty, however feel the extra step at checkout to swipe another card or open a loyalty app is cumbersome. Yoyo CEO Bevan Ducasse believes bank card-linked loyalty addresses this core challenge, as the landscape is ripe for innovation and simplification.

"The trend for customers is towards simplicity and speed of checkout, as seen with the rapid adoption of tap-to-pay," he says. "We therefore decided to link loyalty to this, which enables earning into the retailer's loyalty programme seamlessly on the back of a bank card payment. No additional cards, no additional steps."

Yoyo has also launched an SME offering that promises onboarding in under 10 minutes, striving to provide the power of loyalty to any small business. The Yoyo team, through its channel partnerships, hopes to take this solution to the 1 million-plus small businesses in the regions in which it operates.

"We're excited to extend the solution to small merchants, as we have witnessed the challenges of keeping businesses open in the current climate," Ducasse explains. "We are therefore hopeful we can play our small part to get customers returning and spending more at their local merchants."

Zapper integration

Yoyo and mobile payments solutions provider Zapper are also working together to broaden interoperability in the QR code space, giving their merchants access to more payment options with a single QR code, ensuring customers can pay quickly and safely with their favourite mobile payment option. Yoyo merchants who choose to sign up with Zapper will be able to offer payments using just one QR code across both payment apps, driving efficiencies and avoiding customer confusion.

PMI in deal with Hebo Group to build capacity of project managers

By The Banker Reporter

COLLABORATION announced by HEBO Group Company Limited through its consulting and professional training arm, HEBO Consult and PMI Tanzania Chapter earlier this week will help build capacity of project managers and supervisors hence improve performance in the country.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam after signing their memorandum of understanding, Project Management Institute Tanzania Chapter's President, Ella Naima and Co-founder and Director of Training at Hebo Consult, Bulla hekeno said under the deal the future of projects management in the country is poised to improve.

Naima said the agreement means that best practices in project management which is crucial to improving delivery and maximizing efficiency, will now be enhanced through regular training of personnel hence contributing to sustainable economic growth.

"This strategic partnership between PMI Tanzania and HEBO Consult is all about playing our part



President of PMI Tanzania Chapter, Ella Naima speaks in Dar es Salaam earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

to advance project management as a profession in Tanzania and beyond," she argued saying PMI Tanzania Chapter's members will directly benefit from the partnership through eligibility to exclusive discounts on certification training courses, customized boot-camp sessions for global recognition through certification.

Backing Naima's observation, HEBO Consult's Hekeno said his consulting, training and innovation firm focuses on project management and integrated marketing services. "Currently, HEBO Consult is providing PMI approved training courses as well as certification exam qualification hours, ensures candidates trained

by HEBO Consult are using the right materials recognized by PMI and are best prepared to pass their certification exams," he noted.

He said the local consulting firm offers credential which are professionally recognised globally hence provides individual and organizational credibility in execution of projects by following

proven successful standards.

"As the first and only premier authorized training provider certified by PMI in Tanzania, HEBO Consult provides standardized PMI approved training programs to project management professionals across Africa," Hekeno added.

Project Management is a growing profession across all sectors in Tanzania especially with the increase in various development projects nationwide. "As we know, Tanzania is a rapidly developing economy with industrialization at the forefront of our national strategy and therefore a lot of investment is flowing towards large-scale projects," the HEBO Consult Director stated.

The PMI Tanzania Chapter exists to advance the practice, science, and profession of project management in the country. The chapter is dedicated to empowering its members and the public to grow through the application of professional project management practices while also raising awareness and advocate for the project management as a profession in Tanzania.

FNB increases private banking fees, launches new mid-market account

JOHANNESBURG

FNB will increase the monthly fees of its Premier, Private Clients and Private Wealth accounts from July 1 following the freeze last year due to the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The bundle pricing on Fusion Premier will increase from R209 to R219 a month, on Fusion Private Clients from R385 to R399 a month, and on Fusion Private Wealth from R470 to R499 a month. These are increases of between 3.6% and

6.2%. Monthly fees of the non-Fusion products will also increase.

Fees of entry-level Easy Zero (no monthly fee), Easy PAYU (pay-as-you-use) (R4.95pm) and Easy Smart (R59pm) accounts remain the same. Cash withdrawals at ATMs on Easy Zero and Easy PAYU accounts have been reduced from R8 per R1 000 to R7 per R1 000 (up to a limit of R2 000).

Emphasis on value

The bank is focusing on the value offered on its accounts hard, positioning this as 'three times the

monthly account fee'. Rewards via eBucks, free FNB Connect data and bundled transactions are counted as part of this value. It contends that on Premier, for example, clients receive R599 in value.

FNB will also retire its clichéd Gold account and replace it with an entirely new product, Aspire (it was the first bank in the market to launch a 'gold' account). FNB Aspire at R99 a month is more affordable than the account it replaces (currently R109pm) and is also centred on 'value'.

Johan Moolman, CEO of eBucks, says "in Aspire, things are changing for the better." Very simply, Aspire customers who qualify for eBucks (minimum deposit and three payments/purchases on the app) will earn up to R150 per month in four categories: Shopping at Shoprite/Checkers/USave; Shopping at Clicks; Fuel purchases at Engen; and Bus tickets with Interscape.

On fuel purchases at Engen, Moolman says Aspire customers will earn a flat rate of 60c per

litre until they reach each reward amount (eg. R25 in eBucks) and up to the reward limit (R150 in eBucks). The launch of Aspire - with a black card - comes after Capitec shifted the colour and positioning of its card from gold to black in 2019.

The middle-income market is arguably the most competitive segment in the country and the overdue repositioning of FNB's account targeting those who earn between R15 000 and R37 500 a month is a clear response to Capitec.

NMB gives 550m/- in cash, material prizes to customers since February

By The Banker Reporter

NMB Bank Plc has given away over half a billion shillings through a deposits mobilization campaign dubbed, 'Bonge la Mpango' which started in February this year and which saw Temeke resident, Paulo Swai win a Tata Ace mini pickup worth 25m/- earlier this week.

The bank's acting Head of Internal Audit, Benedicto Baragomwa said during a handing over ceremony of the mini pickup to Swai said the promotion which is aimed at encouraging the public to save money, has so far seen 120 individuals win cash and material prizes worth 180m/- countrywide.

"We are giving these prizes to our customers not only to motivate them to save but also reward them for their trust in NMB Bank whose business also comes from the same public," Baragomwa said while urging Tanzanians to seize the opportunity and make the most from it.

He pointed out that many more cash and materials prizes are on offer including a Toyota Fortuner worth 169m/- that the grand finale winner will take home at the end of the campaign later this month.

"I urge our customers to continue depositing cash in their NMB accounts so that they stand a chance to win many more exciting cash and material prizes including the Toyota Fortuner in the grand finale draw," he added.

Among other prizes which have been won so far include motorcycles, 1m/- and 10m/- cash prizes, Lifan Cargo tricycles and many other cash prizes ranging between 100



Temeke resident, Paulo Swai sampling his prized Tata Ace mini pickup after winning through NMB's 'Bonge la Mpango' promotion earlier this week in Dar es Salaam. Photo courtesy of NMB.

and 500,000/- which are given in weekly and monthly draws.

Speaking after receiving his motor vehicle, Swai thanked NMB for organizing the promotion saying although he believes in regular saving of money for

future security, but the prizes also encouraged him to save even more.

"My advice to Tanzanian business owners and employees is to continue using NMB services to transact because it's reliable

and largest in the country. To those with no bank account, I encourage them to open one with NMB Bank," he advised.

The handing over ceremony was also attended by NMB Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar Zone

Manager, Donatus Richard who urged the public to choose the bank's services and products which are readily available in the market both physically and on digital platforms.

NEWSINDEPTH

US retail bank chief executives face renewed criticism for charging higher fees

NEW YORK

The heads of major US retail banks faced renewed criticism on Thursday from Democratic lawmakers who said financial institutions should not have charged Americans billions of dollars in overdraft and other fees during the pandemic.

Testifying before Congress for the second time this week, the chief executives of JPMorgan Chase, Bank of America, Citigroup and Wells Fargo highlighted their banks' efforts to waive fees and offer more affordable accounts after senator Elizabeth Warren attacked them over the costs.

JPMorgan chief executive Jamie Dimon, who bore the brunt of Ms Warren's ire during Wednesday's Senate hearing, said his bank waived \$400 million in overdraft fees for customers who have asked for help since the pandemic began. Ms Warren had slammed JPMorgan for gathering \$1.46 billion in such fees.

She responded on Thursday, tweeting: "Only @jpmorgan would brag that they only charged about \$1.5bn in overdraft fees during a global pandemic and economic crisis, instead of the roughly \$2bn they usually take." In a statement, the Consumer Bankers Association said customers have to opt in for overdrafts and many do so because they "view it as a valuable service."

On Thursday, House Financial Services Committee chairwoman Maxine Waters, another Democratic critic of Wall Street, also raised concerns that banks had "raked in" fees "at a time when individuals and families across the country are struggling".

Wells Fargo chief executive Charles Scharf was pressed by Democratic Representative Carolyn Maloney for charging "predatory" overdraft fees on debit card transactions. Mr Scharf, who is trying to turn Wells Fargo around after a sales practices scandal was exposed, said the bank was looking to be "more consumer-friendly". He said it had recently launched an overdraft-free account that is "probably" now its most popular. The chief executives of Goldman Sachs Group and Morgan Stanley also testified on Wednesday and Thursday.

Absa lines up Sh1.6bn innovations for loan top-ups, cash deposits

NAIROBI

Absa Bank of Kenya will spend Sh1.6 billion this year on digital innovations such as automation of loan top-up and cash deposit machines as lenders bet on technology to grow profits.

Absa, in response to shareholder questions, says it wants to enhance customer experience through significant investments in innovations. This will mark another year of investing in new technologies after the 2020's Sh1.3 billion expenditure.

"This year we are investing a further Sh1.6 billion in over 60 different technology projects, all aimed at transforming our customer experience. Some of these include automation of our loan top-up process," said the lender.

Automation will allow customers with existing loans to apply and get to top-ups within 15 minutes.

Absa will also be rolling out cash deposit machines, agency banking and a fully-fledged on-line business banking platform in the coming weeks to tap into the changing customer tastes and preferences.

"We want to make it as easy and as fast as possible for our customers to do their banking. We have no doubt that in so doing, we will position our business for growth and ultimately give you better returns," the lender told shareholders. Absa Bank Kenya in mid-March 2018 launched a virtual banking product dubbed Timiza that allows customers to access loans and pay utility bills using their mobile phones.

The lender discloses in latest annual report that it last year issued more than 700,000 loans valued at Sh8.2 billion through Timiza platform which has 4.3 million customers. Absa Bank Kenya net profit for the first quarter of the year increased 23.7 per cent to Sh2.42 billion on the back of growth in net interest income and end of separation costs from Barclays PLC.

Its net interest income rose by six per cent to Sh5.96 billion in line with increased lending as loan book expanded by 7.5 per cent to Sh218.3 billion. Its bottom-line was boosted by the absence of one-off Sh552 million that was booked in the previous quarter as part of separation costs from London's Barclays Plc.



Absa Bank Kenya's CEO, Jeremy Awori.

US Dollar mobile wallets key to Ethiopia's mobile money future

ADDIS ABABA

The World Bank believes that the availability of US Dollar denominated mobile money accounts will be key for Ethiopia - which has just licensed its first mobile wallet - given the high levels of inflation and exchange rate volatility, as well as high demand for mobile remittance receipts.

Safaricom, part of the consortium that won a bid to build and operate Ethiopia's first private mobile network, expects to roll out a mobile wallet one year after its licensing, in line with the Ethiopian government's position. State-controlled mobile operator Ethio Telecom is already operating the recently launched TeleBirr wallet.

Although TeleBirr expects to link up the wallet to bank accounts in the short term, the World Bank is of the view that US Dollar denominated mobile money accounts will be pivotal. Other US Dollar denominated wallets are already popular in countries such as Zimbabwe, while in Kenya, Safaricom is also offering a service for foreign currency remittance receipts.

Mobile receipts of remittances are gaining traction as markets continue to be impacted digitally by COVID-19, according to the GSMA and World Bank. US Dollar denominated mobile money accounts in Ethiopia "would also facilitate the use of mobile phones to receive remittances from abroad,

which is a particularly popular service in neighbouring Somalia," adds the World Bank.

The Bretton Woods institution says Somalia has "one of the highest levels of mobile money usage in the world." A recent World Bank Findex survey notes that Ethiopia has one of the lowest levels of utilisation of digital financial services in Africa, which marks the significant upside potential for mobile money.

"Just 0.4 per cent of the population sampled in Ethiopia had used a mobile phone or the internet to make a financial payment. The corresponding level of usage in Kenya, for instance, was 57 per cent and the average in Sub-Saharan Africa was 24 per cent," says the World Bank.



Firehiwot Tamiru, CEO of Ethio Telecom, during the inauguration of TeleBirr.

Digitise now: Fading popularity of traditional banking services

By Godwin Semunyu

THERE is a lot of talk about digital transformation in the Tanzania banking space, but not a lot of results. A few banks are finding success, but many don't have a real plan or still enjoy the business as usual arrangement.

Meanwhile, customers are busy finding new ways of life in the digital spaces. The Internet penetration rate in Tanzania has more than doubled between 2013 and 2021. Recent government reports have shown that by January 2021, there were close to 51 million mobile connections in the country, equivalent to 82.7 percent of the total population. Out of that, 15 million (26 percent) are active internet users.

The world of the internet, cell phones, and electronic gadgets has made the unthinkable, thinkable. What started as social media platforms like Facebook and WhatsApp, now links customers to their funds and markets, conveniently.

Digital services are getting better and safer. The online business (Instagram business mostly) where one shops online, pay via mobile and have their purchase delivered at doorsteps have to a great extent reduced the need for cash, which is the main driver of traditional banking. Less cash, fewer bank branches.

The digital platforms have crossed and broken barriers even in areas like paying

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government taxes, duties, land rent, and port charges that were usually considered bureaucratic. International trade has also not been spared. You want a new gadget, you order straight from Apple, and it will be delivered to your doorstep having paid everything including taxes, duties, and airport charges online. All these with no cash involved.

Gone are the days of everyone needing to go to the bank to transact or open an account. Days of in-branch loan processing, are increasingly numbered. The dominance of mobile money, alternative banking channels, and the unfortunate emergence of the pandemic hasn't helped the course either.

When most of today's customers evaluate financial institutions, they only compare experiences. Real-time transactions and the convenience of services rank higher than the presence of a superior network of branches.

Tanzania's banked population stands at only 29 percent, which is around 16 million people while financial inclusion numbers read at 85 percent, around 51 million

people. The customers prefer to spend more time on their phones and gadgets than in banking halls. There can only be one winner here, digital interactions.

The biggest and worrying data of them all is that the median age in Tanzania is 18 years. Meaning the new generation of customers is predominantly tech-savvy. The largest generation in the workforce to date prefers to bank online. Banks ought to adjust to their needs.

Also, Tanzania has a predominantly rural population geographically dispersed. The investment costs required to reach them all make it an uphill task for most banks. Digitally, this segment can easily be included. It doesn't necessarily have to be via internet-based applications, but rather the Unstructured Supplementary Service Data (USSD) mode.

Writings should be on the white wall to all local banks' chiefs, in the United Kingdom, for instance, more than 4,000 bank branches have been closed in the past six years as lenders migrate to digital platforms in serving customers.

In the United States alone, since 2012 the number of bank branches opened has fallen by an average of 902 per year, with existing ones declining rapidly. One report has sarcastically predicted that the bank branches may become extinct by 2040.

Also, while announcing, first quarter results performance for this year, Equity Bank Group CEO, Dr James Mwangi said that currently, the bank, as a group, serves 98 percent of customers via digital platforms, thanks to innovations and investment in technology.

The emergence of bank agents popular known as 'Wakalas' since 2013, has seen more and more customers abandoning services offered at branches. In 2019 the total deposits through 'Wakala' network reached a record 19bn/-, an 84 percent increase from a year prior. Alternative banking channels have since become the pinnacle functions of the banking business.

In the past few years, banks had embarked on a mission to push customers outside the branches by introducing higher fees on bank hall transactions. With the new development in the market, one wonders if the strategy will be overturned to save the landmark branches. It should also be noted that there is a growing group of potentials who have never had a bank account and are used to only accessing funds through mobile phones and Wakala. They present a mountain task to be "converted."

Expert counselling on investing in pension, real estate vehicles for future prosperity

By Petrus Maré

THIS is only my second visit to Tanzania. I can vow that the last three months have captivated every realm of my imagination regarding generational wealth. The words of the Bahamian Author and best speaker Dr Myles Munroe echo in the back of my mind, 'tertiary education' will earn you a living. But self-education will earn you a fortune.

Since my arrival here I have been meeting with insurance brokers and investment specialists to get a grip of the framework in what I perceive to be the most peaceful country on the eastern shores of Africa. I was amazed to find out that only a minor scale portion of the working citizen actually leverage insurance.

The 'International' status quo investment vehicles, whether those be available in Tanzania already or are still knocking on the developing market of 'Karibu' are operational. Recently, I was sitting with a well-versed owner of a big insurance company and professor at a local university.

We were discussing possible reasons why regulatory authorities and the government still have not made it possible for (the prodigal son) Tanzanians studying finance abroad to come back and start a prestigious Tanzanian Asset management company here on home soil. Then, finally Africans can start keeping money in Africa!

I do understand that there are only a handful of local companies currently to look at, but we will have to start with establishing laws and regulations that benefit the average Tanzanian. Then certainly we can start strategizing and planning with local prosperity in mind.

Many regulations are there to protect the foreign investor from running ramped, but surely the old mindset of sacrificing the 99 to protect the one golden sheep, leaves a somewhat bitter aftertaste. We are still so focused on foreign establishment that hardly any attention is given to local citizens who need to retire one day.

Education on how to save monthly and the belief that your money is safe and secure and is growing should be a human right. Secure investment vehicles are proven to be the answer to prosperity. More emphasis will have to be put on education in this field, if we truly care about the 99 majority. There is some expectation from big 'life insurers' that because of investment and increased job creation, some products might hit the floor soon.

Let us take an annuity for example: A fixed investment vehicle predominantly familiar with retirement and known as a retirement annuity. What some might not know is that it is a subliminal efficient retirement savings vehicle. The retirement annuity is annually tax deductible according to your tax bracket, up to a certain contribution. You keep working that tax re-bate back into your retirement fund.

This allows the contributor of the fund to get to his/her retirement goal so much faster, therefore there is until today no alternative for a good old retirement annuity! In other words, the Tanzania Revenue Authority is paying for your retirement. There is no other conventional investment vehicle that provides these 'returns'. Culture is caught not taught, so I honestly pray that it sells itself soon so that vehicles such as these become second nature to all Tanzanians.

Some other African countries place major emphasis on this already, and you frowned upon if you have not started to save in your 20's. Comic looking back how Pythagoras in math's class, or Vasco de Gama's spice route around the horn of Africa - thou interesting, has never served me practically at the end of the month.

Tax, however, conveniently gets left out of most schooling children's curriculums, globally. How different would Tanzania, and Africa be if we weren't grooming little versions of ourselves, parrots, like myself at 10 years old who could recite a 10 page memorized speech in front of an audience of hundreds of people, however, at 18 years old, along with all my peers had no idea what a budget or tax looked like. We are as a society instilling false ideologies within our children if we do not awaken to this truth about them leaving an inheritance one-day as well.

It is time that we groom independent, emotionally strong 'out of the box-thinking' business owners and entrepreneurs in ways and strategies to keep their money in Africa. Africa is the next big development hub of the world - no other continent has the same space left - really! But do we embrace this mindset? Do we nurture our children for this charismatic, yet almost contradictive mindset?

The other major white elephant in the 'finance room' to be addressed is the seemingly lack of fiduciary services or 'wealth advisors' outside of your conventional lawyers' office. Citizens need to be made aware that there is more to an estate than a spreadsheet with all your assets. Dying intestate is



a real event that should not be overlooked if you want to take advantage of all the growth coming to Tanzania.

A will and a proper estate planning are highly essential in today's ever evolving society. It is globally one of those 'old school formalities' that have to be given more attention to as the medium class' income rises over the coming years.

I remember one instance when a lady did not make it a priority to move her executorship for her will from the bank to my office. The banker signed off where she wanted to be buried, instead of cremated. This in hindsight is not an unimaginable mistake for a banker, because it is not his area of expertise. Eight years later that estate was not 'un-wrapped' yet. The government got hold of the seemingly insignificant error.

The daughters of the lady had no way to pay their school fees. This is a typical example of a multi-million dollar estate that never found the next generation in time to add real significance to lives, because no education around an estate was provided. Growth in the economic sector brings forth new specialist planners. We as an up emerging economy will have to start making provision for them.

Once again, the question is - when you close your eyes can you envision and see at all the glass skyscrapers in Dodoma or Dar es Salaam cities, dealing solely with the estate wealth of Tanzanians or do we allow ourselves to be lose out for lack of knowledge.

Will a swanky English firm rather ride out the complications with regulators in the future, service our elite, make it look niche whilst we send the growing middle class a clear message it is always possible, but never obtainable? What a shame for a single Tanzanian to have to say, "There's no footprint in the sand of history that looks like mine."

NB: Petrus Maré is an investment advisor based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached through: lionlegacyfoundation@gmail.com

ADEX and TDB to bolster Emirati trade with Africa through USD30 million trade finance facility

ABU DHABI

Abu Dhabi Exports Office (ADEX), the export-financing arm of Abu Dhabi Fund for Development (ADFD), has signed a USD 30 million (AED 110.19 million) line-of-credit agreement with the Eastern and Southern African Trade and Development Bank (TDB) to bolster trade between the UAE and the Bank's Member States. The partnership is the first of its kind to be signed by ADEX with a foreign financial institution.

The trade finance facility agreement was signed during a virtual ceremony by Saeed Al Dhaheri, acting Director General of ADEX, and Admassu Tadesse, TDB Group Managing Director and CEO. Through the Facility, ADEX will provide the line of credit to TDB for the purpose of extending loans to buyers and importers from the Bank's Member States to purchase goods and services from UAE sources.

The agreement reflects the proactive role ADEX plays to support the UAE to diversify its economy, while offering many benefits to its partners. It is also aligned with TDB's role in intermediating global and regional capital to drive impact in the Member States it serves. In that spirit, the partnership will give much-needed support to both exporters and importers at a time when the global economy is facing challenges due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

"Fulfilling mutual interest through strategic partnerships is key to ADEX's effort to turn into reality its vision to drive sustainable economic growth at home and abroad," said Mohamed Saif Al Suwaidi, Director General of ADFD and Chairman of the Export Executive Committee of ADEX. "The agreement constitutes an ideal partnership that benefits everyone."

The agreement is in line with the UAE Government's policy to support and promote trade relationships that equally benefit partner organisations and Emirati exporters, enabling them to expand their businesses, as well as their contribution to economic diversification and sustainable development in the UAE and abroad. It is also consistent with TDB's mandate to finance and foster trade, regional economic integration and sustainable development in its Member States.

Saeed Al Dhaheri, Acting Director General of ADEX, described the agreement as an integral part of ADEX's core strategy to help national companies expand their footprint and support the UAE's economic diversification effort. He called it an ideal partnership that helps the export-financing entity to directly drive growth for the national export economy, while enabling a broader range of importers to obtain credit on more competitive terms.

"This is not only a difficult time for UAE exporters, but it is also a challenging time for their overseas buyers, particularly smaller importers who cannot access any direct credit facilities from export-financing institutions." "Both are dealing with liquidity and cash flow issues, delayed supplier payments and limited access to financing. Through our partnership with TDB, we intend to provide a solution to these challenges that enables both the exporter and importer to fund mutually beneficial transactions quickly and easily. Thus, the agreement is a win-win for both parties," Al Dhaheri said.

Admassu Tadesse, TDB Group Managing Director and CEO, pointed out that that trade between the UAE and Africa has doubled over the past five years, while it has grown about eight-fold in the past 15 years. "The statistics signal a growing interest of businesses in the UAE and our region to build stronger trade relations. We are pleased to support their ambitions through this agreement with ADEX."

He expressed hope that the agreement will help the beneficiaries unlock their potential by creating more opportunities for them, and that in turn, they will contribute more substantially to the common endeavour of ADEX and TDB towards sustainable development.

Michael Awori, TDB Deputy CEO and COO said: "through its trade finance operations, among other impacts, TDB plays a key role in the importation of strategic commodities that are essential to energy and food security, and to support industrialization and higher productivity via the imports of equipment."

He expressed confidence that the agreement will go a long way to ensure that business between the UAE and Africa continues to flourish, despite the liquidity crunch created by the pandemic, as well as the crisis of fuelled by the withdrawal of global banks from Africa following the last financial crisis.



Saeed Al Dhaheri, acting Director General of ADEX, and Admassu Tadesse, TDB Group Managing Director and CEO signing the agreement on Zoom media last week.

WORLD

African Union suspends Mali after coup, threatens sanctions

THE African Union has suspended Mali's membership in response to last week's military coup and threatened sanctions if a civilian-led government is not restored, according to a statement on Tuesday.

The military arrested interim President Bah Ndao and Prime Minister Moctar Ouane last week and pressured them to resign, derailing a transition to democratic elections after another military coup last August ousted the previ-

ous administration.

Former vice president Assimi Goita, a colonel who led the August coup and last week's revolt, was declared president on Friday.

The African Union called for "an unimpeded, transparent and swift return to the civilian-led transition ... failing which, the Council will not hesitate to impose targeted sanctions," the AU's Peace and Security Council said.

Mali's neighbours and international



The logo of the African Union (AU) is seen at the entrance of the AU headquarters on March 13, 2019, in Addis Ababa. (File photo)

powers fear the latest revolt will jeopardise a commitment to hold a presidential election in February, and undermine a regional fight against Islamist militants, some of which are based in Mali's desert north.

The African Union suspended Mali after last August's coup but reinstated the country a few weeks later after the heads of the new civilian-led transitional government were announced.

Wang Yi urges BRICS countries to help end 'vaccine divide'

GUIYANG

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi on Tuesday put forward suggestions for BRICS countries to promote solidarity across the world, address the problem of governance deficit, and respond to common challenges.

During a virtual meeting of foreign ministers of the BRICS countries, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, Wang called on the countries to promote global solidarity to fight the pandemic and be the guardians of people's health.

Noting that China has provided more than 350 million doses of COVID-19 vaccines to the international community, Wang said it is hoped that BRICS will continue to make vaccines global public goods, adhere to the principle of fair and reasonable distribution, support the World Health Organization in accelerating the implementation of COVAX, and support the World Trade Organization in making an early decision on an IPR waiver for COVID-19 vaccines.

Wang said it is necessary to accelerate the construction of the BRICS vaccine research

and development center, support domestic vaccine companies to transfer technology to other developing countries, carry out cooperative production, and provide assistance for the global elimination of the "vaccine divide."

China proposes to establish an international forum for vaccine cooperation, with the participation of BRICS countries and companies welcomed, according to Wang.

BRICS countries should practise true multilateralism and be the defenders of the international order, Wang said.

He said that the five countries should make concerted efforts to strengthen the international system with the United Nations as the core and maintain the international order based on international law.

Wang called on the BRICS countries to contribute to the recovery of the world economy. He noted that China supports the formulation of an action plan for BRICS cooperation in science and technology innovation with an aim to form new development momentum with technological innovation and digital transformation.

China has established an in-



Chinese State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi attends a virtual meeting of foreign ministers of the BRICS countries, namely Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa, in Guiyang, capital of southwest China's Guizhou Province, on Tuesday. (XINHUA)

novation base for the BRICS partnership on new industrial revolution in the city of Xiamen, Fujian Province, and looks forward to the active participation of the BRICS countries, Wang said.

The BRICS countries should strengthen cooperation in green industry, green technology, and green financing to jointly build a community of life between man and nature, Wang said, calling for expanding the "BRICS+" cooperation model and the BRICS New Development Bank.

Wang also called on the BRICS countries to resolve regional conflicts and confrontations, and make contributions to the world peace.

The BRICS countries should work to facilitate the political settlement of issues related to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict, the Iran nuclear deal, Afghanistan, the disposal of nuclear contaminated water from the Fukushima nuclear power plant in Japan, and terrorism, he said.

The countries should resolve differences through dialogues and consultations, and carry out more preventive actions, Wang added. Indian External Affairs Minister Subrahmanyan Jaishankar chaired the meeting. South African Minis-

ter of International Relations and Cooperation Naledi Pandor, Brazilian Foreign Minister Carlos Franca, and Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov also attended the meeting.

The ministers called for the strengthening of BRICS anti-epidemic cooperation, and supported for the holding of BRICS vaccine cooperation seminars to make greater contributions to global public health security.

Reaffirming the commitment to multilateralism, the ministers stressed to maintain the international system with the United Nations as the core, give full play to the role of the BRICS cooperation mechanism, and build a more fair, just, inclusive, equal, and more representative multi-polar international system.

The ministers highlighted the important role played by the New Development Bank in infrastructure construction and sustainable development, and welcomed China to establish an innovation base for the BRICS partnership on new industrial revolution.

The ministers also made it clear that all conflicts should be resolved through dialogues and negotiations in accordance with international law.

Xinhua

UK to begin process to join trans-Pacific trade partnership

By Bloomberg

MEMBER nations of a Pacific regional trade deal agreed Wednesday to allow the UK to begin the process to join, Japan's economy minister said, in a potential boost for the country's trade following Brexit.

Yasutoshi Nishimura said the move would strengthen economic ties between the UK and Japan, as well as making the zone covered by the deal equal to the EU in terms of economic size. He spoke to reporters after hosting an online meeting of ministers and officials from the 11 countries who make up the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (CPTPP).

"The commencement of an accession process with the United Kingdom and the poten-



Haulage trucks in front of shipping containers at the Port of Felixstowe Ltd., a subsidiary of CK Hutchison Holdings Ltd., in Felixstowe, UK, on Jan 25, 2021. (File photo)

tial expansion of the CPTPP will send a strong signal to our trading partners around the world of our commitment to support a free, fair, open, effective, inclusive and rules-based trading

system," the ministers said in a joint statement.

Former US President Donald Trump withdrew from negotiations when he took office in 2017 and his successor Joe

Biden hasn't indicated any reversal is likely.

"CPTPP membership is a huge opportunity for Britain," UK International Trade Secretary Liz Truss said in a statement. "It will help shift our economic centre of gravity away from Europe towards faster-growing parts of the world, and deepen our access to massive consumer markets in the Asia Pacific."

She added in a tweet the government will present its plans on the deal to parliament in the coming weeks.

More recently, China has shown interest in joining the pact, following its signing of the separate Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership, a less demanding agreement covering some of the same nations. Japan has been supportive

of the UK's efforts to seal global trade deals as it seeks to carve out a bigger role in Asia following its exit from the EU. The two countries reached a bilateral trade agreement last year. The UK also has separate pacts with other member countries including Canada, Singapore and Vietnam and is pushing for one with Australia. Brunei, Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru are also part of CPTPP.

The UK made its formal application to join CPTPP in February. Becoming a member would accelerate the UK's growth in export trade with faster-expanding Asian economies, according to Bloomberg Intelligence analyst Mike Dennis. The UK recorded a trade surplus with CPTPP countries in the first quarter of 2021, he added.

Xinhua

Israel's Lapid enlists Gantz, moves closer to unseating Netanyahu

ISRAEL'S opposition leader moved closer to unseating Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu yesterday after agreeing terms with several parties, including one led by Defence Minister Benny Gantz, for a proposed new government, a spokesman said.



Yair Lapid (pictured), a centrist tasked with forming the next governing coalition after the conservative Netanyahu failed to do so in the wake of an inconclusive March 23 election, has until midnight (2200 GMT) on Wednesday to present a final slate.

Lapid has yet to clinch a deal with his main partner, nationalist Naftali Bennett, who would serve as premier first under a proposed rotation between the two men.

Lapid's Yesh Atid party and Gantz's centrist Blue and White said in a joint statement they had "agreed on the outlines of the government and core issues relating to the strengthening of democracy and Israeli society".

Gantz would remain defence minister in the new cabinet, the parties said.

Deals have also been reached with the left-wing Meretz and centre-left Labour parties as well as with former defence minister Avigdor Lieberman's nationalist Yisrael Beiteinu party, a Lapid spokesman said.

The United Arab List was also negotiating to join the coalition. If it does, it would be the first time in Israel's history that an independent Arab party becomes a member of the government. Netanyahu, in power for the past 12 years, has sought to discredit Bennett and two other rightists negotiating with Lapid, saying they were endangering Israel's security.

Keeping the door open to them, Israel's longest-serving leader has said he is still capable of forming the next government. If Lapid misses Wednesday's deadline - marking the end of a 28-day presidential mandate to put together a coalition - parliament will have three weeks in which to agree on a new candidate.

If that fails, Israel will hold another election, its fifth in some two years.

Agencies

Russia registers drug that prevents complications from COVID-19

MOSCOW

THE Russian Health Ministry has registered an inhalant drug Leitrigin for treatment and prevention of pneumonia caused by the novel coronavirus, the Russian Federal Medical-Biological Agency informed on its website yesterday.

"On May 25, the inhalant drug Leitrigin developed by the Federal Medical-Biological Agency was registered by the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation. The new drug is meant to treat and prevent pneumonia, which is a complication from the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19)," the message informs.

It is noted that industrial production of the drug is being launched currently.

Leitrigin is the first drug aimed to prevent and combat the cytokine storm caused by COVID-19. Clinical trials among 320 patients with moderate symptoms of COVID-19 have shown that there have been no deaths among the group and no cases of severe symptoms.

Patients who took Leitrigin recovered in about eight days, compared to 14 days of recovery for those receiving standard treatment.

Agencies

Biden announces measures to narrow racial wealth gap in speech marking Tulsa massacre centennial

WASHINGTON

U.S. President Joe Biden on Tuesday announced a series of measures aimed at narrowing the wealth gap among racial groups in a speech commemorating the 100th anniversary of Tulsa massacre, one of the most atrocious racial violence in U.S. history.

In less than 24 hours between May 31 and June 1, 1921, a mob of white attackers killed over 300 Black Americans in the Greenwood neighborhood of Tulsa, Oklahoma, and burned down 35 square blocks of that business district built by Black Americans -- so prosperous at the time that it was then referred to as Black Wall Street.

Roughly 10,000 Greenwood residents were displaced and the community has never come close to recovering. Yet, Tulsa officials, in efforts to cover up the massacre, framed the atrocity as "riot," and the mass killings received scant mentions in media reports, school curriculum and civil and governmental conversations in the decades that followed. It wasn't until recent years that the horrendous events were eventually included in American history textbooks.

"My fellow Americans, this was not a riot. This was a massacre. Among the worst in our history," Biden said in his speech as the audience rose to their feet. "Some injustices are so heinous, so horrific, so grievous they can't be buried no matter how hard people try," the president said earlier during the speech. Biden detailed a raft of policies intended to bolster homeownership and help minority-owned small businesses and entrepreneurs.

Xinhua

Chinese cargo craft Tianzhou-2 docks with space station core module Tianhe

AT 5:01 a.m. (Beijing Time) on May 30, Chinese cargo craft Tianzhou-2 successfully docked with the space station core module Tianhe, becoming the first spacecraft to visit the core module.

Rendezvous and docking is one of the basic technologies of manned space activities, as well as a prerequisite for in-orbit services of space stations and space transport systems, including assembly, recycling, replenishment, maintenance, astronauts substitution and rescue.

Dang Rong, deputy chief designer of Tianzhou-2 from the China Acad-

emy of Space Technology (CAST), introduced that it normally takes two to three days from the launch of a spacecraft to its rendezvous and docking, and the process also calls for much manned intervention.

Quickness was the highlight of the docking between Tianzhou-2 and Tianhe, said the deputy chief designer, adding that the whole process took around eight hours with no intervention from ground station, similar to driverless cars.

The Tianzhou-2 cargo freighter is composed of a pressurized cargo section and a propulsion section.

Measuring 10.6 meters in length, it has a maximum takeoff weight of 13.5 tonnes and carries 6.8 tonnes of goods and materials. The cargo craft will operate in orbit for at least one year. Its power supply capacity is not less than 2,700 watts. Different from the Shenzhou manned spacecraft, the Tianzhou-2 cargo freighter only carries cargos.

In April 2017, Tianzhou-1, China's first cargo spacecraft, successfully conducted automated docking with the orbiting Tiangong-2 space lab, and then carried out the first in-orbit refueling. As an important part

of China's space station, Tianzhou-2 is responsible for transporting materials to, refueling for, and taking away the waste from the space station.

According to Feng Yong, commander-in-chief of the Tianzhou-2 mission from the CAST, the carry-on onboard the cargo craft includes consumables that are designed to support three astronauts on their space missions for three months, space suits for missions outside cabin and other supplies. Apart from living materials, Tianzhou-2 also carries propellants to refuel the

core cabinet.

Experiment devices and materials were also shipped by Tianzhou-2, and will be taken out and installed by astronauts when they are sent to the core module Tianhe by the Shenzhou-12 manned spaceship, Feng said.

Tianzhou-2 is loaded with some 160 parcels of goods and two tonnes of propellants, which account for over half of its total mass. There are two space suits for the astronauts' outside-cabin activities, and each of them weighs over 100 kilograms.

Besides, a "space massager" and

a "space refrigerator" also went into space with Tianzhou-2. The "space massager," developed by the Sanjiang Group under the China Aerospace Science and Industry Corporation Limited (CASIC), can help astronauts alleviate muscle fatigue and reinforce muscle strength via electric pulse stimulation, so as to prevent amyotrophy, a possible result of long-term spaceflight. The "space refrigerator" manufactured by the 306th Research Institute under the CASIC is able to protect key medical materials and supplies in the cargo craft. *People's Daily*

Russia to resume flights to and from another eight countries on June 10

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will resume regular flights to and from Austria, Hungary, Lebanon, Luxembourg, Mauritius, Morocco and Croatia, as well as charter flights to Albania, on June 10, the anti-coronavirus crisis center said in a statement on Monday.

"Following today's discussions and taking into account the coronavirus situation in certain countries, the crisis center has decided to resume flights to and from the following countries on a mutual basis: Austria (Moscow-Vienna, two flights a week), Hungary (Moscow-Budapest, two flights a week), Lebanon (Moscow-Beirut, one flight a week), Luxembourg (Moscow-Luxembourg, one flight a week), Mau-

ritius (Moscow-Port Louis, two flights a week), Morocco (Moscow-Rabat, two flights a week), Croatia (Moscow-Zagreb, two flights a week)," the statement reads.

Besides, a weekly charter flight will operate between Moscow and Albania's capital of Tirana.

Russia has so far resumed flights to and from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, India, Kazakhstan, Vietnam, Venezuela, Greece, Germany, Singapore, Serbia, Ethiopia, Qatar, Kyrgyzstan, South Korea, Egypt, the United Arab Emirates, Switzerland, Sri Lanka, Uzbekistan, Finland, Japan, the Maldives, Cuba and the Seychelles. On May 25, Russia resumed flights to and from Iceland, Malta, Mexico, Portugal and Saudi Arabia.

Agencies

Racism in US piles up pressures on Asians

ASIAN Americans who have experienced racism are more stressed by anti-Asian hate than the pandemic itself and have suffered heightened signs of depression, anxiety, stress, and physical symptoms, a new report said.

The Stop AAPI Hate Mental Health Report features findings from three research projects that investigated the effects of anti-Asian racism on the mental health of Asian Americans during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The reports are the Stop AAPI Hate Follow-Up Survey, the National Anti-Asian American Racism Study, and the COVID-19 Adult Resilience Experiences Study.

The Stop AAPI Hate survey found that discrimination was Asian Americans' greatest source of stress, much higher than concerns over the pandemic. The survey also showed 95.3 percent of respondents view the US as more dangerous for them.

"It's a really scary statistic," said Russel Jeung, co-founder of the Stop AAPI Hate reporting center. "They, overwhelmingly, were more concerned about racism than they were concerned about the pandemic that's killed (almost) 600,000 people in the US." "They (the respondents) say: you can protect yourself from the COVID by covering your face with a mask, but you can't protect yourself from some random stranger who may attack you or attack your elderly grandmother," he said.

The survey was conducted from January to March with 413 individuals who reported racist incidents to the platform last year.

The Asian American Psychological Association, in collaboration with the Stop AAPI Hate group, conducted a parallel national needs assessment study of 3,736 Asian Americans as the com-

parison group from January to April.

The national needs assessment survey found 34.3 percent of participants cited anti-Asian racism as their greatest source of stress, and 75.2 percent also viewed the US as more dangerous for Asian Americans. Both numbers were much lower than what the Stop AAPI Hate survey found.

The report found though that one in five Asian Americans who have experienced racism display "racial trauma", the psychological and emotional harm caused by racism.

Experience of racism during COVID-19 is found to be more strongly associated with post-traumatic stress disorder, or PTSD, symptoms, said the COVID-19 Adult Resilience Experiences Study, which recruited 1,002 adults in the US aged between 18 and 30 from April to June last year.

PTSD on the rise

One in three Asian and Asian American young adults reported clinically elevated symptoms of depression and general anxiety, and one in four reported a PTSD diagnosis, said the study's data drawn from 211 participants who self-identified as Asian or Asian American.

The study found the rates are higher than pre-COVID-19 mental health estimates. Before the pandemic, Asian Americans, particularly immigrants and those with lower English proficiency, often had trouble accessing mental healthcare due to structural and linguistic barriers.

The persistent damaging stereotypes of Asian Americans such as the model minority stereotype contribute to misconceptions about Asian Americans' mental health status and needs, the Stop AAPI Hate Mental Health Report said.

Agencies

World Health Assembly urges stronger public health emergency preparedness, WHO response

GENEVA

THE World Health Assembly (WHA) on Monday called on the World Health Organization (WHO) to reinforce its preparedness for and response to public health emergencies worldwide and suggested that a specific working group be established for this purpose.

During the meeting, the attending countries came to the conclusion that the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has fully exposed the weaknesses of mankind's health emergency response system at national, regional and global levels.

COVID-19 REVEALS SERIOUS SHORTCOMINGS IN PREPAREDNESS

Member states at the WHA agreed that COVID-19 has revealed serious shortcomings in the world's preparedness for timely, effective prevention of potential health emergencies, and its response capability is also in urgent need of improvement.

Before the WHA, the Independent Panel for Pandemic Preparedness and Response (IPPPR), established by WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, submitted its final main report on the COVID-19 response by the WHO and its member states.

Admitting that COVID-19 was a preventable global disaster, the IPPPR report largely attributes the outbreak of the pandemic to inconsistent and underfunded preparation, which has long been crippled by an alert system too slow and too mild.

"February 2020 was a lost month, when steps could and should have been taken to curtail the epidemic and forestall the pandemic," the panel said, adding that it resulted from two things.



WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

One was that countries did not fully recognize the threat, and the other was that they chose a wait-and-see attitude rather than concerted public health actions, failing to understand how serious the new pathogen could be.

Even after the WHO declared the COVID-19 outbreak as a public health emergency of international concern (PHEIC) on Jan. 30, 2020, a large number of countries still did not adopt a strong containment strategy, which could have forestalled the global pandemic.

Meanwhile, the spread of the pandemic shows that the WHO was underpowered to fully fulfill its duty, and the uncoordinated actions by countries confronting the pandemic have aggravated the inequality in access to

response tools, such as personal protection equipment, diagnostic kits, therapeutics and vaccines, which all need global political leadership to address.

WORKING GROUP TO STRENGTHEN WHO PREPAREDNESS, RESPONSE

The WHA proposed establishing a member states working group on strengthening WHO preparedness for and response to health emergencies. The group will consider the findings and recommendations in three reports submitted respectively by the IPPPR, the International Health Regulations (IHR) Review Committee, and the Independent Oversight and Advisory Committee for the WHO Health Emergencies Program.

Concerning the IHR in particular, the review committee holds that lack of compliance of states with certain obligations under the IHR, particularly on preparedness, has caused the COVID-19 pandemic to evolve into a protracted global health emergency. Hence, it highlighted the need of governmental responsibility to implement the IHR to the highest level.

The committee recommends a robust accountability mechanism for evaluating and improving compliance with IHR obligations to strengthen preparedness, international cooperation and timely notification of public health events.

While urging member states to strengthen their core public health capacities and adopt an all-hazard, multi-sectoral approach in preparedness for health emergencies, the WHA resolution calls on countries to notify WHO of public health events within their territories according to IHR (2005), and continue to convey to the WHO timely, accurate and sufficiently detailed public health information.

One of the priorities of the working group will be undertaking a WHO convention, agreement or other international instruments on pandemic preparedness and response.

The working group is expected to provide a report to a WHA special session scheduled for November, which will be dedicated to establishing an intergovernmental process to draft and negotiate a relevant convention or agreement.

Addressing the WHA, Chinese delegate Yang Feng, also deputy director of Health Emergency Response Office affiliated with National Health Commission of China, appreciated the WHO for the tremendous work it has done. Noting that the virus knows no borders and the pandemic no race, he called for global solidarity and cooperation in building a community with a shared future for mankind. *Xinhua*

DR Congo's Goma slowly returns to normal after volcanic eruption

GOMA

OVER a week after the eruption of volcano Nyiragongo in the north-eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (RDC), the city of Goma once engulfed with fears of being flooded with hot lava and ashes, is slowly returning to normal life, as shops reopen and people return home to pick up the pieces.

"Today, the city of Goma has just woken up. Not everything has returned to normal, but still we are seeing a resumption of activities in the city," Jean Kasereka, a local Taxi driver, told Xinhua on Tuesday.

In market Alanine, one of the busiest markets in Goma, the shouts of vendors and bargain-

ing seemed just like the good old days, not least before the nearby Nyiragongo volcano bursted into activity on May 22, killing at least 32 people. The city, at the foot of the volcano, escaped a potentially enormous disaster as the lava flows stopped on the outskirts on May 23.

With constant seismic tremors in some parts of the city, fears of a fresh eruption forced local authorities to evacuate its people to designated areas as a precaution since Thursday. With nearly 400,000 people evacuated, Goma, home to over 1 million inhabitants, suddenly became a "ghost town". "Shops were closed and people were busy rushing out of the city," a resident told Xinhua on its way to take refuge in nearby Rwanda.

But with a gradual decrease in the frequency and intensity of earthquakes related to the volcanic activity, thousands of evacuated residents start returning home to pick up the pieces, the Goma Volcano Observatory (OVG) reported on Monday. "The fleeing residents began to gradually return to the city. Now a considerable number of buyers come to get what they need. Here, things are going really well," said Kasereka Wangebe, a vendor at market Alanine.

STILL NOT OUT OF WOODS

Though people on the street are optimistic about Goma's returning to normal life, the city is still not out of the woods.

Local authorities said on Monday that "the possibility of an erup-

tion on land or under the lake Kivu can still not be ruled out for the moment".

About 71 tremors were recorded on Monday, most of which have not been felt by the population, said Ndjike Kaiko, spokesperson for the local crisis management unit. "We therefore recommend that the population remain vigilant, listen to the information and strictly observe the measures adopted by the provincial authorities. We are still in the red phase," Kaiko said.

A team of volcanologist experts have set up a camera near the crater to better monitor the evolution of the volcano, according to the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). And another team is expected today.

Xinhua

IMF chief: Low vaccination rates in some nations 'dangerous'

BRUSSELS

VACCINATING the world is the most effective way to boost global output in the near term, International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva said Tuesday, warning that low vaccination rates in some countries is "dangerous" for everyone.

The IMF chief participated in the joint press conference together with the heads of the World Bank Group, the World Health Organization (WHO) and the World Trade Organization (WTO), with a focus on a new joint call on scaling up equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines.

Georgieva noted that countries with more fiscal space and rapid vaccinations are coming out of the crisis faster, but those, especially with low vaccination rates are falling further behind, and "that is dan-



International Monetary Fund (IMF) Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva

gerous for everyone because it would hold the global recovery back."

World Bank Group President David Malpass said that it's vital

to speed up the supply chain of vaccines globally, urging countries to "shorten the time" from the manufacturing of the vaccine to shots in arms.

The World Bank chief noted

that the multilateral lender has US\$12 billion in vaccine financing available, and "more if needed" to help countries buy and distribute COVID-19 vaccines and encourage vaccinations.

By the end of June, he said, the World Bank will have approved vaccination operations in over 50 countries, adding that these countries can immediately use vaccines from COVAX, the WHO-led international campaign for equitable distribution of COVID-19 vaccines around the world, from manufacturers, and from donor countries themselves as soon as they are made available.

"It's vital that we speed up the supply chain. We need to shorten the time from the manufacturing of the vaccine to shots in arms," Malpass said.

People's Daily



People holding signs take part in a Stop Asian Hate rally in San Jose, California, the United States, April 25, 2021. (File photo)

Programme of alleviating poverty by improving health care benefits senior residents in Xinjiang

THANKS to China's efforts to alleviate poverty in its Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region by improving health care of the region, Maimaiti Maimaiti, a 67-year-old resident in Xinjiang who had long suffered from a pain in his knees, received treatment and saw significant improvement in his health condition.

"In the past, he couldn't walk steadily even with a stick. Now he is much nimbler on his feet than before," said his wife, who attributes the improvement to the People's Hospital of Pishan County in Pishan county, Hotan prefecture of Xinjiang.

According to the elderly couple, who lives in Pishan county, Maimaiti was a construction worker when he was young, and he began to feel a pain in his knees about 20 years ago.

"I didn't go to hospital for treatment at the beginning, because I thought since I was no longer young, it might be normal to feel a little off color," Maimaiti said, adding that he didn't thought the illness got worse and started to cause inconvenience in his daily life.

Pishan county was once severely impoverished and has long been troubled by a high incidence of diseases related to

hip and knee joints due to reasons including the harsh natural conditions.

Because of limited local medical conditions, some patients had to travel more than 100 kilometers to Hotan city or even more than 1,000 kilometers to Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang, to seek treatment for their diseases, which not only cost too much, but could easily cause delay in treatment.

In recent years, Xinjiang has made continuous efforts to deepen the implementation of a program aimed at alleviating poverty by improving health care, and moved faster to improve the capacity of grass-roots medical

facilities through the assistance provided by other provincial-level regions in China under the country's pairing assistance strategy.

In September 2017, a new branch of the People's Hospital of Pishan County, which was built with the help of east China's Anhui province, was put into operation, significantly improving health care services for local people.

Starting from May 2018, the People's Hospital of Pishan County has received tailored assistance from the People's Hospital of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, with the latter helping

improve the management capabilities of the former by dispatching management teams and groups of medical experts to it.

Meanwhile, People's Hospital of Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region has also leveraged the medical experts sent from Anhui province to Xinjiang to conduct medical consultations and ward rounds, organize lectures for local medical workers, and perform operations at the People's Hospital of Pishan County.

As the People's Hospital of Pishan County became able to treat common and frequently-occurring illnesses, Maimaiti decided to go to the hospital for

treatment.

After careful examination, the hospital suggested that he receive joint replacement surgery. Maimaiti took the advice and decided to have one leg cured first.

"I recovered soon after the surgery. It cost a total of 52,000 yuan (about \$8,078), and I only needed to pay 8,000 yuan after medical insurance reimbursement," he said. In June 2020, Anhui province invested one million yuan to screen senior residents from 16 townships of Pishan county for joint diseases and help them receive joint replacement surgeries.

Maimaiti took the opportunity

and had his second leg cured too. This time he didn't spend a cent on the medical services, as the cost of the surgery was fully covered by the fund provided by Anhui province.

"Both legs have recovered well from the operations. I now have no problem walking, or even driving," Maimaiti told Xu Yangguo, deputy head of the People's Hospital of Pishan County as well as leader of the medical team sent by Anhui province to Xinjiang. He told Xu that he recently bought a car and is thinking about making road trips with his family.

People's Daily



Emmanuel Okwi

Emmanuel Okwi likely to get back to Simba SC

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

FORMER Simba Sports Club striker Emmanuel Okwi is likely to return once again to serve the squad in preparation for next season's Mainland Premier League and continental tournament.

Okwi, aged 28, currently plays for Al Ittihad Alexandria Club in the Egyptian Premier League where his contract is expected to expire at the end of this season.

The Ugandan striker, this week via his Instagram account, posted a photo and message indicating that he had been elected Uganda's new captain after the team's former captain, Denis Onyango, retired.

After posting the picture, Simba's fans wrote a message signaling his need to return to Simba next season, congratulating him on his appointment as captain.

Simba SC's captain John Bocco wrote: "Congratulations brother, we are waiting for you next season."

And Simba's central defender, Erasto Nyoni, as well posted a congratulatory message.

Bocco and Nyoni have left many Simba fans with questions about whether Okwi is likely to return.

The followers hope if he returns, he

could be a useful professional for the outfit next season due to the many good things he did within the squad before his last departure in 2019.

Simba SC chairman Murtaza Mangungu, speaking on the issue, said: "At the moment our club has put a lot of effort into making sure we do well in the remaining games of the Mainland Premier League and Federation Cup."

He disclosed: "On registration issues and especially player Emmanuel Okwi, we are awaiting the report of the head coach, Didier Gomes on his recommendations which we have planned to ensure we fulfill."

Okwi joined Simba for the first time in 2010 from SC Villa of Uganda, he played for the former until 2013 and moved to Étoile du Sahel of Tunisia where he played for a short time, returning to SC Villa.

The second time he played for Simba in the 2014-2015 season, before that, he was roped in b Yanga.

Then goal-getter served SønderjyskE of Denmark from 2015 to 2017, Okwi later returned to SC Villa, before landing at Simba where he played from 2017 to 2019 when his contract expired.

Okwi joined Al Ittihad in 2019 on a two-year contract expiring at the end of this season.

Morogoro Stars hammer SUA Academy in 2021 TCA Moro Women League

By Guardian Reporter

MOROGORO Stars have improved their quest for success in the 2021 Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Moro Women League, notching an eight-wicket victory over Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) Academy side in the region recently.

The match's eventual winners have kept on putting pressure on the showdown's leaders, SUA Queens, following the win.

The youthful SUA Academy girls went in to bat first, amassing 97 runs and dropping nine wickets in 17.3 overs of the 20-over duel.

The opener, Mwanaidi Ammy, who is as well the squad's skipper, was the top run-getter after she had notched 38 runs, blasting six fours.

She effectively stepped up given Shufaa Hamza, who had opened the inning with the former, could only record 12 runs, which included two fours.

Top order batter, Adolphina Jeremia, came in when the side had recorded 26 runs after 3.5 overs with one wicket lost, she chipped in with 10 runs.

She did all she could to push the side's score to 84 runs after 12.3 overs and she was thereafter sent back to the pavilion by Morogoro Stars' Perice Zakayo.

There was another meaningful showing displayed by Esther James, the top order batter notched 14 runs, nailing two fours.

With Esther exiting with her team notching 90 runs after 14.5 overs with five wickets taken, there was not much the largely inexperienced middle-



Morogoro Stars' cricketers in a group photo once they had featured in one of the previous season's Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) Regional Women Cup's ties, which took place in the region. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

order and low-order batters could offer.

None of SUA Academy's remaining batters registered a two-digit figure, given they did not withstand Morogoro Stars' bowling unit's challenge.

Middle order batter Hamisa Hamisi was six runs short of a two-digit figure in what was the team's vain attempt to end the innings with a convincing total.

Morogoro Stars' Sonia Chachala and Perice had an impressive outing, given Sonia posted three wickets giving away 12 runs in four overs.

Perice, who as well plays for the senior national women team, posted two wickets for Morogoro Stars in four overs.

Needing 98 runs to notch a victory, Morogoro Stars effortlessly got down to a successful chase, amassing 98 runs, losing two wickets in 11 overs.

Opener Perice flexed her muscles, partnering with fellow opening batter, Martha Karisti, to win the match for the squad.

They enjoyed a solid start, as Perice's well-calculated knocks saw the team reach 67 runs after 6.3 overs.

Perice was dismissed by SUA Academy squad's Valentine Amos, having notched 36 runs, nailing four boundaries.

Martha mercilessly punished the youthful SUA Academy cricketers, ending as the top run-getter having posted

42 runs not out.

She forged an unbeaten stand with Scolastina John that posted one run not out.

Sonia was two runs short of a two-digit figure, nailing a boundary, for the eventual winners.

Valentine and Adolphina were SUA Academy's members of the bowling unit with wickets, given they posed a wicket apiece.

The tournament, hosted by TCA, aims at improving cricket promotion in various parts of the country.

It has brought together four sides, SUA Queens, Uluguru Stars, SUA academy, and Morogoro Stars, with all ties being played at the SUA venue.

Firm asks youths to enroll for next season's MTF Academy course

By Guardian Reporter

THE MultiChoice Talent Factory (MTF) Academy, now approaching its third year, has announced calls for applications for its sought-after film and TV training program.

The MTF Academy management stated the applications were opened yesterday and people will be free to fill in applications up to June 30.

The applications are to be completed on a website, <https://cte.multichoicetalentfactory.com/Home/MTF-Home>.

The call, the management disclosed, is open to all emerging filmmakers with either some industry experience or a relevant post-school qualification in the film industry to apply for the opportunity to hone their television and film production skills.

"The MTF Academy is our commitment to the future of our industry and gives young Africans the chance to hone their television and film production skills through a world-class training program," MultiChoice Group CEO of General Entertainment & Connected Video, Yolisa Phahle, noted.

Yolisa disclosed: "After two successful years, we're proud to announce a new call to entry to and look forward to meeting the next generation of African filmmakers."

The MTF Academy, launched in May 2018, has so far given 120 students the chance to harness their expertise in film and TV, moulding them into skilled industry professionals.

The people that attended the previous year's training, known as 'Class of 2020', set a precedent as the first cohort of students to work during a pandemic. As a result, the program was extended from 12 to 18 months.

This additional time, the training's management stated, allowed the students to graduate with two qualifica-

tions as opposed to one.

Despite adapting to the Covid-19 restrictions, the 'Class of 2020' had other opportunities to shine.

They were active participants during the virtual MTF Masterclass sessions and worked on the global Pledge to Pause PSAs for the United Nations Verified campaign.

They also got to make short films in their home countries which launched as part of the 'Colours of Africa' series airing on Showmax and M-Net AfroCinema pop-up channel as part of the Africa Month campaign in May.

Like previous years, all 60 students alongside select members of the public will get to participate in the MTF Masterclasses.

The masterclasses are powered by various industry partners including Dolby, CBS Justice, and Jasco Broadcast Solutions offering AVID software masterclasses to name a few.

The illustrious New York Film Academy of Visual and Performing Arts (NYFA) continues its commitment as an MTF Masterclasses partner and awards its annual eight weeks' NYFA Scholarship at the Academy in New York to the top-performing student from each region.

Director of the MultiChoice Talent Factory initiative, Cheryl Uys-Allie, disclosed, stated: "The Covid-19 pandemic was undoubtedly a difficult challenge both for all involved in keeping the MTF Academy program going as well as the students."

She pointed out: "The unwavering support from stakeholders, partners, and students has nevertheless been overwhelming."

"We couldn't be more excited to have reached our third year as one of the MultiChoice Group's anchors shared value initiatives directly investing to the next generation of African storytellers," she disclosed.



Waluguru Original Music Band's musicians perform at a special show, known as 'wafia dans', which took place in Morogoro on Saturday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT SABATO KASIKA

Govt now urged to safeguard female pugilists' rights

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

SPECIAL Seats Member of Parliament, Sophia Mwakagenda, has asked the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts, and Sports to give domestic professional boxing prominence akin to the one other sports disciplines enjoy.

Sophia went on to urge the government to come up with strategies for seeing to it the professional boxers, especially female pugilists, make the most of their talent.

The MP noted she has observed boxing is not enjoying the attention other sports disciplines, football, in particular, gets.

Sophia disclosed there are

serious problems within the Tanzania Professional Boxing Regulatory Commission (TPBRC), which has been tasked with taking charge of the sport's management.

According to her, the government, however, has turned a deaf ear to the chaos.

The MP, who has declared herself a former boxer, is as well operating as a boxing promoter for domestic female pugilists.

Sophia said a section of boxing promoters have been swindling the female pugilists and they have gone as far as violating the boxers' rights.

The MP disclosed a section of the promoters are exploiting.

According to her, the boxing

promoters seek opportunities for local boxers to take part in international fights abroad and trick the pugilists into putting below-par performance and lose the bouts.

She said the move seeks to ensure opponents that local boxers face are improving their records.

Sophia disclosed the promoters gain a lot from such deals, given they rake in lots of cash from the other countries' boxers' management.

She disclosed: "A boxing promoter might take a 50-pound pugilist out there and the boxer goes to fight a 70-pound opponent that easily wins the fight."

She said "The winner smooth-

ly improves his record and the local pugilist's promoter is paid handsomely."

She urged that local boxers should be presented with health insurance because a boxer can sustain severe injuries, which could seriously affect his or her health, whereas he or she gets little pay.

Sophia suggested that the TPBRC's constitution should be changed otherwise local boxers will keep n wallowing in poverty.

The MP disclosed the professional boxers would not even manage to build houses as their income is quite low, whereas there are people that exploit the pugilists.

Ancelotti makes shock return as Real Madrid boss

MADRID

REAL Madrid have announced the return of Carlo Ancelotti as manager after he confirmed his departure from Premier League side Everton on Tuesday.

Ancelotti, 61, has agreed a three-year contract with Madrid and will be presented in a news conference on Wednesday, the club said in a statement.

The Italian will replace his former assistant Zinedine Zidane, who resigned last week, at the Bernabeu.

Zidane led Madrid to a second-placed La Liga finish and the Champions League semifinals last season before quitting, alleging a lack of support from president Florentino Perez.

"I would like to thank the board of directors, the players, and the Evertonians for the tremendous support they have all given me during my time at the club," Ancelotti said in a statement.

"I have complete respect for everyone associated with Everton and hope they can achieve the exciting opportunities they have in front of them.

"While I have enjoyed being at Everton I have been presented with an unexpected opportunity which I believe is the right move for me and my family at this time."

It will be Ancelotti's second spell in charge of Madrid after taking the job in 2013 following Jose Mourinho's departure. The Italian won the Champions League, Copa del Rey, UEFA Super Cup and FIFA Club World Cup in two years at the club.

As a player, Ancelotti was a successful midfielder for Roma, AC Milan and Italy, winning three Serie A titles and two European Cups.

His coaching career began at Serie B's Reggiana, and after spells at Parma and Juventus, he earned a reputation as a Champions League specialist at Milan, winning the competition in 2003 and 2007.

Ancelotti enjoyed further success at Chelsea and Paris Saint-Germain. He won the league title with both clubs before Perez brought him to Madrid in June 2013.

He was a popular figure at the club among both fans and executives, especially during his debut season.

Ancelotti's first trophy was the Copa del Rey in April 2014, beating Barcelona in the final with Gareth Bale scoring a memorable late winner at Mestalla.

His next piece of silverware was one of the most significant in the club's history, a Champions League -- his third as a manager -- won in Lisbon in May 2014, with a 4-1 victory against rivals Atletico Madrid after extra time.

The victory ended Madrid's 12-year wait for a 10th European Cup and secured Ancelotti's place in the club's record books. He also became the first manager to win the competition three times in the Champions League era. That achievement was later matched by Zidane, who led Los Blancos to three successive wins from 2016 to 2018.

However, the team's league form became more inconsistent -- they finished third in 2013-14 and second in 2014-15 -- and in his second campaign, there was criticism of Ancelotti's perceived relaxed managerial approach.

He was sacked in May 2015 and went on to coach Bayern Munich, Napoli and most recently Everton, who finished tenth in the Premier League last season.

(Agencies)

Tebas: Madrid, Juventus, Barca should fear UEFA

MADRID

LA Liga president and UEFA Executive Committee member Javier Tebas said on Tuesday that Real Madrid, Barcelona and Juventus, the three clubs who have not officially resigned from the breakaway European Super League, should be "scared" of the outcome of UEFA's disciplinary proceedings against them.

Of the dozen clubs to form the new breakaway league outside UEFA's control, only Barcelona, Real Madrid and Juventus are still on board. The nine clubs who abandoned the proposal and settled with UEFA are: AC Milan, Inter Milan, Atletico Madrid, Arsenal, Liverpool, Manchester United, Tottenham, Chelsea and Manchester City.

Those clubs agreed to UEFA's terms to forfeit 5% of their prize money from European competitions in the 2022-23 season and pay a combined €15 million (\$18.4 million) as a "gesture of goodwill" to benefit children, youth and grassroots football.

The three remaining clubs could face being banned from the Champions League by Europe's governing body.

"The ones that have to be scared are Real Madrid and Barcelona," Tebas said. "I don't want to imagine a Champions [League] without them but it can happen."

"More than a sanction, UEFA may opt not to register Madrid, and Barca in the Champions. I think they could be left out. They should be scared."

Barcelona's president pledged last week to go to the Court of Arbitration for Sport should UEFA make good on their threat.

(Agencies)

'Why not us?' Schmeichel dreams of Denmark 1992 Euro repeat

COPENHAGEN

KASPER Schmeichel has his boots planted firmly on the ground but the 34-year-old Denmark goalkeeper dreams of repeating his father's sensational Euro 1992 title.

"You've got to dream big ... and the question we've got to ask ourselves is 'Why not us?'" the keeper recently told Danish TV2.

His father Peter was the hero of Denmark's unexpected European championship victory in Sweden almost 30 years ago. With his 129 caps from 1987 to 2001 and long career with Manchester United, Peter Schmeichel is a living legend.

Kasper Schmeichel -- tall, blond and strapping like his father -- has made a name for himself as well.

Since 2011 he has played for Leicester, the surprise 2016 Premier League champions, and registered 60 caps for Denmark, including a brilliant performance at the 2018 World Cup.

As he approaches the end of his career, he hopes to fulfil his boyhood dream of winning the Euro, after Denmark, currently ranked 10th in the FIFA standings, failed to qualify in 2016.

"When you're little and you play football, what



Kasper Schmeichel

do you dream of, playing or winning? Obviously you dream of winning!" he said with a smile.

"We've got a good team, I think. And we've racked up some good results and good showings in the past few years," he added.

"When you look at the results that we can achieve when the pressure is on, we have every reason to be optimistic."

But apart from the fact that Denmark are not a favourite and that there will be a Schmeichel standing between the posts, there are not many similarities with



1992.

Back then, Denmark -- called up at the last minute after Yugoslavia were excluded over the war in the Balkans -- were not at all prepared and managed to turn their relaxed approach to triumph.

- Out of the shadows -

There's no need for the squad to feel the shadow of 1992 hanging over them, Poul Ferdinand, sports reporter at daily Ekstra Bladet, told AFP.

"Before the Euros in 1992, the team wasn't playing very well, there were conflicts with man-

agement. Today it's different, the team is strong and well organised," he said.

Schmeichel, who grew up and played his entire career in the shadow of his father's exploits, agreed, saying there's no reason to feel intimidated by the past.

"The surname's definitely not been a help, that's for sure, but it's got no relevance to me at all," he told the BBC several years ago.

"That's my name, I've always fielded those questions from the media, but I just get on with it."

"I think it would be easier to play a different sport."

Denmark finished second in their qualifying group behind Switzerland but ahead of the Republic of Ireland, going undefeated while scoring 23 goals and conceding just six in eight games.

"The style has changed a bit" in recent years, said Ferdinand.

While head coach Kasper Hjulmand has maintained the strong defensive game developed by former coach Age Hareide, "he also attacks more".

At the 2018 World Cup, Denmark's play was lacklustre but solid, enabling them to advance to the round of 16 where they fell to eventual runners-up Croatia on penalties despite Schmeichel's heroics.

"It should be extremely difficult (for our opponents) to score ... but at the same time we have to increase our ball possession closer to our opponent's goal," Hjulmand said ahead of the Euro.

In addition to Schmeichel, Denmark will be counting on experienced defender and team captain Simon Kjaer as well as midfielders Christian Eriksen and Pierre-Emile Hojbjerg.

Home fans will play their part too, as the Danes will stay in Copenhagen for their three Group B matches, meeting Finland on June 12, top-ranked Belgium on June 17 and Russia on June 21.

"Expectations are pretty high but ... we're realistic, to make it to the semi-finals would be good," Ferdinand said.

"The first objective is to qualify from the group stage in the best shape possible to continue our mission," Hjulmand said as he presented his squad.

AFP

Finland hope for a 'Pukki party' at Euro debut

HELSINKI

WHEN Finland's players step onto the pitch at their first ever European Championship, the Nordic nation's hopes will be pinned on star striker Teemu Pukki repeating his recent goalscoring success.

Pukki's 10 goals in qualifying propelled Finland to their first major tournament, while his attacking prowess this season was key as Norwich City secured promotion back to the English Premier League.

"Of course, Pukki plays a huge role in our squad," Finland manager Markku Kanerva said last week, adding that the side has "waited decades" to qualify for the finals of a major championship.

In a country of 5.5 million where ice hockey reigns supreme, Finland's Euro debut has caused the popularity of football to skyrocket, with Pukki as the sport's new figurehead.

Celebratory "Pukki parties" erupted after the team qualified, while cans of "Norwich City craft beer" now line Finnish supermarket shelves, bearing Pukki's face on the yellow label.

"But I'm always emphasising the team effort," Kanerva is quick to add. "He'll need the other players to help him score goals."

For that, Kanerva will be able to call on the likes of midfielder Glen Kamara, formerly of Arsenal and now of Rangers, and Bundesliga-based Joel Pohjanpalo, as well as Bayer Leverkusen goalkeeper

Lukas Hradecky.

New talents Marcus Forss of Brentford and Pafos' Onni Valakari also made the squad.

The 21-year-olds both scored on their international debut last November, inflicting a shock 2-0 defeat on world champions France.

"We'll have to defend very well against the top teams, that's for sure," Kanerva said, adding that Finland's unity and level-headedness are among their strengths.

- Icelandic inspiration -

The "Eagle Owls", 54th in the FIFA rankings, will face Denmark, Russia and world number one Belgium in the group stage.

"We're the underdogs in this tournament but I think that's something we like to be, it gives us power to show that we can really compete at that level," Pukki told a press conference in Helsinki last week.

The team will be looking for inspiration from Iceland, whose remarkable success during the last European Championship in France saw them knock out England on their way to the quarter-finals, roared on by huge support and their "Viking Thunder Clap".

Kanerva admitted that he recently invited Iceland's then manager, Lars Lagerback, to share with his squad the secrets of "the Icelandic miracle".

With vastly reduced crowds this time round due to Covid-19, however, only a fraction of the 30,000 Finnish fans who originally bought tickets to Euro 2020 are expected to be



Teemu Pukki

able to attend.

- Late bloomer -

At 31, Teemu Pukki

was something of a late bloomer: his career began in 2006 but his

knack for notching up goals only truly came to light once he signed for

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

'Why not us?' Schmeichel dreams of Denmark 1992 Euro repeat

PAGE 19

Simba SC out to maintain winning ways in VPL



Simba SC players participate in training in Mwanza last weekend to prepare for today's Vodacom Premier League's clash against Ruvu Shooting, which will be played at CCM Kirumba Stadium. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

SIMBA SC will be out to maintain its hold on this season's Vodacom Premier League's top position, as the league leaders entertain Ruvu Shooting at the CCM Kirumba Stadium in Mwanza today.

The Msimbazi Street side will be seeking revenge against Ruvu Shooting, after losing 1-0 to the latter in the first round's duel of the league at the Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Simba who has collected 64 points after featuring in 29 games needs 13 points to clinch a fourth top-flight title in a row.

The team's head coach, Didier Gomes Da Rosa stated he knows they can get those points by the end of the season but he does not want to wait until then.

He disclosed: "We started

the task of finding those points in the match against Namungo which we succeeded at the same time we are away here in Mwanza to play Ruvu Shooting, I am confident we will emerge victoriously," said Gomes and added;

"After this, we will go on another away match again to take on Polisi Tanzania. Despite facing the challenges of the stadiums in our away matches we will take three points as my charges are promising me they will work hard," the tactician disclosed.

He said: "We will return home to play two matches against Mbeya City and Yanga which if we win both our goals will be achieved, given we will be crowned champions and that is possible for us."

Simba SC will welcome back Zimbabwean winger Perfect Chikwende who was out on a short holiday due to not being in the team's CAF Champions League squad as he is only eligible for domestic events.

Ruvu Shooting assistant coach, Rajabu Mohamed

noted what enabled them to defeat Simba in the first-round match is the same approach that will be used to again defeat the league leaders.

Speaking during the training, the coach said their preparations are well underway and that the tactics they had used in the first round match will be deployed today.

He said the CCM Kirumba Stadium is not quite different from their home ground, Mabatini Stadium, in Coast Region. The coach pointed out

that fans should expect good entertainment, noting that Simba is the same and the side does not have what it takes to scare them.

"We are well prepared to make sure we win and entertain the fans. Simba is the same, it has not changed, all we need is victory, the players we came with are fit and the injured are not in the match squad," he noted.

Ruvu Shooting who are on a three-match losing streak will be aiming to bounce back against the gallant Simba side.

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV THURSDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Bongo Hits
13:00 Msasi Kilaani (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 Ujenzi (r)
14:30 DK10 Za Maangamizi
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Waganga Ulimba (r)
16:00 Ubongo Kids (r)
16:30 #HSHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:30 EATV SAA I
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 SalamaNa

SalamaNa is our new show in which Salama has a chat with interesting people from different spheres of influence in our society. You will be entertained, educated and amazed.

Every Thursday at 9pm

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

Simba SC clarifies on defender's loan deal

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

SIMBA SC officials have sought to clarify reports that defender Ibrahim Ame could be released on loan at the end of this season, insisting the player will keep on serving the club.

The officials said if there are any different reports on the issue, the team's head coach, Didier Gomes will issue the information.

Ame has had a difficult time getting a chance to feature in Simba's starting squad regularly, due to the intense competition for a place in the team's defense.

Apart from Ame Simba have four other central defenders. They are Kennedy Juma, Pascal Wawa, Joash Onyango, and Erasto Nyoni.

Nyoni has on several occasions also been assuming the role of a defensive midfielder.

Commenting on Ame's case, Simba's head of content, Ally Shatry, said: "It is true that there have been many reports of some of our players being linked to a loan release, including our defender Ibrahim Ame."

"But the reality of the matter is that, first of all, people should be aware that Ame is a Simba player, and any decision about Simba players, especially in terms of playing, is issued by head coach Didier Gomes."

It has also been reported that Simba's midfielder, Ibrahim Ajibu will leave the club at the end of the season to find a new challenge.

Ajibu joined Simba from Yanga for a reported fee of 70m/-. He has not had a chance to feature in the first team.

Yanga is among the teams that are said to seek his signature while Azam FC is quashing report that the team is seeking his signature, claiming the midfielder is not qualified to play in the squad as he has no place in Simba's first team.

It was recently reported that the player has reached an agreement with Yanga bosses so he can return to the squad that had him as skipper during gaffer Mwinyi Zahera's reign.

Ajibu moreover refused a loan release. The midfielder's teammate, Charles Ilanfya, was loaned to Kinondoni Municipal Council FC.

However, Yanga's information officer, Hassan Bumbuli, in an interview with reporters stated that they have no plans to do so at the moment.

Annadil Burhani enjoys winning spree in Kazim Nasser Memorial tournament's Division B

By Guardian Reporter

ANNADIL Burhani cricketers have kept on attempting to make their presence felt in 2021 Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division B after recording a six-wicket win over Patel Brotherhood A squad last weekend.

Patel Brotherhood A registered 114 runs all out in 19.5 overs of the 20-over duel after they had gone in to bat first.

Key players, opener Keyur Patel, and Dhavalkumar Patel, slotted in at number three, executed solid knocks, and were ultimately responsible for the acquisition of the respectable score.

With the side having seen the other opener, Harsh Patel, retire after 4.1 overs once the cricketers have reached 19 runs, Keyur had to prove his worth.

The opener went on to notch 28 runs blasting five fours, somewhat making up for the fellow opener's early exit.

Harsh's brief spell ended with the cricketer scoring four runs.

Patel Brotherhood A had recorded 105 runs after 18.2 with seven wickets taken once Patel was dismissed, bringing about the hope of recording a convincing total.

In Patel's inning, the top order batsman posted four boundaries and a six.

Pradhan Shetty, who took the crease after the outfit had reached 64 runs after 14.5 overs, chipped in with 10 runs, recording two fours in the spell.

The side's key players, Riteshkumar Tailor, Tarpan Tailor, and



Annadil Burhani cricketers jubilate after taking wicket when they confronted Punjabi Kings in a recent competition in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NIKHIL PUJARA

Ankurkumar Shah experienced brief spells and consequently could not end with two-digit scores.

In his brief stint, Ankurkumar had time to showcase his aggressiveness, hitting a six.

There was not much of the remaining players could do once Pradhan was dismissed after 17.1 overs.

The batsman had pushed the squad's score to 89 runs. Murtaza Shk Kaderbhai was Annadil Burhani's bowler with the most wickets considering he recorded three, conceding eight runs in four overs.

Firoz Hatim Dahodwala, captain Mustafa Lukmanji, and Khuzeima Janoowala

notched two wickets each as did all they could to keep Patel Brotherhood A in check.

In reply, Annadil Burhani could hardly drain sweat, mounting a successful chase with ease.

The squad, which fielded experienced cricketers, went on to amass 117 runs for four wickets in 13.2 overs.

Despite losing experienced opener, Mufaddal Seifuddin, after 3.3 overs, the cricketers' resoluteness was intact.

Seifuddin made his way back to the pavilion being two runs short of a two-digit figure, leaving his outfit with 37 runs.

Abbas Adamji, who had opened the innings with

Seifuddin, withstood Patel Brotherhood A's bowling attack for several overs and scored 16 runs which consisted of four fours.

Skipper and Adnan Zariwala had two-digit figures as they fought to ensure the team is within reach of the chase.

Zariwala recorded 11 runs not out, whereas the skipper scored 12 runs which consisted of a four.

Firoz Hatim Dahodwala later formed an unbeaten stand with Zariwala and brought the chase to fruition, recording 27 runs not out which consisted of five fours.

Patel Brotherhood A's Riteshkumar Tailor record-

ed two wickets in three overs and was so far the bowler with most wickets.

Annadil Burhani cricketers lately sit second in the DC Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML) Division B's Group B, which is led by GP Pak Stars.

The Group B leaders have 1.7342 in net run rate, winning four clashes they have played.

Second-placed Annadil Burhani has 3.6600 in net run rate, notching victory in two fixtures.

Sandy's Super Strikers come third with -0.2935 in net run rate, recording a win in two fixtures and succumbing to defeat in as many clashes.

Fourth-placed Alaf Aces B has 0.7250 in net run rate, notching one victory and losing another tie.

The K&P Constructions cricketers are positioned fifth with one victory and loss in three clashes, recording -0.7875 in net run rate.

The loss has left Patel Brotherhood A side still languishing at the show-down's bottom spot, given they are winless in four matches they have featured in.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

