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African children to constitute half of world's poor by 2030

By Guardian Reporter

CHILDREN in Africa will make up more than half of global poverty by 2030, on the basis of research by the UK Overseas Development Institute and the NGO, Save the Children.

This view is generated by a "perfect storm of slow and unequal economic growth, demographic trends and the depth of current poverty," a report released by the two organisations said last week.

Researchers predicted that 87 million African children will be born into poverty in each year of the next decade, warning in their paper of a "worrying gap" between the scale of response needed from various authorities and the scale of the response so far.

Kevin Watkins, chief executive of Save the Children UK, said: "Put simply, the world's population of children is increasing most rapidly in the region where poverty is coming down most slowly."



Fertility rates are falling slowly in Africa, with mothers giving birth to between four and five children on average

Fertility rates are falling slowly in Africa, with mothers giving birth to between four and five children on average.

By 2030, Africa's share of global births is projected to be 36 per cent. Today, the number of births in Africa accounts for 29 per cent of the world's total whereas its share of the global population is 17 per cent.

But poverty has fallen more slowly in Africa than in other regions, with an estimated 40 per cent of the population living on less than \$1.90 a day, the report said.

Watkins explained: "These trends are unfolding in full view of the governments who have pledged to eradicate poverty, yet their response to child poverty has been a case study in inertia."

The report found "little evidence" of African governments developing suitable policies to address the crisis, and also criticised the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and other donor organisations for "failing to put child poverty at the centre of their agendas."

Watkins said that child poverty by itself is "an affront to basic rights and equal opportunity," but it is also a "guaranteed

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JPM tells ward executives govt efforts rely on them



Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein exchanges greetings with Femi Gbajabamila (2nd-R), Speaker of Nigeria's House of Representatives, shortly before opening the 50th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Africa Regional Conference in Zanzibar yesterday. Right (seated) is National Assembly Speaker Job Ndugai. Photo courtesy of National Assembly

President Magufuli recently held meetings with the regional commissioners (RCs), district commissioners (DCs), regional administrative secretaries (RASs), district executive secretaries (DEDS), and ambassadors representing Tanzania in different countries worldwide

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli yesterday tasked ward executive officers (WEOs) to support his efforts in transforming the country's socio-economic development towards middle income status.

He made the call when speaking to WEOs from across the country at the State House in Dar es Salaam.

He urged local government officials to familiarize themselves with government efforts so that the people become aware of endeavors taken by the state to develop the nation.

Dr Magufuli said the broad task of enabling the nation to remain safe and prosperous is in the hands of the cadre of local government officials, who are close to people at the grassroots level.

Apart from lauding them, Dr Magufuli asked WEOs to refrain from indulging in unethical practices, saying doing so not only taints their individual image but also that of the government.

In a televised speech, the president said that he was fully aware that there are some local leaders who are not ethical.



Apart from lauding them roles, Dr Magufuli asked WEOs to refrain from in unethical practices, saying doing so not only taints their individual image but that of the government as well

"I am not saying all. I know that many of you are ethical but some of you are not. There are those who are involved in corrupt practices," he said, identifying land as the leading area in corruption and which causes conflicts that involve farmers and pastoralists.

President Magufuli recently held meetings with regional commissioners, district commissioners, regional administrative secretaries (RAS), district executive secretaries (DEDS), and heads of Tanzanian diplomatic missions in different parts of the world.

Ward executive officers need to ensure that peace and security prevails in their respective areas, as peace is the foundation for any development activity that can be carried out, he stated.

He warned leaders in border areas to make sure that no national ID is given to a foreigner, appealing to them to get out of their offices and meet people so that they can handle their challenges directly.

He reminded the WEOs that they are 'field officers and office officers' and that dealing with

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Dr Shein urges ICT use to get e-Parliament benefits

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein yesterday called on members of the Commonwealth to invest heavily in promoting the use and teaching of ICT in local communities in order to reap optimal benefits of introducing e-Parliament.

Dr Shein made the remarks when opening of the 50th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Africa Region conference taking place in the Isles.

The CPA involves MPs and Speakers from Commonwealth member states, where those attending include Justin Muturi, chairman of



Zanzibar government has embarked on e-Government project and I officially inaugurated the first phase of the project in January, 2013

CPA Africa Region and Speaker of the Kenya National Assembly along with Job Ndugai, Speaker of the National Assembly. Others are Alitwala Kadaga, President of CPA International and Uganda Parliament Speaker plus the host Speaker Zubeiri Ali Maulid of the Zanzibar House of Representatives.

Also in attendance was Emilia Monjowa Lifaka, chairperson of the CPA International Executive Committee and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Cameroon.

The theme for this year's meeting is "e-Parliament: Seamless Platform for Facilitating Democracy," billed as important and relevant

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Govt gets 1.9bn/- selling 3,262 cubic meters of old teak trees

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

THE government has collected 1.9bn/- from selling 3,262 cubic meters of standing teak trees from two auctions last week in Morogoro and Tanga regions in an effort to raise government income.

The first auction for the highly valued timber species was conducted at Mibwa forest farm located in Kilosa district Morogoro region, whereby 1162.15 cubic meters of standing teak trees were sold at a price of around 455m/-.



The second auction for 2,100 cubic meters of the same trees were sold at a whopping amount of 1.5bn/- at Longuza forest farm located in Muheza district, Tanga region.

Conserved for 48 years, teak trees, scientifically known as (Tectona grandis) is currently the most high-value timber species due to its technological characteristics as well as the durability and aesthetic value of its wood.

The details were released to reporters late last week by the director of planning and resources

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JPM tells ward executives govt efforts rely on them

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people's problems should be their top priority.

"People shouldn't be forced to wait until the president visits them to have their grievances heard and worked on," he emphasized.

He also wanted public officials to carry out their responsibilities confidently and without fear as they are representing the executive branch.

"You stand as supervisors of public servants in wards, so don't hesitate to

speak out whenever you recognize that things are not going well. If there is any public official, whether a regional or district commissioner fails to supervise ethics, just tell him without fear. You can copy me as well if you want," he told the WEOs.

He instructed them to report public officials threatening peace in their areas, including those fighting in bars. Top government officials must stop harassing WEOs just because of their positions, he added.

Dr Shein urges ICT use to get e-Parliament benefits

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to current technological development and global efforts to promote good governance and democracy.

"Promoting the use and application of ICTs by developing e-Parliament in our countries is a vital step towards enhancing the three core functions of parliaments namely, legislation, representation as well as the power to monitor and oversee various government organs, which legislators simply call "oversight," he said.

Dr Shein said that the implementation of e-Parliament programmes is important in facilitating easy access to a wide range of information and knowledge resources, which are instrumental in making informed decisions, both in parliaments and constituencies.

Through databases, intranets, digital libraries and the internet in general, MPs can have access to resources relating to legislative documents, such as bills and proceedings from almost anywhere, he said.

In addition, he said that through e-Parliament, members of Parliament can easily be connected to their constituencies and the people they represent.

At the same time, Dr Shein said that the people through e-Parliament can express their viewpoints and concerns in a more effective and efficient way by reducing the cost and paperwork.

"Furthermore, we can considerably reduce unnecessary travels, if e-Parliament programmes are properly carried out, thus compensating for implementation of various cost-cutting initiatives introduced by our governments.

"It is encouraging to note that there are many MPs in different countries who work closely with schools in their respective constituencies to promote the teaching of ICT," he said.

Citing examples, Dr Shein said in Zanzibar, many schools have been provided with desktop and laptop computers by members of the House of Representatives and MPs.

"It is actually a commendable action which should be emulated by other MPs and Representatives who have not yet taken such initiatives. This provision of ICT appliances signals the MPs' and Representatives' positive attitude towards the use of ICT in present day communication, and they instill it on the youths, some of whom may in future become legislative members."

He further said that the Zanzibar government has embarked on e-Government Project and the president officially inaugurated its first phase in January 2013.

After the successful installation of the relevant ICT infrastructure, the project

took off and Isles' government has directed use ICT in all its institutions to keep pace with technological advancements and other changes associated with globalization, he elaborated.

"We have already put in place various e systems regarding government institutions payroll, human resource management, public leaders' ethics, records management, e-tax, e-health, early warning and matters relating to the Directorate of Public Prosecutions (DPP) which are now fully operational," he specified.

In the case of e health, Dr Shein said that in the Mnazi Mmoja Referral Hospital, some medical records are currently being kept electronically. Tele-medicine activities like video conferencing on surgical operations are also taking place at the Neurosurgical Department.

"Likewise, the installation of a Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) machine, digital X-ray and CT scan machines marks a paradigm shift to the engagement of e-health practices. About 170 hotels are connected to e-booking system as a pilot scheme. Blog monitoring and e-tourism are underway," he remarked.

"The implementation of this important project is part of the government's efforts to promote the practice of good governance and democracy by improving efficiency, effectiveness, transparency and accountability in service delivery as stipulated in the Zanzibar Public Service Act No. 2 of 2011. Likewise, particular emphasis on the development of ICT has been laid by the government in the implementation of development plans, including the Zanzibar Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty (ZSGRP II), Zanzibar Development Vision 2020 and the CCM General Election Manifesto of 2015 - 2020.

"We are now implementing the second phase of the e-Government Project, whereby the relevant infrastructure has been built in both Unguja and Pemba. About 419 km of the fiber optic network cables have been laid and 102 public institutions, including the building of the House of Representatives are already connected to the data centre through the fibre optic cable."

E-government initiatives have considerably increased the use and application of ICT in the Zanzibar House of Representatives in its daily operations. The Zanzibar House of Representatives intends to enhance the use of e-government for the public to access information from the House at ease. This will help to cement relations between House members and the people they represent, the Isles leader added.



President John Magufuli has an audience with ward executives officers from across mainland Tanzania at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Left is the State House Permanent Secretary Dr Moses Kusiluka. Photo: State House

African children to constitute half of world's poor by 2030

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route to failure" for a host of other development goals, including health, gender equality and education.

He said: "The most effective weapon to combat this is redistributive economic growth, underpinned by progressive taxation and more

equitable public spending to reach the most disadvantaged children."

The research was based on World Bank poverty figures, which showed in

2015 that more than half of the world's 'extreme poor' live in Sub-Saharan Africa. It also used UN population data and household survey data on fertility.



Mbeya regional commissioner Albert Chalamila (L) has a word in Mbeya city yesterday with a Bajaj rider during an operation mainly involving the inspection of driving licences. Photo: Correspondent Nebart Msokwa

World Water Week showcases innovation, inspiration and collaboration

STOCKHOLM

MILLIONS of lives could be at risk unless humankind takes the water crisis and global warming more seriously. This was the main message as World Water Week closed here on Friday amid calls for governments, institutions and companies to start applying the water-based solutions already in existence - and include everyone in the process.

The world's leading annual water event, World Water Week, ended with warnings of looming dangers as well as rays of hope. One-third of the 4,000 participants from 138 countries were under the age of 35 and their presence was highly noticeable throughout the conference.

"It has been very inspiring how we young professionals get to share our knowledge and are increasingly being listened to," said Sara Löwgren from the Water Youth Network at the closing ceremony.

A day earlier, Prof Johan Rockström had turned directly to the young participants, saying: "You are the only ones who can truly speak on behalf of the future." He assured the audience that science says that there is still a chance to save the planet if carbon emissions are cut by half in the coming decade but that this window of opportunity must be put to good use.

Many of the Week's 250-plus sessions focused on water as a solution to challenges such as climate change and food scarcity. With the theme of the event being "Water for Society: Including All", research was presented on the importance of integrating the perspectives of all ages, genders and social groups.

Torgny Holmgren, Executive Director of organisers SIWI (Stockholm International Water Institute), described this as the essence of good water governance, adding: "Compared to previous years, I see a new focus on the role of governments, cities and local communities, with many inspiring examples."

Indian government delegate Parameswaran Iyer described the massive undertakings made to ensure that all Indians get access to clean water and safe sanitation before 2024.

"In a campaign that started on July 1 this year, we have sent out 1,200 government officials in the field to talk to people about water conversation. This is how we change behaviours," he said.

Govt gets 1.9bn/- selling 3,262 cubic meters of old teak trees

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utilization for the Tanzania Forest Services Agency (TFS) Mohammed Kilongo, during auction day at Longuza forest farm.

He said both auctions were legally conducted, in accordance with the Forest Act and regulations of 2004 together with Government Notice no 255 of 28 July 2017 which directed that the selling of standing teak trees will follow prevailing market prices.

TFS is mandated by the government to sell standing teak trees and other forest products.

The revenues obtained will be channeled to the Forest Fund to recover costs incurred in preserving

the trees for 48 years, and to develop the balances in the forest ecological system.

"We planned to sell 7,002 cubic meters of standing teak trees from Longuza forest farm but the registered bidders have just bought eight plots out of 23 plots that were kept for auction," he said.

"Most registered bidders found it impossible to purchase due to the fall of the Rupee (Indian currency) as the country is the main importer of the trees," the director explained.

Most traders who bought the trees used to export to India where there is large market for the trees," he stated.

The procedure for auctioning gives

an opportunity to bidders to weigh themselves and purchase the standing teak trees volume which they can pay for harvest within the award letter for harvesting the trees," he specified.

Auctions for the trees are regularly conducted in three to four months in intervals, he said.

He said that the government will continue with auctioning of the trees in its 13 forest farms up to April next year in order to finish the available stock of 1,062,831 cubic meters of the trees.

However, the government is currently preparing modalities for ensuring that the forest resources will benefit locals by supporting them to establish a competitive furniture industry to

accelerate industrial development.

Highlighting some of the challenges they face, a representative from Prime Timber Co., Yusuf Ngage said high prices of the trees is what retarded them from purchasing tonnes of the trees.

The quality of trees is currently not promising for the market, making it impossible to win the market.

"We ask the government to improve the business by setting conducive prices which are friendly to traders so that we can win the local and external market," he said.

Dr Cellina Mongo, the chairperson of the auction, said the business has received huge attention from bidders,

appearing in big numbers to register for purchasing the trees.

"But the challenge facing the business is marked price that fluctuates from time to time, causing traders to purchase minimal quantity contrary to government expectations," she said.

Dr Mongo, who is principal forest officer, Forest and Beekeeping Division in the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism said that the government is expecting to have audience with traders in the business to see what it can do on pricing and related challenges.

Traders must abide with terms and conditions for the sale in order to benefit from the business, the auction head added.



Same district commissioner Rosemary Senyamule (seated-L) addresses small-scale gemstone miners at Ruvu-Marwa in Kilimanjaro Region yesterday shortly after visiting a bauxite mining site. Photo: Godfrey Mushi

Jumbos move into villages in Bariadi and destroy crops

By Guardian Correspondent, Bariadi

FARMERS in Halawa village, Bariadi district, Simiyu region are calculating losses after stray elephants destroyed their crops over the weekend.

More than 10 jumbos said to have strayed from the neighbouring Maswa Game Reserve, destroyed people's homes and crops.

The group of jumbos stormed the village at around 1 am midnight when people were asleep and destroyed 11 houses of about 50 people.

One of the victims Mwalu Nsulwa said the elephants destroyed his house and eaten all bags of maize which were stored for food security.

"I managed to run away with my family. I thank God we're all alive, but the challenge is where to start as I have no house and no food," he said.

Village Executive Officer Mahenga Matongo said that seven households were destroyed by the elephants' invasion and 42 bags of maize and six bags of potatoes were eaten.

He however said that there were no injuries and deaths in the during the

invasion.

Matongo said that the affected people had been given alternative accommodation by their fellow neighbours.

Bariadi District Commissioner Festo Kiswaga handed over 220 kgs of maize flour, 50kgs of beans and 20kgs of sugar to the affected families.

DC Kiswaga asked management of Maswa Game Reserve to work on the challenge, which has been chronic in recent years.

He however said that the government was working hard to ensure that the affected people are being compensated. Game Reserve manager Lusato Masinde said that in recent years there are has been an increasing number of elephants in the area, which had destroyed people's homes.

"For almost one week, we've chased groups of elephants into the reserve from Meatu, Itilima and Bariadi districts. This is a challenge that we're facing with, I call on people to report once they see the animals roaming around their homes and farms," he said.

By Guardian Reporter

National Assembly to deliberate on three Bills

Parliament to debate and pass three bills during the sessions which kicks off today in the country's capital, Dodoma.

According to the timetable, the two-week parliamentary sessions will also see the National Assembly debate and possibly pass three bills which were tabled in June, this year for first reading.

The meetings will start with a

questions-and-answer sessions to be followed by passing a resolution to congratulate President John Magufuli for his recent appointment as the chairman of the Southern African Development Cooperation (SADC).

The three bills include the e-Government Bill 2019 which seeks to

establish the e-Government Authority which will coordinate, oversee and promote electronic government initiatives and enforce policies, regulations, laws, standards and guidelines related to public institutions.

Other bills include the Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) number

four and five of 2019 which seek to make changes in different laws.

The Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) bill number four outlines 11 laws including the Criminal Procedure Act (Cap 20) which introduces plea bargaining system into Tanzania's justice system.

The plea bargaining system allows the prosecutor and accused to agree by the latter pleading guilty to certain charges in return for some concessions from the prosecutor which may lead to lenient sentence or withdrawal of other counts.

The move is targeted at reducing case

backlogs which delay justice delivery.

The bill also intends to amend the Advocates Act by introducing a clause that restricts state attorneys and other state law officers from practicing the profession outside their government job. The Written Laws (Miscellaneous Amendments) bill number five seeks to amend seven laws including the Electronic and Postal Communications Act by making Sim card registration mandatory for whoever uses it.

By Guardian Correspondent,

Jerusalem

Minister awards certificates to Israel-trained Tanzanians

AGRICULTURE minister Japhet Hasunga yesterday awarded certificates to forty five Tanzanians who underwent training in agro studies in Jerusalem, Israel, under an apprenticeship programme that focuses on agriculture capacity building in developing countries.

The programme exposes students from countries in South East Asia, Africa and South America to the most advanced commercial farming techniques on handpicked farms in Israel.

Tanzania has been given a total of 100 opportunities to send youth to study various courses in the field.

Speaking at the event in Israel Hasunga expressed the government's commitment to improve the agricultural sector.

"It is a good opportunity for graduates to use the skills they have acquired to improve agriculture sector when they return to Tanzania", the minister said.

The graduation involved 1600 young people from more than 12 countries of which 45 are Tanzanians where nine are women and 36 men.

The minister said the opportunity given to Tanzanians is important because it provides a room for young Tanzanians to

join hands on experience in the field.

The minister said the request came after President Magufuli's appeal to the Israeli government to enable more Tanzanian youth to learn modern agriculture.

Similarly, minister Hasunga was expected to meet with the director general of the Institute

of Agro Studies where among the key talks will be to requesting more opportunities for Tanzanians to learn new agricultural techniques in Israel.

Hasunga will also meet with Minister of Agriculture for Israel to discuss the various areas and investment opportunities available in the agricultural

sector in Tanzania. He is also expected to meet key agricultural stakeholders in Israel to explain the investments opportunities available in Tanzania.

During the visit, Hasunga will tomorrow meet the second batch of 100 young Tanzanian in Israel who are expected start their training on the same.



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CLOSING DATE: September 17, 2019

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It is a good opportunity for graduates to use the skills they have acquired to improve agriculture sector when they return to Tanzania

Tourism stakeholders shower praise on govt in the wake of improved business conditions

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

STAKEHOLDERS in tourism and hospitality industry have praised the government for creating conducive environment for the sector, saying the number of tourists in the country was now on the increase.

Speaking to journalists here yesterday, the Chief Executive Officer of Impala Hotel, Joram Lemanya said the reforms pioneered by President John Magufuli in the sector since he entered into the high office in 2015 had started to pay-off.

"Everyone in this sector see the pace of its growth and development. The number of tourists has increased steadily and compelled us to get well prepared in delivering our services professionally," Lemanya said.

He said the challenges the sector was facing in the past had now been addressed and contributions of the sector in terms revenues and job creation are also on the increase for the betterment of the country.

"This is a commendable job of the fifth phase government where it took stern measures to ensure the sector shines and makes significant contributions to the national economy," he said, calling for all stakeholders to support it.

According to him, he insisted that the tourism sector in Tanzania has received a huge drive and it is to be praised for the efforts done in promoting different tourist attractions internationally comparing within two years back.

"Impala hotel is well prepared to receive a big number of tourists from all over the world. Tourism sector is now excelling to an extent the rooms that were not in use are now being renovated because the number of tourists had increased," said Lemanya.

He added two months back a group of 5000 tourists from China visited

Tanzania and promised to become the ambassadors in promoting Tanzania and its tourist's attractions to their colleagues while back home.

"Our country has won confidence of many tourists from Israel, Germany, China, USA and several other countries. So it is our responsibility to keep on renovating our infrastructures as the number of tourists increase and should enjoy their stay in Tanzania. For they are to be our ambassadors in promoting our country," he said.

Lemanya thanked the government through its Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism together with its institutions like Tanzania Tourism Board (TTB), Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), and Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority for good setting in the tourism sector.

He also commended the Arusha regional administration under RC Mrisho Gambo for maintaining peace and security include controlling of crime such as poaching and others vices.

"Impala companies that own Impala Hotel and Naura Springs which are rated four and five stars, are well prepared to give quality services for the tourists to make Tanzania their first choice for tourism," said Lemanya.

Lemanya said giving out best customer services by the Impala staff will maintain the status to be an example in making tourists keep on visiting different tourist attractions available in Tanzania including Serengeti, Ngorongoro, Mount Kilimanjaro and other oceanic areas.

"Everyone in this sector see the pace of its growth and development. The number of tourists has increased steadily and compelled us to get well prepared in delivering our services professionally"



A Stecol Corporation bulldozer on a demolition mission meant to pave the way for the construction of a ten-storey commercial building at Uhindini in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Museveni due in Dar Friday for Tanzania-Uganda business meet

By Guardian Reporter

UGANDAN President Yoweri Museveni is expected to officiate at the first Tanzania-Uganda business forum which is scheduled for September 6 to 7 at the Dar es Salaam's Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre (JNICC), the Minister for Industries and Trade, Innocent Bashungwa has said.

According to him, the forum will bring together business leaders, policymakers and stakeholders to explore businesses and investment opportunities and cement trade

relations between the two countries.

Addressing reporters yesterday in Dar es Salaam, Bashungwa said that President Museveni will grace the forum following an invitation from President John Magufuli.

According to him, President Museveni will also be accompanied by a number of traders from Uganda.

Recently, the Ugandan High Commissioner to Tanzania Richard Kabonero confirmed that over 300 Ugandan delegates had confirmed participation during the business forum.

"The forthcoming forum also creates

platform for the traders to meet and exchange views, but also for the government to listen to the challenges impeding trade growth and see how to resolve them for mutual benefits... "We will have to look at opportunities that exist between the two countries, challenges impeding trade and the way forward to addressing them," Bashungwa said.

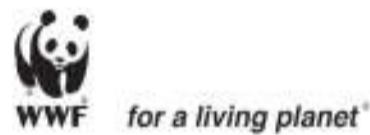
Uganda has for long time remained the major market for Tanzania's food products and manufactured goods, so the forthcoming forum stands as a great opportunity for local traders to expand their

businesses and market.

He added that the business forum will kick off with an exhibition by companies from the two countries showcasing their products and broadening their networks and value chain.

"During the forum, local traders will also learn from their fellow Ugandans on how to grab market opportunities in South Sudan," he added.

The minister further urged traders to attend the forum for them to learn new business techniques as well as increase their networks for their businesses development.



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT PROGRAMME ACCOUNTANT

The WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature), an international conservation organization, is seeking for a competent and highly motivated Programme Accountant, to be based in Dar es Salaam.

Major Task: Under the directives of the Financial Controller, the Programme Accountant's responsibilities will be as follows: Provide hands on support to the Finance team on all financial and operational issues to ensure effective management of the TCO Programs and projects. Oversee implementation of donor and WWF's operational policies, procedures standards and systems including budget management, financial reporting, audits. Support and coordinate development of program's operational, strategic and business plans and ensure effective implementation of the same.

Major duties and responsibilities:

Program budgets management

- Manage program expenditure by ensuring that all program activities are fully funded and expended appropriately.
- Liaise with project technical staff and the TCO Finance Manager on budgetary/cash flows and disbursements from the donor and to program.

Financial management and accounting

- Playing a leading role in preparation and ensure timely submission of all financial reports assigned to you for review and approval to Financial Controller or Finance Manager for further submission to donors and other partners as per respective contracts.
- Act as Oracle focal person for WWF TCO for issues related to Accounts payable sub-module.

Program audits

- Organize Program audits including preparation of documents for internal, external and donor audits.
- Liaise with internal and external auditors on income related issues and any other audit related issues as assigned by TCO Financial Controller.

Required Qualifications and skills: A university degree in Accounting, Commerce, Business Administration or related field, Full accounting qualification i.e. CPA, ACCA or equivalent will be an added advantage, Three to five years of working with financial/accounting systems experience in a major international organisation/NGO i.e. USAID accounting, Good knowledge of fund accounting (including reporting requirements of major Bi-lateral Aid Agencies); Knowledge on SWISS GAAP FER accounting framework will be a distinct advantage, Excellent English and knowledge of local languages an asset.

Additional information: Detailed Terms of Reference can be obtained via http://wwf.panda.org/who_we_are/jobs/. Applications must include a complete CV with full contact details of three referees and should be addressed to the People & Culture Manager, via email to: hresources@wwftz.org by Wednesday, 12nd September 2019 at 4:30 pm.

Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted and the interviews will take place in Dar es Salaam.

WWF is an equal opportunity organization.

JPM expected to officiate joint consultative conference of the contractors, engineers boards

By Henry Mwangonde

PRESIDENT John Magufuli is expected to officiate at a joint consultative conference of the contractors, engineers and architects and quantity surveyors boards aimed at developing capacity and training members to increase competence at work for better and quality services.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday, the acting registrar for architects and quantity surveyors registration board (AQRB) Albert Munuo said during the conference various topics will be discussed including capacity development and involvement of local stakeholders in the construction sector for economic development and the role of local professionals and contractors in attaining value for money.

Other topics according to

Munuo include planning and management of construction projects, entrepreneurship for construction industry stakeholders as well as ethics and corporate governance among others. "The topics have been strategically chosen to let contractors understand their roles in ensuring the country attains its vision to become an industrialised economy country, Munuo said.

The summit which will convene on the theme: 'The role of construction sector in attaining a progressive industrial economy for a flourishing society' is expected to be attended by 4000 participants.

Commenting on the ongoing countrywide special review of its members, Contractors Registration Board (CRB) Registrar Rhoben Nkori said the exercise is in final stages and anytime from now the results will be

released. The board had launched the exercise after receiving various concerns of non-performance, delayed projects and issuance of unrealistic bid rates by some contractors which had necessitated the need for an intervention from the sectors' accreditation body.

There have been complaints from senior government officials including President John Magufuli and Members of Parliament over underperformance in implementing various projects in the country. The projects include roads, water projects and bridges among others.

In July, last year Water and Irrigation Minister Prof Makame Mbarawa took a swipe at contractors implementing various water projects in the country over delays, saying they should forget about doing business with government during his time as minister.



Idda Siriwa, the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau's Chamwino District officer, takes part in a sensitisation campaign at the weekend. She warned the public against engaging in any form of corruption during the countrywide local government elections slated for next month. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila



Tanzania Meteorological Agency director general Dr Agnes Kijazi briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday at a seminar on expected seasonal rains. She is flanked by TMA Forecasting Services director Dr Hamza Kabelwa (L) and Forecasting Services manager Samuel Mbuya. Photo: Correspondent Faustine Felician

Agricultural stakeholders underscore importance of modern farming practices

By Beatrice Philemon

AGRICULTURAL stakeholders have appealed for the need for farmers to adopt better agronomic practices if they are to excel in the competitive international markets.

They made the suggestion over the weekend when speaking at the two-day meeting that involved grain traders, processors, warehouse owners, transporters, and farmers from across the country.

Among the good agricultural practices include the use of improved seeds and soil testing and analysis, which will help farmers, recognize soil type, its health and know the type of fertiliser needed before engaging in farming.

The call was made last week by the stakeholders who were attending the two-day meeting organised by the ministry of agriculture.

Stakeholders were engaged in grain industry while responding a question from the minister for agriculture who wanted to know what should be done to help Tanzania get enough food and surplus to sell in other foreign countries.

"Farmers need to know types of soil, and they should be trained on modern farming practices, which in turn will make them produce high quality grain that will compete in the international markets," said Moses Mwaipopo, Mbeya-based grain processor.

He also called on the ministry of agriculture to develop a database on grains available in the country that will make buyers fully aware of the tonnes of cereals they need to buy for the market demands.

Mwaipopo also called on financial institutions to extend its services to the district level to help small-scale farmers access loans for agricultural inputs to increase productivity.

Patrick Ngowi, a Manyara-based farmer and grain trader also called on banks to support farmers who are working in grain value chain industry. "Banks should start issuing loans to warehouse owners to help them have better storage facilities that meet international standards," he suggested, adding:

"Right now the majority of warehousing facilities that farmers use for maize, paddy and other grains storage were not good they lacked the required standards for grains storage."

Ngowi also suggested the need for the government to have business desk officers in every embassy across the world, who will be providing information on what kind of grain is required in the market and how many tonnes are required before traders and processors start exporting the cereal crops.

The two-day meeting involved grain traders, grain processors, warehouse owners and farmers and was organised by the ministry of agriculture.

Agriculture minister Japhet Hasunga said that his ministry will continue to support grain processors, traders, farmers and warehouse owners to help them operate their businesses in a better conducive environment and reduce costs of doing businesses.

Currently, there is huge market of maize grain and other crops in the SADC market; he called on farmers to produce high quality standards that will help traders and processors export grains that meet customer's needs, the minister said.

"We need to ask ourselves the grain that we cultivate and sell it did they meet their standards, do we have the capacity to produce it because our production capacity for maize, paddy is very low," he queried.

Women in leadership still face challenges - CEO

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

WOMEN leaders in the country have been challenged to find means of improving their leadership duties by overcoming different environments that might weaken their performances.

Speaking to reporters over the weekend in Dar es Salaam founder and chief executive officer for Maadali leadership solutions Scholastica Kimaryo said women needs to understand that in order to become best leaders they need to have better mind coupled with better health.

She said most of women leaders have been facing alot difficulties that gave them stress and failed to perform their duties effectively.

Kimaryo said that there is a need for

women to learn various means of overcoming stress in their working areas, because failure to do so, they may end up getting diseases such as hypertension, high blood pressure, cancer and other related diseases.

The CEO made the remarks during the two-day Pan Africa Women CEO forum held over the weekend in Dar es Salaam that brought on board different women chief executive officers (CEOs), managers, directors and founders of different public and private institutions.

Themed: "Innovative leadership in growth mindset" the forum was convened to provide understanding to women concerning the investments, financing, having funny with peers around the region, engaging and sharing business perspectives.

"Scientifically, when someone gets angry, there is a poison which is poured in the body and causes the so called non-communicable disease including hypertension, high blood pressure and others," Kimaryo explained.

She advised them to pursue the course on mind body energy medicine, which consoles anyone who is suffering from stress.

The CEO detailed that, the forum is therefore established to support women in overcoming various challenges at workplaces that make them suffer from psychological problems.

She also urged women who are eager to contest for different political positions in the coming local government and general election to set up their specific goals in order to become good

leaders.

According to her, if there is anyone who is thinking of going to make money in politics, that dream will not come true. They need to think of exercising good leadership for public in order to deliver effectively.

For her part, country representative for Engender Health Tanzania Prudence Masako urged women to be vigilant and to listen from those who have succeeded in the leadership positions in order to identify the gaps.

She said that women leaders need to share several approaches that are essentials for good leadership.

"Also women need to adopt with the current changes of science and technology that demands elite and competent people," Masako said.

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African meeting on civil air navigation scheduled to take place in Dar beginning today

By Beatrice Philemon

DAR ES SALAAM is today expected to host the African Civil Air Navigation Service Organisation (CANSO) Summit, which will provide a platform for experts from across the continent to discuss ways on how to improve the aviation industry.

According to a statement issued yesterday by the Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority (TCAA), more than 200 delegates from African countries and the rest of the world are expected to take part at the four-day meeting.

Other issues that will be discussed includes how can issues such as avoiding drone/aircraft collisions, the use of unauthorized communication spectrum and functional interoperability between aircraft and non-traditional airspace users be management.

The summit has been organized by Tanzania and the conference theme "Towards a seamless African sky and its impact on the next generation of aviation professionals" will be officially opened by the Minister of Works, Transport and Communication, Eng. Isack Kamwelwe.

Participants will also discuss how can a seamless African sky which involves a continuous airspace that is technically interoperable, procedurally harmonized and universally safe be achieved.

According to the statistics, Africa is one of the fastest growing air transport regions, with air traffic predicted to double within the next ten years.

There are also huge increases in drones and other non-traditional airspace users.

The anticipated growth combined with the rapid development of innovative technologies and the introduction of non-traditional airspace users at lower airspace levels, requires new approaches in regulations, safety and operations.

The Civil Air Navigation Services Organisation (CANSO) is a representative body of companies and institutions that provide air traffic control and it represents the interests of Air navigation service providers. TCAA is an active member of CANSO, as it provides air navigation services to Tanzanian airspace.

Currently Director General, TCAA Hamza Johari is the CANSO's Chairman for Africa region.



Drainage system along Salmin Amour Street in Dar es Salaam's Mwenge suburb undergoes rehabilitation yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

MAPUTO

African interfaith leaders agree on migration, peace and environment

ELECTED representatives of Africa's religious communities have called for stronger collaboration between policy makers, religious leaders and interfaith organisations to achieve Africa Union's Agenda 2063 and the 17 United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

At their two-day meeting held here late last week, the religious leaders spoke of the "rich resource faith represents in Africa" and recommended more cross-sector engagement to respond to regional

challenges including migration, reconciliation and the protection of the environment.

They underscored the need for collaboration in addressing challenges relating to regional migration, peace building and the environment.

They made their stand in a statement signed by representatives of a dozen countries making up the Steering Committee of the AU's Interfaith Dialogue Forum, a regional platform supported by

the International Dialogue Centre (KAICIID) since 2013.

The committee highlighted the positive impact of religious leaders and the Council of Religions of Mozambique in the recently signed Peace and National Reconciliation Agreement, pledging to end years of violence following a bloody civil war.

At the regional level, they also commended the work of religious communities across the continent to bring peace, understanding and social

cohesion to their countries.

"Some countries in Africa still suffer internal conflicts and the misuse of religion to divide and sow hate. Education, sermons and public campaigns can remind people of the loving message of religion and call for respect for human dignity, peaceful coexistence and harmony," the statement says, in part.

It adds: "Whether in emerging states, in which minorities need to feel protected and included, or during

elections when tensions are high, religious leaders and policy makers must work together to call for calm, restraint and reconciliation."

The leaders further calls on faith communities "to reach out to one another in trust, mutual respect and friendship to achieve goals which serve all humanity and Mother Earth", appealing for multi-religious advocacy for the protection of the environment based on the argument that "all religions teach appreciation for the

works of the Creator".

Vitoria Dias Dogo, Mozambique's Labour, Employment and Social Security minister, had an audience with the steering committee and spoke about "the importance of faith as a healing force".

The meeting took place only a week before Pope Francis' trip to Mozambique to encourage peace, hope and reconciliation in the region.

The group is scheduled to convene again late this year for capacity-building trainings organised by KAICIID and the African Union.



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Overview

Since 1963 and in 148 countries, ACDI/VOCA has empowered people in developing and transitional nations to succeed in the global economy. Based in Washington, D.C., ACDI/VOCA is a nonprofit international development organization that designs and delivers technical and management solutions in agriculture, economic growth, and resilience to promote economic prosperity and social inclusion.

Technical Experts, Tanzania

ACDI/VOCA is seeking technical experts for an upcoming opportunity in Tanzania as part of a technical assistance team under the **Agri-Connect: Supporting Value Chains for Shared Prosperity** program funded by EuropeAid. The overall objective of the program is to contribute to inclusive economic growth, promote private sector development and job creation in the agricultural sector and to increase food and nutrition security in Tanzania, by promoting the productivity, commercialization and competitiveness of the tea, coffee and horticulture sectors. We promptly seek qualified candidates for the following long-term roles:

- Tea and Coffee Value Chain/Private Sector Development Expert
- Horticulture Value Chain/Private Sector Development Expert

QUALIFICATIONS

- Advanced degree in Horticulture, Agriculture, Agronomy, Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, Rural Development and/or other related fields
- At least 5-7 years of work experience in the agriculture sector, preferably in the coffee and tea value chain interventions or horticulture value chain interventions
- Proven experience in analysis of policy and regulatory frameworks, capacity building and training of state institutions including Government ministries, Local Government Authorities as well as Non-State Actors including NGOs, Cooperatives and Farmers Organizations
- Good knowledge and experience in the use of project cycle management processes and implementation of donor-funded projects
- Good reporting skills and ability to communicate with a wide audience
- Experience in the EAC region
- Fluency in English and in Swahili required

Tanzania nationals are strongly encouraged to apply.

Please apply online at www.acdivoca.org/international-jobs. No phone calls please. Only those candidates considered for an interview will be contacted. ACDI/VOCA is an equal opportunity employer. Women, minorities and people from diverse groups are encouraged to apply.



Position: Manager, Administration

Position Overview:

The incumbent is responsible for administrative operations of the office including day to day logistic arrangement, office management, and all procurement management for both program and non-program items. This position will report to the Director Program Operations, supervise senior Office associate with dotted line support to the field based administration associates.

Location: Dar es Salaam.

Role and Responsibilities:

A. Day to day Management of Office Administration

- Manage legal compliances in sourcing of vendors, and complying with all governmental standards, requirements, and regulations.
- Oversee all administrative and operational matters (including staff Occupation health and Safety, office upkeep etc.) in compliance with Regional and Global Office policies
- Handling all property and asset insurance matters related to the country office
- Maintain and administer third party contracts, agreements, policies, etc.
- Ensure full functionality of Room to Read office functions at all times (e.g. electricity, utilities, internet, plumbing, pest control, insurance, office set-up)
- Organize all program related travel and/or transportation needs
- Organize all visitor related travel and/or transportation needs including visa, hotel booking etc.
- Ensure appropriate level of compliance by all staff for adopting and following administrative policies and procedures. In order to do so, educate and provide ample information and time to time update and follow up with each staff members and to make them to fully understand the operational policies and processes. And also guide them through these policies and procedures as and when required. Also carry out all the necessary responsibilities and requirement as spelled out in these policies.
- Guide and coach the administrative staff (associates) in maintaining office equipment and management of the vehicle movement and also all the administrative issues and supports.
- Communicate Global Office (GO) office directly or through line manager related to the administrative and operation policies and requirement and report them as and when needed,
- Participate in any other activities which may be required to be undertaken to fulfill the objectives of the organization
- Explore opportunities for partnerships and knowledge sharing with NGOs, experts and institutions involved in teacher training and literacy initiatives
- Field visits to ensure compliance and review administration activities.
- Ensuring compliance of Occupational Health and Safety checks, visits and certificates are conducted as per the OSHA regulations.

B. Procurement Management

- Prepare annual procurement plan for all procurement related (program and non-program) as per approved budget with consultation with the program team linking with the program implementation calendar.
- Implement all procurement activities well in advance as per approved budget and annual procurement plan.
- Oversee the procurement process and ensure that the procurement is completed in time and in a very cost effective manner for goods and services,
- Arrange and follow Room to Read procurement policy and procurement guidelines/manual and procurement norms for all type of procurement (goods and services)
- Work with program team in obtaining purchase requisitions with detailed specification in order to start the procurement process well in advance,
- Work with procurement committee for all purchase above \$5000 as per the organization policy.
- Coordinate and work closely with program team to process procurement in timely manner.
- Do a market survey regularly in order to assess the market trends and to know average costs of material/items needed by Room to Read,

availability of types of goods/materials and services and share the same to the management.

- Maintain market price/rate of all goods/materials that generally Room to Read purchases and help the program team to prepare the estimation before the purchase process is started.
- Obtain and maintain, the general practice of procurement process in other similar organization and local government.
- Ensure Room to Read procurement norms are accordance with the local statutory requirement. Any difference should be brought to the attention of the management.
- Maintain vendors/suppliers list with their contract address according to the type of business and trade and update it regularly.
- Update the Country Director, Program Operation Director, GO and the program team on the status of the procurement process in a regular basis.
- Maintain procurement file in an appropriate fashion and order including – requisition, quotes/bids, comparison, evaluation, approval, contract/purchase order, delivery note etc. for each purchase.

C. Warehouse Management:

- Oversee the overall management of the warehouse.
- Ensure that the warehouse is being managed as per the standard guidelines, the goods are being kept in the proper manner and recorded in the warehouse inventory.
- Ensure that the inventory is up to date all the time – a proper check in and check out system is placed and maintained all time.
- Supervise and oversee the work of the warehouse staff.
- Ensure the goods are packed and dispatched to the final destination as per the schedule and requirement of the program team.
- Make sure that the goods are safe and secured against damaged and insured.
- Any other responsibility assigned by the line manager.

Qualifications & Experience: Required:

- Possess a Bachelor's degree, Master's degree will be an added advantage in Procurement & Supply Administration or any other relevant discipline.
- Professional qualification obtained from a recognized institution such as Tanzania Institute of Supply & Materials Management.
- A minimum of 8 years' experience as a manager handling a bulky range of procurement activities including managing public bidding.
- Strong analytical & negotiation skills.
- Strong verbal and written communication skills in English and local languages.

Required Competencies:

- Strong planning and time management skills
- Knowledge of government regulations in relation to procurement
- Ability to travel frequently to districts throughout the country
- Strong verbal and written communication skills in English
- Proven track record of achieving results
- Experience in administrative initiatives
- Ability to work in pressure
- Ability to manage direct reports
- Strong Computer skills in MS package specially in excel

Application Procedure:

Please visit our website at www.roomtoread.org and click on the "careers" link under about us tab. This will take you to Room to Read's Career Portal. Click on the See Current Vacancies to find this vacancy, select the vacancy you are interested and click apply to begin the online application process. If you do not hear from Room to Read within one month of the closing date, please accept that your application was unsuccessful. Please note that late applications will not be considered and correspondence will be limited to short-listed candidates only.

Room to Read is proud to be an equal opportunity employer committed to identifying and developing the skills and leadership of people from diverse backgrounds. Women are encouraged to apply.

CLOSING DATE: 13th September, 2019.



NMB Bank Plc interim managing director Albert Jonkerouw (R) has a word with National Bank of Commerce managing director Theobald Sabi on the sidelines of the sixth annual African Leadership Forum held at State House in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Tech-based HIV prevention project proves effective for rural African American families

By Joan Brasher

TECHNOLOGY may be a viable option for reducing HIV risk in underserved families in rural communities, according to a new Vanderbilt report.

Researchers designed and evaluated the effectiveness of a technology-delivered HIV risk prevention program, Pathways for African American Success, to address the comparatively high HIV rates in rural African American communities. PAAS is designed specifically to increase informational access to such communities, which are less likely to have access to in-person HIV support and prevention programs found in larger cities.

"Our findings suggest that the PAAS technology-delivered program is just as effective as an in-person, facilitator-led small group in dissuading HIV-related risk behaviors among

rural African American youths," said lead author Velma McBride Murry. "This fun, interactive program allows families to access sessions at their convenience and own pace, addressing a gap in eHealth digital programs."

Murry, who holds the Lois Autrey Betts Chair in Education and Human Development at Vanderbilt Peabody College of education and human development, collaborated with colleagues at Clemson University and Arizona State University on the study.

They found that compared with families who met with a facilitator in person, those in the PAAS online group demonstrated significantly stronger parent-child communication, including improved discussion quality, clearly articulated norms and parental expectations about risk engagement.

Participants also reported reduced intentions to engage in risky behaviors six months post-intervention.

Technology-delivered programs for HIV prevention also are promising because they are more cost effective and less labor intensive than traditional small group-based preventive intervention programs.

"The Pathways for African American Success: Does Delivery Platform Matter in the Prevention of HIV Risk Vulnerability Among Youth?" is published in the Journal of Adolescent Health.

The team's related study, "The Pathways for African American Success: Results of Three-Arm Randomized Trial to Test the Effects of Technology-Based Delivery for Rural African American Families," is published in the Journal of Pediatric Psychology.

World Vision in Tanzania constructs 2 classrooms, pit latrines worth 100m/-

By Correspondent Mutayoba

Arbogast, Bukoba

WORLD Vision Tanzania has constructed two classrooms and 16 pit latrines worth over 100m/- in four primary schools in Muleba district, Kagera region.

At Akanazi and Ichwandimi primary schools, the charity organization built two classrooms, while Bushekya, Kishoju primary schools benefited from 16 pit latrines.

In the World Vision Tanzania's projects, villagers contributed burnt-clay bricks, key ingredients in construction.

This was revealed over the weekend during the inauguration of the newly built classrooms and pit latrines. The function was attended by Muleba District Commissioner, Eng Richard Ruyango

Speaking at the function, head teacher of Akanazi Primary School John Mafwele commended World Vision Tanzania and the government for the support, saying the facilities will improve teaching and learning environment in the area.

"We have four permanent classrooms which are being used by Standard One, Two, Three and Seven and two mud-walled and grass-thatched classrooms are being used by Standard Five and Six," he said, adding that 86 pre-school pupils have no classroom, hence they are learning under the tree.

"We're appealing to well-wishers to chip in and build the remaining learning and teaching facilities at our school," he said.

Joseph Potino, Kagera zone World Vision manager said the two classrooms and toilets are friendly to pupils with disabilities.

For his part, DC Ruyango called on local government leaders to ensure that all educational projects are executed within the projected time.

He suggested the need for school building maps to be availed to all villages so that the district has standard buildings.

WVT reaches 4.5 million people including 1 million children in 13 of 30 regions with an annual budget of about USD 26, 596, 359 (37 percent of which is from grants & private non-sponsorship and the remaining being sponsorship funding).

WVT works with all people regardless of tribe, religion and ethnicity to help improve and sustain the well-being of children within families and communities, especially the most vulnerable.

By 2020 WVT will be contributing to the measurable improvement in the sustained well-being of 22 million boys and girls.

World Vision Tanzania strategy 2016-2020 has the following priority areas: Livelihood, health, nutrition and water sanitation and hygiene, education and advocacy and justice for children with livelihood being the primary sector.

Spiritual development and protection of children will be cross-cutting functions. Education is prioritised as a secondary objective and will be implemented depending on availability of funds.

“We have four permanent classrooms which are being used by Standard One, Two, Three and Seven and two mud-walled and grass-thatched classrooms are being used by Standard Five and Six”

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The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

Manager Sales and Marketing: KAUTHAR DSOUZA
0767223311
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
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Why, indeed, should a govt official ever see need to harass an investor?

HOME Affairs minister Kangi Lugola has just warned officials of the Immigration Department to stop being used by unscrupulous business people in a dirty game where upon the behest of a local investor, a foreign investor is harassed and finally deported. The minister was opening a two-day workshop for senior officers at the Tanzania Regional Immigration Training Academy (TRITA) in Moshi, where he said he was aware that the department was being used to frustrate investors. It is not perhaps too frequent but it tarnishes the country's image.

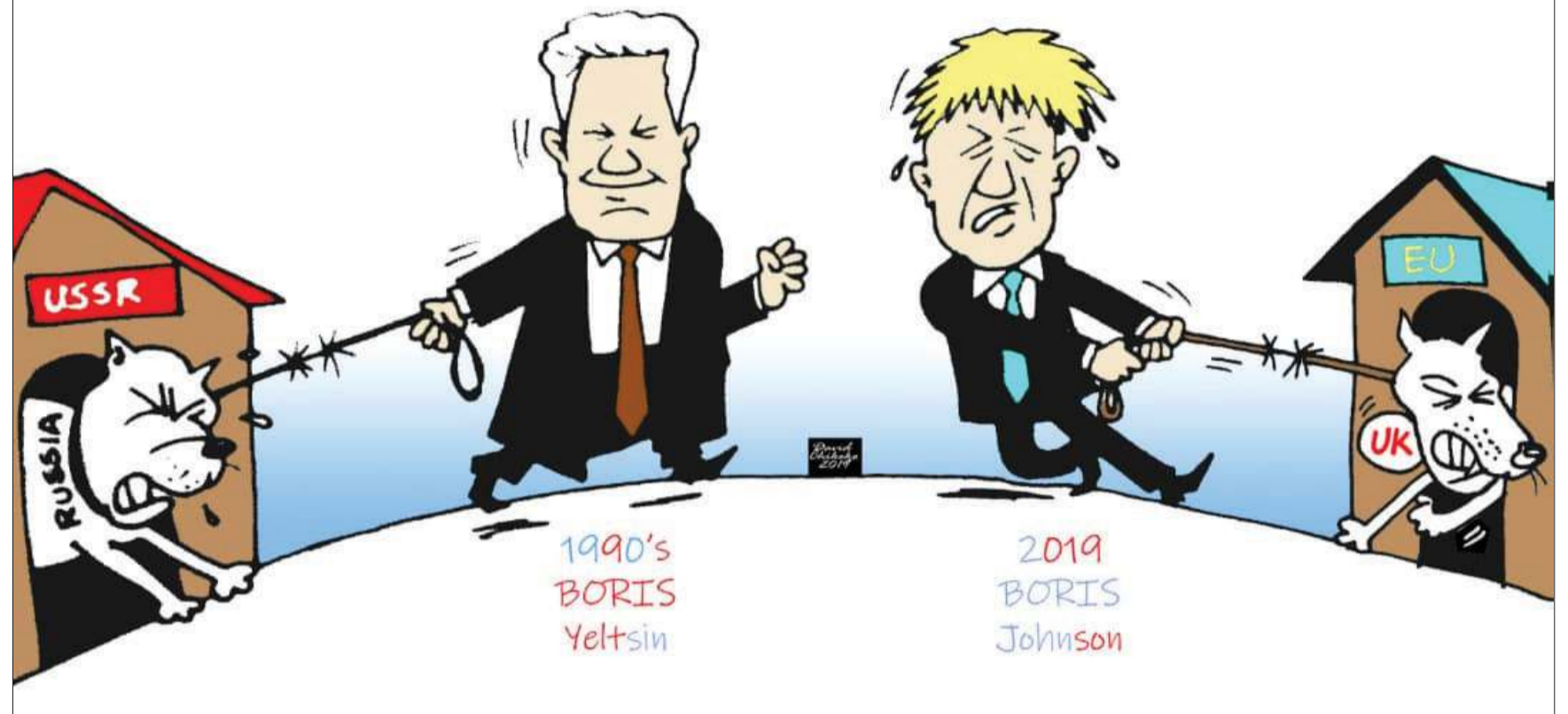
The minister explained that the dirty game involves Tanzanians who have taken up business joint ventures or partnerships with foreigners as local shareholders, something he said is in certain areas required by law. But after the business picks up, the supposed partners seek the help of unscrupulous officials at Immigration to slap the foreign partner with the dreaded Prohibited Immigrant (PI) notice. With the partner kicked out for some imaginary suspicion or charge the local shareholder remains with the entire business. Evidently the facilitating official would be assured of a tidy commission for the work.

How far such habits can be controlled by ministerial fiat or caution as in the present instance is unclear, as wrong doers look at the full breadth of the law to find space in which to insert mischief. One such area was alluded to by the minister, namely that in various regards partnerships are required by law, which implies that the foreign businessman is by law a subordinate to the local partner. He has no equal rights with the local fellow so long as his residence rights or ownership of a business is tied to goodwill.

When the minister urges Immigration Department officials to ensure that investors should not be harassed - as one can't say should not be harassed without reason, as this is to stammer, to accept bona fide harassment of some kind - what mechanism is there to ensure that PI aren't just slapped? And is the bad thing about PI notices issued for personal interest and pecuniary consideration just what they imply for the prestige or image of the country? The image is harmed but it also tells a lot about ease of doing business at present, especially if such a victim of wrongful PI was compelled to seek a partner.

It is clear as the minister pointed out that the habit of harassing and then expelling investors impedes efforts by President John Magufuli to attract investors as Tanzania strives to become a middle income economy towards the end of the president's mandate. Immigration Department officials and the Tanzania Intelligence and Security Service cannot be hired by low level individuals but upper class personalities, so it is organised crime. The minister did not say how widespread it is at present, though.

Compelling investors to pick partnerships has negative consequences when the level of trust between them is insufficient but only compelled by law. It is a good thing that the government has taken note of that, but relaxing terms of initiating a business is vital as well, as when the security of a foreign investor depends on a local partner, that is an 'invitation to treat' with those who detain stamps and signatures for PI notices. The law is designed to facilitate government decisions, but it may also foster criminality unless properly implemented.



A tourist at home away from home: A visit to Morogoro

By Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane

VISITING Morogoro was like entering an atmosphere of another time, when the African National Congress had a unity of purpose and its cadres were driven by the courage of their convictions.

Perched near the majestic Urugulu Mountain Forest just east of Tanzania are lively villages spanning the lush green scenery of Morogoro - the place where freedom fighters took refuge while waging a war against a repressive system back home in South Africa.

I was privileged to form part of the visit led by President Cyril Ramaphosa to Morogoro on the sidelines of his state visit which followed the 39th Ordinary Summit of SADC heads of state and government two weeks ago in Tanzania. It was a privilege because Morogoro occupies a very special place in the hearts and minds of young activists in the African National Congress (ANC).

The pilgrimage was timely, precisely because the current state of our politics is such that we speak unity and practice its antithesis, and serious political discourse has made way for popular slogans. Visiting Morogoro was like entering an atmosphere of another time when the ANC had a unity of purpose and its cadres were driven by the courage of their convictions.

In Morogoro, we began the journey, which will forever be cemented in my heart, with a tour of the Soikone University of Agriculture's Solomon Mahlangu Campus formerly known as the Solomon Mahlangu Freedom College - Somafo. The college, situated in Mazimbu, was established by the exiled ANC in 1978 and it provided educational and vocational skills to young South Africans who had fled South Africa after the 1976 Soweto uprising. As we drove through Mazimbu Campus, past the OR Tambo Primary School, my mind couldn't help but wonder if indeed the children there knew about this revolutionary and Oliver Tambo, a great Son of Africa who, while he lived, bestrode the world like a colossus. What became evident was that while we can selfishly claim our leaders as our own, in reality they were and remain global leaders. Our visit started with the signing of the visitors' book by the President and in that room, a flag of the ANC Women's League stood out like a mural on the wall, and together with other paraphernalia of the governing ANC and its leagues is kept treasured



South African President Cyril Ramaphosa (3rd-R) accompanied by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa at the Solomon Mahlangu Campus in Mazimbu, Morogoro

as part of the rich heritage. Together with the leaders of our sister liberation movement Chama Cha Mapinduzi, we then moved towards a large group of locals who were waiting eagerly for a public meeting to engage with the leaders. Among them were leaders of the university, students, and members of the surrounding communities. I was immediately reminded that then ANC President OR Tambo stood in the same place 35 years ago to address the community of learners and educators. On that occasion he said: "The ANC is a force. And why are we a force? Because of you... We are a force because everywhere we are honest, we are a force because we are fighting the biggest criminals, a regime guilty of crime against humanity, a powerful regime which has failed to destroy us because we are a force. But I say we are a force because of you, because of Mazimbu, because of Somafo, because of what you represent here, because of the community that you have setup here, a community that we can display to the world." These words echoed in my head as if I were there during that address while I sat on the podium gazing at the community of Mazimbu who had come in their numbers to listen to President Ramaphosa. The President expressed gratitude to the

community and people of Tanzania for their support during the difficult period of repression in South Africa. It is with this shared past in mind that, when Julius Mwalimu Nyerere addressed the South African Parliament in 1997, he made the following remarks among other things: "With the end of apartheid and South Africa having joined SADC, this area of Africa is a very solid area. It is an extremely solid area. It is strong, it has serious leaders and these leaders know one another. I know that because where some of them have come from, they have a habit of working together... so let them work together."

Indeed, Mwalimu that knew the leaders of the ANC and Chama Cha Mapinduzi and other liberation movements had a habit of working together and that should continue to be the guide for the leadership in the SADC region and the continent.

We proceeded to the girls' dormitories, whose exterior was a mural of struggle heroine Mama Lilian Ngoyi, before a tour through a carpentry factory where young people are taught how to make furniture. With time running out, on our way out we walked past a structure draped with graffiti of the first logo of the ANC Youth League. The place truly felt like a home away from home. As expected,

the visit to the cemetery and seeing all the graves of the freedom fighters who lost their lives and were buried in Morogoro was quite an overwhelming emotional journey. Buried therein are the mortal remains of freedom fighters who came from diverse backgrounds and ordinarily they never would have met, but their paths crossed because they had one thing in common - they hated injustice. Then it dawned on me that they never got to see the freedom that they bitterly fought for, they never got to experience what it means to be back home and walk in the streets without fear of being arrested or tortured. But they died reassured that the ANC was a force that would one day fulfil their aspirations. As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Morogoro Conference, let us remember where we come from and the sacrifices that have been made. Let us remember that there are many who laid their lives for this freedom and democracy we have today, which many of us take for granted. Let us draw lessons from the Morogoro Conference and rebuild the ANC into a force with sufficient stamina to fulfil its historical mission. We dare not fail.

Mmamoloko Kubayi-Ngubane is a Minister of Tourism and a member of the ANC NEC.

Disease outbreak response strategy is a must for the African continent

HEALTH, as defined by the World Health Organisation is a state of complete physical, mental and social well-being and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity. This definition has been subject to controversy, as it may have limited value for implementation. Health may be defined as the ability to adapt and manage physical, mental and social challenges throughout life.

The meaning of health has evolved over time. In keeping with the biomedical perspective, early definitions of health focused on the theme of the body's ability to function; health was seen as a state of normal function that could be disrupted from time to time by disease.

With an acute public health event reported every four days on the continent, it is more important than ever before for African countries to be able to respond to health emergencies.

African health ministers yesterday adopted a 10-year regional strategy that aims to strengthen integrated disease surveillance and response and mitigate the devastating impact of outbreaks, such as Ebola.

Africa has more outbreaks and other health emergencies than any other region of the world, and many of them could be prevented or controlled through proven public health interventions.

Worryingly, recent analysis by the World Health Organization (WHO) indicates that emerging and re-emerging infectious diseases and other public health emergencies are on the rise, predictably in certain areas and unpredictably in other places. This increase is largely attributed to the growth of cross-border movements and international travel, increasing human population density and informal settlements along with

climate change impacts and changes in the way humans and wild animals interact. More than 80% of the public health emergencies in the WHO African Region between 2016 and 2018 were due to infectious diseases.

The new strategy aims to ensure that countries can cope with major outbreaks and other health emergencies. It is crucial for all countries to have an effective surveillance system, which can track common diseases and set off alarms for the timely containment of disease epidemics or for early detection and investigation of any abnormal clustering of cases or deaths of a new event.

The Regional Strategy for Integrated Disease Surveillance and Response 2020-2030 was adopted by health ministers during the 69th session of the WHO Regional Committee for Africa, which is taking place in Brazzaville, the Republic of Congo. The Regional Committee is the governing mechanism involving health ministers from all 47 Member States of the WHO African Region.

The new strategy builds on more than 20 years of working with a comprehensive, evidence-based integrated surveillance system that ensures countries stay a step ahead of many dangerous pathogens.

"The current Ebola outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo is a poignant reminder of the importance of a strong surveillance system," said Dr Matshidiso Moeti, WHO Regional Director for Africa. "Only when every case is promptly detected, quickly hospitalized and offered timely medical care - and all close contacts vaccinated and properly monitored - will the Ebola outbreak end. Equally important, devastating outbreaks can be 'nipped in the bud' if cases are quickly detected before they widely spread in communities."

Tanzania Breweries Limited

PRESS ANNOUNCEMENT



TANZANIA
BREWRIES
LIMITED

HEADLINE RESULTS

Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) today announces its results for the six month period ended 30th June 2019.

FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS

	2019 Tshs'M	2018 Tshs' M	% Change
Revenue	473,495	487,469	-3%
Gross Profit	183,167	170,700	7%
Operating Profit	114,334	89,076	28%
Basic Earnings Per Share	241	211	14%

Financial Review

Tanzania Breweries Limited group of companies (TBL) is pleased to announced its Half Year 2019 results. TBL's revenue decreased by 3% as a result of the scale down of Darbrew operations and a reduction of spirits volume. Our beer volumes, returned to growth this first half of 2019 with good performance in our mainstream brands and affordable brands segment. The company continues to drive the strategy of more affordable brands and packs to enable more consumers to switch out of the informal sector.

Operating Profit increased by 28% as a result of increased productivity in our breweries, lower brewing and packaging raw material prices, efficiencies in our logistics and lower overhead costs. As a result, our operating margin was 24% which is an increase of 5.9% from prior year.

A total of TShs 26,036 million was invested in capital expenditure during the 6 month period compared to TShs 30,672 million in the prior year.

The Group's reported cash generated from operations was TShs 134,049 million, of this amount, TShs 35,189 million was utilized to pay corporate income tax, TShs 26,036 million utilized to pay capital expenditure and the remaining funds was retained for future activities.

During the month of July, 2019 TBL declared and paid a dividend of TShs 350 per share.

I would like to thank the Board, management and employees for their efforts and continued support as well as our customers, consumers and all stakeholders for their loyalty.

Philip Redman
Managing Director TBL
Date

Company Profile

Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL), sells and distributes clear beer, alcoholic fruit beverages and non-alcoholic beverages within Tanzania. TBL as a major player in the beverage sector is committed to the export of its products to niche and neighboring markets under the East Africa common market trading arrangement.

TBL has a controlling interest in Tanzania Distilleries Limited, Darbrew Limited and Kibo Breweries Limited. TBL's most popular clear beer brands include Safari Lager, Kilimanjaro Premium Lager, Ndovu Special Malt, Castle Lager and Castle Lite. Other prominent brands associated with the TBL group are Konyagi Gin and Redds Premium Cold. The TBL Group is listed on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange, employs about 1,515 people and is represented throughout the country with four clear beer breweries, a spirit manufacturing facility, an traditional beer manufacturing facility and 8 distribution depots.

TANZANIA BREWERIES LTD AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income

For the 6 months ended 30 June 2019

	Group		
	2019 Tshs' M	2018 Tshs' M	Change in %
Revenue	473,495	487,469	-3%
Cost of sales	(290,328)	(316,769)	
Gross profit	183,167	170,700	7%
Selling and distribution costs	(54,161)	(61,042)	
Administrative expenses	(14,628)	(19,153)	
Other expenses	(44)	(1,429)	
Operating profit	114,334	89,076	28%
Finance income	2,152	954	
Finance costs	(327)	(397)	
Profit before income tax	116,159	89,633	30%
Income tax expense	(42,272)	(25,133)	
Profit for the year	73,887	64,500	15%
Attributable to:			
Non-controlling interests	2,730	2,328	
Equity holders of company	71,157	62,172	
	73,887	64,500	15%
Other comprehensive income:			
Items that may be reclassified to profit or loss			
Cash flow hedges:			
Loss on cash flow hedges	-	(204)	
Deferred tax on fair value loss	-	47	
Total comprehensive income	73,887	64,343	15%
Attributable to:			
Non-controlling interests	2,730	2,328	
Equity holders of parent company	71,157	62,019	
	73,887	64,417	
Basic earnings per share (Tshs)	241	211	
Diluted earning per share (Tshs)	241	211	

TANZANIA BREWERIES LTD AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

Statement of Financial Position

As at 30 June 2019

	Group		
	30 June 2019 Tshs' M	31 Dec 2018 Tshs' M	Change in %
ASSETS			
Non-current assets			
Property, plant and equipment	566,393	579,902	
Intangible assets	40,565	43,978	
Investments	88	88	
Deferred income tax	6,435	6,534	
	613,481	630,502	-3%
Current assets			
Derivative financial instruments	-	328	
Inventories	114,342	97,424	
Trade and other receivables	95,461	135,770	
Restricted bank balance	38,300	38,300	
Bank and cash balances	136,406	63,518	
	384,509	335,340	
Total assets	997,990	965,842	3%
EQUITY			
Capital and reserves attributable to the company			
Share capital	29,506	29,506	
Share premium	45,346	45,346	
Retained earnings	485,166	414,009	
Other reserves	66,643	66,643	
	626,661	555,504	
Non-controlling Interests	10,047	7,317	
Total equity	636,708	562,821	13%
LIABILITIES			
Non-current liabilities			
Deferred income tax	46,004	37,969	
Defined pension benefits	1,933	1,933	
	47,937	39,902	20%
Current liabilities			
Provision for other liabilities and charges	12,704	12,704	
Trade and other payables	294,521	342,305	
Borrowings	1,034	2,816	
Current income tax	5,086	5,294	
	313,345	363,119	-14%
Total Liabilities	361,282	403,021	
Total Equity and Liabilities	997,990	965,842	3%

TANZANIA BREWERIES LTD AND ITS SUBSIDIARIES

Statement of Cash Flows

For the 6 months ended 30 June 2019

	2019 Tshs' M	2018 Tshs' M	Change in %
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Cash generated from operations	134,048	78,495	
Interest received/(paid)	1,826	(569)	
Income tax paid	(35,189)	(42,039)	
Net cash inflow from operating activities	100,685	35,887	181%
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of property, plant and equipment	(26,036)	(30,672)	
Proceeds from disposal of property, plant and equipment	21	10	
Net cash used investing activities	(26,015)	(30,662)	-15%
Cash flows from financing activities:			
Dividends paid to company's shareholders	-	(103,464)	
Repayments of bank borrowings	(1,781)	(1,272)	
Net cash used from financing activities	(1,781)	(104,736)	
Net Increase/ (Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	72,889	(99,511)	-173%
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	63,518	152,684	
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the period	136,407	53,173	

Statement of Changes in Equity

For the 6 months ended 30 June 2019

	Attributable to equity holders of the company				Non controlling interest		Total Equity
	Share Capital Tsh's M	Share Premium Tsh's M	Other Reserves Tsh's M	Retained Earnings Tsh's M	Total Tsh's M	Interest Tsh's M	Tsh's M
6 months ended 30 June 2019:							
Balance at 1st January 2019	29,506	45,346	66,643	414,009	555,504	7,317	562,821
Profit for the period	-	-	-	71,157	71,157	2,730	73,887
Total comprehensive income	-	-	-	71,157	71,157	2,730	73,887
Balance at 30 June 2019	29,506	45,346	66,643	485,166	626,661	10,047	636,708

Chinese-built industrial parks drive Ethiopia's ambition in manufacturing sector, job creation

HAWASSA

AS Ethiopia envisages to become the manufacturing hub of Africa within the coming decade, Chinese-built industrial parks in different parts of the country are now luring world-class investors.

Fitsum Ketema, General Manager of Hawassa Industrial Park, told Xinhua that all the available 52 factory sheds that are available inside the Hawassa Industrial Park have been transferred to 21 international companies, some of which are undertaking their activities inside the few vacant factory sheds to commence their manufacturing operations soon.

The Hawassa Industrial Park, which the Ethiopian government considers as its flagship industrial park in its ambition to transform the country as the manufacturing hub of the African continent by the year 2025, was built by Civil Engineering Construction Corporation (CCECC) and completed back in 2016 in just nine months of construction period.

Noting job creation as the industry park's major ambition, together with its aspiration to lure foreign direct investment (FDI) and technology transfer, Fitsum also emphasized the park's indirect economic imperatives to the Hawassa city and its surroundings.

According to the general manager, the industrial park has so far created 27,000 direct job opportunities to local youth. He also revealed ongoing works to further increase the number of job opportunities when all the 52 factory sheds commence their manufacturing operations soon.

The Hawassa Industrial Park, located some 275-km south of the capital Addis Ababa, is considered as Ethiopia's "flagship industrial park" with its state-of-the-art technologies that are installed inside the premises of the industry park.

"The Hawassa industrial park has become a model for other industrial parks under construction in Ethiopia and elsewhere in Africa, mainly due to its Zero-Liquid Discharge (ZLD) technology installed inside the industry park, which is also the largest in Africa," Fitsum said.

The ZLD technology currently treats 11-million-litre wastewater on a daily basis, and recovers the treated water for a recycle use, according to the park's general manager.

"Despite the industry park's only 9 months of the overall construction process, investors and policymakers

often describe the park as world-class infrastructure," Fitsum said.

The East African country, which is presently constructing or has commissioned around 12 industrial parks across the country, is investing its capital and manpower in the development of industrial parks across the country, which will see it a light manufacturing hub in Africa by 2025.

Chinese engagement in Ethiopia's industrial park development endeavor is also injecting the much-needed impetus in Ethiopia's momentum towards becoming a middle-income economy within the coming decade.

The Dire Dawa industrial park, which is also under construction by CCECC, is currently awaiting international investors from multiple sectors including heavy industries, textile and apparel, vehicles assembly and food processing, electronic, paper and allied products, chemicals, according to the Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC) and the Chinese contractor.

Wang Kun, Dire Dawa Industrial Park Project Manager at CCECC, told Xinhua that works at the Dire Dawa Industrial Park are nearly finished. As it stands, close to 97 percent of the work has been completed, with only remaining water treatment and landscaping works.

Drawing from China's economic growth experience, Ethiopia will have about 15 industrial parks within the coming years, most of which were built by Chinese companies and with Chinese technologies.

The Ethiopian government often said the industrial parks that had been triumphant as they lure world-class companies including PVH - a company known for marketing diversified portfolio of brands including Calvin Klein and Tommy Hilfinger.

Built by another Chinese construction company China Communications Construction Company (CCCC), the Mekelle Industrial Park in northern Ethiopia is also designed to attract textile and apparel producing companies.

China Tiesiju Civil Engineering Group is also building the Kilinto pharmaceutical industrial park (KIP) at the outskirts of the capital, which is under construction with funding from the World Bank.

According to figures from the Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC), Ethiopia has earned 142 million U.S. dollars in export value from Chinese built industrial parks during the Ethiopian fiscal year 2018/19, which ended on July 7, up 50 percent as compared with the same period in the 2017/18 fiscal year.



Hawassa Industrial Park, which the Ethiopian government considers as its flagship industrial park in its ambition to transform the country as the manufacturing hub of the African continent by 2025, was built by China's Civil Engineering Construction Corporation and completed in 2016 after just nine months of construction. File photo

cal year.

According to Arayaselassie, the construction and commissioning of the Chinese-built Ethiopia-Djibouti standard gauge electrified railway in January last year has also contributed to boosting landlocked Ethiopia's export ambitions, by transporting speedily and efficiently cargo from industrial parks in mainland Ethiopia to ports in Djibouti.

Ethiopia officially the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia is a country in the Horn of Africa. It shares borders with Eritrea to the north, Djibouti to the northeast, Somalia to the east, Sudan and South Sudan to the west, and Kenya to the south. With over 102 million inhabitants, Ethiopia is the most populous landlocked country in the world and the second-most populous nation on the African continent. It occupies a total area of 1,100,000 square kilometres (420,000 sq mi), and its capital and largest city is Addis Ababa.

Some of the oldest skeletal evidence for anatomically modern humans has been found in Ethiopia. It is widely considered as the region from which modern humans first set out for the

Middle East and places beyond.

According to linguists, the first Afroasiatic-speaking populations settled in the Horn region during the ensuing Neolithic era. Tracing its roots to the 2nd millennium BC, Ethiopia's governmental system was a monarchy for most of its history. In the first centuries AD, the Kingdom of Aksum maintained a unified civilization in the region, followed by the Ethiopian Empire circa 1137. During the late 19th-century Scramble for Africa, Ethiopia was one of two nations to retain its sovereignty from long-term colonialism by a European colonial power. Many newly-independent nations on the continent subsequently adopted its flag colours. The country was occupied by Italy in 1936 and became Italian Ethiopia (part of the Italian East Africa) until 1941. Ethiopia was also the first independent member from Africa of the 20th-century League of Nations and the United Nations. In 1974, the Ethiopian monarchy under Haile Selassie was overthrown by the Derg, a communist military government backed by the Soviet Union. In 1987, the Derg established the People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, but

it was overthrown in 1991 by the Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front, which has been the ruling political coalition since.

Ethiopia and Eritrea use the ancient Ge'ez script, which is one of the oldest alphabets still in use in the world. The Ethiopian calendar, which is approximately seven years and three months behind the Gregorian calendar, co-exists alongside the Borana calendar. A majority of the population adheres to Christianity (mainly the Ethiopian Orthodox Tewahedo Church and Pent'ay), whereas around a third follows Islam (primarily Sunni). The country is the site of the Migration to Abyssinia and the oldest Muslim settlement in Africa at Negash. A substantial population of Ethiopian Jews, known as Bete Israel, also resided in Ethiopia until the 1980s. Ethiopia is a multilingual nation with around 80 ethnolinguistic groups, the four largest of which are the Oromo, Amhara, Somali and Tigrayans. Most people in the country speak Afroasiatic languages of the Cushitic or Semitic branches. Additionally, Omotic languages are spoken by ethnic minority groups inhabiting the southern regions. Nilo-Saharan languages

are also spoken by the nation's Nilotic ethnic minorities.

The nation is a land of natural contrasts, with its vast fertile west, its forests, and numerous rivers, and the world's hottest settlement of Dallol in its north. The Ethiopian Highlands are the largest continuous mountain ranges in Africa, and the Sof Omar Caves contains the largest cave on the continent. Ethiopia also has the most UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Africa. Additionally, the sovereign state is a founding member of the UN, the Group of 24 (G-24), the Non-Aligned Movement, G-77 and the Organisation of African Unity. Its capital city Addis Ababa serves as the headquarters of the African Union, the Pan African Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa, the African Standby Force, and many of the global NGOs focused on Africa. In the 1970s and 1980s, Ethiopia experienced civil conflicts and communist purges, which hindered its economy. The country has since recovered and now has the largest economy (by GDP) in East Africa, having the largest population in the region.

African experts, policymakers and reversal of 'lacklustre' approach to Paris climate accord

ADDIS ABABA

AFRICAN experts and policymakers last Thursday were urged to reverse the current "lacklustre approach" in the implementation of the Paris Agreement towards tackling the adverse impacts of climate change.

The experts and policymakers made the call during the eighth edition of the Climate Change and Development in Africa Conference (CCDA-8), which was held at the headquarters of the African Union (AU) in Ethiopia's capital Addis Ababa from August 28 to 30.

The high-level climate-themed conference, which is co-organized by the AU Commission, the UN Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), African Development Bank (AfDB), and the Pan African Climate Justice Alliance, kicked off with strong calls from African ministers and experts to reverse the current uninspiring approach to implementing the Paris Agreement.

"Many African countries have submitted ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions to Climate Action (NDCs), showing that African leaders have made strong commitments to tackle climate change while striving to meet their national development agendas," Frehiwot Woldehanna, Ethiopia's State Minister of Water, Irrigation and Energy, told the high-level meeting.

The Ethiopian state minister also noted that the East African country, whose electricity system is dominated by hydropower, was one of the first

countries to submit its NDC leading up to the Paris Agreement and "was one of the first countries to ratify the agreement."

Woldehanna also stressed Ethiopia's strong commitment in the fight against climate change, in which the Climate Action Summit, which is being organized under nine action areas, one of which is the energy transition being led by Denmark and Ethiopia.

"Yet, despite the efforts on the ground, climate-induced frequent and more intense droughts "are putting our energy security and reliability at risk, with significant economic and social impacts," the state minister stressed.

The three-day climate-themed continental conference is being held under the theme "Stepping up Climate Action for Resilient Economies in Africa - a Race we Can (and must) Win." James Kinyangi, Chief Climate Policy Officer at the African Development Bank (AfDB), also echoed the Ethiopian state minister's call, as he emphasized the first urgent action is "to build resilience and adaptation to the adverse impacts of climate change for the most vulnerable communities across Africa."

Having signed and ratified the Paris Agreement, nearly all African countries "are now committed to Climate Action in support of building resilience through early warning systems, comprehensive risk assessment and management, and risk insurance," Kinyangi said.

"The time is now to translate the



Eighth edition of the Climate Change and Development in Africa Conference gets under way in Ethiopian capital Addis Ababa last Thursday. African experts and policymakers are in attendance called for a reversal of what was commonly perceived as a lacklustre approach in the implementation of the Paris Agreement towards tackling the adverse impact of climate change. File photo

agreement into concrete action, to safeguard development gains and address the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable," he added.

The Paris Agreement, which was signed back in 2016, is an agreement within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, dealing with greenhouse-gas-emissions mitigation, adaptation, and finance.

Aida Opoku-Mensah, at the UN ECA, also noted that Africa contributes the least to global emissions but it is "already suffering the most adverse impacts from climate change."

"The continent contributes less than 6 percent of emissions, with per capita emissions of only 0.8 tons per year, well below the global mean of 5 tons, and far lower than for other regions such as Europe and Asia," Opoku-Mensah said.

Opoku-Mensah further indicated that the latest edition of the Climate

Change and Development in Africa Conference is a "special event" as it being held ahead of the forthcoming Climate Action Summit, which is calling for urgent and concerted global action to fight climate change.

"This is the last wake-up call to all countries to raise their game and step up climate action for multiple social, economic and environmental wins," she stressed.

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 worldwide 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. Africa straddles the equator and encompasses numerous climate areas; it is the only continent to stretch from the northern temperate to southern temperate zones.

Paralegals help out elderly woman to reclaim land from a rich neighbour

By Guardian Correspondent, Korogwe

AN 85-year-old Amina Kirua owns six-acre farm in Korogwe district, Tanga region.

She is one of the victims of land grabbing in the agricultural-rich district, whose people rely on farming as the main source of income and food.

Amina, a mother of two, bought the land from her neighbour more than 25 years ago.

As it is to many people in Tanzania's rural settings, Amina depends solely on farming to earn income to sustain herself and take care of her family.

So, the old woman has been engaging in subsistence farming for decades in that six-acre farm, where she grows a wide-range of food crops.

One time, Amina was busy attending to one of her children, who fell sick, the situation that forced her to stop from attending her farm as she used to do for almost two months.

After that period, the woman went to her farm only to find it's invaded by her neighbour who claimed to be the owner of the land. A battle over the land ownership erupted and intensified and Amina was advised to lodge a case at Old-Korogwe Land Tribunal.

"Following the verdict, I lost the land but I did not give up, because I knew that's my property which I bought with my own money," said Amina,

adding: "I was also advised to seek legal advice from paralegals in this area. I talked to one of the paralegals, Maimuna Hosea for help, who assisted me to prepare the necessary documents. I lodged an appeal at the District land and housing tribunal and I won the case."

"Since then, the neighbour accepted defeat and has not disturbed me up to now," said Yahaya Seif, Korogwe paralegal who led a team of paralegals who assisted Amina to recover her property.

Seif said: "Specific and special legal aid services should be extended to the elderly in rural areas throughout the country, who are at the threat of being driven out of their land because of their poverty and illiteracy."

One of the activists in the area, Ramadhan Mwele, said: "Actions must be taken—at the local to the national levels, to protect poor women and men from land grabbing."

He said that Amina is one of many women in Tanzania who are the victims of land grabbing and being denied their rights to own properties including land for whatever reasons.

"Elderly women are the main victims of these land-related problems," said land expert charity Mugabi in a recent study.

"Current national land policies and approaches have not been able to resolve these problems," he said



By Correspondent
Mohamed Ugasa, Rufiji

Row erupts over REA power line installation

RAPID-expanding Mloka village, 75 kilometres East of Nyerere Hydropower plant at Stieglers Gorge in Rufiji, has become TanESCO's biggest challenge in REA rural electrification.

Neither the first nor the second phase of Rural Electricity Agency's (REA) electrification has been able to meet the colossal power connection demands of the village with a population in excess of 5,000 inhabitants.

REA power connection has been highly concentrated in the central areas of the village to coy visiting Government officials while those households located on the outskirts still crippling for the service as they are condemned to eternal darkness.

Mloka village comprise four suburbs of Kwangwazi, Nyakisiku, Mpanga and Mkange. Since the REA phase One electrification kicked off in 2017 here, Mkange has been hardest hit only for a latest move by TanESCO to distribute electric poles ahead of President John Magufuli power plant project launch

at Stieglers Gorge.

However, TanESCO's efforts to silence Mkange residents' power connection woes have been hit by unexpected controversy last month.

Despite quality surveying across the suburb, power connection poles were installed in the most awkward way much to the surprise of everyone here.

Survey and then installation of the poles was done at a broad daylight as TanESCO fieldmen worked with an incredible pace and precision few days ahead of the Nyerere Hydropower plant project launch.

Before that, people have not seen TanESCO fieldmen working overnight with that rare speed and enthusiasm.

However, for reasons best known to them, some of the electric poles were installed on bare or rather plain residential plots with no sign of being developed in the near future. Musa Issi, Hassan Buma and Kassim Kitimai are among the most frustrated Mkange residents who

are unhappy with awkward installation of electric poles. More surprise some poles have been left sprawling on the ground for no apparent reason. When Buma tried to query TanESCO fieldmen over the unattended pole, he was told to 'cooperate' if he wants the pole to be installed close to his house to ease connection. Buma failed to raise the 'cooperation package' sum. The pole is still lying on the ground presumably as 'bait' awaiting someone else who would be able to meet the condition.

People are left in complete bewilderment whether prudence and mathematical vectors were observed during poles installation and how TanESCO would recover its return on investment through electric poles installed on bare plots.

While this was done in Mkange, the nearby fast-expanding Nyakisiku suburb which has over 60 households ready for connection is still in strong need for power poles ahead of

submitting applications in an attempt to fill power-connection forms.

This controversy has raised eyebrows not only to Nyakisiku residents but even to some of their counterparts in Mkange who have been overlooked in the distribution of power poles. Unless your house has been reached by nearby power pole, then you cannot collect form and fill it for power connection, a condition imposed by TanESCO.

When contacted for comment, TanESCO manager for Rufiji, Said Masoud said the distribution of power poles in Mkange suburb has been done to meet long-standing demand of the area's residents.

Comfortably sipping his Castle-Lite beer at Mloka's famous Puga Bar, Masoud said Mkange residents had voiced their complaints that reverberated across ministerial corridors and there was no way to allocate some of the poles to other demanding suburbs. He also added that TanESCO surveyors worked closely

with Mloka village chairman, Hemed Mlohya who stamped his authority over where and how the poles should be installed. Avoiding more questions Mlohya who appeared in pensive mood and nervous, said Mloka residents should first thank TanESCO for installation of the poles no matter how.

This controversy has been a talk of the day by Mloka villagers; each is surprised to see power poles have been installed on under developed residential sites while many households are left with in-depth quest for power connection. The poles have been subjected to possible destruction by frequent wildfires outbreak which goes uncontrolled here with an increased frequency.

Speculations are rife here that that this blunder was possibly done to suppress owners of households who are likely to challenge and contest the incumbent village leadership ahead of forthcoming local government elections in November.

It is not known whether incumbent chairman Mlohya will seek re-election for a second leadership tenure or otherwise.

In related development Muhiddin Kilalile who resides in Kwangwazi was shocked to see other household owners getting power connection in the quickest of the speeds despite filling connection forms in recent days.

Kilalile concluded all formalities for power connection including payment on July 13, 2019 through receipt number 9910311902411 but was kept on indefinite pending tray, while some of those who made it in August have parted ways with darkness.

He wondered how TanESCO have been connecting power to households with LIFO (Last In First Out) system rather than FIFO (First In First Out).

Most owners of households who have been successful to be connected to REA power here are alleged to have in one way or another provided a costly 'cooperation' packages. Owner

of hardware shop Said Kioze of Mpanga suburb and his neighbors had tried to 'cooperate' in 2017 but to no power connection avail. Kioze and his neighbors have parted with 800,000/- but are still in darkness while in agony of their lost money. Kioze has paid money to one of TanESCO officials whose name is withheld.

The affected party is ready to give details of the dubious transaction should PCCB interrogate him. Another group of residents (Andrea Shija, Hassan Mkumba, Tabu Mkali and Kilalile) in Kwangwazi suburb are desperately organizing 'cooperation' package believing they can get access to REA power.

The situation is terribly pathetic as REA power has not been that much affordable in Mloka. Those who have been successful in power connection are reported to be ridiculing the rest and walks with pomp.

However, TanESCO manager for Rufiji said he would like to have every household in Rufiji connected with power only for budget limitations becoming a stumbling block.



Debt collecting firm praises JPM SADC's leadership role

By Guardian Reporter

YONO Auction Mart has commended President John Magufuli for assuming the Southern Africa Development Cooperation (SADC) chairmanship and described the move as a major step towards expediting country's socio-economic development and the 16-member bloc.

According to a statement issued by Yono management, President Magufuli chairmanship is something that most of Tanzanians must be proud of because of different opportunities that the nation will get from SADC countries.

"As Yono, we're very happy for President Magufuli SADC chairmanship and it is a great honour to all Tanzanians... his hard-working spirit will provide opportunity for Tanzania and all SADC members

to advance—social, economically and politically," a statement reads in part.

The debt collection firm said that it appreciates efforts made by the President Magufuli in the protection of the natural resources, fight against corruption, and clean-up ghost workers who had been a burden to the nation.

"Our president has shown the way especially in building key infrastructures, buying seven new planes, constructing new and modern standard railways SGR, stepping a bigger power project Stigler's George... we must congratulate and support him because all he is doing is for the benefit of all Tanzanians," the statement said

The firm reminded Tanzanians that voluntary tax payment tradition is among the best options

to transform Tanzania from the notorious foreign budgetary support dependency to 100 per cent economic sufficiency.

In the statement, the firm stated that serious engagement in productive activities is yet another development avenue which should be augmented by proper record in revenue collection through compulsory issuance of receipts. It urged society to support President John Magufuli's exemplary efforts to resuscitate the country's economy.

"Effective use of the available resources in addition to appropriate revenue collection procedures will generate sufficient income to finance social services like education, water, health, infrastructure development among others. Magufuli has shown us the way," the statement reads in part.

EU announces record €550 million contribution to save 16 million lives from AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria

BRUSSELS

THE European Union yesterday announced a €550 million pledge to The Global Fund during the G7 summit in Biarritz.

The fund is an international partnership to fight against AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria around the world. Its work has already saved 27 million lives since it was created in 2002.

European Commission President Juncker said on this occasion: "The EU has been a strong supporter of the Global Fund since its creation, when the AIDS, malaria and tuberculosis epidemics seemed to be unbeatable.

And today we are announcing a record contribution of a further €550 million. We hope the international community will follow suit and step up the fight to fulfil the Fund's target of ending these diseases' epidemics by 2030."

European Council President Tusk, representing the EU at this year's G7, made the announcement in Biarritz. It comes ahead of the Global Fund donors' conference that will take place

in October in Lyon, as more support is needed so that developing countries can improve their health systems, reach universal health coverage and help end the 3 epidemics by 2030.

The Global Fund seeks to raise at least €12.6 billion (US\$14 billion) for the period 2020-2022. By 2023, these funds should help save an additional 16 million lives, avert 234 million infections, cut the mortality rate from AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria in half, and build stronger health systems.

The pledge is made under the assumption that the EU's new Multiannual Financial Framework for the period from 2021-2027 and the new external action instrument, which would provide the budget for today's pledge, are adopted broadly along the lines proposed by the European Commission.

More than 60 countries have contributed to the Global Fund. In 2017 alone, the fund provided 17.5 million people with antiretroviral therapy for HIV, distributed 197 million mosquito nets to protect children and families from malaria, and tested and treated 5 million people for tuberculosis.

World War II: We should never allow World War III

By Saidi Nguba

SUNDAY (September 1) saw the world mark the 80th year since the start of the Second World War - or World War II. It is important for the new generation to know the truth about that war if they are to understand the looming threat to world peace.

After six long years (1939 to 1945) of war that claimed the lives of over 60 million people, it was victory over fascism following which a new global political map emerged and social transformation occurred in Africa and Asia, accelerating the process of decolonisation on the two continents.

History books show that this bloodiest and most destructive of the wars humankind has witnessed involved armies from 61 countries with a total population of 1.7 billion people. That means that some 80 per cent of the world's population (then estimated at 2.1 billion) took to the guns.

The operations of the war engulfed 40 countries, with the number of deaths among civilians by far exceeding that of those killed in active combat.

Historians say that the war took firmer and firmer root right from World War I (1914 to 1918), which did not end with peace but merely with a truce through the Versailles Peace Accord of 1918. Victors Britain and France did not want to part with their acquisitions, while vanquished Germany sought to recover losses.

What occurred after World War I is that the number of dictatorial regimes began to multiply in Europe, igniting the flames of the eruption of a new war. Fascist Italy's 1935 attack on Ethiopia, the fascist insurrection of General Francisco Franco in 1936 and the ensuing civil war in Spain constituted a prelude to the conflagration of the world war that was to follow.

Another important factor was the emergence of the USSR (now the Russian Federation, which assumed the rights and obligations of the Soviet Union after the political changes of 1991). In the eyes of politicians in the West then, this posed a real danger of the spread of socialist ideas which West European countries would never tolerate.



In Germany, in the wake of economic and political crises after World War I, power passed over to the Nazis - the Nationalsozialistische Deutsche Arbeiterpartei or National Socialist Workers Party of Germany - led by Adolf Hitler from 1933.

The Hitler regime was determined to establish its domination of the whole world by whatever means. The Nazis devised and knocked into shape not only a powerful modern army but also a fascist bloc the base of which was formed by Germany, Italy and Japan.

All out to counterbalance this bloc were Great Britain, France and the United States. In all that, at that moment the basic desire by Great Britain and France was to fend off the threat of the German aggression on their countries and, possibly, to direct it to the East.

September 1938 saw Britain, France, fascist Italy and Nazi Germany sign the infamous Munich Agreement, ostensibly to appease Germany. Under the pact, Czechoslovakia was forced to "voluntarily" cede part of its territory to Germany. But a year later, in March 1939, it was wholly occupied and ceased to exist as a state.

This was the beginning of it all, with Poland was next in Hitler's plans. Protracted attempts by the Soviet Union to persuade Britain and France to conclude an agreement on mutual assistance in the event of an aggression were in vain.

Historians say that the war took firmer and firmer root right from World War I (1914 to 1918), which did not end with peace but merely with a truce through the Versailles Peace Accord of 1918.

Renowned Scottish historian Niall Campbell Ferguson writes in this regard: "When the Soviets proposed a tripartite alliance of Britain, France and Russia in order to protect not only themselves but also their immediate neighbours from German aggression, they were refused..."

Seeing that it had been left alone in respect of the obvious danger of aggression in 1939, the USSR was forced to sign a non-aggression pact with Germany. Known as the "Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact", it had then foreign ministers Vyacheslav Molotov (USSR) and Joachim von Ribbentrop (Germany) as signatories.

Those now trying to "rewrite" history and claiming that it was this pact that pushed Hitler into war "forget" about the 1938 Munich Agreement. In fact, it is this latter treaty that enabled the Soviet Union to hold back Hitler's attack for almost two years.

So, 80 years ago yesterday, the writing of the first stage of World War II began. Germany attacked Poland, and the capture of Poland turned into a war of global proportions - a world war.

Denmark fell in the path of the German army in April 1940, with Norway following suit soon after. Germany then attacked France through The Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg.

The Germans reached the English Channel on May 20, 1940, and the

armies of Holland and Belgium capitulated. Meanwhile, Germany had seized Bulgaria by April 1, 1940 - and Greece and Yugoslavia a short five days later. With that, the whole of Western and Central Europe had literally fallen under Hitler's rule.

From Europe, the war spread to other parts of the world. Italian and German troops launched an offensive in North Africa, the autumn 1941 plan being to begin the conquest of the Middle East and India.

The German attack on the Soviet Union began on June 22, 1941, upon which the second phase of the war began. To ensure the conquest of the Soviet Union, Germany and its allies deployed an invasion army of unprecedented magnitude.

However, the war against the Soviet Union did not go as Hitler and his generals had wished. The plan of a "lightning" capture of Moscow and Leningrad failed.

Come December 1941, the military situation in the Pacific deteriorated even further. Japan attacked the American naval base of Pearl Harbour - and the Americans shot back by declaring war against Italy, Japan and Germany.

Japan then seized part of China, French Indochina, Malaya, Burma, Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines and Hong Kong. Great Britain, Holland and the United States all suffered great losses in the Java operations.

The battles that began in 1940 in North Africa saw the Anglo-American troops rout the Germans and Italians from Egypt, Ethiopia and the Maghreb in May 1943. Some 1.4 million African soldiers were recruited from colonies and protectorates to fight in the "alien" war in North Africa and Southeast Asia. Among them were about 100,000 from the then Tanganyika.

In fact, the fate of the whole world was decided in the battle for Stalingrad on the Russian river Volga from July 1942 to February 1943 and in the grand tank battle in the fields near Kursk in the heart of Russia.

In the Battle of Stalingrad both sides deployed a total of more than 2.1 million soldiers, tens of thousands of guns and thousands of tanks and aircraft.

The Kursk tank battle of between July and August 1943 involved about 2 million people, 6,000 tanks and 4,000 aircraft, and it paved the way for the 1944-1945 great Red Army offensive.

On July 25, 1943 Italy pulled out of the war and the Italian fascist government was liquidated. The new government then declared war against Hitler, heralding the beginning of the crumbling of the fascist union.

In June 1944, the Red Army began operations meant to liberate Eastern European states. It became clear to everyone, and in particular to the German generals, that Germany had lost the war.

On June 6, 1944 the Second Front was opened - at last. A total of 156,000 soldiers from the US, Britain and Canada landed in Normandy on the west coast of France. It was one of the most active actions by the Western allies.

At the end of April 1945 the Red Army entered Berlin, the so-called den of the Nazi beast, and hoisted the Red Banner over the Reichstag (Germany's Parliament Building). Joint action by countries constituting the anti-Hitler coalition had led to the defeat of the German troops and Germany's final surrender.

The war in the Far East and in territories of Southeast Asia ended months later - on September 2, 1945, with the US having deployed nuclear weapons against Japan.

According to authoritative data, 26 million people were killed and 25 million were rendered homeless in the Soviet Union alone. The number of deaths elsewhere: Poland - over 6 million; Germany - 5.5 million; the British Empire - 4.19 million; the French Empire - 2.685 million; Japan - 2.5 million; and the US - over 1.4 million. Many other millions of people are said to have died in China, Indonesia and Indochina.

The world is today witnessing consistent efforts towards what is called "revision" of what occurred during World War II. It is done through newspaper articles, books, movies and radio and TV programmes.

It is clear that the primary intention is to belittle the political and moral authority of the countries that suffered the heaviest losses in the war. But ruins courtesy of the bombardments in Hitler-era Germany by the American military in the allied western forces well after Hitler had already succumbed are there for everybody to see and judge.

From the results and effects of World War II, humankind ought to have learned numerous lessons, one being that a Third World War should not be allowed, as there will surely be no winners.

Among the other lessons: totalitarian regimes with imperial ambitions should not find legroom, there should be collective global security because no country can guarantee its own security at the expense of other countries, and the deepening of mistrust between and among states should not be tolerated.

For decades a highly placed media practitioner and later a prime ministerial press secretary, the writer has penned this slightly edited piece chiefly basing on material obtained from various sources. He is reachable at Cell phone & WhatsApp: 0754-388418; e-mail: sanguba@gmail.com

NBC's investments in corporate citizenship pay dividends

By Guardian Correspondent

ONE of the oldest and leading banks in Tanzania, the National Bank of Commerce (NBC), has reported having invested and spent well over 700 million/- in a wide range of corporate social responsibility projects in 2018-2019 alone.

According to Managing Director Theobald Sabi, most of the community-based projects supported by the bank are in the health and education sectors.

"We at NBC are committed to producing higher standards of living and quality of life for the communities surrounding us and still maintain profitability for stakeholders," he says.

In mid-2018, the bank embarked on a sponsorship initiative valued at 240 million/- that has benefited 63 financially challenged students from four Tanzanian universities and colleges: College of Business Education, Dar es Salaam University College of Education, College of African Wildlife Management - Mweka and Institute of Finance Management.

"The NBC Scholarship Programme, the bank's leading community investment initiative, has been widely acknowledged across academic circles in the country as one of the most important and community investment ever undertaken by a financial institution in Tanzania," said Sabi in recent remarks.

"NBC is proud to be involved in providing academic opportunities for Tanzanian students. We believe that the NBC scholarships will benefit the students by giving them a platform to achieve their ambitions and excel in life," he adds.

To further the students' quest for academic excellence, the bank conducted a mentorship programme for the 63 students under which they were coached on 'Effective Studying'

to help them to improve on their academic performance.

The programme is widely viewed as an important intervention in that academic performance is one of the eligibility criteria for continued funding for the students in subsequent academic year. Accordingly, the bank has spent over 240 million/- on the students' scholarships in academic year 2018-2019.

Alongside the scholarship programme, the bank hosts a Youth Employability Programme - this specifically designed to prepare young graduates for the 'World of Work'.

Popularly known as 'Wajibika' (Kiswahili for the need to feel obliged to take action), the programme is meant to empower young graduates with the training and development skills they would need to enhance their employment or self-employment prospects.

The programme's focus is on addressing the critical gap the youth find in their lives when transitioning from education to work, particularly with respect to fresh university and college graduates.

'Wajibika' targets students in secondary schools, colleges and universities located across the country. To date, the programme has been rolled out in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mbeya and Moshi, with upwards of 10,000 students enrolled since its inception in 2017.

Details on Wajibika are available online through a microsite accessible through the NBC Citizenship page on the bank's website. However, interested students are required to register for the programme - free of charge.

Services offered under Wajibika can also be offered through face-to-face coaching facilitated by professional life coaches and inspirational speakers as well as NBC employees volunteering through a scheduled timetable



NBC Managing Director Theobald Sabi

agreed with the selected universities and colleges.

With regard to the health sector, NBC supports mobile clinics operating in suburban Dar es Salaam, providing free medical services. These were introduced in 2002 with the purchase of two new vehicles.

Thereafter, the fleet size grew annually owing to the growing number of patients seeking the service. The clinics are now jointly managed by NBC and the Dar es Salaam Public Health Boards Association.

This unique community investment initiative has provided free medical treatment to over 3.5 million people in Dar es Salaam. There are currently two mobile clinics operating in the city, while one additional vehicle has been ordered to support the current fleet.

The last two years have seen the bank so realign the mobile clinics as to focus on children below the age of five expectant women and. Over 60,000 children and 13,000 expectant women have been attended to at NBC mobile clinics.

"We recognize that there is a close link between public health and our own achievements, and we therefore continually seek opportunities to be a

good corporate citizen by contributing meaningfully to the communities in which we operate," explains MD Sabi, noting that the bank has pumped over 700 million/- the mobile clinic project since 2002.

The bank has also been focusing on the empowerment of small and medium enterprises (SMEs) through the establishment of NBC business clubs across Tanzania.

This initiative is part of the NBC Enterprise Development Agenda, under which the bank supports entrepreneurs with expertise related to the running and growing of their business in order for them to generate more income and thus create more employment opportunities.

The major objective of having business clubs is to provide non-financial support services through business skills training, capacity building workshops, mentorship programmes through networking events, and conducting business seminars.

In order to reach out to and develop local entrepreneurs, NBC has collaborated with Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade), the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO), the Tanzania Investment Centre, the Tanzania Chamber of Commerce Industries and Agriculture (TCCIA) and Tanzania Revenue Authority in organising capacity building workshops for Tanzanian entrepreneurs.

This partnership is invaluable in that these resource institutions provide entrepreneurs with a wide range of knowledge, spanning from market linkages to machine technology, tax regulations, investment opportunities and financial facilities to help make their businesses tick.

NBC business clubs have thus far been launched in Arusha, Kahama, Mbeya, Moshi and Mwanza, with Sabi saying the long-term plan is to cover every region where NBC has a pres-

ence.

"Membership in the clubs will mainly comprise NBC's SME customers but also other people at various locations across the country," he says.

The bank has trained over 900 entrepreneurs in the last two years and has spent over 150 million/- since 2017, organising capacity building workshops for entrepreneurs in different parts of the country.

NBC has a working relationship with the Prime Minister's Office, chiefly through the Tanzania Employment Services Association. This coordinates the availability of interns willing to serve as NBC employees.

The NBC Internship Programme has recorded remarkable success since its introduction last year, with a total of 100 interns having worked in various departments of the bank to date - most of them fresh from universities and colleges.

The programme accepts interns on a one-year contract, during which they are paid a monthly allowance, have access to internal training opportunities and, most importantly, land on the job training in various departments.

Additionally, the bank has its own Graduate Trainee Programme under which young university and college graduates are enrolled for ten-month training in Tanzania and outside the country.

The graduates selected are exposed intense training designed to mould them into competent and skilled workers. Eligible graduates are sourced through an application process following advertisement published in the media.

After thorough screening, the lucky candidates are deployed at various NBC departments based on their qualifications and the departments' needs. The bank has to date employed eight young graduates through this programme.

NBC has gone a step further in empowering young Tanzanians in tertiary education. Last year it enabled five students to pursue higher education under the African Leadership University Scholarship Programme tenable in Kigali, Rwanda.

These were selected through an application process published in the media, followed by rigorous screening. The students are now pursuing their academic dreams at the Rwanda International University in Kigali.

The students have just completed their six-month Leadership Foundation Programme, a must prior to the commencement of three-year academic studies in IT, Marketing, Business Management and Human Resource Management. They are also just done with their field attachment stints at the NBC Head Office in Dar es Salaam.



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Grain millers urge government to reduce power tariffs, abolish nuisance charges

By Beatrice Philemon

GRAIN millers want the government to reduce power tariffs and abolish a number of nuisance charges imposed on their factories which balloons production costs and render their goods expensive.

Presenting recommendations on behalf of grain processors at a meeting of stakeholders which was presided over by Minister of Agriculture, Food Security and Cooperatives, Japhet Hasunga, Chairman of Maize Flour Milling Machine Owners and Manufacturers, Oscar Mnisi said they are struggling to compete because of high costs of production in the local market.

Mnisi said among other nuisance charges which they pay include service levy, fire extinguishing equipment fees, storage charges for maize flour, value added tax and hiked transport costs blamed on taxes.

"We want to have better storage facilities charging reasonable fees because currently, most warehouse facilities available in



Agriculture Minister, Japhet Hasunga.

the country lack the required standards for maize and rice storage while charging highly," he noted.

He said their main goal is produce high quality maize flour and rice that meets international standards so that the products sell anywhere in Southern African Development Community (SADC) market, East African Community and globally.

Mnisi requested Hasunga to convince his Treasury peer, Dr Philip Mpango to abolish 18 VAT charged on imported industrial machinery and equipment which the millers use to add value to maize and paddy rice before supplying markets.

"18 percent VAT charged on imported irrigation equipments including water pumps, spraying machines, weeding machines and milling machines is frustrating us," he added while noting that packaging materials are also charged VAT.

He also urged the government to employ and deploy more extension officers to assist smallholder farmers improve quality and quantity of their commodities used by

millers as raw materials because currently the quality is very poor.

"Please help us to train farmers on how to produce high quality maize, paddy rice so that the quality of the finished products is also high hence capable of penetrating any market," he argued.

Responding to the numerous observation made by the private sector, Minister Hasunga promised action on a number of issues raised which directly fall under his jurisdiction while lobbying his peers in matters relating to other ministries.

"I will sit down with my ministry's experts and see how we can convince Treasury to waive VAT on imported industrial machinery and equipments as well as fees charged on flour and rice from factories so that we can lower the cost of doing business," he said.

He said his ministry will continue supporting grain millers and traders who work with smallholder farmers to find reliable markets for commodities which get value added.

Shareholders yet again reject MultiChoice's executive pay

JOHANNESBURG

SHAREHOLDERS in MultiChoice, which was unbundled from Naspers on March 4, rejected the group's executive pay at Thursday's AGM.

Only 50.26% of shareholders voted for the remuneration policy, while its implementation attained only 44.73% of shareholder support. More than half - 55.27% - voted against it, with around 2% abstaining. These are non-binding votes put to shareholders as part of the JSE's listing requirements.

This is the third time shareholders have shot down a JSE Top 40 company's remuneration. In May, 69% of Old Mutual shareholders rejected the implementation of its remuneration policy.

In April it was revealed that 73% of ordinary shareholders voted against Shoprite Holdings' remuneration policy last October, and 69% against its implementation. Because of Shoprite's deferred share structure, both those resolutions passed.

In MultiChoice's integrated annual report, remuneration committee chair advocate Kgo-

motso Moroka notes three issues that were raised by shareholders during engagement in the listing process: Does management have equity participation to align with shareholder interests? Are there performance metrics in the share scheme? Why were executive long-term incentives not included in the pre-listing statement?

The committee provides responses to each of these. It is the reply to the last of these that shareholders may not be content with: "At the time of the pre-listing statement, the new MCG [MultiChoice Group] Trust Deed had not been registered to approve new awards."

Big three shareholders The group's three largest shareholders are the Public Investment Corporation (PIC), which holds 13.81%, Allan Gray, which holds 8.53%, and Prudential Investment Management, with 5.3%. Given the large number of votes against both resolutions, it is highly likely that the PIC voted against them.

Old Mutual Investment Group, a shareholder with a smaller holding, voted against the remuneration policy, but for its imple-

mentation. It says a vote against MultiChoice's policy is warranted as: "A significant portion of awards under the new LTIP [long-term incentive plan] are not performance-related, and all awards vest as early as two years from the date of grant." It adds that "the total number of shares reserved for the new scheme exceeds the recommended limit."

Regarding the implementation of the remuneration policy, it says "upon engagement with the company, we have been given sufficient detail on the reasons for the sign-on and discretionary bonuses this year which as a result do not warrant a vote against this resolution."

Bonuses Chief financial officer Tim Jacobs was paid a sign-on bonus of R3.81 million during the year. The group's remuneration committee says a R556 000 discretionary bonus paid to Jacobs was due to him being "instrumental in the successful listing of MCG since joining MCG in November 2018." Further discretionary bonuses were paid to executive chair Imtiaz Patel (\$22 000) and chief operating officer Brand de Villiers (\$31 000). These were



MultiChoice CEO Calvo Mawela, left, and executive chair Imtiaz Patel at the listing of the entertainment company at the JSE in Sandton on February 27, 2019.

"to recognise Imtiaz's role in leading the successful listing of MCG and the Naspers unbundling" and "to recognise a significant increase in Brand's portfolio and change in role during the year."

Separately, senior employees participated in the option share schemes while MCG was part of the Naspers group. "Following the unbundling, the vesting dates for the

Naspers option awards were accelerated in line with the rules to the date of the MCG listing on 27 February 2019." Patel made a gain of R14.5 million on his options, De Villiers a gain of R4.8 million, and Mawela a gain of R2.4 million.

The board and the remuneration committee of MultiChoice have invited "those dissenting shareholders to engage with the

company by forwarding their concerns/questions on the remuneration policy and the implementation thereof to the Company Secretary in writing". It undertakes to "respond ... to those that have made submissions." One (binding) resolution that failed to pass was the general authority for the company to issue shares for cash. Only 61.65% of shareholders voted in favour.



BoT Governor, Prof Florens Luoga.

Tax collection from imports, locally made goods and services increases marginally

By Francis Kajubi

TAXES charged on imported goods and those levied on locally made goods and services increased marginally during the year ending June 2019 compared to the previous year.

Bank of Tanzania has said in its latest Quarterly Economic Bulletin that the central government did well in collection of taxes on imports and locally made goods and services but performed poorly on collection of non-tax revenue while grants received were way low compared to last year.

"During the period taxes on imports increased to 1.46trn/- from

1.38trn/- while taxes on local goods and services increased to 876bn/- from 783bn/- registered the previous year," the report stated. Non-tax revenue declined to 508bn/- from 699bn/- collected during a corresponding period in 2018.

Likewise, local government revenue collection from own sources increased to 189.1bn/- from 150.2bn/- during the period.

In generally, the BoT report stated that revenue collections by central government in total grossed 4.27trn/- during the year compared to 4.36trn/- collected in the corresponding period in 2018.

On expenditure, the report stated that the government spent 7.37trn/-

of which recurrent expenditure was 4.76trn/- while development expenditure was 2.61trn/- compared to 6.195trn/- in the preceding year.

The Central Bank further said total domestic credit issued by banks, which comprise credit extended to the government and private sector, grew by 17.3 percent compared to 1.5 percent registered in the previous year.

"This significant growth was on account of increased credit to both the central government and private sector," the quarterly report added.

According to the bulletin, annual growth of credit to the private sector was 7.6 percent which was higher than 4 percent last year which

reflected the impact of sustained accommodative monetary policy and on-going government efforts to improve the business environment and credit risk measures taken by banks to reduce default rate.

Interest rates charged by banks on loans and offered on deposits were relatively lower during the quarter ending. Overall savings deposit rate increased to 2.45 from 2.13 percent while overall lending rate dropped to 17.07 percent from 17.53 percent during the period.

The spread between one-year lending and deposit rates also narrowed to an average of 8 percent from 9.1 percent in June 2018, the BoT quarterly report noted.

Vodacom Tanzania, Flickswitch inaugurate unique SIM Manager

By Smart Money Reporter & Agencies

VODACOM Tanzania and South African mobile solution provider Flickswitch have announced the availability of Vodacom SIM Manager, a mobile connectivity management platform for companies looking to provide mobility and IOT services to their customers on the Vodacom Tanzania network.

The companies claim the service is the first of its kind in Tanzania. Arjun Dhillon, Enterprise Business Unit Director at Vodacom Tanzania, said the launching of the service will stimulate innovation and support for both SMEs and large corporates alike with the necessary business tools to address their mobile requirements.

"Our smart SIM Manager Service ensures that business SIMs are loaded with data as they need them. This reduces the costs of managing device SIM cards, whilst at the same time ensuring operational uptime," Dhillon said.

According to the network operator, Africa's device connectivity and IOT market is perfectly positioned for rapid

growth in several sectors, not only in traditional areas such as mobile workforces, fleet management and point of sale, but also in new areas such as advanced agriculture, utility metering and smart security.

In August, Gartner released its 2019 ICT Hype Cycle and named IOT as one of the technologies expected to have a transformational impact on business in Africa within the next ten years and drive business spending. Vodacom Tanzania believes the technology and the areas it is likely to influence all require tools to manage large numbers of SIM cards more effectively.

"Managing communication costs is an important factor in many industries and a key enabler for economic growth in these sectors. The new Vodacom service creates an innovative mobile eco-

system that gives businesses in Tanzania with large scale communication needs access to self-help online SIM management tools," the Vodacom Enterprise Business Unit Director noted.

"Customers can now self-provision mobile numbers and build their own monthly packages by setting up smart top-up rules," Dhillon added.

Commenting on the deal, Flickswitch Group's Managing Director, Kees Snijders said the company's SIM control platform is used by over 2,000 enterprises across ten African countries and "generates close to US\$7-million in revenue for our telco partners annually." "We are delighted to continue the expansion of our enterprise self-service platform in partnership with Vodacom," Snijders noted.



Vodacom's Enterprise Business Unit Director, Arjun Dhillon.

Perth CPC in joint venture with Advent Construction to invest in local mining

By Smart Money Reporter

AN Australian based company, CPC Engineering has entered into a joint venture with several African companies including a local company called Advent Construction seeking to exploit the mineral resources.

In a statement, the company said an Africa Project Partnerships was formed in the first quarter of this year bringing together companies with expertise across a range of disciplines with the ability to deliver engineering procurement and construction of major projects.

APP is working in close cooperation with the South African government through its Department of Trade and Industry and the Industrial Development Corporation.

"The venture has been structured to avoid duplication of functions and their associated costs, therefore directly translating to competitive and holistic project development and execution cost structure," said CPC Engineering CEO, Glen Weir said.

"With the fourth industrial revolution upon us and a continual focus on greener energy we will see advancement in technology consuming more mined metals and minerals over the years to come," Weir added.

APP is examining several pro-



CPC Engineering CEO, Glen Weir said.

jects in mining and heavy industrial process in South Africa, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Tanzania and Ethiopia.

Other African joint venture partners are: Fenix Construction of Mozambique; Gear Mining Construction of Botswana; Ignite Energy of South Africa; Steel Services and Allied Industries, Strutfast Cable Management Solutions and Power Plant Electrical Technologies all

from South Africa.

The joint venture aims to enable CPC Engineering, which employs more than 300 people and has a wealth of experience in Africa, to benefit from the highly regarded reputations and experience of its partners.

CPC Engineering has successfully delivered multimillion-dollar projects for graphite, nickel, copper and diamond operations in

Mozambique, Zambia, Ghana, DRC and South Africa.

These include a range of design, construction and maintenance services for the Balama Graphite project in Mozambique; Enterprise Nickel project, Zambia; Glencore Zambia copper mine, Zambia; Petra Diamonds Cullinan project, South Africa; Ferrochrome smelter, South Africa; Kamoa Copper Company, DRC; Golden Star Resources

It's long road ahead for South African retailers

JOHANNESBURG

YOU know the economy is tough when Woolworths sees its clothing and beauty sales fall and management still pats itself on the back for a job well done.

"It's a really good set of results," says Woolies CEO Ian Moir. "We took market share in tough conditions." This was despite its fashion, beauty and home division seeing profit fall 1.1% to R1.68 billion for the year to end-June. The drop is however something of a turnaround, as this division plunged 21% to R1.7 billion in the corresponding prior period.

The recovery is even more remarkable when measured against its performance in the first half of its 2019 financial year, which saw this division's sales fall 11.8% for the period.

Even so, Moir does not see the economy coming to the group's aid anytime soon, with sluggish trading conditions expected to persist in South Africa and Australia, its other key market. Uncertainty about the government's plan to boost the economy in SA and the slowing housing market in Australia has dampened consumers' willingness to spend.

Woolies is not the only local retailer that has struggled to find traction in a difficult economy. Big box retailer Massmart and Africa's largest supermarket chain, Shoprite, have also found the going tough. Massmart saw trading profit collapse from R664.4 million to R318.9 million for the half year to end-June. There is a similar story at Shoprite, where trading profit for its South Africa operations fell 9.1% to R6.55 billion for the year to end-June.

The difficulty for retailers can be seen in Statistics SA's latest retail sales numbers, showing just a 2.4% rise year on year for the month of June. Aside from softening consumer confidence, local retailers didn't do themselves any favours; several of them made strategic mistakes that have compounded their problems.

David Jones

The difficulty at its David Jones chain in Australia, for example, saw Woolworths reduce the value of this asset by Au\$437.4 million (R4.5 billion) this year, following it writing off Au\$712.5 million (R6 927 million) in the previous year.

Woolworths bought David Jones for R21.5 billion in 2014. At the time, the acquisition was part of a broader plan to turn Woolies into a global retail player. Instead, the problems in Australia led to the South African retailer incurring a loss in 2018.

The lengthy redevelopment of David Jones's flagship Elizabeth Street store in Sydney has also not helped. The redevelopment started in the second half of 2017 and is expected to be completed by March 2020.

The renovation is part of several chain-wide initiatives aimed at improving David Jones's performance; others include the implementation of new merchandising, finance and online systems, and the relocation of its head office from Sydney to Melbourne.

Moir says most of these initiatives are complete and the group is now well placed to profit from them. Even so, getting to this point has not been easy. In February, David Jones CEO David Thomas resigned with immediate effect for "personal reasons". Moir, who is based in Australia, has since taken over the running of the chain.

The problems in Australia were further compounded by the sudden resignations of two of its Australian-based board members, Patrick Allaway and Gail Kelly, days later in February. The board has since been boosted with the addition of former Clicks CEO David Kneale, who joined as an independent non-executive director in March.

Struggling down under

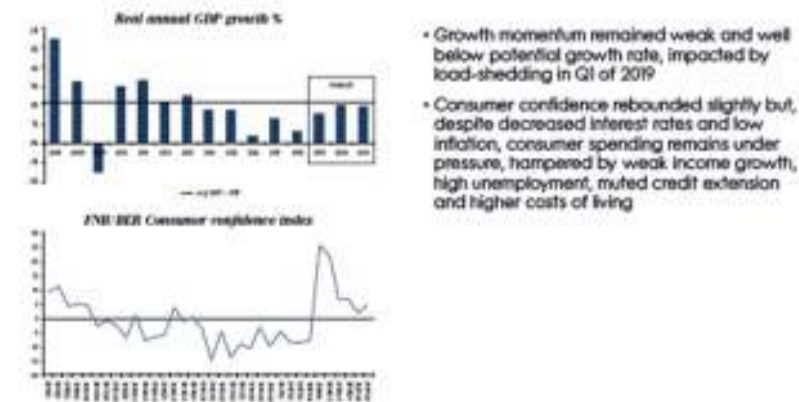
Tough trading conditions and the lengthy redevelopment of its flagship store saw David Jones's sales collapse from R660 million to R378 million. David Jones is not the only problem Woolies has had to contend with. Its other Australian chain, Country Road, also faced an uphill battle - with profit falling 1.6% to R1 billion, and sales for the year growing just 0.5%.

It was not all bad news in Australia, however. Country Road's online sales rose 12.9%, and now represent 20.3% of total sales for the chain. There was a similar story at David Jones, where online sales were up 46.8% and contributed 7.7% to its total sales.

Grocery growth

Although a tough year for Woolies, its local food operation has grown in strength - with operating profit up 5.4% to R2.28 billion. The group expects food to continue to grow in terms of volume, and to take market share. The food division accounts for the bulk of the group's profit, followed by fashion, beauty and home at R1.68 billion, Country Road at R1 billion and David Jones at R378 billion.

SOUTH AFRICAN MACRO ENVIRONMENT



KRA seeks 35pc tax on ads placed by betting companies

NAIROBI

THE Treasury and the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) want a 35 percent tax imposed on all advertisements booked by betting firms through radio, television, online, billboards, short messaging service and any other medium.

Mr Caxton Masudi, the KRA deputy commissioner in charge of policy told Parliament that the base of taxation should be pegged on the cost of the advertisement. Appearing before the National Assembly's Sport and Tourism committee to present KRA's views of the Gaming Bill, 2019, Mr Masudi proposed that it be amended to cover all media.

"There shall be a tax to be known as the gaming advertisement tax chargeable at the rate of 35 percent on the cost of the gaming advertisement done through radio, television, newspapers, short message service and any other advertisement medium," KRA proposed.

Treasury Chief Administrative Secretary Nelson Gachuhie asked MPs to make it a criminal offence for betting firms that fail to disclose or provide data on betting revenues to the KRA. The recommendations follow similar proposals by the Betting Control and Licensing Board (BCLB) which called for restricted advertisement on betting.

For Zanzibar's Tigo Pesa mega agent it's rags-to-riches story



Said Khatibu(L), a Tigo Pesa Wakala from Zanzibar, receiving a dummy cheque worth 2m/- from Tigo's Head of Products for Mobile Financial Services, James Sumari, during a just-ended Tigo Pesa Wakala campaign dubbed 'Cash in promotion.'

By Smart Money Reporter

WHEN Said Issa Khatibu entered the Tigo Pesa family with a borrowed line from his neighbour in 2014, little did he know that by 2019, he would be one of the biggest agents of the mobile money platform.

The industrious Khatibu has grown his business a humble wooden shack into a respected office handling millions of shillings in Tigo Pesa transactions daily. In recognition of his hardwork and entrepreneurship, Tigo Tanzania Limited's management has awarded him several awards including cash worth over 15m/- in the past five years.

"I used my neighbours' line for some time while saving money to obtain my own line. I used to give my neighbour 70 percent of daily earnings while I got 30 percent," the father of three said while pointing out that his future plan is to be Zanzibar's super dealer for Tigo, one of the fastest growing mobile phone service company in the domestic market.

As of late, Khatibu's business transactions have grown from scratch to over 1.3bn/- as he sets his next target

at 2bn/- in monthly transactions by the end of this year. Tigo Pesa, which Tigo Tanzania's mobile money platform is a major player in the market commanding some 7.6 million subscribers who transact billions of shillings daily.

According to Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA)'s latest report, it indicates that the country's six major mobile money operators had a total of 22,796,830 subscribers as of March 2019, which shows that the number of mobile users is on the increase.

Tigo Tanzania has invested extensively in infrastructure upgrade from 3G to 4G+ network in most parts of the country, which shows also that internet is one of the key drivers for future growth. This connectivity has ensured that the company's subscribers both in urban and semi urban areas get all services easily while also utilising Tigo Pesa application to transact.

"Customers find it convenient to use our products such as Tigo Pesa and the Tigo Pesa App that is linked to 50 banks to make their daily transactions," said Tigo Managing Director, Simon Karikari during a recent interview.

He added, "They continue to choose us as their reliable service provider because we make it digitally quick and easy." Tigo Pesa application which was launched earlier this year has also proven to be a rapidly adopted product by the tech savvy generation because it can perform almost all the functions at fingertip length.

Launched in 2010, Tigo Pesa has grown from simply providing remittance services, payments of different bills, paying for products and services at merchant sales points to a fully-fledged platform that enhances financial inclusion in Tanzania.

In 2014, the platform was successful in launching a few firsts in the world including: interoperability with other mobile money operators and commercial banks, a service which enables mobile money users to send money to and from other operators directly into their wallets seamlessly, cross border mobile money service with automatic currency conversion, payout of quarterly returns on Tigo Pesa balance.

The platform has been leading in innovation, constantly adding a variety of products to its portfolio such as: loans, insurance, corporate solutions for collections and bulk disbursements, where companies can disburse directly to wallets of all other players (interoperability bulk disbursement).

"I also wish to commend all our agents for the instrumental role they play everyday in expanding the reach of mobile financial services across the country," added Karikari.

As for Khatibu who is sustainably growing with the company, the sky is the limit, because the returns have been good across the years and his dream is still on track to be Zanzibar's super dealer for the fastest growing mobile phone service company in the market.

Are we ready to engage for a healthy lifestyle?

CORPORATE WELLNESS



By Bhakti Shah,

A RECENT report titled "The Right to Health and Access to Universal Health Coverage" published by HelpAge international and Global AgeWatch reports that deaths related to NCDs have doubled between 1990 and 2015 - a span of 25 years.

In 2016, NCDs in Tanzania accounted for over 30% of all deaths, with main killers identified as heart disease at 9%, Cancers at 5% and Diabetes at 2%. The main risk factors for NCDs are smoking, alcohol intake, unhealthy diet and lack of physical activity are prevalent in both rural and urban communities.

While there are initiatives to control the burden of non-communicable diseases in the country, there is need to focus on primary prevention at grass roots level targeting interventions to reduce exposure to tobacco, reduce alcohol intake, reduce salt and sugar intake, promote healthy diets and physical activity.

Change of lifestyle must be encouraged from the family and community level and at workplaces as a microcosm of society and this requires a massive engagement of all stakeholders - families, communities, private sector and public sector to come together for a single objective of being healthier, happier and more productive.

Taking a leaf from other countries:

Healthy China 2030: President Xi said that health is a pre-requisite for people's all-round development and a precondition for economic and social development. China faces many health challenges including increasing rates of cancer and heart diseases. A key component of Healthy China 2030 is therefore a greater focus on promoting healthy lifestyle - prevention rather than cure.

Fit not Fat Germany: In response to a 2007 study which showed that Germans were fatter than all other Europeans, the German government launched the "Fit for Fat" campaign with a five point action plan to promote more active lifestyles and encourage more attention to nutritional needs. The ultimate goal is to improve public health and stop the obesity rates among children by 2020.

Let's Move USA: A 2010 public health campaign led by Michelle

Obama aiming at reducing childhood obesity and encourage a healthy lifestyle in children. The campaign aims to bring the childhood obesity down to 5% by 2030 by encouraging healthier food in schools, better food labeling and more physical activity for children.

Fit India: Launched in August, 2019 as four year campaign with year 1 focusing on Physical fitness and mental wellbeing, year 2 dedicated towards healthy food and eating habits, year 3 on adoption of sustainable and environment-friendly lifestyle and year 4 culminating to healthy lifestyle practices, health friendly goods and services and simple easy ways for disease prevention. Fit India is seen as a household movement, a daily routine for a fit nation.

Healthy Workplace Ecosystem Singapore: launched in 2013 and is achieved through collaborations across government agencies, communities and the private sector. The ecosystem enables building of a community of physically active people who will encourage and motivate other colleagues to stay healthy. As majority of working adults spend most of their time at work, a workplace is clearly an effective platform to reach out to working adults to change behavior.

Reply back to bhakti@impactafya.com or call +255 754 694 643 with your feedback. We welcome your suggestions for corporate wellness tips you'd like to see covered in our future columns.

Bhakti Shah, MPH is the Founder and Managing Director of ImpactAfya Ltd, collaborating with Workplace Options and Mayo Clinic, USA to provide Corporate Wellness and EAP Solutions in East Africa. Bhakti is also the Advisor for the Africa Business Portal and the Past President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Tanzania.

Website: www.impactafya.com | Facebook, Instagram & Twitter: @impactafya



VIEW FROM THE TOP

Elumelu challenges Japan to invest part of U\$50bn in empowering African entrepreneurs

By Smart Money Reporter

IN an impassioned keynote speech, delivered before global leaders, at the 7th Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) in Yokohama, Japan, African investor and philanthropist Tony Elumelu challenged the government of Japan to invest 5 percent of its \$50 billion commitment to Africa, in empowering African entrepreneurs.

"At TICAD 2016 in Kenya, Japan pledged \$30 billion for Africa. This year you have generously increased this to \$50 billion," Elumelu said while noting that if the Japanese government invested just 5 percent in the new generation of African entrepreneurs following his Foundation's robust, proven model, major changes will happen.

"We could touch 500,000 lives, across the 54 African countries, broadening markets, facilitating job creation, improving income per capita, and laying the key foundation for political and economic stability," said Elumelu.

Elumelu's statement captured his vision of a relationship between Japan

and Africa, which prioritises economic and shared prosperity. He outlined the three key pillars of a bold and transformative structure: investment in infrastructure, partnership with the African private sector, and investment in Africa's youth.

He urged Japan to learn from the example of the Tony Elumelu Foundation, which champions empowering African entrepreneurs, as the most sustainable means of accelerating the development of Africa.

The Tony Elumelu Foundation, in just five years has assisted over 7,500 African entrepreneurs across every African country, with seed capital, capacity building, mentorship and networking opportunities through its \$100 million Entrepreneurship Programme.

Elumelu's advice carried the weight of his track record of business success, founding Africa's global bank, United Bank for Africa (UBA), which has grown its presence to 20 African countries, as well as in the United Kingdom, France, and the USA.

The Nigerian tycoon also founded Heirs Holdings, Africa's private



Nigerian tycoon Tony Elumelu addressing the 7th TICAD conference in Tokyo last week.

investment company which actively invests in key sectors of the continent's economy and controls millions of dollars in its investment

portfolio. Together, they employ over 30,000 people and transform the communities they operate in. "Africa is one of the world's viable

destinations for investment. Our huge population, of nearly 1.3 billion people, creates one of the most attractive markets anywhere in the world. The world is paying close attention to Africa, but is Japan at the centre of this conversation or is it on the sidelines?" he queried.

Elumelu's philosophy has become increasingly popular on the African continent, where he is acknowledged as the pioneer of a private-sector-led approach to accelerating development. He repeated the message at the Generation Unlimited breakfast meeting with Rwandan President, Paul Kagame and UNICEF Executive Director, Henrietta Fore, with its focus on job creation in Africa, where he emphasised the role of the African youth plays in this narrative.

President of South Africa and Co-Chair, TICAD, Cyril Ramaphosa corroborated Elumelu's stance. He said: "If you want really good returns, as Tony Elumelu said, come to Africa. Africa presents risk-adjusted returns and is a market in which investments are flowing at a hundred billion dollars - that is the new profile of Africa that is being presented to the world."

Achim Steiner, UNDP Administrator praised Tony Elumelu's private sector led approach to development in Africa saying: "I want to refer to my dear friend and colleague Tony Elumelu because he alluded to the vital role that business can also play in investing in the future of the youth. These are the kinds of partnerships that will drive business and development agenda to very different heights in the future."

Speaking on the potential of the African continent, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe of Japan said: "In Africa, some countries have joined top nations in the ranking on the ease of doing business. The scale of the market continues to expand. We can envision a day when the entire continent of Africa becomes an enormous economic zone."

Organised by the Japanese government, TICAD is a three-yearly forum for advancing Africa's development through people, technology, and innovation, bringing together government, business leaders, companies and other stakeholders.

WORLD

UK Prime minister Johnson threatens Brexit rebels with party expulsion

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Boris Johnson threatened to expel rebel lawmakers from his Conservative Party if they thwart his Brexit plans by voting to prevent a no-deal exit from the European Union.

Johnson's promise to leave the EU on Oct 31 with or without a divorce agreement has propelled the United Kingdom towards a constitutional crisis and a showdown with the 27 other members of the bloc, with an election one of the possibilities.

Conservative Party rebels are plotting with opposition parties to take control of parliament and tie the government's hands with legislation that would block a no-deal exit from the EU which they say would be ruinous to the economy.

With just over 24 hours until parliament returns on Tuesday from its summer break, Johnson's enforcers warned rebels that if they voted against the government they would be giving control of parliament to Labour Party leader Jeremy Corbyn.

"If they fail to vote with the government on Tuesday they will be destroying the government's negotiating position and handing control of parliament to Jeremy Corbyn," said a source in the whips office, which is responsible for party discipline.

"Any Conservative MP (member of parliament) who does this will have the whip withdrawn and will not stand as Conservative candidates in an election," the source said.

More than three years since the United Kingdom voted 52-48% in a referendum to leave the European Union, it is



British Prime Minister Boris Johnson

still unclear on what terms, or indeed whether, Brexit will take place.

Corbyn, Labour's veteran socialist leader, will say on Monday he is ready to do everything possible to stop a no-deal Brexit, describing it as a final attempt to pull "our country back from the brink".

Election?

In the parliamentary chess game over Brexit, it is also unclear what Johnson's response will be if the alliance of rebel Conservative lawmakers and opposition parties succeed in defeating the government.

Johnson, the face of the 2016 Vote Leave campaign, has cast rebels as EU "collaborators" who are undermining the government's negotiating hand by blunting his threat of a no-deal Brexit.

"Their (the government's) strategy, to be honest, is to lose this week and then seek a general election," said David Gauke, a former justice minister who is one of the rebel Conservative lawmakers. An election is one of the options under consideration, BBC Political Editor Laura Kuenssberg said.

House of Commons Leader Jacob Rees-Mogg

said any wise party would prepare for an election and that the rebel legislation would be considered a matter of confidence in the government. "It is important for the government to establish the confidence of the House of Commons and this is essentially a confidence matter: Who should control the legislative agenda, Jeremy Corbyn or Boris Johnson?" Rees-Mogg said.

An election would open up three main options: A Brexit-supporting government under Johnson, a Labour government led by Corbyn or a hung parliament that could lead to a coalition or minority government of some kind.

After Johnson moved to suspend parliament ahead of Brexit, opponents of a no-deal exit are seeking to overturn his decision in the courts. Hearings are due on Sept 3, Sept 5 and Sept 6.

Nick Boles, a former Conservative who now sits as an independent member of parliament, said the rebels would seek to force the government to ask the EU for a Brexit delay if it was unable to ratify a revised Withdrawal Agreement by a certain date in October.

Agencies

AU lauds Ethiopian troops for opening main supply routes, clearing explosives

MOGADISHU

The African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) has praised Ethiopian troops for clearing improvised explosive devices (IEDs) and opening main supply routes to facilitate delivery of humanitarian aid.

AMISOM Force Commander Tigabu Yilma cited Mahas, Halgan and other areas where the Ethiopia National Defense Forces (ENDF) operated and terrorist groups had been pushed out

through intensified joint military operations with Somali security forces.

"Because of your extreme military professionalism and discipline, you achieved success by conducting various joint operations with the Somali National Army and the support of the people of Somalia," Yilma said in a statement issued in Mogadishu on Sunday.

He saluted the troops for their dedication, sacrifice, professionalism and commitment to duty,

noting that they sacrificed a lot to support the core values of AMISOM's mandate to enforce peace and security.

The allied forces have been opening main supply routes blocked by the insurgents and creating a free and secure environment for the Somali people to thrive.

Aid agencies say the poor state of main supply routes in southern Somalia had provided conditions for al-Shabab to continue laying ambushes and use

explosive devices against AMISOM convoys and Somali national security forces.

Qurat-ul-Ain Sadozai, head of United Nations Mine Action Service (UNMAS) in Somalia, lauded the AMISOM troops for their hard work in neutralizing and clearing explosive devices planted by terrorists along main supply routes.

Sadozai reiterated UNMAS' continued support to AMISOM in the training, equipping and mentoring of officers who are involved in clearing IEDs.

AMISOM Sector Four Commander Mohamed Ibrahim Muse said that through the support of Somalis and others partners, the troops under his command had managed to conduct successful operations against insurgent and terrorist elements in the region.

"Our soldiers serve with unwavering dedication despite facing a challenging environment," he said. "AMISOM troops in Hiiran area have provided a commendable assistance to the mission."

Xinhua

Iran warns of 'strong step' away from deal if no new terms

TEHRAN

IRAN will "take a strong step" away from its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers if Europe cannot offer the country new terms by a deadline at the end of this week, a government spokesman said yesterday as top Iranian diplomats traveled to France and Russia for last-minute talks.

The comments from Ali Rabiee reinforced the deadline Iran had set for Friday for Europe to offer it a way to sell its crude oil on the global market. Crushing US sanctions imposed after President Donald Trump withdrew America from the deal over a year ago have halted those sales.

Iranian Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif was in Moscow, while his deputy was to travel to Paris with a team of economists yesterday in a renewed diplomatic push.

The developments come after

French President Emmanuel Macron surprised the Group of Seven summit in France by inviting Zarif last week.

Rabiee described Iran's strategy to journalists at Monday's press conference in Tehran as "commitment for commitment."

"Iran's oil should be bought and its money should be accessible to return to Iran," Rabiee said. "This is the agenda of our talks."

It's unclear what the terms of negotiation are. In theory, anyone caught buying Iranian crude oil would be subject to US sanctions and potentially locked out of the American financial market.

Already, Iran has gone over limits set by the deal. The International Atomic Energy Agency confirmed last week that Iran's stockpile of low-enriched uranium still exceeds the amount allowed by the so-called Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action, or JCPOA as the deal is known.



The UN agency also said Iran continues to enrich uranium up to 4.5%, above the 3.67% allowed.

Enriched uranium at the 3.67% level is enough for peaceful pursuits and is far below weapons-grade levels of 90%.

At the 4.5% level, the uranium

can help power Iran's Bushehr reactor, the country's only nuclear power plant.

It remains unclear what further step Iran will take, though it could involve restarting advanced centrifuges prohibited by the deal or further bumping up its enrichment of uranium. Iran insists the steps it has taken so far are easily reversible.

"We will announce implementation of the third step in a letter to the Europeans if the Europeans do not impalement necessary measures by Thursday," said Zarif in a Sunday interview with Iran's parliament news agency, ICANA.

The nuclear deal is meant to keep Tehran from building atomic weapons in exchange for economic relief. It has been complicated by the unilateral withdrawal of the United States from the deal and Washington's increased sanctions on Tehran, which have been taking a toll on the Iranian economy.

That has left the other signatories struggling to come up with enough incentives to keep Iran in the deal.

Meanwhile Monday, an Iranian oil tanker pursued by the US that has been traveling across the Mediterranean Sea is now off the coast of Tripoli in northern Lebanon. The ship-tracking website MarineTraffic.com showed the Adrian Darya I moving slowly just outside the Lebanese territorial waters, after it had stood off the coast of Syria a day earlier.

US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo has alleged the ship is bound for a refinery in Syria, which was the reason that authorities had seized the vessel off the coast of Gibraltar in July.

The US has warned countries not to accept the Adrian Darya, which carries 2.1 million barrels of Iranian crude oil worth some US\$130 million.

Agencies

Texas gunman fired from job before massacre, victim IDs emerge - media

TEXAS

THE man who killed seven people and wounded 22 others in a rolling rampage across West Texas on Saturday was fired from his trucking job hours before the massacre, media and officials reported.



Details about the Labor Day weekend shooting and the names of some of the victims were emerging online and from officials on Sunday and early Monday. Police continued to comb through 15 different crime scenes in neighboring Midland and Odessa, Texas.

The gunman, identified by police as Seth Aaron Ator, 36, of Odessa, had been fired from his truck-driving job in Odessa on Saturday morning, the New York Times and other media reported.

Hours later, Ator (pictured) was pulled over in Midland by Texas state troopers on Interstate 20 for failing to use a turn signal, police said.

Armed with an AR-type rifle, Ator fired out the back window of his vehicle, injuring one trooper. Then he drove away spraying gunfire indiscriminately, the Texas Department of Public Safety said in a statement.

At one point, Ator abandoned his vehicle and hijacked a U.S. postal van and mortally wounded the postal carrier, identified postal officials as Mary Grandos, 29.

Ator was later cornered by officers in the parking lot of a cinema complex in Odessa. He was shot and killed.

"There are no definitive answers as to motive or reasons at this point, but we are fairly certain that the subject did act alone," Odessa Police Chief Michael Gerke said at a news conference.

Online court records showed Ator had convictions in 2002 for criminal trespass and evading arrest. The Midland Reporter-Telegram newspaper quoted a state lawmaker, Rep. Tom Craddick, as saying he had previously failed a background check.

Gerke offered his condolences to their families of the dead and wounded.

"My heart aches for them all," he said.

Among the dead was Grandos, who various news media reported was at the end of her shift and on the telephone with her twin sister Rosie Grandos.

"She didn't deserve this," a tearful Rosie Grandos said in an interview with CNN late Sunday. "I was talking to her on the phone and she said she heard gunshots but didn't know where they were coming from."

"I heard her screaming," she said. "I was hearing her cry and scream for help. I didn't know what was happening."

Rosie Grandos said got in her car and drove to her sister. By the time she arrived, she saw her sister lying on the ground, she said.

The Washington Post reported that others among the dead were Edwin Peregrino, 25, who was killed outside of the home he moved into a few weeks ago.

Also killed was Lailah Hernandez, 15, who had just celebrated a coming of age party, the newspaper reported.

Joseph Griffith, 40, was killed as he waited at a traffic light with his wife and two children, the newspaper reported.

Among the wounded was a 17-month-old girl, Anderson Davis, who was shot in the face, according to officials and an online fundraising campaign started by her family.

In numerous media interviews, her family that the child underwent surgery and will recover.

Three police officers were shot and wounded - one from Midland, one from Odessa and one state trooper - and were in stable condition.

Agencies

Russia keeps close eye on US-Turkey talks on security zone in northeastern Syria - Lavrov

MOSCOW

RUSSIA is keeping a close eye on the talks between the United States and Turkey on a security zone in northeastern Syria, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said yesterday after talks with his visiting Iranian counterpart, Mohammad Javad Zarif.

"We are keeping a close eye on the talks between the United States and Turkey on security at the Syrian-Turkish border. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who visited Russia last week and had talks with President Vladimir Putin, informed in detail about these talks, about the problems that so far defy resolution," he said.

Russia recognizes the necessity of solutions that "would not make another serious regional problem out of the Kurdish issue," Lavrov noted.

"We want all the decisions taken in the context of the US-Turkey talks to respect the interests of Arab tribes that have been traditionally living on the territories that are now scene of development on the Euphrates' east bank."

Agencies

US interference in Hong Kong affairs reveals hegemony

SOVEREIGNTY equality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs are basic principles of contemporary international law and basic norm of modern international relations.

However, for a period of time, some US politicians interfered in China's domestic affairs amid the recent protests in Hong Kong despite China's solemn position, frequently making irresponsible remarks and improper comments on the Hong Kong affairs and stirring troubles in the city.

What's worse, almost all government departments of the US moved to put pressure on China and China's Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (SAR) in an attempt to roil the city and

make it a bargain chip against China.

These US politicians are purely calling white black and seeking hegemony. For the last few days, they did all they could to defame the Hong Kong police who held fast to their duties, responded to the violence with restraint and strove to safeguard rule of law and the social order of Hong Kong, which presented a sharp contrast to their ignorance on the lawless violence of the radicals and Hong Kong's mainstream public opinion of stopping violence and restoring order.

On top of that, they described the violent crimes as efforts to pursue human rights and freedom, slammed the Hong Kong SAR government, and

threatened to advance the so-called Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act and link the progress of the Sino-US economic and trade negotiations to the Hong Kong affairs. Such big and rude acts of interfering in another country's internal affairs were never seen before.

These US politicians have confused right and wrong, and attempted to plunge Hong Kong into turmoil. They met with the protest leaders time and again, supported the violent radicals and their illegal acts, and flagrantly disrupted Hong Kong's prosperity and stability.

As a matter of fact, they are fully aware of the violent radicals' acts to

trample on the rule of law and disturb the social order of Hong Kong.

It is a worldwide consensus that violence is toxic for a society ruled by law, and turbulence is a nightmare for development and prosperity. These US politicians will never tolerate those who trample on the rule of law and disrupt the social order in their own country. However, they will never do the same when it comes to other countries.

On Hong Kong affairs, these US politicians praised "the extraordinary outpouring of courage from people of Hong Kong", and even incited the violent radicals to cross the red line.

Some of them called the demonstrations in Hong Kong "a beautiful sight to

behold", slandered that "Beijing tries to encroach on Hong Kong's autonomy and freedom", and publicly described the US diplomats' meeting with anti-China rioters as "what American diplomats do every single day around the world."

Such blatant attempt to harbor the radicals and connive in their lawless activities is to openly incite violent confrontation. By doing so, some US politicians fully exposed their pride, prejudices, hypocrisy, cold-bloodedness, selfishness and rudeness.

What they have said and done is in-supportable even for some western media. As a German press noted, the US administration's interference in

Hong Kong affairs with the hauteur of an empire has violated the international convention.

Interfering in the domestic affairs of other countries is the root cause of worldwide turmoil, and the US is globally notorious for such tricks.

In the past decades, the US created a series of "color revolutions" that dragged many countries and regions into the mire of political unrest and economic stagnation and left numerous people homeless.

Hong Kong people should be fully aware of the ruse given what has happened to the world and the current circumstance in Hong Kong.

People's Daily

Dorian pummels Bahamas, forecast to threaten Florida

TITUSVILLE, Fla

HURRICANE Dorian, the second-strongest Atlantic storm on record, pounded the Bahamian islands of Great Abaco and Grand Bahama on Sunday night and was forecast to move dangerously close to Florida in the next two days, US forecasters said.

Hazards for the Abaco Islands included storm surges 5.5 to 7 metres above normal tide levels, with higher destructive waves, the Miami-based US National Hurricane Center (NHC) said.

At 11 pm GMT, the hurricane was about 220 km from the Florida coast, parts of which were being evacuated, as it crawled westward. Farther north, South Carolina Governor Henry McMaster ordered mandatory evacuations for parts of eight coastal counties effective at noon on Monday.

Georgia Governor Brian Kemp ordered evacuations in all or parts of six coastal counties also effective at noon on Monday.

Even a glancing blow from one of the strongest storms ever to menace Florida could bring torrential rains and damaging winds, the NHC said.

"On this track, the core of extremely dangerous Hurricane Dorian will contin-

ue to pound Great Abaco and Grand Bahama islands tonight and Monday," the NHC said. "The hurricane will move dangerously close to the Florida east coast late Monday through Tuesday night."

Dorian is forecast to remain a hurricane for the next five days, the NHC said. Dorian made landfall on Elbow Cay in the Abaco Islands with maximum sustained winds of 295 kph and gusts of more than 354 kph.

Dorian was the strongest hurricane on record to hit the northwestern Bahamas as a life-threatening Category 5 storm on the five-step Saffir-Simpson Wind Scale.

It was tied with Gilbert (1988), Wilma (2005) and the 1935 Labor Day hurricane for the second-strongest Atlantic hurricane on record, based on maximum sustained winds. Allen in 1980 was the most powerful, with 306 kph winds, the NHC said.

Julia Eaddy, 70, in Titusville, Florida, said she and her husband had ridden out several hurricanes before and were not fazed by the forecast. "I think it will be more of the same," she said.

Several gasoline stations around Titusville were closed. Many grocery stores were open but boarded up. Inside, shelves emptied out fast.



Strong winds move the palms of the palm trees at the first moment of the arrival of Hurricane Dorian in Freeport, Grand Bahama, Bahamas, on Sunday. (AP)

'MONSTER STORM'

Like many officials in Florida, Governor Ron DeSantis warned residents against becoming complacent after forecasts began saying on Saturday that the state might escape a direct hit.

"This storm at this magnitude could really cause massive destruction. Do not put your life in jeopardy by staying behind when you have a chance to get

out," DeSantis said, urging people to heed evacuation orders from county officials. Dozens of Floridians who live in boats in marinas in Brevard County were rushing to secure their vessels, strapping them to docks and removing canvas coverings from decks, but some boat residents said they wanted to ride out Dorian. "I will not get off this boat during the hurricane for any reason at all, save a human life," said Ned Keahey,

56. "It's home." Residents on Abaco posted video on social media showing floodwaters halfway up the sides of single-family homes with parts of the roofs torn off. Car alarms blared across the island, which was littered with twisted metal and splintered wood.

Forecasters predicted up to 76 cm of rain. The storm was moving at just 9 kph on Sunday night, prolonging a pummeling expected to last for hours, the NHC said.

Bahamian Prime Minister Hubert Minnis said in a nationally televised news conference that a "deadly storm and a monster storm" was battering the islands. Homes there are built to withstand winds of at least 241 kph, but the expected storm surge was higher than the average roof.

"This will put us to a test that we've never confronted before," Minnis said. "This is probably the most sad and worst day of my life to address the Bahamian people."

Palm Beach County, the third most-populated county and home to President Donald Trump's Mar-a-Lago resort, was among those with partial mandatory evacuations. Other counties announced voluntary evacuations.

Agencies

Japanese PM plans to reshuffle cabinet next week

TOKYO

JAPANESE Prime Minister Shinzo Abe said yesterday that he intends to reshuffle his cabinet next week with a major revamp expected.

Following a liaison meeting of the government and the ruling coalition parties on Monday, the prime minister, who also heads the ruling Liberal Democratic Party (LDP), is expected to carry out the reshuffle on Sept. 10 or Sept. 12, sources said.

Sources close to the matter also said the line-up of LDP executives will be changed, possibly on Sept. 10.

"I'd like to choose a lineup that can ensure both stability and takes on new challenges," Abe said at the meeting.

The prime minister is widely expected to retain his close allies Chief Cabinet Secretary Yoshihide Suga and Deputy Prime Minister Taro Aso, who doubles as finance minister, in their current roles. As for big names that might be on the move, LDP Secretary General Toshihiro Nikai, who has held his position for over three years, and economic revitalization minister Toshimitsu Motegi could find themselves posted to different positions.

Some sources close to the matter also believe that LDP policy chief Fumio Kishida may also be reassigned, while Shinjiro Koizumi, son of former Japanese Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi, could be in the running for a Cabinet position, sources have said.

Abe, who previously reshuffled his cabinet and LDP executives in October 2018, said at the meeting he intends to respond to the strong public support shown in July's upper house election and to carry out all the policies he has promised.

Xinhua

US airstrike on Syria's Idlib jeopardizes ceasefire, Russian senator says

MOSCOW

THE US airstrike on Syria's Idlib province is aimed at showing that Washington is not going to reckon with anyone's stance and keeps playing an active role in Syria, Russian Senator Konstantin Kosachev said, stressing that such steps imperil the ceasefire in the region.

"The US airstrike on the de-escalation zone in Syria's Idlib, which came in violation of all agreements and

without preliminary notification of key powers fighting terrorism in the region - Russia and Turkey, was delivered in order to first of all, show that Washington is not planning to reckon with anyone else and second, that it keeps an active role in the Syrian process," Kosachev, who chairs the Russian Federation Council (upper house) Foreign Affairs Committee, wrote on his Facebook page.

Kosachev has branded this as a classic US "Hiroshima principle,"

when the key target of a demonstrative attack is not an enemy, who has been basically defeated, and civilians suffer more from the strike.

The lesson is directed at other US opponents, the direct attack on whom isn't worth the effort, but the goal here is to show who "runs the house."

According to the senator, this is "a rather mean method" that jeopardizes a vital ceasefire in the conflict zone.

"But for the US it is of principle: either we say or no other way. Well, we don't need peace in Syria as a whole, we need everyone to speak about the victory and the leading role of America."

And certainly, the US allies, especially those who speak a lot and snobbishly about casualties about civilians during the operations of Russia or the Syrian authorities, will once again turn a blind eye to those killed by US strikes.

Why doesn't this surprise anyone? Double standards are normal for politics," Kosachev said.

The US carried out an airstrike at 3 p.m. on August 31 on an area between Ma'arrat Misrin and Kafir Haya, the Russian Center for Reconciliation of Opposing Sides in Syria (part of Russia's Defense Ministry) said in a statement on Sunday. The airstrike has left numerous casualties and a major destruction, the center said.

Agencies

Escalating trade frictions won't solve anything

IT'S not hard to find that voices different from Washington always occurred in American society every time the US government took actions to escalate trade frictions with China.

On August 28, Washington announced that it would impose additional tariffs on Chinese goods starting from September 1 and December 15, respectively.

On the same day, an American free trade association consisting of more than 160 business organizations sent a joint letter to the US government, demanding that all the tariffs on Chinese goods be immediately postponed.

The race between rationality and irrationality has become a distinguishing feature of China-US trade frictions. After months of escalating trade frictions with China, what problems does Washington want to solve?

How does it intend to solve them? Why does it refuse to come back on the right track? Washington's moves have made the world confused.

It is common sense that threatening other countries with tariffs and escalating trade frictions is not conducive to the settlement of the existing trade and economic issues, but makes the road to an agreement more lengthy.

Washington started the trade war with China as some people regard the US trade deficits with China as an absolute threat and



think it is fair trade only when US dollars flow in from China.

What happened to the US after it escalated trade frictions with China? The cost of the tariff increases has been passed on to American consumers.

They are losing money from their pockets as they pay higher prices for the same goods.

The escalating tariff war, while it gets the attention, has masked a sharp decline not in China-US trade, but in Chinese investments in the US, according to an article published on the website of the Foreign Policy magazine.

Agence France-Presse pointed

out that imposing tariffs on Chinese goods will not help the US resolve its trade deficit issue.

There is no winner in the trade war and blindly escalating trade frictions can't solve the economic and trade problems. The plan of certain people in the US to force China into concessions by escalating trade frictions is doomed to fail.

China will not make concessions in the face of extreme pressure. It is an inevitable choice whether the US likes it or not.

Mutual benefits and win-win results are the right pursuit of the time. To deal with the economic

and trade issues, China and the US must focus on their common interests and make sincere actions to solve the problems.

The two countries should effectively create conditions to conduct consultations on the basis of equality and mutual respect, instead of walking further along the wrong road.

China always believes that negotiating and cooperating with a calm attitude is the right path to solve problems. Such rational manner has won favor from people in China, the US and even the entire world.

People's Daily

Kenya's Hells Gate tragedy triggers debate on safety of scenic attractions

NAIVASHA

A FAMILY outing to the world's famous Hell's Gate National park ended on a tragic note after six of them and their guide were swept away by flash floods on Sunday evening.

The six family members who were part of a group of 13 drove from the capital, Nairobi to visit the park that is known for its alluring landscapes including gorges and hills.

The accident came seven years after a similar incident left seven youths from Nairobi dead after been swept by the raging floods.

In the latest incident, the group of hikers that were accompanied by two guides went to the gorge after being assured that it was safe despite the drizzle.

Family members of the deceased who spoke to journalists in Naivasha narrated the horrific ordeal as the floods swept their kin one after the other as they watched at close quarters.

Ivraj Singh Hayer said he witnessed his wife slide and being swept away followed by his cousin, nephew and niece.

A grief stricken Hayer said all the hikers had been informed that the area was safe and that the guides would control them in case of an emergency.

He said although it began to drizzle, they had been told that it last rained in April and so there was no cause for alarm.

"We did not see any problem with us going down to the gorges and we met others on their way out so it was all safe until the unthinkable thing happened," said Hayer.

He said six of the family members jumped on one side and were lucky the floods did not get to them adding that the rest were all swept away in a horrific style.

"The guide was trying to save my nephew and they both slipped and were swept away by the floods," said Hayer.

The bodies of the dead were found about 30 kms from the scene of the tragedy following a major search and rescue operation conducted by local volunteers and a special team from Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS), Red Cross and Police.

Hayer's brother Dilraj Singh told of how he received a distress call from one of the family members and tried to call officers from KWS but no help was forthcoming.

"We have not received a call from KWS as of now and we are still waiting but we thank residents from this area for their tireless efforts to trace the bodies of our family members," said Singh

Aggrey Maumo, assistant director at Kenya Wildlife Service (KWS) Central Rift region led search efforts in the vast Suswa hills where the dead bodies were found kilometers apart.

Maumo said the tragedy occurred after heavy rains pounded the hilly areas of Longonot with stormwater finding its way to the gorges inside the Hell's Gate National Park.

While terming the incident as unfortunate, Maumo clarified that the park was safe for a visit by local and foreign tourists.

"We will not close the gorges contrarily to information out there and this should not deter anyone from visiting this park," said Maumo.

Maenka Ole Kisotu, a community leader, regretted the incident saying it was caused by human activities that had depleted the environment.

Kisotu said massive environmental degradation had taken place in the area with charcoal burning taking a toll on trees and shrubs that could act as a buffer against surface water run-off.

"There is no vegetation here and once it rains we must have casualties and our animals are not spared either," said Kisotu adding that reclaiming Kenya's protected areas is key to boost tourism.

Xinhua

SOME U.S. politicians have lost their mind by relating China's domestic affairs to China-US bilateral economic and trade consultations, which revealed their evil intention to contain China by throwing Hong Kong into turmoil.

Acting like backseat drivers, they made frequent remarks on Hong Kong, and wantonly interfered with China's domestic affairs, saying "It will be much harder for us to make a deal if something violent happens in Hong Kong."

However, they totally miscalculated, as China will by no means trade matters of principles or allow foreign interference in Hong Kong affairs.

Washington has hit the wall every time after it escalated its trade friction with China, and is facing broad opposition both

US will never succeed playing Hong Kong card

domestically and internationally. And this time, some U.S. politicians are making new troubles out of the Hong Kong affairs.

"President Trump has shifted his stance on the unrest in Hong Kong in recent days to show greater solidarity with the pro-democracy protesters after coming to view the issue as a point of leverage in trade negotiations with China," said New York Times in an article it recently published.

However, these U.S. politicians shall be reminded that China never compromises on its sovereignty - a bottom line of the country's diplomacy that will never be overstepped.

It is totally wishful thinking that these politicians are imagining the world's second largest



economy to trade its sovereignty with the US. It proves that they have brought their bodies to the 21st century but left their brains in the old times.

After its return to the mother-

land, Hong Kong has constantly consolidated its position as an international financial, shipping and trading center, and has been rated by many global institutions as one of the freest economies

and one of the most competitive regions in the world.

For Hong Kong, the "one country, two systems" principle is its greatest strength. By integrating its own development into the big picture of the national development of China, joining the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), and implementing the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area plan, Hong Kong will guarantee its long-term prosperity and stability, as well as a brighter future.

Turning a blind eye to the violent practices of the radical protesters and even teaming up with those criminals, the U.S. politicians have exposed their evil intention to mess up Hong Kong so as to hamper the devel-

opment of China.

An ancient Chinese strategist Guan Zi once wrote, "Nothing is more beneficial than stability, and nothing is more detrimental than chaos."

At the moment when the world economy is faced with increasing downward pressure and discouraged market, the U.S. malicious attempt to cause disturbances in Hong Kong and undermine the prosperity and stability there will only harm China without benefiting the U.S. Besides, it will also aggravate fluctuations and uncertainties of the global economy.

Such practices would certainly incur strong disagreement among the international community and all Chinese people in-

cluding Hong Kong compatriots. Cooperation is better than confrontation, and consultation better than pressure.

Coming so far in the economic and trade frictions, China has always stayed rational and exercised restraints, despite the repeated provocation from the U.S.

China is determined to safeguard and defend the core interests of the country and the fundamental interests of its people, and will never compromise on major issues of principle.

Hong Kong is a special administrative region of China, and Hong Kong affairs are beyond all question domestic affairs of China that are never allowed to be interfered by any foreign country, organization or individuals.

People's Daily

The
Guardian

SPORT



Serena Williams

Serena on extent of ankle injury: 'We'll see tomorrow'

NEW YORK

SERENA Williams charged into the U.S. Open quarter-finals on Sunday but it may have come at a price as the six-times champion suffered a right ankle injury.

Williams, who twisted her left ankle during a quarter-final loss at the Australian Open, said she did not think the latest injury serious but added it was too soon to tell.

"I usually know if it's horrible early on. I mean, I had a really bad ankle sprain in January. I was like, instantly, 'No, this can't happen. I'm finally healthy,'" Williams said after her 6-3 6-4 win over Petra Martic.

"But I'll see tomorrow. So far I'm good. I have been managing it. We'll see tomorrow."

Williams rolled her ankle in the fifth game of the second set, having raced to the net and landed hard on her right foot after a backhand volley that sailed long.

Seeded eighth, Williams took about 15 seconds to get to her feet but won the next two points to earn a crucial break for a 3-2 lead and then took a medical timeout so a trainer could look at her already-wrapped ankle.

Her coach, Patrick Mouratoglou, later told reporters that Williams was not in too much discomfort.

"It doesn't seem – there is the video, but what is more important is how she feels and how the ankle looks. The ankle looks okay," said Mouratoglou.

"She doesn't feel much pain. She feels, but it's acceptable. And we will know tomorrow when it's going to be cold."

Williams, who is seeking a record-tying 24th Grand Slam title and her first since the 2017 Australian Open, will face China's Wang Qiang in the quarter-finals.

Meanwhile, Patrick Mouratoglou, whose court-side coaching of Serena Williams in last year's dramatic U.S. Open final triggered heated debate, said on Sunday he would not change a thing about his actions.

Beaten finalist Williams was given a warning for a coaching violation after Mouratoglou

gestured in the stands during the dramatic decider against Naomi Osaka.

The penalty infuriated Williams, who was later docked a point and a game for further code violations before falling in straight sets to Japan's Osaka.

"Do I regret? No, I felt like she was lost at that moment and I tried to help her doing something that everybody does that is the use of the tennis," Frenchman Mouratoglou told reporters.

"I would do the same tomorrow. Really. 100 percent."

In-match coaching is permitted at WTA events but not at the Grand Slams or on the men's tour.

Chair umpire Carlos Ramos noticed Mouratoglou making hand gestures from his seat early in the second set against Osaka.

Williams, who was at the opposite end of the court when Mouratoglou signalled, denied she had received coaching.

She later lost a point for smashing a racket and then a game for calling Ramos a "thief." Mouratoglou said 90% of coaches flouted the in-match ban and that chair umpires "don't care much."

"It's the most stupid rule," he said.

"I don't think we should get penalised for that. That's how it is. This is fine."

"But when ... nobody is penalised or almost never, I don't think it's fair. So do I regret? No. Would I do it again tomorrow if it's necessary? Yes."

He also said there should be no reason a player should dismiss a coach over such a violation.

"I disagree with the fact that the player could say to the coach he should leave because he did the coaching, he provoked a coaching violation," said Mouratoglou.

"Because the player asked the coach to coach them at every match. I'm on tour for 20 years, and we all know that. They all do it because also the players want them to help, you know."

REUTERS

Sergio Perez signs three-year contract extension with SportPesa Racing Point

SPA-FRANCORCHAMPS, Belgium

IT'S been quite the weekend for 2020 driver announcements, with SportPesa Racing Point the latest to join the party with news that Sergio Perez has signed a long-term deal to race for the outfit until the end of 2022.

The 29-year-old Mexican is part of the Silverstone-based team's furniture, having joined the squad back in 2014. Perez, better known as Checo, has consistently delivered at a high level, scoring at least one podium in four of his first five seasons with the team.

He also played a key role in saving the core of the team, when he put them into administration last year, with the team - previously known as Force India - emerging with their staff and infrastructure under new ownership.

On Friday, Team Principal Otmar Szafnauer hinted that a deal was imminent and just a few hours later, Racing Point announced a fresh three-year deal for Perez, who will line-up alongside Lance Stroll in 2020.

"I've been working together with this group of people for a long time now and they have become my second family," said Perez. "Together we have enjoyed a tremendous amount of success and we share the same passion for racing."

"I have been impressed with the direction the team has taken over the last 12 months and that gives me confidence for the future. I believe the best times are still to come and I look forward to celebrating plenty of podiums in the years ahead."

Szafnauer added: "We know Sergio very well and it's great to confirm him on a long-term deal. Over the last six years we have seen him become a very complete driver with excellent qualifying speed and exceptional race craft."

"Sergio believes in the long-term vision of this project and getting his commitment until the end of 2022 gives us valuable consistency going forward."

"As the team continues to grow and develop it's important to have a driver with Sergio's level of experience, especially with new regulations on the horizon. The whole team is thrilled to continue working with Sergio and I believe we can enjoy great success together in the coming years."

Perez is currently 16th in the drivers' standings on 13 points, with sixth in Azerbaijan his best result of the campaign so far. His deal means the only remaining unconfirmed seats on the 2020 grid are at Red Bull, Haas, Toro Rosso, Alfa Romeo and Willi



Nachingwea-based National Service (JKT)'s traditional music troupe members put their skills to show in the climax of an event aiming at educating the society on paying tax, known as 'Wiki ya Elimu ya Mipakodi', at Sokoine venue in Lindi last week. PHOTO: SABATO KASIKA

CAF Champions League setback mars interest in premier league startujanja



Tanzania's Yanga forward Sadney Urikhob (R) dribbles past Botswana's Township Rollers' player in the first leg of this season's CAF Champions League preliminary round duel which was played in Dar es Salaam recently. The two clubs settled for 1-1 draw. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

Correspondent Michael Eneza

AN early exit by club champions Simba SC has clouded the outlook for this year's competitive season as well as the rivalry between city giants Young Africans SC and their Msimbazi Street opposite numbers, as their roles have suddenly changed.

Instead of Simba being the champion side that is billed to have an elaborate engagement in the CAF Champions League tournament, a preliminary round setback has placed their archrivals as the side benefiting from attention in continental tournaments, along with minnows Malindi and Azam FC in second tier contests. Simba's early exit sent rapid shockwaves with fans, countrywide.

As the soccer season in the country is really a prolonged test of wits between the city rivals, the tonality of the matter has changed as the nation's representatives are the losers in the premier league title hunt, and the club with the best registration to show around, is now confined to premier league soccer and regional titles when the case arises.

With both sides almost routinely uncertain of participating in the Kagame Cup tournament -they also missed out this year - that showing off window is closed, and the league defending champions may wait for turn of year Mapinduzi Cup to seek some silverware. Perhaps.

The season stands to be saved from a competition viewpoint if the three remaining sides in CAF tournaments put up exceptional performances, so as to reawaken the public mood from its stupor of the Simba exit after two matches, to sentimental inclusion in the tournaments.

The fan base in the country is essentially a city rivals' affair, and despite Azam FC winning titles, hiring the best coaches and recruiting players from an international or regional span

for a number of years, it has built up a scant fan base. The whole idea of developing a taste for the club from the commercial products it is linked with was elaborately a fantasy.

That means no club among those who proceeded with CAF tournaments second stage is in a position to revive the rivalry linking continental performance with league prowess, where there is a need to clinch the title so that the clubs proceed to prove its worth in continental competition. But a snag came up in the preliminary round format of the CAF Champions League, which effectively reduces participating teams to half the number of CAF member states or rather of eligible teams as both clubs could have passed for the premier competition.

Worse, in our case it was the guest appearance which clinched space for the proper tournament, while the more eligible side crashed from an away goal rule, which isn't a surprise.

Were it that it was the guest Champions League inclusion, Yanga who would have been hobbled out of the tournament, it would be hard luck on their side but understandable from a competition point of view, that they were merely given a second chance.

But when it is the champion side this elimination is nearly the same as non-participation in this year's tournament, which dampens spirits for the tournament is a sort of mirror, to take the pulse of soccer prowess and

the position of our clubs on the map. Playing just two matches is not the same as elimination in fans' imagination but closely approximates a disqualification.

That is why the virtual disqualification is dampening interest in the premier league as the aftermath is not assured, as it hinges on passing a stern qualification test, where three billion shillings investments may not be a sufficient reason to believe that anything can be gained.

For it would have been something else to play in groups and see how the team fares, not an opening and return match, as any circumstance factors can upset the balance. The problem wasn't with the team, that it drew twice, but the tournament design.

In that case winning the premier league is still prized but is bracketed as for its proper significance, as in a sense the premier league now involves a foreign team, a checkmate as to who will participate in the CAF Champions League.

When a club is battling to obtain the title the rival side will just smile, as there is a good chance that, as it recently happened, the champion side is unseated from regional competition and the other proceeds. Worse, the second team provision came up only because Simba reached the finals in last year's tournament, in which case elimination this year would leave the Mainland out of the contest.

Pogba is Man Utd's only world-class player, claims Saha

PARIS

LOUIS Saha believes Paul Pogba is the only world-class player at Manchester United right now and is adamant he has Ballon d'Or potential.

Pogba has been linked with a move away from Old Trafford all summer but appears set to remain at Old Trafford and play a crucial role this season.

The France midfielder has started every Premier League game for the Red Devils thus far in 2019-20, but, after a strong performance in a 4-0 win over Chelsea, has had his displays questioned with Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's side failing to win their past three games.

Such criticism is inevitable according to Saha, who declared Pogba is on another level compared to his United teammates.

"He's got the potential to be one of the best - Ballon d'Or potential," Saha told Astro SuperSport.

"No disrespect to the other players but he could say 'I'm the only one here who could claim to be a world-class player right now'. At the same time, he's always going to be on the spot because he is the only one."

"If he doesn't perform there's no-

one that's going to be asked more from. Pogba tries his best but sometimes there's no-one there to help him.

"And who's going to get criticised for not performing? It's going to be Pogba."

Having declared in pre-season he was ready for a new challenge after three seasons back at Old Trafford following four years at Juventus, Pogba has been unable to secure a move away.

Despite his own transfer desires, Saha praised Pogba's on-field response after finding himself still wearing a United shirt.

"He could have hidden, said he didn't want to play, but the first couple games he really did perform," he said.

"He represents so much in terms of potential for United that they ask him to be perfect but he can't because he's human."

After having a penalty saved in the Red Devils' draw with Wolves last month, Pogba was subject to racist abuse online with his teammates quick to rally around him.

Just last week, a sign outside of United's Carrington training ground was then also graffitied with the words 'Pogba Out'.

(Agencies)

Turkish Airlines in sponsorship deal with Argentina's River Plate

BUENOS AIRES

TURKISH Airlines announced a sponsorship deal with Argentine football team, River Plate which will wear jerseys bearing a logo of the airline for the next three seasons.

Turkish Airlines also became the first airline company to sponsor River Plate, also known as 'The millionaires,' starting with this season. Emphasizing the importance of the cooperation between Turkish Airlines, which became a global friend of sports and athletes with various sponsorship deals to this day, Turkish Airlines Chairman of the Board and the Executive Committee, M. Iker Ayçi said the deal is part of Istanbul based carrier's global outreach program.

"While continuing the development of our network access strength, we also continue to establish strong bonds with different societies and communities across the world with our global sponsorships to various sports branches thanks to the encompassing nature of sports," Ayçi said.

"With that in mind, we are happy to be able to form such another connection between the Argentine sports fans with this cooperation that we celebrate here today to become the jersey sponsor of River Plate, one of the most prominent football teams in the world," he added.

President of River Plate, Rodolfo Donofrio said the agreement is a

very important partnership for the club as part of a global vision that will enhance the expansion of both brands." Turkish Airlines is a world-wide brand and one of the most prestigious airlines of the world," Donofrio said.

Known for its support to various national and international names, teams and organizations, both professional and amateur, Turkey's national flag carrier became the sponsor of world-famous football clubs such as Barcelona, Manchester United and Borussia Dortmund along with the UEFA Euro 2016. The Turkish Airlines' advertises with famous athletes such as Lionel Messi, Kobe Bryant and Didier Drogba who had been a big hit when they were broadcasted.

River Plate, which Turkish Airlines became the jersey sponsor of, was founded in 1901 and took its name from the common English name for the Río de la Plata. It is Argentina's one of the biggest football clubs having a large fan base. River's home stadium is Estadio Monumental Antonio Vespucio Liberti, known simply as 'El Monumental', the largest stadium in the country with a capacity of more than 66,000 people.

Nationally, River Plate has won the Primera División championship a record 36 times, with its latest title the 2014 final. Domestic achievements also include 11 National cups, with the 2017 Supercopa Argentina.



Turkish Airlines Chairman of the Board and the Executive Committee, M. Iker Ayçi (2nd L), President of River Plate, Rodolfo Donofrio (2nd R) flanked by cabin crew members after announcing a sponsorship deal at Estadio Monumental Antonio in Argentina last week.

Arsenal's derby fightback will do wonders for Unai Emery

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

RESULTS mean everything in football. Managers will always talk up the importance of performances, but supporters are more interested in the cold reality of the final score, which is why Arsenal head coach Unai Emery will have left the Emirates feeling like the big winner of Sunday's pulsating North London derby against Tottenham.

Emery spends most games wearing a pained expression in the technical area, but the Spaniard allowed himself to smile in the closing stages of this one, perhaps because deep down, he knew that he and his team got away with it against Mauricio Pochettino's side by claiming a 2-2 draw after falling 2-0 behind in the first half. "I'm pretty proud of our work," Emery said. "We played with our heart, sometimes more than our head and we need the balance. We need to be clearer in our mind."

That, in a nutshell, is the problem that Emery has to solve at Arsenal. Their football is too chaotic, but right now it is exciting chaos, and that is helping the former Paris Saint-Germain coach win the PR battle, if nothing else. On the pitch there was no victor, with Arsenal and Spurs taking a point each from a game that saw the home side trail 2-1 at half-time before salvaging a draw with a stirring second-half fightback.

In the first half, we saw the Arsenal that we usually see against a "Big Six" rival: outplayed, outfought, out-thought and defensively naive. Since Emery replaced Arsene Wenger as manager in the summer of 2018, Arsenal have played 15 games against the "Big Six" in league and cup and won just three of them, while losing eight. The old failings of the final years of the Wenger era always seem to be triggered by an encounter with a well-resourced rival and, in the first 45 minutes of this game, it was the same old story.

A week after surrendering their 100 percent winning start to the season with a 3-1 defeat at Liverpool, the Gunners appeared to be going the same way against their neighbours. Yet the second-half was a different story. Determination replaced disarray where Arsenal were concerned, with Alexandre Lacazette's goal in first-half stoppage time providing the platform for the second-half performance, in which Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang earned the draw with a 71st minute equaliser.

Spurs helped their neighbours, by giving them the freedom to chase to the game, but Aubameyang's strike was a big goal for so many reasons.

First of all, it ensured that Arsenal did not lose this



Arsenal's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scores their second goal during their Premier League match against Tottenham Hotspur at Emirates Stadium in London, Britain on Sunday. (Agencies)

game. Ahead of an international break, it would have almost signalled a mini-crisis at the Emirates had they gone into it on the back of defeats against Liverpool and Spurs, with their top four ambitions under fierce scrutiny. Staving off that kind of knee-jerk inquest was another upside from Aubameyang's equaliser, but for Emery, the goal and the draw also ensured that he could push on with his Arsenal rebuild with this result in the bank.

Supporters will always offer more patience towards a manager and a team when they see their players produce the kind of fightback which leads to a positive result from a seemingly lost cause.

Sending supporters away from a game with smile on their face and spring in their step is crucial at any time, but especially so when a club is in a state of transition and the rebuilding process is not without its difficulties.

Against Spurs, Emery's unsuccessful track record against the "Big Six" began to look like a growing problem during the first half, when Christian Eriksen and Harry Kane (the latter from the penalty spot) put Spurs 2-0 ahead.

All of those questions about Emery's tactical nous were beginning to rear their heads once again, especially after his disastrous ploy of using a diamond formation against Anfield that allowed Liverpool full-backs Andy Robertson and Trent Alexander-Arnold to wreak havoc down both flanks.

Even though Arsenal's defending was typically shambolic at times against Spurs, Emery's bold second-half substitutions, when he introduced Dani Ceballos and Henrikh Mkhitaryan in an effort to pose Tottenham more questions in their defensive third, led to the home side throwing everything forward and being rewarded

for their adventure. Fortune favours the brave and that certainly applied to Emery and Arsenal, and if the second-half fightback ensures that the supporters spend less time worrying about their defending, the Gunners coach will be certainly happy about that. But he will also know that he cannot allow Granit Xhaka to defend so recklessly in future -- the Arsenal captain conceded a penalty for a ridiculous challenge on Son Heung-Min -- and he needs to find a way to get David Luiz fully focused on defending.

With the attacking talent in their ranks, Arsenal will always pose opponents problems going forward, but their defensive frailties will also lead to more occasions when they have to chase games.

As he embarks on his second full season in charge, Emery still has plenty of work to do, but days like this will only help buy him the time to see the job through.

Bale scores twice and sent off as Madrid held by Villarreal

MADRID

GARETH Bale scored twice to save Real Madrid from a damaging defeat away at Villarreal on Sunday before capping a dramatic 2-2 draw by being sent off in injury-time.

Zinedine Zidane said in July it would be "best for everyone" if Bale left this summer but it was the Welshman's double that earned Madrid a point from a thrilling contest at la Ceramica.

Villarreal took the lead through Gerard Moreno in the 12th minute and then Moi Gomez 16 minutes from the end but each time Bale pegged them back, first on the stroke of half-time and then four minutes from the end.

Two yellow cards in as many minutes then saw Bale dramatically sent off in the 94th minute but by then his match-saving contribution was complete.

"I am pleased with his goals, of course, and now we have to think about a rest," Zidane said. "Although he won't rest as he's going away with his national team." It was six years to the day that Real Madrid paid 100 million euros (now \$110m) to sign Bale, who now has 104 goals for the club, as many as the Brazilian Ronaldo.

But his heroics could not save Madrid from another slip, which means they head into the international break five points behind early front-runners Atletico Madrid, who had earlier beaten Eibar 3-2.

"We have to improve defensively," Zidane said. "We know we can create chances. The positive is the reaction we showed because it is important not to lose." Asked what was lacking, Casemiro said: "We lacked everything."

After drawing at home to Real Valladolid though, this was not the result Zidane would have wanted, particularly given he threw two new signings into his starting line-up.

Luka Jovic and Ferland Mendy both started, with Bale on the left of midfield in a 4-4-2, a sign of Zidane's renewed faith in the 30-year-old's defensive capabilities.

Zidane has now won only six of the 14 matches since he returned as coach in March and it remains to be seen if the club make any late additions on the final day of the transfer window on Monday.

Sergio Ramos was at fault for the first goal, robbed on the halfway line by Moreno, who drove forward and slipped in Karl Toko Ekambi. Ekambi's shot was parried by Thibaut Courtois but only back into the path of Moreno, who picked his spot.

Madrid dominated the rest of the half as Casemiro headed wide, Lucas Vazquez lashed into the side-netting and Karim Benzema's long-range effort hit the post.

They did score in the 46th minute with a brilliant



Gareth Bale (right) scored twice in Real Madrid's 2-2 draw with Villarreal on Sunday. (AFP Photo)

goal, Jovic flicking Casemiro's pass into Dani Carvajal, who crossed first time for Bale to tap in.

Madrid pushed for a second after the restart as Bale and Toni Kroos went close and Benzema had the ball in the net but was correctly called offside.

Instead, Villarreal landed a sucker-punch on the break as Mario Gaspar's cross was cleared only to Santi Cazorla. His shot was saved by Courtois but Javi Ontiveros fired in again and Moi Gomez was perfectly placed.

Villarreal tried to hang on but tension

set in and Bale equalised with four minutes left, cutting inside from the right and dragging a shot back inside the near post.

He might have fancied a hat-trick in injury time but instead picked up two yellow cards, the second for a late challenge on Ontiveros.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Arsenal's derby fightback will do wonders for Unai Emery

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Golfer Garv Chadha (R), pictured with Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC)'s Golf Section captain after the latter had been presented with the AGC's 2018 best golfer award at the club. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AGC

Chadha wins AGC's 2019 best golfer honour

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE boy received a standing ovation. Garv Chadha may only be aged 15 but the young golfer has managed to beat 32 other players in the 2019 Match Play golf competition, organized by the Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC) and got declared the overall best golfer of the year at the club.

As it happens, Garv, a student at Braeburn International School in the region, was previously also named the club's best golfer player of 2018 last year.

Young Chadha used to play in the junior golfing category but now the young golfer has crossed the stage and is playing with seniors.

Commenting on his son's sporting achievement, Garv's father Robby Chadha, a veteran golfer himself said the boy has succeeded in balancing academic responsibilities at school with extra-curricular activities such as golf.

The teenage player, Chadha said, is now aiming at the skies when it comes to teeing but also doing well in class.

Chadha Junior, with a National Order of Merit accolade, has been playing golf for over five years now, having started the sport at the tender age of 10 back in 2014.

Other than topping the feat in Arusha, Garv Chadha also plays in the national amateur golf team.

His winning in the AGC Match Play golf competition therefore did not come as surprise for Tanzania's young version of Tiger Woods.

The competition brought together 32 best golfers from Arusha. It happens that the Arusha Gymkhana Club conducts 36 golf competitions per year and from that, the Arusha's social, recreation and sporting institution picked 32 best players to compete in order to produce the overall winner.

The Arusha Gymkhana Club's golf coach, Olais Mollel, explained that his institution remains the source of top golfers in the country through organization of the regular competitions for juniors meant to be the benchmark in yielding outstanding golf personalities from Arusha.

"We have various golf development programs including those targeting to recruit young players as well as female golfers," he said.

He pointed out that there are 14 female golf players with amazing performances, 16 junior players and 130 senior golfers.

Meanwhile the AGC here has just winded up the TANFOAM August 2019 Monthly Mug played at the club's course over the weekend.

The event saw Hiten Nathwan score 74 points and become the Division 1 winner of the mug.

He was followed by Mike Rotich, the runner-up who scored 75 points. Another golfer, George Frisby, topped the Division 2 category with 73 points, while Jamal Mukarram who got 74 points, finished second.

Division 3 saw Vivek Gohil lead the rest of the pack with 68 points, while Khevan Shah with 76 points came in second.

Jaat Blasters pip Patel Samaj in GP Gymkhana Shield tournament

By Guardian Reporter

JAAT Blasters cricketers have stepped up their pursuit of silverware in this season's GP Gymkhana Shield tournament with 10-run victory over Patel Samaj in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

Jaat Blasters have for that matters secured a place in the last eight of the tournament, as they have registered three victories in four outings.

They had opened their campaign with victory over Union and then cruised to victory over Tarangini in the second duel.

In the third match Jaat Blasters' winning streak was brought to an end, as they lost to Jain Sangh.

After having been presented with the opportunity to bat first in the last weekend clash, which was held at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC) oval, Jaat Blasters amassed 164 runs for six wickets in 20 overs.

In response Patel Samaj chased their opponents' score with plenty of zeal but the former's efforts ended in vain, notching 154 runs for six wickets in 20 overs.

General Petroleum and Premier Refineries are the GP Gymkhana Shield 2019 competition's main sponsors, with DGC Cricket Section hosting the tournament.

The event is as well co-sponsored by SBC Tanzania, AfroTurk, I&M Bank, MGen Tanzania, ASAR Tanzania and Sayona Drinks.

Teams, which are participating in this season's GP Gymkhana Shield tournament, have been put in Groups A, B, C and D.

Young Muslims, TNCC, Lions Club and Kanbis make Group A, Group B has been made up of Union Sports Club, Jaat Blasters, Jain Sangh and Tarangini.

Karnataka Kings, Annadil Burhani, Kutchi Leva and Punjabi Kings make Group C, Group D teams include Surat Stars, Sandy Super Strikers, Isamaili Community and Caravans.

The tournament's last eight duel have been slated for September 14 to September 21, teams which will make it to the semi-finals will clash for qualification for the final on September 22.

The tournament's final will be played on September.



Jaat Blasters cricketers pictured after their match against Union in this season's GP Gymkhana Shield tournament, which took place in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NIKHIL PUJARA



Taifa Stars' players, Mohamed Issa (L) and Kelvin Yondani, attend training in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for the first leg of the 2022 World Cup's Africa qualifiers against Burundi that will be held in Bujumbura tomorrow. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

Taifa Stars seek victory over Burundi

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SENIOR national soccer team, Taifa Stars, departs for Burundi today for the first leg of the 2022 World Cup's Africa qualifiers against Burundi national team, The Swallows, which will take place on Wednesday.

The Swallows of Burundi will host the Taifa Stars at Intwari Stadium in Bujumbura, with the second leg slated to be held at National Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

Taifa Stars acting head coach Etienne Ndayiragije said morale in the team is high following the arrival of many foreign based players.

"I have all the trust and belief that we can perform wonders in Bujumbura, the morale in the camp is very high" he said.

Coach Ndayiragije, however, cautioned his side to anticipate a tough battle when they face Burundi tomorrow.

He disclosed he has warned his charges to prepare well if they are to qualify for the next round.

Ndayiragije said, even though his charges would be cautious, he would opt for an attacking option.

"In football anything can happen, but our aim is to win, we will attack all the way and not sitting back," the coach noted.

Taifa Stars skipper Mbwana Samatta had yet to report to the team's camp while winger Simon Msuva is to join the team in Burundi.

Taifa Stars squad is made up of many players who have been together for a long time. The situation gives the team an advantage over their hosts, however caution must be taken as modern football has no pushovers.

The Bujumbura encounter will be a third assignment for Ndayiragije and it will also be a home coming for the gaffer as he made

his name as a player and coach in Burundi.

The last time Taifa Stars locked horns with Burundi was in an international friendly match and Stars won 2-1.

Burundi, though, have recently improved, especially when they are playing at home.

But playing at home also comes with pressure on the hosts while Taifa Stars will have nothing to lose and if anything the Tanzania team will only need a draw and then record a win at home.

The two sides have met 18 times, with Taifa Stars winning 11 games, losing five and managing draw in two games.

Meanwhile Burundi national team head coach Alan Oliver Niyungeko is reported to have said his side's goal is to register a win in the first match of the qualifiers.

"From the experience of the previous Africa Cup of Nations in Egypt, we are convinced that we can do the best," he said.

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 21:30 Wakilishi
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The Arusha Gymkhana Club's golf coach, Olais Mollel, explained that his institution remains the source of top golfers in the country through organization of the regular competitions for juniors meant to be the benchmark in yielding outstanding golf personalities from Arusha.