



National Pg 2
NIT launches driving, operations course



National Pg 3
TUCTA refurbishes old buildings



National Pg 4
Govt urges utilisation of NIDC



BUSINESS Livestock dealers earn windfall as sales surge by 100bn/- in Q3

SA's competition watchdog approves Google, Fitbit deal

Chartered flight raises tourism hope in Mombasa

Nigeria is now number two in global bitcoin market



Night jumbos kill six, injure seven in new wildlife pains

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

SIX people have been killed and seven others seriously injured after being attacked by rampaging elephants in Makuyuni Village in Monduli District, Arusha Region.

Makuyuni village chairman Ngayoo Measi said at the funeral of Esther Sindiyo (55) yesterday, who is one of the villagers killed by the beast, that the jumbos are increasingly a threat to people's lives in the area.

Esther was killed by an elephant on December 21 while collecting firewood near the village, with the beast said to have

emerged from the Tarangire National Park. "So far we have lost the five and others seriously injured, some with permanent disabilities. We ask the government and in particular the institutions managing wildlife to increase their pace of control," the village leader pleaded.

Elephants have been invading farms causing destruction of crops, thus weakening food security in the past two years.

Measi said deaths of six villagers arose from a herd of elephants invading the village during the night, naming those killed as Janeth Silla, Mamalai Kakuyu, Lemomo

TURN TO PAGE 2



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa lays a wreath at the grave of the late Bishop Anthony Banzi of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Tanga at a funeral ceremony held at St. Anthony of Padua, Chumbageni area in Tanga yesterday. The premier represented President Dr John Magufuli. Bishop Banzi died in Dar es Salaam late last week aged 76. Photo: Correspondent Oscar Kasimiri

CORONAVIRUS

Page 2



MEDICINES

Page 5



MOUNTAIN

Page 7



PM leads mourners in Bishop Banzi funeral

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called upon Tanzanians to continue honouring the late Archbishop of Tanga, Anthony Banzi whose dedicated service was marked by politeness and humility.

He was speaking yesterday during the burial ceremony for the late archbishop at St Anthony of Padua Church of the Catholic Diocese of Tanga, where he represented President John Magufuli.

During the burial service led by Bishop Titus Mdoe of Mtwara diocese, the premier said Archbishop Banzi gave priority to social issues such as education, health and potable water.

The late Bishop Banzi died on Sunday at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH)

I am one of the beneficiaries of his teachings though I am not a Catholic, as he believed in all people being brotherly

where he was undergoing treatment.

"Today as we escort Bishop Banzi we are proud of his contributions to advocating peace for national unity. We as government will forever miss his presence of mind," the premier intoned.

He urged composure among the bishop's congregations and family members in mourning his departure.

The Minister in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Umyy Mwalimu said women of Tanga have lost a true father and spiritual leader who loved to unite them and treated them as he would treat own daughters.

"I am one of the beneficiaries of

TURN TO PAGE 2

Minister tasks TIB on SMEs lacking capital

By Guardian Reporter

THE Minister of State in the President's Office (Investments) Prof Kitila Mkumbo (pictured) has called on the Tanzania Investment Bank (TIB) to come up with a plan on how best to assist small and medium entrepreneurs increase their capitals and contribute to the country's economic growth.

Prof Mkumbo made the call yesterday in Dar es Salaam after visiting TIB headquarters and held discussions with bank officials, in a bid to widen opportunities for local and foreign investors.

The minister said even though TIB was supporting big development projects that are opportunities for investors,



it should also look into the possibility of assisting small and medium entrepreneurs (SMEs) to enable them to develop their businesses.

"We have a lot of money outside the formal sector, if we push them by assisting them. What happens

in the streets is mainly agriculture, as 60 percent of trade involves agriculture, a situation that shows we cannot develop agriculture without these people," he said.

The minister cited an example of Ubungo agricultural crops market in Dar es Salaam, saying each year the market accommodates between 0.7m and 2m people.

"This shows that the market has investment potential and there is big business in there, hence needs to be supported in terms of infrastructure," he elaborated.

As to empowering small entrepreneurs, TIB Managing Director Charles Singili said investments that can assist them is infrastructure to ease challenges to conducting business if they are located in a particular area, citing the case of furniture dealers at Keko, also in Dar es Salaam.

Investment in big projects conducted

TURN TO PAGE 2



Zanzibar promotes Pemba tourist sites

By Guardian Correspondent, Pemba

The Zanzibar Commission for Tourism (ZCT) has embarked on a hefty promotion of tourist attractions in Pemba Island to obtain more foreign visitors as the sector picks up again following the COVID-19.

ZCT programme officer, Abdalla Omar Khalifa unveiled this plan here over the weekend when speaking to journalists on what the commission is doing to promote tourist destinations in Pemba—the second largest island in the Zanzibar archipelago, lying off the port of Tanga on the Mainland.

He said that the plan is to increase the number of tourists visiting Pemba Island to 150,000 by 2025, in line with the Zanzibar government target of reaching 800,000 tourists in the next five years.

Statistics show that in 2010, Pemba recorded 14,801 tourists and in 2011 the figure was 23,283 and slowed down in 2012 to 18,757 for unclear reasons. The numbers bounced back in 2013 with 26,791 visitors, dipping in 2014 with 26,463 tourists and again in 2015 with 23,032 visitors, again in 2016 with 21,285 arrivals, rising in 2017 to 22,251 and further in 2018 to reach the peak of 29,642 tourists. In 2019 there was a mild decline to 28,530 visitors, while in 2020 the levels were nearly a third of peak arrivals, at 10,198 visitors.

Pemba Island has a wide range of tourist destinations which are yet to be explored, he said, noting that the campaign targets higher numbers of tourists. "We are bringing on board more stakeholders as possible, including journalists. We came to understand that the island has a range of tourist destinations but information is scant as many people

TURN TO PAGE 2

Night jumbos kill six, injure seven in new wildlife pains

FROM PAGE 1

Lenguriny, Kastuli Jumalei, Emmanuel Leroo, and Ester Sindiyo, all Makuyuni villagers.

The injured included Lobulu Molle, Julius Thobias, Saiguran Mika, Mnyak Lenguriny, Mjomba Soingei who was still hospitalised at the KCMC Referral Hospital, while others are Lobikyeki Sanare and Kalai Lomayani, Makuyuni residents as well.

Makuyuni Ward Councillor Elius Odupoi called on residents to take greater care in protecting themselves and stop roaming about during the night, even for socializing.

Peter Laisangai, a villager, appealed to the government to increase the amount of compensation for the victims from 500,000/- offered to the injured and 1m/- to relatives of those who died.

When contacted, Monduli District Wildlife Officer Seraphino Mawanja who attended Sindiyo's funeral said in the past two years the area has experienced an increase in elephants who shifted from Tarangire National Park following prolonged rains that flooded many areas.

The latest incident intensifies the scale of human-wildlife conflicts in key conservation areas, as reports affirm that more than 100 people die each year and more than 5,000 hectares of crop land destroyed countrywide in elephant rampages.

Mabula Nyanda, the Acting Commissioner for the Tanzania Wildlife Authority (TAWA), recently expressed fears over rising human-wildlife conflicts claiming people's lives in villages surrounding reserved areas.

Incidents of wildlife killing people and destroying crops were now serious, thus TAWA is moving to provide education to people living in the proximity of reserved

areas, he said.

"This resolve comes from the realization that the majority of people have limited education on conservation issues, hence contributing to incidents of human-wildlife conflicts, which in turn claims lives," he stated.

"We've already developed effective human-wildlife conflict mitigation strategies for wildlife control while mobilizing to provide education to people residing in peripherals of reserved areas to protect themselves from wildlife," he elaborated.

"We're determined to educate the people in concerned areas on how to avoid wild animals including lions and elephants, the main destructive species for human lives and crops respectively," he affirmed.

Elephants have been attacking and even killing people as villagers don't know how to live with the animals in cultivating elephant-friendly crops like watermelons. They also follow and shout at them whenever they sight them.

"There are people who live close to reserved area but do not know anything about wildlife. They go on with their lives ignoring the presence of elephants in their vicinity that can invade their settlements, attack them and destroy their crops," he added.



We're determined to educate the people in concerned areas on how to avoid wild animals including lions and elephants, the main destructive species for human lives and crops respectively



Victims of elephants display their placards with various messages demanding to be compensated by the government during the funeral ceremony of Ester Sindiyo (55) a resident of Makuyuni Juu who was killed by jumbos in Monduli District, Arusha Region over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Woinde Shizza

Zanzibar promotes Pemba tourist sites

FROM PAGE 1

are unaware of what we have here. So, we're currently placing leaflets on these tourism potential areas to attract tourists, as ways of disseminating information and showing destination of the said attractions," he explained.

The campaign involves a number of stakeholders like tour operators, the Zanzibar Commission for Tourism and the Tanzania Tourism Board on the Mainland.

The waters around Pemba have the best sites for diving in the world, with untouched coral reefs, superb visibility, and deep channels, he stated, noting that the warm waters are the perfect place to dive into, for those seeking underwater sports. "Ample varied dive sites provide for experienced

and novice divers alike," he said.

Pemba Island is the lesser known big island in the Zanzibar Archipelago, but a popular honeymoon destination. Excursions and activities on Pemba Island include snorkeling and scuba diving, cultural village walk, plus visiting the Jambagome Ruins on a boat safari, he stated.

Other popular activities include dolphin safaris, wakeboarding, knee boarding, kayaking through the mangrove forest, sunset cruise and visiting plantations with spices, vegetables and fruit.

"That's why we're encouraging media practitioners to chip in and promote the island as a key tourist destination in the archipelago due to its diverse attractions which are yet to be explored," said Mohamed Ali Juma, the South

Pemba Regional Tourism Officer.

Juma was of the view that media has a big role to play when it comes to promote Pemba tourist destinations, particularly spice tourism, which is untapped.

He however cited poor roads and lack of speed boats to tourist sites on a regular basis as among challenges that need to be addressed for the island to enhance its visibility among local and foreign tourists.

Pemba-based ZCT senior official, Hamad Amin Ali said: "We're working hard to ensure the number of tourists visiting this area goes up and attain the target."

He however cited COVID-19 as among the new challenges that give ZCT a hard time, expressing optimism that the targets set for 2025 will be met.

PM leads mourners in Bishop Banzi funeral

FROM PAGE 1

his teachings though I am not a Catholic, as he believed in all people being brotherly," she said.

For his part, Regional Commissioner Martin Shigela said Bishop Banzi was a development loving leader who always wanted to see Tanga apace in development strides.

Reading the late bishop's eulogy, Fr, Richard Kimbwi said the late Bishop Banzi was born on October 28, 1946 and christened at Tawa parish of the Morogoro Catholic diocese.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister William Lukuvi (R) peruses files of land owners who failed to collect their title deeds in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is land title deeds assistant registrar for Dar es Salaam Region Juma Ligela. More than 20,752 title deeds remain uncollected. Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

By Henry Mwangonde

THE National Institute of Transport (NIT) has launched Airport vehicle driving and operations course aimed at addressing shortage of ground handling experts facing the country's airfields.

Speaking during the launching ceremony yesterday, Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA) manager for the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) Paulo Rwegasha said the gesture by the institute was transformative hence needed the support from all stakeholders.

Rwegasha who represented TCAA director general said for a long time the sector has been in acute shortage of experts, a move which is derailing efforts to make the sector contribute much to the

NIT launches airport vehicle driving and operations course

national economy.

"The coming of this course at the institute is a big step especially at this time when the fifth phase government is doing all it can to promote the sector," he said.

Rwegasha said the sector has been dominated by foreign experts, a move which makes the government employ foreigners.

The official called upon NIT to be a centre of excellence in the East African region by issuing courses which will facilitate availability of experts.

For his part, NIT Rector Prof Zacharia Mganilwa said the

institute aims at producing 400 aircraft engineers in ten years adding that this will help to bring more Tanzanians in the sector dominated mostly by foreigners.

Air transport dominated by foreigners which makes the country pay millions of monies for the services.

"We believe that this is a good beginning because there are various professions in this sector and we as an institute plan to establish more courses to train more experts," said Prof Mganilwa.

He said the Institute is planning

to increase the number of students to be enrolled in the aviation courses to complement the government efforts to develop the sector.

Some two years ago, Tanzania developed a programme to revitalise its national carrier which included purchasing six new aircraft between 2016 and 2018, payment of debts and provision of start-up capital, improvement and modernisation of business.

The aircraft is part of Air Tanzania's plan to grow its operations across Africa as well as to international destinations.

Minister tasks TIB on SMEs lacking capital

FROM PAGE 1

by TIB up to November this year totaled 633.37bn/-, he said, specifying on these investments as including agriculture, minerals, tourism, natural gas, electricity, education, commerce, as well as transport and communications.

He said 75 percent of the projects are based in the private sector, while 80 percent are long term projects of more than five years, meanwhile as up to late last month, TIB was managing agent for II mutual funds valued at 175.9bn/-.

He mentioned challenges in sponsoring long term projects as including small amounts of capital to diminish risks of

exposure of TIB funds as required by investment banking law, along with an inexperienced stock market that reduces the possibility of selling long term bonds as many securities in the banking system are short term.

The solution for these challenges includes strengthening the TIB, along with the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) by strengthening the capital base.

TIB has prepared a plan to sell bonds with a value totaling 300bn/- and procure a capital markets permit to raise its operating capital, but is yet to receive the go-ahead from Treasury, he added.

Africa CDC urges enhanced anti-coronavirus measures

By Special Correspondent, Addis Ababa

THE Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has urged enhanced anti-coronavirus public health measures as New Year festivities have started across the continent.

The continental disease control and prevention agency said that African people who are celebrating Christmas and the imminent start of the New Year should adhere to public health measures such as avoiding indoor mass gatherings and practice social distancing.

The Africa CDC also called on the people to consistently apply hand hygiene practices to prevent the overall transmission of COVID-19 including the new variants of the virus found in Nigeria and South Africa.

The agency said that one in five Covid-19 infections in the continent are reported inside the house by people that are coming for a visit, making it all the more

urgent to strictly follow public health measures.

Speaking during a virtual press conference, Africa CDC Director John Nkengasong said people should celebrate New Year festivity with care and safety at hand. "Diligently following good public health practices can prevent a spike of Covid-19 cases in the next two months in the African continent.

"Covid-19 is also damaging African economies and posing serious harm to lives and livelihoods across the continent.

"We need to follow good public health practices at this unprecedented time," Nkengasong added.

In its latest update on Friday, the Africa CDC said the number of confirmed coronavirus cases in the African continent has reached 2,597,090, while the death toll stood at 61,432.

A total of 2,177,981 people infected with the virus have so far recovered across the continent.



JKT officials collect cashew nuts seedlings for distribution to farmers in Manyoni and Singida districts yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Valentine Oforo

Mbeya RUWASA manager given 14 days to complete all stalled water projects

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

DEPUTY Water Minister, Maryprisca Mahundi has given 14 days to the Mbeya Regional Manager of Rural and Urban Water Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) Eng Hans Patrick to complete water projects in six villages of Iwindi Ward in Mbeya Rural District to alleviate acute water shortage facing the villagers.

The Deputy Minister also gave one month to the RUWASA manager to complete water projects in two villages of Igale Ward in the District that have never been enjoyed piped water due to their geographical locations.

She gave the ultimatum at the weekend following complaints by Iwindi Ward residents over

acute water shortage due to non-completion of three water projects each covering two villages.

She called on the RUWASA manager to ensure the residents start benefiting from the projects within the times given, adding that the government's aim was to ensure it brings the service closer to the people.

"I appeal to you, Mbeya Rural MP and the Iwindi Ward Councillor to make a close follow-up of my directives and to be given reports of their implementation. Some negligent officials were removed and the new RUWASA Manager was brought after doing a good job in Ruvuma Region, hence I trust he will also do well in this region," said Mahundi.

She said in Igale and Shongo villages the government provided

20m/- for purchase of a special water pump, hence, she added, within one month the pump should be installed so that the residents start getting water.

Earlier, Mbeya Rural PM Oran Njeza said the government provided 3.5bn/- for the implementation of the projects in eight villages of Iwindi and Igale wards but the residents still do not get water due to poor work done.

Njeza said the first project was in respect of two villages - Mwampalala and Itimu that began in 2015, but of which the villagers thereof still are without piped water.

He said the residents get water from the pipes only for a short time, and wait until the following day, the situation that makes residents fight for the basic

commodity.

He said the second project was in regard to Mwashiwawala and Iwindi villages that has been completed but sometimes the villagers go for three months without water due to unknown reasons and requested the Deputy Minister to intervene.

"I have visited many villages and the main problem is that even though the projects are seen to have been completed, but the villagers still complain of water woes, added MP Njeza.

Iwindi ward Councillor, Mfisi Nswila said due to water woes, the residents are forced to walk long distances in search of water, the situation that he said does not go in tandem with the requirements spelled out in the CCM 2020/25 Election Manifesto.

TUCTA embarks on refurbishing its aged buildings

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE Trade Unions Congress of Tanzania (TUCTA) has said it has initiated a grand plan in collaboration with its stakeholders to refurbish its buildings countrywide to restore them to their original gleam.

This was revealed here at the weekend by TUCTA's President Tumaini Nyamhokya when launching the renovation plan for the administrative building of Mbeya's Workers College (OTTU).

He said some buildings owned by TUCTA and others owned by its stakeholders including its subsidiary - Workers Development Corporation (WDC) are lined up for refurbishment.

He said in order to ensure the task is completed effectively, they decided to enter into partnership with some of their stakeholders on explanation that it would take a long time to refurbish the buildings on their own.

"These TUCTA's buildings are public property hence when we

enter into partnership with others for their refurbishment, we must screen them to ensure the work is well done," said the TUCTA boss.

He stressed that during his tenure he will ensure all TUCTA's buildings are refurbished, the task which he currently regards as a priority.

TUCTA's stakeholders, many of who are its tenants said they have offered to revamp OTTU's administrative buildings from their own cost to enable them operate in good and safe surroundings.

OTTU College Principal, Hezron Kaaya said the college buildings were constructed very many years ago and have not been refurbished since then.

"The administrative building is the College's façade, many visitors come here including government officials, so it must reflect a good appearance," Kaaya said.

He thanked the buildings' tenants for working together in refurbishing them, stressing that they were not a private property.



The administrative building is the College's façade, many visitors come here including government officials, so it must reflect a good appearance

JUBILEE LIFE INSURANCE
 Jubilee Life Insurance Corporation of Tanzania Limited
 HEAD OFFICE: P.O. Box 20524 DAR ES SALAAM
 LOSS OF LIFE POLICY NO. 0011502
 ANAYESU BARIKI MALISA

Application has been made to this company for the issue of duplicate of the above numbered policy, the original having been reported as lost or misplaced. Notice is hereby given that unless objection is lodged to the contrary at the office of the company within thirty days from the date of this notice, duplicate policies will be issued, which will be sole evidence of the contact.

Government of The Republic of Malawi | AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP | Government of The United Republic of Tanzania

SECRETARIAT OF THE JOINT SONGWE RIVER BASIN COMMISSION
 Songwe River Basin Development Programme

Date: 30th December, 2020
 Tender No: S-SRBC/SRBDP/2020/2021/G/03

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST FOR PROVISION OF CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR FLOOD EARLY WARNING SYSTEMS (FEWS)

Countries: Malawi and Tanzania.
Project: Strengthening Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Natural Resources Management in the Songwe River Basin (STCINRM-SRB) Project.
Sector: Water
Financing Agreement reference: 5550155001701
Project ID No.: P-Z1-EAZ-054

The Secretariat of the joint Songwe River Basin Commission has received a financing from the Global Environment Facility (GEF) through the African Development Bank towards the cost of the **Strengthening Transboundary Cooperation and Integrated Natural Resources Management in the Songwe River Basin (STCINRM-SRB) Project** and intends to apply part of the agreed amount for this grant to payments under the contract for **Provision of Consultancy Services for Flood Early Warning Systems (FEWS)**.

The services included under this project are **Provision of Consultancy service for Flood Early Warning System (FEW) for Songwe River Basin Commission for financial year 2020/2021.**

The Secretariat of the joint Songwe River Basin Commission now invites eligible consultants to indicate their interest in providing these services. Interested consultants must provide information indicating that they are qualified to perform the services (brochures, description of similar assignments, experience in similar conditions, availability of appropriate skills among staff, etc.). Consultants may constitute joint-ventures to enhance their chances of qualification.

Eligibility criteria, establishment of the short-list and the selection procedure shall be in accordance with the African Development Bank's "Rules and Procedures for the use of Consultants" May 2008 Edition, Revised July 2012 which is available on the Bank's website at <http://www.afdb.org>.

Interested consultants may obtain further information at the address below during office hours from 09:00 hrs (EAT) to 17:00 hrs (EAT) from Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.

Expressions of interest must be in hard copy and delivered to the address below by 12th January, 2021 at **11:30 HRS (EAT)** and mention **"Provision of Consultancy services for Flood Early Warning System (FEWS) for Songwe River Basin Commission"**.

Attn: Songwe River Basin Commission,
 Eng. Gabriel M. Kalinga, Acting Executive Secretary,
 P.O. BOX 300,
Kyela,
Tanzania.
Tel: +255 754 832484; or +255 25 2957412
Facsimile (fax): +255 25 2957413.
E-mail: gabbykalinga@gmail.com

TZR TANZANIA - ZAMBIA RAILWAY AUTHORITY

Hon. Dr. Engineer Leonard Chamuriho
 THE MINISTER FOR WORKS AND TRANSPORT

Congratulations

The Council of Ministers, Board of Directors, Management and workforce of Tanzania- Zambia Railway Authority (TAZARA) would like to congratulate Hon. Dr. Engineer Leonard Chamuriho for being appointed by His Excellency Dr. John Pombe Joseph Magufuli, President of United Republic of Tanzania, a Minister for Works and Transport.

We wish you the best and Prosperity

Tanzania- Zambia Railway Authority
 P.O.Box 2834, Dar es Salaam
 Tanzania



FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY: AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST DECEMBER 2019

SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is locally registered non-government organization with registration number I-NGO/R2/0005. SOS Children's Villages Tanzania is affiliated to SOS Kinderdorf International (SOS Children's Villages International), the largest independent, non-governmental, nonprofit international development organization headquartered in Innsbruck, Austria. The organization provides humanitarian and developmental assistance to children in need and protects their interests and rights around the world. SOS Children's Villages Tanzania implements a number of programs to support children who have lost parental care and those at the risk of losing it. SOS Children's Villages Tanzania also works with local government authorities in areas of ending violence against children, improving quality education for most vulnerable children, women empowerment and advocacy.

In compliance to The Non-Governmental Organization Act (Amendments) Regulations 2018, SOS Children's Villages Tanzania hereby discloses an extract of its audited financial statements for the financial year ended 31st December 2019.

STATEMENT OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	2019 TZS	2018 TZS
Income		
Income from abroad	13,236,821,664	10,751,500,233
Local income	528,549,688	657,573,120
	<u>13,765,371,352</u>	<u>11,409,073,353</u>
Expenditure		
Program/project expenses	10,801,676,950	8,926,562,780
National office expenses	2,468,007,528	2,162,767,866
Other expenses	531,346,302	498,974,068
Loss / (gain) from foreign exchange	3,723,815	(21,949,936)
	<u>13,804,754,595</u>	<u>11,566,354,777</u>
Deficit for the year	<u>(39,383,243)</u>	<u>(157,281,424)</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

	2019 TZS	2018 TZS
ASSETS		
Non-current assets		
Property and equipment	19,574,285,443	19,702,516,729
Intangible assets	23,806,887	27,461,884
	<u>19,598,092,330</u>	<u>19,729,978,613</u>
Current assets		
Accounts receivable	684,847,257	767,419,213
Cash and bank balances	3,058,686,755	2,181,333,466
	<u>3,743,534,012</u>	<u>2,948,752,679</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>23,341,626,342</u>	<u>22,678,731,292</u>
RESERVES AND LIABILITIES		
Reserves		
General reserves	20,117,186,859	20,156,570,103
Non-current liabilities		
Funds held in Trust	1,080,667,675	1,043,380,851
Current liabilities		
Accounts payables	1,402,519,583	783,692,505
Deferred income	741,252,225	695,087,833
	<u>2,143,771,808</u>	<u>1,478,780,338</u>
Total Liabilities	<u>3,224,439,483</u>	<u>2,522,161,189</u>
TOTAL RESERVES AND LIABILITIES	<u>23,341,626,342</u>	<u>22,678,731,292</u>

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	2019 TZS	2018 TZS
Cash flows from operating activities		
Deficit for the year	(39,383,243)	(157,281,424)
<i>Adjustment for:</i>		
Depreciation	462,687,405	476,442,167
Amortization	29,260,397	14,707,142
<i>Working capital changes</i>		
Decrease / (Increase) in accounts receivables	82,571,956	(357,332,265)
Increase in accounts payable	618,827,078	330,889,328
Increase in deferred income	46,164,392	153,211,954
Increase in trust fund	37,286,824	93,931,994
Net cash generated from operating activities	<u>1,237,414,809</u>	<u>554,568,896</u>
Cash flows from investing activities		
Purchase of property and equipment	(334,456,120)	(734,065,595)
Purchases of intangible asset	(25,605,400)	(39,973,589)
Cash used in investing activities	<u>(360,061,520)</u>	<u>(774,039,184)</u>
Net increase / (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	<u>877,353,289</u>	<u>(219,470,288)</u>
Movement in cash and cash equivalents		
At start of the year	2,181,333,466	2,400,803,754
Increase / (decrease)	<u>877,353,289</u>	<u>(219,470,288)</u>
At the end of the year	<u>3,058,686,755</u>	<u>2,181,333,466</u>

The Audit for the financial year ended 31st December 2019 was conducted by PricewaterhouseCoopers and was approved by the Board of SOS Children's Villages Tanzania on 31st August 2020.

FINANCIAL TRANSPARENCY AND ACCOUNTABILITY APPROVED BUDGET FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2020 AND ACTIVITY IMPLEMENTATION

In compliance to The Non-Governmental Organization Act (Amendments) Regulations 2018, SOS Children's Villages Tanzania hereby discloses additional funding approved by donors as follows:

Description/Purpose	Source	Amount (TZS)
Extra-budgetary funding for Educare project to reach 3,269 (1,639 girls, 1,630 boys) primary school children and 32 teachers in Iringa region. This is an additional budget to the ongoing project efforts to support improving access of vulnerable children to quality education in Iringa District Council, Iringa region.	Grant from Hempel Foundation, Denmark	113,439,500
Extra-budgetary funding for "Let me Play and Lean" project implemented in Chanika and Zingiziwa Wards, Dar es Salaam. Funding to cover purchase of Science kits; textbooks for 7 libraries; pre-primary kits; training on competence based curriculum; and support to Police, Gender and Children's desk.	Grant from DANIDA, Denmark	100,000,000

In compliance to The Non-Governmental Organization Act (Amendments) Regulations 2018, SOS Children's Villages Tanzania hereby discloses bi-annual unaudited report for the funds received and expenditure for the period January to June 2020:

Program Name	Subsidies/Grants Received from January to June 2020 (in TZS)	Expenses for January - June 2020 (in TZS)	Balance to be spent from July - December 2020 (in TZS)
SOS Family Care, Arusha		654,161,427	
SOS Family Care, Dar es Salaam		616,677,230	
SOS Family Care, Mwanza		535,105,906	
Youth Care, Arusha		123,728,635	
Youth Care, Dar es Salaam		249,192,361	
Family Strengthening, Arusha		115,584,584	
Family Strengthening, Dar es Salaam	4,183,918,402	147,785,629	649,186,653
Family Strengthening, Mwanza		156,947,286	
Early Childhood Education, Mwanza		33,426,546	
Employability & Entrepreneurship Training, Mwanza		96,953,999	
Education Program, Mwanza		61,328,438	
National Office		743,839,709	
EduCare Program, Dar es Salaam (DANIDA)	337,330,829	209,868,629	127,462,200
Family Strengthening 2, Dar es Salaam (CISU)	126,992,854	89,037,294	37,955,560
EduCare Program, Iringa (Hempel Foundation)	244,674,214	197,822,812	46,851,402
Family Strengthening, Mufindi (MFA Finland)	187,444,447	157,743,757	29,700,690
Capacity Building & Tracking Progress Initiative (NORAD)	221,933,666	194,084,993	27,848,673
NB Tanzania - Advocacy (ADA)	35,180,129	5,896,512	29,283,617
Total	5,337,474,540	4,389,185,745	948,288,795

Ndugulile urges govt institutions to utilise NIDC

By Guardian Reporter

THE Minister for Communications and Information Technology Dr Faustine Ndugulile has called on government institutions to make use of the National Internet Data Centre (NIDC) to store their data saying it was safe, with modern ICT system infrastructures and experienced experts.

Dr Ndugulile gave the remarks during his visit at NIDC in Dar es Salaam accompanied by the Deputy Minister Eng Kundo Mathew, Permanent Secretary Dr Zainab Chaula, the Director General of Tanzania telecommunications Company Ltd (TTCL) Waziri Kindamba and other ministry officials.

During the visit, Dr Ndugulile discovered that only 84 government institutions out of 149 use NIDC.

He reminded government institutions to abide by President John Magufuli's directive during his 2017 visit at NIDC to launch the electronic Revenue Collection System (eRCS), the system which enabled NIDC increase its revenue from 1,4bn/- in 2019 to 76bn/- in 2020.

Eng Kundo Mathew, the ministry's Deputy Minister praised NIDC for creating various ICT systems that enable the government increase its income as well as easing people's lives including e-ticketing for passenger buses, fuel dispensing at petrol stations, paying for tickets Benjamin Mkapa Stadium and a host of other e systems.

For her part, Dr Zainab Chaula, the Permanent Secretary told NIDC officials to closely work together with the ministry's experts to ensure the government continues to serve the people via ICT in order to save time while pursuing government services.

Geoffrey Mpangals, the NIDC Manager told visiting ministry officials that customers utilizing the centre have reduced both operation and investment costs in their institutions because they do not construct their own ICT infrastructure systems.

Invest in new curriculums to produce skilled, competent graduates, government tells higher learning institutions

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE government has urged higher learning institutions in the country to be more creative, invest in new curriculums to produce competent and innovative graduates who will be able to fight employment crisis and bring changes in the country's economy.

This was said by the minister of State, President's Office-Investment Prof Kitila Mkumbo when addressing participants of the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) annual general meeting.

At least 211 SUA's graduates who performed well in their exams were conferred awards during the meeting.

Prof Mkumbo said universities should establish programmes that complement the country's development priorities, market demand and development of science and technology.

"The country has high demand of experts to serve and bring changes in various sectors and big projects such as agriculture, livestock keeping, aquaculture and more others".

He said that the government has continued to prioritize education reforms in the country while expanding the scope of educational opportunities for Tanzanians from primary to university level.

"We have to change our teaching system, now the world has changed we need young people who can employ themselves even after missing the formal employment, so higher learning institutions should create programmes that equip young people with skills that promotes self-employment, we should teach them not to wait for the government's employment opportunities," Prof Mkumbo said.

The minister noted that reports show that out of ten students graduating from universities, only five could be employed while more than 10 percent of the remaining students remained on the streets with nothing to do as they do not even have self-employment skills.

For his part, SUA deputy vice chancellor Prof Maulid Mwatawala said that the college is well organized in equipping students with more practical skills, teaching them what the market needs from them.

"We have put in place the best infrastructure for practical learning to ensure that all students studying agriculture, livestock, fisheries and tourism issues become more independent, this also enables majority of the graduates to initiate their own economic projects once, this is because we focus on practical training rather than theory," he said.

Every year it is estimated that over 800,000 young men and women enter the labour market. These include school and college graduates and people who have migrated from rural areas to urban areas where the unemployment rate among youth between 15 and 34 years old hovers around 13.4 percent.



The country has high demand of experts to serve and bring changes in various sectors and big projects such as agriculture, livestock keeping, aquaculture and more others



Ngara constituency MP Ndaisaba Ruhoro addresses Muganza ward residents in Ngara town council in Kagera Region after listening to social challenges facing them yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia

Villagers complain of water rationing despite big water projects in the area

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

SWAYA Ward residents in Mbeya Rural District say they are faced with acute water rationing while a number of villages lack the essential basic service due to non-completion of water projects since feasibility studies were conducted over ten years ago.

The residents told their visiting Member of Parliament Oran Njeza that their areas have many water sources but they lack piped water services despite a huge water project in the vicinity.

Fadhil Mzee, one of the residents said the area has Swaya-Lupeta water project whose feasibility study was conducted more than ten years ago but whose implementation had been going at a snail's pace without valid reasons.

He said the feasibility study was conducted following the area's population but its current implementation did not adhere to the growing population, hence many areas still lack water supply services.

He said as for now, due to water woes, the residents are forced to be contented with rationing while some villages go without water.

"We do not know why the contractors abandoned the project midway, but even if they had completed it, it would not have served all areas due to great demand," said Mzee.

Edward Mwakijale, the Lupeta village chairman said water does not reach to certain areas in the village, hence women have to walk long distances to fetch water.

He mentioned the areas as

Ibanga and Papyo including neighbouring villages Wimba and Nsenga and that if the project had considered the growing population there wouldn't have been any water woes.

He called on the government to intervene so that the project was completed to serve the area's growing population, adding that if necessary, fresh feasibility studies should be conducted.

MP Njeza said was aware of the uncompleted water projects in the area but claimed that the main reason was embezzlement funds by some government officials.

He said some of the involved officials were fired and others face court action.

He said earlier they were blaming the projects' contractors, but later they decided to be open and disclosed the officials who were embezzling projects' funds.

Mbeya Region is among the country's regions to which the government provided a lot of funds for implementing various water projects, but still many residents still complain of lack of reliable supply of piped water.

"We do not know why the contractors abandoned the project midway, but even if they had completed it, it would not have served all areas due to great demand"

MSD tasked to urgently send medicines and medical supplies to Rombo District Hospital

By Guardian Reporter, Rombo

DEPUTY Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Dr Godwin Mollé has directed the Medical Stores Department (MSD) to urgently send medicines and medical supplies to the Rombo District Hospital in Kilimanjaro Region which is currently facing acute shortage of the products.

He made the directive yesterday here during his tour to inspect various health centres that face shortage of medicines and medical supplies.

"The MSD's role is responsible for receiving, storing and distributing essential medicines, medical supplies, laboratory diagnostic equipment and other

key tools. It is also there also to provide information on the better use of the medicines and equipment so as to help the government make appropriate decisions," he said adding that: "MSD should then ensure that the Rombo hospital is supplied with all essential medicines and equipment."

He said that the hospital which is located at Kiwanda village in Rombo District serving a number of residents in and outside the district.

"We have received reports that people are now forced to walk long distances to reach the Huruma Hospital, a District Designated Hospital, and owned by the Catholic Church, Diocese of Moshi and other private health

centres, something which also affects health and economic development," he said.

He noted that inadequate health services is a major obstacle to socio-economic development and has negative health impact



MSD should then ensure that the Rombo hospital is supplied with all essential medicines and equipment

in the population, that's why the government has been investing a lot of initiatives to improve the sector.

Theodora Faustine, a Rombo resident said that lack of essential medicines and health supplies at the District Hospital and dispensaries has been affecting the residents as they are forced to spend a lot of money to access services in private health centres and hospitals.

MSD is an autonomous department under the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Elderly and Children responsible for promoting the health care delivery system by ensuring access to essential medicines and medical supplies for public health facilities.

By Guardian Correspondent, Tabora

55m/- worth fertiliser lost in Tabora located

462 bags of fertiliser valued at 55m/- belonging to Milambo Cooperative Union Ltd (MCU) in Tabora Region that were reportedly lost in dubious circumstances have been found.

The loss prompted Tabora Regional Commissioner Dr Philemon Sengati to order the arrest of MCVU board members and several officials.

Speaking yesterday in Urambo before handing over the recovered fertiliser, Tabora Regional Police Commander Safia Jongo said after the RC gave two days to the police to ensure they recover the fertiliser, the used various ways including interrogation of people found with the similar type of the fertiliser that was reportedly stolen.

The RPC said all the recovered fertiliser had been stored at Urambo Police Station waiting for handing over to the Regional Commissioner for eventual handing over to MCU.

Receiving the fertiliser, Dr Sengati congratulated the police for speedy work to ensure the fertiliser was recovered for onward transmission to those targeted, the region's tobacco growers.

The RC said after recovery of the fertiliser,

what follows is to ensure legal steps are taken against all those involved in the saga that had marred the cooperative activities in Tabora Region.

He said he has ordered the RPC to investigate the whole chain in regard to the theft to act as a lesson for others harbouring similar motives.

Dr Sengati said the time for some

people to enrich themselves via theft, fraud and corruption was over and what was needed was for everyone to abide by laid down procedures, and not shortcuts.

He said he cannot accept seeing some of cooperative officials and workers collaborate in stealing agricultural inputs for farmers.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: No. RFP/2020/SUP/049 FOR THE PROVISION OF INTERNET SERVICES FOR UNHCR TANZANIA OPERATION

1. Background:

The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Dar es Salaam invites reputable and qualified suppliers to submit firm offers for establishment of the service contract(s) for provision of internet services for UNHCR Tanzania operation.

2. Eligibility:

Suppliers duly registered with relevant government authorities, with sound financial basis, relevant experience, reputed clientele and with knowledge of how to meet UNHCR's requirements are invited to participate in the bidding process.

Kindly download the tender documents in the below link:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1fmqQdz_M-FkH8yZK-MA0qex5mU6rMf_V?usp=sharing

If you fail to access the link, please write to ishobeza@unhcr.org copy ndassa@unhcr.org

CRUCIAL DATES FOR THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Pre-bid Conference meeting will be held	Wednesday 06 th January 2021
Deadline for receiving requests for clarification	Wednesday 20 th January 2021 at 1700 hrs EAT
Deadline for submission of offers	Friday 29 th January 2021 at 1700 hrs, EAT

UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.

He said he cannot accept seeing some of cooperative officials and workers collaborate in stealing agricultural inputs for farmers

The Guardian Nipashe
MWANGA WA JAMII

TWO UNBEATABLE DEALS IN ONE PLACE

Free Delivery at your Door Step + more than 20% off on 1 year upfront Subscription

Number of Dailies	Cover Price (Tsh)	Offer Price(Tsh)	Your Saving (Tsh)
1 Months	26,000/=	24,000/=	2,000/=
3 Months	79,000/=	70,000/=	9,000/=
6 Moths	157,000/=	130,000/=	27,000/=
1 Year	314,000/=	250,000/=	64,000/=

Please mention the start date from when you want to receive your subscription

For enquiry, Please contact Subscription Supervisor - Sophia Lema +255713852323
Email: subscription@guardian.co.tz

Offer valid from 1st Dec 2020 to 31st Dec 2020

Terms & Condition Apply

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
 ISO 9001: 2015 CERTIFIED



PUBLIC NOTICE

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT AUTHORIZED BY TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA), established under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority Act No.12 of 2003, is mandated among other duties, to license communications, broadcasting and postal operators and type approve the electronic communications equipment for use in the United Republic of Tanzania.

In this respect, The Electronic and Postal Communications (Electronic Communications Equipment Standards and E-Waste Management) Regulations, 2020 makes it a responsibility of whoever imports, distributes, or sells electronic communications equipment in the United Republic of Tanzania to first obtain Type Approval certification from the Authority.

Accordingly, TCRA conducts type approval of electronic communications equipment to ascertain that they conform to the specified requirements or standards for their use in Tanzania. The equipment which requires type approval includes but not limited to:-

1. Terminal electronic communications equipment such as Mobile Phones, Basic Telephone Sets, Data Modems, VHF/UHF Radio, Wireless Modules, GPS tracking devices, Short-range devices, etc.
2. Office communication devices such as PABX that are connected to common networks.
3. Network communication equipment such as Switching equipment, Base stations, Routers, Servers, Transmission equipment, etc.
4. Broadcasting equipment such as Television, Set-Top-Box, Radios, amplifiers etc.

The main objective of the Type Approval is to ensure that electronic communications equipment intended for use in the country complies with the national and international standards and do not pose any health or safety hazards to users; minimizing the harmful electromagnetic interference in public networks thus enhance the quality of service and ensuring interoperability of customer equipment with telecommunications networks and interconnection between networks.

Taking this into account, every importer, distributor, or seller of electronic communications equipment must ensure that electronic communications equipment are approved by the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority before they are brought into the country. Type Approval of electronic communications equipment is performed based on the MODEL of the respective equipment through online Type Approval system accessible at <https://otas.tcra.go.tz/>.

TCRA would like to inform the public that the following are the electronic communications equipment approved for use in the country for the period from 1st July to 30th September, 2020.

S/No	APPLICANT	EQUIPMENT NAME	MODEL	MANUFACTURER
1	Product Compliance Specialists	Radar Sensor	ARS4-A	ADC Automotive Distance Control System GmbH, Germany
2	ULVS LTD PH	UNIT ASSY IMMOBI & KEYLESS	TWD1G763	Alps Alpine Co., Ltd, Japan
3	Product Compliance Specialists	Tablet Computer (iPad)	A2316	Apple, Inc, China
4	Product Compliance Specialists	Tablet Computer (iPad)	A2270	Apple, Inc, China
5	Approval Solutions	Immobilizer (Transponder)	VSM-125kHz	Aptiv Services Deutschland GmbH, Germany
6	Wireless Approval Consultants	Next Generation Radio Transceiver Module(RTM)	FO2-RX433UDA	Aptiv Services US LLC, United States
7	Aviat Networks (South Africa)	Microwave Radio Unit for Outdoor Use	STR 4500 with WTM 4500XT	Aviat Networks, Thailand
8	Aviat Networks (South Africa)	Transport Router	CTR 8740	Aviat Networks, Thailand
9	SimbaNET (T) Ltd	Network Appliance Platform	NA-510	Axiomtek Co., Ltd, Taiwan
10	Compliance Specialty International Assoc	Wrap Printer Applicator	Wraptor A6200	Brady WorldWide Inc., Malaysia
11	Otek Alpha FZ LLC	Multifunction Printer with FAX	F165900	Canon Inc., Japan
12	Otek Alpha FZ LLC	Digital Camera with WLAN and Bluetooth	DS126838	Canon Inc, Japan
13	Otek Alpha FZ LLC	Digital Camera with WLAN and Bluetooth	DS126832	Canon Inc, Japan
14	Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Ltd	Firewall	QB-1	Check Point Software Technologies Ltd, Israel
15	Infobip Tanzania	Cisco Switch	WS-C2960X-48TS-L	Cisco Systems, Inc, United States
16	Infobip Tanzania	Cisco Firewall	ASA5516-X	Cisco Systems, Inc, United States
17	INFRAEL TECHNOLOGIES CO. LTD	Wireless Access Point	AIR-AP2802HE-K9C	Cisco Systems, Inc, United States
18	Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Ltd	Cisco Catalyst Switch	WS-C4510R+E	Cisco Systems Inc, United States
19	Wireless Approval Consultants	PEPS Unidirectional Keyfob	A3C054341	Continental Automotive, Germany
20	WoWi Approval Services, Inc.	Integrated Body Controller	41580430	Continental Automotive GmbH, Germany
21	KAJI Services	Card ASSY Entry Key	SVI-HOCFGE00	Continental Automotive Systems Corporation, South Korea
22	Approval Services Tanzania Limited	StarFire 7000 Integrated GNSS Controller	G17F	Deere & Company, United States
23	Approval Services Tanzania Limited	StarFire 7000 Universal GNSS Receiver	S17U	Deere & Company, United States
24	Realtime international (PTY) Ltd	RFID13.56MHZ Wireless Module	DWRFID2001	Dell Inc, United States
25	Ica Japan Co., Ltd	Car Audio	TN0002A	DENSO TEN Limited, Japan
26	Ica Japan Co., Ltd	Car Audio	FT0117C	DENSO TEN Limited, Japan
27	Ica Japan Co., Ltd	Car Audio	FT0052B	DENSO TEN Limited, Japan
28	Ica Japan Co., Ltd	Car Audio	FT0117A	DENSO TEN Limited, Japan
29	Ica Japan Co., Ltd	Car Audio	FT0117B	DENSO TEN Limited, Japan
30	Ica Japan Co., Ltd	Car Audio	FT0052D	DENSO TEN Limited, Japan
31	Approval Solutions	Automotive Bluetooth Headphone	A55BT	Harman International Industries, Incorporated, United States
32	Product Compliance Specialists	Car Key	FS09	HELLA GmbH & Co. KGaA, Germany
33	TUV SUD	Broadcast Reception Amplifier	920628D	Hirschmann Car Communication GmbH, Germany
34	TUV SUD	Broadcast Reception Amplifier	920691A	Hirschmann Car Communication GmbH, Germany
35	HMD Global	Mobile Phone	TA-1196	HMD Global, Finland
36	HMD Global	Mobile Phone	TA-1198	HMD Global, Finland
37	HMD Global	Mobile Phone	TA-1130	HMD Global, Finland
38	Selectron Service SARL	Wireless Adapter Card	AX210NGW	Intel Corporation SAS, France
39	Caricare Technology Tanzania Limited	Mobile Phone	L5007	ITEL Mobile Limited, China
40	Approval Service Tanzania Limited	Universal Metro Router	ACX710	Juniper Networks, Inc., United States
41	Approval Service Tanzania Limited	Portable Tablet Computer	Lenovo TB-X306X	Lenovo PC HK Limited, China
42	UCON SRL	Car Wireless Charger	WCFCM00N105	LG Electronics Inc., South Korea
43	JF Corporation	Washing Machine	T1993EFH5KL	LG Electronics Inc., South Korea
44	SGLOBAL	RF Module	LGSBWAC95	LG Electronics Inc., South Korea
45	SGLOBAL	RF Module	LGSBWAC03	LG Electronics Inc., Indonesia
46	Logitech Europe S.A	Wireless Mouse	MR0087	Logitech Europe S.A., Switzerland
47	Logitech Europe S.A	Wireless Mouse	MR0085	Logitech Europe S.A., Switzerland
48	Logitech Europe S.A	Wireless USB dongle	CU0021	Logitech Europe S.A., Switzerland
49	RAAN Global Limited	Wireless Presenter	R-R0011	Logitech Far East Ltd., Taiwan
50	RAAN Global Limited	2.4GHz Wireless Mouse Transceiver	C-U0008	Logitech Far East Ltd., Taiwan
51	RAAN Global Limited	Wireless Trackball	M-R0065	Logitech Far East Ltd., Taiwan
52	RAAN Global Limited	Wireless Mouse	M-R0074	Logitech Far East Ltd., Taiwan
53	DEKRA Testing and Certification, S.A.U.	Cluster for automotive	MOBS01	Marelli Europe S.p.A, Italy
54	WoWi Approval Services, Inc.	2TX 11ax (WiFi6)+BLE Combo Card	MT7921	MediaTek Inc., Taiwan
55	ULVS LTD PH	Display Audio	R1LOW	Mitsubishi Electric Corporation Sanda Works, Japan
56	ULVS LTD PH	Display Audio	R1LOW-SB-M	Mitsubishi Electric Corporation Sanda Works, Japan
57	DEKRA Testing and Certification, S.A.U.	Wireless Charger	WCH-302e	Molex CVS Dabendorf GmbH, Germany
58	DEKRA Testing and Certification, S.A.U.	Wireless Charger	WCH-302d	Molex CVS Dabendorf GmbH, Germany
59	DEKRA Testing and Certification, S.A.U.	Wireless Charger	WCH-302b	Molex CVS Dabendorf GmbH, Germany
60	ULVS LTD PH	Keyless Operation System	GGM-M002	NIDEC Mobility Corporation, Japan
61	ULVS LTD PH	Keyless Operation System	GGM-M006	NIDEC Mobility Corporation, Japan
62	ULVS LTD PH	Electronic Total Automobile Control System (ETACS)	GGM-M018	NIDEC Mobility Corporation, Japan
63	ULVS LTD PH	Electronic Total Automobile Control System (ETACS)	GGM-M017	NIDEC Mobility Corporation, Japan
64	ULVS LTD PH	Electronic Total Automobile Control System (ETACS)	GGM-M012	NIDEC Mobility Corporation, Japan
65	ULVS LTD PH	Keyless operation system	RS15E	NIDEC Mobility Corporation, Japan
66	ULVS LTD PH	Keyless operation system	R328E	NIDEC Mobility Corporation, Japan
67	ULVS LTD PH	Keyless Operation System	G8D-841M-ECU-E	NIDEC Mobility Corporation, Japan
68	ULVS LTD PH	Keyless System	IM2005BB	Panasonic Corporation, Thailand
69	ULVS LTD PH	Keyless System	IM2035BB	Panasonic Corporation, Thailand
70	ULVS LTD PH	Keyless System	IM1135AA	Panasonic Corporation, Thailand
71	ULVS LTD PH	Keyless System	IK4310E	Panasonic Corporation, Thailand
72	ULVS LTD PH	Keyless System	IK3600F	Panasonic Corporation, Thailand
73	ULVS LTD PH	Car Audio System	AT1607	Panasonic Corporation, Japan
74	ULVS LTD PH	Seat Back ECU	AT2002	Panasonic Corporation, Japan
75	Balton Tanzania Communications	Point-To-Multipoint Radio	RADWIN JET DUO 5.x/5.x GHz	RADWIN, Israel
76	Balton Tanzania Communications	Point To Point Radio	RADWIN 2000 Alpha	RADWIN, Israel
77	Wireless Approval Consultants	Body Control Module (BCM)	P005	Robert Bosch (Australia) Pty Ltd, Australia
78	Wireless Approval Consultants	Body Control Module (BCM)	P005R	Robert Bosch (Australia) Pty Ltd, Australia
79	Horizon Plus Compliance SARL	Radio-Navigation-System	AMVP32R0	Robert Bosch Car Multimedia GmbH, Germany
80	Samsung Electronics East Africa Ltd	Mobile Phone	SM-A207F	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd, South Korea
81	Samsung Electronics East Africa Ltd	Mobile Phone	SM-A307F	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd, South Korea
82	Samsung Electronics East Africa Ltd	Mobile Phone	SM-A107F	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd, South Korea
83	Samsung Electronics East Africa Ltd	Mobile Phone	SM-N970F	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd, South Korea
84	Samsung Electronics East Africa Ltd	Mobile Phone	SM-N975F	Samsung Electronics Co., Ltd, South Korea
85	Mohammed Enterprises Tanzania Limited	Fleet Telematics Device	MHub846-3	Scope Logistical Solutions (Pty) Ltd, South Africa
86	Mohammed Enterprises Tanzania Limited	Fleet Telematics Device	MHub855	Scope Logistical Solutions (Pty) Ltd, South Africa
87	Mohammed Enterprises Tanzania Limited	Fleet Telematics Device	MHub846-3-U	Scope Logistical Solutions (Pty) Ltd, South Africa
88	Synergy Technologies Limited	PoC radio	T292	Shenzhen Inrico Electronics Co. Ltd, China
89	Africa Media Group Limited	Encoder	MPEG-2/H.264 HD	Softsolmediatech Private Limited, India
90	Real time International (Pty) Ltd	Refrigerator-Freezer with WLAN	GC-X22FTQBL	Taizhou LG Electronics Refrigeration Co., Ltd, China
91	IB-Lenhardt AG	77 GHz CRN Radar Sensor	77V13CRN	Veoneer US, Inc., United States
92	Xinfeida Technology Limited	Mobile Phone	V2027	Vivo Mobiles Communication Limited, China
93	Xinfeida Technology Limited	Mobile Phone	V2026	Vivo Mobiles Communication Limited, China

Should you require further information, please do not hesitate to contact TCRA.

Issued by:

DIRECTOR GENERAL
Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA)
Mawasiliano Towers
20 Sam Nujoma Road
P.O.Box 474
14414 DAR ES SALAAM, TANZANIA
E-Mail: dg@tcra.go.tz
December 2020

Kongwa District Council reluctant to hand over Kiboriani mountain range

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

KONGWA District Council has expressed dissatisfaction with the proposal to hand over the Kiboriani mountain range in both Kongwa and Mpwapwa districts to the Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS).

Speaking at the recently concluded Regional Consultative Council (RCC) meeting in Dodoma, Kongwa district council chairperson, White Zuberi noted that the council would not rush into accepting the proposal made by TFS to acquire the mountain.

He said the authority wants to be sure of the decision since there are many challenges in areas acquired by the forest services agency. "We still witness people harvest trees for charcoal business, let TFS solve such problems before seeking new areas," he said.

For his part, Dodoma Regional Commissioner, Dr Binilith Mahenge said the decision to transfer ownership of mountain and forest reserves needs mutual agreement. He noted that there are many conflicts because of such measures, thus the need to have clear strategies before making decisions.

"There are many grazing lands for wananchi that are being nationalised, leaving animal keepers without grazing fields, and resort to invade the forest reserves", he said, adding that both TFS and Kongwa district council authorities have strong observation that can be solved through close discussions. Earlier, Forest Conservationist

from TFS, Yohanes Sanga said the Kiboriani mountain range measures 26,788.49 hectares surrounding Kongwa and Mpwapwa districts.

He said the mountain range is important for source of water and other needs for the surrounding villages in the two districts, noting that at least 27 water sources that flows to both Kongwa and Mpwapwa districts have been identified.

"Following the importance of the mountain, conservation efforts started since the colonial era though destructive activities have continued despite efforts by the council authorities that created various by-laws to address the problems," he said

He added that there is great need to change the conservation process so that a stronger organization is given the mandate.

According to Sanga, the mountain has a lot of importance to the neighbouring communities bearing in mind that it has sources of water, it has different ecological benefits including different species of trees.

He also argued that the forestation is suitable for bee keeping as well as the needful forestation for rare animal species that are at the verge of extinction.

TFS had appealed for the RCC to approve the request to acquire forest ranges of Kiborani, Irangi as well as bee conservation areas of Jongolo in Maganze area, Baaba in Songolo, Sanzawa in Lebbajumbe and that they be gazetted in the government gazette as areas under TFS.



Tanzanite billionaire Saniniu Laizer talks at the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Tanzania fundraiser event at Mimerani, Manyara Region over the weekend. Right is Simanjiro constituency MP Christopher Ole Sendeka. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Villagers travel 20 kms for medical service to avoid high consulting fees

By Guardian Correspondent, Ngara

NGARA District residents in Kagera Region are forced to travel 20 kms to seek health services from nearby dispensaries in order to avoid paying 5,000/- to consult a doctor.

The most affected are Murusagamba villagers who travel to Kakonko District in Kigoma Region to seek health services at a government dispensary while paying only 1,000/- to consult a doctor. The outcry was aired by the villagers to Ngara Member of Parliament in Kagera Region Ndaisaba Ruhoro, saying they were being charged 5,000/- to see a doctor at Murusagamba health centre.

The ward is located near the Tanzania/Burundi border and the villagers have appealed to their MP to refer their complaints to the government.

Speaking at a public rally at the village, they said they do not get health services despite being insured in the Community Health Fund (CHF).

Juma Issa, Murusagamba villager said despite the health centre, they were forced to travel to neighbouring Kakonko District for medical treatment to avoid being charged 5,000/- as doctor's consulting fee.

"Recently one pregnant woman died while at our health centre for lack of treatment, consulting fees are high, compared with 1,000/- charged at Nyamtukuzi health centre in Kakonko District," he said

Responding to the complaints, Ngara district medical officer Dr Revocatus Ndyekobora confirmed the death of the pregnant mother due to lack of treatment at Murusagamba health centre and that he already dispatched a team to investigate the matter.

However, he refuted claims that the health centres had no drugs and that from their own decisions the villagers prefer to travel long distances to seek medical treatment.

Meanwhile, MP Ruhoro faulted some of Ntanga villagers in the Ward for sabotaging water projects by placing boulders at water sources.

He said the village had a water supply project that cost 312m/- but had operated only for a short time after some residents placed boulders inside the water well.



Tanzania Saemaaul Undong (Kijiji kipya) coordinator Henry Mwambo shows a certificate after their group had been registered to cooperate with South Korea under which they will send various production groups and government officials to learn development opportunities with all expenses to be funded by government of South Korea. With him is group secretary in Dodoma Region Christopher Dioniz. Photo: Correspondent Paul Mabeja

Waitara gives Geita authorities two weeks to audit substandard solid waste dump project

By Guardian Reporter

DEPUTY Minister in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment), Mwita Waitara has given two weeks to the Geita Regional Office to audit the solid waste dump project located in Usindakwi area in Geita which is constructed below the standard contrary to actual cost.

Waitara issued the directive yesterday when he made a visit to the project site located in Geita Town Council which has cost more than 1 billion/- while it has not yet been completed or handed over to the Town Council.

He said the government will not tolerate those who obstruct projects and cause losses while ordering that the contractor be sought and returned to the area to complete the project.

The deputy minister directed Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) for Geita to conduct auditing in two weeks to find who is responsible for such an unlawful act.

Earlier in his statement on the project, Geita Town Environmental Officer, Albert Kashaga said there were shortcomings in the construction of one monitoring well instead of three contrary to the contract.

He mentioned other shortcomings were the lack of dumping machines or low scales for measuring the weight of incoming vehicles to transport and dispose of waste.

During the visit, the Deputy Minister also visited the Geita Gold Mine (GGM) and expressed satisfaction with the environmental and hazardous waste management measures followed at the mine.

"This is a mine that adheres to the government's guidelines on the whole issue of environmental protection. I am satisfied, I have seen your plan for rehabilitation

(restoring damaged land and planting trees) in accordance with the guidelines," he said.

In addition, when he visited the two gold refineries in Geita, Waitara urged the stakeholders to adhere to environmental law at all times without waiting to be visited by officials.

He warned about air leaks after the refining process and instructed experts to investigate the effects on the environment, humans, and animals.

"We are not sure what are the effects of air coming from above due to it being in close proximity with human settlements so I direct NEMC (National Environmental Management Council) to make surprise visits to identify gaps," he said.

Deputy Minister Waitara is on a visit to Geita region to educate the public about the government's efforts to protect the environment, promote sanitation, tree planting as well as to monitor compliance with the Environmental Management Act of 2004.



We are not sure what are the effects of air coming from above due to it being in close proximity with human settlements so I direct NEMC (National Environmental Management Council) to make surprise visits to identify gaps

Z'bar govt vows to revoke unfaithful traders licenses

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdulla has warned traders who have been importing substandard or fake products in the Island to stop immediately as the government will not hesitate to revoke their licenses.

In his impromptu visit at the Malindi Port, Hemed found two containers loaded with rotten rice which was imported by a trader named Sulkeiman Abdulla. The containers arrived at the port in March, 2019.

He issued three days for the authorities to ensure that the rice is removed at the port by adhering

to all health procedures as per the law.

Hemed said the government has always been impounding and destroying goods which do not comply with relevant standards so as to safeguard people's health and the country's revenues.

"The government is not prepared to see its citizens continue to consume expired food products, so we will continue taking stern measures to ensure that we fight this challenge and keep our people safe," he said.

According to him, there are many honest businessmen in and outside Zanzibar who are fighting for the opportunity of importing products in the Isles, so those who

have secured the business should uphold required standards.

The deputy Vice President wanted leaders of the Zanzibar Ports Corporation (ZPC) to work in team while executing their daily duties so as to bring required outcomes including increasing collections.

Earlier, the director of food safety control at the Zanzibar Food and Drugs Agency (ZFDA), Dr Khamis Ali Omar said the two containers entered Zanzibar in March last year from Pakistan.

According to him, the agency conducted required inspection and found the rice was expired and unfit for human consumption and directed the trader to send

back the rice to where it came from. "Despite directives from various authorities, the trader has refused to take out the rice; this is a challenge to majority of traders," he said.

He further added there are some traders who engage themselves in fraud by changing the labels on the packages of expired goods with new labels and packages, the practice that threaten the lives of consumers.

Workers at the ZPC said that the irregularities in various ports in the Isles are being contributed with several factors including arrears of their overtime pay which workers are required to be paid as per law.

Tourism agencies must reinforce competition for tourists to return

CHICKEN are coming home to roost in the country's tourist attraction strategies and policies, with the discovery that over 80 percent of all foreign tourists coming to Tanzania don't feel the need to return for repeated experience. Such a situation implies that tourism agencies are compelled to rely on scouting for new visitors each year, a rather difficult task contributing to insufficient numbers of tourists annually. It also means that this problem will have to be resolved so that existing tourists' visits targets are feasible.

This admission was made by none other than Dr Aloyce Nzuki, the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, before an audience of media practitioners early this week, underlining that there is need to find out why only 20 percent of tourists visiting the country return for another take.

He said that the ministry and agencies working under it must seriously work to find out why most tourists do not want to come back, after sampling our tourist attractions. Is it just what tourism is about, for once?

What the permanent secretary appeared to say what that this situation is not typical for tourism as a whole, and indeed there are numerous stories of people travelling to some places say during the torrid month of August (for many European countries). Such travels become part of their lives, as their preferred tourist places become a sort of second home, for instance the way catwalk queen Naomi Campbell of the UK, who has Jamaican heritage, used to come for holidays in Kenya each year, for decades. That is what it is supposed to be, by building

effective bonds with those who visit the country, not coming just once.

Tanzania was already getting up to 1.5m tourists in the last year or so before the COVID-19 pandemic, which implies that even by what the permanent secretary said was attracting tourists by 'word of mouth' it would still have been quite effective. But as he said, this base needs to be deepened by creating the right conditions for tourists to come back, as the more they tend to return, the bigger the number of tourists we shall be getting annually. When they don't return, incremental increase by scouting for new tourists shall clearly be a hard task for the ministry and tourism agencies; that is why it is a fairly disturbing discovery.

The media personnel at the meeting had some suggestions to make, for instance the idea that the ministry needs to overhaul the hospitality industry, especially service providers at airports, ground handlers, restaurants, hotels, lodges and other areas of accommodation coming into direct contact with tourists. It is unlikely that this view was shared by other participants, especially the key service providers in major conservation areas like the Ngorongoro Conservation Area. The commissioner expressed other worries for instance population increase, human wildlife conflicts and maintaining corridors, calling for change.

Chances that an internal dialogue between conservation authorities and the ministry will yield much are limited. The ministry ought to study what happens in competing countries and in what manner they may have an edge in eliciting the loyalty of tourists to return several times in a decade.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

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



The social evil called 'instant justice'



By James Kofi Annan

We must implement current five year plan goals to tackle malnutrition and stunting

STUNTED growth is a reduced growth rate in human development. It is a primary manifestation of malnutrition (or more precisely undernutrition) and recurrent infections, such as diarrhea and helminthiasis, in early childhood and even before birth, due to malnutrition during fetal development brought on by a malnourished mother. The definition of stunting according to the World Health Organization (WHO) is for the height for age value to be less than two standard deviations of the WHO Child Growth Standards median.

As of 2012 an estimated 162 million children under 5 years of age, or 25 per cent, were stunted. More than 90 per cent of the world's stunted children live in Africa and Asia, where respectively 36 per cent and 56 per cent of children are affected. Once established, stunting and its effects typically become permanent. Stunted children may never regain the height lost as a result of stunting, and most children will never gain the corresponding body weight. Living in an environment where many people defecate in the open due to lack of sanitation, is an important cause of stunted growth in children, for example in India.

In Tanzania stunting has gone down from 42 per cent in 2010 to 32 per cent in 2018 while thinness dropped from 3.8 per cent in 2014 to 3.5 per cent in 2018, prevalence levels that are still well below

the goals set by the World Health Organisation (WHO), official statistics indicate.

Dr Honest Kessy the Director of Food Security in the Ministry of Agriculture made this observation recently in Dodoma when officiating a meeting of the task force for nutrition issues in the sector. He said that in addition to efforts by the ministry, there is need for stakeholders to work with the government in coordinating action to reduce malnutrition levels to lower stunting levels and thinness to five per cent as per WHO targets.

He said it is possible to reduce prevalence levels further, where it is vital to increase understanding of the problem and to extend education efforts on the community on how to change their dietary habits in particular, especially what kinds of food young children are fed with.

A Mid Term Review on Nutrition conducted in 2019 showed that maize production had increased owing to a great push by the government, but production of other crops and poor eating habits led to poor results in stunting and thinness, he stated.

Regions leading in maize production have also scored highly in the prevalence of stunting, on account of the habit of equating maize meal with food, leaving other things to chance, hence stunting levels are high in Njombe (53.6); Rukwa (47.9); Iringa (47.1); Songwe (43.3); Ruvuma (41) and Kigoma (42.3), which are also highly rated in maize production.

FROM time immemorial, mob justice or 'instant justice' has been a common practice of punishing crime suspects in Ghana. In spite of concerted efforts aimed at promoting human rights worldwide, this inhumane act is still prevalent in most developing countries.

Admittedly, the spate of mob action leaves much to be desired as far as our democracy, human rights, and the rule of law are concerned. Not a single week passes without incidence of mob justice making the headlines in the media.

Mob justice, popularly referred to as instant justice, is when ordinary citizens take the law into their own hands to punish alleged criminals. This is an unlawful process of punishing suspects, and a violation of their fundamental human rights and dignity.

The modus operandi of 'street justice' can take the form of flogging or hacking suspects to death, slashing, lynching, and stoning. Sometimes female suspects are stripped publicly, pounding victims with bricks, setting people ablaze, and many more.

Quite recently, a 16-year-old boy was brutally tortured by a group of soldiers in the Northern Region. The victim, Christopher Bama, was accused of stealing a mobile phone belonging to one of the soldiers.

Subsequently, the soldiers chained the helpless boy to a mango tree and assaulted him ruthlessly until he fell unconscious. The action of the security personnel was unfortunate, and must be condemned in all uncertain

terms.

Causes

Instant justice has gained grounds in the Ghanaian society as a result of lack of confidence in the police and the judiciary. It is unimaginable that majority of the citizenry including well-informed persons encourage such disheartening act.

Few weeks ago, I chanced upon a horrifying video about the incidence of mob action on social media. In that amateur footage, two young men were subjected to severe beatings by an aggressive mob for allegedly stealing electric wires and car batteries in Tema.

The bloody scene was so disgusting! The crowd repeatedly struck the suspects with their bare hands, clubs, bathroom slippers and all kinds of objects. I overheard the voice of a woman urging the charged mob to carry on with the beatings.

The video caught the attention of many. Of the total 1,215 people who watched footage, more than 500 posted their comments on Facebook. However, most of the comments went in favour of instant justice with just a few condemning the act.

One Jasmine recounted how her cousin was killed in 2014 through mob action when he went out to see his girlfriend off. Unfortunately, he was mistaken for a suspected thief on the run, so the crowd lynched him on the spot.

Actually, there have been several instances where innocent people lost their lives as a result of mistaken identity. During such circumstances, suspects are not given any chance to speak or explain themselves.

Another factor that accounts for mob justice is the excessive

delay in justice delivery and the purported corruption among the elements of the Criminal Administrative System. After all 'Justice delayed is justice denied. Inasmuch as the perpetrators of mob justice go unpunished, this gruesome practice is not likely cease in our communities.

Abuse of rights

The 1992 Constitution of Ghana guarantees that the dignity of all persons shall be inviolable, and that no one shall be subjected to torture or other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights also admonishes the right to a fair trial, and the right to stand innocent of a crime until proven guilty.

Regrettably, the rights and freedoms of alleged criminals have, for too long, been trampled upon with impunity in Ghana. The enthusiasm to opt for instant justice is widely practiced across the country.

Mob action is as an affront to humanity, and must be condemned vehemently. This deadly practice is inhumane and intolerable in a democratic country like Ghana. The fundamental human right of every Ghanaian must be respected.

The rule of law The escalating cases of mob justice in Ghana are alarming. This is a sign of moral decadence which exposes some weaknesses in the rule of law and the Criminal Justice System.

The recent exposé of investigative journalist, Anas Aremeyaw Anas, on corruption in the judiciary is not a case in isolation.

Mob action affects the laid down process of punishment for criminal offences, since the rule of

law is not strictly adhered to and sometimes compromised.

The Code of Criminal Procedure spells out specific punishment for every offence, but this is sometimes compromised by corrupt officers.

For instance, in January 2015, a suspect was set ablaze for allegedly stealing a wallet in Accra. Of course, the punishment was too harsh for this minor offence. Street justice is a criminal method of punishing suspects.

It is a fact that the practice of mob justice has not reduced crime rate in any way. This has rather toughened most criminals who operate with the 'do-and-die' mentality; raping and killing their victims without any provocation.

The culture of social justice on the spot must cease in order for the rule of law to take its full course.

Public education

The Human Rights and Administrative Justice (CHRAJ) should treat mob justice with the urgency it deserves by teaming up with the National Commission for Civic Education (NCCE) and educate the public to refrain from this unlawful act.

The fight against instant justice should not be left to CHRAJ alone. It is, therefore, incumbent on the security agencies, human rights' activists, journalists, religious leaders, traditional leaders, and opinion leaders to play advocacy roles for fair justice.

In the 21st Century, the menace of instant justice is unjustified in Ghana, which is reputed as a beacon of democracy in Africa. This appalling act has negative implications on the image of Ghana.

Anyone found culpable of the crime should be prosecuted to serve as deterrent to others.

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

EWURA eyes to become world-class regulator for sustainable energy, water services

The Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) has contributed to the country's economic development by ensuring quality and availability of water and sanitation services through enhanced regulatory interventions.

Following that, it has unveiled its five years Rolling Strategic and Operational Plan (RSOP) from 2020/2021 to 2024/2025.

According to RSOP Report, its purpose is to implement EWURA's Strategic Perspective Plan (SPP) for 2019/20 - 2033/34.

The RSOP articulates the Authority's Vision, Mission, Strategic Objectives, Targets and Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). It similarly, presents the main strategic and operational activities of the Authority for the five-year period.

Being a rolling plan, it is subject to annual reviews and updating to make it more responsive to changes in the operating environment.

The RSOP is guided by the following vision of the Authority: To be a World Class Regulator for Sustainable Energy and Water Services.

In order to be a world-class regulator for sustainable energy and water services, the following are the basis of selecting KPIs: ISO 9001:2015 standards certification maintained; competent and motivated professional staff, applying best regulatory practices; leveraging of modern technology for enhanced operations and services.

Others are substantial regulatory contribution to improved quality, availability and affordability of energy and water services.

Its five-years plan is aligned with key national development frameworks, particularly, the Tanzania Development Vision 2025, the Ruling Party Manifesto of 2015 -2020 and the Second National Five-Year Development Plan (2016/17 - 2020/21) which



RSOP embraces comprehensive programming and organisational development towards supporting the government's efforts to enhance inclusive and competitive economic development... (File photo).

aims at transforming the economy into an industrial middle-income economy, characterised by accelerated and inclusive growth and poverty alleviation.

The RSOP is also aligned with key International Development Frameworks mainly the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and African Union Agenda 2063.

The RSOP aims to enable the authority to effectively and efficiently discharge its functions under the EWURA Act, Cap. 414; the Petroleum Act, Cap. 392; Electricity Act, Cap. 131; Water Supply and Sanitation Act, Cap. 272; Fair Competition Act, Cap. 285; and the Finance Act.

Overall, the RSOP embraces comprehensive programming and organisational development towards supporting the government's efforts to enhance inclusive and competitive economic development through world-class economic and technical regulation of the energy (electricity, down and mid-stream petroleum, natural gas) and water sectors.

Purpose of the RSOP is to implement EWURA's fifteen (15) years Strategic Perspective Plan (SPP) for 2019/20 - 2033/34.

Thus, the RSOP articulates the Authority's vision, mission, strategic objectives, targets and key performance indicators (KPIs) for 2020/21 - 2024/25.

It likewise presents the main strategic and operational activities of the Authority for the five-year period. EWURA operates in an environment characterised by fast and dynamic complexities - with static strategic plans becoming obsolete rather quickly.

As such, the Authority has adopted adaptive management style, supported by rolling strategic plans. The RSOP will be revised and updated towards the end of each of the first four years.

It should be noted that at the end of each of the first four years, only moderate reviews will be done with a major and in-depth review during the fifth year. While rolling the plan, experience of the outgoing year and new requirements for the second through sixth year will be considered.

The rolling process requires to be informed by performance review/assessment of each outgoing year of the RSOP and rapid environmental scan conducted towards the end of the same year.

According to EWURA, during the five-year period, 2020/21 - 2024/25, the authority through the RSOP will pursue the following six (6) strategic objectives (SOs): Interventions against HIV/AIDS and Non Communicable Diseases enhanced; implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy enhanced; quality, availability and affordability of regulated services improved.

Others are public knowledge, awareness and understanding of the regulatory functions in the regulated sectors enhanced; EWURA Legal and Regulatory Environment Improved; EWURA functions effectively and efficiently managed.

The RSOP has translated each strategic objective into key strategies, output targets, performance Indicators (KPIs) and strategic as well as operational activities.

Accordingly, two detailed implementation activity schedules

have been presented in the RSOP: Rolling Strategic Plan Matrix ...

The Results Framework is presented to facilitate the monitoring and evaluation of the RSOP. It presents the main expected results, monitoring plan, reviews, and evaluation and reporting arrangements.

This will allow timely identification of implementation challenges and hence facilitate remedial measures in goodtime during implementation.

It will also facilitate the evaluation of the RSOP to ascertain the extent to which the set objectives are being realised, as well as address other issues involved in the evaluation of the RSOP.

The Second National Five-Year Development Plan: 2016-2021 "Nurturing Industrialisation for Economic Transformation and Human Development", targets to improve electricity connections from 36 percent in 2015 to 60 percent of the population in 2020.

For the water sector, it is planned to increase access to water services in Dar es Salaam from 68 per cent in 2015 to 95 per cent in 2020, from 86 per cent in 2015 to 95 per cent in 2020 for Regional Centres and from 57 per cent in 2015 to 95 per cent in 2020 in district capitals, townships and national project areas.

The country also aspires to promote access in the petroleum and natural gas sub-sectors by ensuring sustainability and safety of petroleum products and natural gas supply through quality infrastructures.

During the years of its existence, EWURA has made tremendous efforts to inform and educate key stakeholders and the public on the regulator's roles and functions.

Given that, awareness creation is a continuous process, during the period of the current RSP, EWURA will strive to develop and implement a proactive information, education and communication (IEC) programme, which should cover all key stakeholders including politicians, senior government officials, and the rural population.

The Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) was established by an Act of Parliament, the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority Act, Cap. 414, as a multi-sectoral regulatory authority responsible for technical and economic regulation of energy (electricity, natural gas, down and mid-stream petroleum) and water sectors in Mainland Tanzania.



TAARIFA KWA WAPANGAJI WA NYUMBA ZA NHC WANAODAIWA KODI NA MALIMBIKIZO

1. Shirika la Nyumba la Taifa linawashukuru wapangaji wake walioweza kulipa kodi na malimbikizo yao baada ya kupewa notisi ya siku kumi na nne (14) ya kulipa kodi na malimbikizo wanayodaiwa. Aidha, wapo wapangaji wachache ambao bado wanadaiwa kodi na malimbikizo hadi sasa.
2. Kwamara nyingine, Shirika linatoa siku thelathini(30) kwa wapangaji wanaodaiwa kodi na malimbikizo kufika katika ofisi za Shirika zilizo karibu nao ili kulipa kodi na malimbikizo wanayodaiwa.
3. Shirika linawashauri wapangaji wote kutumia fursa hii kulipa madeni yao na baada ya muda huu uliowekwa kukamilika, Shirika litatumia taratibu za kisheria kukusanya kodi na malimbikizo yanayodaiwa wapangaji ikiwemo kukamata na kupiga mnada mali za wapangaji ili kufidia kodi na malimbikizo yanayodaiwa. Aidha, baada ya muda huu kupita, Shirika halitasita kutangaza kwenye vyombo vya habari majina ya wadaiwa wote sugu ili umma ufahamu watu wanaokwamisha maendeleo ya Shirika na Taifa kwa kutokulipa kodi.
4. Tunashukuru wapangaji wote wanaotimiza wajibu wao wa kulipa kodi kwa wakati na kuliwezesha Shirika na Taifa kuwaletea maendeleo watanzania kwenye sekta ya nyumba.

IMETOLEWA NA: OFISI YA MAWASILIANO NA HUDUMA KWA JAMII NHC-MAKAO MAKUU

SHIRIKA LA NYUMBA LA TAIFA
 MAKAO MAKUU S.L.P 2977 | DAR ES SALAAM TANZANIA | SIMU: +255 22 2105001-5 | NUKUSHI: +255 22 2105000
 BARUA PEPE: dg@nhctz.com | TOVUTI: www.nhctz.com

Grinch of the Year: Coronavirus - Oh, the places I've been!

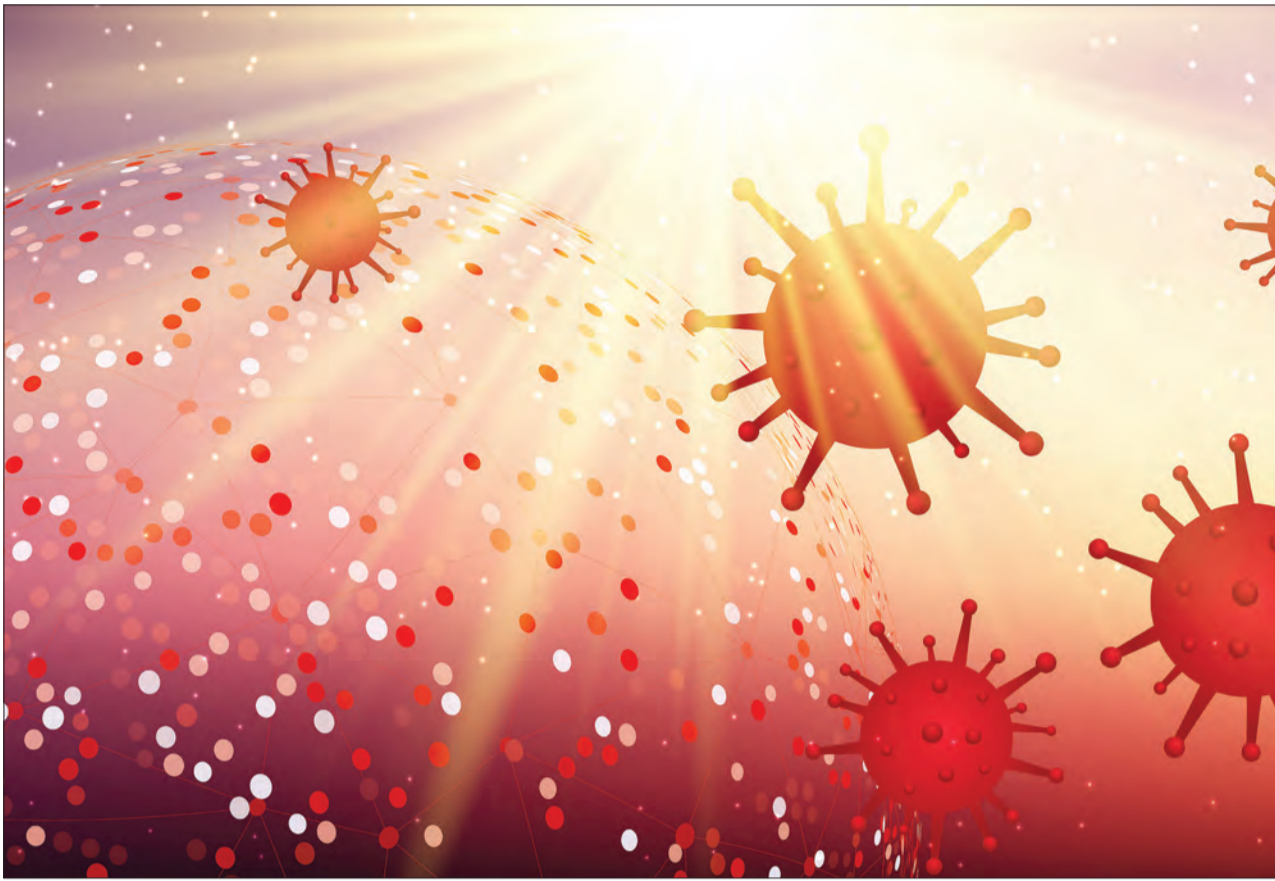
By Here Tic

I, the virus, hate the world, and the whole Christmas season. Now please don't ask why. I don't quite know the reason. As I growl with my Grinch fingers nervously drumming, I know I must find some way to keep Christmas from coming! (With apologies to Dr Seuss.)

Every apex predator on Planet Screwville likes festivals celebrating imaginary friends and ancient fantasies a lot. I, the Grinch who by stealth has invaded every inch of Screwville, do NOT!

Want to know the reason? Could it be that virgin births, the big bang theory set in the Garden of Eden, the angels' defeat of demons or all manner of celestial revelations are soooo last season?

Nope, it is just that I cannot comprehend the piped sounds of muzak by minstrels who save face by hiding behind noms de plume like Boney M, while throngs of Screw women and men dash about, desperate and surly, with shopping trolleys filled with champagne, fruitcakes, panettone, gammon and turkey. Nor do I grasp how it came to pass that even when only a few still believe in them, imaginary friends benefit from sacrifices that involve the slaughter of beasts ... feathered, clawed, webbed or four-footed, cloven-hooved or blessed by priests. And at mass orgies of pudding and beast feasting, the Screws, young and old, stuff themselves till they're excreting. No animal is spared their voracious appetite. Chickens, goats, cows, sheep, crocodiles, buffalo, sturgeon egg roe, fattened liver from force-fed geese,



bats and the long-snouted, scaly ant-eating pangolin meat. It was a direct result of this voracious greed that I came to be, hopping from bat to pangolin, to Screw in a jiffy. Being light and aerodynamic I pretty niftily flew with every cough, aaa-choo! or verbal hullabaloo in every Tower of Babel tongue they spew. It was easy to crash-land and enter Screws of every hue, nationality or magical view. And here I am. With no army. No nuclear warheads. Everywhere. I occupy the Whole Planet Screwville.

Indiscriminately. What can I say? Liberté. Fraternité. Égalité. That's me.

I can never understand how imaginary friends on Planet Screwville are seasonally worshipped, while fellow Screws are treated like slaves and servants, divided into nations north, south, east and west, outdoing each other to see who would be best at screwing over the rest.

I have seen how, driven by the need to be seen to succeed and for that weird construct of ego to feed, feed, feed, they rip out

the trees from the forests, choke the air they breathe and the life that once teemed in the sea, recklessly denuding the Earth of every nutrient and seed.

Just like the Once-ler who chopped down the Truffula trees and smogged away the Barbaloos and Swans of Swomee because "business is business and business must grow", the upper echelons of Screws in Screwville accumulate more and more and more, destroying all in their path to prop up their culture of an elite few haves,

multitudes of poor and score upon scores of the middle class battling to keep the debt collectors from bashing down their doors.

The folly of this inequality eludes those who worship at the altar of individuality, mass-producing junk to fuel an economy that only a few feeds, while the planet that sustains them all is left to bleed.

Never before in the history of Screwville has avarice and myopia seen such a revival. One of their philosophers once did attest that religion is an opiate, but I guess he could not predict that Screwville would regress even further with the Holy Books rich with lyricism, allegory and virtue being replaced by anodyne Twitter, WhatsApp group hysteria, selfies and fake news on social media.

This is something I like least of all. Every Screw in Screwville, the tall and the small, has stopped having casual conversations while they sit on top of each other at restaurants in the mall. Instead they stare at their smartphone screens, vicariously sharing in someone else's dull life and memes. Then they text and text and text till their fingers fall. They stare at the small screen! They stare, stare, stare. Totally unaware that I am there. They touch their faces, let their masks hang under their noses. They don't wash their hands. Just one Screw coughs. And exposes. Seventy-two million cases across the globe. More than a

million deaths, I'm told.

Prophets with mass followers on YouTube say I am a conspiracy theory. A hoax invented by Big Pharma to prey on the unheedy. Others with an excess of magical reality belief in their bones think vaccines invented to flush me out are the mark of the devil in tomes.

The thing is, Dear Judges, Dear Karens and Dear Friars Tuck, I don't give a fuck. You Screws are screwed by your inflated sense of your Apex Predator longevity and your antiquated superstitious interpretations of reality.

Call me what you like. I am not the Grim Reaper or a Demontor from JK Rowling's imagination, who suck the joy out of life as an occupation.

I don't give a damn about whether you are a wizard scar face or a patsy, whether you drive a Porsche or catch a taxi. I am not your imaginary friend or fantasy. I am a virus. And unlike the Grinch from Dr Seuss's book, for now and the near future I have no uplifting hook. I have no small heart to grow three sizes one day. And I am not going to whizz through the night with a load of heavenly delights. Nor will I bring back your Christmas, Diwali, Ramadan, Rosh Hashanah or Chinese New Year cheer in the early morning light. It's YOUR hearts and minds that need to grow and grow. Because I won't go until you do so.

AGENCIES

ABUJA

Recently, Meghan Markle, the Duchess of Sussex, wrote a piece sharing about her miscarriage. I knew, as I clutched my firstborn child, that I was losing my second, she wrote. She is part of a growing list of celebrities who have publicly shared their experiences with miscarriages.

Model Chrissy Teigen also recently shared the pain she and her husband singer John Legend felt about the miscarriage of her third pregnancy. While celebrities may make news for sharing their personal grief, they are not alone in experiencing it.

Miscarriage is the most common reason for losing a baby during pregnancy. It happens for up to 15% of women who knew they were pregnant. According to World Health Organization, a baby who dies before 28 weeks of pregnancy is referred to as a miscarriage, and babies who die at or after 28 weeks are stillbirths. Most miscarriages are due to chromosomal anomalies. The risk of miscarriages increases with age.

No matter when it occurs, however, nor how old the pregnant woman is, a miscarriage exerts huge mental stress on the women and their families.

"This is one part many women who have gone through loss are never asked or speak of. Reading hers, I remember mine. We all just learn to live with it. If I will ever write a book, I will of mine"

When I tweeted about Markle's piece, Abuja-based Martha Ngodoo responded to my tweet - "This is one part many women who have gone through loss are never asked or speak of. Reading hers, I remember mine. We all just learn to live with it. If I will ever write a book, I will of mine".

After reading Ngodoo's tweet, I was compelled to reach out and hear her story. She said she experienced both miscarriage and stillbirth. She is now a 40-year-old mother of three.

Her first experience was a stillbirth that happened 16 years ago during her first pregnancy when she was 24 years old. This was a case of a poorly managed preeclampsia (high blood pressure in pregnancy). She went into labor and was rushed to the hospital. She was in labour for 72 hours. The medical team

Women need support and understanding after miscarriage



Miscarriage is the most common reason for losing a baby during pregnancy. It happens for up to 15% of women who knew they were pregnant. File photo

tried to induce labour using oxytocin but was unsuccessful. Her dead baby was eventually pulled out by hand in an assisted delivery.

Her second experience was a miscarriage which happened five years after. She was aged 29 years then and the miscarriage took place at her twenty-second week in pregnancy. She had a fever during this pregnancy. One night, she woke up with the urge to urinate. When she at-

tempted, her baby came out in bits. She was then rushed to the hospital and the baby was completely expelled. It was a horrible experience, she said.

Both experiences made Ngodoo wonder what she had done to deserve such pain, twice. Though her husband was very supportive, she was worried about giving him dead babies from her pregnancies. Some cultural beliefs made this more diffi-

cult. Her husband suggested they move into his parent's home so she could get additional support. However, this turned out to be very unhelpful. For instance, her father-in-law wanted her to continue life as if nothing happened after the stillbirth.

Ngodoo is stronger now and after many years and three successful pregnancies, she is able to talk about her experiences without feeling sad. When I asked her what

she recommended for helping women deal with the pain of miscarriages and stillbirth, she shared three suggestions.

First, don't tell a woman that it is "okay" when she loses a pregnancy and dismiss what she's been through. Women undergo physical and psychological changes during pregnancy. They develop deep attachments to their unborn babies and losing one is painful. It is okay for a woman who has lost a

pregnancy not to feel okay.

Fourteen years after, Ngodoo still wonders what her daughter would be like now if the pregnancy did not end in a stillbirth. She still does not know where her daughter was buried. These are thoughts that still plague her mind, even though she is not as devastated as she once was. She has learnt that talking about such experiences allows victims to exhale and then allow the healing process to begin.

Second, women that lose pregnancies need mental health support. Ngodoo wants more women to receive the kind of mental health support that would enable them to speak about their experiences. A way to achieve this is through training counsellors to lead support groups for victims.

These support groups could be at communities, health facilities or embedded within professional associations. There are lessons from the UK-based Miscarriage Association. The association has a network of support volunteers, who have been through the experience of pregnancy loss themselves and can offer real understanding and a listening ear. This is done physically or virtually, through Zoom meetings.

Third, families of victims of miscarriage should be safe havens, especially when others may not have even known about the pregnancy, let alone the loss. Sadly, this is not always the case.

Ngodoo lived with her in-laws (in the family house) after her wedding. She feels her in-laws should have understood her loss better and not attempted to get her to resume normal activities immediately. She wishes visitors to the house wouldn't have told her that she should carry on with her life because she is not the first woman to lose a pregnancy.

Ngodoo is now a mother to a daughter and two sons. Her daughter is 7 years old and her sons are 13 years and 10 years respectively. She describes her two sons as rainbow babies - born immediately after miscarriages. They are the sunshine that we are blessed with after a loss, she said.

With support, women can begin to heal after miscarriage. When women feel strong enough to share their miscarriage stories, it inspires others. The Duchess of Sussex is inspiring women by sharing her story. This should be the norm.

AGENCIES

Tractors can change farming in good ways and bad: Lessons from four African states

By Special Correspondent

AGRICULTURAL mechanisation is on the rise in Africa, replacing hand hoes and animal traction across the continent.

While around 80-90% of all farmers still rely on manual labour or draught animals, this is changing, driven by falling machinery prices and rising rural wages. During the last couple of years, tractor sales grew by around 10% annually.

A look at the history of today's mechanised countries shows that a widespread replacement of manual labour with mechanical power can have large socioeconomic and environmental implications.

In our latest study, we explored how mechanisation could change the face of African farming and rural areas. It's important to ensure that mechanisation can be accompanied by policies that harness its potential and minimise potential negative effects.

To understand the effects of mechanisation, we collected data in 87 villages in Benin, Nigeria, Mali and Kenya. These villages were chosen as examples because they've already experience mechanisation. We conducted 129 focus group discussions with 1,330 rural residents. They identified various ways that mechanisation affected farming, rural life and nature.

The insights from the 87 villages revealed the great transformative power of agricultural mechanisation. Mechanisation can reduce work burden, raise prosperity and enhance diets. But there are also challenges such as soil erosion, deforestation and women's access to tractor services.

Identifying these challenges provides an opportunity to prevent them from arising, through agricultural research and appropriate policy action.

Our study focused on the use of tractors for land preparation as this was the most commonly mechanised activity across the case study countries. Preparing land is labour-intensive and is usually the first



activity to be mechanised. Participants were asked to mention positive changes directly related to mechanisation. They then identified subsequent changes. What they told us formed a picture of a chain of impacts.

Overall, we found that mechanisation has more far-reaching agronomic, environmental and socioeconomic consequences than commonly assumed.

On the upside, it frees men, women and children from heavy agricultural

work. This gives them time to do other things, like running non-agricultural businesses or going to school.

Mechanisation also helps to overcome labour bottlenecks, a well-recognised constraint to rain-fed agriculture. This allows people to cultivate more land, as 61% of the respondents reported. In Mali, one farmer said:

Using a tractor also improves the timeliness of agriculture. Farm activities can be completed at the

optimal time, which raises yields. This was noted by 72% of all respondents. The overall increase in agricultural production contributes to enhancing food security and reducing poverty.

On the other hand, 58% of the respondents noted that mechanisation can undermine long-term soil fertility, in particular when the disc plough is used. They said the use of heavy tractors can trigger soil erosion and compaction. In Benin, one

farmer reported:

Another concern is deforestation. Cultivating more land can mean losing trees on a large scale. Even clearing trees from fields so that tractors can operate there reduces biodiversity and makes the soil more susceptible to rain and wind erosion. In Mali, one farmer reported:

Some effects are highly context-specific, such as employment effects. In Benin, where mechanisation was associated with area

expansion, this greatly raised the demand for labour to carry out the non-mechanised parts of farming. Here, no unemployment effects were reported, confirming a pattern from countries such as Zambia.

In Nigeria, where fewer farmers expanded land sizes, 48% reported job losses. Employment effects can be non-direct as well. Many rural residents reported that the rising prosperity of farmers due to mechanisation leads to positive spill-overs to non-farmers such as blacksmiths, carpenters and hairdressers.

As with most new technologies, mechanisation has benefits for some but not for others. While other studies have found that smallholder farmers have less access to mechanisation, this was only mentioned by 15% of the respondents. But mechanisation is less accessible for women compared to men. This was reported in all countries but it varied: 71% of women in Mali shared this perception but only 5% of women in Benin.

Most negative effects are not inherent to farm mechanisation and can be addressed with complementary agronomic practices and adequate policies. Soil erosion can be reduced with conservation agriculture, which protects soils by replacing heavy disc ploughs with less soil-disturbing rippers or direct seeders and continuous soil covers.

Deforestation can be minimised with careful land-use planning, for example, by protecting land that is particularly valuable for climate change mitigation, biodiversity, and wildlife.

Entry points to ensure that women benefit from mechanisation may comprise campaigns showing women role models using tractors, supporting women's mechanisation groups and developing knowledge and skills.

With the right policies, countries can harness the potential of mechanisation and manage challenges. This can ensure that mechanisation contributes to an African agricultural transformation that is sustainable from a social, economic, and environmental perspective.

China's poverty reduction offers lessons for Africa

By Adhere Cavinche

CHINA has declared victory over extreme poverty following painstaking implementation of carefully designed decades-long poverty reduction programs. China now holds the record as the country with the most consequential feat against penury, having lifted more than 800 million people out of poverty.

This success has not only earned Beijing admiration from around the world, but is also a powerful example of what is possible when government and people work together on a specific vision.

In many ways, China is an inspiration to the African continent as far as poverty reduction is concerned. Africa is home to the largest number of developing economies, while China is now the largest developing economy, aiming for moderately prosperous status.

With more than 30 percent of Africans still living in extreme poverty-constituting over 70 percent of the world's poor-it is not hard to understand why China's enviable milestones in poverty reduction continue to resonate with governments and citizens in Africa.

For instance, much work on eliminating poverty from the face of the Earth should be actualized in Africa to realize the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. If nothing is done differently, the World Bank estimates that up to 90 percent of global poverty will be on the continent by 2030. This is worrisome, because the year 2030 is also the UN's deadline for eliminating poverty in all forms.

China's poverty reduction in rural areas, anchored on agriculture modernization, offers good insights for Africa's socioeconomic transformation. Since



the founding of the People's Republic of China, the nation's agriculture has undergone a series of improvements spanning land reforms, agricultural co-operatives and marketization. Hoisted by modern farming methods, targeted institutions as well as progressive policies, the shift from subsistence to comprehensive agricultural production economically empowered China's rural majority and formed a key component of poverty reduction.

To feed its rapidly growing population of 1.2 billion people, Africa must move beyond traditional, one-dimensional agriculture into a multifaceted enterprise driven by science and technology. In this way, the continent

can realize higher inputs, low consumption, high quality and efficiency in its agricultural value chains.

The African Union has set the task of ending hunger on the continent by 2025-a task made more challenging by the COVID-19 global pandemic, which is pushing millions more African households into extreme poverty.

Given that the majority of Africa's population live in rural areas, effective poverty reduction programs should target that group, and agriculture remains the strongest vehicle to deliver economic sustainability and food security.

Africa can also learn from China about the use of informa-

tion technologies in marketing agricultural produce. The Taobao village model has, for example, enabled millions of farmers to reach far-away clients, thanks to the power and reach of the internet. This has not only led to more inclusive growth, but also has benefited multiplier industries, such as logistics, that are crucial to ensuring that products reach buyers.

In the wake of climate change, Africa's agriculture should also be anchored on sustainable ecological conservation practices. Despite being the least greenhouse gas emitter, the continent has borne the brunt of global warming with floods, droughts and erratic rainfall, further compounding its agricultural

prospects.

Finally, there is no doubt that infrastructure connectivity and market integration are strong factors in hoisting modern agricultural production.

Africa is currently implementing the African Continental Free Trade Area, an ambitious project that aims at integrating African economies, currently valued at \$3.4 trillion. China and the African Union have both initiated policy dialogue to fuse the aspirations of the AfCFTA and the Belt and Road Initiative. A successful AfCFTA would mean greater potential for Africa's agriculture, and China is proving to be a dependable partner to deliver on the promise.

Congo wildlife reserve raises critically endangered gorillas

BRAZZAVILLE

AROUND 140 kilometres north of Congo's capital, Brazzaville, is gorilla country.

"Mr. Cyd", as he's known, is one of 40 primates living at Lesio-Louna Gorilla National Reserve. He was given the nickname by former reserve workers.

Guards regularly patrol the reserve, tracking the gorillas and watching out for poachers.

"The first mission is to find the baby gorillas, look after them, and release them into the wild so that the species does not disappear," says guard Samuel Guebou.

It's here, behind this fence, that some of the reserve's youngest gorillas are kept.

Access is prohibited, due to hygiene restrictions linked to the coronavirus outbreak. Guards that do enter are subject to strict protocols and must quarantine after returning to the reserve.

Guard Okandza Stheve, who has worked here since 1997, says they've developed a special relationship with the younger gorillas.

"Since we spent a lot of time with the gorillas, they've become like village children to us," he says.

Thirty-six gorillas were released from the reserve and into the wild between 1996 and 2017.

Fruit is kept in this storeroom, then delivered across a lake via canoe, giving the gorillas some elements of freedom.

It's quite a sight for visitors, including Raul Mateus Paula, the European Union's ambassador to Congo.

"So, this return to basics, and then these gorillas who are protected, who have sometimes undergone difficult times and who find a sanctuary where they can contribute to the preservation of nature."

The western lowland gorilla lives in the forests of Gabon, Central Africa Republic, Cameroon, Angola, Equatorial Guinea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the Republic of Congo.

It is the most numerous and widespread of all gorilla subspecies according to the WWF.

The subspecies was declared "critically endangered" in 2007.

Over a 25-year period, the combined threats of poaching, illegal hunting for the bushmeat trade, habitat loss, and emerging diseases such as Ebola reduced populations by 60 percent.

In certain parts of western Africa, their populations declined by as much as 90 percent.

Poaching has decimated Congo's gorillas, the central African nation's emblematic species, and remains a threat, despite the mammals being a protected species.

ACQUISITION

SA's competition watchdog approves Google, Fitbit deal

JOHANNESBURG

South Africa's regulator the Competition Commission (CompCom) has conditionally approved the proposed merger whereby Google intends to acquire Fitbit. In a statement, the competition watchdog says this is a global merger, notified in several jurisdictions, including the EU, US, Australia, Canada and Japan.

It notes that Google is active in a wide range of areas, including online search, online advertising, other online services such as YouTube, Google Maps and Gmail as well as cloud computing services. In addition, says the CompCom, Google maintains and develops the Android ecosystem which includes an open source mobile operating system (OS) and a suite of mobile apps and services.

"Google's business in South Africa relates to the provision of local support and marketing services internally for Google. Google does not sell any wearable devices or hardware in South Africa. The main products and services relevant to this transaction are Wear OS, Google Fit, The Play Store, Google Search and Google Ads," the regulator says.

It points out that Fitbit develops, manufactures and distributes wrist-worn wearable devices and smart scales as well as software and services designed to give its users tools to help them reach their health and fitness goals. The main Fitbit products available in SA are fitness trackers, smartwatches and the Fitbit mobile app.

The Commission found that the proposed transaction is likely to result in a substantial prevention or lessening of competition. The Commission was concerned that as a direct result of the proposed merger, Google will exclude Fitbit's competitors in the market for wrist-worn wearable devices.

As a direct result of the proposed merger, Google will be able to exclude competing suppliers of wrist-worn wearable devices from accessing its Android operating system for smartphones, says the Commission.

It explains that Android is a dominant mobile OS and, unlike the Apple ecosystem, it is not vertically integrated into the production of wrist-worn wearable devices prior to the merger.

"This makes Android an important input for third-party smartwatch manufacturers that compete with Fitbit. Bearing in mind the integral connectivity between smartwatches, companion apps to the wrist worn wearable device as well as smartphones, and given the significant market shares enjoyed by Android, the proposed merger will give Google the ability to exclude competitors of Fitbit or frustrate the functionalities of competitors' companion apps from operating optimally on Android OS.

"This will significantly alter the market structure for the supply of wrist-worn wearable devices in SA and increase barriers to entry for potential entrants in the market," the watchdog says. The Commission was also concerned that as a direct result of the proposed merger, Google will entrench its dominance in the online advertising and online search market.

"As a direct result of the proposed merger, Google would acquire (i) the database maintained by Fitbit (about its users' health and fitness); and (ii) the technology to develop a database similar to that of Fitbit. The Commission was concerned that the acquisition of Fitbit's database may provide an important advantage in online advertising markets to Google and allow Google to entrench its dominance in the market," it says.

The Commission was also concerned that as a direct result of the proposed merger, Google will restrict access to health data collected by Fitbit. The Commission was concerned that, as a direct result of the proposed merger, Google will be able to use Fitbit's health data to enter the digital health market or other health services markets (for example the market for health insurance) and exclude other players and potential entrants in the market by restricting access to health Fitbit health data.



SA Competition commissioner, Tembinkosi Bonakele.

TECH SAVVY

Nigeria is now number two in global bitcoin market

LAGOS

During the police brutality protests in Nigeria in October, bitcoin saved the day when the government shut out protesters from using local payment platforms for collecting donations to support it.

The young, tech-savvy protesters quickly switched to using bitcoin, and in about a week bitcoin accounted for around 40% of the nearly \$400,000 raised. It was just one high-profile example of how young Nigerians increasingly use bitcoin to navigate a complicated and restric-

tive banking and monetary system.

In the last five years, Nigeria has traded 60,215 bitcoins, valued at more than \$566 million which, apart from the US, is the largest volume worldwide on Paxful, a leading peer-to-peer bitcoin marketplace. The data scraped from Coin Dance shows from the beginning of May 2015 to the middle of November this year, bitcoin trade in Nigeria have increased yearly at least 19% in volume since 2017, and the highest volume (20,504.50) was traded in 2020.

Bitcoin trade had its highest spike of 30% this year during the national

lockdown in the country and the highest volume traded during the peak of the pandemic. Between January and September, Paxful reported a 137% increase in new registrations in Nigeria.

Peer-to-peer (P2P) exchanges, which are decentralized platforms that directly connects buyers and sellers without third parties are the most popular way to buy bitcoin in Africa because users do not have to worry about cryptocurrency regulation by the government. Paxful is the largest platform for P2P trade in Africa and overtook LocalBitcoins in

June this year to be the Largest P2P bitcoin marketplace in the world, controlling 52% of the market share.

The company says Nigerians make up around a quarter of its customer base with 1.3 million registered accounts. "They mostly use the platform for peer-to-peer and arbitrage trading," says Nena Nwachukwu, Paxful Nigeria regional manager. "Remittances is also a popular use case." Nwachukwu says bitcoin transfers are "much cheaper and faster than using traditional money transfer operators." The growing uncertainty and instability around

the Nigerian naira, which has had increasingly divergent official and parallel exchange rates with the US dollar, has created an opportunity and practical use case for bitcoin trade in Nigeria. The divergent rates have long been a striking feature of Nigeria's economy but more so in the last half decade as the country's financial authorities have attempted to micro-manage the supply of foreign exchange and "defend" the naira.

In the last couple of years, other African countries, most prominently Zimbabwe, have seen a spike in cryptocurrency trade led by bitcoin,

due to currency fluctuations and uncertain monetary policy. In some cases limits to the trade has been prompted by a lack of reliable local platforms.

"The lack of bitcoin liquidity was the first obstacle to solve to introduce bitcoin to Africa," says Ray Youssef, co-founder of Paxful. Nigerians are often restricted on international platforms such as PayPal, which does not allow payment to Nigeria, and local banks place a cap on international transactions and charge high fees for transactions due to dollar deficiency.

BULLISH

Livestock dealers earn windfall as sales surge by 100bn/- in Q3



Cattle being sold at Pugu livestock auction market in Dar es Salaam.

By Francis Kajubi

LIVESTOCK dealers had a field day during the third quarter of the year when sales surged by over 100bn/-, Bank of Tanzania has said.

In its Consolidated Zonal Economic report for the year ended September 2020, the Central Bank said value of livestock comprising of cattle, goats and sheep sold in registered markets increased by 31.4 percent to 475.85bn/- up from 362.23bn/- made in a similar period last year.

"This outturn was largely associated with the increase in demand in the domestic market and neighbouring countries. Cattle which contributed 90 percent of the total sales, registered a 30 percent increase, driven by price increase," the BoT report said.

The report further noted that Central and Dar es Salaam zones continued to account for the largest shares of livestock sales during the period under review. The Central Zone which comprises of Dodoma, Singida and Tabora regions led the pack with sales amounting to 126.04bn/-

up from 110.34bn/-. Dar es Salaam came second on the list with sales amounting to 110.58bn/- up from 81.51bn/- last year.

The report shows that the percentage share of value of livestock sold on registered market continued to stabilize with the Central Zone leading at 27 percent while Dar es Salaam had 23 percent.

The Northern Zone nearly doubled its value of sales to 102.97bn/- from 62.44bn/- during the period while Lake Zone had incredible sales amounting to 96.91bn/- up from the 75.57bn/-.

The South Eastern and Southern Highlands Zone performed fairly with a slight increase of sales compared to last year's figures. South Eastern Zone contributed only 3.6 percent of this year's value of sales while the Southern Highlands accounted for 4.6 percent of the sales.

According to the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries data, in total, cattle increased from 32.28 million to 33.4million; goats also increased from 20 million to 21.29 million while sheep increased to 5.65 million from 5.5 million.

RELIEF

Chartered flight raises tourism hope in Mombasa

MOMBASA

Hoteliers in the Coast region have expressed hope of recovery in the tourism sector despite the adverse effects of coronavirus pandemic on their businesses.

The stakeholders are holding on hope for the recovery of international tourism after the arrival of a first international charter flight operated by TUI Poland in Mombasa on Boxing Day. The aircraft flew in from Warsaw, Poland with 175 tourists for a 10-day holiday at the Coast.

The Enter Air, on lease to TUI Poland, touched down at the weekend to a water cannon salute by Kenya Airports Authority (KAA) Fire Brigade. The Kenya Tourism Federation chairman Mohamed Hersi and KAA Coast regional manager Peter Wafula received the tourists. They expressed optimism that the sector would fully recover in 2021.

"The arrival of this charter service that will be flying in every Saturday up to mid-March 2021 gives us hope that we are headed on the path to recovery, albeit the ravaging effects of Covid-19. We remain optimistic that with vaccines being found, there can be hope for at least a return to normalcy in all sectors of the economy," said Mr Hersi. "We are still far from the recovery as we had 25 charters and above.



Kenya Tourism Federation chairman, Mohamed Hersi.

We were at ground zero. This is just the first. The Polish market is a very resilient one. The Poles are outgoing and love adventure. Their visit includes beach stay and safari."

He added that tourism in Kenya would take longer to fully recover due to the recent restrictions on travel in the UK and Europe. Kenya Hotelkeepers and Caterers

Association Coast chief executive Sam Ilkwaye said travel is bound to resume and the easing of travel restrictions would make 2021 a better year. "In fact, our optimism in Kenya is more affected by our own political environment and uncertainty but have everything going for us," he said. Kenya Coast Tourism Association chairman Victor Shitakha said even though 2020

had its fair share of challenges, the New Year may be marred by political uncertainty, which could hurt the tourism industry.

"This is the year of election campaigns. We are not having a lot of guests coming down. We are entering a highly politically charged year. This may be our undoing even as we hope for the best in 2021," he said.

APPLAUSE

Kikwete salutes Airtel for investing heavily in Coast region

By Guardian Reporter

HEAVY investment made by Airtel Tanzania Plc in the Coast region has assisted create jobs while boosting communications.

Chalinze lawmaker, Ridhiwani Kikwete said earlier this week that investment in fourth generation technology and six new Airtel Money Branch shops, is an important aspect in the development of the area.

Kikwete who launched the six shops said because of such investment, residents in the Coast region can now access faster voice, internet and mobile money services following the launch of 4G network.

"As we are all aware, Chalinze is an important area which connects various regions of our country. In addition, we have several economic activities which will now be boosted with this Airtel shop in the area," he said.

"I urge residents to use this shop and enjoy Airtel services which includes upgrading their network to 4G, send and receive money, new Simcard registration, PIN reset, SimSwap and many more," the Chalinze legislator.

Speaking at the launch, Airtel Tanzania Public Relation Manager, Jackson Mmbando said the telco is committed to coming with the most affordable, exceptional and easy to use services and products that



Chalinze legislator, Ridhiwani Kikwete (L) posing for a souvenir photo after launching six Airtel Money Branch shops and 4G network in the area earlier this week. Second right is Airtel Tanzania public relations manager, Jackson Mmbando. Photo courtesy of Airtel.

meet the current demand of customers.

"In addition, we have always been doing all our best to make sure that services are closer to customers who are the most important aspect in our business," Mmbando said while adding that Airtel has been open-

ing shops all over the country aimed at bringing services closer to consumers.

He noted that the opening of an Airtel shop in Chalinze is a part of the company's expansion plan which is in line with the company's long term drive towards expanding services

countrywide. "Airtel offers the best financial solution through Airtel Money services and with our network reach across all the areas of the country, we are sure of being a real solution as even the population in rural areas will have access to service," he assured.

Airtel Money is also connected to over 40 banks in the country which makes it possible for customers to do instant money transfer from their accounts to their mobile money wallets. The platform is also connected to the Government's Electronic Payment Gateway.

PACT

Rwanda, UK to renegotiate trade deal

KIGALI

Rwanda and the United Kingdom (UK) will restart negotiations of a potential deal early next year, which would determine the future trade relations between the two countries, a source at the Ministry of Trade revealed. Rwanda currently trades with the UK under the protocols of the European Union, but Britain is entering into a new chapter in its relationship with the rest of the EU members.

This follows an announcement by British Prime Minister Boris Johnson last week that his country had reached a trade deal with Europe after nine months of tortuous talks. It means that countries that were trading with the UK as a member of the EU will no longer do so, instead the UK will be negotiating its own trade rules with the rest of the world.

Already, the country has been negotiating bilateral trade deals with different countries including those in Africa. Kenya, a member of the East African Community (EAC), secured a deal with the UK. The rest of EAC members haven't made any progress partly because they were opposed to Kenya's decision to go for a unilateral deal rather than negotiating as one bloc.

Currently, EAC countries do business with the UK under EU trade protocols. Under the current arrangement, Rwanda has been exporting to EU markets without paying duties on many products. This is thanks to the Generalised Scheme of Preferences (GSP).

The scheme makes it easier for



Rwanda's trade minister, Soraya Hakiyaremye.

traders from developing countries to export their products to the European Union. This is done in the form of reduced tariffs for their goods when entering the EU market.

The UK government said it will introduce its GSP scheme on January 1, 2021 under which developing countries like Rwanda will continue to access duty-free markets of the UK. However,

countries are hoping to secure a trade deal that will determine the long-term relations with the UK.

Negotiations between Rwanda and the UK for a potential trade arrangement have been ongoing, at least since March, but were halted due to Covid-19. The negotiations were happening through the EAC customs union framework.

As a member of the Customs Union, and

the current chair of the EAC, Rwanda's position has been to negotiate a regional trade arrangement with the UK post-brexit and the end of the transition period for the UK.

"In this regard, Rwanda is looking forward to reengaging our partners in the UK, alongside other EAC member states to conclude on a regional trade agreement," an emailed response from the Ministry reads in part. According to a source at the Trade and Industry Ministry, the projected timeline is to restart negotiations early 2021 and conclude an agreement by December 2021.

Future relations

The current arrangement through which Rwanda trades with the UK is a unilateral market access mechanism, which can be modified at any time by the UK government. At the same time, it applies to a large extent to Least Developed Countries (LDC).

"Therefore, given Rwanda's development trajectory, once we graduate from an LDC, the 'Everything but Arms' arrangement will be greatly impacted," the Ministry noted. A trade arrangement, or regional trade agreement with the UK offers more predictability, reciprocal trade arrangement, and guarantees Rwanda's Duty Free, Quota Free market access irrespective of economic classification.

Rwanda hopes a potential trade deal would ensure trade continuity for years to come, and allow for the country's nearly \$40 million of exports to continue increasing in the UK market. Total Rwandan exports to the UK averages at \$15 million.

SETBACK

EABL loses in suit over G4S holding of financial, board data

NAIROBI

The East African Breweries Limited (EABL) has lost a court bid to access thousands of confidential business records the brewer left under the care of security firm G4S in the wake of a contract row.

The beer maker wanted the court to issue an order compelling G4S to release the stored materials, which EABL says includes highly sensitive and confidential information like financial, bank and employment records it requires for its operations. But Justice David Majanja dismissed the brewer's petition, arguing that granting an order in favour of EABL would amount to resolving the dispute in support of the beer-maker.

The legal battle started in July last year after EABL asked the security to return 8,106 boxes following the end of three-year storage deal, but G4S said it needed eight months to release the documents and additional warehouse fees.

EABL sought the order as an interim measure, pending the outcome of arbitration proceedings. It also wanted G4S to release the stored materials within 14 days of the order being made. "Since the order would be final in nature, the court would have to make findings of fact necessary to support the order thus usurping the jurisdiction of the arbitral tribunal," said justice Majanja.

Order difficulties

He added that the difficulties in implementing the order cannot be overlooked given G4S had indicated challenges of retrieving, verifying and repackaging the documents within 14 days.

The documents linked to the court battle include EABL's financial information and records, employment contracts and records, banking information and records as well as contracts. Others are production and distribution data, procurement records as well as AGM, board and shareholding information.

G4S demanded Sh4 million for box withdrawal costs calculated at Sh500 per carton. Another Sh10.9 million for retrieval costs of 145,775 files at Sh75 each and Sh1.2 million every month for storage after the expiry of the contract.

The storage fee has hit Sh21.9 million, pushing the G4S demand to Sh36.8 million. EABL reckons that G4S refusal to release the records is malicious and willfully calculated to enable it earn and claim accrued monthly charges. At the centre of the dispute is the agreement of July 6 for the storage of records.

Storing retrieval

Under the contract, G4S agreed to provide EABL services, including storing material, retrieval, delivery and collection, archiving, indexing and racking stored material, destruction and disposal and digitising the stored material.

The three-year agreement started on July 6, 2016 and expired on July 6, 2019. On June 10, 2019, EABL informed G4S that it would not be renewing the agreement and asked the security firm to provide the stored material for collection on the expiry date. The security firm reckoned that it required at least eight months to return the stored material.

EABL rejected the eight-month plan, arguing it would amount to renewal of the terminated agreement. The brewer said the expiry date of the pact was known and that it received regular inventory statements from G4S of the stored materials, indicating the security firm was ready to release documents at short notice.

ALERT

Mozambique's inflation to remain moderate with risk of rising

MAPUTO

NKC African Economics said that inflation will remain moderate in Mozambique, but warned that the risks of rising prices may materialise and will not disappear

in the short and medium term.

"The outlook for inflation in 2021 will remain relatively modest, but we are very aware of the risks of rising prices, including the weakening of the local currency,

rising energy prices, adverse weather events and disruptive local conflict," analysts said in a commentary on inflation in Mozambique, which rose 0.66% in November.

"These risks are unlikely to disappear in the short

to medium term, which may mean that if there are surprises in inflation, the ability of the monetary authorities to provide relief will be limited," they added.

Mozambique posted monthly inflation of 0.66%

in November, according to data published by the Consumer Price Index (CPI) bulletin of the National Statistics Institute (INE) in mid-month. Accumulated inflation for 11 months this year stands at 1.97%

and year-on-year inflation in November stood at 3.27%. 12-month average inflation stands at 3.14%.

From January to November, prices of horse mackerel, fresh fish, cooking oil, cars (new and used), meals in

restaurants and wheat bread were up. The upward trend in prices, albeit at a slight pace, had already been identified by the Bank of Mozambique and other authorities in the sector.

The conjuncture

reflects shocks in the economy caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. The CPI figures are calculated by INE from price changes of a basket of goods and services, with data collected in Maputo, Beira and Nampula cities.

WORLD

After property scandal, Pope tightens money controls

VATICAN CITY

POPE Francis has issued a new decree making charity funds more transparent and tightening controls on Vatican finances after a scandal over a luxury London property deal.

The main target is the Secretariat of State, the most important part of the Vatican administration, which must relinquish management of its funds, investments and real estate and submit to supervision by two other economic offices.

Published on Monday and signed by the pope on Dec 26, the decree takes effect over two months from Jan 1.

In 2014, the Secretariat invested about 200 million euros (US\$244 million) as a partner in a deal to buy a luxury building in London. As the deal became onerous, it paid tens of millions of fees to middlemen in attempts to change the terms.

Cardinal George Pell, the Vatican's former treasurer, told Reuters earlier this month there had been "enormous losses". In September, the pope fired Cardinal Angelo Becciu, a former top Secretariat official.

An investigation into the London deal led to the suspension last year of five Vatican employees, four from the Secretariat. The Vatican has also accused the middlemen of extortion.



Pope Francis

'PETER'S PENCE'

The Secretariat of State's assets are being transferred to a department called Administration of the Patrimony of the Holy See (APSA) and will be overseen by the Secretariat for the Economy.

The Secretariat of State also loses control of "Peter's Pence", a fund which the faithful can contribute to and is aimed at helping the pope run the Church and finance his charities.

In past years, the Vatican has dipped into Peter's Pence to cover budget deficits. The fund's reputation

has suffered from reports it may have been used for questionable investments, such as the London building.

The decree sets up three new accounts - one for Peter's Pence, another for a "Papal Discretionary Fund", and a third to hold funds which donors want used for a specific purpose. To guarantee transparency, they will become part of the Vatican's budget, the pope said in the decree.

A Vatican statement said the changes to Peter's Pence were meant to reassure donors that contributions were properly used. **Agencies**

Politicisation of virus reflected in failings

San Francisco

DESPITE its advanced medical research and healthcare system, the United States has been leading the world in COVID-19 fatalities and cases.

The country is now in the grip of the "third wave" of the pandemic, one which is much larger than the previous two and has hit the Midwest hardest of all.

The death toll is expected to continue rising, fueled by travel over the Christmas and New Year holidays and lax adherence to mask-wearing and other precautions.

Masks are seen globally as a key tool to contain COVID-19. In many other countries, mask mandates are becoming the norm, but the debate over masks continues in the US.

The top US health officials first told people they should not wear masks and then reversed their guidance. Public health experts have emphasized the importance of wearing masks, which US President Donald Trump has not fully supported.

Trump has long been reluctant to wear a mask in public. He also has refused to introduce a nationwide mandate, saying he wants people to have "a certain freedom".

Critics said the mask mandate in religious settings violated the free exercise of religion. The Supreme Court, with a strong 6-3 conservative majority, has sided with the religious groups against COVID-19-related restrictions in New York, Colorado and New Jersey.

Tensions over mask requirements have led to violence in some states. A store security guard in Michigan was shot dead by a customer whose family was told they needed to wear masks to enter the store.

Anti-mask protests have continued across the country for months.

Local health officials in California, South Dakota and other states were harassed and threatened for issuing mask mandates. Some cities had to reverse their mask orders or abruptly ended public health meetings under the pressure of anti-mask protests.

State and local governments have varied widely on implementation of mask rules. California was the first to order a statewide mask mandate in June, with many states following suit.

There are still 12 states though with no statewide mask requirement such as Arizona, Florida, Mississippi and South Dakota. The Trump administration has been criticized for its inadequate response to the pandemic. The president himself repeatedly downplayed the virus and often contradicted public health experts in their grave warnings about the disease.

Experts said politicization of the pandemic is the reason behind people's resistance to public health measures such as wearing masks. **Agencies**

China-developed COVID-19 vaccine effective, safe, says Egyptian official

CAIRO

THE China-developed anti-coronavirus vaccine Egypt has received is effective, safe and easier to use, an Egyptian official said.

"I am more convinced of the Chinese vaccine, which uses the recognized traditional technology of using killed virus," Osama Abdel-Hay, secretary general of the Egyptian Medical Syndicate, told Xinhua yesterday in an interview.

On Dec. 10, Egypt received the first batch of a Chinese anti-coronavirus vaccine to help fight the COVID-19 epidemic. The batch of the vaccine, developed by the China National Pharmaceutical Group, or Sinopharm, came from the United Arab Emirates.

The medical staff in isolation hospitals, people with chronic diseases like cancer and kidney failure, and the elderly, will be given priority in vaccinations, according to the Egyptian Health Ministry.

Abdel-Hay noted that new vaccines using ribonucleic acid (RNA) technology developed by some other countries must be kept at a temperature of minus 70 degrees Celsius, adding that some of these vaccines need to be used within a week of manufacture, while others must be used within two weeks.

"This means that manufacturing, transporting and distributing them involve difficulties that cannot be underestimated for many countries," he said, noting that the Chinese vaccine is ideal for Egypt and its capabilities.

The Chinese vaccine is "suitable for us, and I assure all Egyptians that it is safe," Abdel-Hay said. More than 1 million medical workers at hospitals should be vaccinated to avoid infections, according to the official.

Noting that Egypt is already manufacturing many kinds of medicines for regional countries, Abdel-Hay said Egypt is able to become a regional hub for vaccine industries.

"Egypt also has a company to manufacture vaccines. This could help the country become a center for making and distributing the Chinese vaccine in Africa and the Middle East," he said.

Xinhua

More tipped into poverty by coronavirus

By Hong Xiao

THE world was already struggling to end poverty by 2030, and now the coronavirus pandemic is causing the first increase in the global scourge in decades, development figures show.

"While poverty is bad, and has been established as such, the COVID-19 pandemic has made a bad situation worse," said Tijjani Muhammad-Bande, president of the 74th Session of the United Nations General Assembly.

Before the onset of the pandemic, 2.1 billion people around the world were classified as poor, with 767 million living in extreme poverty.

Muhammad-Bande (pictured) said the situation is getting more serious. It is estimated that by 2030, more than 100 million people would have lapsed back into poverty due to COVID-19 and climate change, he said.

A study released by King's College London and the Australian National University in early April painted an even grimmer picture. About 850 million are at risk of falling into poverty due to the sharp decline in economic activity, according to the UN.

Muhammad-Bande said the UN, which has made poverty eradication a top priority, is making greater efforts to achieve its development goals.

On June 30, he launched the Alliance for Poverty Eradication, which will serve as a fo-

rum for member states to raise awareness about the danger that poverty poses to world peace, human rights and sustainable development.

The alliance will play an important role in pulling together all the factors in poverty eradication and serving as a one-stop networking, information-sharing and bridge-building center, said Muhammad-Bande, who was Nigeria's permanent representative to the UN from 2018 to 2019.

The alliance should provide a mechanism for taking on the poverty challenge from all possible, or at least, multidisciplinary, angles, he said.

"There is no amount of time and attention given to poverty eradication that is too much," Muhammad-Bande said.

It no longer comes as a surprise that globally, one in 12 people live in extreme poverty and that one in nine lack access to food, he said.

The devastation and uncertainties of the pandemic have added to the challenges, Muhammad-Bande said.

"This malady which added to the challenge of poverty eradication also opened our eyes to likely disruptions in the future, and hence the need to better prepare for them," he said during the inauguration of the alliance.

Muhammad-Bande said the emerging consensus is that the pandemic will impact heavily on the capacities of least-developed countries to eradicate poverty without external assis-



Tijjani Muhammad-Bande

tance.

"It is my hope that the spirit of international cooperation which informed the establishment of the United Nations will also influence the choices of member states in matters pertaining to poverty eradication worldwide," he said.

"In this respect, I count on the newly inaugurated Alliance for Poverty Eradication to serve as the leading voice on poverty eradication, and to continue raising awareness about the necessity for multilateral cooperation on the matter," he said.

As a founding member of the alliance, China has made great achievements in advancing the cause of poverty reduction at

home and abroad.

"For us, China coming on board is important," Muhammad-Bande said.

According to the World Bank, China has managed to lift 850 million people out of poverty since its reform and opening-up in the late 1970s, an unprecedented achievement.

Extensive experience

As a country that has over a few decades "focused on lifting people out of poverty", China's "extensive experience in moving forward the cause of poverty reduction" is valuable to other developing countries that are dealing with similar challenges, Muhammad-Bande said.

Spain says main hurdle in Gibraltar talks with UK is cross-border traffic

MADRID

THE main hurdle in talks between Spain and Britain over Gibraltar's post-Brexit status is keeping cross-border traffic fluid, Spanish Foreign Minister Arancha Gonzalez Laya

(pictured), said yesterday.

Madrid and London are negotiating how to police the land border between Spain and Gibraltar, a British Overseas Territory on the southern tip of the Iberian peninsula, as it was excluded from the



last-minute exit deal reached between Britain and the European Union last week.

Spain has secured an exemption for about 8,500 cross-border workers from border controls even if no agreement on free movement

is reached, Gonzalez Laya said in an interview with RNE radio station.

She added her government seeks to keep traffic between Gibraltar and Spain fluid and avoid long lines of cars and trucks. **Agencies**

Protection of Earth calls for ambition of mankind to cope with climate change

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Dec. 12 delivered an important speech at the Climate Ambition Summit via video link. His remarks have chartered the course, enhanced confidence and boosted the power for the world to better respond to climate change.

Xi proposed to make new advances in climate governance that features cooperation and win-win, foster a new architecture of climate governance where every party does its part, and pursue a new approach to climate governance that highlights green recovery. He also announced some further commitments of China to contributing to climate governance.

Climate change concerns mankind's well-being and future, and to cope with it calls for ambition and resolution.

Five years ago, world leaders showed utmost political resolve and wisdom and adopted the Paris Agreement on climate change, which chartered the course for the world to cooperate on climate change response after 2020. The agreement's goal is to limit global warming to well below 2 degrees Celsius, preferably to 1.5 degrees Celsius, compared with pre-industrial levels.

According to a report released by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) earlier this month,

global temperatures from January to October were around 1.2 degrees Celsius higher than pre-industrial levels. 2011-2020 will be the warmest decade on record, with the warmest six years all being since 2015, the WMO said.

To cope with climate change is an urgent task. At the Climate Ambition Summit, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called on governments around the world to declare a state of climate emergency.

"In meeting the climate challenge, no one can be aloof and unilateralism will get us nowhere. Only by upholding multilateralism, unity and cooperation can we

deliver shared benefits and win-win for all nations," Xi said at the summit. The reaching of the Paris Agreement was a victory of multilateralism, and the implementation of it cannot go with multilateral cooperation. Following the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, all countries need to maximize actions in light of their respective national circumstances and capabilities. At the same time, developed countries need to scale up support for developing countries in financing, technology and capacity building.

China was among the earliest to sign the Paris Agreement, urged the G20 to release its first presidency

statement on climate change, and promoted the negotiation on the implementation guidelines of the Paris Agreement. Besides, it also established the South-South Cooperation Fund on Climate Change to help developing countries better cope with climate change. All these efforts prove China's firm support for the multilateral process on climate change.

The Paris Agreement represents the general direction of the world's transition toward green and low-carbon development. It is a minimum requirement for the protection of the planet Earth, and must be resolutely implemented.

Xi announced in September that

China would scale up its nationally determined contributions and adopt more vigorous policies and measures, saying China will peak carbon dioxide emissions before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060.

Andrea Guerrero Garcia, a Senior Advisor for Mission 2020, supporting the UN Secretary General's team on the 2019 Climate Summit, called China's commitment the strongest signal ever received by the world since the inking of the Paris Agreement. Financial Times also said in an article that world leaders praised China's pledge at critical time for Paris climate accord. **People's Daily**

China's supercomputer Tianhe is well applied to serve society

By Meng Xiangfei

AS China's first supercomputer that ever won the title of the world's fastest supercomputer, Tianhe-1 has now become a sharp weapon that blazes the trail for China's scientific innovation. I feel proud of my choice every time I see its rank.

I joined the National Supercomputer Center in Tianjin eleven years ago, when the center just started operation. Back then, a two-bedroom apartment was the place where our team members ate, lived and worked.

When the system deployment and R&D for the Tianhe-1 was just initiated, we transformed the computer room in the daytime installing cables and cabinets, and had to work in shift at night. It was summer then, and we suffered frequent mosquito bites in the 1,000-square meter computer room, which was not air-conditioned. We slept on flattened cardboard boxes when we felt tired.

It was under such harsh conditions that we finished the job in seven months, which might take a year or longer for others.

Somebody once asked us where the motivation came from. I think it comes from the sense of responsibility, the sense of mission, and our passion for innovation. There's no expression to describe our excitement of constructing China's first national supercomputer center.

After the Tianhe-1 topped the list of the world's fastest supercomputers, being fast was not a target any longer. It's application that became the first priority. As the head of the application and R&D department, my team members and I developed the first large heterogeneous parallel stimulation software of fusion energy, as well as an integrated platform for oil-gas exploration data processing. Now, the Tianhe-1 is computing for over 8,000 research missions every day.

Apart from these professional missions, Tianhe supercomputers are also playing an important role in our daily life and production.

For enterprises, Tianhe supercomputers are a tool to reduce cost and improve efficiency. For instance, car and auto equipment manufacturers had to perform crash tests with real vehicles, which were not produced massively. This led to a high cost of these manufacturers. Thanks to a simulator run on Tianhe-1, tests are now simulated with digital technology, which not only reduced the development cycle of the products, but also saved cost for enterprises.

Weather forecast is an application of Tianhe supercomputers closest to the people. The forecasts we see in TV and mobile application all rely on supercomputers. Tianhe-1 is able to forecast precipitation and extreme weathers in the summer, while predict snows in the winter. After receiving data from satellites and meteorological stations, the supercomputers will project the change of weathers.

Innovation is endless. In the future, we'll keep making efforts, so as to make Tianhe supercomputers render stronger support for the country's independent innovation of information technology, as well as economic and social development.

(Meng Xiangfei is the head of the applied research and development department at the National Supercomputer Center in Tianjin.)



The motherboard of the Tianhe-3 supercomputer prototype is exhibited at the 2nd World Intelligence Congress. File Photo

Xi stresses key role of ties with Russia

By An Baijie

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping underlined the importance of strategic coordination between China and Russia on Monday, saying that strengthening the countries' partnership can effectively frustrate any attempt to suppress them and harm their relationship.

He said the bilateral relationship cannot be influenced by the changes in the international situation or affected by other factors, adding that the two countries should join hands to safeguard international justice.

Xi made the remarks in a phone conversation with his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, in which they extended New Year's greetings to each other and the people of the two countries.

China would like to develop its comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era with Russia, pursue development and prosperity for the two sides, and make more contributions to the building of the new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for mankind, Xi said.

Xi said the COVID-19 pandemic has brought unprecedented, serious challenges to the lives and health of mankind, affected the global economy and led to world turbulence and transformation.

Hailing their bilateral ties as gold that can stand the test of fire, Xi said the special quality and great value of China-Russia relations has become more obvious in the face of danger and difficulties.

The two countries have taken the lead in international cooperation in the fight against COVID-19, promoted the alignment of the Belt and Road Initiative with the Eurasian Economic Union, and jointly celebrated the 75th anniversary of victory in the World Anti-Fascist War and the founding of the United Nations, Xi said.

Agencies

Officials slam US sanctions on Xinjiang products

THE United States' sanctions on the Xinjiang Production and Construction Corps in the name of "forced labor" are groundless and won't affect the healthy development of the corps, officials said.

"More than 70 percent of the XPCC's cotton and 95 percent of its textile products have been sold domestically in the past two years," Sun Huantao, deputy director of the XPCC's Commerce Bureau, told China Daily in an exclusive interview at its headquarters in Urumqi, capital of the Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region.

"We don't have much direct trade volume with the US. The US' latest sanctions on cotton and cotton products produced by the XPCC indeed have affected our businesses, but they have only had a limited impact," Sun said.

The XPCC, also known as Bingtuan, is a special provincial-level entity entrusted by the State to cultivate and guard China's border areas in Xinjiang. It has administrative control of several cities as well as farms and industrial facilities.

In 2020, China produced 5.91 million metric tons of cotton, of which 87.3 percent came from Xinjiang, according to figures released by the National Bureau of Statistics in December. In 2019, the XPCC produced more than 2 million tons of cotton, making it the key cotton producer in China.

On Dec 2, US Customs and Border Protection issued a withhold release, or detention, order that applies to all cotton and cotton products produced by the XPCC and its subordinate and affiliated entities, along with all products made in whole or in part from XPCC cotton, such as apparel, garments and textiles, because of concerns about "the risks of forced labor", the agency said.

In the days leading up to the withhold release order, Customs and Border Protection sent detailed questionnaires to US importers of apparel to obtain information on supply chains in Xinjiang.

"The sanctions have affected the exports of cotton and cotton products from the XPCC," Sun said. "It means that many foreign businesses will be unable to



Workers make down-filled coats at a factory in Jiashi county, Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region. File photo

use good quality cotton from the XPCC.

"Global businesses and consumers, particularly those in the US, are the real victims of the sanctions. It's a move of extreme trade protectionism and not in line with principles of a market oriented economy. It will surely damage the international supply chain," Sun added.

To cope with the sanctions, the XPCC will further explore the domestic market, which is strong enough to support the healthy development of the corps' cotton industry, she said.

Han Yongjiang, a spokesman for the XPCC's Human Resources and Social Security Bureau, said all workers' rights are fully protected in accordance with the law, and not a single complaint about forced labor has been received in recent years.

About 46 percent of employees in the corps' textile and apparel enterprises in 2020 are from ethnic minorities such as Uygurs.

It also employees many seasonal workers in the agricultural sector.

These seasonal workers can make an average

of 6,000 yuan (US\$915) in two months, which is very competitive in Xinjiang, Han said, and such employment is at the free will of employers and workers.

"We have stepped up the inspections to ensure any action that violates the rights of employees of the XPCC is punished in a timely manner. Also, employees from all ethnic groups can complain about possible misconduct via multiple channels, such as online, social media and by phone," he added.

"If we don't treat our employees with a better attitude or pay them well, they will quit. Their absence will severely affect the enterprises' operations. So accusing the XPCC of using forced labor doesn't stand, either factually

or logically." The US Customs and Border Protection's order follows the announcement in July by the US Office of Foreign Assets Control that it had designated the XPCC as a "specially designated national". This designation essentially prohibits people in the US from engaging in any transactions with the XPCC or any companies of which the XPCC owns more than 50 percent.

Xiao, the manager of a tomato sauce company in which the XPCC holds shares, felt the bite of the sanctions as early as mid-August, although the company doesn't directly export to the US, but mainly to European markets.

"Because we are on the sanctions list, we started to experience problems in international bank transfers. Also, one of our international shipping partners clearly told us they will no longer provide services to us for fear of being sanctioned by the US for doing business with us," said Xiao, who wished to give only her surname.

Agencies

Battle over \$2,000 COVID-19 aid checks shifts to US Senate

WASHINGTON

AN unusual battle in Congress over President Donald Trump's demand for \$2,000 coronavirus aid checks for Americans shifts on Tuesday to the Senate, where Republicans opposed to higher spending are under pressure to approve the additional relief.

The Democratic-led House of Representatives on Monday approved the direct payments in a 275-134 vote, and Senate Democrats plan to push Mitch McConnell, the Republican leader in the chamber, to allow a floor vote on the legislation. They have threatened to tie up Senate floor procedures until he does.

The Senate is already expected to take up a measure to override Trump's veto of a \$740 billion defense policy bill. The House voted to override the veto on Monday by 322-87 with most Republicans voting with a large majority of Democrats.

If the Senate seconds the House action, the bill becomes law. It would be the first veto override of Trump's presidency, which ends on Jan. 20 when Democratic President-elect Joe Biden will take office.

Senate action on the veto had been expected on Wednesday but could now be delayed by wrangling over the coronavirus aid payments.

A combined \$892 billion bipartisan coronavirus relief package and \$1.4 trillion spending bill that Trump signed into law on Sunday contains \$600 checks for individuals hit hard by a pandemic that has infected more than 19 million Americans and killed over 333,000.

Trump's signing of the package staved off a U.S. government shutdown but he also pushed for the stimulus checks to be raised to \$2,000,



Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell

and he reiterated that demand on Tuesday, tweeting: "Give the people \$2000, not \$600. They have suffered enough!"

Democrats have been happy to take advantage. They pushed for a quick House vote on Monday and enough Republicans backed it for it to be passed.

SENATE RESISTANCE

But the proposal faces a much tougher path in the Republican-led Senate, where many conservatives oppose higher payments that they say could add hundreds of billions of dollars to the cost of COVID-19 relief.

"The House just took a strong, bipartisan vote to pass \$2,000 checks," Senate Democratic leader Chuck Schumer said on Twitter after the House vote on Monday evening.

"I'll move to pass the bill in the Senate. Workers, families and people are crying out for help. Every Senate Democrat is for this relief. Senate Republicans should not stand in the way."

McConnell could signal his own intentions on the COVID-19 relief checks on the Senate floor shortly after the chamber convenes at noon (1700 GMT).

Republican Senator Marco Rubio voiced early support for the checks. "I agree with the president that millions of working class families are in dire need of additional relief, which is why I support \$2,000 in direct payments," he said in a statement.

With the New Year's Day holiday on Friday and a new Congress due to be sworn in on Sunday, lawmakers have only a short time to act if McConnell chooses to take up the measure.

Democratic Senator Bernie Sanders, who has championed higher direct payments to Americans, threatened late on Monday to block the Senate from moving quickly to override Trump's veto of defense bill until McConnell agrees to allow a vote on the \$2,000 checks.

"This week on the Senate floor Mitch McConnell wants to vote to override Trump's veto of the \$740 billion defense funding bill and then head home for the New Year," Sanders said on Twitter.

"I'm going to object until we get a vote on legislation to provide a \$2,000 direct payment to the working class."

Agencies

UN chief calls for making 2021 'year of healing' in New Year message

UNITED NATIONS

UNITED NATIONS Secretary-General Antonio Guterres on Monday called on the international community to make 2021 "a year of healing" in his video message for the new year.

"Together, let's make peace among ourselves and with nature, tackle the climate crisis, stop the spread of COVID-19, and make 2021 a year of healing," the UN chief said.

"Healing from the impact of a deadly virus. Healing broken economies and societies. Healing divisions. And starting to heal the planet," the secretary-general added, noting that "that must



be our New Year's Resolution for 2021."

Noting that 2020 has been "a year of trials, tragedies and tears," Guterres said that "COVID-19 upended our lives and plunged the world into suffering and grief."

"So many loved ones have been lost -- and the pandemic rages on, creating new waves of sickness and death," he

said.

The top UN official stressed that "poverty, inequality and hunger are rising. Jobs are disappearing and debts are mounting. Children are struggling. Violence in the home is increasing, and insecurity is everywhere."

On a positive note, the UN chief said that "a New Year lies ahead. And with it, we see rays of hope."

"People extending a helping hand to neighbors and strangers; frontline workers giving their all; scientists developing vaccines in record time; countries making new commitments to prevent climate catastrophe," the secretary-general elaborated.

"If we work together in unity and solidarity, these rays of hope can reach around the world," he said. "That's the lesson of this most difficult year."

"Both climate change and the COVID-19 pandemic are crises that can only be addressed by everyone together -- as part of a transition to an inclusive and sustainable future," Guterres said.

Noting that the central ambition of the United Nations for 2021 is to build a global coalition for carbon neutrality -- net zero emissions -- by 2050, the UN chief underscored that "every government, city, business and individual can play a part in achieving this vision."

Xinhua



Simba's midfielder, Jonas Mkude.

Simba Sports Club suspends midfielder

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

SIMBA Sports Club has suspended the outfit's midfielder, Jonas Mkude, indefinitely for misconduct.

The outfit's issued a statement in its social media pages saying: "We are sorry to inform Simba's members and fans our player Jonas Mkude has been suspended."

"Mkude has been suspended due to, among other issues, allegations of misconduct against him," the statement, issued by Simba's Chief Executive Officer, Barbara Gonzalez, said.

"Simba have a responsibility to make such decisions because the club has absolutely no tolerance for disciplinary matters."

"We believe that discipline is the backbone of football development," she said.

"As per the outfit's constitution, rules and regulations, the allegations against Mkude have been submitted to club's disciplinary committee, so that both sides can be heard and finally decisions will be made," the statement said.

"Mkude's suspension is pending an investigation and a hearing of the allegations of misconduct against him

before the club's disciplinary committee."

"We call for calm on this issue as the club faces a major international game on January 6 and we demand that justice should be done."

Simba made it to this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC)'s fourth round, trouncing First Division League (FDL) club, Ruvuma's Majimaji FC, 5-0 in a third round duel which took place in Dar es Salaam on December 27.

Mkude was not part of the hosts' starting line-up in the duel.

This will be the second time for the player to be discussed by the club's disciplinary committee.

Mkude was earlier brought before the disciplinary committee on October 9, 2019 after he and a section of his teammates were asked to appear before the committee to issue explanations on indiscipline actions they had committed.

Other players, who came before the committee, were Gadiel Michael, Eras-to Nyoni and Clatous Chama.

The four players had allegedly delayed attending the side's camp and missed Simba's two Premier League matches against Kagera Sugar and Bishara United in the 2019/20 season.

Yanga says ready for Prisons in VPL

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

YANGA's leadership has said that the outfit is ready for the Vodacom Premier League (VPL)'s second phase match against Prisons, slated for tomorrow at Nelson Mandela Stadium in Rukwa.

The VPL leaders' first phase clash against Prisons, which took place in Dar es Salaam, ended in 1-1 draw.

Yanga's goalkeeper, Faroukh Shikhalo, was one of the side's players that featured for the outfit in the clash.

The Kenyan keeper has lost his place in Yanga's first choice squad to Tanzanian, Metacha Mnata, who is lately the number one option for the side's head coach, Cedric Kaze, in goalkeeping position.

Yanga's manager Hafidh Saleh said they are ready for tomorrow's game and they need three points.

He disclosed: "Preparations are well underway and the squad is ready for our game."

"We believe it will be a tough game but we need three points," he said.

The record Mainland Premier

League champions are currently in Mbeya preparing for the duel.

Yanga are leading the rest of the pack in VPL after collecting 43 points in 17 games.

The league leaders have played all 17 games in the first phase without losing after winding up the phase with a 3-0 drubbing of Ifehu FC.

They were on December 26 expected to confront Singida United in this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC)'s third round but the former qualified for the fourth round, given they were kicked out of the tournament.

Singida United were relegated to Regional Champions League for failing to participate in a First Division League match against Alliance FC.

Yanga and Prisons need three points in the clash to improve their quest for successful spell in the domestic top flight.

Prisons, currently placed 11th in the VPL table with 21 points, will moreover be seeking to break Yanga's unbeaten record.

Les Wanyika: Unending confusion of 'who is who' in 'Kasuku' lyrics

By Correspondent Michael Eneza

WHEN musicians recount a real life story it is usually easy to recognize the character line up and who plays what role, but at times they decide to set up a weird scenario where it is unclear who is who.

Yet even in that sort of situation the motif of the lyrics, the moral they are providing is distinct and clear, it is repeated over and over again as in the Les Wanyika song that is remembered by the principal character, Kasuku, while a relation, conjugal affinity, swears he or she will remain by him or her, and explains why.

This explanation is the motif of the song, in the sense of being steadfast in conjugal affinity with someone who is essentially satisfied with what he or she gets in life, and does not trouble himself or herself for things that are above his or her head.

That does not mean he is not struggling to move forward but that this is not at the centre of his concerns but to do with what he or she has, holding the future in hope rather than in anguish about the present.

It is someone who exudes confidence in what he has in life, not sad, distant.

One way to clear the



Kenya's Orchestre Les Wanyika's members pictured in Nairobi recently. They are (L-R) Sijali Zuwa, Alfani Toni Malanga, Rashidi Juma and Joseph Justy. AGENCIES

fog as to who is the principal character is the name, and the Les Wanyika artistes were good at their puzzle setting business, as it depends on whether the name they gave is the first name of their character or the last name.

If it is the first name then it is a lady that is the subject of the song, and the one who is making the promises is the husband or has a durable affinity with the subject of the song.

On the contrary, if it happens to be the second name, then Kasuku would be the man in that relationship.

Either way there are problems of interpretation arising out of common usage, for instance whether the principal character, Kasuku, could conceivably be a woman (as first name implication strongly suggests).

If it is a woman, it means that the one

making the promise is the husband or suitor, and especially the latter scenario as the song says the fellow wishes to 'settle' with Kasuku, implying that there is a sort of open relationship rather than a family set up per se.

Still it does not mean it could not so presume, a family.

Figuring out that the song comes up in the twilight years of classical post-independence pop culture, it is less affirmative on durable loyalties for instance in Mbaraka Mwineshehe or Afro-70 songs on marriage, where one does not 'assure' his listeners that he intends to 'stay' in that marriage, as traditional society was still there.

Parental authority was still significant and even paramount, and when got married everyone knew this was permanent, the children are born and they

will be there to be taken care of not just by the two parents (as it is the case later, and ipso facto, often by one parent alone).

They grow up with their grandparents; it is part of the necessary psychological format of post-independence life, being in a clan.

The difficulty about the idea that Kasuku is a lady is that, fine, the lyrics appear to indicate that the one singing is not the provider in that relationship, in the sense that (he) is saying (he) will stick with Kasuku because (she) is satisfied with what (she) gets, and may God bless (her) in that reasonable outlook on life, etc.

It is entirely possible that the man (the presumed provider) is saying that the woman he is engaged or living with (in a relationship that could unravel, except apparently for these reasons of Kasuku's

outlook) is happy with the (presumed lady, Kasuku). She does not trouble him with lustful demands of no relevance.

Yet there is something of a brain teaser in that supposition, namely whether the lyrics, especially the part of wishing that God help (the key person of the song) to succeed, is directed to a dependent in a house, in that case the wife.

Being the provider means that if any blessings are said in a collective sense, wishing well for a family, they are likely to be directed at the provider, as when he is blessed then the one being provided for will also be at ease.

It would follow therefore that Kasuku, the provider, should be blessed.

That would also suggest that the songwriter was thinking in the place of a lady with affinity with the main character of the song, more or less speaking her mind, that he is not pursuing lusts and thus is balanced in his outlook.

It also means he takes up family issues candidly and sincerely as they come, as when one is balanced in the mind, such person will also be balanced in outlook, someone pursuing lusts is rarely a good family provider especially if his means are low as in this case. That view is more consummating.



The JKT netball team participate in recent training in Dar es Salaam to shape up for domestic competitions. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Taifa Cup 2021 netball tournament's preparations hot up

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

PREPARATIONS for the next year's National Netball Tournament, known as 'Taifa Cup', which is expected to tip off in Manyara on January 3, are gaining momentum.

The tournament's Organizing Committee stated that it is well prepared to welcome participating teams from various regions in Tanzania.

Manyara Regional Netball Association's secretary, Yasinta Sylvester, noted the regional squad's players are currently keeping themselves in good shape by playing various friendly matches.

Yasinta, who is also the National Netball Association (Chaneta)'s executive committee's member, asked for co-operation from

Manyara's residents and sports stakeholders to back the region's preparations for the coming competition.

She said that the preparations are well underway and noted the regional team is continuing with training ready to confront their opponents in the showpiece.

In a recent Regional Consultative Committee (RCC), Manyara Regional Commissioner, Joseph Mkirikiti, said it was an opportunity for the region to be selected to host the competition as, as well as promoting the region, the competition will boost the region's economy.

Mkirikiti moreover commended the Chaneta leadership for giving Manyara greenlight to play host to the 'Taifa Cup' as the competition

will promote Manyara.

Manyara regional netball team recently took on Ayalagaya Secondary School's netball side in a friendly clash, which was part of the former's preparations for 'Taifa Cup'.

Ayalagaya Secondary School's netball team conceded 42-15 loss to Manyara regional netball team.

The school's Head, Father Lawrence Lawala, stated every side should participate in the coming tournament in good faith to maintain love, peace and solidarity.

He said every team, who will feature in the competition, should realize that they are playing an important role in maintaining cooperation between the places they come from and the hosts.

He further pointed out the

sides' players will be building their personal health and attracting others to participate in sports.

He urged the players to play with love and peace and care for each other, recognizing that they belong to one nation, one community.

He was adamant the players should know they are all human beings, who are created in the image and likeness of God, so it is good for them to work together for the Almighty to bless them.

The school's other leader, Father Joseph Bukhay, encouraged Manyara regional netball team that they should use the sport to live a healthy lifestyle, maintain good relations, unity, friendship and use the game as a source of employment.

Owner confronts Israeli team's racist past

JERUSALEM

AT the age of 39, Moshe Hogege has made millions of dollars trading in cryptocurrency, bought one of Israel's most prominent soccer teams and brought in a wealthy Emirati sheikh as his new co-owner.

Now comes what may be his biggest challenge. As owner of Beitar Jerusalem, the only major Israeli soccer club never to have signed an Arab player, Hogege says he is determined to remove the stain of racism from the team and sideline its most rabid anti-Arab fans, all while transforming Beitar into a soccer powerhouse with a diverse lineup.

"The racist image that the club had was one of the key elements that brought me to buy this club," Hogege told The Associated Press in an interview at the team's Jerusalem training facility.

"I saw this problem that reflects bad not only on the club, but also on Israel," he said. "I love football, and I thought it was the opportunity to buy this club and to fix this racist problem. And then I could do something that is bigger than football."

Beitar, rooted in the same pre-state Zionist movement that inspired the ruling Likud party, is one of the country's most storied sports franchises and counts Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Reuven Rivlin among its fans. It is seen as a potent symbol of the Israeli working class at the heart of Netanyahu's nationalist base.

But in recent years, it has drawn negative attention for its refusal to integrate. Israel's Arab minority makes up roughly 20% of the country's population, and Arab players star on rival teams and the national squad.

Club officials have in the past said their hands were tied by a hardcore base of fans who wield significant clout over personnel decisions. A small group of fans, known as "La Familia," have chanted "death to Arabs" and other profanities toward opposing Arab players.

During the team's 2013 season, a move to bring in two Muslim players from Chechnya badly misfired. La Familia led a boycott that famously left the stadium empty during a home match, several fans were charged with torching the team's offices, and the club was nearly relegated to the second division as its season fell apart.

Hogege, a high-tech entrepreneur and cryptocurrency trader, bought Beitar two years ago and said he set out to change its culture from the "very beginning."

He said he has spoken out against racism and even filed lawsuits accusing fans of damaging the team's reputation. Last year, Beitar signed Ali Mohamed, a player of Muslim descent from the African country of Niger.

But his biggest move by far was this month's blockbuster announcement that he had sold a 50% stake in the club to Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al Nahyan, a member of Abu Dhabi's ruling family. Al Nahyan has pledged to pump \$90 million into the team in the coming decade.

Hogege said he was inspired to look for an Emirati partner after the U.S.-brokered agreement establishing diplomatic relations between Israel and the United Arab Emirates in September. He spoke to several potential investors before mutual acquaintances put him in touch with Al Nahyan.

Jewish Israelis have warmly embraced the establishment of ties with Gulf Arabs, despite continued discrimination toward Israel's Arab minority in areas like housing, jobs and government budgets. Hogege believes that sports can provide an example for others to follow.

"I looked for a partner that will have the same vision of showing the world, showing kids, showing everyone that Muslims and Jews can work together and build beautiful things together," he said. "And I think football is the best platform for it."

The bearded Hogege, wearing a sharp suit and black dress shoes, stood on a soccer field at the practice facility for the interview. He happily dribbled a soccer ball and kicked it into the goal as he discussed his love for the game he still plays recreationally.

Hogege said he and his partner plan a "carrot and stick" approach, using their expertise and deep pockets to reward the fans with a perennial soccer powerhouse, while simultaneously letting it be known that anyone who objects to their message of coexistence is unwelcome.

"Either you are for the club or you are about something else. If you are about hate and racism, you are not part of us," he said.

The team is mired at the bottom of the league this year and has few prospects for success. But Hogege is predicting a quick turnaround next year and expects to contend for the Israeli championship through aggressive player acquisitions. In the longer term, he and his partner plan to invest heavily in young homegrown talent and aim to compete on the European stage.

With Al Nahyan as co-owner, Hogege said that adding Arab players to the roster is a "non-issue." He said the team already is trying to recruit an Arab player who competes in Europe, though it is unclear whether his current team will release him.

"We are actively looking for A-class players that can upgrade the level of our team," he said. "Religion is not a factor by any means."

Avigail Sharabi, a diehard Beitar supporter who currently appears on a reality TV show, accused Hogege of abandoning the team's traditions for money.

Lionel Messi interview: What he said and what it means for his present at Barca and future plans

By James Ducker

LIONEL Messi's interview with Spanish TV channel La Sexta at the weekend has cast new light on his dispute with Barcelona at the belated end of last season and hinted at his intentions next month when he is free to negotiate a summer move with clubs outside Spain. James Ducker looks at what Messi said and reads between the lines of his words:

On the burofax he sent to the club asking to leave in the summer

What Messi said
"It was me telling the club that I wanted to leave, I felt I'd completed a cycle and it was time to leave the club that had given me so much. I wanted to win titles and battle for the Champions League and felt it was time for change. The president then started to filter this and that to paint a negative picture of me."

Analysis
On Aug 25 Messi sent a burofax - in effect, a recorded letter - to Barcelona, serving notice of his desire to leave. The Argentina forward claimed he had been telling Josep Maria Bartomeu throughout the course of the previous season that he wanted to leave and that the then Barcelona president reneged on a promise to allow him to go.

Barcelona responded to Messi's burofax in the same format, informing the player that they wanted him to stay and insisting he was still bound to a €700 million (£620m) release clause. Messi had argued that a separate termination

clause in his contract permitted him to walk away for nothing and effectively rendered the release clause void but Barcelona argued that the deadline for that clause to be applied had expired. Messi's relationship with Bartomeu, which was already broken beyond repair, reached its nadir.

On deciding not to take Barcelona to court to try and leave on a free transfer

What Messi said
"I knew that if we went to court, we would have won. Not just one lawyer told me that, many did. But I didn't want to leave Barça in that way."

Analysis
Barcelona felt a termination clause permitting Messi to walk away for nothing in the summer had expired because he had failed to inform them of that wish before a June 10 deadline. But his legal representatives argued that the date should be put back because the season has been extended due to the coronavirus crisis. Messi opted not to turn up for pre-season training, which was consistent with his legal position in which he claimed he had effectively departed the club having triggered his unilateral escape clause. Ultimately, Messi opted against taking the matter to court out of his respect to the club that had given him so much.

On paying up Luis Suárez's contract and allowing him to join Atlético Madrid on a free transfer

What Messi said
"What happened with Luis Suárez at Atlético was crazy! He left for free, paying the remaining



Lionel Messi

years of his contract and he joined a team that fight for the same objectives as us. Unbelievable."

Analysis
Suárez had a year left on his contract with Barcelona but admitted to being reduced to tears during his final weeks after being frozen out and not even permitted to play in practice matches in training. The Uruguay striker scored 198 goals in 283 appearances over six years with Barcelona, during which time he became very close with Messi, who could not believe the club would choose to cast aside one of the greatest players in their history in such a way - and sell him to a direct rival. Atlético are currently top of La Liga, eight points clear of Barcelona, and Suarez has seven goals in 10 league appearances.

On where he sees his future

What Messi said
"I would like to play in the United States and experience life and the league there... but ultimately come back to Barcelona in some capacity. I'm not thinking too far ahead in the short term

and just want to see how the season finishes."

Analysis
With his Barcelona contract due to expire at the end of the season, Messi will be free to talk to foreign suitors on Jan 1. He has ruled out the prospect of a move next month but admits he has yet to make a decision on what he will do in the summer. Although he has expressed an interest in playing Major League Soccer in the US, he is unlikely to be considering a move to America at this stage given that he still feels he has several years left at the top of the European game. However, Manchester City - one of several clubs interested in signing Messi next summer - could exploit the Argentine's interest in playing in the US down the line. City's Abu Dhabi owners own the MLS club, New York City, as part of their City Football Group stable and are known to have been working on a long-term plan that would involve offering Messi the chance to play for New York after a spell in the Premier League.

On the best coaches he played under

What Messi said
"His [Pep Guardiola's] way of preparing games was exceptional and his way and the way of working that Luis Enrique worked too was excellent. I was fortunate to work with both men."

Analysis
Messi won three La Liga titles, two Champions League, two Club World Cups, two Copa del Rey, two Uefa Super Cups and three Spanish Super Cups under Guardiola at Barcelona, during which time he won the Ballon d'Or four times in a row. The pair retain a good relationship and still talk and the prospect of working with each other again appeals, despite Guardiola often stating his belief Messi will see out his career at Barcelona.

On the club's presidential election and financial troubles

What Messi said
"Let the best candidate win. Whoever does will find a very difficult situation, it is not going to be easy to turn this around. It's a difficult moment for the club, for everyone, but those inside the club know that it's in a really bad situation, things are very bad and it's going to be difficult to return the club to where it used to be."

Analysis
Barcelona's presidential elections will take place on Jan 24 when a successor to Bartomeu will be chosen. Messi lamented claims from the caretaker president Carlos Tusquets that, in financial terms, Barcelona would have been better off selling Messi in the summer but the

player is well aware of the extent of the club's financial problems. Last month, Barcelona's players agreed to wage cuts that would save the club €122m (£108m). They also agreed with their players to have about £45m of variable payments deferred over a three-year period. Barcelona's accounts for 2019-20, published in October, revealed that the club's net debt had more than doubled to €488m (£432m) as they felt the sharp impact of the Covid-19 crisis. Messi's admission that Barcelona - who have won only half of their 14 league matches this season - are going to struggle to get back on top will encourage his many suitors eager to prise him away from the Nou Camp in the summer.

On the prospect of Neymar rejoining

What Messi said
"I speak to Luis [Suárez] every day. Last time I spoke to Neymar was after the [Champions League] round of 16 draw. The club are going through a tough period financially so it will be complicated to bring Neymar in."

Analysis
Like Suárez, Messi enjoys a good relationship with Neymar, who has been keen to return to Barcelona from Paris Saint-Germain, who bought him for a world record £198m fee in 2017. But with Barcelona facing a battle just to raise the funds to sign the £15m-rated defender Eric García from City, Messi knows there is little prospect of him being reunited with Neymar next summer.

Chelsea are missing something, and they're running out of time to find it

By Tom Hamilton, ESPN Senior Writer

WHILE Chelsea were far better against Aston Villa than in their limp 3-1 defeat at Arsenal, the football world is still waiting for Frank Lampard's side to return to top form.

Monday's 1-1 draw was not the result Chelsea wanted, or needed, to get their season back on track. Instead, things are stuck in a vicious cycle of wondering whether Lampard knows his best XI or, equally pressing, whether or not he knows how to get the best out of them. They answered his prematch rallying cry of improving their intensity, but the balance of matches is not yet falling in their favour, with just one win in their past six games (all competitions) to show for it.

Chelsea spent big in the summer in order to build upon last season's promise and contend for the title; heading into the new year, that £220 million figure is now an albatross around Lampard's neck. This is not to do Aston Villa a disservice -- they're a brilliantly organised team and put their remarkable work rate to good use at Stamford Bridge -- but Chelsea needed to win this match at home after three defeats in four, ultimately falling short.

"When you're in a tough moment, things don't quite go for you -- you have to fight through it," Lampard said postmatch.

This was Chelsea's second match in 48 hours; the festive schedule is bruising and unrelenting, and as it's being played out against the backdrop of COVID-19 logistics and stress, you can forgive players for the odd off-day. But Aston Villa are enduring the same circumstances and while Chelsea made six changes from the Boxing Day defeat at Arsenal, Villa made just one suspension-enforced change.

You could see two different approaches in play on Monday night: Dean Smith, doing a brilliant job at Villa, is content in knowing his best team and sticking with them, backing them to play through the fatigue and deliver. Lampard's squad is a bigger beast with a lot more options, but is lacking consistency. "Mentality" was the buzzword post-match, but that won't win you titles alone. And so it was the old tried and tested that got Chelsea the point.

Take the always reliable Olivier Giroud, who delivered again for Chelsea in a moment of need. His clever header gave Chelsea the first-half



Lampard has yet to figure out the right formula for his expensive Chelsea side. Time's running out given the hectic fixture list and pressure to get results. (Agencies)

lead, with Ben Chilwell superb and both wingers Christian Pulisic and Callum Hudson-Odoi lively. Pulisic had two good first-half chances while Timo Werner, dropped to the bench, fired over the bar late on, and Chilwell flashed a last-gasp, beautiful volley just wide

of Emiliano Martinez's far post, but the Frenchman is their dominant presence through the middle of the field.

Chelsea lack dynamism from midfield, and herein lies the Lampard conundrum: they have envious depth and have spent big to give

themselves the talent for competing in multiple competitions, but it still looks like they need a presence like West Ham's Declan Rice in midfield to really anchor things and give assuredness in the middle of the park. Rice is on their radar, but John McGinn, Aston Villa's outstanding midfielder, offered them a close look at what they're lacking.

Lampard and Chelsea had every intention of turning this campaign into a title challenge. But when form slumps -- they seem far removed from their November best, when they rattled off six straight wins in the Premier League and Champions League -- the pressure and noise increases around the squad, and the players

left out seem even more glaring in their absence.

Both Kai Havertz and Timo Werner were on the bench after underwhelming vs. Arsenal, and neither made the necessary impact with 20 minutes left. Individual quality isn't enough for Chelsea at the moment as they struggle to create clear-cut chances. Tammy Abraham and Giroud are playing well and their overlapping fullbacks get plenty of crosses into the box, but they are either snaffled up at the near post and cleared or forced back to the midfield, so Chelsea have to build again. How they must hope Hakim Ziyech is back sooner rather than later; until then, we're still waiting for this Chelsea side to be defined.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Simba SC plots Ihefu FC downfall in VPL

SPORT

Owner confronts Israeli team's racist past

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

TONIGHT @ 7:00

EATV SAA 1

EATV WEDNESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
13:30 Kall Za Wana
14:00 Planet Bongo (r)
14:30 Bongo Hills
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Nirvana (r)
16:00 Skonga (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Kiblashara Zaidi

EATV SAA 1
Coverage of the days current events accompanied by interviews with prominent people on diverse topics ranging from national to social interests.

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

Dar, Njombe boxers set for fights today

By Guardian Reporter

THE Mid Town Hall will today be a place to go for boxing followers in Makambako District and their counterparts from the remaining parts of Njombe given non-title boxing bouts are set to take place at the venue.

Boxing coach Omary Yazidu, the bouts' coordinator, stated experienced pugilist, West Lloyd, will take on Ruvuma's Abdul Waike in the day's main bout, an eight-round, non-title Super Welterweight fight.

Lloyd has not graced a boxing ring for quite some time, his latest bout happens to be a six-round, non-title Middleweight bout against George Dimoso which took place in Dar es Salaam early last year. Dimoso won by Unanimous Decision.

Lloyd, who is lately a Middleweight pugilist, has overall featured in 14 bouts, posting victory in six wins, suffering loss in six and the remaining bouts were declared draw.

He as well did not have success in his latest international fight which took place in Uganda in May, 2015, losing to the country's boxer, Juma Waswa, by points in an eight-round, non-title Welterweight fight.

Today's main bout's boxers are lately not rated by Boxrec, a website which keeps records for professional pugilists from all over the globe, which means they will use the main card to get good results which will earn them rating.

In today's undercards, Makambako's Lidya Mdelele will take on Vanessa Mwaipasi, also based in the district, in a four-round, non-title Light Welterweight bout, which is the only bout involving female boxers.

The day will also see Mafinga's Daniel Joseph face Makambako's Oswald Sakarani in a four-round, non-title Light weight fight.

Makambako boxer James Julius will take on the district's other pugilist Abdallah Hemedi in a four-round, non-title Light Heavyweight bout.

Dar es Salaam's Manguli Tompo will trade blows with Makambako's Udeze Masoud in a Super Featherweight fight.

Yazidu said the bouts aim at boosting the game's promotion in Makambako and motivating the district's youths to take up the sport given boxing.

He was adamant that the game, as it is the case for other sports disciplines, is a source of employment.

He expressed his gratitude to the fights' sponsors, Makambako's Nobert Secondary School's Director, Saloni Mbilinyi, and Kinyuny Hardware firm for their willingness to put their weight behind boxing promotion in the area.

Yazidu moreover appreciated the backing that the security organs in the district have given to the event.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

adona

SIMBA SC's head coach Sven Vandebroek has vowed to see to it his club continues its winning mentality in today's Vodacom Premier League (VPL) game pitting the squad against Mbeya's Ihefu FC at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

The Belgian coach said his charges are well prepared for today's game as they will use it to prepare for the return leg of CAF Champions League's first round game against FC Platinum Zimbabwe.

He said Simba are looking forward to winning today's game so as to boost morale and confidence in the team ahead of a must win game



Simba SC. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

against the Zimbabwean side.

Simba lost 1-0 to FC Platinum in the first leg, which took place in Zimbabwe a week ago, and the former will host the latter on Wednesday next week in a game they have termed as 'War in Dar'.

"I would like to emphasise that my task is to win matches at Simba SC. We have good players who are doing enough on the pitch, we will make sure that we win tomorrow game to see to it the morale is high in our camp before playing against FC Platinum," he said.

Simba will miss the services of midfielder, Jonas Mkude, in the match against Ihefu FC.

The VPL defending champions announced the midfielder's indefinite suspension due to indiscipline and

other misconducts.

The team will, though, be boosted by the coming of skipper John Bocco who was out of action due to an injury he sustained in Zimbabwe.

The last time that Simba and Ihefu FC met in a VPL duel was mid this year.

Simba won 2-1 but Ihefu FC's head Coach Zubeir Katwila is reported to have said his charges are ready for all of the squad's VPL matches.

Ihefu are coming into today's game after conceding 3-0 loss to VPL leaders Yanga in a duel, which took place at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya, but Katwila said the defeat to Yanga is water under the bridge.

"After this game, the focus is on the next game, we need to prepare well and have strong character to face our

opponents away. It will be a difficult game, but we can upset them if we can prepare well," he said.

Ihefu FC has been placed 17th in the VPL standing with 13 points but during the mini transfer period, the club has boosted its squad by signing new players, keeper Deogratius Munishi, Juma Mahadhi and Joseph Mahundi.

Simba come into today's match after beating Majimaji FC 5-0 in this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup's third-round tie last weekend to qualify for the competition's fourth round.

Although Simba have lost two games in the VPL and one against FC Platinum in CAF Champions League, some of domestic soccer pundits have been questioning the VPL defending champions' performance.

The analysts have said the performance does not give any hope the squad can defend the VPL silverware and qualifying for CAF Champions League's group stage.

However, Vandebroek took to social media early this week, accusing people who are questioning his charges' performances, saying his players should be left alone and instead all blame on team's performance should be heaped on him.

He said they have showcased good organization and solid performance but people are not looking at the two aspects, instead they are blaming his charges.

"My players are playing their lungs out, they are giving everything 100 percent, we won 1-0 away to Plateau United in Nigeria but now the media and other soccer lovers are attacking my players for not playing well, I know my players are giving everything for us to win games, otherwise I'm the one to be attacked, not my players," the coach said in the post.

Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Innocent Basungwa, pays last respect to National Arts Council (BASATA) Executive Secretary Godfrey Mwingereza's body at Karimjee ground in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA



Azam FC seeks to reinforce squad

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

VODACOM Premier League (VPL) giants, Azam FC, says the club will beef up its squad during the mini transfer period, which will end mid January, next year.

Azam FC's information officer, Thabit Zacharia, noted they are waiting for the club's head coach George Lwandamina's recommendations on players to be signed by the club.

He said Azam FC is out to emerge as this season's VPL champions.

Azam FC has been linked with many

local and foreign players but Zacharia said he is not aware of the names and nationalities of players that coach Lwandamina wants in his squad.

Zacharia disclosed the players will be made public once all negotiations are through.

"We have not signed any player, we are waiting for our head coach to make his recommendations on the players he wants to beef up his squad, it does not matter if the player is either local or foreign, all the club will do is to give our head coach what he

wants," he said.

Azam FC is placed third in the VPL's table with 29 points from 16 games played, the squad will, on Thursday, entertain Polisi Tanzania in a clash which will take place in Dar es Salaam.

Commenting on the Thursday game, Zacharia said it will not be easy but they are well prepared for the encounter.

He said it is important that they are now beginning to win home matches and he added they have put an extra gear in their effort to perform well in

the second phase of the league.

"We started the league on a very good note but somehow on the road we were slow, it happens in this sport, now we need to improve so that we can start winning our games and collect the needed points," he said.

The Chamazi-based side comes into the Thursday match after winning the Azam Sports Federation Cup's third-round clash against Dar es Salaam's Magereza team 2-0. Forward Obrey Chirwa and midfielder Never Tigere netted the goals.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

