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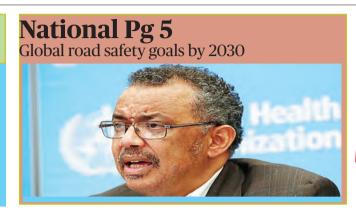
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TANZANIA

WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY, 2020











WHO alarmed at coronavirus spread in Middle East, Europe

GENEVA

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) has said the coronavirus outbreak has not reached the level of a pandemic but warned countries to step up preparations to deal with such a scenario, as new deaths and infections were reported in the Middle East and Europe.

While the global health agency is very concerned about the spread of the virus within countries such as South Korea, Iran and Italy, its chief said on Monday the infections in China - the country where it originated late last year have been declining since early February, which proved that the virus can be contained.



What we see are epidemics in different parts of the world affecting countries in different ways and requiring a tailored response

"For the moment, we are not witnessing the uncontained global spread of this coronavirus, and we are not witnessing large-scale severe disease or death," Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus told reporters in Geneva.

He asserted, however, that countries should be "doing everything we can to prepare for a potential pandemic.

"What we see are epidemics in different parts of the world affecting countries in different ways and requiring a tailored response."

The WHO chief's comments came as officials in Europe and the Middle East scrambled to limit the spread of the outbreak and stock markets dipped on fears of a global slowdown due to the spread of the viral infection, officially known as COVID-19.

In Italy, where there have been more than 200 infections and seven deaths, authorities have set up roadblocks, called off football matches, sealed off the worst-affected towns and banned public gatherings across a wide area.

Al Jazeera's Mohammed Jamjoom, reporting from central Milan in northern Italy, said there appeared to be a sense of alarm but not panic.

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Govt nods to cooking gas plans for Dar city



THINKING BIG: Smallholder farmer Joyce Nguvila of Ifunda in Iringa District keeps an eye yesterday on the improved, higher-yielding avo-

SADC green energy facility to spur rural electrification

By Henry Mwangonde

THE Southern African Development Community (SADC) is establishing a centre for renewable energy and efficiency to coordinate and support rural electrification among member states.

Speaking at the SADC energy subcommittee meeting which opened in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the executive director of the centre, Kudakwashe Ndhlukula said the facility would offer technological support on how to address low supply arising from poor planning.

"Despite abundant renewable energy sources within member states, SADC has



one of the world's lowest rural electricity supply rates at five per cent on average,'

Ndhlukula said the centre is a result of the SADC renewable energy strategic plan adopted in 2017, devised to address limited energy supply as it is a perennial stumbling block to the region's economic growth.

The meeting shall discuss nuclear energy safety along with the importance of energy source diversification and regulation among member states.

The strategy is a guideline and framework in which renewable energy can be adopted but it also address challenges to the security of supply among member states.

In her opening remarks, Energy Permanent

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As a country, we have encouraged use of alternative energy as the only solution to protection of forests and environment

By Guardian Reporter

NERGY that cheapens home cooking expenses is set to be popularized in Dar es Salaam and countrywide, the government has

The Minister of State in the Vice-President's Office (Union and Environment), Mussa Zungu, said yesterday that a city family would be able to spend 600/- only on gas and cook a meal for five persons in a planned scheme to make urbanites switch from charcoal to gas.

This follows an initiative made by as German firm, Circle Gas to invest in household use gas business in East African cities and towns, starting with Dar es Salaam and Nai-

Zungu was talking to journalists after discussions with the Managing Director of the Circle Gas, Volker Schultz, who called on him at his Dar es Salaam office.

"Absolutely, gas is far cheaper than charcoal," the minister affirmed, welcoming the



We shall be happy if this scheme will take off because over 90 per cent of the Dar es Salaam residents are dependent on charcoal

company's investment proposal, noting however that education and a public awareness campaign would be necessary to make many people switch from charcoal to gas.

"As a country, we have encouraged use of alternative energy as the only way we can protect forests and the environment. We have taken several steps together with envi-

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Police rescue 85-year-old man held in village cell for 3 days

By Guardian Correspondent, Igunga

DEBATE is going on here about the rule of law after it took police intervention to rescue an 85-year-old man arrested by a local government leader and locked up for three days last week reportedly without food.

Briefing reporters here yesterday, Officer Commanding Igunga District in Tabora Region Ally Mkalipa said that law enforcers arrived at Mwamaganga local government offices on Thursday and rescued Masanja Mahubi who had been incarcerated for three days.

"We received a tip-off from law abiding citizens that an old man was being held in the lo-



We received a tip-off from law abiding citizens that an old man was being held in the local government office

cal government office," he said.

The OCD said police broke the padlock to the room where Mahubi was locked up week and led him to Mwamaganga local because the person who locked him up, government offices where he was locked

Mwamaganga local government chairman Msoba Mligo could not produce the key to the room.

Asked by reporters if he indeed arrested and locked up Mahubi, Mligo answered in the affirmative, saying he could not set him free because he had no keys to the office.

The local leader could however not explain why he arrested Mahubi in the first place.

In his description of what transpired Mahubi said Mligo and three youthful men arrested him at around 9pm on Tuesday last

"I was from an errand at Iyogelo village in Kining'inila ward. Because it was night, I was looking for a place to sleep when they stopped, interrogated and arrested me," he said.

He said that he went without food or water for the entire period except on the second day-Tuesday last week when Mligo gave him a cup of tea and two chapatis in the morning.

"After I had the breakfast, I pleaded with him to set me free but he refused," Mahubi narrated. Residents of the area who spoke to this pa-

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Merkel representative for Africa impressed by National Museum

By Guardian Reporter

GERMAN Chancellor Angela Merkel's Personal Representative for Africa, Günter Nooke, yesterday visited the National Museum in Dar es Salaam and was visibly pleased by the artifacts therein.

Nooke was accompanied by Germany's ambassador to Tanzania Dr Rainer Hoening.

At the National Museum they were received by the director general of National Museum Dr Noel Lwoga, the Director of Museums and and the Museum's Chief Curator Dr Amandus Kweka.

Nooke visited the human origin hall, history hall and recollections of Mwalimu Julius Nyerere's contribution to the liberation of Africa housed in a temporary hall.

Speaking after the visit Nooke said he was so Germany to come and invest impressed by what he saw in the Museum.

On Monday Nooke met country.

per, Kimwaga Juma, Issa

Abihudi and Asia Clement,

said this was not the first time

Mligo arrested and locked up

OCD Mkalipa said that they

were notified by a Good Sa-

maritan that the elder was

someone in the offices.

with President John Magufuli in Dar es Salaam whereby the duo vowed to continue strengthening the two countries' historical relations for mutual benefits.

Nooke presented a message from the Germany Chancellor Angela Merkel and commended the government's efforts in fighting corruption and intensifying economy.

According to him, the Tanzania has made a lot of development strides compared to previous years.

He assured that Germany will continue cooperating Cultural House Achille Bufure with Tanzania in various sectors including investment, businesses and other social services.

> Dr Magufuli also assured the Chancellor of German that the government of Tanzania will continue strengthening bilateral historical ties.

He invited investors from in various potential and productive sectors in the



Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition national coordinator Onesmo Olengurumwa (R) has an audience with Commission for Human Rights and Good Governance chairman Judge (rtd) Mathew Mwaimu at commission's offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

WHO alarmed at coronavirus spread in Middle East, Europe Police rescue 85-year-old man held in village cell for 3 days

FROM PAGE 1

they have spiked."

locked in the office for three

"After receiving the infor. mation we went and found the 85-year old man locked in. We then took him out. We are calling for all leaders to implement their duties as per the country's laws," he added.

"People are taking precautions ... but they are still out and about," he said. "All that being said though, people are concerned because there were just a handful of cases last week and in the past few days

In Iran, the government taking its total to 833. Many said 12 people had died nationwide, while five

neighbouring countries - Iraq, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman and Afghanistan reported their first cases of the virus, with those infected all having links to Iran. A WHO team is due to arrive in Iran on Tuesday.

South Korea, meanwhile, reported 231 new cases, are in its fourth-largest city, Daegu, which became more isolated with Asiana Airlines and Korean Air suspending flights there until next month. Mongolia earlier announced it would not allow flights from South Korea to land.

Officially known as spread to almost 30 countries and killed about two dozen people. In China, it has infected some 77,000

people and killed more than 2,500 most of them in the central province of Beijing postponed the

annual meeting of the National People's Congress - slated earlier for March COVID-19, the virus has 5 - for the first time in decades due to the coronavirus outbreak, state broadcaster CCTV said on Monday.

"So far, no new date has

been set," Al Jazeera's Katrina Yu, reporting from Beijing, said.

"But analysts say when the meeting is rescheduled, that will be the biggest indicator that the country has finally won its war against the coronavirus outbreak."

Yu said 24 of China's 31 while a visiting WHO team China, said in Beijing.

noted that a turning point had been reached in Wuhan, epicentre of the outbreak and the capital of Hubei.

"They're at a point now where the number of cured people coming out of hospitals each day is much more than the sick going provinces reported no new in," Bruce Aylward, head cases in the past 24 hours, of the WHO delegation in



Angellah Kairuki (2nd-R), Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment), and Finance and Planning deputy minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji (R) pictured yesterday viewing items made by Mara Region entrepreneurs. This was shortly before the opening of a consultative meeting held in the region and involving investors, members of the business community and government officials. The focus was on ways to improve the business environment in the country. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

SADC green energy centre to spur rural electrification

FROM PAGE 1

Secretary Zena Saidi asserted that despite enormous potential of energy resources, the region still faces significant challenges in energy supply to meet ever demand from increasingly economic activities and population growth.

"While the demand is expected

only five percent of the rural people in the region have access to electricity. This indicates that there is still energy poverty across the region which continues to hold back economic development," she said.

Limited supply of energy presents a major challenge and an developmental agenda in the near

to grow, it is sad to note that of the SADC region for the industrialization agenda, currently championed by most SADC member states in their quest for economic emancipation, she said.

Frequent energy supply shortages faced by most of the SADC countries make it difficult to realize energy-based obstacle in driving the economy future, she further noted.

The meeting is part of the revision of the SADC Protocol on Energy 1996, energy sector targets in the revised Regional Indicative Strategic Plan (RISP) 2015-2020, the regional natural gas master plan as well as a report on implementation of the Energy Sector Plan (ESP) and the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP) 2012-2027.

Govt nods to cooking gas plans for Dar city

ronment stakeholders," the minister said.

He said the use of charcoal increased enormously because of the rising population. "Tree felling has increased sharply. Latest studies show that over two million tonnes of charcoal are used annually for cooking. This has a very negative effect on environment," he said.

While the scheme had

were concluded phase one of the implementation of the project would start in Dar es Salaam, benefiting

at least 10,000 residents. this scheme will take off because over 90 of city on charcoal," he said.

The initiative has an element of postponing payment for the stove and me- is easily accessible, he

tre in the first 18 months added.

not yet started, once talks and only pay for gas on the basis of consumption, he said.

Schultz said their company's long-term plan was to make urban dwell-"We shall be happy if ers mostly use gas for the good of the environment. The company's current foresidents are dependent cus was on cities like Dar es Salaam and Nairobi, as they are the major markets for charcoal and gas

University inaugurates course on processing of health information

By Guardian Reporter

THE Amref International University (AMIU) has introduced health communication and journalism course to ease processing and dissemination of health information.

In a statement released yesterday from Nairobi, Kenya, the institution said this has come in its recognition of the important advocacy role of journalists in informing the public in promotive, preventive, rehabilitative and palliative health.

Beginning next month,, the short course intends to train the next generation of factual and evidence-based reporters. It provides learners with a thorough understanding of topical issues in health in order to aid in generating well researched, analytical and in-depth articles.

"This course is designed for persons passionate about factual and evidencebased journalism. As a university we will continue to build capacities for journalists by offering short courses. In the next two years, we will upgrade this training to a Postgraduate Diploma or a Master's Degree," says Prof. Marion Mutugi the vice chancellor of AMIU.

Amref Health Africa, AMIU together with other partners, designed the course with the aim of increasing accurate information

and also addresses the sensitivities and ethical issues around health reporting.

According to technical support unit, the training model offers a drastic shift from basic reporting to context and analysis.

"With this, reporters are able to provide their consumers with in-depth stories on issues that matter to them," says Prof. Joachim Osur, Amref Health Africa's Technical Director.

The course targets journalists, public relations officers and health managers, but it's open to anyone.

The practical oriented Health Communication and Journalism course will be delivered through face-to-face engagements and video interviews with leading experts.

The modules cover the following topics: fundamentals of Health Communication, Overview of the Health Sector, Communicating Emerging and re-emerging Health issues in Africa and Global Health Policies and Social Health Determinants.

Others are Research for Health and Data Reporting, Reporting Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights, Bio-ethics and Health Laws, Media and Advocacy in Health Reporting and Innovation and Technology in Health.



Hai District residents attend a health testing camp jointly organised at the weekend by the Moshi-based Kilimanjaro Christian Medical Centre and Mawenzi Hospital. Photo: Godfrev Mushi

Finnish investors invited into Tanzania's forest sector

By Guardian Reporter

THE Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism Prof. Adolph Mkenda has invited investors from Finland to invest in industries that use products from forests and tourism.

Prof Mkenda said yesterday when speaking to reporters soon after welcoming the visiting delegation from Finland lead by the Minister Development and International Cooperation and Trade Ville Skinnari.

He said the government welcomed the opportunities available in Finland given its fast experiences to Finland's forest sector.

Prof Mkenda assured Finland that the government has put in place a friendly investment and businesses environment. "Apart from Zanzibar and Northern Tourism Circuit , there are also great opportunities from the

see them developed. Therefore we invite you to come and visit and see for yourselves on how they you will invest and by doing so they you also advertise our tourism attractions in other Scandinavian countries," he said.

He also said the two countries have agreed to increase the number of tourists to visit Tanzania in the coming

On his part, Skinnari, the Finnish nia.

Southern Circuit, and we would like to minister said Tanzania and Finland have been cooperating for over 50 years in various fields and as of now they are exploring on how to strengthen the long time cooperation. Skinnari said that on the issue of industries, his country has made huge strides especially in the forests sector, and in Information and Communication Technology (ICT), some of the areas they aim to cooperate with Tanza-

Scientists, researchers resolve to 'reverse' roles in executing health-related study findings

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

SCIENTISTS and researchers in Africa have resolved to reverse roles when it comes to implementing findings on series of health related studies, by consulting people at the grassroots level who are now expected to decide what they want to be done as far as their medical needs are concerned.

Dr Olumide Ogundahunsi, a scientist with a special programme for research and training in tropical diseases at the World Health Organisation, said in order to ensure proper implementation of health studies, research findings, technology and modern health facilities, there is the need to fully involve ordinary people that are essentially the beneficiaries and target groups.

"In the past, scientists used to operate within their own closed circles, keeping information to themselves but now, before setting out to study or find solutions to anything, the entire community will be involved in order to ensure that all efforts really benefit the mass," said Dr Ogundahunsi.

On his part, Dr Joseph Okeibunor in charge of research at the World Health Organisation (WHO) Africa Office (Brazzaville) said in their new approach, policy makers will also be associated; "The aim is for us to address problems being raised by members of the communities themselves," he

According to Dr Okeibunor, the new outlook in scientific research findings implementations is to transform the 'found solutions' into 'reality,' and disseminate findings through proper channels.

"This time we will be in even better position to find out why most people in Africa do not make proper use of medical facilities, research studies or trained personalities," maintained the scientist.

Health experts from across the continent are converging in Arusha for a five-day training workshop to come up with proper ways of implementing health technologies to combat tropical diseases in their respective countries.

The regional Implementation research

training workshop has been organized by the Research and Training in Tropical Diseases (TDR) through the coordination of the National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) and takes place under the auspices of the Access and Delivery Partnership.

The training workshop brings together more than 30 participants from Kenya, Uganda, Malawi, Ethiopia, Zambia and the host, Tanzania, countries that share common diseases with varying burdens.

It was observed during the workshop that the south-south cooperation will provide a platform for sharing extensive experience gained through Implementation Research

"This workshop has been made possible by the Access and Delivery Partnership (ADP) through TDR.

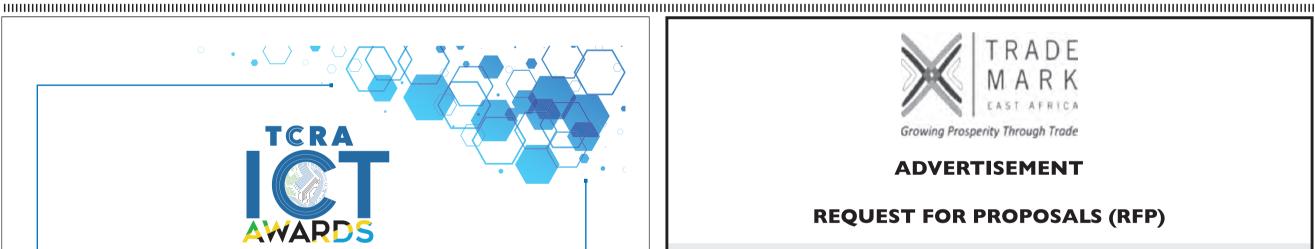
The National Institute for Medical Research has been implementing ADP activities focusing on implementation research for the past five years," revealed Prof Yunus Mgaya, the Director General of the National Institute for Medical Research (NIMR).

Prof Mgaya was on view that health experts have observed an enormous impact on the implementation of various interventions for Neglected Tropical Diseases such as worms' infections, Malaria and tuberculosis.

"To date, the Implementation Research programmes have strengthened the capacity of vertical programmes to identify gaps, which have been affecting the implementation of interventions for years, thus leading to poor outcomes and low impact."

You may wish to know that, your selection to attend this workshop embraced the first step of the Implementation Research approach. TDR invited applicants to submit a project abstract or synopsis with identified problems or implementation gaps.

By the end of this week participants will come up with proposals ready for submission for funding consideration, with those working with vertical programmes, readying to submit the proposals for ethical clearance before beginning the implementation of the projects.



TCRA ICT AWARDS 2020

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) is calling on all TCRA Licensed Service Providers to participate in the first TCRA ICT Awards 2020.

The Main Purpose: To identify, recognize and reward our stakeholders who have demonstrated outstanding performance in the promotion of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) thus contributes to improving the quality life of the citizens through the increased digital industrialization of the

How to Get Winners: All licensees are required to submit participation forms online. Nominees in their respective categories will be published online. Users of ICT goods and services will vote either through online portal or Short Messages Services (SMS).

Where to Get Details: All the Awards categories, Guidelines, Selection criteria and how to vote are available through www.ictawards.tcra.go.tz

Important Timeline

- Submission of participation forms starts from 1st February to 15th March, 2020.
- Public voting of nominees takes place from 1st to 30th April, 2020.
- Public announcement of winners in their respective categories will be made on 15th May, 2020 as part of the World International Telecommunications Day (ITU).

For Inquiries: Call hotline number 0800 008272 (Toll Free) or

Email Address: ictawards@tcra.go.tz

"IMPROVE LIFE THROUGH ICT FOR INDUSTRIAL DIGITAL ECONOMY"



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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR TECHNICAL AND INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY ENHANCEMENT SUPPORT TO HIGH-POTENTIAL PRIVATE SECTOR AND CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS (PSO/CSOS) ACROSS THE **EAST AFRICA AND NEW FRONTIERS**

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20190886

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is an organisation funded by a range of development agencies to promote regional trade and economic integration in East Africa. TMEAis seeking proposals from qualified consultancy firms/consortiumsto provide Technical and Institutional Capacity Enhancement Support to High-Potential Private Sector and Civil Society Organisations (PSO/CSO's) across the East Africa and new Frontiers.

Terms of reference for this consultancy and the Request for Proposals (RFP) document can be obtained at https://www.trademarkea.com/procurement/. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarkea.com.

The closing date for submissions is Thursday, 19 March 2020 (5:00 pm Kenya Time)

Applications are only open to consultancy firms/consortiums. Interested firms MUST submit their application via TMEA procurement mailbox at the address procurement@trademarkea.com. Each email with attachments must be 5 MBs or less.

> TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender seven (7) days or less prior to the submission deadline.

NATIONAL NEWS

Tanzania appeals for EU investment in 2021-2027 infrastructure development

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA has appealed to the European Union (EU) to invest in areas of development which the government has begun implementing including infrastructures development in the new EU-Tanzania cooperation agreement for 2021-2027.

This was revealed in Dodoma by the Minister for Finance and Planning Dr Philip Mpango when he met and held discussions with the EU ambassador to Tanzania, Manfredo Fanti on the economic development cooperation.

Dr Mpango said in the new economic development cooperation agreement between Tanzania and the EU set to start 2021 it would be better for it to strengthen areas of development which the government has begun implementing in particular in the sectors of education, health, infrastructures and others so at to attain sustainable targets.

"We have a huge task investing in human resources because infrastructures development for example cannot attain the target set thereon without investing in the human resources and that is why we in the government have decided to offer free education from primary to secondary levels," explained Dr Mpan-

He said on the issue of infrastructures, the government is looking for the possibility to start construc-

tion of a railway line from Mtwara port on the Indian Ocean up to the port of Mbamba Bay on the eastern shores of Lake Nyasa to ease freight transport woes as well saving the government a lot of money used in repairing roads that are persistently damaged by freight trucks.

He further said the railway infrastructure will have branches to Liganga iron ore mines and Mchuchuma huge coal deposits and added that the railway will also ease transport of goods to neighbouring countries including Malawi that will spur trade between the two nations and increase of revenue.

On his part the EU ambassador to Tanzania Manfredo Tanti hailed the government for its sound development policies but also said in order to improve the environment for trade among the things needed include infrastructure, training, digital economy and good governance of which Tanzania has made great strides in implementation.

Economic development agreement that was being implemented since 2014 end this year, the situation that calls for talks for another agreement for the period 2021-27.

Meanwhile The Finance Minister met with Finland's of Trade Cooperation Ville Skinnari and held discussions centred on various issues including cooperation and economic development.



Mussa Hassan Zungu (L), Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and the Environment), has an audience with Circle Gas managing director Volker Schultz (R) in Dar es Salaam on Monday. Looking on is another Circle Gas official, Peter Gather Cole. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Uturo dispensary hailed for exemplary services

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

FORMER medical officer at Uturo dispensary in Mbarali district, Mbeya region Wilson Chotamganga has explained the secret behind the dispensary's to be an example in the country for the prevention of mother and child deaths at birth for over 20

The medic had received a special award in recognition of his contribution in the prevention of mother and child deaths bestowed by President John Magufuli when he held talks with doc-

Speaking to various leaders of Mbeya region at the Regional Commissioner's Office, Chotamganga said there is a big secret that he found in villages served by the dispensary.

He said when he arrived at the dispensary for the first time in 1993 he found there was a story of a woman who died when giving birth performed by a local midwife and when he followed up the issue he discovered the woman was the third to die in a very short period of time.

He said he continued to make follow ups and found out there were so many such mother and child deaths at birth and therefore started taking steps by incorporating the wananchi from all

"I was asking myself - what were the causes of those deaths? Were they dying from flea bites or malaria? What I found out was that many were giving births at home conducted by local midwives," he said.

He said after that he decided to start giving education to the people through various public meetings in the villages on the importance of giving birth at health centres, and abandon traditional midwives.

Chotamganga said the villagers understood and supported him in confronting the situation and formed a special committee composing of women - dubbed women commandos - whose task was to follow up the health of all pregnant women.

"We set up a procedure whereby any woman found to be pregnant, she and her spouse are taken by the so called women commandos up to the dispensary where they open up a medical card," said Chotamganga.

He further said they introduced

Entrench the development and management of supplier through the

Assist with standardisation of products, materials and contract Responsible for the recruitment, development and retention of relevant skills in order to meet the business needs.

Minimum qualification: A graduate or post-graduate qualification i urement, Business Commerce.
The incumbent must be a CPSP holder, under the Authorised category, and an active registered member of the PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLIES PROFESSIONALS AND TECHNICIANS BOARD (PSPTB).

Approximately 5 years' experience in a procurement and/or supply chair management role. At least 2 years should be at a senior managemen

Procurement Knowledge: Knowledge of procurement policies and

procedures and ability to procure high-quality products and services for the

Supplier Relationship Management: Knowledge and application of tools and methods to monitor the effective delivery of suppliers and to gair maximum value from supplier services. From Technical Competency Library

Tender Process: Knowledge and understanding of the formal processes of

Experience in financial services would be beneficial. Experience in working

in a multi-national company with a global brand would be beneficial

ner of Kinondoni Rd/Ali Hassan Mwinyi Rd.

issuing requests for proposal for suppliers to respond to

Applicants with CIPS qualification (Level 5 or 6), would be an added

KEY SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE, EXPERIENCE AND PERSONAL COMPETENCIES

a 50,000/- fine to any woman who will deliver at a traditional midwife and a 5,000/- fine for a woman who does not attend clinic, the situation that forced many of them to give birth at the Uturo dispensary. He said after implementing well the by-laws there haven't been any mother and child deaths at birth in the area since 1999 and that the former traditional midwives were the ones who started

mobilizing pregnant women to go

the dispensary.

Mbeya Regional Administrative Secretary Mariam Mtunguja hailed Chotamganga for his exemplary services which had given Uturo dispensary a special status throughout Mbeya region.

She said the government plans to conduct a special campaign to fight mother and child deaths at birth that will be countrywide.

She called other health workers in the region to emulate Chotamganga's services to the wananchi to save people's lives.

Kairuki commends Mara Region for conceiving investment guidelines

By Guardian Correspondent,

MINISTER of State in the Prime Minister's Office tasked for Investments portfolio, Angellah Kairuki, yesterday commended Mara region for its resolve to produce guidelines on investment opportunities which, she said, abound in the region.

"I have been thrilled by this joint effort of the Mara regional administration

unearth and popularized business and investment opportunities in this region. This effort will finally attract local and foreign investors. Thank you all for this good job," the minister told a joint meeting of Mara region's public and private sector representa-

The minister, who was accompanied by the Finance Deputy Minister

and the private sector. You Ashatu Kijaji and Deputy guide them on available move as a right step in the ment, telling the meeting are determined to produce Minister for Industry and opportunities. a document that will help Trade Stella Manyanya, "The guidelines will be ing the national agenda of ies have been waived to said she had been encouraged by the enthusiasm and the cooperative spirit of the business community

> She praised the region for establishing a website to guide people on business and investment opportunities, telling the guidelines were out people with big investment capital will have something to

in the region.

your compass on investment and business opportunities. It is an effort that will attract huge investments into this region," she said, adding that business opportunities were available in fisheries, cotton, sugarcane and coffee farming. Other opportumeeting that once the nities abound in fish processing and poultry hatcheries, she said.

Kairuki described the

right direction in promot- that some 54 taxes and levmaking Tanzania a middle-income industrial nation by 2025; the agenda, she said, was being championed vigorously by the

President John Magufuli. Deputy Minister for Finance, Dr Ashatu Kijaji said the government is equally determined to reduce taxes and levies in order to create a conducive business environ-

Service Level Agreement.

current government led by

achieve that goal.

"We are committed to see the plan of turning Tanzania a medium size and industrial base economy by 2025 is realised. Let's join our hands to reach our common goal," she said, calling for private sector to fully exploit the potentials and opportunities available in the region to do business.

Hopes high as Tanzania, Zambia implement pact on the convertibility of their currencies at both countries' border points

By Guardian Correspondent, Tunduma

TRADERS and other people conducting their activities along Tanzania and Zambia border will no longer have to change their currencies after the two countries started implementing agreements on currency convertibility and repatriation between the Tanzanian Shilling and the Zambian

Officially known as Tunduma-Nakonde border in southern Tanzania is the busiest business hub linking major cities of Dar es Salaam, Lusaka, and Lubumbashi. Reports show that the border handles more than 90 per cent of cargo from the port of Dar es Salaam.

Speaking here on Monday, Director of the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) for Mbeya region Ibrahim Malagoi said that the move aims among other things, to curb informal trading of foreign currencies but also simplify trade between the two countries.

Malagoi assured the public on the security of the currencies saying that there will be special machines which will be deployed to indentify the authenticity of the monies.

"We are currently educating traders, financial institutions and the public on the new system prior to its official launch slated for later this week (February 28). The launch of the system is alos part of the implementation of the agreement of Southern African Development Community (SADC) countries that mulls to improve border trades.

He said that on September 21, 2018, the Bank of Zambia and Bank of Tanzania signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on currency convertibility and repatriation.

"Our two institutions therefore found it necessary to integrate the informal foreign exchange activities into the formal foreign exchange market while safeguarding trade and other income generating activities at the border,"

According to Malagoi, the formalization of the two currencies will also cut down expenses incurred during exchanging. He further urged all stakeholders, traders, travelers, and registered financial institutions from both Tanzania and Zam-

bia to utilise the arrangement and ensure that trade between

the two countries flourishes. For his part, CRDB bank manager for Tunduma branch Chrispin Kombo said that the institution has received well the new system and it is well prepared to implement the new sys-

"Among others, the system will boost money circulation and financial inclusive thus improving economy of the two countries," Kombo noted.

Fadhili Masanja, NMB bank branch manager in Tunduma said; "the bank's officers have been trained to ensure that the exercise is effectively conducted and achieved.'

VACANCY Procurement Manager

tives.

Stanbic Bank Tanzania Limited is a full service commercial bank which specializes in providing facilities and services to public and private sector corporations, diplomatic missions and international organizations.

Report to: Head of Finance Division: Finance, Procurement

Job Purpose: The incumbent will be responsible to ensure that the procurement standards, policies and procedures governing all third - party spend are embedded in the legal entity and that the segregation of duties for authorising and paying third party suppliers are maintained through appropriate and effective systems and

KEY ACCOUNTABILITIES

les and responsibilities of the incumbent will be as follows: Ensure efficient and effective procurement standards, policies and

recedures

Ensure that the legal entity has sourcing strategies that ensure a reliable supply of required commodities and services at competitive

prices.
Ensure that the legal entity procurement functions are proactively supporting the Business and Finance teams with lean and efficient sourcing and vendor management processes that meet the bank's

sourcing and vertor management processes that meet the bank's standards for third – party procurement and payments, Ensure that Service Level Agreements (SLA's) are understood and embedded in each legal entity across the Source to Pay Lifecycle. Improve the procurement environment from a routine administrative function into one that is perceived as a value adding business partner, through:

improving the quality, speed and reliability of supply services.

Reducing the Total Cost of Ownership for all third – party sourced

products and services. products and services.

Improve procurement capability and expertise on basic sourcing, procure to pay, and vendor management disciplines by leveraging the core competencies and centres of excellence.

Implement the procurement standards, policies and supply chain capabilities across the Source to Pay Lifecycle.

plement procurement transformation programmes (system enabling and others) as required across the end to end value chain based on the

Source to Pay Capability and Maturity Framework.

Drive the ratification of the procurement policies at the in – country boards and embed the policies in the legal entity.

Implement the relevant Risk and Compliance frameworks in line with

policies and practices. mplement the Delegation of Authority Framework in the required

implement the Delegation of Authority Praintework in the required procurement processes.

Implement effective processes / controls for the investigation of identified instances of non – compliance based on audits conducted. Manage and derive cost savings for the Operational and Capital Expenditure in the legal entity.

Expenditure in the legal entity.

Ensure an efficient and effective leadership and staffing process Determine the people strategy for the area, together with the Human Capital Business Partner for the area, with a focus on talent

management, resourcing, development and retention.

Oversee the moderation and relative distribution of performance appraisals in line with overall business performance for the area. Mentor the team on people management techniques and approaches. Motivate team members to set the example on living the values and responsible. recognition.

Review the overall development needs analysis. Approve training budgets and review actual spend to ensure that funds are being used. budgets and review actual spend to ensure that tunos are being used. Review and approve succession plans for key roles in the area. Support the Talent Review process and approve nominations for the area interview and hire direct reports, with support from Human Capital. Support managers with their recruitment decisions on request. Review consolidated headcount plans; reallocate resources between

departments if needed. Approve/decline headcount within overall mandate,

Keeps abreast of local legislator and regulatory requirements Ensure efficient and effective stakeholder engagement
 Develop relationships proactively with key external stakeholders including key suppliers to ensure Stanbic Bank receives appropriate

co-operation when required. Build and develop relationships across the firm with various stakeholders with the intention of breaking down silos to maximise

business growth.
Hold primary relationship with clients and handle all aspects of client interaction.
Manages the selection of suppliers in line with the bank's policies (e.g. agency pitch)

Ensure accurate and quality reporting standards Measure and report compliance in terms of t and report to the appropriate key stakeholders iance in terms of the relevant frameworks

Ensure purchase spend analysis and audits take place with a focus on eliminating waste, non-value adding supply chain links and optimising Bank's supply chain processes. Ensure that TCO reduction targets are met or exceeded

Assist with gap analysis of existing Procurement processes and implement appropriate improvements. Align performance metrics/measurements to organisational/project objectives so as to ensure the achievement of deliverables. Reduce the percentage spend going through the non-formal procurement process (sundry purchases).

Ensure an effective and efficient contract management process

- Facilitate the development and maintenance of contracts for all Facilitate the development and maintenance of control commodities under the sphere of control. Facilitate the process of assisting suppliers' performance.

Rationalise supplier database.

Procurement Process: Knowledge and application of the SAP vendormanagement modules and the supporting business processes. Policy Development: Understanding and application of the discipline of policy analysis, definition, writing and implementation.

> Experience in managing people. MODE OF APPLICATION Applications to be sent to: stephen.klannko@stanbic.com

> > Closing Date: Saturday, February 29th, 2020

Stanbic Bank Moving Forward™





NMB Bank Plc members of staff in Dodoma Region hold seedlings as they marked Tree Planting Day in Dodoma city at the weekend as part of an environmental conservation campaign. They went on to plant some 500 trees. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

World leaders challenged to achieve global road safety goals by 2030

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald, back from Stockholm

GOVERNMENTS across the world have been challenged to put in place plans for sustainable mobility to ensure the global goals on road safety 2030 are effectively achieved.

This means initiating measures that are needed to improve all forms of transport that benefit the people and the climate, with an increase focus on walking, cycling and public transport.

World Health Organisation (WHO) director general Tedros Ghebreyesus made the remarks recently in Stockholm, Sweden that the plans are essential for making roads safer for road users who are mostly exposed to road crashes.

He said, the low and middle income countries including Tanzania, are also in a position to improve the costly mistakes made in the past by the higher

income countries, with right leaders; transport systems can be improved in order to reduce reliance on other," he explained.

"It is only when countries will invest in safe measures and implement best practices to enhance road safety that we can walk, cycling and use other means of transportation as viable," he said.

He added that collaboration is also needed to end this scourge of preventable deaths. Leaders from transport infrastructure and others must all be part of the solution to end this challenge that affects the development.

The WHO Chief made the remarks during the 3rd Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety which took place last week in Stockholm, Sweden that offered a valuable opportunity to delegates to chart out new strategies for reducing road traffic fatalities towards the 2030 global goals for

road safety. "As we have come to an end of the United Nations Decade of Action for road safety 2011-2020, there are several countries and cities that have achieved significant results, for instance in 2010-2018 road traffic deaths decline by one fifth in the European Union (EU) and by one third in the Russian federation.

"However, despite the significant global achievement, there is a more to be done; we must have a global movement and strong foundation to establish the success of the decade of action.

"Political will is needed at highest level of government in order to achieve this, both by investing in evidence based intervention to make roads safe and stimulate society with best modes of transport that are better for health and environment," he insisted.

According to him, international agencies, civil society organisations (CSOs), private sector and the government should work together to fast track the interventions towards safer roads.

Themed; achieving global goals 2030, the conference brought on board 1700 delegates from more than 140 countries, including ministers, senior officials from United Nations agencies and representatives from civil society, academia and the private sector.

In their joint statement, the global network for road safety legislators, said Parliamentarians worldwide support the integration of road injury prevention with policies promoting sustainable development such as speed limits which will both reduce casualties and vehicle emissions by prioritizing non-motorized transport.

"We will take measure to improve road safety and integrate it into sustainable mobility and transport infrastructure planning and design," they stated.

Govt mulling infrastructure relocation to pave way for construction of one-stop border post at Kasumulu

By Guardian Correspondent, Kyela

PERMANENT Secretary in the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications, Elias Mwakalinga yesterday said that the government will relocate power and telecommunication infrastructure to pave way for the construction of a one stop border post (OSBP) at Kasumulu border in Kyela District.

Speaking soon after in-OSBP construction, Mwakalinga said: "We'll soon sit down with leaders of the Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TA-NESCO) and Tanzania Telecommunications Company Limited (TTCL) on how they can shift that infrastructure to allow the project to go

He described the Kasumulu OSBP as a national project, "hence it's important for the public institutions to agree on how best the project can has a number of power and is being built by China Geo- 145 people died.

telecommunication structure".

On compensation, Mwakalinga said that the government will continue to pay the compensation to people who have moved out of the project site and so far only ten people are yet to be paid.

Mwakalinga said that con-

struction of the OSBP is meant to strengthen and simplify trade and investment between Malawi and specting progress of the Tanzania. It is also geared towards eliminating bureaucracy and expands business and investment between the two countries, where traders will be able to carry out their business easily without any barriers.

For his part architect from Tanzania Building Agency (TBA), Daniel Mandari cited presence of the National ICT Broadband Backbone (NICTBB) and power infrastructure as a challenge derailing the World Bankfunded project. According to proceed as the project site Mandari, the 26.4bn/-project

Engineering Corporation (CGC)--a Chinese construction company.

So far, the project has reached 16 percent, he said.

In another development, Mwakalinga inspected the 39.1km Kikusya-Matema Beach road, where he commended the role played by the Tanzania Roads Agency's Engineering Consulting Unit (TECU) for well supervision of the project as well as working on the 4km road section as directed by President John Magufuli.

The Kikusya-Matema road plays a key role in scaling up socio-economic development as well as promoting beach tourism in the district.

The road is the main gateway to Lake Nyasa--the thirdlargest lake in the East African Rift Valley system, bordered by Malawi, Tanzania and Mozambique. The lake has a number of tourist destinations which are yet to be explored including the 1946; MV Vipya sank in Lake Nyasa's worst shipping disaster, whereby



He described the Kasumulu OSBP as a national project, "hence it's important for the public institutions to agree on how best the project can proceed as the project site has a number of power and telecommunication infrastructure

JOHNS HOPKINS Center for Communication



MALARIA BEHAVIOR SURVEY (MBS) in Tanzania

Request for Proposals

Release date: 26 February 2020, Submission deadline: 16 March 2020

Advertisement

- I. This announcement is a request for proposals (RFP) by the Johns Hopkins University Center for Communication Programs (CCP) on behalf of Breakthrough ACTION, a USAID/PMI funded project, in collaboration with the National Malaria Control Program (NMCP) of the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, to conduct a community-based survey on factors associated with malaria prevention and treatment behaviors in Tanzania.
- 2. The RFP aims to identify a research firm that will conduct a quantitative household survey in designated areas with the support of CCP project staff.
- 3. The selected Vendor will work collaboratively with Breakthrough ACTION, NMCP and local community authorities to collect information about the factors influencing malaria- related behaviors among a sample of households in accordance with a sampling plan.
- 4. Eligible bidders must be a registered non- government owned enterprise. Bidders should submit a technical and financial proposal in English, following the instructions in the full Request for Proposals to be downloaded from the following link: http://bit.ly/RfPTzMBS
- 5. If bidders are unable to download the documents, they may be requested via email to efilemy I @jhu.edu.
- 6. The period to ask questions will close on March 5, 2020. Bidders may email their questions to efilemy | @jhu.edu.
- 7. Both technical and financial proposals are due by March 16, 2020 at 11:59pm Tanzania time by email to: efilemy | @jhu.edu.
- 8. Please write "RFP Tanzania Mainland Malaria Behavior Survey Bid" as the subject in the email submission.



TENDER ADVERT

PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES FOR UMOJA HOUSE, THE BRITISH HIGH **COMMISSION STAFF RESIDENCES, DAR ES** SALAAM AND THE BRITISH HIGH **COMMISSION OFFICE DODOMA, TANZANIA**

The British High Commission in Tanzania is seeking the security services for Umoja House, British High Commission Staff Residences in Dar es Salaam and The British High Commission Office Dodoma from a Service Provider that has the relevant professional skills, experience, technical resources and financial capability to provide comprehensive required services to ensure acceptable standard.

We invite competent and financially stable Service Providers to access the Invitation to Tender documents on the following link below https://fco.bravosolution.co.uk And Navigate to Provision of Security Services for Umoja House, The British High Commission Staff Residences, Dar es Salaam and The British High Commission Office Dodoma, Tanzania CPG/3660/2020, ITT_3689, Project_33819. The Invitation to tender documents should be completed and uploaded on the Bravo System by 14.00 hrs CAT on the 23 March 2020. Contact Ndumiso.Mncube@fco.gov.uk for any queries. Kindly note that the responses will be required to be in English.

A compulsory site visit will be conducted in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday 11 March 2020. Tenderers are requested to meet the representative, John Powell of the British High Commission, at Umoja House, Mirambo Street, Dar es Salaam at 09:00hrs. A second compulsory site visit will be conducted in Dodoma on Thursday 12 March 2020. Tenderers are requested to meet the representative John Powell of the British High Commission at Villa C - Mlimwa Hill, Plot 14/68, Dodoma at 1000 hrs. The site visits will be conducted entirely at the Tenderers own risk and expense insofar as transport and accommodation are concerned. Tenderers shall make their own arrangements in this regard. Site visit registers will be completed in respect of all participating Tenderers and failure to attend the site visits will lead to automatic disqualification.

The BHC reserves the right not to select any service provider and will only reply to the best-suited organisation. The BHC will not meet any expenses incurred in preparing your Invitation to Tender documents and attending the site visit meeting.

Youngsters in Mwanza urged to form groups so as to access loans for capital Correspondent, Guardian Mwanza

THE youth in Mwanza Region have been called to form groups in order to benefit from loans provided by their Councils to use them as capital for small projects instead of occupying much of their time chatting in the social networks.

The cal was given yesterday by Mwanza City Cultural Officer Julius Kambarage during the unveiling of the Future is Today Festival' and open festival for entrepreneurs' products to be held in the city starting February 26 up to March 1 this year.

He said the loans - four percent for the women, four percent for the youth and two percent for people with disabilities will be given to groups that are already in operation.

Kambarage said it is the right time for the youth to grab the opportunity, to engage in art business and self employment instead of depending jobs from the government, hence they should use well the Future is Today festival.

The initiator and organizer of the open festival George Isaac (Boyca B+) said the aim of the exhibition is to ensure they provide more opportunities for Tanzania youth for putting for them an enabling environment for their economic development.

On their part, Emmanuel Airo, an entrepreneur and Elpidius Mpanju, the Director of Kijiji Bar & Grill who are participants in the festival have been complaining over the issue of unemployment and lack of capital thereby making many of them lose hope especially in starting up their own busiNATIONAL NEWS

BENJAMIN WILLIAM MKAPA FOUNDATION



Mkapa Foundation

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Benjamin William Mkapa Foundation (BMF) is a non-profit Trust, established in 2006 with the vision towards healthy lives and well-being for all, in Tanzania and the rest of Africa. Its strategic focused results areas include to combat HIV and AIDS, TB, Malaria and Reproductive, Maternal New Born, Child and Adolescent Health coupled with Health Systems Strengthening including Human Resource for Health. The Foundation addresses the above health challenges through innovative design and implementation of sustainable programs such as the Mkapa Fellows Program. Achievement of the BMF's vision can be achieved through empowered workforce, which is self- motivated, committed to growth and integrity, and seeks excellence in execution. BMF seeks for innovative, self-driven, dynamic and competent qualified candidates to fill the below vacancies: -

Program Manager (I Position) Director of Programs Department M&E Manager, Senior Finance Officer **Direct Reports** and Regional Program Officers. **Duty Station:** BMF Headquarters Office - Dar es Salaam

Overall purpose of the job

The Program Manager is the team lead and key program personnel for the Mkapa Fellows Program with the overall responsibility of managing attainment of Program Results, implementation, coordination, and overall Grant's compliance.

Qualifications & Experience

- $\bullet \ Master's \ Degree \ in \ Human \ Resources \ Management, Health \ Administration, Public$
- Health, Health Administration or scope related fields from accredited University · Having a certified competency on Project Management and other related fields is an added advantage.
- Extensive experience of managing multiple-partners' development projects of different donors including USAID · Demonstrated skills in leadership, as well as strategic program/project designing
- planning, implementation and reporting;
- Ability to engage with Donors, Government and Non-State Institutions as well as responding effectively to deadlines and high demanding situations.
- Familiarity with Tanzania Public and Private health care systems and services and
- their related stakeholders, is an added advantage.

	de ili sellidi positidii.						
	be in senior position.						
•	At least seven (7) year	2 01 16	evant work	. experienc	e or willen	live (3) y	ears mus

Position Title:	Regional Program Officer (4 Position)
Reports to:	Program Manager
Department:	Programs
Direct Reports:	M&E Data Assistants
Duty Station:	BMF Field Offices - Arusha, Dodoma,
•	Iringa and Mtwara.

Overall Purpose of the Job:

The overall responsibilities will be to work as a program regional focal person and a link between the region, district and BMF. Take a lead role at the Regional level for the implementation of the Mkapa Fellows' Program and other related authorized initiatives.

Qualifications & Experience

- · Bachelor's degree in Social Science or related field preferably in Human Resource Management, Public Administration - Health Services and systems Management
- · Understanding of National Frameworks, policies and guidelines governing the health sector particularly on the areas of Human Resource Management, Planning and Policy.
- Experience in working within Regional and Local Government Authorities Excellent communication and writing skills in English and Swahili languages, including ability to develop reports and presentations using Microsoft Word,
- · A minimum of two (2) years' concrete experience in working with health-related programs

Position Title:	Senior Finance Officer (I Position)
Reports to:	Program Manager,
Direct Reports:	Accountant (s)
Department:	Finance and Grants
Duty Station:	Benjamin Mkapa Foundation - Headquarters,
	Dan or Salaam

To effectively develop, manage and administer Fellows program plans for proper recording, documentation, controls, monitoring and reporting of financial operations in compliance with BMF as well as Donors such as USAID rules and regulations. In addition, oversee the day-to- day financial operations and be accountable for organizing and providing high quality financial services to the program including sub-grantees and Implementing Partners.

Qualification & Experience

- First degree in finance or related field, plus CPA (T) or its equivalent. Having a second degree on Business Management or related field, will be an added
- · At least 6 years of experience and having an experience working with the donor financed project particularly USAID, will be an added value;
- · Specialized knowledge in an automated Accounting packages
- Good understanding of international and local organizations financial practices. · Excellent budgeting and financial management knowledge as well as use and literate upon computer programs.

Position Litle:	Monitoring and Evaluation Manager (1 Position)
Reports to:	Program Manager.
Direct Reports:	M&E Data Analyst, M&E/Data assistants
Department:	Monitoring, Evaluation and Research
Duty Station:	BMF Headquarters Offices-Dar es Salaam

Overall purpose of the lob

To oversee and manage the Fellows program planning, monitoring, evaluation, and knowledge management. She/he will further be vested with roles of managing compliance throughout the project implementation as per of the MEAL framework, quality assurance strategies, capacity building of internal team and partners, as well as to ensure all program aspects comply with BMF M&E guidelines.

Qualifications & Experience

- · First degree in Statistics, Social Sciences, Public Health or its equivalent, possession of Professional training in M&E with at least five (5) years of relevant work experience.
- Must have hands on experience in statistical analysis packages STATA; SPSS, Epi info etc with excellent quantitative and qualitative methodologies.
- Should have experience in data management preferably in the Health Systems or Disease specific related programs.
- Familiarity with Government of Tanzania M&E frameworks and systems within
- the health sector, Donor's M&E frameworks such as the USAID, will be an added

Position Title:	Monitoring and Evaluation Data
	Assistants (5 positions)
Reports to:	M&E Manager
Department:	Monitoring, Evaluation and Research
Duty Station:	BMF Field Offices - Arusha, Dodoma,
	Iringa, Mtwara and Mwanza,

Overall Purpose of the Job:

The M&E/Data assistant will be responsible for management of program related data at the facility level within the allocated regions; This involves data collection compilation, analysis, validation throughout the project implementation as per of the MEAL framework. She/he will participate on facility based supervision and capacity building of internal the site staff and CHMT to set a groundwork and relationship for efficient data collection

Qualification & Experience

- First degree in Statistics, Social sciences, Public health, health system or Human Resource or its equivalent, possession of Professional training in M&E with at
- least three (3) years of relevant work experience. • Must have hands on experience in statistical analysis packages - STATA; SPSS, Epi

info etc. with excellent quantitative and qualitative methodologies.

Should have experience in data management preferably in the Health Systems Human resource data or Disease specific related programs

• Familiarity with Government of Tanzania M&E frameworks and systems within the health sector, Donor's M&E frameworks such as the USAID, will be an added

Finance Manager, BMF Headquarters Office - Dar es Salaam

A primary personnel for all payroll related payments of staff directly under BMF management and Project related staff that are located within Dar Es Salaam and upcountry transactions, filling of statutory deductions, update of all receipts for payroll deduction. Responsible for Calculation of taxes and prepare tax forms based on URT tax laws and regulations. Ensure that payroll processing is in compliance with the Laws of the country and in compliance to donor's regulations and allocations.

Qualifications & Experience

- First degree in Accounting or related field from recognized Institution.
- · A minimum of three years' experience working on similar roles, experience of working with Multi-Donor Funded projects will be an added advantage.
- · Strong knowledge in computer application packages and payroll management is compulsory
- · Specialized knowledge in Accounting packages such as ACCPAC application skills is an added advantage
- · Good analytical skills with ability to work under pressure with minimum

- 1		
1	Position Title:	Program Officer Compensation & Benefits
-		(I Position)
	Direct Reports:	Program Manager Health Workforce
-	Department:	Programs
-	Duty Station:	BMF Headquarters Office – Dar es Salaam
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To provide Human resource based support to the project staff on various human resource functions, which include collection and maintaining project staff data, close follow-up of their direct and indirect benefits, communicate effectively as a reliable source of information from the head office as well as providing support during recruitment process.

Qualifications & Experience

- · Bachelor Degree in Business Administration, Human Resource Management, Project Management or related field from recognized Institution.
- · Excellent communication and writing skills, including ability to develop reports and presentations using Office Applications
- · A minimum of two years' experience working on similar roles

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Position Title:	ICT Officer – Programmer / Developer (I position)
Direct Reports:	ICT Manager
Department:	-Operations Support Services Unit
Duty Station:	BMF Headquarters Office – Dar es Salaam

Overall purpose of the Job:

The ICT Officer will serve as the expert for the technologies and solutions to be created and used in the development of the business applications and integrations at the Mkapa Foundation. He/she will further utilize in-depth knowledge of technological alternatives and business requirements to recommend solutions that are user friendly, efficient and scalable. The Incumbent will work closely with ICT Manager, Systems analyst and Users departments in defining requirements for system functions and must ensure effective communication in group settings, as well as must have ability to collaborate within team and across teams

- Bachelor's Degree in Information Technology or Computer Science or its
- · Professional training (Certificates shall be an added advantage) in Enterprise
- level software development framework.
- At least 4 years of software development and design experien Working knowledge of various software languages (such as Java, .NET, Python,
- · Advanced knowledge in RESTful and SOAP APIs, Queue Management, SMS Gateway, Data Visualization, Database Optimization, and Smartphone App Development etc. will be added advantage.
- Expertise in relational database concepts and database management systems as well as advanced knowledge on SQL Server, PostgreSQL or Oracle Database

ICT Systems Analyst (I position)
ICT Manager
Operations Support Services Unit
BMF Headquarters Office – Dar es Salaam

Overall purpose of the Job:

To provide technical support in analyzing, designing and implementing information systems within the Foundation and will also assess their suitability and liaise with end users, software vendors and programmers in order to achieve intended outcomes of the Mkapa Fellows Program and other related functions. He/she will serve as change agents who will identify the BMF improvements needed, design systems to implement those changes, and train and motivate others to use the systems

Oualifications and Education: • Bachelor's degree in Computer Science or Information Technology, or

4-6 years' experience working with information technologies and systems

- Management Information system or equivalent experience
- · Strong computer, hardware, software, and analytical skills
- Proven ability to assess business needs and translate them into relevant solutions

(5 Position) REF:007 **Direct Reports:** Head of Logistics & Administration Assistants Cum Driver **Operations Support Services Unit Duty Station:** BMF Field Offices - Arusha, Dodoma, Iringa, Mtwara

Overall purpose of the Job:

To provide logistics support to BMF staff and their related partners working within the different parts of the Country, including driving and caring for the vehicles.

Qualifications & Experience

- · "O" level plus professional certificates i.e. a driving license class C or D. · NIT Certification is mandatory
- · At least 7 years of experience including working with Donor Funded Project or

MODE OF APPLICATION:

For all interested candidate, please find detailed job requirement for each position from our website: www.mkapafoundation.or.tz

For all interested candidate send your achievement focused CV, copy of relevant academic certificates and cover letter addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, Benjamin W. Mkapa Foundation, via email: hr@mkapafoundation.or.tz

The deadline for application is on Monday, 9th March 2020

BMF is an equal opportunity employer and we value diversity

RELEASED BY:

CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, BENJAMIN WILLIAM MKAPA FOUNDATION

Farmers in Iringa see new hope in avocado farming

By Friday Simbaya, Iringa

FARMERS in Iringa are gradually taking up avocado farming as one of the key ventures, describing the crop as a 'game-changer'in their localities.

In separate interviews, farmers who have received avocado tree seedlings from the One Acre Fund Tanzania expressed their interest in avocado farming as saying it is more profitable.

They said that avocado farming is more profitable than maize and tree cultivation.

Constanino Somba is a farmer of Kivalali village in Ifunda Ward, who said the cultivation of the avocados with improved seedlings is more beneficial since its harvests begin in three years time compared to tree plantations whose profits take several years.

For the past seven years, Somba who has been growing maize from the agricultural inputs given to them on credit, said avocados cultivation with the use of grafting and budding is more beneficial.

He said he had been growing maize using agricultural packages loan (bundle) from one acre fund for a long time and had witnessed the agony of market for maize.

Somba added that avocado cultivation is a savior for crop cultivation, which has more benefits and can be used as food but also for vegetable oil making.

Explaining the difference between local avocado seedlings and improved seedlings, he said: "Seedlings take longer to start producing fruits about six years while the improved avocado seedlings take three years."

Joyce Nguvila of Ifunda village also said that improved avocado seedlings are better than regular avocados and added that the seedlings mature early and begin to bear fruit three years later.

Nguvila said she had an avocado tree at the backyard for six years but not yet begun to bear its fruits.

"Seedlings distributed by the one acre fund will help improve her life and her family if the seedlings are well cared

She added that along with the organisation which assisted them in the cultivation of maize by lending those inputs, she thank seedlings of the avocado which will help improve

Francis Lutambi of Ihemi Village of Mgama Ward in the Mlolo division in Iringa district said he had been growing maize alongside avocados but using local seedlings.

He said that the difference between planting normal and

modern avocado seedlings is that the average seedlings take longer to start bearing fruit while the modern ones take short time

Lutambi called on farmers to enjoy avocado farming as it is more profitable but also called on the one-acre fund to continue to raise awareness on improved seedlings as well as to teach farmers on how to produce grafting seedlings to help farmers invest more effectively and finally to fight

Iringa District Council Agriculture Officer Lucy Nyalu commended various stakeholders in the district including one acre fund Tanzania for supporting the government's efforts to promote avocado farming.

She said that the cultivation came at an opportune time when the district had put in place good programmes to encourage the people to cultivate avocado farming and mentioned areas where agriculture is flourishing such as

Kalenga, Kiponzelo and Mgama wards. Nyalu wants the stakeholders to increase the distribution of avocado seedlings in different areas in order to promote the cultivation in the district as in Mufindi and Njombe dis-

Communications Officer of One Acre Fund Tanzania Dorcas Tinga, said in November last year one acre fund distributed more than 6,900 avocado seedlings to more than

2,400 small scale farmers in Iringa. She said that using data from Njombe and Mufindi producers and suppliers of avocado seedlings they say that 'Hass' avocado seedlings produce fruits after three years of

planting. And when at peak season it can produce up to 800 avocados which fetches up to 1,300 /- each, which means a farmer with four seedlings of avocado can produce up to 3,200 avocados in a year and can get up to 4,000,000 / - a

Tinga said one acre fund is an agricultural inputs and service provider for more than 50,000 small scale farmers in five regions of iringa, Njombe, Songwe, Mbeya and Arusha. Iringa District Forest Officer, Joachim Mshana, said plant-

ing trees is more vital to conserve healthier soil. He said that trees are one of the best partners when it comes to agriculture in that they reduce soil erosion, in-

crease fertility and help soil retain moisture. Mshana pointed out that more than the 6,000 avocado trees that farmers have received in Iringa will also play a major party in conserving the environment and enriching the soil in the region.



Children taken care of at Bagamoyo's Amazing Steps Orphanage Centre pose for a photo at the centre yesterday with volunteers from Time To Help of the Netherlands and Dar es Salaam's Feza Schools who are renovating the facility. Photo:

Guardian Correspondent

Relief as students and children in Bagamoyo land safe, clean water

By Guardian Reporter

STUDENTS and children at the Boko Mtambani Secondary School and Amazing Steps Orphanage Centre in Bagamoyo, Coast region have a reason to smile after securing water service, thanks to a non-profit organisation-'Time To Help' for drilling two water wells to serve the population.

Speaking during the handing over event in Bagamoyo, the organisation's Public Relation Officer Mbwana Kitendo said the institution was happy to fulfill its dream of bringing reliable water

This service will help the students and surrounding community mitigate

the problems arising from lack of reliable water. "Water shortage also affects also spend a lot of time searching for the liquid," he said.

Mbwana said apart from building water well at the centre, they have also renovated the classrooms at the Boko Mtambani Secondary School to enable the children study in more conducive environment.

He said Time To Help is a charity organisation introduced by Feza Schools to help the community in different aspects of life including construction of water wells, new classrooms, library,

computer and others. Kitendo also said that the organisa-

tion recently managed to organize a two-km charity walk to sensitize the performances in schools as students community extend their help to children with disabilities. He said in this year, the organisation

> health insurance cards to different orphanage centres in the country. "Our aim to ensure that children with disabilities also access quality health

> is planning to offer more than 1,000

services in various hospitals," he said. The launching of the water-wells was attended by volunteers from Nether-

lands who are main sponsor in collaboration with Feza Schools as well as the Bagamoyo MP, Dr Shukuru Kawambwa (CCM).





THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA MINISTRY OF WORKS, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION TANZANIA SHIPPING AGENCIES CORPORATION TASAC



PUBLIC NOTICE TO ALL SHIPPERS

COMPLIANCE WITH THE MERCHANT SHIPPING (VERIFIED GROSS MASS OF A CONTAINER CARRYING CARGO) REGULATIONS, 2016 (GN NO.: 197 OF 17/06/2016)

The Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) is established under Section 4 of the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Act No. 14 of 2017 and mandated as maritime administration and regulator of ports, shipping services, maritime environment, safety, security and related matters. The Corporation is charged, among others, with a responsibility of registering Gross Mass Verifiers.

Implementation of the Merchant Shipping (Verified Gross Mass of a Container Carrying Cargo) Regulations, 2016 is mandatory in order to keep Tanzania ports trusted as exit points for internationally traded container ized exports. The Regulations enforce the IMO's Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS) requirements related to verification of gross mass of export containers globally.

The Regulations and the IMO's SOLAS Requirements need terminal operators and shipping agents should not load a packed container in the absence of a certificate of gross mass verification; these requirements become effective on 1st July 2016. According to the Regulations, a shipper must furnish a Gross Mass Certificate, issued by a gross mass verifier who is registered in accordance with the Regulations, to terminal operator and shipping agent in order that a container can be loaded on board a ship.

The Corporation has recently noted attempts by some shippers to use gross mass certificates issued by parties who are not registered by TASAC.

Shippers are reminded to use only registered gross mass verifiers so that Tanzania ports continue to be trusted exit points for containerized exports. Equally, terminal operators and shipping agents are emphasized to uphold their obligation should not load a packed export container in the absence of a Gross Mass Certificate issued by a registered Gross Mass Verifier.

For overall awareness, the list of registered Gross Mass Verifiers for the year 2020 is given in the Table below:

LIST OF REGISTERED GROSS MASS VERFIERS (GMV) FOR THE YEAR 2019/2020

A. METHOD 1

S/N	NAME	ISUUED DATE	EXPIRY DATE	LICENCE NO	FACLITY LOCATION	ADDRESS, EMAIL & PHONE
1	African Inland Container Depot	01st August, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV00170	Nyerere Road, Ilala -DSM	P.O Box 5055, Dar es Salaam badri.k@lakeoilgroup.com 0682311093
2	ETC Cargo limited	09th October, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01118	Mbagala, Rangi Tatu- DSM	P.O. Box 104732, Dar es Salaam cfsoperations.manager@etccargo.com 0688074997
3	KICD (TICTS)	10th December, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV011338	Kurasini, Temeke- DSM	P.O. Box 71442, Dar es Salaam dtalawe@ticts.com 0754-286866
4	Export Trading Co Limited (TANITA)	,	30th June, 2020	GMV01125	Nyerere Road, Ilala- DSM	P.O. Box 10292, Dar es Salaam etg@etgworld.com 0684224641
5	Maviga East Africa Limited	11 th July, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01090	Air Port, Ilala- DSM	P.O. Box 40731, Dar es Salaam yashpal.r.mea@gmail.com 0758555481
6	Ivasa Investment co Limited	31st July 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01098	Dakawa Chang'ombe- DSM	P.O. Box 31276, Dar es Salaam edgerivassa@yahoo.com 0756991812
07	Al Hushoom Investment (T) LTD	09 th July 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV2	Mafuta Street Kurasini-DSM	P.O Box 20831, Dar es Salaam info@alhushoom-icd-com 0687225533
08	Redsea Company Limited	05 th July, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01078	Mafuta Street Kurasini-DSM	P.O. Box 40303, Dar es Salaam. <u>info@forpartners.com</u> +255222861235/6
09	Afrisian Ginning Limited	05 th July 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01079	Saza Road Chang'ombe- DSM	P.O. Box 19964, Dar es Salaam <u>inf@afrisian.com</u> 0222861497
10	Hesu Investment limited	06th September, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01111	Taifa Road, Temeke- DSM	P.O Box 2465, Dar es Salaam operatios@hesu.co.tz 0785577138/0788449010
11	DSM Corridor Group Co. Limited	09th October 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01117	MCC LIMITED- DSM	P.O. Box 50163, Dar es Salaam dcg@dsmcorridor.com 0658378212

S/N	NAME	ISUUED DATE	EXPIRY DATE	LICENCE NO	FACLITY LOCATION	ADDRESS, EMAIL & PHONE
12	Said Salim Bakhresa and co Ltd (Mzizima)	06th September, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01112	Livingstone/ Aggrey-DSM	P.O.Box 2517 Dar es Salaam <u>export@bakhresa.com</u> 28611617
13	M.M Integrated Steel Mills Limited	06 th September, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01109	Mikocheni Plot 32/1- DSM	P.O Box 3030, Dar es Salaam hg@motisum.com +255222138040
14	Olam Tanzania Limited	06 th September, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01110	Mandela Road, Tabata - DSM	P.O. Box 71062, Dar es Salaam paul.myovela@olamnet.com +255222153156
15	Maviga East Africa LTD	10 th October, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV 01119	Vikindu Mkuranga - PWANI	P.O. Box 40731, Pwani yashpal.r.mea@gmail.com 0654171048
16	Bulyanhulu Gold Mine Ltd	18th December, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01135	Kahama- Shinyanga	P.O .Box 891Shinyanga treasury@barrick.com 0767 884 454
17	Pangea Mineral Ltd	18th December, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01135	Kahama- Shinyanga	P.O. Box 1101, Shinyanga treasury@barrick.com_0767 884454

B. METHOD 2

S/N	NAME	ISUUED DATE	EXPIRY DATE	LICENCE NO	FACLITY LOCATION	ADDRESS, EMAIL & PHONE
1	Rafiki (Coffee) Limited	10th October, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01120	Shirecu Godown Kurasini-DSM	P.O. Box7847, Dar es Salaam gmwanshinga@rafikicoffeeltd.com 0782925575
2	Alliance One Tobacco Tanzania Limited	09th July, 2019	30 th June, 2020	GMV01082	Kingolwira Morogoro	P.O. Box 1595, Morogoro dsika@aointl.com +255232934220-1
3	Reload Logistics Tanzania Limited	31st July, 2019	30 th June, 2020	GMV01097	Shed No 2 TPA Kurasini- DSM	P.O Box 42632, Dar es Salaam erastokimambi@reloadlogistics.com 0652040391
4	Cotacof Limited	03 rd July, 2019	30 th June, 2020	GMV01087	Mbagala Kibonde maji- DSM	P.O. Box 12934, Dar es Salaam <u>rfh@sucafina.com</u> +255753713301
5	Bureau Veritas Tanzania Limited- Dar Es Salaam Port	19th July, 2019	30 th June, 2020	GMV01093	Nyerere Road Plot 198 -DSM	P.O. Box 11896, Dar es Salaam titus.mwau@bureauveritas.com 0752821363
6	Bureau Veritas Tanzania Limited- Vingunguti	19th July, 2019	30 th June, 2020	GMV01094	Nyerere Road Plot 198 - DSM	P.O. Box 11896, Dar es Salaam titus.mwau@bureauveritas.com 0752821363
7	Bureau Veritas Tanzania limited-Tabata	19 th July, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01092	Nyerere Road Plot 198 - DSM	P.O. Box 11896, Dar es Salaam titus.mwau@bureauveritas.com 0752821363
8	Polytra Tanzania Limited	19 th July 2019	30 th June, 2020	GMV01095	Bandari Road, Ex nasaco- DSM	P.O. Box 23227, Dar es Salaam tanzania@polytra.be 0685701862
9	Alpha Krust T Ltd	09 th July 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01084	Nyerere Road- DSM	P.O. Box 8316, Ilala <u>mimuhamza@gmail.com</u> 0784735760/0688346335
10	Al Hushoom Investment (T) LTD	09 th July 2019	09 th July 2019	GMV2	Mafuta Street Kurasini- DSM	P.O. Box 40303, Dar es Salaam. info@forpartners.com +255222861235/6
11	Impala Terminal Tanzania Ltd	09 th July 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01083	Bandari Road- DSM	P.O. Box 50065, Dar es Salaam arshad.akber@impalaterminals.com 0782090805
12	Tanzania Tobacco Processors Ltd	09th July 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01081	Mazimbu Road Morogoro	P.O. Box 2299, Morogoro ttpl@ulitanz.com 2614832
13	Bv USC Tanzania Limited (Vingunguti)	05th July, 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01080	Nyerere Road- DSM	P.O Box 11896, Dar es Salaam miguel.cipriano@bureauveritas.com 0746523359
14	Vision Control & Superintendence Limited	05th July, 2019	30 th June, 2020	GMV01077	Azikiwe /samora avenue- DSM	P.O. Box 8680,Dar es Salaam <u>sevoshayo@yahoo.com</u> +255222127537
15	Alpha Choice Ltd	09th July 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01085	Magu Mwanza	P.O Box 3001, Mwanza qualityacl@alphatz.com +255282550105
16	Tanzania Fish Processors Ltd	09th July 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01086	Nyamagana- Mwanza	P.O. Box 3001, Mwanza qalitymwz@alphatz.com +255282550105
17	Musoma Fish Process	09 th July 2019	30th June, 2020	GMV01088	Old Customs road Block A- Musoma	P.O Box 1149,musoma qualitymfpl@alphatz.com +25528262298819

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Director General

Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation

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WEDNESDAY 26 FEBRUARY 2020

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

Pangolin population risking extinction unless poaching, trafficking held back

ANGOLINS are threatened by poaching for their meat and scales, which are used in Chinese traditional medicine and heavy deforestation of their natural habitats, and are the most trafficked mammals in the world. As of January 2020, of the eight species of pangolin are listed as critically endangered and as vulnerable on the International Union for Conservation of Nature Red List of Threatened Species.

In February 2020, university researchers in China employing genomic sequencing found a 99 per cent match between coronavirus found in pangolins and COVID-19, the virus responsible for the 2019-20 coronavirus

Shy, scaly and highly elusive, pangolins exist primarily in Asia and Africa. Today, they are also currently the most heavily trafficked mammal in the world.Nearly 900,000 pangolins are known to have been trafficked across southeast Asia in the past two decades.

Traffic is southeast Asia's leading wildlife NGO working to track illicit trade and biodiversity conservation efforts affecting critically endangered plants and animals in the region.

According to the wildlife watchdog, challenges to pangolin conservation efforts in Southeast Asia are two-pronged. These mammals often coexist with some of Asia's poorest communities, incentivising locals to exploit their local biodiversity as a way of making a living.

Moreover, growing affluence among Asia's rapidly developing cities is driving demand for exotic wildlife, especially pangolins.

China and Vietnam are currently the two largest consumer markets for the nocturnal mammal. Its scales, flesh, and foetuses are popular ingredients in traditional Chinese medicine despite a lack of scientific evidence of its curative powers. Their hard kera-virus.

tin scales are believed to cure hangovers, treat liver ailments, and help new mothers breastfeed.

In addition, pangolin meat is often eaten as a delicacy among corporate elites or the upper-middle class in Asia as a symbol of wealth and status.

Experts further warn that illegal poaching and trafficking of pangolins will drive several of this species to the brink of extinction.

Southeast Asia currently remains both heavy producer and consumer of this exotic animal. Moreover, females give birth to one baby pup only once a year, making it near impossible for adequate replenishment of local pangolin populations.

For decades, conservationists, zoos, and commercial breeders have attempted to sustain pangolins under captivity, but to no avail owing to the pangolin's highly specialised diet and captivity-induced stress.

In fact, baby pangolins have fatality rates of up to 70 per cet in their first year, according to earlier studies. In 2016, at least eight species were listed as endangered as part of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES), prohibiting further trading of the pangolin. However, local enforcement and monitoring of illicit trading has been poor if not nonexistent in the region.

Pangolins derive their name from the Malay word "pengguling", which translates loosely as "something that rolls up", in reference to its ability to roll into a ball to protect its soft and vulnerable underbelly when threatened. This defense mechanism also makes it incredibly easy for poachers to capture the animal.

But a sliver of hope for the world's most trafficked mammal to survive may lie in its recent connections with the novel Covid-19 outbreak as potential intermediate host for the deadly

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Nudging ourselves out of the economic nightmare

By Tshilidzi Marwala

OW South Africa can use 'nudges' to improve the wellbeing of its people. Joseph Stalin was a man of

steel. Faced with the principle of his party that stated that "from each according to their needs, and to each according to their ability", he soon realised that his people did not readily embrace this. His people, like any other, were inherently greedy and did not want to work for free. His solution was to use violence to force them to work.

Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin was a Georgian revolutionary and Soviet politician who led the Soviet Union from the mid-1920s until 1953 as the general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and premier of the Soviet Union

He created the gulags, forced labour camps, and moved the Soviet Union from an underdeveloped country to a fully industrialised state. All these were done through sheer force, and it was a bloody affair. Kirov, Trotsky, Rykov, Bukharin, Krestinsky

- the list goes on – all these people had to die to make way for Stalin's will. But there are other means of making people behave in a certain way without forcing them, and this is through the nudge.

At the University of Johannesburg, I have a reading club where I invite students and staff to discuss a book that I have read. Last week it was a book titled Nudge, authored by Richard Thaler and Cass Sunstein. Coincidentally, Sunstein dropped me a tweet thanking me for choosing his book as reading matter for my staff and students. Thaler won the 2017 Nobel Prize in Economics for his work in behavioural

economics, including the theory of the nudge. A nudge is an object that, whether physical, linguistic or otherwise, encourages people to behave in a particular desired way

You probably have not noticed

that Woolworths subtly made a move in 2019 to alter consumers' behaviour. No longer are the alleys to the till littered with chocolates, sweets and chips. Woolworths removed all junk food from its checkout queues in South Africa. Now, instead of a Bar One, you are more likely to find rice cakes or vegetable chips. This is a nudge from Woolworths for consumers to make healthier choices. While Woolworths is using nudges to control

people, Stalin used force to con-

Traditionally, economics assumed that people make rational choices in pursuit of their self-interest. As many economic models will have you believe, markets work efficiently to allocate resources and set prices based on this. The concept of nudging has thrown a spanner in the works, and interestingly, it

is frowned upon by many tradi-

tional economists.

Behavioural economics has shown us that humans can never be entirely rational, and they use abridged logic and incomplete information to make decisions. Human behaviour limits the efficiency of the markets. In inefficient markets, people can gain from the market without putting in the effort, and this can result in an inefficient allocation of resources and curtailed productiv-

In 2010, then UK Prime Minister David Cameron set up a nudge unit to find innovative ways of changing public behaviour. The unit's work now spans seven offices, having run more than 750 projects. Many countries, including France, The Netherlands, the US and Australia have begun behaviourally influenced policies.

The Obama administration appointed Sunstein as the Administrator of the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs. Spain has used nudge policy successfully for organ donation. The country works on an opt-out system with all citizens automatically registered for organ donation unless they choose to state otherwise. Spain implemented an opt-out system and now has an organ donation rate of 43 donors per million people – a rate

EU's average of 19.6 per million people and significantly higher than the US rate of 26.6 per mil-Nudge introduces the concepts of choice architecture and

libertarian paternalism to explain where attention should be focused when people are faced with a decision. Choice architecture refers to the way options are presented or displayed to us and how this can influence our choices. Libertarian paternalism refers to conscious efforts, by institutions in the private sector and also by governments, to shift

In 2019, First National Bank (FNB) partnered with the Entertainer app, which provides discounts or deals on restaurants, travel, health or beauty. No doubt a perk for customers, the app also offered FNB invaluable insight into spending habits.

people's selections in paths that

will advance their lives.

Medical aid company Discovery Health works somewhat similarly through its Vitality Rewards programme, which rewards users for completing health checks, doing an HIV test or attending a gym regularly. Like FNB, Discovery stores this data and uses it to keep track of its users.

The idea of storing data for rewards has been adopted by the Chinese government, which uses a Social Score to control and manage people through machines. For example, if you litter, you may lose points, but if you pay your bills on time, you may increase your scores. The government then ensures that you are rewarded for your behaviour. Banks could offer you lower

interest rates, or you could be promoted faster and get better job offers, for instance, based on your social score. Following the outbreak of the coronavirus at the beginning of 2020, this proved a useful tool in tracking the spread of the virus and providing adequate treatment. By using voice robots and big data, it is possible to check information such as personal identity, location and health condition. It can then categorise information and produce daily reports.

In Chicago, nudging was used to prevent road accidents around perilous bends. The curve on Lake Shore Drive and Oak Street is one of the city's most dangerous spots. In 2006, to try to limit accidents, the city painted a sequence of white lines which were perpendicular to the direction of the cars. These lines become increasingly tighter as drivers reach the sharpest section of the curve, offering them the illusion that they are speeding, and thus nudging them to reduce their speed. In the following six months there were 36% fewer crashes than over the preceding six months.

However, nudging is not always practical. In a study, a power company tried to nudge consumers to use less energy by comparing their power consumption to their neighbours. However, many took it as an indication that they could increase their power consumption. There are particular types of nudges called sludges, which are used to coerce people to act against their interests. Thaler refers to sludge as nudging for evil. For example, while newsletters and subscriptions are often easy to sign up for, they are incredibly difficult to cancel.

Virgin Active ropes you in with a free gym bag, a water bottle and the first month free. If you are with Discovery and you use Vitality, you pay about R250 per month and receive rewards. Yet, if you wanted to cancel your contract before it was complete, you would have to pay 40% of the remaining contract amount. Virgin Active also has all kinds of tactics to keep you interested. Governments also show signs of sludge. In the US, for instance, the local government in Ohio kicks people off voters' rolls if they skip a few elections.

Similarly, a programme named the earned income tax credit that is intended to encourage work and transfer income to the working poor, requires people to fill out a tax form that many eligible taxpayers fail to complete.

In 2017, it was found that Uber was using various insights from behavioural economics to nudge its drivers to pick up more fares, often with little benefit to them. Drivers received in-app notifications telling them how far off their current earnings were from previous days, and the next fare was loaded before the current one was complete, encouraging them to take another fare.

Sludge thus can either discourage behaviour that is in a person's best interest, or it can embolden self-defeating behav-

iours such as investing in a bad deal that appears to be good. How can South Africa use nudges to improve the well-being of its people?

In his recent State of the Nation Address, President Cyril Ramaphosa announced the establishment of a new smart city in Lanseria. While this is to be commended, let us first improve the well-being of our existing cities such as Johannesburg CBD, which has been progressively decaying in the past 20 years. In this regard, let us nudge people not to litter in our cities.

South Africa has been experiencing plenty of power cuts, and Eskom needs to be fixed. One of the wicked problems of Eskom is its inability to collect money for service in certain areas. In Soweto alone, Eskom is owed a whopping R18-billion. We ought to use nudges to make people pay their electricity bills to save Eskom.

In 2019, Melitta Ngalonkulu reported that of the 25 million credit consumers in South Africa, 10 million are behind with their payments. The situation is becoming progressively worse as the fortunes of the country decline. We can use nudges to make South Africans save more and spend less and ease their debt burden.

One of the problems destroying the future of our country is corruption. We should use nudges, such as pamphlets in every public space, to nudge people to desist from corruption and secure our future. Like in other countries such as the US, China and the UK, let us use nudges to solve our political, economic and social problems.

Mkapa's appeals to African leaders on role of human capital both relevant and timely

TR William Arthur Lewis was an economist well known for his contributions in the field of economic development. In 1979 he was awarded the Nobel Memorial Prize in Economic Sciences. He had dual Saint Lucian and British citi-

Arthur Lewis is said to have begun the field of development economics and consequently the idea of human capital when he wrote in 1954 "Economic Development with Unlimited Supplies of Labour.

Human capital is the stock of habits, knowledge, social and personality attributes including creativity embodied in the ability to perform labour so as to produce economic value.

Human capital is unique and differs from any other capital. It is needed for companies to achieve goals, develop and remain innovative. Companies can invest in human capital for example through education and training enabling improved levels of quality and production.

Human capital theory is closely associated with the study of human resources management as found in the practice of business administration and macroeconomics.

The original idea of human capital can be traced back at least to Scottish economist and morel philosopher Adam Smith author of Wealth of Nations in the 18th century.

In many cases, human capital is accumulated specific to the nature of the task (or, skills required for the task), and the human capital accumulated for the task are valuable to many firms requiring the transferable skills.

This concept can be applied to jobassignment, wage dynamics, tournament, promotion dynamics inside

firms, etc. In the same vein, former President Benjamin Mkapa has called on African leaders to recognise human capital as one of Africa's greatest treasures and therefore pursue development accordingly.

Mkapa made the remarks when speaking to the 16 candidates of the CEO Apprenticeship Programme (CAP), an initiative being driven by the CEO Roundtable of Tanzania (CEOrt) and in partnership with Strathmore University Business School (SBS).

talented Tanzanians through mentorship and coaching sessions and prepare them to become future CEOs. The Tanzanian poitician, who was

CAP is an initiative designed to train

president from 1995 to 2005, said the future CEOs must have integrity of purpose and conduct. He also urged the upcoming CEOs to

demonstrate three key leadership aspects in order to strive for excellence in their purpose and goals as leaders. "In leadership, it is imperative to identify the right people to work with

and make sure you know them thor-

Also learn to acknowledge those who have served in leadership and seek to understand the qualities that

have made them stand out. "Finally, it is necessary to revisit decisions you have made or decisions made by your superiors in order to make corrections or improvements where necessary in order to achieve your goals" he said.

Upon completion of the 12-month programme, participants will have acquired the right blend of skills, thus enhancing their leadership capabili-

CAP aims to identify CEOs in waiting and through capacity building and knowledge transfer, equip them with

the necessary skills to lead. With their wealth of knowledge and | trol people.



lion people.

Hosni Mubarak: Nasserite politician swept away by Obama's Arab Spring

By Anil Kija

ORMER Egpytian president Hosni Mubarak died early yesterday at the age of 91, the fourth ruler in military republicanism in Egypt, where it has been impossible to create a stable civilian government since 1952. Mubarak ruled Egypt for 30 years until he was ousted following mass protests against his rule in 2011, perhaps the most notable of revolts under the Arab Spring mass uprisings. The wave started in Tunisia with immolation of an unemployed university graduate whose petty business was ruined by city militia, a spark that lit a prairie

Mubarak, like the previous military heads of state since the overthrow of King Farouk in 1952, led a Westernised military and intelligentsia, combating the conservative backdrop of religious elders forming militia to bring about a theocracy.

This contention has underlined Middle East politics since the early part of last century with the fall of the Ottoman Turkish empire and creation of nation states after World War I, and then the creation of Israel in

There were two contending currents, one for Westernisation and modernity, and another for reassertion of cultural identity and opposition to the Jewish state as cardinal issue.

At the time of the death of Hosni Mubarak, pictures were repeated all over the world showing his sad itinerary since 2011, going in and out of prison, hospital and courts, at times with his son Gamal.

Some of the cases he continued battling as his life slumbered to a halt related to the suppression of the popular uprising that brought about his fall, while his immediate successor,



Islamist president Mohamed Mursi was himself removed by the military as he tried to lead an Islamist-dominated legislature to put up theocratic structures.

Like Mubarak lately, Morsi died in

prison after he was sentenced ers of the Muslim Brotherhood to long years in prison for militia

The fact that Mubarak's predecessor, Anwar el Sadat died in a hail of bullets from sympathiz- Nasser who is synonymous with to Islam, he would never be can- 79.

while saluting a military march past in 1981 illustrates the chronic instability of Egyptian politics.

Even iconic Gamal |Abdel

radical Arab republican politics died a peaceful death in 1970, while his predecessor in the republican era, Mohammed Neguib, rules for just over a year (June 1953 to November 1954) and replaced bgy the movement's iconic leader, Nasser. Neguib lived until 1984 when he died of liver cirrhosis, more or less completely forgotten, 30 years after leaving office.

Not many analysts have acknowledged that the Arab Spring was actually fomented by US President Barack Obama early in 2009, as his election was sensational to both the Pan-African world and the Muslim world in general.

Obama was the son of an African Muslim scholar doing doctorate at Harvard University, who married as a student with a white Jewish fellow student and had a son, named after his father's precise name - Barack Hussein Obama. Soon after taking office, Obama started pushing for Mid East peace and against the pressures of youths joining radical suicide groups like Al Qaeda in Saudi Arabia or the Muslim Brotherhood.

Visiting Egypt, he told a well attended audience at Al Azhar University, a citadel of Sunni learning, that 'the United States was not at war, and would never be at war, with Islam...' which the audience grasped.

The reason was that he was himself the son of a Muslim, and an African part-immigrant to the United States for that matter, hence the implication that if voters in the US were antipathetic didate of the Democratic Party, or become president. Obama was living proof that autocratic Arab regimes weren't protecting people against Israel and the United States but for their own benefit, a conviction which soon touched off the Arab Spring, as students communicated, took to the streets.

As president, Mubarak represented the face of compromise with Israel and close alliance with the United States, just like Jordan, where King Abdullah and his father King Hussein were both closely bred into American life. King Abdullah was a major in the US Army when he returned to Jordan to take over the royal chair, upon the death of his father in 1997.

When he died, Israeli prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu cabled President Abdel Fatah al Sisi to express his "deep sorrow for the passing of my personal friend Hosni Mubarak." Still chroniclers credit the late Mubarak with having had the courage to refuse to leave the country even as his overthrow appeared imminent, more or less like his friend Omar ell Bashir in Sudan who is going through the same paces as Mubarak, and unlike Tunisia's Zine El-Abidine Ben Ali, who fled with his family to Saudi Arabia after being ousted in protests during the Arab Spring - and some would add, like ex-Ugandan dictator Idi Amin who lived in the desert kingdom for more than 10 years after he fell to Ugandan exile forces and a Tanzanian expedition late 197i8-

Global economy still slowing, dangerously vulnerable

SYDNEY and KUALA LUMPUR

N an annual ritual early in the year, most major economic organizations have released forecasts for Lathe global economy in 2020. Incredibly, almost as a reminder of where financial power resides in this day and age, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) released its forecasts at the World Economic Forum's 50th annual meeting

Although the IMF revised its global economic growth prognosis slightly downwards from its October 2019 forecast, it still offers the most optimistic prospect of 3.3% growth in 2020. The World Bank's forecast of 2.5% - identical to the United Nations (UN) estimate - is the lowest, with the OECD's at 2.9%.

The IMF justified its optimism by improved market sentiments following the Phase One US-China Trade Deal and diminished fears of a 'no-deal Brexit'. Goldman Sachs describes these developments as 'A Break in the Clouds', forecasting global growth at 3.4% in 2020, while Morgan Stanley sees 'Calmer Waters Ahead', expecting 3.2% in 2020 and 3.5% in 2021.

Perils of 'talking up'

It is not unusual for these organizations to be optimistic: after all, they do not want to be seen as naysayers, or prophets of doom, especially if their pronouncements are later denounced as self-fulfilling prophecies.

But 'talking up the economy' can have grave consequences, as with the 2008-2009 global financial crisis (GFC). Then, the IMF revised its forecast upward in July 2007, a month before the US 'subprime' mortgage crisis morphed into the worst global downturn since the Great Depression of the 1930s.

Meanwhile, the OECD was confident that any US 'soft-landing' would be offset by robust European economic performance. Such forecasts fostered a false and ultimately dangerous sense of invulnerability and complacence before the storm broke.

Policymakers ignored warnings by the United Nations since 2005 about fundamental weaknesses, including growing global imbalances and the



debt-financed US housing bubble. As is now well known, the collapse of the US sub-prime mortgage market brought down world finance and, eventually, the global economy.

Hazards of forecasting

Thankfully, it is customary to include some cautionary notes with these annual forecasts, even when optimistic. For example, the IMF now warns of more downside risks, including geopolitical tensions, social unrest, trade tensions, Kristalina Georgieva, Managing **Director of**

International

Monetary Fund

and developing economies' financial turmoil.

Both the UN and the IMF fear that the climate crisis can trigger financial stress, further slowing economic growth. To make matters worse, ignoring fundamental weaknesses and focusing excessively on ephemeral short-term trends can be dangerously mis-

To be sure, forecasting is extremely hazardous, and some-

times compared unfavourably to astrology. Forecasters factor in plausible developments, but completely unpredictable 'black swan' events, such as the novel coronavirus pandemic, can upset even the best of forecasts.

Meanwhile, the World Bank warns of ballooning debt, both public and private. The UN and the World Bank also note that the sharp productivity growth slowdown since the GFC has reduced

high inequality will also delay such progress.

Both the UN and the IMF note

that high and rising inequality also engenders greater social and political polarization, unrest and instability. Additionally, the UN also warns of deepening political polarization and growing scepticism about multilateralism as significant downside risks.

But none mention that the longrun effects of income inequality on both consumption and output can be quite large, delaying economic recovery by limiting aggregate demand and capacity utilization.

Policy failure

Such fundamental weaknesses owe much to policy failures. Unlike the New Deal following the Great Depression of the 1930s, all too many contemporary policymakers shy away from addressing core problems, such as financial excesses, rising household debt, exorbitant executive salaries visà-vis stagnant, if not declining real wages, that also contributed to the

Low (negative) interest rates, due to unconventional monetary policy, especially 'quantitative easing' (QE), have not promoted productive investments, and allowed less-productive firms to survive. Thus, QE failed to boost productiv-

'Easy money' has been used for share buy-backs, mergers, acquisitions and inflated executive remuneration. Thus, as before the GFC, 'fictitious capital' is being systemically generated once again, contributing to asset price bubbles and endangering financial stabil-

'Easy money' from developed economies has also flowed to developing countries in search of better returns, making them more vulnerable, besides raising their indebtedness yet again.

long-term growth and poverty re- QE has also contributed to rising duction prospects; furthermore, inequality. Meanwhile, major central banks have exhausted much of their means for lending at very low or even negative interest rates as they have very limited room to cut interest rates further.

No fiscal savior

Besides reducing overall revenue collection and marginal income tax rates, the longstanding trend from direct to indirect taxation has shifted tax incidence from incomes to consumption, largely at the expense of the middle class.

Pursuing fiscal austerity under various guises, governments have slashed social and infrastructure spending in favour of publicprivate partnerships skewed in favour of influential corporate interests. Fiscal austerity also slowed economic recovery and technology adoption to the detriment of productivity growth.

Such fiscal reforms have not only exacerbated inequality, but also kept countries and households in debt bondage. And as governments have less fiscal space with rising debt, their ability to respond to crises - financial, climate or pandemic - is severely compro-

Missed opportunity

Had national policymakers, led by the G20, embraced the UN recommendation for a Global Green New Deal to stimulate recovery, address the climate crisis and reverse growing inequality, the global economy could have been put on a more inclusive and sustainable path.

Such hopes remain even more elusive in an increasingly fractured world where multilateralism itself has been discredited and deliberately undermined by ethno-populism's relegitimization of jingoism.

Agencies

Guardian

FEATURES

Climate crisis an issue on which a united South Africa can address global audience

By Mmusi Maimane

HE recently delivered State of the Nation Address covered many domestic issues facing South Africa, yet it was a great opportunity to also look globally.

We engage in this year with SA having taken the chairmanship of the African Union. I strongly believe this is Africa's decade for a much stronger contribution to global politics. Now is the time for us to lead the dialogue on climate change, and how we can develop in a sustainable manner.

We discuss Eskom, we discuss SAA, Prasa and Transnet. These are very important conversations, but we sometimes forget to have other conversations, about the region, about our role in the global political community. We can build a developmental curve that is economically strong with a sustainable future.

A conversation that should get more attention but is sometimes drowned out is the environmental crisis and how we are directly affected. Climate change is real and South Africa has a role to play in combatting it. The Northern Cape is in the midst of a drought and Johannesburg has been having flash floods. The climate in SA is changing and this has profound economic issues. While we are divided on so many issues, while we are living in the age of factionalism, we cannot afford to be factional about ending the biodiversity crisis.

Today the biodiversity crisis has never been higher on the global agenda, nations around the world are waking up to the reality that the way we are operating is fundamentally un-

Recent events have brought with them a realisation that the biodiversity and climate crisis is no longer something that we as Africans can kick into the long grass. Significant and irreversible biodiversity loss and dramatic climate change are happening now, before our eyes, and will cost us dearly. As teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg highlighted when discussing the bushfires that swept through Australia, "In case you haven't noticed, our world is on fire."

This crisis is a global one, and as such requires a global response. Scientists agree almost a third of the Earth will need to be protected by 2030 and pollution cut by half to save our remaining wildlife, as we enter the planet's sixth era of mass extinction, according to a United Nations agency.

International efforts such as the Campaign for Nature, a partnership between the Wyss Campaign and the National Geographic Society, have been pivotal in raising awareness about the challenges we face and how we can tackle them. Their campaign, backed by 100 environmental organisations and a growing number of African governments, aims to secure a global commitment to protect at least 30% of global land and sea. Perhaps most importantly, the campaign has a heightened focus on supporting indigenous peoples and increasing financial resources to manage protected areas in a way that is mindful of communities living in and around them.

Africa has a particularly important role to play. As our continent stares down the barrel of the most dramatic demographic change we have



ever seen, we are presented with huge challenges but also unique opportunities. With population levels in Africa expected to double to 1.9 billion by 2050, we can and should make an active decision to ensure we prepare for this development in an environmentally mindful and sustainable way.

As the former prime minister of Ethiopia, Hailemariam Desalegn, wrote, "There is a myth that political leaders must weigh up the importance of protecting our planet against the immediate shortterm needs of our citizens. We must expel this idea that these two are mutually exclusive." The age-old retort that countries must first be allowed to develop is defunct. If countries are to develop, they must do so in a sustainable way, so future generations can also reap the rewards.

Perhaps nowhere has the

South Africa's government

should relook

philosophy -

photo

at its mediation

especially in its

position this year

as AU chair. File

development and conservation been more clearly demonstrated than in Rwanda. Having recently undergone a revolution in its economic makeup, it has transformed itself from the dark days of 1994; rebranding the country as a gateway to Africa, improving the business environment, establishing sound institutions like the Rwanda Development Board, and building proper infrastructure.

But crucially, Rwanda has led the way with green legislation. Not only did it become one of the first countries to ban plastic bags, along with Kenya and Tanzania, but every year Rwanda plants millions of trees, part of a massive reforestation plan that aims to increase the country's forest cover to 30% of its total land. The establishment of a Green Fund, a groundbreaking investment fund that supports the best private and public projects that contribute to a green economy, has mobilised more than \$100-million and generated almost 140,000 new jobs.

The care and attention Rwanda

happy marriage between economic has paid to its landscapes is paying off. In 2017 its tourism sector, largely fuelled by its national parks and the wildlife that inhabits them, generated \$438-million. The same year, visits alone to its national parks generated \$18.7-million in revenue.

Ecotourism is a booming industry, and one that should be capitalised on by those lucky enough to be endowed with the landscapes Africa is so fortunate to have. Namibia, for instance, is on track to generate 21.6% of its total GDP by 2025 from tourism alone, following the creation of the Namib-Skeleton Coast National Park. Covering more than 10 million hectares and stretching for 1,570km, the park goes from the Angolan border in the north right down to the South African border in the south.

But tourism is not the only industry that could benefit from greener policies. A report published by Kleos Advisory at the recent UK-Africa Investment Summit in London estimated that the pay-as-you-go solar power market, that could potentially give power to millions across Africa

But Machar then made his own

concession, agreeing to defer

that issue, and was duly sworn

Whether or not the R-TGNU

will stick this time around re-

mains moot, given its discourag-

ing precedents. When Machar

returned to Juba in 2016 to

take up the deputy presidency

which Kiir had removed him

from three years earlier, he fled

Nonetheless IGAD - and the

international community - de-

serve credit for sustaining the

pressure on Kiir to make the

concession that led to the deal.

Some observers are giving spe-

cial credit to the new Sudanese

government which currently

What should be made of

South Africa's protracted me-

diation? Even in the interna-

tional relations department

itself, questions were asked

chairs IGAD.

for his life from Kiir's soldiers.

in once again on Saturday.

who currently do not have access, could be worth \$24-billion.

Ethiopia, another African country with a promising green agenda, is hosting the AU Summit in Addis Ababa later this month, and while the theme is "Silencing the Guns", it also aims to create "Conducive Conditions for Africa's Development", of which the environment is an integral part. If we continue hurtling down this path of climate and biodiversity loss, Africa will only see greater instability, water scarcity, drought, famine, war, unemployment and dis-

Ahead of the African Union Summit, the Convention on Biological Diversity released its Zero Draft on the Global Deal for Nature in January. One of the first major steps towards the COP15 being held later this year in Kunming, China, the draft promisingly highlighted the need to protect 30% of global land and sea by 2030.

There are certainly encouraging signs that African governments are taking this seriously, with a number already committing to the 30 by 30 pledge. Rwanda, Uganda, Gabon, Senegal, Mozambique, Seychelles and Cameroon have already pledged their support, with a great many others soon to join the High Ambition Coalition calling for a global deal. Yet, there is one glaring omission: South Africa, among the world's 10 most biodiverse countries, home to nearly 10% of all bird, fish and plant species, and 6% of mammals and reptiles, has not.

For the sake of our citizens and natural resources, South Africa needs to support this Global Deal for Nature, and promote it at the AU, hand-in-hand with our friends and neighbours.

Africa needs a strong voice on the environment, it cannot afford not to. By joining calls for a 30 by 30 commitment, we can encourage others around the world to do so, bring in greater financial assistance, and ultimately protect our planet.

There are many divisions in South Africa that we desperately need to work through to prosper, but the one thing we can all agree on is that we have a responsibility to protect this land we call home. It's about time South Africa stood up and spoke not just for Africa, but the world.

South Sudan's peace deal reveals flaws in Pretoria's approach to mediation

BY PETER FABRICIUS

THEN South Sudan President Salva Kiir announced on 15 February that he had backed down from his hitherto intransigent demand that South Sudan have 32 states, South African Deputy President David Mabuza praised him for his 'progressive' and 'revolutionary' decision.

Mabuza, President Cyril Ramaphosa's special envoy to South Sudan, said he'd 'always remained confident that the parties would make a breakthrough on this matter and that the people of South Sudan would find solutions to their challenges.

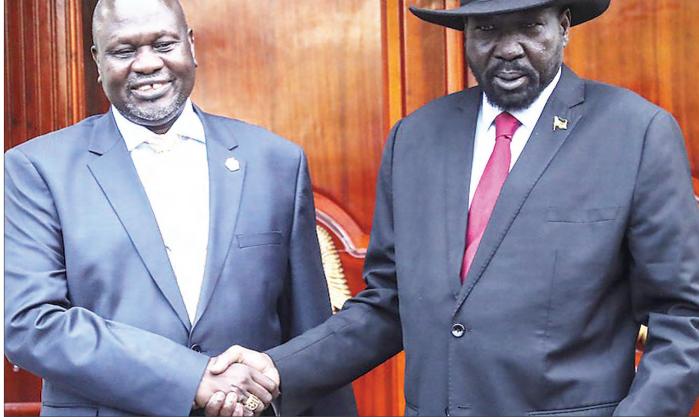
Kiir's backing down paved the way for him and his arch rival Riek Machar to enter into the Revitalized Transitional Government of National Unity (R-TGNU) a week later - Saturday 22 February - right on deadline.

Speaking as African Union (AU) chair, Ramaphosa noted that 'this significant breakthrough' had followed Kiir's decision to concede on the number of states. He added that Kiir's move came almost two weeks after he met Kiir and Machar, separately, at the AU summit. Ramaphosa had encouraged them to 'redouble their efforts towards the speedy resolution of the outstanding issues in the implementation of the [September 2018 Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in the Republic of South Sudan].'

Reading these two statements, one might deduce that the two South Africans had played a major part in persuading Kiir to back off his insistence on 32 states. But this isn't so.

What should be made of South Africa's protracted mediation of the South Sudan crisis?

When Ramaphosa met Kiir and Machar at the AU summit, he reportedly urged them both to form the R-TGNU by the 22 February deadline - and only then to discuss the thorny



should be in the South Sudan federa-

Kiir agreed to this, unsurprisingly. Equally unsurprisingly, Machar rejected it. He saw this as just another ruse by Kiir to duck the issue. Machar was sure that once the government was formed, Kiir would forget about reducing the number of states to the 10 demanded by Machar - and the constitution.

Machar's people also saw Ramaphosa's demand as further evidence of Pretoria taking Kiir's side. They believed South Africa should have been putting pressure on Kiir from the start to do the right thing. Similar misgivings apply to Mabuza's mediation which peaked in December and January when he tried to persuade both sides to submit the question of how many states there issue of the number of states to external arbitration. This created a blur of contradictory South

Sudanese reactions. Some in the Machar camp felt that Mabuza was favouring Kiir by obfuscating what should have been a clear-cut issue. But even in the Kiir camp some said the September 2015 revitalised peace agreement - the framework for all these negotiations - made no provision for outside arbitration. Mabuza should simply have insisted on Kiir doing the right thing by giving up his unconstitutional position.

After Mabuza abandoned his mediation, the Intergovernmental Authority on Develop- apparent concession by Kiir, ment (IGAD) leaders met Kiir suspecting that the creation of and Machar to tackle the issue administrative regions was just and step up pressure on Kiir to a way of reintroducing addition-

back off. So did the special envoys of the South Sudan troika - the United States, United King-

The greater successes of IGAD only serve to underscore the limitations of South Africa's

Kiir at first resisted the pressure but then on 15 February announced he was ready to return to 10 states. But his 'compromise' had a sting in its tail: in addition to the original 10 states, there would be three 'administrative regions' - Abyei, Boma and Ruweng.

Machar at first rejected this

about Mabuza's approach. Senior officials wondered who his foreign policy adviser was and whether, in the apparent absence of a strong mandate from his government, he may not dom and Norway.

> Museveni, a Kiir ally. Even in SA's international relations department, questions were asked about Mabuza's approach

have fallen under the influence

of Ugandan President Yoweri

Yet Ramaphosa's intervention urging Kiir and Machar to form a government first and resolve the states issue later suggested that Mabuza might not have been 'freelancing', and that the trouble lay deeper - in the Pretoria government's overall ap-

proach. Pretoria's defence would probably be that it tried to re-

main even-handed - and that it al states through the back door. had no real choice as Kiir would have rejected any pressure applied to him alone. But the IGAD leaders seem to have proven this wrong. The South Sudan case demonstrates that this is an approach that almost inevitably favours the incumbent, as it leaves him untouched in his power and positions.

The greater successes of the IGAD leaders - backed by the troika - on the face of it only serve to underscore the limitations of South Africa's approach. Some might argue that one cannot separate Pretoria's approach from IGAD's as Pretoria acted as part of the overall IGAD mediation. But that doesn't really explain the nature of South Africa's media-

One must assume that both Ramaphosa and Mabuza had considerable autonomy in their mediation efforts, within the broad IGAD framework, and weren't simply ferrying IGAD messages. And on the critical question of the number of states and their boundaries, the South African leaders didn't pressure Kiir to back off - which was the key to IGAD's success.

The South Sudan mediation should prompt Pretoria to take a long hard look at its mediation philosophy - especially since it ostensibly intends to deploy it more often this year in the AU chair. Yet with Ramaphosa absorbed by domestic priorities, one senses that Pretoria might be more inclined than ever to take the road more travelled which may not deliver the desired results.

Peter Fabricius, ISS Consultant

Zantel unveils service to enable customers to call all networks

By Guardian Reporter

IN a bid to foster reliable and affordable communications services to all customers in the country, Zantel yesterday unveiled its new product dubbed "BongaMpakaBasi' to allow customers to call across all networks at the affordable prices.

The new product portfolio is set to offer customers with exclusive experience through its

improved voice packages that can be accessed easily with more value than before. With the new product, Zantel customers will now buy only one voice package and make calls across all networks in the country.

Speaking during the launch, Zantel's Head of Mobile Business Aneth Muga said the campaign is part of the Zantel's strategy of improving communications services in the country while ensuring customers experience fair and affordable prices to stay connected with their loved ones across other networks.

"We understand that affordable communications services are one of the key pillars for economic and social development in any country as it gives people opportunity to unleash different potentials.

Through this product, we want to give our customers freedom to call any network at other networks at the same the affordable and competitive price that will in turn impact their economic and social wellbeing," said Muga

Prior to the launch, Zantel had two voice packages including the on-net named 'Bonga' and the off-net bundle called 'MpakaBasi' that are now unified to form BongaMpakaBasi, a new portfolio that offers more freedom to communicate across

price of calling Zantel to Zantel.

"With BongaMpakaBasi our customers will no longer need to buy more than one bundle to call all networks, with the new package you can enjoy unlimited access to call any network in the country.

All these are possible through our improved and simplified menu for all customers to easily access the services," added

Speaking at the launch the Head of Zantel Zanzibar Mohammed Khamis Mussa said the company has made a huge investment mark in Zanzibar, its main business footprint, by deploying state-of-the-art communication structures through its undersea fibre optic cable that links Tanzania and other East African countries that enabled Zantel to provide wholesale in-

ternational voice and data connectivity to other operators.

11

"Advanced telecommunications is one of the key pillars for a developed society.

The Zantel 4G plus network has therefore, contributed to the development of various sectors including education, finance and health-care as well as bolstering economic and business growth", says Mussa.

Bank brings SMEs on board as it launches business club in Tanga

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

THE National Bank of Commerce (NBC) has launched a business club in Tanga region aimed at bringing together Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to share ideas and address challenges affecting their businesses.

NBC also hosted the SMEs on training to empower them on how to run their businesses as well as tap other opportunities

Speaking during the training earlier this week, the head of business at NBC Elvis Ndunguru said the bank is committed towards facilitating easy and smooth banking to all groups including SMEs who are key towards economic growth.

He said the launching of the club makes the number of bank's clubs nine countrywide with a strategy to unite them so they collectively discuss how to see and utilize opportunities. According to him the clubs have been a platform for finding markets as well as empowering them financially for business growth.

"NBC club is a unique platform for educat-

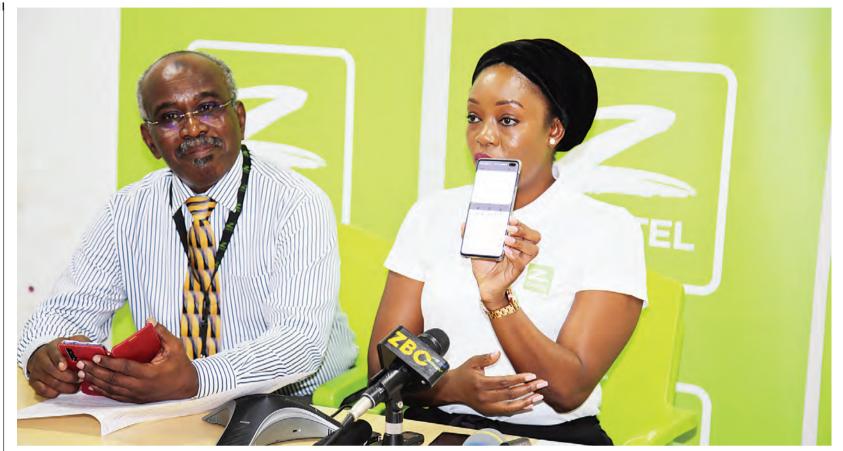
ing SMEs on various issues affecting their businesses, and since there establishment, members have benefiting from training including the use of accounts books, market knowledge and taxpayer education," he said.

Among the benefits according to Ndunguru includes members have lower interests loans as well as low foreign exchange rates.

He added that the training was being offered seeing that there was high demand from the SMEs to reduce loses and being cheated by dishonest workers.

In his remarks the Director for Tanga city council Daudi Maheji who officiated the opening of the club hailed the bank for the initiative saying it will go a long way into creating honest businesses.

He urged the SMEs to be very strict on record keeping to avoid conflicts with the tax man. One of the beneficiaries of the clubs who is also an NBC customer Haji Mambo said through the clubs he has been able to connected to various people globally giving an example of a trip to China in which he met various successful business men and



Zantel head of mobile business Aneth Muga (R) unveils a simplified menu meant to enable the firm's customers to buy a newly introduced 'multi-network' bundle dubbed 'BongaMpakabasi'. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TTCL and TPRI agree on innovative digital verification of pesticide

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Telecommunications Corporation (TTCL) and Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI) have signed an agreement for the launch of an innovative digital verification of a pesticide known as

T-Hakiki platform is using technology to reimagine agriculture in Tanzania by providing accessible, scalable solution for smallholder famers whilst bundling verification with the inputs farmers already use, in this case pesticides.

Speaking to the reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the occasion of signing the agreement, TTCL Acting Executive Director, Kezia Katamboi said that T- Hakiki will significantly impact digitization of agriculture and safeguard the lives of many farmers whilst driving financial inclusion efforts in Tanzania.

She said in an ongoing efforts to support government efforts on towards agriculture, TTCL Corporation in partnership with Quincewood Group Limited has come up with the solution to farmers know as T-Hakiki services

"Two-thirds of Tanzania's population work in agriculture making it the backbone of our economy, with small scale farmers dominating the food production. High demand for pesticides has attracted unscrupulous traders selling counterfeit pesticides. "Counterfeiting in Africa's agricultural input sector takes multiple forms-from imitation branding and packaging to partially diluted or entirely fake products.

"There have been many incidences of fake/counterfeit pesticides in the country. About 40% of agroinputs (seeds, fertilizers and pesticides) in Tanzania are reported to be counterfeits. (International Journal of Computer Applications: Combating Fake Agro-Inputs Products in Tanzania using Mobile Phones,

July 2014)," she said The Director General of TPRI, Dr Margaret Mollel added that

method coupled with other good agronomic practices is expected to increase farmers' productivity and incomes, as they will be de-risked from fake/counterfeit seeds/inputs/fertilizers.

"Our goal is to provide farmers a choice of reliable, affordable high quality pesticides they can trust so through the sale of genuine pesticides using T-Hakiki e-verification system, farmers' interests are protected by safeguarding crop yields.

"The sale of counterfeit agri-

socio-economic consequences. More and more children will now be able to complete their schooling because farmers whose sole source of income based on crop yields will be able to pay their children's school fees," she said.

cultural inputs has far-reaching

However she added that the farmer will verify pesticide by dialling USSD code *148*52#.

"Enter verification serial number, dial Ok, then receive the verification notification. T-Hakiki is available to ALL Mobile Network Operators and the service will be FREE of charge to farmers," she said. In addition, Quincewood's Director of Business which oversees the digital electronic pesticide system, Fatma Fernandes said that T-Hakiki will revolutionize agriculture sector and improve food security hence increase incomes of smallholder farmers and reduce the prevalence of counterfeit/ adulterated agricultural inputs in Tanzania.

Famous African disease scientist eguarding stresses need to ensure African innovations are safe from thefts

BALTIMORE, USA

AT the conference on sustaining African Healthcare Innovations held over the weekend at the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health award-winning African infectious disease scientist Dr. Dougbeh Christopher Nyan has emphasized that "Africa governments need to strongly support African innovators and protect these innovations from intellectual property theft."

"Intellectual property protection of the many vibrant innovations from the African continent is key to sustainability and improvement of healthcare and life in other sectors. These ideas may have high economic values and economic benefit to the continent," Dr. Nyan added.

He said, "Africa cannot continue to allow its ideas to slip out, be reproduced and repackaged by others, and then sold back to Africa at higher cost or brought back to Africa as so-called donations. Africans need to build factories to manufacture for ourselves and export to the world."

The conference which centered on Sustaining Healthcare Innovations in Africa was organized jointly by the African Public Health Network, Mzuzah Africa and the Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health.

The Johns Hopkins University is a major US higher institution of learning whose School of Public Health is fighting global health disparity.

Commenting further on the sidelines of the Mzuzah Convergence Africa Innovation Health conference, Dr. Nyan mentioned that "Africa has enormous talent, hence investing in producing our own ideas will yield economic benefits for the continent," adding that, "this was the vision of the late President William R. Tolbert of Liberia and is now the path of the dynamic President Paul Kagame of

Diseases. The Nyan Test can simulta-

Rwanda."

Dougbeh Chris Nyan is the renowned inventor of the Multiplex



Tanzania Telecommunications Company Limited's acting executive director, Kezia Katamboi (R), and Tropical Pesticides Research Institute (Tanzania) director Dr Margaret Mollel exchange documents in Dar es Salaam yesterday after signing an agreement at the launch of innovative digital verification relating to a pesticide. **Photo: Guardian Correspondent**

neously detect and identify multiple infections in 10 to 40 minutes. The test is designed to be portable, less expensive, and simple to use.

It detects infections like Ebola, Zika, Malaria, HIV/ Rapid Diagnostic Test for Infectious AIDS, Coronaviruses, Hepatitis viruses, Dengue, West Nile virus, several neglected tropical infec-

tions, and many others.

Dr. Nyan is winner of the 2017 African Innova-States Patent and Trademark Office for his multi- not be solely focused on profit-making." plex diagnostic test.

He stressed that, as an entrepreneur who wants to make an impact, "innovation must be tailored tion Award Special Prize for Social Impact and was primarily to the needs and services of the society, granted a US Patent for his invention by the United mainly the impoverished populations, but should

FEATURE

Guardian

Nevada, Soweto, Russia... US politics meanders into even stranger waters

By J Brooks Spector

HE third state battle for the Democratic nomination is now over and Bernie Sanders has clearly edged into the frontrunner spot, enjoying quite a momentum. But there is so much more left to happen. Somehow both Russia and Soweto found their way into this contest as well.

The US electoral process in the 2020 election, largely a Democratic Party affair for now, continues to lumber forward as numerous missiles were fired at the candidates - by those same candidates at themselves. But there have been even more disconcerting mo-

Over the past weekend, on 22 February, the state of Nevada had the country's second caucus, this one somewhat less chaotic than the first one in Iowa. There, reporting the final results was delayed by days of public bungling, ineptitude, and administrative muddle by the state's Democratic Party.

In the just-completed Nevada caucus, by Sunday the near-complete results showed Vermont Senator Bernie Sanders would now be able to claim bragging rights to the largest number of pledged delegates for the mid-July Democratic presidential nominating convention. However, the vast majority of delegates remained to be determined, with only 96 of the nearly 3,000 delegates pledged to the various candidates so far.

To become the Democratic Party's nominee, a candidate needs to win a majority of the party's delegates. Up until the Nevada caucus, five candidates had earned delegates from the first two contests: former South Bend, Indiana, mayor Pete Buttigieg (23), Sen Bernie Sanders (21), Sen Elizabeth Warren (8), Sen Amy Klobuchar (7) and former vice-president Joe Biden (6).

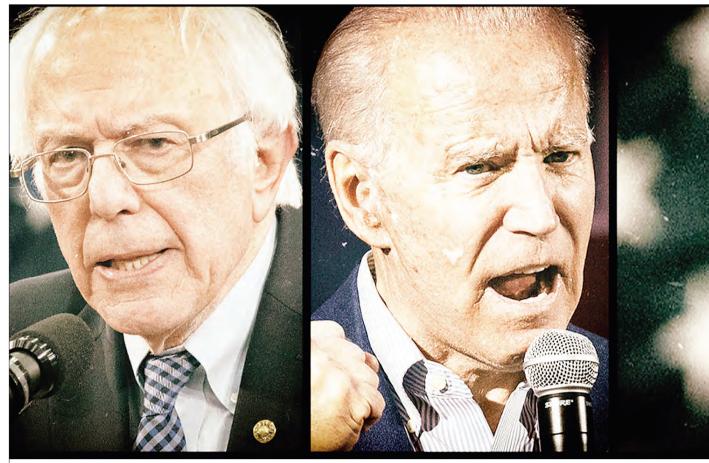
Following Nevada, results for the leading candidates came through in this order, with about half-plus of the votes tabulated: Sanders 46.6%; Biden 19.2%; Buttigieg 15.4%; Warren 10.3%; and Klobuchar 4.5%. The state's county delegate convention is therefore likely to allocate 15+ delegates of its 36 national delegate total to Sanders, and maybe nine or 10 to Buttigieg, depending on how the actual vote distribution broke down precinct by precinct, across the state. That would give Sanders 36 total delegates or so at this point, and with the second-place candidate, Pete Buttigieg holding perhaps 34.

Polling says the most important factor for many Democratic voters in picking a candidate has been his or her perceived ability to defeat Donald Trump. Importantly, the data seems to point to a view that Sanders embodies that quality. Moreover, significant chunks of the voting electorate appear to have accepted Sanders' arguments over a national health plan. Additionally, Sanders did particularly well with younger and Latino voters. For Sanders supporters, therefore, these are real grounds for their optimism for the

But it is crucial to remember a candidate needs half plus one of a total of 3,979 delegates, and the vast majority have yet to be selected. However, 54 delegates are up for grabs in South Carolina this coming weekend, 1,357 are at stake on 3 March, 352 on 10 March, and 557 more a week later.

Despite all the victory chants from supporters that Sanders is already a done deal, the reality is that the proverbial fat lady hasn't even gone on stage, let alone sung her song. But, by the end of March, she almost certainly will be on the last few pages of her final aria, unless a three- or even a four-way race has so divided up the pledged delegates that while there is a leader, no one candidate has a lock on a majority. Then the dreaded words "brokered convention" will be talked about - a lot.

In this entire process, as noted above, the Democrats divide their 3,979 pledged delegates among the states, the District of Columbia (the city of Washington), some miscellaneous territories and a couple of other jurisdictions without electoral votes. This distribution is based on a formula that takes into account both population and the Democratic Party's strength in particular jurisdictions. Thus, while Massachusetts and Tennessee have similar populations and 11 votes each in the electoral college, more people vote for Democrats in the former than the latter. As a result, Massachusetts gets 91 pledged delegates, while Tennessee



garners just 64.

Those delegates are then pledged to candidates from the results in the primaries and caucuses, subject to a number of lawyerly footnotes. For Democrats, a quarter of each state's delegates are awarded on the basis of the statewide vote, and three-quarters are usually awarded on the basis of results by congressional district. Sometimes, particularly in states with just one congressional district, the delegates are awarded on the basis of the results from a smaller jurisdiction, such as state legislative district.

Moreover, a candidate must hit 15% support of the total vote in order to win delegates, either statewide or in a congressional district or smaller district. That may be difficult to achieve in a field as large as this year's Democratic class. For example, if one candidate gets 40% support statewide, another gets 15% support, two others get 14% and others get less, only the first two will split the statewide delegates, proportionately.

There are also "superdelegates" party officials and leaders and establishment figures. But, importantly, under new rules adopted after the 2016 primaries, superdelegates will not participate in the first vote at the Democrats' nominating convention unless one candidate has already achieved a majority of the pledged delegates.

But, if the nomination isn't settled by the beginning of the convention, those superdelegates' votes would then factor into the selection of a nominee. But this would only be a factor from a second ballot onward.

As if the suspense of the actual, ongoing primary votes was insufficient, several other occurrences have been vying for our attention as well. First was the effective unveiling of Michael Bloomberg's heretofore entirely electronic, virtual campaign as a candidate for the nomination. This was actually taking place even before his name had appeared on any ballots and thus before he had received a single vote.

To say the least, this political coming-out party for Bloomberg was not an unvarnished success. Participating in his first Democratic candidates' debate, Bloomberg appeared, by turns, irritated, petulant, rattled, and largely unprepared for the barbs tossed at him by the other five competing candidates.

What he did not appear to be was the well-prepared master of the universe that would have befitted his having been a three-term mayor of New York City, serving in what is often called "the second most difficult job in America". These circumstances, taken together, almost made it seem as if there are two Bloombergs on show: on the one hand, there was the towering force of nature on view in his gargantuan media buy's worth of television and online mes-

But, on the other hand, there was the more diminished, almost oratorically diminutive figure who had appeared in the six-candidate debate. There will be yet another debate on Tuesday in South Carolina, and all eyes will be on whether Bloomberg can do a reset; if Sanders can consolidate a frontrunner status; and whether Biden, as well as Buttigieg, Warren, and Klobuchar, can claw their respective campaigns right back into the centre ring of contention.

In just the past few days, without getting much space to demonstrate

US Democratic Party presidential candidates **Senator Bernie** Sanders (left) and former vice president Joe Biden. File photo his knowledge, experience, business and governmental acumen, and broad acquaintanceship with national and international economic issues, Bloomberg has been chivvied by the other candidates (and the media) for his humongous spending on his commercials (aka the charge of "buying the nomination"); an alleged record of near-Trumpian bad-boy language and behaviour towards women in his companies; and the hard racial realities of the stopand-frisk police practices in New York City, carried out during his tenure as mayor.

Meanwhile, Biden did well enough to stay in the hunt, barely; while Buttigieg continues to hang in there too, although his ability to close the deal with minorities remains in serious question. Senators Amy Klobuchar and Elizabeth Warren had relatively disappointing outcomes, but not enough to drive either out of going forward. South Carolina seems to be a landscape where candidates will either prove their worth with that state's black voters or begin their

personal attacks, the issues dividing and uniting the Democratic candidates have been getting less and less attention. Speaking about that concern, New York Times over this past weekend, "I've written a couple of scathing columns about China's initial mishandling of the coronavirus outbreak, but that feels a bit unfair. Our own health care system is a complete mess: as Walter Cronkite once said, it's neither healthy, nor car-

ing nor a system. So if we're going to hold China accountable we should do the same for ourselves - and that's the purpose of today's column.

"An election year should be the perfect time to do that. But Democrats are bickering over Medicare for All, which Congress will never adopt anyway. Instead, the focus should simply be on ensuring universal coverage whether through a single-payer system like Britain's or a multi-payer system like Germany's (both work well). Meanwhile, Trump is working to dismantle Obamacare, and 400,000 children have lost health insurance. That hasn't gotten nearly enough attention. Think about that: parents who can't take a son to a doctor if he's not learning to speak, or a daughter if she's not growing properly or has an ear infection."

The horserace seems more important than the why of an election, sadly.

Meanwhile, while all this was taking place, the government's national intelligence community had given a closed-door briefing In all this horserace politics and to the House Special Select Com- or even tried to arrest a US senareporting and the growing level of mittee on Intelligence on foreign tor, there would have been abintervention attempts and plans to - yet again - interfere in the US national election. The briefer's conclusions were that the Russians were going to be helpful to columnist Nicholas Kristof wrote Trump's chances in the general election yet again, and that they were similarly gearing up to help Sanders in his primary battles. For his part, Sanders responsibly denounced any such actions, and he called Vladimir Putin a thug for good measure, as well.

By contrast, Donald Trump

and summarily ran the acting director of national intelligence right out of his job for allowing a staffer to have the temerity to provide Congress with these intelligence community's findings. Then, Trump's newest national security adviser publicly dumped on candidate Sanders, even as the adviser said he had seen none of the conclusions or evidence the briefer had just discussed with Congress. If one is looking for a motive, a pretty good set of them would be these three: to sow yet further chaos in the Democratic Party; to support a president who loves the Russian leader and keeps drawing back from places of interest to the expansion of Russian influence; and to enhance further distrust by Americans (and foreigners) in the country's political life. But surely the weirdest part

called the whole thing "hoax #7",

of the week came with a special connection for South Africa. Seemingly out of the blue, Biden announced he had been arrested in South Africa during a 1977 visit, presumably while he was in Soweto and hoping to visit Nelson Mandela on Robben Island. Yup, arrested. Now the thing is, nobody else seems to have remembered this arrest. It is not mentioned in Biden's previous writing on his life (or about this visit), and there appear to be absolutely no media reports of such an arrest, either in South Africa

Speaking as someone who had worked on numerous congressional visits (representatives and senators both) in several countries, including South African over three decades, virtually every one of those visits had an embassy staffer acting as the visitor's schedule control officer. In a place as complex, troubled, and volatile as South Africa was in the late 1970s, the control officer and other embassy staffers (right up to the ambassador) would have given microscopic attention to the schedule and its logistics to ensure the congressional visitor's interests were taken into consideration, but that nothing should go off the rails.

If the local police had arrested solute hell to pay. For everyone. Such visitors often went to Soweto to meet controversial people or visit local sites (including our own newly-established US embassy library there), but such visits were, like everything else, just as obviously, monitored by the local police or other security

And as for Robben Island, then as now, there are just two ways to get there, either by boat or by helicopter and both were - and

remain - under the control of the South African government. There would have been no specially arranged privately chartered travel there for a visitor. Moreover, back in the 1970s, Mandela was only receiving obvious family visits or rare visits from his legal representatives.

Now as to the "why" of this sudden pronouncement from Biden, we can only speculate. Perhaps it was one of those mature (ie older) politician's moments where intention gets confused with the act. Ronald Reagan, for example, became well-known for speaking about important events in World War II as if he had been there, rather than his having acted out those carefully on a Hollywood backlot for the silver screen.

Perhaps, less charitably, Biden was somehow attempting to appeal in this way to South Carolina's black voters for their upcoming primary, by identifying so closely with the famous icon. Or perhaps it had just seemed like too good a thing not to misremember.

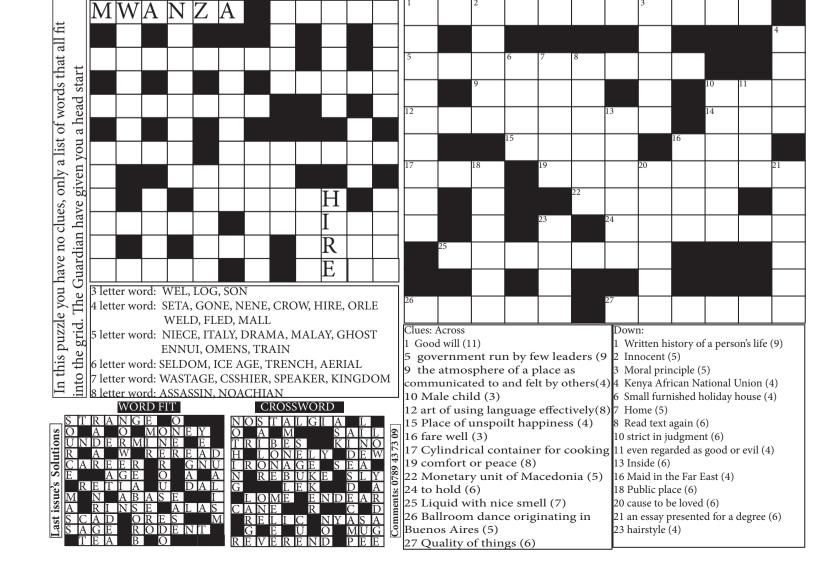
While most American voters will likely forget about this, or never even hear about it, it may become yet one more of those things that call into question Biden's acuity, focus, and mental agility at this stage of his life, just when his momentum is sputtering or stalled completely.

Watching all these dramas, I realised there is a play to be drawn from all this, somewhat like a mix of Samuel Beckett's Waiting for Godot and Edward Albee's Zoo Story. Our play would take place on a city park bench where Bernie Sanders and Michael Bloomberg are feeding the pigeons while they debate the country's economic state and its

Donald Trump then comes over and tries to join the conversation, but his interjections are largely stream-of-consciousness rants about Hillary Clinton and his other favourite bêtes noires. Meanwhile, Joe Biden leans over the back of the bench similarly attempting to join the increasingly vigorous debate between the two men on the bench. Poking out from among the trees are the rest of the candidates. They wave their arms, but they barely get a word into the conversation.

Eventually, the bench conversation gets so heated, Sanders and Bloomberg throttle each other into unconsciousness. Trump sits down on the bench by himself, but Vladimir Putin, Xi Jinping, Kim Jong-un, and a masked ayatollah all come on stage and crowd Trump right off the bench and then the stage. Whatever I ate last night, I must never have that again!

Agencies



THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD =057=

Guardian

BUSINESS



Rwanda Finance and Economic Planning minister Uzziel Ndagijimana.

INVESTMENT

Government increases public spending by Rwf140 billion

Parliament has approved the revised national budget of Rwf3.0171 trillion for the 2019/2020 fiscal year. The change represents an increase of Rwf140.1 billion or slightly over 4.8 per cent from the original Rwf2.8769 trillion budget.

While presenting to Parliament the draft 2019-2020 revised budget, the Minister for Finance and Economic Planning, Uzziel Ndagijimana, told Parliament that the budget review was informed by the economic and budget performance for the first six months of 2019/20 fiscal year.

He said that domestic funds are projected to increase from Rwf1,726.2 billion to Rwf1,801.9 billion, which an increase of Rwf75.7 billion. The money, the minister said, is projected to come from tax revenues that are expected to rise thanks to the robust economic growth

More spending on public sector

Ndagijimana told lawmakers that the adjustment in the national spending is intended to cater for salaries for newly recruited health staff and promotion of medical staff, operationalization of the newly established embassies, community health-based insurance subsidies, and milk support programme under the National Early Childhood Development Program.

Rwanda's new embassies include the ones in in Accra, Ghana; Rabat in Morocco, and Doha in Qatar. The revised spending also aims to finance new government institutions such as the new Ministry of Internal Security and the Rwanda Water Resources Board.

The budget increment also reflects more public financing for planned sports activities including preparations for African Nations Championship (CHAN) as well as the Basketball Africa League (BAL) 2020.

The development budget is set to

receive an extra Rwf13 billion "I wonder what is behind the high rise of recurrent expenditure compared to the development budget which is invested in income-generating activities," MP Veneranda Nyirahirwa questioned, adding that; "Won't it continue to widen the already high

trade deficit?"

Ndagijimana said that increasing financing to the recurrent budget doesn't mean that the government was ignoring development projects. "The institutions such as embassies that the government established have to function. And, they play a critical role in attracting development projects for us," he said.

MP Theogene Munyangeyo said that there was need to increase funding for the education sector by building more classrooms in order to decongest the schools. "It is not understandable how funding for secondary and primary schools accounts for 37 per cent of the funding allocated to higher learning institutions, yet the former are the foundation of education," he said.

Ndagijimana said that at least Rwf12.5 billion in the revised budget will be spent on the construction of new classrooms in both primary and secondary schools.

Volatility in the global commodities market

On the issue of trade deficit, Ndagijimana said, the country was grappling with the declining prices at international market, noting that prices for minerals, coffee, and tea went down by up to over 20 per cent.

"If such prices had not went down, the trade deficit would have narrowed satisfactorily because the volumes of our exports increased by 44.8 per recent, yet the revenues increased by 7.4 percent," he said.

The minister cited increasing production of goods and services locally, increasing exports both in terms of volumes and revenues through developing horticulture crops that do not depend on prices set and controlled at international markets as some of the strategies to deal with the volatility in the global market.

"We are putting efforts in new crops such as fruits, vegetables and flowers which are somehow independent and are not much affected at [international] markets," he said, observing that they can supplement ordinary export commodities such as coffee and tea. He added that under the Made-in-Rwanda programme, the country is engaged in producing more items domestically which can substitute some imports.

COMPETITIVENESS

NIT in unique role to boost transport network and trade in Southern Africa

By Guardian Reporter

N a rare move, National Institute of Transport has been given a role to promote intra regional trade in southern Africa through implementation of a Tripartite Transport and Transit Facilitation Programme in Eastern and Southern Africa (TTTFP).

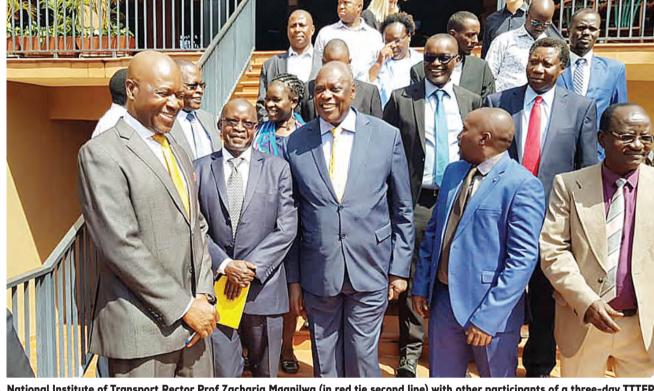
The project puts NIT at the centre of three major blocs; East African Community, Southern Africa Development Community and Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa.

NIT's Rector, Professor Zacharia Mganilwa said in Dar es Salaam this week after presiding over a three day TTTFP consultative workshop to validate standard design specifications for driver training school, driver testing centre, vehicle testing station and vehicle load management facilities held in Kampala, Uganda last week that the role is befitting of the new NIT.

"At the just ended meeting in Kampala, all members from SADC, COME-SA and EAC agreed to have a uniform syllabus for driving schools and driver testing centres to ensure that we rely on the same standard," Prof Mganilwa

He added that the TTTFP's purpose is to develop and implement harmonised road transport policies, laws, regulations and standards for efficient cross border road transport and transit networks, transport and logistics services, systems and procedures in the tripartite region.

He further said that members also validate the vehicle testing station and weigh station standards. "In this



National Institute of Transport Rector Prof Zacharia Mganilwa (in red tie second line) with other participants of a three-day TTTFP consultative workshop held in Kampala last week. Photo courtesy of NIT.

agenda, participants wanted to see all member countries having vehicle overloading control harmonised regulations, standards and uniform management and control systems to support weighbridge developments and permit inter-state coordination," Prof Mganilwa added.

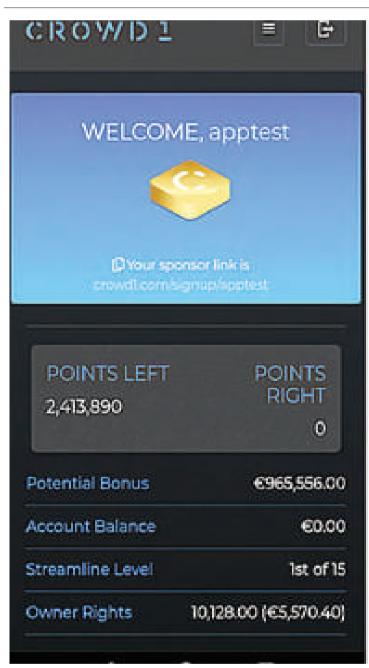
The NIT Rector noted that the TTTFP is relevant for the Agenda 2030 as it contributes primarily to the progressive achievement of Sustainable Development Goal number 9 which advocated the building of resilient infrastructure, promote sustainable industrialisation but also promotes progress towards quality.

"The program will also support economic development and human well-being, as well as facilitate the development of a more competitive, integrated and liberalised regional road transport market in the East and Southern African region," he pointed out.

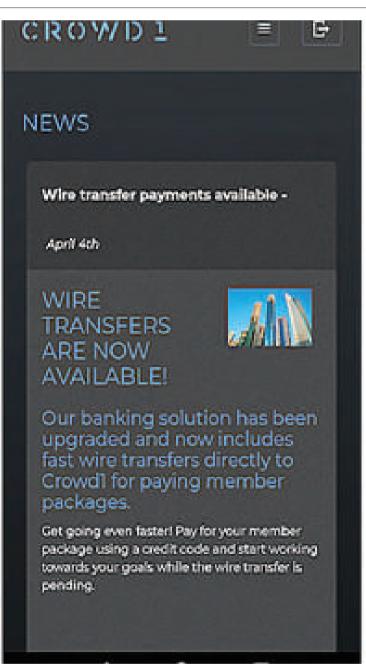
The NIT chief disclosed

that the TTTFP will further provide interventions toward addressing trade and transport challenges as well as improving regional competitiveness and industrialisation on the continent.

The TTTFP will assist all the continental countries of the tripartite (COMESA, EAC and SADC) to become integrated through similar transport and logistics in movement of cargo and people. In addition, the Djibouti, Northern, Central, Dar es Salaam, Nacala, Beira, Maputo, North South and Lobito corridors which serve the 12 semi- or fully landlocked countries amongst the 21 participating countries in the Tripartite region, have also been included.



The Crowd1 app, as advertised on the Google Play Store.





ILLEGITIMATE

Namibia imposes ban on Crowd1 get-rich-quick pyramid

WINDHOEK

Crowd1, a get-rich-quick operation that appears to be hugely successful in South Africa, has been banned from

On Friday the Bank of Namibia (BON) declared Crowdi's operations to be an undesirable practice, which in terms of that country's laws could mean a R1 million fine or 10 years in prison for

anyone who continues to promote it. "Crowd1 does not sell tangible products or render any service of essential value, but the primary

sale of membership packages to new members," the BON said - describing, without ever using the words a classic pyramid or Ponzi scheme.

The organisation's model is not sustainable, the BON said, "and will result in members of the public, especially those at the bottom of the scheme, losing their money." The BON ordered participants to immediately stop operations.

available in the Apple and Google Play Stores. Those solicit euro-denominated

source of income for Crowd1 is the payments ranging from the equivalent of R1,600 up to more than R40,000 for top-end "packages", which then apparently makes members eligible to receive part of the sign-up payments of new members they recruit. (In one of many possible complex scenarios, anyone who signs up four more people for the cheapest package within 14 days of joining is promised an immediate R2,000 bonus.)

What, exactly, Crowd1 supposedly Crowd1 operates via mobile apps does to earn money changes from explanation to explanation. It has claimed to sell software created by

foreign developers, so cutting out crowd thinking" - seemingly without of its web traffic - suggest very large Google and Facebook as advertisers. but there is no sign that it does so at any significant scale. It has also both claimed to be involved in sports betting - with visual references to sport in South Africa and Kenya, while insisting it is not a gambling company.

Crowd1 sports betting

Africa Crowd1 South representatives have said that it offers "a business everyone will understand" and described that as a business model tailored for the network economy and

any further detail or explanation.

On its website, the organisation seems to suggest that it is building an audience for future, undefined crowdfunding opportunities, and will act only as an education provider and filter for cases where "opportunity knocks."

Crowd1 advertised a head office in Spain and has a registered corporate presence in Cyprus, but much of its publicity is first created in Russian. It Africans have at stake in Crowd1, but the scale of its operations - and the source

amounts.

Crowd1 recently launched operations in the Philippines and in Turkey, and has sought to establish itself in other parts of Africa as well as South America. But according to an estimate from Alexa, a unit of Amazon, its website drew nearly 30% of its traffic from South Africa over the last 30 days. The second biggest source of visitors was Russia, at 8.5% of the total. According to a Crowd1 video it is not clear how much money South drew 10,000 people to its South African launch in November.

DIGITIZATION

Airtel Money-Mastercard partnership expected to enhance digital payments



Airtel Money director, Isaack Nchunda (C) congratulates Mastercard director and country manager for East Africa, Frank Molla, after unveiling the partnership in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Right is Selcom development manager, Benjamin Mpamo. Photo courtesy of Airtel.

By Guardian Reporter

Money subscribers in the markets can now Mastercard OR Code to make payments through their mobile phones thanks to an agreement made between the two companies vesterday.

In a statement, Airtel Tanzania Limited said its partnership which also involves Selcom, will allow customers to scan and pay through Mastercard OR Code from the newly updated Airtel Money application dubbed, 'My Airtel Africa App.'

The mobile phone services company said the partnership is aimed at transforming digital payments in the domestic market by enabling customers to make safe and secure mobile money payments online, and in shops.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launch, Airtel Money Director, Isaack Nchunda said their platform is not only a payment solution, but also a vehicle with a range of digital financial op-

tions where customers have access to easier and faster transactions on their mobile phones.

"Airtel has been develop-

ing innovative and unique products and services that are in line with the current and fast developing lifestyle of our customers. We have been working extra hard to enhance and promote financial inclusion in our country, which is also one of the main economic drivers advocated the government," Nchunda said.

"With the launch of the Mastercard QR and virtual card digital payment solutions, we are strengthening our offerings to ensure customers have safe, quick and convenient payment options on their mobile phones," Nchunda added.

Commenting on the partnership, Mastercard's Director and Country Manager for East Africa, Frank Molla said the deal will continue strengthening the digital partnership strategy with Airtel in Tanzania.

"Our aim is to offer easy,

payment solutions that accelerate Tanzania's digital transformation and advance financial inclusion. Airtel's mobile money application now provides access to Mastercard's global network of merchants, and customers without a bank account will also be able to make online payments globally with their Airtel Money Mastercard virtual card," Molla added.

Selcom's Executive Director, Sameer Hirji said Airtel Money has contributed greatly towards financial inclusion and Selcom is pleased to have been a part of the process enabling almost 50,000 merchants to receive payments digitally without the customer incurring any costs.

"Selcom looks to further this initiative through the financial empowerment of the merchant by creating access to finance to make it possible for the merchant to borrow to grow - whether it is through the provision of much-needed cash injections or setting up mechanisms to mitigate against shocks," Hirji noted.

Tax increases would spell gloom for SA retail stocks

JOHANNESBURG

Retail stocks will likely bear the brunt of tax increases, should South African Finance Minister Tito Mboweni target consumers with revenue-raising measures in his Budget Wednesday.

Consumer spending power in South Africa is under severe strain, with confidence at a twovear low against a backdrop of a 30% unemployment rate and an economy that hasn't achieved a 2% annual growth rate since 2013. Economists see an outside chance that Mboweni will increase the valued-added tax rate, with such a move predicted by five out of 19 surveyed by Bloomberg.

The blow from a higher VAT rate would be felt more by clothing retailers than by food stores as consumers adjust, said Henre Herselman, a derivatives trader at Anchor Private Clients.

Increasing taxes could further reduce consumer spending and perpetuate the economic malaise, said Sandy McGregor, a money manager at Allan Gray. Raising the VAT rate is politically unpalatable, while increasing personal tax rates may accelerate emigration.

The market hasn't priced in a VAT increase and a decision to do that

could see retailers take a knock said Investec Wealth & Investment Chief Investment Strategist Chris Holdsworth. Higher taxes would translate to lower disposable income, which would filter through to stocks, said Casparus Treurnicht, a money manager at Gryphon Asset Management. If this happens, "expect depressed valuation levels

for longer." More broadly, investors will be looking to Mboweni for signs of a plan to rein in debt and stave off the loss of South Africa's last investment-grade credit rating in a review by Moody's Investors Service due next month. Bailouts for power utility Eskom Holdings SOC Ltd. and other state-owned companies, plus a wage bill that accounts for 35% of spending have contributed to pressure on government finances. "The key objective of this budget should be to table a plausible plan to manage the wage bill and interim funding for Eskom," McGregor said by email.

For Investec's Holdsworth, the primary concern for investors is the outlook for debt as a ratio of gross domestic product. He cited Treasury projections showing debt surging to 81% of GDP in the 2028 fiscal year unless urgent action is taken. "The first thing

Bank donates desks, medical equipment worth 20m/- to Morogoro, Simiyu

By Guardian Reporter

SEVERAL public schools and health facilities received a donation of desks, tables, chairs and medical equipment all valued at 20m/- in Morogoro and Simivu regions.

Meatu District Commissioner, Dr Joseph Chilongani and his Kilombero peer, James Ihunyo thanked NMB Bank Plc's management for the donation which will help improve both education and health services in public facilities.

"I urge the public and those responsible to make sure this donation is utilised as intended to benefit majority of the people who are served by public facilities," said Dr Chilongani who also called on the public to support NMB commercially because it ploughs back part of its profit to benefit the public. Seconding his Meatu peer, Ihunyo

said NMB's continued support of government efforts to invest in education and health, needs recognition and appreciation. "Your support has come at the right time when our health and education facilities are overwhelmed with increasing numbers of people seeking services," Ihunyo noted.



NMB Western Zone Manager, Sospeter Magesse.

Mwandoya Health Centre medical also paid tribute to NMB's will save lives of vulnerable children who frequent the officer in charge, Dr Julius Matongo leadership saying the donation groups such as women and

Total supports business support and orientation centre in Mozambique

facility. "Our health centre had

which meant that pregnant women coming to deliver had to wait in a queue for their turn," said Dr Matongo who pointed out that the two labour ward beds donated will reduce the shortage. NMB Western

only two labour ward beds

Manager, Sospeter Magesse pledged continued support to education, health and disaster relief by the bank management allocates resources to meet such demands annually.

"In fact our investment here is simply to return part of our profits earned commercially to public services which cater for the majority of the people," Magesse said while urging the public to continue supporting NMB's commercial activities which results into profits. He said the donation is one percent of net profit made by the bank last year which actually comes from the public which does business with NMB. The donated items included desks, tables, chairs, beds, mattresses and bed-

EXPANSION

Safaricom to bid for Ethiopia telco licence come this April

NAIROBI

dominant telecom operator Safaricom plans to officially make an offer to the Ethiopian government for one of two available telecommunications operating licenses in April 2020.

In November 2019, ITWeb Africa reported that Safaricom and Vodacom planned to submit a joint bid to enter Ethiopia. At the presentation of Safaricom's financial performance for the six months ended 30 September 2019, interim chief executive officer Michael Joseph said Ethiopia has a market entry fee capped at US\$1-billion and the company will require an additional US\$1-

More recently Joseph reiterated that the company remains in search of partnerships and has not yet finalised its list of prospective allies. "We do know the investment to build the network in Ethiopia will be big, so all of us will have to borrow to invest. The composition of the consortium will be on your capability of taking on debt and your willingness to take a risk," he

Joseph added that members of the consortium will have to be finalised before Safaricom can reach a decision on the source of funding for its bid, and it could take up to ten years before the investment in the East African billion investment in project country will become profitable.

The Total-led Mozambique LNG Project disbursed around US \$ 200 thousand to support the rehabilitation and resourcing of Centro de Apoio e Orientação ao Empresário de Pemba (Business Support and Orientation Centre of

The support for the Centro de Apoio e Orientação ao Empresário (COrE) results from the existing Memorandum of Understanding between the Project and the Institute for the Promotion of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (IPEME) that foresees the use of COrEs in Maputo and in Pemba for information, training and assistance to small and medium-sized

Pemba) with computer equipment and office

Mozambican companies. The now rehabilitated COrE was inaugurated on Monday by the Governor of Cabo Delgado, Valige Tauabo, who declared: "we inaugurate this space thinking in a structural and long-term transformation in our production system, led by our creative and resilient SMEs, with the support of all Cabo Delgado partners and friends towards mass certification. We re-



Delgado Province.

iterate our trust in the attention of Total and partners in realising opportunities for local SMEs". According to located. We have made shared develop-

Tauabo, Total has been demonstrating "a firm commitment to the SMEs in Cabo

In his turn, the Deputy Director of IPEME, José Libombo, said that CoRE is "a platform for providing information, training and assistance to small and medium-sized Mozambican enterprises". Libombo also stated that the rehabilitation and modernisation of CoRE is part of the joint work that IPEME and Total have carried out and that includes other activities, such as the pilot certification program, which currently covers 40 Mozambican SMEs, 20 in Maputo and 20 in Cabo Delgado, as well as seminars on health, safety and environment at work

and on business opportunities. In his turn, the Total's Country Chair and vice President for Mozambique Vallige Tauabo, Governor of Cabo LNG Project, Ronan Bescond, stated: "As a major energy operator, it is our responsibility to contribute to the development of our host countries, particularly in the regions where our sites are

ment an integral part of our business model. It is a principle that reinforces our local integration, contributing in a sustainable way to the socio-economic development of our host regions."

Bescond added that "maximising the participation of local content in our project is of crucial importance. It is part of our economic model and responds to the priorities stated by the Government of Mozambique and other stakeholders. We hope, through COrE and other ongoing actions, to contribute to the development of Mozambican companies in order to increase their competitiveness to access the opportunities offered by

our project." The Project expects to award contracts of up to \$2.5 billion to Mozambican owned or registered companies over construction period. This represents more than one third of the total onshore contract, with the bulk of the rest being spent on highly specialised, technical goods and services that cannot currently be sourced in Mozambique.

PESSIMISM

Apple's warning on coronavirus expected to benefit Samsung

NEW YORK

a m s u n g Electronics stands to be a major beneficiary of the China production problems announced by rival Apple Inc on Monday, reaping the rewards of a decade-long bet on low-cost smartphone manufacturing in Vietnam.

of Samsung's smartphones are now made in Vietnam, where coronavirus that has crippled the China operations of Apple and many other firms has so far had only a limited impact on its production.

Apple said on Monday it would not meet its revenue guidance for the March quarter due to the coronavirus impact on both production and sales in China, where most iPhones are made. Foxconn, Apple's main manufacturing partner

even diverted production to start making face-masks and medical clothing. Manufacturing facilities slowly than expected, Apple said on Monday.

Huawei, another major problems, but Samsung insiders, analysts and suppliers expect it will also be hit hard due to its heavy reliance on Chinese manufacturing and parts. Many Chinese and foreign firms have begun to reopen China factories that were idled for weeks, but shortages of workers and minimum.

Samsung has also largely ceded the China market to border shipments also its rivals in recent years, meaning it won't suffer from phases of the virus outbreak in China, closed some of the store closures and drop as Vietnam imposed stricter

its biggest facilities and in demand that is hitting Apple and others. "Samsung is better positioned to weather the virus fallout than its formidable rivals have begun to reopen, but such as Huawei and Apple," they are ramping up more a person with knowledge of Samsung's supply chain told Reuters.

"The virus exposed Samsung rival, has not China risks. We feel announced any production fortunate that we were able to escape the risks," he said. Another person familiar with Samsung's thinking told Reuters: "Samsung does not say it publicly. But it is relieved." Still, two sources familiar with Samsung's Vietnam operations cautioned that should the virus outbreak be prolonged, Samsung other problems have in would feel the impact, as many cases kept output to a the company sources many components from China.

Problems with crosscropped up in the early



The new Galaxy S20 phones — all three of them

border controls, according to Hong Sun, vice chairman of Korea Chamber of Business in Vietnam. The issues have since been resolved, Sun said, but risks remain if Chinese parts suppliers cannot get back to work.

Samsung also Chinese manufacturers for some lowend models. In a statement to Reuters, the company said: "We are making our best effort to minimise any impact on our operations."

TrendForce recently cut its first quarter production forecasts for Huawei by 15% and Apple by 10%. It cut projections for Samsung Electronics by a smaller 3%. Samsung ended its own smartphone production in China last year as its market share plunged to nearly zero. Last week, Samsung unveiled a trio of flagship Galaxy s20 smartphones as well as its new foldable phone. Sources said the virus could delay new product launches by rivals.

21:30 Capital Prime News

Capchat rpt

Morning Jam (Via Capital

Lete Raha (Via Capital

Elisa?) Where is Elisa?

The Monday Agenda rpt

Local Pgm: Business Edition

Telenovela: (Dónde está

Elisa?) Where is Elisa?

Turning the Spotlight rpt

Culinary delight rpt

Capital Prime News

22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt

Al Jazeera

08:00 CNN International

Drive It rpt

Innovation rpt

Out n'about rpt

Usafiri wako rpt

12:30 Eco@Africa rpt

Sports Gazette rpt

Business edition rpt

Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está

Elisa?) Where is Elisa?

Korean Drama: Iljimae

Movie: Back to business

13:30 Korean Drama rpt: Iljimae

Tanzania Yetu rpt

17:45 Bundesliga kick off

Mizengwe

The Decor

Out n' About

08:00 CNN International

Jagina rpt

13:00 In good shape rpt

Aibu yako

Dakika 45 rpt

Mizengwe rpt

Meza huru

In good shape

Sports Gazette rpt

12:30 Bundesligga Kick Off rpt

Korean Drama rpt: Iliimae

Special pgm rpt: Sauti za

Capchat rpt

01:00 Al Jazeera

Sun 01 Mar

The other side rpt

Capchat rpt

Special pgm: Sauti za Busara

14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)

Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está

23:00 Al Jazeera

06:00 Al Jazeera

Radio)

Radio)

Meza Huru

Drive it

Frid 28 Feb

22:00

17:30

19:00

19:30

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17:30

Sat 29 Feb

Mubadala will invest €1bn in French investment fund, French finance minister says

ABU DHABI

Mubadala Investment Company, Abu Dhabi's strategic investment arm, will invest 1 billion euros (Dh3.98bn) in the French investment fund that will be managed by the country's national investment bank, Bpifrance.

"This is a very important agreement and a clear signal of the quality of the relationship between the UAE and France," said Bruno Le Maire, French minister of the economy and finance. "Thanks to the support of the sovereign wealth fund of Abu Dhabi, the French investment fund will be a success and will help us to develop the biggest companies in France and to guarantee to those companies better stability," Mr Le Maire added while speaking to the reporters



French finance minister Bruno Le Maire.

in Abu Dhabi.

The LAC I fund aims to raise €10bn that will be earmarked for investments in about 15 listed companies taken from a large pool of France's leading corporations over the next decade. "Mubadala has a strong track record of performance in France and we continue to see significant investment opportunities in the market," said Waleed Al Mokarrab Al Muhairi, chief executive of Mubadala's alternative investments and infrastructure platform and Mubadala's deputy group chief executive.

"Through our partnership with Bpifrance, and the commitment to the LAC I fund, we will have access to exceptional businesses in France that deliver compelling returns." To a question on Lebanon's economic crisis, Mr Le Maire said France is ready to help the country come out of its worst economic crisis in three decades.

"For the time being, we are in the process of assessing the situation and trying to find the best solution," he said. "But you know, how close Lebanon and France are, we are as always willing to support Lebanon and help a friend to go out of this very difficult, economic and financial situation."

"We have to find the right balance between, on the one hand, the structural reforms that are clearly needed to help in building the economic recovery of Lebanon and on the other hand, the financial support. That is the balance we needed to find, either at the bilateral level or at the multilateral level."

CONCERN

Huawei downplaying coronavirus impact on sales of its smartphones

The outbreak of the coronavirus has dented the smartphone industry, with Apple warning that it expected a hit to revenues thanks to factory shutdowns and store clo-

Samsung, the world's biggest phone maker, is currently less affected since about half its production has moved to Vietnam. But China's biggest phone maker has been surprisingly - some say unbelievably - optimistic about the coronavirus' impact.

Huawei is second-biggest phone manufacturer worldwide, outstripping Apple in terms of units shipped (Samsung is the largest). In a statement sent to Business Insider this week, Huawei's president of carrier business Ryan Ding played down the coronavirus' effect on the company's fortunes.

"We are still doing the daily assessment, but we can say that for the next three to six months, there will not be much impact on our global supply chain," said Ding. The coronavirus outbreak originated in the city of Wuhan, situated in the province of Hubei. Ding acknowledged local factory closures but said all Huawei's factories in Guangdong, the province bordering on Hubei, have now

He added: "But still, some of the factories in Wuhan have not resumed their work yet. So according to the current situation we can say that our assessment is that in the short term future there will not be much impact on our supply chain capability and manufac-

Business Insider spoke to four analysts to get their take on how hard the outbreak is likely to hit Huawei.

'I struggle to believe it is business as usual' "Considering how dependent Huawei and other China-based brands are on their own supply chain I struggle to believe it is business as usual," analyst Carolina Milanesi said. "Not having factories in Hubei is not the issue. The issue is how many people traveled to the province and are now not able to get back to work," she added. "This coupled with a lockdown status many cities are implementing which... will affect Huawei's per-

formance." Forrester analyst Thomas Husson said Huawei's business could easily take a bigger hit than Apple as the company has a bigger market share in China, where quarantines and restrictions have affected consumer be-

MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM **HABARI** Business edition rpt Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?

WEDI	NESDAY 26 Feb
5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI

Kumekucha Michezo Habari za saa Kumekucha Kishindo Isidingo Habari za saa

Watoto wetu Korean drama: The great Queen Seondok Habari za saa Korean drama: The great

Queen Seondok Uchumi na biashara rpt Habari za saa 12:00 Al jazeera 12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt

Habari za saa 13:00 Dakika 45 Habari za saa

Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu

17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt 18:30 Igizo rpt: Dhoruba

19:00 ljue Sheria 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00

Aibu Yako! Hata wewe? 21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco 21:40 Kipindi Maalum: Watumishi Housing

22:15 Ripoti Maalum 23:00 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera DWTV

THURSDAY 27 Feb Uwanja wa Mazoezi 5:30

6:00 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habariz a saa Kumekucha Kishindo Isidingo

Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto 10:30 Igizo: Mkaguzi Habari za saa Igizo: Mkaguzi 11:15 Kipindi Maalum rpt:

Watumishi housing rpt Habari za saa 12:00 Al jazeera 12:30 Ripoti Maalum rpt Habari za saa 13:00 Ripoti Maalum Rpt 13:30 Tanzania yetu 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 15:00

16:30

17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Jagina 19:00 Usafiri wako

Meza huru

Watoto Wetu

20:00 Habari Malumbano ya hoja Habari The Base 00:30 DWTV

FRIDAY 28 Feb Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI Kumekucha

7:30 HABARI Kumekucha Michezo Habari za saa Kumekucha Kishindo 9:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu

Hawavumi lakini wamo 10:55 Habari za saa Hawavumi lakini wamo 11:30 Usafiri wako 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco

12:55 Habari za saa Jagina rpt 13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost

14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu The Base 17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu 18:00 Jiji Letu

18:15 Mizengwe rpt Shamba lulu 19:00 Kipindi Maalum: TMDA 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari

21:05 Kipima Joto 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 DWTV

SATURDAY 29 Feb Uwanja wa Mazoezi

6:00 HABARI Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu Mjue Zaidi rpt 10:45 Usafiri wako rpt Shamba lulu rpt 11:45 Mapishi rpt Chetu ni chetu rpt 12:40

Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost Igizo rpt: Dhoruba 15:15 Igizo: Mkaguzi Igizo rpt: Mizengwe Igizo: Mtego Shamsham za Pwani 18:00

Igizo: Dhoruba Art and lifestyle 19:25 Jungu Kuu Shangweka Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja

Hawavumi lakini wamo

DWTV **SUNDAY 01 March**

Isidingo rpt

Kumekucha

7:00 Habari Al jazeera Watoto Wetu 10:00 Isidingo

Igizo: Mizengwe rpt 12:00 Bongo Movie rpt: Tamasha la Michezo 15:00 Mwangaza

16:00 The Great queen Seonduk Igizo rpt : Mkaguzi 17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo

18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Manishi

Igizo: Mtego 20:00 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Biko 21:10 Mizengwe 21:30

Mjue Zaidi 22:15 Bongo Movie: 00:30 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost

CAPITAL

Thurs 20 Feb 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00

Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está 13:00 Elisa?) Where is Elisa?

Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Stars & Scars 16:30 Business edition rpt 17:00 In good shape 17:30 Meza huru

Turning the spotlight 19:00 19:30 Tanzania vetu Series: Stars & Scars 20:00 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está

Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Capchat rpt 23:00 Al Jazeera

Frid 21 Feb

06:00 Al Jazeera Morning Jam (Via Capital 07:00 Radio) Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está 13:00

Elisa?) Where is Elisa? Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: Stars & Scars 16:30 The Monday Agenda rpt 17:30 Meza Huru 19:00 Drive it

Local Pgm: Business Edition 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? Capital Prime News 22:00 Malumbano ya hoja rpt

Eco@Africa

Aibu yako

00:00 Al Jazeera

19:30

20:00

Sat 22 Feb **CNN International** 09:00 Drive It rpt Turning the Spotlight rpt 09:30 10:00 Culinary delight rpt

10:30 Innovation rpt 11:00 Out n'about rot 11:30 Sports Gazette rpt 12:00 Usafiri wako rpt 12:30 Eco@Africa rpt

Korean Drama rpt: Iljimae Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está

Elisa?) Where is Elisa? Tanzania Yetu rpt Bundesliga kick off

17:45 18:15 Capchat rpt 19:15 Mizengwe 19:30 The Decor

20:00 Korean Drama: Iljimae Out n' About

Movie: Back to business The other side rpt 01:00 Al Jazeera

CNN International 09:00 In good shape 10:00 Capchat rpt 11:00 Sports Gazette rpt

11:30 Korean Drama rpt: Iljimae 12:00 Jagina rpt 12:30 Bundesligga Kick Off rpt In good shape rpt 13:00

Series rpt: The other side 15:15 Aibu yako 15:30 Drive it rpt 16:00 Dakika 45 rpt 16:45 Mizengwe rpt

17:00 The Decor rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Turning the Spotlight rpt Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights Korean Drama: Iljimae

21:00 Shift 21:15 Capchat live Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?

Wed 26 Feb Al jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital

Al Jazeera

00:00

Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa?

Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Special pgm rpt: Sauti za Busara Culinary delight rpt Innovation rpt

17:30 Meza Huru Sports Gazette 19:30 Chetu ni chetu Special pgm: Sauti za Busara Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? Capital Prime News Dakika 45:

22:45 The Décoi 23:15 Al Jazeera Thurs 27 Feb

Morning Jam (Via Capital

Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? Club 101 (via Capital Radio)

Special pgm rpt: Sauti za Business edition rpt

In good shape Meza huru Turning the spotlight

Tanzania vetu

Special pgm: Sauti za Busara

Turning the Spotlight rpt

Cookery pgm: Culinary Korean Drama: Iljimae Shift 21:00

Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está

Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 00:00

Guardian

WORLD

S. Sudan leaders urged to rebuild trust, confidence to sustain peace

SOUTH Sudanese experts on Monday urged President Salva Kiir and his newly appointed first vice president Riek Machar to rebuild lost trust and confidence during the three-year transition period.

Kiir last week reappointed Machar, leader of the main-opposition group Sudan People's Liberation Movement-In-Opposition (SPLM-IO) who had been fighting Kiir's government since the outbreak of conflict in December 2013.

The two leaders are currently locked in a discussion on ministerial appointments within the transitional unity government after Kiir also reappointed two deputy presidents including Taban Deng Gai, James Wani Igga, and two other newcomers Rebecca Nyandeng De Mabior and Hussein Abdelbagi Akol.

Jacob Chol, professor of politics at University of Juba told Xinhua that the reappointment of Machar after he fled Juba during renewed violence in July 2016 augurs well for peace in the coun-

"What we should look at now is that the two leaders should build confidence in one another to be able to ensure that they run through the three years of the transitional period. It means, that business should not be as usual as in (July) 2016, it should change in terms of ensuring that the leaders do not allow any hardliners in between," said Chol in Juba.

"They should always build consensus on whatever they talk about, they should build a relationship that is cordial and friendly," he added.

the former warring parties to recently that the state itself cannot be engineered without



President Salva Kiir and SPLM-IO leader Dr. Riek Machar speak to reporters after their meeting in Juba on December 17, 2019 (File photo)

compromise on the issue of the number of the states, has helped push them forward to resolve pending issues within the 2018 revitalized peace agreement. "The issue of skepticism about power struggle between the two leaders has been there, but South Sudanese have learned a hard lesson, that if we don't implement this peace agreement or if the leaders don't implement this agreement on time, that cannot be very good for the country and for them," added Chol.

Chol added that when South Sudanese got their independence in 2011, the challenge faced by post-independence leadership was that they concentrated on state-building and forgot nationbuilding, which has been the major cause of the 2013 crisis.

"The nation are the communities, tribal groups, so when these tribal communities were not built through reconciliation, and empowerment, these nations when conflict began at the level of the leaders especially on their disagreement, these nations got themselves involved into trying to support their own leaders because they themselves were not empowered," said Chol.

"The United Nations came in with a concept of building South Sudanese people as a state, and later on they came and said they wanted to build The expert noted that the decision of a state and they forgot the people. They realized

people being engineered," he added.

Augustino Ting Mayai, political analyst at the Juba-based Sudd Institute, revealed that the power struggle between the two leaders in 2013 sparked the political crisis in South Sudan.

He added that Kiir and Machar should rebuild lost trust, and confidence to help restore peace in South Sudan.

"If the parties to the conflict who have now agreed to end and do the right thing, there should be no return to renewed violence of July 2016. What we should be asking now is on whether the two leaders have enough trust between themselves to be able to deliver," said Mavai.

"If the principals are genuine in their commitment to peace, they should be able to rebuild their relationship, rebuild trust and confidence in one another, and if that is realized we should be able to see sustainable peace in the country, but again it's a big question whether or not that can happen?" he added.

James Okuk, lecturer of political science at the University of Juba, said the two leaders have decided to avoid going back to war and further sanctions by forming the government. "The first thing they are saving their faces, and they are saving their necks from the wrath of the international community who are very angry with them.

THE OUTBREAK OF COVID-19

For the first number of new daily confirmed cases outside Hubei dropped to single digit

AS of 24 Feb., in mainland China, altogether 77,658 confirmed cases have been reported, among which 27,323 cured and discharged from hospital, 2,663 died, and 47,672 still under treatment.

There are altogether 2,824 suspected cases pending test results in mainland China as of 24 Feb. Across Chinese mainland, 508 new confirmed cases were reported on 24 Feb., among which 499 cases reported in Hubei, and 9 cases outside Hubei.

For the first time, the number of new daily confirmed cases outside Hubei dropped to single digit. Moreover, around two thirds of the confirmed cases outside Hubei have been cured, and 23 provincial-level administrative regions in mainland China reported ZERO new confirmed cases on 24 Feb.

To lessen the impact of COVID-19 outbreak on small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), ministries and 27 provincial-level regions in China have announced nearly 600 policies to support SMEs, including reduction of financing costs, banning the withdrawal, cut or delay of loans, rent cut, extension of payment deadlines for electricity, water and gas bills and reduction of the prices of those essential

Upon concluding a nine-day visit in China, the WHO-China Joint Mission on COVID-19 briefed the media on 24

The panel said China's efforts have bought time for countries to adopt active prevention and control measures and provided them with meaningful experience, thus playing a crucial role in protecting the international community.

It noted China is taking prudent, phased and methodical steps to gradually restore order in various sectors, and called on other countries to reassess their measures vis-avis China accordingly.

On 24 Feb., the Standing Committee of Chinese National People's Congress (NPC) adopted by vote a decision on thoroughly banning illegal wildlife trade and eliminating consuming wild animals to safeguard people's lives and health.

The decision took effect on the day of its

Climate change ravaging habitats across Africa

ADDIS ABABA

CLIMATE change, especially lack of water, is resulting the continued loss of habitats across Africa despite the minimal coverage level of the adverse effects of climate change on the continent, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UN-ECA) said on Monday.

"Climate change has been at the forefront of the news agenda for a while now as global temperatures continue to rise and the world seeks solutions to stem the tide,' the ECA said in a statement issued on Monday, as it also emphasized that the brunt of climate change is hugely affecting the African continent, albeit the insignificant coverage by the global community.

"Little, however, is told of how Africa's animals are suffering alongside the human populace from the effects of climate change, especially due to lack of water, resulting in continued loss of habitats," an ECA statement read.



tion to strengthen awareness on mitigating the adverse effects of climate change in Africa and the world, the UN Deputy-Secretary-General Amina Mohammed on Sunday visited Hwange National Park, Zimbabwe's oldest and largest, almost half the size of Belgium at 14,651-square-km in a bid to see first-hand and discuss possible so-Amid the United Nations' aspiralutions, the ECA disclosed on Mon-

According to the ECA, with over 400 bird and 150 mammal species, 45,000 of them being elephants, the national wonder is suffering as weather patterns are no longer dependable, resulting in less rainfall.

"The issues facing the parks are many and wide-ranging. They include human and wildlife conflicts,

and loss of habitat, limited resources, droughts and population management," the ECA said, adding that ongoing efforts are underway that envisaged building partnerships with the communities in the area to preserve the park.

"Of the problems we have, climate change is our biggest challenge," an ECA statement quoted anti-poaching efforts, lack of water Hillary Madhiri, an official at the

national parks and wildlife office of Zimbabwe, emphasizing that the they had sunk over a 100 boreholes to save the animals from dying due to lack of water in the dry

"More long term initiatives are needed to cope with the drought trends," Madhiri stressed.

The UN deputy chief Mohammed, also after visiting the park, stressed that "we have seen what climate change is doing to our environment and livelihoods," and ECA statement quoted Mohammed as saying.

"We saw how the park is hounded by climate change; the way in which Hwange is hot, the water, and even animal migration and people. It's quite complex," she

UN Deputy-Secretary-The General is in Zimbabwe to attend the 6th Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARF-SD-2020), which runs from February 24 to 27 in Zimbabwe's resort town of Victoria Falls under the theme "2020-2030: **Xinhua**

Kremlin rejects allegations of Russia's interference in US affairs

MOSCOW

MOSCOW does not interfere in the domestic affairs of the United States and strongly opposes foreign interference in Russia's internal affairs, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters, commenting on a statement by the Russian embassy in Washington saying that anti-Russian electoral rhetoric had led to an unprecedented deterioration in relations between the two countries.

"Some have an obsession with accusing Russia of interference without presenting evidence," Peskov (pictured) noted. "We have repeatedly rejected it all," he added.

According to the Russian presidential spokesman, Moscow insists that "there has never been any interference." "Russia does not meddle with the domestic affairs of other countries and strongly opposes foreign interference in Russia's affairs," the Kremlin spokesman emphasized.

When asked if the Russian embassy's statement pointed to Russia's strengthening position on the international stage, Peskov reassured that "Russia is completely confident of itself."

At the same time, in his words, the Russian embassy in Washington does not need additional support from the Kremlin. "The embassy has made a statement as Russia's diplomatic mission in the US, it is normal practice," he noted. The embassy said earlier that "anti-Russian sentiment in the US partisan struggle has already led to the unprecedented degradation of the bilateral relations."

The embassy reiterated that Russia did not tamper with domestic processes in other countries and called on politicians to stop making groundless accusations, expressing "deep concern about the new twist of speculations on the alleged Russian meddling in the US elections." Agencies



Mahathir strengthens hand amid Malaysian political turmoil

KUALA LUMPUR

RIVAL political factions competed to win favor with Mahathir Mohamad yesterday after he plunged Malaysia into political turmoil by resigning as prime minister, reinforcing the likelihood his shock move will strengthen his power.

Mahathir, who at 94 is the world's oldest government leader, stepped down on Monday but was immediately named as interim prime minister by Malaysia's king - a role that carries all the authority of a permanent leader.

The move effectively broke apart an increasingly fragile and unpopu-

lar coalition Mahathir had formed with old rival Anwar Ibrahim, 72, to win government on an anticorruption platform in 2018. It also potentially freed Mahathir from a pre-election promise to hand over the reins to Anwar before his term ends in 2023. "He has total freedom to decide as he pleases," said Ibra-

him Suffian, director of pollster Merdeka. In one of his first acts as interim leader, Mahathir disbanded his entire cabinet late on Monday, opening up political negotiations to form another government.

An official from Mahathir's Bersatu party, which is trying to put together one alliance, said a group of

senior members met with Mahathir yesterday.

The Democratic Action Party (DAP), part of a rival pact, also said it wanted Mahathir to continue in office. "He is the person most likely to be the next prime minister," said DAP parliamentarian Ong Kian

Big data contributes to epidemic prevention, control in Zhejiang

BIG data technology is being applied by east China's Zhejiang province to enhance monitoring and controlling of the novel coronavirus epidemic, establishing a firm line of defense for the people.

On Feb. 10, a resident living in Dongfang Shangcheng residential complex in Hangzhou, capital of Zhejiang province reported her house number to a community worker before entering the complex, and had her temperature taken by the worker who later recorded her information on a mobile application designed for epidemic prevention and control.

"By using big data to collect and screen information, our community has discovered and reported 15 suspected cases of novel coronavirus infection," said Qi Qi, an executive with Hangzhou's Gouju-

nong community. At present, all of Hangzhou's residential complexes are taking temperature and recording information of the dwellers. Through the cooperation with big data platforms, they have largely improved the efficiency of epidemic prevention and control.

In Quzhou, a prefecture-level city in western Zhejiang province, a big databased pre-warning platform has been launched by the city's urban management system "City Brain". So far, the platform has served 350,000 times for community workers in the city, allowing them to response to every mission with high efficiency. As a new tool of epidemic prevention and control, big data has contributed strong support.

Zheliban, an online government service platform of Zhejiang province recently unveiled a service and management platform to cope with the spread of consultation is also provided on the plat-



Volunteers from the Red Cross Society of Xianju county, Taizhou, east China's Zhejiang province provide online psychological counseling for people in need of help, Feb. 5, 2020.

the novel coronavirus. It allows citizens to report their own infections, as well as suspected cases. Besides, online medical

has collected 929 pieces of information confirmed or about suspected cases, and provided consultation for 13.055 citizens.

As one of the leading provinces of big data technology, Zhejiang has fully exploited big data to analyze the distribution and flow of its population, predict development of the

epidemic, and guide the distribution of medical resources. Big data is playing a positive role in curbing

the inflow and spread of the virus. In order to ensure stability and order

So far, the platform Zhejiang Provincial Market Supervision Department is monitoring commodity prices and inventory of 360 wholesale markets and supermarkets across the city on a daily basis through big data technology. By doing so, it is able to dis-

> daily supplies. In addition, Zhejiang reopened the first batch of entrances and exits of expressways exclusively for cargo vehicles to guarantee the supply of emergency materials, daily necessities, and key pro-

cover market fluctuations and maintain

stable operation of the markets that sell

duction materials. Medical care and epidemic prevention and control personnel also have the privilege to use the expressways. Besides, the province has made a whitelist of e-commerce and express delivery enterprises

of production and people's lives, the and ensured normal operation of convenience stores, so as to offer easy access to daily necessities for its citizens.

> Big data and information technologies are also used to help enterprises resume production.

Starting Feb.10, Zhejiang enterprises have started resuming work in an orderly manner under the management of the provincial government.

By summarizing data provided by disease control, communication, power and transportation departments, Hangzhou was among the first group of cities to launch an application system for enterprises to resume production. The system also requests employees to report their body temperatures on a daily basis after their enterprises are approved to resume production.

People's Daily

Guardian

Trump says US, India clinch US\$3-billion defence deal

US President Donald Trump said yesterday that India will buy US\$3 billion worth of military equipment, including attack helicopters, as the two countries deepen defense and commercial ties.

India and the United States were also making progress on a big trade deal, Trump said. Negotiators from the two sides have wrangled for months to narrow differences on farm goods, medical devices, digital trade and new tariffs.

Trump was accorded a massive reception in Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's home state on Monday, with more than 100,000 people filling into a cricket stadium for a "Namaste

Yesterday, Trump sat down for oneon-one talks with Modi followed by delegation-level meetings to try and move forward on issues that have divided them, mainly the festering trade dispute.

After those meetings, Trump said his visit had been productive with the conclusion of deals to buy helicopters for the Indian military. India is buying 24 SeaHawk helicopters from Lockheed Martin equipped with Hellfire missiles worth US\$2.6 billion and also plans a follow-on order for six Apache helicopters.

India is modernizing its military and has increasingly turned to the United States over traditional supplier, Russia.

Trump said the two countries were also making progress on a trade deal, which had been an area of growing friction between them.

"Our teams have made tremendous progress on a comprehensive trade agreement and I'm optimistic we can reach a deal that will be of great importance to both countries," said Trump in remarks made alongside

The two countries had initially planned to produce a "mini deal", but that proved elusive.

Instead both sides are now aiming for a bigger package, including possibly a free trade agreement.

Trump said he also discussed with Modi, whom he called his "dear friend", the importance of a secure 5G telecoms network in India, ahead of a planned airwaves auction by the

Trump described Monday's rally in Ahmedabad and again praised Modi and spoke of the size of the crowd, claiming there were "thousands of people outside trying to get in.



India's Prime Minister Narendra Modi (right) shakes hands with US President Donald Trump before a meeting at Hyderabad House in New Delhi yesterday. (

"I would even imagine they were there more for you than for me, I would hope so," he told Modi. "The people love you...every time I mentioned your name, they would cheer."

In New Delhi, Trump was given a formal state welcome on Tuesday at the red sandstone presidential palace with a 21-cannon gun salute and a red coated honor guard on horseback on a smoggy day.HUG GETS TIGHTER India is one of the few big countries

in the world where Trump's personal approval rating is above 50 percent and Trump's trip has got wall-to-wall coverage with commentators saying he had hit all the right notes on his first official visit to the world's biggest

They were also effusive in their 60 as unhealthy.

praise for Modi for pulling off a spectacular reception for Trump.

"Modi-Trump hug gets tighter," ran a headline in the Times of India.

But in a sign of the underlying political tensions in India, violent protests broke out in Delhi on Monday over a new citizenship law that critics say discriminates against Muslims and is a further attempt to undermine the secular foundations of India's democracy. They say the law is part of a pattern of divisiveness being followed by Modi's Hindu nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party.

At least 7 people were killed and about 150 injured in the clashes that took place in another part of the capital, away from the center of the city where Modi is hosting Trump.

In his speech on Monday, Trump extolled India's rise as a stable and prosperous democracy as one of the achievements of the century. "You have done it as a tolerant country. And you have done it as a great, free country," he said.

Delhi has also been struggling with high air pollution and on Tuesday the air quality was moderately poor at 193 on a government index that measures pollution up to a scale of 500. The WHO considers anything above

Agencies

Union Charter on the rights of

older persons if implemented in

full, will revitalize policy, legal,

funding and infrastructural tools

Netanyahu to press ahead with E-1 settlement project in West Bank

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said yesterday he was moving forward with a plan to build

some 3,500 homes for Jewish settlers in one the most sensitive areas of the occupied West Bank, a project frozen after international criticism.

Palestinian and foreign opponents of the construction plan for the E-1 area in the West Bank had cautioned that Israeli housing in the corridor's barren hills could bisect the West Bank, cut off Palestinians from Jerusalem and further dim their hopes for a contiguous state.

"I have given instructions to immediately publish for deposit the plan to build 3,500 housing units in E-1," Netanyahu said, using an administrative term for the first phase of a planning

"This had been delayed for six and a half years," he said in a speech, six days before a national election in which the right-wing Likud party leader is seeking to shore up backing from settlers and their supporters.

The E-1 plan would expand the large Jewish settlement of Maale Adumim, effectively connecting it to Jerusalem, about a 15-minute drive

On Feb. 20, Netanyahu announced he was reviving a project to build 3,000 new settler homes at Givat Hamatos in the West Bank, on the outskirts of Jerusalem.

Palestinians and much of the world view Israel's settlements in the West Bank, captured in the 1967 Middle East war, as illegal under international law. The United States and Israel dispute this. **Agencies**

African campaigners root for inclusion of older persons in sustainability agenda

NAIROBI

THE rapidly growing population of older persons in Africa should be engaged in the formulation of policies and programs aimed at advancing the continent's socio-economic development, campaigners said on Mon-

Roseline Kihumba, acting head of Network Development and Coordination at the global charity HelpAge International,

said that African governments fare of Africa's aging population should prioritize affirmative action as a means to promote the involvement of older people in the sustainability agenda.

"The implementation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Africa's Agenda 2063 must meet the needs and rights of older persons," Kihumba said in a statement issued in Nairobi.

She said that realignment of policy and legal frameworks is required to promote the wel-

that has borne the brunt of poverty, exclusion, neglect and limited access to basic services like health.

The plight of older persons is expected to dominate panel discussions at the Sixth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development slated for this week in Harare, Zimba-

Delegates including policymakers and grassroots cam-

paigners will review progress African countries have made in the implementation of treaties aimed at advancing the social and economic rights of older persons

Kihumba said that Africa's senior citizens, estimated at 6.3 percent of the continent's population, continue to receive minimal attention during the formulation of national development

"This has left majority of older

persons living in abject poverty, experience unabated abuse, violence and barriers in accessing services due to ageism and discrimination at family, community and societal levels," said Kihumba.

African leaders in 2016 adopted a continental charter on the rights of older persons whose ratification is expected to end abuse and discrimination against this demographic.

Kihumba said the African

required to improve the wellbeing of senior citizens. This has left

majority of older persons living in abject poverty

Recovery rate of novel coronavirus pneumonia on sharp rise

BRUSSELS

By People's Daily

The recovery rate from the novel coronavirus infection in China rose from 1.3 percent on Jan. 27 to 10.6 percent this TuesdayFeb.11. As of Feb. 12, nearly 5,000 patients had been discharged from hospitals across the country.

"The number of discharged patients has been kept above 500 and rising each day since Feb. 7, which is a very positive signal," said Guo Yanhong, an official with the Medical Administration Bureau, National Health Commission (NHC) of China on Thursday-Feb.13. The prevention and control of the epidemic started taking effect, she added.

Experts analyzed 597 discharged cases and found that 90 percent of the patients had mild symptoms, while the rest of them were once in severe and critical conditions, Guo introduced, adding that the average number of days they spent in hospitals stood at around 10.

Guo noted that 92 percent of them received antiviral therapy or the combination of antiviral therapy and symptomatic treatment in the early phase, and the active respiratory and circulatory support also achieved very favorable results.

A 59-year-old woman surnamed Wu was one of the discharged patients who had received treatment



building complex dubbed "Wuhan Livingroom" on Feb. 11. She is among the first group of patients discharged from the hospital. Photo by Zhang Wujun, People's Daily

at Renmin Hospital of Wuhan University for 12 days and left on Feb. 11. When leaving the hospital, the woman wished an early discharge for all the patients there.

Wu had a fever in late January, and her body temperature reached 39 degree Celsius. "I'm lucky, because the doctor said I could have lost my life if I were not sent to the hospital timely," she told People's Daily, adding that she felt like she had a rebirth.

According to Chen Liqin, head nurse of the infectious disease department of the Renmin Hospital of Wuhan University, the CT scanning images of Wu showed viral pneumonia in both of her lungs, and the patient suffered typical symptoms of the novel coronavirus pneumonia (NCP) such as fever, coughs, chest distress and

anhelation. After the medical staff took antiviral and anti-infective therapies and adopted comprehensive treatment plans to help Wu increase immunity and nutrition intake, the woman gradually turned in stable condition and showed signs of recovery.

After treatment, Wu had another CT scan and her nucleic acid test showed a negative result twice. She was later discharged from the hospital by the doctors.

"I'm very thankful for the doctors who saved me," Wu expressed her gratitude on her wav home from the hospital on Feb. 11. The patients in the hospital all sent their congratulations after learning Wu's recovery, and ening against the novel coronavirus. On the afternoon of the same

couraged each other to keep fight-

day, Zhang Fengling, a woman who received treatment at the "Fang Cang" makeshift hospital in Wuhan's Hongshan Gymnasium, was also discharged. She was picked up by her husband Li Jun and 9-year-old son who waited eagerly at the gate of the gymna-

Zhang was diagnosed with the NCP on the first day of the Chinese New Year and sent to the freshly built "Fang Cang" makeshift hospital on Feb. 6. After days of quarantined treatment and rest, she was cured.

Another 27 patients were discharged from the hospital together with Zhang that day. The earliest hospitalized one of them was sent to the hospital on Feb.6, and the latest on Feb. 9. The youngest one of them was 25 years old while the oldest 69.

When leaving the hospital, Zhang took the patients to shout slogans - "Go, Wuhan! Go, China! Thank the medical staff and our country!" That's what she wanted to say the most for days.

Wan Jun, the director of the makeshift hospital would send his congratulations to every discharged patient when the latter leaves the hospital. Zhang was the first to step out of the facility, and immediately saw her husband and son among the crowds outside waiting. **People's Daily**

Lavrov censures Europe for turning blind eye to war against monuments

GENEVA

THE European nations are turning a blind eye to a blasphemous war against the monuments honoring heroes in the fight against Nazism, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov told a session of the UN Human Rights Council yesterday.

"A campaign to falsify history is taking increasingly cynical shapes. Civilized Europe is shyly silent in witnessing a blasphemous war against monuments and memorials in honor of those, who sacrificed their lives to save the peoples of the continent from extermination.

They also stay mum on the moves to memorialize murderers and criminals involved in putting the theory of racial superiority into life," the foreign minister said.

Lavrov (pictured) also pointed to a tendency growing across the globe "to revise not only the decision of the Nuremberg trials, but the internationally recognized results of WWII in general," stating that these attempts are made for the sake of mercenary interests.

"It is necessary to stop this orgy of forgetfulness. Victory in World War II must be declared the historical heritage of humankind," Lavrov emphasized. Spread of Nazi ideology



groups propagating the ideas of Nazism, racial intolerance and xenophobia in the Baltic states, Sergey Lavrov claimed.

"We have been calling on the West to influence their proteges [the Baltic states]. In response, we hear bashful statements on the protection of freedom of speech and peaceful assemblies," Lavrov said.

"In this way, Western democracies actually greenlight the spread of Nazi ideology, the glorification of Nazi collaborators cluded.

and the torchlight processions under the flag of Waffen-SS. Such 'political correctness' essentially justifies misanthropic ideology.'

The Russian foreign minister pointed out that cases of restriction of media freedom, repression of dissent and violation of the rights of minorities are a normal occurrence in the Baltic states.

"Extremist parties, movements and groups that spread Nazi ideology, the ideas of racial superiority, discrimination and xenophobia, are feeling more at ease," the minister con-

Research and Innovation Forum on novel coronavirus held in Geneva

THE Research and Innovation Forum on novel coronavirus was convened in Geneva, Switzerland on Feb. 11 and 12.

Co-organized by the World Health Organization (WHO) and Global Research Collaboration for Infectious Disease Preparedness, the forum was convened in line with the WHO R&D Blueprint - a strategy that coordinates global R&D forces to discover the research focus of the novel coronavirus, discuss therapeutic schemes and promote development of vaccines.

Over 400 experts and deputies from relevant organizations attended the forum, both in person

focus of the short-term research should be developing easier means of diagnosis, providing the best treatment plans for patients, and the study on epidemiology. The development of vaccines and drugs shall be the focus of the mid-term research, they said.

and virtually. They believe that the

Attendants to the forum praised China's measures and responsibility in containing the epidemic, saying the international society should join hands to curb and eliminate the epidemic as early as possible.

WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus extended his greeting to Chinese scientists

participating in the event through Internet in his opening remarks at the forum. He said the WHO stands with the Chinese people in solidarity, and wishes them courage, patience, success and good health in these extremely trying circumstances.

Multiple consensuses were achieved at the forum, including naming the novel coronavirus pneumonia the "COVID-19". Tedros noted that naming the disease can avoid inaccuracy or stigma, and offer a standard format for other coronavirus epi-

demics that will possibly occur. Facing the challenge posed by the COVID-2019, the WHO and

attendants to the forum called on the international society to work with solidarity and collaboration, and shift major focus on R&D and epidemic prevention.

The director-general noted that the international society should use the window of opportunity and try its best to contain the COVID-2019, as there are still not many infections outside China. He called on the public to enhance protection and stressed to avoid overreaction.

Attendants to the forum agreed to cope with the epidemic with solidarity. Executive Director of WHO Health Emergencies Programme Michael Ryan said

that the WHO doesn't recommend measures to restrict travel or trade. Risks exist everywhere, and the key to cope with them is to match strategies with the level of them.

It is learnt that the first batch of experts organized by WHO have arrived in China to assist with controlling the epidemic. They are specialized in multiple areas such as clinic management, virology, vaccine and drug development, ecological investigation, epidemiology, public health and risk

communication. At the forum, the WHO recognized the decisive and forceful measures taken by China which helped avoid massive spread of the epidemic in other parts of the world. It believes that it is because of China's quick identification of the pathogen and sharing of the sequence that larger spread was avoided.

Meanwhile, the WHO called on national leaders to demonstrate strong leadership and political will when dealing with public health challenges, stressing that China's performance was worth learning

Director Carlos Morel of the Center for Technological Development in Health under Brazil's Ministry of Health told People's Daily that the Chinese government and

Chinese people have made huge sacrifices in and contribution to combating the epidemic. He said that China has earned a valuable window of opportunity for the international society, adding that the world would have faced more pressure were it not for China's decisive measures. China's quick response to the

epidemic left a deep impression on Marion Koopmans, head of the Viroscience department of the Erasmus University Rotterdam. She appreciated the efforts made by Chinese scientists who isolated and sequenced the virus in two weeks and shared it with the People's Daily

Guardian



A woman removes her mask before taking pictures with the mascots of the Tokyo 2020 Olympics and

IOC senior member: 3 months to decide fate of Tokyo Olympics

DICK Pound, the longest-serving member of the IOC, estimates there's a three-month window to decide the fate of the Tokyo Olympics, which are being threatened by the fast-spreading virus from China.

Pound, in an exclusive interview with The Associated Press, did not sound alarmist. But he did speak frankly about the risks facing the Olympics, which open July 24.

Pound has been an International Olympic Committee member since 1978, 13 years longer than current President Thomas Bach.

"You could certainly go to two months out if you had to," Pound said, which would mean putting off a decision until late May and hoping the virus is under control. "A lot of things have to start happening. You've got to start ramping up your security, your food, the Olympic Village, the hotels, The media folks will be in there building their studios."

And if it got to the point of not going ahead, Pound speculated "you're probably looking at a cancellation."

"This is the new war and vou have to face it. In and around that time, I'd say folks are going to have to ask: 'Is this under sufficient control that we can be confident about going to Tokyo, or not?"

China on Tuesday reported 508 new cases and another 71 deaths, 68 of them in the central city of Wuhan, where the epidemic was first detected in December. The updates bring mainland China's totals to 77,658 cases and 2,663 deaths. South Korea now has the second-most cases in the world with 977, including 10 deaths. Clusters of the illness are now appearing in the Middle East and Europe. This could signal a new stage in the spread of the virus with four deaths reported in Japan.

Pound encouraged athletes to keep training. About 11,000 are expected for the Olympics, and another 4,400 for the Paralympics, which open on Aug. 25.

"As far as we all know you're going to be in Tokyo," Pound said. "All indications are at this stage that it will be business as usual. So keep focused on your sport and be sure that the IOC is not going to send you into a pandemic situation."

The modern Olympics dating from 1896 have only been cancelled during wartime, and faced boycotts in 1976 in Montreal, in 1980 in Moscow and 1984 in Los Angeles - all in Pound's memory.

The Olympics in 1940 were to be in Tokyo, but were called off because of Japan's war with China and World War II.

Pound called uncertainty a major problem and repeated the IOC's stance - that it's depending on consultations with the World Health Organization, a United Nations body, to make any move. So far, the games are on.

"It's a big, big, big decision and you just can't take it until you have reliable facts on which to base it," Pound said. He said whatever advice the IOC is now getting, "it doesn't call for cancellation or postponement of the Olympics. You just don't postpone something on the size and scale of the Olympics. There's so many moving parts, so many countries and different seasons, and competitive seasons, and television seasons. You can't just say, we'll do it in October."

If changes have to be made, Pound said every option faced obstacles.

Pound said moving to another city seemed unlikely.

"To move the place is difficult because there are few places in the world that could think of gearing up facilities in that short time to put something on," Pound said.

London mayoral candidate Shaun Bailey has suggested the British capital as an alternative. Tokyo Gov. Yuriko Koike suggested that was an inappropriate offer, using the virus as political campaign fodder.

Pound said he would not favor a dispersal of events over various venues because that wouldn't "constitute an Olympic Games. You'd end up with a series of world championships." He said it would be very difficult to spread around all these sports in a 17-day period with only a few month's

Staying in Tokyo but moving it back a few months would be unlikely to satisfy North American broadcasters, whose schedules are full in the fall with American football, college football, European soccer, basketball, baseball, and ice hockey. Of course, other world broadcasters also have jammed schedules.

"It would be tough to get the kind of blanket coverage that people expect around the Olympic Games," Pound said. "It's certainly tougher than it would have been in 1964 in Tokyo when you didn't have the saturation sports schedule on television."

How about delaying for a year, but staying in Tokyo? Japan is officially spending \$12.6 billion to organize the Olympics, although a national audit board says the country is spending twice that much.

"Then you have to ask if you can hold the bubble together for an extra year," Pound said. "Then of course you have to fit all of this into the entire international sports schedule."

Pound said the IOC has been building up an "emergency fund" for such circumstances, reported to be about \$1 billion. That could fund international sports federations who depend on income from the IOC to operate – and the IOC itself.

"This would be what you normally call a force majeure," said Pound, a Canadian lawyer by training, using the legal phrase for "unforeseeable circumstances."

"It's not an insurable risk and it's not one that can be attributed to one or the other of the parties. So everybody takes their lumps. There would be a lack of revenue on the Olympic Movement side."

He said broadcasters may have their own insurance that would "mitigate some of the

About 73% of the IOC's \$5.7 billion income in a four-year Olympic cycle is from broadcast rights.

Pound said the future of the Tokyo Games was largely out of the IOC's hands, depending on the virus and if it abets.

"If it gets to be something like the Spanish Flu," Pound said, referring to a deadly pandemic early in the 20th century that killed millions. "At that level of lethality, then everybody's got to take their medicine."

Public memorial service in Los Angeles remembers the private Kobe Bryant

LOS ANGELES

BE Bryant's wife remembered him as a devoted father and ►husband who arrived early for school pickups and wrote heartfelt cards and letters.

Rob Pelinka, Bryant's longtime agent and close friend, recalled his final texts from the NBA superstar minutes before he was killed last month in a helicopter crash. Bryant was attempting to secure an internship for the daughter of another friend who was sitting with him in the chopper.

Michael Jordan called Bryant "a little brother" and said that when he died, "a piece of me died."

Bryant's athletic achievements were only part of the reason roughly 20,000 people gathered Monday for a public memorial service honoring him at Staples Center in downtown Los Angeles. The event offered another chance to celebrate Bryant, his 13-year- guez also attended. old daughter, Gianna, and the other seven victims of the crash with comed the crowd, Vanessa Brytears, memories and laughs.

Los Angeles already knew Bryant was much more than a basket- and her three sisters - Natalia, ball icon. His friends and family told the world.

nor just an incredible basketball player," Vanessa Bryant said. "He was my sweet husband and the beautiful father of my children. He was mine. He was my everything."

The ceremony included musical numbers by Beyonce, Alicia Keys and Christina Aguilera. The event concluded with a screening of "Dear Basketball," Bryant's Academy Award-winning short film best team.' about reluctantly saying goodbye to his passion upon his retirement on the podium by basketball from the Lakers in 2016.

Fans, many wearing Bryant's Ionescu and University of Conjersey or team colors, filled the necticut women's coach Geno seats at the arena where Bryant Auriemma. Kobe Bryant was a played for the final 17 seasons of a two-decade NBA career spent en's basketball, and Gigi Bryant entirely with Los Angeles' most popular sports franchise.

Abdul-Jabbar, Magic Johnson and resented the future, and Kobe each other to play some of the Pau Gasol. NBA Commissioner knew it," said Ionescu, the Or-Adam Silver joined Jordan, Shaquille O'Neal, Phil Jackson, Dwy- Bryant. ane Wade and dozens of current



Vanessa Bryant speaks during a celebration of life for her husband Kobe Bryant and daughter Gianna Monday, Feb. 24, 2020, in Los Angeles. (AP Photo)

Jennifer Lopez and Alex Rodri-

After Jimmy Kimmel welant provided a poignant window into the family's life with Gianna Bianka and Capri. She emphasized Kobe Bryant's paternal "I couldn't see him as a celebrity, devotion, which had only grown after his retirement from the

> "God knew they couldn't be on this Earth without each other," said Vanessa Bryant, who had been with Kobe since 1999. "He had to bring them home to have them together. Babe, you take care of our Gigi. And I got Nati, Bibi and Coco. We're still the

> Vanessa Bryant was followed stars Diana Taurasi and Sabrina passionate advocate for womwas a promising young player who aspired to play at UConn.

The mourners included Lak- "If I represented the present ers legends Jerry West, Kareem of the women's game, Gigi repegon star who was mentored by

NBA players. Celebrities such as the crash as "when the axis of change in which Shaq told Kobe" I'm glad they did this so we

Kanye West, Kim Kardashian, er, for all of us." Pelinka was also Gigi Bryant's godfather, and the families were close.

> He revealed that Bryant had texted him asking for help in getting an internship with a baseball agent for teenager Alexis Altobelli, who lost her parents and younger sister in the crash.

"Kobe lived to make other people's lives better, all the way up to his final text," Pelinka said.

Jordan, the Chicago Bulls star whose career was wrapping up as Bryant's was starting in the late 1990s, praised Bryant as "one of my dear friends. He was like a little brother. ... As I got to know him, I wanted to be the best big brother that I could be."

O'Neal and Bryant joined the Lakers together in 1996 and won three consecutive championships during eight tumultuous seasons in purple and gold. Although their relationship was often rocky in public, O'Neal said the two were always friendly in private, even comparing their dynamic to John Lennon and Paul McCartney.

Calling Bryant "a loyal friend and a true Renaissance man," O'Neal said the pair "pushed heart." greatest basketball of all time."

O'Neal also got the biggest laugh in the somber service Pelinka referred to the day of with a profane joke about an exthe world seemed to shift forev- there was no "I" in team, but Bry-

ant responded by noting that there is an "M-E."

The ceremony began with Beyonce performing her songs "XO" and "Halo" with dozens of backup musicians. Keys performed Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata" later in the program, and Aguilera sang "Ave Maria."

The five-time NBA champion's two retired jersey numbers – 8 and 24 - hang high above the arena where he became the third-leading scorer in league history. Lakers star LeBron James surpassed him on the night before Bryant's death.

Hours before the service, Vanessa Bryant sued the owner of the helicopter that crashed in the fog. The wrongful-death lawsuit claimed that the pilot, Ara Zobayan, was careless and negligent by flying in cloudy condi-

The National Transportation Safety Board has not concluded what caused the crash on the outskirts of Los Angeles County but said there was no sign of mechanical failure. A final report is not expected for a year or so.

Money from ticket sales at the sold-out memorial will be given to the Mamba and Mambacita Sports Foundation, which supports youth sports programs in underserved communities and teaches sports to girls and wom-

Samantha DeJesus, 32, and her brother George Galano, 31, paid \$448 for their two seats. DeJesus said she got notified late that she had received tickets in a lottery and wasn't sure if she wanted to pay that much.

But the siblings, who saw their first Lakers game at the Forum against the Utah Jazz in the 1990s, said they couldn't miss it.

DeJesus called the ceremony "very emotional" and cried throughout.

"I loved every single eulogy

that was given," she said. "You knew it was meant from the

Galano said he's struggled to accept the tragedy since Jan. 26 and the memorial brought him closure.

"Now it's just reality," he said. could move on and heal." AP

'A new day': Harvey Weinstein convicted, led away in cuffs

NEW YORK

FORMER Hollywood producer Harvey Weinstein was convicted of rape and sexual assault against two women and led off to prison in handcuffs Monday in what his foes hailed as a landmark moment for the legal system and a long-overdue reckoning for the man vilified as the biggest monster of the #MeToo era.

The 67-year-old Weinstein had a look of resignation on his face as he heard the verdict: guilty on two charges, not guilty on a set of more serious ones.

While it was not the acrossthe-board victory prosecutors and his accusers had hoped for, it could put the stooped and feeble-looking Weinstein behind bars for the rest of his life. The charges carry up to 29 years in prison.

District Attorney Cyrus Vance Jr. saluted the women who came forward against the once-feared studio boss, saying they "changed the course of history in the fight against sexual violence" and "pulled our justice system into the 21st century.'

"This is the new landscape for survivors of sexual assault in America, I believe, and it is a new day. It is a new day because Harvey Weinstein has finally been held accountable for crimes he committed," Vance said. Weinstein's lawyers said they

will appeal. "Harvey is unbelievably strong.



In this courtroom sketch, Harvey Weinstein, center, is led out of Manhattan Supreme Court by court officers after a jury convicted him of rape and sexual $as sault, Monday, Feb.\,24, 2020\,in\,New\,York. The jury found him\,not\,guilty\,of\,the$ most serious charge, predatory sexual assault, which could have resulted in a life sentence in New York. (AP)

He took it like a man," defense attorney Donna Rotunno said. "He knows that we will continue to fight for him, and we know that this is not over." Another of his lawyers, Arthur Aidala, quoted Weinstein as telling as his legal team:: "I'm innocent. I'm innocent. I'm innocent. How could this happen in America?"

The jury of seven men and five women took five days to find Weinstein guilty of raping an aspiring actress in a New York City hotel room in 2013 and sexually assaulting production assistant Mimi Haleyi at his apartment in 2006 by forcibly performing oral sex on her.

He was acquitted on the most serious charges, two counts of predatory sexual assault, each at Bellevue Hospital.

carrying up to life in prison. Both of those counts hinged on the testimony of "Sopranos" actress Annabella Sciorra, who said Weinstein barged into her apartment, raped her and forcibly performed oral sex on her in the mid-1990s.

Judge James Burke ordered Weinstein taken to immediately. Court officers handcuffed Weinstein and put their arms under his, leading him unsteadily out of the courtroom via a side door without the use of the walker he relied on for much of the trial. He was later taken from the courthouse in an ambulance, strapped to a stretcher in his suit, and taken to a locked unit

The judge said he would ask that Weinstein, who had been free on bail since his arrest nearly two years ago, be held in the infirmary at the city's Rikers Island jail complex after his lawyers said he needs medical attention following unsuccessful back surgery.

Rotunno said in an appearance on Fox News that Weinstein was initially headed to the jail, but was diverted to Bellevue to be checked out for heart palpitations and high blood pressure. "He's O.K," she added.

Sentencing was set for March 11. The sexual assault charge carries up to 25 years in prison, while the third-degree rape count is punishable by up to four years. (The jury acquitted Weinstein of first-degree rape, which requires the use of force or the threat of it, and found him guilty of thirddegree rape, which involves a lack of consent.)

The verdict followed weeks of often harrowing and excruciatingly graphic testimony from a string of accusers who told of rapes, forced oral sex, groping, masturbation, lewd propositions and excuses from Weinstein about how the Hollywood casting couch works. In addition to the three women he was charged with attacking, three more who said they were assaulted by Weinstein testified in an effort by prosecutors to show a pattern of brutish behavior.

COACH

Zinedine Zidane

Benzema

LAST 5 SEASONS

Sources: UEFA, Photos AFF

Forward

aged 32

Liverpool make extraordinary record-breaking exploits look ordinary

LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND

THERE is something remarkable about the Liverpool team that is now just four victories away from claiming the Premier League title: Even the extraordinary is beginning to seem routine for Jurgen Klopp and his players.

For 13 second-half minutes against West Ham at Anfield, Liverpool's historic season appeared to be heading straight for an unexpected road block, with David Moyes' relegationthreatened team taking a 2-1 lead after goals from Issa Diop and Pablo Fornals cancelled out Georginio Wijnaldum's eighthminute opener. No big deal, perhaps. Liverpool are so far ahead of the rest in the Premier League that one defeat was hardly going to knock them off their stride and put the title in jeopardy.

But losing would have denied Liverpool the chance to emulate Arsene Wenger's Arsenal Invincibles by going through a season without suffering a league defeat. A defeat, or a draw, would also have stopped Liverpool from equalling Manchester City's record of 18 successive Premier League wins. Klopp's men would have fallen one short of equalling Liverpool's own record of 21 consecutive top-flight home wins, set in 1972, as well.

But a goal from Sadio Mane in the final 10 minutes turned defeat into victory, making it 109 points from the last 111 available, and all of those records and achievements were back on the table. Liverpool have equalled City's run of 18 straight league wins -- they can set a new mark by beating Watford on Saturday at Vicarage Road -- and they will break their home record with a 22nd consecutive win against Bournemouth on March 7 at Anfield. Both of the above will be incredible feats, but they are likely to be nothing more than footnotes when the full story of Liverpool's 2019-20 season is finally told.

"I never thought [City's record] would be broken or equalled," Klopp said. "We did it, and I cannot believe it happened, to be honest."

records would be heralded as hallmarks of a truly great team, but there are so many bigger and more historic achievements in Liverpool's path that these will pale into insignificance.

If Liverpool win their next four games and seal the title -- the club's first since 1990 -- against Crystal Palace on March 21 at Anfield, they will have done so in record time. But they are also unbeaten in 44 Premier League games -- five more will match Arsenal's record of 49

top-flight games without defeat -- and they are just 11 games away from joining the 2004 Invincibles in the pantheon of great teams if they avoid defeat for the remainder of the campaign. City's record tally of 100 points is also likely to be obliterated.

Let's not forget, Liverpool are still alive in the FA Cup and Champions League, too, so Manchester United's 1999 Treble is also there to be matched. Having already won the UEFA Super Cup and FIFA Club World Cup this season, a haul of five major trophies would surely end any debate as to whether this is the greatest club side that English football has ever seen.

One statistic that might not create too many headlines, however, is the one that tells you that the 3-2 win against West Ham marked the 13th time this season that Liverpool won a league game by a one-goal margin. It's not a number that should be dismissed as a footnote. In many ways, it emphasises the many qualities of Klopp's team.

It demonstrates that Liverpool have discovered the crucial knack of finding a way to win. They have not blown teams away this season, but they have overcome all of them, with the exception of Manchester United at Old Trafford, but even on that occasion, they dug out a late equaliser because they are prepared to take risks to get something from games.

"Sometimes you have to squeeze it and force it," Klopp said. "And that is what we did tonight."

It is an approach that has taken Liverpool to the brink of history, even if, on this occasion, a couple of costly mistakes by West Ham goalkeeper Lukasz Fabianski helped them on their way to

The record books are waiting to be rewritten. They might as well pulp the ones that have gone before because there are so many new highs that Liverpool are preparing to hit. The only question is how many trophies Liverpool will win along the way, but for now, Klopp just wants his players to keep their foot on the pedal until In any other season, those two the title is confirmed.

> "You see City playing, and this is the team in world football that are able to win all their other games," he said. "We have to keep winning. We need to be ready, and it is a home game for Watford [next]. It is not about shining but the hardest work. As long as the boys are ready to work hard, I am not concerned, but it is still a job to do."

> Klopp need not be worried. It is now a case of when Liverpool win the league, not if.

(Agencies)

Pogba: I don't want Liverpool to win title

LONDON

PAUL Pogba has said that although he doesn't want Manchester United's fierce rivals Liverpool to lift the Premier League title, the French star admits Jurgen Klopp's team will be deserving winners.

Liverpool could become the first March and are contenders to finish the season unbeaten.

"They are so way ahead of everyone else," said Pogba, who was speaking to ESPN in conjunction with the launch of a new Pepsi commercial that also features Lionel Messi, Mohamed Salah and Raheem

"They have not lost a single game yet this season in the league. They already have one hand on the Premier League trophy.

"As a Manchester United player and with the rivalry between us, we don't want them to win the title. We don't want anyone else to win apart from us, but as a football lover and a respectful player to opposition this world at any time. It can hapteam, I have to say that they deserve to be where they are today.

than last season when they won the Champions League and the season

before when they [lost the final to Real Madrid].'

Pogba, who has not played for Manchester United since Dec. 26 because of injury, also paid tribute to Kobe Bryant on the day of memorial service at the Staples Center celebrating the lives of the Los Angeles Lakers' legend, his daughter side to win the Premier League in Gianna, and seven others passengers after they died on Jan. 26 in a helicopter accident.

"It was a shock for me, for the world, for everyone," Pogba said. "For all the athletes and non-athletes, seeing what happened to a legend like him, a father, a human being, it gave everyone a knock on

"He was an icon. His words, his advice and his determination were inspiring for me and for everyone. He was a hard worker and he influenced me and the world. He influenced everyone to work hard and to believe in their dreams. He showed that you can achieve your dreams.

"It showed that you could leave pen to any one of us, whether you are a superstar or working in the "They have been even better market. It is a reminder to everyone to enjoy life as much as possible."

Man City take fight to UEFA on and off the field

Santiago

Champions

League

FIRST LEG

(Madrid) Capacity: 81, 044

Statistics 2019/20 in C1

Shots on target

Wednesday Feb 26

20:00 GMT

ANCHESTER City may be set to go to war with UEFA, but time is of the essence for the English champions to satisfy their quest to win the Champions League.

City head to the Santiago Bernabeu on Wednesday, knowing failure to beat 13-time winners Real Madrid over two legs could be their final European adventure for two years.

UEFA slapped a stunning two-season ban on City earlier this month for overstating sponsorship income between 2012 and 2016 to breach Financial Fair Play rules and failing to cooperate once an investigation was re-opened following the leak of internal emails to German magazine Der

City remain belligerent and insist they will beat UEFA off the field. An appeal to the Court of Arbitration for Sport will decide their fate for the next two years.

In the meantime, Pep Guardiola's men have to finally get it right on the field to satisfy City's long-wait to conquer Europe.

Now in their ninth season of Champions League football since Sheikh Mansour's takeover transformed the club's fortunes, City are still waiting for a landmark knockout win in the competition.

Even before the latest body blow

of a European ban, the City support have not been enamoured by their new status as Champions League regulars. The club have had to turn to social

ets for group matches and the competition's anthem is routinely jeered. "UEFA Cartel" and "UEFA Mafia"

media influencers to try and sell tick-

were among the banners that greet-

ed their first home outing since the ban was handed down against West Ham

last week. A run to the semi-finals before being beaten by Madrid in 2015/16 is their best ever showing in the competition.

Despite re-writing the history books domestically, Guardiola's star-studded squad have fallen at the quarter-finals to English opposition in each of the past two seasons. The contrast with Ma-

drid could not be starker. For generations, Real have risen to the occasion on the Champions League stage, while City have crumbled under the pressure.

A former Barcelona coach and player, Guardiola hailed his old foes the "kings of Europe."

And in an interview with Spanish newspaper AS last week, City's Raheem Ster-

ling insisted: "There is no better challenge than Real

Europa League/UEFA Cup 0

Champions League

MANCHESTER CITY

Guardiola's legacy on the line However, a meeting with Madrid also offers City an opportunity to change the

Madrid.'

narrative. The sort of ferocious atmosphere Guardiola has long pleaded for at the Etihad for Champions League games seems guaranteed

when the Spanish giants

travel to Manchester on March 17th.

With Liverpool streaking clear at the top of the Premier League, City's season and arguably Guardiola's legacy at the club comes down to what happens in this tie.

"If we don't win it everybody is going to say we are failures like the last five years," said midfielder Kevin De Bruyne. "It's something we've not won

Aguero

(ARG)

The only two Champions League winners in City's squad are back-up goalkeepers Claudio Bravo and Scott Carson.

Motivation could not be greater for a host of world class players like De Bruyne, David Silva and Sergio Aguero to cap their careers with Champions League success.

Moreover, doing so this season would have the added benefit of sticking it to UEFA by capturing their flagship competition.

"I can't believe they're in the competition now. What would happen if City win this season?" Former Liverpool defender Jamie Carragher told Sky Sports.

"UEFA will be desperate for Man City to be beaten by Madrid.'

All the more reason for City to not give European football's governing body the satisfaction.

AFP

Man City target role reversal against Champions League kings Real Madrid

MANCHESTER City will be up against both Real Madrid and their reputation on Wednesday as the Champions League's biggest winners play one of its biggest underachievers at the Santiago Bernabeu.

After City's win over Leicester on Saturday, Pep Guardiola said: "We will try to be ourselves. We can win and we can lose but we must try to be ourselves."

Yet in some ways, City will seek a role reversal too. Madrid's record is the envy of Europe but in particular by teams like City, whose financial might and technical talent has translated only into disappointment outside domestic competition.

In the time City have won three Premier League titles and five domestic cups, they have gone past the Champions League's quarter-finals only once, reaching the last four in 2016, only to be beaten by Madrid.

Zinedine Zidane's side, meanwhile, have surrendered dominance in La Liga to Barcelona but made amends for one Spanish league title in seven years by winning an four Champions Leagues out of the last six.

Few would argue that quality explains the difference. Madrid's success has certainly been due in part to the brilliance of Cristiano Ronaldo but City have perhaps boasted an even better all-round collection of players and their excellence in England points to a club well-equipped to excel in Eu-

Guardiola has been accused of overthinking against elite opposition too yet City's lethargy encompasses nine seasons in the Champions League and Guardiola has only been in charge for

Instead, Madrid's habit for coming through the kind of crunch games that have so often proved City's undoing suggests each club's identification with the Champions League has become something of a self-fulfilling prophecy.

Madrid believe this tournament is their tournament, a conviction based on historic success that makes them assured under pressure and ruthless in the decisive moments.

"When you have a history of the (Alfredo) Di Stefano period, winning five or six European Cups at that time, it



Pep Guardiola

means a new player that comes to Real Madrid and puts on that shirt knows 'we have to defend our history'," said Guardiola. "That gives them a boost because they live that history."

When Madrid last won the Champions League by beating Liverpool in the final in 2018, their advance to the trophy seemed to rely on a number of crucial interventions falling their

In the semi-final against

Bayern Munich, they pro- umph over Juventus. "We gressed after an error from Bayern's goalkeeper Sven Ulreich. In the quarters, they were awarded a fortuitous 97th-minute penalty to beat Juventus. Even in the last 16, they faced a Paris Saint-Germain side without the injured Neymar.

Yet where some saw luck, Madrid's coach and their players saw a refusal to give in.

"The point is Madrid never give up," said Zidane after their last-gasp tricame up against a number of obstacles but we believe in the goals we want to achieve and we achieve them because we fight."

Zinedine Zidane

For City, that refusal to accept defeat is still to be established and with every year that victory evades them, doubts grow too. "It's a real, real test," said

Guardiola. "The king of this competition against a team who are not used to playing this kind of game much, because our best

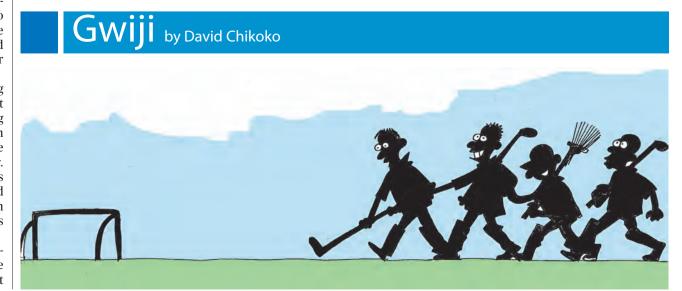
performance was one semi-final in our history.

"So, in a marvellous sta-

dium we have to show our

personalty." Personality to Guardiola means a certain style as well as attitude but to Madrid, the objective is more straight-forward.

"At Real Madrid, every season, you have to go for everything and win everything," said Zidane last summer. "And more importantly, we believe we can do it." AFP



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Yanga in pursuit of Federation Cup last eight

SPORT

Man City take fight to UEFA on and off the field

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Lions Castilla cricketers wallop Annadil Saifee in Paul Manyanda Memorial tournament

By Guardian Reporter

LIONS Castilla cricketers have improved their pursuit of a better position in the maiden Paul Manyanda Memorial (PMM) tournament's Division C, cruising to a comfortable six-wicket victory over Annadil Saifee in a duel, which took place at Anadil Burhani oval in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

It was a second victory to have been registered by Lions Castilla that are currently placed at the bottom of the Division C table with winning percentage of 25.00 and net run rate of -1.0692.

The squad has recorded a total of 245 runs and conceded a total of 274 runs.

Annadil Saifee elected to bat once they won the toss, posting 70 runs and losing six wickets in 10 overs.

Openers Taher Vejlani and Khuzeima Burhanpur scored 16 runs and 13 runs respectively to improve their squad's quest for an imposing total.

They were though pegged back by quick dismissal of Taher Abbas, who was caught by Lions Castilla's Atif Salim from a delivery by Abubakar Selemani.

Mufaddal Moiz chipped in with 11 runs, which consisted of a four, to see to it his outfit end with a much better score.

Lions Castilla's Shabbir Gaiwala had an impressive spell with the ball, as he took two wickets and leaked 16 runs in two overs.

It was not plain sailing for Lions Castilla in the chase, considering they were dealt a blow early on after their dependable batsmen had faced early dismissal

Openers Atif Salim and Abubakar Altaf, as well as Chetan Borkhataria, were sent back to the pavilion whilst failing to register double digit figure.

Mubbin Hassan thereafter steadied the ship, nailing unbeaten 37 runs, which included five fours and a six. Hassan's impressive showing eventually helped his team get down to successful chase. He as a result deservedly won the man of the match prize.

Lions Castilla experienced a brief scare after the early dismissal of Selemani, who was trapped for leg before wicket by Annadil Saifee's Mufaddal Moiz with only a run to the batsman's name.

Ramadhan Mbunde nevertheless kept Lions Castilla's chase alive with his unbeaten 10 runs, which included a boundary, and he solidly partnered with Hassan to see to it Castilla grab victory.

Annadil Saifee's Moiz had two wickets and leaked two runs in his team's turn with the ball.

Annadil Saifee are currently positioned fourth in the Division B table with two victories, three defeats, winning percentage of 40.00 and net run rate of -0.0005

Saifee have posted a total of 383 runs and conceded a total of 387 runs in five matches they have taken part

The 10-over formatted competition has been organized by Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) in memory of Paul Manyanda, a veteran cricket coach and umpire, who passed away in the city recently.



Yango

SC (Yanga) have said they are treading cautiously on their approach to this evening's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC)'s round of 16 clash with Mwanza-based side, Gwambina FC, to be held at the National

By Correspondent Joseph

OUNG Africans

Stadium in Dar es Salaam.
Yanga, through the side's information officer Hassan Bumbuli, said they are well prepared for the encounter, which he described as a must win for his side.

He said although they are regarded as favoruites in the duel, they are treading carefully knowing that staff have told the players the in football anything can happen. importance of winning this

in football anything can happen. Yanga reached the round of 16 of this season's ASFC after beating Tanzania Prisons 2-0 in the round of 32.

Bumbuli said his side's technical panel headed by Belgian tactician Luc Eymael has told the players the importance of winning today's match.

"They are a new team playing in the First Division League (FDL), but looking at their recent performance and the players they have they have proved to be a tough side," he noted.

"Our coach and his backroom

staff have told the players the importance of winning this game, the players also know well that this assignment is tougher than an encounter against fellow Premier League

Yanga are coming from playing four Premier League games without a win but Bumbuli said the head coach has worked on the challenges which the team has been facing.

side," he said.

He pointed out Yanga supporters should today expect nothing short of a win for the outfit.

"Yanga are a big team on the Gislain, and Bernard Morrison.

Gwambina FC head coach Fulgence Novatus said they have left no stone unturned in an effort to make the quarterfinal grade. He said they may appear

He said they may appear underdogs but his charges are in Dar es Salaam for a mission to reach the final of this season's

Novatus said he has told his players they should not be intimidated by famous players in Yanga squad as in football teach team uses 11 players on the pitch.

"We are not here in Dar es Salaam as tourists, we have come for a mission and that mission is to win our game against Yanga and book a place in quarterfinals," he noted.

"After that we will fight to reach the final, in today's game we are geared to take them head-on so that they don't spoil our ASFC dreams," he said.

The coach said his side banks their hopes on individual skills of such players like Jacob Massawe, Anuar Jabir, Rajab Nyika, Malika Ndeule, Bruno John and others.

To reach the round of 16, Gwambina FC, one of few football clubs in the country which own stadium, beat Premier League team Ruvu Shooting 7-6 in post match penalties of round of 32

clash.

In other ASFC round of 16 games slated for today, Kagera Sugar will take on KMC FC at Kaitaba Stadium in Kagera, Ihefu FC will host the event's defending champions Azam FC at Sokoine Stadium in Mbeya, JKT Tanzania will lock horns with Alliance FC at Isamuhyo venue in Dar es Salaam.

Dar club holds sway in National Chess League

By Correspondent Joseph

Mchekadona

DAR ES SALAAM'S Alliance Insurance chess team is still enjoying the driver's seat in the ongoing National Chess League which is taking place at the Russian Cultural Center in the city.

The league has brought together 11 teams and, after round 3 and 4 games, Alliance Insurance have 48 points, they are followed by Don Bosco Rising Star who have six points.

Ahead Africa and HS Computers teams have five points apiece, whereas Barketilly, Flashnet, Specialized Engineering and My World Pre-School teams have four points each.

Pawn Pushers, Kamal Steel and Unique teams, which are placed ninth to 11th, have recorded three points each.

National Chess League's organizing committee's secretary FIDE Master Hemed Mlawa said he is happy with the level of competition shown by the players in rounds three and four.

"The League is going on very well and I'm delighted with the competition



Chess players, who are taking part in the National Chess League,in action during rounds three and four matches at the Russian Cultural Center in Dar es Salaam last weekend.PHOTO; COURTESY OF TANZANIA CHESS ASSOCIATION

which teams are showing," he disclosed.

land and in the whole East Africa

region, we can not allow to lose

our game against Gwambina FC,

that does not mean we don't

respect them, no, we respect

them, but we are looking for

good results in tomorrow

In today's game Yanga are

expected to have a full-squad,

which consists of Metacha

Mnata, Kelvin Yodani, Juma

Abdul, Lamine Moro, Mrisho

Ngassa, Feisal Salum, Papy

Tshishimbi, Abdul-aziz Makame,

David Moringa, Ditram Nchimbi,

Mapinduzi Balama, Yikpe

(today)'s game," he said.

"You see, the league's standing has now changed and I'm sure rounds 5 and 6 will see more changes on the standing," he said.

Mlawa said each winning team got two points and round three saw Alliance Insurance team beat My World Pre-School 3.5 - 1.5, Pawn Pushers lost 4-1 to Ahead Africa.

In the round's other matches HS Computers won 3-2 over Bakertilly, Don Bosco Rising Star won 4-1 over Kamal Steel.

He said the round three last game pitted Flashnet against Specialized Engineering, with the match ending with the latter cruising to 3-2 victory.

The official said round four started with a game between Ahead Africa versus Alliance Insurance and league leaders Alliance Insurance won 3-2.

In the other games My World Pre-School lost 3-2 to Don Bosco Rising Star, Specialized Engineering lost 3-2 to HS Computers.

The round four moreover saw Bakertilly beat Pawn Pushers 3-2, Ahead Africa and My World Pre-School shared a point apiece after ending with 2.5 points each.

The league games are set to resume on March 29 at the same venue.

The FIDE recognized

The FIDE recognized league will come to an end on April 17 and the top three teams and best performing individuals will be awarded.

tournament director, while Mustafa Ebrahim is the chief arbiter. The league will resume

Nurdin Hassuji is the

on Sunday, with rounds three and four matches taking place. On March 29 there will

be rounds five and six matches and on the final day, April 19, there will be rounds seven and eight matches. Clubs, which will finish

in the top two positions, will get trophy, medals and cash prize.

The league's champions will receive 500,000/- in

will receive 500,000/- in cash prize, second-placed outfit will be presented with 250,000/-.

The third-placed squad will only get trophy and medals. The league's best performers on board 1-5 will each get 100,000/-.

This is the second year in

a row that Tanzania Chess Association is hosting the league.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

