



National Pg 3 Illegal fishing under control



National Pg 5 RC orders removal of kiosks



National Pg 6 Farmers told to boost production



Newly reappointed Finance and Planning minister Dr Philip Mpango (R) and the ministry's Permanent Secretary, Doto James, visibly delighted upon meeting at the ministry's offices in Dodoma city yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Mirerani mine site security boosted

● Scores of top govt officials witness camera handed over

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Simanjiro
Mirerani hills of Simanjiro District, Manyara Region.
A project implementation report unveiled here yesterday said the CCTV cameras surrounding the tanzanite mines in the



Transition delay worsens Covid-19 situation - Biden

WASHINGTON DC
US President-elect Joe Biden (pictured) yesterday warned that "people may die" if his incoming administration continues to be impeded by incumbent Donald Trump.
Biden said co-ordination was needed to tackle the coronavirus outbreak.
He called President Trump's refusal to acknowledge he lost the election, despite calls to do so from both sides, "totally irresponsible".
The Trump campaign launched a flurry of legal challenges in the wake of the 3rd November vote to contest ballot counts.
The president's team is trying to have courts overturn votes in key states on grounds that many ballots were invalid or improperly counted. So far those efforts have failed and no evidence of significant fraud has emerged.
President-elect Biden, a Democrat, has

TURN TO PAGE 2

Improve all deficient applications - HESLB

By Guardian Reporter
STUDENTS have five more days to submit fresh requests to the Higher Education Students' Loan Board (HESLB) in case they submitted erroneous or incomplete applications.
HESLB Executive Director Abdulrazaq Badru said in a statement yesterday that applicants have to log onto the Student's Individual Permanent Account (SIPA) opened while applying for loans.
"They have to provide correct information and attach required documents. We will go through their applications and those who qualify will be allocated loans," he said.
HESLB released the second batch of first year students for whom it has allocated a total of 19.9bn/- in loans, with the director saying the batch has 5,168 students who qualified for loans to

“The first year students allocated with loans met all the required qualifications including being the neediest, applied correctly and have admission in one university”

pursue higher education in various institutions.
This brings the total number of students who have been allocated loans to 52,473 for a designated amount standing at 170.02bn/-, with HESLB releasing the first batch of 47,305 students allocated 150.03bn/- in total.
The first year students allocated with loans met all the required qualifications including being the neediest, applied correctly and have admission in one university.
"All the potential beneficiaries need to do is log onto their SIPA for more information," he specified.
HESLB has started disbursing the funds to various universities after conducting a careful analysis to identify the neediest students.
The funds are sent to the institutions early to ensure that students have their money before they report to their respective universities, he affirmed.
The government has set aside 464bn/- for the 2020/2021 academic year for 145,000 beneficiaries, where 54,000 will be first year students and 91,000 are continuing students.
This is an increase of about 15bn/- from the last

TURN TO PAGE 2

Renewables firm eyes Zanzibar energy sector

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar
THE International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), a German company, has expressed interest in investing in power generation projects in Zanzibar.
This was stated here yesterday after Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdallah (pictured) met with an IRENA representative, Souheil Freich, accompanied by officials from Flaghfin Co. based in Dar es Salaam.
Freich said the company settled for Zanzibar after being satisfied with its investment environment. The firm has been making follow-



ups on strategies and policies during the election campaign and were satisfied, thus the decision to take up investment opportunities in the country, he stated.
The investment environment in Zanzibar and on the Mainland was favourable for well-intentioned investors, he declared.
The company official told the Isles authorities that the company has experience in solar energy and fertilizer manufacturing, while Second Vice President Abdallah said the government is happy to welcome takers of its investments opportunities "as a sign for support for government plans for economic growth."
The Zanzibar government has laid out legal procedures for investors filing applications, he stated, noting that bureaucratic red tape is excluded.
There are investors who expressed intentions to invest in various projects but were discouraged by red tape on the part of

TURN TO PAGE 2

NEWBORNS Page 3



LOANS Page 5



SCHOOLS Page 7





Prof Simon Msanjila (2nd-L), Permanent Secretary for the Minerals ministry, presents a special gadget to his Defence and National Service counterpart, Dr Faraji Mnyepe, during yesterday's installation of security cameras on the wall around the Mirerani tanzanite mining site in Manyara Region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadei

Mirerani mine site security is boosted

FROM PAGE 1

and related systems are designed to withstand all types of weather, including foggy and dark situations, operate in extreme temperatures and are resilient enough against vandalism.

The report was prepared by a team of experts undertaking the camera fitting project around the 'Great Wall of Mirerani,' a project supervised by the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments)

It worked in consultation with the Ministry of Minerals and the E-Government Authority, with the supervising committee being led by chairperson Michael Mshiro; Secretary Edson Nkongo and three members, namely Erick Kitali; Ricco Boma and Stephen Barnaba.

After the concrete wall measuring 24.5 kilometers surrounding the Mirerani mining quarries was completed in 2018, the surveillance cameras project came as a new capping project to install the fort with a 24-hour surveillance system, unveiled here yesterday.

The 3.2 meters high wall was found not to be adequate enough to restrain intruders, thieves, smugglers and

other trespassers, therefore the fort needed to be reinforced with electric fencing on top, as well as a long trail of surveillance cameras and related security electronic devices.

A CCTV control room monitors movements around the wall as it meanders across 25 kilometers, the longest fort ever in the country and sub-region. The works were undertaken by the National Service (JKT), a government franchise under the Tanzania People's Defence Forces (TPDF)

Handing over the surveillance system was witnessed by several permanent secretaries, Prof Simon Msanjila (Minerals), Dr Faraji Mnyepe (Defence and National Services) and Dr Moses Kusiluka (President's Office).

Others were Dr Lauren Ndumbaro (President's Office, Public Service Management and Good Governance), Christopher Kadio (Local Governments), Elius Mwakalinga (Transport), and Dr Zainabu Chaula (Communications).

Others present include the Mining Commission chairman, Prof Idris Kikula, Regional Commissioner Joseph Mkirikiti and District Commissioner Zephania Chaula.

Biden: Transition delay worsens Covid situation

FROM PAGE 1

306 votes in the Electoral College, surpassing the 270 threshold needed to win.

Yet Trump, a Republican, tweeted on Monday: "I won the Election!"

The government agency that launches transition process - the General Services Administration (GSA), headed by a Trump appointee - has yet to recognise Biden and his running mate Kamala Harris as winners.

This leaves them without access to sensitive government briefings that are normally provided to an incoming administration.

Aides to the president-elect have said that Trump's refusal to engage in a

transition also means Biden's team has been excluded from planning around a vaccination distribution strategy.

Speaking in his home state of Delaware on Monday, Biden said of the stalled transition: "Does anyone understand this? It's about saving lives, for real, this is not hyperbole."

"More people may die if we don't coordinate," he asserted.

Underlining that nationwide vaccine distribution was a "huge undertaking," Biden said that if his team had to wait until 20 January - his presidential inauguration - to start begin work on the distribution programme, they would be behind by "over a month, month and a half."

Asked if he would encourage

state leaders to reinstate stay-at-home orders, the president-elect sidestepped, and instead called on officials to encourage mask-wearing.

The Wisconsin Elections Commission on Monday said the Trump campaign would have to pay nearly \$8m for a vote recount in that state - which Biden appears to have won by 20,000 ballots - if it still wanted one.

But in a consolation for Trump, Georgia officials said they had found nearly 2,600 ballots that had not been counted in a Republican-leaning county on election night. A voting official in the state, Gabriel Sterling, said the ballots were overlooked because of "a person not executing their job properly."

The isolated discovery was expected

to improve Trump's vote count by a net 800 - not by far enough to overturn Biden's lead of more than 14,000 ballots.

Georgia is conducting a statewide, by-hand recount because of the 0.3% margin separating the rivals.

Meanwhile, the official overseeing the recount, Georgia Secretary of State Brad Raffensperger, told CNN on Monday that he had been coming under pressure from a fellow Republican, Trump ally and South Carolina Senator Lindsey Graham, to disqualify legally posted ballots in certain counties.

Graham denied the claim, telling Politico the two merely had a "very pleasant" conversation about signature verification processes.

Renewables firm eyes Zanzibar energy sector

FROM PAGE 1

some government officials, he said, emphasizing that investment in the right area increases employment opportunities especially for graduating youth.

IRENA has signed a mining agreement and expects to sign another agreement in a different sector in the near future, the official specified.

Unguja and Pemba islands depend on power purchased from TANESCO through two submarine cables of 100 MW and 25 MW capacities.

In 2016, the issue of electricity supply

payment gaps between Zanzibar and TANESCO stirred public feelings as TANESCO issued notice of a power supply disruption.

This dispute came up after the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) of the National Assembly gave the government a six-month ultimatum to pay a 125bn/- debt it owed TANESCO.

Then TANESCO Managing Director Felcheshi Mramba said the Zanzibar Electricity Corporation had a debt amounting to 85bn/- accumulated over a period of three years while institutions under the Union government owed the power utility firm 40bn/-.

Improve all deficient applications - HESLB

FROM PAGE 1

fiscal year's estimates, covering 44,629

continuing students from various universities, allocated loans amounting to 155.06bn/-.

Ethiopia PM issues ultimatum as thousands flee into Sudan

ADDIS ABABA

ETHIOPIA'S Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed yesterday said the military operation in the northern Tigray region was entering its "final phase" now that a three-day ultimatum given to fighters to surrender had expired.

At least 27,000 people were reported to have fled the fighting into neighbouring Sudan.

The UN said a "full-scale humanitarian crisis" is unfolding.

The conflict began a fortnight ago as tensions between the federal and regional governments boiled over.

Fighting broke out after Ethiopia's federal government accused the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which controls Tigray, of treason and occupying a military base.

The TPLF sees the federal government as illegitimate.

The UN fears the numbers fleeing Ethiopia may be just a fraction of those forced from their homes by the fighting, but for the moment aid agencies have no access to the Tigray region.

The conflict has also reportedly killed hundreds, but getting information from Tigray is hard as there is a virtual communications blackout.

Regional powers Kenya and Uganda have called for negotiations to find a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

The Ethiopian government has however ruled out talks with the TPLF.

In a Facebook post the prime minister thanked TPLF fighters who, he said, took advantage of the three-day deadline to switch sides but he did

not give a number.

He said that his government was "ready to receive and reintegrate our fellow Ethiopians fleeing to neighbouring countries".

The UN's refugee agency, the UNHCR, said: "a full-scale humanitarian crisis is unfolding" and thousands were fleeing the fighting.

The agency was "on stand-by to provide assistance in Tigray when access and security allow" spokesman Babar Baloch told a Geneva news briefing.

"There may be massive displacement inside Tigray and that is of course a concern and we try to prepare the best way possible," Jens Laerke, spokesman of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), told the briefing. Hundreds have reportedly died in Ethiopia since the fighting began on 4 November.

Human rights group Amnesty International said it had confirmed that "scores, and likely hundreds, of people were stabbed or hacked to death" in the town of Mai-Kadra (May Cadera) on Monday last week.

Abiy has accused forces loyal to Tigray's leaders of carrying out the mass killings. The TPLF has denied involvement, saying it will welcome an independent international investigation.

Ethiopia's human rights commission said it would send a team to investigate.

The TPLF dominated Ethiopia's military and political life for decades before Abiy took office in 2018 and pushed through major reforms.



Pius Msekwa, Speaker of Tanzania's National Assembly from April 28, 1994 to November 28, 2005, makes a presentation at a seminar for Members of Parliament in Dodoma yesterday. Photo courtesy of National Assembly

Mpango wants development projects funds spent well

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

FINANCE and Planning minister Dr Philip Mpango has urged officials in his ministry to ensure that funds earmarked for the implementation of development projects are spent well.

Dr Mpango made the call here yesterday when speaking to employees of the ministry, where he revealed that there was still embezzlement of public

funds, affecting the implementation of the development projects.

He explained that about 40 per cent of budget allocations for implementation of development projects were squandered, adding that "this should stop because we are using taxpayers' money."

According to him, Tanzanians have high expectations for the government to deliver what it promised during campaigns for the October General

Election in which the ruling CCM won a landslide victory.

On Monday, Dr Mpango was sworn into the docket in which he served in the past five years and showed exemplary performance in managing and sharing public resources.

He said more still needs to be done to significantly alleviate poverty among Tanzanians despite the fact that the country graduated to middle income status last year. "Although we

have successfully moved Tanzania into middle income country, there is still much to be done to improve the lives of our people in rural areas," he said.

"When I went around during the election campaigns, I saw that poverty is still rampant. We need to work harder for our people. There are many opportunities and I believe we can move to the upper middle income country in the next five years under good leadership."



Judge Joaquine Antoinette De-Mello (2nd-L), NMB Bank Plc chief internal auditor Juma Kimori (2nd-R) and NMB chief of shared services Nyenyata Mejuoli (R) show copies of the bank's 'Mwanamke Jasiri' forum brochure at its launch in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Health specialists call on govt to invest heavily in newborns

By Getrude Mbago

HEALTH specialists have suggested the need for the government to invest heavily in newborns by coming up with a special nationwide programmes to support premature babies.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam at the climax of the World Prematurity Day, Chief Executive Officer, AgaKhan Hospital, Sisawo Konteh said that it is high time now for the government, health stakeholders and donors to sit down and see how they can together come up with a strong system to support the babies.

"Preterm babies need close and extra care, we should now all together sit down and mobilise for engagement of donors so as to support the lives of our preterm newborns," he said.

He said that ensuring the survival of preterm babies and their mothers requires sustained and significant financial and practical support.

"Prematurity is the leading cause of newborn deaths (babies in the first 4 weeks of life) and now the second-leading cause of death after pneumonia in children under the age of 5. Let us change the future for millions of babies born too soon, for their mothers and families, and indeed for entire countries. Enabling infants to survive and thrive is an imperative for building the future we want," he said.

Konteh cited comprehensive antenatal care, quality childbirth services and emergency obstetric care as among the major areas to invest.

Konteh added: "The world prematurity day 2020 theme is "Together for babies born too soon, caring for the future" is very appropriate in raising awareness to reduce mortality and morbidity among these babies, these babies need specialized facilities as well as providers. At the Aga Khan Hospital we are proud of our exceptionally good outcome for such babies."

Dr Yasser Abdallah, neonatologist at Aga Khan Hospital said a significant proportion of babies born prematurely who survive continue to be at risk for long term complications including learning difficulties, deafness and blindness among others.

In Tanzania approximately 1.5million babies are born annually of whom 255,000 are born preterm. Neonatal mortality rate in Tanzania stands at 21 per 1000live births (approximately 44,000 deaths) annually.

He noted that in Tanzania, complication of prematurity accounts for 24 per cent of all neonatal deaths which means 20 babies die daily from complications of prematurity.

Dr Abdallah said that Aga Khan Hospital will continue supporting mothers, health care professionals as well as strengthening

systems.

"With over 90 years of health care excellence in Tanzania, The Aga Khan Health Service, prides in implementing best practices and policies that maximize top quality access to patient-centred care at all its hospitals and outreach health centres, especially neonatal care (premature baby care) which is managed by a highly qualified and well-established team," he said

Prof Karim Manji, paediatrician at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) also called for more investment in human resources to serve mothers and newborns.

"We still have a challenge here especially with enough human resources, one nurse should serve one to two babies but currently, one nurse serves 16 babies at the same time, this should be resolved to ensure that our babies receive best service," he said. According to him, if not well taken care, the preterm babies will be at high risk of suffering non communicable diseases (NCDs) such as kidney, liver, heart and other diseases.

He also urged parents of preterm babies to ensure that their children take a balanced diet every day to improve their health and growth.

"Give them as much vegetables, fruits and others, avoid junk foods as these are not healthy to the children," Prof Manji said.

'Illegal fishing under control by 100 per cent in deep sea'

By Guardian Correspondent, Handeni

ILLEGAL fishing using explosives has been controlled by 100 per cent in deep sea, a senior official has said.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Dr Rashid Tamatamah made the remarks here yesterday when inspecting construction of offices for Beach Management Unit (BMU) at Kipumbwi ward in the district. The project is

being implemented by the ministry with the financial support from World Bank through South West Indian Ocean Fisheries Governance and Shared Growth Program (SWIOFish).

Dr Tamatamah said that illegal fishing had declined in the Indian Ocean, while in lakes, it had been controlled by 80 per cent.

He said the decline of illegal fishing incidents had lead to the increase of fish as the result of undisturbed fish

breeding sites.

"This is a result of education to fishermen and regular operations carried by different security organs along the Indian Ocean," he said.

In 2018 the ministry announced the launch of two major operations dubbed; 'Sangawe and Tuna' which was aimed at cracking down illegal fishermen, who destroy fish breeding sites in ponds, lakes, rivers and the Indian Ocean.

He said that between 2016 and 2018, fishing sector was in bad state due to illegal fishing, lauding the government's initiatives to put in place stringent measures to arrest the situation.

Among the initiatives deployed by the government include the launch of special aircraft, meant to complement the ongoing anti-illegal fishing war; whereby the aircraft will be carrying out patrols in the deep sea.

Tanzania came up with that decision following the increasing number of illegal fishing incidents in the country's deep sea.

Dr Tamatamah said: "In this battle, the government wasn't alone. There are people who took their precious time to chip in and fight against those who were fishing using unfriendly fishing gear."

Illegal fishing is a serious challenge as there are fishermen who use dynamites

which in turn destroy coral reefs, the important fish breeding sites.

Reports have it that it takes more than 100 years for the destroyed coral reef to rejuvenate and a fisherman destroys it within a second.

The illegal fishing impact doesn't end there as it affects fishermen's income as it forces them to travel long distances into deep sea, where it is very difficult to reach because of their poor fishing vessels.



REQUEST FOR A PROJECT COORDINATOR IN DEVELOPING RESPONSIVE AGRICULTURAL MARKET SYSTEMS TERMS OF REFERENCE

1. INTRODUCTION

The Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT) was incorporated in Tanzania on 1st July 2004. The FSDT's overall aim is to make a contribution to all Tanzanians to derive value from regular use of financial services which are delivered with dignity and fairness. Among its secondary objectives are:

- Advocating for an improved policy, institutional, legal and regulatory framework at national and sub-national levels of financial services;
- Promoting more relevant market infrastructure and ways to reduce transaction costs between FSPs and potential clients;
- Stimulating improved access to financial products and services that respond to the needs of MSMEs;
- Stimulating improved access to financial products and services that respond to the needs of households and individuals.

2. BACKGROUND OF THE ASSIGNMENT

FSDT and the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) have developed a partnership with the objective of enabling a responsive agricultural finance market system for smallholder farmers and the agriculture sector by developing, implementing and facilitating financial products and solutions for farmers, rural households, agri-enterprises, agribusinesses, and related sectors and industries.

3. OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT COORDINATOR

To coordinate initiatives leading to the development and implementation of the TADB Strategy, by building TADB capacity to mobilize and manage third-party funds for agriculture related investments, as well as to develop and adopt two key focus areas and strategic action plans as part of TADB's five-year strategy by January 2021. The action plan areas include: i) Developing industry and knowledge expertise, and; ii) Developing TADB into a gender-centric organization.

4. SUBMISSION DETAILS

The deadline for submitting proposals is 1600 Tanzanian time on Tuesday, 08 December 2020. Submissions after this time will not be considered. Bids must be submitted electronically

For specific responsibilities and more details on application requirements visit:

www.fsdtd.or.tz/opportunities.

We will only consider applications that adhere to proposal requirements.

216004001

Do you own or are you planning to build a service station?

We welcome you to join Total's DODO franchise program and be part of the number 1 network in Tanzania. We will rebrand your station with Total's unique image which will significantly increase your sales.



You are assured to give your revenues a boost thanks to Total's brand recognition, high quality Excellium fuel and lubricants, as well as its large Total Card loyal customer base and strong marketing and technical expertise. We look forward to hearing from you. Email: total.dodofranchise@total.co.tz Phone: 0699 000 309

DODO: Dealer Owned Dealer Operated Service Station

Women's platform hails Magufuli for address he made to 12th Parliament

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Women Cross-Party Platform (TWCP) dubbed as ULINGO has commended President John Magufuli's speech when inaugurating the 12th Parliament saying it entails what are needed towards a sustainable economy growth.

Speaking to reporters here over the weekend, TWCP advised that the public and other local and foreign stakeholders should take the speech as a road map towards Tanzania socio-economic development.

The platform coordinator Saum Rashid said President Magufuli's speech cut across all sectors and if well implemented will liberate the nation economically.

She also said the President paid special tribute to women for their contribution for sustainable development.

"The issue of low interest loans is still a hot topic among women in this country, we are very grateful that the President had seen this and put it in his speech so we believe it will be worked out," she said.

Rashid said President Magufuli pledged to work on the major challenges facing disabled, women and youth on accessing 5 per cent of council's revenues that should be offered to those special groups.

The platform also showered praise for the fifth phase government commitment to invest in education and giving special weight on girls to venture into science and mathematics subjects.

"Girls need special push thus the government commitment and investment in education especially those with disability is something that should all cheer up.

"Government has promised to construct one secondary school per every region for girls, that is a very good idea but I wish that also it should go specific to the girls with disabilities, which will be fantastic," she added.

Ziada Athuman, a member of the coalition-cum-deputy secretary general ADA-TADEA said President Magufuli trust in women so they (ULINGO) would continue to encourage women to grasp higher positions in the decision-making bodies.

Ziada said she hoped the next cabinet would have more women because the previous women leaders in the past cabinet did a good job of supporting President Magufuli in fulfilling the Tanzanian dreams.

"Women are like a swarm of bees, if you go with them well you will enjoy that honey. But if you mess with them you will suffer for your whole life," she said.

However, Amina Issa, ULINGO women representative cum the general secretary for people with disabilities in Dodoma Region, thanked the government and the National Electoral Commission for thoughtfully improving the voting environment to people with special needs in the past General Election.

Amina said in this year's election a big percentage of people with disabilities were relieved by the presence of dotted text (tactile) and a better environment for them to practice their constitutional right to vote.

"Women are like a swarm of bees, if you go with them well you will enjoy that honey. But if you mess with them you will suffer for your whole life"



A banana vendor hunts for customers, as found at Gerezani in Dar es Salaam's sprawling Kariakoo market zone yesterday. There are -clearly - many ways to make her business less taxing but better paying. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Students urged to be anti-corruption ambassadors

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

STUDENTS have been called upon to resist the urge for fast achievements and instead should work hard and avoid involving themselves in corrupt activities.

Sosthenes Kibwengo, head of Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) in Dodoma Region issued the caution as he was addressing a graduation event for students from the city's various schools

who were members of anti-corruption clubs at their schools.

He said what was needed now was for every students to study hard as well as educating fellow youth on the vice and on how to eradicate it.

"We ask you to be good ambassadors in educating others on how to protect themselves from the corruption menace, we need to see the youth fight against corruption," Kibwengo said.

He said the students, who are

members of their anti-corruption clubs have satisfied the criteria to be members, hence they should well utilize the status to ensure they spread the message on how to fight the cancer menace in the society.

Concerning the issue for PCCB officers visiting various schools to train teachers and guardians, Kibwengo said they were still working on the issue in order to improve their clubs.

He further said providing training to teachers and guardians in the schools

was important because they were the ones staying with students most of the time.

He said as ambassadors, the students are supposed to speak against, educate and provide information on incidents of corruption, including sex corruption they come across.

He said in the areas they live were the ones where sex corruption was being conducted, hence if they utilize well their club will assist substantially to eradicate this type of corruption.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

The Ariel Glaser Paediatric AIDS Healthcare Initiative (AGPAHI) is a non-governmental organisation that plays a pivotal role in complementing the Government of Tanzania's efforts towards the attainment of its development goals. AGPAHI strives to provide quality and integrated HIV/AIDS health services to children and families. AGPAHI supports the provision of high-quality HIV and other health services and ensures that efforts are well-integrated into existing regional and district health systems.

AGPAHI is looking for motivated, result driven, qualified and competent candidates to fill the following positions:-

1. Position Title: Program Manager, PMTCT services (1)

Reports to: Director of Programs
Work Location: Dar es Salaam

Position Overview:

The Program Manager PMTCT will work as a key member of AGPAHI's Technical team, under the overall supervision and the technical leadership of the Director of programs (DP). The PM- PMTCT will work in close collaboration with program officers PMTCT (PO PMTCT) and with other staff members to ensure that all activities that need to be performed in AGPAHI's Global funded programs which fall under the PMTCT intervention are executed with required standard.

2. Position Title: Program Officer, PMTCT services (4)

Reports to: Program Manager, PMTCT services
Work Location: Arusha (1), Pwani (1), Morogoro (1) Lindi (1)

Position Overview:

Program Officer, PMTCT will work as a key member of AGPAHI's Technical team, under the overall supervision and the technical leadership of the Program Manager PMTCT. The PO PMTCT will work in close collaboration with regional/ council health teams, facility RCH in charges and with other RCH/PMTCT stakeholders to ensure that all activities that need to be performed in AGPAHI's Global funded programs which fall under the PMTCT intervention are executed with required standard. She/he is responsible for the field implementation, coordination and reporting of all PMTCT/EID initiatives in her/his respective region under the guidance of the Program Manager PMTCT and in collaboration with the director of programs.

3. Position Title: Program Officer, Monitoring & Evaluation (1)

Reports to: Program Manager, PMTCT services
Work Location: Dar es Salaam

Purpose of the post

Under the guidance of and reporting to the Program Manager-PMTCT Global Fund project; the program officer monitoring and evaluation will provide technical support to health facilities in AGPAHI implementing sites. This includes planning and implementation of PMTCT program in AGPAHI supported health facilities located in Lindi, Pwani, Morogoro and Arusha reions.

4. Position Title: Accountant (1)

Reports to: Senior Accountant
Work Location: Dar es Salaam

Purpose of the post/Overall Responsibility:

The purpose of this job is to carry out the day to day operations of the accounting function to ensure the finance department runs smoothly in line with set policies and procedures.

5. Position Title - Administration Officer (1)

Reports to - Senior HR and Admin Officer
Work Location -Mara

Purpose of the Job

Perform administrative functions and secretarial duties to facilitate core programmatic and operational activities in AGPAHI.

6. Position Title: Driver (3)

Reports to: Administration Officer
Work Location: Arusha, Lindi and Pwani

Purpose of the post:

To provide safe and reliable transport service to the designated staff and guests of AGPAHI in a highly professional and efficient manner, at the same time, adhere to the organization policies and follow road safety standards.

7. Position Title: Office Attendant (1)

Reports to: Administration Assistant
Work Location: Mwanza

Purpose of the post:

The Office Attendant is responsible under the overall guidance of the Administration Assistant for maintaining the hygiene and cleanliness of the office premises and environment

HOW TO APPLY.

Interested candidates should visit our website www.agpahi.or.tz to get more details on the specific job vacancies, deadlines and how to submit your applications.

AGPAHI is an equal opportunity employer, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.



Plot 372 Chole Road, Off Toure Drive, Near Coco Beach, P. O. Box 38252, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania

The Publication is made in accordance with regulation 13 (a) of the Non-Governmental Organization (Amendments) Regulations, 2018 which obliges Non-Governmental Organizations receiving funds exceeding twenty million shillings to publish Fund received and its expenditures in a widely circulated newspapers and other media channels which are easily accessible by the target beneficiaries.

Below is the statement of Fund received by Ariel Glaser Pediatric Aids Healthcare Initiative and its respective expenditure for the year beginning 1 October 2018 to 30 September 2019.

ARIEL GLASER PEDIATRIC HEALTH CARE INITIATIVE (AGPAHI)

STATEMENT OF RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE FOR THE PERIOD OF ONE YEAR BEGINNING OCTOBER 2018 TO SEPTEMBER 2019

	12 Months 30 September 2019 TZS	9 Months 30 September 2018 TZS
INCOME		
Revenue Grant	55,886,536,038	59,033,988,976
Other Income	604,905,930	515,211,569
	56,491,441,968	59,549,200,545
EXPENSES		
Personnel Cost	15,352,510,966	9,958,046,363
Travel expenses	4,355,998,902	3,917,536,400
Sub grant costs	26,827,950,052	33,002,918,683
Conference and training	3,312,326,784	4,353,207,044
Administration costs	5,156,255,987	7,471,343,784
	55,005,042,691	58,703,052,274
Surplus for the year /Period	1,486,399,277	846,148,271

Statement of Fund received by Ariel Glaser Pediatric Aids Health Care Initiatives (AGPAHI) year ended 30 September 2019.

DONOR	AMOUNT (TZS)
CDC BORESHA	55,886,536,038
OTHER INCOME	
Revenue (General Public) - EGPAF	59,000,000
Claim Refund from Insurance	95,831,645
Exchange gain on transactions	450,074,285
	604,905,930

RC orders removal of kiosks at Kijangwani

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

THE Regional Commissioner for Zanzibar Urban West Region Hassan Khatib Hassan has given three days to the Zanzibar City authorities to remove business kiosks at Kijangwani near the commuter bus stop.

The RC issued the directive yesterday during his impromptu visit at the area, and other areas in Zanzibar West District including Zanzibar West District 'B' accompanied by regional officials.

He explained that the area was allocated to traders as emergency measure during the COVID-19 pandemic that was aimed to reduce congestion of people from other markets, hence he instructed the traders to be shifted to other areas.

He told the officials that there was no longer reason for the kiosks remaining in the area, hence they should immediately move out and leave the area to be utilised for other development purposes.

He added that many traders had already moved out in their own accord.

In another development the RC directed for the removal of all kiosks on road reserves including the worn out signboards.

He said the kiosks were set up illegally, but they have also contributed to the city's unattractive landscape.

He also called on municipal councils in the region to control workers involved in levy collections, saying the councils still register losses of incomes.

"I'm still not satisfied by the revenue collections in the institutions especially in regard to car parking fees," he pointed out.

Ali Khamis Juma, Zanzibar city director assured the Regional Commissioner that his directives to remove traders from the Kijangwani as well as cleaning the Saateni area for accommodating fish traders would be implemented within the frame time given.

Saleh Juma Kinana, Zanzibar city mayor stressed on the importance of incorporating traders in order to solve challenges that could crop up in future.

THE RC's visit involved Kariakoo, Kijangwani, Michenzani, Darajani, Bwawani Fish Market, Saateni and other areas in Zanzibar West District 'B'.

"I'm still not satisfied by the revenue collections in the institutions especially in regard to car parking fees"



Oh, the rough and tough time motorists can have on damaged roads made all the worse by heavy rains... This scene was captured yesterday on a road at Kwa Ali Maua in Kinondoni District, Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

MBEYA City Council has allocated 1bn/- in Financial Year 2020/21 from 10 per cent of its internal revenues for provision of loans to various vulnerable groups including women, youth and people with disabilities.

Beatha Mtani, the city's community development officer revealed at the weekend during a meeting that assessed the first quarter implementation of projects to enhance production activities and employment opportunities for youth supported by SHOP, an NGO under the sponsorship of the Foundation

Mbeya Council allocates 1bn/- in loans to vulnerable groups

for Civil Society.

She said the allocated funds is an increase of more than 300m/- over what was allocated in the previous year - for 85 vulnerable groups.

She called on the youth empowered by the NGO to grab the free interest loans to enhance their economic

activities as a way of tackling the unemployment challenge.

She said in addition to SHOP's provision of training in identifying the opportunities for the youth, there were also other institutions including Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO) that also offer training on

various creativities.

"The main condition for the youth to access the loans from the City Council is to form groups of people aged not more than 35 years, and that the group formed should have sustainable projects, and that before issuing the loans we have to visit the group," she

said.

She praised the NGO for offering the training which had increased awareness among them by coming up to access loans, and added that in the previous FY 30 groups applied for the loans.

In her implementation report,

SHOP's managing director Maria Dominick said the project is of six months and would be implemented in the city's 15 wards out of 36.

She said some youth have been provided with a room at SIDO buildings to process their products and at the Mwanjelwa International Market they have acquired stalls for selling their goods.

"But also these youths participated in this year's Nanenane agricultural exhibition and displayed various goods they produced. There is also another group from Iziwa dealing in avocado farming which accomplished a lot," Maria said.

HALMASHAURI YA JIJI LA DODOMA



TANGAZO LA MNADA WA KUKODISHA BUSTANI YA MAPUMZIKO - CHINANGALI

Mkurugenzi wa Jiji la Dodoma anawatangazia wananchi wote kuwa kutakuwa na mnada wa hadhara kwa ajili ya kukodisha eneo la Bustani ya Mapumziko ya Chinangali (Chinangali Recreational Park) iliyopo jirani na uwanja wa Ndege wa Dodoma. Mnanda utafanyika tarehe 21 Novemba, 2020 katika eneo la bustani kuanzia saa tatu kamili (3.00) asubuhi.

Bustani hiyo ni mradi mpya na ni eneo linalovutia sana kwa mapumziko na burudani mbalimbali ikiwemo uwanja wa kisasa wa mpira wa kikapu, Uwanja wa Tenisi, Mpira wa Wavu, mabwawa ya kuongelea wakubwa na Watoto, eneo la michezo ya watoto, jukwaa la sanaa na GYM. Pia kuna maeneo ya kuuzia vyakula na vinywaji pamoja na eneo kubwa la mae- negesho ya Magari.

Siku ya mnanda kila mshiriki atatakiwa;

- Kujisajili kwenye regista.
- Kulipa dhamana ya fedha taslimu Tsh. 2,000,000/ (Millioni mbili) ambayo itarudishwa mara baada ya mnada kwa mshiriki ambaye hatafanikiwa.
- Mshindi atalipa asilimia 25 ya kodi ya pango ya kipindi cha miezi mitatu siku ya mnada na kumaliza asilimia 75 kabla ya kuanza kuendesha bustani hiyo. Aidha, atawajibika kulipa kodi zote za Serikali kwa mujibu wa Sheria za nchi.

Kwa maelezo zaidi piga simu namba **0622 020211**

Tangazo hili limetolewa na:
**MKURUGENZI WA HALMASHAURI
HALMASHAURI YA JIJI LA DODOMA**



Request for Proposals

Provision of Legal Services
RFP No. PIT/CO/04/FY21

1. Plan International Tanzania is an International humanitarian child-centered development organization without religious, political or government affiliation. Plan's mission is to achieve lasting improvements in the quality of life of deprived children in developing countries through a process that unites people across cultures and adds meaning to their lives. Plan Tanzania has a physical presence and implements projects in the following Regions: Dar Es Salaam, Coast, Morogoro, Geita, Dodoma, Mwanza, Rukwa, Kigoma (Refugees Emergency Program in Kibondo, Kakonko and Kasulu Districts). Plan International Tanzania directly sponsored 30,000 children and support directly more than 2.4 million people in the program areas. Plan Tanzania also works with other stakeholders in various projects countrywide
2. Plan International Tanzania is seeking proposals from qualified law firms to provide legal services. The Interested eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including an email address to tenders@plan-international.org attn: Head of Procurement and Logistics. Bidding documents in the English language will be sent to interested bidders by email. Plan International Tanzania will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing or submission of the bid documents.
3. Bidders are requested to submit Technical and Financial Proposals each be enclosed in a separate envelope and marked **"Technical Proposal"** and **"Financial Proposal"** respectively. The two envelopes shall then be enclosed in a single envelope.
4. Bidders must submit the proposals in a sealed envelope by hand to: The Country Director, Plan International Tanzania, Plot no. 496 Mikocheni Light Industrial Area, P O Box 3517, Dar es Salaam before 11 AM Tuesday 1st December 2020, marked the respective RFP number. Not to be opened before 11AM Tuesday 1st December 2020. Electronic and Late bids will be rejected.

Country Director
Plan International Tanzania
Central Technologies House
Plot No. 96 Mikocheni Light Industrial Area
New Bagamoyo Road - Next to TBC1&NECTA
P O Box 3517
Dar es Salaam

DCC rubbishes social media reports on plans to demolish Dodoma kiosks

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DODOMA City Council (DCC) marketing officer, James Yuna, has rubbished reports circulating in the social media that authorities in the region were planning to demolish all city kiosks, asking residents to ignore the reports.

According to him DCC's task was to educate petty businesspeople to conduct their businesses at official areas and not to demolish their facilities.

He was speaking after the Union of Hawkers in Dodoma Region complained that authorities were planning to demolish their kiosks just after completion of October 28 General Election. However, Yuna asked them to ignore the reports.

Yuna said DCC had no plans whatsoever to demolish city kiosks

just as reports were being circulating that after the elections, the council was planning to conduct the exercise.

"There is no such a thing, what we are planning to continue doing is ensuring that we provide massive education to ensure that they conduct their businesses in official designated areas and still in our various markets we have a plenty of spaces," he said.

He asked petty businesspeople in Dodoma Region to ignore the reports circulating in the social media; instead, they should continue working by following all appropriate legal procedures.

"The information that was provided by their leaders when addressing the media that we are planning to demolish their kiosks was not correct and it should be ignored because we have no such a plan.

The vice chairman of the Union

, Bruno Mponzi asked his members to ignore reports circulating in the social media insisting that they were meant to sow seeds of hatred between businesspeople and the government.

"As hawkers in Dodoma Region, we want to thank the government for the collaboration they have been giving us including an important education that the government has been giving us to ensure that we conduct our businesses by abiding by the law," he noted.

"There is no such a thing, what we are planning to continue doing is ensuring that we provide massive education to ensure that they conduct their businesses in official designated areas and still in our various markets we have a plenty of spaces"



Houses in Dar es Salaam's Tandale kwa Mtogole suburb at serious risk of crumbling, what with the intermittent heavy rain the city is experiencing and the fact that they are already in poor shape. This scene was captured on Monday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Guardian Correspondent, Lushoto

Follow experts' directives to boost productivity, Tumbo tells farmers

DEPUTY Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture, Prof Siza Tumbo has urged farmers to follow experts' instructions to improve crop productivity, as the agricultural sector contributes significantly to the country's economy.

Prof Tumbo made the call here yesterday when he visited horticultural growers in Mgwashi ward, Lushoto District, Tanga Region. He described agriculture as one of the sectors that generate foreign exchange to the country, hence needs to be revamped. "We've entered into middle-income nation due to high productivity of agricultural crops. Farmers have a big share in this achievement as they

produce quality products that compete in the international markets," Prof Tumbo said.

According to him, the government through Agriculture Sector Development Programme II (ASDP II) is meant to bring reform in small-scale farming, livestock, and fishing sectors to increase productivity, to increase revenue for farmers, and increase food security.

He encouraged farmers to use modern farming technologies as well as applying farm inputs to increase productivity per acreage.

The permanent secretary urged district councils to invest heavily in farmers by ensuring that extension officers visit them regularly.

According to the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), the increased use of improved seeds, fertilizers, and better farming practices have already enabled millions of farmers to more than double their yields, leading to the production of an additional 4 million MT of cereals, pulses, soybeans and groundnuts in 2015 alone. In monetary terms, this represents about US\$ 2.2 billion.

Two companies enter contract on 2,500 tonnes of dry cassava chips

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo,

Dodoma

A Dodoma-based Steps Company Ltd has signed a two year contract to supply 2500 metric tonnes (MT) of dry cassava chips to Canton Investment Co Ltd of Dar es Salaam.

Speaking soon after sealing the deal, Director of Steps Company Ltd, Idd Senge explained that as per the contract, the company will in this year provide 1000MT of dry chips cassava to the buyer.

"As per our production capacity, this year we are expecting to provide the buyer with at least 1000MT of dry cassava chips, and the remaining 1,500MT will be provided next year," he explained.

He expressed high optimism over an increase market trend for cassava in local and foreign markets, the development which encourages farmers to expand production.

"During the last growing season we cultivated a total of 100 acres in Mkalama District, Singida Region, but we're working to expand the farm," he said.

Moreover, he said the company, Steps Company Ltd, has succeeded to acquire at least 3000 acres in Itigi, Manyoni District, to be used for the cultivation of cassava seeds.

"In order to beef up cassava production in the central zone corridor, we are planning to embark on large scale seed production to distribute the improved seeds to farmers in Dodoma and Singida regions," he explained.

He added that cultivation of the key economic cash crops was currently attracting more farmers in central zone regions, but the sector was however facing some challenges, including poor agronomic practices among the farmers as well as assured markets.

According to the 2017 National Bureau of Statistics (NBS)'s agriculture annual sample survey, the sector is currently attracting a total of 1.9 million operators along the value chain within the country, and the crop contribute to 17 per cent of the food basket in Tanzania, second after maize as of 2018/19.

Tanzania ranks 12 in the world cassava production, 7th in Africa, based on the country's available cassava production data of 8.4 million tons in 2018.

'Increased liberalisation and intra-regional resilience key to aviation recovery in Africa'

By special Correspondent

THE Secretary General of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Dr Fang Liu has declared that the recovery of African air services should be encouraged through further liberalization and intra-regional resilience, aided by ICAO's COVID-19 response resources.

Speaking at a special online event organised by the African Union (AU) to commemorate the Yamoussoukro Decision, Liu said: "Prior to the onset of the pandemic, African aviation was poised to become one of the fastest growing air transport markets in the world. The overall sector supported some seven million jobs, and generated over 72 billion dollars each year in gross domestic product (GDP) on this continent."

"To help restore these significant and positive benefits to African prosperity, current priorities should focus on the establishment of effective contingency policies and regulations."

The Secretary General highlighted the work of the ICAO Council Aviation Recovery Taskforce (CART), and its aviation response and recover "Take-Off Guidelines" which were fully endorsed by the AU Commission High Level Task Force on the Restart and

Recovery of Aviation in Africa earlier this year.

Reflecting the rapid progression of science and understanding, Dr. Liu highlighted that new CART Phase II revisions were endorsed by the ICAO Council earlier this week.

Drawing reference to the event's focus, and the significance of the Yamoussoukro Decision and improved intra-regional and international liberalisation, Dr. Liu emphasized: "ICAO traffic data is revealing that regions which feature higher levels of intra-regional traffic are recovering more quickly. We are seeing this playing out now in the Asia-Pacific, and it goes without saying that the more comprehensive realisation of the Yamoussoukro Decision, notably through increased participation by African States in the Single Africa Air Transport Market (SAATM), will accelerate these dynamics here."

This SAATM is a flagship project of the African Union Agenda 2063, and is designed to advance the liberalization of air transport and act as an impetus to the continent's economic integration agenda. It seeks to ensure that aviation can fulfill its potential in connecting Africa by promoting improved socio-economic integration and enhanced tourism and trade.

"I would encourage African countries' proactive pursuit of Public Health Corridors and other near-term travel bubble solutions, as these can also increase public confidence in air travel when prudently and effectively established," the Secretary General remarked.

"ICAO has provided extensive information to States on how to establish these corridors, and important advice for countries on how to promote the mutual recognition of public health measures through bilateral and multilateral agreements."

Stressing that Africa's commitments to a Single African Sky "connect this continent and assure the growth and prosperity of its countries and communities," Dr. Liu highlighted the significance of the Project Implementation Agreement (PIA) between ICAO and AFCAC, which will be formalized in the near future.

This agreement sets out provisions of the Institutional Support Project financed by the African Development Fund (ADF), and will help accelerate SAATM implementation by providing targeted and measurable assistance to applicable States. Concluding her remarks, the Secretary General expressed her confidence in the future of aviation in Africa.



RE-ADVERTISED

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF SUPPLY AND INSTALL ROOM MONITORING SYSTEM IT SERVER ROOMS TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of Procuring Room Monitoring System IT Server Rooms and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of various goods and services for any of the below listed services.

Scope of work:

REF NO.	SERVICES TO BE PROCURED
GGME01000	Supply and Install Room Monitoring System IT Server Rooms

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage (%))	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	10%
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	5%
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	10%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	2.5%
Environment Compliance Certificate	2.5%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	2.5%
Safety and Environmental Policies	2.5%
PAST EXPERIENCE	10%
At least 3 Names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	2.5%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	2.5%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above)	2.5%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2.5%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA	60%
Expert on Room monitoring system installations/configurations (Netbotz system)	25%
Networking Skills (CCNA certificate)	10%
Registered partner of Room monitoring system(netbotz or other monitoring system)	25%
Total Score in %	100%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER of the service they intend to express interest on THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than 0830 A.M 30 November 2020 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

NGO for female education urges girls to strive to generate income

By Guardian Correspondent, Singida

CAMPAIGN for Female Education (CAMFED), a non-governmental organisation, has called on girls not to lose hope, instead they should look for opportunities around them and convert them into sources for income generation for the development of the community.

Nasikiwa Mwalisu, head of CAMFED projects in the country gave the call here at the weekend at an empowering seminar for recognition of their status, as well as in identifying various opportunities around them outside the formal system of education.

She said if a girl protects herself and becomes creative, she would have a great chance to succeed and realise her life dreams.

She said one way to help them, especially those who gave birth at early age was to empower by among other things, building for them foundation in recognising their right to education despite their marital statuses or HIV/Aids.

In regard to the protection and safety of the child, Mwalisu said the community is supposed to understand and respect that basic right for education.

Yasinta Alute, chief nurse at Singida regional hospital said good health was a result of everything in life and development of a child.

"If you get training in maternity health and recognize yourself you can hardly make mistakes or even repeat them....I beseech you who are fortunate to get this training to go and become ambassadors for others," said Alute, while asking CAMFED to expand their activities to other districts in Singida Region for many youth to benefit.

Earlier, Omary Kisuda, CAMFED chairman for Singida municipality committee said a total of 60 girls from Singida municipality and Manyoni District were still undergoing training through a programme in Tanzania 'campaign for female education'.

"This the age for them to develop themselves in education, business, entrepreneurship and maternity health and that is why for bringing you together for an important training session under the sponsorship of the government and CAMFED," Kisuda said.



If you get training in maternity health and recognize yourself you can hardly make mistakes or even repeat them....I beseech you who are fortunate to get this training to go and become ambassadors for others

'Poor state of structures in Tanga Region schools owned by CCM is major explanation for pathetic academic performance'

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

DILAPIDATED infrastructure have contributed to poor performance for secondary schools owned by CCM's parent wing in Tanga Region.

Makihyo Ngwilizi, member of CCM's parent wing in Tanga Region made the observation yesterday at a meeting of the party's parent organisation, saying there was the challenge posed by infrastructures in all six schools run by the organisation in the region

Ngwilizi said after making a follow up on the school's academic performance, he discovered dilapidated buildings, lack of water and poor condition of pit latrines used by students.

He mentioned the schools as Boza school in Pangani District, Kidereko in Handeni, Mombo in Korogwe town, Kwemvuno in Lushoto District, Mbaramo in Muheza District and Shemsanga in Korogwe Rural District which had been closed.

"The biggest challenge is schools' infrastructures, every school I inspected it was the same story, our buildings are dilapidated," he added.

"But also I must say the ward schools have also been the reasons for students not wanting to join our schools due to the dilapidated infrastructures, my advice to the higher levels of our organisation is to look closely at the schools to ensure they revert to their former conditions," he said.

In the circumstances the CCM parents' organisation has instructed that every region to manage the schools, and if not, they should be closed and investors should be found to see whether they can use them for other money earning development activities.

The instructions were given by the national chairman of CCM's parents wing Edmund Mndolwa who said all these challenges ought to be worked on.

Mndolwa also said the organisation countrywide should look into possibilities of establishing projects in the schools that were still performing and allocate one school in each region for teaching science subjects to girl students.



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Background:

The Christian Social Services Commission (CSSC) is an ecumenical body established in 1992 by the Christian Council of Tanzania and the Tanzania Episcopal Conference, to coordinate and facilitate the delivery of social services (health and education) by the member churches in Tanzania. For 28 years, CSSC has been serving and coordinate a network of more than 900 church-owned health education facilities, including 105 large hospitals at Zonal, Regional and District/Council levels. In addition, CSSC coordinates a network of more than 1,000 church owned education facilities. Majority of these church health and education facilities are located in remote and rural areas where 70% of the Tanzanian population reside in those areas.

CSSC has been awarded a 5-years Grant by U.S. Agency for International Development (US-AID) to implement "Pamoja Tuwekeze Afya" - (PATA) Activity. The award intends to establish self-reliant health facilities (HFs) and improve health service delivery

by the CSSC network of church-based HFs in meeting the health needs of the target population. Through cost-effective and innovative solutions, the PATA Activity will strengthen the CSSC's capacity to deliver quality services in Reproductive, Maternal, New born, Child and Adolescent health (RMNCAH), HIV/TB services and other health related areas. The PATA Activity has got two major components;

Component one: Create a network of financially and managerially sustainable HFs and a self-reliant Medical and commodity supply chain Company and Component Two: Improve staff skills and retention at HFs and improve their capacity to provide a continuum of quality care of RMNCAH and HIV/TB services.

In view of the above, CSSC is hereby seeking applications from highly qualified, well experienced, competent and motivated persons to fill-in the following vacant positions.

Title: Knowledge and Information Management (KIM) Specialist-1 Post
Report to: Executive Director
Location: Dar es Salaam

Job Summary:

Knowledge Information Management (KIM) Specialist will be responsible to oversee Knowledge and Information and Management portfolio within CSSC. He/she will be responsible for data management and technical leadership to ensure knowledge and information needs related to the PATA activity and CSSC in general are timely met. Moreover, He/she will lead PATA's monitoring and evaluation activities including providing direct supervision of M & E officers and data clerks; guide the clinical teams and support the CSSC zonal teams to ensure quality implementation and reporting of program activities. KIM Specialist will also work closely with project officers from specific programmes within CSSC in developing organizational Monitoring, Evaluation and Learning (MEL) plan as well as coordinating proposal development processes within the organization for sustainability purposes. Main duties can be clustered into two main areas; (a) knowledge and information management; (b) performance-based planning, monitoring, evaluation & Learning and reporting.

Title: Quality Improvement Officers- 4 Posts
Report to: Quality Improvement Coordinator
Location: Tabora, Arusha, Morogoro and Mbeya

Job Summary:

The Quality officer in the PATA Activity will be responsible to support implementation of quality improvement activities in FBO health facilities in selected regions. These include, sensitization of facility owners and management to adopt the selected quality improvement initiatives, support establishment and strengthening of Quality Improvement Teams (QIT), and facilitate availability of systems and structures that promote provision of quality health services in FBO health facilities. S/he will be responsible to link the provision of quality health services with improvement of business performance of these facilities.

Title: Monitoring and Evaluation officers-2 Posts
Report to: KIM-Specialist
Location: Mbeya, Mwanza

Job Summary:

This position is found at the lake zone and southern zone offices. He/she will be responsible to provide expertise in monitoring and evaluation of PATA project activities.

Title: Business Analyst-1 Post
Report to: Project Manager
Location: Dar es salaam

Job Summary:

Business analyst will work closely with Project Manager and will be responsible to develop and implement strategies, policies and processes to improve operations and service delivery by Faith based health facilities to meet existing and future needs. He/she will be responsible for employing market led solutions to address the current sustainability Challenges facing the Faith Based health facilities. He/she will work closely with the team and other key stakeholders to develop workable sustainability strategies to sustain service delivery by church health facilities through innovative financing that will mobilize capital for Faith based health facilities.

Title: Community Linkage Officers-2 Post
Report to: Health Technical Advisor
Location: Mwanza, Mbeya

Job Summary:

The Community Linkage Officer will be responsible for supporting the project to strengthen community-facility linkages to improve client identification, adherence, and retention in care and ultimately contribute to HIV care and treatment goals. Within the scope of work, S/he will be responsible for technical leadership to increase number of health facilities with formal systems for referrals between facility and community services. S/he will liaise with National AIDS Control Programme (NACP), community-based HIV IPs, and local government authorities to develop a comprehensive training plan for low volume CSSC network of HFs to perform comprehensive TB/HIV services. S/he will foster relationships with community-based organizations and support development of work plans that will support the FBO platforms, health facility-community systems strengthening program.

Title: HIV/TB officers-2 Post
Report to: Health Technical Advisor
Location: Mbeya

Job Summary:

The HIV/TB officer is primarily responsible for the overall Planning, implementation, coordination, monitoring and evaluation of HIV/TB interventions in the FBO supported sites. S/he will work on the implementation of nationally adopted best strategies to ensure testing/new HIV case findings/, high-quality and strong data management systems. The officer will work to implement current nationally and globally recommended HIV drugs and diagnostics at facilities in the program area. S/he will also recommend best strategies that can help facilities adopt the market approach in the implementation of HIV/TB activities. These includes but not limited to, facilitate integrated TB and HIV screening, prevention, diagnosis, treatment and continuity of care in a private setting. The incumbent will facilitate and monitor implementation of TB /HIV collaborative activities, facilitate dissemination and adoption of HIV/TB guidelines and tools. S/he will also facilitate different trainings and supportive supervision in FBO health facilities found in regions implementing the project.

Title: RMNCAH Project Officer-2 Post
Report to: Health Technical Advisor
Location: Mwanza

Job Summary:

The RMNCAH Project Officer, will work under the guidance of the Health Technical Advisor and will be responsible for implementing a range of RMNCH strategic interventions within the designated network of church health facilities and communities. S/he will provide technical support to the PATA project activities to scale up quality RMNCAH activities in the county. S/he will use the FBO platforms to strengthen the community dialogue mechanisms to ensure that all maternal

and neonatal deaths, are reported, documented and audited with the community stake holders. Further s/he will support the scale up of RMNCAH services in the targeted health facilities with a focus on availing choices at every supported facility. S/he will take lead in setting up friendly environment for ANC visits, well-equipped delivery rooms that ensure safety and privacy during delivery, and setting up well-equipped rooms for newborn care.

The Project Officer will facilitate trainings on Emergency Obstetric and Newborn Care (EmONC) to CSSC network of HFs staff in need. The EmONC training is critical to building capacity of HCWs to properly monitor the delivery process, including proper use of Pantographs and Active management of the 3rd Stage of labor

The RMNCAH officer in the PATA Activity is responsible to support implementation of Reproductive, Maternal, Newborn, Child and Adolescent Health (RMNCAH) activities in FBO health facilities in selected regions. Under the supervision of the RMNCAH Coordinator, the incumbent will perform the function of Family and Reproductive Health Technical Officer. The incumbent will work closely and provide technical assistance to the FBO health facilities while link them with their respective RHMT and CHMT departments in the selected region.

Title: Health System Strengthening Advisor-1 Post
Report to: Project Manager
Location: Dar es salaam

Job Summary:

The Health Systems Strengthening advisor will work closely with the Project Technical Coordinator to embed sustainability mechanisms for stronger church health systems in the project. He/she will be responsible for the implementation of Health system strengthening component with focus on building capacity on HR issues in close liaison with the Technical Coordinator. He/she will oversee the implementation of HSS activities across all the selected regions, building capacity of the FBO HFs in the project especially on Human Resource systems. The incumbent will advise FBO HFs on how to build a strong and resilient HR system that can help them in the whole process of planning deployment and retention of a strong and reliable HR.

Title: Procurement Officer-1 Post
Report to: Executive Director
Location: Dar es salaam

Job Summary:

The Procurement officer will provide technical and administrative support to the CSSC core function and Programmes in procurement of goods and services and within the organization. He/she will ensure that the procurement is done in accordance and compliance to the organization and donor policies and procedures.

Title: IT officer-1 Post
Report to: KIM-Specialist
Location: Dar es salaam

Job Summary:

This position is found at CSSC Head Office and Reports to the KIM-Specialist to support ICT development activities within CSSC and member institutions.

The role of ICT Officer offers an opportunity to contribute to the positive impact by supporting the use of technology and related software and programs in the Organization, enabling the delivery of effective and secure IT systems and contributing to development and implementation of IT standards and policies.

Title: Project Finance Officer-1 Post
Report to: Chief Accountant
Location: Dar es salaam

Job Summary:

The Project Finance Officer reports to Chief Accountant. S/he will be responsible for financial aspects of the project, including budget development and monitoring, prime award monitoring and compliance. The Project Finance Officer will strengthen and maintain sound financial management practices, and ensure the project's compliance with USG, USAID and CSSC procedures, rules and regulations. S/he will mainly be responsible to oversee the financial capacity of the program; overall coordination, leading and supervision of their functions in the finance department. S/he will also be responsible in coordinating program audit exercise, addressing audit findings and recommendations. The position will be based in Dar es salaam, Tanzania.

Title: Compliance Officer-1 Post
Report to: Project Manager
Location: Dar es salaam

Job Summary:

The compliance officer reports to the Project Manager S/He will provide compliance support to Pamoja Tuwekeze Afya (PATA) Activity on the matters related to risks and compliance through determining compliance with selected policies, procedures, donor requirement as well as local laws and regulations, make recommendations to the management that will increase efficiency and/or effectiveness of the control systems of functions reviewed, and ensure that compliance matters are appropriately considered within the organization.

Title: Zona1 Finance Officers- 5 Post
Report to: Zonal Managers
Location: Arusha, Mwanza, Tabora, Mbeya, Morogoro

Job Summary:

The position is found at the Zonal Office. Under the general and direct supervision of respective Zonal Manager, S/He will be responsible with undertaking the Financial and Administration management at the CSSC-Zone, S/He is responsible to provide operational and financial support to CSSC core function and other projects for control and maintenance of Zonal financial records.

Title: Drivers- 2 Post
Report to: Administrative Assistant
Location: Mwanza, Mbeya

Job Summary:

This position is responsible for carrying out duties as a driver, effectively and efficiently, observing all current CSSC vehicle policy and procedures. The driver will also be responsible for ensuring safety of the passengers, vehicle and the tools assigned to him/her and devising ways and maintaining high fuel efficiency and low maintenance costs.

Mode of Application

Interested candidates are to submit their motivation letter and copy of the latest CV in one document indicating their preferred work station. The subject line of your job application email should indicate the position that you are applying for; your CV must include the contact information (email addresses and telephone numbers) of three work-related traceable referees. All correspondence MUST reach CSSC before 1600hrs November 27th 2020 and channeled through the following email address:

hr@cssc.or.tz

Note that;

1. Kindly visit www.cssc.or.tz for the detailed posts with duties, responsibilities, required qualification, experience and skills
2. Any application sent later than the mentioned date and time will not be considered.
3. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted; if you are not contacted within two weeks after the deadline of this advert, consider yourself unsuccessful.
4. Female candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

WEDNESDAY 18 NOVEMBER 2020

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

We must take a proactive approach to encourage youth entrepreneurship

TANZANIAN youth should be proactive and engage themselves in small businesses or any other income-generating ventures that can sustain their lives. All youths in the country needed to be proactive in finding decent ways of sustaining their lives. Our youth should capitalise on entrepreneurial initiatives as the governments is committed to efforts to empower the youth as they constitute the most productive segment of the society.

The government is in talks with big processing industries in the country to purchase raw materials from youth groups engaged in agricultural activities.

Youth is the time of life when one is young, and often means the time between childhood and adulthood (maturity). It is also defined as the appearance, freshness, vigor, spirit, etc., characteristic of one who is young. Its definitions of a specific age range varies, as youth is not defined chronologically as a stage that can be tied to specific age ranges; nor can its end point be linked to specific activities, such as taking unpaid work or having sexual relations.

Youth is an experience that may shape an individual's level of dependency, which can be marked in various ways according to different cultural perspectives. Personal experience is marked by an individual's cultural norms or traditions, while a youth's level of dependency means the extent to which they still rely on their family emotionally and economically.

Tanzania records a continuous agricultural sector growth and is considered largely self-sufficient in its main staple crop maize. Cassava, paddy, sorghum and bananas are the second most widely grown staple crops by farmers. 68 per cent of Tanzania's

work force engage in farming, both in rural and urban areas.

And therefore agriculture is the backbone of Tanzania's economy accounting for more than one-quarter of gross domestic product (GDP), providing 85 per cent of exports and employs about 80 per cent of the workforce. They offer vocational training courses in agriculture for youths, farmers, and young single mothers who are socially excluded.

We are told that Sayona Drinks that is building a factory in Kibaha as having promised to purchase fruits from young people engaged in agriculture. The government is working to meet the 2021 target to have at least four million youths benefit from the five year plan to empower youths which means that a lot of activities are underway.

There are special programmes to enable youths get involved in agriculture for self employment and the plans are meant to ensure that young people do not run away from villages to urban areas.

On the basis of the 2012 census, 70.4 per cent of Tanzanians live in the rural areas. The government has been instructed by the ruling party to improve productivity in the rural areas to increase opportunities for youths.

To improve the situation, the government is working on how to develop infrastructure like roads to allow easier transportation of goods especially farm produce.

It is also providing financial support to SACCOS and other youth groups, and in the 2017/2018 financial year, the government released 783,280,000 /to youth groups.

A total of 32,563 young people have been empowered through training in different fields. The government also prepared a national strategy to empower youths in agriculture especially those in the rural areas.

More concerted action against beating viral hepatitis across East Africa is achievable

HEPATITIS is inflammation of the liver tissue. Some people with hepatitis have no symptoms, whereas others develop yellow discoloration of the skin and whites of the eyes (jaundice), poor appetite, vomiting, tiredness, abdominal pain, and diarrhoea.

A new scorecard, the first to examine hepatitis prevalence and response in the World Health Organisation (WHO) African region, shows that only three of the 47 countries are on track to eliminate the disease that affects one in 15 people in the region.

Dying of viral hepatitis in Africa is becoming a bigger threat than dying of AIDS, malaria or tuberculosis.

The scorecard was presented at the first African Hepatitis Summit which was held in Kampala, Uganda from June 18 - 20, this year. It provided vital information about the status of the regional hepatitis response, measuring progress against the Framework for Action for the Prevention, Care and Treatment of Viral Hepatitis in the African Region (2016-2020). It was created as a guide for member states on the implementation of the Global Health Sector Strategy on Viral Hepatitis, which calls for the elimination of hepatitis by 2030.

Every year more than 200 000 people in Africa are dying from complications of viral hepatitis B and C-related liver disease, including cirrhosis and liver cancer. Sixty million people in the WHO Africa Region were living with chronic hepatitis B infection in 2015. More than 4.8 million of them are children under five years old. A further 10 million are infected with hepatitis C, most likely due to unsafe injection practices within health facilities or by communities.

The analysis shows that 28 countries have developed a national hepatitis

strategic plan for viral hepatitis; however, most are still in draft form with only 13 officially published and disseminated. WHO has been a major partner in the regional response with policy development and provision of technical and financial support as well as capacity building for a co-ordinated regional response.

There are major gaps in hepatitis testing and treatment with less than eight countries providing subsidised testing and treatment for viral hepatitis. Uganda has started free nationwide hepatitis B treatment, and Rwanda is providing free treatment for both hepatitis B and C. These two countries are championing the regional response and are on track to reach the 2020 Framework targets for testing and community awareness.

Administration of the hepatitis B vaccination at birth and in early infancy is the most effective way to halt the transmission of the virus because 95 per cent of the burden of chronic disease is due to infections among children, acquired before their fifth birthday, including mother-to-child transmission.

In spite of the low cost of birth dose vaccination - less than US\$ 0.20 per child - only 11 countries in the region are following this protocol. One such country is Cabo Verde where the government has mobilized financial resources and has achieved 99 per cent vaccination coverage at birth.

In Uganda, where more than 6 per cent of the population is infected, the commitment to end hepatitis infection was driven by civil society and strong political will with the result that it became one of the first African nations to fund domestic action against hepatitis B.

With investments of around US\$ 3 million a year, Uganda embarked on a massive, free hepatitis B screening programme in 2015, along with widespread community mobilization and awareness-raising actions.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts	Newsdesk	Advertising
Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO	News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON 0757154767 General line: 0745700710 E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz	Mobile: 0782253676 E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz Website: www.ippmedia.com epaper.ippmedia.com



Covid-19 spurs digital revolution in Zimbabwe's newsrooms

By Lungelo Ndhlovu

IN the face of Covid-19 containment measures that have made it increasingly difficult to distribute print newspapers, many media companies in Zimbabwe have begun to introduce their products in digital formats. In doing so, outlets have proven able to more cheaply reach audiences outside their typical distribution areas.

This has been critical, especially in the light of the national lockdown ordered by Zimbabwean President Emmerson Mnangagwa in late March that closed the country's borders, restricted inter-city travel and banned mass gatherings.

"All of a sudden, print media companies don't have to sink a lot of money into importing newsprint and consumables such as inks and plates," said Kholwani Nyathi, an editor at one of Zimbabwe's largest media companies, Alpha Media Holdings (AMH).

"AMH took advantage of Covid-19 to invest in platforms such as PressReader that gave them access to Zimbabwe's diaspora market, which affords them an opportunity to earn foreign currency," Nyathi said.

The media group Zimpapers 1980 Limited meanwhile said in a statement that its digital footprint has been vital in cushioning the business from the pandemic's adverse effects.

The company explained how it

responded to the new challenges by migrating some of its publications like Kwayedza, Umthunywa and Business Week to digital platforms.

Njabulo Ncube, the national coordinator for the Zimbabwe National Editors Forum acknowledged that online publishing is now the "new normal" for most of Zimbabwe's print media organisations.

He elaborated: "It is not only Zimpapers print that have escalated their online presence, but the independent media as well, as a result of Covid-19. This is intended to try and monetise revenue at a time when circulation of the print editions has drastically plummeted during the Covid-19 lockdown."

Ncube noted that corporations are also slowly embracing online advertising. "A perusal of Newsday, The Standard, The Herald and The Sunday Mail confirms it," he said.

He added, however, that this has brought with it concerns about data costs for readers: "The elephant in the room is exorbitant data charges for digital media consumers to browse adverts and news online."

Having print newspapers available online is overall a positive development, said digital policy expert Kuda Hove, adding: "Digital editions widen their access, particularly for people who reside outside their distribution areas." But he also flagged concerns about data costs.

Dr Henri-Count Evans, an online

journalism lecturer at the University of Eswatini, and a climate reporting trainer, agreed that it's vitally important for print media publications to take the digital revolution more seriously during and beyond the COVID-19 pandemic. "Every serious journalist has to think about their future online. This is my argument whenever I talk to journalism lecturers about the online journalism course," he said.

Evans challenged Zimbabwean print media companies to pay more attention to their digital content. It's no longer a matter of wanting to be online or not - it's necessary, he noted.

"If you look at the readership, Zimbabwe has over three million people living outside in the diaspora. A lot of those are interested in reading about what is happening at home, and these people have the potential to even become a target audience and might be able to afford to buy newspapers online," he added.

Other alternative digital media outlets such as the Centre for Innovation and Technology, 263Chat, Magamba Network, TechZim, Getjenge Community Media and Kukurigo had been sharing and distributing their news content via WhatsApp dating back to 2012. Many Zimbabwean audiences turned to their content during the pandemic.

"We send out an e-paper to the community every Monday to Friday via WhatsApp and it is for free," said 263Chat founder and storyteller Nigel

Mugamu. "Our e-paper gives you a complete news roundup of what has been happening around Zimbabwe, from politics, business, technology, current news, sports, videos and entertainment," he said.

Zimbabweans have a huge appetite for news content on WhatsApp, according to Mugamu. Today, 263Chat has 29,000 subscribers in total, which it reaches through WhatsApp groups that contain no more than 256 users each, per the platform's limit.

263Chat has also seen an increase in advertising revenue from corporations and local businesses that advertise online.

According to Dr Henri-Count Evans, the digital revolution post-Covid-19 presents a significant opportunity for the local newspapers that have taken it seriously.

"Zimbabwe has over three million people that are outside the country. Because of the digital revolution, readership has moved online, but that is not enough. Online, things have changed so much that we can't rely on websites alone," he said. "Editors and journalists need to push content to the readers through social media sites like Instagram and Twitter."

A dispatch by the International Journalists' Network, a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists. Lungelo Ndhlovu is a journalist based in Bulawayo, Zimbabwe.

By Edwin Ikhuru

IT'S almost a year since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, and no country has been spared the brutal economic and social impact.

While we've seen G20 countries mobilising more than \$11 trillion in stimulus packages and printing additional money to combat COVID-19 in their own countries, others have struggled. Some of the world's poorest countries don't have the liquidity available to keep their economies afloat, tackle the emergency COVID-19 response, and provide social safety nets for the most vulnerable.

This is the case with Zambia.

Even before the pandemic, Zambia - Africa's second-biggest copper producer - has struggled with its finances and debt. The country owes \$11.1 billion in private, bilateral and multilateral debt. For months, it has faced the difficult choice between making debt repayments, or keeping its economy afloat and investing in healthcare. While Zambia was eligible for debt service suspension from some of its bilateral creditors under the G20 Debt Service Suspension Initiative, this has had limited impact because of the

Zambia's debt default: A lose-lose situation

composition of the country's debt.

Zambia requested other international creditors to follow suit, especially the private bondholders, who own 27% of the country's debt and to whom Zambia owes \$120 million in interest payments but to no avail. As no agreement has been reached on its request for a six-month delay on interest payments, Zambia today becomes the first African country to default on its loans since the start of the pandemic.

The cost is high. Defaulting gives Zambia a reputation for financial unreliability and could also trigger an economic crisis.

As a high-risk borrowing country, Zambia's credit rating will be downgraded, making it more costly to raise funds, unless a new agreement is reached with bondholders. Other international creditors may also want to re-negotiate their debt deal and even make separate arrangements with Zambia. For some, this will be to help them get back on track; but for others, it is a priority to ensure they maximise their debt repayment. The biggest concern is that some of it will

likely be under unfavourable terms for the country.

Here, transparency is critical. Questions about exactly how much the country owes to China has strengthened the case for bondholders' reluctance to come to the negotiating table. But transparency is also critical for the responsible management of loans. In 2016, Mozambique defaulted on its infamous 'tuna bond' payment, which had started out as a secret loan. The default triggered an economic crisis, currency collapse and withdrawal of IMF and donor support.

While Zambia's debt buildup predates the COVID-19 pandemic, the bottom line remains: at a time when Zambia is trying to manage the shock of COVID-19, the relentless pressure from international creditors, especially private creditors, is wrong and economically shortsighted.

This is a lose-lose situation - not only will the inability to borrow cheaply have a significant impact on Zambia's path to recovery, but it may also take years before international creditors agree to a new debt payment plan. A prosperous country with economic

growth is more likely to pay back and borrow more than a country declaring bankruptcy.

It may be too late for Zambia now, but we must ensure that other countries with a high probability of defaulting on their loans next year, such as Iraq, Sri Lanka, Angola and Gabon, won't be faced with the same fate as Zambia.

Next weekend, the world's biggest economies will come together and formally endorse the common framework on debt restructuring to help avoid this lose-lose situation. In order for it to work, however, all creditors - bilateral, multilateral and private - must join forces.

The COVID-19 pandemic must be seen and treated as a 'force majeure' to give poorer debtor countries the opportunity to adjust their fiscal positions to meet debt obligations. The current situation is definitely worse than the 2008 financial crisis but has been treated with less urgency and attention it deserves.

Zambia may be the first country to default since the start of the pandemic, but if international creditors can't work together, it certainly won't be the last.



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



PUBLIC NOTICE
OPINION ON SUITABILITY OF APPLICANTS FOR SHIPPING AGENCY LICENCE

The Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC), established under Section 4 of the Tanzania Shipping Agencies Act, Cap. 415 of 2017, is a maritime administration and regulator of ports, shipping services, maritime environment, safety, security and related matters. The Corporation is charged, among others, with a responsibility of regulating private shipping agents.

The Tanzania Shipping Agencies Act of 2017, Cap.415 and the Tanzania Shipping Agencies (Shipping Agents) Regulations, 2018 empowers TASAC to license shipping agents and requires applications for shipping agency licence to be made before or on 31st October.

Regulation 4(5) of the Tanzania Shipping Agencies (Shipping Agents) Regulations, 2018 requires the Corporation to seek opinion of the general public through public notice on suitability of applicants for shipping agency licence before issuance of the licence. As of 31st October, 2020 TASAC had received applications from 25 companies for renewal of their shipping agency licences for the year 2021. Following this development and in accordance with provisions of the legislation, TASAC herewith invites members of the general public to submit their opinions on suitability of the applicants listed below. The opinions should be submitted timely so as to reach the Director General through the address shown below within fourteen days from the date of the first appearance of this notice.

List of companies which have applied for shipping agency licence renewal

Sn	Name of the Applicant	Physical Address	Name of Shareholders	Citizenship	Share percentage
1	TANZANIA SHIPPING AGENCY LTD	P.O.BOX 372 DSM MANDELA ROAD HIGHWAY-KURASINI	1. ANIL VAGHJIBHAI PATEL 2. HARIDAT VAGHJIBHAI PATEL - 3. SIDDHARTH ANIL PATEL	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	50 25 25
2	I.MESSINA (T) LTD	P. O. BOX 3317 DSM OHIO STREET - AMANI PLACE	1. FATMA KARUME- 2. DR. OMARY AWADH	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	95 5
3	WOSAC LIMITED	P. O. BOX 63210 DSM SAMORA AVENUE - HARBOUR VIEW TOWER	1. ALPHONCE M. KAMENDE 2. THERESIA B. KISENGA 3. AMIRI. A. OMARI 4. BARUANI M. PONDA 5. ZARAU T. MASAMBA 6. KHALIDI A. MKAVULA 7. SAIDI S. NZILAIMO- 8. HALIMA M. HARUNA- 9. DEBORA E. MWALONGO-	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	11.36 11.36 11.04 11.04 11.04 11.04 11.04 11.04 11.04
4	RAIS SHIPPING SERVICES (TANZANIA) LTD	P.O.BOX 79869 DSM SAMORA AVENUE - HARBOUR VIEW TOWER	1. GATEWAY SHIPPING SERVICES LLC. 2. JACKSON KAALE. 3. SHEIK MOHAMMED AKBAR.	UAE TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	39.92 30.74 29.33
5	NAHODHA MARITIME PROMOTIONS LTD	P.O.BOX 908 MTWARA BANDARI RD- NASACO BUILDING	1. CAPT. HUSSEIN B. KASUGULU 2. HASSAN HUSSEIN BAKARI	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	80 15
6	FALCONY MARINES TRANSPORTATION LTD	P. O. BOX 726 KIGOMA KIGOMA PORT YARD	1. MBARAK HAMOUD 2. NAIMA SALUM	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	90 10
7	SEAFORTH GENERAL AGENCIES LTD	P.O.BOX 9313 DSM BANDARI ROAD - MISSION TO SEAFARERS	1. ANVERALI RAJPAR 2. HATIM KARIMJEE 3. SEAFORTH SHIPPING (K) LTD 4. EDLISTER GEORGE MBOWE	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN KENYAN TANZANIAN	39 16 40 5
8	INCHCAPE SHIPPING SERVICES	P.O.BOX 3524 DSM AZIKIWE ST- MAKTABA SQUIRE	1. ISS GROUP HOLDING LTD 2. SIMON MPONJI	UK TANZANIAN	39 61
9	SIMA MARINE LTD	P. O.BOX 78230 DSM SAMORA AVENUE - NHC HOUSE	1. MOHAMMAD REZA GHAEM MAGHAMI 3. ARIF YUSUPH ABDULRAHMAN	UNITED ARAB EMIRATES(DUB AI) TANZANIAN	40 60
10	SEVEN SEAS SHIPPING AGENCIES LTD	P.O. BOX 74515 DSM CORNER OF OHIO & GARDEN- IT PLAZA	1. ARIF YUSUF 2. ANU GEORGE 3. KOMATH RAMESH	TANZANIAN INDIAN INDIAN	60 25 15

11	MSC-MEDITERRANEAN SHIPPING COMPANY (T) LIMITED	P.O.BOX 63039 DSM KURASINI AREA- MSC BUILDING	1. ANIL PATEL 2. CTI TRANSPORT - ISLE OF MAN	TANZANIAN BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY	60 40
12	CORAL SHIPPING (TANZANIA) LTD	P.O.BOX 10345,DSM HARBOUR VIEW TOWERS, 2ND FLOOR.	1.ALTAAF MUNGE 2.LCL LOGISTIX(HK)LTD	TANZANIAN HONGKONG	60 40
13	DIAMOND SHIPPING SERVICES LTD	P.O.BOX 75970 DSM, TALL BUILDING BLOCK A GEREZANI(CORNER OF SHAURIMOYO STREET & NYERERE RD	1.MR.ABDULRAHMAN OMAR KINANA AND MS.RAHMA HUSSEIN 2.OASIS INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LTD 3.SHASHI BHUSHAN KUMAR	TANZANIAN MAURITIUS INDIAN	60 39.96 .0004
14	STURROCK SHIPPING LTD	P.O.BOX 3746,DSM,MAKTABA BUILD COMPLE, 3 RD FLOOR,BIBI TITI RD	1.EMMANUEL PERICLES CONSTANTINIDES 2.STURROCK SHIPPING HOLDINGS (PTY)LTD 3.HASHIM AHMED ABDULLA	TANZANIA SOUTH AFRICA KENYAN	61 37.05 1.95
15	GULF BADR GROUP (T) LTD	P.O.BOX 79651, DSM, DIPLOMATIC, 7TH FLOOR MKWEPU STREET.	1.MOHAMED BAHAA ELDIN AHMED HELMY BADR 2.BAHAA ELDIN AHMED HELMY MOHAMED BADR 3.NEEMA SEBASTIAN MURO 4.ABDALLAH SALEHE NANTEMBELELE AS THE LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF RASHID JUMA NANTEMBELELE	EGYPTIAN EGYPTIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	18.85 18.85 31.54 30.76
16	NYOTA TANZANIA LIMITED	P.O.BOX77264, DSM, DIAMOND PLAZA, 4 TH FLOOR, MILAMBO STREET.	1.RIH INVESTMENTS&MANAGEMENT SERVICES LTD 2. AMI RAMADHANI MPUNGWE 3.RAJENDRA BATUKBHAI DAVE 4. CHIDI OFONG	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN NIGERIAN	20.28 20.28 19.44 40
17	SHARAF SHIPPING AGENCY(T)LTD	P.O.BOX 75924,DSM, TALL BUILDING BLOCK A GEREZANI(CORNER OF SHAURIMOYO STREET & NYERERE RD	1.MR. ABDULRAHMAN OMARI KINANA 2.MRS RAHMA HUSSEIN GULLED 3.SHASHI BHUSHAN KUMAR 4.M/S OASIS INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS LIMITED	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN INDIAN MAURITIUS	49.59 10.42 0.0003 39.96
18	CMA CGM(TANZANIA) LIMITED	P.O.BOX 13463 DSM, HARBOUR VIEW TOWERS, 8ND FLOOR, SAMORA AVENUE.	1.DR. WILBERT BASILIUS KAPINGA 2.MOHAMEDALI JAFFERALI REMTULLA 3.ALDIN INVESTING INC	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN BRITISH INDIAN OCEAN TERRITORY	42 18 40
19	MARITIME ALLIANCE LTD	P.O.BOX 80311 DSM,SOCIAL SECURITY HOUSE,SAMORA AVENUE	1.OPTATUS CHRISANTUS NDONDE 2.GEORGE NDOMBA	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	50 50
20	SOUTHERN SHIPPING SERVICES LTD	P.O.BOX 8316 DSM,ALPHA,ALHASSAN MWINYI RD.	1.ASILA SULEMANI DITOPILE 2.MARIAM DITOPILE	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	99 1
21	VEJSA INVESTMENT CO. LTD	P.O.BOX 467,MWANZA,NKURUMAH STREET,37 BLOCK 5	1.SALVATORY PASTORY IUUMBA 2.JUMA ISMAIL MAKARANGA 3.EDWARD NGAIZA GERALD 4.VEDASTUS PASTORY IUUMBA	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	64 12 12 12
22	SHEGEMA COMPANY LIMITED	P.O.BOX 178 KIGOMA,LUMUMBA STREET,PLOT NO.162	1. JULIENNE BAKENDAM 2. SHABAN IBRAHIM KILASA 3. JOYCE KAMBUGA BYEBALILO	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN TANZANIAN	70 20 10
23	EAST AFRICA COMMERCIAL&SHIPPING COMPANY DAR ES SALAAM LTD	P.O.BOX 80202 DSM, APT 002, BANDARI KURASINI, BLOCK B	1.YUSUF HAMIS MUSHI 2.AUGUSTIN AYISHASHE 3.SDV MINING ANTRAK AFRICA	TANZANIAN TANZANIAN FRANCE	38.5 21.6 39.9
24	EXPRESS CHARTERING&SHIPPING LTD	P.O.BOX 2989 DSM,SAMORA TOWER,10 TH FLOOR,SAMORA AVENUE	1.LUSIU PETER 2.EXPRESS SHIPPING AND LOGISTICS(EA)LTD	TANZANIAN KENYAN	60 40
25	PIL TANZANIA LTD	P.O.BOX 77940DSM, MAKTABA SQUARE, MAKTABA STREET, WING A, 3 RD FLOOR.	1. MAC GROUP LTD. 2.SELATAN MARITIME PTE LTD	TANZANIAN SINGAPORE	60 40

Director General
Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation
 PPF Tower Building 8th Floor, Garden Avenue/Ohio Street,
 P. O. Box 989, Dar es Salaam - Tanzania, Tel: +255 222 127 314, Fax: +255 222 127 313,
 Email: dg@tasac.go.tz, info@tasac.go.tz

Libyan oil industry's recovery story: What it means for the rest of Africa

By NJ Ayuk

I F I called 2020 a terrible year for the oil industry, no one would take exception. Demand collapsed in the spring, during the first wave of the Covid-19 pandemic, and it has yet to recover fully.

Prices then collapsed in April as OPEC and Russia walked away from production curbs and flooded the market with crude that no one wanted or needed - and, once again, they have yet to regain all of the ground they have lost.

There have been a few bright spots, though. One of those is Libya, which has managed to overcome some very daunting challenges. I'd like to tell you the story of how that happened.

Starting near rock bottom

When the African Energy Chamber (AEC) started drawing up our 2021 Africa Energy Outlook, which was released this November 10, Libya's oil industry was still struggling in the face of persistent civil conflict.

At that time, the country was still producing fewer than 100,000 barrels per day (bpd) of crude, down from more than 900,000 bpd at the start of the year. Its refineries, pipelines and Mediterranean export terminals were almost entirely idle because of the blockade mounted by the Libyan National Army (LNA), a militia headed by Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar, during a major offensive campaign that began in mid-January.

As a result, most of its oilfields were also idle. The National Oil Corporation (NOC), which was determined to remain neutral in the conflict, made several attempts to lift force majeure declarations and recommence production over the summer, but without success.

These struggles are addressed in our 2021 forecast: "Libya struggles to maintain (its) sustainable oil production capacity (of) around 1 million bpd. In the latest ongoing struggle for power between GNA, an UN-recognised body (set up) to govern Libya, and LNA forces, (an) army of rebels led by General Khalifa Haftar (supported by Russia, Egypt, and UAE), force majeure has been imposed on oil exports in the country from January 2020. Due to this, currently, Libya's oil production has plummeted to almost 10 per cent of its capacity."

Because of all these challenges, Libya has languished. It has had no way of monetising its primary export commodity and source of cash. It has lost many billions of dollars. It hasn't even been able to extract or refine enough crude to cover domestic demand for fuel.

And it certainly hasn't succeeded in resolving the disputes over regional

distribution of oil revenue that helped drive the LNA's attacks on the Government of National Accord (GNA), an interim government based in Tripoli and backed by the United Nations.

Nor has Libya been able to find a way to rid tank farms and other oil infrastructure of the foreign soldiers and mercenaries deployed by other third parties with an interest in the country.

But things began to change in mid-September, when the LNA and its allies sat down with the GNA for yet another round of UN-brokered peace talks.

A month of progress

Initially, there didn't seem to be much reason for optimism. After all, the two sides had failed to come to terms so many times before! This time, though, was different.

This time, the GNA and the LNA struck a deal. They didn't go so far as to sign a peace agreement. Instead, they announced a one-month ceasefire deal on September 18.

The parties indicated that they hoped to draw up a final agreement within the next month. They also made clear that Haftar had agreed to lift the oil blockade while the temporary deal remained in force.

Immediately after the ceasefire was declared, the NOC got right to work. It started bringing coastal terminals back online so that Libya could export oil again. Its regional production units began lifting force majeure declarations on one oil field after another.

It started bringing refineries back into production. It started the process of inspecting infrastructure facilities to determine whether they were "safe" - that is, not occupied by foreign troops - and therefore eligible to resume regular business operations.

And by the time the one-month ceasefire expired on October 18, the NOC had already managed to bring oil production back up to 500,000 bpd.

This was a huge achievement. Think of it! In just a few short weeks, Libya managed to increase output by more than 400,000 bpd, thereby regaining about half of the ground it lost as a result of the LNA blockade. And it did so despite the extensive damage inflicted on oil infrastructure during the blockade.

Big breakthroughs

There was a problem, though. When the ceasefire ended on October 18, the GNA and the LNA hadn't yet achieved their goal of signing a final agreement. However, fortunately, they had agreed to extend talks for another six days.

As a result, the LNA did not impose another blockade, and the NOC and its



subsidiaries continued to put fields, pipelines, terminals and refineries back into action.

Then on October 23 - one day ahead of the new deadline - there was another breakthrough during talks in Geneva. On that day, the UN Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) declared that the parties had finalised a more comprehensive ceasefire agreement. It described the deal as permanent and applicable to the entire country.

What's more, the agreement also removed one of the biggest problems facing the Libyan oil industry - the challenge posed by the foreign soldiers and mercenaries still occupying oilfields and infrastructure facilities.

According to Stephanie Williams, the UN's acting Special Representative for Libya, the deal made provisions for all such troops to leave Libya within three months.

As a result, the NOC has been able to push forward with its campaign to restart the oil industry. On October 26, the company said in a statement that it was in a position to "declare the end of the blockades at all Libyan fields and ports".

Then on November 9, it announced that it had brought production up to more than 1 million bpd. To be exact, it reported that oil output had reached the level of 1,036,035 bpd.

This is another huge achievement. Again, think of it! In less than two months, Libya has managed to go from producing just a fraction of its usual volume to more than 1 million bpd.

The country has pushed crude oil output up more than ten-fold, bringing major fields such as Sharara and El Feel back into action. It has also succeeded in reactivating the export terminals on the Mediterranean coast and is working to ramp up processing operations at its refineries.

Challenges and lessons

All of these successes make for a good story, don't they? Even better, the story is true. I'd like to think that it also reflects well on the AEC, which did predict in its Africa Energy Outlook that Libyan crude oil production was set to recover as civil conflict simmered down.

But is the story really over? Probably not. First, we have to wait and see whether the ceasefire holds. All of the parties in-

volved seem optimistic, but they haven't yet revealed whether they've managed to resolve quarrels about how to distribute oil revenues.

The LNA, which controls most of southern and eastern Libya, has often claimed that the GNA, which holds the north-western part of the country, keeps an unfairly large portion of these revenues for itself.

In turn, their conflict has negatively affected NOC, despite the company's attempts to remain neutral so that it could continue operating - and bringing in money - the civil conflict notwithstanding.

Those challenges likely will continue if the question of oil revenue distribution isn't answered to the satisfaction of all parties concerned.

Next, if Libya does manage to hold together and keep output up, it will have to come to terms with OPEC, which is still working with Russia and other countries to support oil prices with a regime of production quotas.

Libya hasn't been subject to those quotas this year because of the blockade, but it's now extracting more than 1 million bpd. What's more, it expects to bring production up to 1.3 million bpd within the next few months.

Mustafa Sanalla, the head of the NOC, has said that Libya won't fall into line with the quota system until it can stabilise yields at 1.7 million bpd. But OPEC may not agree with that proposition, especially since world crude prices have fallen in response to reports of renewed development activity in Libya.

Whatever the case, there are at least two lessons to be learned from Libya's recent victories, one being persistence. Despite the repeated failure of attempts to work out an agreement between the LNA and the GNA, the UN and other parties did not give up.

This should be a lesson for other African countries that count civil conflict as one of the obstacles to the development of oil and gas resources. Certainly, this approach appears to have benefited South Sudan, which has been embroiled in civil war for most of the time since it attained independence in 2011.

The country has been under the rule of a unity government since the finalisation of a peace agreement between President Salva Kiir Mayardit and his long-time rival, Riek Machar Teny Dhurgon, earlier this year.

The other lesson is the necessity of paying attention to regional issues. The conflict between the GNA and the LNA wasn't just a battle for supremacy. It was also a quarrel over how best to distribute revenues between the central government and the regions that were home to most of the oilfields and other infrastructure that generated those revenues.

This is definitely one of the lessons that Nigeria has had to learn. The West African country's federal government has seen over and over again that the residents of oil-bearing regions such as Ogoniland are willing to fight if they believe that they are being denied a fair share of the money that comes from the places where they make their homes.

Neither of these lessons is easy to absorb. It's easy to give up on negotiations when you've already failed repeatedly, and it's easy to ignore the periphery if you're one of the lucky people in the centre. I would, however, like to see other African producers think about them as they watch Libyan oil production continue to ramp up.

NJ Ayuk is African Energy Chamber executive chairman and filed this analysis from Johannesburg.

Covid-19: Eritrea's success and challenges experienced

By Dr. Fikrejesus Amahazion

CORONAVIRUS disease (COVID-19), an infectious disease that erupted on the global scene in late December 2019, has been one of the greatest global crises in decades. To date, tens of millions of cases have been confirmed in countries across the globe, more than one million people have died, and the livelihoods of billions have been greatly affected.

While COVID-19 has been a truly global problem, respecting no boundaries, the situation in Africa has positively surprised many experts and observers, with infection and death rates in many African countries much lower than initially feared. Fortunately, the case-fatality ratio (CFR) for COVID-19 in Africa is lower than the global CFR, suggesting disease outcomes have been less severe among African populations (Partnership for Evidence-Based Response to COVID-19).

Of course, while Africa as a continent has broadly been successful since the first reported case in mid-February 2020, different countries within the region have reported COVID-19 epidemics of vastly different intensities and responded to the disease with varying levels of success. One country that has had a particularly successful COVID-19 response is Eritrea.

In my previous article, "COVID-19: Eritrea's Success and Challenges (Part I)," featured in the last edition of Eritrea Profile (Saturday 31 October), I reviewed several of the important factors underlying Eritrea's success so far in combating COVID-19. In this article, I will discuss some general challenges and other things to keep in mind moving forward.

To begin, as recent developments around the world can clearly testify, COVID-19 is stubbornly defiant and it will not simply vanish or go away. Numerous countries are once again experiencing mounting cases, forcing them to implement restrictions, order curfews, and prepare to go back into extended national lockdowns. Nota-



bly, even countries that had successfully dealt with the first wave of COVID-19 are now seeing their number of cases rise exponentially during a second wave. In Africa, the WHO has also noted that the slower spread of the infection in the region means that the pandemic could continue to spread for some time, with occasional outbreaks.

Within this context, despite its general success thus far, Eritrea must remain vigilant, alert, and keep its guard up. There is no room for complacency or relaxation. While Eritrea has cautiously eased many of its restrictions and the national lockdown, there should be recognition that the COVID-19 pandemic is not over yet and many risks remain. We must also be attentive to the risks of widespread "lockdown fatigue" - generally understood as a state of exhaustion (physical, psychological, emotional) caused by the long-term effects of COVID-19 and extended restrictions or lockdowns. Not only is it a problem in its own right, it may contribute to non-compliance with or resistance to guidelines and policies, which can make containing the virus more

difficult.

As with other parts of the world, COVID-19 has presented Eritrea with significant economic challenges. The 2020 pandemic has fuelled a global recession expected to be the deepest since World War II. For Africa, the pandemic has put years of hard-won economic progress at risk. Economic activity in the region is expected to contract by 3.3 percent in 2020, meaning that Sub-Saharan Africa would suffer its first recession in a quarter-century.

For Eritrea, the positive economic outlook and predictions for this year will likely not materialize and growth will slow. The response to COVID-19, involving restrictions and lockdown, came at a considerable loss for businesses, traders, and those working in the informal sector (e.g. casual labor and petty trade). While various measures, such as cash transfers and food distribution, the waiving and deferral of bills and fees, and a national support fund, have been put in place to extend support to vulnerable individuals and families, many households have been financially

stretched. It is also well to note that according to a recent report by the World Bank, Africa's "road to recovery will be long and steep."

With measures to prevent the spread of COVID-19 disrupting childhood and mass immunization around the globe, millions are now at risk of other diseases, such as polio, measles, typhoid, yellow fever, cholera, rotavirus, HPV, meningitis, and rubella. In Eritrea, COVID-19 threatens to turn back years of significant progress. Recall that despite its relatively modest resources, Eritrea is one of the few countries that entered the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals period having achieved most of the Millennium Development Goals targets on health.

Hugely to its credit, however, the country has sought to maintain essential routine immunization, prevent the reemergence of preventable diseases, and keep its population healthy. As explained in late August by Tedros Yihdego, Head of the Vaccination Program at the Ministry of Health (MoH), "[COVID-19] is a deadly virus and for sure everyone should be careful. Nonetheless, we continued to give vaccinations in many regions in the nation by following the MoH guideline to protect everyone.

We have been able to achieve so much with the relentless help that the people and government have given us. We are trying to give vaccinations thoroughly and carefully. But with the COVID-19 pandemic, there are challenges such as transporting vaccines by airplanes as most of the airports are closed. But luckily we have been able to get sufficient vaccines that we might need for the year."

As well, during the lockdown, Eritrea's MoH, in collaboration with international organizations, such as UNICEF, extended the provision of therapeutic and preventative programs to address severe acute malnutrition among children under five, and to support pregnant and lactating women. Moving forward, health authorities must continue to strike the difficult and delicate

balance between sustaining lockdown measures that reduce the risk of COVID-19 and maintaining safe immunization and other health programs that will prevent other devastating outbreaks in the months and years to come.

Notably, the COVID-19 pandemic is not the only crisis that Eritrea is combating. Over the past several months, communities across the Horn of Africa have been confronted with huge swarms of hungry locusts. Just days ago, the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), an agency of the United Nations, reported that "the situation remains very critical as more swarms form and a new generation of breeding has now started in Ethiopia and Somalia." There is significant potential for the large locust swarms to expand and spread, which is a worry for Eritrea. The swarms of "the world's most devastating pest", regarded as the worst in the region for many decades, have waged a heavy toll on communities, farms, livelihoods, and food security throughout the greater Horn of Africa.

Finally, it is rather unfortunate - although not surprising - that the world remains largely blind to African, Eritrean in particular, success. With limited resources, the country has managed to contain COVID-19 through decisive leadership and swift, aggressive action, strong planning and coordination, committed health workers, and engaged communities. It merits more positive recognition and credit.

As explained in September by Karen Attiah, Global Opinions editor for the Washington Post, "This should have been a moment for media outlets to challenge corrosive narratives about Africa and the idea that Africans are not capable of effective policy-making."

We could be learning from the experiences that Africans and their governments have had with pandemics and viral diseases, including Ebola and AIDS. Instead, the media has largely ignored the policy successes out of Africa. In doing so, Western media is reinforcing colonial narratives of Black inferiority and the inability of Black nations to govern themselves at all, much less govern better than resource-rich White nations."

Ugand-Tanzania bus services resume after 8 months

By Special Correspondent

BUSINESS people, students and other travellers crossing from Uganda to Tanzania have a reason to smile after interstate buses were cleared to resume normal operations.

The buses had halted operations in March when the government closed the common borders and banned public

transport to curb the spread of COVID-19, which has so far claimed more than 140 lives in Uganda.

Travellers who enter Ugandan through Mutukula border post using the interstate buses usually come from the neighbouring countries of Tanzania, Burundi, Rwanda and Zambia.

So far, four buses belonging to Friends Safaris out of the bus

companies that ply the Kampala-Bujumbura route or Kampala-Bukoba-Dar-es-Salaam route have resumed operations, according to Peter Magara, an immigration officer at Mutukula border post.

"Buses that are transporting people and their luggage were previously 10, but they are now four. However, we expect other buses to resume operations grad-

ually as government continues to ease the lockdown," Magara said last week.

However, Magara said all passengers have to present negative Covid-19 test certificates.

"They [passengers] are also supposed to present a certificate showing that they are yellow fever free," he explained.

Bus transport has, however, resumed at a time when the Gene

Xpert machine that tests COVID-19 at Mutukula border is still grounded.

The machine stopped working four months ago after health workers at the border ran out of cartridges. Last week, MPs on the Presidential Affairs committee led by Adjumani Woman MP Jessica Ababiku visited Mutukula border and wondered why the government had delayed to pro-

vide the cartridges needed for the machine.

"It is really absurd that the machine has not been working for all these months. You ought to write to the Ministry of Health so that we make a follow up," she advised.

Ababiku said if people are tested and they spend about three days waiting for their results without being isolated, it can in-

crease the rate of infection.

Capt Medard Nabimanya, an officer at Mutukula border, said when the Gene Xpert machine was still operational, everything moved on smoothly as Covid-19 results would be out in one hour.

"We need the machine to ease our work. Some traders come with perishable commodities and need urgent clearance," he said.

PASS Trust promises support to sugar, dairy companies to engage production, employment

By Guardian Reporter

THE Private Agricultural Sector Support (PASS Trust) has pledged to support Tanzania's agricultural production companies through its credit guarantee scheme to enable the companies increase production, create employment and reduce poverty in the country- in line with the government's vision.

The Trust 'whose sole objective is to facilitate access to financial and business development services for the agribusiness entrepreneurs in Tanzania, has been working to benefit particularly small holder farmers in Tanzania who cannot access credit in financial institutions, by linking them with financial institutions and offering them between a 20-60% credit guarantee, thus enabling millions of agribusiness entrepreneurs to secure loans.

A section of the Trust' board members led by its business Committee chairperson Dr Rehema Twalib and managing director Nicomed Bohay last week toured agricultural projects in the lake zone and expressed the need to support even more projects in acquiring agricultural financing for purposes of enhancing production.

The committee toured Kagera Sugar Company which currently provides direct employment to an estimated 10,000 staff while 40,000 are benefiting indirectly.

The Trust, also visited Kahama Fresh Dairy Company situated in Karagwe District, to look into possibilities of supporting the company's bid for constructing a milk processing plant in the region.

Ashwin Rana, Kagera Sugar CEO while acknowledging the important role played by the trust in supporting agricultural projects in the country said the company was working towards ensuring that it meets its target of producing at least 170,000 metric tonnes of sugar by the year 2025.

"Our ultimate goal is to become the leading sugar producer in Tanzania," said Rana.

Kahama Fresh on the other hand is venturing into dairy processing with the establishment of a state-of-the-art dairy processing plant already underway in the outskirts of Karagwe town. "I am already doing fresh milk processing and so this expansion will enable me get into dairy processing thus providing a ready market for most traders in this region," said Josam Ntagenki, the company CEO.

Speaking during a meeting with members of the Kagera Sugar Out growers Association, Dr Rehema said PASS Trust



A PASS Trust delegation visit one of Kahama Fresh investments in Karagwe District, Kagera Region, last week

through its credit guarantee scheme will support such companies in line with the country's industrialization agenda so that many Tanzanians will be able to benefit from the opportunities created.

"As a trust, we have the capacity to support you as out growers through our scheme so that you are able to increase production and reach your potential," she said.

Bohay called on the Sugar Company to ensure they embrace green growth adding that PASS Trust was moving into supporting projects that embrace environmental protection and sustainability.

"We have to ensure that even as we work hard to produce, our environment must re-

main safe so that our generations have something to be proud of," he added.

With at least 14,500 hectares of land under cane production at Kagera Sugar, the company says it is working to ensure these increases to 20,500 hectares by 2022.

The company also boasts of having highly experienced technical skills as well as a motivated workforce with an excellent increasing production track record.

In its credit guarantee support to agricultural entrepreneurs in Tanzania, PASS offers a partial credit guarantee cover to collaborating banks as a means of topping up inadequate collateral to enable clients get financing. PASS provides banks with guarantee

ranging from 20-60%, (up to 80% for women) of the loan amount.

PASS beneficiaries can be individuals (SMEs or farmers) or farmer groups, cooperatives and private companies. PASS also offers Business Development services such as feasibility studies, supports development of business plans and conducts training or organisation of farmer groups.

Since inception in the year 2000 until March 2020 (2000 - 31 March 2020), a total of 36,007 projects worth TZS 916.4 Billion shillings have been approved and guaranteed by PASS, with at least 1,196,891 agribusiness Entrepreneurs benefiting from this guarantee. Out of these numbers, more than 45% are

women. The beneficiaries are drawn from farmers groups, SACCOS, cooperatives, farmers' associations, companies, individuals and women groups involved in agribusiness activities.

These beneficiaries have been from various sub sectors that include livestock, crop production, processing, crop trading, mechanization, support to irrigation infrastructures, transportation of agricultural commodities, bee keeping, fish farming as well as inputs trading. Over these years, over 2.5million jobs have also been created as a result of PASS Credit Guarantee in the various sub sectors.

Relief as firm develops technology to address Dar es Salaam flash floods

By Guardian Reporter

A Dar es Salaam-based company-Plasco Limited has developed new technology aimed at addressing frequent floods in the metropolitan city.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday Plasco Limited chief operating officer, Alimiya Osman said that the new technology provides solutions to city dwellers who face challenges whenever it rains as it makes almost all roads impassable.

According to him, the technology involve the use of weholite pipes, which proved to be lightweight, large diam-

eter and made from high density polyethylene (HDPE) and they are used in low pressure and gravity applications for storm water management, sewage treatment systems, culverts, marine pipelines and irrigation water distribution.

"So, the use of weholite pipes, the problem could be avoided, and in doing so, living standards could be raised for generations to come," he said. Weholite Pipe is a large diameter, flexible, lightweight and durable structured wall pipe made from High-Density Polyethylene (HDPE) resin.

He described the technology as

unique and far better option for urban flood management.

"The pipes are available in sizes up to 2200mm internal diameter which makes it ideal for carrying large volumes of water away from troubled areas thus providing much needed relief to the residents," said Osman.

The expert noted that other exceptional qualities of Weholite includes provision of a value engineering proposition which far exceeds that of concrete pipes.

Othman added: "Weholite pipes are durable and have load bearing properties; all these qualities make it the

best solution for stormwater management. To put things into perspective, most of the current drainage systems are outdated and becoming overwhelmed by the current demand for evacuation of storm water, but with the new technology we can design systems that will provide solutions for the next 100 years."

The firm has been working with Tanzanian municipalities and the

private sector through various construction companies providing weholite pipe solutions in different construction projects, one of which is the storm water drainage line for the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) Terminal III project in Dar es Salaam.

According to the engineers of the main contractor for the project, BAM International, Weholite's inno-

vative technology enabled a speedy and cost effective installation amid the rainy season.

Weholite systems are a new, innovative pipe solution which can bring great value to the residents of Dar es Salaam as it is locally manufactured and a proven technology which has been used in South Africa, Europe, North America and now, in Tanzania.



Motorists and pedestrians forced to move especially cautiously, with the bursting of a sewage system having "conspired" with pounding rain to make a Dar es Salaam street and its pavements limit speed. Photo: File Photo

Standard advertisement for local publication of local open tender procedures



Supply of three (3) off-road, double cabin pickup vehicles
Publication reference:
CEFA/ABCproject/02

CEFA Registered Trustees intends to award a supply contract for the supply of three (3) off-road double cabin pickup vehicles in Dar es Salaam (Tanzania) with financial assistance from the EDF. The tender dossier is available from <https://bit.ly/CEFA-ABCproject-02>.

The deadline for submission of tenders is the 18th of December 2020 at 17:00 UTC +3:00.

Deciphering the growing disputation of the Supreme Court of Liberia

By Special Correspondent

IN 1839, the Liberian Supreme Court has had a checkered history. The highest court, aptly named Supreme, sits at the pinnacle of Liberia's judicial system exemplifying the practice of law, and the dispensation of justice in the country.

ON THE ONE HAND, the Supreme Court has had to contemporarily grapple with public perceptions and criticisms regarding the lack of independence of the court, while on the other, it has had to exorcise historic ghosts which impressed that the Supreme Court of old was inaccessible to many ordinary Liberians, and comprised a disproportionately imbalanced membership including in gender, religion and ancestry.

NOTABLY, SINCE 1980 when the True Whig Party was militarily overthrown, appointments to the Supreme Court of Liberia have reflexively included more women, more mix of the two dominant religions (Muslims and Christian), and have dominantly involved Liberians of native ancestry.

WHILE THESE appointments have softened the historic criticisms about the court's imbalance, repeatedly dogged by the political reach of the Executive and Legislative Branches, the court has done little to shield itself and soften nagging criticisms of its lack of independence, neutrality and courage to say what the law is without fear or favor.

TODAY, SUCH is the increasing sense of public despair and disappointment swirling around the court that the Former President, Ellen Johnson-Sirleaf, who herself named three of the current 5-member Bench, tweeted on 10th October 2020:

THE RECENT DECISION of the Supreme Court of Liberia to deny the opposition appeal for a clean-up of the Voters Roll is a strike at our hard earned democracy. (@MaEllenSirleaf)

THE FORMER PRESIDENT who is loathed to offer public criticisms of the Weah-led government is right about the effect of the Supreme Court's recent and shocking action on Liberia's hard-earned democracy. But she is wrong about the action itself.

ALTHOUGH SOMEWHAT nuanced, to suggest that the court 'denied' is to reasonably suggest that the court heard and decided. Denial is a product of hearing. This would be to offer the court more credit than it actually deserves in this matter. The court did not 'deny'. It declined. It refused to hear the Petition.

PERHAPS THIS unexplained refusal is born out of fear that hearing the complaint would compel the court to rule either to dismiss, "deny", or rule favorably for Petitioners. To decide in a court of law, it is to be reasonably assumed that the court must, as a necessary first step, agree to hear the issues of contentions or disagreements between or amongst the parties called into its jurisdiction.

MANY HAD WISHED the court would have minimally heard the important election-related complaint placed before it, and then decide. It is settled practice and repeatedly asserted by the Supreme Court of Liberia, that the right to be heard sits at the heart of the Liberian society's commitment to governing under the rule of law.

IN THIS CASE, however, the court caved on its own foundational principle of justice. It declined to even hear the CPP. It declined to permit accused and accusers to come before it not only in equity but also in the preservation of the rule of law.

FOR MANY, INCLUDING Former President Sirleaf, the Supreme Court, acting through its Associate Justice in Chambers failed the most basic test of a long-held sense of common justice, and faltered in a dangerous dereliction of its sacred and constitutional responsibility to the country - a duty to be the anchor of Liberia's democracy.

LIKE THE CPP asserted in its Press Statement, a Justice in Chamber can elect to decline a petition brought before the court. However, the matter presented "strikes" at the integrity and credibility of Liberia's democracy, peace and security. This is not a matter to be declined!

AND YET, THE Associate Justice, acting for the Supreme Court of Liberia, did. Perhaps there is 'method to this madness'.

ON THE ONSET OF this administration, contrary to Article 73 of the Constitution which protects the actions and decisions of judges and justices acting in their official capacities, an Associate Justice, Kabinah Ja'neh, was politically tried by the Liberian Senate and removed from office. Perhaps the unconstitutional and political removal of Ja'neh has stained the courts and ushered it into a state of fear of political reprisals for judicial decisions and actions.

THIS IS NOT WITHOUT PRECEDENCE. The Liberian Judiciary and especially the Supreme Court suffered similar experience over a long period when President Doe orchestrated the political removal of Chief Justice Chea Cheapoo. For a long time thereafter, the courts wilted in overwhelming fear and trepidation of the Executive and the Leg-



islature.

SUCH WAS THE excessive control of the courts by the political branches that Doe would go on to publicly order the resignation of the James Nagbe Bench, and brazenly ordered his successor, Emmanuel Gbalazeh, in time, to reinstate his Justice Minister, Jenkins Scott, whose license had been suspended by a decision of the Supreme Court.

OVERNIGHT, CHIEF Justice Emmanuel Gbalazeh issued a press release in which he singularly recalled and nullified the collective decision of the Supreme Court. As an institution, the court lost its soul and became an empty shell for public derision and ridicule!

BEING THE ONLY JUSTICE to dissent against a decision not to call off the rerun in 2017 which the CDC eventually won, it was common knowledge that Ja'neh had drawn the contempt and anger of President Weah, and the CDC.

AT THE SAME TIME, it must also be said that the decision of the political branches to remove Ja'neh was facilitated and assisted by his colleagues with whom he sat on the Korkpor's Bench of the Supreme Court of Liberia. Ja'neh appealed to the Supreme Court to spare him the political ordeal, and thereby safe and keep the courts insulated from political reprisals. Ja'neh's colleagues ignored his plea and ruled that their own was worthy of the political vengeance.

CHIEF JUSTICE FRANCIS KORKPOR presided over Ja'neh's political removal by the Liberian Senate, and conferred an air of legitimacy around the obvious political exercise. This is despite the haunting fact that he (Korkpor), and all other Associate Justices with whom Ja'neh served, had agreed with the decision of Ja'neh who was in Chambers, and actually signed unto the decision assigning the full authority of the Supreme Court to Ja'neh's action.

LIKE CHEAPOO, JA'NEH WAS REMOVED. The cascade of the court's public reputation, up to and including this grave declination, has become noticeably alarming. Again, history shows, there are always long-lasting institutional consequences for politicizing the courts.

MIGHT LIBERIA AND Liberians be paying the price for failing to learn from history, and somehow predictably repeating it?

ALTHOUGH THE CONDUCT of free, fair and credible elections are critical to Liberia's peace and democracy, presented with a Petition from the opposition on the credibility of the conduct of the December 8 Polls, the Liberian Supreme Court is found wanting. Acting through its Justice in Chambers, the Supreme Court declined to bring itself to hear the complaint brought to it by four opposition political parties acting under the umbrella of the Collaborating Political Parties (CPP).

NOTABLY, THE CPP IS QUALIFIED to place such an important complaint before the bar of the Supreme Court of Liberia. The group draws its qualification from the Liberian Constitution, and has a certificate issued to it by the National Elections Commission (NEC), against whom it had complained. The Liberian Constitution makes political parties relevant stakeholders in the electoral process.

FOR MANY LIBERIANS, the CPP's Petition to the court seemed uncomplicated and straightforward.

The Petition is a matter that is squarely within the province of the Supreme Court to hear and decide. The CPP, according to the filing, requested the court to compel the NEC to clean up the Voters' Roll of 2017 on which the pending elections are to be conducted or adduce evidence that it has already done so.

INTERESTINGLY, CLEANING UP the Voters' Roll was not being instructed by the CPP. The decision to subject the 2017 Voters' Roll to a clean up was directed by the Supreme Court of Liberia on December 7, 2017, and recommended by the Special Technical Support Team of ECOWAS invited to support and assist in the 2017 Runoff Polls.

ON JUNE 5, 2020, the Legislature of Liberia also instructed the clean up of the same Roll as the basis for the conduct of "legitimate" Mid-term Senatorial Elections, which the Legislature postponed from October 13 to December 8.

ELLEN JOHNSON-SIRLEAF, the first female on the African Continent to be democratically-elected President of a country is right to describe Liberia's democracy as "hard-earned". Memories are still afresh about the consequences of individual failings and institutional derelictions - memories of personal grief and national implosion which we assailed to come to today.

AFTER YEARS OF DESTRUCTIONS, our troubled nation reasonably planted the nascent roots of a thriving young democracy in soil still freshly filtering the blood, sweat, and tears of so many Liberians and friends of Liberia. Liberians know that democracy, and its principles of equality of all men and women before the same law, would forever guarantee our peace, security, freedom, and stability.

MANY WERE JAILED, hunted, beaten, and suppressed for their fractured nation to be democratic - for the right to have their voices equally heard, their votes equally counted, and their rights equally protected as citizens of the same sovereign nation.

AS SUCH, FOR THE highest court to "decline", and refuse to hear a reasoned complaint on the credibility of Liberia's upcoming elections, is more than a stunning rebuke to the CPP. It is an unfortunate dishonor of the many lives lost so that our country will be governed not by individual desires and wishes - not by an appeal and invitation to lawlessness - but by the rule of law, and a courageous inclination to hear and say, without fear or favor, what the law truly is, for all citizens and groups.

THIS IS THE JUST and befitting tribute the courts can, and must continue to pay, for the sacrifices of the many who paid the ultimate price for Liberia's peace and democracy.

BY THE ARCHITECTURE of the Liberian State, the court is the anchor of Liberia's democracy. Declining to hear and decide matters relating to the credible conduct of elections in the country is a dereliction, in no small measure, of the function of the court.

IT MUST BE THE uncompromising mission of the court - no less the Supreme Court - to invite and keep its doors widely opened to contending parties who desire to peacefully and legally adjudicate all matters of national imperatives and consequences, especially those concerning the credible conduct of elections in the country.

IT IS FIRMLY ESTABLISHED that elections are triggers for conflicts, and in democratic societies, are the most sacred process of a democratic order. Therefore, one has to wonder, where did the Associate Justice, acting for the Supreme Court, expect the parties to take their concerns and complaint for just, peaceful and reasonable adjudication, if not to the courts?

HOW SOVEREIGN and peaceful can our nation and society hope to be if our courts are declining to hear matters affecting the credibility of our elections?

THIS DECLINATION is anything but trivial. It is grave. Indeed, it compromises the neutrality and independence of the court. By declining to even hear the CPP's Petition, the Associate Justice, acting for the court, perhaps thoughtfully, shielded the NEC and the Executive Branch from responding to the complaint of the CPP. In shielding the Executive and the NEC, the Associate Justice compromised the court by doing for an accused party what it should have been given the chance to do for itself. Had the Associate Justice conducted a formal hearing, she would have been obligated to hear from the NEC and the Executive.

THEREFORE, DECLINING, without formally hearing the complaint of the CPP means that the NEC and the Executive have no obligation to respond to the grave complaint of the CPP. Effectively, the NEC and the Executive does not have to say if it has cleaned up the Voters' Roll, nor do they have to provide any evidence that it has done so in keeping with repeated instructions to clean up the Voters' Roll, including from the Supreme Court itself.

WHAT COULD HAVE reasonably caused an Associate Justice, acting for the Supreme Court, to "decline" to hear a matter of such grave inputs to the conduct of free, fair and credible elections in the country?

WHAT COULD HAVE reasonably caused an Associate Justice to ignore the consequential fallout of conducting an election under evolving conditions of disagreements about the critical questions of legitimacy and credibility, and with a Voters' Roll which is variously identified as bearing the weight of undermining Liberia's quest for not only consolidating the gains of its infantile democracy, but also the nation's continued stability, security and peace?

WHOSE INTEREST is served by the Associate Justice, acting for the Supreme Court, to decline to hear, and thereby, refuse to enjoin the CPP, the Executive, and the NEC in a civilized undertaking of what is right for Liberia, in the continued protection of its peace, sovereignty and democracy?

IN DECLINING, where, and by what means, is the court asking political parties, who are important stakeholders in the elections, to contest their claims, accusations and grievances? Is the court inviting lawlessness and anarchy?

FORMER PRESIDENT SIRLEAF IS RIGHT. Her 29-word tweet is a call to responsible citizenship and sober reflection. All Liberians, friends of Liberia, and the international community must heed the warning. The independence, credibility and neutrality of the Liberian Supreme Court are growing in suspicion.

WHEN THE COURTS begin to fail and to cascade in public consideration, the society eventually falters and fails. Democracy is threatened where the courts exude the impression of being politically compromised. This, too, is the history of Liberia.

IN THE END, it is not how "hard-earned" Liberia's democracy is that matters. It is how hard Liberians are willing to keep and preserve their democracy.

THE CPP DESCRIBES the declination as "offensive". It truly is, not only for the CPP, but even more, for the entire Liberian nation.

WHAT IT ALSO IS, is defining. It is difficult not to view the declination for what it profoundly indicates - a definition of where Liberia is in relation to its commitment to govern under the rule of law. This declination, without the courage to entertain a formal hearing of the parties, defines the standard of the rule of law in the country as well as the progress of Liberia's democratic aspirations, or a lack thereof.

INDEED, THE DECLINATION by the Associate Justice, acting for the Supreme Court of Liberia, rises in relevance to define the society we are waywardly becoming.

MOBILISATION

Azania Bank chief urges youths to invest in firms listed on the Dar bourse

By Guardian Reporter

YOUTH should invest in stock exchange listed companies because they are safe and profitable vehicles which also allow them to own such firms as shareholders.

Azania Bank Limited's Managing Director, Charles Itembe said in Dar es Salaam yesterday while launching this year's edition of Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange Scholar Investment Challenge, that the bank which is the main sponsor of the competition understands the importance of youth participating in profitable investments.

"This competition is an opportunity for students in particular and young people in general to gain knowledge in DSE listed companies but also how the stock exchange operates to lure them as participants," Itembe said while pointing out that Azania Bank decided to sponsor the

competition to assist DSE's objective of sensitizing the public.

"Azania Bank considers this as commendable efforts by the stock exchange to link youths with listed companies but also equip them with stock trading and financial management skills," the Azania Bank Managing Director added.

He emphasised that financial literacy and stock trading are important subjects to be understood by the public especially youths who must understand that their future belongs to engaging in businesses including stock trading. "But this initiative falls under our corporate social responsibility policy which focuses on supporting the education sector," he noted.

DSE's Corporate Secretary, Mary Mniwasa said the competition which started in 2014 is geared towards sensitizing students regarding the functioning of the stock market and its

importance to the national economy.

Mniwasa said the annual completion is also an important avenue to impart stock market knowledge and skills to students and young people who have regarded investment in stocks of listed company as none of their business. "Since we started organizing this competition, it has made progress year after year because it enables youths to convene share knowledge and compete hence understanding the functioning of the stock market," she

said adding that the competition is open to secondary and college students who participate through DSE online platform.

The DSE Corporate Secretary further noted that the main objective of the DSE Scholar Investment Challenge Initiative is to impart knowledge of investment in capital markets and hence create a culture of saving and investment among the youths.

"Among other things, this initiative also aims to en-

hance financial management and entrepreneurial skills among Tanzanian youths and create sense of ownership, loyalty and association with peers by reaching out to them and create collective savings and investments," she added. The deadline for the competition is December this year.



Azania Bank managing director Charles Itembe (2nd-R) addresses journalists the launch of this year's DSE-Scholar Investment Challenge in Dar es Salaam yesterday. He is with by DSE chief legal counsel Mary Mniwasa (2nd L) and other officials. Photo courtesy of Azania Bank

PROTECTIONISM

Agro ecology stakeholders set for seed sovereignty dialogue next week

By Francis Kajubi

IN A bid to safeguard seed sovereignty in Africa, some 300 agro ecology and organic agriculture stakeholders from five countries of the continent will meet in Dar es Salaam next Monday to discuss on seed sovereignty and agro biodiversity conservation.

The public dialogue which is to be held at the University of Dar es Salaam is co-organized by Tanzania Organic Agriculture Movement and Tanzania Alliance for Biodiversity, will bring to-

gether experts of organic agriculture, biodiversity and climate change from Tanzania, Switzerland, South Africa, Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast.

TOAM CEO, Bakari Mongo said participants will come from public institutions, civil society organizations, the private sector, development partners, farmers, students from the higher learning institutions and media practitioners.

"With a theme, 'Towards seed sovereignty and agro biodiversity conservation in Tanzania, the dialogue will



TOAM CEO, Bakari Mongo

shade light on the essence and impact of indigenous seeds, quality declared seeds and hybrid seeds in agriculture against seeds made from genetic modified organisms," Mongo said.

He added, "The dialogue will in particular focus on encouraging farmers on the essence of indigenous seeds preservation." According to him, genetically modified crops are being promoted as panacea to address challenges in agriculture that lead to food insecurity and poor nutrition in Tanzania, Africa and the world at large.

"While there are postulated benefits of introducing and commercialization of GMOs in Tanzania, there are socio-economic impacts of their introduction of which majority of the public need to understand," the TOAM CEO added.

On his part, TABIO Organic Agriculture Coordinator, Abdallah Ramadhani said that seeds are the origin of a food chain and it is therefore everybody's inherent duty and responsibility to protect them and pass them to future generations to guarantee food security.

"The growing of seeds and the free

exchange of seeds among farmers has been the basis to maintaining biodiversity and our food sovereignty, so, we ought to protect and conserve their future use," Ramadhani argued.

While there are postulated benefits of introducing and commercialization of GMOs in Tanzania, there are socioeconomic impacts of their

CROSSHAIR

Zambian Finance minister says bondholders solely to blame for default on debts

LUSAKA

ZAMBIA'S Finance Minister Bwalya Ng'andu has said bondholders brought last week's default upon themselves because they refused to sign confidentiality agreements that would have allowed him to share more information on debts from Chinese lenders.

In a near hour-long interview broadcast on state television late Sunday, Ng'andu also called on the International Monetary Fund for support as he tries to convince commercial creditors to accept an interest payment holiday while Zambia restructures as much as \$12 billion in external debt.

Zambia on Friday missed a \$42.5 million interest payment on one of its Eurobonds, becoming Africa's first pandemic-era sovereign default. The default was unavoidable because the

country, which had received some debt relief from Chinese lenders, had to treat all creditors equally, Ng'andu said.

Bondholders were concerned any relief they granted would be used to service debts to Chinese lenders, which account for more than a quarter of Zambia's external liabilities. They also wanted more transparency and a credible economic recovery plan, preferably with the International Monetary Fund's endorsement. Some key comments from the interview:

On defaulting:

"The information they wanted required very elaborate information relating to loans we have with other creditors. The view and position of the other creditors was, OK, you can do it but you must first have a confidentiality agreement with bondhold-



Zambian Finance minister Bwalya Ng'andu.

ers. As it turned out, they didn't sign. The position of the Chinese banks is you're not going to give anybody any information" without the confidentiality agreements in place.

"The issue of paying bondholders alone is a fundamental issue to the other creditors. If I pay, the moment I pay, the other creditors are going to put dynamite under my legs and blow off my legs. I'm gone. I can't walk anymore. If I don't pay the bondholders, my legs will remain intact, but I'll probably have a shot in the arm, and I'll be bleeding in the arm. I can walk."

On talks with the IMF:

"A team is supposed to be coming next month for us to finalise agreement on exactly what specific instrument we are going to use. Is it the extended credit facility, is it a staff-monitored program? All those are the things that we need now to discuss. It's not like there's no engagement going on. There's a lot of talking going on behind the scenes. The director for Africa will be coming most likely next month to continue the process."

"I said to them imagine being us; a man drowning in a fast-flowing river. And you, the IMF, are standing by the bank with your arms folded and I'm screaming to you, help me, I'm drowning. And then you say to me, oh, we'll help you when you come out of the water. That's not helpful."

On debt transparency:

"Right now, we have given out a lot of information. To the extent that there is not very much left to be hidden, if there was anything to be hidden. There may be challenges around the issue of trust, but the fact of the matter is that the information is available and we will give it."

GENEROSITY

Bezos climate fund provides first round of grants worth \$791m

NEW YORK

JEFF Bezos has announced the first grant recipients from \$10 billion pledged to combat climate change, earmarking \$791 million for donations to environmental organisations.

The first 16 groups receiving dona-

tions from the Amazon.com founder's Bezos Earth Fund include non-profit stalwarts such as the Environmental Defense Fund and the World Wildlife Fund. The announcement came on Monday in an Instagram post, where Mr Bezos also revealed the fund's existence in February. At the time, he said it

would begin issuing grants in the summer.

Contributions, detailed in press releases by some recipients, include \$10m for the Rocky Mountain Institute's work reducing greenhouse gas emissions from buildings and \$100m each to the EDF, WWF and World Re-

sources Institute.

Mr Bezos, the world's richest person, had been criticised for a paltry philanthropic record before ramping up his contributions in recent years. His company, meanwhile, faced a revolt from employees who said Amazon had been slow to address its impact on climate

change. The world's largest online retailer has since announced plans to eliminate and offset its contribution to greenhouse gases warming the planet.

Technology giants have pivoted to focus on sustainability after mounting pressure from activists to reduce their emissions. Microsoft, one of Amazon's

cloud computing rivals, said it would invest up to \$1bn to back technology that could help remove carbon from the earth's atmosphere. Many companies have also joined Amazon in The Climate Pledge programme, which pledges to meet the Paris Agreement goals 10 years before they are due.

EXPANSION

Telco's 'Vuka Boda' campaign takes services to more than 200 countries

By Guardian Reporter

AIRTEL Money's innovative cross border money transfer services has now been extended to 200 countries globally making the platform one of the largest medium in the domestic market.

Announcing the latest development in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Airtel Tanzania Plc's Director of Airtel Money, Isack Nchunda said 'Vuka Boda' said the platform now allows customers to receive money from 200 countries worldwide and thus enabling them to send and received cash in their mobile wallets both in urban and rural areas.

"Airtel Money subscribers can receive money transfers directly to their mobile wallets without the need for a bank account or internet connection. Our vision has always been to provide unique and affordable products and services which fit in to the daily lives of customers," Nchunda said.

He noted that when the telco started 'Vuka Boda' campaign one month ago teaming up with

world recognized international remittance companies which included Thunes, TERAPAY, MFS Africa and money transfer operators such as World Remit, Ria, Remitly, Master Remit, Small World, Paypal, Payquick, Western Union and Mama Money, many instantly subscribed to the service.

"The launch is aimed at further promoting and deepening financial inclusion among Tanzanians. As per the latest statistics from Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority, Tanzania has more than 30.5 million mobile money subscriptions with total mobile money transactions value pegged at more than 11.5trn/- by September 2020," he added.

Commenting on launch, Airtel Tanzania Communications Manager, Jackson Mmbando said mobile money has already helped reduce transaction costs, improved safety for individuals and businesses, and enhanced the efficiency of the economy by reducing the need for users to travel long distances to make

transactions.

"Receiving money directly into your Airtel Money wallets from over 200 countries enhances financial inclusion in Tanzania in line with the government's policy," Mmbando said while adding that the platform remains among the most rapidly growing mobile money network with over 13 million registered customers in the country and is currently connected to over 1,000 companies including utility service providers and over 40 financial institutions. In addition, Airtel Tanzania is rapidly expanding across the country with more than 1,700 Airtel Money Branches.

The launch is aimed at further promoting and deepening financial inclusion among Tanzanians. As per the latest statistics from Tanzania Communications



Airtel Tanzania communication and public relations manager, Jackson Mmbando speaking to journalists during the launch of 'Vuka Boda' campaign in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Right is Airtel Money director, Isack Nchunda. Photo courtesy of Airtel Tanzania.

INVESTMENT

Agro-college chiefs laud SBL's scholarship scheme for disadvantaged students

By Guardian Reporter

SERENGETI Breweries Limited's scholarship scheme which targets students coming from poor families with a farming background has assisted hundreds to access agrarian higher education while also contributing towards the nation's boost in agro-experts.

Agro-college heads from Coast Region, Iringa and Kilimanjaro Regions paid tribute to SBL's management for the funding which has also helped boost their colleges financially.

Bagamoyo based Kaole Wazazi College of Agriculture's Principal, Sinani Simba said last week that SBL's generosity should be applauded because it has not only changed individuals lives but also adding value to the agriculture sector.

"The support is not only a much-sought-after short-in-the-arm for qualified students who could not afford college fees but also illustrates SBL's commitment to the development of the agriculture sector in the country," Simba said.

He noted that the training of agricultural experts is one of the priorities spelt out in the country's Agriculture Sector Development Program Phase II, being a prerequisite to increasing productivity and income generation for farmers.

"We are very grateful to SBL because 'Kilimo-Viwanda' Scholarship program is among the initiatives that are supporting our colleges to foster the growth of the agricultural sector in the country," he added while noting that the brewer's initiative is changing lives in rural Tanzania.

Simba's observations were backed by his Kilimanjaro based Kilacha Agricultural and Livestock Training Center's peer, Benito Mwenda who equally hailed the brewer for the generous investment adding value to the nation's economic backbone.

"SBL's gesture speaks volumes in its keenness to enhance training of agro-experts that the country needs badly to transform the agriculture sector," Mwenda said while noting that having an adequate pool of trained experts, is an important aspects towards attaining an agrarian revolution that will trigger the industrial growth.

Iringa based Saint Maria Goretti College of Agriculture's Principal, Isaya Kidava joined his two peers in backing the SBL investment saying the sponsorship to needy students from fami-



Serengeti Breweries Limited's managing director, Mark Ocitti (L-seated) and Kaole Wazazi College of Agriculture's principal, Sinani Simba (R-seated) in a group photo with some beneficiaries of 'Kilimo Viwanda' Scholarships during this year's launch in Dar es Salaam recently. Courtesy of SBL.

lies with a farming background boosts efforts to increase the number of extension officers in the country.

"Extension officers are an important group of people in our agriculture sector hence SBL's investment is very commendable. Adoption of good agricultural practices and intensive provision of extension services to farmers have consistently demonstrated high rates of return in various countries," Kidava noted.

Suffice it to say, with more and more occupations requiring advanced education, a college degree or diploma is critical to one's success in

today's workforce, he added while stressing that government efforts to revolutionise agriculture needs backing from companies such as SBL.

Commenting on the scholarship, SBL's Managing Director, Mark Ocitti said 'Kilimo-Viwanda' Scholarship Program's overall aim is to beef up the existing pool of experts in the agricultural sector to support farmers increase their productivity.

Ocitti said the scheme targets qualified, needy students who originate from the areas where the brewer supports its agri-business program so once the students acquire the relevant skills, they will be able to provide the much-needed exten-

sion services thus imparting them to the farmers to increase yields.

In all, SBL's agribusiness program supports over 400 farmers of cereals such as maize, sorghum, wheat and barley with the relevant farming inputs to enable them boost production of raw materials that the brewer uses for its beer production.

"We have so far provided scholarship to 70 students from four agro-colleges in the country and they include Igabiro Training Institute of Agriculture in Kagera Region with the scholarships catering for their tuition fees for the entire academic tenure in colleges," the SBL chief noted.

BREAKTHROUGH

Zambia sees deal with Glencore over Mopani

LUSAKA

ZAMBIA expects to conclude talks over buying Glencore Plc's stake in Mopani Copper Mines Plc within a month, according to Barnaby Mulenga, permanent secretary in the Ministry of Mines.

Mulenga declined to disclose the size of the stake that state-owned ZCCM Investments Holdings is trying to acquire. ZCCM-IH currently has 10% of Mopani, with Glencore holding 73.1% and Vancouver-based First Quantum Minerals Ltd. 16.9%.

Zambia wants to raise its hold-

ing after clashing with Glencore earlier this year over the company's plan to mothball Mopani's operations. But it's unclear how the cash-strapped government, which last week defaulted on a Eurobond interest payment, would finance a deal. While impairments of \$1.14 billion at Mopani contributed to Glencore posting a first-half loss, the Switzerland-based commodity giant still assigned a value of \$704 million to the operations.

Mulenga expects a deal to be announced in the coming weeks by Mines Minister Richard Mu-



Zambia's permanent secretary in the Ministry of Mines, Barnaby Mulenga.

sukwa, who said in September that both companies were prepared to sell their entire holding in Mopani. Zambia won't have trouble raising finance for the deal, according to Mulenga, even though no money will

come from the Treasury.

"The resource attracts money, so the issue of financing is the least of the worries for the Zambian government," Mulenga said in an interview on Thursday, referring to Mopani's

copper-mining operations. He didn't give further details. A spokesman for Glencore declined to comment. First Quantum spokesman John Gladston also declined to comment.

Mining disputes

Glencore shelved its plans to place the operations under care and maintenance for 90 days, after Zambia threatened to revoke its mining license in April. The government strategy is driven by a need to safeguard jobs at Mopani, rather than any desire to raise its shareholding, said Mulenga.

Zambia's increasingly tense relations with investors in the key copper-mining industry may partly reflect maneuvering by President Edgar Lungu ahead of next year's elections. The government is also in arbitration over mining assets it seized last year from billionaire Anil Agarwal's Vedanta Resources Ltd. Other copper miners have halted \$2 billion of planned investments because of a dispute over a royalty tax. A mining conference later this year will seek to address that issue, Mulenga said.

Zambia, Africa's No. 2 copper producer, relies on the metal for about 70% of its export earnings. The impact of the coronavirus pandemic is forecast to cut output this year to about 764,188 tons, far short of the nation's target of 1 million tons, according to Zambia Chamber of Mines. "Hopefully we will come to some consensus to what should this tax regime look like," Mulenga said.

BAILOUT

BNI disburses more than US\$9.4 million in financing to companies

MAPUTO

THE National Investment Bank (BNI) has already disbursed more than US\$9.4 million projects under the two credit lines supporting micro, small and medium enterprises (SMEs) severely affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, a third report by the Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF), on the "State of Play of Commitments to Partners within Covid-19: October Position" reveals.

The MEF report recalls that the BNI created the Special Credit Committee for the evaluation and approval of project financing under the two credit lines: one in the amount of US\$15 million financed by state budget, and another in the amount of US\$9 million financed by funds from the National Social Security Institute (INSS).

Based on the total value of US\$24 million, the MEF says that the Special Credit Committee approved 151 project proposals from around the country in the amount of US\$18.9 million, (about 1.2 billion meticals) leaving about US\$5 million (about 335 million meticals) yet to be allocated.

"More than half of the amount approved has already been disbursed to the beneficiaries," the report reads, concluding that, by October, the BNI had financed projects to the tune of more than US\$ 9.4 million.

The MEF clarifies that, regarding the amount not yet disbursed, the BNI is waiting for the proponents themselves to present the necessary documents. A total of 925 companies competed for support under the credit lines in question, of which 151 proposals were approved. Of the total, the trade sector stood out with 30%, followed by livestock (22%), industry (8%), agriculture and education (6%), and tourism (4%).

The MEF report recalls that the BNI created the Special Credit Committee for the evaluation and approval of project financing under the two credit lines: one in the amount of US\$15 million financed by state budget, and another in the amount of US\$9 million financed by funds from the National Social Security Institute

WORLD

Trump's reversal snuffs out poll shift

WASHINGTON

US President Donald Trump worked on Sunday to take back an apparent acknowledgment that Democrat Joe Biden won the White

House and was making clear he would keep trying to overturn the election result.

Trump's earlier comments had given some critics and supporters hope that the White House was ready to begin working on a transition with Biden's team. Not so fast, Trump would soon assure.

Trump, without using Biden's name, said that "He won" as part of a tweet that made baseless claims about a "rigged" election. But as the Republican president saw how his comments were being interpreted as his first public acknowledgment of a Biden victory, Trump quickly reversed course.

"He only won in the eyes of the fake news media," Trump tweeted. "I concede nothing! We have a long way to go. This was a rigged election!"

According to major media outlets, there was no widespread fraud in the Nov 3 election. Trump's campaign has tried to mount legal challenges across the country, but many of the lawsuits have been thrown out and none has included any evidence that the outcome might be reversed.

Biden defeated Trump by winning back a trio of battleground states: Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania, and topped the 270 electoral vote threshold to clinch the presidency, media said. Biden so far has 78.8 million votes while Trump has 73.1 million.

Arkansas' Republican governor Asa Hutchinson said "it was good, actually" to see Trump's tweet that Biden



President Donald Trump

won. "I think that's the start of an acknowledgment. ... We want to make sure that there is a smooth transition," he said on NBC.

21 arrests made

Persuading those who voted for Trump may also be a different matter.

On Saturday, nearly 10,000 Trump supporters rallied in Washington to back his claims of fraud massing in Washington's Freedom Plaza before marching to the Supreme Court in a raucous atmosphere.

The demonstrations went from tense to vio-

lent during the night and early on Sunday. Videos posted on social media showed fights, projectiles and clubs as Trump backers sparred with those demanding they take their MAGA hats and banners and leave. Police said they made 21 arrests on a variety of charges, including assault and weapons possession, and recovered eight firearms. Four officers were injured.

Trump himself had given an approving nod to the gathering on Saturday morning by sending his motorcade through streets lined with supporters before rolling on to his Virginia golf club. People chanted "USA, USA" and "four more years", and many carried US national flags and signs to show their displeasure with the vote tally.

Confrontations appeared later in the day as small groups of Trump supporters attempted to enter the area around Black Lives Matter Plaza, about a block from the White House, where several hundred anti-Trump demonstrators had gathered.

The "Million MAGA March" was heavily promoted on social media, raising concerns that it could spark conflict with anti-Trump demonstrators, who have gathered near the White House in Black Lives Matter Plaza for weeks.

Several other cities also saw gatherings of Trump supporters. Cries of "Stop the Steal" and "Count Every Vote" rang out despite a lack of evidence of voter fraud or other problems that could reverse the result.

In recent days, Trump appeared to be inching closer to acknowledging the reality of his loss. The Associated Press reported. In comments on Friday in the Rose Garden about a coronavirus vaccine, Trump said his administration would "not be going to a lockdown" to slow the spread of COVID-19, and added "whatever happens in the future, who knows which administration it will be? I guess time will tell".

Agencies

Putin approves new Russian naval facility in Sudan

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin on Monday approved the creation of a Russian naval facility in Sudan capable of mooring nuclear-powered surface vessels, clearing the way for Moscow's first substantial military foothold in Africa since the Soviet fall.

The new facility, earmarked to be built in the vicinity of Port Sudan, will be capable of accommodating up to 300 military and civilian personnel and improve Russia's ability to operate in the Indian Ocean, expanding its influence in Africa.

Putin presided over a flagship

Russia-Africa summit last year, an event designed to increase Russian sway on the continent, and two nuclear-capable Russian bombers landed in South Africa at the same time in a show of intent.

Putin, in a decree published on Monday, said he had approved a Russian government proposal to set up a naval logistics hub in Sudan and ordered the defence ministry to sign an agreement to make it happen.

A draft document related to the issue made public earlier this month by the government spoke of a facility that could moor no more than four ships at the same time. The hub would be used for



repair and resupply operations and as a place where Russian naval personnel could take rest, it said. The land for the base will be sup-

plied for free by Sudan and Moscow would get the right to bring in any weapons, ammunition and other equipment it needs through the Sudan's airports and ports to support the new facility.

Russia has a similar facility at the port of Tartus in Syria, a country where it also operates an air base.

Moscow is keen to increase its influence in Africa, a continent with 54 United Nations member states, sprawling mineral wealth, and potentially lucrative markets for Russian-manufactured weapons.

Djibouti is home to Chinese, US and French naval bases, while other navies often use its port.

The state-controlled TASS news agency has predicted that the new facility will make it easier for the Russian Navy to operate in the Indian Ocean by being able to fly in replacement crews for its long-range ships.

It has also forecast that Russia will fortify its new African outpost with advanced surface-to-air missile systems, allowing it to create a no-fly zone for miles around.

"Our base in Sudan will be another argument for others to hear us and take heed," said an opinion piece in TASS about the new facility.

Agencies

UNCTAD sees RCEP boosting regional FDI significantly

GENEVA

THE United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) believes that the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) agreement signed among its 15 participating countries could give a significant boost to foreign direct investment in the region.

While the investment provisions in the agreement "mostly consolidate existing market access as contained in myriad bilateral agreements", the provisions related to market access and disciplines in trade, services and e-commerce "are highly relevant for regional value chains and market-seeking investment," the Geneva-based UN trade and development body said in its special issue of Investment Trends Monitor released late Sunday.

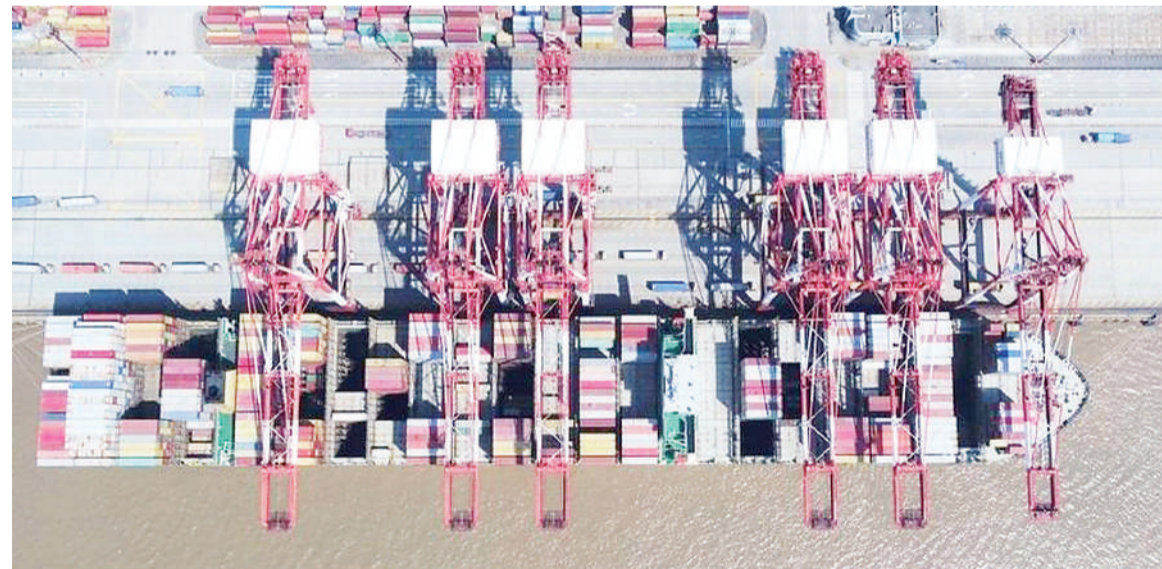
Participating countries which sealed the deal on Sunday include the 10 member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and China, Japan, South Korea, Australia and New Zealand.

The 15 participating countries of the RCEP account for around 30 percent of the global population, global gross domestic product and 28 percent of global trade, thus forming the world's biggest free trade bloc.

"RCEP is already an important foreign direct investment (FDI) destination. It accounts for 16 percent of global FDI stock and more than 24 percent of flows. While global FDI has been stagnant for the last decade, the RCEP group has shown a consistent upward trend until last year," the report stated.

However, compared with other major economic groupings such as the European Union, the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement and the Trans Pacific Partnership, the current level of intra-regional investment is still low in RCEP. "The agreement could provide further impetus to strengthen intra-regional flows," it noted.

The report said that a key opportunity would lie in the diversity within RCEP, which "can lift investment prospects through complementary



Container dock of Yangshan Port of Shanghai, East China. XINHUA

locational advantages and catch-up development potential." "RCEP could be a growth opportunity for several smaller economies in the group that currently have a peripheral role in global value chains," the report added. The UNCTAD warned that the agreement comes at a time

of "major upheaval" caused by COVID-19. It estimated that the pandemic will lead to a drop in FDI in the region of about 15 percent. However, it added, "this compares favorably to a fall of 30-40 percent in global FDI."

The UNCTAD said that investment policy priorities for the partnership

should include boosting investment in infrastructure, clean energy and healthcare, supporting resilience-seeking FDI, as well as promoting investment for development in least developed country signatories.

Xinhua

Xinjiang builds community-based elderly care facilities to offer more convenience for senior residents

A total of 207 community-based elderly care facilities were built this year in 22 extremely impoverished counties in 4 prefectures in southern Xinjiang Uygur autonomous region.

All of these facilities have been put into use by the end of June this year, housing all senior citizens that need care in these regions.

These facilities play an important role in alleviating the burdens of rural, especially impoverished households, and offer a great place for the seniors to enjoy their twilight years.

In a nursing home in Yuepuhu

county, Kashgar, live 82 senior residents. Amat Dawut, 75, is one of them.

The senior's son is working out-of-town, so his daughter-in-law has to manage all the farmland at home, as well as 2 cattle and 20 sheep.

In addition, they had two school-age children. "When my daughter-in-law was busy farming, she barely had time to eat on time," Amat said. To take care of him, his son had to always come back home, so the income was unstable.

Thanks to the new community-based elderly care facility, Amat's problems are solved.

The facility not only offers meals and medical services, but also has personnel that do laundry for the seniors.

"My daughter-in-law now has enough time to take care of the family, and my son can also be at ease working outside," Amat said, adding that his family income has increased a lot.

According to Jia Guowen, deputy director of the social assistance office for poverty alleviation under Xinjiang's civil affairs department, the 207 elderly care facilities have all been equipped with principals and a total of 3,092 care givers.

All of these staff have received

relevant training. The civil affairs department also issued working guidance to regulate the operation and management of these elderly care facilities.

Every one of these facilities has a medical worker, and all seniors have their own health profiles. Medical worker Guzenur Abuliz told People's Daily that the facility is able to treat common chronic diseases, and the facility is only 5 minutes of drive to the nearest health center.

Guzenur said that once acute diseases happen, the seniors will soon be sent to the health

center and superior hospitals. "Twenty-five seniors in our facility are now living in hospitals, and will come back after treatment," Guzenur added.

These elderly care facilities not only offer a great nursing place, but also create jobs for local villagers.

Azguri Abulahat was once a stay-at-home mom in Khayigula village, Yuepuhu county who had taken care of senior residents in her village. After receiving training courses, she came to work at a local community-based elderly care facility.

"I have a shift every 24 hours, and earn 2,300 yuan (\$348.68)

per month," she told People's Daily, adding that the job also offers her social insurance. Her family's livelihood was on a rise, she said.

Yutian county, home to a 667-hectare grape plantation base, has allocated the revenue of 133 hectares of the base to guarantee the operation of 4 of its elderly care facilities.

Zhang Weiquan, head of the local civil affairs department, introduced that the sites of these facilities are all selected in favor of the seniors' demands and near the residences of the seniors.

The 133 hectares of the grape

Blocked Biden advisers to meet vaccine makers

NEWYORK

SCIENTISTS on Democrat Joe Biden's transition team plan to meet with vaccine makers in the coming days to get around US President Donald Trump's blocking the team from distribution plans for the biggest vaccination effort in US history.

"We're going to start those consultations this week," Biden's chief of staff, Ron Klain, said on Sunday, citing Pfizer and other pharmaceutical companies.

He said Biden's scientific advisers need a detailed understanding of distribution plans being put together by the Department of Health and Human Services and the Pentagon. In some ways, that's the more critical issue, he said.

"It's great to have a vaccine. But vaccines don't save lives, vaccinations save lives. And that means you've got to get that vaccine into people's arms all over this country. It's a giant logistical project," Klain said.

Trump's refusal to concede the election has prevented the transition process from formally beginning.

The General Services Administration, or GSA, has yet to "ascertain" the winner. This leaves Biden and his advisers without intelligence briefings and the usual resources given to a president-elect for a smooth transition. It means those working to develop the vaccine-distribution plan can't share it with those who will take over in January.

"What we really want to see this week is the GSA issue that ascertainment," Klain said, which would enable Biden's team to meet with public health officials and receive intelligence briefings.

Anthony Fauci, the government's top infectious disease expert, said on Sunday on CNN about working with Biden's transition team: "Of course, it would be better if we could start working with them."

"I have been through multiple transitions now, having served six presidents for 36 years," he said. "And it's very clear that the transition process that we go through, that time period measured in several weeks to months, is really important in a smooth handing over of the information."

"Passing a baton"

"It's almost like passing a baton in a race you don't want to stop and then give it to somebody," Fauci said of the transition. "You want to just essentially keep going."

WHO 'extremely concerned' by surge in COVID-19 cases in Europe, Americas

GENEVA

THE World Health Organization (WHO) said on Monday that it's "extremely concerned" by the recent surge in COVID-19 cases in some countries, particularly in Europe and the Americas.

"Right now we are extremely concerned by the surge in cases we're seeing in some countries. Particularly in Europe and the Americas, health workers and health systems are being pushed to the breaking point," WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus (pictured) said at a press briefing.

He warned that "those countries that are letting the virus run unchecked are playing with fire," as there will be "further needless deaths and suffering," a significant number of people experiencing long-term effects of the virus, and health workers in particular facing "extreme mental health pressure and cases severely burdening health systems in too many countries."

According to the latest WHO statistics, as of 2:59 p.m. CET (Central European Time) on Monday, the organization's regional offices in Europe and the Americas had respectively recorded 15,266,390 and 23,190,772 confirmed COVID-19 cases, including 344,459 and 679,201 deaths.

The two regions combined have recorded more than 70 percent of the overall confirmed cases and over 77 percent of all COVID-19 deaths worldwide. Many countries in the two regions have reported record daily spikes in infection in the past few weeks.

"There is no excuse for inaction. My message is very clear: act fast, act now, act decisively," urged Tedros.

He added that the WHO and its partners are working with governments and health leaders to ensure cover for health workers who are sick, enough beds for COVID-19 patients and for essential health services to continue safely, and enough masks, gloves and other protective equipment.

"A laissez-faire attitude to the virus, not using the full range of tools available, leads to death, suffering and hurts livelihoods and economies," he warned, and asked governments to put restrictions in place so that "there is once again a narrow window of time to strengthen key systems."

Xinhua



People's Daily

Ethiopia to advance on Tigray's capital as surrender deadline passes

ADDIS ABABA

ETHIOPIA'S prime minister warned yesterday that a deadline for rebel northern forces to lay down arms had expired, paving the way for a final push on the Tigray region's capital in a two-week conflict destabilizing the Horn of Africa.

"The three-day ultimatum given to Tigray Special Forces and the militia to surrender ... has ended today," Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed said on Facebook. "The final critical act of law enforcement will be done in the coming days."

Abiy, Africa's youngest leader and the 2019 Nobel Peace Prize winner, launched air strikes and a ground offensive on Nov 4 after accusing the local ruling party, the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), of armed mutiny against his authority.

Tigrayan leaders say Abiy, 44, who comes from the largest ethnic group the Oromo, has persecuted and purged them from government and security positions since taking office in 2018.

Tigrayan forces fired rockets into the neighboring nation of Eritrea this weekend, widening a conflict which has already killed hundreds - one diplomatic source said thousands - of combatants and civilians, and sent 25,000 refugees into Sudan.

With communications mainly down and media barred, Reuters could not independently verify asser-

tions made by any side.

Abiy's warning came after his forces struck unspecified TPLF targets outside the Tigray capital Mekelle, a government emergency task-force said.

"The Ethiopian National Defense Forces indeed undertook precision-led and surgical air operations outside of Mekelle city," it said, adding that civilian areas were avoided.

'Heavier fighting likely'

There was no immediate response from Tigray's leaders, though they have accused federal forces of knocking out a dam and a sugar factory as well as "mercilessly" attacking people in the region of more than 5 million.

Tigrayan forces might seek to dig in as the military advances into the more mountainous terrain towards Mekelle, said Matt Bryden, founder of Nairobi-based regional think-tank Sahan.

"I would guess as they (the Ethiopian army) enter the highlands, heavier fighting is likely to start," he said.

With hundreds of thousands of Tigrayans dependent on food aid even before the conflict, suffering is worsening fast even as United Nations and aid agency staff are scaling back for security reasons.

A convoy of four buses and several cars, carrying about 400 foreigners from Mekelle, was expected to arrive in the capital Addis Ababa on Wednesday, five diplomatic sources said.



Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed

Another convoy of about 200 people, mainly workers for international organizations, reached the capital on Monday.

The United Nations and governments around Europe and Africa are pressing for talks and even the Nobel committee expressed deep concern and called for peace in a rare comment on the actions of a past laureate.

But Abiy has resisted, saying he will only negotiate when rule of law is re-

stored in Tigray.

On Monday, his foreign minister went to Uganda and Kenya, while a Nigerian former president flew to Addis Ababa. Diplomats described a growing push for negotiations, but Ethiopia said it was simply explaining an internal conflict to outsiders.

TPLF bank accounts frozen

Ethiopia, Africa's second-most populous country, has long been a dip-

lomatic and economic heavyweight and Western ally in a region of conflict, poverty and Islamist militancy.

Abiy has appealed for refugees to come home as his government promises the war will end quickly, though experts fear a protracted conflict given considerable military muscle on both sides.

The fighting could jeopardize the recent opening up of Ethiopia's economy, stir ethnic bloodshed elsewhere around the vast nation of 115 million people, and tarnish the reputation of Abiy who won his Nobel for pursuing peace with Eritrea.

The federal forces comprise around 140,000 personnel and are battle-hardened from fighting Somali militants, rebels in border regions and Eritrea in the past. But many senior officers were Tigrayan, much powerful weaponry is there, and the TPLF has seized the powerful Northern Command's headquarters in Mekelle.

The TPLF itself is a formidable rival also with a proud history: it spearheaded the rebel march to Addis Ababa that ousted a Marxist dictatorship in 1991 and bore the brunt of the 1998-2000 war with Eritrea that killed hundreds of thousands.

State-affiliated Fana TV said Ethiopia had frozen the bank accounts of 34 TPLF institutions including construction, trading, engineering, printing, electrical and bus companies.

Agencies

Xi urges high-quality development of Yangtze River Economic Belt

NANJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping has stressed efforts to implement the spirit of the fifth plenary session of the 19th Central Committee of the Communist Party of China (CPC) and promote the high-quality development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt.



Xi, also general secretary of the CPC Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks on Saturday in Nanjing, Jiangsu Province, at a symposium he chaired on comprehensively advancing the development of the Yangtze River Economic Belt.

He called for efforts to write a new chapter in prioritizing ecological conservation and boosting green development, create a new model for regional coordinated development, create a new height for high-level opening-up, foster advantages in innovation-led development, and draw a new painting featuring harmony between nature, the people and the cities.

Such efforts are aimed at turning the Yangtze River Economic Belt into the country's main focus for green development, the major artery for a smooth "dual circulation" of domestic and international markets, and the main force spearheading high-quality economic development, he said.

After hearing reports from seven officials that include ministers and provincial Party chiefs, Xi said over the past five years, transitional changes have taken place in the ecological and environmental protection along the Yangtze River Economic Belt while historical achievements have been achieved in the area's economic and social development.

Xinhua

Iran vows crushing response after Trump attack report

DUBAI

ANY US attack against Iran would face a "crushing" response, an Iranian government said yesterday about reports that US President Donald Trump asked for

options for attacking Iran's main nuclear site last week but decided against doing so.

"Any action against the Iranian nation would certainly face a crushing response," spokesman Ali Rabiee said

in remarks streamed on an official government website.

Trump made the request during an Oval Office meeting on Thursday with his top national security aides, including Vice-President Mike Pence, Secretary of State

Mike Pompeo, new acting Defense Secretary Christopher Miller and General Mark Milley, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff.

The official confirmed the account of the meeting in The New York Times,

which reported that the advisers persuaded Trump not to go ahead with a strike because of the risk of a broader conflict.

"He asked for options. They gave him the scenarios and he ultimately decided

not to go forward," the official said.

The White House declined comment.

Trump has spent all four years of his presidency engaging in an aggressive policy against Iran, withdrawing

from the Iran nuclear deal negotiated by his Democratic predecessor, Barack Obama, and imposing economic sanctions against a wide variety of Iranian targets.

Agencies

Bamboo and rattan industry weaves a bridge to advance South-South cooperation

NiiNamooale Obiba is the owner of a bambooware shop in a business street near the Kumasi Zoo in Kumasi city, Ghana. Even though the outbreak of COVID-19 led to a plunge in the number of tourists, his shop is still frequented by local residents.

Obiba makes and sells a wide range of bamboo and rattan products, such as tables, chairs, sofas and beds. He also sometimes customizes furniture as required by his clients.

According to the man, both his skills and income have been tremendously improved after he participated in a training program jointly launched by the International Bamboo and Rattan Organization (INBAR) and China.

As the first intergovernmental organization established in China, the INBAR is committed to maintain sustainable development of bamboo and rattan resources. The organization has just celebrated the 23rd anniversary of its founding on Nov.6, 2020.

As China is continuously enhancing its support for the work of the INBAR, the advanced technology and experience of its bamboo industry are being spread to the world in a faster pace. As a result, the bamboo and rattan industry is contributing an important part to promoting South-South cooperation and the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

George Sarpong, a friend of Obiba's, comes from the Bono Region of Ghana, and is also a bamboo craftsman. He participated in



A Ghanaian woman shows bamboo weaving skills she has learnt in Qingshen county, dubbed as "International Bamboo City" in southwest China's Sichuan province, Oct. 12, 2016. File photo

a bamboo skill training program held by the INBAR in Qingshen county, southwest China's Sichuan province, in 2016.

"The Chinese masters were really skillful and I learnt such techniques as 3D and 2D bamboo weaving and bamboo furniture making in just two months under their instruction," he said. "It was such a pity that I had to leave," Sarpong added.

Chinese bamboo craftsmen, in the past two years, made frequent visits to Ghana to offer training courses, so that local bambooware makers could master the techniques without going out of their country.

Being trained in China, Sarpong is also an instructor for local craftsmen in his hometown. "I showed the villagers how amazing bamboo is and have instructed 35 ap-

prentices. All of them have started their own businesses," Sarpong said. The man explained that he hopes to pass on the knowledge he learnt in China to younger generations in his own country so as to help them become able to make a living.

Like Obiba and Sarpong, many bamboo craftsmen in Africa have benefited from the INBAR training program.

Aiming to involve peasant households in Africa into the value chain of bamboo products through skill training, the program has received strong support from China. As the bamboo industry is witnessing expanding commercial development, bamboo growers and loggers are also embracing new opportunities.

To avoid damages to the wild bamboo forests while chopping

them, which might hinder the sustainable use of resources, the INBAR has drawn from the experience of China and provided forest management training in rural areas of Ghana. So far, nearly 100 peasant households in Ghana have received the training and learnt about protecting, planting, logging and managing bamboo forests.

In rural Ecuador, buildings and bridges made by Guadua bamboo are seen everywhere. The special bamboo native to South America is favorable building materials.

Last year, China launched three training sessions of bamboo processing skills for Ecuadorans, one in China, and two in Ecuador. The training was organized by the International Centre for Bamboo and Rattan (ICBR), a scientific research, management and training institution established by the Chinese government to support the INBAR in fulfilling its mission.

The Ecuadoran trainees cherished the opportunity very much and learnt earnestly.

Jose Enrique Alarcon Silva, who was almost 60 years old and engaged in tourism services, had to spend four hours a day on the road to the site of the training.

When asked why he invested so much time in learning bamboo weaving skills, he responded that the bamboo business was a great opportunity to thicken his pockets. "I have benefited a lot from what the Chinese experts had shared with us," he said.

People's Daily

Lavrov certain restoration of Russian-German dialogue will improve situation in Europe

MOSCOW

THE restoration of mutually respectful and good-neighborly dialogue between Russia and Germany meets the interests of the European region, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said in a video address to the organizers of and participants in the Potsdam Meetings forum.

"We are confident that the restoration of mutually respectful, good-neighborly dialogue between Moscow and Berlin would contribute to the improvement of the situation in Europe. We are sincerely interested in that. We proceed from the assumption that we can and should overcome the period of tensions in our bilateral relations," he said.

Lavrov noted that relations between Russia and the European Union continued to degrade in recent years. "It is not our fault," he stressed.

"Unfortunately, our EU counterparts, in a bid to secure unilateral advantages at the expense of others, have made a very short-sighted choice in favor of the 'master-slave' logic, in favor of archaic 'zero sum' geopolitical games, in favor of creating new dividing lines."

According to Russia's top diplomat, the EU's actions include support for an unconstitutional coup in Ukraine, unilateral sanc-



tions against Russia and the destruction of the entire multi-level system of dialogue between Russia and the EU.

"As a result, our common continent faced a large-scale crisis of trust, and European businesses, including German, are suffering substantial losses. Subsequently, the large-scale potential of Russian-German ties remains untapped," he went on to say.

Lavrov noted that Berlin was pursuing the policy of containing Russia. "Endless accusations, ultimatums and threats against us are becoming a routine tool in Germany's foreign policy."

The current tensions cost dearly to the peoples of Europe, whose security has become hostage to the selfish political approaches imposed from across the pond.

At the same time, we are confident that the possibility to shape an architecture of peace and equal and indivisible Eurasian and Euro-Atlantic security has been preserved," he stressed.

Russia's top diplomat noted that Russia and Europe were facing such common challenges and threats as terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the coronavirus pandemic, which require joint efforts. "It is only possible to deal with these threats effectively by pooling efforts based on the generally recognized international legal basis."

We see the rejection of the philosophy of hegemony and dominance, the 'cordon sanitaire' and 'iron curtains' as the guarantee of success along this difficult path. For its part, Russia is always ready for an honest equal work and search for a balance of interests," he concluded.

Agencies

Namibian youth participation in politics elates elections

WINDHOEK

THE active involvement of youth in the upcoming local authority areas and regional council elections process has reshaped participation across Namibia.

The big novelty is that the majority of the political parties, and organisations nominated young candidates to contest in the upcoming elections.

At the far-flung village of Oshana region in northern Namibia, 32-year-old Shikongo Fanuel campaigned at a rally, appealing to opposition party followers to vote for him during upcoming local authority areas and regional council elections. The elections are slated for

Nov. 25 this year.

"If elected into power, we shall make sure that the area receives necessary facilities, which are some of the areas that are neglected," Fanuel said on Tuesday.

In the Namibian capital Windhoek, 23-year-old Duminga Ndala, was recently nominated by an opposition party to contest in the upcoming elections.

Her campaign is oriented around the speedy provision of services, bringing development to the constituency as well as empowering dwellers, especially the youth.

Johanna Iлека, aged 32, was also nominated to represent a political party in

the southern part of Namibia. The decision to actively get involved in politics was motivated by her passion for promoting gender parity and empowerment to ensure social progress at all levels.

Meanwhile, some youths are contesting under the independent candidate card, which gained popularity in the presidential elections last year.

Theo Mujoro, the chief electoral officer at the Electoral Commission of Namibia, said that the commission had registered 93 independent candidates who will participate in the upcoming regional council elections, an increase from five who contested the

2015 elections.

Elifas Nghitomoka, a community activist, is one of the youths registered as an independent candidate set to stand for elections in Windhoek.

"I am advocating for social justice and now is the time to fix our problems," he said.

Experts said that dominance by youth is multi-faceted.

Kondjeni Ntinda, a local expert in youth matters and a project manager at the Ministry of Mines and Energy, said that it is hoped that participation of youthful candidates in the upcoming elections will boost voter turnout. "If compared to the previous similar

elections, voter turnout was low at 36 and 38 percent. We hope that young candidates will motivate more young people to cast their votes on Nov. 25," Ntinda said.

Sindiso Moyo, an assistant lecturer at the University of Namibia, said that the interest of young Namibians to serving as local councillors is motivated by the lack of employment opportunities.

Official data by the Namibia Statistics Agency show that the unemployment rate of Namibians between the ages of 15 and 34 years increased to 46 percent in 2018 from 43.4 percent in 2016.

There has been a shift in the mindset, with voters actively reading the manifesto, and for voters to make an informed decision.

"This is contrary to the norm whereby people mainly vote based their votes on personalities and not necessarily the manifesto and the party that the candidate represents which impacts," added Moyo.

Moreover, according to Maurius Kudumo, a political expert, the local authority areas and regional council elections are important.

"Residents will be voting for representatives that they can directly hold accountable," he said.

Xinhua

SPORT

KMC FC loses to KMKM in friendly clash

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

KINONDONI Municipal Council (KMC) FC has stepped up preparations for the Vodacom Premier League (VPL), slated to resume at the end of this week, with the outfit losing 2-1 to KMKM of Zanzibar in a friendly clash played in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Forward Matheo Anthony netted the opener for KMKM, which features in the Isles' Premier League, on the 12th minute of the friendly clash.

Ilyasa Suleiman Mohammed made it 2-0 for the Zanzibar club on the 20th minute, KMC FC pulled a goal back through Hassan Kapalata on the 37th minute.

The Dar es Salaam-based KMC FC has so far played three friendly matches. They had previously played fellow domestic top flight team, Mbeya City FC, in a clash which ended in a draw.

KMC FC then notched 2-1 win over DTBFC in another friendly.

The friendly games have provided the KMC FC's technical bench chance to assess the side's performance and make adjustments to ensure that the squad posts good results in a VPL match against Azam FC slated for November 21.

The KMC FC still has a great potential to do well in the coming VPL duel due to the quality of the team and various adjustments that have been made by the side's coaches.

In another development, the 2020/21 Zanzibar Premier League is expected to kick off on November 20, with 12 outfits

participating in.

The Zanzibar Football Federation Competition Committee Chairman, Ali Mohammed Ameir, told the Guardian that the committee had seen it fit to move the league forward until the league's board was found.

He said the decision was made jointly by a committee that brought together ZFF officials and the Deputy Permanent Secretary of the Isles' Ministry of Youth, Arts, Culture and Sports, the Registrar of Sports Associations and Clubs, and leaders of the Isles Premier League in a meeting held yesterday.

He said the league would now continue in the third round of the previously announced schedule, but the move would also be based on the decisions of the board's officials.

He stated that once the election of the board members is over, his committee will hand over the management of the league, including the league schedule and competition rules and all matters related to the league, to the board's officials.

He pointed out that the board will have a choice to either use the schedule or come up with a new one.

KMKM, coached by Ame Msimu, lifted the 2019/20 Zanzibar Federation Cup tournament's title with victory over Malindi and they lost the title to KVZ in the previous season.

The KMKM are therefore seeking to lay their hands on the tournament's title this season.



Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC player (L), tumbles after he was tackled by Zanzibar's KMKM player during a friendly clash, held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. KMKM won 2-1. PHOTO: COURTESY OF KMC FC

Indian Premier League cash-cow delivers even in COVID times

NEW DELHI

THE robust appeal of the Indian Premier League (IPL) was once again highlighted this year after the world's richest Twenty20 league escaped the economic aftermath of the COVID-19 pandemic with only a few minor scratches.

The Indian cricket board's (BCCI) league, which has an estimated brand value of \$6.8 billion (5.1 billion pounds), drew record television and digital viewership and at least one of its franchises even grew its revenue despite the league being first postponed and then shifted to the United Arab Emirates following the coronavirus surge in India.

Cancelling the whole tournament would have left a \$536 million hole in the pocket for the world's richest cricket board, which rarely shares financial numbers about the league.

So the IPL's eight franchises were ushered into a bio-secure bubble in August to play 60 matches across three venues, all behind closed doors.

Mumbai Indians claimed a record fifth IPL title in Tuesday's final, but it was a victory for Brand IPL too.

"It's been a great success given the current scenario globally," BCCI treasurer Arun Singh Dhumal told Reuters.

"Everybody had their fingers crossed whether we'd be able to pull it off."

Starved of live cricket action for nearly nine months, the world's second most populous

nation sat glued to television sets, lapping up every bit of action from the UAE.

Board secretary Jay Shah, quoting TV monitoring agency Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC), said that a record 200 million fans had watched the Sept. 19 opener between Mumbai and Chennai Super Kings in Abu Dhabi.

In terms of viewership, the IPL even outperformed some of the pay-per-view matches of the Premier League in Britain. BARC tweeted before the playoffs that the league had clocked seven billion viewing minutes, up 28% from last year, after the first 41 matches.

"With people generally staying indoors due to the pandemic and with lack of other entertainment options due to COVID-19, viewership numbers have been staggeringly high," Santosh N, managing partner at financial consultancy firm Duff and Phelps in India, told Reuters.

"It showed why IPL is such a massive property not just in cricket, but in world sports in general."

BCCI's Dhumal called it the "most successful IPL ever" in terms of viewership and explained what he thought it meant for cricket's ecosystem.

"I'm glad we were able to organise it successfully because when it impacts BCCI revenue, it impacts the game, it impacts the players, it impacts the state associations and creation of cricket infrastructure," he said.

SPORTS

CRDB youth basketball squads shine in Taifa Cup competition



Female players making CRDB Youth Team pictured after participating in one of the 2020 CRDB Taifa Cup basketball competition's games, which take place in Dodoma. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

DUE to the weather leading to many matches in the 2020 Taifa Cup basketball tournament being postponed and some taking place when there is a calming weather, various matches have continued at Chinangali court in Dodoma.

The tournament, known as 'CRDB Taifa Cup', which is organized by Tanzania Basketball Federation (TBF), is financially supported by CRDB Bank.

On the continuation of the 'CRDB Taifa Cup', on November 15, the women's category had the CRDB U-19 Team defeating Songwe team 62-49 in a Group C match.

Mbeya Girls' team then suffered 60-44 loss to CRDB U-19 Team.

In the men's event, Rukwa pulled yet another win against Katavi to cement their top position in Group A of the 'CRDB Taifa Cup' basketball

tournament.

The win, according to the Saturday's latest standing, has put them on top of Group A with four points from two outings, followed by Tabora, Kilimanjaro (with three points apiece), Ilala, Katavi (two points apiece) and tail enders, Shinyanga, with a single point.

The duo of Isaack Mwampashi and Lawi Mwambasi scored 14 points apiece as Baraka Mopelo and Justin Paul added 12 points apiece for Rukwa.

Paul also executed five assists, with Emmanuel Lucha ending with three to add to their individual best records while Mwampashi also grabbed six rebounds.

Morogoro's men side had a bad day when the squad lost 44-43 to Mtwara in yet another thrilling and closely fought match.

In the women's category, Arusha girls continued putting their prowess to show after posting a 63-17 drubbing of Singida, while Coast Region outsmarted Mwanza 56-49 at court B.

According to the Saturday's updated standing, Mbeya are leading men's Group B with four points, Simiyu are placed second with three points while Coast Region have two points.

Mwanza, Kigoma and Manyara have been placed third, fourth and fifth respectively with one point each.

Dodoma are leading Group C with four points, followed by Songwe, Tanga, Morogoro (two points each), while CRDB

Youth Team and Mtwara have a single point apiece.

Group D's leaders, Temeke, have collected four points, Iringa have second with three points, Unguja have posted two points while Arusha, Pemba and Singida each have one point.

The women's Group A leaders, Coast Region, have amassed four points from two outings, Mwanza, Morogoro (two points apiece) while Iringa have one point.

Group C is led by Unguja (three points), followed by CRDB Youth Team (that consists of U-19 players), Mbeya and Tanga, with each collecting two points.

The two-week tournament that will climax on November 21 has been sponsored by CRDB Bank with over 900 women, men and young basketballers from both Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar regions taking part.

Apart from cash prizes, the sponsors have set aside about 50 million/- that will finance academic scholarships for best young basketballers to be selected by a technical team.

Tanzania football team rake in cash prize for winning 2020 COSAFA U-17 Women Championship

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIA's national U-17 women football team's players have raked in cash prize after they emerged as champions of 2020 COSAFA U-17 Women Championship, which took place in South Africa last week.

The team lifted the tournament's top honour after edging Zambia U-17 women team 4-3 in penalty shootout of the final played last weekend.

A member of a special committee for drumming support for Tanzania's senior national team 'Taifa Stars', Hersi Said, was among domestic soccer stakeholders that handed over cash prize to the Tanzania U-17 women team.

He handed over cash prize amounting to 30m/- to the players at a ceremony for congratulating the side, which took place in Dar es Salaam recently, and promised to present the girls with more cash.

"Our committee is not only for the Taifa Stars, it is for all national teams, so we have handed this amount of money to you for your needs but we promise to do great things for you as you continue participating in other tournaments," he disclosed.

The function was attended by various football stakeholders that include officials of the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF), professional boxer Hassan Mwakinyo, members of another committee for backing Taifa Stars, dubbed 'Saidia Taifa Stars Ishinde', and journalists.



Tanzania soccer team players celebrate after lifting 2020 COSAFA U-17 Women Championship's top honour, edging Zambia U-17 women side in the final in South Africa last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

The national U-17 women side made its way back to Dar es Salaam on Monday.

Speaking immediately after welcoming the team, TFF president, Wallace Karia, said that when the team left for the showpiece, he asked the players, as well as those that feature for national senior women side 'Twiga Stars', to ensure one of them return back with the trophy as a gift to the country's new government.

Twiga Stars took part in 2020 COSAFA Women

Championship, also played in South Africa, but the squad crashed out of the tournament's early stage.

Karia stated that he is happy the Tanzania U-17 women team have been the first to give the country's government victory.

He noted the focus is on asking for support for the Tanzania U-17 women team and their male counterparts, as the two teams are the basis for good senior national teams for years to come.

Mahrez scores as Algeria qualify for Africa Cup of Nations

JOHANNESBURG

MANCHESTER City winger Riyad Mahrez scored as title-holders Algeria drew 2-2 in Zimbabwe Monday and became the third country to book a place at the 2021 Africa Cup of Nations.

Cameroon qualify automatically as hosts while Senegal secured a spot Sunday by winning in Guinea-Bissau thanks to a Sadio Mane goal.

Andy Delort and captain Mahrez gave the Desert Foxes a two-goal advantage in Harare that was halved just before half-time when Knowledge Musona netted.

Algeria coach Djamel Belmadi took off Delort and Mahrez as he made five second-half substitutions within 12 minutes, but the bold move backfired when Prince Dube equalised eight minutes from time.

Drawing ended the perfect three-win record Algeria took into a match played behind closed doors because of the coronavirus, but it guaranteed them a top-two finish in a section including Zambia and Botswana.

Zambia, hoping for a resurgence under Serb coach Milutin 'Mico' Sredojevic, suffered a blow to hopes of accompanying Algeria from Group H when they fell 1-0 away to Botswana.

Mosha Gaololwe scored what proved the only goal in Francistown after just six minutes and it lifted Botswana to third, one point behind Zimbabwe.

This was the third loss in four group matches for 2012 African champions Zambia, who will host Algeria and visit Zimbabwe during the final two matchdays next March.

Uganda suffered a shock loss 1-0 away to South Sudan and Burkina Faso drew 0-0 in Malawi to miss out on chances to qualify from Group A.

Uganda-born Tito Okello condemned his country of birth to a first defeat in the section when he converted a first-half penalty in a qualifier marred by two red cards.

- Memorable South Sudan victory -

Khalid Aucho got a straight red to leave Uganda with 10 men for an hour while South Sudan substitute Abdallah Musa was yellow-carded twice and sent off during 15 minutes on the pitch.

Making the victory more memorable for South Sudan was the fact that they had to play the 'home' fixture in Kenya because the national stadium in Juba is being renovated.

Late goals from Percy Tau and Themba Zwane earned South Africa a 4-2 Group C win in Port Elizabeth over Sao Tome e Principe, who led, trailed and equalised before collapsing when reduced to 10 men.

Sao Tome, who are 110 places behind South Africa in the world rankings, lost Ivonaldo Mendes nine minutes from time when he was red-carded following a second caution with the sides level.

The minnows held on for six minutes before Belgium-based Tau gave South Africa the lead for the second time in the see-saw struggle and Zwane put the outcome beyond doubt.

Victory took South Africa to nine points, equal with Ghana but behind on head-to-head records. Sudan are the other contenders for a top-two place.

Gambia regained first place in Group D from Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang-captained Gabon after winning the top-of-the-table clash 2-1 in Bakau.

Modou Barrow and Musa Barrow scored to put the Scorpions in control until a late goal from Bruno Ecuele Manga created a tense finish.

Cameroon are part of the qualifying competition to gain match practice and increased their Group F lead to six points after a 2-0 win in Mozambique with Vincent Aboubakar among the scorers.

In Manzini, eSwatini were eliminated and Congo Brazzaville strengthened a grip on second place behind Senegal after a 0-0 draw.

AFP

'Messi! Show them some respect!' UEFA's new doc reveals the life of a ref

By Chris Wright, ESPN Toe Poke writer

UEFA is offering a rare, access-all-areas glimpse into the world of the loneliest person on any given Champions League matchday: the referee.

"Man in the Middle" is a new four-part series produced and streamed by UEFA that allows us a behind-the-scenes look at match officiating at the very highest level.

The first episode centres on the 2018-19 Champions League campaign, the season that VAR was used in the competition for the very first time and how top referees like Damir Skomina, Bjorn Kuipers and Clement Turpin coped with it.

We've watched the first episode and marvelled at just how close to the man in the black (or luminous yellow) we've been allowed to get by the UEFA cameras. Here are the main takeaways:

History was made in Amsterdam

The main beneficiary of the first ever VAR intervention staged in the Champions League was Thibaut Courtois. It came after the Real Madrid goalkeeper made a colossal handling error that led to Ajax stealing a goal in the round-of-16 first leg encounter in Amsterdam.

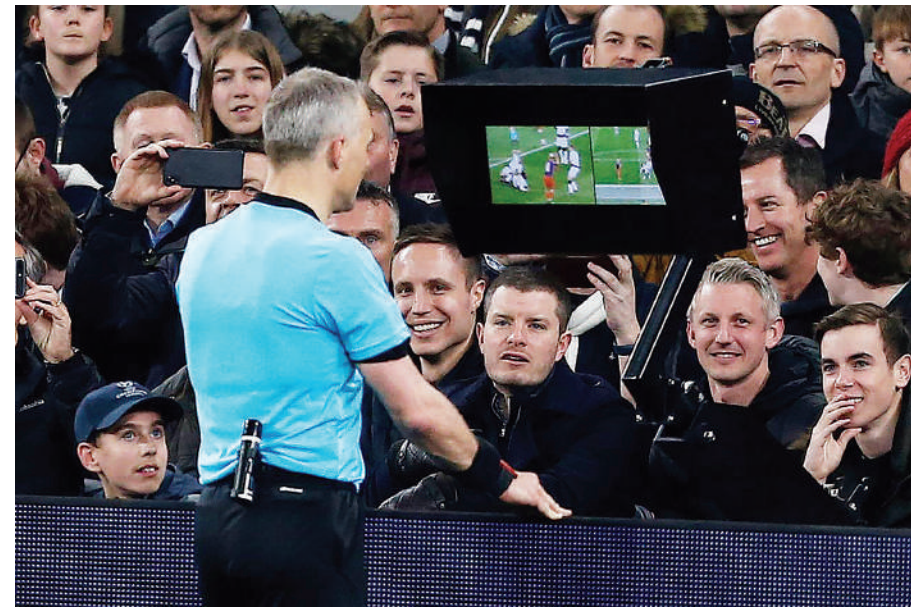
A timely check for offside in the build-up let Courtois off the hook, much to the Belgian shot-stopper's obvious relief. That relief was to be short-lived, however, as Ajax overcame the defending champions and progressed to the semifinals.

Referees can't get a moment's peace

With the round-of-16 tie between Paris Saint-Germain and Manchester United level on aggregate and with the second leg in Paris approaching extra time, a possible handball from Presnel Kimpembe offered the visitors a chance of a stoppage-time penalty that would send them through.

Experienced referee Skomina was urged to review the dramatic incident on the pitchside monitor, only to find himself harangued by agitated players and staff, all shouting at the officials and craning their necks to watch the replays.

Marcos Rojo could be seen yelling from the



dugout as United coaches Ole Gunnar Solskjaer and Mike Phelan nervously pace around the technical areas, crowding the referee as he attempted to rule on an extremely pivotal decision while being watched live by millions around the world.

After being besieged for what felt like an age, Skomina quickly reached the end of his tether. "Please, I need to be alone," came the plaintive plea from the Slovenian official. He duly ruled in favour of United, and Marcus Rashford's spot kick sent them into the quarterfinals.

A ref's decision is not always final

Referee Kuipers was initially adamant in his decision not to award a penalty when the ball inadvertently struck Danny Rose's hand just 11 minutes into Spurs' 2018-19 quarterfinal first leg against Manchester City.

The Dutchman admitted that he

instantly ruled out the possibility of a penalty and was reluctant to even check the incident again, so sure was he that a corner was the correct decision.

However, his VAR team would not let the matter lie and eventually talked Kuipers into reviewing the replays, only for the penalty to be given (and subsequently missed by Sergio Aguero).

Son Heung-Min went on to score the only goal of the game, and Kuipers can be seen after the final whistle thanking his team for convincing him to make another check.

GOATs don't get any special treatment

The first episode spends a lot of time covering Kuipers, and no wonder. The Dutch official is not a man to be trifled with, even giving Lionel Messi a dressing down during the first leg of Barcelona's semifinal against Liverpool.

With Barca winning 3-0 up at Camp

Nou, Messi still tries to engage in some time-wasting: not on Kuipers' watch.

"Messi! Why? Come on! Show them some respect!" Kuipers shouts, pointing to the 'Respect' logo on his sleeve. "Go! Every time you do it. Come on! Why do you do it? Go now!"

Of course, Liverpool would go on to upset the odds by winning the second leg at Anfield 4-0 and reach the final.

Even more impressively, Kuipers later reveals he limped through 86 minutes of that match, as he was carrying a muscular injury.

Refs thrive under pressure on the biggest occasion

There's an old maxim in the refereeing world that you need to be ready to make a decision from the very first whistle, and Moussa Sissoko certainly put that to the test mere seconds into the 2018-19 Champions League final.

The Tottenham midfielder handled a ball inside his own penalty area less than a minute after kick-off, forcing referee Skomina and his team to run a VAR check before they'd even got comfortable.

After a "very high hand" was flagged, Skomina pointed to the spot and awarded Liverpool the penalty with just 22 seconds on the clock. Mohamed Salah stuck it away as the Reds went on to win 2-0 in the Spanish capital.

Currency really is different in Europe

When it comes to the traditional prematch coin toss to decide which team kicks off, the two captains are not asked to pick "head or tails," but rather "yellow or blue".

Suddenly we're questioning everything we previously held to be true about the Champions League.

Joao Felix is exceeding the hype, to Atletico and Portugal's benefit

By Sid Lowe, ESPN Spain writer

HIDDEN cameras have a habit of removing the mask, stripping away any filters to reveal the truth – the truth is that Portugal's Joao Felix is very, very good at football.

It was half-time in Atlético Madrid's Champions League meeting with Salzburg on Oct. 27 and down in the tunnel at the Metropolitan, just before the players headed back out again, microphones picked up a conversation between Saul Niguez and Jan Oblak, catching words the pair wouldn't want heard, as blunt and direct as they are real.

"What a bastard that guy is," Saul says, fondly. "When he wants to, he can change the game, man... Get the ball, and get up there, enjoy yourself." Oblak doesn't say much, but he says it all. "Madre mia," he replies, "he's so good, madre."

Now here's the thing: they might be protective of their profession, sometimes stung by criticism from outside, where too few realise that even the worst player in the worst league is brilliant, but virtually no one is more dismissive of footballers than footballers themselves. Privately, at least; at the top end, certainly. Maybe it's the context or the familiarity, a realisation of just how good you really have to be to be good in that company and the standards set, but players can write off another player in the blink of an eye.

You're supposed to be good; that part's taken for granted. So when they say the opposite – not publicly, but privately – it means something, too. It means more, in fact. Footballers are not so easy with the eulogies, not among themselves. It matters when they say someone is special; when they someone is, well, better than them. Not just because of what they say, but who says it and how. When one player tells another player bloody hell, he can play, as Saul and Oblak did, he really can play.

That night, Joao Felix did, and nor was it just that night. As for getting the ball, getting up the pitch and enjoying himself, he did that too. He changed the game, scoring twice in a 3-2 win. Three days later, he scored twice to lead Atlético to a 3-1 win at Osasuna. A week after that, he got two more against Cádiz, momentarily taking Atlético top of the league. And then he came on to score a lovely volley for Portugal, applauded by Cristiano Ronaldo.

"I already said that Joao would be Ronaldo's replacement," said his international teammate, Diogo Jota. It was the day after Joao Felix's 21st birthday.

Asked if he was carrying a weight on his back, Joao Felix replied: "I don't have any 'rucksack' – what I like is playing football. If I enjoy it, I'm happy. And if I'm happy, you can see it in my play."

He's happy, then. It might not be a huge leap to suggest that Joao Felix is the best player in Spain right now and, as Jota notes, Portugal's natural heir to Ronaldo. Big words perhaps, but they don't sound like such an exaggeration now. Against Croatia tomorrow night, he will be expected to lead. He will welcome that, too.

Second-top scorer with five league goals, one behind Mikel Oyarzabal, he also has three assists. Across all competitions, he has seven in 10 games. Against Salzburg it was the one he didn't score – an overhead kick against the bar – that was his best effort, an intake of breath audible inside the empty arena. As if it was about the goals anyway; instead, it was how he ran the game, rising above the rest.

Joao Felix was always going to be a bit special. There is a reason Atlético spent €127m on him, a club record. Well, there are many reasons, but one of them is a quality they believed could be generational. He was even presented as an Atletico player at the Prado mu-



Portugal teammates see Felix, left, as the natural heir to Ronaldo, right, when the Juventus star retires from the scene. It's a fair comparison, too. (Agencies)

seum – in essence, an artist surrounded by artists. "He has acme, but the seriousness of a grown man," Jorge Valdano said, seeing in him a hint of early Kaká, the soft touch of a classic No.10. A poll in the sports daily Marca this week even asked if he was the most talented player in the club's entire history.

The man who discovered him said he would be a future Ballon d'Or winner, which he would, but that no longer sounds so silly. And yet, a year ago, it might have done. Twelve months on, it feels like he has found his place and they have found him.

"It's been a good start," Joao Felix said and "start" is the word, of course: it is early still, sure, and progression can slow or stop entirely. Momentum can be lost, moments gone forever. Injuries can ruin everything and teams can change, opportunities denied. But he is already just two goals away from equalling his total for goals and assists from the whole of last season. "It's clear that there's growth," Diego Simeone said.

On a basic level, it's natural that there should be improvement. He arrived aged 19, a kid. He had only had one year as a professional in Portugal. A year on, it makes sense that he should have adapted better to Atletico. And yet it's not just him adapting; it is them too. This is a different looking Atletico side, conditioning and conditioned by him, the dependence mutual.

The trust, too. There's a look of liberation about him, a freedom in his football. That's a mental process; it is also a mechanical one. And it is self-perpetuating, confidence and contribution growing, a sense of belonging.

"He's a crack, a star. It's obvious that when he got freedom, which he is getting now, you would see the class of player he is," said Ángel Correa. "We know he is a different player and the more he has the ball, the more danger he is going to create and that's going to be good for the team."

Things are changing at Atletico. Joao Felix benefits from that and that in turn benefits them. In the middle of it, he becomes a central figure, a leader, responsibility coming with that freedom. Atletico have been here before – in recent years, the idea of evolving into something a little more expansive only for that process to stall or be reversed is a recurring theme – and so it makes sense to be cautious about reaching conclusions. Yet this is a team keener to have the ball, playing higher up the pitch, less inclined to go long or seek counter-attacks and more likely to accumulate players around the opposition's area.

Even in formation there is a change, more intent on playing three up front. Results reinforce that, performances do too: Atletico are the only unbeaten team in Spain, not defeated in over 20 league

Elneny tests positive as international break sees spike in EPL virus cases

LONDON

ARSENAL and Egypt midfielder Mohamed Elneny has tested positive for Covid-19, his agent said Monday, as figures published by the Premier League showed a sharp increase in cases coinciding with the international break.

Already unpopular with Premier League clubs because of the risk of injury to key players, the mood among the likes of Arsenal's Mikel Arteta and his fellow top-flight bosses is unlikely to be improved by figures from the November 9-15 latest round of weekly tests showing the Premier League returned 16 positive coronavirus cases from 1,207 players and staff tested.

This compares with four positives from 1,646 tests during the week of November 2-8 and a previous weekly high of 10 positives.

And while players who were away on international duty at the time would not have been included in the Premier League's latest figures, there may now be concerns that the knock-on effects of players returning from long-distance trips have led to a surge in reported cases.

Those who tested positive will now self-isolate for 10 days.

As has long been its policy, the Premier League refused to name the clubs or individuals involved.

But Alan Nazmy, Elneny's agent, tweeted: "Elneny Positive Covid19 get well soon."

Meanwhile, the Egyptian Football Association confirmed in a Facebook post that Elneny was isolating in line with medical protocols.

His Covid-19 result came just three days after it was announced that Liverpool's Mohamed Salah had also tested positive while on international duty with Egypt.

"The results of the medical swabs conducted by the national team upon arrival in Togo showed negative all except for Arsenal player



Mohamed Elneny, whose result appeared positive without any symptoms, the EFA said.

"The player immediately began to implement the special medical protocol for people infected with Covid-19."

An Egypt side without Salah beat Togo 1-0 in Cairo on Saturday in the first of two back-to-back 2021 Africa Cup of Nations qualifying matches between the countries.

Salah has scored eight Premier League goals for Liverpool already this season.

If he is sidelined, it would be a blow for Premier League champions Liverpool, who were deprived of Senegal forward Sadio Mane earlier in the season when he too tested positive for coronavirus, although he has since returned to the team.

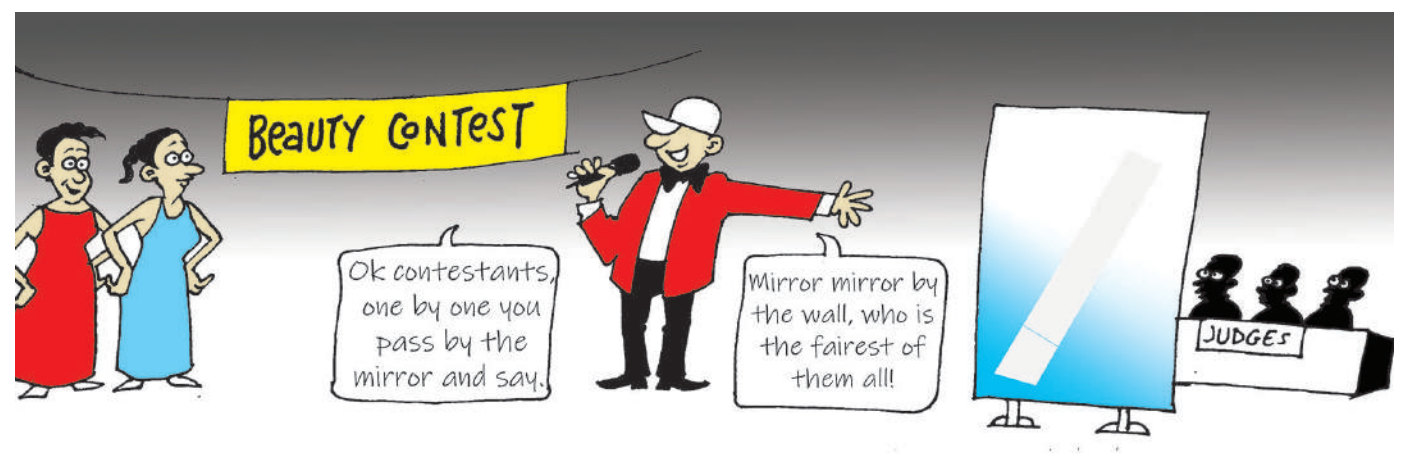
Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp has already lost defender Joe Gomez to a knee tendon injury he suffered while on England duty last week.

The club say Gomez is likely to be sidelined for months.

And the Reds are counting the cost of being deprived of key central defender Virgil van Dijk for what is expected to be most of the season after he tore knee ligaments in a clash with Everton goalkeeper Jordan Pickford last month.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

'Messi! Show them some respect!' UEFA's new doc reveals the life of a ref

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Simba Sports Club. COURTESY OF SIMBA SC

Simba SC starts preparations for 2020/21 CAF Champions League

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA's representatives in this season's CAF Champions League, Simba SC, have disclosed they have started preparations for their preliminary round clash against Plateau United of Nigeria.

The two teams will meet in the first leg in Nigeria between November 27-29 and they will later clash in the return leg in Dar es Salaam on December 4.

Simba SC head coach, Sven Vandebroek, said he has started gathering more information and details of how their opponents play.

He said that he will analyse his outfit's opponents' strengths and weaknesses and plan his team accordingly.

"I'm following our opponents, so far we have managed to obtain some video clips of how they play," he disclosed.

"The clips will help us have a full picture of them, but we will not stop there we will try to have more details of them as our aim is to win both matches and advance to another stage," he said.

Vandebroek stated so far Plateau United are a good side and Simba SC needs to prepare well ahead of the game in Nigeria.

He said Plateau United are a very strong side and they like playing passing football, they also have very strong strikers, and they moreover apply speed to kill off opponents.

He stated: "They also have very good players at the back, and my strikers must be very bright to beat them, we must try and work on ways to handle them."

The coach could not say if his side will play an international friendly match ahead of the Plateau encounter.

He nevertheless disclosed before travelling to Nigeria Simba SC will play against Coastal Union in the Vodacom Premier League in Arusha.

After reaching the quarterfinals of the 2018/19 CAF Champions League, Simba SC performed miserably in the previous season's tournament, crashing out of the showpiece in the preliminary stage with defeat to Mozambique's UD Songo.

This season, Simba SC has boosted its squad by signing experienced players like Zambian Larry Bwalya, Ghanaian Bernard Morrison, DR Congo's Chris Mugala, and Kenya's Joash Onyango.

Last Sunday, Simba SC Board of Directors' Chairman, Mohamed Dewji, said the club has put everything in place to see to it that the team beat the Nigerian side and advance to another stage of the premier club competition in Africa.

He said preparations for the encounter are going on smoothly.

"Everything is in place, we are just waiting for the matches' days, we are committed and readily available to support the team so that it reach the other stage," he said.

Meanwhile, Vandebroek said he was impressed by his team's performance in a friendly match against Tanga's African Sports, which took place at Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam on Monday and saw the outfits settle for 0-0 draw.

The match also aimed at seeing to it African Sports are in great shape before playing in this season's First Division League (FDL).

It was a very good game, we gave many of our youth team players a chance to show their potential and I'm happy that they played well, the results were not what we were looking for, what we wanted was that the players should play without any pressure," he said.

Some of the players who played for Simba SC in the friendly duel, include Ally Salim, Charles Ilanfya, Godfrey Mbomahenga, Omary Kazi, Hassan Mohamed, Seif Suleman and Hamis Manguka.

Mbeya team seek to hold sway in 2020 CRDB Taifa Cup basketball tournament

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

THE race for the title in this year's Taifa Cup basketball tournament, which takes place at Chinangali courts in Dodoma, has gained momentum, given five teams have booked a place in last eight stage of the showpiece's men's category.

The tournament, known as 'CRDB Taifa Cup', which is organized by Tanzania Basketball Federation (TBF), is financially supported by CRDB Bank.

Rukwa, Ilala, Temeke, Mbeya and Dodoma men's teams have qualified for the quarterfinals of the tournament.

However, the heavy rains that continue to fall in Dodoma have led to delays in issuing some of the competition's groups tables, given some of matches were not played due to the weather.

According to the group standings the teams have qualified for the quarter finals of the men's event as they have won their previous two and three games for groups A, B and C.

Mbeya, which looks like a threat to the tournament's quarterfinalists, has reached the last eight stage after winning all three of their games including their last game against Mwanza, which saw the former edged past the latter with 80-62 victory and lead Group B.

Temeke qualified for the quarterfinals after winning their third match against Unguja by 65-45 points and eliminating the Isles' team from the tournament.

Hosts Dodoma have reached the quarterfinals after collecting seven points in their group after beating a well-dressed CRDB youth team by 52-49.

In yesterday's morning game, Ilala, mostly made up of experienced players that also play in Dar es Salaam's Regional Basketball League (RBA), have cruised into the quarter final after beating Rukwa by 70-61 points.

The Ilala team, in their previous match, cruised to 94-58 win over Kilimanjaro.

Yesterday's morning game ended with Tanga posting 88-54 win over Mtwara in Group C encounter to put themselves in a good position to qualify for the quarterfinals.

Rukwa secured the last eight stage position after winning the previous two games.

In the women's category, Coast Region team, along with CRDB youth side, have been the first to make it to the quarterfinals as they wait for other women's teams to join them.

The tournament has continued to win the attention of celebrities and various government officials in the country.

They include musician Hamis Shaaban Taletale, alias 'Babu Tale', who is a new Member of Parliament for Morogoro Rural Constituency.

The MP pointed out that basketball has a good connection to music, saying that is why the game mostly influences young people to get engaged to it.

"I like seeing young people play together, basketball connects people," the MP, who is one of managers for a domestic music group, WCB, said.

He noted that sports need investment, hailing CRDB Bank and co-sponsors, Mayfair and Sanlam Insurance firms, for showing putting their weight behind the competition.



Aga Khan SC A's players in group photo after winning 2020 Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML)'s Division A's top honour, cruising to victory over Caravans Cricket Club in the final, held in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

Aga Khan SC A win 2020 Kazim Nasser Division A tourney trophy

By Guardian Reporter

AGA KHAN SC A cricketers have emerged as the 2020 Kazim Nasser Memorial League (KNML)'s Division A champions with four-wicket victory over Caravans Cricket Club in an entertaining final, which took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday.

It is a second piece of silverware to have been won by Aga Khan SC, given the club's second-string squad, Aga Khan B, clinched the 2020 KNML Division A1 top honour with 73-run victory over Union SC in the final which took place two weeks back.

In the last week's KNML Division A final, which brought together outfits which boast of depth in batting, either team did their best to live to expectations at the crease, with side's Aga Khan A side, in the end, having the last laugh.

Aga Khan SC A won the toss, opted to bowl and limited Caravans Cricket Club to 154 runs all out in 48.2 overs of the scheduled 50-over clash, which took place at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club oval.

Caravans Cricket Club had gone for some changes in their batting line up, given skipper Sreejit Kumar pushed youthful batsman, Kheel Suchak, to the opening bat-

ting role.

Kumar, at the same time, slotted the other young performer, Mohamed Omary, who had been opening the outfit's innings in a good number of games recently, into the middle order role, and the youngster hardly disappointed. They got off to a shaky start, given youthful openers, Ivan Ismail and Suchak, had brief spells at the crease.

Ismail notched 15 runs, which consisted of a four and a six, Suchak was sent back to the pavilion much earlier, notching one run.

There was more blow for the team as Suraj Kumar, slotted in at number three, was yet another batsman with a short spell, having been dismissed by Aga Khan A team's quick, Vipin Abraham, for duck. Senior all-rounder, Jitin Singh, restored confident in Caravans Cricket Club's innings with his 29 runs, which consisted of a four.

His efforts to extend his stay was frustrated by Aga Khan A team's spinner, Aahil Jasani, who sent the former back to the pavilion. Gokul Das chipped in with 15 runs and senior performer, Kasim Nassor, had a day to forget, given he too had a brief spell, posting seven runs.

Omary put in the best batting

showing for Caravans Cricket Club, notching 44 runs which included three fours.

Kumar and Hamisi Abdallah notched 10 runs and 15 runs respectively to slightly boost the side's score. Youngster Johnson Nyambo scored seven runs not out, which included a four.

Aga Khan SC A's pacer Abraham showcased his bowling virtuosity, ending with five wickets and giving away 45 runs in his 10-over spell.

He was ably assisted by Jasani who posted two wickets and gave away 36 runs in nine overs.

Aga Khan A team zealously chased Caravans Cricket Club's score, notching 155 runs for the loss of six wickets in 46.4 overs to lay their hands on the top honour.

Youthful batsman Dhruvit Mehta was in great form with the bat, posting 79 runs and effectively leading his team's chase.

Mehta, who had opened the innings with Arshaan Jasani, nailed seven fours in a performance which won him the final's best player prize.

Jasani chipped in with 21 runs which included a boundary.

They had to contend with two quick dismissals, which had senior players, Riziki Kiseto and Issa Kikasi, whose contribution in the squad's success in recent matches

had been quite immense, being dismissed with eight runs and two runs respectively.

Aahil somewhat boosted Aga Khan A team's score with his 11 runs which consisted of a four.

Veteran skipper, Ayzaz Jasani, and Arslaan Premji got the job done for the squad, with the former posting five runs not out.

Singh's three wickets in 10 overs failed to help Caravans Cricket Club frustrate their opponents' chase.

He turned out to be the side's only player with the best bowling showing, posting two maiden overs and giving away 24 runs.

Caravans Cricket Club and Aga Khan SC A had finished first and second respectively in the KNML's top tier's table, followed by Gymkhana Cricket Club and Aces Cricket Club in the third and fourth spots respectively, to wrap up the semi-finalists list.

Caravans Cricket Club locked horns with Gymkhana Cricket Club in one of the last four stage ties, which took place on November 1 and saw the former beat the latter by five wickets.

The other semi-final, held on October 25, ended with Aga Khan SC A, led by gifted player Arshaan Jasani, cruising to six-wicket victory over Aces Cricket Club and booking a place in the final.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



Everything is in place, we are just waiting for the matches' days, we are committed and readily available to support the team so that it reach the other stage

TONIGHT @ 7:00

EATV WEDNESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)
13:30 Kall Za Wana
14:00 Planet Bongo (r)
14:30 Bongo Hits
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Nirvana (r)
16:00 Skonga (r)
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Kibishara Zaidi

EATV SAA 1
Coverage of the days current events accompanied by interviews with prominent people on diverse topics ranging from national to social interests.

eastafrika RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM