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It's just one big mess and it's unfair: Travel ban leaves local family split across continents

Coffee and tea may help reduce rates of stroke and dementia

Omicron stalls SA neighbours, Mozambique included, as migrant workers return

AFRICA CDC

Beer Association heads to court to review SA's booze bans

Relocation of wildlife taking off after Lake Manyara overflows

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

CONSERVATION authorities here are racing against time to relocate wildlife from Mto wa Mbu Game Controlled Area near Lake Manyara to Tarangire National Park. Catherine Mbena, communication officer for Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA) said yesterday that the move is aimed at rescuing wild animals stuck in the area as Lake Manyara expands, pushing wildlife closer to habitations in the vicinity. TANAPA is working with the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA) and the Ngorongoro Conservation Area (NCAA) on the exercise,

Conservation officials say that in reality it was animals were pushed near residential areas after the lake widened, swallowing nearby grazing areas. Wild animals meander in Migungani, Losirwa and Ngogoro areas that harbour tourist campsites.

also involving experts from the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) At least 370 wildebeests and over 150 zebras were displaced from their usual feeding areas following heavy rains of late 2019 to early 2020 that filled Lake Manyara, causing it to expand and stretch five

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Samia, Kenyatta agree on gas pipeline, COVID



President Samia Suluhu Hassan with visiting Kenyan President Uhuru Kenyatta admiring a picture of the founding fathers, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere and Mzee Jomo Kenyatta, shortly after Kenyatta arrived at the State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday, on the second day of a two-day state visit. Photo: State House

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan and her Kenyan counterpart Uhuru Kenyatta yesterday agreed to join efforts in the fight against COVID-19 and early control measures, directing responsible ministers to collaborate in coming up with strategies to combat the disease.

President Samia said in an address at the State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday shortly after bilateral talks with President Kenyatta on various issues, culminating in the signing of a raft of agreements.

She said that they have directed their ministers to work on the matter as we are all hit by COVID-19. "The presence of the disease in our countries has been affecting our people as they are sometimes barred from traveling abroad. At times, people are also barred from visiting Tanzania," she said.

President Kenyatta was in the country for a two-day official visit which started on Thursday, joining President Samia and other invited leaders to events to mark 60 years of the country's independence.

The agreements covered tourism, energy, security, health and protection of the border, with President Samia remarking that Tanzania's ecology is similar to Kenya's, hence the need to have common ways to resolve existing challenges. Ministers should meet and discuss how to improve the tourism sector for mutual benefit, she directed.

On border security, the president said the matter was left to responsible ministers to see what can best be done. Energy ministers are also working on the Tanzania-Kenya gas pipeline which will see Kenya accessing natural gas for electricity generation and domestic use, she explained.

The pipeline will be constructed from Dar es Salaam to the port of Mombasa, where upon completion of ministerial consultations "we will sign the documents to allow its implementation," she affirmed.

I am happy to hand a certificate of ownership of the birds. Let them stay in Kenya's parks

The raft of agreements stem from the bilateral talks in August within the Joint Commission for Cooperation, a bilateral organ created to resolve issues affecting various areas of cooperation.

President Samia also gave 20 crane birds to President Kenyatta as a Christmas gift to Kenyans, noting that Kenya has only 12 crane birds while Tanzania has over 4,000.

"I am happy to hand a certificate of ownership of the birds. Let them stay in Kenya's parks," she enthused, issuing a request to the visiting leader for female rhinos to be taken to Ngorongoro Conservation Area and the Serengeti National Park, noting that the two parks have a good number of rhinos, but all are male, a request that President Kenyatta granted.

This is the second time in seven months that the two leaders have had extended meetings, ending decades of bilateral discords and moving to actively foster East African integration.

BADEA hands out 7trn/- loans for next five years

By Guardian Correspondent, Cairo

THE Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) has pledged to provide Tanzania with concessional loans and grants reaching \$3bn (7trn/-) over the next five years for various development projects.

BADEA managing director Dr Sidi Ould Tah made the pledge yesterday in the Egyptian capital, Cairo after holding discussions with Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, the minister for Finance and Planning.

The director said the discussion touched various key issues in the bank's relationship with Tanzania, "and we're ready to provide the funds." The funds

The conference has engaged the private sector. It is the engine of economic growth and has a significant role in stimulating economic growth,

will be disbursed across five years of implementation of the Third National De-

velopment Plan for road infrastructure, education, agriculture, strengthening the private sector, plus human capital capacity building, he stated.

He lauded the 60 years of Independence that Tanzania marked this week, promising to work with President Samia Suluhu Hassan in her plans to bring development to the people.

For his part, the minister expressed gratitude to BADEA for the confidence shown in the move to provide a large amount of money that will help bring rapid development to the people through strategic projects they have

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Universal health coverage efforts timely - WHO

By Correspondent Theresia Victor

THE World Health Organization (WHO) representative to Tanzania, Dr Tigest Mengestu has commended ongoing efforts to put in place universal health coverage for all Tanzanians, saying it demonstrates acute political will by the current leadership.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the WHO official said that the UN agency is pleased to note that the issue of health insurance by universal health coverage has over the past two months gained prominence in the legislature and various public health forums. This is a move towards the right direction and is timely, she stated.

Universal coverage is not only a political choice, but also a smart economic choice, she asserted, affirming that when a country invests in health a platform is laid for gains in productivity and economic growth.

Only if people are healthy can they learn, earn, work and create, "so the benefits for businesses, economies, individu-

als, families, communities and countries are enormous," she declared.

"We believe that health care is a human right for all people, not a privilege for those who can afford - and the government's effort to push that is something that is to be com-

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BADEA hands out 7trn/- loans for next five years

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agreed to finance. BADEA is a major development partner for the country as so far they have provided loans and grants of up to \$2.24bn for projects that include a major water project from Mwanga to Same in Kilimanjaro Region, he said.

The \$3bn in loans and grants from BADEA over the next five years will be used to improve energy, 14 irrigation projects, livestock improvement and road construction, opening up economic opportunities in agriculture and other areas.

The funds will also be used to develop the private sector where banks will be given part of the money to provide low-interest loans in productive sectors, promoting employment for youth and women

through entrepreneurial activities, he said.

Jamal Kassim Ali, the Zanzibar Minister of State in the President's Office (Finance and Planning), said that Zanzibar would also benefit from a portion of the soft loans and grants. Around \$450m would be used to implement a number of strategic projects, he stated.

These include the construction of an airport in Pemba Island, fir a runway and passenger building, Binguni Referral Hospital construction, five VETA technical colleges and fuel depots, he explained.

The loan would further boost the Isles economy and boost employment, a major challenge for Zanzibar authorities right now. BADEA's decision to provide the loan will contribute to the country's development, he added.



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (L) talks with Zanzibar former President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein and his wife Mwanamwema Shein when they paid a courtesy visit at the VP's residence at Oyster bay in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: VPO.

UNITED NATIONS

A Chinese envoy has called for efforts to help Africa tackle terrorism and climate change.

In recent years, terrorism has presented major threats to Africa, in particular, the Sahel, said Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the United Nations.

Facing the challenges, the G5 Sahel (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger) have united to enhance capacity and deepen counter-terrorism cooperation, playing an important role in maintaining regional security. China appreciates such efforts, he told an open debate of the Security

Chinese envoy calls for efforts to help Africa tackle terrorism

Council on security in the context of terrorism and climate change.

"China endorses the continued joint counter-terrorism operations by Niger and countries in the region, supports sustainable and predictable funding to the G5 Sahel Joint Military Force and calls on the international community to provide more help in logistics and capacity building," he said.

In the long term, the military approach alone is not sufficient to eliminate the security threats in the Sahel. Efforts need to be

made to address the roots causes of conflict. The international community should help African countries address the multiple difficulties such as economic woes, food insecurity and tribal tensions, eliminate the breeding ground of terrorism, continue to support regional countries in enhancing security capacity-building, provide protection to the grassroots population and ensure that civilian facilities such as schools and hospitals are protected in conflicts, said Zhang.

The United Nations can make use of its own advantages to help countries concerned protect the rights and interests of women, children, and the vulnerable so that they can fully enjoy the development fruits and so that the impact of extremist thoughts can be cut off, he said.

Climate change presents a grave challenge to the sustainable development of Africa. Like other developing countries, Africa lacks funding, technology and capabilities the most, he said.

China supports even stronger attention and support to Africa's response to climate change, he said. "We call on developed countries to effectively fulfill their historical responsibilities and honor their commitments on climate financing, technology transfer, and capacity-building so that commitments will be turned into practical actions."

Climate change has inflicted a serious impact on the countries in the Sahel and complicated solutions to the conflicts in the region. China calls on the Security Council to take a situation-based approach in its in-depth analysis of the impact of climate change on the Sahel so as to have an accu-



National Assembly Deputy Speaker Dr Tulia Ackson (L) addresses the Institute of Accountancy Arusha's 23rd annual graduation ceremony yesterday. Photo: National Assembly.

Raila Odinga officially declares his candidature for presidency in 2022

NAIROBI

ODM leader Raila Odinga has officially declared his candidature for the presidency in the 2022 General Election. He spoke at the Kasarani Stadium in Nairobi during the Azimio la Umoja convention.

"On this tenth day of December, 2021, I Raila Amolo Odinga, having been faithful and committed to building a national, democratic and progressive Kenya in our lifetime, having worked with many patriotic Kenyans to achieve this goal, I do hereby accept to present myself as a presidential candidate at the presidential election on 9th of August 2022 following the request and unanimous decision by this Azimio la Umoja," r Odinga said.

Odinga also launched the Azimio la Umoja movement, a caucus he says will spearhead the journey to next year's election, bringing together all like-minded Kenyans, leaders and political parties.

At the same time, Odinga said that once he ascends to the presidency, he will prioritise investing in the youth, provision of affordable healthcare,

better education for all, promotion of women welfare, climate change adaptation, affirmative action programmes, protection of devolution and building on the legacies of previous administration among other issues. He at the same time said he will soon will unveil detailed manifesto addressing various concerns such as corruption, public debt, industrialisation and protection of private property among others.

"I stand here before you today, a proud son of Kenya, a liberation fighter and servant of the people for the last 50 years.

Today, I boldly declare that I am neither repentant nor regretful of my own experience in the fight for a liberated Kenya. I bear my physical and psychological scars with pride. This is because my country was worth it then; and is worth it now.

I bear the scars of liberation with pride, and embrace the blood, sweat and tears they cost me.

By the way, the tears from the torture chambers are still running, as you can tell from the handkerchief that never leaves my hand!

For years, I was not allowed to

speaking with other inmates. In fact, for 6 years straight, I did not sleep on a bed.

For months on end I was either held incommunicado, in solitary confinement or handcuffed and in transit to the next prison or detention camp.

Relatives died, including my beloved mother and my own brother, and I never got the chance to say goodbye.

I would not wish this torment upon anyone, not even my worst enemy. Together with my comrades who endured torture and survived those dark days of despair, we would never let Kenya degenerate down the road of terror. But there was a positive side to my story.

It is about a friend. A 'Lando' of legendary beauty, with the brave heart of Luanda Magera.

And this is the woman who stood by me when I was shunned by many. This is the wife of my youth, love of my life and partner to death - Mama Ida Betty Odinga.

In those hard times of long and uncertain incarceration, if I was not reading the Holy Bible, I found deep solace in Mama Ida's love and support. She became a constant guest of

the police cells through constant arrests and harassments. I can't thank her enough.

What makes a great nation is not the men it produces, but the men it honors. That's why I would be remiss if I do not pay homage to those that gave us the sacred license to stand tall, to speak free and to think big on this very day.

And here I am talking about my comrades in arms, both alive and those who have fallen.

I pay homage to those who have gone before us, the fallen heroes of the second liberation.

These include Kenneth Matiba and Charles Rubia. Many do not recall that I was detained at Kamiti Maximum Prison on the same day with two compatriots on the 5th of July 1990 for demanding multi-partyism.

Other fallen compatriots include George Anyona, Jean Marie Seroney, Martin Shikuku, Mukaru Ng'ang'a, Oki Ooko Ombaka and Wangari Maathai.

I also pay homage to all the audacious martyrs who, for the sake of the people, chose constant crucifixion over the relative comfort of conceding to repression. **Agencies**

Relocation of wildlife taking off after Lake Manyara overflows

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kilometers outwards. Various species of wildlife shifted to the Mto wa Mbu Game Controlled Area, raising the problem of human-wildlife conflicts as they invaded settlements and farms.

Again, following the hot spell in the past few months, pastures dried up, resulting in some animals dying due to limited grazing areas shared with domestic animals in the binary mode area. Noelia Myonga, the Lake Manyara Commissioner of Conservation, said the translocation of wild animals from Mto wa Mbu has taken a long time to complete prior arrangements, commenting on a

viral video clip insinuating that some people, including investors were trespassing into Lake Manyara precincts, erecting walls that trap animals out of their broader ecosystem. Conservation officials say that in reality it was animals were pushed near residential areas after the lake widened, swallowing nearby grazing areas. Wild animals meander in Migunguni, Losirwa and Ngogoro areas that harbour tourist campsites. Dr Idrisa Chuma, a senior conservation officer for veterinary issues at TANAPA, said the translocation of animals follows after they are darted, with the tranquilizers taking 14 days up to December 24.

Universal health coverage efforts timely - WHO

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mended. We can't accept a world in which people are impoverished by exercising the right to medication," she elaborated.

She said that the world is facing massive threats to human health and security, like climate change, infectious diseases, mass migration and widening economic inequality, with urbanization and global connectivity increasing the risk of pandemics.

The surge of diabetes and other non-communicable diseases in the Global South means there is a growing need for advanced medical treatment in addition to the traditional response to infectious diseases, she asserted, noting further that antimicrobial resistance is a

growing concern worldwide. So universal coverage is essential to address these challenges, she emphasised.

"To make health for all a reality "we need individuals and communities who have access to high quality health services so that they can take care of their own health and the health of their families," she stated.

Skilled health workers providing quality people-centered care and policy makers committed to investing in universal health coverage are equally essential, the representative remarked.

People must remember that the Covid-19 pandemic is still raging and so they should get vaccinated, wear a mask, keep safe distance, clean their hands, cough and sneeze safely to protect themselves and their loved ones, she added.



Canadian High Commissioner to Tanzania Pamela O'Donnell (2nd L) presents a certificate of appreciation to overall best student of second year bachelor of science in nursing Shazmin Karatela during Hubert Kairuki Memorial University (HKMU) convocation in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are HKMU Vice Chancellor Prof Charles Mgone (C) and a lecturer Dr Leonard Malasa (L). Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

Youths meet in Dar to unlock their potential

By Correspondent James Kandoya

OVER 100 youths aged 12 to 19 yesterday met for the first time in Dar es Salaam to discuss and learn how to utilise their potential and talents to succeed in life.

Speaking at the event yesterday, Do-reen Ngemera, 16-year-old lead organiser, said the aim of the event was to inspire youths to utilise their talents so as to realise their dreams.

She said "We are bringing together these young people to inspire them through discussion and exchanging ideas on what are the major challenges that prevent them to effectively utilize their talents and provide advice on what they should do to realise their potential."

Ngemera, who is a Form Four student at Feza international school and author of a book entitled "Alize Unlocked: Trauma Drama" added that "we are here to spark interest in different areas and encourage young people not to sit down and do nothing".

Teen event is a series of congregations that bring together teenagers aged 12-19 years old from different backgrounds to come together to discuss, embrace, inspire and become motivated to uncover and start putting their talents and potential into use.

She said teen events provide a platform for talented young people to share their journey of success while at the same time share key learning, success and subsequently guide the participants to unlock their potential.

She said during the meeting teens will learn different skills and knowledge such as financial literacy, knowing who they uncover their calling and potential, entrepreneurs, book writing and how to start a business at a young age.

Other topics included financial literacy for kids, developing an appropriate mindset about money, public speaking and effective use of social media to connect globally and achieve positive results and living a healthy life in this world.

"The aim of this gathering is to inspire, and drive youths to use their talents and show their ideas," she said.

Ngemera expressed her future plan to extend the platform in other regions noting that on her holiday, she will do the same in Bukoba urban, Kagera region.

For her part, Grace Makani, the founder of Grace Inc. Ltd guided the participants on how to know their purposes and calling in life.

Makani said each one has a solution for the problem adding that they have a potential of becoming great people in the community.

She said youths must all the time know their strengths and weaknesses in order to do best in a society adding that they must have commitment and consistency.

According to her, without commitment and consistency they cannot start anything

"Teenagers must talk about it seriously. Failures, they are going to meet all of the time are part of the life they should stand and walk," she said.

Canada diplomat explores need for gender equality in decision making

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

HIGH Commissioner of Canada to Tanzania Pamela O'Donnell has said achieving better health outcomes requires the country to ensure gender equality and empower women and girls to have voices in decision making.

She made the remarks over the weekend when opening the Hubert Kairuki Memorial University (HKMU) convocation that was held at the university premises in Dar es Salaam. The theme of the convocation was 'Building a Healthier

World through Local and Global Partnership'

She said many women and girls in Tanzania have less control over decision making about their bodies, exposing them to violence, and harmful practices, adding the group face high risk of unintended pregnancies and sexual transmitted infections.

Pamela said gender inequality poses barriers for women and girls to access health information and critical services including restrictions on mobility, lack of decision making autonomy, limited

access to finances and lower literacy rates.

She said Canada has made a strong commitment to gender equality and empowerment of girls and women, adding they will continue to champion the health and rights of women and girls.

"Canada works closely with government and other partners on improving the health and well-being of the poorest and most vulnerable by strengthening national systems to deliver equitable and quality adolescent and gender responsive health services," she said

Campaigners out to eliminate single-use of plastic in EAC

By Guardian Reporter

ENVIRONMENTALISTS are organizing a campaign to end production and sale of single-use plastic in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Rwanda in a drive that targets East African Community (EAC) as a whole.

Driven under the slogan Single-Use Plastic Free East African Community (#SUP-freeEAC), it has been initiated by a coalition of four organi-

zations namely Centre for Environment Justice and Development (CEJAD), Global Initiative for Environment and Reconciliation (GER), Bio Vision Africa (BiVA) and Nipe Fagio.

It aims at achieving increased impact in four areas: producers to reveal their plastic production, waste pickers to be included in waste management streams, to phase-out single-use plas-

tic and publishing of reports and data that support the campaign. Preparations have begun in earnest but the dust will kick off early next year.

Commenting on the campaign in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Nipe Fagio Executive Director, Ana Le Rocha, said that the campaign pushes for a phase-out on the production of single-use plastics and end plastic pollution in the region.

"Together with a coalition of partners, we're working on a petition that is going to be shared in the four countries to advocate for policies and laws that end the production of single-use plastic in the region," said Rocha, she said, adding:

"We urge everyone to join the campaign and take swift action to support the #SUP-freeEAC to reduce single-use plastics and advocate for ex-

tended producer responsibility".

"We need to show EAC governments that their citizens expect them to act on plastic pollution and that we care about plastic pollution affecting our environment so as the public health.

East Africa is the region with largest number of plastic bans in the world, with Rwanda being a significant success case and Kenya hav-

ing the highest penalty for non-compliance to regulations in the globe.

Therefore, the EAC can become a global example and the first single-use plastic free zone in the world. Granting this petition will be a powerful first step in the right direction," she added.

She urged for support from organizations, activists, and environmentalists as soon as the petition shared to put a

stop to plastic pollution otherwise plastic will remain in our environment for thousands of years, damaging our health, the environment, and the economy. This campaign doesn't belong to any single organization, it is meant to be a collective action.

"We can't keep paying the price of inaction. No country can solve this global crisis alone, we must do it together," she noted.

Victims of illegal pyramid scheme start receiving their money back

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has finally started implementing his pledge to the victims of Masterlife Microfinance Ltd that was operating and swindled them their money by conducting illegal 'Pyramid Scheme' in violation of the laws and procedures.

The victims from Unguja North Region have started being paid their money.

The exercise started being implemented at the offices of the Unguja North Regional commissioner to where hundreds of those swindled by the firm flocked to receive their money, and praised President Mwinyi for the pledge to them.

Speaking at different times, they said President Mwinyi was caring for them and promised to pray for, and support him.

Unguja North Regional Commissioner

Ayoub Mohammed Mahmoud said the decision by President Mwinyi stems from his earlier pledge to the victims aimed at instilling calm among the people to enable them continue to engage themselves in their economic activities.

For her part, the Commissioner of Budget in the President's Office (Finance and Planning), Saumu Khatib Haji said for Unguja north Region the exercise will last three days

from December 8 to 10 and a total of 1,456 victims, those who lost from 100,000/- to 1m/- and added that the exercise was going well.

Just recently, during his speech that marked his one year in office, President Mwinyi promised he would make sure that all those who were swindled of their money by the firm get back their money

"I have decided to carry this burden to remove inconveniences born by the victims,"

said Dr Mwinyi.

He said for his part he had good intentions as he had sworn to mete out justice to the people of Zanzibar and was not ready to see one Zanzibari being swindled.

He said what was being done by the firm was not acceptable in the society and was still holding talks with the firm to ensure they return the money to the victims.



Tanzania Women Chamber of Commerce (TWCC) executive director Mwajuma Hamza (R) speaks with members who departed Dubai at Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam on Thursday to participate at the Dubai Expo 2020. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

ACCESS MICROFINANCE BANK TANZANIA LIMITED MINIMUM DISCLOSURES OF BANK CHARGES AND FEES		
MOBILE BANKING		
Withdrawal - Bank to Wallet (TZS)	Old Customer Fee	New Customer Fee
0 - 50,000	500	500
50,001 - 100,000	1,000	1,000
100,001 - 250,000	2,000	2,000
250,001 - 750,000	3,000	3,000
750,001 - 3,000,000	4,000	4,000
Deposit (TZS) (Wallet to Bank)	Old Customer Fee	New Customer Fee
0 - 50,000	FREE	FREE
50,001 - 100,000	FREE	FREE
100,001 - 250,000	FREE	FREE
250,001 - 750,000	FREE	FREE
750,001 - 3,000,000	FREE	FREE
Air-time top-up	FREE	FREE
Utility payments	FREE	FREE
Balance inquiry	100	300
Automatic SMS Alerts (price per SMS)	0	25
Mini-statement	200	200
Full account statement request	500	500
Cheque book request	600	600



Manyara regional commissioner Charles Makongoro Nyerere speaks during the handing over of 43 motorcycles and three bajaj to youth groups from Babati town council as part to mark the 60th year's anniversary of Tanzania mainland Independence. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

World Bank says insect, hydroponic farming key to Africa's food security

By Guardian Reporter

LARGE-SCALE adoption of hydroponic and insect farming in Africa could be the answer to the continent's hunger, poverty and ecological crisis, the World Bank said in a report released on Wednesday.

The report titled "Insect and Hydroponic Farming in Africa: The New Circular Food Economy" notes that the two novel food production systems could thrive in a continent already battling water stress and declining arable land.

"As the report shows, insect and hydroponic farming can create jobs, diversify livelihoods, improve nutrition and provide many other benefits in African and fragile, conflict-affected countries," said Juergen Voegelé, vice president for sustainable development at the World Bank Group.

According to the report that was compiled from 13 African countries including those reeling from fragility and conflicts, insect and hydroponic farming could help tackle undernourishment that affects one in five people in the continent.

Currently, there are more than 850 insect farms that produce food and animal feed in Africa even as hydroponic farms spring up in arid lands to help grow staples amid severe water scarcity, according to the report.

It says that insect farming in the continent through the use of agricultural waste as feed could generate crude protein worth about 2.6 billion U.S. dollars and fertilizers worth about 19.4 billion dollars on an annual basis.

The report notes that insect farming could produce enough meals to meet up to 14 percent of the crude protein needed to rear all the pigs, goats, fish and poultry in Africa.

Globally, an estimated 2 billion people consume insects that are collected in the wild while more than 400 of the 2,100 species recognized as edible worldwide or 25 percent are consumed in Africa, according to the World Bank report. It singles out black soldier fly farming as having the potential to replace 60 million tons of traditional feed production in Africa annually, leading to 200 million tons of recycled crop waste, 60 million tons of organic fertilizer production besides creating 15 million jobs.

Likewise, black soldier fly farming could also avert 86 million tons of carbon emissions in the continent, equivalent to removing 18 million vehicles from the roads.



According to the report that was compiled from 13 African countries including those reeling from fragility and conflicts, insect and hydroponic farming

Regional wildlife network to launch trans-border awareness project -UN

By Guardian Reporter

THE Wildlife Trade Monitoring Network (Traffic) East Africa is next year expected to start a trans-border awareness project, to train government officials on identification of wildlife species and trade to avoid illegal transportation of logs and wild animals.

The move is to equip law enforcement with wildlife laws and trade rules.

Traffic East Africa, programme officer Allen Mgaza said that the aim of training is to reduce illegal transportation of logs and wild animals through the west and central borders.

He made the remarks on Wednesday during an on-

line master class meeting to brief journalists on a project dubbed 'USAID Tuhifadhi Maliasili' that will involve working with the government, local communities and the private sector to address the challenges.

The five-year project also intends to create an environment where movement corridors will improve qual-

ity of life for not only wildlife but also communities.

"With effect from January 2022/23 law enforcement officials from different borders will be reached through this training. Once we provide such awareness the enforcers will be in a position to know which animal and logs species are required to be harvested, exported and

imported," he said.

Mgaza stressed that illegal trade in wildlife, including timber, has a huge impact on the survival of species... adding that such businesses may be conducted by organised transnational criminal networks.

According to the UN, the illegal trade in wild species is estimated to range be-

tween US\$7 to US\$32 billion.

He said consumer demand is one of the contributing factors leading to illegal wildlife trade and that various species of timber and wildlife products are used for prestige and traditional medicine.

From 1987-2020 Traffic has identified a total of 485 seizures, involving some

Rhino horns and other related animals, where a Southern African Development Community (SADC) country acted as an origin, transit or destination, he said.

RTI international manager, a USAID Contractor, implementing the Tuhifadhi Maliasili activities Dr Elikana Kalumanga said that citizens need nature for them



Makole health centre nurse Shecky Cobb (R) educates on the important of Covid-19 vaccine during a meeting for Alliance for African Farmers Party (AAFP) leaders at Makole ward Chadulu in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Peter Mkwavila

Maternal and infant mortality rates decline in Shinyanga

By Guardian Correspondent, Shinyanga

MATERNAL and infant mortality rates have declined in Shinyanga Region as a result of the on-going maternal health education and improvement of health services which includes bringing facilities close to their homes.

Coordinator of maternal health education in Shinyanga, Joyce Kondoro, made the revelation yesterday during an interview with the Guardian, noting that the region has succeeded in reducing the number of mothers and infant rates within three years.

She said there were 50 recorded deaths in 2019 while in 2020 the number declined slightly to 46. She said that until June this year, the number of recorded deaths was 15 only.

On infant deaths, Kondoro said there were 866 deaths in 2019. The number declined to 567 in 2020 and 270 until June this year.

"We have invested enough in the health sector, especially maternal health. We have promoted 18 health centers to allow them to offer emergency services to pregnant mothers," she said.

Kondoro added that they are continuing with the education programme whereas mothers are also advised to use family planning to avoid giving birth frequently, the thing that contributes to maternal deaths.

She said they have been educating young girls on maternal issues to prepare them for safe adulthood. She said girls are also educated on the impacts of early pregnancies.

She acknowledged the government's efforts in improving health services in the country by constructing dispensaries, health centers and hospitals. She said such improvements have brought services closer to the people.

EAC lauds Tanzania for invaluable contribution to regional integration efforts - secretary general

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) hails Tanzania for her extensive contribution towards deepening regional integration and in turn increasing intra-EAC trade and development opportunities, as the country marks 60 years since independence.

As one of the three founding partner states of the Community, Tanzania plays an integral role in the region, serving as one of the three original Partner States of the EAC who signed the Treaty establishing the EAC on 30th November 1999, which entered into force on 7th July, 2000.

EAC Secretary General, Dr Peter Mathuki, underscored Tanzania's critical role in the region, as she serves as the host of the EAC Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

"We hail the Republic of Tanzania for steering growth and development in the country and also fostering peace and security. It is this stability that has created a conducive operating environment for the

EAC and its Organs, with their home in the United Republic of Tanzania," said Dr. Mathuki.

"The city of Arusha in Tanzania is the permanent seat of the East African Community Secretariat, the executive Organ of the Community, and the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), the legislative Organ of the Community," added Dr. Mathuki, adding that Arusha was also the temporary seat of the East African Court of Justice (EACJ), the judicial Organ of the Community.

The country also hosts the East African Kiswahili Commission (EAKC), which is based in the island nation of Zanzibar. Tanzania continues to benefit from regional integration of the EAC. In 2020, Tanzania's total trade with EAC Partner States amounted to US\$1,136.9 million, higher than US\$1,003.6 million in 2019. Tanzania has been recording trade balance surpluses since 2016, reflecting Tanzania's increase in exports to other Partner States.

Most of the country's exports to the region were destined to Kenya, followed by Rwanda and Uganda. Its main exports to other Partner States include cereals particularly rice and maize; cattle, edible vegetables (mostly onions); residues and waste, paper and paper products, coffee, tea and spices. On the import side, Tanzania significant imports were from Kenya and Uganda. Most of the imported goods were soap and soap products; pharmaceutical products, plastic items, sugar confectionery and electric equipment.

Further, in 2020, the total trade for the EAC region stood at US\$51,915 million for US\$55,278.2 million in 2019, a 6.08 percent drop. In the same period, total EAC exports rose by 3.15 percent to US\$16,257 million from US\$15,938 million in 2019. President Samia Suluhu Hassan's stance on improving bilateral relations has also seen increase in Intra EAC trade in the last 9 months she has

been in office. As a signatory to the Customs Union, the country has contributed to the promotion of efficiency in production within the Community. It has also enhanced domestic, cross border and foreign investment in the Community.

Further, the establishment of the EAC Single Customs Territory has aided in facilitating faster clearance and movement of cargo from the port of entry to the destination.

Dr. Mathuki also acknowledged the critical role played by Tanzania peace and security in East Africa, adding that the country's role had been crucial in the area of Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution:

"Tanzania has been the home of Burundian and other refugees for a long time. Mwalimu Nyerere was at the heart of the conclusion of the Arusha Accord which brought stability to Burundi in 2000 and again through the Late President Mkapa's facilitation promoted Inter-

Burundi dialogue between 2015 and 2019, an initiative that resulted in peaceful elections in 2020 that saw restoration of democracy and peace. The peaceful conclusion of the 2020 election has led to the commencement of the peaceful return of Burundian refugees, a process that is still underway," said the Secretary General.

Dr. Mathuki singled out maritime security as an area where Tanzania had made an immense contribution especially on the Indian Ocean.

"Tanzania has the longest coastline in the EAC Region. Tanzania has through working with other coastal states, supported the process of combating piracy and other maritime offences that has ultimately led to the restoration of security in the Indian Ocean. Through her security interventions and partnership with other like-minded states, large quantities of narcotics have been seized and destroyed and traffickers arrested and subjected to the legal system," said the SG.



Tanga regional commissioner Safia Jongo (L) hands over education facilities and assorted food items to children with special needs at Pongwe primary school when the union of police women in Tanga visited to console them at the climax of 16 days of activism against Gender Violence. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

TASAC emerges the first winner in the best presented financial statements for year 2020

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Shipping Corporation (TASAC) has emerged the first winner in the best presented financial statements for the year 2020, category of government regulatory authorities.

The awards which are organised annually by the National Board of Accountant and Auditors (NBAA), showed that the TASAC's winning, based on books prepared by adhering to the financial systems of International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS).

Speaking shortly after receiving the awards in Dar es Salaam recently, TASAC's director general Kaimu Mkeyenge commented on the winning, explaining that such achievement was due to internal transformation being made to assure that international standards are met. He said the award gives them more zeal to serve Tanzanians and the international community while ensuring that public finances are handled carefully to attain value for money.

"TASAC started its operations three years ago and this is the first time our financial books are being presented to NBAA, this means Tanzanians' money is in safer hands, while we expect to continue doing better in our services while ensuring all finances are handled carefully,"

he said.

On the side of the international business community who are served by TASAC, Mkeyenge said that this win meant that TASAC is now trusted in doing its jobs transparently and competent at an international scale.

He added that TASAC embraces professionalism which brings value for money and therefore Tanzanians' money was in safer and good hands. He added that even if TASAC was an infant entity that started operations in 2018, it has been doing daily improvements in its daily activities with the focus of meeting quality in its role of maritime administration, regulating the maritime sector and facilitating shipping business.

Some of the improvements made, Mkeyenge said includes adopting modern financial software and increasing the number of competent and qualified staff to carry out various duties including financial ones.

Established early by the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Act of 2017, TASAC has exclusive mandate to carry out clearing and forwarding functions relating to import and export of minerals, mineral concentrates, machineries, equipment, products and/or extracts related to minerals and petroleum, arms and ammunitions, live animals and Government trophies only.

By Special Correspondent

Summit calls for Africa-EU investments in agriculture

INVESTORS have been urged to take advantage of Africa's arable land to drive sustainable agriculture and increase food production.

It was amongst the conclusions of business leaders and policymakers at the 4th edition of the EU-Africa business summit in Marrakech held to promote business and policy initiatives between both continents.

Experts say key private sector investment and policy implementation are what's needed to drive further growth.

"This is the time for partners from all over the world to come and invest in the continent. They have the freedom to establish under the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) in any of their preference, and wherever they are established we are saying that their market is a whole continent," said Chiza Charles Chiumya, the acting Director of the Directorate of Industry, Mining and Entrepreneurship, at the African Union Commission.

"We have for instance CADEP, the CADEP framework, which is promoting agriculture in Africa. We have the Malabo declaration that was aiming at accelerating progress towards you know agricultural transformation so these programs need to be implemented fully by our member states. So we call on our member states to make sure that they are able to implement the policies that are in place," Dr. Patrick Ndzana Olomo, the head, Investment and Mobilisation of Resources,

AU Department of Economic Affairs said.

23 percent of Sub-Saharan Africa's GDP stems from Agriculture according to the World Bank. At the EU-Africa business summit, it was also agreed that the EU-Africa trade partnership in the sector must now focus on small holder farmers. This was the position of former EU commissioner for Agriculture Phil Hogan.

"We stand ready in the European union to work with our partners in the African

union and all of the countries to generate the necessary finance the technical knowledge and all of the partnerships and the alliances to make this happen. But the farmer must be at the center of the action' Hogan said.

"All of the various policy positions that have been announced, here at the European Africa business summit are all academic if we don't have people on the ground that are prepared to implement it and they have to be

incentivized and they have to get proper pay for the work that they do for carbon farming and for energy renewables and for creating the jobs and this is where we must refocus our efforts and in the context of food and nutrition and food security, the farmer must be at the center of the activity" stressed the former EU commissioner for Agriculture.

The EU is one of Africa's largest trade and investment partner. Its Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) stock in Af-

rica in 2020 was at €222 billion, compared to €42 billion from the US and €38 from China.

Organizers of the summit, the EBS group say their aim is to shape the common future of both continents by bringing influential business leaders, policymakers and experts together.

They added that the EU-African partnership needs to deliver a genuine partnership with policy objectives, standards and rules that are in the interest of both continents particularly after the interruption due to the Covid-19 pandemic.

New land owners should develop plots within 36 months - deputy Lands minister

By Guardian Correspondent, Kaliua

LANDS, Housing and Human Settlements Development Deputy minister Dr Angeline Mabula as called on all new owners of land plots in the country to abide by conditions of ownership including development of their plots within 35 months.

She also called on the owners to make sure they pay the yearly land rent to avoid penalty.

Speaking to Usinge Village villagers in Kaliua District, Tabora Region at the weekend, Dr Mabula said it would be better for new land plot owners to read the conditions of the title deeds handed to them.

She called on Usinge villagers to grab the opportunity from the ongoing land formalisation exercise in their areas in order to use the documents for their development activities.

"The government will be coming to survey your areas, and this is an opportunity for you to grab, as it costs you only 50,000/- a very small sum compared to 130,000/- charged in the Tabora municipality," said Dr Mabula.

Assistant Tabora Regional Lands Commissioner, Jabir Sin-

gano said within the entire region of Tabora, only Uyui and Kaliua District councils that for a long time had no land survey project and his office has recommended to be provided with funds for the project.

"Already, work on surveying 1,000 land plots at Usinge Village in Kaliua district has begun and we are waiting the money to start survey work," said Singano.

The survey fund is part of 50bn/- loan provided by the government through the Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development for the countrywide land plots formalisation project.

However, Deputy Minister Mabula warned local councils to use the funds for the purposes intended, otherwise it would be hard to meet the intended targets in regard to the land surveying and formalisation project.

Kaliua Member of Parliament, who is also Chairman of the Parliamentary lands, natural resources and Tourism Committee, Dr Aloyce Kwezi thanked the government for providing the fund to Kaliua district for the land formalisation project.



Arusha region based World Vegetable Centre researcher Jeremiah Sigalla (R) examines clove oil products from one of the entrepreneurs during the spice products exhibition in Pemba Island on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Rahma Suleiman

Government commends IITA for investment in researches

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

THE government has commended the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA) for investing in researches that bring solutions to challenges facing the agriculture sector in the country.

Speaking during his visit to the Institute located in Mikochei, over the weekend in Dar es Salaam Minister for Agriculture Prof Adolph Mken- da said IITA has done a tremendous job especially by coming up with solutions to address low yield and productivity in

the food sector in the country.

He said research is key in finding sustainable solutions to the major challenges facing the agriculture sector and contributing to the low yield and productivity in farmers' fields.

"The main challenge existing in the agriculture sector is low yield and low productivity. Most farmers need better varieties and agronomy and I am happy to hear that many of the solutions are produced in this facility, I therefore, encourage you to work together with the government to make sure that research outputs are shared to

farmers," the Minister said.

He expressed his appreciation for scientific efforts of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture (IITA), including work on cassava and banana, which led to the release of new, improved high-yielding disease-resistant varieties in the country.

Prof Mkenda commended the institute's efforts to build the capacity of researchers in the country, train students, and attract young people in agriculture to address youth unemployment.

He said the aim of the visit

to the facility was to meet with stakeholders in the cassava starch industry to discuss how to support cassava commercialization in the country.

The meeting was organized by the Ministry of Agriculture in partnership with IITA through the Building an Economically Sustainable Seed System for Cassava in Tanzania (BEST Cassava) project on 30 November.

"The aim of my visit was to learn how you work, I have talked to scientists, and what I have seen and heard is very inspiring.

On her part, IITA director for Eastern Africa Dr Leena Tripathi shared some of the Institute's successes in the country including the release of thirty improved high yielding cassava varieties and four first - ever banana hybrids from collaboration with the Tanzania Agriculture Research Institute (TARI).

"Other successes were supporting over 90 Tanzania nationals to study at MSc and PhD levels to build their research capacity and engaging over 1,000 youth in

agriculture to create employment for themselves and others," she said.

The Minister lauded the achievements and said success is in line with the government aspirations. He added saying that the government recognizes the importance of research in finding solutions to the challenges facing the agriculture sector.

"Prof Mkenda said that the government is also working hard to build human capacity in science, technology, and medicine and to attract youth to agriculture to ad-

dress high unemployment rates in the country," he said.

He applauded the Institute (IITA) for supporting so many students from Tanzania to pursue higher learning education in the University both inside and abroad and host them at IITA for on-the-job practical training.

In the visit, the Minister was accompanied by Nyasebwa Chimagu, director for Crop Development and Upendo Mndeme, senior Agricultural Officer and Cassava Focal Person, both from the Ministry of Agriculture.



NMB Bank House branch manager Seka Urio (R) presses a laptop button to search for 'Bonge la Mpango' II campaign winner in Dar es Salaam on Thursday. Looking on is Gaming board of Tanzania inspector Elibariki Sengasanga (2nd R), NMB customer care officer Neema Kazoviyo (C) and Customers deposits public relations manager Monica Job. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Turkish agency supports women 70 entrepreneurs in Kisarawe

By Guardian Reporter

THE Turkish Cooperation and Coordination Agency (T KA) has provided a bakery for Kiwawanyu women's co-operative and put it into service as part of the women empowerment programme conducted in cooperation with district authorities in Kisarawe, Coast Region.

The project helped 70 women to enter into a profession, start engaging in income-generating activities, and contribute to their household budget.

T KA donated a dough mixer, a cake display cabinet, bread fermenting box, a 3-storey bread oven, a bread slicer, a spiral mixer, a tray trolley, and other basic baking equipment.

Production and sales operations began in the bakery after the training courses on baking and entrepreneurship held by the district governorship for women.

In his speech at the opening ceremony of the bakery, Kisarawe District Commissioner, Nickson Simon thanked the Turkish government and T KA for their major support for the region and stated that the project helped 70 women to join the profession and start engaging in income-generating activities, thus contribute to their household budget.

He added that the goods baked by women at the bakery were in high demand, that they were pleased with the development of the project, and that as the District Commissioner; they would allocate resources for expansion of the scope of the project.

Simon said that most of the beneficiaries of the project are widows or women with children and that the support provided for the group was meaningful, and that they hoped T KA would continue to support them.

Dr Mehmet Güllüoğlu, Turkish Ambassador to Tanzania stated that T KA prioritized the support to be provided for women's empowerment in Tanzania, adding they have implemented many projects in the field in different parts of the country.

He promised to continue implementing similar projects in the future. He said projects implemented in different industries provided maximum benefit to beneficiaries, and that he hoped the new projects to be implemented in Kisarawe would improve the bilateral relations between Turkey and Tanzania.



Dr Mehmet Güllüoğlu, Turkish Ambassador to Tanzania stated that TKA prioritized the support to be provided for women's empowerment in Tanzania, adding they have implemented many projects in the field in different parts

Government all out to increase domestic revenue collections

By Correspondent Christina

Mwakangale

THE government has said it is putting more efforts to increase domestic revenue collections and keep the country out of being dependent by creating friendly tax collections and relation with taxpayers.

Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Planning, Adolf Ndunguru said

this in Dar es Salaam over the weekend at the 14th graduation of the Institute of Taxation (ITA).

During the event 387 graduates were conferred certificates of various levels and disciplines for the academic year 2020/21.

He said in order to address the barriers to tax collection and increase the budget for social services, the graduates should use the knowledge they

received to be creative, provide education and build good relationships with taxpayers.

"The country still needs more tax and customs experts to work in various areas. So graduates should ensure that they go and apply what they have learned to bring a positive impact in the field. Customs training, taxes have boosted local revenue and reduced dependence on donors to fund services," he said.

Regarding the increase in revenue in the country, Ndunguru said the college has helped produce graduates who are doing well in providing tax education, to boost the economy and achieve human development.

"Tax collection and revenue collection is an issue that involves many stakeholders, so there should be adequate education. The government is losing revenue due to few

professionals in the country and in other sectors," said Ndunguru.

He urged graduates to be used effectively to educate taxpayers and reduce grievances from businesses, as well as the college to strengthen itself in conducting research, especially on tax collection in emerging institutions, especially mining with a better revenue collection system.

The head of the university council, Dr Samwel Werema said it was asking the government to allocate a budget for the renovation and construction of new buildings to cope with the needs of the East African region and others in Africa. "The objective of the college is to increase the expertise of tax professionals, customs consultants. Graduates should adhere to professional ethics, be responsible

and fulfill your responsibilities for the productivity of the nation," Dr Werema said.

Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) Commissioner General, Alphayo Kidata said the authority will continue to build the capacity of the college to make it a centre of excellence in the region, saying 27 well-performing students should have the opportunity to get an internship in the authority.



Petty traders stalls at Mbezi Mwisho area in Ubungo municipality Dar es Salaam region as captured by our roving photographer yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Villagers hail development partner for water project

By Guardian Correspondent, Ulanga

UPONERA villagers in Ulanga district, Morogoro region have hailed efforts for the installation of water treatment plant costing 96m/- by a development partner that provides them with safe, clean water.

Speaking at different times, Isanga area resident in the district said in the past they faced challenges walking over five kilometers to other villages to fetch water, the task that disrupted their other economic activities. Rose Masamba, one of the villagers thanked for the installation of the water plant saying it has been a saviour for them.

She said for a very long time, since the village was established water was a huge challenge in their area.

For his part, Prince Matala, another villager said as an Isanga resident, he pledged to be a good ambassador for the protection of the project to be used by the present and future generations.

Earlier, handing over the project, Ruban Jawad, a development partner in Ulanga District said he was so touched by the plight of villagers in regard to water, hence he decided to install the water plant for them.

He said water was an essential commodity for human beings as a huge per cent of their activities depend on water.

He said another aim was to support President Samia Suluhu Hassan's efforts in relieving women of water buckets from their heads.

However, he appealed for the government's support in his endeavours.

Reporting on water availability in Uponera Village, Ulanga District Water Engineer David Kajjage said still the availability of water in the village was still problematic, as for now, it has over 4,000 residents and requested the development partner to lay water pipes and dig a deep bore hole that would supply sufficient water to all residents.

Learning losses from Covid-19 could cost this generation of students close to \$17 trillion in lifetime earnings, says report

By Guardian Reporter

THE current generation of students risks losing US\$17 trillion in lifetime earnings in present value, or about 14 percent of today's global GDP, as a result of COVID-19 pandemic-related school closures.

A new report published by the World Bank, UNESCO, and UNICEF reveals that the impact is more severe than previously thought, and far exceeds the US\$10 trillion estimates released in 2020.

"The COVID-19 crisis brought education systems across the world to a halt," said Jaime Saavedra, World Bank Global Director for Education.

Saavedra added: "Now, 21 months later, schools remain closed for millions of children, and others may never return to school. The loss of learning that many children are experiencing is morally unacceptable. And the potential increase of

Learning Poverty might have a devastating impact on future productivity, earnings, and well-being for this generation of children and youth, their families, and the world's economies."

"The COVID-19 pandemic shut down schools across the world, disrupting education for 1.6 billion students at its peak, and exacerbated the gender divide. In some countries, we're seeing greater learning losses among girls and an increase in their risk of facing child labour, gender-based violence, early marriage, and pregnancy. To stem the scars on this generation, we must reopen schools and keep them open, target outreach to return learners to school, and accelerate learning recovery," said UNICEF Director of Education Robert Jenkins.

Stefania Giannini, UNESCO Assistant Director-General for Education said: "We are committed to supporting govern-

ments more generally with their COVID response through the Mission Recovery plan launched earlier this year.

Giannini emphasized that with government leadership and support from the international community, there is a great deal that can be done to make systems more equitable, efficient, and resilient, capitalizing on lessons learned throughout the pandemic and on increasing investments.

"But to do that, we must make children and youth a real priority amidst all the other demands of the pandemic response. Their future - and our collective future - depends on it," she said.

Simulations estimating that school closures resulted in significant learning losses are now being corroborated by real data. For example, regional evidence from Brazil, Pakistan, rural India, South Africa, and Mexico, among others, show

substantial losses in math and reading.

Analysis shows that in some countries, on average, learning losses are roughly proportional to the length of the closures. However, there was great heterogeneity across countries and by subject, students' socioeconomic status, gender, and grade level.

Results from two states in Mexico show significant learning losses in reading and in math for students aged 10-15. The estimated learning losses were greater in math than reading, and affected younger learners, students from low-income backgrounds, as well as girls disproportionately.

Barring a few exceptions, the general trends from emerging evidence around the world align with the findings from Mexico, suggesting that the crisis has exacerbated inequities in education:

Children from low-income households,

children with disabilities, and girls were less likely to access remote learning than their peers. This was often due to lack of accessible technologies and the availability of electricity, connectivity, and devices, as well as discrimination and gender norms.

Younger students had less access to remote learning and were more affected by learning loss than older students, especially among pre-school age children in pivotal learning and development stages.

The detrimental impact on learning has disproportionately affected the most marginalized or vulnerable. Learning losses were greater for students of lower socioeconomic status in countries like Ghana, Mexico, and Pakistan.

Initial evidence points to larger losses among girls, as they are quickly losing the protection that schools and learning offers to their well-being and life chances.

The Guardian interview with the Russian Ambassador to Tanzania

Prior to marking of 60 years anniversary of the establishment of Russia-Tanzania diplomatic relations. The Guardian Newspaper had an opportunity to interview Ambassador of the Russian Federation to Tanzania Mr. Yuri Popov (pictured) on how he describe this landmark diplomatic relation. Here extract...



Today, December 11th, Russian Federation and the United Republic of Tanzania mark the 60th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations. While on the other hand, the United Republic of Tanzania is also celebrating its 60th Anniversary of the Independence Day, how can you describe this?

It is quite symbolic that both events coincide in time. Immediately after Tanganyika had gained independence, as a matter of two days, the Soviet Union recognized the newly born country, and full-fledged diplomatic relations were established between our nations. Now, after 60 years have elapsed since those dates, I am happy to state that our close and mutually beneficial partnership persists and continues to grow from strength to strength. On bilateral basis we have been engaged in fruitful cooperation in the spheres of trade and economy, education, culture, humanitarian issues, as well as in matters related to the maintenance of security. Political dialogue between Moscow and Dar es Salaam, now Dodoma, has been underway nonstop.

The USSR-Russia and Tanganyika-Tanzania stood firm for the cause of the national liberation movements in Africa and hand-in-hand helped the freedom fighters to counter colonialism, racism and apartheid in all their manifestations. Ever since the

nations in Southern Africa have gained independence, we jointly with our Tanzanian partners assisted these countries in asserting their statehood.

Nowadays, Russia and Tanzania continue to uphold traditionally friendly relations based on the principles of equality, mutual respect and consideration for each other's interests. Russia supports the idea of the necessity to find African solutions to African problems and on her part is ready and willing to provide the continent with moral, material, technical and peace-keeping support. Today the United Republic of Tanzania is our important foreign partner in defending on the global scene the values of justice, strict compliance with the norms of international law, respect for national identity, destiny and development priorities of every country.

What is the current status of the Russia - Tanzania economic and business relations. How do the countries benefit from each other in terms of imports and exports during the period?

After the collapse of the Soviet Union there was a protracted period of stagnation in our bilateral trade and economic cooperation. However, over the past few years we

have observed obvious positive trends in these fields. For instance, the volume of our bilateral trade has more than doubled since 2010. And yet, the post-Soviet deceleration in our relations, when Africa was largely neglected in Moscow, still echoes.

Traditionally the Russian-Tanzanian exports and imports are mostly comprised of agricultural products, such as cereals, tobacco, coffee, tea, seeds, spices and so on. I am firmly convinced that, while maintaining sustainable trade growth, we should take joint efforts to increase the share of processed and industrial products in our trade structure. In particular, Tanzania's industrialization agenda and its growing demand for industrial goods like machinery and high-tech products give us a reason to look for ways to diversify the structure of our business interaction.

Our cooperation in economic sphere has been gaining momentum step by step. This trend involves the industrial sector among others. It deals with participation of Russian business in mining, railway construction and other ventures in Tanzania. Russia is looking for opportunities to supply hardware products in this country such as locomotives, pipes, machinery, etc. The Tanzanian

energy sector looks attractive to Russian companies as well.

I should mention tourism as one of the most promising areas of our cooperation. Tanzania is a well-known tourist destination and, before the COVID-19 outbreak, the number of Russian visitors was increasing by 10-20% annually. I have every reason to believe that the tourist flow from Russia to Tanzania should regain its pre-pandemic level shortly. We are looking forward to resumption of frequent charter flights between Russia and Zanzibar.

Hopefully, we are on the verge of signing a new bilateral Air Service Agreement between the Government of the Russian Federation and the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania that, in particular, would add Zanzibar to the list of destinations for regular direct flights operated by our airlines. I visualize Tanzania as one of the favorite attractions for Russian rank and file tourists in line with such destinations as Turkey, Egypt, Thailand or Indonesia.

Which are the main sectors that Russian companies are targeting to invest in Tanzania? Is there any project that Russia is already implementing in regard to the development of Tanzania?

I have already outlined the principal directions with regard to Tanzanian market that Russian businesses display interest in. Now let me further elaborate on this issue. We in Moscow heed Tanzania's new resolute approach towards attracting investments and improving the business climate in the country. And, as I said, Russians are ready to provide support for Tanzania's industrialization agenda.

Tanzania is one of the few countries in the world endowed with rich uranium

deposits in the Mkuju River area and our Uranium One company has invested in this mine, which is ready to start production. However, long-term negative price dynamics of the world uranium market have prevented us and our Tanzanian partners from turning this facility fully operational. No matter what, we believe in huge potential of the project and are confident that it should become cost-effective in the nearest future.

Russian-Tanzanian cooperation in the peaceful use of nuclear energy looks very promising, taking into account Russia's extensive scientific and technical capabilities as well as Tanzania's uranium deposits and its growing demand for new energy sources. One of the important initiatives in this area is the construction of a Center for Nuclear Science, Technology and Innovation in Tanzania based on a nuclear research reactor of Russian design (Russia is currently building similar centers in Zambia and some other African countries). In addition, our cooperation might embrace the use of nuclear technologies in medicine, various industries and agriculture. All areas of cooperation will be set forth in the nearly concluded Memorandum of Understanding between the Russian State Atomic Energy Corporation (ROSATOM) and the Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC).

It is common knowledge that advanced economy must be diversified in terms of energy sources and, in my opinion, Tanzania is on the right track to this goal. Concerning the ongoing development of hydropower engineering in the country as well as Tanzania's plans to develop gas power plants, the Russian manufacturers, like OJSC Power Machines can offer Tanzania their industrial turbine units, turbogenerators

and other technical equipment for hydro and gas power stations. Moreover, having considerable potential to become the natural gas energy hub in East Africa, Tanzania will certainly need a well-developed network of pipelines. This fact opens opportunities for fruitful cooperation with Russia's producers and suppliers of large diameter pipes as well as oil and gas equipment including those for LNG transportation and storage.

Tanzania's pace of implementation of transport and especially railway agenda, another component of industrialization, can only be admired and lauded. The ambitious plans to connect the Indian Ocean coast and Central African countries with a railway network impress the Russian railway constructors and transport manufacturers, who have broad expertise in international transport and logistics services, international passenger transportation, construction, repair and modernization of railways infrastructure as well as its management. For instance, I would like to mention the state-owned Russian Railways and Sinar - Transport Machines companies, the latter being one of the largest Russian manufacturers of transport engineering equipment and machines.

With a view of facilitating Tanzania's development, both our countries signed the Debt Swap Agreement in 2011 aimed at easing the Tanzanian foreign debt commitments by redirecting funds to development projects in this country. Under this Agreement we have launched the project "Supply of laboratory equipment for classes of chemistry, biology and physics for the secondary schools of the United Republic of Tanzania". I hope that we should see the start of its practical implementation one of these days.

Among the most important channels of Russian investments in Tanzania's development is the provision of Russian governmental scholarships to local students. A large number of Soviet and Russian trained graduates have figured as prominent and efficient performers involved in all walks of life of this country. For the last few years the number of scholarships granted for Tanzanian students on an annual basis has been steadily increasing.

What is the progress of the formation of the Joint Permanent Commission?

Both countries are in the final stage of finalizing the Intergovernmental Agreement establishing the JPC which is supposed to promote, oversee and coordinate our economic cooperation including:

- identifying priorities of cooperation in different spheres including mining, energy and tourism sectors;
- assisting business communities of both countries in developing the bilateral trade;
- removing trade barriers and restrictions;
- exchanging relevant information and technologies in order to support industrial and trade sectors.

The Russian side is ready to consider technology transfer as a new direction of our cooperation.

What is the status of the planned Russia-Africa Summit in 2022?

Moscow continues preparations for the second Russia-Africa Summit that is expected to take place in 2022. In May 2020 the Russian Foreign Ministry established the Secretariat of the Russia-Africa Partnership Forum. Its main objective is to prepare Russian-African high-level meetings and to coordinate the implementation of deci-

sions approved by them. A coordination center, a public council and a scientific council have been set up under it. They represent ministries, agencies, business and public organizations engaged in the development of relations with the African continent. These three councils are working out concrete proposals for consolidating Russian-African cooperation.

In April 2021 Mr. Oleg Zorov, Ambassador-at-Large and Head of the Secretariat of the Russia-Africa Partnership Forum visited Tanzania where he held meetings with Dr. Peter Mathuki, Secretary-General of the East African Community, in Arusha and Amb. Mbarouk Nassor Mbarouk, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, in Dar es Salaam. They discussed issues related to bilateral cooperation and preparation for the next Russia-Africa Summit in 2022.

Moreover, the Association for Economic Cooperation with African Countries has been instituted, which brings together large Russian companies active on the African markets. There are plans to develop roadmaps for Russia-Africa economic, scientific and humanitarian cooperation.

The venue and timeframe of the Russia-Africa summit in 2022 are to be determined in the near future. It was supposed initially that the event would be held in one of the African locations. However, due to reasons dealing with the COVID-19 pandemic, the Russian side may be inclined to propose Saint Petersburg as the most appropriate place to host this forum.

I would like to remind that in 2019 all 54 African countries as well as eight major African multilateral organizations and integration associations participated in the first Russia-Africa Summit.

60 years of cultural relations between Russia and Tanzania

by Ms. Maria Pateeva
Director of the Russian House

Today we note with great pleasure that 60 years of relations between Russia and Tanzania have been truly friendly, with open cooperation and mutual understanding. And half of this period exists the Russian Centre for Science and Culture (RCSC) or how we call it now - Russian House, which was opened on December 1st, 1990 at Sea View Road in Dar es Salaam. The Centre conducts its work in accordance with the Agreement on cultural and scientific cooperation which was signed between the Governments of Soviet Union and Tanzania in 1977. Today, it is one of the 73 Russian Cultural Centres opened by the Russian government worldwide. These cultural centres are managed by "Rossotrudnichestvo" - the Russian Federal Agency for International Humanitarian Cooperation headed by well-known Russian journalist Yevgeny Primakov.

The task of the RCSC in Dar es Salaam is to strengthen the traditional friendly ties between our countries. And, of course, it is very important to acquaint the general Tanzanian public with the Russian life and Russian culture. For this, the Centre holds various cultural events, such as concerts by Russian musicians and vocalists, performances of ballet dancers, exhibitions of works by Russian artists, photo exhibitions, film shows depicting the history of Russia as well as contemporary Russian life, translation and publication

in Swahili of world-famous works of Russian literature (Pushkin, Gogol, Sholokhov, Dostoyevsky etc.). Earlier, many works of Russian classical and contemporary literature, and especially children's literature, were translated and published in the Soviet Union for Tanzania. The RCSC is endeavouring to continue this tradition through collaboration with Tanzanian publishing houses like «Mkuki na Nyota», «Ndanda Mission Press» and «Red Me». Incidentally, in the 60's of the past century, classical works of contemporary Swahili literature by Shaaban Robert were translated to Russian language and were published in Russia.

We have to know each other and that is why Swahili in Russia is an outstanding item, worth of a special attention, because it is also important to help Russians to know more about Tanzania.

The beginning of Swahili studies in Russia can be traced back to the 1930s. At that time scholars headed by Russian patriarch of African studies Dmitry Oldorogge were translating the texts of Swahili folktales and fables for new language courses established in Saint Petersburg (former Leningrad). The first Swahili-Russian Dictionary contained only 5000 words was published in 1930 while in the modern Swahili-Russian and Russian-Swahili dictionaries of 2012 and 2018 respectively there are more than 40000 words.

A fresh impetus to Swahili studies was given in the 1960s when the Soviet Union

became a significant player in the African political and economic arena. The first works of a Swahili-writer translated into Russian were those of Shaaban Robert, the major figure in modern Swahili writing. The collection of his works titled "My life" was published in Moscow in 1968. Another notable publication of a Swahili writer in Russia was a translation of two novels of Shafi Adam Shafi. His first translated novel "Kuli" told the readers about the struggle of Zanzibari workers against colonial abuse in the 1940s, while the second one, "Kasri ya Mwinyi Fuad", was about the Russian Revolution of 1964. Generally, the most of the translations of these and other Swahili texts into Russian were done by the graduates of the African studies departments at the universities of Moscow and Leningrad who wanted to familiarize the local public with the African culture and people. The impressive heritage of famous Tanzanian authors proved to be one of the most effective and at the same time pleasing instruments to pursue this aim.

Nowadays, the Swahili studies continue to develop in Russia thanks to the existing solid academic basis as well as prominent linguists and historians who have greatly contributed to promoting Swahili across the globe. Incomplete list of the scholars includes Andrey Zhukov, Natalia Okhotina, Nelly Gromova, Natalia Petrenko, Ekaterina Miachina, Rifat Pateev, Mikhail Gromov. The Russian government has

four universities that teach Swahili. Namely - Institute of Asian and African Studies of Lomonosov Moscow State University, Saint Petersburg State University, Moscow State University of International Relations and Kazan Federal University. Their graduates strengthen Russian-African relations and, in particular, the Russian-Tanzanian ties in the diplomatic, economic and cultural fields.

The radio program "Tukumbukie Urusi" deserves a particular mention. It is prepared in Swahili by the RCSC and is aired on "Radio Tumaini" every Saturday, narrating various themes about Russia. Graduates of Russian universities are often invited to participate, and they mostly talk about their student years in Russia. The purpose of this program is to popularize the high-quality Russian education.

About the development of scientific cooperation between Russian and Tanzanian scientists we can say that the RCSC organizes presentations by Russian scientists at Tanzanian universities and also trips of Tanzanian scientists to Russia, research projects undertaken by Russian scientists in Tanzania in collaboration with their Tanzanian colleagues, and provides support in conducting joint scientific conferences. Since 2005, Russian anthropologists, working together with Tanzanian scientists, have been conducting research work in areas where the Hadza, Dotoga and Masai live. Over the years scientists from the Institute for

African Studies of the Russian Academy of Sciences with the support of Dar es Salaam University and the RCSC have conducted extensive sociological researches. The work of anthropologists, sociologists and philologists has resulted into scientific monographs of great interest for the development of world African studies.

In 2005, the centre prepared a publication at the "Mkuki na Nyota" publishing house of a collection of articles by Russian scientists-Africanists and diplomats on the theoretical legacy of Julius Nyerere entitled "Julius Nyerere - Humanist Politician Thinker"

In March 2019, the Institute for African Studies, together with the Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Academy, held a large international scientific conference dedicated to the problems of state-building in Africa. Thanks to the organizational support from the RCSC, 20 Africanists from Russia were able to take part in it. In November 2020, at the initiative of the RCSC in Dar es Salaam, a scientific conference dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the "Declaration of the UN General Assembly on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples" was held. 50 reports by scientists from Russia, Tanzania and other African countries were presented at it. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference had to be held online. Internships for Russian students are regularly held at the Russian House.

It is worth pointing out that now in Tanzania keen interest

in classical music and opera vocals as well as in Russian classical ballet has risen very significantly, as evidenced by a big interest of Tanzanians to the charity concerts that are held at the RCSC with the hall being filled to capacity.

In 2021, the RCSC held the 4th Russian Children's Songs Festival in Dar es Salaam. Tanzanian children enthusiastically take to the stage of the Main Hall of the Russian House and sing children's songs, on which more than one generation of Russians have grown up. In this year's gala concert, 186 performers aged 4 to 18 years old took part.

We can't forget here an assistance to Tanzania in training of highly qualified national personnel for all sectors of the economy, health care and science.

In 60 years of independence, more than 3 thousand Tanzanians have received degrees from Soviet and Russian universities. Today they are successfully working for the wellbeing of their country.

The RCSC recruits students to study in Russia on scholarships granted by the government of the Russian Federation. In this new academic year the number of Tanzanians who will receive free education scholarships will be 50.

The Russian House pays big attention to popularization of the Russian language. For many years, the RCSC has been running Russian language courses which are attended mainly by young Tanzanians preparing for travel to Russia to pursue higher studies. But in recent years, due

to the growing popularity of Tanzania among Russian tourists, Russian language is now in high demand in the country's tourism business, which occupies an important place in its economy. Therefore, the RCSC is opening branches for Russian language courses in other regions of Tanzania, for example, in Zanzibar and Arusha, which are principal destinations of many tourists from Russia.

The Russian House is doing its best to assist the development of Tanzanian national culture. For many years it has been a base for creative arts teams - musicians, dancers, theatre groups, etc. Here, they get the opportunity to rehearse every day for free, to hold their concerts and art exhibitions. The center hosts Tanzanian sports groups, it has a books' and video library which are free for Tanzanians.

In October 2021 the musical play "The Tale of King Saltau" was staged at the 40th International Art Festival at Bagamoyo. The staging of the musical performance is a project of the Russian House. The RCSC invited the country's famous theatre troupe "Baba Watoto" for its stage implementation. The performance turned out to be one of the central events of the Festival, the guest of honor to which was the country's well-known public and political figure Mr. Jakaya Kikwete, who served as the President of the United Republic of Tanzania from 2005 to 2015.

This is now the second Tanzanian musical play in Swahili to be staged by the Russian Centre for Science and

Culture in Dar es Salaam. The first was a performance based on Pushkin's "The Tale of the Fisherman and the Fish". Tanzanians still remember its screening on the state television channel "TBC" as well as its premiere at the Bagamoyo Festival in 2005.

Over all 30 years of its activities on the field of cultural cooperation the RCSC has been accorded good understanding and friendly support from the government as well as from ordinary Tanzanians. Here, at least a few of our Tanzanian friends should be mentioned who have helped and assisted the Centre in our work. These are: a graduate of the Patrice Lumumba Friendship University Elizabeth Magambo, who, back in 1988 helped us to purchase a beautiful building for the Centre in one of the best districts of Dar es Salaam - Sea View Road, another graduate of the same famous university - Benjamin Mhina, who unfortunately died last year, having worked for a long time as an administrator of the RCSC, and Wilhelmina Malima, a graduate of the University in Rostov-on-Don, who replaced him. Others are - the famous Tanzanian journalist Saidi Nguba, artist Muzu Suleimanji and the book publisher Walter Bgoya, translator Joshua Madumulla, historian Audax Mabulla. This list can be continued...

The Russian Centre will continue its contribution to strengthening friendship between Russia and Tanzania and to the development of cultural ties between the two countries.

The Guardian

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SATURDAY 11 DECEMBER 2021

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

At 60 years of independence: We may just be taking off with industrialisation

INDEPENDENCE Day celebrations were marked with pomp and pageantry, the gallantry of the armed forces, decorations and memories of those who have greatly contributed to community causes and overall development efforts over the years. The summation of this experience given by cabinet ministers and finally President Samia Suluhu Hassan has unavoidably focused on the phenomenal expansion of social services. In some achievements we did not dream of, like being ranked among African countries - just a few of them - dotted with the most advanced facilities for surgical and non-surgical interventions now.

There is a hidden datum that is being observed as part of routine assessments of the nearly nine months since the president took office mid-March, namely the surge in investment projects at the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC). Admittedly not all investments pass by that centre, as usually those that their movers need rather expansive spaces where upwards of ten hectares may be asked to be allocated by the public authorities. Many others middle and lower level industrialists or service providers, brand goods representatives, etc just enter town and consult all sorts of freelance dealers or brokers. It is market forces.

It is such investors who set the pace for the price of land, and when complementary government efforts like improving of streets, making sure lights are everywhere at night, even clearing out wooden stalls planted everywhere on major roads, which also influ-

ence demand for land by location, and pricing. In all those regards it can be said that the country is doing well, as we don't have excessive concentration of demand for land, and instead the demand, building initiatives, is spread out. At the industrial level as well it can't be said that most industries are located in Dar es Salaam, Coast and Morogoro regions but wider.

Facilitating investments especially industries needs ample availability land at a person to person level rather than through state allocation. The reason is that state allocated land is poor security in commercial banks as the one who is entrusted the use of such land has constraints on changing its occupancy or the character for which land is put to use. Being constrained to follow an investment path charted out by state agencies easily leads to failure, as the reason for that path is that one provides a service, not seek profits.

In what is known as a 'win-win' situation, this attitude is being checked at present, with investors more free to determine what to do, as often they are setting up new projects rather than picking up failed state enterprises. So long as conditions of entry are eased, with far less bureaucracy on acquisition of land (by mapping out most land and elevate land ownership in villages to townships, as it was being mooted of late), more investors will come in. Many village youths are now found in towns, so retaining the law of customary land titles disenfranchises those who come to town, that only villagers can use, dispose land.

International Mountain Day closely linked with environmental pursuits

DECEMBER 11 is recognizes as International Mountain Day (IMD) all over the world for activists, with this year's theme touching on sustainable mountain tourism. This day is among the more recent among United Nations memory days, dating from 2002, as increasing attention to the importance of mountains led the UN to declare 2002 as the UN International Year of Mountains. In that case the first international day was celebrated for the first time the following year, 2003 but chroniclers say its roots date back to 1992, when global environmental activists agreed on a document, "Managing Fragile Ecosystems: Sustainable Mountain Development," which in Tanzania has ample relevance to Kilimanjaro tourism.

This document was known as Chapter 13 of the global action plan known as Agenda 21 of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (the Rio environmental summit of 1992) where Agenda 21 represented formulating a plan of action for the following century. The key issue for marking the day is that sustainable tourism in mountains can contribute to creating additional and alternative livelihood options and promoting poverty alleviation. It also adds to social inclusion plus landscape and biodiversity conservation. On the whole activists focus on least damage options in mountain tourism, etc.

Activists say it is a way to preserve the natural, cultural and spiritual heritage of such ecosystems, to promote local crafts and high value products and celebrate traditional practices such as local festivals. While Tanzania has a range of mountain tourism activities, the cul-

tural aspect is more developed on the coastal zone, chiefly in Zanzibar, where such festivals are firstly based on the community as it is also the case with traditional population concentrations in Dar es Salaam. Otherwise the local touch is absorbed by the population mix as well as increasing modernisation, changing occupations and scattered habitations.

An online write up says that mountain tourism attracts around 15 to 20 percent of global tourism, but then it is one of the sectors most affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, affecting economies, livelihoods, public services and opportunities on all continents. It would appear that there are special restrictions with regard to mountains, which are necessary to protect mountain communities as tourists tend to come in groups, but at the same time affect their income expectations. This has been the case for communities on the slopes of Mount Kilimanjaro, affected both by dwindling visitations during lockdown, and surging cases.

It isn't clear by how much the Covid-19 crisis can be taken as an opportunity to rethink mountain tourism and its impact on natural resources and livelihoods, what it takes to manage it better and to harness it towards a more resilient, green and inclusive future. There is debate for instance on including electric cars to join points in mountain viewing as opposed to actually climbing, which some environmental groups argue against that idea. Maybe a parliamentary committee visit to the area and interviewing various stakeholders could help the ministry sort out the issue.

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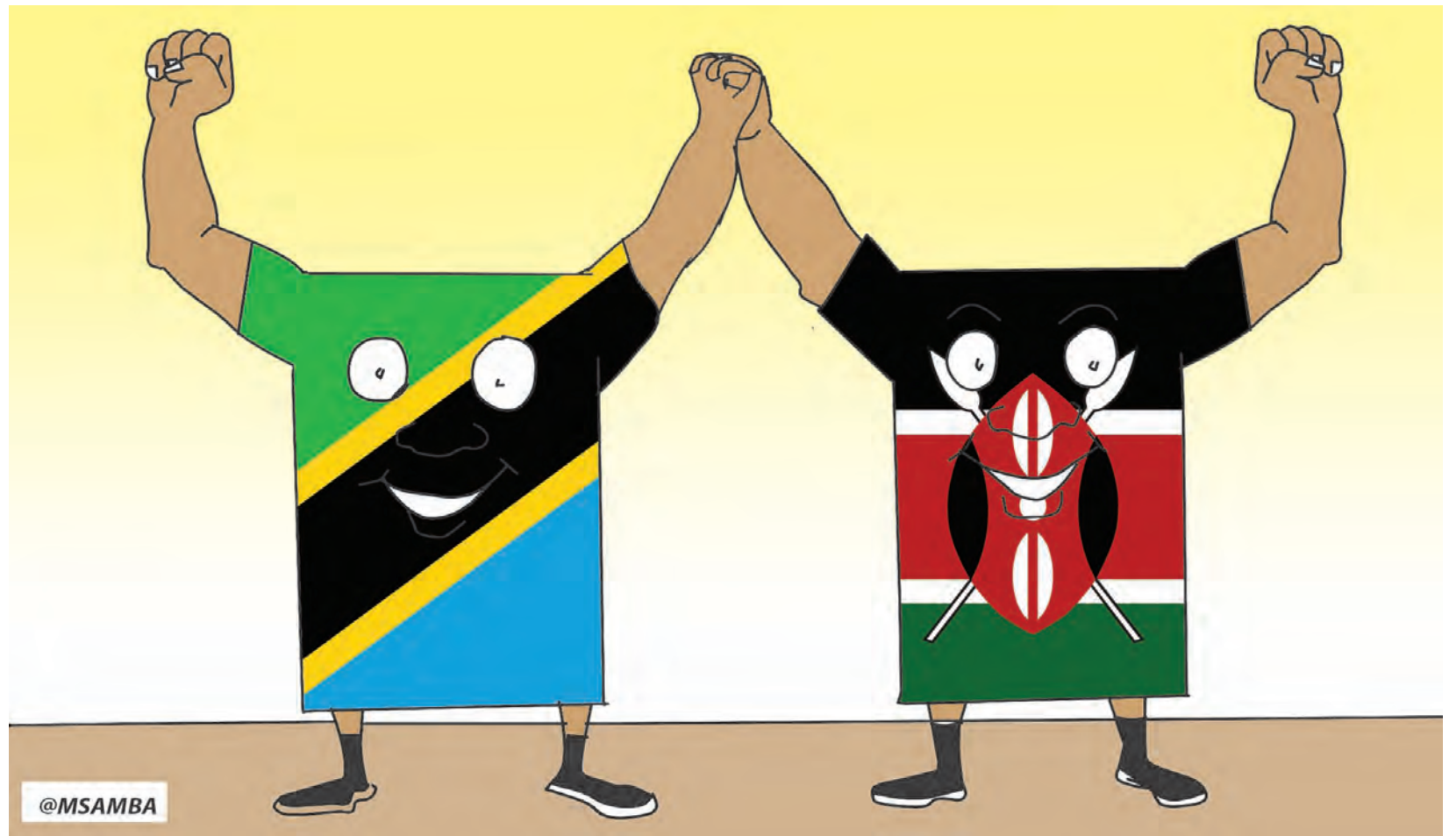
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CPC's achievements of 100 years: Lessons for African countries

By Dr Darius Mukiza

FROM 8th to 11th November, the sixth plenary session of the 19th Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee was held in Beijing, which aims at examining the main achievements and historical experience accumulated over the past 100 years since the CPC was founded.

The session that showed the CPC's effort to systematize its experience will help the Chinese people and the rest of the world better understand the CPC and future steps in China's socialist construction.

One could say that the session aimed at showing how the CPC delineated a path for the construction of socialism that has made China an industrialized economy and one of the greatest nations in today's world.

The persistence in the cause of socialism has defined the meaning and importance of the CPC in the development of China.

For African countries, the important message sent by the said session is that in order to bring sound and viable development, formation and implementation of practicable political ideology is vital.

In 1978, when China introduced the reforms and opening-up policy, China's development level was almost the same with that of many African countries. However, many African countries took different paths of development while the CPC led China to start a new stage of development through the model of socialism with Chinese characteristics that has served as an example for all developing countries today.

After winning independence, African countries had to decide what type of state to put into place, and between 1950 and the mid-1980s, thirty-five African countries adopted socialism at some point.

However, socialism in Africa did not outlive the collapse of the U.S.S.R. in 1991. The loss of a financial supporter and ally in the form of the U.S.S.R. was certainly a part of this, but so was the need for many African states to seek loans from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank.

By the 1980s, these institutions required African states to abolish state monopolies over production and distribution, and privatize industries before they would agree to release loans.

The CPC since its founding had fought with imperialism, feudalism and bureaucrat-capitalism, sought national independence and the people's liberation, and created the fundamental social conditions for realizing national rejuvenation.

Through this commitment, China has built an industrial country with a high level of technology, eliminated extreme poverty in the country, and moved to-



wards social, political, and economic progress unprecedented in the history of China and humanity.

Under the leadership of the CPC, the world's largest developing country has achieved a complete eradication of extreme poverty, raising more than 770 million poor people from extreme poverty since its reform and opening up in late 1970s.

This is contrary to Africa where according to reports in 2021, there are 490 million people living in extreme poverty, or 36% of the total population. This number is up from 481 million in 2019.

In December last year, the BBC published a report by the UK-based Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR) which shows that China would overtake the United States to become the world's largest economy by 2028, five years earlier

than previously forecast.

On industrial policy with a high level of technology, the CPC made the policy a reform instrument in China since the late 1980s, playing a decisive role in China's development from an imperative planned economy to a market economy with Chinese characteristics. That is the reason why the industry has become one of the most important pillars of the Chinese economy.

These achievements are made with the CPC's ability to improve and reform itself and maintain its integrity. Very few political parties in Africa have reformed, maintained themselves and achieved similar successes as the CPC did.

One outstanding exception is Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) that was established in 1977 under the leadership of the Father of the Nation,

Mwalimu Julius Nyerere.

Bonded together by the prior personal friendship between Chairman Mao Zedong of China and Mwalimu Julius Nyerere of Tanzania, the two countries have ever since inspired each other.

CCM at the age of 44 years has managed to run the government to present. One can say that at the age of 100 years, CCM, like the CPC, will tell Tanzanians its historical achievements.

Rural electrification is another achievement inspired by the CPC to CCM. According to ESI AFRICA - Africa's leading power and energy journal, Tanzania is leading most of other African countries by having electrified 74% of its rural areas.

Tanzania is also constructing the 2,115 megawatts hydro-power project which is the fulfilment of the dream of the late Father of the Nation Mwalimu Julius Nyerere that will ensure the availability of sufficient electricity in the country. The project which is financed by taxpayers' money at the cost of Tsh 6 trillion (around US\$ 3 billion) is expected to be completed by 2022.

Upon its completion, the project, which has the reservoir length of 100 km and covering an area of about 1,350 square km, will provide electricity for the country's emerging industries and exporting the surplus to other East African Countries.

It is enough to say that the socialism in China has worked, and the CPC should be lauded for its success in eliminating extreme poverty in the most populous country on earth.

The writer (pictured) is a lecturer at School of Journalism and Mass Communication, University of Dar es Salaam. Email: rugalama@gmail.com



Getty Images

Academic performance decides success; yes but not always

WHEN we were growing up, they told us that education was the key to success. We beat ourselves up reading anything and everything. We literally burned the midnight oil to get most if not all the questions right in class.

They set exams (some of them unreasonable) but we conformed to the system anyway. We trusted their word and gave our best. Some of us scored highly while others didn't do very well. They used this against us. Our score divided and branded us as either smart or foolish.

The smart ones were praised and assured that life would reward them. They would get the best jobs and live the best lives. On the other hand, the foolish ones would work for the smart ones and live on handouts.

We believed that without questioning. Back in high school, one student told his colleague that he would not amount to anything. That opinion was purely based on the student's academic performance. The system had made us believe that overall success and failure depended squarely on one's academic qualifications.

Close to a decade later, we are here questioning everything we learned. Everything they told us did not pay off. The irony is in how life turns out and it's sickening. Academic excellence is not a basis for anything in this world. Let's face it, how many testimo-

nies have we read about graduates holding first-class honors degrees but struggling? Similarly, how many dropouts and people they branded as foolish are running the streets. The irony is in what they said about the smart employing the foolish. The complete opposite is happening.

After graduating, I was privileged to get a job. Through this time, I earned peanuts. Enough for me to keep showing up each day to the office (out of desperation) and enough so that the employer didn't lose employees. I mean, that's exactly what happens. We all know this but for some reason, we keep going.

I love reading, so I read several books that would help me get out of my comfort zone. They all had one thing in common, "quitting formal employment and being an entrepreneur". That's how millionaires do it, or so they assured. I liked that, and I had read enough about how to go about it. Based on what I had learned, I had a plan in place already. The remaining part was quitting my day job and becoming an entrepreneur.

You see, the books I had read and vlogs I had watched left out very important things. Things that might have prevented the youth from taking unique paths. The part where you work thrice as much. Also, it does not guarantee payment, especially during the initial months of starting the venture. Formal employment



provides security in form of a monthly pay slip. They did not mention that entrepreneurs often got for a month without any pay, especially for the first few months.

The worst part is switching from working from 9 am to 5 pm to working day and night. With formal employment, the employer defines reasonable

working hours. This is never the case with entrepreneurship.

Another thing is a pattern. A pattern that they assured us things without accurate information. Things that do not always work.

It's time we stopped assuring each other of things we cannot promise. Let's accept the paradox of life. Let's

tell our kids that education is key but also let them know that it's not guaranteed. Let's not brand people who score bad grades as foolish and lower their self-esteem during their growing years. Humans learn better before they reach twenty years. If we brand them as foolish, they are likely not to learn especially if they believe that they won't amount to anything.

Acknowledging the irony of life allows us to be flexible and expect different outcomes despite doing everything right. It helps us understand that the most important part of a plan is planning or rather counting on a scenario. Where the plan fails, we opt for other plans and that's Okay.

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More effort is needed to manage electrical, electronic waste

By Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

NASSOR Said, a resident of Sinza, Dar es Salaam Region, ventured into his father's scrap metals and Used Lead Acid Batteries (ULABs) business at a tender age to make ends meet after failing to continue with education.

He now sells used lead acid batteries, a booming business that however has many environmental and health risks.

"I had no choice but to work with my father so as to get money and meet my basic needs. We buy and sell scrap metals and used batteries. For the used batteries however, we are supposed to break them into pieces and remove the acid inside because buyers want the actual weight of the battery waste without the acid inside," he narrated during an interview recently.

A spot survey conducted in Dar es Salaam by this paper last week established that used lead acid batteries fetch between 1,000/- to 1,300/- per kilogrammes, depending on the location.

Said added that they keep the acid in empty containers in anticipation of potential customers who use the chemical as cleaning detergent for stubborn stains.

"We store the used acid in empty containers for as long as we can until customers show up. It has never caused physical damage because we handle the waste with care," he added.

Abdulrazak Mwenge, a mechanic in Manzese, Dar es Salaam said that most mechanics use acid from the batteries to clean various motor vehicle parts.

He however admitted that most of the time, the chemical is handled without use of proper Preventive Protective Equipment (PPE) gears like hard gloves, glasses and boots.

"While using the used acid to clean various car parts, the most important thing is to ensure that the acid does not get into contact with our eyes. We have not had any major accidents apart from the usual damage of clothes," he said.

Lead-acid batteries are widely used in many African countries including Tanzania to power everything from cars to telecommunication equipment to backup electrical systems. These batteries however reach the end of their lifespan and lack of efforts to recycle them cause widespread environmental contamination while posing a high risk for both human health and the



A stockpile of used lead batteries. Inappropriate recycling operations release considerable amounts of lead particles and fumes emitted into the air, deposited onto soil, water bodies and other surfaces with both environmental and human health risks. Photo/ Correspondent Geoffrey Nangai

environment in many countries.

As most African countries lack adequate recycling facilities, many unlicensed battery reconditioners and illegal recyclers of used lead-acid batteries have come up.

A recent study estimates that there are between 10,599 to 29,241 informal lead-acid battery-processing sites where human health is at risk. The 90-country study found that informal lead-acid battery processing sites put the health of as many as 16.8 million people at risk in 2013 alone.

Approximately 86 per cent of the total global consumption of lead is for the production of lead-acid batteries mainly used in motorised vehicles, storage of energy generated by photovoltaic cells and wind turbines, and for back-up power supplies.

According to the WHO, the increasing demand for motor vehicles as countries undergo economic development and growth in the use of renewable energy sources with the need for storage batteries is directly proportional to the increasing demand for lead-acid batteries. The batteries contain large amount of lead either as solid metal or lead-oxide powder.

An average battery can contain up to 10 kilogrammes of lead. Recycled lead is a valuable com-

modity for many people in the developing world, making the recovery of car batteries known as Waste Lead-Acid Batteries (WLAB) or Used Lead-Acid Batteries (ULAB) a viable and profitable business, which is practised in both formal and informal sectors globally.

In many Low Developed Countries (LDCs) ULAB recycling and smelting operations are conducted in the open, in densely populated urban areas, and often with few (if any) pollution controls. Inappropriate recycling operations release considerable amounts of lead particles and fumes emitted into the air, deposited onto soil, water bodies and other surfaces, with both environmental and human health negative impacts.

The limited number of job opportunities in the formal sectors in Tanzania has made youth explore other options available like engagement in hazardous waste management for scrap metals and Used Lead Acid Batteries (ULABs) to make ends meet.

It's against this backdrop that hazardous waste management Non-Governmental Organization Pure Earth organized a workshop on Sustainable and Environmentally Sound Solutions for the ULABs in Tanzania sponsored by the United Nations Environment Programme in Dar es Salaam

mid-week that brought together various e-waste stakeholders from both formal and informal sector to discuss sustainable e-waste management practices.

Environment stakeholders however need the government to harmonise hazardous waste management policies across various sectors to ensure long-term environmental sustainability in line with the Basel Convention.

The Basel Convention on the Transboundary Movement of Hazardous Wastes and their Disposal was adopted by Tanzania in 2002 and went into force on December 12, 2019. It establishes a framework for control over the transboundary movements of hazardous wastes.

Speaking during the workshop, Pure Earth Country Coordinator, Abdallah Mkindi, said there is need for the government to intensify hazardous waste management so as to ensure safety of the people and environment.

"The workshop has been a good platform for e-waste management practitioners to share their experiences. Safety remains a major challenge in the aspect of e-waste management especially in the informal sector so there is a need to ensure proper use of PPEs for the safety of all those involved," he said.

Mkindi argued that all stake-

holders including manufactures and importers of electronic equipment have a role to play in ensuring sustainability of the environment.

"We have the laws as a policy guideline by which the government should work around the clock to ensure the application of the best practice in hazardous waste management," he said.

Daniel Sabai, Senior Lecturer at the University of Dar es Salaam, said disposal of used lead acid batteries remains a major challenge in Tanzania.

"Battery electrolytes contain sulphuric acid which is classified as a hazardous waste that can affect the health of those who get into contact with it. Statistics show that it also has negative impacts on the environment," he said.

Sabai noted that there is a need to identify the risks posed by used lead acid batteries, analyse the extent of their risks and if possible, come up with mitigation measures.

He noted that there is need for surveillance of the entire used lead acid batteries cycle to check health, safety and environmental compliance in accordance with Tanzania's laws.

"There is a need to prepare and implement a comprehensive lead risk reduction strategy

that should include a legislative framework for hazardous waste management, occupational health and safety, provision of licensing and monitoring, social responsibility and public awareness among other things," he said.

Sabai added that importers should be responsible for ensuring that electrolyte is not dumped into the environment.

He advised that the country should adopt a strategy to transfer the risks by exporting the recycling process of the hazardous waste to another country.

Other stakeholders appealed to the government to adopt Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) concept of WLABs management as stipulated in the Bamako Convention.

Tanzania is one of the 24 African countries that have since ratified the Bamako Convention which came into force in 1998 and prohibits the importation of any hazardous (including radioactive) waste into Africa.

According to Gideon Chilambo, Managing Director at Chilambo General Trade Company, improper disposal of waste lead acid batteries poses huge health and environmental risks to the country.

Chilambo noted that telecommunication companies in the country are the biggest producers of waste lead acid batteries which are used at the telecommunications towers.

"Waste lead acid batteries are imported in the country but we do not have the capacity to manage their waste as a nation; we do not have the capacity to dispose of these types of wastes and the process to return them to respective manufactures in Europe and Asian countries is cumbersome. Worse still, the budget needed to export this kind of waste is so huge," he said.

He noted that his company which is located in Kisarawe Industrial park in Coast Region is presently stranded with 80 tonnes of waste lithium batteries at its yard, adding that exporting one tonne of such waste requires around 500 euros (approximately 13.3m/-).

"The worst part is that these waste lithium batteries are highly flammable if exposed to high temperatures. This not only puts the risks to those engaged in the waste management process but also puts the lives of the general public at stake," he added.

The National Environment Management Council (NEMC) Enforcement Manager Jamal Baruti said that the Environmental Management (Control and Management of Electrical and Electronic Waste) regulations gazette number 388 of May 14, 2021 addresses the issue of electrical and electronic waste.

"The regulation to ensure that management and disposal of electronic devices from individual to company level is already in place. We will closely work with all the relevant authorities including the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA), Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) and Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) to ensure compliance of the regulation," he said.

Lesotho government left paralysed and on the brink by in-fighting

By Peter Fabricius

LESOTHO has seemed from the outside to be fairly quiet since Moeketsi Majoro took over as prime minister from the controversial Tom Thabane in May 2020. In reality, there have been deep rumblings beneath the surface, and the seemingly dormant volcano in South Africa's midst may now be starting to erupt again.

The government and the country have been paralysed for some time by bitter in-fighting in the All Basotho Convention (ABC) – the leading party in the six-party governing coalition.

At the heart of the problem is Thabane, who refused to retire to his village after being forced to step down from office. He has insisted on remaining leader of the ABC. Last week he orchestrated a 'recall' by the ABC's national executive committee of Majoro from the prime ministership, to be replaced by water minister Nkaku Kabi.

But Majoro simply refused to go, insisting that only Parliament could remove him from office. He would probably prevail there as he apparently enjoys the support of the Democratic Congress, the second-largest party in the coalition, as well as the others. But that outcome is not guaranteed because of the notorious fickleness of Lesotho's politicians.

Majoro's enemies in the ABC accuse him of playing for time, hoping the courts will resolve the problem for him. Judicial authorities told Thabane last week he would have to stand trial from 8 March next year for the murder of his first wife Lipolelo in 2017 on the eve of his inauguration for a second term as prime minister.

His current wife Maesiah is co-accused. Thabane's allies had demanded that Majoro halts the prosecution or face being ousted, but the premier said he had no such powers.

On Wednesday Majoro fired Kabi from his cabinet and allegedly ordered the arrest of two senior officials who were implicated in the recall plot. Thabane's allies call this a declaration of war and are preparing to expel Majoro from the party. Majoro's allies have also gone to court seeking an order outlawing his recall.

"The in-fighting in the ABC has paralysed both the government and the country," says Lesotho newspaper proprietor Basildon Peta, publisher of Lesotho Times.

One of the victims of the paralysis is the broader political, constitutional and security sector reform process the Southern African Development Community (SADC) initiated six years ago. SADC intervened at the time through South Africa's then deputy president Cyril Ramaphosa, as its special envoy, to try to re-stabilise the country after then prime minister Thabane was briefly ousted in a military coup led by military chief Tlali Kamoli in 2014. Thabane fled to South Africa, which reinstated him days later with an armed escort.

Two military chiefs were assassinated in the turmoil that ensued and SADC leaders launched a reform process, initially backed by a peacekeeping force. The reforms were supposed to keep the meddling military out of politics, among other ob-



Lesotho's then-prime minister, Thomas Thabane, on 3 June, 2017 in Maseru, Lesotho. Thabane has refused to retire after being forced to step down from office in 2020.

jects.

But the process – which Ramaphosa delegated to retired deputy judge president Dikgang Moseneke after he became president in 2018 – has also stalled. Three deadlines for its completion have been missed. Last week fistfights nearly broke out in the National Reforms Authority (NRA), the body set up to oversee the implementation of the reforms, over disagreements about their content.

And this week it seemed on the verge of collapse after the main opposition party, the Lesotho Congress for Democracy (LCD), pulled out of the process. The LCD said it was withdrawing to protest against the state's decision to press treason and murder charges against its leader, Mothetjoa Metsing.

Metsing, who fled to South Africa last week, has been charged, alongside Kamoli and others, for the murder of a police guard who was shot dead during Kamoli's attempted coup on 30 August 2014, forcing Thabane to flee to South Africa. Metsing was suspected of instigating the coup against Thabane, with whom he had fallen out.

Moseneke had ruled some time ago that under the SADC-led agreement, the charges against Metsing and others should be

suspended, pending the conclusion of the reform process. But Lesotho's director of public prosecutions declared she was not bound by Moseneke and SADC's decisions, and proceeded to press charges. The Constitutional Court upheld her decision.

This left the LCD with no choice but to pull out of the reform process, LCD deputy leader Tšelislo Mokhosi said on Wednesday. He said the LCD agreed to participate in the reform process only if Metsing and other opposition leaders were tried after the reforms were completed. This was because it expected the judiciary to be included in the reforms as the LCD didn't trust it in its present form.

Whether or not that is true of the judiciary, it is more generally true that other important processes depend on the structural reforms being contemplated. Peta notes, for instance, that it's crucial that the country doesn't go to its next elections – due by about September next year – before political reforms have been agreed and implemented.

These would probably include measures to put more emphasis on constituency representation and forbid floor-crossing to discourage junior parties from destroying coalition governments. The NRA has also proposed that prime ministers

only be removed from office by a two-thirds majority in Parliament, which would also enhance stability.

Any collapse or further delays of the reform process will aggravate the paralysis in government that has caused all official services to decline and led to an alarming rise in crime.

This has seen Lesotho being ranked by the World Population Review as number six in the world for homicides, Peta said.

"In a nutshell, Lesotho is on the edge again, and SADC's efforts to restore sanity there are faltering," Peta said.

Clearly Ramaphosa – still SADC's official special envoy – needs to find some more time in his admittedly busy schedule, which includes launching political reform in Eswatini, to attend to South Africa's other troubled neighbouring kingdom.

DM

China, Africa to renew ties with sincere friendship, equality

By He Yin

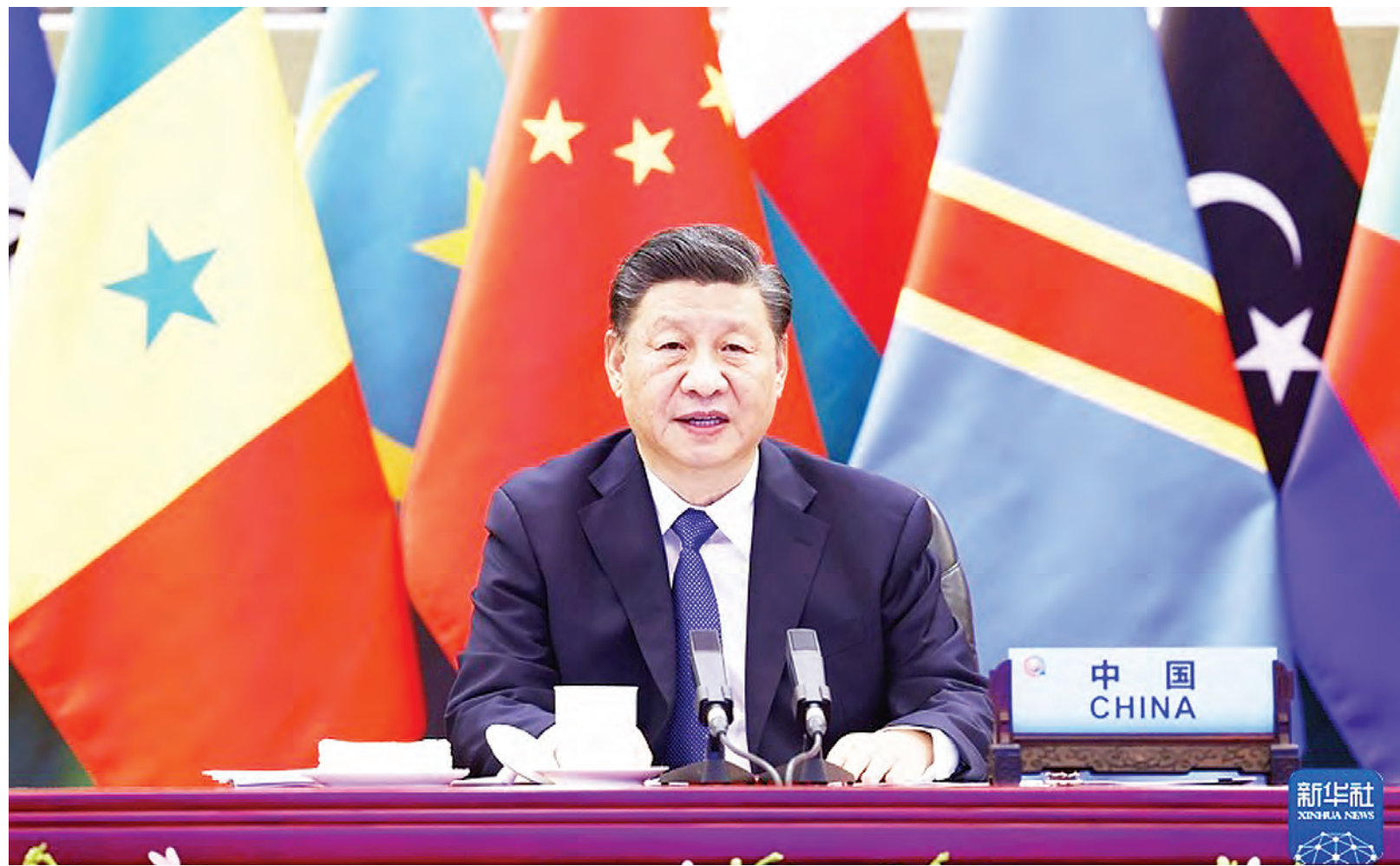
CHINESE President Xi Jinping attended the opening ceremony of the Eighth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) and delivered a keynote speech via video link on Monday.

He reviewed the traditional friendship between China and Africa, gave a positive appraisal of their cooperation outcomes, and summarized the spirit of the China-Africa friendship and cooperation. His speech provided a strategic plan and overarching design for China-Africa cooperation in the future and drew up a blueprint for China-Africa friendly and mutually beneficial cooperation in the new era.

This year marks the 65th anniversary of the start of diplomatic relations between China and African countries. Over the past 65 years, China and Africa have forged unbreakable fraternity in their struggle against imperialism and colonialism, and embarked on a distinct path of cooperation toward development and revitalization. Together, they have written a glorious chapter of mutual assistance amidst complex changes, and set a shining example for building a new type of international relations.

"Why do China and Africa have such a close relationship and so deep a bond of friendship? The key lies in an everlasting spirit of China-Africa friendship and cooperation forged between the two sides, which features sincere friendship and equality, win-win for mutual benefit and common development, fairness and justice, and progress with the times and openness and inclusiveness," Xi said in his speech.

This truly captures the relations of China and Africa working together in good and hard times over the past decades, and provides a source of strength for the continuous growth of China-Africa friendly relations, he stressed.



Chinese President Xi Jinping attends the opening ceremony of the Eighth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) via video link and delivers a keynote speech titled Uphold the Tradition of Always Standing Together And Jointly Build a China-Africa Community With a Shared Future in the New Era, Nov. 29. Xinhua

Inheriting and carrying forward the spirit of China-Africa friendship and cooperation, the two sides will inject strong impetus into the building of a high-level China-Africa community with a shared future.

The spirit of China-Africa friendship and cooperation is inseparable from the heads-of-state diplomacy, which has facilitated the long-term steady progress of China-Africa relations.

Africa was Xi's first destination of foreign visits after taking office as the Chinese President in March 2013. So far, he has made four visits to the continent. During the FOCAC Beijing Summit in 2018, Xi had one-on-one meetings with

more than 50 national leaders from Africa to renew friendship, discuss cooperation, and plan the future, building a deep bond and trust with them.

Since the outbreak of COVID-19, Xi has been encouraging China and Africa to tide over difficulties through cooperation and solidarity jointly. He and national leaders from Africa have maintained frequent high-level communication via video meetings or telephone calls. China's assistance for Africa, including the COVID-19 vaccines, is highly appraised by African countries.

Sincere friendship and equality are distinctive features that keep China-Africa ties vital. China and

Africa have always been a community with a shared future. The Chinese people have shared weal and woe and mutual assistance with African people and offered respect, appreciation, and support for Africa.

China doubly cherishes its traditional friendship with Africa, always takes the solidarity and cooperation with African countries as an essential element of China's foreign policy, and always supports equality among all nations, big or small, strong or weak, rich or poor.

China enjoys mutual support with Africa on issues involving core interests and major concerns of either or both, supports Afri-

can countries' efforts to resolve their continent's issues in their own way, and supports African countries' efforts to explore development paths suited to their national conditions.

In recent years, following the principle of sincerity, real results, amity, and good faith, and the principle of pursuing the greater good and shared interests, China has worked with African countries to renew the glorious chapter of high-quality China-Africa cooperation continuously.

The Chinese side has always respected the independence, sovereignty, and culture of Africa, supported the development of the continent, and upheld multilater-

alism on the international stage to safeguard the interests of developing countries, said Senegalese President Macky Sall.

Over the past decades, with mutual respect and empathy, China and Africa, have reaped fruits of cooperation across the African continent, defining the essence of good friends, good partners, and good brothers.

In developing relations with Africa, there are five lines that China will not cross: no interference in African countries' choice of a development path fitting their national conditions; no interference in African countries' internal affairs; no imposition of its will on African countries; no attachment of political strings to assistance to Africa; and no pursuit of selfish political gains through investment and financing cooperation with Africa.

China closely combines Africa's independent and sustainable development with its own development and rejects the zero-sum game and actions driven by a narrow pursuit of profit. The ultimate goal is to realize win-win cooperation. The country is always standing in solidarity with Africa and progressing with the latter.

"China will never forget the profound friendship of African countries and will remain guided by the principle of sincerity, real results, amity, and good faith and the principle of pursuing the greater good and shared interests. China will work together with African friends to promote and carry forward the spirit of China-Africa friendship and cooperation from generation to generation," Xi said in his speech.

Standing at a new historic starting point, China and Africa will keep maintaining their friendship and equality, continuously deepening their ties, enhancing mutual trust, and constantly releasing vitality for China-Africa friendship.

Community mobilisers urged to continue pushing for women rights

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Media Women's Association (TAMWA) Zanzibar director, Dr Mzuri Issa has urged community mobilizers, among women groups to continue pushing for women rights, including leadership positions at different levels.

She made the remarks during her meeting with executives from TAMWA, Zanzibar, Pemba Environment, Gender, and Advocacy Organisation (PEGAO) and community mobilizers to discuss and review progress implementation of the project which is supported by the Norwegian embassy.

Dr Mzuri said they opted to use community mobilizers because they can reach a good number of women including those living in peripherals.

She said through conversation with the women it is easier to identify their challenges and help them to demand for their democratic rights and leadership.

"Our responsibility is to ensure accountability to each of us and institutions; we need to follow up on transparency to ensure women get all their rights," said Dr Mzuri.

She insisted on finding solutions to identified challenges to

reach the project target which is to see women enjoying their rights. She mentioned some of the areas that need close monitoring such as access to health services, failure to get national identity cards and other social services.

Eelior, PEGAO director, Hafidh Abdi Said added that community mobilizers have done a great job in reaching people at grass roots level and been able to identify challenges which have been worked on.

"We managed to reach many people in our community; but we are still working on the various challenges identified during our meetings. Coming up with solutions would enable us to achieve the project goals," said Hafidh.

Rukia Ibrahim, who works as a community mobilizer in Wete District, North Pemba Region, said their aim was to reach people particularly women, identify their challenges and help them to find solutions.

"We noticed poor health services at most of the health facilities in Wete District and reported the matter to responsible authorities. We are thankful that they are working to find a solution to the," she said.

Maryam Said, they have been



TAMWA Zanzibar, Dr Mzuri Issa speaks with community mobilizers in Pemba Islands

encouraging women to join political parties and contest for various posts when it comes to general elections.

Khalfan Amour Mohamed underlined the need for increased transparency and accountability to achieve the targeted project

goals. The four years project is implemented in Zanzibar by TAMWA in collaboration with the Zanzibar

Female Lawyers Association (ZAFELA) and PEGAO with financial support from the Norwegian embassy in Tanzania.

'UTT AMIS doing well despite COVID-19 pandemic challenges'

By Getrude Mbago

THE UTT Asset Management and Investor Services Plc (UTT AMIS) have continued to perform well with the number of investors also mounting, despite challenges brought by COVID-19 pandemic, the company's management has said.

UTT AMIS is a collective investment scheme established to develop collective investment schemes in Tanzania; acquiring and keeping in-trust the shares of privatized enterprises and encouraging savings culture

through wide participation in the ownership of distributed shares/units.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam during the weekend in the sidelines of the Funds' annual general meeting, Simion Migangala, managing director UTT AMIS said the institution has performed well in the last fiscal year ended in June 2021 with its Umoja Fund annual returns remained strong increasing to 16.6 percent from 10.3 percent recorded in the preceding financial year. He said Watoto Fund recorded an impressive

return of 19.9 percent for the financial year ended June 2021 compared to 12.7 percent in the previous year where the

"Wekeza Maisha annual returns remained strong and impressive, increasing to 25.6 in the year 2020/21 from 24 percent recorded in the preceding financial year. It offers two-fold benefits to investors, being long term capital appreciation out of investments made and Life Insurance cover provided by the scheme," he said.

He said during the year, the scheme's fund size rose by 0.4

billion (+28.6 percent) to reach 1.8bn/- compared to 1.4bn/- in the previous year. The Net Asset Value per unit appreciated by 125.8/- (+25.6 percent), from 491.5/- to 617.3/- per unit for the year ended 30th June 2021. Chairman

Casmir Kyuki, chairman of the UTT AMIS board said despite challenges that the World and the African continent are going through, economic indicators show that the Tanzanian economy continues to do well driven by construction, transport and storage, agriculture,

manufacturing and mining that all together contributed 60.8 percent of real gross domestic product. "As regards performance for the financial year ended on 30 June 2021, economic indicators show that UTT AMIS and the funds under management performed very well notwithstanding the challenges mentioned. Funds under management increased from 412.8/- on 30 June 2020 to 619.6bn/- on 30 June 2021. This indicates an increase of 206.8bn/- which is 50 percent compared to an increase of 122.02bn/- in the pre-

vious financial year. It is for the first time since establishment that UTT AMIS has been able to achieve this level of growth in one year," he said.

Growth in fund size is also 2021 supported by the increase in the number of investors in the schemes that went up by 12,798. For the year under review, returns to investors in all the funds under management were very good.

He said the company continues with implementation of the five year Strategic Plan to June 2024, technology plays an im-

portant role. Accordingly, the Company launched services through mobile

The chairman said the company will continue with the implementation of priorities set in the plan including improving existing products and services and identifying new business lines for the benefit of investors, shareholders and other stakeholders. "UTT AMIS will also continue working on modernization of operations and ensuring that investors obtain the best returns that the market may provide," he added.

Execution of education projects in Lindi region impresses TEA board

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Education Authority (TEA) has expressed satisfaction with progress implementation of education projects which seeks to improve the teaching and learning environment for primary and secondary schools in Lindi Region.

Under the programme, TEA provided 100m/- for construction of four teacher's houses and another 120m/- for construction of six classrooms.

Schools that have received the funds are Kassim Majaliwa secondary school in Ruangwa District, Ngwenya and Nmbila primary schools in Lindi district council.

In a recent visit to the projects TEA board members expressed satisfaction with the way the projects have been executed, whereby many of them are nearly completed, while one of them is at final stages.

TEA board chairperson, Prof Bernadeta Killian applauded teachers and district leaders for proper supervision saying what they have seen is different from information they received before visiting the area.

"The work you are doing is in line with the amount of money provided by TEA from the Education Fund. Tanzania is big, learning and teaching infrastructure is also a challenge; we need to continue using the available resources to increase the quality of education," said Prof Killian.

Ngwenya primary school head teacher Masaninga Twende noted that construction of three classrooms at the school has improved the learning environment although they still need one classroom and teachers' houses.

He added that construction of the classrooms will reduce the number of school drop outs because pupils would be enrolled at nearby schools. He said previously, most of the pupils registered for Standard One were dropping from school due to long walking distances.

The new classrooms have elevated the school to a primary school serving the nearby community whereas 9 out of 12 pupils who sat for Standard Seven national examinations passed, and will be joining Form One next year.

TEA carries out its functions under the supervision of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology while overseeing the commit-



TEA board members inspect one of the classrooms construction in Lindi region

ment to raise financial resources and equipment for the Education Fund and effectively allocate the resources to various areas to finance education projects to improve access to quality education. Establishment of TEA as a corporate body mandated to manage the education fund is a

positive move to addressing the problem of financing education.

Established under the Education Fund Act of 2001, the fund was officially launched on March 11, 2005, with the aim to secure adequate and stable financing for education; raise the qual-

ity of education and increase access and equity; develop and review periodically the formula for allocation and disbursement from the Fund to different education levels; as well as monitor the use of the funds disbursed and ensure adherence to objectives of the Fund.

By Guardian Correspondent,

Musoma

Swedish VI agroforestry wins govt's accolades

A Swedish development cooperation organisation-VI Agroforestry (Vi-skogen) has been commended for promoting agroforestry in the country.

Musoma municipal Mayor Patrick Gumbo made the remarks last week here when speaking at the just-ended 2021 VI Agroforestry symposium, themed: 'Agroforestry for improved Environment and In-

come', which aims to improve people's living conditions and reducing the effects of climate change.

He said the presence of VI Agroforestry support had greatly helped to spread environmental education awareness to farmers in the region.

Apart from environment conservation awareness and skills, Gumbo also cited im-

proved farmer's income food security as other benefits resulting from presence of the VI Agroforestry support in the region. Mara is home to Serengeti National Park and Mara River which supports lives of more than 1.1 million people in Tanzania and Kenya.

Around 1,200 trees were planted at Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Hospital (Kwangwa)

as part of the symposium that attracted a large number of participants from Mara region and other parts of the country.

Musoma District Commissioner (DC) Dr Halfan Haule also thanked VI-Agroforestry for making the three-day agroforestry symposium a success story in the region.

The DC presented certificates of participation and vari-

ous prizes to 16 organizations that took part in the agroforestry symposium was hosted by Africa Inland Church of Tanzania (AICT) at Mara and Ukerewe Diocese through its development organization called Inland Development services (IDS). VI Agroforestry is a Swedish development cooperation organization that prioritizes agroforestry in fighting

poverty and climate change.

The symposium was designed to spread a message on the role of agroforestry in improving lives of people through income and combating the effects of climate change.

Opening the symposium, Selemani Jafo, minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) directed leaders at grassroots

level to ensure that all villages in the country plant tree farms in efforts to tame effects of climate change. He urged village leaders to ensure that every household plants trees to complement government efforts towards environmental conservation.

He said it is important for every village and household to embrace the culture of planting and caring for trees, a step that would help in the fight against climate change.

US 'democracy summit' seen as divisive move

By Cao Desheng

AS Beijing has offered a Global Development Initiative to rally international efforts to combat the COVID-19 pandemic and promote economic recovery, Washington is convening its so-called Summit for Democracy on Thursday and Friday, a move that observers said would serve to sow the seeds of division and confrontation worldwide.

But after the world watched the disregard for rule of law and mistrust of elections spread throughout the United States, the question is what moral authority does Washington have to lecture the rest of the world about democracy, they said.

Addressing the 14th Bali Democracy Forum on Thursday, State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi reiterated that democracy is not the privilege of an individual country but the right of people from all countries.

Some preach that Western-style democracy is a yardstick for democracy and they try to export it to, or impose it on other parts of the world, while others take a certain country's model of democracy as a dividing line to incite competition between different political systems and ideologies, Wang said in a video speech. "Such assertions are not true democracy, but hypocrisy in the name of democracy," he added.

The decision by US President Joe Biden's administration to hand-pick which countries and regions

ought to participate in his "Summit for Democracy" constitutes a return to obsolete Cold War paradigms and goes against the trend of multilateralism, said Alfred de Zayas, a professor of international law at the Geneva School of Diplomacy and International Relations in Switzerland.

"It is obvious that such a conference cannot serve peace and justice, because it excludes billions of human beings," Zayas said in an article published on the website of China Global Television Network. He was the United Nations Independent Expert on the Promotion of a Democratic and Equitable International Order from 2012 to 2018.

"Far from being an exercise in democracy, the US summit artificially divides the world into two camps those countries which the US unilaterally considers democratic and those that are labeled undemocratic."

According to the US Department of State, the summit will set forth an agenda for "democratic renewal".

However, observers said that the riot that took place at Capitol Hill in Washington in January to prevent the joint session of Congress from certifying the newly elected president has shown the world how badly US-style democracy works in practice. In addition, US efforts to promote its model of democracy globally have landed countries like Iraq, Syria and Afghanistan in disaster and itself in a disgraceful position.

Far from an example of "renewal", the summit reinforces the



This photo taken on May 28, 2021 shows the US Capitol building behind traffic lights in Washington, DC, the United States. XINHUA

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 178 00--

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

3 letters HER, ASI, YES,
4 letters EDIT, TEEN, NILE, GAME, KALE, RIAL
5 letters RIVER, VAULT, ENTER, LEASE, EENS, VEERS, SAY SO, NEEDY
6 letters REMAIN, NERVES, KARATE, LEAVES
7 letters ENCHANT
8 letters ONE LINER
9 letters MOUSE DEER, INTACTING

CLUES: Across
1 to tame
6 Madrid is her Capital
7 group of people descended from a common ancestor
9 up-to-date
11 person who plant seeds
12 to smash
14 refuse to admit the truth
16 dive suddenly
18 bravo! from Spanish
19 sequence of words used to perform magic
20 Oman's Capital

Down:
1 twilight
2 grassland
3 a person who sings
4 Turkish Capital
5 place where Adam lived
8 an Island
9 a pattern
10 to declare to be untrue
13 Luanda is the Capital
14 death, destruction
15 a headland
16 a job
17 a person who operates something

WORD-FIT SOLUTIONS
S W E E T B R I A R
A W E D E R I D S
F N I G E R E
M D A I N N
R I D E R S T
N O P
T E N S N O V E L
R O R
C A M B O D I A
A L O E B S
B B R A Z I L E

CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS
T A N G A N Y I K A
I E A A
M A S A I M A G E
E S C A R S
P O E I M P
B A L L O N E
S I A
A S A P C S G A S
K A A S
S E N N I G H T E
O Y E Z I S
W T I M I N G S

By Magazi: 07/55429240_telxmagazi@gmail.com

world view that the US believes it has a monopoly on democracy, said Danny Haiphong, a US-based independent journalist and researcher, and also a founding member of the No Cold War international campaign.

It begins from the vantage point that the US considers itself to be in a position to teach others about the perils of "authoritarianism", Haiphong added.

Noting that "democracy" is being used by the US as a cover for its hegemonic ambitions, he said the Biden administration's "Summit for Democracy" is just another opportunity for Washington to dress up its dangerous "America First" approach to politics in the garb of democracy.

Democracy is not a one-size-fits-all model, Haiphong said, and China and all nations have the right to pursue their own political and economic models of democracy free from external interference.

China and 30-plus nations currently suffering under US-imposed sanctions, including Russia, Cuba, Venezuela, Zimbabwe, Eritrea and Belarus, have been excluded from the summit, announced on Wednesday it will not participate. However, Taiwan, which is an inalienable part of China's territory, is on the list of invitees.

Analysts said such a summit is to rally "democracies" against what the US considers to be "authoritarian

ism" states, and the main purpose is to reassert Washington's hegemony as the so-called leader of the free world in order to reinforce its current efforts to deploy a new anti-China containment strategy.

Stephen Ndegwa, a Nairobi-based communication expert and lecturer-scholar at the United States International University-Africa, said that the world has been fed a unilateral view of democracy for many years.

The narrative has been based on notions that true democracy can only come from the West led by the US, which has adopted the carrot and stick approach in its perennial quest to "democratize" other countries, setting conditions for those who wish to have close relations with it, Ndegwa said.

However, he added, this coercion is gradually backfiring because of the gross interference of the US in other countries' internal affairs and the crumbling of democracy in the US as well.

Ndegwa commended China's whole-process people's democracy, saying that those who criticize China's political system fail to acknowledge that it is the only way to govern a country so vast and with a massive population of 1.4 billion people, the most populous globally.

"The Chinese truly follow the maxim that democracy is by the people and for the people."

Agencies

RADIO One **RATIBA YA VIPINDI** **JUMATATU - JUMAPILI**

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MAMBO YA DWANIA BBC 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAJUKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 05:00 HRS MUZIKI (MCHANGANYIKO)	05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMEPAMBAZUKA I 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC 06:30 AM NIPASHE 06:50 AM MATANGAZO 07:00 AM NEWS BULLETIN 07:10 AM MATANGAZO 07:15 AM TAARIFA ZA BARABARANI 07:25 AM UDONDOZI WA MAGAZETI 07:40 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA II 08:00 AM HABARI NYEPESI 08:10 AM KUMEPAMBAZUKA III 09:00 AM HABARI ZA BIASHARA 09:10 AM MATANGAZO 09:20 AM BRAND TALK 10:00 AM NEWS BRIEF 10:03 AM DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 10:10 AM YALIVOMO YAMO 13:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 13:10 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 13:30 HRS DJ SHOW 16:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 16:03 HRS DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS 16:15 HRS MAMBO YA DWANIA BBC 18:30 HRS DJ SHOW 19:30 HRS SPOTI LEO 20:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN 21:00 HRS RADIO ONE DOCTOR 21:05 HRS DAJUKA 45 22:00 HRS NEWS BULLETIN (24 HRS) 22:15 HRS AFRO TIZI 23:00 HRS NEWS BRIEF 23:03 HRS AFRO TIZI 01:00 - 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Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One

Radio One

BUSINESS

GOOD-NEWS

Coffee and tea may help reduce rates of stroke and dementia

BEIJING

At least two cups of tea or coffee are needed to see an effect, said the study, published in the journal *Plos Medicine* on Tuesday. The research project, carried out by researchers at Tianjin Medical University in China, included 365,682 participants from the UK Biobank study.

"Our findings suggested that moderate consumption of coffee and tea separately or in combination were associated with lower risk of stroke and dementia," the study authors wrote. People who drank two to three cups of coffee or three to five cups of tea a day, or a combination of four to six cups of coffee and tea had the lowest incidence of stroke or dementia, the researchers found.

Those who drank two to three cups of coffee and two to three cups of tea daily had a 32 per cent lower risk of stroke and a 28 per cent lower risk of dementia compared with those who did not drink tea or coffee.

The research, led by Yuan Zhang, further suggests that the intake of coffee alone or in combination with tea is associated with a lower risk of post-stroke dementia. Researchers studied the 365,682 participants between 2006 and 2010 and followed them until 2020. At the start, participants self-reported how much coffee and tea they drank.

Over the study period, 5,079 participants developed dementia and 10,053 experienced at least one stroke. However, the scientists pointed out that the UK Biobank reflects a relatively healthy sample in relation to the general population, which could restrict the ability to generalise.

In addition, few people in the study developed dementia or stroke, which could make it difficult to extrapolate rates accurately for larger populations. Finally, while it is possible that coffee and tea consumption may be protective against stroke, dementia and post-stroke dementia, researchers say causality cannot be concluded from the associations.



A cup of coffee.

CONCERN

'It's just one big mess and it's unfair': Travel ban leaves local family split across continents



Giovanni and Ivana Titus with their three children.

DURBAN

When the Omicron variant of Covid-19 was identified by South African scientists in November, several Western countries imposed an immediate travel ban on Southern African countries, sending many individuals' plans and lives into disarray.

The travel ban left one local family split across two continents, heartbroken and devastated, with three children asking for only one wish: to hug their father, Giovanni Titus, for Christmas. "We promised our children that Daddy will be home for Christmas," said Ivana Titus in a Facebook post.

When the first wave of Covid-19 hit, the Titus family had been living happily in their Durbanville home for the past 12 years, the devastated mom tells *News24*. Ivana and Giovanni Titus, who have been married for 12 years and have three children, share

that the economic instability brought on by the national lockdown left Giovanni without work.

This meant that the Titus family would have to make the most difficult decision of their lives, Ivana says. Given that Ivana and her children have Slovak citizenship, she began looking for employment solutions in Slovakia.

Rather quickly, she found work as a Kindergarten English teacher at a Slovak private school, which her children could also attend. Within two weeks, Ivana and the three children were packed and ready for their move to Slovakia, where they expected that their devoted and loving husband and father would soon follow.

In this episode Elizabeth Mamacos, editor of *Parent24*, and journalist Estrelita Moses chat to local psychologist and parenting expert Megan de Beyer about how to parent younger boys. Now, over 6 months later, Ivana tells us that she sees little hope for the family's reunion. "Patiently counting the

days until your arrival here"

"Everything happened so so fast. [Giovanni] stayed behind to sort some stuff out and he was supposed to join us," explains Ivana. "He booked a ticket and every time with this craziness happening, it got cancelled," she says.

Ivana believes that they exhausted all their options, from considering a detour through Austria, which unexpectedly went into lockdown, to finding alternatives through Ireland, only to be met with red tape and bureaucratic roadblocks.

"Because he isn't a Slovak citizen or European citizen, nor has a residency [in Slovakia], they don't want to allow him to get on board," explains the frustrated mother of three. "It's just one big mess and it's unfair," she says. "When is Daddy coming home?"

Though Ivana receives as much help as can be offered from her mother and sister who visit occasionally, she admits that the

stresses of suddenly becoming a single parent overnight have been challenging. "I'm alone here with my three children," she explains. "I'm the mommy, the daddy, the teacher, the walker - I'm just tired."

On top of trying to keep a brave face for her little ones, Ivana says that her children still "miss the hugs, the kisses and the goodnight stories." "The children are asking 'when is daddy coming home?' Says Ivana. "It's very difficult."

"We promised 'No, don't worry, daddy will be here for Christmas, we'll be together as a family,'" says Ivana. "Christmas is about family, it's about being together, but it's impossible now." "How can I explain to my children that daddy won't be here with us?"

"We're just on our own, hoping for daddy to come, hoping to be together not to be an incomplete family, but to be a complete family for Christmas, so the children will have their daddy here and we'll experience the snow together."

CRISIS

Omicron stalks SA neighbours, Mozambique included, as migrant workers return



John Nkengasong, director at the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention.

MAPUTO

South Africa's neighbours are bracing for a flood of returning workers over the December holidays, threatening to accelerate the spread of the omicron variant that's already ignited a fourth wave of Covid-19 infections in the region.

While many countries banned travellers from southern Africa after the new strain was first identified there two weeks ago, its governments have denounced the restrictions and have largely kept borders open. Lines of vehicles can stretch for several miles as workers at South African mines and construction sites journey home, adding to the already heavy stream of travellers.

Zimbabwe reported a record number of new coronavirus cases this week, with more than one in three people being tested showing positive results. And that's before

the end-of-year rush, which usually starts in the second half of December.

"Of course yes," John Nkengasong, director at the Africa Centres for Disease Control and Prevention, told reporters Thursday when asked if he was worried about the risk from the migration. "We will definitely see an increased number of cases around the January-February timeline across the continent." The United Nations estimates South Africa hosts about 2.9 million workers from other countries in the region, with the bulk coming from Mozambique, Zimbabwe and Lesotho.

Long lines Already infections are spiking. The weekly incidence of cases climbed 136% in Zimbabwe in the week through December 5, according to the World Health Organization. Mozambique has seen a 1207% jump and Lesotho a 219% rise in

weekly cases. While there hasn't been much sequencing, the swell is expected to be because of omicron, the WHO said in a Dec. 7 report. As many as 35,000 people travel daily through the South Africa-Zimbabwe Beitbridge border post during the holiday season. Lines of vehicles waiting to cross can extend for more than 6 miles.

More than 50,000 people entered into Mozambique at its Ressano Garcia border with South Africa in the 10 days before December 25 last year, its busiest period. Lines of returning mineworkers and vacationers there can stretch for more than 12 miles, and truck drivers spend three days waiting to cross.

Covid-19 cases in both Mozambique and Zimbabwe surged in the weeks following last December's holidays. By mid-January, private hospitals in Mozambique had no available beds. Still, indications that

the new strain may bring milder illness could reduce the pressure, although it's too soon to tell.

The Mozambican government is also concerned about community transmission as citizens move between cities and rural areas during the festive period, Eduardo Samo Gudo, deputy director of the National Institute of Health, said by phone. "If people relax prevention measures, the health system won't hold up," he said. "We are doing everything we can to delay the fourth wave, but unfortunately omicron may diminish our efforts."

Low vaccination rates add to the spread. Zimbabwe has fully inoculated about 20% of its people; in Mozambique the figure is less than 15%. Both countries are enforcing mandatory testing for all arrivals at their borders, which will add to the delays and crowding. Zimbabwe requires a 10-day quarantine.

RESISTANCE

Beer Association heads to court to review SA's booze bans

PRETORIA

The Beer Association of South Africa (Basa) has launched a review application in the High Court of South Africa, Gauteng Division, Pretoria for the previous alcohol bans imposed by the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs since the start of the Covid-19 lockdown in and during March 2020, in terms of the Promotion of Administrative Justice Act (PAJA) and/or the principle of

legality.

The aim is to have these bans declared irrational, invalid and set aside. Basa will argue that the decisions to impose these bans were, inter alia, irrational. The application focuses on the decisions by the Minister of Cooperative Governance and Traditional Affairs to enforce alcohol bans in July and December 2020; June 2021 as well as the decision to continue imposing further restrictions on the trade of liquor in and during July 2021.

R42.2bn lost in sales

"The previous alcohol bans had a devastating impact on the alcohol industry, with 14.7% of projected sales volumes for 2020/2021 being lost (a total of 1,262.7 million litres). R42.2bn was lost in retail sales and there was a R60.7bn loss to the GDP. The total excise income tax loss was R10.2bn with just over 233,000 jobs being put at risk," Basa says.

By 11 January 2021, 30% of local breweries were forced to shut their doors permanently and 165,000

people had already lost their jobs. The bans also served as a major boost to the illicit alcohol industry which grew to be worth more than R20.5bn in 2020.

"Another alcohol ban over the coming festive season, a time when we expect some recovery for the tourism and hospitality sector, will serve as the final nail in the coffin for thousands of businesses/citizens who just barely survived the previous bans," the association says. Basa argues that the making of

Covid-19 regulations amount to administrative action, which action is reviewable in terms of PAJA. A decision is declared irrational (and therefore unlawful) under PAJA if, inter alia, relevant considerations were not taken into account.

"In light of no evidence having been provided by government to support its decisions to enforce the previous bans, Basa's application argues that it failed to take into account the devastating impact of the bans on the alcohol industry

and for this reason, amongst others, these decisions are reviewable and destined to be set aside in terms of PAJA," it adds.

Furthermore, Basa argues that if the court finds that PAJA is not applicable in this application, then the decisions to ban alcohol - being the exercise of a public power - may be reviewed and set aside in terms of the principle of legality. This principle requires all exercises of public power to be rational.

ENTERPRISING

How Dominic's clothes became a big business

NAIROBI

When Dominic Agesa founded Frederick Bittiner Wear, a fashion house in Nairobi, he picked a name with no boundaries. One that would stand the test of time, and allow him to sell his clothes anywhere in the world.

"We started off working with plus-sized women who were uncatered for years ago," he says. "The reception was great and this caught the eye of many others. Now we serve women of all sizes and next year, we're launching a men's line," he says.

Launching a fashion house in 2019 was not the idea he had when he first envisioned Frederick Bittiner Wear. He wanted to import clothes from designer shops in the UK and sell them locally. Together with a friend, they embarked on this journey only to be forced off-track by the pandemic.

"With the government banning temporarily the importation of second-hand clothes, we had to rethink our strategy. Our eyes were suddenly open to the untapped potential in the market. We blotted out all im-



Dominic Agesa at work at his Frederick Bittiner Wear.

portation plans and worked our way into the place we are today of designing and making clothes, not just for the local, but also the international market," he explains.

Whereas the plan looked good on paper, making it into a reality was a costly affair. It required not only machinery but passionate and committed tailors. He also wanted to build a business that would run itself.

"To raise the funds, I invited 17 tailors I had been working with to be stakeholders in the business. Each contributed Sh30,000 that I was to return if the business went south. It was risky, I know, but I believed in the business model."

With this money and his financial investment, he bought the first machines, growing the apparel company to one that has a capacity of producing 10,000 pieces of clothes per month. Designs from Frederick Bittiner range from everyday essentials to fierce and playful pieces just as their names "flirty flow, icy woman and bang on a budget" suggest.

With 14 new designs every week, produced in limited editions, they ensure that buyers get unique pieces. A big proponent of ready-to-wear clothing, he and his team of designers draws their inspiration from day-to-day experiences.

During his daily fitness runs, for

example, he was inspired to design leggings and t-shirts after seeing women jogging in boring outfits. On launching this line of fitness clothing, the demand was so high, outweighing the supply.

"The customer is the foundation of the masterpieces created. We ask ourselves questions like what they like, how they spend their time," Mr Agesa who has a background in strategy and marketing says.

He also supports upcoming designers launching their own fashion houses through their Startup Designer Package. So far, they have trained 40 small-scale designers. Launching a successful clothing

line is more than just coming up with eye-catching designs.

A few months into the business, he noted that fashion designers have skills but lacked the crucial aspects of strategy and marketing, foundations of a good business. "Through the startup package, we help designers build an all-rounded business. Additionally, we help them make and sell their clothes on our platform," he adds.

This approach has seen him become the Executive Director of the Kenyan Fashion Council. "This platform will enable me to use my passion and my skills to make the industry better." Social media is the tool he uses to sell his clothes. "Most people think the brand is imported. It's refreshing to hear positive comments about the brand," he says.

The challenges he has experienced have pivoted him to build a business that relies on systems and principles instead of people, a choice that has seen the business run even in his absence since the team works towards the shared vision. Most fashion houses are named after their founders.

"The problem with this is that once the vision bearer dies, so does the business. The vision I have is bigger than me. I intend to create a lasting impact in the fashion industry. I, therefore, hire first, for vision compatibility," he says. But why the name Frederick Bittiner? It's an ode to Frederick Bittiner, an artist I feel was not celebrated enough."

INNOVATION

Japanese scientists are developing face masks that glow under UV light

JOHANNESBURG

TOKYO

A team of Japanese scientists has created a prototype for a mask filter that glows under ultraviolet light and reveals traces of the Covid-19 virus if the wearer is infected.

Scientists from the Kyoto Prefectural University say that the masks they've made contain an additional filter within its layers. When removed and sprayed with a fluorescent dye containing antibodies, the filter will glow when placed under UV light if traces of the Covid-19 virus are detected.

According to a press release from the university, the team developed this method by first injecting an inactive form of the Covid-19 virus into female ostriches. From there, they worked to extract antibodies – a protein produced by the immune system in response to bacterias and viruses – from the eggs of these female ostriches, infusing these antibodies into the fluorescent spray.

[Researchers in Japan say they have created a mask filter and antibody spray that can quickly detect COVID-19, by having traces of the COVID virus light up when the filter is held under ultraviolet light.] Researchers in Japan say they have created a mask filter and antibody spray that can quickly detect COVID-19, by having traces of the COVID virus light up when the filter is held under ultraviolet light.

Speaking to Japanese news outlet Kyodo News, researcher Yasuhiro Tsukamoto said that he conducted experiments with 32 people infected with Covid-19 over a 10-day timeframe. The researchers found that the masks worn by these 32 testers glowed brightly and showed traces of the Covid-19 virus after being sprayed with the antibody spray and held under a UV light.

Tsukamoto's team also noted that the glow faded over time as the patients recovered and their viral load decreased. Tsukamoto intends to trial the mask on 150 participants in the team's next round of testing, and hopes to get the green light from the Japanese government to sell the masks in 2022.

SUGGESTION

Developing SA's industrial cannabis industry needs to start with an Act

JOHANNESBURG

The industrial cannabis/hemp industry has immense growth potential in South Africa, and the continent as a whole, due to favourable climates, affordable land and relatively low labour costs.

However, due to the nature of the product, the prospective prosperity of the industry depends on a clear regulatory regime - the inner workings of which are still in the developmental phase. This was the perspective of André de Lange, Head of the Agriculture, Aquaculture & Fishing sector at Cliffe Dekker Hofmeyr (CDH), who recently facilitated a webinar entitled: 'A Pragmatic Approach to South Africa's Hemp Industry.'

The webinar provided a snapshot of the hemp regulatory landscape, presented by Shaad Vayej, an associate in CDH's Dispute Resolution practice, followed by an overview of the opportunities that the sector presents for the country, provided



An SA cannabis garden.

by industry stalwart and Hemporium founder, Tony Budden. Liëtte van Schalkwyk, associate in CDH's Dispute Resolution practice, concluded the webinar by extracting important learnings from the industrial cannabis industry in Lesotho.

Cannabis master plan
Vayej argued that, amongst other factors, South Africa's track record

of innovation in agriculture, relatively low blue and white-collar labour costs and increasingly transparent legal and compliance framework,

makes for a low-cost, high-quality destination for domestic and export orientated cannabis activities. However, the transformative economic potential of the industry depends greatly on the development of inte-

grated value chains with significant buy-in from existing domestic and international investors. Agro-processing businesses and secondary manufacturers are essential to this value chain - a reality taken into account in South Africa's Cannabis Master Plan.

"The Cannabis Master Plan aims to provide a broad framework for the development and growth of the South African cannabis industry in order to contribute to economic development, job creation, inclusive participation, rural development and poverty alleviation. In pragmatic terms, the State recognises that conservative estimates indicate that 25,000 jobs could be created across the various value chains," Vayej explains.

Hemp, being cannabis cultivated primarily for industrial purposes, has been declared an agricultural crop under the Plant Improvement Act 53 of 1976, a legal framework for import, export, cultivation, distribution,

sale and research of hemp and hemp propagating material in South Africa for agricultural and industrial purposes.

Consequently, the Department of Agriculture, Land Reform and Rural Development released guidelines which facilitate hemp permit applications and mandate extensive record-keeping, annual reporting, notification and compliance with activity-specific permit conditions.

As Vayej elaborates, "transparency and traceability" remain the State's key concerns, which has invariably led to a number of legislative limits placed on hemp production as well as a degree of bureaucracy - a potential pitfall faced by the local cannabis industry. What is missing from the current regulatory framework, is an over-arching Act - a legal instrument that could potentially go a long way in catalysing the development of the country's fledgling industry.

The show also served as a model for how the arts scene can engage practitioners and the public with success; it demonstrated how you can activate the past and animate the present simultaneously in order to strengthen Egypt's cultural landscape, especially since it was held in conjunction with programmes involving the local community through volunteering opportunities and public art education lectures.

The feedback was overwhelming. After the exhibition, one of the participating artists, Moataz Nasr, who has previously exhibited at major shows such as the Venice Biennale, received thousands of messages from Egyptians who had gone to see the Pyramids. After years of visiting the site with their

families, they were overjoyed to re-experience it anew. "It was incredible," said Nasr during The Art Circle's discussion. "I realised I had missed something happening here over the years."

What Nasr had missed was that desire for the public to engage with the art world. Earlier in his career, Nasr had felt unfulfilled exhibiting in his home country and left to work in more international spaces, where he had greater success. "Most of the time, I've shown my work outside of Egypt because I had this idea that people won't really understand what I'm doing," he said. "However, deep inside me, I wanted to meet and interact with my people. But at the shows here, the audience always numbered to no more than

1,000, which made interactions with the audience minimal."

Visitors were also often the same niche people from the art world. While public interest is certainly changing now, as seen with Forever Is Now, there is still much to be done in terms of infrastructure to nurture it, he said. "We're just missing a lot of things."

Multidisciplinary artist, designer and historian Bahya Shehab, who also participated in the talk on Sunday, cited the Jameel network and its work both at London's Victoria & Albert Museum and in the UAE as a helpful parallel to look up to in terms of what healthy models of a country's art ecosystem can look like, and what is currently lacking in Egypt.

Following on from Art D'Egypte's previous shows at Manial Palace, the Egyptian Museum and various other Unesco World Heritage Sites, Forever is Now's immense success - from the thousands of visits to expansive press and media coverage - revealed a hunger in Egypt to interact more with art.

all."

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POPULAR

Egypt's Forever Is Now show revealed hunger for more focus on contemporary art

CAIRO

Forever Is Now, an exhibition held recently at Egypt's Giza Pyramids, received half a million visitors in only three weeks - an "unprecedented" outcome, according to its organiser, Art D'Egypte's founder and curator Nadine Abdel Ghaffar.

Massive installations and monumental artworks by local and international artists, such as French photographer JR, were erected in and around the ancient site, with the show's star-studded opening attended by high-profile names and celebrities including Isabelle Adjani and Pharrell Williams.

Art D'Egypte, which creates exhibitions and community programming throughout the country, aims to rejuvenate historical spaces in Egypt - a country teeming with a rich and complex history - with modern and contemporary art, bridging the old and the new and making

this art as accessible as possible to the public.

The organisation's goals stem from a disconnect between the ancient art and archaeology of the country - present in public spaces that are seen more as relics than part of public life - and the large amounts of art being produced right now by emerging and established creatives. The two are not in conversation with each other enough and are also both at a distance from the Egyptian people.

"We want to revitalise historical spaces and revive heritage by merging them with contemporary art, which makes us function a bit like a social enterprise," Ghaffar said during a webinar on Sunday hosted by The Art Circle, a non-profit organisation of female international art collectors and practitioners founded in 2018 in Abu Dhabi. It was the second in a series of three talks focusing on the Middle East's arts scenes, with this



An installation titled 'Greetings From Giza' by French artist and photographer Jean Rene, better known as JR, at the ancient Giza Necropolis on October 23, 2021.

one on Egypt. The first, held over the summer, was on the UAE, and the last, on Saudi Arabia, will take place next year.

"We work on tangible spaces on-site but also the intangible through community programmes that engage with young people," Ghaffar said. "The whole idea is to democratise art and make it accessible to

all."

Following on from Art D'Egypte's previous shows at Manial Palace, the Egyptian Museum and various other Unesco World Heritage Sites, Forever is Now's immense success - from the thousands of visits to expansive press and media coverage - revealed a hunger in Egypt to interact more with art.

ENTREPRENEUR

Meet the man running the last rose water distillery in Kashmir

SRINAGAR

The old city of Srinagar houses a 400-year-old shop dedicated to the queen of flowers. Arq-i-Gulab is the only surviving rose water distillery in Indian-administered Kashmir, situated only a few metres from the Khanqah-e-Moula shrine.

The wood and brick shop is run by Abdul Aziz Kozgar, 65, who can be reached via a weather-beaten window he opens to communicate - in fluent English - with customers and passers-by. Three sides of the shop are packed with dark-coloured glass bottles and antique-looking jars of varying sizes, placed on wooden shelves with handwritten slips pasted on them.

Kozgar learnt the art of making manually distilled rose water from his forefathers who came from Turkey and settled in Kashmir. "This shop was opened by my great-grandfather in 1820 after he imported glass jars, pitchers and carafes from France, the US and parts of UK to start his business, after he himself learnt the art

from his ancestors," Kozgar tells The National. The family name translates from Persian as "users of jars."

Dressed in a traditional Kashmiri kurta pyjama, his head covered with a white skull cap, Kozgar starts to fill small, unlabelled plastic bottles from big white canes. Instantly, a soothing whiff of rose water engorges the air. "This shop, these jars remain in the same place as my ancestors positioned them. These are my treasures and gifts I have inherited," says Kozgar, who retired early from his job to carry on this legacy.

"You can see the bottles have gathered dust, they look murky, the handwritten notes have faded, but I do not want to touch them or tamper with the names. I want to keep it the way my great-grandfather, grandfather and father have kept it.

"We used to have separate rooms full of rose petals. I have grown up fascinated by the making of rose water and other syrups, and it was that fascination that pushed me to learn the process," he says. Kozgar talks about



Abdul Aziz Kozgar, owner, Arq-i-Gulab.

the time when his family were the go-to for residents of the Srinagar valley for making herbal medicines that could cure "any disease."

"I used to visit [the] Kozgars as a child," says Kashmiri historian and poet Zareef Ahmad Zareef. "Once I had a cough and my father got me Arq-i-gawzaban that cured me completely after just two doses. Habibullah Kozgar and his father

used to mix different saps extracted from ingredients like cinnamon, rose, cardamom and carom seeds in an appropriate quantity written by a hakim."

Kozgar says: "Kozgar was a common name in Kashmir, [but] we had a variety of medicinal syrups. Even a decade or so ago, when harsh winters struck Kashmir, many people caught a cold or had a sore throat, and they rushed to my grandfa-

ther who would give them syrups to cure their disease.

"But with time, hakims and unani clinics vanished due to the arrival of modern medicine and it impacted us equally. There was a time when people would throng our shop but that has faded. Slowly, we stopped making syrups and other medicines, but clung on to rose water."

Rose water has antiseptic and anti-inflammatory properties, and contains antioxidants that can help guard skin cells from damage. Rose water is also a common ingredient in South Asian cuisine, and is used in sweets such as laddoo, gulab jamun and peda, and to flavour milk, lassi, rice pudding and other dairy-based dishes. In Kashmir, it is also used in shrines and home temples to sprinkle on devotees during religious gatherings.

Originally a practitioner of traditional medicine, Kozgar joined the family business in part because of his father Habibullah's enthusiasm for his

children to carry forward the legacy. Although Kozgar wants his children to continue the tradition, too, he does not want to force them into a business that cannot guarantee a financially sound household.

Kozgar sells a litre of manually made rose water for 40 Indian rupees (\$0.55), whereas store-sold brands retail 100 millilitres for no less than 70 rupees. "The rose water I make is extracted from Koshur gulab [Kashmiri roses] sourced from various parts of the valley and from the same vendors my father bought from," says Kozhar.

"I do not know what will happen to this place, these precious jars, after me, but until I am alive, this place will live with me. My children know how to make rose water. I have taught them, I have done my part, but to carry it forward is their decision," says Kozgar, all the while looking away through the window, lest he be called upon to pass on some rose water bottles to potential customers.

EXERCISING

Meet the woman who walked 10,000 steps a day to lose 31kg

BRASILIA

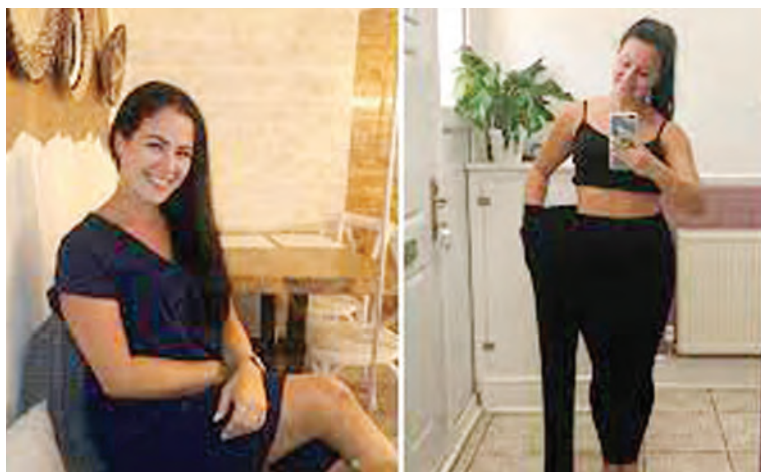
LONDON

Despite her passion and incredible talent for dancing, Amy Greaves (32) who lives in Nottingham, UK, didn't think she fit into the expected body type of a dancer or theatre performer because she had the idea that she would have to be really tall and slim to be successful.

She would use food as an emotional crutch to help her process feelings of self-doubt and low confidence but she remained active and successful in her field and went on to study 'theatre arts' at university. Amy frequently ate out or had easy-to-grab food to keep her energy levels topped up and could not say no to a sweet treat of cake or chocolate most days.

Despite this, Amy tried every fad diet to try to shift the pounds with limited success as they did not fit in with her lifestyle and were too restrictive. It wasn't until Amy gave birth to her daughter Maia (3) in April 2018 that she decided that she needed to lose weight to be a positive influence on her child and to be able to live life to the fullest with her without shying away from photo opportunities or activities because of her weight.

Weighing 15st 6lb (almost 100kg) and wearing a UK size 22, Amy decided to join Slimming World in January 2019 and hasn't looked back since. Without counting calories, a typical day of meals for Amy now consists of a healthy cooked breakfast, jacket potatoes for lunch, and delicious pasta salad or stir fry for dinner. Amy was in disbelief as the weight dropped off within the first five months whilst being able to eat delicious meals and after incorporating these meals with 10,000 steps a day, she is now a super svelte UK size 10 to 12 and weighs 10st 13lb (about 69kg).



Amy Greaves dropped an incredible seven dress sizes in just five months by walking ten thousand steps a day and not counting calories.

"From a young age, I enjoyed performing arts. I started dancing when I was fourteen and my passion led me to a career in teaching performing arts," said Amy. "At school, I never felt accepted and academically I struggled. I was diagnosed with dyslexia which lead me to believe I wasn't capable of achieving much. Physically, I could achieve most things through hard work and determination within dance and theatre, but I struggled with low self-belief and confidence."

Walking off the calories She found it difficult to fit into the body-type of a dancer or theatre performer and had the idea that to be a successful dancer she'd have to be really slim and tall. But she's now proved to herself and hopefully others that that's not the case.

"After the birth of my daughter, I realised that I wanted to be a positive role model and I wanted to be able to look back and see myself in the memories, to not hide from pictures or moments because of my weight," Amy says.

"Since having my daughter, I teach a lot less so I try to hit ten-thousand steps a day and keep my body moving. I'm more conscious of what I eat obviously and I practice mindfulness to keep my mindset healthy."

Amy says the hardest thing was believing in herself and she still struggles with emotional eating. "I'm working on recognising the thoughts that trigger this and overcoming them one step at a time," she shares.

"My confidence has grown and although this is something I'm still working on through therapy, self-development and diet, I've truly changed my own life. My closest friends tell me how happy I look and I think overall that's the most important goal for me, to feel truly happy and content within myself."



ITV

TUESDAY 7 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
8:55	Habari za saa
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Soap: Uzalo
9:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Watoto wetu rpt
10:25	Jungu Kuu rpt
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	The Base rpt
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Alya ya jamii
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Ripoti Maalum rpt
13:30	Shika Bamba rpt
13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Soap: Love to Death
14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Meza Huru
16:30	Watoto wetu
17:00	The Base
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:10	Yu wapi
18:15	Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo rpt
18:30	Uchumi na biashara
19:00	Jarida la wanawake
19:30	Soap: Uzalo
20:00	Habari
21:00	Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
21:10	Kipindi Maalum: TPRI
21:45	Chetu ni chetu
22:20	Soap: Love to Death
23:00	Habari
23:30	The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV

WEDNESDAY 8 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
8:55	Habari za saa
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Soap: Uzalo
9:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Watoto wetu rpt
10:30	Usafiri wako rpt
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	The Base rpt
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Jagina rpt
13:30	Chetu ni Chetu rpt
13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Chetu ni Chetu rpt
14:15	Igizo: Rebecca rpt
14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Meza Huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base (DJ Show)
17:30	Kisilam

18:15	Soap: Rebecca rpt
18:45	Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo
19:00	Ijue Sheria
19:30	Soap: Uzalo
20:00	Habari
21:00	Aibu Yako
21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
21:35	Ripoti Maalum
22:10	Soap: Love to Death
23:00	Habari
23:30	The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV

THURSDAY 9 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI
8:00	Al Jazeera
9:00	DWTV Journal
9:30	Soap: Uzalo
10:00	Bongo Movie: Kona rpt
12:15	Shamba lulu rpt
12:45	Ijue sheria rpt
13:15	Kipindi Maalum: TPRI rpt
13:45	Soap: Love to Death
14:30	Bongo Movie: Mama Ntilie
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Kipindi Maalum: Nyumba ni Choo rpt
18:30	Jagina
19:00	Usafiri wako
19:30	Soap: Uzalo
20:00	Habari
21:00	Malumbano ya hoja
23:00	The Base
00:00	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV

FRIDAY 10 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
8:55	Habari za saa
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Soap: Uzalo
9:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Watoto wetu rpt
10:30	Usafiri wako rpt
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	The Base rpt
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Jagina rpt
13:30	Chetu ni Chetu rpt
13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Chetu ni Chetu rpt
14:15	Igizo: Rebecca rpt
14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Meza Huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base (DJ Show)
17:30	Kisilam

18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Korean: Jumong
19:00	Shamba lulu
19:30	Soap: Uzalo
20:00	Habari
21:05	Kipima Joto
23:00	Habari
23:30	The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV

SATURDAY 11 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:00	Habari
8:00	Al Jazeera
9:00	Watoto wetu
10:00	Shika Bamba 5
11:30	Mjue Zaidi rpt
11:30	Chetu ni chetu rpt
11:50	Hawavumi lakini wamo
12:50	Korean: Jumong
13:30	Soap: Love to Death rpt
15:45	Igizo: Mizengwe
16:15	Igizo: Rebecca
17:00	Shamsham za Pwani
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:30	Kipindi Maalum: Huru Talk Show
19:00	Jungu Kuu
19:30	Shika Bamba
20:00	Habari
21:00	Igizo: Rebecca
21:30	Art and lifestyle
22:00	ITV TOP 10
22:45	Hawavumi lakini wamo
23:45	Soap: Uzalo rpt
01:15	DWTV

SUNDAY 12 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:00	Habari
8:00	Al Jazeera
09:00	Watoto Wetu
10:00	Soap: Uzalo rpt
11:35	Bongo Movie rpt
14:00	Tamasha la Michezo
15:30	Mwangaaza
16:30	ITV Top 10
17:20	Kipindi cha kikristo
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Mapishi
18:30	Matukio ya wiki
19:30	Igizo: Rebecca
20:00	Habari
21:00	Kipindi maalum: Biko
21:05	Kipindi Maalum: Reflexology
21:10	Mizengwe
21:30	Mjue Zaidi
22:15	Bongo Movie: rpt
00:00	Soap: Love to Death rpt
02:05	Al Jazeera

CAPITAL

Mon 06 Dec

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30	Tanzania Yetu rpt
17:00	Dw News Africa rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	The Décor rpt
19:30	Shamba lulu
20:00	Series: Beats of Love
20:45	The Monday Agenda
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Kipima Joto
00:00	Al Jazeera

Tues 07 Dec

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30	Capchat rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Innovation
19:30	Our Earth
20:00	Series: Beats of Love
20:45	Telenovela: Laws Of love
21:30	Capital Prime
22:00	Turning the spotlight rpt
22:30	Eco@Africa
23:00	Al Jazeera

Wed 08 Dec

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00 L	ete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00
16:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:30	Series rpt: Beats of Love
17:00	Culinary delight rpt
17:30	Innovation rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Sports Gazette
19:30	Chetu ni chetu
20:00	Series: Beats of Love
20:45	Telenovela: Laws Of love
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Dakika 45:
22:45	The Décor
23:15	Al Jazeera

Thurs 09 Dec

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
12:00	Our Earth rpt
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love
14:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30	Business edition rpt
17:00	In good shape
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Turning the spotlight
19:30	Tanzania yetu
20:00	Series: Beats of Love
20:45	Telenovela: Laws Of love 21:30
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Capchat rpt

23:00 Al Jazeera

Frid 10 Dec

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
12:00	Shamba Lulu rpt
12:30	Dw News Africa rpt
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 14:00
13:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Series rpt: Beats of Love
16:30	The Monday Agenda rpt
17:30 1	Meza huru
19:00	Rev
19:30	Eco@Africa
20:00	Albu Yako
20:15	Local Pgm: Business Edition
20:45	Telenovela Laws Of love 21:30
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Malumbano ya hoja rpt
00:00	Al Jazeera

Sat 11 Dec

08:00	Al Jazeera
09:00	Rev rpt
09:30	Turning the Spotlight rpt
10:00	Culinary delight rpt
10:30	Innovation rpt
11:00	Out n'about rpt
11:30	Sports Gazette rpt
12:00	hamba Lulu rpt
12:30	Our Earth rpt
13:00	Business edition rpt
13:30	Korean Drama rpt: Emperor of the Sea
14:30	Telenovela rpt: Laws Of love 17:15
17:45	Tanzania Yetu rpt

17:45	Bundesliga kick off
18:15	Capchat rpt
19:15	Mizengwe
19:30	The Décor
20:00	Korean Drama: Emperor of the Sea
21:00	Out n'About
21:30	Movie : Just Business (tape no:5177)
23:00	Series rpt: Beats of Love
01:00	Al Jazeera

Sun 12 Dec

08:00	Aljazeera
09:00	In good shape
10:00	Capchat rpt
11:00	Sports Gazette rpt
11:30	Korean Drama rpt: Emperor of the Sea
12:00	Jagina rpt
12:30	Bundesliga Kick Off rpt
13:00 I	n good shape rpt
13:30	Series rpt: Beats of Love
15:15	Albu yako
15:30	Rev rpt
16:00	Dakika 45 rpt
16:45	Mizengwe rpt
17:00	The Décor rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Turning the Spotlight rpt
19:30	Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights
20:00	

WORLD

Donald Trump loses appeal to block documents from Jan 6 committee

By Bloomberg

THE Biden administration can hand over some of Donald Trump's White House records to a House committee investigating the Jan 6 Capital riot, an appeals court ruled.

The US Court of Appeals in Washington said Trump had provided "no basis" for overriding President Joe Biden's decision to waive executive privilege over the documents and cooperate with the probe by a House select committee.

Trump is vowing to take the case to the Supreme Court.

"Regardless of today's decision by the appeals court, this case was always destined for the Supreme Court," Trump's spokeswoman Liz Harrington said. "President Trump's duty to defend the Constitution and the Office of the Presidency continues, and

he will keep fighting for every American and every future Administration."

Trump has 14 days to ask the Supreme Court to review the case and for an injunction from the high court barring the release of the documents during the appeal.

Trump along with some of his allies have been fighting demands for documents and testimony from the committee. Political strategist Steve Bannon faces contempt of Congress charges for defying a subpoena from the committee and on Wednesday former White House Chief of Staff Mark Meadows sued to block two subpoenas he has received.

Biden and the House reasonably concluded that access to a subset of presidential communications "is necessary to address a matter of great constitutional moment for the Republic," the unanimous three-judge



Donald Trump

panel said in Thursday's ruling.

"The events of January 6th exposed the fragility of those democratic institutions and traditions that we had perhaps come to take for granted," the panel said. Trump "has given this court no legal reason to cast aside President Biden's assessment of the Executive Branch interests at stake."

The National Archives records pertain to White House documents provided to Trump or Meadows with terms such as "rigged" election or "stealing" the election.

"Today, the courts have once again rejected the former president's campaign to obstruct Congress's investigation into the January 6th insurrection," House Speaker Nancy Pelosi said in a statement. "No one can be allowed to stand in the way of the truth - particularly not the previous president, who incited the insurrection."

The panel cited Biden's "carefully reasoned" explanation for his decision as well as "Congress's uniquely vital interest in studying the January 6th attack on itself" and safeguard its operations.

The court said it also based its ruling on "Mr. Trump's failure even to allege, let alone demonstrate, any particularized harm that would arise from disclosure."

The ruling upholds a lower court's decision denying Trump's motion for an injunction against the House committee.

The Jan 6 committee said it'll meet Dec 13 to consider a report recommending to the House of Representatives citing Meadows for criminal contempt of Congress for defying the subpoenas. Bannon is scheduled to go on trial in July.

Agencies

US should stop using democracy as pretext to manipulate politics

MACAO

THE United States should heed the voice of the international community and cease political manipulation on the pretext of democracy, Liu Xianfa, commissioner of China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs in the Macao Special Administrative Region, has said.

It is the international community's common view that the United States is, in the disguise of democracy, trying to monopolize the discourse power on democracy, pursue its geopolitical self-interests, incite confrontation and create divisions by holding the so-called "Summit for Democracy" online, Liu wrote in an article recently published by local media in Macao.

The poor record of its democracy makes the United States ineligible to hold such a summit, Liu wrote, citing political polarization, fierce party disputes, social division, worsening racial conflicts and human rights conditions, hollowing-out of democracy, as well as the notorious "of the one percent, by the one percent, for the one percent" in the United States.

Furthermore, the summit itself is "undemocratic" and "pseudo-democratic"



Liu Xianfa

because the United States empowers itself to define 110 countries and regions out of the over 200 in total around the world as democracies, and denies the forms of democratic theories and practices in other countries, Liu said.

Inviting the Taiwan authorities to attend the summit further reveals the US intention of making use of democracy to interfere in the internal affairs and infringe on the sovereignty of other countries to serve its own political agenda, Liu added.

The United States, as a major country shouldering responsibilities to the inter-

national community, has made no efforts to bridge differences and promote mutual understanding, mutual respect and integration among countries in the world.

Instead, it has tried its utmost to create cliques and blocs in the name of democracy and split the world, revived the Cold War mentality, and engaged in hegemonism, he said.

China's whole-process people's democracy is a complete institutional chain, including electoral, consultative, social, primary-level, citizen democracy, and all other elements of democratic politics,

which covers democratic elections, consultation, decision-making, management, supervision, and all other fields of the democratic process, Liu noted.

According to polls conducted by authoritative international organizations, more than 90 percent of the Chinese people are satisfied with their government in consecutive years, while only less than 50 percent of the Americans feel the same about their government, Liu said.

Furthermore, Liu said China standing for democracy in international relations is recognized by the international community. Original thoughts such as the concept of building a community with a shared future for humanity and the principle of achieving shared growth through discussion and collaboration play an important role in reaching consensus and laying a solid foundation for advancing democracy in international relations, in sharp contrast with the bullying and hegemony mindset of the United States.

Democracy is not a patent held by a certain country, but a common value of the humanity. As for which country's democracy is better or worse, only its citizens have a natural feeling and say, Liu noted.

Xinhua

CIA employees worked in Russian government in mid-1990s – Putin

NOVO-OGARYOVO

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin shed some light on the methods that foreign states used to influence the Russian Federation in mid-1990s. He underscored that he thwarted such actions in the early 2000s.

"For instance: mid-1990s-early 2000s; in the early 2000s, I've cleaned all of them out, but in mid-1990s, we had Central Intelligence Agency employees as advisors and even official employees of the government of the Russian Federation, as we learned later," Putin said at the Council for Civil Society and Human Rights meeting Thursday.

"Later, they were brought to responsibility in the US for, while being CIA employees and working in Russia, they violated the US law and took part in the privatization," the President underscored.

According to Putin, "this is only one example" of attempted

interference in Russia's internal affairs. "In reality, they are much more numerous," Putin said.

According to the head of state, "certain countries had some degree of control via this channel."

"There were American specialists sitting at our nuclear weapons complex sites, they went to work there, from morning to late night - they had a table and an American flag.

They lived there and worked there. They did not need any fine instruments to interfere in our life, because they had control over everything already," Putin said.

He underscored that "of course, the situation has changed, the country became different, it became more independent, more sovereign; its armed forces' capabilities are growing and the attitude towards Russia began to change."

"As soon as Russia started claiming its interests, started to raise its sovereignty, economy



Russian President Vladimir Putin

and armed forces' capability, new instruments of influence on our internal political life became needed, including rather fine instruments via various organizations, funded from abroad," the Russian leader believes.

He underscored that Russia has not become hostile to anyone.

"This is simply not true. Russia has not become hostile to any part of the world at all. A certain part of the world considers us

their adversaries."

Putin noted. "Did we declare anyone as our adversary in any strategic documents? No. It is us who were declared," Putin explained.

Agencies

Beer shortage is a nightmare before Christmas for Australians

By Bloomberg

FOR Australians heading into the festive season, the real nightmare before Christmas is unfolding: there's a shortage of beer.

The nation's two biggest brewers - Lion and Carlton & United Breweries - have flagged protracted delays and lower production of some of the beer-loving country's most popular brews due to supply chain problems.

That's sparked fears major retail chains might start imposing limits on booze purchases at the worst possible time, with millions of Australians only recently emerging from a series of bleak lockdowns and hoping for a summer holiday season resembling some kind of normality.

One of the key culprits is a dearth of wooden pallets, a key supply chain input used to transport stock. Sourcing them has become increasingly difficult amid a nationwide shortage, a position which has forced Lion, the maker of brands like Tooheys, James Boag and Furphy, to cut back on production and prioritize more popular products.

The company is currently trying to source alternatives, it said in an emailed statement. It later moved to reassure drinkers that there are no issues getting beer before Christmas, though some products in certain packaging might be out of stock.

Meanwhile, Carlton & United is struggling to get sufficient shipments of Corona, which it imports from Mexico. "In the lead-up to Christmas we are distributing it fairly to retailers across Australia to help limit shortages," a spokesperson said.

The dire developments are the latest in a litany of similar tales involving delays, shortages and soaring prices around the world, driven by massive demand and supply imbalances as economies reopen.

Major shipping lines have been weighed down by extraordinary bottlenecks for months on end, with lengthy disruptions pending business schedules and causing havoc in markets.

Not all is lost. With the majority of Australia's beer supplies manufactured on-shore - and therefore less impacted by chokeholds in international supply chains - drowning one's sorrows after the year that was 2021 still looks entirely possible.

Agencies



Macron welcomes Scholz as France, Germany seek common ground

PARIS

FRENCH President Emmanuel Macron welcomes new German Chancellor Olaf Scholz to Paris for an inaugural working meeting yesterday, when the two most powerful EU leaders will begin the search for common ground to tackle crises within the bloc and beyond.

Heading the agenda, French officials say, will be tensions over Ukraine and Macron's priorities for France's six-month European Union presidency, which starts on Jan 1.

Macron developed a friendly relationship with Scholz's long-time predecessor Angela Merkel, who broke with German tradition by backing unprecedented joint debt-raising efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic.

But the two leaders were also at odds over some key issues including Germany's gas imports from Russia and how to defend Europe and its relationship with other big competitors.

Other EU countries have also worked to forge mini-alliances - such as the Frugal Four of fiscally conservative western nations or the Visegrad four in eastern Europe - in part to redress perceived imbalances stemming from Franco-German coordination efforts.

"It's good when we have a Franco-German couple that gets on well... but it's never enough," Marion Gaillard, an expert on French-German relations at political studies institute Sciences-Po in Paris said.

French diplomats appear optimistic over the outlook for ties with Germany under Scholz, citing the "strategic sovereignty" in the coalition deal that took him to power that they say echoes Macron's push for European "strategic autonomy".

Agencies



GREEN and low-carbon development philosophy is a guiding principle for the regeneration of old residential communities in Liangxi district, Wuxi of east China's Jiangsu province, a national-level pilot area for urban renewal projects.

Multiple measures have been taken in the district to give it a facelift. Nowadays, modern buildings are erected by the sides of clean streets, and the water quality in the Wuxi section of the Grand Canal, a 2,500-year-old water course linking north and south China, has also been largely improved. As a result, the sense of happi-

District in E China advances urban renewal with green, low-carbon philosophy

ness of local residents has been greatly enhanced.

"Now the district is a great place to live and work in, and we enjoy the dividends of green development everyday here," said Li Nan, who once moved to suburban areas for better environment and recently moved back.

Besides, the district is also vigorously developing low-carbon industries and modern services. New business forms are prospering there, including cross-border e-commerce, headquarters economy, digital economy

and the integrated sector of culture and tourism.

While advancing urban renewal, local authorities gave red lights to high-energy consuming and high-emission traditional industries, such as paint making, electroplating and chemical engineering, to make room for green and low-carbon businesses.

"With the goal to peak carbon emission and achieve carbon neutrality, and based on the environmental capacity of old residential communities, we

have strictly controlled the total emissions of pollutants and developed producer services in a targeted manner to promote high-quality and low-carbon development of industries," said Wang Shu, deputy head of Liangxi's ecology and environment bureau.

Liangxi's green development is inseparable from a science-based structure and intelligence management. By building a demonstration area for industry-city integration, the district has com-

bined together its work and commercial areas, and placed residential communities around work areas, which has made the city more compact and significantly shortened the commuting distance of the citizens, and thus alleviating traffic jams and reducing air pollution. In addition, the district is also employing 5G technology and advanced devices to monitor sewage discharge in 150 local rivers.

Liangxi district has made sound achievements in pollu-

tion control and emission reduction through circular economy.

Yangming neighborhood of the district houses a large number of enterprises. It has built a big data storage center on a piece of land where a polluting enterprise was once operating. The storage center discharges no pollutant, but as a facility that needs massive water cooling, it consumes an immense amount of electricity.

"We negotiated with a sewage disposal plant and decided to cool the storage center with low-

temperature reclaimed water discharged by the plant.

The high-temperature water discharged by the plant is used for temperature control of the center via water source heat pumps. In this way, energy is saved and emissions reduced," said Wang Chao, deputy director of the sub-district office of Yangming neighborhood.

According to statistics, the concentration of PM2.5 in Liangxi district has been lowered to 27.8 micrograms per cubic meter from 45 micrograms per cubic meter three years ago, a drop of 38.2 percent.

People's Daily

We will destroy ADF rebels once and for all, warns Ugandan commander

MUKAKATI

AT the front-line against armed forces in northeastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Major General Kayanja Muhanga of the Ugandan army (UPDF), has stated his determination to destroy "once and for all" the rebels of the Allied Democratic Forces (ADF), a nightmare for the African Great Lakes region.

It is from Mukakati, a temporary base where the Ugandan army has settled in the middle of the forest in DRC's Beni territory, long troubled by armed attacks, that the Ugandan officer elaborated in an exclusive interview with Xinhua.

Since November 30, Ugandan forces have officially launched, in collaboration with their Congolese counterparts (FARDC), air and artillery operations against several positions of the notorious ADF rebels in DRC, a nightmare shared by Kinshasa and Kampala, which accuses the ADF rebels of being behind recent terrorist attacks in the Ugandan capital.

A few hours after the launch of the joint military operations, the Ugandan army immediately deployed troops and military equipment that crossed the border from Nobili, in DRC's North Kivu province.

At least 1,700 Ugandan soldiers have already arrived on the Congolese soil since the beginning of the operations, accompanied by about 100 vehicles of the troop transports, battle tanks, armored vehicles and others, according to the Congolese and Ugandan au-

thorities.

RESTORING PEACE THE PRIORITY

For the major general, also the Ugandan commander leading these operations in DRC, it is time to hunt down the rebels until the total restoration of peace.

"After the official launch of operations by airstrikes, we are currently in the phase of deploying our ground troops to continue operations and pursue the enemy everywhere through its hiding places in areas that have been under threat for decades," Muhanga said.

Without specifying a deadline set for this operation, the Ugandan officer however clarified the mission's priority of "eradicating the ADF rebels to allow the return of a lasting peace and commercial activities" in the northeastern part of the DRC.

Referring to the memorandum signed by the two armies that guides the objective of these ongoing operations, he promised that the two armies will do their best within the framework of this memorandum to end the sufferings of their peoples from the violence inflicted by the ADF rebels.

NO HIDDEN AGENDA

Responding to the question raised by some organizations against the deployment of Ugandan armed forces in the DRC, Major General Muhanga reassured that his country has no hidden agenda behind these operations which simply consist of hunting down and eradicating the ADF



Major General Kayanja Muhanga of the Ugandan army (UPDF) is seen in an exclusive interview with Xinhua in Beni territory, northeastern Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), on Dec. 8, 2021. Xinhua

rebels. "I do not bring with me machines that consist in exploiting any wealth of the DRC.

Our presence on the Congolese soil justifies operations against the rebels in order to bring peace between our countries. We are not interested in the exploitation of minerals or any trade.

It is clear," he insisted. Some poisoning campaigns undertaken by certain personalities and organizations simply aim at diverting

the attention and support of the population of two countries, especially that of the DRC on the ongoing operations, he said.

"We have only brought our souls, and we are focused on the complete destruction of the ADF rebels. No one is going to distract us from that main objective. And in order to succeed, we need everyone during this operation," Muhanga added.

POSSIBLE COLLABORATION

WITH U.N.

In a press conference held on December 1, the spokesman of the UN Mission in the DRC (MONUSCO) Mathias Gillmann expressed the "respect" of the UN mission for the joint military operations between Kinshasa and Kampala.

"Our mandate allows us to support the Congolese army in its operations. Our mandate does not allow us to support a regional coalition.

But that doesn't mean we can't do anything. It simply means that our efforts must be coordinated," he noted.

Responding to the joint operations by the two countries, head of the MONUSCO Bintou Keita asked on December 6 in New York Kinshasa and Kampala to define a "common strategy as part of ongoing operations to ensure the security of the civilian population", still without stating a roadmap on possible participation in the Kinshasa-Kampala joint operation.

Regarding possible collaboration with MONUSCO elements deployed in northeastern DRC, the Uganda Commander stressed that he has no particular problems with MONUSCO, which has already been conducting operations in collaboration with the DRC for several years.

"We have a memorandum signed between us two countries (Uganda and the DRC) to conduct the joint military operations. But if there is ever any support from the UN, then it does not give us any particular problem," he said.

Xinhua



Russia not against US joining Normandy Four, unclear what it can bring - diplomat

MOSCOW

RUSSIA is not opposed to US joining the Normandy Four format, but it does not quite understand what Washington may bring to it, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Ryabkov told journalists on Thursday.

"First, we are not opposed to [the US joining the Normandy Four format]. Second, it is not us who have doubts about it. Third, we don't quite understand what the Americans can bring to this format," he said.

Ryabkov (pictured) expressed his doubts about the degree of US' potential involvement in the containment of Kiev and in demanding that the Ukrainian authorities fulfill the Minsk Agreements, should Washington join the format.

Earlier, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Alexander Grushko said that Russia does not discuss the US' accession to the Normandy Format with Germany and France.

Agencies

New-generation extravehicular spacesuits demonstrate China's advances in aerospace technology

By Yu Jianbin

DRESSED in China's new-generation extravehicular mobility units (EMUs), Chinese astronauts Zhai Zhigang and Wang Yaping, both on the country's Shenzhou-13 spaceflight mission, lately stepped out of the Tianhe core module of the Tiangong space station of China for extravehicular activities (EVAs).

Wang Yaping, who completed her first spacewalk in the new-generation homemade spacesuit named "Feitian", became China's first female astronaut to conduct EVAs and attracted wide attention.

Conducting EVAs is an essential part of astronauts' work in space, as the maintenance and upgrading of space station depends highly on astronauts' EVAs.

Extravehicular spacesuits, which weigh as much as over 100 kilograms, are undoubtedly "protective armor" for astronauts. They can guarantee astronauts' safety and enable them to complete EVAs smoothly.

The environment of outer space is very complex. Harsh environmental factors such as vacuum, high and low temperatures, solar radiation and micro-meteors pose huge risks to astronauts.

While conducting EVAs, astronauts are faced with a space environment with an orbital altitude of 300 to 450 kilometers, temperature variations between 120 and minus 120 degrees Celsius every ninety minutes, as well as space debris and radiation.

To ensure that astronauts can maintain normal life activities and work outside the spacecraft in such an environment, the specially-designed extravehicular spacesuits have to provide safe and effective protection from the environment as well as environmental control and life support in confined space, functioning as a human-shaped spaceship.



Dressed in China's new-generation Extravehicular Mobility Units (EMUs), Chinese astronauts Zhai Zhigang and Wang Yaping, both on the country's Shenzhou-13 spaceflight mission, step out of the Tianhe core module of the Tiangong space station of China for extravehicular activities (EVAs), Nov. 7, 2021.

Materials and techniques for making EMUs must reach unimaginably high standards as they need to withstand the brutal environment of the outer space while guaranteeing that astronauts can perform extravehicular operations flexibly.

On Sept. 27, 2008, Zhai completed his first EVA wearing the first generation of China's self-developed Feitian extravehicular spacesuits, which symbolized that China became the third country in the world to independently master the technologies for EVAs.

The second generation of Feitian extravehicular spacesuits, the ones Zhai and Wang wore for the Shenzhou-13 mission, has been upgraded according to the needs of astronauts' EVAs in the construction stage of the country's space station.

Compared with the first version, the new-generation extravehicular spacesuits have new structure, longer service life and greater comfortability, thus becoming safer, more durable and reliable and showing stronger flexibility, testability and maintainability.

China's continuously increasing capabilities in the research and development (R&D) of EMUs serve as vivid demonstrations of the country's firm steps in advancing its aerospace cause.

As the "lifejackets" of astronauts, the valuable extravehicular spacesuits require complex and precise techniques as well as meticulous R&D and making.

At present, spacesuits are carefully stitched by hand, whether in China and in other countries. It takes over 130 hours to finish the upper limb restraint layer of an intravehicular spacesuit, more than 260 hours to make the

lower extremity restraint layer of an EMU, and nearly four months to assemble an extravehicular spacesuit.

The dimensional tolerance during the sewing process cannot exceed one millimeter, and even a single particle of dust may cause a catastrophe, which demands both craft and patience of spacesuit researchers.

Thanks to its aerospace R&D team that can always surmount difficulties and make breakthroughs, China's self-developed EMUs have been continuously improved to guarantee astronauts' safety in their exploration of the outer space.

From the Change lunar missions to China's first Mars mission, from Chinese astronauts' entering the country's own space station for the first time to the launch of the country's first solar exploration satellite Xihe, China's steadier and bigger strides in exploring further into space have mirrored the country's continuous advances in aerospace technology. It is believed that the Chinese people will achieve even greater results in space exploration in the future.

People's Daily

Chinese envoy calls for efforts to help Africa tackle terrorism, climate change

UNITED NATIONS

A CHINESE envoy on Thursday called for efforts to help Africa tackle terrorism and climate change.

In recent years, terrorism has presented major threats to Africa, in particular, the Sahel, said Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the United Nations.

Facing the challenges, the G5 Sahel (Burkina Faso, Chad, Mali, Mauritania, and Niger) have united to enhance capacity and deepen counter-terrorism cooperation, playing an important role in maintaining regional security. China appreciates such efforts, he told an open debate of the Security Council on security in the context of terrorism and climate change.

"China endorses the continued joint counter-terrorism operations by Niger and countries in the region, supports sustainable and predictable funding to the G5 Sahel Joint Military Force and calls on the international community to provide more help in logistics and capacity building," he said.

In the long term, the military approach alone is not sufficient to eliminate the security threats in the Sahel. Efforts need to be made to address the roots causes of conflict. The international community should help African countries address the multiple difficulties such as economic woes, food insecurity and tribal tensions, eliminate the breeding ground of terrorism, continue to support regional countries in enhancing security capacity-building, provide protection to the grassroots population and ensure that civilian facilities such as schools and hospitals are protected in conflicts, said Zhang.

The United Nations can make use of its own advantages to help countries concerned protect the rights and interests of women, children, and the vulnerable so that they can fully enjoy the development fruits and so that the impact of extremist thoughts can be cut off, he said.

Climate change presents a grave challenge to the sustainable development of Africa. Like other developing countries, Africa lacks funding, technology and capabilities the most, he said.

China supports even stronger attention and



Zhang Jun, China's permanent representative to the United Nations

support to Africa's response to climate change, he said. "We call on developed countries to effectively fulfill their historical responsibilities and honor their commitments on climate financing, technology transfer, and capacity-building so that commitments will be turned into practical actions."

Climate change has inflicted a serious impact on the countries in the Sahel and complicated solutions to the conflicts in the region. China calls on the Security Council to take a situation-based approach in its in-depth analysis of the impact of climate change on the Sahel so as to have an accurate understanding and examine practical and viable solutions, said Zhang.

China has always been a staunch supporter, constructive participant, and active contributor to the cause of peace and security in Africa. In terms of support to Africa, China has always been in action. China will continue to make contributions to peace and development Africa with practical actions, he said. Xinhua

Agencies

COVID-19: WHO warns against renewed vaccine hoarding

GENEVA

THE World Health Organization warned wealthy countries on Thursday against hoarding COVID-19 vaccines for booster shots as they try to fight off the new Omicron variant, threatening supplies to poorer countries where inoculation rates are low.

Many Western nations have been rolling out boosters, targeting the elderly and people with underlying health issues, but worries about the fast-spreading Omicron have prompted some to expand their pro-

grams.

The WHO recommended boosters instead for those with health issues, or those who have received an inactivated shot.

The jury is still out on how effective current vaccines are against Omicron. They have so far proved hugely successful in slowing the spread of the coronavirus and the severity of illness, and low rates of inoculation pose the risk of more dangerous and more vaccine-resistant variants emerging.

"As we head into whatever the

Omicron situation is going to be, there is risk that the global supply is again going to revert to high-income countries hoarding vaccine," the WHO's vaccine director, Kate O'Brien, told a briefing.

"...It's not going to work. It's not going to work from an epidemiologic perspective and it's not going to work from a transmission perspective unless we actually have vaccine going to all countries."

Mike Ryan, WHO emergencies director, said Omicron appeared to be "fitter and faster" but it was not in-

vincible. "We don't fully understand the implications clinically or the implications for our vaccines. ... What we do in the coming days and weeks, both in terms of virus suppression, vaccination and equity will make a huge difference to the evolution of this pandemic in 2022," he said.

Omicron was first detected in southern Africa and Hong Kong and Africa accounts for 46 percent of reported cases globally, Richard Mihigo, coordinator of the WHO's Immunisation and Vaccine Development Programme for Africa, told an

online briefing.

Early hospital data from South Africa shows fewer than a third of patients admitted during the latest wave linked to Omicron were suffering severe illness, compared with two thirds in early stages of the last two waves. Just 7.5 percent of more than one billion people in Africa have had primary vaccine shots.

O'Brien's warning came as supplies to the global COVAX vaccine-sharing program run by the WHO and charity GAVI have increased in the past few months due to donations from

wealthy countries and after India eased limits on exports of vaccines. She said a major problem for COVAX had been wealthy countries donating vaccines with a relatively short shelf life.

The WHO has said in recent months that administering primary doses should be a priority and its vaccine advisory panel recommended on Thursday that people who are immunocompromised or received an inactivated vaccine should receive a booster.

Agencies



Simba SC players participate in training in Dar es Salaam to shape up for this season's CAF Champions League's first preliminary round game against Jwaneng Galaxy FC of Botswana, which took place in the city on October 17. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

Simba SC questions GSM Group's sponsorship for NBC Premier League

By Correspondent Nassir NchiCHIMBI

SIMBA SC leadership has planned to boycott wearing jerseys with the logo of the Premier League co-sponsor, GSM Group, alleging the lack of transparency in the contract between the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) and the company, which was signed last month.

The club's decision comes following a statement from its management in an official letter to the Tanzania Premier League Board (TPLB) stating that the outfit could not comply with the contract's agreement on the use of the GSM Group logo starting with the league game against Yanga at the Benjamin Mkapa Stadium today.

In the letter addressed to TPLB Chief Executive Officer, Almas Kasongo, Simba SC revealed it needed clarification on several issues in the contract before accepting the league board's order to put the GSM Group's logo on their jerseys.

Among Simba SC's main arguments is that GSM Group's sponsorship for the league casts doubt on inequality as there is a conflict of interest between the company and Yanga. The GSM Group sponsors Yanga.

One of the company's main goals is to ensure Yanga lifts this season's NBC Premier League trophy.

The TFF secrecy in informing outfits about the signing ceremony of the agreement that witnessed several Yanga officials attending.

Apart from that, Simba SC also wants clarification on how the agreement will not affect other clubs considering the vice-chairman of Yanga Registration Committee, Hersi Said, has also been representing GSM Group in various activities.

Said has further been accompanying club officials, Simba is concerned that Yanga is the one sponsoring TPLB under the sponsorship umbrella.

The statement revealed: "We believe that Yanga will have an unequal advantage in TPLB outside their relationship with GSM Group as a sponsor unlike Simba SC and other teams."

"We would like to remind TFF and TPLB that Premier League regulations prohibit clubs from contacting a sponsor without TFF approval."

"In this, Simba SC and other clubs will not be able to contact GSM Group. However, despite the obstacle, Yanga communicates directly with the GSM Group."

No one knows to what extent this will affect equity in TPLB progress.

Rule 16 (II.1) of the 2021 Premier League reads: "It is not permissible for the club/referee/player to make direct contact with the league sponsor without the permission of the TFF on matters about the sponsorship agreement."

"Anyone who violates it will be sentenced to between three and twelve months or a fine of five hundred thousand shillings," Simba SC's letter quoted league rule.

According to the letter, Simba SC is concerned that Yanga has a chance to break the rules under the auspices of the GSM Group's sponsorship, which will remove inequality for other clubs as opposed to FIFA's equality concept.

Despite TPLB being the body that represents the interests of the club, the situation has been different as the TFF has been the one signing the league sponsorship agreements with the football clubs not only being involved in negotiations but also not understanding the terms of those agreements.

However, immediately after the signing of the agreement last month, TFF issued a warning to football stakeholders and clubs not to comment or question the deal.

"We would like to emphasize that the two-year contract is between TFF and GSM Group. So no club or person can explain the agreement other than the parties involved."

"TFF will not hesitate to take action against clubs that are trying to clarify or explain the agreement when the parties are TFF and GSM Group," the TFF statement said.

KMC FC secretary-general Walter Harisson said they have received a letter from the GSM Group's Board of Trustees and are reviewing the terms of the agreement and will discuss it.

And Biashara United Chairman Seleman Mataso said all the side wanted was more money.

Heritier Makambo ought to prove his worth in second spell at Yanga

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA forward, Heritier Makambo, is seemingly finding it difficult to make his presence felt at the side. Life must be difficult for him.

The only thing a domestic soccer supporter can praise him for is his ability to keep quiet and not complain about what is happening in the outfit. He has not yet complained to the press.

He left Yanga as a hero three years ago and sealed a move to Guinea football giants AC Horoya.

He has returned to Yanga as a hero. Yet his star fades.

I do not think it is because of his issue. Yanga's head coach Mohamed Nabi preference has probably brought about the issue.

The situation started when Yanga was on the market looking for two competent foreign strikers after the failures of Michael Sarpong and Fiston Abdoulrazak.

Coach Nabi did not want Makambo and did not know him.

Nabi's mind was on another Congolese international striker, Jean-Marc Makusu. Nabi was forcing Yanga leaders to take Makusu, not Makambo.

Nabi was shown Makambo videos and how he did great things for Yanga but the Tunisian coach refused to recommend the footballer.

Yanga officials also refused to take Makusu because the former AS Vita and Orlando Pirates star had not played football for the entire season.

Yanga officials, despite accepting Makambo, were under pressure from the club's fans



Yanga forward, Heritier Makambo.

and members to bring Makambo back.

Fiston Mayele was the player both officials and coach had sought to rope in. Yanga bosses wanted Mayele and Nabi also wanted the attacker.

Life became easier for Mayele from his first day in Yanga.

In Nabi's mind, I think Mayele does not have a rival for his position.

Had the tactician found Makusu I think there would have been a lot of competition between Makusu and Mayele but, in the current situation, life has been difficult for Makambo.

Unfortunately, Mayele scores goals regularly. It is a good thing for the team but it becomes bad for Makambo.

First of all Yanga fans and members find themselves forgetting Makambo who is restricted to the bench.

Sometimes local football fans are the catalyst for a change of squad.

Simba SC's fans for example recently pushed for the team's midfielder, Ibrahim Ajibu, to be brought back to the field in the match against Namungo FC.

This was due to the team not having balance.

But as it stands now, Yanga fans cannot put pressure on Makambo to step

up his performance when the team wins and Mayele scores.

As a result, if you add up all the minutes that Makambo has played since the start of the league, the attacker has not taken the pitch for 120 minutes.

This is another problem for Nabi. It is obvious that Mayele has been doing well but the tactician still gives Makambo a few minutes.

As a result, Makambo's quality continues to decline even in the minutes he enters the pitch.

The striker completely fails to prove his worth in the few minutes he is on the pitch because they are not enough.

Simba SC has a different situation. The squad's attacker John Bocco would get a chance to feature in starting lineup, then fellow attacker Meddie Kagere is brought in after 70 minutes.

In the following match, Kagere might start Kagere and then Chris Mugalulu takes the pitch in the 70th minute.

There is a good rotation that gives all strikers a chance to be fit as the season progresses.

When Nabi fails to efficiently rotate his forwards, he creates a huge gap between Mayele and Makambo.

Worse, there is also a huge gap between Mayele and the team's third striker, Yusuf Athuman, who also has a few minutes on the pitch.

Mayele and Makambo are players with different

characteristics on the field although they are both good at scoring goals.

I think what misses Nabi from Mayele is his ability to get more involved in the match let alone scoring.

A good example is a goal he scored in a top-flight match against Mbeya Kwanza FC.

The movement, which helped Yanga post the goal, started with him before he returned the ball to Said Ntibanzokiza who passed it to Feisal Salum and the midfielder executed an assist to Mayele who scored.

However, despite Mayele's quality, Makambo deserves a chance to play many minutes on the field because Yanga lately creates a lot of opportunities on the field.

If Makambo was able to score a lot of goals thanks to his good cohesion with midfielder Ajibu in the attacker's early spell at the squad, will fail to do so now at the moment the player is surrounded by many gifted midfielders?

In his second stint, the forward has two goals which he has scored in friendly matches.

If Nabi continues to trust him and give him more minutes he may be more fit and perform well later unlike now as there is a huge gap between him and Mayele.

The worst thing that could happen to Makambo at the moment is if Yanga decides to go to the market and buy a new striker in the mini transfer window next month.

Yanga members, fans participate in blood donation

By Correspondent James Kandoyo

YANGA members and fans have come out in large numbers to donate blood to needy people at the Muhimbili Orthopedic Institute (MOI) in Dar es Salaam mid-week and donate more than 100 bottles.

The MOI Medical Director, Samuel Swai, commended Yanga leadership for continuing to support the institute via taking part in the blood donation exercise and donating the outfit's jerseys to each participant.

"They have been supporting the blood donation exercise via seeing to it that their fans come in large numbers and this is the fourth time," Swai added.

Swai noted that the blood donation was specially designed to save the lives of accident victims treated at the hospital.

"We thank the GSM Group and Yanga followers for supporting us in this exercise."

"The exercise went well and they have donated a lot of blood, the institution collected more than 100 bottles."

GSM Group Investment Director, Hersi Said, who also took part in the exercise, said that apart from involvement in football, they are giving back to the community, including conducting blood donation activities.

"It's a pleasure for our country to celebrate 60 years and also towards NBC Premier

League fixture pitting Yanga against Simba SC, we have done this exercise to help the needy community."

Hersi added that the blood donation exercise has been done by Yanga followers who have also been able to get their club's jerseys.

Yanga Chief Executive Officer, Senzo Mazingiza, who also attended the event, handed over the outfit's jerseys to enthusiasts who turned up for the exercise.

The MOI Information Officer, Patrick Mvungi, thanked the various people who came forward to donate blood, stating the gesture has been giving them comfort.

The official pointed out the MOI needs more blood donations.

"Until the exercise ends in the evening we were able to receive more than 100 bottles of blood."

"MOI receives many people including the injured. There are also blood donors for every major surgery practice in our units within the MOI."

"Other stakeholders are also heavily involved in donating blood to save lives."

Yanga is to take on age-old rivals Simba SC in the NBC Premier League clash at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam today.

Tanzania wins nine gold medals at CANA Zone 3 tournament

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

NINE Tanzanian swimmers have impressively begun their participation in the third African Swimming Confederation (CANA) Zone 3 tournament which started this week at the Kampala International School swimming pool in Uganda.

The swimmers won nine gold medals on the first day of the competition.

Romeo Mwaipasi won a gold medal in the 800m Freestyle event recording 10.05.65 for U-14 swimmers and also won a gold medal in 100m Backstroke.

Other gold medalists are Collins Saliboko in the 800m Freestyle for swimmers over the age of 15.

The swimmer also won gold in the 100m Backstroke, Natalia Latha won the same medal on the girls' side while Austin Okore won the medal in the 50m



Swimmers compete in this year's National Swimming Club Championship, which took place at the Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club recently. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

and 100m Backstroke. Filbertha emerged as the top 100m Backstroke, a medal similar to the one Ria Save won for competitors of different ages.

Ria took another silver medal for girls in the 800m Freestyle using 11.04.84 and Natalia took in the 800m

Freestyle while Lina Goyayi took the same medal in the 100m Backstroke. Delbert Parth Ipilinga and Jayesh Motichand took bronze medals in the 800m Freestyle.

The Tanzania Swimming Association Secretary-General, Inviolatha Itatiro, said they have a chance to win

more medals due to the team they have in the competition, the preparations they have made, and the morale.

"We have a competitive squad and our players will participate in different styles, so we expect to get more medals for our swimmers in the coming days," Inviolatha said.

The tournament, which involves the six nations of Zone 3, is one of the preparations for the Tanzanian team for the World Championships slated for December 16-22 in Abu Dhabi, UAE.

Ria and Collins are among the four Tanzanian swimmers to compete in the World Championships, the others are Hilal Hilal and Eunike Fugo.

Gerrard returns to Liverpool as Covid stalks Premier League

LONDON

STEVEN Gerrard will be determined to give Liverpool a bloody nose on an emotional return to Anfield with Aston Villa on Saturday as the coronavirus once more casts a shadow over the Premier League.

Former Liverpool midfielder Gerrard has won three of his four league matches since taking over from Dean Smith at Villa Park but faces a tough task against Jurgen Klopp's free-scoring team.

Dethroned leaders Chelsea will be desperate to get back on track against Leeds this weekend, while Newcastle start a tough run of games that could make or break their season.

AFP Sport takes a look at some of the talking points ahead of the action.

Gerrard factor

Steven Gerrard is widely expected to return to Liverpool as manager one day after a stellar playing career at Anfield, but he has been at pains to say he does not regard the Villa job as a mere stepping stone.

The 41-year-old left Scottish champions Rangers last month to pit his wits as a manager in the Premier League and has had an immediate impact.

Wins over Brighton, Crystal Palace and Leicester have lifted Villa to 10th place, with the only blot on his copybook being a narrow 2-1 defeat to leaders Manchester City.

He knows that although he is likely to receive a warm welcome at Liverpool, the goodwill will end when the home side kick off in search of their fifth straight league win.

Gerrard, who won the Champions League, two FA Cups, three League Cups and the UEFA Cup at Anfield, promised he would not get caught up in the occasion.

"I certainly won't make it about me," he said. "If other people do I can't control that. It's about us going there full of confidence and belief that we can go and take something from the game."

Leaky Chelsea

Chelsea went into last weekend's game against West Ham, which ended in a 3-2 defeat, with the proud record of just six goals conceded in 14 Premier League matches but they have now sprung a leak.

The 3-3 Champions League draw against Zenit Saint Petersburg on Wednesday meant a Thomas Tuchel side had conceded three or more goals in consecutive games for the first time since April 2019, when he was manager of Paris Saint-Germain.

The German knows Chelsea must recover their defensive solidity as the bedrock of a title challenge because they do not boast the attacking resources of Manchester City or Liverpool.

Forwards Romelu Lukaku and Timo Werner are now level with defender Reece James and attacking midfielder Mason Mount at the top of Chelsea's goalscoring charts, but tellingly they have just five goals apiece in all competitions.

AFP

Barcelona can't cope with Europe's best - Muller

MUNICH

BAYERN Munich's Thomas Muller said Barcelona can't cope with the intensity of Europe's top sides after the five-time Champions League winners crashed out of the group stages following a 3-0 defeat at the Allianz Arena.

Muller opened the scoring, with Leroy Sane and Jamal Musiala also on target, to condemn Barca to a place in the Europa League in the New Year.

It's the first time since 2003-04 that the Catalan club will not be in the knockout stages of the Champions League.

"We really tried to get the intensity into the game because I think we're really massively different to Barcelona, at least in their current state, because of that intensity," Muller told UEFA.com.

"I don't think they can cope with that intensity. Technically they have it all and they have some really good players, there's no question about that, but we can deliver this intensity both in possession and out of possession. I don't think they can cope with the intensity in top-level football."

Barca beat Bayern in the semifinal when they clinched their fourth Champions League trophy in nine years in 2015 but a steady decline, underpinned by a financial crisis, has set in since then.

Bayern, meanwhile, have become Barca's bogey team, beating them 8-2 in the quarterfinal in 2020 and 3-0 in both group stage meetings this season.

"I think the difference was certainly very clear, especially in the second half," Muller said. "We should have scored more goals, but we're happy. Barcelona are still a big name in the football world, so to beat them 3-0 twice -- in Barcelona and again at home -- is still satisfying."

Barca coach Xavi, who was taking charge of just his fifth game since replacing Ronald Koeman, said the loss exposed the "harsh reality" facing his side.

(Agencies)

Gerrard's Liverpool return starts audition to replace Klopp

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

NO matter what he does as Aston Villa manager, Steven Gerrard's post-playing career will ultimately be defined by whether his path takes him back to Liverpool. Football loves the story of a returning hero and there are none bigger than Gerrard when it comes to going back to the club he graced for 15+ years, but it is a nostalgia trap that will always threaten to catch him out.

Saturday sees Gerrard's first competitive action at Anfield since playing his final game for the club in May 2015 and he returns having already made his mark in management by winning the Scottish Premiership title with Rangers last season. Many legendary players go into management shouldering huge expectations because of their feats on the pitch, but few are able to live up to the hype; Gerrard, though, has already proved his credentials as



Steven Gerrard

a winning coach, and it is why Villa recruited him last month to replace the sacked Dean Smith.

This weekend will be regarded by many as a precursor to the day Gerrard occupies the home dugout and lives out the fairy tale of being the local boy, who became arguably the club's greatest player before repeating his heroics as manager. It has happened before at Liverpool: Kenny Dalglish,

Gerrard's biggest rival for the title of Anfield's best, went from player to manager and guided the club to three league titles and two FA Cups in his first spell as manager. So if Dalglish could do it, why not Gerrard?

In terms of his preparation for a successful career in management, Gerrard has readied himself better than most. He managed Liverpool's under-18 team for 18 months, learning the

ropes as part of Jurgen Klopp's coaching set-up, then moved to Rangers at the same time as completing his UEFA Pro Licence, the key qualification to enable him to manage at the top level.

And his three years at Ibrox taught him about management at the sharp end, at a huge club that demands success, which he delivered by stopping Celtic attempts to win a 10th straight Scottish title. So Gerrard has taken the step up to the Premier League at Villa having given himself a solid grounding in coaching.

But what happens next is possibly the biggest question of his career. Klopp's contract at Liverpool runs out at the end of the 2023-24 season and, given he said in August 2020 that he would "take a year off and ask myself if I miss football," the prospect of a managerial vacancy in two-and-a-half years is real. If Gerrard does well at Villa, the clamour for him to succeed Klopp will become unavoidable.

But is that fair on him

or the team he manages? Villa are too big a club -- European champions in 1982 and seven-time English champions -- to be a steppingstone and Gerrard must prove himself in the Premier League without the constant judgement of whether he is capable of succeeding Klopp.

Liverpool's owners may take emotion out of the decision and opt for a coach with Champions League pedigree as the only way to go for a club defined by its success in European football, but while Gerrard is in management it will always be a case of when -- not if -- he makes a return at Anfield. It will be the topic of conversation between fans and pundits alike before, during and after this weekend's game.

Few have succeeded in management at the club where they became legends as players. Zinedine Zidane won three Champions League trophies as Real Madrid coach, while Johan Cruyff and Pep Guardiola became icons at Barcelona. Yet even Cruyff was sacked at Camp Nou, despite

winning the club's first European Cup.

Alan Shearer and Kevin Keegan (Newcastle United), Glenn Hoddle (Tottenham Hotspur) and Frank Lampard (Chelsea) were held in the same kind of esteem as Gerrard, but failed to deliver success as managers at their old team, while Ole Gunnar Solskjaer at Manchester United is the most recent example of falling short as manager at the place he made his name.

Even Dalglish, in his second spell as Liverpool, was sacked when things turned sour, so the sentiment that can drive the appointment has long evaporated by the time the ax has to fall.

Gerrard may prove to be different. If he succeeds at Villa and becomes the obvious candidate to replace Klopp, he could be Liverpool's Zidane or Guardiola rather than their Solskjaer or Shearer. One thing for certain is that talk of him managing Liverpool will not go away, whether he likes it or not.

Champions League breakout XI: Nkunku, Nunez and more

ESPN

THE Champions League is a competition that defines careers. A few good performances on the biggest club stage in Europe can enhance a player's reputation, get them a new contract, or even attract a host of scouts from opposing teams.

Over the years we have been blessed to see the likes of Lionel Messi, Cristiano Ronaldo and Kylian Mbappe blossom. But every new season in the Champions League brings new players who are able to increase their levels of performance.

With the memories of April's failed attempt by 12 clubs to form a breakaway European Super League still fresh, the 2021-22 Champions League group stage is proof that you don't need to mess with the competition.

So here are 11 players who have made the step up to shine this season. Some of them are already well established at their current clubs, but their contributions in Europe have taken them to another level.

*Goalkeeper: Georgios Athanasiadis, 28, Sheriff Tiraspol

Sheriff's incredible 2-1 win over Real Madrid at the Bernabeu in the Champions League group stage would certainly not have happened without a string of magnificent saves from the Greek goalkeeper, and the one which denied Luka Modric from close range late in the second half was especially outstanding.

A loan signing from AEK Athens this summer, Athanasiadis faced an incredible 28 shots in the Spanish capital, of which 11 were on target, and did brilliantly to keep Madrid at bay. He also proved decisive for the Moldovan minnows in their qualification for the group stage as he kept two clean sheets against Dinamo Zagreb

in the playoffs. Excellent on the line, agile for his size and equipped with wonderful reflexes, he's a traditional shot stopper who thrives under pressure.

*Right-back: Rasmus Kristensen, 24, FC Salzburg

Having struggled with the step up from FC Midtjylland when he joined Ajax in 2019, the Denmark international left after 18 months and has blossomed in Austria. Due to his centre-back-esque build, Kristensen can be hard to assess at first, but once settled into the pace of a game he catches the eye with strong forward runs, a decent touch and ability to navigate narrow spaces. He is also able to get himself into the position to put in a cross.

*Central defender: Goncalo Inacio, 20, Sporting CP

Quick, agile, aggressive and adventurous going forward, the 20-year-old only made his debut for the Portuguese champions last December but seems completely unfazed by the sudden jump in level.

Usually lining up on the right or middle of Sporting's back three, the left-footed centre-back is generally the most proactive of the unit, often intercepting the ball high up the pitch before keeping it moving. Inacio is also progressive in his passing game -- he can hit an early ball in behind the defence to pinpoint a teammate -- and is exceptionally alert for a defender of his young age.

*Central defender: Lisandro Martinez, 23, Ajax

With the 5-foot-10 Jurrien Timber alongside him, the 5-foot-9 Argentina international completes one of the shortest defensive partnerships in the Champions League group stage. Even so, Martinez doesn't shy away from the aerial challenges coming his way and has come out



Xavi Hernandez

on top from 70% of them this year as Ajax have impressed.

Martinez is an extremely difficult opponent to face. His high degree of alertness and mobility allows him to win the ball early and he masters the somewhat dying art of one-vs.-one defending in and around the penalty area. The left-footed defender is also tremendously safe and skilled in possession (95% pass accuracy) with one key pass on average per game.

*Left-back: Morato, 20, Benfica

Strictly speaking the Brazilian has been fielded as a left centre-back in Benfica's back three this season, but is equally happy to explore space down the left flank. While Morato has only started two Champions League games, Jorge Jesus rated the ex-Sao Pau-

lo man highly enough to start him against Bayern Munich, and he scored in the 5-2 defeat.

There are still aspects to improve in Morato's game: His passing is still relatively predictable -- typically looking to find wing-back Alex Grimaldo -- and he can sometimes look hesitant and slow on the turn. Yet he has shown himself to be physically strong, brilliant in the air, quick over longer distances and with a decent touch on the ball, so is clearly a player to watch.

*Defensive midfielder: Mohamed Camara, 21, FC Salzburg

The Mali international has looked increasingly comfortable as the competition has developed. Camara plays with the presence, tactical discipline and confidence of a more seasoned defensive midfielder. While

being safe, but not risk-averse, in possession, he is outstanding at the defensive side of the game. Indeed, he covers a lot of ground, features an impressive rate of interceptions and free ball pickups per match, while he often restrains himself from surging forward in order to cover for Salzburg's attack-minded full-backs. Already an undisputed regular in his first year, he's another product of the club's impressive setup.

*Attacking midfielder: Christopher Nkunku, 24, RB Leipzig

One bright spot for RB Leipzig in a fairly miserable first part of the season has been the resurgence of Nkunku. Such has been his impact in the Champions League that he's reportedly attracted interest from the likes of Real Madrid and Liverpool. The versatile Frenchman -- who was never more than a squad player at Paris Saint-Germain before he left for Leipzig in 2019 -- made an early mark in the competition with a hat trick away against Manchester City (which featured two headed goals), then found the net against his former club, and twice vs. Club Brugge as well.

Nkunku is at his best when he can drift between the defensive lines in the final third and is exceptionally good at finding the right space and timing

his runs into the box. Nkunku is a technically brilliant footballer who could well find himself at a bigger club in 2022.

*Attacking midfielder: Pedro Goncalves, 23, Sporting

"Pote" was a sensation in last season's Portuguese league with 23 goals in 32 games, but he has also made his mark on the Champions League this season. The roaming attacking midfielder, whose real breakthrough in the Sporting first team came when Bruno Fernandes left for Manchester United in January 2020, mainly operates in the space behind the striker, and his knack for timing his runs into the box is nothing short of extraordinary (his second goal against Dortmund was one of the best of the competition so far). Always active and looking for room to exploit, Pote also has an excellent workrate.

*Left winger: Arnaut Danjuma, 24, Villarreal

Within the space of a few months the Dutchman has removed any doubts over whether the move from the English Championship to Champions League was a leap too far. The €23.5m signing from Bournemouth has been one of the Europa League champions' top players this campaign, with his first half performance against Manchester United in September standing out.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Gerrard's Liverpool return starts audition to replace Klopp

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TONIGHT @ 9:00

UJENZI

EATV MONDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hills
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hills

Tonight on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghui Traders Limited can improve your home decor

And Tanfix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus

It's all on Ujenzi at 9PM

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM

TWA seeks to step up wheelchair tennis promotion

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

The Tanzania Wheelchair Tennis Association (TWA) has said it plans to field players in all events scheduled for next year.

Riziki Salum, the association's secretary-general, said so in Dar es Salaam on Thursday at the general meeting which came up with resolutions for next year.

He said they are confident that the national wheelchair tennis team will compete in all events next year starting with the Nairobi Open which will be held in February.

Salum said the team to compete at the Nairobi Open will be selected at the end of January.

The official revealed: "We have agreed that from next year, our national wheelchair tennis side should compete at all events which will take place next year."

"We will start with the Nairobi Open, the provisional squad for the Nairobi-bound team will enter camp on January 10 at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club, we will select players for the trip at the end of the month," he said.

He also said the association is confident that it will send its team to Turkey in May for the Portugal World Team BNP Paribas qualification event.

The general meeting was attended by top leaders of the association who included its president John Bura and other wheelchair tennis stakeholders.

The general meeting also agreed that next year the association should intensify player identification in schools and communities and also look for partners to support the growth and development of the sport in the country.

"We have planned to reach out to many schools and communities in the country, the country has many youths with disabilities who can play wheelchair tennis and represent the country at many local and international events."

"The identification will also help in player transition as most of the players we have now are in their advanced ages," he said.

The national wheelchair tennis team competed in the World Team BNP Paribas which was held in 2017 in Italy and it has also competed at many regional events and performed well in the events.

Simba SC faces Yanga test in NBC Premier League



Yanga midfielder, Farid Mussa (C), negotiates his way past Simba SC center back, Pascal Wawa, when the outfits locked horns in the 2021/22 Community Shield match, which took place in Dar es Salaam on September 25. Yanga won 1-0. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

By Guardian Reporter

THE 2021/22 NBC Premier League defending champion, Simba SC, has a chance to wrestle the league top spot from the leader, Yanga, as the former hosts the latter at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam today.

Yanga currently leads the rest of the pack in the NBC Premier League having emerged victorious in six outings and posted one draw.

The league leader boast of a two-point gap with second-placed Simba SC, as the latter notched a victory in five matches and recorded one draw.

Both teams take the pitch with sweet memories of posting victories in their assignments.

Yanga walloped Mbeya Kwanza FC 2-0 in the domestic top-flight it played in Mbeya last month.

Simba SC sailed through to this season's CAF Confederation Cup's Group Stage, knocking Zambia's Red Arrows FC out of the Additional Second Preliminary Round.

The Tanzanian side suffered

a 2-1 loss to Red Arrows FC in the second leg in Zambia, the former nevertheless booked a place in the following stage after commanding a 3-0 win in the first leg.

Yanga had the last laugh in the side's previous clash against Simba SC, cruising to a 1-0 win in the Community Shield match, which took place in Dar es Salaam in September.

Should Simba SC come out

victorious in this afternoon tie, the outfit will move to the top place, whilst having a one-point margin with Yanga.

If Yanga notches victory, the league leader will have a healthy five-point margin with the age-old rival.

Yanga's head, Nassredine Nabi, said: "We have had good preparations for this match, we had a consultation on it, seeing to it we unite and avoid

social media sites' gossips that could have put us under pressure."

"We have concentrated on the match which is quite important, it is a big match and we ought to respect our opponents."

The Tunisian gaffer stated the match involving the outfits is tough, some might feel one of them has the opportunity to post a victory at the outcome might not be the opposite.

'Tembo Warriors' coach to submit CANAF performance report to TAFF

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

NATIONAL amputee football team 'Tembo Warriors' head coach Salvatory Edward is expected to present a report on the team's performance in the just-ended Cup of African Nations for Amputees Football (CANAF) to Tanzania Amputee Football Federation (TAFF) on Monday.

'Tembo Warriors' finished fourth in the continental showpiece which took place in Dar es Salaam.

Peter Sarungi, TAFF president, said the postmortem report by the head coach and his backroom staff is ready.

"The coach has communicated to us that the report on the team performance in the just ended CANAF is ready."

"We hope that it has covered all the aspects which led the team to finish in fourth place," he said.

According to Sarungi, TAFF aimed to see to it 'Tembo Warriors' qualify for the next year's Amputee Football World Cup and emerge as CANAF winners.

However 'Tembo Warriors' only managed to qualify for the Amputee Football World Cup.

Sarungi could not say whether TAFF is happy with the achievement or not.

In the previous interview, he said



Tanzania's national amputee football team 'Tembo Warriors' attacker, Frank Nkailo (L), dribbles past the Sierra Leone team's player when they faced off in the quarterfinals of this year's Cup of African Nations for Amputee Football (CANAF) in Dar es Salaam recently. Tanzania won 1-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

embarking on early preparations is one of the ways to see the country perform well in the Amputee Football World Cup in Turkey.

Sarungi said they plan to start the preparations in January for the World Cup which will take place in

October.

"We finished fourth at the CANAF which we hosted, this is the second time that we are finishing fourth, this is bad for us we need to start preparations early," he said.

He also said TAFF technical

committee will meet coach Edward and his staff to plan the way forward.

Ghana won this year's edition of CANAF after beating Liberia 3-2 in the final held at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

