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TARI distributes quality certified seeds



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Improving barley farmers' productivity



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Start the Week with Cynthia Stacey



TBS takes food, cosmetics role with over 100 ex-TFDA staff

As it was announced in the National Assembly by the Minister for Finance in June, we have started working on our new roles and have absorbed 112 staff who were working in food safety and cosmetic department at TFDA

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

THE Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) is adjusting to its broader mandate with two new regulatory roles and over 100 staff absorbed from the Tanzania Foods and Drugs Authority (TFDA), its CEO has said.

Speaking to reporters in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, the TBS Director General Dr Yussuf Ngenya said they have already assumed the new roles of food safety control and cosmetics regulation formerly undertaken by TFDA.

"As it was announced in the National Assembly by the Minister for Finance in June, we have started working on our new roles and have absorbed 112 staff who were working in food safety and cosmetic department at TFDA," he said.

The legislature has approved the Finance Bill of 2019 that will see the harmonization of regulatory bodies' roles that tended to overlap or more less the same, he said.

Following the amendment of Section 130 of the Standards Act No. 2 of 2009, food and

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Dar es Salaam residents and visitors from other parts of the country throng the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair at its climax on Sabasaba Day at the Julius Nyerere grounds along Kilwa Road yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala



Nigeria adopts Africa free trade area accord

NIAEMEY

NIGERIA yesterday finally signed the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA), ending months of speculation about the stance of Africa's most populous country and economic powerhouse.

Nigerian President Muhammadu Buhari signed the landmark agreement at the African Union (AU) summit here. The extraordinary summit of Heads of State and government was convened to launch the operational phase of the AfCFTA.

This leaves Eritrea as the only African country not to be part of the trading bloc.

The first step is to cut tariffs for goods from countries within the bloc but

the timeframe to do this is yet to be announced.

At the moment, African countries trade only about 16 per cent of their goods and services among one another, compared to 65 per cent with European countries

The AU estimates that implementing AfCFTA will lead to a 60 per cent boost in intra-African trade by 2022. It also says that AfCFTA will create the world's largest free trade area.

"It goes without saying that the most emblematic of the flagship projects of Agenda 2063 is the African Continental Free Trade Area, AfCFTA. The AfCFTA has the ambition, in the final analysis, to establish a continental market.

"The idea goes back to 1963, with the establishment of an African Economic Community," African Union Commission (AUC) Chairperson Moussa Faki Mahamat said at the opening ceremony.

AfCFTA hit a hurdle last year when Nigeria pulled out days before the country was due to sign the agreement.

Nigeria is Africa's biggest economy

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Party wants national body, monthly stipend for elders

By Henry Mwangonde

THE opposition ACT-Wazalendo yesterday called for establishing a national council for elders to manage issues pertaining to the welfare of senior citizens, saying several government policies, including free healthcare, have failed.

Through its elders' wing, the party has also asked the government to establish a system in which senior citizens will be paid monthly allowances as appreciation to the contribution they made to national development.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday, the chairman for the elders' wing Wilson Mushumbusi said the resolution resulted from a meeting over the weekend to discuss the current state of political and social affairs.



We want the government to formally establish the council so that it is involved in advising our leaders and protecting the rights of elders

"We want the government to formally establish the council so that it is involved in advising our leaders and protecting the rights of elders," he said.

Elders face various challenge including harmful beliefs and traditions that lead to persecution, including killings of older people on allegations of witchcraft, he said.

Healthcare services are too expensive for most senior citizens to afford, he pointed out.

Data shows there is more than two million elders who are above 60 years representing 5.6-percent of the population.

There are 66.5 million people aged 60 and over in Africa, predicted to reach 105 million by 2030.

Tanzania has yet to pass binding

TURN TO PAGE 2

VETA responds to tourists demand for organic foods

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

HIGH demand for organic foods including fruits and vegetables in the northern tourism circuit has prompted the government-run Veta Hotel and Tourism Training Institute to introduce a processing and packaging skills course for farmers and entrepreneurs.

The Arusha-based institute under the Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) has designed the course after it emerged that tourists flocking the region and neighbouring Kilimanjaro



have lately ignited high demand for organic foods to using up what is available and necessitating imports from across the border.

The institute's head of hospitality studies and tutor in culinary arts, Robinson Mwaikuuji said yesterday at the on-going 43rd Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair that the course introduced this year seeks to cater for a market that is ever increasing.

"These days most tourists and non-tourists who mind their health go for organic foods. Those with

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TBS in food, cosmetics role with over 100 ex-TFDA staff

FROM PAGE 1

cosmetic products, which were under TFDA, will henceforth be regulated by TBS, effective 1st July 2019.

To that effect, TFDA has been renamed the Tanzania Drug and Medical Authority (TMDA) and will be responsible for controlling medicines, medical supplies and reagents.

Dr Ngenya said that at the moment the import permit issued by TFDA through the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) online payment platform has been removed, and the Certificate of Conformity or Import Clearance Permit of the specified cargo issued by TBS will apply.

He said all traders whose building permit and trading licenses have expired would continue receiving services from other organs for three months waiting for TBS to harmonise related certificates.

"We ask traders whose permits have expired to contact our nearest offices or send their application online so that they could be issued with a covering letter," he stated.

Ministries, departments and district councils which were served by TFDA on safety issues particularly in slaughter houses, butcheries, food vendors and hotels would continue doing their services for a period of time waiting for new procedures to be issued by TBS.

TBS, whose mandate is to undertake measures for quality control of products and promotion of standardization will now oversee registration and certification of locally produced and imported foods and cosmetics, as well as registration of their production premises.

TBS will assume the responsibility for registering premises for new applicants, using a harmonized system which observes safety and quality requirements for foods and cosmetics.

However, local manufacturers holding premise registration certificates issued by TFDA will still be recognized by TBS till their five years expiry date.

Tanzania embarked on harmonization of roles played by regulatory bodies to address challenges in business regulation, verification and certification.

TBS has announced several strategies which it says will help minimize testing costs and turnaround time while also simplifying the process a product takes to receive certification.

"A licence or certificate issued by TBS shall be attestation of premise registration and product registration and confirmation of safety and quality of foods and cosmetics.

"This is aimed at reducing annual licensing/certification costs and the piles of licenses and/or certificates at the manufacturer's premises," he elaborated.

Tanzania has attained a milestone to ensure

medicines in the healthcare system are of good quality, safe and enable intended health benefits.

TBS will assume the responsibility for registering imported foods and cosmetics using a harmonized system by using existing certification schemes, i.e. Pre-Shipment Verification of Conformity to Standards (PVoC) programme or Destination Inspection (DI).

Foods or cosmetics importers will be required to attach the registration certificate issued earlier by TFDA or TBS while for unregistered products, the importer shall be required to submit samples for assessment and registration before embarking on importation.

TBS has pledged to uphold quality and safety assurance measures in accordance with international standards, including market and factory surveillance to ensure conformity to systems requirements.

TFDA on the other hand was dealing with the protection and promotion of public health by ensuring quality, safety and effectiveness of medicines, foods, cosmetics and medical devices.

Speaking in the legislature recently, Finance Minister Dr Philip Mpango was quoted as saying the government has reviewed fees and levies in various departments including TBS and TMDA.

He said the move to reduce fees and levies aims at reducing the cost of doing business and investment costs in the country, and was only in its first phase.

The minister noted that apart from reviewing fees and levies, the focus will also be on eliminating existing duplication of responsibilities among ministries, regulatory authorities and institutions.

Amendment of fees and levies will be effected through the Finance Bill 2019 and Government Notices, he explained.

The government also proposes abolishing six fees under the Tanzania Bureau of Standards, namely application fees of 50,000/- for the TBS mark, TBS mark of guarantee fee calculated at 15 percent of overhead and transport costs, the TBS mark licence fee of 50 percent of TBS cost of transport and testing of sample from the market.

Others are application form fee of 50,000/- for imported goods, and fees for calibration of equipment based on industrial metrology. The amount payable depends on the distance covered from the office to the place. Also scrapped are fees on application forms on imported cosmetics and medical devices including condoms, syringes, gloves, cotton wool and bandage, set at 0.2 percent of TBS transport costs.

The minister said that the measures aim at reducing the cost of doing business to traders and producers while reducing government revenues by 2.6bn/-. Other fees to be abolished are those imposed under the office of the Government Chemist Laboratory Authority, he added.



Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) Goodwill ambassador in the United States of America (USA), Macon Dunnagan (C) with one of the group of tourists he brought to Tanzania at Rongai Gate shortly before starting their Mount Kilimanjaro expedition. Photo: Correspondent James Lanka

Party wants national body, monthly stipend for elders

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legislation for every citizen to have mandatory health insurance cover, although the idea has been mooted for years.

Universal health coverage (UHC) requires that all people and communities can use promotional, preventive, curative, rehabilitative and palliative health services they need and of sufficient quality, without exposing the user to financial hardship.

A report in 2017 showed that the spread of

non-communicable diseases among elders in Tanzania has almost doubled over the past three decades.

Already, by 2016 such diseases were estimated to account for just over one-third of all deaths in the country.

The report published by HelpAge International suggested that while most health facilities deal with cases of NCDs like cancer and diabetes, only 10 per cent of the healthcare personnel there have sufficient training in diagnosing and managing such

diseases.

Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) working in health promotion and advocacy have in recent years been pushing for the government to approve and implement a health financing strategy.

Its main function would be to replace private voluntary health financing especially out of pocket payments with compulsory progressive public financing that will result in health and wealth subsiding of the sick and the poor.



Water minister Prof Makame Mbarawa talks with Kahama Urban Water Supply and Sanitation officials and employees in Shinyanga region over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Shana Njia

FROM PAGE 1

and has long been a regional leader so, when it stalled, observers questioned if the African trade bloc would ever actually happen.

President Buhari said he needed further consultations in Nigeria.

Since then, the Nigerian Office for

Nigeria adopts Africa free trade area accord

Trade Negotiation said it had consulted with 27 groups, including trade unions.

Nigeria has a lot to gain from increasing access to its goods and services to a wider African market. But

many of those consulted also feared increased regional integration would lead to unfair competition for jobs and the goods they produce.

With Nigeria signed up, AfCFTA's

dream of increasing intra-Africa trade, which currently lags behind the volume of trade the continent does with Europe, is now one step closer.

Now that AfCFTA can offer access to

the enormous Nigerian market, they are in a much stronger position to negotiate with regional bodies in other parts of the world.

Eritrea did not participate in the

negotiations because of their conflict with Ethiopia, according to the Commissioner for Trade and Industry at the AU Secretariat, Albert Muchanga.

Now the two countries are at peace and Eritrea has asked the AU to go through the agreement with them, he added.

VETA responds to tourists demand for organic foods

FROM PAGE 1

processing and packaging skills stand a better chance of minting money," he said.

Before, farmers made money from selling their organic foods but also incurred huge losses since chunks of the foods especially perishable fruits and vegetables turned bad and got wasted.

But with processing and packaging skills and the use of high quality materials, farmers and entrepreneurs make money in the local market and can compete in the international market, Mwaikujju said.

"We are here mainly to show Tanzanians this course especially how it can change their lives. Those who learned about it here have been very impressed," he said.

The institute can also send tutors to regions with VETA colleges and high demand of learners, he stated.

Apart from increasing demand from tourists, the course was also prompted by the institute's realization that entrepreneurs faced challenges in food processing and often use poor packaging materials, the tutor said.

Also, it comes at a time when scientific

research shows that most chronic diseases especially non-communicable ones are caused by foods that are poorly prepared or badly eaten.

The institute has begun to produce organic peanut butter, chutney and other products targeting Arusha and Kilimanjaro market with plans to extend nationally before entering the international market.

"When we process affordable horticulture products in large quantity, most Tanzanians will consume local products and stop buying imported ones and that is crucial in a country on the industrialization part," he added.



These days most tourists and non-tourists who mind their health go for organic foods. Those with processing and packaging skills stand a better chance of minting money



Nikkyo Japanese director general Leon Sera(R) talks with invited guests at the inauguration of cars being bought via networking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

CCM happy with implementation of development projects in Iringa

By Correspondent Friday Simbaya, Iringa

REGIONAL political committee of Chama cha Mapinduzi (CCM) in Iringa region has expressed satisfaction with developmental projects implemented by the government so far.

The party's chairperson for Iringa region Dr Abel Nyamahanga has commended the government under President John Magufuli for the execution of large as well as small projects, some of which had been completed and others ongoing.

Recently the political committee of the CCM executive committee of Iringa region made a visit to various development projects by measuring the implementation of the CCM Election Manifesto 2015 and the committee was happy with the implementation of some of the projects which had been completed and others ongoing.

The committee visited and reviewed projects that are governed by the regional government in the CCM election manifesto.

The members of the committee, including Iringa Regional Commissioner Ally Hapi, led government experts of the region and district, visited water, health, education and agriculture projects.

The committee visited the Mgambalenga Irrigation project at Ruaha Mbuyuni in Kilolo district of Mahenge division, where a total of 21.7 billion/- was spent on the project.

The project will facilitate irrigating an area of 3000 hectares, which will facilitate access to jobs, and generate enough raw materials in the industry.

In addition, the political committee also visited the water project at Ilula's small town in Kilolo district and was satisfied with the project that has been completed by 96 per cent in terms of the contract.

The total amount of 575,961,067.22/- was allocated and so far the project has spent 436,000,000.00/-.

The second phase of the project, which is in the construction of 500,000 liters of water storage and 13.8 kms of water pipes have been done. The completion of the water project will reduce the water problem facing the people of Ilula for a long time and increase the percentage of access to water services in the area.

The political committee also visited and was satisfied with the construction of Kilolo district hospital for which a total 4.2 billion/- has been spent and the amount of 3.4 billion/- had been provided by the central government and 170,954,636.00/- from local revenues. All important buildings had been completed and a mortuary building, walk ways are also were in the final stages.

Other projects visited by the committee were Iringa district hospital Igoikafu in the district at Pawaga division, a water project in the wards of Migori and Izazi in the district.

Others included a construction project for the modern market of Mladege, Igumbilo Bus station, Frelimo hospital, the construction of classrooms and dormitories in Iringa girls secondary school and Mvinjeni secondary school in Iringa Municipality.

Speaking on behalf of government officials of Iringa Regional Commissioner Ally Hapi congratulated government experts on the financing of the projects but also urged political leaders to go and tell them what their government is doing so that citizens can know what their government was doing for them.

TRA allays fears over ETS technology costs

By Guardian Reporter

The Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) has said that there were no challenges during the rolling out of electronic tax stamps (ETS) despite concerns by manufacturers that the installation of the new system may increase production costs.

TRA deputy Commissioner Msafiri Ndimbo said over the weekend that after sensitization campaigns by the tax man the traders were later informed that installation of the equipment is catered for by TRA and that they were required to cater for costs of stamps which will also be reduced because it would be generated by the company's own system.

The first phase of the ETS was launched on January 15, this year and the second phase was awaiting endorsement of the Commissioner General on order to roll out.

According to him, the system will help to combat counterfeits that were forced into the market through shoddy deals.

Explaining he said that following launch of the first phase, small scale manufacturers have been given more time to fulfill the requirements while the use an annual digital activation system.

He explained the second phase which is awaiting to be launched for carbonated and soft drinks manufacturers. Adding that they have installed all the necessary facilities including printer and saver in all the manufacturing companies ready to be rolled out.

"We planned to conduct the exercise in June, but we expect anytime soon as

soon as the official date is announced by the Commissioner General," he said

The government started the exercise last year after the Minister of Finance and Planning announced units 2018/19 budget that it was doing away with physical stamps and introducing ETS.

Following the announcement, TRA followed out the first phase for alcohol, spirits and cigarettes on January 15, this year and expected the second phase to be rolled out in June.

The decision to roll out the ETS and ending physical stamps, stems from incidents of tax evasion and counterfeiting.

Reports show that the exercise began with the installation of e-tax machines at the Tanzania Cigarettes Company and Nyati Spirit in Dar es Salaam per stamps have been used on products such as cigarettes, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, medicinal drugs, playing cards, bottled water, cosmetics, hunting licenses, firearms registration and music equipment.

The government contracted Swiss firm SCPA Ltd to install software and hardware for the ETS management system.

Further reports show that manufacturers warned that running the system would add to the cost of doing business.

Manufacturers and importers covered by non-electronic stamps were allowed to use the paper tax stamps until the end of September 2018, after which they had a three-month grace period to change to the ETS system.

TRA hopes that the new system will help create transparency in assessing key taxes such as excise duty, VAT and corporate tax.

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KILIMANJARO
DRINKING WATER



Maji ya kuaminika kila siku

EVENTS AT THE CLIMAX OF THE 43RD DAR ES SALAAM INTERNATIONAL TRADE FAIR



Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan hands over a trophy to Tigo Coast Zonal Director Joseph Mutalemwa, for being the main sponsors - Communication Category of the 43rd Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair. Flanking the VP on her right is the Minister for Trade and Industry, Innocent Bashungwa.



Dar es Salaam residents take a pose after visiting various pavilions. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala



BRELA Acting Services and Empowerment Director Frederick Mahawi (R) explains how BRELA works, at the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala



Dar es Salaam residents take materials bought at the Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala



Natural Gas course coordinator at the Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology, Dr. Esebi Nyari elaborates on a car using gas instead of fuel. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala.



Dar es Salaam residents visit one of the exhibition pavilions. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala



Salibab Pellet Co. Ltd (Hill Feeds) executive Dr. Christopher Kileo (R) explains to visitors how to properly feed chicken at his pavilion yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala



Singida zonal official of the Vocational Education and Training Authority, Cleophas Mkungu talks to visitors on a simple washing machine innovated recently. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala



National environment management council accountant Beatrice Kilimo (2nd L) elaborates on how to conserve environment to a visitor at NEMC pavilion at the ongoing Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair at Julius Nyerere grounds yesterday. Left is NMC officer Pendo Kundyia. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

NEMC stresses importance of protecting environment

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Environment Management Council (NEMC) has reaffirmed its commitment in educating members of public on the importance of preserving environment and creating a mutual understanding of its roles.

This was unveiled in the ongoing 43rd international trade fair at SabaSaba grounds in Dar es Salaam where NEMC is among the institutes taking part, visitors at the Council's pavilion have been educated on the wide range of activities including the formalities of paying Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) fees as well as Environment Assessment (EA) among others.

Speaking to journalists yesterday at the grounds, the NEMC senior environment officer, Pendo Kundyia said the purpose of NEMC's participation at the exhibitions was to impart knowledge so as to create a wide understanding on matters related to environmental protection.

"Our goal is to continue educating members of the public on the importance of protecting environment as well as continuing to advocate for use of alternative bags following the ban of plastic bags," she said.

She added that it was important to protect environment to making sure that the impacts of environment degradation do not affect the country.

"At this pavilion NEMC is also issuing various services including receiving EIA and EA fees for 2019/2020 from its stakeholders with unsettled bills," she said.

Kundyia pointed out that NEMC extended EIA and EA to the exhibitions to make it easy for stakeholders who visits the pavilions in bigger numbers and who may at the same time be too busy to visit NEMC's offices.

For his part, the NEMC environment assessor, Nelson Nyabise said also education on the handling of dangerous waste was being taught to visitors in ensuring that environmental degradation is diminished.

"The hazardous wastes are dangerous

for environment and the people that is why we have to educate people on the better handling of such wastes to make sure that the environment remains safe," he said.

NEMC environment officer, Elias Chundu commended visitors for their enthusiasm in learning matters related to environment protection and NEMC services.

"Visitors have shown a readiness of visitors to come and learn about NEMC and its services and many of the visitors are eager to learn about the recent ban on plastic bags and what the future holds," he said.

Visitors commended NEMC on its readiness to educate people on issues related to environment protection matters, saying that the Council has been proactive all the time.

"NEMC is doing a good job and it has been proactive in educating people especially through media and pavilions like this, I am happy to learn that they are also planning to reach out to as many people as possible," said Mary Joshua, one of the pavilion visitor.

TARI distributes quality certified seeds and modern agricultural inputs to Moro farmers

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Tanzania Agricultural Research Institute (TARI) Ilonga, Kilosa district in Morogoro region has started to distribute quality certified seeds and modern agricultural inputs to farmers to help them shift from traditional farming.

The move is also aimed at ensuring food security as well as help supporting the country's industrialization agenda through production of raw materials.

The institute has so far brought

together agricultural experts, extension officers from all the wards in Kilosa district to train them on the new seed technology.

TARI Ilonga Director, Dr Joel Meriyo told the extension officers that the institute decided to sharpen their skills so that they pass over the knowledge to farmers. He said the shift from traditional to modern farming will double farmers harvests.

"We have resolved to support farmers in the Eastern zone to do away with traditional farming methods", said

Dr Meriyo stated adding after Kilosa district, they will engage in helping farmers in other districts.

He said the target is to reach farmers in all the wards in Kilosa district where extension officers will reach farmers and educate them on the importance of using quality seeds as well as modern farming tools. "We want farmers to cultivate commercially, this will help ensure food security and improve their welfare", he noted insisting there are no reasons for Morogoro region farmers to languish in poverty.

TARI Ilonga Research Coordinator, Meshack Makenge said their main task is to produce quality seeds and distribute them to farmers to increase productivity. He said the government's industrialization agenda could be achieved through investment in commercial farming using modern technologies.

"Farmers are likely to produce raw materials for the industries, they can only produce enough through the use of quality seeds", he added.

According to him, TARI has a

responsibility to produce quality seeds for cereals such as millet, maize and sorghum. He said the institute is now producing oil seeds including sunflowers and cotton.

Kilosa district agricultural and cooperatives officer, Elina Dastan said they are determined to increase food production in the coming season. He promised to ensure that the skills given to extension officers reach farmers in particular areas. "There are still some farmers who are reluctant to shift from traditional to modern farming. We are

going to convince them to change their mindsets for enhanced productivity", he noted adding insisting the change is crucial for food security.

TARI Ilonga operates under the ministry of agriculture. It was established in 1943 as a central research centre (CRC) to improve cotton production in the Eastern cotton growing area and later in 1989 it embarked into food crops for the Eastern Zone which comprises of Morogoro, Tanga, Coast and Dar Es Salaam regions.



Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT NO: 032019 NATIONAL LEAD CONSULTANT

The Food and Agricultural Organization of the United Nations (FAO) is seeking to recruit an expert to support the process of developing a funding project proposal.

Background

FAO Tanzania in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture and other government agencies is supporting the development of the funding project proposal titled "Enhancing Climate Change Resilience (ECCR) in the Kagera and Geita Regions of Tanzania".

In this regard, FAO is seeking to engage a National Lead Consultant who will, among other tasks, make sure that the project is aligned with the country's needs and priorities. The National Lead Consultant will work in close collaboration with the FAO Country Office supporting team as well as other experts responsible for the project development.

Reporting Lines

The National Lead Consultant will work under the overall guidance of the FAO Representative in Tanzania and the technical supervision of FAO Lead Technical Officer. The Consultant will also work in close collaboration with the Project Team Leader (PTL) who will oversee the overall project development including the required background studies and annexes.

Tasks and responsibilities

The tasks to be carried out by the National Lead Consultant will include, but not limited to, the following:

- Plan inception meetings/workshops in Dar Es Salaam/Dodoma and Kagera and Geita regions;
- Provide technical inputs to the PTL and other engaged consultants on national priority and needs;
- Present to the national Task Force the work plan and key requirements of funding proposal formulation process;
- Review and provide guidance on all required studies;
- Review and provide comments and recommendation on the feasibility study, Environment and social Impact Assessment/Environment and Social Safeguard (ESIA/ESS);
- Review Annex studies produced by other experts/service provider and draft funding proposal;
- Ensure interventions are clearly aligned with and reflect priority actions and priority areas indicated in agriculture, climate and environment related national strategies, Programmes and Plans (e.g. Agricultural Sector Development Program phase II (ASDP II), Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) Guideline, National Climate Change Strategy (NCS), Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC), and Long term Development plans e.g. Five Years Development Plan II, etc.
- Provide guidance on implementation management and facilitate identification of co-financing;

- Identify and propose key stakeholders in the Project areas and their potential role in complementing or implementing the Project; and
- Ensure the final funding proposal and the annexes are aligned with national priorities and addresses the needs of the recipient and requirements of the funding agency.

Required Skills and Experience

- 10 years of experience in climate change financing mechanisms
- Past work experience in development of climate change projects in Tanzania
- Experience designing projects for the Global Environment Facility (GEF) Green Climate Fund (GCF), and/or other multilateral/Bilateral climate change funds
- Multi-sectoral knowledge on Policy and institutional framework with respect to climate change aspects
- Solid analytical and conceptual skills and the ability to think creatively
- Excellent drafting skills and capacity to synthesize of funding proposals
- Excellent team leader and coordination skills
- Experience or knowledge of UN systems is an added advantage.

Nationality

Applicants for this post must be nationals of the United Republic of Tanzania

Duty station: Home based desk work and field visits (Dar-es-Salaam, Dodoma, Kagera, and Geita)

Duration: 40 working days

HOW TO APPLY

Candidates should complete the FAO Taleo Profile Form accessible at: [iRecruitment Link](#)

Applications should be sent with a detailed CV and Personal Profile Form to:

FAO Representative
SIDA H, Ada Estate
P. O. Box 2, Dar es Salaam,
TANZANIA
Email: FAO-TZ@fao.org

Application Deadline

The application should be received not later than **July 20th, 2019**



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DIVIDEND DECLARATION

The Board of Directors of TOL Gases Limited is delighted to announce that the Annual General Meeting of shareholders held on 28th June, 2019, approved the declaration of dividend of TZS 17.37 per issued and fully paid up shares in line with the Company's Revised Dividend Policy. Total dividend of TZS 1.0 billion will be paid out for the year ended 31st December 2018.

Pursuant to the Dividend Payment Declaration, the timetable for dividend payment shall be as follows:

Announcement of Dividend Payment:	5th July, 2019
Trading of Shares cum Dividend:	5th July - 25th July 2019
Trading of Shares Ex-Dividend:	26th July 2019
Closure of the Members Register:	30th July 2019
Re-Opening of the Register:	31st July 2019
Dividend Payment on/or about:	15th August 2019

Dividend will be paid directly to shareholders' bank accounts.

BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

TBL Group recommits to improve the barley farmers' productivity

By Guardian Reporter

TBL Group is collaborating with farmers to improve barley productivity in the country by introducing new varieties of seeds to help farmers grow for commercial purposes. The variety types of barley seeds are suitable to the soil and climatic conditions of Tanzania.

Speaking at the inauguration of the 'Barley Growers Day' at Monduli in Arusha, over the weekend, barley manager at TBL, Joel Msechu said company is committed towards development of Tanzania and its farmers.

Farmers from across the region participated at the event. The highlight of the event was the display of high yielding varieties of barley and training of farmers by agriculture experts.

The initiative also extended AB In-Bev's global programme 'Smart Barley' to the farmers, which is aimed at transforming agriculture by leveraging data, technology and insights to help growers solve challenges and improve their productivity, livelihoods and environmental performance.

Msechu encouraged farmers to adopt the latest farming technology and practices for better productivity and promised that the company will continue to empower farmers in the country.

"With an aim to empower farmers,

offer them with enough input and information to increase productivity while actively reducing environmental impact. We are strongly committed to Tanzania and through Barley Growers Day we plan to continue our outreach towards sustainable farm practices, and we will continue to reach out to the farmers through this initiative to ensure more barley is procured in Tanzania in the next few years", he said.

Msechu added: "We cannot solve our sustainability challenges on our own and strongly believe with the right partnerships we can have a bigger impact on the field".

Chairman of Barley Farmers Association in Monduli, Arusha region Leiyen Sokoine, said "We are attending this programme since it provides us the right kind of information which enables considerable increase in our productivity. The program educates us about new farming techniques in a way that we understand, and we look forward to be a part of this program in the coming years".

A farmer, Kway Francis, resident of Monduli, added: "We truly appreciate the support and inputs given to us through the TBL's partnership programme and it has helped increase our yields, reliable market of our crops as well as improve our livelihoods."



Barley manager at Tanzania Breweries Ltd Joel Msechu (R) speaks to barley farmers during the celebration of 'Barley Farmers Day 2019,' held at Enguik village in Monduli ward over the weed end. The event was sponsored by TBL company. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

SGR hits momentum: Train to test the validity

By Correspondent James Kandoya

CONSTRUCTION of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) has gained a new momentum after the government started to use the engineering train to test the validity of the rail.

Speaking at the launching of the SGR line project first trial run ceremony in Soga in Coast Region over the week end, Minister for Works, Transport and Communication, Eng Isack Kamwelwe said the trial exercise came after completion of the

flash butt welding exercise conducted in April this year.

The minister said the locomotive had been imported from Turkey to test the validity of the constructed rail while other part of the railway is still under construction.

He added that using of trial engine was part of the contractual agreement to test the rail every step of the construction before the bullet train start.

"It one of the historical event after Flash Batt welding exercise. Using en-

gineering train, we have travelled over ten kilometres to see the validity our rail," he said.

According to the minister, the engineering train will also be used by the contractor to transport building equipment or materials to the site.

Eng Kamwele said the government was finalizing the process of procuring rolling stocks and locomotives.

The official described that the government will procure five sets of Electric Multiple Unit (EMU) and twenty two locomotives when the construc-

tion of SGR was over.

Others were 1430 cargo wagons, sixty coaches.

"We are finalizing the procurement process and procedures, when it is over, the public will be informed,"

The process for procuring the wagons and locomotives He said when the process was over, it will be disclosed to the public adding that the e said when it was over, the

Upon completion of the SGR construction, it will increase safety of passengers and goods transported and

reduce the destruction of roads and therefore increase their life span.

Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC) Executive director, Masanja Kadogosa said that the testing exercise was an important step in the construction of the SGR.

He said the total construction of the rail from Dar es Salaam to Morogoro had reached 56 per cent while that from Morogoro-Makutupora had reached 12 percent.

He said the construction for culverts was 58 percent, designing 90 per cent

and signaling was 14 percent.

He said that Dar es Salaam-Morogoro will have six stations which are Dar es Salaam, Pugu, Soga, Kingulwila and Morogoro.

The Yapi Merkez vice president Erdem Arioglu said the construction of the rail was very important in the country and East Africa.

"It is again another historical day for us to celebrate the success achieved so far as we are launching the first trial run using engineering train," he said.



Home Affairs Minister Kangi Lugola, (2nd L) greets Namibu villager at his Mwibara constituency in Bunda, Mara region after his public rally address yesterday. Photo: MHA

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

WATER Minister Prof Makame Mbarawa has threatened to take into custody an engineer with 'Orientation Construction Limited' Geoffrey Oyao over delayed implementation of a water project from Lake Victoria to Isaka town in Kahama district, Shinyanga region.

Minister Mbarawa explained that project was to be implemented in 18 months from July 217 to December 2018, after the first deadline, the government gave the contractor until June 2019 to complete the job.

Prof Mbarawa was speaking during his tour at the Isaka and Kagongwa project site to inspect progress implementation of the project which is geared to improve provision of water services to the people. He gave the contractor another 30 days to complete the project.

Water minister threatens to arrest contractor over delayed project

According to him the arrest of the engineer would fast-track implementation of the project.

"The contractor has been lying to us; he has failed to complete the job on time. I want the residents to start enjoying reliable clean and safe water services by August this year", he noted adding the project is implemented in two phases at a cost of 22bn/-

He said the first phase involved construction of water distribution infrastructures and laying of pipes while the second phase involves distribution of water to Isaka and Kagongwa towns.

Director of Kahama and Shinyanga

Water Services Authority, Eng Joshua Mgeyekwa said the government resolved to get water from Lake Victoria following huge demand in the two towns. He said so far they have succeeded to put down water infrastructures covering 49.54 kilometers out of 52.9 kilometers.

"We are progressing well, we hapo the project will be completed as per directives from the Minister", he said.

Member of Parliament for Msalala Constituency, Ezekiel Maige said the contractor has been delaying the project despite a number of directives from to government officials including Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan

who ordered him to finish the job by June 30th this year.

Project Engineer, Geoffrey Oyao from Orientation Construction Limited promised to complete the water project by August 15, 2019 as directed by water minister.

The water project will also cover the mining industry in the area and 54 villages along the main pipeline. It's implementation include the cleaning and construction of the source point, contraction of infrastructure system, the installation of pumps, laying of pipes, and the construction of reserve tanks and the water processing and treatment plant.

Prof Kabudi: Rwanda's liberation significant to the whole world

By Special Correspondent

THE liberation of Rwanda by the RPF-Inkotanyi, 25 years ago, is of significance to Rwanda, the continent and the whole world, Prof Palamagamba Kabudi, Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation remarked over the weekend.

He made the statement when speaking at an event held in Dar es Salaam to mark Rwanda's Liberation Silver Jubilee.

He said: "To us Tanzanians, the liberation of Rwanda by the RPF-Inkotanyi is of significance not only to Rwanda and the African continent, but to the whole world. It helped us to come out of the shame of having kept quiet when genocide was happening in Rwanda.

"Tanzania as your neighbour and friend. We are humbled to be part of this commemoration", said the minister stressing that, each year, the Tanzania government takes serious the commemoration of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi.

More than one million people were killed in 100 days during the Genocide.

"The liberation of Rwanda brought to an end the Genocide which caused tremendous pain and suffering to the people of Rwanda and, more equally, caused severe distress to the region as a whole.

"To Tanzania as a neighbouring country, the Genocide touched us in a very painful way. Economic and social effects of genocide crossed the border and were felt heavily and made Tanzanians carry a heavy burden. Rwanda has gone through a terrible past which we thank God, that it is now over," he said.

The Minister noted that a new Rwanda is a testimony of how people who have been subjected to colonial rule, and sectarianism, can restore their own dignity.

"The liberation of Rwanda, 25 years ago, assured the Rwandese people and also the region that all human beings are born free in dignity, and rights. The most important message here is

dignity."

"This liberation restored the dignity of the people of Rwanda but also the dignity of the entire humanity," he concluded his remarks, noting that, Rwanda has registered tremendous progress in the past 25 years, especially in unity, political and economic stability.

Ambassador Eugene Kayihura, Rwanda's envoy to Tanzania, "on a very profound note," commended the government for its support to Rwanda.

Under the reign of President Magufuli, he said, bilateral relations between Rwanda and Tanzania have greatly improved and propelled to greater heights.

The two countries are currently working together on several major development projects including the regional Rusumo hydropower project set to provide 80 megawatts to Rwanda, Burundi and Tanzania in the near future.

Besides Tanzania giving Rwanda land for its operation in the Tanga port, the two countries are now working to fast track the construction of a mega railway line linking the Port of Dar to Kigali and eastern DR Congo.

Kayihura said: "Tanzania is a vital gateway for Rwanda especially through the port of Dar es Salaam which is a port of choice for the Rwandan business sector accounting for over 95 percent of all Rwandan import and export trade, making it a key port in terms of handling Rwandan cargo."

Good Rwanda-Tanzania diplomatic relations have helped to overcome Rwanda's land-locked and improved livelihoods of Rwandans, he said.

Increased volumes of trade between the two sister countries, he added, enhance cooperation and support under the EAC framework that Rwanda currently chairs.

The envoy noted that this renders more reason to celebrate Rwanda's liberation day, "with more hope for continued prosperity."

Local company now digitises supply chain more efficient, agile, customer-focused

By Beatrice Philemon

SKATEHOLDERS in meat value chain have reason to smile after a local company came up with the technology that would help business people track conditions of their products wherever in the value chain supply through a specific device.

The company, Techzanite Consultants Ltd has introduced the 'roambee technology' to track conditions and location of cold chain industry that includes food and medicine storage, among others.

Techzanite Consultants Ltd, business development manager, Hassan Abba said yesterday at the on-going 43rd Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair. He said they came with the technology since meat as well as other business personnel in the cold value chain were struggling to get a solution that can help them understand the condition of their products which require optimal temperature.

He explained that the roambee device gives instant information on the conditions of goods wherever they are in the value chain supply. He said the company realized that most business persons in the meat industry suffer losses due to temperature and other factors.

According to Abba the technology which originates from USA will help Tanzanian business people to reap benefit as the quality of their products will no longer be affected by weather.

He said that once installed in the, the device provides information on what is happening in the cold room, warehouse, good on transit and those at points of sale.

He said the roambee device is developed to control and maintain products in the cold chain industry with a memory card which store information and a Simcard which roams in 170 countries around the world.

"It has a sensor which detects the temperature, pressure and humidity. It has tracking devices system which operates in GPRS model to track the extra location of the products", he said.

He said it uses internet of things (IOT) technology model and it uses hotspot systems to transfer data to users.

"The solution helps businesspersons engaged in meat and food value chain to take action when it matters most", he noted adding the device provides 24/7 live support and monitoring, customized alerts to specific business people in the industry.



National Insurance Corporation (NIC) director of marketing and customer services Elisante Maleko (R) presents a gift to Iringa Regional Commissioner Ali Hapi who visited the NIC pavilion at the on-going 43rd International Trade Fair (DITF) at Mwalimu Nyerere grounds along Kilwa Road. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Mbeya police seize 1,044 grams of gold and arrest three suspects

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

POLICE in Mbeya region have arrested three foreigners at Songwe International Airport as they attempted to smuggle 1,044.95 grams of gold worth 98m/- to the country's commercial capital—Dar es Salaam.

Mbeya Regional Police Commander, Ulrich Matei mentioned them as Clive Rooney (62) from Ireland, Ross Chertsey (34) and Robert Charles (58) both from United Kingdom.

Matei told journalists that the force is determined to protect the country's natural resources, insisting on people to use the established gold exchange centres to conduct mineral trade. He said the government established the trading centres to control smuggling of minerals.

"We arrested them at Songwe International Airport as they attempt to smuggle gold to Dar es Salaam. Early reports show that they got the minerals from gold mines in Chunya district", said the RPC adding from Dar es Salaam the gold was to be smuggled to foreign countries.

He said the force is still interrogating them to know their network in Tanzania as well as identifying some other people involved for punitive legal measures. He called upon the residents to stop smuggling minerals instead sell them at the state owned exchange centres.

Last week, police seized 36 kilograms of assorted gemstones including Tanzanite 958,490,857 /-worth at Naman-

ga border. The gemstones were to be smuggled through neighboring Kenya.

The consignment was seized from Perfect Trans Bus Service in 74 different packages, including Tanzanite. Reports from reliable sources have it that those arrested were being grilled and are cooperating in releasing more names of people involved in the crime.

Police were informed of the hidden consignment of gemstones and used sniffer dogs in the successful mission.

Tanzania Mineral Dealers' Association (TAMIDA) condemned the acts insisting it is against any incidences of economic sabotage which leads to loss of government revenues generated from the minerals sector.

TAMIDA chairperson, Sammy Mollel insisted that the government had created a friendly business climate for mineral dealers through establishment of mineral trading centers are removal of some nuisance taxes.

"The government worked had hard to end bureaucracy in the minerals sector to ensure the business is conducted fairly through mineral trading centers at various regions across the country, these efforts were also meant to control minerals smuggling as well as enhance its contribution to the national income", said Mollel.

He called upon law enforcers to make sure all the suspects are arrested and arraigned in accordance with the law. He suggested for tough punishment for the culprits so that it becomes a lesson to others.

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

Monduli in need of ambulances to improve the service delivery

LACK of ambulances in Monduli district, Arusha region has been cited among the major factor contributing to patients' failure to seek medication from hospitals.

Monduli District Commissioner, Iddi Kimanta made said over the weekend when speaking at an event to receive various medical equipment donated to Monduli dispensary by the Moringe Sokoine Memorial Institute. The donated equipment are meant to improve provision of health services to the citizens.

He insisted that the district has been facing difficulties in providing health care to the people due to lack of ambulances. He said the district has just one vehicle, hence difficulties to reach some of the patients especially expectant mothers in rural areas.

"We need more ambulances to be able to reach and serve many people in the villages", he said commending the Moringe Sokoine memorial institute for assisting them with variety medical equipment.

According to Kimanta the institute

has been in the fore front in supporting the pastoral community in Monduli. He said the institute has so far provided support in various areas including health, education, environment, water and agriculture.

Moringe Sokoine Memorial Institute's Board Director, Christine Sokoine said the donated equipment have been provided by a group of Pharmacists Without Borders based in Belgium.

She said the institute has donated the equipment through the institute to support government efforts towards improvement of health care services.

Sokoine noted that the institute had previously provided a total of 103 health insurance cards that have benefited more than 600 people from the district. She said the beneficiaries include among children and pregnant women among others.

"Today, we have donated equipment worth 8m/- to the Monduli dispensary. We are expecting to provide more support to the facility in terms of medi-

cines", said Sokoine adding the institute is committed to improve health care delivery in the district.

The institute's chairman, Lembris Kipuyo promised to continue supporting various social services in the district including provision of education to farmers.

He said that education to farmers and pastoralists will help them adopt modern farming practices, thus boost their harvests.

Monduli District Chief Medical Officer, Titus Mmasi commended the institute for continuing to implement the good things that the late Sokoine was doing to Tanzanians.

Mmasi noted that the number of people seeking medical services at various hospitals in the district has increased following the introduction of health insurance system.

He called upon the villagers to continue seeking medication from dispensary since it has the required equipment.



Airtel Tanzania Manager for Business Enterprise Unit Alice Mashiku (2nd L) hands over a operation bed to Mkurunga District Municipal Director Eng Mshanu Munde over the weekend. Airtel Tanzania donated the operation bed to Mkurunga Hospital being one of the company's initiatives of supporting communities through AIRTEL TUNAKUJALI initiative. Others are center Mkurunga District Medical Officer (DMO) Dr Stephen Mwandambo, Airtel Public Relations Manager Jackson Mbanda (first left) and Mkurunga Member of Parliament representative Omar Kisalu (R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent



JOB VACANCY

Jhpiego is an international non-profit health organization affiliated with the Johns Hopkins University. For more than 45 years now, Jhpiego has empowered front-line health workers by designing and implementing effective, low-cost, hands-on solutions to strengthen the delivery of health care services for women and their families. By putting evidence-based health innovations into everyday practice, Jhpiego works to break down barriers to high-quality health care for the world's most vulnerable populations. Jhpiego, implementing a number of projects in Tanzania, wishes to recruit a Consultant to design layout, formatting and branding four types of AYSRH IEC for USAID Boresha Afya Project.

USAID Borefyafya Afya is a new 5-year USAID-funded program for a comprehensive Health Service Delivery. The goal of USAID Borefyafya Afya is to improve the health status of all Tanzanians. Jhpiego leads the implementation of one of the 3 awards covering the lake and western zones—with an emphasis on women and children in targeted regions. The purpose is to support the GOT to increase access to high quality, comprehensive and integrated health services, with a focus on malaria, maternal, newborn, child and reproductive health outcomes. The project scope covers 7 regions in the lake and western zones, national level, and Zanzibar.

Chief of Party [One position based in Dar es Salaam.]

The Chief of Party is responsible for providing overall vision, leadership and direction to ensure the strategic, programmatic, technical and financial integrity of the project. Responsible for achieving the planned results set out for the project and meeting USAID terms. Serve as the primary point of contact with USAID, the government of Tanzania, other USAID grantees, donors and stakeholders. Responsible for planning, reporting and efficient and compliant management of project resources, as well as overall management of partner relationships. Liaise with other national programs, national technical working groups (TWGs) and other donor initiatives. Facilitate overall relationship with USAID, districts, the MOH for the mainland and Zanzibar, facilities and health professional associations. Provide overall strategic management and technical direction for the project. Supervise a team of highly qualified staff.

Required Qualifications:

- Post graduate Qualification in public health, social sciences, international development, or related field.
- Ten years senior level management experience in the design, implementation, and management of programs of similar size, complexity, and setting.
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- Demonstrated leadership skills, experience in building, and maintain productive working relationships with a wide network of institutional partners and stakeholders, including host governments.
- Proven record of building teams and fostering collaboration to achieve program goals, meet program milestones, and produce quality program results.
- Knowledge of United States Government Health initiatives and related reporting requirements and funding parameters.
- Exceptional English written and oral communication skills; Swahili is also preferred
- Relevant experience in East Africa is preferred.

Send the application through this email address USAIDBoreshaAfya.Applications@jhpigo.org

Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. The closing date for applications is **19 July 2019**. Jhpiego is an equal opportunity employer and diversity is our strength.

Caution to the applicants:

There have been some bogus adverts online that require candidates to apply through some email addresses of public domains e.g. Yahoo, Gmail, Hotmail, etc. Kindly note: USAIDBoreshaAfya.Applications@jhpigo.org is the address to use for this job application. Please ignore any of that irrelevant advertisement. We also do not charge any application fee nor entertain any meetings or telephone calls related to soliciting money or favors of any kind. If shortlisted, you will get an official call from our office and receive required steps to be followed. If you suspect any wrong – doing kindly write to the Director of Human Resource, through inquiries.tz@jhpigo.org

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Politicians ought to have learnt a lesson from AFCON finals

WITH Taifa Stars back home and the dust settling over its participation in the Africa Cup of Nations finals in Egypt, it is perhaps opportune to make a point or two as to what was experienced in the team's participation. A well placed administrator went to the extent of apologizing for the loss the team suffered in its third encounter, with Algeria, having raised false expectations as to what is needed for the team to win that last match (though it was more logical to have expected a win against Kenya, not Algeria) and admitted that he really had no formula. Yet initial pronouncements appeared to affirm the very opposite.

One thing that can be said about what happened during the team's presence in the tournament, and what was said or transpired about the issue, is that our expectations were at odds with reality, and took plenty of time to realize that our team was weak. The reason for taking that long wasn't a lack of ability to see what the team had done up to that point, but to privilege wishes to become expectations, at a certain level even to treat these expectations as orders, directives of a social or political nature as to what the team must achieve. The whole idea was to assert that we need to win, and therefore we must attain victory.

This was the background to the political skirmishing during the final days of the Budget session of the National Assembly, where senior parliamentary figures were questioning the lack of a certain caliber of dignitaries with the team in Egypt. These top public officials unquestionably believed that when such top officials are present

in the Tanzania slot of the VIP box or main stand of a stadium, this would provide the spur needed for the boys to perform. But short of this skirmishing, a much less noticed social and partially political initiative was undertaken, in the presence of former first lady and currently MP, Salma Kikwete.

By and large that initiative or early presence was adequate, as the former first lady wasn't there to issue any instructions or to conduct expectations of an administrative sort but to socialize with Tanzanians already in Egypt, to add to the happiness and convivial atmosphere. The trouble with the other political interventions was that they were mixing up their presence, which is in the final analysis only a social function, with the technical part, of winning the game. And to add insult to injury, they were treating the matter in an administrative way; some would say an intelligence matter, of having the secret of winning.

To talk like some ancient Englishmen, Occam's razor has been applied to all discussion about Taifa Stars, both as to preparations and to participating in tournaments, either at qualification stages or in the finals as in the past few weeks. Occam's razor is an instrument of logic of eliminating all false reasons and retaining a major or principal reason for a certain event or situation, so as to learn to focus on what is essential, such that one exhausts it first and seeks additional lines of reasoning only if necessary. What level of reasoning was to expect that the presence of a youthful regional commissioner was the answer? Could such a statement be taken as a valid input in organizing the team? And really how did it come up?

President Kenyatta's visit was a resounding success

CHATO district and precincts of its international airport has lately hosted its first high profile visit, with the two day private visit of Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta, who was paying a visit to his Tanzanian counterpart Dr John Magufuli, who was present in his home district as a sort of vacation, or rest. But as they pretty well realize in Kenya, especially when Uhuru's father Mzee Jomo Kenyatta was still in office, holidays of heads of state tend to be characterized by plenty of activities, but of a rather low key sort. In that case the Kenyan leader made this a private visit, which means he eschewed a large delegation, etc.

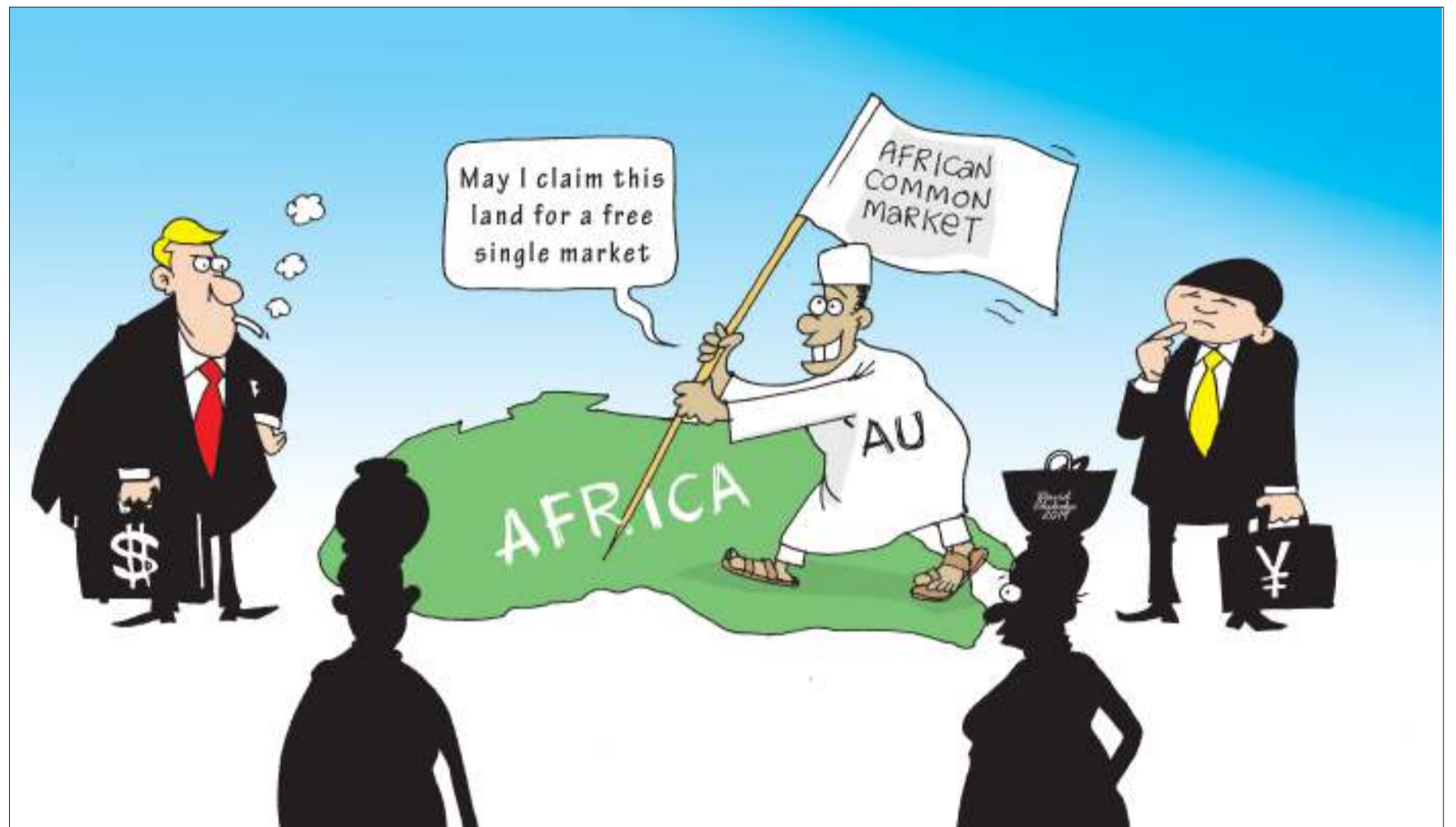
Yet there wasn't much that was lost in the breadth and intensity of public events related to President Kenyatta's presence in Chato, as it served to roundly affirm and reassert the cordial relations existing between the two countries, and especially the fusion at the community level. Many Tanzanians can trace their direct kith and kin in neighbouring countries, and Kenya is no exception to this rule, in which case all artificial efforts to split the communities and sow enmities by pretending that migrants living there legally are picking off jobs or businesses from Kenyans was unfortunate. We are now through with it.

The visit of the Kenyan leader also provided an opportunity to evaluate, hurriedly if that was the case, the level of business activities that either country conducts in the neighbouring state, and clearly Kenyans are well ahead of us in enterprise and the capital layout required to move into markets nearby. All this has to do with the way conditions of doing business have slackened over several decades, especially given our socialist traditions

where we learnt to appreciate public sector economic activity until it collapses with losses or lives only by subsidies. We have just started to think big about improving the business climate.

One item that came up strongly during the Kenyan Head of State's visit was the recurring feature of Tanzanian maize exports to Kenya, as Kenya is having problems reducing the size of land being claimed by encroaching deserts. Those who have significant grain farming areas often prefer to plant high yield seeds rather than grain itself, such that Tanzania often obtains its maize seeds from Kenyan companies as they have a leg start in that direction, while Kenyan traders often have to buy maize or rice from this side. Classical economists said this kind of situation is 'comparative advantage' and needs to be tolerated, etc.

Tolerating comparative advantage means that a country doesn't have to make excessive effort in getting to produce its own commodities in any particular sphere, but let its entrepreneurs follow their instincts in judging key market indicators. So long as they obtain credit competitively from banks and other financial institutions and sell in a competitive market not overly regulated to favor local enterprises, they are likely to make correct, that is, sustainable investment choices. That is the superiority of market-led economy as political decisions on whom to favor among producers, or what to produce, lead to failure as it fosters inefficient production. It also tends to corrupt governance as supporting loss making enterprises becomes a national vocation, and until political reality changes completely it becomes hard to conduct reforms, etc.



Libyan transit camp bombing an insult to Africa

By Ani Jozeni

DOZENS of migrant black people housed in a transit camp near Tripoli early this week died when two bombs were dropped by forces loyal to Gen. Khalifa Haftar, who is challenging the Tripoli-based government for control of the capital, and eventually to chart out the country's destiny. It is unclear if the dropping of bombs on the migrants' transit camp was intentional, as there are military targets in the neighborhood, but accessory data shows intention to hurt, maim and kill those inside, for being African. Reports say that guards shot and killed migrants running for safety during the post-bombing mayhem.

The death of the migrants and the suffering of those who were wounded, including being rendered disabled, is a continuation of the perilous journey into the unknown that is endured by those who dream of a better life abroad, for which they take dire risks. Plenty has been said in that regard but one needs to recall the words of former President Benjamin Mkapa talking about accusations of government officials being corrupt, raised by donors.

He said 'it takes two to tango,' that is, one can't dance by himself, in which case those who conduct desert-bound, ocean-infested pilgrimage ought to know what lies ahead.

But when it comes to their being bombed, virtually like shooting an unarmed person point blank, no excuses can be offered, as their migration troubles were already enough for anyone to add targeted killing to make a point in the drive to capture the Libyan capital. A senior official of the United Nations Secretariat in New York said the bombing was intentional because the UN had given detailed coordinates of the camp to the warring parties. Again there was sabre-rattling between Gen. Haftar and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, with the Libyan warlord threatening to bomb airports to stop Turkish supplies to the UN-backed government in Tripoli, while Gen. Haftar has support in Egypt and the Gulf.

The war of attrition in Libya has no end in sight, and since the camp was located near high profile military targets, the United Nations Security Council failed to reach a statement on the matter, as Gen. Haftar maintains



Emergency workers recovering bodies after an air strike on Tajoura detention centre, east of Tripoli, where mainly African migrants were held

it is these facilities that were targeted. But the fact that guards were shooting those who were running for safety shows another side of that event, but it couldn't raise sufficient consensus in the Security Council for a formal condemnation to be issued. Africa though did not need such a resolution to be sure of what happened, as the behavior of the guards was enough, apart from precise UN coordinates.

What the UN said was that the presence of military targets in the neighbourhood wasn't enough reason to have bombed the camp, and indeed two bombs were placed, which more or less rules out accidental firing or error in targeting. It would thus appear that the camp was bombed to remove excuses for maintaining normal operations on the roads, airports and other means of communication, which serves to upscale the warlord's Tripoli campaign. For Africans it was an assault on human dignity, as African governments and civil societies can't meaningfully separate themselves from the lot of the migrants. Their perilous journey underlines the degree of desperation in the continent and faulty pursuit of a better life, into a nightmare.

What happened in Tripoli is a

reminder of the centuries long denigration of Africans, in the sense of black people living essentially in Africa south of the Sahara, that they were treated in a dignified manner for long periods of history, from ancient Egypt to the 16th century. At that time the slave trade started, so attitudes shifted as Europeans learned that Canaan would be the slave of all his brothers. It is inferiority.

This attitude that Africans are an inferior race has held sway in most of Europe, Asia and the Near East for as long as imperial history has existed, and it is being plainly lived with waves of migrants looking for a better life in Europe and North America. Anti-immigration groups in Europe are ready for migrants with a European culture whose foundation is Christianity, but many other groups have a concept of migration that isn't religious but racist. So, Ethiopian Jews are being harshly treated in Israel as Jewish society does not want their presence there, and the police are making no secret of relishing harming Falasha migrants.

In the United States there was a craze of killing young black men suspected of the filsiest of criminal conduct, that a policeman is happier shooting a black

suspect than in arresting him. A mass protest ensued under the banner 'Black Lives Matter,' and as white superiority or allied sentiments took office in the wake of the 2016 general elections, the killing of young black men appears to have died down. To wit, gun slingers are happier with how America looks like, compared to the time of President Barack Obama.

In Libya there is a sort of reverse of experience, as the legendary Libyan leader Col. Muammar Gaddafi was a sort of paramount chief in the whole of Black Africa, fomenting wars and changing leaders in countries near to Libya, where Chad was especially vulnerable to Gaddafi's strategies. He rivaled the French for spheres of influence and recruited soldiers from many countries to join revolutionary guard groups around him, and these groups have been pivotal in the chaos in Libya since 2011. Gen. Haftar represents a sort of resurgent Libyan nationalism that wishes to do away with various sorts of influences, the migration of black people failing to reach European shores being one area of change they want. It is a neo-fascist clean up to remove what they see as a weak UN-backed government, for zealous dictatorship.

In the name of the father, the son and football

By Kangsen Feka Wakai

In a season full of football, a writer pens a belated Father's Day letter to the man with whom he shared memories over the beautiful game. This article is part of "In the name of the beautiful game", a series of articles on football and how it intersects with all aspects of our lives.

Father, Last week was Father's Day in America. Yesterday was my 41st birthday. I didn't wake up longing for the unfinished conversations we shared, in my childhood during our Saturday morning drives across Yaoundé. I remember conversations we had exploring your brand new IBM desktop in your second floor office overlooking Commercial Avenue in Bamenda, trying to make sense of bits, bytes and disk operating systems. I remember how almost a decade ago in Chicago, we stayed up until dawn talking in my brother's living room, trading living abroad battle stories; we talked about the cold greyness of your London student days against the sweltering Houston of my undergrad years. We talked Cameroonian history, Barack Obama, African youth, Francafrrique, American pop culture, Albert Mukong and Mongo Beti.

This summer's football-packed so I woke up with you and the game in mind. I woke up with memories of the joyful screams that erupted in our living room in GRA-Bamenda when Ernest Lottin Ebongué scored that 84th minute goal in Cameroon's 3-1 victory against Nigeria in the 1984 African Nations Cup at the Stade Félix Houphouët-Boigny in Abidjan. I remember the penalty shoot-out loss to the Pharaohs of Egypt in 1986 that silenced the house in Nsam, Yaoundé. Honestly, it is impossible to forget the image of you moving in your seat, chin cupped in your right hand, as we watched Roger Milla run towards Colombia's Higuita, dispossess him of the ball, pass it between the keeper's legs, dash around him and kick it slowly into the opponent's net, propelling Cameroon to the quarter finals of the 1990 World Cup.

Today, you were with me as I ambled to the kitchen to break my overnight coffee fast. You stood beside me as I brushed my teeth, swallowed the day's supplements, and took my first sip of the day. I imagined you watching me as I reached for my phone to find tweets with predictions about Holland's match against Cameroon's Indomitable Lionesses in the ongoing Women's World Cup in France. I felt you watching me as I smiled to myself remembering the time you mocked my football abilities even though you had never seen me play - but somehow you saw through me. I was not a football player.

I had just woken up late in the afternoon, after a night out in the town during the long mid-year school break. My mother had travelled out of town, and you hadn't seen me in two days. I was heading for the kitchen, when we met in the TV room. You were walking out of your bedroom after your afternoon siesta. I believe you were going back to the office like you often did.

"Papa," I greeted you. You forced a smile. "We haven't had lunch together in two days. Are you just waking up?"

"Hmmm," I mumbled. The sharp sound of a whistle from distance landed between us. Smiling mockingly, you shook your head, and shot me a pitiful glare. "Kang, do you hear that? Your friends are getting ready to play football and here you are just getting up from bed. What is with this staying out late? Why don't you play something? Anything."

"Papa, you know I play table tennis." You laughed drily. "Kang, I am talking about football. Despite all the balls we've bought for you over the years, what position can you really play? Papa buy me a ball. Mammy, buy me a ball. Ball after ball. Can you even kick a ball?"

I stood listening, amused and surprised at your sudden interest in my athletic abilities. You had never spoken of yourself playing the game nor showed any particular interest in my siblings and my athletic ambitions - even though you didn't discourage them either. After all, didn't you drive through the torrents of the rainy season to pick me up from my karate classes? Speechless, I watched you



In a season full of football, a writer pens a belated Father's Day letter to the man with whom he shared memories over the beautiful game.

grab your brown leather briefcase and leave for work. Before I could tell you how if you had asked my secondary school classmates, the objective ones would have said I was a good goalie, or at least had the potential to be a really good goalie if I practiced.

At times I want to believe that your comments that afternoon might have subconsciously prompted me a year or so later, when I returned to CPC Bali for high school, to use my "Bali old boy" card and talk my way to being named O'Neil House's goalie against Ashili House in that year's inter-house competition. Now, while O'Neil House boasted of at least three players who had school team potential, our opponents featured players who were not only starters for the school's team but were amongst the best in the position in their region of residence; players so good they highlighted in semi-professional leagues during long mid-year holidays.

Leading up to kickoff, I remember my legs shaking, cheering voices, clusters of people encircling the field, and my heart pounding against my chest. I knew deep within I wasn't the Thomas N'kono of my fantasies. I stretched and jogged around the penalty box. Soon both teams were standing in position. I did my best to control my breathing. I failed at every attempt. I twisted my neck, jumped from the same spot, and kicked big pebbles away. Next, I zoomed in on my second cousin, a dexterous midfielder warming up with the school's undisputed leading fullback. I caught the new high school student, a left winger whose reputation for speed and waist-twisting footwork had preceded the game - the opener in the series - warming up.

I do not remember hearing the kick-off whistle. But I remember our opponents having the first touch of the ball, passing it amongst themselves on their half of the field, and then lobbing it to the waiting feet of my attacking midfielder cousin who wiggled his way past two of our defending players in the central spot, inching closer and closer towards my penalty box before being swiftly tackled by a defender, resulting in a free-kick. Ashili House fans exploded with joy.

I lined up my defensive wall and waited for the referee's signal. I remember fixing my gaze on the kicker, hearing the whistle, and moments later saw what looked like a projectile heading for my face. "Goal!" The crowd erupted in cheers and jeers. My team captain, a friend who against the wishes of a handful of players had designated me starting goalie, looked deflated. Moments later, we lost possession of the ball in an all-out offensive to Ashili house who counter-attacked, leaving me facing a player nicknamed "Yeboah", the school's star striker in a one-on-one. It resulted in their second goal in under five minutes. I begged to be replaced. No one objected. I walked off the pitch thinking how I had often imagined my biggest and last game ending differently.

Following my memorable performance - ball dodging and all - I spent the next week repressing my rage from the mockery and laughter, which trailed me, as I wandered across campus. As you can only imagine, Bali College does not forgive a goalie who concedes two goals within the first five minutes of a game - especially in the manner that I did.

Well, even if I tried and honestly I wouldn't, I couldn't recall the final score of that game but I remember O'Neil House losing by a wide margin. I don't remember how they fared during the rest of the competition, but I remember them not ever performing as badly as they did with me in the goalpost. I don't remember why I didn't tell of this game, but it is not often that Father's Day falls on a football packed summer.

Happy Father's Day.

The United States of America (USA), commonly known as the United States (U.S. or US) or America, is a country comprising 50 states, a federal district, five major self-governing territories, and various possessions. With a population of over 327 million people, the U.S. is the third most populous country. The capital is Washington, D.C., and the most populous city is New York City. Forty-eight states and the capital's federal district are contiguous in North America between Canada and Mexico. The State of Alaska is in the northwest corner of North America, bordered by Canada to the east and across the Bering Strait from Russia to the west. The State of Hawaii is an archipelago in the mid-Pacific Ocean. The U.S. territories are scattered about the Pacific Ocean and the Caribbean Sea, stretching across nine official time zones. The extremely diverse geography, climate, and wildlife of the United States make it one of the world's 17 megadiverse countries.

Paleo-Indians migrated from Siberia to the North American mainland at least 12,000 years ago. European colonization began in the 16th century. The United States emerged from the thirteen British colonies established along the East Coast. Following the French and Indian War, numerous disputes between Great Britain and the colonies led to the American Revolution, which began in 1775, and the subsequent Declaration of Independence in 1776. The war ended in 1783 with the United States becoming the first country to gain independence from a European power. The current constitution was adopted in 1788, with the first ten amendments, collectively named the Bill of Rights, being ratified in 1791 to guarantee many fundamental civil liberties. The United States embarked on a vigorous expansion across North America throughout the 19th century, acquiring new territories, displacing Native American tribes, and gradually admitting new states until it spanned the continent by 1848.

During the second half of the 19th

century, the Civil War led to the abolition of slavery. By the end of the century, the United States had extended into the Pacific Ocean, and its economy, driven in large part by the Industrial Revolution, began to soar. The Spanish-American War and World War I confirmed the country's status as a global military power. The United States emerged from World War II as a global superpower, the first country to develop nuclear weapons, the only country to use them in warfare, and a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. Sweeping civil rights legislation, notably the Civil Rights Act of 1964, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 and the Fair Housing Act of 1968, outlawed discrimination based on race or color. During the Cold War, the United States and the Soviet Union competed in the Space Race, culminating with the 1969 U.S. Moon landing. The end of the Cold War and the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 left the United States as the world's sole superpower.

The United States is the world's oldest surviving federation. It is a federal republic and a representative democracy. The United States is a founding member of the United Nations, World Bank, International Monetary Fund, Organization of American States (OAS), and other international organizations. The United States is a highly developed country, with the world's largest economy by nominal GDP and second-largest economy by PPP, accounting for approximately a quarter of global GDP. The U.S. economy is largely post-industrial, characterized by the dominance of services and knowledge-based activities, although the manufacturing sector remains the second-largest in the world. The United States is the world's largest importer and the second largest exporter of goods, by value. Although its population is only 4.3 pc of the world total, the U.S. holds 31 pc of the total wealth in the world, the largest share of global wealth concentrated in a single country.

Despite income and wealth disparities, the United States continues to rank very high in measures of socioeconomic performance, including average wage, human development, per capita GDP, and worker productivity. The United States is the foremost military power in the world, making up a third of global military spending,[38] and is a leading political, cultural, and scientific force internationally.

In 1507, the German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller produced a world map on which he named the lands of the Western Hemisphere America in honour of the Italian explorer and cartographer Amerigo Vespucci (Latin: Americus Vespucius). The first documentary evidence of the phrase "United States of America" is from a letter dated January 2, 1776, written by Stephen Moylan, Esq., to George Washington's aide-de-camp and Muster-Master General of the

Continental Army, Lt. Col. Joseph Reed. Moylan expressed his wish to go "with full and ample powers from the United States of America to Spain" to seek assistance in the revolutionary war effort. The first known publication of the phrase "United States of America" was in an anonymous essay in The Virginia Gazette newspaper in Williamsburg, Virginia, on April 6, 1776.

The second draft of the Articles of Confederation, prepared by John Dickinson and completed by June 17, 1776, at the latest, declared "The name of this Confederacy shall be the 'United States of America'". The final version of the Articles sent to the states for ratification in late 1777 contains the sentence "The Stile of this Confederacy shall be 'The United States of America'". In June 1776, Thomas Jefferson wrote the phrase "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" in all capitalized letters in the headline of his "original Rough draught" of the Declaration of Independence. This draft of the document did not surface until June 21, 1776, and it is unclear whether it was written before or after Dickinson used the term in his June 17 draft of the Articles of Confederation.

The short form "United States" is also standard. Other common forms are the "U.S.", the "USA", and "America". Colloquial names are the "U.S. of A." and, internationally, the "States". "Columbia", a name popular in poetry and songs of the late 18th century, derives its origin from Christopher Columbus; it appears in the name "District of Columbia", many landmarks and institutions in the Western Hemisphere bear his name, including the country of Colombia.

The phrase "United States" was originally plural, a description of a collection of independent states—e.g., "the United States are"—including in the Thirteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, ratified in 1865. The singular form—e.g., "the United States is"—became popular after the end of the American Civil War. The singular form is now standard; the plural form is retained in the idiom "these United States". The difference is more significant than usage; it is a difference between a collection of states and a unit.[50]

A citizen of the United States is an "American". "United States", "American" and "U.S." refer to the country adjectivally ("American values", "U.S. forces"). In English, the word "American" rarely refers to topics or subjects not directly connected with the United States.

History

Over time, indigenous cultures in North America grew increasingly complex, and some, such as the pre-Columbian Mississippian culture in the southeast, developed advanced agriculture, grand architecture, and state-level societies. The Mississippian culture flourished in the south from 800 to 1600 AD, extending from the Mexican border down through Florida. Its city state Cahokia is considered the largest, most complex pre-Columbian archaeological site in the modern-day United States. In the Four Corners region, Ancestral Puebloans culture developed as the culmination of centuries of agricultural experimentation, which produced greater dependence on farming. Three UNESCO World Heritage Sites in the United States are credited to the Pueblos: Mesa Verde National Park, Chaco Culture National Historical Park, and Taos Pueblo. The earthworks constructed by Native Americans of the Poverty Point culture in northeastern Louisiana have also been designated a UNESCO World Heritage site. In the southern Great Lakes region, the Iroquois Confederacy (Haudenosaunee) was established at some point between the twelfth and fifteenth centuries.

The date of the first settlements of the Hawaiian Islands is a topic of continuing debate.[66] Archaeological evidence seems to indicate a settlement as early as 124 AD.

While estimating the original native population of North America at the time of European contact is difficult, an attempt was made in the early part of the twentieth century by James Mooney using historic records to estimate the indigenous population north of Mexico in 1600. In more recent years, Douglas H. Ubelaker of the Smithsonian Institution has updated these figures. While Ubelaker estimated that there was a population of 92,916 in the south Atlantic states and a population of 473,616 in the Gulf states, most academics regard the figure as too low. Anthropologist Henry F. Dobyns believed that the populations were much higher, suggestion 1,100,000 along the shores of the gulf of Mexico, 2,211,000 people living between Florida and Massachusetts, 5,250,000 in the Mississippi Valley and tributaries and 697,000 people in the Florida peninsula.

The first interaction between Europeans and Native Americans was made by the Norsemen. A number of surviving Norse sagas provide information regarding The Maritimes and its indigenous people. The Norse attempted to settle in North America about 500 years before Columbus.

In the early days of colonization, many European settlers were subject to food shortages, disease, and attacks from Native Americans. Native Americans were also often at war with neighboring tribes and allied with Europeans in their colonial wars.

At the same time, however, many natives and settlers came to depend on each other. Settlers traded for food and animal pelts, natives for guns, ammunition and other European wares. Natives taught many settlers where, when and how to cultivate corn, beans, and squash. European missionaries and others felt it was important to "civilize" the Native Americans and urged them to adopt European agricultural techniques and lifestyles.

European settlements

With the advancement of European colonization in the territories of the contemporary United States, the Native Americans were often conquered and displaced. The first Europeans to arrive in the territory of the modern United States were Spanish conquistadors such as Juan Ponce de León, who made his first visit to Florida in 1513; however, if unincorporated territories are accounted for, then credit would go to Christopher Columbus who landed in Puerto Rico on his 1493 voyage. The Spanish set up the first settlements in Florida and New Mexico such as Saint Augustine and Santa Fe.

Dar es Salaam port stakeholders identify key gaps and opportunities in management system

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

PORT stakeholders met in Dar es Salaam recently to identify key gaps and opportunities in the port management system especially in detection and interception of illegal wildlife activities.

During the meeting which was attended by a wide range of stakeholders including representatives from the government, private sector, law enforcement agencies, national and intergovernmental organizations, participants laid out a plans of action to address illegal wildlife activities.

It was organized by TRAFFIC, a wildlife trade monitoring network, UNDP and United Nations Office on Drugs (UNODC) in partnership with the wildlife division in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) and Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA).

Assistant Director of Anti-

Poaching from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, Robert Mande emphasized: "Wildlife trafficking is one such crime that can only be effectively fought through inter-agency collaboration. Collaboration becomes even more critical when considering the existing network of illegal wildlife dealers worldwide".

Mande added: It is only through collaboration in sharing of intelligence, exchange of operational techniques, sharing of modus operandi used by poachers and traffickers, that we can truly build a united front against them".

Abel Uronu, Executive Secretary of the Tanzania Shipping Agent Association (TASAA) highlighted that shipping carriers are vulnerable to exploitation by wildlife traffickers to move illicit products out of Tanzania.

He said "Workshops like this one allow us to appreciate

the importance of information sharing with the government agencies to increase the awareness of our sector".

In his welcoming remarks, Deputy Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Qamdiyay Akonaay said "This workshop has come at the right time as Illegal Wildlife Trade has become a critical problem to many Governments in the World. The threat of extinction and reduction of various species is a challenge that calls for a collective effort to combat."

UNDP Resident Representative in Tanzania, Verity Nyagah said: "Biodiversity is very critical for the survival of mankind, worldwide there is great concern on illegal wildlife trade. As the implementing agency of the Global Wildlife Program national project in Tanzania, UNDP is applying an integrated approach that aims to combat poaching and the illicit wildlife trade of threatened species in Tanzania. We are



Vice President, Samia Suluhu Hassan hands over a trophy to Tigo zonal director Coast region Joseph Mutalemwa, for being the main sponsors - communication category of the 43rd Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair taking place in Dar es Salaam. Flanking the Vice President on her right is Minister for Trade and Industries Innocent Bashugwa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

here to support the government and other stakeholders in addressing this concern".

About 95 percent of the country's international trade is handled by the port of Dar es Salaam.

In recent years, Tanzanian ports have been on the front lines of large-scale illegal wild-

life seizures, intercepting shipments of ivory, leopard skins, and shark fins, among other commonly-traded wildlife products.

Over 10,000 unique pieces of ivory, cumulatively weighing more than 20.5 tonnes, were seized at Tanzanian seaports between 2009 and 2018.

Support to the maritime transport sector is a key intervention in the fight against the illegal trade in wild animals and plants. Tanzania is a biodiversity hotspot with reliable and efficient international transport chains - these factors make Tanzania's seaports highly vulnerable to illegal wildlife trade.

Stakeholders appeal for more efforts to ensure genuine solar energy products

By Guardian Reporter

DESPITE the government's various initiatives to support renewable energy, stakeholders have appealed for more efforts to create effective oversight of the market and ensure availability of genuine solar energy products.

A statement issued yesterday by Mobisol Tanzania recommends for the government to go a level higher in looking at the

quality of solar energy products available in the market

"Solar energy is one of the easiest to tap and convert, and as service providers we strongly recommend that solar adaptation should be advocated for and implemented by all stakeholders", read part of the statement.

The company called on Tanzanians to start thinking positively about the long-term benefits of solar energy since a lot of coun-

tries have realised its potential and are going green by discarding traditional power sources like coal which leads to environmental destruction burden.

"We have made solar energy solutions that go beyond the need for lighting. We have products that cater for a whole range of domestic needs. Products that are better substitutes to the traditional energy sources that can be used in the absence of electricity like kerosene and candles", the statement reads.

These robust, high-quality product categories offer above medium solar power, which cater for all essential needs that a consumer would want to satisfy at the typical home in Tanzania.

The systems can be used for lighting, running television sets, refrigerators. In the near future, we have earmarked to field an even wider range of products with bigger capacities, which at present are at the development stage. Mobisol is permanent off-grid solar power

development partner in Tanzania committed to making long-term investments in expanding access to solar energy in the country.

It is dedicated to rolling out solar energy services to every part of Tanzania is manifested by the fact that we have chosen to extend our operations into predominantly off-grid areas, where income is seasonal and payments are erratic.

Tanzania has potential for solar energy given that it is located tropics, where it gets maximum solar

power for most of the year.

The statement read: "We would like to assure solar energy consumers, both existing and new, that we are here to stay in Tanzania, because we realize that solar energy is not a temporary or transitional solution opted for as one awaits connection to the mainstream power grid".

Mobisol solar power solution packages is paid on installment where consumers don't pay for the utility they get, they merely

pay for the appliances, because the solar energy converted and used by the appliances is tapped free from the sun.

Solar energy appliances are now part and parcel of the energy solution mix for every home. With domestic energy deficit crisis fast becoming concern households, solar energy is a big opportunity that Tanzanians should think about when looking for renewable energy.

Massive displacement in eastern DR Congo poses health hazard

By Lisa Schlein

The International Organization for Migration warns massive displacement from renewed inter-ethnic fighting in DR Congo's Ebola-affected Ituri province poses a serious health hazard.

At least 160 people were killed during renewed clashes early last month between Lendu farmers and Hema herders in Ituri province.

UN agencies report the violence has displaced hundreds of thousands of people and sent more than 7,500 refugees fleeing for their lives into neighboring Uganda.

The International Organization for Migration reports people who have fled the frontline of the conflict are living in abysmal conditions that create a fertile ground for the spread of disease, most worryingly Ebola.

The latest World Health Organization figures put the number of Ebola cases at 2,382, including 1,606 deaths. The bulk of these cases and deaths are in conflict-ridden North Kivu province, about 10 percent are in Ituri.

The inter-communal fighting has displaced an estimated 400,000 people. IOM spokesman, Joel Millman, says his agency manages 12 displacement sites in Ituri's Djugu Territory. Thousands of people unable to cram into these overcrowded camps, he says, are sheltering in spontaneous sites.

"Poor hygiene conditions in displacement sites severely increase the risk that Ebola, as well as cholera, measles and acute respiratory diseases, will spread," Millman said adding "Many of these people are seeking assistance in Ebola-affected Bunia, where the displacement site officially

called "General Hospital Site" has received more than 5,000 new Internally Displaced Persons, increasing the site's population to 10,000 or twice its capacity."

Millman says plans are underway to relocate many of the IDPs to a new improved settlement on land owned by Bunia's Catholic Diocese.

He says IOM also is reinforcing its Ebola surveillance and disease prevention activities at Ituri's Points of Entry at International borders. Measures include hand washing, hygiene promotion, and screening travelers for possible Ebola infections.

On June 11, the first case of Ebola spread across the border from DRC to Uganda. A five-year old boy and his grandmother subsequently died from the deadly virus.

Millman says IOM is working to reduce disease transmission to new areas and across borders by expanding its preparedness measures to include Uganda, South Sudan and Burundi.



Poor hygiene conditions in displacement sites severely increase the risk that Ebola, as well as cholera, measles and acute respiratory diseases, will spread."



Mobisol marketing officer, Farid Abdallah (R) explains how solar powered television set works to Tanzania's Former Prime Minister Mizengo Peter Pinda (C) at the 43rd Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair. Left is Tantrade director, Edwin Rutageruka. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Japanese online vehicle importation firm opens branch in Dar, youth employment

By Guardian Reporter

THE country's good business and investment climate including improvement of infrastructures has attracted a Japanese firm-Nikko Company Limited to open a branch in Dar es Salaam.

The company that deals with online vehicle importation is determined to provide quality services to Tanzanians as the country moves towards becoming middle sized income nation by 2025.

Speaking at the official launch of their services in Tanzania, the firm's executive director, Leon Sera said the company has been in business since 1995, and that it operates in almost all the countries around the globe.

"We decided to come to Tanzania after we were impressed with the good business and investment environment. The government of Tanzania has put in place good road infrastructures which are good for our customers", said Sera noting their investments are geared to help make

Tanzania an industrialized country.

He added: "We have the best vehicles that suite the Tanzanian market"

According to him, Tanzania enjoys peace and tranquility which makes it one of the best places for investment. He said Tanzania interested to buy vehicles can search the cars of their choice and let the company continue with other logistics to ensure it reaches the customer.

The company also operates in other African countries including Kenya, Democratic Republic of Congo and

Uganda.

The firm's resident director, Pili Mku-funzi said that apart from providing services to Tanzanians, the company will provide jobs to youth.

He said the company is taking part in the ongoing 43rd Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair (DITF) along Kilwa road where a number of Tanzanian young people have secured jobs.

Nikko Co Ltd, marketing director, Abbas Ally said the company has a car yard with the capacity to accommodate 2000 vehicles.

A new cold war in Africa

By Mehari Taddele Maru

LAST week, the 12th US-Africa Business Summit, a high-level event attended by 11 African heads of state and government and some 1,000 business leaders, was held in Maputo, Mozambique. During the three-day event, US officials unveiled a USD 60 billion investment agency which will seek to invest in low and middle-income countries, with a special focus on Africa.

The announcement came six months after National Security Advisor John Bolton presented the Trump administration's "New Africa Strategy". According to the document: "Great power competitors, namely China and Russia, are rapidly expanding their financial and political influence across Africa. They are deliberately and aggressively targeting their investments in the region to gain a competitive advantage over the United States."

Although both China and Russia are mentioned, over the past few months, the US has demonstrated that it is mainly concerned about the former. In fact, it already appears that Africa is set to become yet another battleground for the escalating trade war between Beijing and Washington.

With increasing foreign military presence and growing diplomatic tensions, the continent is already witnessing the first signs of an emerging new cold war. And just like the previous one devastated Africa, fueling wars and forcing African governments to make economic choices not in their best interests, this one will also be detrimental to African development and peace.

Economic war

China's approach to Africa has always been trade oriented. The continent became one of the top destinations for Chinese investment after Beijing introduced the so-called "Go Out" policy in 1999 which encouraged private and state-owned business to seek economic opportunities abroad.

As a result, Chinese trade with Africa has increased 40-fold over the past two decades; in 2017, it stood at USD 140 billion. Between 2003 and 2017, Chinese foreign directed investment (FDI) flows have also jumped more close to 60-fold to USD four billion a year; FDI stocks stand at USD 43 billion - a significant part of which has gone to infrastructure and energy projects.

China has significantly expanded African railways, investing in various projects in Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti, Angola and Nigeria; it is currently building a massive hydropower plant in Angola and have built Africa's longest railway connecting Ethiopia and Djibouti; it has built the headquarters of the African Union in Addis Ababa and the West African regional bloc ECOWAS in Abuja.

By contrast, for a long time the US has viewed Africa as a battlefield where it can confront its enemies, whether the Soviets during the Cold War, terrorists after 9/11 or now the Chinese. Washington has never really made a concerted effort to develop its economic relations with the continent.

As a result, trade between the US and Africa has decreased from USD 120 billion in 2012 to just over USD 50 billion today. US FDI flows have also slumped from USD 9.4 billion in 2009 to around USD 330 million in 2017. The new USD 60 billion investment fund announced last week is a welcome initiative from the US but it will not be able to challenge Chinese economic presence on the continent. Just last year Chinese President Xi Jinping pledged USD 60 billion too but dedicated it solely to investment in Africa.

The US has repeatedly accused China of using "debt to hold states in Africa captive to [its] wishes and demands" and has warned African states to avoid Chinese "debt diplomacy" which is supposedly incompatible with the independence of African nations and civil society and poses "a significant threat to US national security interests".

Yet, Africa is only the fourth-biggest recipient of Chinese FDI after Europe (mainly Germany, UK and Netherlands), the Americas (mainly the US and Canada), and Asia. The US has also borrowed heavily from China; currently its debt to its rival stands at USD 1.12 trillion. By contrast, Africa owes China around USD 83 billion.

Africans are fully aware of and concerned about high indebtedness, trade imbalances, the relatively poor quality

of Chinese goods and services and Beijing's application of lower standards of labor and environmental practices. But many do not share the American perspective that their economic relationship with China is to their detriment and rather see it as an opportunity that provides much-needed unconditional funding and that takes into account local priorities.

As Djibouti's President Ismail Omar Guelleh has pointed out, "The reality is that no one but the Chinese offers a long-term partnership."

The pressure the US is currently exerting on African countries to move away from partnerships with China could hurt African economies. It could force African countries into making choices that are not in their best economic interests and miss out on important development projects or funding.

Meanwhile, the US-China trade war is already affecting the continent. According to the African Development Bank, it could cause as much as a 2.5 percent decrease in GDP for resource-intensive African economies and a 1.9 percent dip for oil-exporting countries.

Militarization

The escalating tensions between the US and China could also end up threatening the security of the continent. Both countries are militarily involved in Africa.

Over the past 15 years, the Chinese People's Liberation Army has been engaged in a number of security missions across the continent, making modest auxiliary troop contributions to peacekeeping operations in Sudan, South Sudan, Liberia, Mali and the Democratic Republic of Congo. It has also contributed millions of dollars of peacekeeping equipment to the African Union Mission in Somalia and provided significant funding to the Intergovernmental Authority on Development for its mediation in South Sudan.

In 2017, the first Chinese overseas military base was opened in Djibouti. The facility, which currently hosts some 400 staff and troops, and has the capacity to accommodate 10,000, is officially supposed to provide support for the ongoing anti-piracy operations of the Chinese navy, but it also plays a role in securing maritime routes, part of the Belt and Road Initiative. There has also been speculation that this is the first of a number of planned bases meant to secure Chinese interests in Africa.

China's military presence in Africa, however, pales in comparison to that of the US. Over the past few years, US Africa Command has run some 36 different military operations in 13 African countries, including Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Somalia, South Sudan and Tunisia. It has more than 7,000 troops deployed on the continent.

It has a large base in Djibouti - the biggest and only permanent US military base in Africa - but it also runs at least 34 other military outposts scattered across the west, east and north of the continent where US troops are deployed and military operations (including drone attacks) are launched from.

The US also directly supports the armies of Egypt, Nigeria, Ethiopia, Mali, Niger and others as well as the G5 Sahel force tasked with counterterrorism.

While a direct confrontation between US and Chinese forces in Africa is unlikely, their growing presence is becoming an increasingly destabilizing factor. Already Washington's strategy to contain Chinese influence over Africa is playing out at different conflict and social upheaval hotspots across the continent. The fallout of the US-China competition is particularly apparent in the strategic Red Sea region, through which passes one of the most important maritime routes.

Countries in the region are not only feeling growing US and Chinese pressure to take one side or the other, but are also increasingly exposed to outside interference by various regional powers.

Growing regional tensions

Djibouti has recently found itself at the center of US-China diplomatic confrontation. Being a host to military bases of both superpowers, the small country has had to play a difficult balancing game.

In 2018, Djibouti seized control of its Doraleh Container Terminal from



South Sudan's President Salva Kiir, right, with then-Chinese President Hu Jintao in Beijing in 2012

the Emirati company DP World, claiming its operation of the facility was threatening its sovereignty. The Djibouti authorities had feared that the UAE's investment in the nearby Port of Berbera in the autonomous Somali region of Somaliland could challenge its position as the main maritime hub for Ethiopia's large economy.

Its decision to terminate the contract with DP World, however, triggered a sharp reaction from Washington, a close Emirati ally. The Trump administration fears that Djibouti could hand over control of the terminal to China.

Bolton has warned: "Should this occur, the balance of power in the Horn of Africa - astride major arteries of maritime trade between Europe, the Middle East, and South Asia - would shift in favor of China. And, our US military personnel at Camp Lemonnier could face even further challenges in their efforts to protect the American people."

Djibouti was forced to declare publicly that it would not allow China to take over the terminal but that has not assuaged US fears. Ever since, the US sought to secure a possible alternative location for its African military base: neighboring Eritrea.

It encouraged regional actors, including Saudi Arabia and the UAE, to pull Eritrea out of its decades-long isolation. In a matter of months, long-time enemies Ethiopia and Eritrea concluded a peace agreement to end their 20-year-old cold conflict, while the UN lifted sanctions on Asmara. As a result, Eritrea could emerge as a strategic rival to Djibouti, offering its coast for foreign military and economic facilities. The UAE, for example, has already set up a military base near the port of Assab.

Sudan, to the north, has also been the battleground of the ongoing superpower turf war. China had been a long-term supporter of President Omar al-Bashir. Under his rule, Beijing came to dominate its oil industry, buying some 80 percent of its oil and thus providing Khartoum with much-needed cash to wage war against various rebel groups. It was also one of the few countries, along with Russia, that would break the UN arms embargo and sell weapons to al-Bashir's regime.

After South Sudan gained independence in 2011, China continued to be a close partner of the Sudanese regime, remaining its main trading partner. Sudan in fact became the biggest beneficiary of the USD 60 billion Africa investment package China pledged in 2018, having some USD 10 billion in Chinese debt written off. The Chinese government also made a lot of plans to develop facilities in Port Sudan, where it already operates an oil terminal.

Qatar and Turkey also signed deals with al-Bashir for various facilities in the port city.

When mass protests erupted in December last year, Beijing stood by al-Bashir, who it saw as the main guarantor of stability in the country, which falls on strategic routes, part of its Belt and Road Initiative.

Meanwhile, the US had repeatedly demonstrated that it did not want al-Bashir running for another term. His removal was approved in Washington, which has since appeared to back the interests of Saudi Arabia and the UAE in the country.

The two Gulf states currently hope to install another strongman sympathetic to their regional politics, who would maintain Sudan's participation in the war in Yemen and curb Turkish and Qatari influence. At this point, it seems China is at risk of being sidelined by the significant sway the UAE and Saudi Arabia have with Sudan's Transitional Military Council (TMC).

Apart from Djibouti and Sudan, various other countries in the region have felt the consequences of the US bid to contain China. This political confrontation has also added to the already rising tensions between other players in the region, including Egypt, Gulf countries, Iran and Turkey.

The Trump administration has particularly favored Emirati, Saudi and Egyptian interests which have emboldened these three countries in their efforts to shape regional dynamics to their advantage.

Thus, in the long-term, given the pre-existing fault-lines and conflicts in the region, the US-China cold war could have a detrimental effect, not only on its economy but also on its security.

At this point, to preserve its interests and its peace, Africa has only one option: to reject pressures to swear allegiance to either of the two powers. African countries should uphold their sovereignty in policy and decision-making and pursue the course that is in the best interests of their nations.

If the US wants to compete with China on the continent, it should do so in good faith. It can gain a competitive advantage by offering African countries better, more credible and principled alternatives to those put forward by China. But that can only happen if the US develops a strategy that focuses on Africa itself, not on containing and undermining the business of a third party.

Africa is the world's second largest and second most-populous continent, being behind Asia in both categories. At about 30.3 million km² (11.7 million square miles) including adjacent islands, it covers 6 per cent

of Earth's total surface area and 20 per cent of its land area. With 1.2 billion people as of 2016, it accounts for about 16 per cent of the world's human population. The continent is surrounded by the Mediterranean Sea to the north, the Isthmus of Suez and the Red Sea to the northeast, the Indian Ocean to the southeast and the Atlantic Ocean to the west. The continent includes Madagascar and various archipelagos. It contains 54 fully recognised sovereign states (countries), nine territories and two de facto independent states with limited or no recognition. The majority of the continent and its countries are in the Northern Hemisphere, with a substantial portion and number of countries in the Southern Hemisphere.

Africa's average population is the youngest amongst all the continents; the median age in 2012 was 19.7, when the world-wide median age was 30.4. Algeria is Africa's largest country by area, and Nigeria is its largest by population. Africa, particularly central Eastern Africa, is widely accepted as the place of origin of humans and the Hominidae clade (great apes), as evidenced by the discovery of the earliest hominids and their ancestors as well as later ones that have been dated to around 7 million years ago, including Sahelanthropus tchadensis, Australopithecus africanus, A. afarensis, Homo erectus, H. habilis and H. ergaster—the earliest Homo sapiens (modern human), found in Ethiopia, date to circa 200,000 years ago.[8] Africa straddles the equator and encompasses numerous climate areas; it is the only continent to stretch from the northern temperate to southern temperate zones.

Africa hosts a large diversity of ethnicities, cultures and languages. In the late 19th century, European countries colonised almost all of Africa; most present states in Africa originated from a process of decolonisation in the 20th century. African nations cooperate through the establishment of the African Union, which is headquartered in Addis Ababa.

Etymology
Afri was a Latin name used to refer to the inhabitants of then-known northern Africa to the west of the Nile river, and in its widest sense referred to all lands south of the Mediterranean (Ancient Libya). This name seems to have originally referred to a native Libyan tribe, an ancestor of modern Berbers; see Terence for discussion. The name had usually been connected with the Phoenician word *afar* meaning "dust", but a 1981 hypoth-

esis[13] has asserted that it stems from the Berber word *ifri* (plural *ifran*) meaning "cave", in reference to cave dwellers. The same word may be found in the name of the Banu Ifran from Algeria and Tripolitania, a Berber tribe originally from Yafran (also known as Ifrane) in northwestern Libya.

Under Roman rule, Carthage became the capital of the province it then named Africa Proconsularis, following its defeat of the Carthaginians in the Third Punic War in 146 BC, which also included the coastal part of modern Libya. The Latin suffix *-ica* can sometimes be used to denote a land (e.g., in *Celtica* from *Celtae*, as used by Julius Caesar). The later Muslim region of Ifriqiya, following its conquest of the Byzantine (Eastern Roman) Empire's Exarchatus Africae, also preserved a form of the name.

According to the Romans, Africa lay to the west of Egypt, while "Asia" was used to refer to Anatolia and lands to the east. A definite line was drawn between the two continents by the geographer Ptolemy (85-165 AD), indicating Alexandria along the Prime Meridian and making the isthmus of Suez and the Red Sea the boundary between Asia and Africa. As Europeans came to understand the real extent of the continent, the idea of "Africa" expanded with their knowledge.

Other etymological hypotheses have been postulated for the ancient name "Africa":

- The 1st-century Jewish historian Flavius Josephus (Ant. 1.15) asserted that it was named for Ephraim, grandson of Abraham according to Gen. 25:4, whose descendants, he claimed, had invaded Libya.

- Isidore of Seville in his 7th-century *Etymologiae* XIV.5.2, suggests "Africa comes from the Latin *aprica*, meaning "sunny".

- Massey, in 1881, stated that Africa is derived from the Egyptian *af-ri-ka*, meaning "to turn toward the opening of the Ka." The Ka is the energetic double of every person and the "opening of the Ka" refers to a womb or birthplace. Africa would be, for the Egyptians, "the birth-place." [17]

- Michèle Fruyt in 1976 proposed [18] linking the Latin word with *africus* "south wind", which would be of Umbrian origin and mean originally "rainy wind".

- Robert R. Stieglitz of Rutgers University in 1984 proposed: "The name Africa, derived from the Latin *Aphir-ic-a*, is cognate to Hebrew *Ophir*." [19]

- Ibn Khallikan and some other historians claim that the name of Africa came from a Himyarite king called Afrikan ibn Kais ibn Saifi also called "Afrikus son of Abrahah" who subdued Ifriqiya.

INVESTMENT

DCB Bank throws weight behind agribusiness to spur industrialisation

By Guardian Reporter

IN a bid to back the government's industrialization and middle income quest agenda by 2025, DCB Commercial Bank Plc has launched an ambitious product aimed at empowering agro-processing industries dubbed, 'DCB Sokoni.'

The product which offers lasting solutions to agribusiness players and manufacturers by supporting the value chain involving farmers, input traders and agro-processors allows value addition to commodities before entering the market.

Speaking in Mbozi district of Songwe region during the weekend of the launch of the product as a rice de-husking mill owned by Callington Kayuni, DCB Commercial Director, James Ngaluko said 'DCB Sokoni is a tailor made product targeting smallholder farmers and their value chain.

"This modern de-husking mill has been constructed with support from DCB Bank because we believe that the mill will play a big role in uplifting the economic welfare of rice farmers in this village and surrounding areas," said Ngaluko.

He said, among other things, the new loan scheme will enable farmers buy agriculture inputs, allow agro-processors like Kayuni add value to commodities after building the de-husking mill but also enable them buy and transport crops from farms to factories.

Ngaluko said the new product will also provide security through insurance of life, factory and stored products during the whole loan tenure, acquiring mortgage facility, purchasing of implements foreign exchange services for proceeds from agricultural products, and profitable investment of funds through DCB Lamba

kwanza product.

"By launching this special product, we shall enable both farmers and traders to execute a real turnaround in the economy and make agriculture and its entire value chain a dependable venture because through the DCB Bank we really add value to your products," the DCB Commercial Director added.

An official from Mbozi District Council who at-

tended the launch, Richard Mwailanga said at the leadership in the district supported efforts of various financial institutions including DCB Commercial Bank Plc in supporting industrialization and a move towards middle income status.

Mwailanga noted that agro-processing factories and mills will help both in boosting incomes of smallholder farmers hence enhancing positive economic growth.

"Most farmers in Mbozi are willing to take loans like their fellow Kayuni but some of them are scared due to the risk involved in case they fail to repay the loan in time," he stated while urging financial institutions which are dealing in agriculture to create products with soft packages in order to ensure that farmers can easily repay such loans.



Kayuni Rice De-husking Mill's Director and owner, Callington Kayuni (L) shows some processed rice to DCB Commercial Bank Plc's Commercial Director, James Ngaluko (R) and other stakeholders during the official inauguration of the mill which has been financed mainly by 'DCB Sokoni' in Mbozi district of Songwe region at the weekend. Photo: courtesy of DCB.

43RD DITF

NMB facilitates LGA's revenue collection with integrated solutions

By Guardian Reporter

THE headache of manual revenue collection by local government authorities (LGAs) has been eased by NMB Bank Plc's digital innovation that has simplified the payment process for all tax payers through its new platform.

The latest investment is a continuation of the bank's innovation aimed at easing the government's tax collection efforts with through the platform which is safe, cost effective and convenient both to collectors and payers.

This is an addition to over 180 LGAs which are already connected with NMB where the bank provides revenue collection services through its various channels including NMB Wakala, NMB Mobile, NMB KLIK, and Internet Banking and across its 229 NMB Branches countrywide.

NMB's Head of Government Business, Vicky Bishubo confirmed that both customers and non customers of the bank can make payments of tax, levies and fees through the bank's platforms.

The added councils are Ubungo, Ilala, Tembeke and Kigamboni Municipalities which can now use the platform to conveniently collect all taxes and levies whilst allowing local



NMB's Assistant Relations Manager for Agri-retail, Vivian Sakoe (3rd R) talking to Promised Eden Environmental Care Company of Kagera, Ascariyon Lufurano who was taking place at the ongoing 43rd Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair during the weekend. The company grows vegetables and fruits.

authorities to collect revenue directly through all NMB platforms.

"At NMB, we have been looking at transformative ways of incorporating local authorities into financial inclusion with tailor made solutions specifically for them. We have integrated our system with the Government Electronic Payment system (GePG) and reviewed allocation of cash collection centers to ensure maximum convenience to tax payers," Bishubo said.

She noted that the NMB platforms also allows anyone to pay easily, quickly from anywhere at any time through their mobile phone or any other connected electronic gadget.

"We see ourselves as a valued stakeholder and partner of the government and that is why we focus on enhancing innovative models that offer solutions address current and future challenges of local government authorities in revenue collection as well as their payments needs," she explained.

The NMB Head of Government Business further said the bank is living up to its commitment of providing convenient, safe and reliable banking services to its customers while contributing to the country's development through supporting revenue collections.

APPRECIATION

Gold heads for the longest stretch of gains in eight years

MELBOURNE

Gold is headed for the longest stretch of weekly gains since 2011 as investors count down to the release of a highly-anticipated US jobs report that could provide clues on the Federal Reserve's interest rate path.

Bullion's higher for the seventh week as investors bet on looser policy from the central bank after signs of a slowdown. The non-farm payrolls data later Friday is projected to show a rise of 160 000 in June, and while that would up from 75 000 a month earlier, it'd be lower than the rise a year earlier.

It would take an "absolute blockbuster" result to change the view that the Fed will cut rates at its next meeting, said Chris Weston, head of research at Pepperstone Group in Melbourne. Lower rates tend to benefit bullion.

Gold is trading near a six-year high as central bankers in top economies turn more dovish, with geopolitical and trade tensions also spurring demand. Veteran investor Mark Mobius said prices could top \$1 500 an ounce, citing lower interest

rates among the factors that are supporting bullion. Holdings in bullion-backed exchange-traded funds are near the highest since 2013.

"Gold as a play" "People obviously look at gold as a play on real rates," Weston said in a Bloomberg TV interview on Friday. "People are looking at the idea that we're going to have this clear path of central-bank easing. The old cliché of putting 5%-10% of your portfolio in gold is something that we've been advocating for some time and that allocation can probably be taken up a little bit there."

Spot gold climbed as much as 0.6% to \$1 424.30 an ounce, and was at \$1 417.50 at 11:31 a.m. in Singapore. Prices are up 0.6% this week. Bullion hit \$1 439.21 on June 25, the highest level since 2013.

A gauge of the greenback steadied after dropping for three days. US President Donald Trump has accused both Europe and China of weakening their currencies to gain a competitive advantage in trade, and has repeatedly complained about the dollar's strength. He's also attacked the Fed for refusing to cut rates.



Spot gold climbs as much as 0.6% to \$1 424.30 an ounce.

"Can you actually genuinely pick a G-10 currency that you say that's really attractive right now?" Weston said. "I don't think you can, and I think gold's been working as that kind of best house in a pretty shabby-looking neighborhood. We're getting to the point

where the US dollar is going to slowly grind down." In other precious metals, spot silver fell 0.2%, platinum rose 0.1% and palladium dropped 0.1%.

CALL

Forum CC urges state, lenders to support green energy entrepreneurs

By Francis Kajubi

FORUM on Climate Change (Forum CC) has urged the Ministry of Energy to support small scale entrepreneurs through loans and training to develop and supply renewable energy sources to the market.

Forum CC Executive Director, Rebecca Muna said at the ongoing 43rd Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair during the weekend that investing in clean energy is good for the environment and humanity as it respects climate change.

Muna said Forum CC also wants Vocational Education and Training Authority (VETA) and Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO) to train and equip small scale entrepreneurs on how to exploit the country's renewable energy market.

"Ministry of Energy, VETA, SIDO are responsible in making sure that small and medium scale entrepreneurs across the country engaged in renewable energy are empowered through training and financing to boost skills and knowledge that will make them become more innovative and productive," the Forum CC Executive Director told renewable energy stakeholders.

She further noted that lack of knowledge and limited access to finance by small scale entrepreneurs have been a major setback for the sector's progress hence requires urgent intervention to change things.

Organized by Forum CC in collaboration with the European Union, the meeting intended to look into challenges



Chairlady of Forum CC Board of Directors, Euster Kibona (R) exchange views with Latifa Khamis who is Deputy Director General of Tanzania Trade Development Authority at a renewable energy stakeholders' meeting held in Dar es Salaam during the weekend. Photo: courtesy Forum CC.

facing the renewable energy sector in relation to its growth in building an economy that cannot be affected by climate change. Forum CC has teamed up with Netherlands based Hivos International to lobby for projects that are intended in supporting renewable energy development in the country.

"For the next 20 months Forum CC and Hivos will implement a project dubbed 'Educating and pushing renewable and alternative energy sources,' which targets to conduct research on what measures have been taken by the government in supporting use of renewable energy from household to national level," Muna added.

Replying on the concerns, Engineer Amos Maganga who is acting Director General of Rural Electrification Agency (REA) said that his office has been provided with 40bn/- in the past financial year to fi-

nancing innovators.

"The funds are there for renewable energy entrepreneurs. We are committed at empowering them. What they need is to submit their project proposals for renewable energy and those with socio impact project are more likely to benefit. Only 20 groups and individuals have benefited so far from this scheme," Eng Maganga said.

VETA Trainer, Daudi Kadiinda said the authority has been making machines for production of renewable energy sources such as alternative charcoal made from recycling solid waste that goes at 5m/-.

"Entrepreneurs are complaining that the purchasing prices of the machines are high for them to afford, we are taking the concerns under consideration hope by next Saba Saba fair we will be having a solution to their concerns," said Kadiinda.

CENSURE

Kiunjuri blames Israeli company for Galana woes

NAIROBI

SINCE the National Irrigation Board (NIB) took over operations at the multibillion-shilling Galana-Kulalu after falling out with the contractor, it says production cost has gone down significantly, with the blame now shifting to Green Arava, which is accused of inflating expenses.

The Agriculture ministry is using this revelation as a basis to argue that the controversial irrigation scheme is still viable and that it can play a key role in bridging the perennial food shortages.

Agriculture Secretary Mwangi Kiunjuri for the first time admitted publicly that the project had been marred with corruption. He blamed some people he did not name for inflating the costs. He said investigations were ongoing and the culprits would be brought to book.

"There is a question of mismanagement on this project

that borders on corruption," he said. Already, a team from the Presidential Delivery Unit and Attorney General's office have visited the scheme in the wake of the new revelations.

Mr Kiunjuri says Green Arava had been spending Sh67,000 per acre on other expenses that are related to farming with Sh90,000 on fuel component alone. "Since NIB took over in the current season, the cost of production has come down to a maximum of Sh45,000 per acre, having more than halved what the contractor has been spending," he said.

"We are going to lower the cost of production from the figures that the contractor has been giving us and this will make Galana a viable project."

Potential
Another instance of inflation, says the CS, emerged from the Sh700 million bill that the contractor was demanding before unclogging the water intake that

runoff had blocked. Mr Kiunjuri said the NIB only used Sh30 million to do the same work.

The new development complicates the matter for the Israeli firm, with the government now contemplating terminating their contract. Mr Kiunjuri said they were meant to meet with the contractor this week to make the final decision on whether they would be allowed to continue with the remaining part of the 10,000 model farm.

"We will be coming up with a decision this week on whether to allow the contractor to continue with the work or not," he said. The contract was for a duration of 30 calendar months and was set for completion in March 2016.

The contractor was expected to complete the construction and installation of irrigation infrastructure within 18 months and test the system during a defects liability period of 12 months. The contract was later



Agriculture Secretary Mwangi Kiunjuri

extended twice and was expected to be completed by January 20 but the works are still not complete, with the completion estimated to be at 85 per cent.

The ministry said it had asked the President to take the risk and open the Galana project. The ministry says the potential of the project was now becoming evident. The NIB is projecting to harvest 32 bags of maize from an acre of the crop that it is currently in the field.

The current crop is expected to be harvested in the next two months. Slightly more than 1,000 acres are currently under crop.

The irrigation agency says it is planning to put 10,000 acres of land under the crop cover by February next year as it seeks to expand the project into large-scale. The government has so far spent Sh5.9 billion on the project, money that mainly went to laying the infrastructure and planting in the previous seasons.

The contractor has been out of site for some time following a payment dispute between the Israeli firm and the NIB. The contractor says the agency owes them Sh1 billion but the board claims it only owes Green Arava Sh200 million. Critics have branded the Galana project a white elephant project.

OPTIMISM

Mozambique: Bankers expect interest rates to fall further this year

MAPUTO

THE CEOs of Banco Comercial e de Investimentos, Paulo Sousa, and Millennium BIM, José Costa, believe that Mozambique's central bank will continue to lower interest rates in the second half of this year.

"Interest rates are going to go down even further. There has been a delay in the ongoing process of lowering interest rates because of the effects of Cyclone Idai, and the central bank has taken a cautious stance in order to control inflation," the chief executive of Millennium BIM said during a debate

at the Portugal-Mozambique Economic Forum in Lisbon on Wednesday.

"Idai created expectations of a reversal of the reduction of inflation in the second half and so the central bank became more cautious and, in the first five months, did not reduce interest rates," Paulo Sousa said, acknowledging that "there was a spike in inflation, but it was only a spike and [it was only] in Beira."

When asked by the moderator why interest rates were so high in Mozambique, Sousa predicted that inflation "will remain below the initial outlook, and the central

bank has, because of this, already lowered interest rates by 1%, and further significant declines over the coming semesters are expected."

"Thirty years ago, interest rates on mortgages in Portugal were 28%," he pointed out, adding "It was not perfect but it was an environment one could live with". He advised companies to focus on investing their own capital and not to rely solely on external financing.

"For companies thinking of fully financing their business with foreign capital, Mozambique turns out to be a difficult country, but

common sense dictates that the cost of financing must always be lower than that of expected profit," he added.

"It is possible with current interest rates to finance projects with a balance between own capital and external capital, and the trend in interest rates is clearly downward," he concluded. The two bankers expressed optimism about Mozambique's economic future, highlighting forecasts of economic growth close to 10% from the time the liquefied natural gas projects come on stream.

Mozambique's benchmark interest rate will fall this month for the first time since

February, from 19.5% to 19.3%, according to the Mozambique Association of Banks and the Bank of Mozambique.

The rate from July going forward is in line with the Bank of Mozambique's June 19 decision to lower the monetary policy rate (MIMO rate, one of the prime rate components).

Since it was created, this benchmark rate has never risen, and has already fallen by 8.45 percentage points. Millennium BIM is majority-owned by Portuguese bank Millennium BCP, and BCI is owned by Caixa Geral de Depósitos and BPI.



CONCERNS

Hyperinflation trauma: Zimbabweans' uneasy new dollar

HARARE

IN a bid to defend the new and fledgling Zimbabwean dollar against black market speculation, the country's finance minister on June 25 outlawed using United States dollars and other foreign currencies in local transactions.

When news of the policy broke, Harare-based independent economist John Robertson thought it was a bad practical joke. "I am not fully convinced it's genuine," Robertson told Al Jazeera. "This idea is so bad it's a cause for concern. I fear it may be an attempt in government to cause someone embarrassment. We hope it is revised."

Zimbabwe's finance minister, Mthuli Ncube, had hinted on several occasions

that a new Zimbabwean dollar was in the works. The country had already made a move toward it earlier this year, when it introduced an interim currency, the Real Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) dollar or "Zimdollar."

But a decade after devastating hyperinflation prompted the country to "dollarise" its economy by allowing the US greenback and other foreign currencies to be used as legal tender, many Zimbabweans are sceptical about the stability of the country's new currency and worried about what could happen if their livelihoods are tied to it.

Not even six months old, the fledgling Zimdollar has suffered from speculative attacks that saw its value plummet by more than 150% before recovering.

For 67-year-old David Mkono, the country's new currency has just added to his myriad problems. Mkono worked as a boilerman for Zimbabwe's power utility company for 47 years, paying into his pension in US dollars from 2009 until he retired last year.

"At retirement, I was going to get US\$223 (about R3 100) per month. I am not sure how much I am going to get now with the new changes," Mkono told Al Jazeera. "I really don't know how to value this because I don't know what \$223 is now in RTGS."

Some economists see Zimbabwe's swift outlawing of the US dollar as justified, given most countries that dollarise their economies fail to successfully reintroduce a new local currency.

FACILITATION

Japan pitches cashless purchases to shoppers in bid to boost spending

TOKYO

WHEN the baseball season kicked off in Japan this spring, fans of the Tohoku Rakuten Golden Eagles were faced with an inconvenience they'd never encountered before: the food and drinks stalls did not accept cash.

The team's owner, internet commerce firm Rakuten, was trying to promote its QR code - a type of barcode which can be read by a digital device and stores information - payment system. But the marketing ploy quickly turned out to be much more than that.

In April and May, food, beverage and merchandise sales at the Eagles' stadium in the north-eastern city of Sendai jumped 20 per cent from the same two-month period of 2018, in part because taking cash out of the equation changed spending habits.

"We consider it to be a success story," says Hayato Morofushi, marketing manager for Rakuten's mobile payments. "Using QR codes for payments has only just started in Japan, so we don't expect everyone to jump on the bandwagon. As we get more success stories, this will win more people over."

Experts say that when queues move faster, more people join. Customers don't see cash leaving their wallets and focus on the satisfaction of a purchase, so they spend more. That psychology could be crucial for Japan's economy, locked for decades in a deflationary mindset, where consumers delay spending in hopes of stable or lower prices. The Bank of Japan has spent more than \$3 trillion since 2013 on bonds and other assets to attain a 2 per cent price growth rate, without success.

A scheduled increase in the sales tax to 10 per cent from 8 per cent in October could hurt spending. Aware of that risk, the government is betting big on mobile payments, an industry only just taking root in Japan.

As soon as the tax increase kicks in, the government will offer points redeemable for future discounts to shoppers who use QR codes and other cashless payments for nine months. The project has a six-month budget of 280 billion yen (Dh9.55bn), which will be reassessed in the new fiscal year.

"If we change how we pay, we can change society as a whole," says Masamichi Ito, director of the Japanese Economy Ministry's cashless promotion office, set up in October with the goal of doubling cashless transactions to 120 trillion yen by 2025.

Cash settles 80 per cent of Japan's transactions, with the rest shared among credit cards, mobile and prepaid swipe cards. That is the highest cash usage rate in the developed world after Germany. Low crime rates - Japanese are comfortable carrying large amounts of cash - and an ageing population are seen as the main obstacles for deeper adoption.

In India and China, two of the world's most voracious spenders, mobile payments are 30-35 per cent of transactions, according to Statista. On average, cashless payments increase per-customer sales by 1.6 per cent, according to the Nomura Research Institute (NRI). Domestic consumption in Japan has grown an average of 0.5 per cent each year in the past six years.

The government says going cashless could alleviate other major economic headaches, such as a labour shortage and the falling profitability of banks, simply by virtue of being more efficient. Cashiers spend on average more



The logo of Rakuten Pay QR code mobile payment system operated by Rakuten is displayed at a coffee shop in Tokyo.

than two hours a day managing cash, while Japanese banks

spend around 1tn yen a year on their ATM network and physi-

cally moving cash, NRI says. Tourism spending, especially

from China, has been one of the few economic bright spots in Japan, and Chinese tourists use the mobile payment system Alipay, run by Ant Financial Services Group, at over 300,000 Japanese merchants.

Some duty-free counters at big department stores deposit tax refunds directly into Alipay accounts. The app uses targeted advertisements to help users find what they want to buy and recommends related products nearby. When users return to China, they get a recommendation to buy similar Japanese goods online.

South Korean mobile payment firm Kakao Pay is looking to enter Japan, betting on Tokyo's push to go cashless. Ryu Young-joon, chief executive of Kakao Pay, said in a May interview. "When I go to Japan, they do not accept credit cards in many stores," Mr Ryu says. "So I thought if I can use Kakao Pay in Japan, it's going to be good."

WORRISOME

How the wealth gap in the US has mushroomed despite record economic expansion

NEW YORK

AS it enters its 11th year, America's economic expansion is now the longest on record - a streak that has shrunk unemployment, swelled household wealth, revived the housing market and helped fuel an explosive rise in the stock market.

Yet even after a full decade of uninterrupted economic growth, the richest Americans now hold a greater share of the nation's wealth than they did before the global financial crisis began in 2007. And income growth has been sluggish by historical standards, leaving many Americans feeling stuck in place.

Those trends help explain something unique about this expansion: it's easily the least-celebrated economic recovery in decades.

As public discontent has grown, the issue has become one for political candidates to harness - beginning with US President Donald Trump in 2016.

Now, some of the Democrats running to challenge Mr Trump for the presidency have built their campaigns around proposals to tax wealth, raise minimum wages or ease the financial strain of medical care and higher education.

America's financial disparities have widened in large part because the means by which people build wealth have become more exclusive since the Great Recession.

Fewer middle-class Americans own homes.

Fewer are invested in the stock market. And home prices have risen far more in wealthier metro areas on the coasts than in more modestly priced cities and rural areas.

The result is that affluent homeowners now sit on vast sums of home equity and capital gains, while tens of millions of ordinary households have been left mainly on the sidelines.

"The recovery has been very disappointing from the standpoint of inequality," said Gabriel Zucman, an economist at the University of California, Berkeley, and a leading expert on income and wealth distribution.

Household wealth - the value of homes, stock portfolios and bank accounts, minus mortgage and credit card debt and other loans - jumped 80 per cent in the past decade.

More than one-third of that gain - \$16.2 trillion (Dh59.5tn) in riches - went to the wealthiest 1 per cent, figures from the Federal Reserve show. Just 25 per cent of it went to middle-to-upper-middle class households. The bottom half of the population gained less than 2 per cent.

Nearly 8 million Americans lost homes in the recession and its aftermath, and the sharp price gains since then have put ownership out of reach for many would-be buyers.



Hannah Moore has struggled to save since graduating from college in December 2007, the same month the global financial crisis officially began.



ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

I T V

SATURDAY 06 July	7:30 HABARI	18:15 The great queen Seonduk	11:55 Habari za saa	6:00 HABARI
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	19:00 Jarida la wanawake	12:00 Al Jazeera	6:40 Kumekucha
6:00 HABARI	8:55 Habari za saa	19:30 Isidingo	12:30 Ijue Sheria	7:00 Habari
6:40 Kumekucha	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	20:00 Habari	12:55 Habari za saa	8:00 Al Jazeera
7:00 Habari	9:30 Isidingo	21:00 Tanzania yetu	13:00 Sanaa na wasanii	9:00 Watoto wetu
8:00 Al Jazeera	9:55 Habari za saa	21:30 Chetu ni chetu	13:30 Tanzania yetu	10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt
9:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Watoto wetu	22:15 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino)	13:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt
10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt	10:30 Igizo: Ahadi	23:00 Habari	14:00 Series rpt: Iris	11:30 Usafiri wako
11:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt	10:55 Habari za saa	23:30 The Base	14:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Mapishi
11:30 Usafiri wako	11:00 Kimya Milele	00:30 CNN International	15:00 Meza Huru	12:30 Series rpt: Iris
12:00 Mapishi	11:55 Habari za saa	WEDNESDAY 10 July	16:30 Watoto Wetu	14:45 Igizo rpt: Kivuko
12:30 Series rpt: Iris	12:00 Al Jazeera	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	17:00 The Base	15:15 Igizo rpt: Ahadi
14:45 Igizo rpt: Kivuko	12:30 Jungu kuu rpt	6:00 HABARI	18:00 Jiji Letu	15:45 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
15:15 Igizo rpt: Ahadi	12:55 Habari za saa	6:40 Kumekucha	18:15 Mapishi	16:00 Igizo rpt: Kimya Milele
15:45 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe	13:00 Mjue Zaidi	7:30 HABARI	18:30 Jagina	16:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt
16:00 Igizo rpt: Kimya Milele	13:55 Habari za saa	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	19:00 Usafiri wako	17:00 Shamsham za Pwani
16:30 Igizo: Mtego rpt	14:00 Telenovela: Destiny (Destino)	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	19:30 Isidingo	18:00 Jiji Letu
17:00 Shamsham za Pwani	14:55 Habari za saa	9:30 Isidingo	20:00 Habari	18:15 Mapishi
18:00 Jiji Letu	15:00 Meza Huru	9:55 Habari za saa	21:00 Malumbano ya hoja	18:30 Igizo: Ahadi
18:15 Mapishi	16:30 Watoto Wetu	10:00 Watoto wetu	23:00 Habari	19:00 Sanaa na wasanii
18:30 Igizo: Ahadi	17:00 The Base	10:30 Korean: The Great queen Seonduk	23:30 The Base	19:30 Jungu Kuu
19:00 Sanaa na wasanii	18:00 Jiji Letu	10:55 Habari za saa	00:30 CNN International	20:00 Habari
19:30 Jungu Kuu	18:10 Aibu yako rpt	11:15 Jagina	FRIDAY 12 July	20:00 Habari
20:00 Habari	18:15 Mapishi rpt	12:00 Al Jazeera	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	21:00 Igizo: Kimya Milele
21:00 Igizo: Kimya Milele	18:30 Kesho Leo	12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt	6:00 HABARI	21:30 Kesho Leo
21:30 Kesho Leo	19:00 Afya ya Jamii	13:00 Dakika 45	6:40 Kumekucha	22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja
22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja	19:30 Isidingo	14:00 Habari	7:30 HABARI	22:15 Hawavumi lakini wamo
22:15 Hawavumi lakini wamo	20:00 Habari	21:05 Dakika 45	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	23:00 Isidingo rpt
23:00 Isidingo rpt	21:00 Habari	22:00 Insta Bet	8:55 Habari za saa	01:30 CNN International
01:30 CNN International	22:15 Series: Iris	23:00 Habari	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	SUNDAY 14 July
SUNDAY 07 July	23:00 Habari	23:30 The Base	9:30 Isidingo	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	00:30 Al Jazeera	02:00 CNN International	9:55 Habari za saa	6:00 HABARI
6:00 HABARI	TUESDAY 09 July	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	10:00 Watoto wetu	6:40 Kumekucha
6:40 Kumekucha	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 Habari	10:30 Shamsam za pwani	7:00 Habari
7:00 Habari	6:00 Habari	6:40 Kumekucha	10:55 Habari za saa	8:00 Al Jazeera
8:00 Al Jazeera	7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI	11:00 Watoto wetu	09:00 Watoto Wetu
09:00 Watoto Wetu	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	11:30 Shamsham za pwani	10:00 Isidingo
10:00 Isidingo	8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa	11:45 Aibu Yako
11:45 Aibu Yako	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	12:00 Al Jazeera	11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt
11:50 Hawavumi lakini wamo rpt	9:30 Isidingo	9:55 Habari za saa	12:30 Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco	12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: More than pain
12:50 Bongo Movie rpt: Mkw 2	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Watoto wetu	12:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Tamasha la Michezo
14:00 Tamasha la Michezo	10:30 Shamsam za pwani	10:30 Shamsam za pwani	13:00 Jagina rpt	15:00 Mwangaza
15:00 Mwangaza	10:55 Habari za saa	11:00 Shamsham za pwani	13:30 Chetu ni chetu rpt	16:00 Korean drama: The great queen Seonduk
16:00 Korean drama: The great queen Seonduk	11:00 Shamsham za pwani	11:25 Igizo: Mtego	13:55 Habari za saa	16:45 Mjue zaidi
16:45 Mjue zaidi	11:55 Habari za saa	12:00 Al Jazeera	14:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt	17:30 Kipindi cha kikiristo
17:30 Kipindi cha kikiristo	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:30 Afya ya jamii rpt	14:15 Series rpt: Iris	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:00 Jiji Letu	12:55 Habari za saa	13:00 Uchumi na biashara	14:55 Habari za saa	18:15 Mapishi
18:15 Mapishi	13:00 Uchumi na biashara	13:30 Shamba lulu rpt	15:00 Meza huru	18:30 Mizengwe rpt
18:30 Mizengwe rpt	13:55 Habari za saa	14:00 Series rpt: Iris	16:30 Watoto wetu	18:45 Matukio ya wiki
18:45 Matukio ya wiki	14:00 Series rpt: Iris	14:55 Habari za saa	17:00 The Base	19:30 Igizo: Mtego
19:30 Igizo: Mtego	14:55 Habari za saa	15:00 Meza Huru	17:30 Ibada ya kiislamu	20:00 Habari
20:00 Habari	15:00 Meza Huru	16:30 Watoto wetu	18:00 Jiji Letu	21:05 Mizengwe
21:05 Mizengwe	16:30 Watoto wetu	17:00 The Base	18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe	21:00 Bongo Movie: More than pain 2
21:00 Bongo Movie: More than pain	17:00 The Base	22:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)	18:30 Shamba lulu	22:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)
22:00 Telenovela rpt: Destiny (Destino)	17:30 Shamba lulu rpt	MONDAY 08 July	19:00 Uchumi na biashara	
MONDAY 08 July	18:00 Jiji Letu	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	19:30 Isidingo	
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	6:00 Habari	21:05 Kipima joto	
6:00 Habari	6:00 Habari	6:40 Kumekucha	23:00 Habari	
6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha		23:30 The Base	
			00:30 CNN International	
			SATURDAY 13 July	
			5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	

WORLD

Iran ratchets up nuclear tensions with enrichment plan

DUBAI

IRAN said yesterday it will boost its uranium enrichment in a few hours above a cap set by a landmark 2015 nuclear deal, a move that could eventually culminate in the return of all international sanctions on Tehran.

In a sign of heightening Western concern, French President Emmanuel Macron condemned Iran's decision as a "violation" of the pact which the United States pulled out of last year.

Raising the prospect of fresh regional tensions, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu said the step was extremely dangerous and he again called on Europe to impose punitive sanctions on Tehran.

In a live news conference, senior Iranian officials said Tehran would keep reducing its commitments every 60 days, unless signatories of the pact protect it from U.S. sanctions imposed by President Donald Trump.

"We are fully prepared to enrich uranium at any level and with any amount," said Behrouz Kamalvandi, spokesman for Iran's Atomic Energy

Organisation.

"In a few hours the technical process will come to an end and the enrichment beyond 3.67% will begin," referring to the limit set in the 2015 agreement.

But Iran said it was willing to show flexibility.

All measures taken by Iran to scale back its commitments to the nuclear deal were "reversible" if the European signatories of the pact fulfilled their obligations, Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif tweeted on Sunday.

Netanyahu called for a strong response.

"The enrichment of uranium is made for one reason and one reason only - it's for the creation of atomic bombs," said the Israeli prime minister, a vocal opponent of the 2015 agreement.

PACT TERMS

A top advisor to Iranian Supreme Leader Ayatollah Ali Khamenei said on Saturday the clerical establishment fully backed the decision.

Under the pact, Iran can enrich uranium to 3.67% fissile material, well be-



Abbas Araqchi, Iranian deputy foreign minister for political affairs (R), Behrouz Kamalvandi, Iran's Atomic Energy Organization spokesman (L) and Iran's government spokesman Ali Rabiei attend a news conference in Tehran, Iran yesterday. REUTERS

low the 20% it was reaching before the deal and the roughly 90% suitable for a nuclear weapon.

Kamalvandi said Iran would enrich uranium for use in fuelling its Bushehr power plant, to the level of 5%, confirming what Reuters reported on Saturday.

Iran shows no sign of caving in to pressure from President Trump in a confrontation that has taken on a military dimension, with Washington blaming Tehran for attacks on oil tankers, and Iran shooting down a U.S. drone, prompting aborted U.S. air strikes.

Long-tense relations between Tehran and Washington deteriorated in May 2018 when Trump pulled out of the 2015 nuclear deal reached before he took office, and reimposed sanctions.

Trump argues that the deal is too weak because some of its terms are not permanent, and because it does not cover non-nuclear issues such as Iran's ballistic missile program and regional aspirations.

TEHRAN PRESSURES EUROPEAN POWERS

Iran's challenge to Washington is a test of European diplomacy. The Europeans, who opposed last year's decision by Trump to abandon the agreement, had pleaded with Iran to keep within

its parameters.

Tehran has expressed frustration over what it says is the failure of parties to the agreement to salvage the pact by protecting Iran's economic interests from U.S. sanctions.

"European countries have failed to uphold their commitments and they are also responsible," Abbas Araqchi, Iran's senior nuclear negotiator, told the news conference in Tehran.

"The doors of diplomacy are open but what matters are new initiatives which are required."

Political analyst Hamid Farahvashian described Iran's position as an "iron fist in velvet glove".

"There is a hidden message ... which is we are ready, we have capabilities, we can breach the deal but still give the other parties time to fulfil their obligations," he said.

Under the 2015 deal between Iran and six powers, most international sanctions against Tehran were lifted in return for limitations on its nuclear work.

Those restrictions were aimed at extending the time Iran would need to produce a nuclear bomb, if it chose to, to a year from roughly two to three months.

Agencies

Policy makers meet over protocols to protect vulnerable groups in Africa

KIGALI

POLICY makers from 15 African Union members met on Saturday in Rwandan capital city Kigali to explore ways to accelerate ratification of two human rights instruments aimed at protecting specific vulnerable groups.

There is need for more efforts to ensure urgent ratification of these two protocols, Yeung Kam John Sik Yuen, Commissioner at the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, said when addressing participants at the seminar which ended on Saturday.

He urged participants to play an advocacy role and work towards the ratification of the protocols and promotion of the rights as outlined under the protocol.

The Protocol on the Rights of Older Persons in Africa was adopted by the African Union at its 26th summit in January 2016 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, and the Protocol on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa was adopted by the African Union at its 30th summit in Addis Ababa in January 2018.

A minimum of 15 states ratification is required for each of the



protocols to enter into force. Only one country, Lesotho has ratified the protocol on the Rights of Older Persons, while no country has ratified the protocol on the Rights of

Persons with Disabilities, according to the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

There is need for legal guarantees because elderly persons in Africa still face discrimination, neglect and various forms of abuse in society and the same goes for people with disabilities, Rwandan human rights activist Joel Kamanzi told Xinhua. Older people comprise about 6.3 percent of the continent's population, said Kamanzi.

People with disabilities are vulnerable because of their impairment and negative society attitudes towards them, he said.

Xinhua

adding that many are deprived of adequate access to services, resources and equal participation in the social-economic development processes.

The two-day seminar was co-organized by the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights and the Rwandan government to raise awareness on the existence of the two protocols.

Participants included officials directly involved in the signing and ratification processes of international human rights instruments in their respective countries.

Xinhua

Kenyans divided on GMOs as cabinet decision on approval inches closer

NAIROBI

IN an animated debate during a lunchtime meal, a group of young Kenyans exchanged banter on how their physical appearance do not match their age.

The heaviest in the group explained how every morning he struggled to find fitting pants in his wardrobe.

They all burst into a loud laughter as one of them responded to his sentiment. "You only have two solutions, stop eating or does a wardrobe change. If I were you I would go for the former."

To add salt to the injury, another one chided him for his love for French fries and fried chicken. "The chicken you have been eating almost daily is to blame for your bulging waist," he said.

The long-winded debate escalated further to genetically modified organisms (GMO) and they were all convinced this was the reason behind the sudden weight

gain that made them uncomfortable.

The divisive GMO technology has been a subject of discussion since 2012 after the government imposed a ban on it, a decision that was informed by a controversial study that linked it to cancer.

The Kenyan Cabinet is expected to make a decision on whether to lift the ban or not any time soon, but even as the country awaits this momentous occasion, both farmers and consumers have limited knowledge on GMOs.

"I hear about GMOs but all I know is that they cause cancer, I am told the government is expected to make an announcement about them soon, but my prayer is for the ban to remain," said Beatrice Malika, a maize farmer.

Kenya's decision on GMOs will be closely watched by its neighboring countries of Uganda and Tanzania where trials on genetically modified crops (GM crops) have been ongoing. Dorington



Ogoyi, chief executive officer at Kenya's National Biosafety Authority, said the country is ready for the rollout of GMO technology.

He refuted claims that GM crops cause cancer. "In the history of GMOs globally, there has been no link to cancer," said Ogoyi. He said the agency's mandate is to ensure safety in the application of the technology, adding that all the procedures are followed in line

with local and international legal frameworks.

"The National Biosafety Authority follows established protocols by the World Health Organization (WHO) as well as the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the reviewing process goes through a rigorous process, we also have the Biosafety Act that guides us in all we do," said Ogoyi.

Xinhua

"Do not let anybody mislead you, the agency would not approve something that would jeopardize the health safety of both humans and animals," he added.

Kenya has been conducting trials on BT maize and BT cotton for a number of years. The BT cotton has gone through a successful trial process which means farmers will have access to the seeds once the Kenyan Cabinet lifts the ban.

The BT maize is still in the last stages of trial. Even as the country's biosafety agency gears up for the Cabinet's decision, outfits such as Route To Food Initiative have expressed disquiet over the technology, urging the government to explore other ways of dealing with food insecurity in the country before adopting GMOs.

Ogoyi said that despite the opposition, the regulator is convinced that GMO crops have the ability to ensure the country achieve food security.

Xinhua

Russian deputy PM warns new sanctions may be slapped on MC-21 passenger jet project

IRKUTSK

THE program on manufacturing Russian passenger jet MC-21 is facing the risk of coming under new Western sanctions and preconditions have been created for exerting pressure on the project, Russian Deputy Prime Minister Yuri Borisov told the Irkutsk Aviation Plant's meeting yesterday.

"After new US restrictions on trade with Russian companies, including with Joint Stock Company AeroComposit and Joint Stock Company ODK Aviadvigatel, came into force in September 2018, serious preconditions were created for putting pressure on the MC-21 program," Borisov said.

Washington banned the delivery of composite materials to Russia, which are used for manufacturing the plane's wings, as well as the sales of titanium parts, machines for laying up dry carbonfibre tape and other equipment, he noted, stressing that: "There are risks that new sanctions may be slapped."

In order to successfully implement the MC-21 program, Russia's Ministry of Industry and Trade jointly with the Irkut corporation has developed and has been fulfilling a range of measures for replacing foreign-made composite materials and a number of parts with Russian equivalents.

"This will make it possible to ensure the MC-21 production's technological independence from products under sanctions. That's why the Russian government has provided and will provide support for the MC-21 program," Borisov emphasized.

The MC-21 is a medium-haul narrow-body passenger jet being developed by the United Aircraft Corporation.

It may come in two configurations - the MC-21-200 (seating 132 to 165 passengers) and the MC-21-300 (163 to 211). Another configuration, the MC-21-400 with up to 250 seats, is also planned.

Currently, only the MC-21-300 plane is being developed. It performed its first flight at the end of May 2017. Agencies



China claims 55 of UNESCO world heritages with new elected site

BAKU

CHINA'S Archaeological Ruins of Liangzhu City were on Saturday inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as a cultural site, bringing the total number of the Asian country's sites on the list to 55.

International delegates congratulated China on the world's recognition of the exceptional site as a concrete testimony of 5,000 years of Chinese civilization and its unique contribution to world civilization.

Meanwhile, they praised China's notable performance in the conservation of its world heritages and expressed readiness for strengthened international cooperation in the protection and management of the world heritages.

CULTURAL TREASURE OF CHINA

The decision to add the Chinese cultural site, located in the eastern Chinese city of Hangzhou, to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization's (UNESCO) World Heritage List was approved by the World Heritage Committee at its ongoing 43rd session in the Azerbaijani capital of Baku.

"It is considered to be a supreme achievement of prehistoric rice-cultivating civilization of China and East Asia over 5,000 years ago and an outstanding example of early urban civilization," said a report by the International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS), the committee's official advisory body.

Sitting on a plain crossed by river networks in the Yangtze River Basin, the nominated property of Archaeological Ruins of Liangzhu City includes the archaeological remains of Liangzhu City (3300 B.C.-2300 B.C.), which was once the center of power and belief of an early regional state in the lower reaches of the Yangtze River during the Late Neolithic China period.

The property testifies to the existence of a regional state with a unified belief system and supported by a rice-cultivating agriculture in late Neolithic China. It also represents an early urban civilization with complex functions and structures.

"Archaeological Ruins of Liangzhu City is a major archaeological discovery of China in the 20th century and an important cultural site that witnessed the 5,000-year civilization of the country," said Liu Yuzhu, head of China's National Cultural Heritage Administration, at the committee session.

Xinhua

Months of aftershocks could follow big California earthquake

RIDGECREST, California

OFFICIALS in Southern California expressed relief on Saturday that damage and injuries weren't worse after the largest earthquake the region has seen in nearly 20 years, while voicing concerns about the possibility of major aftershocks in the days and even months to come.

No fatalities or major injuries were reported after Friday night's 7.1-magnitude earthquake, which jolted an area from Sacramento to Mexico and prompted the evacuation of the Navy's largest single landholding, Naval Air

Weapons Station China Lake in the Mojave Desert.

The quake struck at 8:19 pm Friday and was centered 18 kilometers from Ridgecrest, the same area of the desert where a 6.4-magnitude temblor hit just a day earlier. It left behind cracked and burning buildings, broken roads, obstructed railroad tracks and leaking water and gas lines.

The light damage was largely due to the remoteness of the area where the earthquake occurred, but Gov. Gavin Newsom cautioned after touring Ridgecrest that "it's deceiving, earthquake damage. You don't notice it at

first."

Newsom estimated more than US\$100 million in economic damages and said President Donald Trump called him to offer federal support in the rebuilding effort.

"He's committed in the long haul, the long run, to help support the rebuilding efforts," Newsom said of Trump.

Only 28,000 people live in the Ridgecrest area, which is sandwiched between more populated areas of Southern California and Las Vegas' Clark County. But seismologists warned that the area could see up to 30,000 aftershocks over the next six months.

April Hamlin said she was "already on edge" when the second quake rattled her Ridgecrest home. She and her three kids initially thought it was another aftershock.

"But it just kept on intensifying," Hamlin said. "The TV went over, hanging by the cord. We heard it break. We heard glass breakage in the other rooms, but all we could do was stay where we were until it stopped."

With the possibility of aftershocks and temperatures forecast to reach 38 Celsius over the next several days, officials were taking precautions.

The California National Guard was

sending 200 troops, logistical support and aircraft, Maj. Gen. David Baldwin said. The Pentagon had been notified, and the entire California Military Department was put on alert, he said.

Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake said in a Facebook post that non-essential workers were evacuated and operations halted. The epicenters of both quakes were on the base, and officials said they are continuing to assess damage. Officials said most employees live off the base and in Ridgecrest, but they authorized the evacuation so those who live on base can be eligible for reimbursements.

The California Office of Emergency Services brought in cots, water and meals and set up cooling centers in the region, Director Mark Ghilarducci said.

State highway officials shut down a 48-kilometer section of State Route 178 between Ridgecrest and the town of Trona southwest of Death Valley because of a rockslide and severe cracking. The move left Trona temporarily cut off. California Department of Transportation spokeswoman Christine Knadler said crews worked through the night to patch the roadway, but it remained rough and uneven.

Agencies



Africa to benefit from easing US-China trade tensions

NAIROBI

THE latest bid by China and the United States to resolve their trade issue signals better times for global trade, from which Africa is set to benefit immensely, analysts have recently told Xinhua.

Chinese President Xi Jinping and US President Donald Trump agreed on June 29 to restart economic and trade consultations between their countries on the basis of equality and mutual respect.

This marked an important consensus after Washington's protectionist measures and repeated backtracking had triggered a new flare-up of trade tensions between the world's two largest economies. Cavince Adhere, a Nairobi-based scholar on China-Africa relations, said the move was a welcome relief to the global economy.

"The trade dispute had put a strain on the global economy for far too long. The World Trade Organization (WTO) is among institutions that recently said the global economy would in 2019 and 2020 continue to face headwinds due to the trade spat," said Adhere, adding that the truce was therefore greatly welcome.

Eric Mang'anyi, a researcher at Walter Sisulu University in South Africa, said the announcement demonstrated progress and commitment after months of difficulties.

The analysts observed that the U.S.-initiated trade dispute has had a negative

impact on global trade and the economy. "There have been shockwaves in global trade," said Mang'anyi, noting that the United States has also locked horns with other trading partners.

In the past months, global institutions like the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank have lowered growth projections for the African continent citing the prolonged U.S.-China trade war, and it is not in the interest of anyone if this dispute continues, the researcher said.

"Protectionism does not foster competition. It leads to market instability. Some nations may lose their competitive advantage due to the dispute," said Mang'anyi.

Adhere said Africa as a continent and its individual countries are set to benefit from the truce in many aspects, including experiencing a rise in capital inflow.

"Africa relies heavily on capital inflow, trade and investment. This cannot come if the two countries are in a tussle," said Adhere.

He said that the truce provides a boost to Africa as the continent prepares to set up a free trade area, which is expected to increase trade and investment.

Philip Etyang, a Kenyan commentator, said that the move to end the impasse is a good thing for Kenya because "global trade is inter-related." If things are not working between the economic giants, Kenya will feel the pinch, Etyang added.

Xinhua

China, S. Sudan sign agreements to support peace deal implementation

JUBA

CHINA and South Sudan have signed three exchange letters as part of efforts to shore up implementation of the revitalized peace agreement in the African country.

Hua Ning, Chinese Ambassador to South Sudan, signed the agreements with undersecretary of South Sudan's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Baak V.A. Wol, on Friday evening.

Under the agreements, China agrees to provide in-kind support to the National Pre-Transitional Committee (NPTC) for South Sudanese parties concerned to implement the peace deal.



"The main content of the support includes 3,000 metric tons of rice, 2,500 tents (36 square meters by size), 50,000 blankets, and a batch of drugs," Hua said in a statement issued in Juba.

He said the Chinese embassy will continue to work with all the security mechanisms to ensure the effective use and sound management of these in-kind contributions from China.

"China will continue to play a constructive role for this purpose and provide necessary assistance as its capacity allows. The Chinese government and people, in all sincerity, hope that all South Sudanese parties concerned could prioritize the interests of the country and the people," Hua said.

He said Beijing will continue to support the peace monitoring body and ceasefire monitoring group to carry out monitoring and verification tasks for the implementation of the Revitalized Agreement on the Resolution of the Conflict in South Sudan.

"China supports South Sudan's efforts in maintaining national peace, stability and promoting economic development as always," the envoy added. Xinhua



Trump administration 'uniquely dysfunctional', says Britain's ambassador to US, says newspaper

LONDON

BRITAIN'S ambassador to the United States described President Donald Trump's administration as "dysfunctional", "clumsy" and "inept", the Mail yesterday newspaper reported, citing a series of confidential memos.

In memos to the British government which date from 2017 to the present, Kim Darroch said Trump "radiates insecurity" and advises officials in London that to deal with him effectively "you need to make your points simple, even blunt".

"We don't really believe this Administration is going to become substantially more normal; less dysfunctional; less unpredictable; less faction riven; less diplomatically clumsy and inept," Darroch wrote in one, according to the newspaper.

In others, the newspaper said he had described the administration as "uniquely dysfunctional" and that media reports about White House "knife fights" are "mostly true".

Darroch wrote that "we could also be at the beginning of a downward spiral, rather than just a rollercoaster: something could emerge that leads to disgrace and downfall."

But he also warned British officials not to write Trump off, saying there was a "credible path" to him winning a second term in office. He said Trump may "emerge from the flames, battered but intact, like (Arnold) Schwarzenegger in the final scenes of The Terminator."

A spokesman for the Foreign Office said the public would expect ambassadors "to provide ministers with an honest, unvarnished assessment of the politics in their country".

"Their views are not necessarily the views of ministers or indeed the government. But we pay them to be candid," he said.

"It's important that our ambassadors can offer their advice and for it to remain confidential. Our team in Washington have strong relations with the White House and no doubt these will withstand such mischievous behavior."

In a memo written last month, Darroch described confusion within the administration over Trump's decision to abort a military strike on Iran, and that the president citing the number of predicted casualties as the reason he had changed his mind "didn't stand up". "It's more likely that he was never fully on board and that he was worried about how this apparent reversal of his 2016 campaign promises would look come 2020," Darroch wrote, adding that Trump could still trigger a conflict with Iran.

"Just one more Iranian attack somewhere in the region could trigger yet another Trump U-turn. Moreover, the loss of a single American life would probably make a critical difference."

Agencies

Agencies

Biden apologizes for touting past work with segregationist senators

NEW ORLEANS

SEEKING to put to rest a weeks-old controversy that has dogged his campaign for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination, Joe Biden apologized on Saturday for touting his past record of working civilly with segregationists serving in the U.S. Senate in the 1970s.

Biden, who served as vice president under the first black U.S. president Barack Obama, had until now pointedly resisted apologizing for the remarks he made on June 18 that had drawn criticism from Democratic rivals, exposing racial and generational tensions among the candidates.

"Was I wrong a few weeks ago to somehow give the impression to people that I was praising those men who I successfully opposed time and again?" Biden, 76, asked on Saturday afternoon during a speech in Sumter, South Carolina. "Yes, I was, and I regret it. And I'm sorry for any of the pain or misconception I may have caused anybody."

Biden's initial remarks were made as he lamented that political leaders in the United States had lost the ability to work together in an increasingly polarized nation. He noted that despite disagreeing with them, he had managed to work with two white segregationists from the South serving in the Senate when he was first elected: Democratic Senators James Eastland of Mississippi and Herman Talmadge of Georgia.

U.S. Senator Cory Booker, a rival candidate who is black, expressed surprise a day later that Biden had not apologized. Biden, who is white, then said he did not have "a racist bone in my body" and asked reporters, "Apologize for what?"

On Sunday, Booker accepted Biden's apology. "I'm frustrated that it took so long but I am grateful for him doing this," Booker said in an interview televised on CNN. "We can't have a leader that can't stand up and say, 'I've been imperfect, I've made mistakes, I apologize.'"

Black voters have played a critical role in the Democratic primary process, and winning the party's nomination would be unlikely without their support. Hillary Clinton's strong support among black voters was critical in helping her secure the 2016 Democratic presidential nomination.

During a June 27 debate among



Democratic presidential nomination, Joe Biden

Democratic contenders seeking to run against incumbent Republican President Donald Trump, U.S. Senator Kamala Harris called Biden's comments "hurtful," though she said she did not believe Biden is a racist.

Harris was among half a dozen candidates who spoke on Saturday in New Orleans at Essence Festival, a gathering for black women organized by Essence Magazine. She announced a policy plan targeted at closing the racial wealth gap.

"Black Americans were excluded from participating in the first industrial revolution and the wealth it generated," said Harris, the daughter of a black father from Jamaica and an Indian mother. "Now with the technological revolution, we must ensure everyone can participate in the wealth it creates."

"I'VE CHANGED"

In South Carolina, an early-voting state in the nominating contests that kick off next February, Biden delivered a speech responding to criticism by Harris about his track record on race.

South Carolina's primary is the first in a state where a significant proportion of the Democratic electorate - about 60 percent - is black.

"America in 2019 is a very different place than the America of the 1970s," Biden said, according to prepared remarks. "And that's a good thing. I've witnessed an incredible amount of change in this nation and I've worked to make that change happen. And yes - I've changed also."

Much of Biden's early lead in the polls was fueled by strong support among black voters, but his support has appeared to wane in the wake of criticism about his position in the

1970s about busing of minority students to integrate schools.

Biden also is highlighting his eight years as Obama's vice president, from 2009 to 2017.

"If you look at the issues I've been attacked on, nearly every one of them is for something well before 2008," Biden said, according to prepared remarks. "It's as if my opponents want you to believe I served from 1972 until 2008 - and then took the next eight years off. They don't want to talk much about my time as vice president."

Harris announced a \$100 billion housing proposal aimed at helping poor people living in rental properties or receiving public assistance for their housing to buy houses. The program would create grants to cover down payment and closing costs.

"So we must right the wrong and, after generations of discrimination, give black families a real shot at homeownership - historically one of the most powerful drivers of wealth," Harris said.

U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren touted her series of proposals that target closing the pay gap for black women in America, including a promise to sign an executive order to force any company with a federal government contract to certify equal pay.

"We start to close on the very first day by using the power that the president herself will have," Warren said, drawing cheers at the use of the female pronoun.

Booker told the audience the next president should have a track record of helping African-Americans.

"We cannot be a nation that is truly free until everyone is free," Booker said.

Agencies

Tens of families return home in central Syria for 1st time since 2013

DAMASCUS

TENS of families returned to check their homes in the town of Al Qusayr in central Syria yesterday, the first batch of civilians back to the town since it was liberated from the rebels in 2013.

Holding posters of President Bashar al-Assad and Syrian flags, the civilians entered the town in the countryside of Homs province in central Syria and surrounding villages to check on their homes.

Talal Barazi, the governor of Homs, who was receiving the people in the town, told reporters that after the surrounding areas of the town were liberated from the Islamic State (IS) militants and like-minded groups, the government started clearing off the roads and restoring the infrastructure.

About 70 percent of the infrastructure was fixed as other parts of the town are severely damaged, he said. Some logistic preparations have also been made to secure the town, he said, noting that it is an important economic area in the Homs province.

The governor said there is a plan to restore three schools in three months by the start of the next education year. The Al Qusayr area is considered of strategic importance because it lies between the capital Damascus and the Mediterranean coast, and is close to the Lebanese border.

On April 4, 2013, the Syrian army launched an offensive against al-Qusayr, with the aim of capturing all villages around the rebel-held town and eventually the town itself. On June 5, 2013, the Syrian army finally regained control of al-Qusayr.

Xinhua

Moscow tells US to mind own sanctions before criticising Russia's policies

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Foreign Ministry has called on the United States to recollect imposing its own sanctions instead of condemning the measures taken by Russia against Georgia, the ministry wrote on Facebook on Saturday.

"US Charge d'Affaires in Georgia

Elizabeth Rood said the other day that the measures that Russia had taken against Georgia in the sphere of flights and tourism were 'unfair, unnecessary and disproportionate,' the post says.

"In this connection, we would like to remind Ms. Rood of what such 'unfair, unnecessary and disproportionate'

measures are like. A wide range of countries carrying out their independent foreign policies have fallen victim to this policy of the United States (this state has already been brandishing 'a restrictions baton' for decades)."

US sanctions have been in effect against Russia uninterruptedly "since

minimum 1974" when the Jackson-Vanik amendment became law. The amendment linked the trade benefits between the two countries to free emigration from the Soviet Union.

"It is evident that over the past 50 years, Russia has been viewed by the US establishment as an unfriendly state," the Foreign Ministry stated un-

derscoring that up to now, the number of US "sanctions wars" against Russia had amounted to 65.

"Instead of mentor rhetoric about the Russian measures, which protect the lives and health of Russian citizens abroad, we would like to hear from Ms. Rood about 'the fair, necessary and proportionate' US restrictive

measures that have been imposed over decades to exert pressure on our country's foreign policy," the ministry pointed out. On July 8, Russian President Vladimir Putin's decree will come into force. The June 21 decree imposes a temporary ban on flights (including commercial ones) from Russia to Georgia and back. Agencies

Economic 'game changer'? African leaders launch free-trade zone

NIAMEY

AFRICAN leaders met yesterday to launch a continental free-trade zone that if successful would unite 1.3 billion people, create a \$3.4 trillion economic bloc and usher in a new era of development.

After four years of talks, an agreement to form a 55-nation trade bloc was reached in March, paving the way for yesterday's African Union summit

in Niger where attendees were expected to unveil which nation will host the trade zone's headquarters, when trading will start and discuss how exactly it will work.

It is hoped that the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) - the largest since the creation of the World Trade Organization in 1994 - will help unlock Africa's long-stymied economic potential by boosting intra-regional trade, strengthen-

ing supply chains and spreading expertise.

"The eyes of the world are turned to Africa," Egyptian President and African Union Chairman Abdel Fattah el-Sisi said at the summit's opening ceremony.

AfCFTA "will reinforce our negotiating position on the international stage. It will represent an important step."

Africa has much catching up to do: its intra-regional trade ac-

counted for just 17% of exports in 2017 versus 59% in Asia and 69% in Europe, and Africa has missed out on the economic booms that other trade blocs have experienced in recent decades.

Economists say significant challenges remain, including poor road and rail links, large areas of unrest, excessive border bureaucracy and petty corruption that have held back growth and integration.

Members have committed to eliminate tariffs on most goods, which will increase trade in the region by 15-25% in the medium term, but this would double if these other issues were dealt with, according to International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimates.

The IMF in a May report described a free-trade zone as a potential "economic game changer" of the kind that has boosted growth in Europe and North America, but it added a

note of caution.

"Reducing tariffs alone is not sufficient," it said.

DIVERGENT INTERESTS

Africa already has an alphabet soup of competing and overlapping trade zones - ECOWAS in the west, EAC in the east, SADC in the south and COMESA in the east and south.

But only the EAC, driven mainly by Kenya, has made significant progress toward a

common market in goods and services.

These regional economic communities (REC) will continue to trade among themselves as they do now. The role of AfCFTA is to liberalize trade among those member states that are not currently in the same REC, said Trudi Hartzenberg, director at Tralac, a South Africa-based trade law organization.

Agencies

SPORT



United States' Serena Williams, left, is watched by playing partner Andy Murray as she plays a shot during a mixed doubles match during day six of the Wimbledon Tennis Championships in London, Saturday, July 6, 2019. (AP Photo)

Serena 2 for 2 at Wimbledon; wins in singles, mixed

WIMBLEDON, England

SERENA Williams walked into her news conference at Wimbledon holding her phone, a cold bottle of water and a statistics sheet that reinforced what was clear from watching her third-round singles victory Saturday:

She is as close to being back to her best as she's been in a while.

Williams, hampered for much of this season by injuries or illness, took a step forward against 18th-seeded Julia Goerges, a powerful hitter in her own right who lost to the American in last year's semifinals at the All England Club. Sure enough, Williams hit serves at up to 120 mph, put in a tournament-best 71 percent of her first serves, never faced so much as one break point and won 6-3, 6-4.

"It's been an arduous year for me," said Williams, who had competed only 12 times in 2019 until this week, mostly because of a bothersome left knee that finally is pain-free. "So every match, I'm hoping to improve tons." Maybe it was a good thing she played twice Saturday, then.

About 4½ hours after getting past Goerges at No. 1 Court, Williams headed out to Centre Court for her much-ballyhooed debut as Andy Murray's teammate in mixed doubles. Other than one slip near the net when she lost her footing in the first set – she was fine and laughed it off – Williams looked good during the 6-4, 6-1 win against Andreas Mies and Alexa Guarachi, including smacking one serve at 122 mph, equaling the fastest hit in singles by any woman (her, naturally) during the tournament.

"Andy and I both love the competition. I know we both want to do well," Williams said. "We're not here just for show."

She rarely is. But if Williams is going to win an eighth singles championship at Wimbledon, and a record-tying 24th Grand Slam singles title overall, she will want more performances like the one she gave against Goerges.

Forceful, yes, but nothing was forced. "I play pretty good when I'm calm, but also super-intense, just finding the balance in between there," the 37-year-old Williams said. "So it's a hard balance to find, because sometimes when I'm too calm, I don't have enough energy. Still trying to find that balance."

Two more key stats on the paper she brought to her media session: She produced more winners than unforced errors, 19-15, while Goerges finished with 32 forced errors, a reflection of just how difficult Williams can make it for opponents to handle shots she sends their way.

Goerges credited Williams with causing

havoc with her returns, as well.

After averaging 10 aces in the first two rounds, Goerges was limited to half that many. Of more significance, perhaps, was that Williams' stinging replies to serves immediately put her in control of points.

"It's fair to say that she builds up enormous pressure with her returns," Goerges said. "That means I need to go to the limit in my service games."

After the traditional middle Sunday off, action resumes Monday with all fourth-round men's and women's singles matches.

Williams, who is seeded 11th, will face No. 30 Carla Suarez Navarro, while the other matchups on the top half of the women's field established Saturday are No. 1 Ash Barty, who has a 15-match winning streak, against unseeded Alison Riske of the U.S.; No. 21 Elise Mertens against Barbora Strycova; and two-time champion Petra Kvitova against No. 19 Johanna Konta of Britain.

On the bottom half, it will be the 15-year-old American sensation Coco Gauff vs. No. 7 Simona Halep; No. 3 Karolina Pliskova vs. Karolina Muchova; No. 8 Elina Svitolina vs. No. 24 Petra Martić; and Dayana Yastremska vs. Shuai Zhang.

In the men's draw, eight-time champion Roger Federer and two-time winner Rafael Nadal both won in straight sets Saturday to move closer to a semifinal showdown. Federer's record 17th visit to the fourth round at Wimbledon will come against No. 17 Matteo Berrettini, an Italian never before this far at the grass-court tournament.

"For me, I'm very happy how it's going so far," said Federer, a 7-5, 6-2, 7-6 (4) winner over No. 27 Lucas Pouille. "I hope it's going to take a special performance from somebody to stop me, not just a mediocre performance."

Nadal, who defeated Jo-Wilfried Tsonga 6-2, 6-3, 6-2, meets unseeded Joao Sousa next.

No. 8 Kei Nishikori meets Mikhail Kukushkin, and Sam Querrey plays Tennyson Sandgren in the first Week 2 matchup at Wimbledon between two American men since Pete Sampras beat Jan-Michael Gambill in the 2000 quarterfinals.

Kukushkin's four-set victory over Jan-Lennard Struff at Court 12 was interrupted when a 60-year-old female spectator had to be resuscitated after collapsing.

Sandgren beat No. 12 Fabio Fognini 6-3, 7-6 (12), 6-3 at tiny Court 14, with its 318 seating capacity. Fognini unleashed a tirade in Italian at one moment, saying he wanted a bomb to explode at the All England Club. He later said his comments came in the heat of the moment because he was upset about not playing well and the condition of the court's grass.

AP

Federer stardust touches everyone, and everything, at Wimbledon

LONDON

WHEN it comes to Wimbledon, there is no hotter property than Roger Federer.

The Swiss reduced Britain's Andy Murray to tears when he beat him in the 2012 final but having set another couple of records on Saturday and armed with what John McEnroe calls "the most beautiful shots in tennis" he remains everyone's darling at the All England Club.

Even the person manning the "Used Championship Balls" stall around the corner from Centre Court drew in passing trade by shouting: "Roll up, roll up, come and get your used championship balls here if you want to own a piece of Federer's DNA! Roger's been all

over these balls." Never mind that there was no way of identifying where exactly the balls stacked up on the pristine white counter had actually come from – considering they are collected from all 18 courts sprawled around the grounds. The mere thought of taking home a piece of Federer for the princely sum of \$1.25 certainly lured in the punters.

On Saturday, one of the birds flying over Wimbledon also wanted to get an across-the-net view of the great man.

Federer's third-round opponent Lucas Pouille was launching into a serve but was forced to make an abrupt landing after a little bird hopped into his half of the court, edging closer and closer to the net.

REUTERS



Former Serengeti Boys head coach, Oscar Mirambo

Amunike, Mirambo and Ninje: Scapegoat coaches

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA finished bottom of Group C with three defeats to Kenya, Algeria and Senegal in the on-going African Cup of Nations tournament in Egypt. Within a space of two years, this is the third time Tanzania finishes bottom of the group in a tournament.

In 2017, Mainland Tanzania finished bottom of the group in the CECAFA Senior Challenge Cup following embarrassing defeats against Rwanda, Zanzibar and Kenya. This was our worst performance in decades of the regional tournament.

In April this year, the national U-17 team, Serengeti Boys, finished bottom of their group with three consecutive defeats despite playing in front of their fans at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam in the U-17 Africa Cup of Nations tournament.

Failure does not happen alone, but when it comes to placing the blame, it is easy to point to one person to be fired or cut instead of a wide variety of people or issues that contribute to the problem. In Tanzania's football circle, the coach is always the easiest target. The usual scape goat.

In keeping with tradition, the 2017 CECAFA Senior Challenge Cup disastrous performance turned Mainland Tanzania squad's head coach Ammy Ninje into a figure of ridicule from all corners of Tanzania.

That marked the end of his time as Kilimanjaro Stars coach. He was a low hanging fruit that could be targeted by all without damage.

Oscar Mirambo and his Serengeti Boys technical bench were axed after the AFCON U-17 debacle. Again, the technical bench was an easy target that had no political ramifications for our

football leaders.

As I write, speculations are rife, coach Emmanuel Amunike has stepped down from his Taifa Stars head coach job.

Amunike, a decorated former Nigeria international, has been singled out as the chief architect of our embarrassment in the lands of Pharaoh. There are reports he has been given an ultimatum to win the forthcoming African Cup of Nations (CHAN) for home-based players qualifiers against Kenya.

Since stepping into what must be the toughest job in the country, Amunike has made several selection and tactical errors which have made him a figure of ridicule. His man-management tactic is questionable as he failed to handle player selection causing fallout with the public and possibly a breakdown in relationship with his squad. Whatever it is true, Amunike is a dead man walking. It is hard to see him last beyond this year.

However, it is very unfair to place all of the blame for our pathetic showings on coaches' shoulders.

We all agree, in the case of Taifa Stars, the team's prospects were also heavily damaged by bonus row and poor preparations. These were matters beyond the coach's duty. Somebody did not do his job properly but it is

the coach who has to shoulder all the blame.

Of all the views and theories being bandied about on our national teams - and they were plenty - the one that appealed most was that we are just not good enough to compete at continental level.

A look at our national teams results for the past few years and Taifa Stars declining position on the FIFA World Rankings proves this fairly obvious point.

As we plunge to new depths of mediocrity and the blame must be laid at the door of not only coaches but also the football governing body, TFF. Enough of this coach scapegoat.

Even if we now claim to have development programs and youth leagues, there is not nearly enough uniformity of purpose and planning to make a big enough impact higher up the pyramid. The Copa Coca-Cola and Copa U-17 competitions are not synced, it is like two competing factions doing their stuff with a different end game and purpose.

Forget about the small matter of poor coaches, the major blame lies with the governing body and the lack of vision in building capacity year in, year out. If we do not sort out the mess, we will continue attracting poor coaches. It is a vicious cycle. Hire a new coach, get poor results, fire him, and appoint another one of the same calibre.

Leadership crisis looms at Simba

By Correspondent Joseph

Mchekadona

TROUBLE is brewing at Mainland Premier League Champions, Simba SC, as the club's investor, Dewji, has of late been posting controversial posts on social media.

Dewji, who is also the club's chairman of board of directors, last weekend posted a message which indicates that something is wrong at the club.

Posting on his Instagram account, Dewji, who is popularly known as MO, noted in Kiswahili: "Kwenye uongozi na kwenye maisha, huwa nakaribisha kukosolewa lakini Siwezi nasikubali kufanya kazi na mtu a naye hujumu malengo, Mipango na maslahi mapana ya taasisi, Mtu anae tobaa mtubwi tunaasfiri nao."

"In leadership and life I welcome criticism, but I can not accept working with a person who is sabotaging the aims, plans and benefits of an organisation, a person who is creating a hole on the ship we are sailing in."

The post attracted a lot of comments on social media as others asking Dewji to come out in the open.

"It's clear now that there is something going on at our club, please Mo come out so that we know the truth," a person who identified himself as Nguvu Salim commented.

Before the post, on Wednesday, there was a post claiming 'any time soon Dewji will announce his decision to withdraw his investment from the club'.

This post went viral on social media and it also attracted a lot of comments.



Simba's players celebrate a goal the outfit notched in the 2018/19 Mainland Premier League match against Mbeya City FC. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

However, Dewji using the same Instagram posted in Kiswahili "Watu wenye nia mbaya kazi yao sio kujenga ni kuvunja tu, kaa nao mbali, narudia kaa nao mbali sana."

"Stay away from ill-minded people as their plan is to destroy not build, stay away from them, I repeat stay away from them."

Dewji could not make any comment on the posts, but the posts attracted a lot of comments on social media.

There was no immediate comment from

either Simba SC's Information Officer, Haji Manara, or any other top official of the club.

However, a source in the club who opted for anonymity said there are problems in the club as Dewji is feeling that efforts to invest in the club are being frustrated by some of the club's leaders.

"There are problems in our club, Mo Dewji is trying to invest in the club, but there is a network of people who are frustrating him, I'm sure if things will not be sorted out, the club will be in trouble,"

he said. Recently, Simba SC Company Chief Executive Officer, Crescentius Magori, informed the media that there are no problems in the club.

He issued the comment after reports had it that one of the members of the elders' committee of the club, Hamisi Kilomoni, is holding Simba SC building's title deed.

Magori said the title deed which is in Kilomoni's hands is fake and the original one is in safe hands.

Clarence Seedorf's future uncertain after Cameroon's Africa Cup of Nations exit

ALEXANDRIA, Egypt

CLARENCE Seedorf and Patrick Kluivert took the long walk back to the dressing room, heads down, their thoughts almost certainly drowned out by the celebrations around them.

If either had looked up and to the left, they would have seen a bundle of Nigeria players huddled around Nwankwo Kanu and Daniel Amokachi, taking selfie after selfie as they celebrated a 3-2 win. Those two former playing legends looked prepared for a party long into the night; Seedorf and Kluivert, by contrast, were left to reflect upon how their Cameroon side had fallen short.

There will be a new Africa Cup of Nations champion this year and that is because Seedorf, who became the Indomitable Lions' coach in August, could not repeat the unexpected 2017 success of his predecessor, Hugo Broos.

The recriminations will inevitably be bitter; Cameroon expects nothing but the best from its football team, but here at the last-16 stage, the best match of the tournament ended with them narrowly beaten by a better Nigeria side.

"I feel disappointment, obviously," Seedorf said. "Also some anger, because I felt we were a little tense at a few moments. But I have to appreciate the fighting spirit of my team; the players have done everything they could today."

A game in which the defining characteristic was negligent defending at both ends saw Cameroon produce an inversion of everything they had produced in the group stage. Before this clash with their old rivals, Seedorf had praised a defence that did not concede in those first three games, while pointing out that extra composure and incisiveness were needed in attack.

On Saturday, they caused havoc down the flanks at times and scored twice in a purple patch before half-time, but from the opening 30 seconds when Ambrose Oyongo conceded a sloppy corner, their back line leaked like a sieve.

"We made some mistakes today where we paid a high price," Seedorf said. "Offensively we produced more so in that sense I'm satisfied."

It was not enough even if Christian Bassogog, the star of that 2017 triumph, looked back to his best and put in a delicious ball for Stephane Bahoken's 41st-minute equaliser. When Clinton N'Jie showed Nigeria's defenders a clean pair of heels shortly afterwards,

Cameroon looked likely to upset the odds again.

However, they never got to grips with Odion Ighalo up front or the movement of Alex Iwobi behind him. Both men excelled in the second half and, eventually, the disparity in quality told. It all means Seedorf's future will come under scrutiny. He signed a four-year deal but, in Africa, that does not tend to mean a lot.

"Maybe you want to give us a few days," he said when asked what would happen next. "I've enjoyed every minute that I've worked with this group. Being in Africa is special and, for the future, we'll see what comes."

This is already Seedorf's longest stint in a management position, so it would not be a good look for the 43-year-old if, following brief spells with Milan, Shenzhen and Deportivo La Coruna, he and Kluivert, his assistant, were obliged to move on. Equally, Cameroon might not be wise to chop and change after a near miss against stronger opponents.

"We have improved in many aspects on and off the pitch," Seedorf said. "Obviously the disappointment in the country will be huge but this is a moment where we need to stay united for the future. We must not throw away all the work done over the past month."

Another reason to stick with Seedorf is because this is hardly a golden generation of Cameroonian talent, and a sensible stance would be to judge him in 2021, when they will be the host nation after losing the rights this time. His demeanour, though, was that of a man who did not necessarily consider his future to be safe.

Nigeria's Gernot Rohr embraced Seedorf at the end of the managers' joint postmatch news conference and noted that "to have a good football match you need two good teams." This fixture has been an AFCON final three times and, although you would not take bets on when that will happen again, it was a contest worthy of two continental giants.

Perhaps the ill luck for Seedorf and Cameroon was that they faced Nigeria so early in the competition, but in the end, they never quite managed to combine defensive stability and attacking guile in the same game.

"Details made the difference today," Seedorf concluded. He must now wait to see if he gets the chance to level out those fine margins.

(Agencies)

Messi slams referees, corruption after Copa America red card

SÃO PAULO

AFTER another frustrating Copa América ending, Lionel Messi boycotted the medal ceremony to protest the refereeing and "corruption," claiming Argentina had not been treated fairly.

Following defeats in the last two finals, Messi had a sudden end to this year's tournament by being sent off in the third-place game between Argentina and Chile on Saturday.

Messi was red carded after getting into a first-half shoving match with Chile midfielder Gary Medel, who also was ejected.

Argentina won 2-1 but Messi didn't show up for the medal ceremony to protest the refereeing. He had harsh words after the match, saying "we shouldn't take part in this corruption."

Messi had several objections. "There was lack of respect toward us during this Copa América," he said. "We could have done better, but they didn't let us make it to the final. Corruption and the referees are not letting the fans enjoy football. This is ruining football."

Messi had already loudly complained against Copa América refereeing after Argentina's loss to Brazil in the semifinals, hinting the result was expected because the hosts were allegedly in charge of South American soccer.

"Maybe what I said last time

played a part today," Messi said. "A yellow card should have been enough for both players."

He said he expected Brazil to win Sunday's final against Peru, claiming it was already set up for the hosts' victory.

When asked if he feared being suspended for his comments, Messi said "the truth needed to be told." CONMEBOL, South America's soccer confederation, released a statement condemning the "unacceptable" and "baseless accusations" that discredited the Copa América's integrity.

"In football, sometimes you lose and sometimes you win," the statement said. "One of the fundamental pillars of fair play is to accept the results and the refereeing decisions with respect."

Argentina won Saturday's match with first-half goals by Sergio Agüero and Paulo Dybala, with Messi earning an assist. Veteran midfielder Arturo Vidal scored Chile's lone goal by converting a penalty kick after half-time.

Messi and Medel got into each other's faces after a ball dispute near the end line in the 37th minute at the Arena Corinthians.

Medel wasn't happy that Messi came in hard from behind to challenge for the ball. The Chilean went to confront the Argentine great, who didn't back down. They started to bump into each other with their chests and shoulders.

AP

South Africa stuns Salah and Egypt at African Cup

CAIRO

TIPPED to win the title, Egypt and Mohamed Salah didn't even make the quarterfinals at the Africa Cup of Nations as the host and favorite was stunned 1-0 by South Africa and knocked out in the last 16 on Saturday.

South Africa's defense stifled Salah, setting the platform for striker Thembinkosi Lorch to score the winning goal on a counterattack with five minutes left. That silenced 75,000 fans at Cairo International Stadium who were expecting to see the home team march on toward the final.

Lorch was on his own in front of goal as South Africa caught Egypt out in the final minutes. Lebo Mothiba played the ball across to him with Egyptian defenders scrambling to get back into position and Lorch side-footed past goalkeeper Mohamed el-Shenawy and into the bottom right corner of the net.

The stadium went so quiet that Lorch said his first thought was that the goal had been disallowed.

Egypt threw together a run of attacks in the final five minutes but couldn't equalize and Salah slumped over, hands on knees, when the final whistle went. Some of his teammates lay on the ground and fans in the stands put their hands on their heads in disbelief. Some were in tears.

Meanwhile, the South African players ran to a corner of the cavernous stadium where a tiny pocket of their supporters celebrated.

Salah and Egypt lost the African Cup final two years ago but they were expected to put that right this year. They had home advantage, backed by tens of thousands of passionate followers in their quest to win a record-extending eighth African title for the country but the first since 2010. This tournament also meant more to Egypt than just sport. The country has been rocked by unrest and violence for nearly a decade and it was hoped Salah and the soccer team could bring some respite – and some joy.

Instead, Saturday's exit was Egypt's worst performance at a Cup of Nations anywhere since a group stage exit in 2004. It was made worse by the fact that Egypt has arguably Africa's best player in Liverpool forward Salah.

Bitter disappointment gave way to anger for some fans who threw plastic bottles at the Egypt players.

"They failed us," said one supporter. "They did not perform. The performance from the



Egypt's Mohamed Salah in action during their Africa Cup of Nations 2019 - Round of 16 match against South Africa at Cairo International Stadium in Cairo, Egypt on Saturday. REUTERS

beginning is a big question. Where is the coach? Where is the playmaker? Failed players." Another fan said: "They hurt us badly."

Egypt coach Javier Aguirre said he bore responsibility for the loss and the failed campaign and his future would be decided at a meeting with federation officials on Sunday.

"I am responsible for all consequences," he said. "I am the one who chose the players, the substitutes and put the plan together." Everything went to plan in the group stage, with Salah scoring twice and Egypt winning three out of three games.

Compare South Africa, which lost two out of its three games in group play, only managed to score one goal, and squeezed through as the lowest ranked of all the last 16 teams. The secret was the way South Africa and coach Stuart Baxter devised tactics to shut down the supply to Salah on the right wing and Mahmoud Trezeguet on the left, stifling Egypt's playmakers.

Salah had a half-chance in the fourth

minute when he fired a left-foot shot just wide. That was his clearest opening of the 90 minutes.

"Salah is an unbelievable player," Baxter said. "We knew that if he gets one look at the goal, we could be going back to Johannesburg." Trezeguet had a couple more opportunities. His best was when he was played in on goal by Salah but hit a shot straight at South Africa's keeper Ronwen Williams.

South Africa wasn't only about defending. Bafana Bafana also forced a series of saves from el-Shenawy in the Egypt goal, including a full-stretch fingertip stop from Percy Tau's curling free kick.

South Africa was probably the better team and the reward for one of its most memorable results ever at an African Cup is a quarterfinal against Nigeria.

Nigeria earlier beat defending champion Cameroon 3-2 in a wild last-16 game.

Nigeria scored first before Cameroon replied with two goals in three minutes at the

end of the first half to lead 2-1. Nigeria did the same to go ahead again with two goals in a three-minute spell after half-time.

Odion Ighalo scored two of Nigeria's goals and Alex Iwobi snatched the winner in the 66th to put the 2013 champion into the quarters.

AP



Were FIFA right to step in and 'rescue' African soccer?

By Gabriele Marcotti, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

TWO weeks ago, one seasoned FIFA watcher likened the Confederation of African Football (CAF) to a struggling city government plagued with a range of problems that gets taken over directly by the state. In this case, FIFA are taking control of African football given several scandals and FIFA president Gianni Infantino is determined to iron things out.

That analogy only applies to a point. Unlike the state with a city, FIFA doesn't have the authority to take over CAF. It had to be invited in by CAF itself and FIFA duly agreed. Fatma Samoura, FIFA's general secretary, will effectively be seconded to CAF as a "FIFA general delegate for Africa" for six months, together with other FIFA appointed officials.

(Samoura will have the option for continuing on for another six months after that spell.) They will also be conducting a thorough "forensic audit" of the body.

It came to this unprecedented decision to swoop in and appoint Samoura because the past three months have seen CAF embroiled in a whirlwind of troubles.

Back in March, Amr Fahmy, CAF's general secretary, sent a letter to FIFA's Ethics Committee accusing his president, Ahmad Ahmad, of sending bribes to various association president, mismanaging funds and multiple counts of sexual harassment.

Two weeks later, Fahmy was removed from his post by CAF's Executive Committee, who would not give a reason for the change. Ahmad is currently being investigated by the Ethics Committee and was arrested in Paris earlier this month before being released without charge.

Meanwhile, we still don't have a winner in the CAF Champions League even though the second leg of the final was played on May 31. Wydad Casablanca walked off the pitch with half an hour to go after they had a goal disallowed because the VAR was faulty.

Their opponents, Esperance Tunis, were originally declared champions by forfeit, but CAF later decided the match would be replayed in July, with a venue and date to be determined.

That's the situation Samoura walks into. Not everybody is happy that she's been given the task: for example, UEFA President Aleksander Ceferin complained that FIFA agreed to CAF's request and took the decision to send her without giving other confederations time to weigh in and properly assess the



Infantino's decision to swoop in and oversee African football's ruling body is unprecedented. While they're in need, was he right to install Samoura, left, without consultation? (Agencies)

situation. Critics of Infantino also say that it's in keeping with autocratic style, and they note that Ahmad was one of his biggest supporters.

The biggest thing to note about this sudden move is how FIFA looks in the interim: in the space of a month, soccer's ruling body is losing its general secretary, Samoura, to CAF and one of the deputy general secretaries, Zvonimir Boban, who is going back to former club Milan.

As if all this weren't enough, some members of CAF's Executive Committee dispute whether they actually approved

Samoura's appointment as "FIFA general delegate for Africa."

Leodegar Tenga, a CAF ExCo member and president of the Tanzania FA, issued a statement claiming that while they "agreed in principle" to cooperate closely with FIFA to achieve "good governance," "eradicate corruption" and promote "integrity and ethical practice," they never actually approved Samoura's appointment.

Instead, Tenga says, the English-speaking ExCo members were only shown French versions of the coopera-

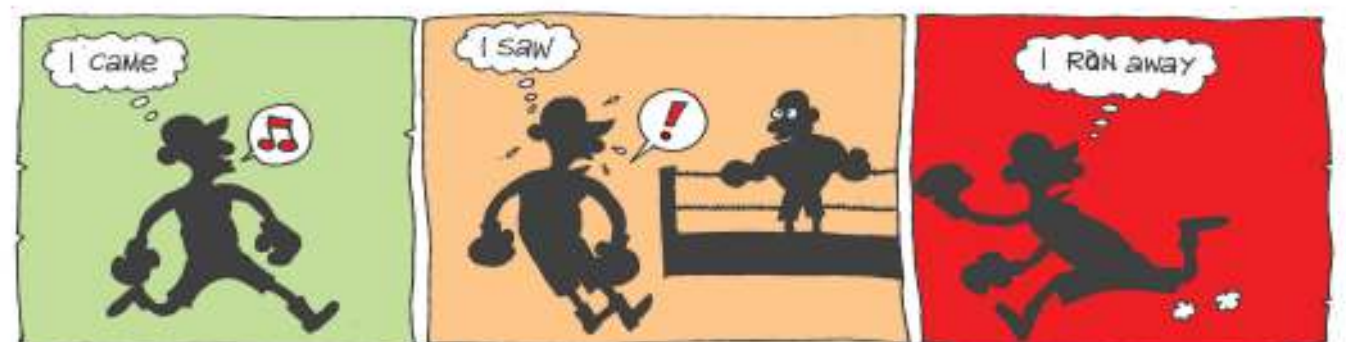
tion documents and did not have time to evaluate the proposal: it was simply announced as a "fait accompli."

It seems pretty clear the decision was made with all the grace and care of a wildebeest in a Faberge Egg museum. The message it sends -- Africa can't take care of itself so let's get those nice people from Zurich to sort things out -- is also loaded, resonates with an ugly colonial past and is only partly mitigated by the fact that Samoura is herself African.

That said, it doesn't mean it was the wrong decision, either. African football has been victimised by mismanagement, corruption and disorganisation for decades. (To be fair, in that sense, it's not much different to what happened in Oceania or in North and South America, judging by the number of officials who've been banned or indicted, though the CAF actually did ask for help.)

It deserves better, and Samoura and outside auditors are maybe a step in the right direction. But given the region's history of colonialism, the stakes and the powerful figures and interests involved, it's difficult to understand why a decision like this was rushed through.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

South Africa stuns Salah
and Egypt at African Cup

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Female athletes participate in the last year's Ngorongoro National Open Championship, which took place at the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium in Arusha. PHOTO:

National swimming team lands financial boost

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu, Dodoma

NATIONAL swimming team's preparations for the FINA World Championships have garnered a boost given Motisun Group Limited has announced to meet some of costs for two of the squad's swimmers.

Four swimmers, Hilal Hemed, Collins Saliboko that will take part in the men's category and Sylvia Caloiaro and Shivan Bhatt, who will feature in women category, will represent Tanzania in the showpiece slated for July 18 to 28 in Gwanju, South Korea.

Tanzania Swimming Association (TSA) had earlier been finding difficult to send the swimmers to the World Championships, given the association was strapped for cash.

The TSA disclosed it needs 38.7m/- to send the swimmers, a coach and officials to South Korea.

Motisun Group Limited Marketing Manager Erhard Mlyansi noted they have decided to meet costs for the two swimmers.

Mlyansi who represented the company's Managing Director and Chairman of Board of Directors, Subhash Patel, in handing over cash to the team, disclosed they are pleased to be part of efforts to promote sports at the domestic level.

The firm, according to him, had earlier backed the camp for senior national soccer team, which was shaping up for the AFCON finals.

Motisun Group Limited, also back the organization of the AFCON U-17 tournament, which took place in Dar es Salaam.

"We appeal to other companies to join forces with us and facilitate the national swimming squad, which will jet out to South Korea on July 16 for the championships, we have presented our contribution to the team which will represent the country," Mlyansi noted.

He insisted there will hardly be development in sports in the country, if there is no support to athletes.

"Sports governing bodies have simply been tasked with supervising the sports and set up plans that will, in cooperation with government and stakeholders, reach to fruition, we are happy to be part of the efforts," he noted.

The TSA vice-chairperson, Asmah Hilal, and national team's coach, Alexander Mwaipasi, will travel with the team to South Korea.

The officials will head to South Korea on July 10 to take part in the world swimming governing body, FINA, congress and coaches' forum.



Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Harrison Mwakyembe (R), speaks to Taifa Stars head coach, Emmanuel Amunike, shortly after the former had held a meeting with the latter in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

AFCON finals important to Tanzania- Mwakyembe

By Guardian Reporter

MINISTER for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Harrison Mwakyembe, has pointed out the ongoing AFCON finals that are hosted by Egypt are extremely important to Tanzania.

Tanzania's senior national soccer team, Taifa Stars, was knocked out of the tournament following defeats to Senegal, Algeria and Kenya in the Group C of the event.

The Tanzania squad battled it out in the showdown after having failed to make it to the event for 39 years.

Mwakyembe issued the statement at a press conference in Dar es Salaam last weekend after meeting Taifa Stars' head coach Emmanuel Amunike in the city.

The minister disclosed he still has much faith in Amunike's ability to excel in his position, noting the latter should be given time, given the latter has unveiled great technical plans he has for Taifa Stars to the former.

"I should first say I'm happy to meet

Taifa Stars' coach, the meeting geared towards giving him opportunity to tell me what went on in the AFCON finals in Egypt that we have participated in after 39 years' absence," he disclosed.

"And I should say I have much faith in Amunike's ability to keep on excelling with our team. We talked a lot on the tournament and the ministry feels we should give him more time to implement his plans for Taifa Stars so the side can perform well in other competitions."

"I'm happy to have a meeting with the coach and he is also happy to meet the government with a view to know his views of the team... what should we do to return to the AFCON finals next time."

"Next time everybody should fear the team. He has given us a good example, pointing out Uganda did not fare well in the AFCON finals in 2015, but our neighbours worked on their flaws instead of wasting time on blame game."

"There were many technical weaknesses, I will not mention most of them because we will have a look at them with

the bodies tasked with the overseeing the squad, the most important thing is we are happy the coach has positive mindset we can perform well, we have proved we have potential but technically we need to step up."

He as well disclosed Amunike has recommended that Taifa Stars should go for intensive training and take part in three international friendlies a year with a view to getting experience.

"A weakness which was in view, which the coach think can be dealt with, is training sessions for Taifa Stars, the squad should at least take part in three international friendlies, it should, for example, take on Zambia and then lock horns with South Africa," he added.

"We should probably invite Spain, they will tour national parks, in this year's finals we saw our players, sometimes, lack confidence... you can see they began managing to complete passes later on, it was all about confidence but Stars players put a good showing."

AT hosts lecturers course for UDSM students

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu, Dodoma

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT), in cooperation with the University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM), has hosted the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) Level 1 lecturers course for the university's students.

The course's instructor, Hamad Ndee, disclosed 25 second year students that are pursuing a degree in Physical Education and Sports Sciences took part in the clinic.

Ndee, who has been authorized the world athletics governing body, added the body recently opted for a change in the levels of coaching courses, scrapping level four and remaining with levels one, two and three.

"The new levels are Level I coaching course for U-16 athletes, Level II coaching course for U-20 athletes and Level III coaching course for athletes aged 20 and above," Ndee disclosed.

In an effort to groom IAAF Level 1 lecturers that will train athletics coaches in various countries IAAF introduced the project in 2016.

"Several countries that include Tanzania have the IAAF Level 1 lecturers," he noted.

Ndee noted AT is among others tasked with grooming athletics instructors and coaches in all levels.

"AT's long plan gears towards conducting the Level I coaching course for U-16 athletes and ultimately host courses for the sport's coaches in the country," he noted.

He disclosed the domestic athletics body will work with regions to conduct the coaching training in all levels.

Ndee, who is also AT vice-president-Technical, added the association has first opted to first join forces with the UDSM Department of Physical Education and Sports Science to conduct the course for students that need to serve as athletics coaches.

The course's participants noted they have got valuable knowledge in athletics, adding they had earlier felt athletics was all but running.

Said Mohamed Abdulla, who coordinated the course, disclosed although he is a soccer coach he was attracted to take part in the course with a view to boosting his knowledge in sports, particularly athletics.

He was adamant athletics stakeholders will see put his knowledge to practice.

Abdulla asked AT to cherish the course's graduates and make the most of their knowledge.

Yusta Msuta, the course's graduate, revealed she fully exploit her knowledge, identifying and nurturing athletics talents for the country's and the youths' benefit.

Abdulla, Isack Kachumbalile, Ignas Igrarce, Yusta, Michael Mbwiga, Daud Dauson, Zamaradi Iroko, Godfrey Haule, Masatu Masumbuko and Wines Mbwilo took part in the course.

Richard Hamis Madila, Ombeni Mgingo, Alfred Mtwewe, Naftali Baraka, Okram Ngailo, Mtaka Chibwi, Rabia Hilaly, Isaya Ambele, Kelvin Robert, Abbas Livanga, Nyamizi Lucas, Majaliwa Minzimado, Mtwewe Magnus, Damian Sylvester and Joseph George as well attended the course.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



5 UJENZI
EATV

TONIGHT @ 21:00

MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ (LIVE)
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:00 UTAKE
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 KURASA
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SSPORTS LIVE
22:30 BONGO HITS

Ujenzi Watch this informative show on the domestic construction process both on site construction and interior/exterior designing whilst using the latest technology and appliances that have made construction easier

eastafrika RADIO

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

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM