



National Pg 3

All set for Sadc chair transfer



National Pg 4

UDOM bolsters fight against corruption

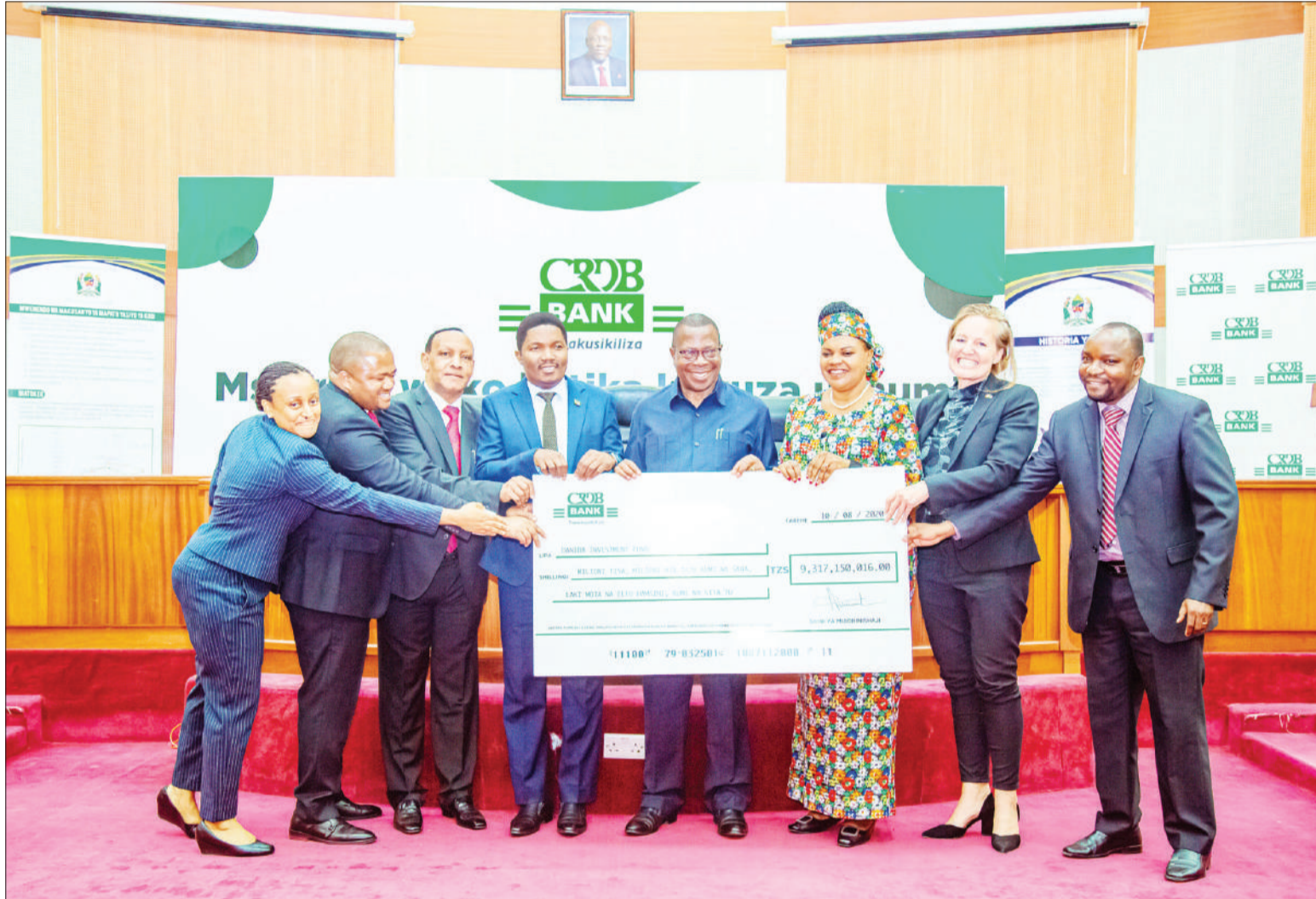


FEATURE Pg 10

Special tribute to Mkapa



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CRDB Bank Plc pays out 17bn/- in dividends to the government

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

FINANCE and Planning minister Dr Philip Mpango yesterday received a 17bn/- cheque in dividends from CRDB Bank Plc, in which the government has a stake. The minister was handed a dummy cheque by CRDB board chairman Dr Ally Laay at a ministerial function here, attended by top officials from shareholding agencies and institutions. Dr Mpango applauded the bank for remitting returns to the government as well as recording good financial performance. He said the good performance has contributed to increased dividends to the government and shareholders. "This is a clear indication that CRDB Bank keeps growing with stable business strategies. Such performances give hope to investors and Tanzanians that the bank offers quality

banking services to the community," the minister affirmed. The dividend finance will be directed to implementation of the strategic projects highlighted in the 2020/2021 budget priorities, he said. He applauded the bank for good performances in this year's first half financial reports where it has recorded a 15 percent increase in benefits, reaching 70.4bn/- from 61.1bn/- recorded the same period last year. Financial institutions play a vital role in the country's development, he declared, urging the bank to reduce interest rates to promote economic activities. "May I congratulate you for reviewing loan interest rates. Other banks and financial institutions need to emulate the move to speed-up the country's development," he stated. Dr Laay said the dividends given to the

Finance and Planning minister Dr Philip Mpango (4th-R) pictured in Dodoma city yesterday receiving a dummy cheque for 9.3bn/- presented by CRDB Bank Plc board chairman Dr Ally Laay (3rd-L) following investments by the government in the bank through the Danish International Development Agency (Danida) Investment Fund in collaboration with the Danish government. The minister received a total of 17bn/- from CRDB in dividend to the Tanzanian government and its various institutions. Others (from-L): CRDB vice chairperson Prof Neema Mori; CRDB managing director and CEO Abdulmajid Nsekela; Selemani Jafo, Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government); Jenista Mhagama, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliament, Youth, Employment and People with Disabilities); Ambassador of Denmark to Tanzania, Mette Dissing-Spandet (2nd-R); and Treasury registrar Athman Mbutuka. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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NEC hands election guarantor forms to nominated candidates

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TWELVE presumptive presidential candidates from 19 political parties have so far collected candidate guarantor forms from the National Electoral Commission (NEC), while several other nominated aspirants are expected to collect forms today. Hashim Rungwe (pictured) of Chaumma and Khalfan Mohamed Mazrui of the

Union for Multiparty Democracy (UMD) yesterday became the latest nominees to collect candidacy forms from NEC offices here. After he was handed the forms accompanied by running mate Mohamed Masoud, Rungwe said that in the event that the voters sweep him to office he will provide subsidy to farmers and allowances to elders. He said farmers will be provided with subsidies for their crops as they were doing great work, noting that elders will be given special allowances due to their good services to the nation. "The elders served this country and now, after finishing their services, should we discard them? No; CHAUMMA says, they will get food," he declared. The aspirant said it is now the third time he is contesting the presidency, and

Tanga, Kilimanjaro regions start registering under-fives

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

PARENTS of nearly 600,000 under-five children will receive their children's birth certificates in the next two months in Tanga and Kilimanjaro regions following the launch of a decentralised birth registration procedure. This takes to 18 the total number of regions already practicing the new birth registration procedure, officials said here yesterday. The launch of the programme at the Moshi Municipal Council premises was attended by the

The programme started being implemented in 2013 in partnership with UNICEF, Tigo and funding from Canadian authorities

Minister for Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Mwigulu Nchemba, making birth registration more accessible to the community. Earlier, registration could only take place at the district headquarters but now registration points are being set up in health centres providing reproductive and child health services. Registration is also conducted at community level with ward executive offices, another aspect of implementing the policy of decentralization through devolution. The acting Administrator General of the

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VP tasks UWT Council on Special Seats voting

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

VICE President Samia Hassan Suluhu (pictured) yesterday directed the CCM Women's Wing General Council to carefully scrutinize candidates to avoid the vetting process being repeated when the recommended names are submitted to the party secretariat and the central committee. The VP made the statement when opening the general council conference convened to nominate



recommended aspirants for parliamentary special seats from among those recommended after CCM primaries at the regional level. "It is my hope that you will do justice to the candidates; you should also avoid irregularities which were reported during primaries. Vetting of candidates should be based on their competence and ability to lead," she emphasized. "If you don't choose wisely, the central committee will repeat the vetting processes to come up with the best individuals to represent women in the legislature as well as the party during election campaigns," she cautioned. Samia insisted that CCM needs to get honest and competent candidates who adhere to the party's ethics and its 'Hapa Kazi Tu' motto. The slogan was introduced for purposes of uplifting Tanzanians

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Soil acidity and liming to boost farmers' yield

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

A TOTAL of 100 tonnes of rich agricultural lime will be distributed to 66,000 farmers in Mbeya, Songwe, Njombe, Iringa and Arusha regions to enable them increase soil fertility.

Soil acidity is the term used to express the quantity of hydrogen (H) and aluminum (Al) cations (positively charged ions) in soils. When levels of hydrogen or aluminum become too high—and the soil becomes too acid—the soil's negatively charged cation exchange capacity (CEC) becomes "clogged" with the positively charged hydrogen and aluminum, and the nutrients needed for plant growth are pushed out. This is why root growth and plant development suffer when soils become too acid.

Over time, soils also become acidic because calcium and magnesium leach out, because hydrogen is added to soils by decomposition of plant residues and organic matter, or because nitrification of ammonium occurs when fertilizer (UAN solutions, urea, ammonium nitrate, ammonium sulfate, anhydrous

ammonia), manure, or plant residues are added to the soil. Lime will neutralise this acidity by dissolving, whereupon it releases a base into the soil solution that reacts with the acidic components, hydrogen and aluminum.

One acre fund communication manager, Dorcas Tinga told The Guardian yesterday that the organisation is determined to support farmers in the coming farming season. She said through soil liming farmers will be able to increase their yields from 10 to 20 sacks per acre.

According to her, using lime makes the soil healthier. She said since lime is alkaline, it neutralises the acidity of the soil and makes it more neutral.

The acidic increase in the soil is linked with frequent use of industrial fertilizers, said Tinga.

"The use of lime neutralises the acidity of the soil by adding minerals (calcium and magnesium). This product is already in the markets and will be used in the coming farming season. We encourage farmers whose lands are acidic to use lime to boost their harvests," said Tinga.



Livestock and Fisheries deputy minister Abdallah Ulega (2nd-L) presents a trophy to George Venanty (4th-L), Vodacom's north zone Head of Sales, after the firm emerged top in Communication Services category at the just-ended Nane-Nane Agricultural Exhibition held in Arusha city at the weekend. Others are Manyara regional commissioner Joseph Mkiriki (L) and Arusha regional commissioner Idd Kimanta (3rd-L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

VP tasks UWT Council on Special Seats voting

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trapped in the poverty circle.

"A good leader must be competent and with self-esteem. She must embrace team work, but also be elected by a good number of voters," she elaborated, asking the delegates to avoid voting for corrupt candidates.

She however challenged members of the women's wing to prepare themselves for the general election campaigns starting late August. Women play a crucial role in ensuring the party's victory, she asserted.

VP Samia commended UWT for increasing the number of its members from 1,752,145 in 2018 to 1,934,744 before the election process started.

"As we prepare for the general election, we should maintain unity to

be able to beat our rivals. CCM believes in the power of women," she stated.

Earlier, the UWT national chairperson Gaudentia Kabaka called upon women to unite and provide full support to the party ahead of the polls.

Deputy Secretary General (Mainland), Rodrick Mpogolo urged women to unite and support the party in the campaigns.

The National Electoral Commission (NEC) announced October 28 as the date for the country's presidential, parliamentary and councilor election. Campaigns will run from August 26 to October 27.

NEC data shows that about 29 million people are registered to vote in this year's election, compared to 23 million voters registered in 2015.

CRDB Bank pays 17bn/- in dividends to Treasury

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government form part of the bank's profit after tax which reached 120.1bn/- from profits accrued from its institutions in the past year. The bank will continue to offer quality financial services to customers and investors, he vowed.

"During our stakeholders' meeting in June, we approved the 17bn/- dividends to the government, an increment of 112.5 percent. This makes a total of 44.4bn/- dividends provided to the government so far," he stated.

Abdulmajid Nsekela, the bank's

managing director, promised the minister that the bank will continue to work closely with the government and facilitate availability of financial services across the country.

The bank has invested in digital financial services with CRDB Bank agents, simbanking, simaccount and internet banking, he said, pointing out that digital banking services are convenient and assure customers of fast services.

Selemani Jafo, the Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) has meanwhile received dividends from Mbinga, Lindi, Shinyanga,

Mufindi, Chunya and Rungwe municipal councils.

Jafo appealed to other districts and municipal councils to broaden their revenue base by investing in various projects and contribute to the development process.

Jenista Mhagama, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy Coordination and Parliamentary Affairs) commended national social security funds—PSSSF, NSSF and ZSSF for investing in CRDB Bank.

Parliament enacted the Miscellaneous Amendments to the Finance Act, 2011 requiring public

agencies to remit 15 percent of their gross revenues to the Treasury as dividends.

President John Magufuli earlier this year declared that the government has invested 59.6trn/- in 266 firms which are wholly owned by the state or the government holds a major stake, but only 79 contributed to the central government's coffers in the 2018/19 financial year.

In November 2019, the president issued a two-month ultimatum to 187 state-owned companies and institutions to deliver dividends and revenue shares or else their managements would be dissolved.



National Electoral Commission chairman Judge (rtd) Semistocles Kaijage (R) presents presidential candidacy endorsement forms to Chamma candidate Hashim Rungwe Spunda in Dodoma city yesterday, as running-mate Mohamed Masoud Rashidi (L) looks on. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

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he wishes to make sure pupils get all the necessary meals while at school, including rice and beans.

"I said children at schools will eat rice because when I was in school I used to get food - at 10am it was porridge, at 12.00 noon we would get rice and beans, and meat on some other days, and that used to be the life we were leading whilst in school," he said, vowing to provide pupils them with rice so that they are motivated in their learning process.

Asked about guarantors, Rungwe

NEC hands election guarantor forms to nominated candidates

said he will start looking for their signatures at the place where the late Father of the Nation Mwalimu Julius Nyerere was born and buried - at Butiama in Mara Region.

UMD aspirant, Khalfan Mohamed Mazrui collected nomination forms with running mate Mashavu Alawi Haji. He said his party's priority was to bring development to the people so that they live soft lives.

"Even though the campaign period has not yet started, we have high hopes

that the situation will be good and Tanzanians will understand us on the policies we will advertise, including hope for true democracy and people's development," he said.

He said in case he gets elected he will establish a new administrative system whereby there will be provinces and no longer regions as at present.

Last week NEC opened its curtains to hand out the candidacy guarantor forms, with taking and returning of

candidacy forms elapsing two weeks from now.

Other candidates who collected the forms included CCM candidate Dr John Magufuli, seeking his second term and running mate Samia Suluhu Hassan.

AAFP nominee Seif Maalim Seif and running mate Rashid Ligania also collected forms, along with DP's Philipo Fumbo and running mate Zainab Juma Hamisi.

NRA aspirant Leopold Mahona

accompanied by Hamis Ali Hassan as running mate, as did ACT-Wazalendo's Bernard Membe and running mate Prof. Omar Faki Hamad.

Others who collected forms were UPDP's Twalib Kadege and running mate Ramadhani Ali Abdallah, ADC's Queen Sendiga in company of her running mate Shoka Khamis Juma, while SAU's Mutamwega Mgaiwa collected form with running mate Satia Musa Bebwa.

4.6m eligible children.

The new system has resulted in an overall increase of certification of under-fives in these regions from less than 10 per cent to over 80 per cent. The system has also helped in improving the certification rate for Tanzania Mainland from less than 13 per cent to more than 50 per cent in a period of seven years.

The Acting UNICEF country representative, Rene Van Dongen, said that birth registration will help to avail to more children their rights and thus be protected.

Gwen Walmsley, a minister-counsellor at the Canadian High Commission said that Canada is a proud supporter of Tanzania's under-five birth strategy and has provided CAD\$ 30.6m for its implementation in 26 regions.

Telecommunications brand Tigo is supporting the initiative through innovative mobile technology, which ensures that birth registration data is uploaded and sent to a central database in real time.

In addition, Tigo is also providing 1,350 smartphones worth 169m/- and free SMS to support the initiative, officials affirmed.

At the weekend CHADEMA's presumed candidate Tundu Lissu and Salim Mwalimu Juma as running mate collected guarantor forms, so did Demokrasia Makini's Cecilia Mmanga and running mate Tabu Mussa Juma.

Today presumptive candidates for CUF, CCK and NCCR-Mageuzi are expected to collect nomination forms, and tomorrow NLD and Ada Tadea nominees will collect guarantor forms, NEC officials said.



Public Service Social Security Fund director general Hosea Kashimba (seated-L) pictured yesterday attending to a visitor at the PSSSF pavilion at the just-ended Nanenane Agricultural Exhibition held at Nyakabindi grounds in Bariadi District, Simiyu Region. It was learned that the Fund has added maternity benefits to the range of services it offers - with effect from this month. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Agriculture sector needs harmony to support economic growth - Seif Iddi

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Second Vice President Amb. Seif Ali Iddi has said development in the agricultural sector needs the prevalence of peace and tranquility in the nation to enable people who solely depend on the sector to develop and contribute to the national economic growth.

He said without peace and tranquility no person can have the audacity to go to the farm, to the sea or in the forest to look for his basic needs including food, education and health.

Amb. Iddi was speaking at the weekend when closing the Third Nanenane Exhibition held at Chamanangwe in Pemba North region.

He congratulated the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Fisheries for its supervision of the important exhibition.

He said its careful management of the

fair spurred many people to participate and had the opportunity to sell various goods they produce.

He said many young entrepreneurs including women have been able to learn various things to enhance their capital that generated income for them during the short exhibition period.

Speakin about the General elections slated for October this year, he said it was the responsibility of each citizen to ensure he used his democratic right without intimidation or resorting to violence.

He said life will still go on even after the election, hence Tanzanians should understand that they were all brothers responsible in ensuring they spurn violence.

The Minister for Agriculture, Natural Resources Livestock and Fisheries Mmanga Mjengo Mjawiri thanked defence and security organs for the success of the exhibition.

Tanzania set to hand over Sadc chairmanship on August 17

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA is set to hand over the chairmanship of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) on 17th August, this year. Tanzania has outlined three achievements recorded in one year since President John Magufuli took over as the bloc's chairman.

The achievements include adoption of regional guidelines for harmonising

and facilitating movements of critical goods and services across the region during the Covid-19 pandemic.

The list also includes recommendations for endorsement of the draft of SADC vision 2050 and regional indicative strategic development plan (RISDP) 2020-30.

Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Permanent Secretary Brig. General Wilbert Ibuge was speaking during the handing over of his role as

the bloc's standing committee of senior official's chairperson to ambassador Alfredo Nuvunga of the Republic of Mozambique.

Brig. Gen Ibuge said during the period the 16- nation bloc had been able to put into place the guidelines related to transportation of goods and services to ensure the seamless flow of trade in the region.

Ambassador Nuvunga was represented by ambassador of

Mozambique in Tanzania Monica Clemente. "We need to congratulate ourselves as a region for doing so well to maintain our regional cooperation amidst and despite those challenges," said ambassador Ibuge.

Sadc vision 2050 and RISDP 2020-30, which were recommended for endorsement on August 6 this year, will be submitted for consideration to the council of ministers at "this sitting"

He said everyone is part of the

historical contribution as the region's member states position their integration for 2050.


The development also came in the consonance with the African Union's developmental Agenda 2063 and the planned achievement of united social development goals by 2030.

"The task ahead of Mozambique is to formalize the vision 2050 and RISDP 2020-30 after being passed by the council of ministers and then heads of

state in a meeting to be held on August 17," said Brigadier General Ibuge.

For her part, ambassador Clemente said her country would do whatever it takes to promote trade and economic relations in the region.

President Magufuli is expected to hand over the Sadc chairmanship to his Mozambican counterpart Filipe Nyusi on 17th this month during the bloc's heads of state summit to be held in Dodoma.



Serving the common good

INADES-Formation Tanzania (IFTz)
August 2020

Vacancy

Job title: Project Officer - Correspondence Course (PO - CC).
Location: National Office, Dodoma City.
Purpose: The PO - CC is responsible for the preparation, management and execution of correspondence courses delivered by the organization. The position performs its duties under the Chief of Pedagogy Department (CPD).

Duties and Responsibilities

- i. Reflect on the whole process of CC and give suggestions to the IFTz management team on areas of improvement.
- ii. Prepare and facilitate continuous assessment, give feedback to the clients and keep records of various completed assignments for the appropriate adapted models to be identified and used within IFTz.
- iii. Review and assess the existing materials to determine relevance against various target groups of the CC and or develop new materials where appropriate.
- iv. Identify course writers and participate in the development of various course materials
- v. Review the publicity approach and the tools used in providing CC, propose and enhance the use of appropriate approach and tools
- vi. Identify organizations and or institutions for partnering in the provision of high quality and updated distant learning trainings relevant to various target groups
- vii. Undertake the establishment of free help line (huduma kwa mteja) to facilitate farmers and other clients access information related to their enrolment into the CC.
- viii. Document success stories from graduate farmers and disseminate through cinema, video show, television program and radio program to sensitize other farmers to join CCs
- ix. Design and promote use of ICT in providing distance learning for enhancing people's knowledge and skills.
- x. Under the supervision of CPD, takes part in drawing up of Annual Budget through identifying activities to be done, duration etc., within the framework of Policy Guidelines.
- xi. Prepare activity and monthly reports, participate in all meetings organized by IFTz under the supervision and evaluation of the CPD.
- xii. Perform any other duties as may be assigned by the relevant authority.

Key requirements: Tanzanian citizenship; minimum Bachelor's degree in adult education, agricultural extension education or related field; experience with design and use of ICT platforms highly preferred; At least 3 years of experience in facilitating distance learning; Excellent English writing skills, speaking ability and ability to translate training materials highly preferred.

Applications
 Applications, including cover letter, resume and copies of academic certificates and testimonials should be sent to The Managing Director, INADES Formation Tanzania, P. O. Box 203, Dodoma, Email: inadestz@gmail.com, no later than Friday 21st August 2020, 17:00hrs.

NB: Applicants who will not hear from us after Friday 28th August 2020 should consider themselves unsuccessful.



Serving the common good

INADES-Formation Tanzania (IFTz)
August 2020

Vacancy

Job title: Chief of Administration and Finance (CAF).
Location: National Office, Dodoma City.
Purpose: The CAF is responsible for the administrative and financial management functions of the National Office (NO). The position performs its duties under the Managing Director (MD).
Accountability: The CAF is supervised by the MD of the NO, and is accountable

Through the MD to the Chairperson of the Board of Directors (BOD).

Duties and Responsibilities

- i. Assist the MD in drawing up of IFTz Plan of Action (POA) and preparing work plans, the budgets, and financial projects to donors.
- ii. Heads the Accounts section - maintains proper books of accounts; takes care of all the NO budgeting: calculation of financial costs & follow-up of implementation, budgeting of capital expenditure and indirect recurrent expenditure, production of cash account plans & cash-flows.
- iii. Assist the MD in working out policy for **Financial and Human Resources Management**, and 'Partnership Policy',
- iv. Takes part in field training activities as part of the trainers' team. Especially for financial, economic and business management activities with farmers.
- v. Ensures the best practice of internal control and audits
- vi. Takes part in the design of IF Mission; participates in Board of Directors' Meetings as may be deemed necessary, but without voting powers.
- vii. Supervises directly all the support staff, as well as the personnel, administrative, financial and managerial obligations of other senior staff.
- viii. Staff management, including setting-up and follow-up of personal files, follow-up of employment agreements, job analysis, description, appraisal and evaluation, and renewal of contracts in collaboration with the MD.
- ix. Supervises directly the work of support staff: Assistant Accountant, Secretary, Driver, Office Clerk, Watchman and Messenger.

Key requirements: Tanzanian citizenship; Bachelor's degree in Accounting and Finance or related field; CPA will be an added advantage; At least 3 years of experience in accounting and finance with NGOs; Experience in managing financial transactions on multi donor -funded programs and familiarity with NGO regulations; Experience with relevant financial software packages, including Microsoft Excel; Sage 100; Excellent English writing skills and speaking ability.

Applications
 Applications, including cover letter, resume and copies of academic certificates and testimonials should be sent to The Managing Director, INADES Formation Tanzania, P. O. Box 203, Dodoma, Email: inadestz@gmail.com, no later than Friday 21st August 2020, 17:00hrs.

NB: Applicants who will not hear from us after Friday 28th August 2020 should consider themselves unsuccessful.

Why women lose property in botched deals, network

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

It has been discovered that most of the women are snubbed when it comes to owning family property because they are not aware of the legal registration of regulations and processes.

According to observations from Arusha City Legal Aid Network, husbands usually drag their wives to be witnesses when going to register or sign property agreements and majority of them they do not know that they are part and parcel of the transactions.

The Arusha City Legal Aid Network (ACLAN), had for the past eight days set camp at the Nane-Nane grounds in Njiro area, where the officials have been providing legal education to hundreds of residents that have been attending the annual Agriculture shows in the venue, in order to raise this awareness among mostly women.

Anna Kulaya, the Director of Women in Law and Development (WILDAF), and Mary Rusimbi, the executive Director for Women Fund Tanzania Trust, have both insisted that, awareness needs to be raised in the community in order to save families that are usually supported by mostly women.

"Wives have been standing in as witnesses to their husbands' properties or businesses," explained the Secretary of Smart Community on Legal Protection Organization, Amani

Michael; "So they live in such faith, but their hopes eventually get dashed upon the deaths of their husbands, when the man's family moves in to grab everything and even when the couple gets to divorce the wife is sent out in the cold, empty handed."

According to Michael, his organization has been following up of local marriages that break up, discovering that all properties were always listed in the man's own names, while the women were listed as 'witnesses' something which fools many wives who upon seeing their names on papers believe they are also owners but actually they turn out to be just observers.

Mary Mwita is the secretary of the network, who added that they are still working hard to ensure that this awareness is impacted to all members of the community.

"To start with, we need to make sure that all Tanzanians possess the National Constitutions which is the foundation of all laws and regulations. Unfortunately few have copies of the document," said Mwita.

"When it comes to family properties, residents should be aware that it is very possible to list more than two names in ownership slots, which means women should also be accommodated so that they get co-ownership of possessions," she maintained.



NMB Bank Plc staff attend the annual general meeting of the Tanzania Higher Learning Institutions Students' Organisation (TAHLISO) annual meeting in Dodoma last week. The bank was one of the event's main sponsors. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

UDOM bolsters fight against corruption

THE University of Dodoma (UDOM) management has reaffirmed the commitment to intensify war against any form of corruption, calling on students to be agents of change within and outside the institution.

Addressing a seminar on effects of corruption at UDOM main campus over the weekend, Prof William Mwegoha, implored students to report any kind of corruption to the university's management for the law to follow its course.

Speaking on behalf of the

Vice Chancellor, Prof Fautine Bee, said in the past cases of corruption were being handled at the level of principals of the various colleges at UDOM but currently, the VC get regular report on matters of corruption.

"The university has zero tolerance on any kind of corruption. It will take stern measures against the culprits to maintain its good image," he said, adding the institution should be a free

learning, research and consultancy work environment.

He was speaking during a one day seminar organized by the University of Dodoma Students' Organisation Against Corruption (UDOSOAC), brought together UDOSOAC members and students to be enlightened on the effects of corruption in the public.

Prof Mwegoha added that the university's management is ready to

work closely with UDOSOAC to raise awareness on corruption, saying UDOSOAC serves as an ideal vehicle to unite students and management against corruption.

Zacharia Mwanfumbya, an official from the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) Dodoma Office, commended UDOM students for setting up UDOSOAC to fight corruption. "As the anticorruption

watchdog, we have been encouraging students to set up anti-corruption clubs to raise awareness on corruption as such organizations help spreading knowledge on the vice," he said.

UDOSOAC deputy chairperson, Apilo Awe, appealed to the varsity management to set up a system which will enable students to clandestinely give out their suggestions on corruption at the main campus.

He pointed out that some students fear reporting cases of corruption to the relevant authorities due to fear of intimidation. He expressed gratitude to the management for great support to the UDOSOAC since its inception in 2010. "One of the main challenges we face when dealing with corruption cases is that some of those affected fail to give the last minute cooperation with PCCB, thus killing the cases" he said.



Request for Proposals

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- Plan International Tanzania through A working future project Project has set aside funds to conduct **midterm evaluation**.
- Plan International Tanzania now invites sealed bids from eligible suppliers for the above services; interested eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including an email address to tenders@plan-international.org Attn: Head of Procurement and Logistics. Bidding documents in the English language will be sent to interested bidders by email. Plan Tanzania will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing of the bid documents.
- Bidders are requested to submit Technical and Financial Proposals each marked "Technical Proposal" and "Financial Proposal" respectively. Proposals must be submitted electronically to: electronic.bids@plan-international.org before 17:00 **Friday 24th August 2020**. Late bids will be rejected, not evaluated.

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Tulieni villagers call for forest reserve proper management

By Beatrice Philemon

RESIDENTS of Tulieni village, Tunduru District in Ruvuma region have appealed to the government to turn the forest in their neighborhood into a reserve to facilitate proper management as well as make it beneficial to them.

The 2611 made the call on separate interviews with journalists during a meeting conducted by the Village Natural Resources Committee in Namakambale village 63 kilometres from Tunduru district council.

Tulieni Forest is located at Tulieni village, Nakapanya ward 77 kilometres from

Tunduru district council. Speaking on behalf of Namakambale residents, Namakambale local community based organization popularly known as (MJUMINA) secretary Leonard Mrope said the residents have been conserving the forest but are not allowed to harvest

because they do not have permits.

According to him the situation is now benefiting loggers and encroachers who invade and graze animals in the forest.

The residents want Tulieni forest to be valued so that the actual size should be known to facilitate proper management and conservation of the natural resources as well as benefit the residents.

The villagers want the same process which was done similarly to Songambe, Mindu and Namakambale village to be done to the forest.

The villagers are currently conducting patrols to the forest to control illegal timber harvesting which is threatening the existence of the natural resource.

"As members we don't have funds, working gears and transport facilities that can help us move from one village to another carrying out regular patrols on the forest to keep out encroachers who invade the forest and educate communities on forest management," he said

Despite the education being offered by the villagers to neighbors, deforestation was still very high in many parts of the district.

Livestock grazing has brought negative effects in Tulieni, Namakambale, songambe, mindu villages in Nakapanya and Mindu as land forest reserves and water sources have been destroyed due to overgrazing.

Currently the villagers say water sources that flow directly into rivers are in danger of drying up especially due to livestock grazing and shifting agriculture.



TENDER NOTICE

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) intends to purchase Charcoal making tools.

Therefore, the Danish Refugee Council in Kibondo request interested suppliers to submit their bid for the above goods.

The bidding documents can be collected at the Danish Refugee Council Office in Kibondo from 11th August, 2020 during the working days from hours. **8:00 Am to 4:30 Pm** in the following address: Old IRC Road Area, Kibondo. You can also call on: **+255627423991** or through email jean.kabore@drc.ngo to receive the soft copy by email.

The closing date for the submission of the bids is 24th August, 2020 at 4:30 Pm.

The ITB will be opened on **27th August, 2020 at 10:00 AM** at DRC Kibondo Office, PO Box 177 Kibondo by the DRC Tender Opening Committee.

You can return your bid form through RFQ.TZA@drc.ngo OR DIRECT TO THE DRC KIBONDO OFFICE otherwise is void

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Agriculture minister Japhet Hasunga (L) pictured at the weekend presenting a trophy to TTCL director general Waziri Kindamba at the just-ended Nane-Nane Agricultural Exhibition held at national level at Nyakabindi grounds in Simiyu Region. The corporation emerged third winner at the weeklong event. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Simbachawene urges herders: Abandon traditional practices

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

HERDERS in the country have been called on to abandon their current habit of keeping huge herds of livestock that are of little benefit to them and go for smaller herds to free themselves economically.

The call was given during the weekend by the Home Affairs Minister, George Simbachawene when inspecting cattle at the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries Exhibition pavilion during the Nanenane fair held at Nzuguni grounds here.

The Minister said as for now livestock keeping was pathetic because many herders still engage in traditional practices that constrain them economically.

He said many herders are pleased

to own huge herds of animals that are of little benefits except piling for themselves huge upkeep costs and inciting conflicts with farmers.

"You find a herder owning 500 head of cattle, but not a single one of them is suitable for the production of milk or meat as many of them are exceedingly frail," said Simbachawene.

He further noted that big herds of livestock contribute to conflicts with farmers due to lack of inadequate land for grazing.

"We should adopt modern livestock keeping, small number of animals that will enable herders to economically benefit from them taking into consideration of little fodder available in order to do away with frequent land conflicts," he said, and added that the practice will also enable the

government earn revenue through the livestock sector.

However, the minister said the Nanenane Exhibition should be used to educate herders by urging them to change their practices for gainful livestock keeping.



You find a herder owning 500 head of cattle, but not a single one of them is suitable for the production of milk or meat as many of them are exceedingly frail

Teachers in Arusha trained on lavatories management

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

PRIMARY and secondary school teachers in Arusha Region have been trained on proper usage and management of lavatories, knowledge which will be transferred to students to control destruction of the various WASH facilities.

The WASH facilities refer to the provision of water, sanitation, waste management, hygiene and environmental cleaning.

The Head of Health and Environment department in Arusha city, James Lobikoki said the training is part of a 520bn/- project implemented by the Arusha Urban Water Supply and Sewerage Authority (AUWSA).

The project includes construction of clean and waste water management systems.

Lobikoki added that apart from expanding clean and waste water management systems, AUWSA has also constructed latrines in 16 primary and secondary schools within the city.

He said the aim was to improve hygiene and sanitation at schools

especially for the girls.

"We have also provided training to local leaders at ward level to enhance supervision and management of the new sanitation infrastructures. These leaders will control students from dumping hard wastes in the lavatories," he noted.

He was optimistic that the provided



It's our hope that all the infrastructures will be properly used and maintained. This will save funds the government was spending to repair the toilets

education will ensure sustainability of the constructed infrastructures.

Arusha City Health Officer and Coordinator of a National Environmental Cleanliness campaign, Allan Rushokana said they reached the decision to train the teachers after they realized that most of the students did not know how to use the toilets.

"It's our hope that all the infrastructures will be properly used and maintained. This will save funds the government was spending to repair the toilets," he said, adding that the training covered head teachers, health officers, education coordinators and ward executive officers.

Elerai ward executive officer, Emmanuel Pallangyo commended the government in Arusha for implementing a sanitation project in their area. He said most of the schools were facing challenges of poor hygiene and sanitation facilities.

Pallangyo noted that the project will also include construction of WASH facilities at public places such as markets, government institutions and offices.

BoT governor hails TADB performance

By Guardian Correspondent, Bariadi

BANK of Tanzania (BoT) Governor, Prof Florens Luoga has hailed the performance of the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) and urged it to increase the pace in improving the lives of farmers, herders and small fishermen by working together with associate banks.

"You have been accorded with huge trust to oversee revolution in the agricultural sector in the country. You are doing good work to enable small scale farmers increase production of crops," said Prof Luoga.

The BoT governor was speaking at the Agricultural, Livestock and Fisheries Exhibition (Nanenane) held at national level at Nyakabindi Stadium

in Simiyu Region, during which he also hailed TADB cooperation with other banks and commercial institutions to strengthen the agricultural sector.

"As the only government's bank, you have a big responsibility to improve the agricultural sector and the country's economy in general by assisting farmers to undertake gainful projects for the national development," Prof Luoga said.

He also said he was pleased by various banks and other financial institutions at the exhibition, adding that the exhibition is the area where big stakeholders in agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors were to be found.






TADB Manager for Lake Zone Mike Granta who represented the bank's Managing Director Japhet Justine said

as a bank, they are well mobilised to improve the agriculture, livestock and fisheries sectors.

"TADB presence here has quenched the thirst of many farmers, livestock keepers and fishermen as they were able to learn how TADB was working with them to strengthen the sectors as well as contributing to the industrial sector," Granta said.

TADB participation in the exhibition at both national and zonal levels attracted many farmers and herders as they had the opportunity to understand services and products offered by the bank.

Ezekiel Maduhu, a small scale cotton farmer from Kwimba District in Mwanza Region hailed TADB for the revival of cooperatives.

CONSULTANCY OPPORTUNITY

Railway Children Africa (RCA) is a subsidiary of Railway Children UK - an international charity that fights for children and youths living and working on the streets (CYLWS). Our work focuses on vulnerable children and youths who live alone and at risk on the streets, where they suffer abuse and exploitation. They run away or are forced to leave their homes where they suffer poverty, violence, abuse and neglect.

They find themselves living on the streets because there is nowhere else to go and nobody to turn to. However, the problems they face on the streets are often even worse than those they endured at home. Every day we fight to change their story. We aim to reach children as soon as they arrive on the streets and intervene before an abuser can, and before they become entrenched in street life.

Our 'Three Step Change Agenda' embodies our vision of real change being achieved through success in three interwoven areas:

1. Meeting the immediate needs of children on the streets
2. Shifting local perception
3. Holding governments responsible

Under the USAID Kizazi Kipya Project RCA is implementing CYLWS component to ensure the needs of these hard-to-reach children and youth are well addressed. RCA is focusing on improving and expanding services for CYLWS.

To achieve this, RCA is providing technical support to six CSOs implementing the project in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Iringa, Mbeya and Mwanza. The CYLWS service package is delivered through the adapted case management approaches that include the application of three key interventions: street outreach, Youth association model and family reintegration. It also includes stakeholders Coordination to ensure ownership and sustainability the intervention beyond the Kizazi Kipya Project.

RCA would like to procure professional consultancy services to synthesize and document approaches, services, means of service delivery, lessons learnt and best practices from the implementation of the Kizazi Kipya CYLWS component. The assignment focusses on HIV related services for the period of 2018-2020 and seeks to capture and share practices and experiences to build collective knowledge and inform best practices from CYLWS service package delivery.

Location: Dar es salaam, Mwanza, Arusha, Iringa, Dodoma and Mbeya

Period: September 2020 (a total of 30 days including Saturdays)

The assignment will include the following:

1. Identifying, analysing and documenting approaches, services, means of service delivery, lessons learnt and best practices.
2. Leading stakeholders' consultation workshop to review and validate the identified approaches, services, means of service delivery, lessons learned, and best practices.

Scope of Work:

The tasks associated with this assignment include:

1. Conducting a desk review of existing project literature, including reports and SOPs.
2. Develop all the necessary tools for the assignment such as an outline of the study process i.e. methodology, approaches, and format of the final report.
3. Conduct individual meetings with CYLWS project staff and stakeholders
4. Organise stakeholders' meetings
5. Produce reports

Qualifications and Experience

- Master's Degree in relevant fields
- Experience of similar work
- Experience with street connected children is a plus
- Experience in Tanzania.

Skills and attributes:

- Team player, self-starter, & enthusiastic.
- Excellent English written communication skills
- Strong computer skills, including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint.
- Ability to engage others and demonstrated interest in building the personal capacity and skills of other people.
- Creative and analytical thinker.

Application:

For the full Terms of Reference please contact us through mary.gatama@railwaychildren.or.tz by Friday 14 August 2020.


The application package should include:

- Detailed CV
- Cover letter, including daily consultancy rate and terms
- Contacts for three past professional references related to similar job assignments.

Email the application to rca@railwaychildren.or.tz

Deadline is 5:00pm EAT Friday, 21 August 2020

**WE FIGHT FOR CHILDREN
LIVING ON THE STREETS**



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Rice growers in Moshi in dire need of better roads

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

RICE growers in Mawala Irrigation Scheme in Moshi Rural District, Kilimanjaro Region are in dire needs of improved roads in the scheme to scale up production.

In separate interviews, farmers appealed to the government to build roads into the scheme to eradicate inconveniences of having to carry their crops on the head to special collection centres.

As for now the farmers are forced to carry their rice crops for over three kilometres to the centres.

"The situation increases rice production cost as we pay a lot of money to pay porters who carry the rice on their heads," said Dasius Paulo, a farmer and the scheme's secretary.

Paulo said the scheme is used by farmers from three villages of Ngasinyi, Oria and Mawala, who spend a lot of their time to transport the rice on the head instead of motor vehicles due to lack of road infrastructures.

He added: "The Scheme has about 1,600 farmers with a total of more than 5,000 acres under cultivation, and each acre produces about 20 bags of rice."

"There are also about 15,000 porters engaged in carrying the rice crop. Even though we thank the government for the construction of the irrigation canals and we receive big support from the Kilimanjaro Irrigation Zone Office."

Hawa Kasote, a farmer and treasurer of Mawala farmers Community said as for now the collection of revenue from the scheme was problematic because farmers first want the government to construct roads infrastructures in the scheme.

Kilimanjaro Regional Irrigation Engineer, Said Ibrahim, said the first decision by the National Irrigation Commission (NIRC) was to expand the scheme area that increased land under cultivation, and added that as for now farmers can cultivate over 4,500 hectares through irrigation.

NIRC has expanded irrigation area in Kilimanjaro Region from 53,000 hectares to 85,000 hectares to open up opportunities for gainful commercial farming.



There are also about 15,000 porters engaged in carrying the rice crop. Even though we thank the government for the construction of the irrigation canals and we receive big support from the Kilimanjaro Irrigation Zone Office



Natural Resources and Tourism minister Dr Hamisi Kigwangalla (2nd-L) presents Coastal pilots Captain Lucas and Captain Maynard an award after their company emerged the Best Airline Operator in the Serengeti National Park. This was at the Tanzania National Parks Tourism Awards ceremony for this year held in Arusha at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIANS are required to give priority the issue of environmental cleanliness to avoid adverse effects including epidemics from waterborne diseases.

The call was given during the weekend by the Dar es Salaam Regional Medical Officer Enezaeli Ayo at a function to hand over pit latrines built by Lixil Company who build SATO brand toilets through the campaign dubbed "Usichukulie Poa, Nyumba ni Choo" at Bombambili Primary School in Ilala District, Dar es Salaam Region.

Ayo said the government has been making various efforts to preserve environmental cleanliness for the

Tanzanians reminded on giving environmental hygiene priority

community but the citizens also have a great responsibility to make this a success.

"Even though the Covid-19 infections have greatly ebbed in the country, we are being advised by the guidelines from the Ministry of Health to continue to have clean environment for students while at school," Ayo said.

He said a toilet is part of the environment for schools as a contributing factor for a school to do better in examinations.

"The government will continue working together with SATO in advertising their toilet services that are safe and can be used by any person at affordable cost," he added.

SATO Chief Executive officer Justin Mbowe said the aim of his institution was to continue assisting various institutions and households with better toilet infrastructures.

"At the beginning of this year we contributed 80,000 pit latrines through the Health Ministry for schools

and various institutions as part of the effort to support the government in improving education in the country," Mbowe said.

The Headteacher of Bombambili Primary School Defrosa Denis thanked the government for its efforts in providing them with sponsors to solve various challenges they face.

However, she said the school still needs 91 pit latrines to cope with the number of students and teachers at the school.



Mwanza regional administrative secretary Emmanuel Tutuba (C) briefs Jhpiego Country director Alice Christensen (R) on initiatives devised by the government towards improving health services in the city. She made a courtesy call to the RAS yesterday. Looking on is Dr Riziki Ponsiano of the USAID-supported Boresha Afya project. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Hai

THE government has expressed its commitment towards ending use of charcoal in Hai District, Kilimanjaro Region by establishing a special campaign to sensitise households to use alternative energy sources.

The campaign has already started attracting residents as they are now investing into turning rejected crop

Govt reaffirms commitment to end use of charcoal in Hai

and tree products into sources of energy.

Explaining on the campaign, the environmental officer for the district Alfred Njigite said the campaign will help in controlling an alarming environmental degradation that is

going on in the district.

"We want to ensure that we have an alternative source of energy on our daily activities because the goal number 7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) advocates for alternative sources which are sustainable," he said.

He said it is possible for households to stop using charcoal and firewood because there are other energy sources which can perform the same duties.

For his part, the natural resources officer for the district Mbayani Mollé speaking on the same urged the

residents to choose alternative energy source to conserve the environment.

He hailed Mlangiri Secondary School from Arusha for innovating a new way of creating alternative charcoal through residues which are now being used for preparing food for teachers

and students.

Earlier, the director for Ashael Investment which works on creation of alternative charcoal Asha Lukumay said the alternative charcoal has been very essential in environmental conservation including hygiene.

COVID crisis takes toll, Kahama seeing pupils impregnated with schools closed

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

NINE primary school girls in Kahama District, Shinyanga Region were impregnated during COVID-19 school closure, authorities have said.

Two of the nine girls got impregnated before temporary closure of the schools while the rest were found impregnated soon after studies had resumed. They have been suspended from school to attend cases filed at the district's court. Salma Mwenda, Kahama Primary School Health Officer, revealed this yesterday at a special event intended at building capacity to health teachers on preventive measures against Covid-19.

The event that was organised by the Huheso Foundation under sponsorship of the Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) also intended at providing awareness to gender discrimination thus teachers can play their part in fighting gender discrimination in their communities.

According to her, early pregnancies among primary and secondary school students is attributed to parents not playing their parental role of protecting girls against the incidence instead they have been allowing girls to get into their

home at any time without questioning where they have been spending most of their time.

"So far there are nine pregnant students and have been suspended from school. The number of pregnant girls is likely to be big as inspection is ongoing across all 80 primary schools in the district," said Mwenda.

Kahama District Council Health Officer Basil Gervas said that Kahama residents have started ignoring instructions of sanitizing and washing their hands alongside wearing face masks calling upon teachers to make sure that students wash their hands before getting in class.

On his part, Baki Salama programme coordinator from Huheso Foundation, Gerald Muheto, said that the programme is being implemented in five wards namely Zongomela, Nyasubi, Kahama town, Malunga and Majengo.

Speaking on behalf of the teachers who attended the event, Rahel Lobozi from Kahama A primary school said that they are facing difficulties at schools in making students wash and sanitize their hands because the general public seems to forget or ignore taking such cautions.



**EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)/ REQUEST FOR INFORMATION (RFI):
SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF VARIOUS GOODS OR SERVICES FOR GEITA
GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML) TANZANIA.**

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The purpose of the EOI/ RFI is to explore the supply market for competent Suppliers with the requisite technical skills and Knowledge and financial capacity to undertake the Supply and Delivery of various goods and or services to Geita Gold Mining Limited in accordance with the RFI documents.

The responses to this EOI/RFI will be used to shortlist capable Service Providers that will be invited to respond to the Main Tender for the Supply and Delivery of Various Goods and or Services for Geita Gold Mining Ltd (GGML). The details and dates for the issue of the Main Tender will be communicated to shortlisted Companies only. It is necessary to respond to this EOI/ RFI in order to be pre-qualified to be considered for the Main Tender.

Scope of work:

Provision of Supply and Delivery of Various Goods or Services as detailed below:-

S/N	Reference Number	Projects Description
1	GGME0825	Supply and Delivery of Filter Gas
2	GGME0949	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Fuel and Lubes Container Facility
3	GGME0912	Supply and Delivery of 5X6 MB Grade Container
4	GGME0918	Supply and Delivery of Hydrochloric Acid
5	GGME0950	Supply, Delivery and Commissioning of Underground Main Fan
6	GGME0921	Supply and Delivery of CC1400 Fans Set and Starter Boxes

II. SPECIAL INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF VARIOUS GOODS OR SERVICES

The below information forms the minimum requirements in order to conclude the prequalification evaluation set out:

- Authorized dealer (where applicable)
- Technical Capability
- Warranty (where applicable)
- Technical support services
- Previous records on the same Supply/Services

III. GENERAL INFORMATION REQUIRED

The below information is required in order to conclude the prequalification evaluation set out below:

1. Detailed service provider's information with organization structure, list of manpower with CVs of key personnel, parent company (if applicable), support agencies and other facilities and resources.
2. Details of completion of similar type of contracts in the last three years and similar contracts/agreements currently under execution covering:
 - Brief scope of work
 - Value of work in Tanzania Shillings (TZS)
 - Contract execution duration
 - Client's name
 - Contact details of the client (GGML may approach the client directly for feedback on Health, Safety and Environment statistics (HSE), Lost Time Injury (LTI) graph, etc).
 - At least 3 reference letters from existing clients are required.
3. Details of business presence in Tanzania
4. Provide details on local content, including:
 - Local procurement of goods and services
 - Local employment and training practices
 - details of percentage of managerial and non-managerial positions held by Tanzanian citizens.
 - Shareholding structure of the shareholders
 - Local research and development expenditure
 - A copy of the latest Local Content Plan and Local Content Performance Report as submitted to the Mining Commission or equivalent information if no prior reports and plans have been submitted.
5. List of policies, procedures and quality assurance practices currently in place for the execution of similar work.
6. Lists of HSE management system, HSE policy and implementation procedures in line with internationally accepted practices.
7. Quality assurance & Quality control plan/ procedures in place for the execution of similar type of work, Copy of ISO or any other certification as applicable
8. Service provider's financial performance documents (Audited Balance sheets, Profit and Loss Account & cash flow statement, Auditors Report and Notes to Accounts etc.) for the last 3 (three) years.
9. Ownership: Please provide the following information about your organisation's ownership/partners/members:
 - 9.1 For privately owned companies, a list of all the owners, their nationality and respective percentage ownership of your organisation.
 - 9.2 For publicly traded companies, a list of all shareholders holding more than 5% with details of their nationality and percentage ownership.

IV. PREQUALIFICATION EVALUATION CONSIDERATIONS

In evaluating the interested bidders, GGML will consider the following:

1. **Service Reliability** - Prospective Bidders to indicate the approach they will adopt to ensure Quality of the various good and services to be supplied, particularly in the mining sector and in remote locations.
2. **Capability** - Prospective Bidders to give details of their capability regarding the provision of services to similar size of clients as GGML. (At least 3 reference letters from existing customers are required)
3. **Health, Safety and Environment** - Prospective Bidders to give details of their Health, Safety and Environmental management systems.
4. **Permits and Certifications** - Prospective Bidders to provide details and evidence of permits and registrations issued by the relevant Government authorities, including OSHAS and any other statutory bodies regulating the related services.
5. **Sustainability** - Prospective Bidders to give details of their local labour sourcing and training plans as well as details of any commitments to the social development of the area where Geita Gold Mining Ltd (GGML) is located.
6. **Financial Capability** - Prospective Bidders to provide details of their financial capability supporting their ability to render the service.
7. **Local Content** - Prospective Bidders to demonstrate their compliance with the requirements as set out in the Tanzania Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018, as amended.

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide supply and delivery of Goods and Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than **0830 P.M 24 August 2020** (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

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VACANCY



People are the business...Our business is people!

Geita Gold Mining Ltd (GGML) is Tanzania's leading gold producer with a single operation in Geita Region. The company is a subsidiary of AngloGold Ashanti, an international gold producer headquartered in South Africa, with operations in more than ten countries, in four continents. The mine is situated in the Lake Victoria Gold fields of North Western Tanzania, only about 85 km's from Mwanza City and 20 km's South East of the nearest point of Lake Victoria. The company has its head office in Geita, only 5 Km's west of the fast growing town of Geita, and also a supporting office in Dar es Salaam. Applications are invited from ambitious, energetic and performance driven individuals to fill in vacant position(s) mentioned below:

Position:	Specialist - Underground Mine Production
Job Number:	GGM-2020-XUG-07
Number of Positions:	2.
Works For:	Senior Specialist - Underground Mine Production
Qualifications:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BEng Mining / Engineering Degree or equivalent
Experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5+ years' proven experience in mine production in underground mining environment of which at least three (3) years is at an advanced technical level within a production department. • Experience working with International UG mining contractors who operate underground mechanized trackless equipment will be highly regarded. • High skill level with UG mine planning software (Vulcan/StudioUG/EPS). • Proven experience and ability to create and manage budgets for a UG operation. • Longhole stopeing drill and blast experience highly regarded.
Purpose of the Role:	The purpose of the role is to support, develop and train an effective local team capable of delivering industry leading practices within an underground mine environment, particularly underground mine production activities related to planning, drill and blast & technical support functions.
Main or Key Accountabilities:	<p>SAFETY & ENVIRONMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Execute AGA Safety practices required for the task. • Identify, understand and address safety hazards and risks related to the task. • Determine what could go wrong and what needs to be done to work safely before starting a task and help others to work safely. • Continually look for new hazards in the workplace and report them to Supervisor. • Demonstrate work behaviors consistent with the company Safety Vision & Values and work within prescribed boundaries. • Promptly report all injuries, illnesses and incidents. • Suggest ways of improving Safety performance within Geology department. • Speak up if he/she thinks that the task cannot be done safely and courage to talk to Supervisor he/she thinks of being unable to work at his/her best. • Establish and maintain processes to ensure that all environmental risks and emerging issues are identified and mitigation plans to put in place <p>TRAINING & SKILLS TRANSFER</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and develop emerging talents within a multi-discipline team. • Build and lead the mining drill and blast and technical support teams and assist in the development of local mining engineers. • Provide specialist support in key processes and systems to drive the best performance from all team members. • Analyse and Identify key skills & knowledge required by all team members in order to carry out their roles effectively and safely. <p>TECHNICAL / PRODUCTION</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate advanced application of Underground Mining Production Processes & Practices. • Provide specialist support in key underground mining processes and performance optimisation. • Establish and maintain processes to ensure the technical aspects of the operations which include mine planning, survey, fleet management, drill & blast, and have the required resources in place to support the mining operations. • Demonstrate advanced application of principles of underground mine design including production and development using highly mechanised underground trackless equipment, ventilation systems, production techniques. • Work to support underground lateral development and production management teams, together with technical support services along with contract management. • Demonstrate advanced understanding of appropriate underground geotechnical evaluation methods. • Advise the best practice drilling & blasting techniques to reduce blast damage and dilution in an underground mine environment. • Proactively identify impacts, issues and opportunities associated with changes in other disciplines/ process (and vice versa). • Lead minor to medium projects and interact with test work and engineering consultant service providers <p>COST MANAGEMENT & CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify areas for improvement in operational blueprints (systems, processes, procedures & tasks) to ensure compliance to plan, reduce variation and maximise cost effective utilisation. • Interpret data to initiate and drive the operational improvements as required. • Use cost-benefit thinking to set priorities and identify cost-effective approaches. • Actively look for ways to manage costs without impacting on planned outcomes using the OE (Operational Excellence) approach. • Provide support in generating annual mine budget in line with Company Strategic Options and associated mining physicals. • Establish and maintain processes to ensure the development of optimised short term and medium-term (3MS) plans that ensure delivery of the budget requirements and the operations strategy. • Generate innovative solutions, which continuously improve the performance of existing assets, products, services or processes.
Additional Requirements:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 to 2 years' experience working with the P500 and Operational Excellence (OE) initiatives or equivalent will be advantageous. • Worked in highly mechanised underground longhole stopeing operations. • Advanced knowledge in contract management practices, technical consultants and operational mining contracts. • Advanced understanding of project management standards and has applied them in a minor - medium project to conceptual level. • Demonstrate advance level of knowledge of planning systems and practices from long term to short term mine planning. • The ability to work across all disciplines, where rigorous engagement and interaction is expected. • The ability to handle conflict resolution. • The ability to utilise equipment, office software -MS Office (Excel, Word, PowerPoint) to prepare correspondence, reports, forms, mailings; • The ability to communicate clearly and concisely, both orally and in writing with good presentation and facilitation skills. • The ability to use statistical methods to analyse, validate & verify analytical data with a strong attention to detail. • The ability to work and communicate with people at all levels/good interpersonal skills.
Mode of Application:	Application cover letter (Subject should be: Specialist - Underground Mine Production and/or quote the job number), detailed CV, copies of relevant certificates, e- mail and telephone contacts, names and addresses of three referees, to be forwarded to below address. You will be required to bring original certificates if you are contacted for interviews.
Contact Address:	Senior Manager Human Resources, Geita Gold Mining Ltd, P.O.Box 532, Geita. Email: jobs.geita@AngloGoldAshanti.com
Application Deadline:	Application letters should reach the above on or before 25th August 2020 – 17hr30. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted for interviews.
BEWARE OF CONMEN! GGML does not receive money in exchange for a job position. Should you be asked for money in exchange for a job offer or suspect such activity, please report this immediately to our Security Department, Investigation Unit, by calling +255 28 216 01 40 Ext 1559 (rates apply) or use our whistle-blowing channels by sending an SMS to +27 73 573 8075 (SMS rates apply) or emailing 24cthonesty@ethics-line.com or use the internet at www.tip-offs.com.	

215850802

We should push for more use of renewable energies

ONE of the main contributors of Green House Gases in the world are non-renewable sources of energy including coal, crude oil and natural gas that emits high levels of carbon dioxide CO₂ in the sky.

Wood and charcoal, which are the main sources of energy for households in rural areas accounts for 85 per cent of total final energy consumption, according to National Energy Policy 2015 (NEP, 2015).

Without appropriate interventions to control emission from non-renewable energies, it is projected that, demand for charcoal will double by 2030 from the approximate of 2.3 million tonnes of charcoal per year.

The government, which has been investing a lot in the use of non-renewable energy for economic purposes, is currently working to replace wood and charcoal consumption with more supply of electric power, gas and petroleum products.

The decision is important as it helps to reduce heavy dependence on biomass that contributes to deforestation. Already, there is a huge development in the application for the Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) as a source of heating and cooking energy for households.

In efforts to support government's interventions in reducing and eliminating the use of non-renewables as source of energy, the Forum for Climate Change (Forum CC) in the country is executing a project designed to encourage the government and communities to make use of renewable energy by introducing non-carbon or alternative charcoal which is safe from the environment and clean to protect the health of consumers.

The project implemented by HIVOS East Africa, under the strategic partnership on energy (SP-E) is focused on reducing and eventually make an end to the use of carbon-based charcoal

that increases green-house gases.

Dubbed green and inclusive energy (GIE), it is co-implemented in strong partnership with Tanzania gender and sustainable energy network (TANGSEN), TGNP-Mtandao, climate action network Tanzania (CAN Tanzania) and environmental journalists in Tanzania (JET).

The primary objective of the project is to provide capacity building to civil society organisations (CSOs) working to develop energy sources, in order to advocate for and defend the use of renewable energy for development and control the increase rate of climate change.

According to the Tanzania policy road map the structure of the charcoal business chain is complex, comprising of many different stakeholders with different objectives and economical potential.

According to the policy road map for Tanzania there are several challenges that the country is facing to make access to renewable energy become active, some include; financial barriers, which is associated with the lack of clear long-term financing mechanism with over-dependence on donors and public funding, high perceived risks and up-front capital costs and long payback time.

Currently, the main financing mechanism in the renewable energy sector is Public Private Partnership (PPP). This essentially means that there is private investment in production, backed with a purchase guarantee by the government.

Revenues along the charcoal value chain are distributed unevenly. The producer can earn as little as 20 per cent of the final price of charcoal paid by the urban consumer, whereas traders generally earn a considerable higher percentage. The reasons for this include large supply of unskilled labor, producers have little negotiation leverage and lack of market influence for retailers.

Agro-livestock strategising could solve grazers-farmers conflicts

SOMETHING is in the air ahead of political parties fixing election manifestos ready for the general election as those in charge of various ministries are working hard for solutions facing different sectors, and can't at all be said to have descended to a laid back mood waiting for the polls to be finished. This is the case with the agro-livestock expanded sector covering most rural areas, as the two ministries are set for joint strategies and researches. That is exciting for policy observers, as their combination is tricky.

The Livestock and Fisheries ministry and that of Agriculture have agreed to develop a platform to enable them to work closer together to speed up development, on the basis of remarks by Livestock and Fisheries minister Luhaga Mpina and Agriculture deputy minister Hussein Bashe. This was on the sidelines of the height of the NaneNane exhibition in Simiyu, while on a joint visit at the Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI) pavilion. Still the remarks did not arise from having met on that occasion, definitely.

The two cabinet officials - as it can also be said of the current batch of ministers - know that sitting back and letting the heads of government make all decisions can have its repercussions. But these aren't routine issues they were discussing, but how to solve knotty problems, which either ministry has been trying to solve alone, like conflicts between farmers and livestock keepers. It means there is need for technical conciliation or work, not really a platform for transformation for this can't be initiated at the ministerial level. It needs greater consensus.

What is important about this meeting of minds at the Agricultural Exhibition (NaneNane) which took place in Simiyu

at a national level is that the two cabinet officials concurred that it was high time for the two ministries with related duties to work collaboratively by sharing work plans, best practices as well as strategies and researches. Bashe for instance reportedly stated that the country's livestock and agriculture sectors still face diverse challenges and to contain the situation, the best way is for parent ministries to start working more closely. That is well said, as it will give light to what each ministry ought to do, first.

Working and strategizing agendas closely will enable agriculture research institutes and experts to share a roundtable with their livestock counterparts to produce desired results like production of animal breeds and feeds as well as how to mitigate diseases that affect both sectors, on the basis of his remarks. This was all the same the easier part, but soon he started broaching on the difficult issues. He urged the national livestock research outfit (TALIRI) to ensure that implementation of modern crossbreeding programmes "do not affect the welfare and development of local breeds

There are environmental and economic issues involved, for instance local breeds assure a large supply of meat cheaply, but also decimate crop areas. Foreign breeds are unlikely to meet demand for meat, but are suited for milk needs and lower acreage. It is unclear what the Livestock sector minister expects of this quest but is ready to put it to practice. He said that the envisaged joint working system will help facilitate and solve setbacks retarding development of the two sectors. It is also what the public expects as well, but it will not be plain sailing, this assignment.

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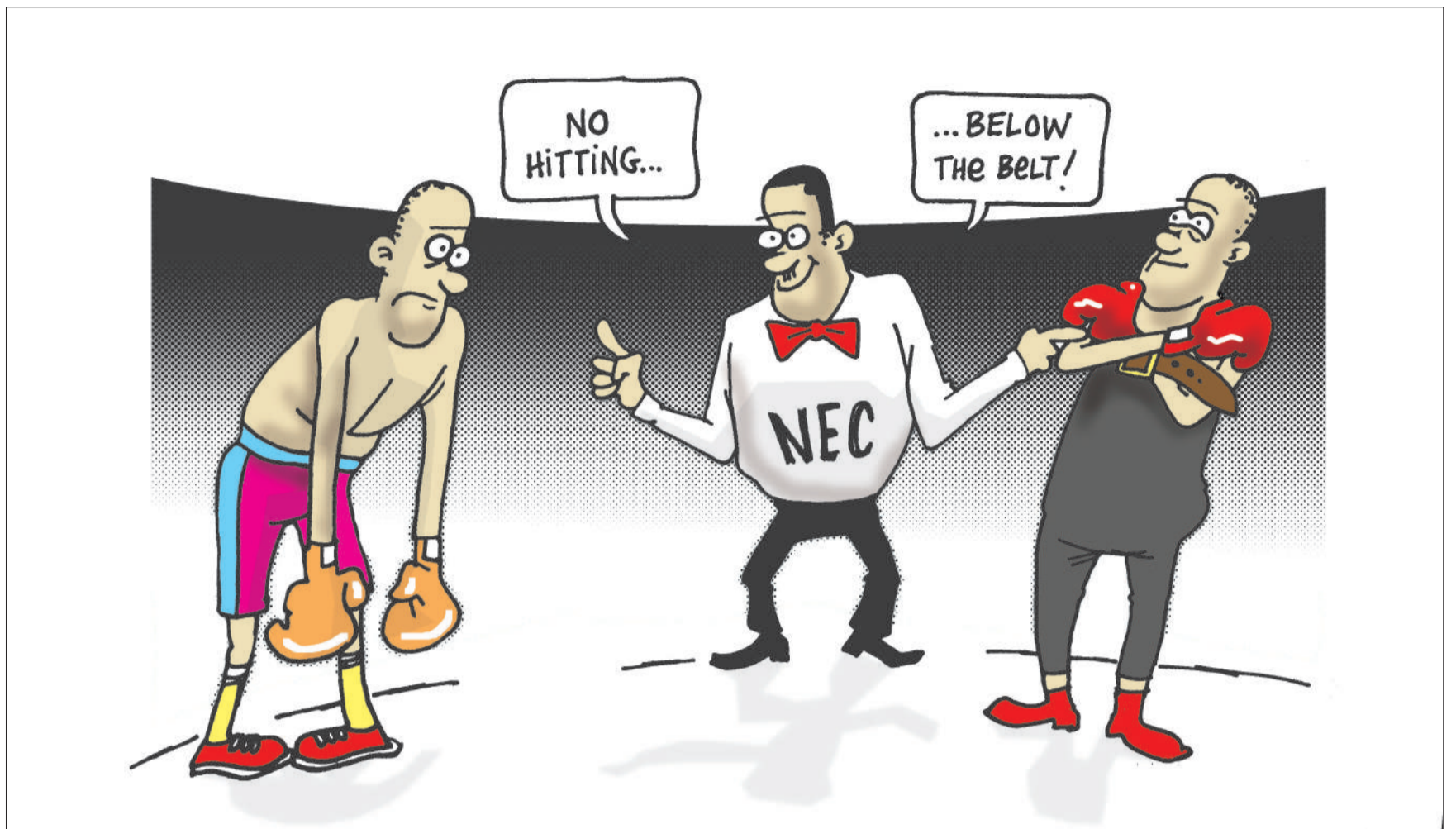
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Big lessons from two pan-African giants on how to achieve genuine nuclear disarmament

By Joellen Pretorius

THIS year marks the 75th anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki by the US in 1945, the only time in history that nuclear bombs have been used.

The atomic bombs killed tens of thousands of people instantly, with many others succumbing to horrific wounds or radiation sickness days, weeks, months and years afterwards. Subsequent generations, born to the survivors, suffered birth defects. The two cities were just about flattened.

For some, nuclear weapons represent a necessary evil that brought an end to World War II and have since kept major powers from repeating the slaughter of such wars. For others, nuclear weapons represent a moral low point in human history, falling into the same category as slavery. For this group, the only solution is to abolish them.

There are at least two traditions of African thought on nuclear weapons, traceable to their most vocal exponents: Kwame Nkrumah, the scholarly first president of independent Ghana, and Ali Mazrui, the renowned Kenyan scholar.

Both Nkrumah and Mazrui associated nuclear weapons with imperialism and racism, but proposed different approaches to address the problem they present. Nkrumah's was an abolitionist non-violent approach. He argued for nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament and saw nuclear imperialism as the exploitation of smaller states and indigenous people and territory for nuclear tests and uranium mining.

Mazrui, on the other hand, argued for nuclear proliferation before nuclear disarmament could take place. His view was that the dominant policy towards nuclear weapons afforded some states the political privilege of having them, while denying this right to others. What he called nuclear imperialism.

Nkrumah's approach arguably became the African approach to nuclear weapons. As a leading member of the Non Aligned Movement, Africa's participation in the global nuclear order was directed through the organisation in the pursuit of nuclear disarmament. Closer to home, the achievement of an Africa Nuclear Free Zone treaty in 2009 was a direct outflow of Nkrumah's approach.

Mazrui's approach never had much official traction.

I argue that to end nuclear imperialism, African states have to



reconcile Nkrumah's and Mazrui's approaches to nuclear weapons.

Reconciling the two approaches

Tackling nuclear imperialism would require African countries to sign up to the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, or the Ban Treaty, of 2017. This treaty is a first step toward eliminating the weapons themselves and the systems of control and exploitation they make possible. African states participated in the treaty process. More than 20 have signed the treaty and five have so far ratified it.

It would also require African states to withdraw from the Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty. All African states are currently members of this treaty. But, after 50 years in existence, there is little hope that it will deliver genuine nuclear disarmament.

Reconciling Nkrumah's idealism and Mazrui's realism helps us see these treaties for what they are: the Ban Treaty is based on humanitarian concerns and the equality of states; the Non Proliferation Treaty legalises a few states' nuclear hegemony indefinitely. It is time for African states to lead in creating a new non-nuclear order.

Where both of them stood

An internationalist and pan-Africanist, Nkrumah saw abolition as the answer to nuclear weapons. He saw them as the "sword of Damocles" hanging over humanity. Embedded in the global peace movement of the time, he advocated for "positive action" - an outflow of Gandhian non-violence. He attended and hosted several conferences with an anti-nuclear agenda, including an assembly in 1962 on the theme "A world without the bomb".

Although many Africans lost faith in the value of non-violence and preferred a military solution to imperialism, Nkrumah's approach to nuclear weapons did not fade. It was enmeshed with the position espoused by the Non Aligned Movement, and was the position adopted by the African National Congress in South Africa in 1994.

For his part, Mazrui believed African states should not pursue a nuclear weapon free zone and should leave the 1970 Nuclear Non Proliferation Treaty.

The treaty was considered a landmark arms control agreement between the five states that had tested nuclear weapons by 1967 (the US, UK, France, Russia and China) and non-nuclear weapon states. States without nuclear weapons agreed not to acquire them in exchange for access to peaceful nuclear technology, while the nuclear weapon states agreed to give them up at some unspecified date in the future.

Mazrui saw the Non Proliferation Treaty as a trap that smacked of racism, where major powers got to say "such and such a weapon is not for Africans and children under 16".

Mazrui was thus "advocating nuclear proliferation as the only realistic path to nuclear disarmament. This was a total inversion of the Western consensus."

Wasted opportunities

The five nuclear powers have wasted many opportunities to negotiate the nuclear disarmament that the 50-year-old Non Proliferation Treaty binds them to. Instead, key nuclear arms control treaties have been discarded and all the nuclear weapon states are modernising their arsenals.

The treaty has also not stopped

proliferation: four other states have since acquired nuclear weapons - Israel, India, Pakistan and North Korea.

Mazrui was right. In practice, the treaty is at most a status quo treaty that has come to legalise a small club being able to wield nuclear weapons - what India calls nuclear apartheid.

The treaty is not just about separating states into haves and have nots; it is also a stick to beat the have nots into submission.

In the Iraq War of 2003 the US used stopping nuclear proliferation as a false premise to justify making war on that country and is today doing the same to sanction Iran. States without nuclear weapons accepted the Non Proliferation Treaty in the hope that it would deliver a world without nuclear weapons, but that hasn't happened and their patience is running out.

The efforts of the majority of states that went outside the Non Proliferation Treaty forum to negotiate the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons three years ago, to make nuclear weapons illegal for all, without exception, need to succeed. The Ban Treaty will enter into force when 50 states have ratified it. The number currently stands at 40.

The Ban Treaty was only possible because of a broad international coalition emphasising the unacceptable humanitarian consequences of nuclear weapons.

To end nuclear imperialism, African states have to reconcile Nkrumah and Mazrui's approaches by not only joining the Ban Treaty, but also withdrawing from the Non Proliferation Treaty. This will signal that African states will only take part as equals in global nuclear governance where these weapons are illegal for all.

BCG vaccination explains why coronavirus is giving the US an especially difficult time

By Bo Stapler

THE idea that the BCG (Bacillus Calmette-Guérin) vaccine, first administered in 1921 to prevent tuberculosis (TB), may have some protective effect against Covid-19 has been gaining traction in recent weeks.

It has long been acknowledged that TB, BCG, influenza and Covid-19 are related. A consensus review by experts across the globe admits the role of TB in viral respiratory infections.

Research published recently (August 5) by Martha Berg and others in the Journal of Science Advances adds further legitimacy to this concept.

In their article entitled: 'Mandated Bacillus Calmette-Guérin (BCG) vaccination predicts flattened curves for the spread of Covid-19', Berg and colleagues eloquently describe a clear correlation between administration of the BCG vaccine and reduced spread of the novel coronavirus. Let's unpack their findings.

The investigators looked at data from 134 countries showing the rise in cases and deaths from Covid-19 at the pandemic's outset while comparing nations that mandate BCG with those that don't.

The authors explain further: "Over the last century, many countries adopted universal policies of mandatory BCG vaccination to fight against tuberculosis, which was then a major threat. Since then, many countries maintained such a policy, at least until very recently (e.g., China, Ireland, Finland, and France). Some other countries terminated the policies as tuberculosis ceased to be a threat (e.g., Australia, Spain and Ecuador). Of note, some countries never mandated BCG vaccination (e.g., United States, Italy, and Lebanon)."

To display their data in another way, Berg and colleagues plotted the virus growth rate adjusting for a number of factors unique to each country including age, population density and migration patterns. The evidence is again convincing that the BCG vaccine offers some level of protection against



Covid-19.

But why did investigators only look at data from the beginning of the pandemic? It is true that this study only compared data from the first month of the pandemic whenever it occurred in each country.

This was done to eliminate variations among nations with regard to reporting bias, which includes testing infrastructure and availability. As long as such biases remain the same for an individual country over the course of the pandemic's first month, their effect can be considered minimal.

Although not precisely correlated, the rate of initial Covid-19 spread can be thought of as a surrogate marker for how the virus goes on to propagate after the first month since many of the countries with slow initial rates are also seeing a fewer percentage of cases and deaths multiple months into the pandemic.

How does the TB vaccine protect against the novel coronavirus? The answer to this question is not entirely clear, but it is thought to occur through the innate branch of the im-

mune system, as opposed to the adaptive branch, through a process called trained immunity.

The basic idea is that the BCG vaccine, which is considered a potent immunomodulator, may be training the innate immune system to work more efficiently to activate the adaptive immune system, which is ultimately needed to overcome Covid-19.

This non-specific pathway is different than the mechanism BCG follows to create immunity against TB. Previous studies have suggested that the BCG vaccine can offer protection against yellow fever and influenza in this non-specific manner as well.

Why isn't it routine to receive the BCG vaccine in the US? TB has a low prevalence in the US and, as it turns out, BCG is not all that effective against TB - reducing cases only by about 20-30 per cent.

So, should we all go out and get the BCG vaccine? The short answer is: NO. Even though there appears to be a protective effective effect on a population level, there are no data from prospective trials that would suggest that an

individual could achieve a significant level of protection against Covid-19 from the BCG vaccine.

Additionally, since the BCG vaccine is typically administered at birth, it is unknown how quickly the vaccine could train the immune system to fight Covid-19, if at all. Even Berg and her fellow investigators state: "BCG is by no means a magic bullet that assures safety against Covid-19."

Fortunately, there are prospective trials under way to investigate the effects of BCG on individuals who may become exposed to the novel coronavirus. My suspicion is that while it's possible that the principles used to make the BCG vaccine a strong immunomodulator may play a role in the development of a vaccine for Covid-19, the BCG vaccine itself will not prove to be a valuable intervention in the US.

Bo Stapler, MD, is a health and science writer, interpreter of medical jargon, and hospitalist physician certified in internal medicine and pediatrics.

China calls upon AIIB members to work closer for shared development

By He Yin

CHINESE President Xi Jinping delivered a speech via video link at the Opening Ceremony of the Fifth Annual Meeting of the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) on July 28, during which he called on members of the AIIB to aim at development for all, keep breaking new ground, strive for excellence, and stay open and inclusive.

Members of the AIIB should endeavor to make the AIIB a new type of multilateral development bank that promotes development across the world, a new type of development platform progressing with the times, a new type of high-performance institution for international cooperation, and a new paradigm of multilateral cooperation, Xi suggested.

It's widely believed by the international community that China's aspiration and resolve to continue working with other members to support the AIIB and make it a success have injected strong confidence into the future development of the AIIB as well as the global efforts to cope with risks and challenges and realize shared development.

Xi expressed in his speech appreciation for the achievements of the AIIB in advocating multilateralism, promoting development for all its members, and facilitating the building of a community with a shared future for mankind.

"With more good friends and partners getting on board for higher-quality cooperation, the AIIB has established itself in the world as a new type of professional, efficient and clean multilateral development bank," Xi said.

As a new member of the global economic governance system, the AIIB had 57 founding members at the beginning while now the organization has 103 members from six continents.

The AIIB has so far approved 87 projects in 24 economies, with the investments totaling nearly \$20 billion. The rich fruits have fully demonstrated the organization's vitality and potential for promoting infrastructure construction and connectivity.

The success of the AIIB proves that achieving shared development is the common aspiration of various countries in the world, and facilitating development for all is a just undertaking that conforms to the trend of the times.

The AIIB has fully shown its power of action in the face of the COVID-19. The organization promptly set up a COVID-19 emergency fund to provide financial support for its members' public health emergency needs and help with the financing of infrastructure projects and other production areas that have been severely affected by the pandemic.

With its amount of money available rising from \$5 billion at the beginning to today's \$13 billion, the fund has by far approved 16 projects worth \$5.9 billion, benefiting 12 countries.

Human beings rise and fall together in a community with a shared future. Mutual support and cooperation in solidarity are the only way for mankind to overcome crises.

The AIIB has set a good example of contributing to building a community with a shared future for mankind by showing a sense of responsi-

bility and making efforts to help the world fight against the COVID-19.

Making sure that the AIIB grows into a new platform that promotes development for all its members and facilitates the building of a community with a shared future for mankind represents the common consensus among and aspiration of all the members in the institution.

It's believed that the AIIB's readiness to adapt to changes and act accordingly, adhere to high standard and high quality, and uphold the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits will enable the organization to provide more regional and global public goods and new driving forces for boosting the economic and social development of Asia and other regions.

China has always supported and adhered to multilateralism, and pursued development with countries around the world in the spirit of openness, cooperation, and win-win results.

China advocates that the AIIB should adhere to the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits, respond to adjustments and changes in the global economic landscape and engage more development partners in cooperation, benefit the world with regional and global public goods, push for regional economic integration, and help make economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial for all.

Since its proposal for the establishment of the organization in 2013, China has paid close attention to and supported the development of the AIIB, demonstrating its sense of responsibility as a major country in safeguarding multilateralism, improving global governance, and promoting development for all through practical actions.

At present, the world is faced with growing instability and uncertainty and humanity is confronted with severer global challenges, which require various countries in the world to make concerted efforts and jointly cope with problems and challenges.

Upholding the idea of building a community with a shared future for mankind, China has always been trying to inject more stability and certainty into the world and pushing forward with shared development with an open and inclusive mind, which is particularly precious at the moment.

"We are confident that when faced with the task of advancing world peace and development, so long as the international community has the will for consensus building and for win-win progress, we will be able to not only draw the big plan, but also turn it into reality."

The remarks Xi made at the inauguration ceremony of the AIIB in January serve as important long-term guidance for the work of the organization.

Today, various countries have greater demand for financing as they step forward toward the post-pandemic world, which gives the AIIB a broader stage.

It should be understood that as long as members of the AIIB can join hands and work closer, the AIIB will certainly create more development opportunities for the world while making greater contributions to the building of a community with a shared future for mankind, thus living up to its mission and its members' expectations in the era.

People's Daily

'Covid-19: List of risky workplaces goes well beyond healthcare settings'

By Robert Roy Britt

WORKPLACE spread of Covid-19, beyond healthcare settings, likely played a substantial role in early disease clusters and outbreaks in six Asian countries.

This is according to a new study that researchers say US officials and companies could learn from as they work to reopen the economy.

Job-related transmissions accounted for 47 per cent of initial case clusters and outbreaks examined in the study, often leading to the infection of several family members. The findings are based on an analysis of 691 local transmissions, 103 of which are thought to have occurred in workplaces.

The jobs and workplaces that led to the most case clusters and outbreaks: healthcare: 22 per cent, drivers and transport: 18 per cent; services and sales: 18 per cent; janitors and domestic workers: 9 per cent; public safety: 7 per cent; religious professionals: 6 per cent; construction workers: 5 per cent.

"Our study highlights several occupations that have higher potential risks and should be closely monitored as various countries, states and areas begin to gradually re-open their economies," says study team member Stefanos Kales, a professor at Harvard Medical School and the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health.

While the plight of healthcare workers amid the Covid-19 pandemic is well known, other evidence suggests that any job or situation that packs people tight - from meat-processing plants to homeless shelters to jails - puts people at high risk of Covid-19 outbreaks. It is noted that in jails, outbreaks are affecting inmates and workers alike.

Last month, the World Economic Forum released an analysis indicating outsized risk for bus drivers and cashiers, given their close physical proximity with others and the fact that they are essential workers.



Also at elevated risk - according to the analysis, which was based on known job requirements and conditions - not on case studies were firefighters, flight attendants, K-8 (elementary-middle school) teachers, correctional officers, hairdressers and childcare workers. The analysis pointed out that only about 29 per cent of Americans have the option of working from home.

Office workers and their employers face their own set of challenges should they return to the physical space, which other experts say can be mitigated by a range of measures.

The measures include improving sanitation efforts, moving desks to face people away from each other, upgrading air filters, and even making sure that toilet lids are closed before flushing and people let vapours settle before following someone else into the restroom.

Protecting workers protects customers

Kales and his colleagues say workers on the list in the new study, published on May 19 in the journal PLOS ONE,

may not be as likely to receive personal protective equipment from their employers, adding that "robust preventive strategies and surveillance strategies" are needed for high-risk occupations.

The researchers recommend, among other efforts, creating physical barriers between drivers and passengers, or cashiers and customers and, of course, following CDC (Centres for Disease Control and Prevention) guidelines.

"Protecting the high-risk workers in occupations identified in this study not only helps protect them from being affected, but it provides an opportunity to prevent secondary infections of family, colleagues and customers," said Fan-Yun Lan, lead author of the study and a doctoral candidate in population health sciences at T.H. Chan.

The study did not address means of spread, but ample evidence from other research shows that Covid-19 spreads through contact but also via droplets in the air, including small droplets that can travel more than 6 feet.

The new study involved cases in Hong Kong, Japan, Singapore, Taiwan, Thai-

land and Vietnam. While workplace cultures in Asia may be different from those in the United States, the researchers think their results are nonetheless relevant in the US, given the occupations involved.

One further finding in the study is that earlier job-related outbreaks were more common in taxi drivers and others who had frequent contact with others, including people coming from China.

"The workforce of high-risk occupations in the US shares certain occupational characteristics as that in Asia," Lan said, adding: "For example, taxi and bus drivers have frequent interpersonal contact in their daily practice and increased risk of being exposed to affected passengers. Regardless of different cultures in personal protective equipment (PPE) use, the occupational hazard due to frequent interpersonal contacts should be similar across the whole world."

A Luminat dispatch. Robert Roy Britt is a science & health journalist.

SPECIAL INTERVIEW

Former Ambassador Ferdinand Ruhinda: This is the Ben W Mkapa legacy I know

By Correspondents Salva Rweyemamu, Saidi Nguba and Tido Mhando

“THANKS for accepting my offer for an interview. I want to pay a public tribute to Benjamin Mkapa, my friend, my brother. I ask you to disseminate it.”

These were the opening remarks of Ambassador Ferdinand Kamuntu Ruhinda, a retired diplomat, during an interview with the three of us in Dar es Salaam last week.

“I have been deeply saddened by his death. I honestly can't find appropriate words to describe my grief and sorrow, and my sense of loss. I will miss him. I will miss him very much,” he said.

He elaborated: “We were more than friends; we were a family. When I faced challenges of illness, he supported me unreservedly, and went out of his way to help me. Sadly, I was unable to physically take part in any of the activities related to the national mourning for him. However, immediately after his death, I called and personally consoled his wife, offering my heartfelt sympathies and deepest condolences to her and the entire family.”

The narration ran on: “One day before he passed away, Ben came to see me - as he used to do almost every week. He took his usual seat, just where you are now seated. He, however, did not stay long. This time, he had come to brief me about the conduct and decisions of the then just-concluded CCM meetings in Dodoma. He also told me that during his stay in Dodoma, he had had the opportunity of participating in the burial of retired Ambassador Job Lusinde, who died at around the same time the meetings were in progress.”

“As mentioned, he did not stay long, which was not normal with him. In hindsight, I now believe that he had come to bid me final farewell. Little did I imagine that the occasion would be our last meeting. He told me he was feeling unwell - that he was sick. And I could see that. I advised him to visit a hospital immediately, and see a doctor.”

Ruhinda then immediately fell silent for something close to three minutes, presumably attempting to calm his nerves and control his emotions.

We sat for the interview for this article ten days since Mzee Mkapa's passing on July 23 this year. All this time, Mzee Ruhinda had kept to himself, quietly mourning the death of his closest friend of more than 50 years.

So, he had elected to wait until the burial had taken place at Lupaso village in Masasi District, Mtwara Region, before paying his public tribute to a man he fondly referred to as a brother. “I did not want to participate in kneejerk reactions,” he said.

There cannot be any doubt that in his long (he passed away just before clocking 82) life and a hugely decorated and immaculate public service, the third-phase president of Tanzania, Benjamin William Mkapa met and made friends with many people.

Some of them were from very early in life, during his school days at Ndanda among them Mzee John Kambona and Mzee Philip Magani, both of whom were at Lupaso to bury him.

However, there can likewise be no doubt that probably none of them was closer to him as a friend than Ferdinand Ruhinda, another distinguished former public servant now quietly retired.

Ruhinda continued: “I first met Benjamin Mkapa in 1966, a whole 54 years ago, when we both of us were still young. Since then, we were close friends. We deeply and honestly trusted each other. It would definitely be no exaggeration to say that since our first meeting, here in Dar es Salaam, we have met or spoken at least once every two weeks.”

“Now, please, do not misunderstand the context of this statement. I am not claiming, in any way, that Ben did not have other close friends. He had - and it was not a few. So I had no monopoly of Ben's friendship.”

“We met in the circumstances of our work and became friends based on our work and outside it. Back then, I was employed as a journalist in the Tanzania Broadcasting Corporation (TBC) newsroom. Ben would come to TBC to read English language bulletins, as a part-timer. I was one of those responsible for preparing (writing and editing) those bulletins. He liked my job and we became



friends, which triggered a comradeship that would span over half a century. In reality, our relationship went far beyond friendship. We were a family, brothers.”

Mzee Ruhinda readily admits that he does not know, and cannot adequately point out, what brought them so close. He narrates: “At the beginning, we were so different. In fact, we could not have been more different. Both of us came from the peripheral regions of the country - one (him) from the northwestern tip of the country and the other from the southern end. One was from the Kagera River area and the other from the Ruvuma River zone. Probably, what united us were our characters and our common interests in life, in journalism and in politics.”

Mzee Ruhinda explains further: “One year after our first meeting, I joined the English-language Nationalist newspaper which was published along its sister Kiswahili publication, Uhuru, where Ben was the Managing Editor. I worked under him, first as a sub-editor and later as news editor.”

Now, you can begin seeing that our initial friendship was anchored in journalism and, as I mentioned earlier, in our common interest in politics. In fact, as you all know, there is very little difference between journalism and politics.”

He adds: “Needless to remind you, my friend later joined full-time politics and I remained a journalist - but our friendship endured and we became even closer.”

Mzee Ruhinda is widely known as a person who adamantly refuses to praise or promote himself and, accordingly, his description of his development in journalism stops here.

The reality, however, is that he went on to succeed Benjamin Mkapa as Managing Editor of the twin TANU-owned newspapers in 1972, when Mkapa was himself appointed Managing Editor of the Government-owned newspapers - Daily and Sunday News, following the nationalisation of The Standard, previously owned and published by LONRHO, a London-Rhodesia based company owned by a flamboyant English businessman known as Tiny Rowlands.

In fact, in 1976, Ruhinda went on to succeed Ben Mkapa for another time as Managing Editor of Daily News and its sister publications.

From the 1980s until his retirement from public service, Mzee Ruhinda and Mzee Mkapa worked closely - and at one time with Ruhinda under Ben Mkapa (who was Foreign minister by then) again, when Ruhinda served as Tanzania's Deputy Ambassador to Sweden and later as High Commissioner to Canada and still later as Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.

Mzee Ruhinda's appointment as Tanzania's top representative to countries with such close diplomatic relations with our country speaks volumes about how much Benjamin Mkapa trusted him. This is largely because, even though he was not the appointing authority, it would have been inconceivable that, as Foreign minister, his recommendation would have not been sought, or even his advice would not have been taken into consideration, in making such major appointments.

Though, it is difficult indeed not to imagine him being his friend's alter ego, Mzee Ruhinda avoids speaking on Mzee Mkapa's behalf on matters that are now a matter of public record in the latter's book, *My Life, My Purpose*, launched only eight months before his death. He explains: “Fortunately, he was able to speak for himself in that book. However, I want to comment on an issue he deliberately avoided raising in it because of his core character of consistently refusing to praise or promote himself: Ben was almost a complete human being. All the good qualities of a good human being, Ben had.”

“I am fully aware that, owing to our friendship, some people will doubt my assessment of his character. They will say I am biased, and not impartial. True, Ben was my friend. However, our friendship does not negate his good qualities as a human being. Ben, for example, accepted and tolerated differences of opinion, even if he did not share the same opinion. This is one quality that is not expressed well enough in his book.”

“Benjamin Mkapa was humble, gentle and a courteous person. There are people who say that he was intellectually arrogant. To me, that is only a difference of opinion. His character of tolerating differing opinions is particularly important and attractive in a leader. It is a leadership quality our present and future leaders need to emulate.”

“Our world has many people, with many different opinions and outlook, and in order for us all to live in harmony with each other, we need to respect one other's opinions, even if we do not necessarily agree with them. To our leaders, this is indeed a responsibility, because they mirror our world and societies.”

Mzee Ruhinda insists that Ben Mkapa's character and capacity of tolerating opinions different from his own developed when he became president. He says Ben had always had this character.

He elaborates: “I am not sure if I can express this well enough for people to understand what I am attempting to say. As managing editor of both Party and Government newspapers, as ambassador and high commissioner, and especially as president, Mkapa exhibited exemplary ability to tolerate opinions different to his own.”

“In so doing, there are opinions and positions he accepted and there are others he rejected. What is worth emphasizing here is that even those opinions he rejected did not turn those who offered them into foes or opponents. This is amply exemplified by the space he afforded the opposition to organise during his presidency. Even the media were allowed to prosper and operate freely.”

“He always tried to understand other perspectives and opinions. To him, the ability to tolerate different opinions was a life-time cardinal principle that guided his approach to his public and even private life. And this, in my opinion, is probably Ben Mkapa's single most important legacy to our present and future leaders.”

Mzee Ruhinda adds that even those Mkapa and him were close friends, they did not always agree on everything. They had their own times of disagreements while engaging in constant debates on vari-

ous issues.

He explains: “We discussed issues most of the time. We agreed on some and differed on others. One issue on which we always disagreed, for example, was the almost omnipotent powers of the President of the United Republic of Tanzania on many things, and especially the powers to appoint people to various positions.”

“Personally, I thought - and still believe, that we have afforded the President too much power to appoint far too many people. He should appoint fewer. He appoints the Cabinet, regional commissioners, district commissioners and many others, all almost from his own party. And the appointments are carried out, in my opinion, without sufficient vetting of potential candidates.”

“One day, Ben Mkapa appointed somebody, whose name I reserve, to be a nominated Member of Parliament. So, I went to see him and asked him if he really knew that person well enough to appoint him Member of Parliament. He admitted that he did not know him well enough. Well, I told him what I knew about the person. Ben was highly disappointed with himself for making that appointment. But the damage was already done. “We do not need a new Constitution to change this - because this issue has a huge potential for misuse...We are witnesses to situations where presidents in some neighbouring countries appoint their own wives as ministers.”

“On other issues, indeed on most issues, we fully agreed most of the time. One such issue is the Union and the composition of the Union and Zanzibar Governments. We agreed that our country was not putting enough emphasis on strengthening the Union. Despite being one country for a long time, still some people refuse to accept the fact that after 1964, both Tanganyika and Zanzibar ceased to exist and since then there has existed only one country - the United Republic of Tanzania - for 56 years now.”

Ambassador Ruhinda notes further: “I am emphasizing these two issues because I believe they are vitally important for the welfare of our Nation and its future, and because this is last time I am giving a media interview.”

“To me personally, not only was Ben Mkapa my close friend but I also lived his good and many human qualities, and I was attracted to them. He was good-hearted and compassionate. He was kind and gentle; a quiet gentleman. True, he was also a severe and a no-nonsense person. But all these are good human qualities, especially when severity in life is guided by fairness, kindness and compassion.”

While avoiding commenting directly on the contents of Mzee Mkapa's book, Mzee Ruhinda addresses himself to one issue that the former president raised in it - the issue related to the governance of our country and the principles governing our elections.

He says: “There has been endless debate on the necessity of our country having an independent electoral commission. To me personally, the big issue is not about the existence of an independent electoral commission or the lack of it. To me, the challenge is the absence of an institution or institutions that have full confidence

and trust of our people to conduct and supervise fair and free elections.”

“First, such institutions should draw their strength and people's trust from our culture and our history. And second, they should have the requisite capacity, willingness, ability and unquestionable integrity to deliver elections that enjoy the full confidence of our people, that will maintain our unity and peace, and that will not divide our people, and thus become a source of conflict, civil disobedience and war.” He adds: “To me, this is the core of the matter: elections that are trusted by our people - because even in those old, established democracies, there are no such things as independent electoral commissions. However, based on their culture and history, institutions that run elections enjoy the full confidence of their people, and so are the resultant electoral results.”

“In my opinion, the primary responsibility of our current National Electoral Commission (NEC) is to conduct a good, transparent electoral process, and provide a platform based on complete fairness, where people are fully informed with timely and accurate information about the electoral process.”

“Let me give you an example from the 1995 General Election, the first competitive elections under the then newly re-introduced political plurality and multi-partism in our country. During the campaign, a major political debate was organized and conducted between candidates of major parties competing in those elections. However, that debate was organized and conducted by a newspaper group, and not by the National Electoral Commission.”

“Since then, 25 years on and still counting, no other such debate has been organized and, in my opinion, this should form part of the responsibilities of the National Electoral Commission. Such debates empower and inform the electorate into fully knowing the candidates and their positions on various issues as well as their level of preparedness to govern the country. Such transparency would greatly contribute towards further building and enhancing the confidence of our people.”

As for his last word, he says: “I would like to take this opportunity to once again console Ben Mkapa's widow and express my deep-felt sympathy and sincere condolences to his entire family and his many friends on his sudden death. I have been quite pleased and satisfied by the proper manner in which our Nation bade him farewell and buried him at home village, Lupaso. We have shown him fitting respect, honour and the dignity he deserved. Personally, I Will Miss Him. I Will Miss Very Much.”

All three writers boast decades of experience in media practice. Salva Rweyemamu and Saidi Nguba are directors of the Dar es Salaam-based Pioneer Communications Company Limited, while Tido Mhando is Managing Director of Azam Media Group. Next: In the second part of this article, Ambassador Ruhinda will discuss the 1995 General Election - which propelled Benjamin William Mkapa into his first term as President of the United Republic of Tanzania.



President John Magufuli with former presidents Alhaj Ali Hassan Mwinyi, Benjamin Mkapa and Jakaya Kikwete in a rare photo on sidelines of a meeting earlier this year

Farm implements company shines at agricultural show in Simiyu Region, leading whole pack of 'rival' firms

By Guardian Correspondent, Bariadi

AGRICOM Tanzania has emerged number one among farm implements' exhibitors during the just-ended Nane Nane Agricultural Exhibition at Nyakabindi grounds in Simiyu Region.

Agricom is a leading company in importation, distribution and marketing of agricultural equipments and a wide of other farm implements, inputs and spare parts.

Japhet Hasunga, the minister for Agriculture handed over the award to Remmy Nindi, the Agricom's acting managing director on behalf of Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa.

Commenting on the award, Nindi said: "The award is an encouragement to us of improving our services. It makes us stronger and we'll participate effectively at the next agricultural fair."

"I commend the government and award organizers, which has been an incentive to us. It makes us to increase innovation in our service deliveries to our stakeholders in agricultural sector," he said.

According to Nindi, at the fair Agricom showcased a num-

ber of modern farm inputs that meet farmers' expectations. "And this is what made us to get this important award," he said, adding that the firm has chipped in to address shortage of farm inputs in the country.

Currently, he said that the firm has opened offices in some regions because the idea is to serve farmers in all zones.

Agricom Tanzania has an office in Melela area few kilometers from Morogoro Municipality, which is meant to serve farmers in eastern zone.

"We've another office at Kibaigwa in Dodoma Region that serves farmers in central Tanzania. We also have an office in Kahama, Shinyanga Region, which serves Lake Zone regions, while an office in Igurusi serves farmers in southern highlands regions."

However Nindi said that this year's Nane Nane Agricultural Exhibition was well attended since the opening day as more farmers came in large number at the Agricom booth to witness different modern farm implements such as tractors, power tillers and its accessories.

Wrapping up the annual farmers' event, the premier commended the firm for its contribution to the country's



Agriculture minister Japhet Hasunga (2nd L) presents a trophy at the weekend to Agricom acting managing director Remmy Nindi, after the firm emerged the first winner among farm implements' exhibitors at the just-ended Nane Nane Agricultural Exhibition at Nyakabindi grounds in Simiyu Region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

agricultural sector by empowering farmers to do modern farming.

"It is high time for farmers to refrain from hand hoe and use modern

farming tools such as tractors and agro-processing factories to add value to crops, which in turn boost farmers' income," Majaliwa said.

The premier urged farmers to get loans from Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB), CRDB, NMB, NBC and other financial institutions.

Ban wildlife trade, lobby urges on World Lion Day

By Special Correspondent

FOR decades the lion has been seen and depicted as the symbol of power, courage, pride and nobility in many regions.

In other places, the lion is viewed as a majestic, regal, protector, warrior, king and a leader who can be looked upon.

The lion is the most recognizable creature that has muscular, deep-chested body, short, rounded head, round ears, and a hairy tuft at the end of its tail.

But the wild animal has also

been used as metaphors by society around us to depict how spirited the lion has been.

In Kenya, this animal has been used to represent patriotism on its Coat of Arms. But one thing that is yet to be understood and taken care of is the fact that this wild cat is nearing extinction and animal lovers have moved to save it.

As we celebrate world Lions day today, August 10, wildlife lovers have asked the world to ensure there is a ban on wildlife trade to ensure that animals are saved particularly during this time of

coronavirus. Wildlife campaign manager at world animal protection in Africa Edith Kabesime told the Star that the summit that will be held in Saudi Arabia in November should encompass the ban on wildlife trade.

"Since the outbreak of this disease, we dedicate this whole year in calling for the world leaders who will be meeting at the G20 summit to ban this trade. Let them put mechanisms that will ensure that the trade comes to a stop. This is the only way to protect the lion and other animals from poach-

ing," she said. Kabesime says that with the ban on the trade, future pandemics such as extinctions and poaching will be eliminated entirely.

But she notes that the animals like any other human being get depressed whenever they face hurdles in life. "We have already heard about some lions contracting the disease in the US, these animals also feel pain just like us human beings and we must protect them before it gets late," she says.

Just over a century ago, there were more than 200,000 wild li-

ons living in Africa.

Today, there are only about 20,000. Lions are extinct in 26 African countries and have vanished from more than 95 per cent of their historic range.

Kenya currently has a population of about 2,489 lions, compared to the 2018 estimate of 1,970.

According to the WWF, the African lions have lost 90 per cent of their historic range and lion numbers have crashed from as from as many as 200,000 lions just 100 years ago to approximately 20,000 in the continent.

Kenya last week launched a recovery plan for lions and hyenas to help sustain their viable populations in the country last week.

Tourism CS Najib Balala said the second edition of the lion and spotted hyena Recovery and Action Plan addresses complex threats faced by the two carnivores in a holistic and collaborative manner.

"This aims for the long-term vision of sustaining viable populations of lions and spotted hyenas in healthy ecosystems as a world heritage valued by the people of Kenya," Balala said in a statement

in Maasai Mara National Reserve.

He said the Recovery and Action plan was developed through a consultative planning process and in accordance with the International Union for Conservation of Nature, Convention for International Trade of Endangered Species and Convention of Migratory Species guidelines.

The CS said lack of proper planning had led to increased cases of human-wildlife conflict but cautioned communities against taking the law into their hands by killing wildlife.

Climate change: Building resilience of smallholders tough south of the Sahara

By Special Correspondent

SMALLHOLDER farmers are the backbone of the global rural economy, but they are bearing the brunt of climate change.

Worldwide, there are 500 million smallholder farms supporting two billion people, according to the International Fund for Agricultural Development, a UN agency based in Rome. These farms inhabit some of the most at-risk landscapes, including hillsides, deserts and floodplains.

Climate change multiplies the threats facing smallholders, endangering the natural assets they depend on and accelerating environmental degradation. In east Africa, drought can no longer be considered an unusual calamity. As a low rainfall area, the region must adapt to climate change.

While smallholder farmers are vulnerable due to the unreliable supply of water and the hotter conditions now facing their communities, in both agriculture and fishing, some groups are using adaptable methods to overcome these challenges.

In the Upper Tana region of Kenya, innovations such as conservation agriculture, fish farming in elevated ponds, goat rearing, water harvesting, tree planting, irrigation projects and the successful piping of water from the Kagati dam are helping smallholder farming communities to alleviate the effects of climate change.

The Upper Tana Natural Resources Management Project is an eight-year scheme, due to conclude this year, funded by the Kenyan government, the International Fund for Agricultural Development, the Spanish Trust Fund and the local community. The goal of the project is to reduce rural poverty in the area by increasing sustainable food production and the sustainable management of natural resources.

In Zanzibar, a semi-autonomous archipelago off the coast of Tanzania, where many of the rural poor depend on the sea to eke out a living, warming waters as a result of climate change are leading to lower fish catches and consequent overfishing. Time is limited, and local authorities are not waiting for a global consensus on fighting global warming to act against its impact in their region. A farmer and his wife place mulch around plants to suppress weeds, protect the soil from heat and retain moisture, in Tharaka-Nithi County, Kenya. Photograph: Lar Boland

A farmer and his wife place mulch around plants to suppress weeds, protect the soil from heat and retain moisture, in Tharaka-Nithi County, Kenya. Photograph: Lar Boland

They are applying creative strategies to document these changes with the aim of finding concrete solutions, including the use of drones.

Given the name Dar Ramani Huria - a Swahili expression that can be translated as "the open map of Zanzibar" -



State University of Zanzibar student Khadija Abdulla Ali, popularly known as the "Queen of Drones", operates a drone used for mapping parts of the Isles in the fight against the impact of climate change.

the Zanzibar Mapping Initiative has been described as the most ambitious mapping project using drones in the world.

It was launched in 2016 in partnership with the

World Bank, the Commission of Lands and Environment of Zanzibar and the State University of Zanzibar. Conducted by 17 spatial technology students from the university, the project deploys drones on a

small scale for mapping portions of territory.

Zanzibar will use it for developing its policies to counter the effects of climate change and adopt new approaches to urban planning.

200 employers flock to WCF pavilion at agricultural show

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

MORE than 200 employers visited the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF) pavilion at the ongoing Nane Nane Agricultural Exhibition at Nyakabindi grounds in Simiyu Region.

Masha Mshomba, WCF director-general said this yesterday

that there has been a positive response from the employers who are seeking to know the fund's operations especially on how to register and submit their concern or claims through the newly Online Registration System-WCF Portal (ORS).

"In has been a great time hosting a good number of employers

here, we have showcased and explained our services to them especially the newly established ones that are available online. The new online system simplifies activities as it enables employers to register online but also submit their claims as soon as an employee gets injured at job for timely compensations,"

he said.

Mshomba added that since it started operation some years ago, the Fund has helped to address various challenges that employees are facing while creating and supervising for a conducive working environment.

"Both employers and em-

ployees now work and live comfortably as they are sure of their guaranteed protection from WCF especially during disasters, those who get disabilities due to occupational accidents and illness are compensated fairly and on time," he said.

The new improvements done

within the Fund align with the President John Magufuli's vision where he is eager to see all public entities use online systems to operate so as to reduce costs and improve efficiency for the country's development.

The state-owned WCF established in accordance with Section 5 of the Workers Com-

ensation Act (Cap 263 Revised Edition of 2015) with its main purpose being to provide for adequate and equitable compensation for employees who suffer occupational injuries or contract occupational diseases arising out of and in the course of their employment and in case of death, for their dependants.

The newest way to silence journalists: Jail them during a pandemic

By Jason Rezaian

THE same global health crisis that is helping the resurgence of authoritarian rule around the world claimed the lives of three imprisoned journalists last month.

Mohamed Monir in Egypt, David Romero in Honduras and Azimjon Askarov in Kyrgyzstan came from very different parts of the world. But each had spent his life expressing dissent and criticism in places where doing so invited great personal risk.

Their avoidable deaths drive home the point that no other event or political trend in recent memory has been more destructive to press freedom than the Covid-19 pandemic.

Keeping journalists in prison or arresting them for covering current events has radically different implications in the current health crisis. Detainees are far more likely to get ill or even die due to a lack of adequate care.

That was the fate of Monir, an Egyptian journalist whose arrest I reported on last month. Monir was charged with spreading fake news in an appearance he made on Al Jazeera criticizing the (Egyptian President) Sissi government's handling of the coronavirus pandemic. The 65-year-old reporter contracted the virus in pretrial detention and died on July 13. At least ten journalists have been arrested in Egypt since the pandemic began.

Askarov, an ethnic Uzbek, had been in prison for ten years when he died July 25. He was arrested in June 2010 for his coverage of civil conflicts in southern Kyrgyzstan, and had spent years reporting on corruption within the law enforcement apparatus.

In 2016, the United Nations Commission on Human Rights found that Askarov was being arbitrarily de-

tained on political grounds. But that didn't deter the government from keeping him in detention despite his failing health.

At the time of his death, Askarov had been moved to a notorious prison near Bishkek, the capital, where he was also denied adequate medical care. While the Kyrgyzstan authorities have not officially confirmed that Covid-19 was the cause of death, Askarov's wife and other observers say there's little doubt.

Romero was an investigative journalist who exposed fraud at the highest level of government in 2015. He caught President Juan Orlando Hernández of Honduras funneling public funds from the national social security system to his own election campaign.

"I know they can kill me and, if that happens, the person responsible is the president," Romero reportedly said at the time of his arrest in 2019.

Defamation, the charge for which Romero was serving a ten-year sentence when he died, was decriminalised earlier this year. He should have been released.

Following Romero's death, Honduras's former president Manuel Zelaya called it a murder carried out by the Hernández regime. "The order was given that he serve an unfair sentence and to not take him out of prison until he had caught Covid-19," Zelaya said.

It is disgraceful that the craven and opportunistic powers that jailed these reporters would keep them behind bars knowing that doing so sharply increased the risk that they might contract the disease. The authorities simply let the virus do their dirty work for them.

In the early days of the Covid-19 era, activists warned that governments might use the pandemic to restrict journalists' ability to report on



the extent of the virus's spread and efforts to slow it.

The Committee to Protect Journalists and others called for imprisoned journalists to be released during the pandemic. And, in fact, many governments released thousands of detainees in the interest of protecting lives.

Generally, though, a public health crisis demanding a unified global response has instead become a boon to political opportunists. At a time when journalists should be treated as essential workers, providing critical information that could promote the health and safety of entire populations, autocrats around the world

are using the virus as a convenient pretext to suppress expression even further.

The situation reminds me of the terrorist attacks in the US on September 11, 2001, which initially inspired hopes that the world might find a common way to address the threat of extremism. Instead, many governments pursued anti-terrorism policies that focused on perceived threats to their national security. Journalists inevitably became targets.

"I think this is worse," Joel Simon, executive director of the Committee to Protect Journalists, told me, adding: "It's harder to quantify and measure with data, but it's my observational view that this is the most intense global crackdown on free expression that we've seen in the modern era."

While it took years for some governments to take advantage of the "war on terror", today's autocrats needed

just a few weeks to exploit the pandemic to their own ends. Now the entire world is feeling the effects.

"Governments feel threatened by the spread of the disease and their own deficiencies of combating it. Combine that with the fact that they believe they have a free hand in this environment," Simon said.

He added: "Democratic and authoritarian governments alike feel emboldened to use this moment to assert authority. There's no country that seems to be an exception to this dynamic."

Jason Rezaian is a writer for Global Opinions. He served as The Washington Post's correspondent in Tehran from 2012 to 2016. He spent 544 days imprisoned by Iranian authorities until his release in January 2016.

Dangerous link between coronavirus, obesity: Our world is facing two pandemics right now

By Rami Bailony

THERE'S still a lot that we don't know about Covid-19, as the news headlines demonstrate on a daily basis. That's to be expected with a virus that has so quickly and completely consumed the globe, dramatically outpacing testing and mitigation efforts.

However, the continued unknowns about this virus shouldn't obfuscate what we do know to be true about this deadly disease. As the weeks wear on, our failure to act on known medical truths is becoming increasingly unfor-

givable. Our world is facing two pandemics right now. The acute one, Covid-19, is swift and relentless - and it's disproportionately preying upon people affected by an even larger, more-enduring pandemic: obesity.

Obesity is a leading risk factor in

mortality and morbidity from Covid-19. And yet we're not acknowledging this truth in our plans for protecting our most vulnerable populations.

This speaks to a much larger deficiency within our society and our healthcare system today: the stubborn refusal to recognize and treat obesity as the chronic, deadly disease that it is.

As we look to the future and begin planning for what the "new normal" looks like, both in society and in healthcare, it's incumbent upon us to address the current deficits in our treatment of people with obesity. By closing this vast chasm, we can dramatically reduce the number of people who die in future pandemics.

Based on the patterns witnessed with H1N1 and obesity a decade ago, many physicians (myself among them) worried that obesity would prove to be a prevalent risk factor for mortality among Covid-19 patients. In recent

weeks, that fear has been confirmed as a harsh reality - perhaps even harsher than we imagined that it would be.

In study after study, obesity has been found to be a leading risk factor for mortality and morbidity from Covid-19 across the globe. In a study out of NYU, severe obesity (BMI above 40) was a greater risk factor for hospitalisation among Covid-19 patients than heart failure, smoking status, diabetes or chronic kidney disease.

In China, in a small case series of critically ill Covid-19 patients, 88.24 per cent of patients who died had obesity versus an obesity rate of 18.95 per cent in survivors. In France, patients with a BMI greater than 35 were seven times more likely to require mechanical ventilation than patients with a BMI below 25.

The data on the repercussions of obesity in the setting of this global pandemic cannot be ignored. Nearly



half of the US population is expected to have obesity by 2030.

This statistic was alarming when it was released prior to the global spread of Covid-19. In the context of the pandemic, given what we now know about the increased mortality risk among people with obesity, it is downright terrifying.

Where systemic change is needed

Clinical studies have supported the notion that obesity is a chronic disease for decades now. And yet society, insurance providers and the healthcare system at large continue to treat it as a lifestyle choice.

The World Health Organisation was quick to warn that people with chronic disease were at increased risk from Covid-19, but it somehow left obesity off its list of pre-existing conditions likely to make patients more vulnerable.

Likewise, when Covid-19 hit the United States, healthcare systems and medical professionals rushed to protect and isolate "high risk" individuals, but people struggling with obesity were not included in these protective measures.

The failure to protect people with obesity in Covid-19 response plans mirrors failure to protect these individuals within the healthcare system at large.

While major medical institutions have teams devoted to tackling diabetes, heart failure, chronic kidney disease and other life-threatening conditions, the clinical staff addressing obesity tends to be on the periphery, rarely granted

funding or taken seriously.

Insurance providers, including Medicare, continue to deny coverage for obesity treatment, and obesity counselling continues to be one of lowest-reimbursed codes in medicine.

Obesity represents an enduring global pandemic, but there's no vaccine on the horizon. Fighting obesity means waging a multifaceted war on a number of fronts - not just diet and lifestyle, but also with regard to environmental, psychological, medical, genetic and microbiomic factors.

It's not going to be easy. Fighting a pandemic never is. But that doesn't make the fight any less worthy or necessary.

Covid-19 has clearly revealed that obesity - independent of its associated diseases - kills. It's time for society and the healthcare system to devote the same amount of resources towards medical obesity treatment as it does towards diabetes and heart disease.

To continue ignoring the mounting evidence of obesity's deadly toll - before, during and after the Covid-19 outbreak - will be to continue ignoring the most costly pandemic in human history.

Dispatch originally published in Elemental, a Medium publication about health and wellness. Rami Bailony, MD, is a Stanford Medical Entrepreneurship fellow and co-founder of Enara Health in San Mateo, California.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 121 00--

WORD-FIT

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

SOLUTIONS

TYRRENIAN NEWS PAPER S
 MEAN AWASH
 POEMS
 CAREER
 MINT LEAST
 NAAGR
 ADAPTORS
 DINE

CROSSWORD

1 able to operate independently
 2 a list of meals
 3 a tripod frame used to support an artist's canvas
 4 Chief city of Jordan
 5 the whole quantity
 6 an inlet
 7 group of musicians playing together
 8 an enzyme which breaks down RNA into smaller molecules
 9 afflicted
 10 the chief male character in a book
 11 the chemical element of atomic number 68

CLUES: Across

1 an unspecified amount
 2 former monetary unit of India
 3 a thing that is borrowed
 4 an instrument for sewing
 5 community of Muslims
 6 festival of the Christian church celebrating the resurrection of Christ
 7 unusual
 8 ended, stopped
 9 person who donates something
 10 beard in Kiswahili
 11 exclamation expressing triumph
 12 a kind of rock in which metal is found



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20 million students to benefit from Moshi leather company

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

THE government is in the process of formulating a policy that would enable 10 to 20 million primary and secondary school students to wear shoes manufactured by Moshi based Kilimanjaro Leather Industries Co Ltd.

The Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Abdallah Ulega, said during his one-day tour at leather goods factories under Kilimanjaro Leather Industries Co Ltd, Kilimanjaro Region.

The deputy minister said the Public Service Social Security Fund (PSSSF) has invested in the new leather factory in Kilimanjaro Region, and added:

"It is important for government institutions to buy goods that are produced in our own country, as many people hardly believe that leather goods produced by our local entrepreneurs are of real leather durable," Ulega said.

He said the government plans to begin with children in primary and secondary schools after coming into agreement with policy makers and various government officials whereby between 10 and 10 million students will have shoes.

The company's managing director Eng. Masud Omar said his company including other firms from Italy - TMC and ITALPROGETTI



Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries Abdallah Ulega

were in the final process of installing machinery and that the Covid-19 pandemic contributed to the delay.

He said: "The company known as Karanga Leather Industries Co Ltd (KLICL) started in 2017 aimed at establishing a project for the manufacture of leather goods near the Karanga Prison in Moshi to augment the then existing leather factory after which a new modern factory for leather products was built," said Omar.

He said the company was a joint venture between PPF whose responsibilities had been taken over by POSSSF and the Prisons Department through its Prisons Corporation Sole.

He said the new factory has been built on 25-hectare of land allocated at Karanga Prison area in Moshi Municipality and which is expected to produce 4,000 pairs of shoes per day, or 1,200,000 pairs per year.



It is important for government institutions to buy goods that are produced in our own country, as many people hardly believe that leather goods produced by our local entrepreneurs are of real leather durable

Africa in joint digital plan to curb import of Covid-19

ADDIS ABABA

AS African airlines get back to international skies this month for the first time since March, their commitment towards minimising the possibility of an upsurge in Covid-19 infections will be critical.

To help manage the uncertainty among passengers about the safety of international flights, the African Union (AU) in collaboration with private sector partners has launched a digital platform that will perform bio-screening and tracing of contacts across borders.

Dubbed PanaBIOS, the application, which can be downloaded from Google PlayStore, is already being utilised in Ghana, where it's being piloted, to manage congestion in workplaces and other high-risk locations while enabling digitising cross-border travel health clearance to suppress disease importation and transmission.

The platform was launched on July 29

by a consortium under the AU's Open Corridors Program with support from Pan-African Institutions such as the African Economic Zones Organisation, AfroChampions, the AU Department of Trade and Industry, Koldchain and national government initiatives, with the Ghanaian government's Trancop programme leading the way.

Presidential advisor on health in Ghana Dr Anthony Nsiah-Asare said their government began piloting the use of the application in June. "The government took a decision for strategic targeted testing. We started with schools and churches. We have to reopen and to do that we need a system where we can get real-time data at the borders and inside airports," he said.

"I am sure every country will like it because nobody wants importation of the disease. All cases in Africa were imported and if we are not careful, this easing of businesses could lead to more importation of



Ghana's presidential advisor on health, Dr Anthony Nsiah-Asare.

the virus into Africa." The technology has the capacity to monitor and model the congestion, thereby mapping

how the virus is spreading. "In so doing PanaBIOS alerts people who have been exposed to an infected person

and advise them to get tested. It allows users to access test results and gives them certificates to allow cross-border

travel," Dr. Nsiah-Asare said. The technology is free for use by all African countries. Kenya, an active member of the AU, stands to benefit from the solution, which is the first reference model of the AU's Digital Bio-surveillance, Bio-screening and Bio-sensing Protocol (DABBIT).

However, according to Prof Patrick Lumumba, Kenya needs to understand it first before implementing it. "We need to see the application and comprehend how it works," he told Digital Business.

But the use of Big Data in making health decisions has been effectively used by developed countries such as Germany, the United Kingdom and Israel, leading to resumption of businesses, as digital solutions keep monitoring the Covid-19 situation in those countries. Timothy Oriedo, Kenya's renowned data scientist and founder of Predictive Analytics Lab, is optimistic that the use of live data to trace contacts could help control any rise in new infections.

"Contact monitoring can be used in tracking social behaviour mobility and the movement of persons from one region to another. It can also control community interactions, especially those who use public Wi-Fi hotspots," he said. "Telling them there is an infected person in their midst could inspire social change. Through alerts to such people, this can be a preventative measure towards containing the virus." Whenever big data analytics and crowd-level insights come to play, decision makers are always interested in a large number of people, but many of them do not own a smartphone with an embedded GPS.

COVID travel restrictions devastate Africa's tourism

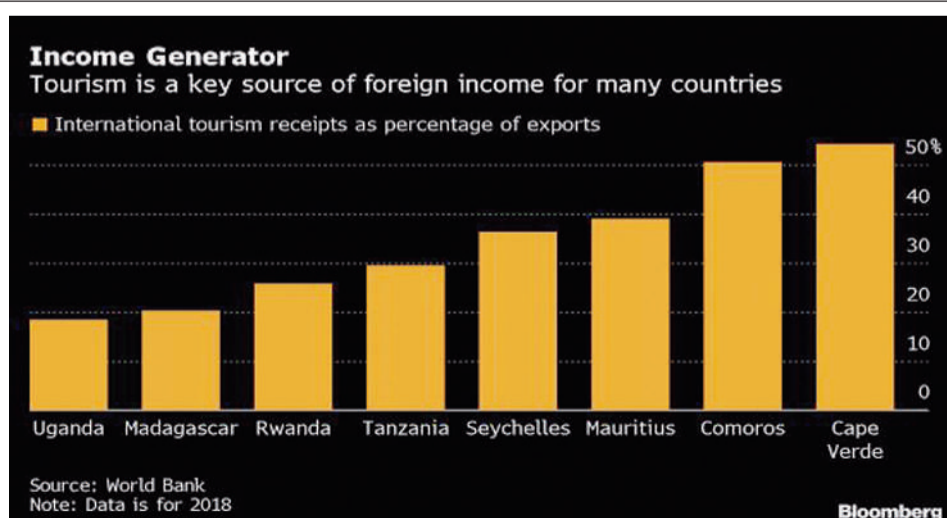
JOHANNESBURG

GLOBAL restrictions on travel have dealt a devastating blow to African nations who depend on tourists and their hard currency to support an industry that employs millions of people on the continent.

National carriers in Mauritius, Kenya and Namibia run into more financial trouble as flights were grounded. In South Africa, listed hotel group, Sun International, announced two of its casinos won't reopen after the country's coronavirus lockdown ends. The Kenyan government expects losses of as much as \$511 million in hotel-room revenue if the pandemic persists.

The following charts show the importance of the tourism sector to parts of the continent, as well as the pain lockdowns to curb the spread of the virus have caused. Travel and tourism contributed \$168 billion to African economies last year, according to the World Travel and Tourism Council. Island nations including Mauritius and Seychelles heavily rely on the travellers for revenue.

Several African economies without mineral resources and oil have managed to monetise their beaches and wildlife. Uganda and Rwanda are popular destinations for mountain gorilla trekking, while Mauritius, Seychelles and Comoros have drawn millions of tourists seeking seaside holidays. Spending by these visitors, a key source of revenue, has dried up since March.



In 2019, the number of visitors to Mauritius was about 1.4 million – that was more than its population of 1.3 million people.

The picture changed when the Indian Ocean island nation imposed a lockdown from March 20 and arrivals for April, May and June were almost zero.

The country recorded its last Covid-19 death on April 27, but that won't be enough to get tourists back. Its national carrier, key to transferring the guests, was placed under voluntary administration and travel restrictions remain in Mauritius's biggest source-markets including France

and South Africa.

South Africa, the impact of restrictions on the movement of people and business, also showed up in domestic-tourism numbers.

Income from accommodation fell 99% during the first full month of the lockdown, and has yet to recover.

The crash in food-and-beverage sales eased slightly in May as restaurants opened for delivery, but a renewed ban on the sale of alcohol could further weigh on the industry.

Smartphone costs keeping billions offline

LAGOS

NEW research from the Alliance for Affordable Internet (A4AI) finds high cost of internet-connected devices in many countries keeping people offline.

Billions of people are unable to access the benefits of the internet because of the high cost of mobile devices, according to a new survey of smartphone prices in 70 low and middle-income countries. A staggering 2.5 billion people live in countries where a smartphone costs a quarter or more of average monthly income. This is equal to the share of income the average European household spends on housing and utilities.

The cost of a device in some countries is higher still: In Sierra Leone the average person must pay more than six months' income - US\$ 265 - for a smartphone; In India, where almost a fifth of the global population lives, the cheapest smartphone from leading operator Jio costs \$346, more than double average monthly income; and In Burundi where a smartphone costs \$52, low earnings mean the average person would pay 221% of monthly income.

A4AI asserts that access to an affordable internet-connected device is the first step to internet access and provides a lifeline for individuals as well as small businesses that drive economies and create job opportunities across the world. "But almost half the world's population remains without internet access while COVID-19 has underlined like never before the importance of digital connectivity," the organisation states.

In some countries devices pose less of a financial barrier to internet access, such as in Botswana where smartphones are available priced at just \$26 (4% of average monthly income), Jamaica (\$20 or 5% income) and Mexico (\$43 or 5.7% income), highlighting the stark divide between countries.

Published by A4AI the report looked at both the price of devices and their affordability (price relative to income) to show how accessible handsets are for people living in 70 low and middle-income countries with a combined population of over 5 billion people.

"Once seen as luxury goods, today mobile handsets are essential doorways to the internet," said Teddy Woodhouse, Web Foundation Research Manager.

FCC chief urges consumers to borrow while closely watching 'shark' lenders



Fair Competitions Commission director general, Dr John Mduma.

By Francis Kajubi

CONSUMERS of financial products in the country have been urged to borrow from any registered financial institutions and report to Fair Competitions Commission if they notice 'shark' loan condition terms.

Speaking at the just ended 'Nane Nane' Agriculture Exhibitions where FCC took part, Director General, Dr John Mduma said farmers and livestock keepers in the country should borrow freely because there are consumer protection rules and regulations that protect them from 'shark' loan contracts.

Dr Mduma said FCC is well positioned to protect consumers saying borrowers who get in touch with bad loan contracts contradicting fairness and market competition should report to the commission.

"I am aware that the majority of you are scared to secure loans from banks and other financial institutions because of unfair terms

that used to be included in many contracts sometime back. We have worked on such terms in the past five past years to ensure that there is fairness and consumer protection," the FCC chief noted.

He said between January 2016 and June this year, FCC investigated 529 different contracts from which 485 involved the microfinance sector of which 70 percent had unfair terms against consumer.

"Through consumer protection regulations we can now protect borrowers from such terms as long as they file complaints with us," Dr Mduma advised while stressing that farmers and livestock keepers have been worst hit by such bad agreements.

The FCC Director General further explained that the commission has come up with Standard Form Consumer Contracts Regulations of 2014 which only came into effect in January 2016 to address the challenge of bad loan contracts.

"The commission has succeeded in abolishing unfair terms that were most used in contracts prepared by service providers and producers for consumers especially in the financial sector," he alerted.

Other contracts that were investigated and found to be unfair were insurance (28 contracts), renewable energy mostly solar energy (02), communication (4), transportation (6), agriculture equipment (3) and one contract in the hospitality sector.

"From the 529 investigated contracts, only 225 contracts were approved in accordance with the regulations. The commission also conducted investigations in the microfinance sector that covered 193 companies from five economic zones. The investigations were due complaints raised by consumers," he added. End.

Diamond polishers looking to lockdown lovers to add shine

JOHANNESBURG

AFRICA'S diamond industry, famed for sales the world over and supplying gems for the British crown jewels, is looking closer to home to revive its fortunes following the coronavirus slump.

Even before the new virus triggered the Covid-19 pandemic, diamond prices and demand were weak. Global economic weakness has exaggerated that and Anglo American's De Beers unit last week reported a plunge in earnings.

Some of the many small players who polish the rough diamonds that De Beers and other miners unearth say they have been pleasantly surprised by the extent of lockdown jewellery-buying as enforced proximity kindled romance and feel-good spending.

South African cutting and polishing firm Nungu Diamonds said its custom-made jewellery sales have grown 60% since South Africa imposed a strict lockdown in March.

Customers used their weeks at home for online consultations and were lining up for their purchases when stores reopened in June, the company's founder Kealeboga Pule said.

"We remain resilient. We fight on," Pule said at his shop in a Johannesburg suburb. June was the best month in a year, he said, with sales including engagement and wedding rings.

Bucking the trend of rising unemployment, Nungu has hired an in-house jewellery designer - joining a team of 5 polishers and 9 jewellers. Nungu says jewellery prices have held steady. Profit margins, however, could improve as lower global demand has depressed the prices of uncut, unpolished rough stones bought from the mines.

Thoko's Diamonds, another South AF-

rican company whose business was based on selling rough and polished stones, said it was turning to jewellery. Zipho Dlamini, co-owner of Thoko's Diamonds, said in a typical year the family business would supply more than 500 carats.

So far this year, the company had sold less

than 20 carats and profits have fallen 65% as the exports that account for more than half of its business dried up.

Thoko's hopes its new line in earrings will appeal to the local market. "Because of Covid-19 we have managed to move into the jewellery space," Dlamini said.



Zipho Dlamini, co-owner of Thoko's Diamonds.

Nigeria's Food Innovation Nervecentre shortlisted for Rockefeller Foundation prize

LAGOS

FOOD Innovation Nervecentre, a Nigerian agritech startup has been shortlisted among the top 10 finalists for the Rockefeller Foundation Food System Vision Prize. The Food System Vision Prize is organised in partnership with SecondMuse and OpenIDEO.

Food Innovation Nervecentre is an agritech startup is Darkpore Media Africa's developmental project focused on transforming Sub-Saharan Africa into a collection of wealthy, close-knit, thriving communities that nourish themselves through safe, healthy meals from innovative sources that replenish the Earth.

Announcing the shortlisted award in a statement, Rockefeller Foundation stated, "These finalists were selected from a pool of more than 1,300 applicants from 110 countries, all seeking to develop a vision of the regenerative and nourishing food system that they aspire to create by the year 2050.

"The Top 10 Finalists, whose visions focus on Canada, China, India, Kenya, the Netherlands, Nigeria, Peru, and the U.S., were chosen among 76 semi-finalists. "They were selected based on their potential to inspire real, positive and bold transformation of a specific food system that is actionable, concrete and believed to be attainable by 2050.

"These visions aim to tackle challenges tied to six themes: environment, diets, economics, culture, technology, and policy." The statement added that Food System Vision Prize was launched nearly a year ago as an invitation for organisations, institutions, companies, universities and governments across the globe to develop actionable solutions for the food systems of tomorrow.

"An esteemed panel of judges, including food system leaders from across academia, civil society and the private sector, reviewed the semi-finalist submissions and selected the 10 Finalists. "The inspiring Visions they have put forward paint a picture of a more hopeful future food system - one that is equitable, sustainable and can transform our planet and improve the diets and health of people across the globe," said Dr. Rajiv J. Shah, President of The Rockefeller Foundation.



Dr Rajiv Shah, President of The Rockefeller Foundation.

Uganda reopens zoo after lockdown restrictions ease

KAMPALA

UGANDA on Saturday reopened the Uganda Wildlife Conservation Education Centre (UWEC) for tourists as the East African country eases the COVID-19 lockdown restriction measures.

UWEC said in a statement that the conservation center, located about 40 kilometers south of the capital, Kampala opened to tourists with strict adherence to standard operating procedures put in place to avoid the spread of novel coronavirus. The measures include mandatory wearing of face masks, temperature screenings of tourists, social distancing and hand sanitizing.

"After being shuttered for five months, we are once again welcoming guests with strict adherence to the standard operating procedures that were launched by the ministry of tourism, wildlife and antiquities on Friday afternoon," said the statement.

The development comes barely two months after the country reopened its national parks for tourism amid the COVID-19 pandemic. Although the parks and education center are now opened, Uganda's borders and Entebbe International Airport, remain closed as part of the government measures to avoid importing COVID-19 cases.

Tourism is one of Uganda's leading foreign exchange earners, with the country set to lose about 1.6 billion U.S. dollars in tourism revenue because of COVID-19, according to the ministry of tourism. Uganda, as of Aug. 7, has registered 1,267 cumulative cases of COVID-19, with 1,115 recoveries and six deaths since the index case was reported on March 21, according to the ministry of health.

Cereal farmers bask in success of beer brewer agri-business support

By Smart Money Reporter,

AS the country marked this year's 'Nane Nane' Farmers' Day last Saturday with the climax taking part at Nyakabindi Grounds in Bariadi District of Simiyu Region, cereal farmers benefitting from Serengeti Breweries Limited's special agribusiness program were more than happy.

The main objective of marking the day annually is to honour the role that farmers play in the development of the country's economy especially in feeding industries with raw materials but ensuring that the nation has food security. Official statistics show that the agriculture sector contributes almost 26 percent of the country's gross domestic product and accounts for 85 percent of all export earnings.

Besides giving farmers and institutions an opportunity to show-case new technologies and developments in farming and highlighting best practices in these times of modernized agriculture, the annual 'Nane Nane' Agriculture Exhibitions also offer local companies, industries and manufacturers that support farmers' showcase their technology and innovative solutions to the sector's needs.

Companies such as SBL for instance, are in forefront of working with

smallholder cereal farmers to not only furnish them with modern technology to produce quality commodities but also provide a reliable marketing for such produce which is used as raw materials in beer manufacturing.

SBL through its agribusiness program, has over the last five years embarked on empowering local farmers to produce quality cereals not only to enable the brewer get raw materials but also enable farmers growth and prosperity.

The brewer's Corporate Relations Director, John Wanyancha said ambitious project facilitates farmers growing maize, sorghum and barley in various parts of the country, produce high quality commodities which are then used to make beer at its plants in Dar es Salaam, Kilimanjaro and Mwanza respectively.

"So far, more than 400 farmers are currently benefitting from the project whereby we provide them with high quality seeds free of charge, link them to financial institutions to acquire capital needed for large scale farming and supplying them with fertilizer and other farming implements," said Wanyancha.

A core feature of the project is the brewer's bold decision to link farmers to financial institutions to access the much-sought-after loans to invest in their businesses. The arrangement has been very fruitful to smallholder farmers who are now benefitting from the financial scheme.

One of the smallholder farmers who has benefitted from SBL's project is Mwinyi Makame who is a farmer from Hanang District of Manyara Region who has since become a large scale cereals producer.

"SBL's agri-business support program has been very helpful to me because the company has consistently provided me with agr0-inputs such as fertilizer, hybrid seedlings and insecticide to cultivate my farm. Through this support, I have been able to increase yields unlike in the past," Makame said adding that since joining the SBL project five years ago, his farm size has increased from 50 acres to 300 acres.

"The program has turned around my fortunes completely because I also own tractors which have enabled mechanization of my farm. I have built a modern, permanent family house and am now able to take my children to the best schools in the country," he revealed.

Another beneficiary of SBL's agribusiness program is Bora Msaki who too joined five years ago with 50 acres but today, he has become a large-scale farmer with 200 acres of barley farm. "My life changed completely when I joined the project because I also was sensitised on modern farming methods and use of inputs backed by extension services," Msaki stated.

He further added that through the SBL project, he has been able to scale up his production with mechanization of activities as he now owns three combine harvesters, five tractors and a modern planter worth over 70m/-.

Many similar testimonies by cereal farmers benefitting from SBL's program are readily available from all over the country as living standards have been improved, commodity production boosted while the brewer is providing jobs to thousands in addition to paying government revenue. The brewer has been sourcing 17,000 metric tons of cereals or an equivalent of 70 percent of its annual raw materials requirements.



A sorghum farmer who has benefited from Serengeti Breweries Limited's agri-business project harvests cereals from her farm. Photo: courtesy of SBL.

Goldman Sachs comes up with Tinder for mergers

NEW YORK

CALL it Deal Tinder. Banker Bumble. Or, perhaps more on trend with the vowel-hating naming convention of startups, simply: Bnkr. That's not the real name, but Wall Street is building a new dealmaking app for the future of mergers and acquisitions in a social-distanced world. After all, this weekend's flurry of deal activity shows that not even the coronavirus can stifle M&A demand for long.

As air travel remains taboo, and with working from home set to be the norm for corporate offices for the foreseeable future, bankers are looking for new technologies to help their clients find transactions remotely. The Covid-19 pandemic heralded the rise of Zoom Video Communications and other videoconferencing tools, which have already been used recently by Verizon Communications and Intel to negotiate acquisitions valued at hundreds of millions of dollars.

Now, Goldman Sachs Group Inc. is building a merger matchmaking app for its investment-banking clients to further aid the process, Bloomberg's Ed Hammond reports. The app's real name is Gemini, building off a technology that the company uses internally. (In case Goldman's rivals are curious, "Bnkr" is still up for grabs.)

The Gemini news comes on the heels of a busy deals weekend as the M&A market starts to show more signs of life. Microsoft confirmed that it's in talks to buy the US side of TikTok as the Chinese-owned social-media sensation comes under scrutiny by the Trump administration.

(Tim Culpán writes that it could be "the deal of the decade.") Germany's Siemens Healthineers AG struck a \$16.4 billion deal to acquire Varian Medical Systems Inc., a Palo Alto, California-based maker of cancer-radiation treatments, with the expectation that demand for medical procedures put off by Covid will return. Private equity firms Blackstone Group Inc. and Global Infrastructure Partners are also considering a joint bid for Kansas City Southern, a railroad operator that links Mexico and the US Midwest, in what would amount to a Warren Buffett-esque bet on the US economy.

Gone may be the days of a handshake

sealing a deal, and M&A volume globally is still down 47% this year at just \$1.1 trillion. But the pandemic hasn't altered the reasons for pursuing transactions. Interest rates remain low amid a global recession triggered by virus fears, and a lack of organic growth continues to point to consolidation across industries. As companies become more comfortable with remote work, they may embrace technology for dealmaking, too.

"The bankers are road warriors, but I think they're learning quickly that they can get a lot more done this way," Derek Koecher, Verizon's vice president of strategy and development, said in a June interview conducted over the BlueJeans videoconferencing software. The wireless carrier acquired BlueJeans for \$400 million in April to add to its offerings for business customers.

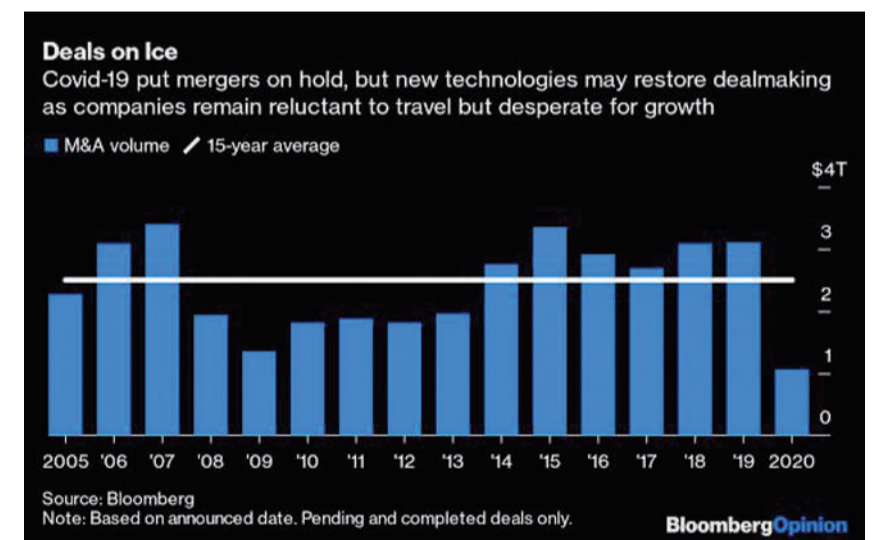
While Verizon and BlueJeans executives were able to start their negotiations in person in pre-Covid times, once the pandemic hit they were forced to become their own guinea pigs. "That time that you get with the management team – the dinners, the drop-bys, the 'Hey, I need to come out and see you, let's have breakfast' – were completely gone," Koecher said. "One thing you worry about is culture."

Are you going to have the right cultural fit with people you didn't spend a lot of face-to-face time with? We used the platform to get that management time and intimacy. It was an experiment, and it proved to be quite successful." No travel delays, and meetings were easier to schedule.

There's also a benefit to being able to literally peer into the other person's background on screen, a window into their life outside the formal conference-room setting, he said.

Goldman says its app will show how a business stacks up against various revenue and profit metrics, as well as environmental, social and governance standards. That may help CEOs spot vulnerabilities and merger or spinoff opportunities before activist investors come knocking. With some inspiration from social-media tools, dealmaking lives on in the Covid era. Maybe even the swipe – the cultural touchstone of millennial dating that's led to plenty of marriages – could broker mergers next.

VIEW FROM THE TOP



Inside Rwanda coffee farmers' growing farms and fortunes

KIGALI

ITS 10 AM on a Monday morning and Anastase Bizimana, President of Abakundakawa Rushashi, a cooperative of coffee farmers in Kageyo, Rushashi Sector, Gakenke District in Northern Province, is watching workers washing and drying coffee produce.

This is part of preparing the produce for further processing which ends in exports. Founded in 1999, Abakundakawa has for years been expanding and now has more than 2,000 members who include 900 women and 288 youth, operating in five sectors of Rushashi, Minazi, Gashenyi and Gakenke and Coko.

They produced 204 tonnes last year with the cooperative cashing in Rwf1.07 billion. The year was so profitable members earned a bonus of Rwf18.9 million. To put this into perspective, it's more than many white-collar job sectors. Workers during coffee processing activities inside Rwanda Trading Company firm at Special Economic Zone. Sam Ngendahimana.

Coffee is a major cash crop in Rwanda, and over the years has grown from being just a popular crop in certain areas to become a "family tradition" for some families across the country. According to the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources, the annual coffee income has increased from \$38



Rwandan coffee farmers attending their crop.

million in 1994 to more than \$62.4 million in 2020.

Behind the transformation are the Government and its partners aiming to promote agricultural exports, and the farmers' mounting interest in the crop, which is currently grown on 42,000 hectares across most provinces in the country at an altitude of less than 1,900 metres.

"Coffee is the main crop in our district; a resident to build a house without coffee revenues is not easy nowadays; so thanks to

the coffee here, people live a comfortable life and are able to pay for their children education, insurance, among others," stated Antoine Kaneza, the Manager of the Abakundakawa Rushashi in Gakenke.

Jean Claude Mugabo, father of five hailing from Kabuye Village, Rwarenga Cell, Remera Sector, Gatsibo District, in Eastern Province started coffee farming in 2006 with 600 trees; today he has 6,700 trees on three hectares, and every reaping season between March and June harvests around 10 tonnes of

coffee worth Rwf2.3 million.

Cecile Kagirinka, 64, resident in Kigarama Village, Rwarenga Cell, Remera Sector, Gatsibo District, has been a coffee farmer since 1983, and she said this crop has helped her raise her children and pay for their education. One of her children has already graduated from university.

Kagirinka and Mugabo are one of the farmers whose agribusiness was in 2017 boosted by Project for Rural Income through Export (PRICE) implemented by National Agricultural Export Development Board (NAEB) since 2012.

Among others, some farmers got technical assistance, others grants and other training. "I used to get 940kg in 2017 when we started getting training in 2017, but as we speak, I get 2.4 tonnes from 1,502 coffee trees planted on 1.5 hectares," said Kagirinka, who said her children have become even bigger coffee farmers than herself.

"For instance, we did not know that grasshoppers are dangerous in coffee plantations either. So they taught us to grow some plants that the pests could eat so they do not harm the coffee, we have also learned that we have to put mulches, which prevent termites, it also keeps the trees hydrated," she added.

After the training, Kagirinka now has one modern breed cow, has two plots of land she bought Rwf2.2 million. Jean Bosco

Bahutiraho, resident from Rwamabenga Village, Butezi Cell, Gahara Sector in Kirehe District, is one of farmers who have seen the project plant coffee on their lands free of charge. At least 1,500 hectares were planted in districts of Rulindo, Gakenke, Nyamagabe and Kirehe.

The latest and first harvest of Bahutiraho was 150 kilograms since 2017 planting season. "They dug holes, put in fertilizer, and then brought seedlings and they planted grass we now use as mulches, without any cost," clarified Straton Ngerageze, whose 3,300 coffee trees were planted by the project.

Certification Abakundakawa Rushashi was in 2017 accorded support to increase the planted area and to get certifications for their coffee, and this has positively affected farmers and members, according to its President Bizimana. "Certification is very important because buyers like to buy a certified coffee; it shows that the product has adequate standards and is accepted at the international level," he noted.

The cooperative started with the production of one container of 17 tonnes of coffee but now has grown to produce 10 containers in three months. Now the cooperative has already paid back a loan of Rwf48 million they had since 2008, and are now installing infrastructure at their site, including a warehouse and a guesthouse.

WORLD

Global powers pledge US\$298m to Lebanon after blast

By Bloomberg

WORLD leaders pledged almost US\$300 million to help support Lebanon and rebuild Beirut after the deadly blasts last week that destroyed a huge swath of the city.

Leaders from more than two dozen countries participated in a virtual donors' conference Sunday co-hosted by French President Emmanuel Macron and the United Nations. The participants pledged to bring together "major resources" in the coming weeks to address the needs of Beirut and the Lebanese people, according to a final statement.

"In these horrendous times, Lebanon is not alone," the participants said in the statement.

The leaders pledged a total amount of

252.7 million euros (US\$298 million) for emergency relief, according to Macron's office, including 30 million euros from France.

His office said the money is immediate relief to go directly to Lebanese people and aid groups. Later assistance would be contingent on political reform.

Pledges include US\$20 million from Germany and US\$41 million from Kuwait. The European Commission is offering 63 million euros and Qatar is putting up US\$50 million, Lebanese TV network Al Jadeed reported. Cyprus also pledged 5 million euros, the Lebanese presidency said.

"The participants agreed that their assistance should be timely, sufficient and consistent with the needs of the Lebanese people, well-coordinated under the



Damaged grain silos from the blast at the Port of Beirut, on Saturday.

leadership of the United Nations, and directly delivered to the Lebanese population, with utmost efficiency and transparency," according to the statement.

As the residents of Beirut try to pick up their lives after an explosion that shook the country to its core, they are doing so with their surroundings utterly transformed.

Curtains flutter through broken windows, piles of debris block the streets and top-floor apartments with their roofs blown off are exposed to the sky.

Asked about the unfortunate blast, Iran said on Monday that countries should refrain from politicising the massive blast in Beirut last week, and that the United States should lift sanctions against Lebanon.

"The blast should not be used as an excuse for political aims ... the cause of the blast should be investigated carefully," Foreign Ministry spokesman Abbas Mousavi told a televised news

conference.

Outrage over the Aug 4 explosion is running high in Lebanon, with protesters taking to the streets to demand regime change and the resignation of the government of Prime Minister Hassan Diab. The tragedy has accelerated the political and economic crisis that has crippled the country.

The blast, caused by an explosion of chemicals stored at the city's main port, killed more than 150 people, injured 6,000 and left hundreds of thousands homeless. Protests against the government's role in the devastating blasts turned deadly on Saturday, contributing to the resignation of two Lebanese cabinet ministers. **Agencies**

Russia, Germany discuss potential production of Russian COVID-19 vaccine in Germany

MOSCOW

RUSSIA and Germany are mulling over the possibility of producing a Russian vaccine against COVID-19 in Germany, the Russian Health Ministry informed on the outcomes of the meeting between Russian Health Minister Mikhail Murashko and German Ambassador to Russia Geza Andreas von Geyr.

"During the meeting, they have discussed the prospects of further cooperation, namely the use of Germany's production capacity to produce a Russian coronavirus vaccine," the message says.

In late December 2019, Chinese officials notified the World Health Organization (WHO) about the outbreak of a previously unknown pneumonia in the city of Wuhan, in central China. Since then, cases of the novel coronavirus - named COVID-19 by the WHO - have been reported in every corner of the globe, including Russia.

On March 11, 2020, the WHO declared the coronavirus outbreak a pandemic. According to the latest statistics, over 11,965,900 people have been infected worldwide and more than 547,000 deaths have been reported. In addition, so far, over 6,913,000 individuals have recovered from the illness across the globe.

To date, 700,792 coronavirus cases have been confirmed in Russia, with 472,511 patients having recovered from the disease. Russia's latest data indicates 10,667 fatalities nationwide. Earlier, the Russian government set up an Internet hotline to keep the public updated on the coronavirus situation. **Agencies**

Afghan president 'to sign decree to release Taliban prisoners'

KABUL

LONG-AWAITED peace negotiations between the Afghan government and the Taliban were expected to start in Qatar within a week once the final batch of Taliban prisoners were released, the US special envoy and Afghan government sources said yesterday.

The government accepted the advice of a loya jirga, a grand assembly of elders, on Sunday to release 400 "hard-core" Taliban prisoners, paving the way for talks aimed at ending a war that has ground on since US-backed Afghan forces ousted a Taliban government in late 2001.

"We are ready to sit for talks within a week from when we see our prisoners released. We are ready," Taliban spokesman, Suhail Shaheen, told Reuters yesterday.

"Everyone is waiting for Ghani to sign on the decree. The original plan is to travel to Doha on Wednesday and the talks will begin on Sunday," the source said.

US Special Envoy Zalmay Khalilzad, who reached an agreement with the Taliban in February for the withdrawal of the last US troops, welcomed the progress, having spent months trying to bring the militant movement to the negotiating table with the government.

"In the next few days, we expect the completion of prisoner releases, then travel of the Islamic Republic team to Doha, & from there the immediate start of intra-Afghan negotiations," he said on Twitter.

The Taliban had demanded the release of last 400 of 5,000 prisoners to be freed, as a condition for joining peace talks.

But the government had been hesitant as these prisoners were involved in some of the worst violence, including a 2017 truck bombing near the German embassy in Kabul that killed more than 150 people - the deadliest attack in the 19-year insurgency. **Agencies**



Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, center, wearing a protective face mask to protect himself against the coronavirus, attends an Afghan Loya Jirga meeting in Kabul, Afghanistan, on Friday. (AP)

Sino-US relations at 'very critical moment', says China's US envoy

WASHINGTON

CHINA-US relations are at "a very critical moment" and the two countries have to "make the right choices" for the long-term interests of the two peoples and of the world, Chinese Ambassador to the United States Cui Tiankai has said.

Cui (pictured) made the remarks when he was invited to attend the 2020 Aspen Security Forum and had an online interview with Nicholas Burns, executive director of the Aspen Strategy Group, and Andrea Mitchell, chief foreign affairs correspondent of NBC News, on issues related to China-US relations last week.

"We are at a very critical moment for our relations between China and the United States. In a way, we can say it's unprecedented since Dr. Henry Kissinger's visit almost half a century ago," said Cui.

"The choices we're making today

will shape not only relations between our two great countries, but also the future of the world. So we have to make the right choices. We have to base ourselves on the long-term interests of our two peoples and of the world," he said.

The Chinese diplomat said the recent allegations against Chinese consulate in Houston or any of Chinese diplomatic missions in the United States were "totally groundless."

"People cannot assume other people are doing all these things just because they are exactly doing the same thing in other countries. This is the problem. Some people are doing all these things in other countries. But now they are blaming other countries doing such things. We never do these," he said.

"It's so bad for the US side to decide to close our consulate in Houston. Based on the principle of reciprocity in diplomacy, we have



to respond. But we certainly don't want to have all this from the very beginning. We certainly don't want to see any escalation," the Chinese ambassador said.

'Give Chinese firms level playing field'

Speaking on recent US actions

against Chinese companies, Cui said that the US should stop making groundless allegations against Chinese firms, including TikTok, and give them a level playing field.

"I don't think there's an evidence that any company is giving such information to the Chinese government. People make these allegations, but they never show any evidence," said Cui in response to the US government's allegations that TikTok might give its data to the Chinese government.

"Very often we hear complaints here that we don't give a level playing field to American companies. But more and more, I believe we should complain Chinese companies are not having a level playing field here," he said.

"There is such a degree of political intervention, government intervention into the market. There's such a discrimination against Chinese company. These companies

are just private companies," the ambassador said.

"It's not fair to make such allegations without giving any evidence and to accuse China of not giving American companies a level playing field while at the same time they themselves are denying Chinese companies such a level playing field. This is extremely unfair," he said.

Cui said that the differences between the US and China "should be seen as opportunities, possibilities for mutual learning, for cooperation".

"We are two different countries, but we have to work together. We have to understand we are living in the same world. We are living in this small global village," Cui said. "There are so many global challenges we share. Neither of our countries can really handle all these things all by itself." Cui said. **Xinhua**

Virus delivers US politicians lesson on wearing masks

By Ai Heping

TEXAS Congressman Louie Gohmert belligerently flouted public health recommendations such as social distancing and refused to wear a face mask. Now he is recovering from the coronavirus, having been tested and confirmed positive two weeks ago.

The 66-year-old Republican is not the only member of the United States Congress who has revealed that he has tested positive for COVID-19. At least 14 lawmakers from both parties and both chambers have either tested or been presumed positive for the coronavirus, Reuters has reported.

But the number of members of Congress and their staffers who

may have tested positive for the virus could be higher because reporting is voluntary.

Illinois Republican Representative Rodney Davis tested positive for the coronavirus on Wednesday, his office said, making him the third congressman over the past week to report having the virus.

The virus has gone beyond lawmakers on Capitol Hill.

The news website Politico reported last week that at least 86 workers at the Capitol have tested positive for the coronavirus. That includes 25 Architect of the Capitol employees, 28 Capitol police officers and 33 people working on the renovation of a building.

In response to the Gohmert (pictured) news, congressional leaders reminded members of



safety protocols already in place.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi went further, tightening rules on mask wearing to require face coverings on the House floor and inside House office buildings. Mask wearing has been mandatory in committee hearings since mid-June. Those who fail to comply

can be denied entry or removed by security.

Gohmert smiled in a video recorded in his Capitol Hill office and declared he had probably contracted the "virus because he had started wearing a mask over the past week or two".

Many lawmakers are approaching the pandemic with seriousness: running skeleton crews in their offices, encouraging masks and following social distancing guidelines.

Call for more tests

Some are ignoring public health advice. Representative Clay Higgins, a Louisiana Republican, told CNN that wearing a mask was "part of the dehumanization of the children of God". In the wake of Gohmert's di-

agnosis, an editorial in The New York Times called for all members of Congress to be tested for the coronavirus.

The US set a record for coronavirus cases on Saturday, with more than 5 million people infected, according to a Reuters tally.

With one out of every 66 residents infected, the United States leads the world in COVID-19 cases, according to Reuters.

The country has recorded more than 160,000 deaths, nearly a quarter of the world's total.

US President Donald Trump signed executive actions on Saturday extending financial relief to Americans hit by the coronavirus as polls showed a large majority of voters unhappy with his handling of the crisis. **Agencies**

China's success in poverty reduction worth bringing to the world's attention

By Benjamin Davis

THE massive reduction of poverty in China over the past 30 years is one of the great success stories of modern times in the area of economic and social development.

Using the World Bank poverty measure of \$1.90 a day, which is comparable across countries, the share of the population in China living in extreme poverty dropped from 66% in 1990 to 0.5% in 2016, the latest year for which comparable figures are available.

China's remarkable achievement has driven, in large part, global success in reducing poverty over the last 30 years.

A number of aspects of China's success in poverty reduction are worth

bringing to the world's attention. The most noteworthy include: implementing actions that increased the returns to the assets held by the poorest; modernizing agriculture to quickly develop the rural economy; establishing an impressive social security system; and adopting targeted poverty alleviation methods to increase investments in rural areas.

The implementation of actions that increased the returns to the assets owned by the poorest - land and labor, particularly in rural areas - was central.

This was achieved by building human capital and investing in people, especially through education, health and sanitation for the poorest, and

fostering small holder producer participation in rural markets.

The focus on rapidly developing the rural economy by modernizing agriculture was an important ingredient in achieving success.

Additionally, China has an impressive social security system for those who are not able to work and offers vocational training and job opportunities for youth.

Finally, China's adoption of targeted poverty alleviation methods focusing on poverty-stricken areas, private sector engagement and partnership in rural areas continuously increase investments through a social responsibility approach, e-commerce and e-market.

One example of the potential of e-

commerce can be seen in the development of SDG Villages Project being implemented by FAO, with support from MARA, since July 2019. Funded by Guangfa Securities, and in partnership with E-Commerce Platforms (Alibaba, Pinduoduo, Bytedance) and ongoing Farmer-Field Schools, the project is developing a model of Internet + Agriculture + Rural Finance to alleviate poverty among farmers in the poorest regions.

The slowdown in economic growth in China due to the pandemic, combined with the economic slowdown spreading throughout the global economy, will make it more challenging for China to achieve total poverty elimination this year. Greater efforts

will certainly be required.

The global crisis poses great challenges and danger, but it also presents an opportunity to improve the way things are done and to strengthen our efforts in the fight to end poverty.

I lead the Strategic Programme on Rural Poverty Reduction at the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations.

It is our task to support member countries to better use rural development, agriculture and food systems in their efforts to reach SDG 1 (No Poverty) and SDG 2 (Zero Hunger).

In this capacity I have visited China on a number of occasions in the past few years, to both rural and urban areas, to explore and promote South-

South Cooperation for Poverty Reduction with government institutions as well as to learn firsthand about China's experience.

Over the past few years we have made great progress. Since 2017 our partnership with the World Bank (WB), the Asian Development Bank (ADB), the International Poverty Reduction in China (IPRCC), the China Internet Information Centre (CIIC) and the two other Rome-based agencies, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the World Food Programme (WFP), promoted experience sharing, international cooperation and the role of partnerships on poverty reduction. **People's Daily**



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

US politicians' attempt to 'induce change inside of China' ridiculous

FOR a while, some U.S. politicians, including U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo, have been racking their brains to peddle lies all over the world to maliciously attack and slander China.

The rumor-mongering gang, which brings a foul atmosphere wherever they go, intends to confuse public opinion and poison people's minds.

However, no matter how hard they try to disguise themselves, their evil intentions behind the so-called "failed U.S. attempt to induce change inside of China" have already been exposed to the entire world.

These rumor-mongering politicians have tried literally every means to "change" China indeed. They have comprehensively denied the history of China-U.S. relations, obstructed China's development in an all-round way, challenged China's core interests, attacked the social system chosen by the Chinese people, and smeared the ruling party of China that enjoys close ties with and are inseparable from the Chinese people.

It seems that Pompeo dug the things engraved on his mind around the 1970s and the 1980s out of an old box kept in mothballs, said Alexander Lomanov, deputy director for scientific work at the Institute of World Economy and International Relations, Russian Academy of Sciences.

"Mike Pompeo is botching his job," U.S. media put bluntly.

In fact, Pompeo and some like-minded U.S. politicians have earned a bad reputation for being ignorant and evil-minded. They have made irresponsible remarks out of ulterior motives, trying to hinder China's development. As it turned out, such deeds have only made themselves clowns in the world and snubbed at all places.

Out of their deep-rooted idea of pursuing political interests and narrow-mindedness, some American politicians are too ignorant to accept the fact that the Communist Party of China (CPC) has made it.

The CPC has no special interests of its own apart from the interests of the working class and the broadest masses of the people, as stated clearly in the constitution of the Party.

The Party has always adhered to its original aspiration and mission of seeking happiness for the Chinese people and rejuvenation for the Chinese nation, and always maintained its flesh and blood ties with the Chinese people by standing together with them through thick and thin, which is the fundamental reason why the CPC has been able to develop from a small party with only a few dozen members to a major one with more than 90 million members and has ruled China, the world's most populous country, for so long.

The COVID-19 epidemic, which has been regarded as a major test for China, has once again proved the strong governance capacity of the CPC and the strengths of China's social system, which has been generally acknowledged by the international commu-

nity. The lies cooked up by certain U.S. politicians can never hold water in front of facts.

Public trust in the Chinese government has risen to 95 percent, which puts China at the top of all the 11 countries surveyed, according to Edelman, an American public relations and marketing consultancy firm.

Pompeo's highly provocative China-smearing speech at the Presidential Library of Richard Nixon was "primitive and ineffective", said Daniel Russel, former U.S. assistant secretary for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

Filled with evil intentions, certain U.S. politicians have blatantly and grossly interfered in the internal affairs of China in a bid to contain its development.

Sovereign equality and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries are among the basic norms governing international relations.

Every state has an inalienable right to choose its political, economic, social and cultural systems without interference in any form by another state, according to the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

Non-interference in the internal affairs of other states was actually one of the basic principles governing China-U.S. relations established in the Joint Communiqué of the United States of America and the People's Republic of China, which was issued on February 28, 1972.

The principle was further solidified and developed in two other joint communiqués issued by China and the U.S. on December 16, 1978, and August 17, 1982, respectively, becoming the political foundation of China-U.S. relations.

However, some U.S. politicians have openly trampled on the basic norms governing international relations and arbitrarily undermined the political foundation of China-U.S. relations.

As a sharp critique published in British newspaper The Guardian pointed out, the American diplomacy in the Trump era is "ugly, dishonest, bullying and cruel, a pathetic trade in self-serving tittle-tattle that damages not only public health around the world, but undermines America's claim to global leadership."

Pompeo and his likes have tried their best to form an anti-China alliance to contain China's development, yet they didn't realize that mankind has already entered the 21st century, and the attempts to incite hatred and instigate opposition against China were incompatible with the trend of the times.

The increasing U.S. aggression against China poses a serious threat to world peace and any new cold war will be against the interests of humanity, pointed out a joint statement issued at a recent online conference, "No to the New Cold War," which gathered experts and scholars from nearly 50 countries.

People's Daily

Germany's SPD picks Scholz as candidate for chancellor

BERLIN

GERMANY'S Social Democrats proposed Olaf Scholz, the finance minister and their most high-profile and popular politician, to run to succeed Chancellor Angela Merkel in next year's elections, when her fourth and final term is expected to end.

The decision marks a comeback for the former Hamburg mayor, who was last year defeated in the race to lead his party by two left-wing outsiders. Now, Saskia Esken and Norbert Walter-Borjans have nominated their erstwhile rival.

"Now it's official," Scholz (pictured) wrote on Twitter. "The party leadership have unanimously nominated me



as chancellor candidate. I look forward to a fun, fair and successful campaign."

But Scholz, who has been turned by the coronavirus crisis from an austere-minded custodian of the public purse to the free-spending paymaster in charge of massive stimulus and healthcare

spending to sustain Europe's largest economy through the pandemic, faces a stiff challenge.

The party, which for decades vied with Merkel's Christian Democrats to dominate the political scene, has not won a national election since 2002 and now languishes a distant third in most polls behind the conservatives and the upstart Greens.

In what some saw as a recognition of this reality, party co-leader Walter-Borjans on Sunday conceded what had once been anathema: that alongside the Greens, the party would be open to govern in coalition with the Left party, heirs to the Communist Party of the former East Germany.

Agencies

As Trump falters, Democrats and Biden eye an elusive prize - Texas

WASHINGTON

AS polls show Texans increasingly frustrated with President Donald Trump's response amid a massive resurgence in coronavirus cases, Democrats say they have a real chance to turn a long-held dream into reality: winning the state's presidential contest for the first time in more than four decades.

In recent weeks, Joe Biden's campaign has aired television ads specifically aimed at Texans - the first time a Democratic presidential candidate has done so in a quarter-century, according to the state party - and made its first hires there.

Texas is among the states targeted by a \$280 million fall advertising blitz the campaign unveiled last week, part of a broader strategy aimed at putting Republican-leaning states, including Georgia, Iowa and Ohio, in play ahead of the Nov. 3 election against the Republican Trump.

With polls showing Biden holding a national lead over Trump and effectively tied in Texas, Democrats say a concerted effort in the state could expand his viable paths to the White House.

"Because of the pandemic, the battleground has grown," said Democratic U.S. Representative Filemon Vela, who represents a south Texas seat.

But skepticism remains about conservative Texas becoming a true swing state. Trump carried it by nine percentage points four years ago, and some strategists expect his standing to rebound as the election draws closer.

Trump campaign spokeswoman Samantha Cotten said Democrats were "delusional" for thinking they can win Texas.

"We welcome the Biden campaign to light their money on fire by investing in the Lone Star State," she said in a statement.

Texas is an expensive place to advertise on television given its size and



multiple media markets, and Biden aides acknowledge the campaign is unlikely to spend the kind of vast sum a full-court press would require.

At a fundraiser last week, Biden touted polls showing he is tied or ahead but said the money required to compete in Texas is a "major stretch."

If Biden wins Texas, it is virtually certain he will have already won enough other states to capture the presidency, suggesting the campaign's resources may be better spent in clear-cut swing states such as Pennsylvania or Florida.

The stakes in Texas are enormous: Its 38 votes in the Electoral College, which determines the presidential winner, are second only to California in the quest for a 270-vote majority.

Democratic officials argue even a modest investment could pay dividends by forcing Trump to divert money from other states, while benefiting down-ballot candidates.

Democrats need to flip nine seats in the Texas state assembly to take control in 2021, when the state will redraw congressional district lines for the next decade. The state also has several hotly contested congressional campaigns as well as a potentially competitive Senate race.

Democratic state officials, state lawmakers and congressional members have pressed their case with the Biden campaign, according to interviews with multiple officials. Many point to Democratic Senate candidate Beto

O'Rourke's unexpectedly strong finish in 2018, when he came within three percentage points of unseating Republican Ted Cruz.

"There's real change happening here," said U.S. Representative Colin Allred, a Democrat who flipped a Republican-held seat near Dallas two years ago. "I've told them I think they should compete here."

SEIZING AN OPPORTUNITY

In an interview, Biden's deputy states director, Molly Ritner, said the campaign's modest \$65,000 ad buy in July was prompted by the spike in Texas' coronavirus infections.

"We basically saw an opportunity," Ritner said. "We have put 17 states on the map, and on any given day, we are looking at that map and trying to preserve as many pathways to 270 as possible."

It may be a long shot for Biden, but some Republicans have sounded the alarm. Cruz told reporters on Air Force One in late July that weakening support for Trump in the suburbs has put Texas in play.

Karen Perkins, 60, an Arlington resident, is a lifelong Republican but said Trump's handling of the pandemic has left her unsure of how to vote in November.

"He just visited Texas, and he got off the plane without a mask," she said of Trump. "I've always said that I'm very, very Republican, but he's starting to turn me away."

The Democrats' odds in 2020 rely on a confluence of factors. In addition to the suburban shift, the state's Latino, Black and Asian populations - all of which vote heavily Democratic - have grown faster than the white population.

Since 2016, more than 2 million Texans have registered to vote. A majority are minorities, and 1.6 million are under the age of 35, according to the state party.

Xinhua

Russian scientists publish first results of Avifavir clinical trials

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN medics have revealed the results of the pilot part of phases two and three of clinical trials of Avifavir, a domestic favipiravir-based drug capable of suppressing the coronavirus.

It accelerated the removal of the coronavirus from the body in more than half of patients and didn't cause any serious side effects, the scientists wrote in their article published in the medRxiv electronic library.

"The pilot part of our randomized and open clinical trials demonstrated that Avifavir possesses rapid antiviral

action, it eliminated the virus in four days in 62.5% patients. Soon we will study how different dosages influence the rate of recovery," the researchers wrote.

So far the researchers managed to single out only a few preparations capable of influencing the SARS-CoV-2 virus, including favipiravir, remdesivir, and the recombinant interferon-2-alpha protein.

They were created in order to fight the flu virus, hepatitis C, and the Ebola virus but have already proven themselves in various lab experiments directed at search for medicines against

the coronavirus.

The previous experience demonstrated that these medicines do not help all patients and are not capable of preventing the spread of the coronavirus infection or of suppressing the light forms of the infection which does not allow to use them for control and prevention of COVID-19.

A group of scientists headed by Andrey Ivashchenko, a researcher of the ChemRar group of companies, has conducted first practical tests of the effectiveness and safety of Avifavir, a Russian analogue of the favipiravir flu medicine developed in Japan.

Agencies

S. African president: Govt must strengthen women's role in economy

JOHANNESBURG

MARKING Women's Day on Sunday, South African President Cyril Ramaphosa said broadening women's economic participation and ensuring their financial independence could be crucial in combating the scourge of femicide against them.

Addressing this year's event virtually, Ramaphosa (pictured) said poverty made women vulnerable to gender violence.

"One of the most important ways to reduce the vulnerability of women to gender-based violence is to enable them to become financially independent," he said.

Ramaphosa said that to tackle gender-based violence and femicide, the government would prioritize providing business opportunities to women-led firms.

"The first action is to expand the access of women to economic opportunity," he said. "We will do this, among other things, by setting aside 40 percent of public procurement for women-owned businesses."

He said this process would be monitored where clear plans to increase women's participation in the economy are increased.

As the Chair of the African Union, Ramaphosa said other governments across the African continent must implement the same plans to empower women economically.

"We will also be working on policy guidelines to help member states, on our continent, develop similar interventions," he said.

He said that lack of access to capital was one of the factors that hindered women's economic growth.

"The second action is to support women who operate small or micro businesses, including in the informal sector. Under generation equality, we will be supporting AU member states in their drive to adopt digital IDs," he said.

Women's Day is marked to commemorate the Aug. 9, 1956 march of approximately 20,000 women to the Union Buildings in Pretoria to petition against the country's pass laws.

At that time, the apartheid government was introducing pass laws against black women meaning that women would be forced to carry permits and passes.

Xinhua



Over 5m COVID-19 cases highlight problems of US society, govt inability

BEIJING

U.S. COVID-19 cases passed a grim new milestone of 5 million on Sunday with soaring new infections, further highlighting the deep-rooted problems of U.S. society and casting doubt on Washington's behavior amid the ravaging pandemic.

The United States has registered 5,041,473 cases and 162,913 deaths as of 0000 GMT on Monday, according to a tally by Johns Hopkins University. There are few signs that the spread is slowing down in the United States.

Even though it enjoys the greatest economic strength and one

of the most advanced medical systems in the world, the United States became the hardest-hit country soon after the global outbreak of the pandemic.

Early warnings from other parts of the world did not prompt the country to take timely measures and make coordinated efforts to fight the virus. COVID-19 has now become the leading cause of death in the United States, killing more people per day than cancer or heart disease, according to a graph published in Newsweek on April 9. The disease has killed more Americans than the Korean War, Vietnam War,

War in Afghanistan and Iraq War combined. Some U.S. politicians' disregard for human life, the deep-rooted racial inequity as well as the ever-widening wealth gap have exacerbated the dire situation.

In order to downplay the scope and danger of the pandemic, U.S. President Donald Trump has repeatedly claimed that the United States has one of the lowest COVID-19 mortality rates in the world.

However, the reality is that the United States has a mortality rate per 100,000 higher than many other countries, including Canada, Germany, France and the Netherlands, according to a recent article published by The Hill.

What's more, the country's vulnerable groups, including the elderly, the poor, African Americans and Latino Americans, have borne the brunt of COVID-19 and remain most at risk.

In at least 23 U.S. states, a majority of deaths were linked to nursing homes, according to The

New York Times. As of July 15, deaths in long-term care facilities accounted for more than 42 percent of the country's pandemic fatalities.

Ben Shapiro, editor-in-chief for The Daily Wire, an American right-wing news website, suggested in an interview on April 30 that old people's lives are not worth saving.

"If somebody who is 81 dies of COVID-19, that is not the same thing as somebody who is 30 dying of COVID-19... If grandma dies in a nursing home at age 81, that's tragic and it's terrible, also the life expectancy in the United States is 80," he said. Minority

populations have also been disproportionately hardest hit by the coronavirus in the country.

However, despite the call of public health experts to prioritize minority communities in tackling the virus, the Trump administration has not taken enough actions.

As of June 12, non-Hispanic black persons had a rate of infection of or death from the coronavirus approximately five times that of non-Hispanic white persons, while Hispanic or Latino persons had a rate approximately four times that of non-Hispanic white persons, said the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Pre-

vention (CDC) in a statement on June 25.

The pandemic in the United States has provided not a platform for cooperation among politicians, but a battleground for them to grapple with each other. As the COVID-19 cases surge across the United States, Republicans and Democrats increasingly view the disease in starkly different ways, according to a report published on June 25 by the Pew Research Center. Democrats and Democratic-leaning independents are about twice as likely as Republicans and Republican leaners to say that masks should be worn always.

Xinhua



Portland Trail Blazers' Damian Lillard drives against Philadelphia 76ers' Matisse Thybulle during the fourth quarter of an NBA basketball game Sunday, Aug. 9, 2020, in Lake Buena Vista, Fla. (AP)

Lillard drops 51 as Trail Blazers top 76ers; Embiid injured

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla.

EVERYTHING is back to normal for Damian Lillard.

The All-Star point guard scored 51 points after a frustrating finish a night earlier, and the Portland Trail Blazers beat the Philadelphia 76ers 124-121 on Sunday.

On Saturday against the Los Angeles Clippers, Lillard missed a pair of free throws with 18.6 seconds to go and a 3-pointer with 9.5 seconds left in a 122-117 loss. Clippers players Paul George and Patrick Beverley were seen laughing at Lillard's misfortune.

Lillard got the last laugh Sunday by scoring 18 points in the fourth quarter.

"It wasn't really so much my performance yesterday and I wanted to perform a certain way today," he said. "It was like, we let one slip that we should have had yesterday, and I'm a big part of why it got away from us. So tonight, I was like 'That's not going to happen.'"

Portland bounced back and pulled within a half-game of Memphis for eighth place in the Western Conference. The Trail Blazers increased their chances of qualifying for the play-in series, which will start Saturday.

The 76ers lost much more than the game. All-Star center Joel Embiid left in the first quarter with what the team called a left ankle injury, and he did not return. He contested a shot, then backed up and stepped awkwardly into the bench. He had been averaging 30 points per game since the restart.

76ers coach Brett Brown wouldn't say whether Embiid would miss time.

"I'm going to learn more physically," Brown said. "I don't know enough to comment on it." It was more bad injury news for the 76ers. All-Star point guard Ben Simmons is out indefinitely with an injured left knee.

Josh Richardson scored a season-high 34 points and Alec Burks added 20 for Philadelphia. The 76ers would have moved into a tie with the Indiana Pacers and Miami Heat for fourth place in the Eastern Conference standings with a win.

Without their stars, the 76ers fell behind by 17 in the second quarter and trailed 67-58 at halftime.

The game tightened up late. Philadelphia's Al Horford hit a 3-pointer to trim Portland's lead to 122-121. Portland's Jusuf Nurkic made two free throws with 10.2 seconds remaining to put his team up three. Richardson missed a 3-pointer for Philadelphia, and the 76ers couldn't get another shot off after a scramble for the rebound.

"I thought our guys fought," Brown said. "I really thought the spirit of the group was fantastic. We called upon many different players that I think played with a spirit and a passion that you're proud of."

Meanwhile, Gregg Popovich and the San Antonio Spurs came to the NBA's restart bubble looking to develop their young talent.

The playoffs might be a nice bonus.

For Zion Williamson, postseason hopes have to wait until next year.

DeMar DeRozan scored 27 points, Rudy Gay added 19 off the bench and the Spurs wasted much of a 20-point, second-half lead before hanging on to beat New Orleans 122-113 on Sunday. The loss, combined with Portland's win over Philadelphia later

Sunday, eliminated New Orleans from playoff contention.

"We've just got to put ourselves in a better position to win," Williamson said.

The Spurs – bidding to become the first team in NBA history to make 23 consecutive playoff appearances – moved past idle Phoenix into 10th place in the West, a half-game behind Portland for the No. 9 spot that comes with a berth in the play-in series this coming weekend.

"I think it'd be huge," said Popovich, the Spurs' coach. "If we're able to be in that ninth spot, that's quite a victory and it says a lot about how this young group has come together with three of the starters out. I'm already thrilled with how they played, and it'd be really fantastic if we could get that."

Dejounte Murray scored 18 for the Spurs. Derrick White added 16 before leaving early in the third quarter with a bruised knee.

JJ Redick scored 31 points with a season-high eight 3-pointers for New Orleans, which got 25 from Williamson and 17 from Brandon Ingram.

"We just didn't have any competitive spirit to start the game," said Redick, who will miss the playoffs for the first time in his basketball life – spanning high school, college and the NBA levels. "We were flat. We weren't talking. That's what it comes down to."

Pelicans coach Alvin Gentry called it a Game 7-type game beforehand but stayed with the plan of playing Williamson in short bursts. Williamson started the first, second and third quarters, coming out around the midway point of each.

In the fourth, Gentry took Williamson out with 6:53 left, putting him back in for the last-ditch try about two minutes later. But the Pelicans never got the lead back, and now have only two games left in the No. 1 pick's season. It's unknown if Williamson will play in those games.

"We played 44 games without Zion so it's really kind of hard to put a stamp on exactly what the season is," Gentry said. "But I like the young players that we have. I think going forward we're going to have an opportunity to be a good team and compete at a real high level."

The Spurs led 69-49 with 9:54 left in the third quarter, a key moment – because that was when White left with the knee problem.

And the game changed in an instant.

Williamson scored the next eight points by himself, kick-starting what became a 28-12 run by the Pelicans to end the quarter.

"We didn't expect to blow them out," Gay said. "We don't expect to blow anybody out."

A dunk by Jaxson Hayes got New Orleans within 10. Nickeil Alexander-Walker – who hadn't made a shot in the Pelicans' last 15 quarters and had only two 3-pointers since mid-January – connected from beyond the arc late in the third, and New Orleans was suddenly within 81-77 going into the fourth.

Redick got into the lane for a three-point play with 3:21 left, getting the Pelicans within 103-100. DeRozan scored inside on the next San Antonio possession, and a late 8-0 spurt by the Spurs sealed the deal.

"We're not there yet," Popovich said. "But we've made a lot progress, for sure."

AP

Coast Region to enter 15 runners in 2020 National Championship

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

COAST Region Athletics Committee's officials have said they will send 15 athletes to the National Championships which is slated for September 12-13 at Benjamin William Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Filbert Bayi, the committee's member, issued the statement at the end of the Coast Region athletics championship which was held at Filbert Bayi Schools (FBS) grounds at Mkuza, Kibaha District over the weekend.

The championship attracted more than 50 athletes from clubs, namely Mwinja Mwanjala Athletics Club (MMAC), FBS Mkuranga, Mlimani, and individual runners.

He said the event was held with the aim of selecting the athletes who will represent the region at the National Championships.

"Coast Region will name its athletes team soon, it will be a team of 15 athletes, the region hosted a championship at the FBS with the aim of selecting the athletes, it was a good competition and I'm sure the coaches have earmarked athletes capable of bringing medals to our region," Bayi, who also serves as the Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) Secretary General, stated.

Bayi said he expects Coast Region to name its team before end of this week so as to beat the registration deadline, which is Saturday, and submit particulars of the athletes to TOC for documentation ahead of the National Championships.

Coast Region athletics committee chairman Joseph Luhende and the body's secretary general Robert



Domestic athletes battle it out in a past National Open Athletics Championships, which was held in Arusha. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Kalyahe were some of the notable officials who were present at the championships, which ended with FBS athletes performing well.

The women's category of 100m event turned out to be the all-FBS affair as Siwema Julius was the winner after clocking 13.50, the runner-up spot went to Pili Mipawa that clocked 13.50 and Shija Donald finished third, clocking 13.53.

In the men's 100m event, Elias Sylvester from MMAC clocked 11.32 to emerge the winner, the second and third spots were won by Simon Nungu and Jeremiah Baruti respectively.

The two athletes, who feature for MMAC, clocked 11.76 and 12.00 respectively.

Bayi said in men's 200m race, FBS runner Benedicto Mathias clocked 23.85 to emerge the winner while his club mate Matiko Sarya was second with 24.15 and MMAC runner Jeremia Baruti was third

after clocking 25.59.

In women's 200m race, FBS dominated the top three, with Pili Mipawa emerging the winner with 27.68 whilst Siwema Julius ended second, clocking 28.37, and the third spot went to Shija Donald who clocked 28.84.

In women's 400m race Gaudensia Maneno was the winner with 60.03, Regina Mpagachai finished second, clocking 60.68.

In men's 400m event FBS runner Benedicto Mathias was the winner with 50.11, the runner-up spot was won by Matiko Sarya also from FBS, clocking 52.43 and Amos Safari from MMAC was third with 54.51.

The TOC secretary general said in women's 800m race Regina Mpagachai from FBS finished at the top after clocking 2:11.69, the runner-up position was won by Gaudensia Maneno with 2:22.50.

In men's 800m event, FBS runner

Amos Charles finished top as he clocked 1:58.97, Selemam Hamis from MMAC was runner-up with 1:58.99, Paulo John from FBS took the third spot with 2:16.19.

The TOC official said in women's 1500m event all the top three positions went to FBS runners. Neema Fortunatus, who clocked 4:26.93, won the race, runner-up spot went to Esther Martin with 5:01.65, Elizabeth Ilanda finished third with 5:11.10.

In the 1500m event bringing together male runners, FBS runners again held sway.

Mathayo Yerima emerged top with 4:26.93, Shaban Athumani ended second with 4:47.67, Rashid Juma finished third with 4:52.56.

Ex-Simba CEO a talented administrator, but his local itinerary a brain teaser

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

PLENTY is being said or conjectured in relation to the sudden (perhaps not so sudden, to some insiders) resignation of erstwhile Simba Sports Club chief executive officer Senzo Mbatha Mazingiza.

He ended his services with the club not by prior notice for instance at the end of a contractual year as it is normally the case but something similar to a 24-hours notice, either by letter or the new mode, on Twitter.

Before pundits and more excited fans could make anything out of it, it was rumoured he was shifting to the next door rivals, Yanga for a change, in which case the two steps would appear to be connected.

Where the ease of interpretation comes to an end is the seeming connection that is being insisted in some online explanations for that move and it is hard to exclude the connection as the two events come at about the same time.

It is about the manner in which the Jangwani Street club lost early this year Ghanaian signing, Bernard Morrison, who is arguably the most exciting player in the premier league run, with possible exception of Rwandese signing Meddie Kagere, also on champions Simba SC line up.

This matter keeps coming not just in online exchanges but in continuous palaver, insisted upon by Yanga fans, first.

Perhaps if some sense could be gauged from the two events then perhaps the link would be established, and it would be a funny situation. But so far it isn't easy to see how one leads to the other, in which case it appears that there are more serious or say, tangible issues in the departure from Msimbazi Street side to walk across the street to the Jangwani Street outfit. It looks like someone is changing employment firms, with little more to that than seeking for a job opening and finding one, making the case a lot more reasonable.

There is a misfit in the Bernard Morrison signing explanation as the one which led the former Msimbazi Street chief executive to quit his job, for in that case he would have been so pained by his club's poaching of the star Ghanaian forward that it put his job at stake.

That definitely doesn't make sense, as it is his job as chief executive to do what the technical bench and other



Yanga's new chief executive officer, Senzo Mbatha.

stakeholders think it is right, in which case the one to have lost his job would be his counterpart at Jangwani Street for losing the player. In that case it is possible to link the confusion at Yanga with losing the forward or in handling his contract, but only just.

Part of the problem of comprehending the situation is the paucity of online recounting of what happened, for details on the former CEO's presence at the Msimbazi Street outfit merely recount their successes in the premier league and more nuanced appearances in the CAF Champions League run. This sort of review implicitly seeks to attribute to the CEO the success of the club in this year's local premier league, which it is evident isn't the case. Administrators are third level parameter in team success or failure, as firstly there is the technical bench (head coach firstly) and the players, tied to club resources, value of 'sponsorship'.

The discomfiture at Jangwani Street was bound up with the collapse of its sponsorship

prerogative in the wake of changing eco-psychological fortunes of their erstwhile sponsor, contrasted to all round success of the pivotal investor (many would say simply sponsor, despite the window dressing) at Msimbazi Street.

New sources of financial include partial dealings for instance with GSM who have one foot inside and another outside running club affairs, and in that case one would be at pains to know who takes decisions for instance to hire a coach, sign a player, or sign a new CEO. There is an alliance of financiers of sorts.

The South African national has had front line club management experience in his home country since 2011, and that makes him a decade-long veteran at the helm of good clubs like Orlando Pirates or Platinum FC. Obviously one has to avoid linking his work as CEO to the level of success they attained as being hired as CEO has plural links with club fortunes and isn't easy to say how it then weighed on the club's subsequent performance. He inched into

Simba SC when it was buoyant, the contrary with Yanga.

An excellent club manager or chief operating officer who has no contract could help a struggling club like Yanga to put their resources together and use such finances more constructively, instead of recruiting 25 players each season and dropping 20 by the end of the season – and earlier. Chances are that if he is actually hired by the Jangwani Street outfit he could assist in diminishing the chaos and institute a measure of prudence in the use of recruitment funds, such that such resources also help with upkeep, both of the team and of the club offices generally. All that looks elementary but it hasn't been as evident so far.

Could new Champions League format lead to new name on trophy despite virus worry?

By Andy SCOTT

WITH just two former winners left in the competition, no Cristiano Ronaldo and no fans, the Champions League moves to Lisbon this week for the start of the 'Final Eight' with the intriguing prospect that a new format could lead to a new name on the trophy.

However, the shadow of the coronavirus looms large after it was announced on Sunday two individuals from Atletico Madrid, one of the teams involved in Portugal, have tested positive.

"On Saturday, all members of the first team and the club's party to Lisbon underwent tests as required by UEFA protocols," said a club statement.

"Among the results known today, two positives have appeared and they are self-isolating in their respective homes."

It was not revealed whether the two positive cases involved players or backroom staff.

Barcelona and Bayern Munich, with five European Cups each, are in contention for the title but only one will reach the semi-finals – they meet each other in the quarter-finals at the Estadio da Luz on Friday.

With Barca desperate for more European success before Lionel Messi, who turned 33 in June, moves on, and Bayern looking a fearsome proposition led by Robert Lewandowski, that promises to be a thrilling tie despite the lack of supporters.

But maybe this time the glory will go to someone new altogether, with Manchester City and Paris Saint-Germain both having reason to believe this will be the year they are rewarded for a decade of decadence fuelled by the immense wealth of their owners in the Gulf.

"The big clubs lift the titles," was how City boss Pep Guardiola put it after his team knocked out Real Madrid on Friday.

Perhaps Atletico, back where they lost the 2014 final to Real, will at last go the extra step under Diego Simeone, or perhaps there will be a shock winner in RB Leipzig, Atalanta or even Lyon.

At this level, Atalanta are the minnows and it would be a remarkable story if they won the trophy in their first appearance in the Champions League after the terrible suffering of their hometown Bergamo during the coronavirus pandemic.

It is as a direct result of COVID-19 that UEFA have taken the Champions League to the Portuguese capital for the latter stages.

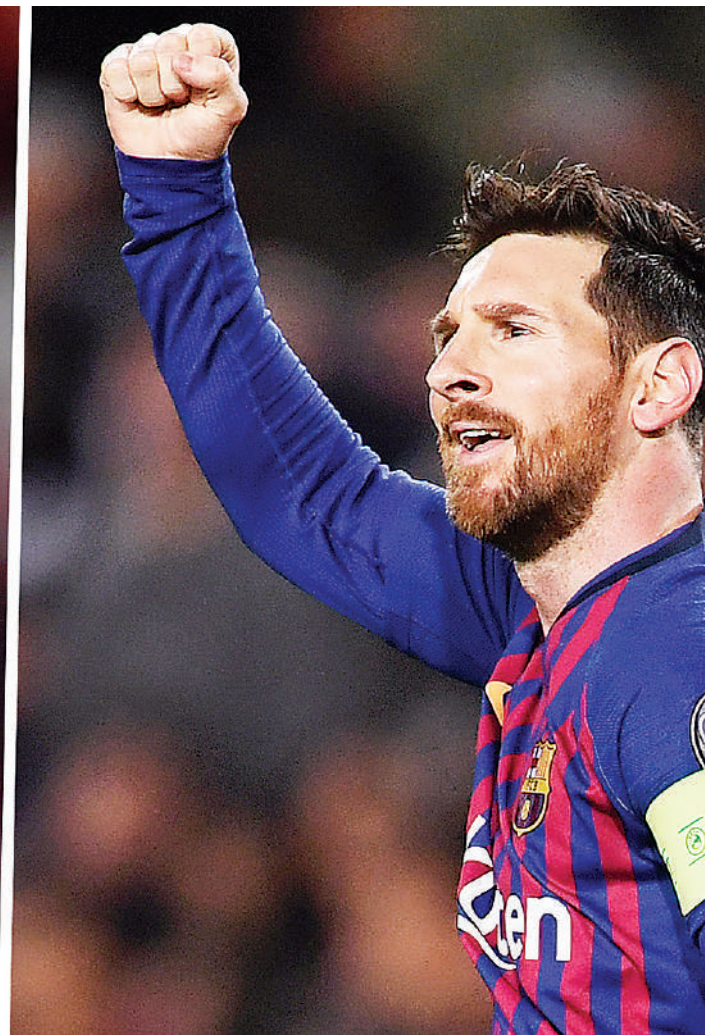
The competition restarted on Friday after five months in hibernation because of the pandemic. The final was initially due to be played in Istanbul in late May before being postponed.

Travel restrictions and a lack of time to get the season finished meant playing all games in the same place and doing away with two-legged ties in the quarter-finals and semi-finals was the only solution.

That scenario, however, became a little more



Robert Lewandowski



Lionel Messi

complicated on Sunday after Atletico's announcement.

They will test all their squad and backroom staff again, meaning that they will likely have to delay their planned Monday departure.

Atletico are due to face Leipzig in Lisbon on Thursday.

- No Ballon d'Or at stake -

The final will be played at Benfica's Estadio da Luz on August 23. The 'Final Eight' will start at the same ground on Wednesday when Atalanta face PSG.

Whoever wins that will meet Leipzig or Atletico for a place in the final, while City or Lyon will meet Bayern or Barcelona in the other semi-final.

The most unusual Champions League has already seen Real – winners of four of

the last six editions – go out in the last 16 along with holders Liverpool and Juventus, who were eliminated by Lyon on Friday despite the best efforts of Ronaldo.

Now 35, the competition's all-time record goal-scorer would have loved to triumph again in the final in Lisbon, where his career started with Sporting.

At least it won't have harmed his chances of winning the Ballon d'Or, with the award for the best player on the planet called off this year by organisers France Football because of the pandemic.

- The downside -

But from Messi, Lewandowski and Kylian Mbappe to Neymar and Kevin De Bruyne, some of the finest talent around will be on display in Lisbon.

It is just a shame the champions will be

crowned in an empty stadium.

Football fans have become used in recent months to watching on television as games go ahead behind closed doors.

The alternative, after all, is no football at all, as Europe continues to struggle with the pandemic and cases rise again across the continent after a short period of relative respite.

"I'm an optimistic person, and my great hope is that spectators will be able to return to our matches as soon as possible," said UEFA president Aleksander Ceferin recently.

In the meantime, there are strict health guidelines in place, with teams subject to a strict testing regime and social distancing rules, and the number of people allowed inside grounds kept to a minimum.

AFP

Leipzig's young coach Nagelsmann ready to mix it with seasoned Simeone

BERLIN

JULIAN Nagelsmann is the youngest head coach to take a team to the Champions League quarter-finals but any suggestion he or his RB Leipzig players will be out of their depth against Atletico Madrid should be quickly dismissed.

The 33-year-old will take the German upstarts into new territory on Thursday and admits a meeting with Atletico counterpart Diego Simeone will be a tough proposition.

"We'll have to be creative and have control. They're a European heavy-weight, especially in recent years," Nagelsmann, who took Hoffenheim into the Champions League before joining Leipzig last year, said in an interview with Marca.

"Diego Simeone has done a great job with a lot of success. They're a solid team that we'll have to drill through."

Nagelsmann's tenacious side outclassed Jose Mourinho's Tottenham Hotspur in the last 16, winning 4-0 on aggregate, and it was clear over those two ties that while he respects Europe's big-name coaches, he wants to do things his way.

"I think I've developed my own style, we play the football I like and that I want to play," he said.

He exudes the quiet confidence of a man who knows his path, so much so that he turned down an approach from Real Madrid in 2018, saying it was not "the right step" for his career.

"We agreed that we could speak again in the future if Real Madrid

were to need a coach and if I were available," he said.

The next week or so in Lisbon could add increase the list of suitors for Nagelsmann, who at the time of his appointment by Hoffenheim in 2016 was the youngest coach in Bundesliga history.

Leipzig will be underdogs against a rugged Atletico side that knocked out holders Liverpool in the last 16.

Nagelsmann said he is happy with that tag, but clearly believes his side, that finished third in the Bundesliga, can continue ruffling feathers.

"They're more known in Europe and we're a young side," he said of Thursday's clash. "If I were a Spanish journalist then I'd also make Atletico favourites. That doesn't bother me."

"I want us to put in a good performance and if we go through for Spanish media to say that we deserved it."

Asked if he had dreamt of getting his hands on the trophy he replied: "Of course. My biggest dream is to win the Champions League. It's a long and complicated road. Everyone left in the quarter-finals are top teams and we're happy to be here."

Even the absence of top striker Timo Werner, scorer of 34 goals this season, after his big-money move to Chelsea does not unsettle Nagelsmann.

"It's a good thing that we don't have to play with 10 men and that we can replace him," he said. "Timo is a super player who scored a lot, but I see other players who were in his shadow who can replace him."

REUTERS

Desperate Chiefs, successful Sundowns eye South African title

JOHANNESBURG

SUCCESS-STARVED Kaizer Chiefs and mega achievers Mamelodi Sundowns are the leading candidates to win the South African Premiership, which restarts Tuesday behind closed doors amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Chiefs have 48 points with eight fixtures to fulfil and Sundowns 44 with a match in hand in the richest African league with a 15 million rand (\$850,000/720,000 euro) first prize.

Sundowns meet Orlando Pirates Tuesday and Chiefs tackle Bidvest Wits a day later in top-six clashes as the title run-in begins with all matches at neutral venues in the Gauteng province.

The region includes Johannesburg and Pretoria and is the epicentre of the COVID-19 disease in South Africa, the African country most affected by the pandemic with 10,210 deaths.

But South African Football Association medical officer Thulani Ngwenya says that if health protocols are observed there is only a "one percent chance" of a footballer being infected.

While SuperSport United, Pirates, Maritzburg United and Wits still have mathematical chances of finishing first, the odds are stacked against any of them overtaking Chiefs or Sundowns. Soweto-based Chiefs are synonymous with success having won a record 53 major domestic trophies since the club was formed 50 years ago by then national star Kaizer Motaung.

But the club who can draw 90,000

crowds to clashes against arch rivals Orlando Pirates have fallen on hard times with their last success coming in 2015 when they were crowned champions.

Never before have the Amakhosi (Chiefs) gone so long without hoisting silverware and one of the current stars of the team, midfielder Lebogang Manyama, blames individualism. "Our squad was a collection of talented footballers, but we were not united," the 29-year-old international told AFP.

"This season we are working for each other and that is why we are at the top of the table. Talent is essential if you want to succeed, but so is teamwork."

- Defied media predictions -
Chiefs are coached by German Ernst Middendorp, who was expected to be sacked at the end of last season after suffering a humiliating FA Cup final defeat to second-tier TS Galaxy.

But Motaung defied media predictions by retaining Middendorp, who has steered the side to 15 victories and three draws in 22 league matches.

The German is not tempting fate, though, and refuses to forecast the likely outcome of potentially the most exciting Premiership finale for many seasons.

"I never look further than the next match," he emphasised. "We play Wits this Wednesday and they are the only opponents we are thinking about."

AFP

Lampard: Blues to look at transfers after UCL exit

LONDON

CHELSEA manager Frank Lampard described the rebuild of his team as a work in progress after they crashed out of the Champions League last-16 following a 7-1 aggregate defeat by Germany's Bayern Munich.

Chelsea's record scorer Lampard enjoyed a trophy-laden spell with them as a player, winning the Premier League and Champions League among other crowns, but suggested that they needed to recruit the right names to reach that level again.

"In the last 20 years we had players, teams with prime [Eden] Hazard, [Diego] Costa, [Petr] Cech, [John] Terry and [Didier] Drogba," Lampard told BT Sport following their 4-1 defeat at Bayern in Saturday's second leg.

"Competing for the Premier League

year on year, getting to finals and semi-finals regularly. We know that's not the case now ... It's not a slight work in progress. It's a work in progress. It's not the norm for Chelsea."

Lampard, who guided Chelsea to fourth in the Premier League and the final of the FA Cup in his first season in charge, said he would look to further bolster his squad in the close season.

Chelsea have already spent big to bring in attackers Hakim Ziyech and Timo Werner.

"We'll look at that, because that's our job," Lampard added. "From having a transfer ban [last year] you feel we've missed where other clubs spent and improved ... recruitment is a huge part of this game."

"Nights like this in a footballing sense, show me a lot, tell me a lot."

(Agencies)

Juventus bet on Pirlo becoming new Zidane, Guardiola

By Emmeline MOORE

A first coaching job and already high expectations, Andrea Pirlo's arrival at Juventus has sparked hopes in Italy that he can follow footballing greats Zinedine Zidane and Pep Guardiola's managerial success.

The 41-year-old former Italy and Juventus star was promoted to the top job in Turin just a week after having been appointed coach of their U23 side.

"Andrea Pirlo is starting a path that maybe one day will lead him to the top of the first team," club president Andrea Agnelli said on July 31.

A week later, Pirlo has already taken over from Maurizio Sarri after the reigning nine-time Italian champions crashed out of the Champions League in the last 16.

"A team is made up of dynamics, interpersonal relationships, expressions," said Agnelli on Pirlo's arrival at the club.

And Pirlo speaks the language of players, with four league titles won at Juventus between 2011 and 2015, before ending his playing career in November 2017 after three seasons in MLS.

"Even during the years away from the club, I kept the relationships," said Brescia-native Pirlo.

"It was normal for me to live in Turin and it feels normal to return to work here."

"I prefer to be invested with a great responsibility, it makes me feel alive," he explained, adding his ambition was "to repeat the career I achieved as a player".

Contemporaries Zidane and Guardiola both achieved that feat with Real Madrid and Barcelona.

But Zidane – who famously lost the 2006 World Cup final to Pirlo's Italy – spent two years with Real Madrid's B team, and Guardiola the second-tier Barcelona side, before stepping up and winning the Champions League with the first teams.

"Guardiola and Zidane? Everyone would like to have their same journey," said Pirlo, "but you need to earn it by gaining experience."

Napoli coach Gennaro Gattuso believes that it will be a steep climb for his former Italy and AC Milan teammate.

"Blessed is he who started immediately at Juventus, I say so because this is a difficult job, it is not enough to have a great career as a footballer behind him," said Gattuso after Napoli were eliminated from the Champions League against Barcelona.

"We have to study and work, we sleep little. I wish him a very big good luck."

- 'Predestined' -
Pirlo's appointment is however seen as a natural one for Juventus whose global brand was boosted after



Andrea Pirlo

Cristiano Ronaldo's 100-million-euro (\$115 million) signing in 2018.

A saavy fashion and wine lover, Pirlo is seen as a more natural fit for the club's ambitions to build a globally cool lifestyle brand to attract untapped markets in North America and Asia.

"It was a very Juventus decision, very natural, we think he could be predestined, he was as a player he can become as a coach," said chief football officer Fabio Paratici.

"In his head he has everything to succeed. He is a lad who has been with us, played with us, has always been in contact with us."

"We are in uncharted territory, no one has won nine league titles in a row, no one has had such a long cycle of victories and changes."

But winning Serie A is not enough as his predecessors Massimiliano Allegri and Sarri

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Could new Champions League format lead to new name on trophy despite virus

worry?

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Suleiman Nyambui opts out of contesting for AT presidency

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

FORMER Athletics Tanzania (AT) Secretary General Suleiman Nyambui has declared that he will not contest for the position of president for the association at the elections set for December this year.

In an interview from Brunei, where he is based, Nyambui who was rumoured to be interested in the AT presidency, said he will vie for any other post at AT election but not presidency as he fully supports the incumbent, Anthony Mtaka, and the association's vice-president, William Kallaghe, describing the duo as visionary, hard working and dedicated leaders.

He said he has worked with the two and believes they still have more things to offer to the country's athletics development.

"I fully support Mtaka and Kallaghe... they are leaders who work hard for the benefit of athletics in the country, they sacrifice their resources for the aim of seeing to it athletics makes progress in our country, I think it is now time that not anyone who was an athlete and has some education can be a leader, we can contribute to the development of athletics in the country not by being leaders, we can contribute by being advisors," he said.

Mtaka and former National Sports Council (NSC) secretary general, Mohamed Kiganja, are some of the people who are named to be interested in the position of AT president. There were no comments from the two on the issue.

Nyambui has terminated his contract in Brunei, where he was working as middle and long distance runners' coach. The athletics legend is expected in Tanzania at the end of this month.

He recently disclosed that he is set to open athletics training center once he arrives in the country.

Nyambui said while in Brunei he has acquired a lot of experience and knowledge which he needs to impart to young and upcoming athletes in the country.

He said his center is aimed at training athletes who found themselves at a disadvantage without a system specifically tailored for the development of their talent.

While in Brunei, he enrolled with Brunei Darussalam Sports, Medicine and Research Institute, specializing in sports massage in therapy, injuries and rehabilitation.

He disclosed he believes the field will be of great importance to the country's athletics development.

Nyambui who is the alumni of USA's El Paso University said his center will offer comprehensive training to domestic athletes.

"My dream is that a comprehensive physical development program is the cornerstone of developing athletes, we will make sure that much emphasis is put in that area," he said.

According to Confederation of African Athletics (CAA), centers are ideal in the continent as many countries can not manage to set up the American-system development program, based on the universities, and the European system which is based on clubs. The two systems, the CAA disclosed, also have the capacity to



Tembo Stars' all-rounder, Nassor Zahoro.

Tembo Stars pick first win in 2020 APL

By Guardian Reporter

NASSOR Zahoro and Athuman Kakanzi showcased gritty displays with the bat as Tembo Stars posted 16-run victory over Twiga Titans in the 2020 Advanced Players League (APL) match, held in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Tembo Stars, as a result, picked their first victory in the competition to make their plan to be one of serious contenders for the competition's top honour known.

They went on to amass 103 runs for seven wickets in 20 overs once Twiga Titans won the toss and chose to bowl.

Opening batsman Abbas Adamjee recorded 17 runs to withstand Twiga Titans' pressure for several overs after fellow opener and skipper, Abhik Patwa, had unexpectedly faced early dismissal.

Zahoro, slotted in as a top order batsman, posted 25 runs which consisted of a four and a six, whilst Adamjee's dismissal, which had left Tembo Stars reeling at 43 runs after 8.2 overs with two wickets gone.

Kakanzi chipped in with his 22 runs, which included a four.

The duo's displays at the crease, as well as the ones showcased by middle order batsman Nisar Ahmed, so far helped the team end the innings with the respectable total.

Ahmed notched 13 runs, which consisted of a four and a six, whilst Raza Imaam and Ally Mpeka ended two runs short of double digit figure.

Twiga Titans' leg spinner Tambwe Rashidi had a good bowling spell, ending with two wickets and leaking 15 runs in three overs.

Tembo Stars, later gallantly defended their total, skittling Twiga Titans for 87 runs in 18.1 overs.

Youthful opener, Abdulrahman Akida, failed to replicating batting exploits he showcased in Twiga Titans' opening match against Royal Rhinos, given he yesterday succumbed to an early exit.

He posted six runs prior to making his way back to the pavilion, his more experienced partner, Zahid Abbas, was equally less impressive, ending with two runs.

Skipper Nassor had a quite short spell too, given he scored 11 runs which included a six.

Twiga Titans kept on experiencing a wobble given they faced two other quick dismissals. Jatin Darji could only notch seven runs, Dhruvit Mehta was dismissed with no run to his name.

Significant contribution with the bat in the chase ultimately came from Nassibu Kelvin, Nyenje Hashim and Harsheed Chohan that posted 17 runs, 13 runs and 12 runs respectively.

Early exits of Faraji Athumani and Lazaro Festo, in the end, had Twiga Titans conceding the loss and winding up the evidently woeful batting display.

Rashid posted 11 runs, which consisted of two fours, in the fruitless chase.

Tembo Stars pacers, Vipin Abraham and Mpeka, put their aggressiveness to show, taking three wickets and four wickets respectively, and, in the process, foiling Twiga Titans' chase.

Twiga Titans had taken the pitch on the back of a 48-run win over Buffalo Blasters in the APL's clash, which took place a day before.

They amassed 114 runs, dropping five wickets in the scheduled 15 overs once they were put in to bat first by Buffalo Blasters that had won toss and elected to bowl.

Chasing 115 runs to win happened to be a rather challenging task for Buffalo Blasters, who were ultimately skittled for 66 runs in 12.5 overs.



Azam FC's Zambian forward, Obrey Chirwa (R), attempts to dribble past Mbeya City FC defender, Roland Msonjo, when the clubs clashed in a Vodacom Premier League clash, which took place in Dar es Salaam. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

Government sanctions 10 foreign players' quota for soccer sides

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE government has issued permission to local top flight football clubs to use 10 foreign players, who meet the conditions.

Acting Secretary General for National Sports Council (NSC) Neema Msitha said Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Harrison Mwakymbe, had issued the directive yesterday after receiving a report from a committee which was tasked with soliciting views from soccer stakeholders on the matter.

She said 87.2 percent of the stakeholders were in favour of having 10 foreign players in each of the soccer clubs in the country, while the remaining

were against the move.

The NSC official said conditions for foreign players to play in the local leagues will be known soon as the committee, Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) and other stakeholders are meeting on the conditions which will also apply to foreign coaches and other sports experts who want to practice their trade in the country.

She said some of the conditions are similar to those of labour which, among others, state that permission for an individual to work in Tanzania is only granted to experts whose professions are not available in the country.

"From now onwards each of the country's football outfits can have 10 foreign players, the

government has given a nod to the request, but there will be conditions, not that anyone can play in our leagues, the conditions will also apply to coaches and other experts," she said.

Early this year, Mwakymbe directed that top flight clubs should reduce the number of foreign players, saying the move will help to strengthen the senior national soccer team, Taifa Stars.

He reasoned that reduction of foreign players gears towards giving room for the development of local talent.

However, many people were against the move saying having top foreign players helps to motivate local players.

Taifa Stars' head coach Eti-

enne Ndayiragije said foreign players motivate their local counterparts to work hard and testified that the performances of many senior national team players have improved since the coming of many foreign players.

He said if the aim of the country is to reach international levels and that can be fulfilled once foreign players come and play together with the domestic ones.

"The presence of foreign players makes the domestic players be serious on the battle field so as not to lose playing time and I have seen that due to hard work put in by local players, even the imported ones are sometimes benched," he noted.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



Twiga Titans kept on experiencing a wobble given they faced two other quick dismissals. Jatin Darji could only notch seven runs, Dhruvit Mehta was dismissed with no run to his name.

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Msoi Kitaani (r)
13:00 Wanawake Live (r)
13:30 Kali Za Wana
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi
14:30 Bball Kings Highlights (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 SSPORTS (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)

Nirvana explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

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