



**National Pg 2**  
MCT mourns Dr Reginald Mengi

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Power connection within major cities

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Be confident, fight sexual harassment

**SMART MONEY**  
Visa, PalmPay team up targeting Accra, Dar, Lagos markets to advance financial inclusion

## Resource degradation puts national development goals at risk

By Guardian Reporter

NATURAL resources form a pillar of Tanzania's economy and play a pivotal role in sustaining the livelihoods of its citizens. However a new World Bank report warns that the country has a rapidly shrinking opportunity to harness these endowments against serious risks posed by rapid population growth, economic growth, increasing urbanization, plus climate variability and change.

"The impacts of these factors are intensifying and have resulted in significant loss of ecosystems, competing demands for land and water, and environmental pollution," says Daniel Mira-Salama, World Bank Senior Environmental Specialist and co-author of the Country Environmental Assessment published yesterday.

Despite robust economic growth which the country has enjoyed, Tanzania's total wealth per capita - the sum of all physical, human and natural capital - declined between 1995 and 2014. This decline is attributed to rapid population growth which has outpaced investment and occasioned the loss of total renewable natural capital per capita by 35 percent



**We are building commitment and we are appreciative of the support from development partners, including analytical work in this kind of report**

over the past 20 years, and of non-land renewable natural capital per capita by 47 percent, warns the report's authors.

Tanzania hosts one of the largest poor populations in Africa, with approximately 21.3 million citizens living below the poverty line, many of them depending on natural resources for their livelihoods. Competing demands for, and open access to, many of Tanzania's natural resources are causing the resources' degradation and limiting their ability to continue to provide goods and services.

"The challenges are surmountable if tackled effectively and the underlying causes and drivers of environmental degradation are addressed strategically. Connecting the dots between deforestation in upper catchments and a higher flood risk in a coastal city, or between illegal ivory trafficking and a lower number of international tourists visiting the country requires multisectoral coordination and a common, integrated approach to development," says Bella Bird, World Bank Country Director for Tanzania, Malawi, Somalia and Burundi.

"As a people, we are growing more alert

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# Crowds throng route as Dr Mengi's body arrives



Mourning city residents escort a funeral van bearing the casket of the late Dr. Reginald Abraham Mengi along Kawawa Road at Kinondoni area after his body arrived at the Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam in the afternoon yesterday from Dubai, UAE. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

At the junction of Kawawa and Uhuru roads, people with disabilities were witnessed crying and laying clothes on the tarmac for the vehicle carrying the body to pass on

By Guardian Team

GRIEF and sadness was all over the place from the Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA) in Dar es Salaam as the body of the late Dr Reginald Mengi who died on Thursday in Dubai arrived yesterday at around 2:30 pm on a regular Emirates flight.

Despite intermittent downpour, large crowds of mourners from those who knew him personally and those knowing him as a public figure gathered at the airport's terminal 2 to receive late Dr Mengi's body.

Business came to a standstill along the road the body was passing, public transport disrupted as the convoy carrying Dr Mengi's remains passed through major city roads from the airport.

The procession which had an assortment of security and escort vehicles was soon beelied by motorcycles left JNIA to proceed along Nyerere Road, Buguruni, Ilala, Kigogo and Kinondoni up to Morocco, to take the

## EAC mourns Dr Reginald Mengi

By Guardian Reporter

SECRETARY General of the East African Community (EAC) Ambassador Liberat Mfumukeko said the late Dr Reginald Mengi, Executive Chairman of the IPP Group of Companies played a big role in deepening the East African Community (EAC) integration process in regard to private sector development.

"He was very instrumental and contributed immensely during the negotiation of the East African Community Customs Union Protocol which was signed in 2004," the EAC chief executive said in a statement.

Ambassador Mfumukeko noted that the late Dr Reginald Mengi was a true believer of integration, particularly on the opening up of inter-state borders to facilitate the



**He was actively involved in the organization and sponsorship of EAC-EABC media summits and awards**

free movement of goods, services, people and capital under the EAC Common Market Protocol.

He said: "On behalf of the EAC Secretariat and on my own behalf, allow me to offer most profound condolences to the family, friends and the entire IPP Group of Companies for the passing on of Dr Mengi."

He said the community notes with pride that the departed philanthropist was very passionate on the role of the media in championing the EAC regional integration agenda.

He was actively involved in the organization and sponsorship of EAC-EABC media summits and awards.

"Dr Mengi was a man of great intellect,

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## Proud to call him a friend

### A tribute to Dr Reginald Mengi by Ambassador Edward Boateng

The morning of 2nd May was a holiday in China and I had planned to relax and catch up on some reading. Unfortunately, my plans for a day of quiet relaxation were thrown into turmoil around 10.00am, when I got a call from my colleague Ambassador, H.E. Mbelwa Kairuki, Tanzania's Ambassador to the People's Republic of China.

In a very calm tone, he asked me what I was doing and how

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Ambassador Edward Boateng



Dr Reginald Mengi



**Today, the body will lie in state for public viewing and last respects at the Karimjee Hall in Dar es Salaam**

New Bagomoyo Road up to Lugalo General Military Hospital.

Thousands of Dar es Salaam residents lined up the streets where the body passed to have a sight of the procession and the mourning, escort atmosphere. Some small groups were seen carrying placards with messages describing the late Dr Mengi as a man of the people.

At the junction of Kawawa and Uhuru roads, people with disabilities were witnessed crying and laying clothes on the tarmac for the vehicle carrying the body to pass on.

In Buguruni area, vehicles were forced to stop because a huge number of people blocked the road to at least touch the vehicle.

Earlier, at the JNIA all roads leading to the entrance of Terminal II, the cargo terminal were temporarily closed for vehicles and a huge number of people flocking to the scene.

Many of those gathering on the streets were fighting emotions with the public outpouring of grief, respect, regard and salutation of a man who touched the hearts of millions of Tanzanians.

Emotions were at their peak as the vehicle carrying Dr Mengi's remains approached specific crowds lining the wide streets the

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## Crowds throng route as Dr Mengi's body arrives

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vehicle was passing.

Today, the body will lie in state for public viewing and last respects at the Karimjee Hall in Dar es Salaam.

According to family spokesperson Michael Ngalo, the body would be preserved at Lugalo Hospital for the night, and today be taken to the Karimjee Hall where the public will pay their last respects.

Tomorrow the body will be flown to Machame in Moshi District, his ancestral home for burial that has been scheduled to take place on Thursday, May 9.

Meanwhile, Hai District Commissioner, Lengai ole Sabaya said yesterday that more than 5,000 people are expected to take part in the burial of the late Dr Reginald Mengi, Executive Chairman of IPP Group of Companies to be held at his home village—Nkuu Sinde-Kisereni in Machame East ward.

Accompanied by the district safety and security committee, DC ole Sabaya announced this when he visited the bereaved family to observe funeral preparations as well as inspect reception facilities for senior government officials, clerics, business

people and other dignitaries.

"We are here to observe burial preparations. We are expecting to receive thousands of mourners from across the country," said the DC, noting that authorities in the district are retouching village roads to facilitate transport during the funeral proceedings.

He said that visitors are expected to arrive in Hai district from tomorrow.

"We are determined to ensure safety of all the visitors throughout the funeral process," said Ole Sabaya who chairs the district safety and security committee.

The family's head of protocol, Wilfred Mushi said they have contracted a Moshi based firm—Kalsi & Jutley Ents Ltd to construct the grave where the body of the late Dr Mengi will be buried.

Mushi said the late Dr Mengi will be buried next to the grave of his beloved son, Rodney Mutie Mengi who died on October 6th, 2005.

Dr Mengi died on the wee hours of Thursday last week at a hospital in Dubai.

Various distinguished persons including President John Magufuli have poured their condolences following Dr Mengi's demise.



Nkuu Sinde-Kisereni village residents at Machame East ward in Hai district in preparation of the grave where the IPP Group Executive Chairman Dr. Reginald Abraham Mengi will be buried. Photo: Godfrey Mushi

## EAC mourns Dr Reginald Mengi

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vision and courage who contributed immensely to the cause of East African unity and development. He dedicated himself to building bridges to a better future and in this way he touched the lives of all of us in the East African region," he stated.

He was also the former chairman of the East African Business Council, the regional apex body of private sector associations and corporates in East Africa, with a single purpose of driving the East African Community integration process through trade and investment.

"Today we mourn the passing of a great son of the United Republic of Tanzania and a great East African who has left behind a powerful legacy

of humility, simplicity and dedication in our struggle for democratic culture, unity, justice, peace and prosperity in East Africa," the secretary general underlined.

"The entire East African Community shares with the bereaved family, employees of IPP Group of Companies, the government and the people of Tanzania, the feelings of great loss at this moment of deep sorrow," he added.

Dr Mengi died on the wee hours of Thursday last week at a hospital in Dubai, in the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

The late IPP Executive Chairman will be laid to rest on Thursday at his rural home in Machame, Hai District in Kilimanjaro Region.

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my day had gone so far. Having heard my responses, he said in a very soft tone, as if to lessen the impact: "your friend Reginald Mengi passed on the early morning hours in Dubai."

Maybe part of my despair at the news was the fact that I had not seen Reginald, whom all members of my family refer to as Mr. Mengi, for a while. But we had connected a few months back, and he had been prevailing upon me to visit and bring my son, who was his godson along for he had not seen him for a while. We agreed on a December visit, I even bought my tickets, but for some odd unknown reason ended up not traveling.

I informed him I would come with my entire family when the children came on summer break. Maybe, that is partly the reason, but I have felt very keenly the passing of this great pillar of the East African business and media establishment, an institution of the Tanzania community, a great philanthropist and indeed a leading light of entrepreneurship in Africa as

## Proud to call him a friend

a whole.

I first met Reginald in the summer of 1993 in London. He came to my office where I was working then with CNN. He had gotten my contact details through a friend and came to seek advice on how he could start his television company. From the day of that visit, our relationship grew. He became a senior brother to me, and my entire family from my father and mother, to my in-laws who became his other family on the west coast of Africa. I cannot convey how shattered they are with the news of Reginald's demise.

We appreciated his patriotism, love of country and continent, family and friends. I must confess I was also charmed by his sense of mischief and everlasting "naughty boy" adventures. I can recall a lot of fun we have had together whether here in Tanzania, Ghana, South Africa, London or the USA and it breaks my heart when I think of him not being around anymore.

The one thing I admired most about him was his genuine belief in giving young African people opportunities. I travelled with him around the world, sat on various boards including the Africa Business Roundtable where he nominated me in 1994 to take his seat during one lunch event in Arusha to enable me sit on the same table with Mwalimu Julius Nyerere. That was, indeed, a happy day for me and I never forgot that surprise.

One important thing I learnt from him was his belief that it was not necessary for rich Africans to own properties in Europe or elsewhere to show their worth. He always told me; "I will never buy a residential property outside Africa. Every residence I own is in Tanzania and that makes me proud".

He came to visit me in Ghana when my son was born, and in fact, so charmed all who were at the party thrown in his honor that to this day, they continue to talk about his jocularity and sense of brotherhood.

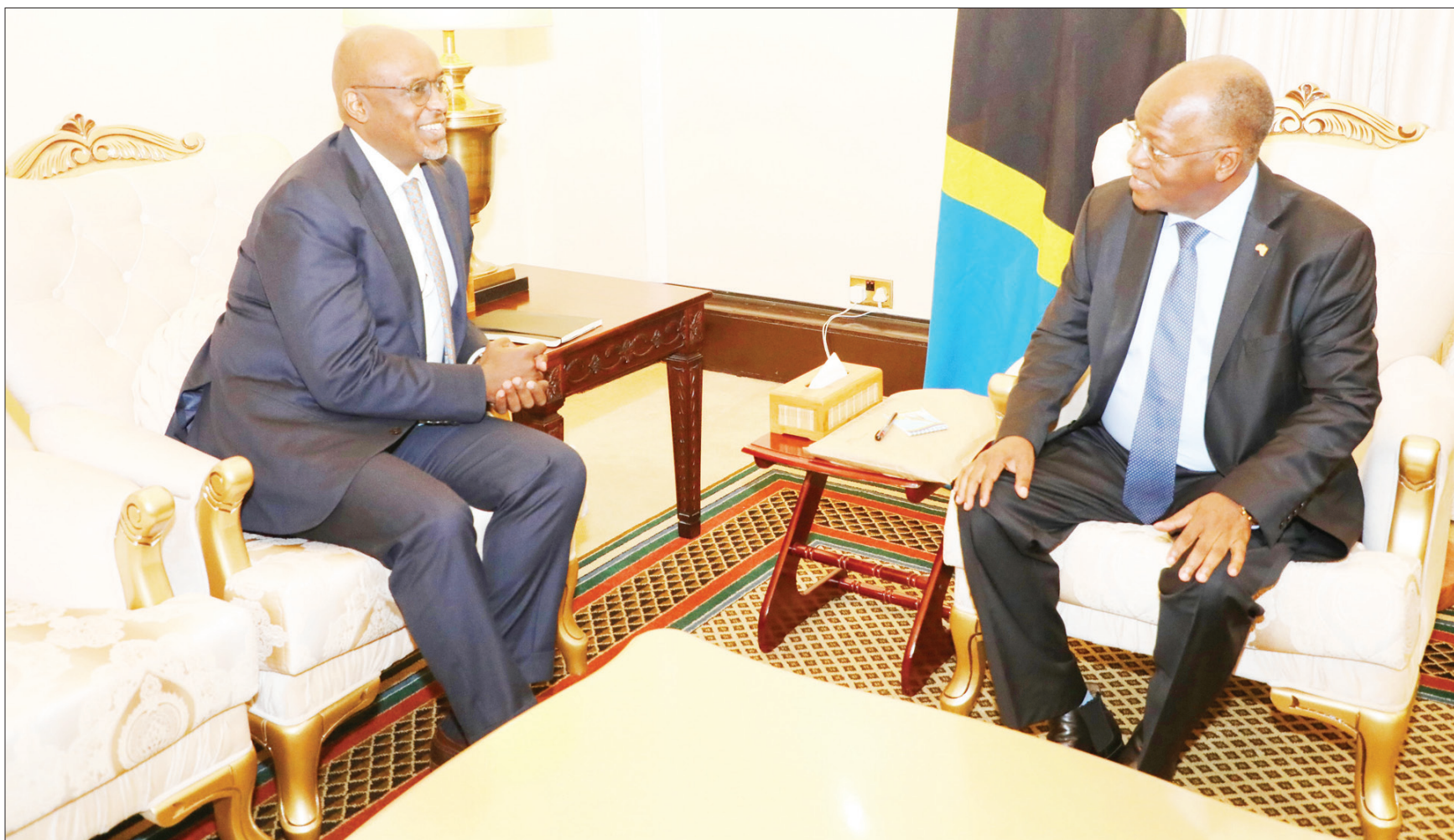
He believed in the capacity and capability of the African and was one of the foremost sponsors and supporters of the CNN African Journalist Awards which I started to recognize outstanding African journalists during my time with CNN. I remember his immense joy and how he danced throughout the night when Betty Mkwasa became the first Tanzanian to win the Award in 2003.

I am consoled that he led a full life. Tanzanians and Africa will always be grateful to you, Reginald, for your immense efforts to move us forward. My sincere condolences to your wife Jacqueline, daughter Regina, sons, Abdiel, Jaden, Ryan and the entire family and nation you leave behind.

Reginald, Ulale Mahali Pema Peponi, Rest in Heavenly Peace

The author, Ambassador Edward Boategi is

Ghana's Ambassador to the People's Republic of China & Founder of the CNN African Journalist Awards



President Dr. John Pombe Magufuli in talks with the director of the African Department of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) Abebe Aemro Selassie at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House

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to the challenges and opportunities that we have as a country, and conserving our natural resources and environment has gradually scaled up the priority list," says January Makamba, Minister of State for the Environment and Union Affairs.

"We are building commitment and we are appreciative of the support from development partners, including analytical work in this kind of report." More "traditional" environmental

and natural resources challenges include degradation of land and water resources, deforestation and biodiversity loss. They are most relevant for rural areas, where natural resources are subject to competing demands. Other challenges are pollution-related, more frequently associated with urban settlements, industrialization and agglomeration, some of which have only recently emerged. Continued

population growth, economic growth, an increasing urbanization rate along with climate variability and change will further compound these challenges.

"Preventing pollution today avoids tomorrow's costly cleanup actions and offers opportunities for better quality of public goods such as air, water and soil," says Veruschka Schmidt, World Bank Environmental Specialist and co-author of the report.

The Country Environmental Analysis was prepared in close coordination with the Government of Tanzania and with support from the Swedish Embassy and SIDA. It analyzes critical environmental and natural resources management challenges, and provides policy recommendations on how to address them.

The report suggests different development paths for Tanzania. The

## MCT mourns Dr Reginald Mengi

By Guardian Reporter

THE Media Council of Tanzania (MCT) has expressed grief over the death of the IPP Executive Chairman Dr Reginald Mengi who died last week in Dubai, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

MCT executive secretary Kajubi Mukajanga described Dr Mengi's death as a great loss to the media industry, saying that the business tycoon had a great contribution in the development of the profession.

"The council cannot express how sad it is over the death of the IPP Executive Chairman Dr Mengi. He was kind, intelligent, mentor, media leader and champion of the industry. He supervised and always stood for press freedom," said Mukajanga in a statement availed to the media.

According to him, Dr Mengi was always fighting to ensure that the media industry grows and during his life tenure he had helped a number of journalists to pursue further education inside and outside the country also employing thousands of journalists and people in his media organizations.

Mukajanga said that the council also conveys deepest sympathy to the family, friends and the entire IPP

Group of Companies for the loss of Dr Mengi.

The council also urged Tanzanians to continue honouring all the good things that Dr Mengi had done for the country.

Meanwhile, Livestock and Fisheries minister Luhanga Mpina described Dr Mengi as a person who contributed a lot in the changes of policy, laws in the areas of trade and investment for the country's development.

According to the minister, Dr Mengi who died past week in Dubai, United Arab Emirates UAE, is among the mogul who spent much of its time advising and encouraging locals to participate in various projects for economic growth.

Speaking yesterday during the event to receive Dr Mengi's body at Julius Nyerere International Airport (JNIA), Mpina said the nation has lost an important mogul and leader.

"When he was serving as a leader of the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF), Dr Mengi used his time to advise the government on changes of various policies and laws to enable more Tanzanians participate in the country's development through investment," he said.

ecosystems and human health.

At the same time, Tanzania's urbanization needs to be compatible with environmental targets to limit pollution, promote sustainable living conditions and create infrastructure and transport systems that are resilient to climate change. The benefits of a non-polluted environment are many, and become essential if the country is to further develop in a sustainable way. Tanzania's institutions therefore need to be strengthened for improved environmental management.



# Minister orders power connection within major cities

By Guardian Reporter

ENERGY Minister Dr Medard Kalemami had given until June 30th 2019 to the Tanzania Electric Supply Company Limited (TANESCO) to make sure all the streets within major cities were connected to the national grid.

He made the remarks on Sunday shortly after his tour of Dodoma city where most of the houses were not connected with electricity. Dr Kalemami was accompanied by Tanesco managing director, Dr Tito Mwinuka, Assistant Commissioner for Renewable Energy, Edward Ishengoma and officials from the ministry.

"Residents of Ntyuka and Mkonze in Dodoma should be connected to the national grid by June 30th this year... this should also include those residing in the outskirts of Arusha city", said the minister calling upon the residents to ensure safe electrical wiring systems of their houses.

Dr Kalemami said the deadline for power connection in other regions is December, this year.

He urged Tanesco officials to make sure all the customers who had paid for electricity services are connected on time.

Before the tour, Dr Kalemami held a meeting with Tanesco and the ministry's officials to discuss the various efforts currently implemented by the state utility firm to ensure power services reached every citizen.

They also charted to increase power production as well as ensuring reliable electricity services.

"Customers who had already paid for power connection should get the

service by end of this month", he noted. The government is set to increase power production through implementation on various projects including the Stiegler's Gorge Hydroelectric Power Station (SGHPS), on the Rufiji River, in the Selous Game Reserve.

The hydropower plant which is expected to be finalized in 42 months and will have the capacity to produce 2,115 MW by April 2022 and thus will increase the country's current power production capacity of 1,560 MW.

It will include a 400 KV substation and transmission lines integrated into the national electricity grid.



**Residents of Ntyuka and Mkonze in Dodoma should be connected to the national grid by June 30th this year...this should also include those residing in the outskirts of Arusha city**



Mchakama primary school Standard Two pupils in Kilwa District Council, studying under the mango tree due to dilapidated school infrastructure as captured in Lindi region last weekend. Photo: Correspondent George Tarimo

# WCF pays tribute to Dr Reginald Mengi

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

DIRECTOR General of the Workers Compensation Fund (WCF), Masha Mshomba said yesterday that the fund will remember the Executive Chairman of IPP Group of Companies, the late Dr Reginald Mengi for being one among the best contributors to the fund.

He said this in Morogoro region when speaking at the opening of a capacity building seminar for health workers

who will be conducting evaluation of injured workers.

WCF provides for compensation for workers injured in the course of implementing their duties.

Mshomba said that during time, Dr Mengi contributed to the fund through his more than ten companies. He said that Dr Mengi was of great help to the fund since he was also convincing other employers to contribute to WCF as per country laws.

"He was among our main

stakeholders contributing through more than ten companies", said Msomba as he requested seminar participants to stand for one minute's silence to pay tribute to the late Dr Reginald Mengi.

According to Mshomba, the fund has embarked on a programme to educate doctors on how to conduct evaluation of injured workers before they are compensated.

Earlier, Morogoro Regional Commissioner, Dr Kebwe Stephen

challenged the WCF to conduct similar educational seminars to both employers and employees so that they are aware of their rights.

The RC said there are still a good number of workers who are not aware of the fund and its benefits.

Recent data from WCF indicated that the fund has so far paid more than 2bn/- to injured workers in the 2017/2018 fiscal year, and that more than 3bn/- will be paid in the financial year ending June this year.



## Request for Proposals

HELNETAS Swiss Intercooperation Tanzania (HELNETAS) is an international NGO and part of HELNETAS Swiss Intercooperation which has its Head Office in Switzerland ([www.helvetas.org](http://www.helvetas.org)). HELNETAS Tanzania presently engages in two thematic areas: Skill Development and Education (SDE) and Sustainable & Inclusive Economies (SIE)

HELNETAS is implementing the Grain Postharvest Loss Prevention (GPLP) project in the central corridor of Tanzania. The GPLP project is funded by the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) and aims to reduce postharvest losses in food grains and improve food security and incomes for targeted farming households. The project is organising capitalisation of experiences and lessons learned (CAPEX) on different elements of the project, for which HELNETAS is requesting proposals from qualified Consultants interested to conduct the following assignments:

### Consultancy No. 1

- CAPEX on business model and adoption of improved postharvest management (PHM) including metal silo

### Consultancy No. 2

- CAPEX on Postharvest Management Policy Advocacy

### Consultancy No. 3

- Documenting "voices from the field" – impacts and reflections from project stakeholders

Detailed Terms of Reference (ToR) for each consultancy assignment are available at: <https://www.helvetas.org/en/tanzania/jobs>

Detailed proposal(s) including a cover letter, work plan, methodology, budget and short CV of the Consultant should be submitted (by email or hard copies delivered) to the below address before **20th May 2019**.

HELNETAS Swiss Intercooperation  
Grain Postharvest Loss Prevention (GPLP) Project  
P O Box 2978,  
Nyerere Road, NBC Building 2nd Floor  
Dodoma, TANZANIA  
[gplp@helvetas.org](mailto:gplp@helvetas.org)



## PUBLIC NOTICE

May 6th, 2019

The Board of Directors of Exim Bank Tanzania is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Jaffari Matundu as our new Chief Executive Officer (CEO) with immediate effect. The Board thanks Mr. Matundu for his exemplary leadership as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer over the last 10 months since his appointment in June, 2018. He ensured that the Bank continued to move forward both strategically and operationally. The appointment as CEO is a clear testament of the belief placed upon him in taking the Bank even further.

Mr. Matundu carries decades of experience ranging from audit firms to commercial banks. He holds a Post Graduate master's in organizational leadership from the University of Oxford: Said Business School, a Bachelor of Commerce Degree (Hons – Finance) from the University of Dar Es Salaam and is a Certified Public Accountant – CPA (T) of the National Board of Accountants and Auditors.

In our continuation to strengthen our top leadership, the Board is also happy to announce the appointment of Mr. David Lusala as our new Chief Operating Officer (COO) effectively Immediately. Mr. Lusala is currently the Head of Risk and Compliance and has been acting as our Chief Technology Officer for almost a year. He has a wealth of experience having worked in the financial and technology sectors for over 12 years and holds an MBA from the University of Wales UK. He currently sits as a Board Member and Chairman of the Board Audit and Risk Committee at the TMRC. As the new COO, Mr. Lusala will be responsible for driving the banks' digital innovations and operational excellence.

The Board of Directors also welcomes Mr. Andrew Lyimo at the capacity of Head of Retail Banking. Mr. Lyimo brings with him 19+ years of banking experience and holds MSc Accounting and Finance from Mzumbe University. With this addition, we look forward to driving our retail business even further.

Furthermore, the Board of Directors wishes to inform the general public that Mr. Said Mwema who has been serving as the Chairman of the Board, his tenure comes to an end this May 2019. The Board of Directors sincerely thanks Mr. Mwema for his dedicated service and guidance during his tenure and wishes him good fortune in his future endeavors.

Lastly, the Board of Directors is pleased to announce the appointment of Mr. Kalpesh Mehta as a new addition to the Board as an Independent Director. Mr. Mehta is a Chartered Accountant and brings a wealth of knowledge and global experience spanning across two decades. The Board and Exim Bank Tanzania is looking forward to his guidance and dedicated service.

Please join the Board in thanking Mr. Mwema, welcoming Mr. Mehta and Mr. Lyimo, and congratulating Mr. Matundu and Mr. Lusala on their new endeavors.

Board of Directors  
Exim Bank (Tanzania) Limited

Call Centre: 0800 780 111 Email: [customer@eximbank.co.tz](mailto:customer@eximbank.co.tz)  
[www.eximbank.co.tz](http://www.eximbank.co.tz)





# PICTORIAL - ARRIVAL OF THE BODY OF LATE IPP EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, DR REGINALD MENGI



A choir formed by mourners performs at the Julius International Airport in Dar es Salaam yesterday. All Photos: Selemani Mpochi



A reporter with East Africa Television shows a placard with a message praising the late Dr Reginald Mengi at the Julius International Airport in Dar es Salaam



Bodaboda riders crowd the front of the van carrying the body of the late IPP Executive Chairman Dr Reginald Mengi after arrival in Dar es Salaam yesterday



Mourners carry placards with messages along Kawawa Road in Kinondoni area in the city yesterday



The widow of the late Dr Reginald Mengi escorted by her sister after arrival at the Julius International Airport in Dar es Salaam



Dr Reginald Mengi's family members Abdel Mengi (2nd L) and Regina heading to their car after the body of their father arrived from Dubai yesterday. Right is Njombe Regional Commissioner Christopher ole Sendeka and ITV-Radio One senior human resources officer Ayoub Semvua



Dar es Salaam residents say goodbye to the body of the late IPP Executive Chairman Dr Reginald Mengi



Kinondoni residents push the car carrying the body of Dr Mengi yesterday.



# PICTORIAL -ARRIVAL OF THE BODY OF THE LATE IPP EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN, DR REGINALD MENGI



People with disabilities wait the motorcade carrying the body of the late IPP Executive Chairman Dr Reginald Mengi. All Photos: Selemani Mpochi



The widow of the late Dr Reginald Mengi, Jacqueline Mengi being escorted by her sister after arrival at the Julius International Airport in Dar es Salaam



Workers of the Julius Nyerere International Airport carry the casket bearing the body of Dr Reginald Mengi after arrival yesterday



Kinondoni residents touch the car carrying the body of Dr Mengi yesterday



Mourners who also seem to be relatives or from one compound intently gaze as the procession with the remains of the late Dr Reginald Mengi passes Kigogo along Kawawa Road



Some IPP workers console the daughter of the late Dr Reginald Mengi, Regina Mengi after the body arrived at the Julius Nyerere International Airport yesterday



Kinondoni residents await the motorcade carrying the body of Dr Reginald Mengi



# Cultural Moutai -Colorful Guizhou- the Belt and Road Branding Initiative Is Coming to Africa Again Continuously Tapping Potential Markets via Culture Promotion

In May when it looks fresh and green everywhere in Africa, the overseas branding campaign of Moutai comes again to the exuberant African continent one year later.

"Cultural Moutai, Colorful Guizhou" - China Kweichow Moutai the Belt and Road Branding Initiative will be held in Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia, drawing great public attention. This is another large-scale overseas promotion campaign Moutai launches in 2019 after Mr. Li Baofang, Chairman and General Manager of Moutai Group, led a delegation to South America in April.

This is a long-planned international promotion campaign. From extending coverage to blank markets to continuously expanding presence in weak markets, senior executives of Moutai have depicted a clear blueprint for Moutai's overseas promotion: making continuous efforts to go global steadfastly in line with the overall national development strategy, so as to reap fruits several years later.

It was just a little more than one year ago when Moutai Group carried out the branding initiative in Africa for the first time in November 2017. Since then, Moutai has achieved remarkable growth in this continent, with footprints left on vast areas from South Africa to Tanzania, and the second Africa tour highlights the focus in Moutai's strategic deployment.

Led by Wang Yan, Board Director of Moutai Group, this trip to Africa will involve a series of diverse events held in Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia, such as cultural exchanges, appreciation experience, themed exhibitions and visit to Chinese embassies and consulates in these countries, with an aim to comprehensively improve the popularity of cultural Moutai and colorful Guizhou.

This May, the mellow aroma of Moutai liquor from Guizhou, China will cross Kilimanjaro, the Roof of Africa, in the northeast of Tanzania to permeate the African continent again.

**Rapid changes have taken place in Africa**  
Through overseas branding campaigns for five consecutive years, Moutai's international deployment has seen a brand new look, with Africa, which used to be blank for Moutai, becoming a typical growth market in recent years.

This land is of special significance to Chinese enterprises. The China-Africa friendship has a time-honored history, especially the friendship with Tanzania, an affectionate, loyal old friend of China. China is the most important trading partner of Tanzania, and April 26 marked the 55th anniversary of diplomatic relations between China and Tanzania. So far, the Tazara Railway constructed by China has been running for some 43 years.

During his visit to Africa in March 2013, President Xi Jinping delivered an important speech titled "Being Reliable Friends and Sincere Partners Forever" at Leier International Conference Center, Tanzania, with the guidelines on the China's African policy - to be "sincere, reliable, intimate, honest", sublating the China-Africa friendship to a new level.

Tazara Railway in Tanzania, Mombasa-Nairobi Railway in Kenya, and Addisababa- Djibouti Railway in Ethiopia have closely connected China with the three old friends in Africa.

In November 2017, Moutai held the "Meeting in Africa Through the Unique Aroma -Cultural Moutai the Belt and Road Branding Initiative" for the first time in Africa, leaving footprints in South Africa, Namibia and Mozambique. Moutai has expanded a lot in Africa since it started from scratch just a year ago.

According to the latest statistics of Guizhou Moutai Chiew Import and Export Co., Ltd., Moutai has 13 franchisers in 11 African countries. In 2018, Moutai successfully accessed 5 blank markets in Africa, involving 5 franchisers in 5 countries. In the same year, 114.09 tons of Moutai and Moutai series liquor was sold in Africa, up 77.31% year on year, with sales amount reaching 22.6656 million US dollars, up 96.28% year on year, accounting for 5.5% of its overseas sales.

The substantial growth of a range of key economic indicators demonstrates the great potential of African market from different dimensions. Top management of Moutai emphasized during their South America tour in April that Moutai needs continuous efforts to explore key regions. "It is hard to get desired results in places like Africa with just one or two campaigns, so we will organize an Africa tour every year."

The best friend deserves the best liquor. Just like a convoy of friendship, Moutai will witness a new lasting, fragrant legend.

**Aspiration of the trailblazers: looking for larger space**  
As a franchiser of Moutai in Kenya, Li Yuxian of Xinghexin Trading (Kenya) Co., Ltd. is one of the trailblazers in African market.

Located in the central area of Nairobi, Kenya, Xinghexin, with 5 staff members, started doing foreign trade projects in cooperation with AVIC International in 2010, and officially started overseas Moutai business in 2016.

"With almost 200,000 overseas Chinese, Kenya is a bridgehead of the Belt and Road Initiative in Africa. With further advancing of the Belt and Road Initiative, more overseas Chinese clusters will take shape in various countries," said Li Yuxian. All of these are potential overseas consumer markets of

Moutai. It is learned that Xinghexin has held appreciation events in Chinese restaurants and large supermarkets (Two River Mall), and promoted Moutai via Facebook and WeChat moments. Luckily, after tasting Moutai, natives gave high comments on it as they were accustomed to the taste.

More and more local consumers get familiar with Moutai now compared with two years ago when Moutai just landed in Kenya. Jorge, a supermarket salesperson, said excitedly that local people would tell him about Moutai, "This is the best liquor in China. I can finally drink Moutai liquor in my country."

What impressed Li Yuxian most in their efforts to explore the market is the vigorous support and help from the overseas Chinese organizations including the Chinese Association, Economic and Trade Association and China General Chamber of Commerce in Eastern Africa.

For Xinghexin, however, the current difficulty faced in the market is how to improve the awareness of Moutai among the natives, as local Kenyans like drinking red wine, whisky and beer.

There are many trailblazers and pioneers like Xinghexin, including trail franchisers in Tanzania. They urgently need face-to-face exchange with Moutai to seek support. It is reported that during this Africa tour, Moutai will conduct in-depth communication with African franchisers to understand their operation situations and difficulties, as well as basic market situations of countries in which Moutai operates, and work out policies more conducive to the development of the African market, so that Moutai franchisers in Africa can have good economic benefits.

Li Yuxian has high expectations for this Moutai branding campaign in Africa. "This is a great opportunity for Moutai franchisers in Kenya, so we must grasp it," said Li. Meticulous efforts are needed to expand the market of Moutai liquor in Kenya. We hope Moutai Group and Guizhou Moutai Chiew Import and Export Co., Ltd. enhance cultivation of and support for the Kenyan market, such as increasing advertising input and intensifying liquor appreciation support with more promotional products."

Xinghexin has a further expanding plan in place. For instance, it is going to introduce more Moutai series products, such as Moutai Prince, and distribute products to every Chinese restaurant and major local supermarkets. "Chinese and native employees in Chinese-funded organizations are all potential consumers of Moutai Prince. Our goal is to make Moutai and Moutai Prince their first choice of liquor," Li Yuxian added.



To date, Moutai has 115 overseas franchisers in 11 countries. Since it was initiated several years ago, the Belt and Road Initiative has gained support from more than 100 countries and international organizations that are actively participating in projects under the initiative, bringing about profound, positive influence on the global economic governance mechanism. African countries including Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia are generally actively responding to the Belt and Road Initiative.

The Belt and Road Initiative also requires proactive response of Chinese brands. Chinese corporations with strong profitability, such as Moutai, shall make more contributions to enhancing Sino-foreign cultural exchanges and mutual understanding, and reducing barriers, said Mr. Li Baofang, Chairman of Moutai Group.

For Moutai, how to tell the story of Moutai, communicate Chinese culture and expand influence of Chinese national brands is the key direction for the company to take to advance under the Belt and Road Initiative.

Over the past five years, Moutai has been making brand deployment in the international market in line with the Belt and Road Initiative. These efforts have helped further uplift Moutai's brand influence, and brought about strategic influence on the brand itself. As a result, the management team can clearly the big gap between Moutai and first-class multi-national companies in terms of "soft power", in spite of its remarkable performance.

In this Africa trip, Moutai hopes to absorb nutrition by fusing with the international market to improve its capability of cross-country operation, so as to build a Chinese company with real world influence.

**Empowering branding with culture**  
"While Moutai has made some achievements in Africa, there are still some problems and shortcomings," said the head of Guizhou Moutai Chiew Import and Export Co., Ltd.. "Currently, the prominent problem is the cultural obstacle."

It is learned that Africa is characterized by uneven

economic development levels, disperse population, diverse cultures and high market complexity. Different countries have different natural conditions, cultural customs and policies & regulations, and even there are obvious differences inside a country.

From Europe and North America, to Africa and Oceania, through to South America, the Cultural Moutai the Belt and Road Branding Initiative, an event held for years in a row, has become an important platform to publicize Chinese culture, promote Moutai brand, expand international influence and enhance friendly exchanges.

Culture is the best medium to touch people's heart and cross over obstacles. Today, the world is ushering in the 5G era, and it is no longer difficult to have effective and timely business contact amid geographic distance, a source said. Promoting the Cultural Moutai around the world, Moutai expects to enhance mutual recognition with the rest of the world via the important bridge of culture, said Wang Yan, leader of Moutai delegation.



## Steadily enhance Moutai's influence in the domestic market with the opportunity brought by the Belt and Road Initiative,

While its market value has overtaken Diageo, Moutai is clear that it's still far behind renowned multi-national liquor companies in terms of international market expansion, corporate governance and cross-cultural influence of branding.

The experience of multi-national wine giant Diageo in global deployment is very inspiring, that is, to gain deep insights into local consumption habits and culture, with a focus on the main business and high-end brand, which is its inexhaustible driving force for sustainable growth.

Time stops for no one and the seasons keep changing. In recent years, Moutai has been intensively cultivating old markets, and expand

new ones by means of culture promotion and consumption cultivation, with an aim to "Let the world fall in love with Moutai and be filled with Moutai's aroma", which has significantly driven the global development and growth of Moutai.

67 countries and regions around the world, with its overseas sales network being increasingly optimized.

Kweichow Moutai's 2018 annual report shows that its overseas revenue hit RMB 2.893 billion, an increase of 27.44% year on year. At the historical moment of touching the target of "RMB 100 billion", Moutai has got a wider development vision and market deployment plan.

Markets along the Belt and Road have become a focus of Moutai's international exploration, a strong force to boost the sustained and stable development of Moutai in the overseas markets.

It is reported that in 2018, Moutai increased 12 new markets along the Belt and Road, with sales volume and sales amount increasing 38.7% and 70.7% respectively year on year, and with total sales in markets along the Belt and Road accounting for 22.6% of total overseas sales.

It is proved that expanding international market plays a special role in helping liquor companies including Moutai to steadily enhance its influence in the domestic market and the risk-resistance capacity of the industry.



According to related data, there are about 50,000 overseas Chinese and 724 Chinese-funded organizations in Tanzania; some 200,000 overseas Chinese and over 200 Chinese-funded organizations in Kenya; and more than 300,000 overseas Chinese and over 400 Chinese-funded organizations in Ethiopia. These data indicate that the three African countries feature vibrant emerging economies to provide sound environment for Moutai to achieve fast growth and get Moutai brand rooted in local communities through overseas Chinese across various industries.

As Moutai Group stressed in the 2018 Africa tour, "In the past, Moutai was exported overseas to earn foreign exchange for the country. Now, as Moutai is short supply in the domestic market, the key theme of overseas promotion has transformed from selling liquor products to branding, and cultural communication is a higher level of branding."

**Enlarging the international friend circle of Colorful Guizhou**

Uplifting the worldwide popularity of Moutai's hometown with the increasing brand influence of Moutai Group is focus of Moutai's overseas campaigns in 2019.

While promoting the Moutai brand, the Moutai branding initiative in Africa will also publicize Guizhou, and extensively present Guizhou's big data industry, tea industry and tourism industry

to the Africa to enhance Guizhou's international influence and enlarge its international friend circle.

The mountains and rivers of Guizhou are the most precious natural resources for making Moutai. The unique water quality, soil, climate and microflora of Moutai town create the unduplicable noble temperament of Moutai. As a name card of Guizhou, the Moutai's campaign in Africa fully displays the colorful image and resource advantages of Guizhou.

The diverse ethnic cultures and natural features constitute the colorful Guizhou culture. In addition to the fascinating liquor culture, Guizhou is also the core source area of tea trees in the world. In Guizhou, it is not severely cold in winter, or intensely hot in summer. The four seasons are distinctive, and the hot season and rainy season are the same. Moreover, Guizhou is the only tea area in China with high altitude, low latitude, lack of sunlight, much cloud and fog, no pollution and plateau across the region.

Guizhou has developed into a leading region with big data industry agglomeration and active innovation in China, although it just started big data business in 2013. Designated by the Chinese government as the first national big data comprehensive pilot zone, Guizhou boasts many innovations and firsts in China's big data sector. A number of world-class big data enterprises have set offices in Guizhou, forming an integrated industrial ecosystem. Alibaba and

Guizhou have established deep partnership in many sectors including big data technology R&D, rural e-commerce, smart city and precise poverty alleviation; Huawei is building a global data center in Guizhou, and is cooperating with Guizhou in smart devices and software development; Baidu is carrying out data mining and developing applications to improve people's livelihood in Guizhou, and discussing about establishing a pilot zone of unmanned vehicles.

As Mr. Li Baofang, Chairman and General Manager of Moutai Group, said during the Moutai's tour to South America, "Guizhou is a beautiful province. Good liquor and tea, rich and diverse local cultures, the densest expressway network in Southwest China and the leading big data planning in East Asia make Guizhou the choice of investment, commerce and travel." The campaign of Moutai in Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia will help convert the resource advantages and industrial advantages of Guizhou into the results of the Belt and Road, and promote wider China-Africa cooperation and development.

So far, Moutai's global marketing network has extended to five continents. The improvement of overseas influence is proportionate with its sales growth. Moutai's brand value and market value remain No. 1 for years among the global liquors. 2019 marks the first year of Cultural Moutai, and Moutai Group is reinforcing its global brand strategy foundation with culture export and excellent services.





# 文化茅台 多彩贵州

## — CULTURAL MOUTAI — COLORFUL GUIZHOU

“一带一路”行走进坦桑尼亚品牌推介

CHINA KWEICHOW MOUTAI

THE BELT AND ROAD BRANDING INITIATIVE IN TANZANIA

让世界爱上茅台  
让茅台飘香世界

LET THE WORLD  
FALL IN LOVE WITH MOUTAI  
LET MOUTAI'S FLAVOUR SPREAD  
ALL OVER THE WORLD





**The Guardian Limited Key Contacts**

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO  
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

**Newsdesk**

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

**Advertising**

Manager Sales and Marketing: KAUTHAR DSOUZA  
0767223311  
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz  
Website: www.ippmedia.com  
epaper.ippmedia.com

## Challenges of teachers appraisal

**W**E all agree that teachers' professional competence and conscientiousness are the keys to the delivery of quality education in schools. The teacher appraisal system assists in recognising and encouraging good performance, identifying areas for development, and improving overall performance of teachers.

The Education Commission Report No. 7 recommended that all schools should put in place school-based management (SBM) by the year 2000. SBM should comprise a number of key elements, of which the development of formal procedures and resources for staff appraisal and staff development according to teachers' needs is one of them. Schools have been advised, and in fact they all pledged, to establish a staff appraisal system by the end of the 2001/02 school year. Teacher appraisal is a mechanism for improving teaching and learning.

In a well-designed staff appraisal system, the instruments and procedures can constitute valuable professional development for teachers and enable the school management to assess teachers' performance. The teacher appraisal system assists in recognising and encouraging good performance, identifying areas for development, and improving overall performance of teachers. Two booklets entitled 'Staff Appraisal in Schools' and 'Teacher Appraisal' were issued in 1992 and 1998 respectively to assist schools joining the School Management Initiative to establish a formal staff appraisal system.

Based on the experience gained from these pioneer schools and the fact that all public schools have implemented SBM since 2000, the Education and Manpower Bureau has improved the contents of the 'Teacher Appraisal' and prepared a Guide. As the Guide aims to help schools further develop their teacher performance management system, call it 'Teacher Performance Management' to better reflect its

objective and wider coverage.

To enable public sector schools to implement school-based management, they have been given greater autonomy in the delivery of education and the deployment of resources. The ultimate aim of school-based management is to empower schools to develop their own characteristics and deliver quality education to meet the needs of their pupils, improving their achievement and learning outcomes. To practise school-based management, schools have to set goals, draw up their personnel, resource and instructional policies and conduct self-evaluation.

Teacher performance management is a continuous process for identifying, evaluating and developing the work performance of teachers, so that the goals and objectives of the school are more effectively achieved, while at the same time benefiting teachers in terms of recognition of performance, professional development and career guidance.

Education standards present a vision of learning and teaching science in which all students have the opportunity to become scientifically literate. In this vision, teachers of science are professionals responsible for their own professional development and for the maintenance of the teaching profession. The standards in this chapter provide criteria for making judgments about the quality of the professional development opportunities that teachers of science will need to implement the Science education standards.

Professional development for teachers should be analogous to professional development for other professionals. Becoming an effective science teacher is a continuous process that stretches from preservice experiences in undergraduate years to the end of a professional career. Science has a rapidly changing knowledge base and expanding relevance to societal issues, and teachers will need ongoing opportunities to build their understanding and ability.

## How can older people play a bigger role in society?

**O**LDER people have different expectations these days, and that will continue to change. What might have been good enough for previous generations will not cut it in the future, and what we have is not sustainable anyway. We certainly don't want to end up in a care home, nor do we want to have to make the decision for our parents to go into one. We have worked with many older people who have just wanted to stay in their own homes. It's about choice, having the services in place to support people to make choices about how they want to live, and be supported when necessary in later life.

We indeed think broadly the things people worry about are the same throughout life - finances, wellbeing, loneliness and what have you - but as people get older their feeling of being able to control these things changes.

Intergenerational work is a great way to break down barriers between groups of people. For young people to appreciate the experiences and skills of older people and vice versa so that we foster greater understanding between groups of people.

There are certainly stereotypes surrounding the baby boomers - well off retirees who maybe took early retirement, own a couple of properties and take frequent holidays. There is still a significant number of older people living in poverty today. And with wealth inequality comes health inequality.

Older age is still seen as a shorthand for ill-health, inactivity and decline and therefore that stereotype can prevail. There is also an unhelpful stereotype of older people as being anti-youth. There is such brilliant diversity in older age now - we really can't generalise about a group who may range from 50 to 100+.

What role do older people play in

society at the moment? Older people have a wealth of skills and experiences, they have lived through situations others cannot even imagine, and yet we continue to dismiss these lifetimes of experiences when they begin to need care and support and instead people become a list of care needs.

Older people contribute on a macro level to the workplace and financially and at a local level to their communities and individual networks in terms of experience. They have also contributed for many decades which is something which is often forgotten.

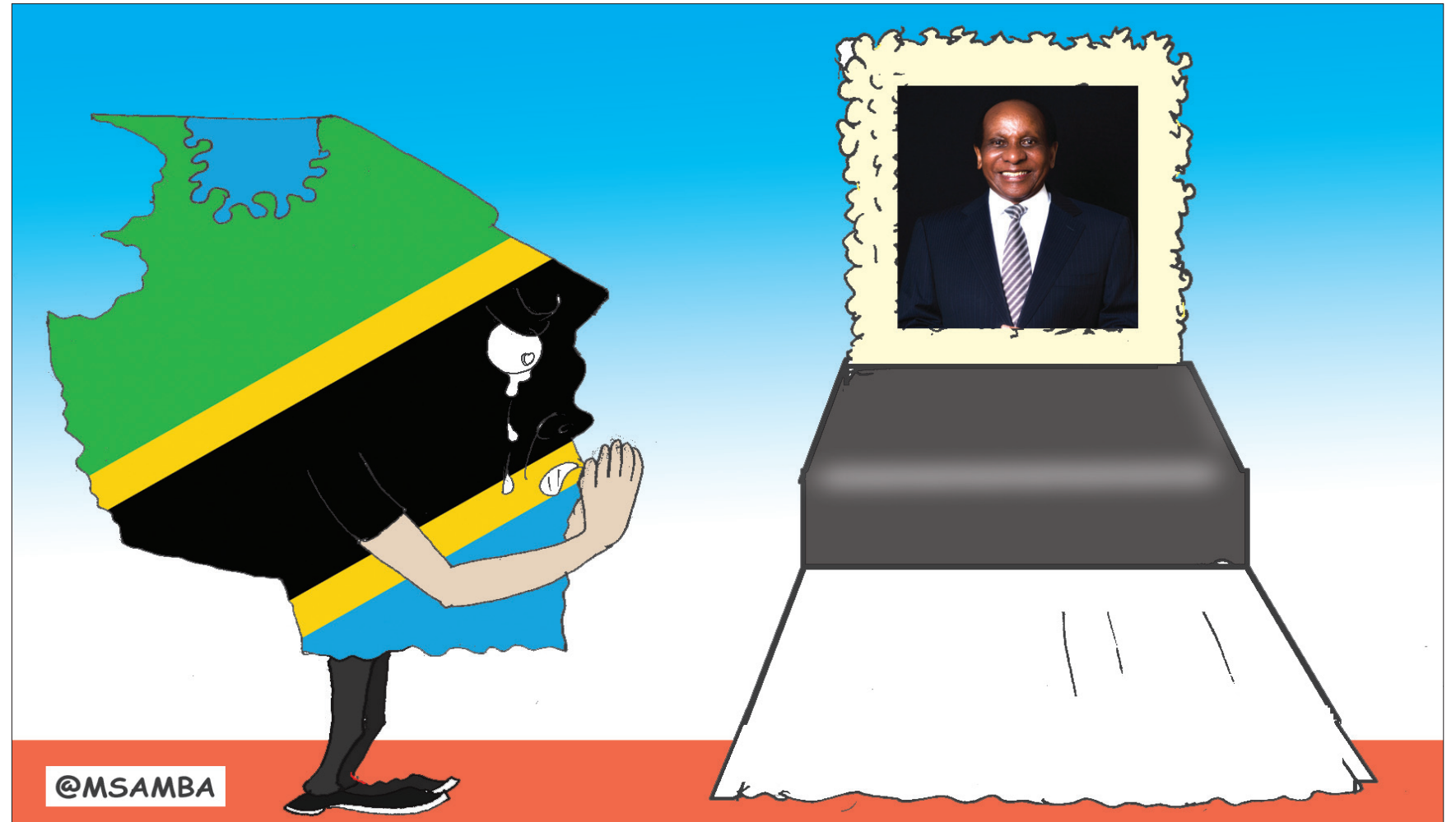
How is the environment geared towards (or against) older people taking part in their communities?

There are so many simple things that could be improved. For example, most people over 65 walk more slowly than the 1.2 metres per second that is assumed at pedestrian crossings. The result is older people rushing to get across a road as the lights turn to green and the traffic begins to move.

In Singapore the elderly have smart cards that they can swipe at road crossings and thus slow down the speed that traffic lights change.

We should extend the environment to include people's homes. How are we ensuring that people's homes are adequate for them to remain independent and happy in? Local authorities should review their funding policies to ensure home solutions such as telecare and assistive technology are free to all with substantial need. This supports a reduction in demand on other healthcare services.

Small things, like well-placed benches for people to rest if they can't walk so well, public toilet provision and thoughtful use of lighting and colour to aid those with dementia can be the difference between being active and housebound.



By Solitaire Townsend

**W**HEN I was a little girl, I wanted to be a princess. I wore a home-made Joan of Arc costume. Where others read romance novels, I read about fighting dragons. I didn't want to be a princess, I wanted to save them.

Then I grew up. As we get older, most of us exchange our dreams of heroism for the realities of our daily responsibility. We don't slay dragons or save the world, but we do feed our kids and try to be decent people.

And we look to our leaders, in our governments, business and civil society, to do the dragon slaying for us. Our institutions hold the power and the responsibility to protect us from threats, to lead the way and make the hard decisions.

But somewhere inside us, the urge to be a hero remains - and the time has come to let our inner hero out. Because true global sustainability demands that individuals - and not just institutions - take action. And that's why I'm so proud the new Good Life Goals exist.

These new goals were inspired when the UN Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) underscored the need for people power in its latest report, by recommending actions for people, not just policy makers, for the

## Will 'people power', or powerful people, change the world?

first time.

So, every one of us now has a role in defeating the climate threat, from changing how we eat and travel to how we heat our homes. And people power can go even further. We have a role to play across the entire sustainability agenda.

This conviction is why I have dedicated my professional life to translating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into a set of actions for everyone. Because heroism is a renewable resource.

When the SDGs were launched, the United Nations made it clear that "For the goals to be reached, everyone needs to do their part: governments, the private sector, civil society and people like you."

Our Good Life Goals were developed and designed to make the 'people like you' part comprehensible and even exciting. They bridge the gap between the high-level targets of the Sustainable Development Goals and the sustainable lifestyle movement that calls for action by citizens in the everyday choices they make.

By providing personally-relevant

links between SDG and the actions individuals can take in their daily lives towards these goals, the Good Life Goals send a message that everyone can play an important role in the future.

Individually and collectively we have the right, responsibility, and the opportunity to change the world for the better.

The Good Life Goals will help us learn more about sustainability and the most urgent issues that we face, demand action from leaders, stand up for the vulnerable or exploited, and teach our children about the SDGs.

Some of the specific actions under the Good Life Goals are deliberately targeted to 'over-consumers': those who live far beyond a one-planet lifestyle and have a greater responsibility (especially on environmental impact).

Whilst most of the actions are designed for everyone and include how we treat each other and the world around us. One of the most popular has been to 'teach kids kindness.'

Smart choices are at the core of creating a world that works for everyone. From smart choices made

by individuals in their daily lives to the choices made by multinational companies and governments: the way we produce and consume directly correlated to the resources we use or the trash we produce.

On March 11-15, government leaders, CEOs of major companies, innovators and activists will gather in Nairobi to debate, challenge and help activate those choices at the Fourth UN Environment Assembly.

For those who can't be there, please join in online. Using the #SolveDifferent hashtag we can use our 'people power' to make the difference between good intentions and real action.

The Good Life Goals are already being used to harness people power and bring about change in a lot of small ways. Businesses are adopting them in staff communication and marketing, storytellers and media organisations are embedding the actions in TV and film, educators and students are using them to connect the complex world of policymaking to everyday life.

How can you use them too? Because to change everything, we are going to need everyone.

## 'The value of a virtuous woman is priceless'

By Jariatu S. Bangura

**W**HILE delivering her keynote address during the commemoration of International Women's

Day recently, Attorney General and Minister of Justice, Dr. Priscilla Schwartz, stated that the value of a virtuous woman is priceless, as she is always confident, considerate and pays attention to whatever she does.

She was speaking at the British Council Hall on the theme 'Better the balance, better the world.'

Dr. Schwartz commended the British High Commission for acknowledging her and the women of Sierra Leone, especially when the rate of sexual violence against women and girls is on the increase. She promised that they would continue to celebrate the day as a government in order to help achieve the goal five of the Sustainable Development Goals.

"We need the better the balance to improve on gender equality. Leadership should be an individual challenge for women and girls. The value of a virtuous woman is priceless as she is always confident of what she does. She is considerate and emphasises on things she does. The legal woman contributes to the development of the nation. You must not be comfortable in the roles and quotas of representation that we have been given," she said.

She stated that women should be involved in active roles and be placed in leadership positions.

The Attorney General said they have been reminded about the increased rate of violence against women every day, coupled with them being under represented, while girls are forced into early marriage.

She said her office was working very closely with the gender ministry and other women's forum to help raise the awareness, but noted that the move would be successful if male counterpart gives their helping hand.

She appealed to all citizens to avoid trading off underage children into early marriage and protect them from all other forms of violence against women and girls.

Dr. Schwartz stated that from 2012-2017, there was zero percent of women who competed for presidential position, but 13 percent participated in 2018. She said 13 percent of women held cabinet positions in 2012 and that the percentage increased to 18 in 2018.

She said 2 women contested for the Paramount Chieftaincy, adding that the country has 8 female judges, a development she said manifested that Sierra Leonean women were making progress.

In his statement, British High Commissioner to Sierra Leone, Guy Warrington, said UK was doing what they could and very proud to assist

Sierra Leone for the past 30 years in supporting and empowering women and the girl child education program.

He said they were working very hard not to leave women behind, as it was very sad to see them being discriminated against.

"If women have the same goal as their male counterpart in the environment, it will be good for the nation. When a girl has education, the nation will be healthier with better employment and the society also, will be happy to have her. That will add value to the nation as we saw their participation during the last elections. We will continue to support Sierra Leone in other to empower women and girls," he said.

He promised that they will continue to help strengthen the fight against sexual violence, while stating that they welcome the declaration made by the president.

Former UN Special Representative on Sexual Violence in Conflict, Dr. Zainab Hawa Bangura, said it was important for women and girls to always go in search of what they actually needed in life rather than accepting what has been given to them. She said if donor partners wanted to bring development for women's health, education, there was need to consult them as they know what they wanted in life.

"Women always make decisions for other people leaving themselves behind. For women, leadership means

taking care of others first and that is why we have different definition of leadership as compared to that of the male counterpart. We always give the best to others. If development should be for women, they must be fully involved. I am urging all women to know that they should go for what they want in life, make sure to find it and be there. We all should aim for higher things and don't compromise our principles," she said.

Country Representative for Open Society Initiative for West Africa, Joe Pemagbi, said the celebration of International Women's day was a reminder for everyone to respect women and also a reminder of the achievement that the country has made in supporting women.

"As a nation, there have been some progress but is it enough for our women? Should we put more emphasis on the sexual offences Act? There is need to give them the support. We have to do more. Is this day worth celebrating or is it a reminder for the government and the men to back to the drawing board and interrogate a lot more? We should promote women in politics and also educate the girls more," he emphasised.

He called on political parties to open doors for more women to participate and also He called on LAWYERS, Legal Aid Board and the Rainbow Initiative to continue supporting women.



# Why we must act now for climate and gender justice

By Mary Robinson and Terry Odendahl |

The time to address climate change has never been more urgent, and the fact is that each and every person plays an important role in finding solutions.

For us, as activists who have devoted our lives to gender equity, women's rights, and environmental justice, the concept of balance is especially important. Across the world, those least responsible for the causes of climate change are the most impacted by the consequences.

The injustice is widespread, as many who have lived in harmony with the environment for centuries suffer most from rising temperatures, droughts, flooding, and overall, a changing climate.

Women are disproportionately affected by the harmful impacts of climate change on water, land, and clean air. Women walk farther when water and firewood run out, work harder to feed their families when erratic weather wreaks havoc on crops, and die at higher rates than men when natural disasters strike.

There is hope. Through our partnerships with grassroots communities around the world, we have seen firsthand that solutions exist on the frontlines of the battle to save our planet, with women as leaders stepping up to the challenge.

We know that gender equity and balance are important when we talk about solutions to climate change. It is important that each and every person worldwide plays their part in addressing the causes and impacts of environmental degradation and global warming, protecting the planet for future generations. And it is crucial to ensure that each person can access their rights to clean water, air, and soil.

Despite being some of the key leaders in the fight against climate change, women still lack access to climate related decision-making, information, financial resources, and more. Together, we are committed to promoting women's leadership and equal access to rights, opportunities, and resources within the environmental justice movement and their cultural contexts.

For us, that means supporting projects that consider the gendered impacts of environmental damage and climate change, and that promote a more just and equitable society.

It is clear that women play a critical role in protecting natural resources, and have long histories of protecting forests, rivers, and oceans. Take, for example, a group of women in Ogoniland, Nigeria, who are restoring mangrove forests devastated by hundreds of thousands of barrels of oil spilled across the Niger Delta by Shell Oil.

Using just a few thousand dollars from Global Green-grants Fund, women are replanting the mangroves, and restoring a healthy and thriving ecosystem. This is just one example of how women help to lay the groundwork for future generations.

Across the world we see cases where women are working to address the impacts of climate change, leading to a safer, healthier environment for their families and communities.

In Vanuatu, a group of women have become resource monitors, measuring the impacts of climate change on their communities and their islands, and are implementing resilience and adaptation strategies.

And even under threat, women continue to stand up for the planet and a better world. Berta Cáceres was murdered for her efforts to protect the Lenca people of Honduras from the detrimental environmental impacts of the Agua Zarca dam. Many women just like Berta are under threat for their activism, yet continue to stand up for their rights to land, clean water, air, and soil.

Support for grassroots-led action on the frontlines is especially important. Communities that are not responsible for the bulk of environmental damage, but are most impacted by it, are working to implement solutions that will help us all, cutting carbon emissions by replanting forests, and building movements to change larger policies and challenge detrimental development projects.

Many times, women are taking the lead to move these solutions forward, yet often lack adequate resources.

Besides changing the overall policies and systems, it will take each and every one of us to drive change. Whether the solutions include planting trees, recycling waste, or challenging the destruction of rainforests for profit, unity, balance, and equity will be essential.

Today, and every day moving forward, there are ways to take action to address climate change and help to achieve climate justice for those who bear the brunt of the resulting impacts, yet are least responsible for the causes.

Take personal action, make demands of those with the most responsibility - governments and fossil fuel companies - and use your voice and your vote. And lastly, spend some time imagining the future we want, which will be healthier, more equal and one in which we all live in harmony with nature.

Acting together is more essential now than ever before. Rise up today to join the movement.



TCC



**The Board of Directors,  
Management and Staff of Tanzania Cigarette  
Public Limited Company (TCC Plc)**

are deeply saddened with the passing of Dr. Reginald Mengi.

The late Dr. Mengi was a key figure in driving industrialization in the private sector in Tanzania. His legacy as a Leader, Visionary and Philanthropist has left a mark for future generations.

**Our heartfelt condolences to his family, IPP Group and all Tanzanians.**

May God rest his Spirit in Eternal Peace.

Amen



**We know that gender equity and balance are important when we talk about solutions to climate change. It is important that each and every person worldwide plays their part in addressing the causes and impacts of environmental degradation and global warming, protecting the planet for future generations**



# Nigeria can't ban imports amid poverty and hunger

By Olu Fasan

**N**IGERIANS are poor and hungry. The government is in denial, but deep poverty and hunger are ravaging Nigerians. This country has acquired the shameful sobriquet poverty capital of the world, because it has the world's largest concentration of extremely poor people.

According to the World Data Lab, over 90 million Nigerians are in extreme poverty. That's more than the numbers in India and China combined. It's beyond belief: With a population of 190 million, Nigeria has more people in extreme poverty than both China and India, each with a population of over one billion.

Even more troubling, while extreme poverty is falling in India and China, it's growing in Nigeria. The World Data Lab's analysis shows that six people fall into extreme poverty in Nigeria every minute. Yes, every single minute!

Of course, as poverty grows, so does hunger. A recent United Nations' report said that two-thirds of the world's hungriest people live in Nigeria and seven other countries. With so little personal incomes, that's not surprising.

The middle class is defined as people who can afford to spend up to \$110 (N39,482) a day. Yet, according to the World Bank, 92.1 per cent of Nigerians live on below \$5.5 (N1,974) a day - yes, 92.1 per cent, and that includes the nearly 50 per cent extremely poor who live on below \$1.90 (N682.00) a day. Truth is, Nigeria is a nation of predominantly poor people, living in penury. They are in the throes of the two most devastating human scourges: poverty and hunger!

But what, in such a dire situation, should a government do? Well, some, like the Buhari government, would respond with social intervention programmes such as cash transfer schemes.

In his first budget speech in 2015, President Buhari said his administration was "compiling registers of the poorest persons", with a view to implementing a conditional cash transfer



scheme. Last week, Buhari's special adviser on National Social Welfare Programme, Maryam Uwais, said the government had "over 700,000 people on the National Social Register" and had paid "about 300,000 people under the conditional cash transfer scheme."

George Orwell must have had the Buhari government in mind when he described political language as being "designed to give an appearance of solidity to pure wind." International studies show that there are over 90 million Nigerians in extreme poverty, and

that six people join them every minute. Yet, the Buhari government is trumpeting giving a pittance to 300,000 people as an achievement. What definition of "extreme poverty" did the government use to come up with the 700,000 people on its so-called "National Social Register"?

How many people have escaped extreme poverty or, indeed, dropped out of the ignominiously named "social register" since President Buhari introduced his social

welfare programme? The answer is none. If anything, extreme poverty is growing!

Of course, extreme poverty will grow because social interventions, while they have their place as supplements, are mere palliatives and not the solution to poverty. For a start, they are too expensive and no government, whether through borrowing and/or taxation, can really afford or sustain them. Secondly, they often amount to throwing good money after bad because

they entrench poverty rather than take people out of it. The Buhari government said it spent N300 billion on its cash transfer scheme in the last three years. But what positive impact has that had on tackling extreme poverty in this country? Well, as the evidence shows, none!

The truth is, economic growth is the most powerful tool to reduce poverty. Growth is a rising tide that lifts all boats.

And the two key drivers of growth are trade and long-term

foreign direct investment. No nation has succeeded or tackled poverty without them. But trade and FDI are products of deliberate policies of economic openness.

In 1990, the number of Chinese people living in extreme poverty was 755.8 million, but by 2015, it was 10 million, according to the World Bank. How? Well, unsurprisingly, the seismic shift happened during the period of intense economic reform, including trade liberalisation, in China.

Trade, especially imports, is particularly significant because it can have immediate positive impact on poverty and hunger. Leaving aside the fact that imports stimulate growth by providing sources of cheap inputs, including technologies, for manufacturing, they also directly allow citizens to buy more, better-quality products at lower costs, leaving them with more disposable income. Throughout history, nations have responded to poverty and hunger by removing or reducing tariffs on imports.

For instance, the Irish potato famine in 1845 prompted Britain to repeal the corn laws, which protected landowners and raised the prices of imported food items. In 2000, African leaders pledged to reduce or waive tariffs on mosquito nets and drugs needed to tackle malaria. No sensible nation responds to poverty, hunger and disease by restricting access to cheap imports.

Yet, despite pervasive poverty and hunger, Nigeria is banning or restricting the imports of consumer goods in a misguided attempt to achieve "self-sufficiency" by diktat. Import restrictions or bans are anti-consumers.

They are not justified in times of plenty, even less so amid excruciating poverty and hunger. Cutting food prices must be a priority of any government. Not in Nigeria, sadly!

## OFFICIAL LAUNCH OF TCRA CLIENTS' SERVICE CHARTER 2019

[www.tcra.go.tz](http://www.tcra.go.tz)



### YOU ARE INVITED

Date: **8<sup>th</sup> May 2019**

Venue: **Dodoma Convention Centre - UDOM Road**

Time: **8.00 am Onwards**

Chief Guest: **Hon. Eng. Isack A. Kamwelwe (Mp)**  
**Minister for Works, Transport and Communication**

Mawasiliano Towers, 20 Sam Nujoma Road  
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14414 Dar Es Salaam  
+255 22 2199760 - 8; +255 22 2412011 - 2  
+255 22 2412009 / +255 22 2412010  
+255 784558270 - 1/ +255 22 2199769  
dg@tcra.go.tz

Tune in for Live Coverage from 8:00 am





# Digital banking vital in scaling up financial inclusion

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA'S vast geographical boundaries and mobile phone penetration among its demographics have attributed to a shift of many Tanzanians from traditional cash transactions to emerging mobile payment solutions, whether it is to send money home, facilitate informal business transactions, pay bills, or buy pre-paid electricity.

Notably, low-income people, especially in the rural areas, find value in remote digital payment solutions.

According to the second

National Financial Inclusion Framework 2018-2022 (NFIF2), mobile payment solutions have contributed to an increasing number of adults in the formal financial systems, from 58percent - 2013 to 65percent - 2017.

The framework further asserts that the combined efforts between the government and the private sector are a main factor for the upsurge in financial inclusion.

The World Bank also maintains that the inclusion of people in the formal financial system will enable communities, especially businessmen to access financial services at

ease, at an affordable cost and according to their needs to achieve their goals.

The first phase of the National Financial Inclusion Framework (NFIF1) plan focused on improving accessibility of financial products and services that meet the needs of individuals. Whereas the current framework focuses on achieving the financial inclusion vision through the usage of financial products and services that address different business and individual needs.

One of the key drivers of usage is relevance of financial products and services that are

being offered to the customers. Digital financial services providers like Vodacom Tanzania are driving unprecedented changes in the country's fiscal system; by creating point solutions to very specific problems in the community that enable people to manage their money tensions. New digital financial products are being rolled out to provide customers with new methods of using the existing services in the formal financial system.

Recently, Vodacom Tanzania in partnership with TPB bank launched a new and unique service called M-Koba, an in-

novative solution tailor made to offer a sustainable digitized platform for the estimated 16% of the Tanzania adult population (over 4.4 million people), majority of them women, that are registered in over 50,000 village savings and loans groups (VICOBAs) and other informal groups estimated to be over 50,000 that are involved in peer group savings and lending ecosystems.

According to M-Commerce Director Epimack Mbeteni, this service is a new way of saving that will enable these groups to not only keep records but also increase ease of transactions by shifting savings from cash to

digital making use of the security and transparency offered by M-Pesa. "The Group wallet will also allow women, especially those in rural areas - who are the main members of the local saving groups, to benefit from M-Koba and in turn, springboard their family's income," he said while adding that most of the groups lacked transparency, which can no longer be a problem when using M-Koba.

While speaking at the M-Koba launch event, Mama Mariam, a chairperson of one of the VICOBA groups said: "We are so happy M-Koba is here, now we are assured of the safety and security

of our savings unlike in the past where we sometimes had to hide our money under our mattresses or a banana tree."

TPB Bank Director of Marketing and Business Development Deo Kwiyukwa revealed that through such collaboration with mobile service providers like Vodacom, the government is able to ensure that an increasing number of its citizens have access to financial services.

Mobile service providers continue to serve groups in remote parts of Tanzania through innovative financial solutions that are sustainable, easily adaptable and scalable.

## Be confident, fight sexual harassment at work place, women challenged

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIAN women have been challenged to be confident and speak more on sexual exploitation, abuse and harassment in work places.

Chief executive officer of Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania (CCBRT) Brenda Msangi made the call over the weekend in Dar es Salaam when speaking at Woman of influence forum, which was organized by Dare to dream Foundation—an apex under the flagship of Relim company ltd.

The forum, which brought on board more than 200 women from different organizations, was themed: "Balance is not a Women's Issue it is a business Issue."

The race is on for the gender balanced boardroom, a gender balanced government, gender balanced media coverage, a gender balance of employees, more gender balance in wealth, gender balance in sports coverage"

Msangi said described sexual harassment in the workplace as a serious challenge that needs concerted efforts to address it.

Vodacom's Corporate Affairs

& PR Director, Rosalynn Mworira said that the forum was meant to provide a platform for women to exchange their views and skills on how to reach their goals.

"We want to see more women are inspired and aspired to take higher positions in their organizations as well as learn from the experienced female executives. It's our goal to see women attain better growth, performance, team cohesion and better working environment in the professional setting."

Speakers at the forum were Georgia Mutagahywa (TBL), Jane Magigita (IEquality for growth) Roselyn Mworira (Vodacom), Brenda Msangi (CCBRT), Annabahati Mlay (ATE- Female Future coordinator), Angela Kasamala Mangecha (TCC), Furaha Samalu (EcoBank), Razia Mwawanga (TMF), Catherine Kimaryo (NCL), Petronella Mwasandube (Consultant). Others were Irene Mlola (FSDT), Catherine Rose Bareto (Kinu), Edwin Bruno (Smart codes), John Ulanga (TrueMark), Irene Kivia (Front Line Management), Caroline Temu Kavisho (Tigo), Lulu Ng'wanakilala (LSF).



TBL supply brewery operations planning and performance management manager for East Africa operations, Nancy Riwa speaks at 'Woman of Influence Forum' held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Telecom unveils special offer for the Holy month of Ramadhan

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR Telecom Ltd (ZANTEL) yesterday unveiled special Ramadhan offer for the Holy month of Ramadhan, targeting all Zantel Muslim customers in the country.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Rukia

Mtingwa, Zantel Senior Specialist for Public Relations, CSR and Media, said: "The telecom is committed to add value to services it provides to its customers."

She said: "At the onset of the month of spiritual cleansing and fasting, Zantel wishes the Muslim community a blessed

Ramadhan. To keep our customers connected with their loved ones and associates all through Ramadhan, Zantel has introduced a first of its kind Ramadhan Offer."

Through this offer, Zantel aims to give make the Holy month even more special by enabling the Muslim commu-

nity flexibility to connect and

stay in touch with families and friends throughout the day while saving greatly in phone bills. The offer provides the Muslim community with a variety of Islamic content that are relevant during Holy month of Ramadhan including prayers, Iftar alerts and Quran

quotes.

"Prepaid subscribers who will buy daily bundles of 999/-, weekly bundles of 4,999/- and monthly bundles of 14,999/- will get Zantel to Zantel Minutes, Free SMS, Free Islamic contents, five Prayers Alert (SMS) in different timings Iftar and Suhir Alert and Quran

Quotes based on the day of the holy month. This offer is one of its kind and provides our customers high value at the most attractive price" she said.

Ramadan is the ninth month of the Islamic calendar and is observed by Muslims worldwide as a month of fasting (sawm) to commemorate the

first revelation of the Quran to Muhammad according to Islamic belief. This annual observance is regarded as one of the Five Pillars of Islam. The month lasts 29-30 days based on the visual sightings of the crescent moon, according to numerous biographical accounts compiled in the hadiths.

## TFRA donates cancer medicines to children at MNH worth 11 million/-

By Correspondent Gerald

Kitabu

TANZANIA Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA) has donated cancer medicines to children suffering from cancer at Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) worth more than 11m/-.

Speaking during a brief function held at the national hospital, TFRA's Acting Executive Director, Dr. Stephen Ngailo named the medicines as actinomycin D 0.5 milligrams injection.

He said that the TFRA has donated the actinomycin D 0.5 milligrams injection to support the ongoing efforts of President John Pombe Magufuli of improving and providing better health services to all Tanzanians and children in particular.

"This donation has been given to these children to ensure sustainable development especially in agricultural sector that employs 80 per cent of Tanzanians. This

donation aimed at ensuring that the children who are tomorrow's farmers grow and maintains good health," he said.

The TFRA will continue sensitizing the general public to use fertilizer in their fields correctly to ensure household food sufficiency and food security and industrial economic development in the country," he added.

Receiving the donation, the head of department-pediatrics and child health Dr. Mary Charles thanked TFRA for the donation saying the medicines donated were very useful for children. She called for other institutions to emulate TFRA donation because most of the cancer medicines are normally expensive.

TFRA is a body mandated to enforce laws, policies, and regulations governing the manufacturing, importation and use of and trade in fertilizer, or fertilizer supplements.



Morogoro Regional Commissioner Dr. Kebwe Steven Kebwe (R), speaks at the official opening of a five-day training for medical doctors and health care providers in the region yesterday. The training brought on board more than 100 participants from five regions. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.



# Unveil the truth of Xinjiang vocational, education centers

URUMQI

**T**URSUN Kurbanjan shed tears and showed remorse when talking about his actions while under the influence of religious extremism.

He had cursed his parents as he believed they contacted pagans, and angrily tossed a chair at his 11-year-old brother who was watching an animated cartoon featuring pagans, fracturing the child's hands.

Kurbanjan, 23, a trainee at the Shule vocational training and education center in Kashgar, Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, said he feels very remorseful about his previous attitude toward his family.

Like Kurbanjan, Arzegul, a female trainee at the same institution, realizes the harm that her "fatuous" and "foolish" behavior has done to her family. Influenced by religious extremism, she once prevented her family from receiving government subsidies.

After being refused, she quarreled with her parents and cursed them. Thinking her family had become infidels, she cut ties and rented a house to live in on her own, Arzegul told Xinhua in her classroom. "I learn Mandarin and laws here. I deeply realize my mistakes.

The Party and the government give me the opportunity to study here. I am very proud to be Chinese," Arzegul said. She is learning sewing skills and

plans to open a sewing shop after completing the courses.

Incomplete statistics show that from 1990 to the end of 2016, separatist, terrorist and extremist forces launched thousands of terrorist attacks in Xinjiang, killing large numbers of innocent people and hundreds of police officers, according to a white paper released by the State Council Information Office in March.

An exhibition in Urumqi, the regional capital of Xinjiang, shows some major incidents of violence and terror between 1990 and 2015 in Xinjiang, with horrific pictures and videos about the scenes of such anti-human crimes as well as large amounts of seized explosives, knives and guns.



Foreign journalists interview students at Kashgar vocational education and training center in Kashgar, northwest China's Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region, Jan. 13, 2019. (Xinhua)

pluses, knives and guns.

Adopting a boarding school management system, free education and training centers have been established in the region according to law, with the goal of educating and rehabilitating people guilty of minor crimes or law-breaking and eradicating the influence of terrorism and extremism, in order to prevent them from falling victim to terrorism and extremism, said the white paper titled "The Fight Against Terrorism and Extremism and Human Rights Protection in Xinjiang."

## VOLUNTARY, HAPPY LEARNING

The Shule vocational training and education center also provides free training for practical skills such as e-commerce and becoming an electrician. In one classroom, trainees in traditional costumes danced while others played music.

On the playground near the teaching building, dozens of people played basketball. Two banners hung on the walls of the center read "rigorous scholarship, strict teaching" and "teaching others as a model."

"The food tastes very good. The school respects our dining habits," said Memet, a trainee from a painting class at the center.

Another trainee, Semet, has been taking courses at the center for 10 months. Before his training, he hardly spoke one word of Mandarin, and now he speaks the language fluently. He learns e-commerce and hopes to sell produce

from his hometown via opening an online store in the future.

"In the past, I had little legal awareness and did not know what was legal and what was illegal. I was unable to speak Mandarin and had no skills. My family lived a hard life," said the 27-year-old man.

In 2015, he was influenced by extremist thoughts on the internet. He would not buy or use any item from furniture to food if they did not have a halal label. He threatened divorce to prevent his wife from joining the Party.

He fought with the owner of a shop in his village because the man was not a Muslim, Semet told Xinhua about his story. Once he was reported to police, he realized that he had violated the law.

After consulting with his family, Semet volunteered to study at the free training school and chose to learn e-commerce skills based on his interests, hoping to change his life. "Life in the center is good.

We are happy to study here. I go home once a week. Teachers are very concerned about us," Semet said. "It is the Party and the government that have pulled me back from the brink in time.

Without the Party's policies, I might have become an accomplice to violent terrorists," Erkin Tuniyaz, vice chairman of Xinjiang regional government, said Xinjiang has achieved remarkable results in de-radicalization, and that there have been no violent and terrorist cases for 28 consecutive months.

"The education and training centers integrate the learning of Mandarin, laws and skills as well as de-radicalization with employment and poverty alleviation, which promotes the overall quality of students' lives," said the senior regional official.

## NEW CHAPTER OF HOPEFUL LIFE

At the culinary training hall of the Moyu County Vocational Training and Education Center in Hotan, dozens of trainees learn cooking skills such as turning the pot, cutting vegetables, carving fruit, and making pastries through teacher instruction.

Abduhelil Haliq, a 29-year-old trainee, said he has loved cooking since childhood, so he chose to take the cooking skills course at the center.

He has already learned to cook several stir-fried dishes including shredded potatoes and spicy chicken. "I will open a restaurant after finishing my studies," Haliq said. He returns home once a week to see his wife and five-year-old daughter who attends a free kindergarten in the county.

Buayshem Abliz, principal of the institution, said the trainees come from different townships of the county and volunteer to receive training. They choose majors according to their interests and are active in class.

The education and skill training could effectively help them eradicate extremist thoughts, realize previous mistakes and have a correct attitude toward life and society, she said.

The center provides training in 15 types of skills, including music, fine arts, dancing, cooking, flower arrangement, hairdressing, massage, housekeeping, and car maintenance. Students apply for entry via village committees. After passing physical examinations, they can sign training agreements with the centers.

Trainees study for five months to one year to complete the training at this institution.

They are not allowed to bring mobile phones with them to class. The phones should be left in the dormitories. Each classroom has a fixed telephone for trainees to contact families, the principal said. "Some of the female trainees in the center like and know how to dance.

But after being indoctrinated with religious extremism, they felt that women shouldn't dance and can't go out," Abliz said. "With the school's mental guidance, these learners have turned open, lively, sunny and self-confident."

With government financial help, Tunisa Metruzi, who graduated from the Moyu vocational training and education center last year, opened a beauty salon in the county. She earns a monthly income of 6,000 yuan (890 U.S. dollars). "I have gotten rid of the grip of extremist ideology, and I feel like a whole new person," she said.

"The education and training gave me the opportunity to learn what I always wanted to do and do what I want to do. My family supports me. I am very happy now."

When she was affected by extremist thought, she was not able to wear makeup or jewelry. Now, Metruzi loves makeup and she wears it every day. She visits an experienced hairdresser twice a week in the county to continue learning and hone her skills.

Xinhua



## EMPLOYMENT VACANCY

PCI is a non-profit organization dedicated to preventing diseases, improving community health, and promoting sustainable development worldwide. With support from Eleanor Crook Foundation and Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, PCI Tanzania is implementing an implementation research study in the Mara Region of Tanzania called Malezi Bora: "Engaging Fathers for Effective Child Nutrition and Development in Tanzania (EFFECTS)", in collaboration with the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, Purdue University, and the African Academy of Public Health. To understand the benefits of integrating nutrition and early child development interventions and the benefits of engaging fathers in these interventions, the project consists of 4 intervention arms (in addition to a control arm). Across the study arms, women's and men's peer groups will be facilitated by Community Health Workers (CHWs) in 64 communities throughout Musoma Rural and Butiama Districts

### 1- DISTRICT FIELD SUPERVISOR - MUSOMA (1) – MALEZI BORA PROJECT

**Job Summary:** Working closely with the Malezi Bora Project Manager, Malezi Bora District Field Supervisors, Malezi Bora M&E officers, and the Community Health Workers (CHWs), the Field Supervisor in collaboration with the Project Manager will be responsible for overseeing Malezi Bora project implementation including the functioning of 96 peer groups in the community.

### KEY AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

The Field Supervisor will be expected to:

#### Management

- Plan and implement Malezi Bora activities in collaboration with Malezi Bora team members.
- Define tasks, required resources and allocate resources for effective project implementation.
- In collaboration with the Project Manager, manage the project budget.
- Monitor and report on project progress.
- Present to stakeholders reports on progress as well as problems and solutions.

#### Training of CHWs

- With other Malezi Bora team members, plan for and participate in CHW training and ensure CHWs are empowered to deliver the intervention and promote behaviour change.

#### Technical Support and Quality Assurance:

- Regularly review monitoring data and advise on quality assurance/ improvement measures.
- Ensure logistics are properly coordinated to support the work of the other Field Supervisors and CHWs.
- Ensure adherence to Malezi Bora protocols by CHWs in accordance with assigned study arm.

#### Mentorship and Supportive Supervision

- Ensure that a mentorship and supportive supervision plan is in place for all trained CHWs.
- Plan and facilitate monthly support meetings for the CHWs.
- Ensure participant feedback on training and supportive supervision processes is synthesized and fed into planning such as refresher trainings and supportive supervision activities.

#### Communication:

- Take responsibility for the effective flow of communication and information between and among all stakeholders, including the Malezi Bora team and CHWs
- Ensure that the Program Manager and the Malezi Bora global team are aware of the bottlenecks, constraints, and challenges at community level and at project level, and leverage their support to resolve these at all levels as appropriate.

#### Documentation, Monitoring, & Reporting

- In coordination with the M&E officers, ensure that the data collection tools are readily available, and information is entered correctly and promptly.
- Ensure that all project documentation is properly completed, stored and submitted.

Education: Bachelor's degree in Nutrition, Community Development, Education, Sociology or related field required. Master's degree highly preferred. Training or background in Early Childhood Development is an added advantage.

#### Experience & Skills Required:

- At least 5 years professional experience in community development work for international NGOs
- Experience coordinating or managing projects at regional and district levels.
- Demonstrated experience in supporting/ mentoring/training staff in community mobilization, nutrition, early childhood development, and/or social and behavior change interventions.
- Experience in collaboration with partners, government officials, community leaders, and community-based organizations.
- Technical knowledge and experience with nutrition best practices and context in Tanzania.
- Excellent skills using technology for data collection, e.g. mobile phone or tablet-based data collection.
- Strong computer skills including Microsoft Office suite, including knowledge of common statistical software packages, relational database systems, and web technologies.
- Strong Kiswahili and English writing skills to prepare reports, promo materials and oral presentations.
- Innovation & creativity: demonstrated experience with contributing new ideas for solving various program/organization related issues.

#### Desired:

- Technical experience with implementing or managing early childhood development projects at district and community levels.
- Experience working with men/fathers for improved child nutrition or child development.
- Prior experience building capacity of CHWs.
- Understanding of basic research concepts and methodologies.
- Experience with human subjects' research and supporting randomized controlled trials, operations research, or process evaluations.
- Experience working in Mara region of TZ.

This position is based in the Mara region and requires frequent travel within the district. Applicants must be comfortable with driving motorbikes.

#### Other Required Professional Skills:

- Nutrition and/or early childhood development technical skills
- Highly organized and detail-oriented
- Thinks and acts strategically; strong problem-solving skills
- Creativity and resiliency in face of challenges.
- Builds relationships/teamwork; great mentorship skills
- Works efficiently & effectively; excellent planning skills
- Commitment to quality and protection of Kiswahili & English
- Strong verbal and written command of Kiswahili & English; strong communication & presentation skills
- Demonstrates adaptability and uses good judgment

#### HOW TO APPLY:

Please visit our website at [www.pciglobal.org](http://www.pciglobal.org) and click on the "Careers" link under the About Us tab. This will take you to PCI's Career Portal. Click on the employment opportunities tab and then click on Search Current Openings to find the detailed job requirement and apply for either of these open positions with PCI Tanzania enclosing a detailed CV together with copies of relevant testimonials and cover letter

#### DEADLINE:

- A first review of candidates will happen after **May 15th, 2019**
- PCI is an Equal Opportunity Employer and encourage women to apply.
- Only Successful Candidates will be contacted

21524381

## EMBASSY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA & CANADIAN HIGH COMMISSION DAR ES SALAAM

### PUBLIC AUCTION:

UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE under instructions received from Embassy of the United States of America & Canadian High Commission. We shall sell Household furniture's, Vehicles & Motorcycle by public auction on Saturday May 11, 2019 commencing at 10:00 am. The auction will take place at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street.

**Furniture and Computers Bidding Start at 10:00am:** Sofa set, Recliner, Chest drawer, Dressers, Credenza, Coffee table, Dining table, Kitchen table, Conference table, Office desk, Chairs, Book case, Garden Table, Chairs, Carpets, Bed, Mattress, Fridge double door, Freezer, Washer, Dryer, Electric cooker, A/c split units, Photocopy m/c, Computer set, Public address system and etc

Unit	Make	Model	Year	Duty
1	Toyota Hiace Min Bus 12 Seaters	5L Diesel Engine	2007	Not paid
1	Jeep PATRIOT Station Wagon	1C4N Petrol Engine	2012	Not paid
1	Nissan Terrano Station Wagon	TD27 Diesel Engine	2003	Not Paid
1	Volvo Truck (water Bowser 12,000 Lts)	FL250 Diesel Engine	2006	Not Paid
1	Suzuki Motor cycle 180CC	DTS -J Petrol Engine	2010	Not Paid
2	Generator Trailer	2 Tons	-	Not paid
3	Air Conditioner (Central Cooling Unit)	Cooling – 19.08 KW.	-	Not paid

All items may be inspected at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street from May 8<sup>th</sup> to 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

#### AUCTION CONDITIONS:

- The winning bidder for Furniture has to make full payment to cashier immediately. For Vehicle winning bidder must pay 25% to cashier immediately and the final payment in full within 4 working days by May 17, 2019 at 4:00pm. For payments not made within 4 working days, the Vehicle will be offered to the next highest bidder and the advance payment will be forfeited.
- Payments via **CRDB Bank VISA & Master Cards** will be accepted.
- All items are sold on "as is" basis with no guarantee.
- Duty and all taxes are the responsibility of the buyer.
- Bidder will remove the items after all payments and duties
- All persons entering the premises **must obtain a Bid Number** at the entrance.

For further information contact:  
UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE,  
(PLOT NO. 5 "E" LION STREET SINZA) DAR ES SALAAM  
CELL NO: 0754 284 926, 0759 284 926 E-mail: [universalauction@hotmail.com](mailto:universalauction@hotmail.com)





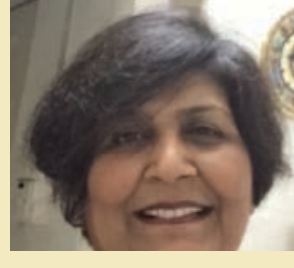
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Ramadan at work : HR best practice

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# Visa, PalmPay team up targeting Accra, Dar, Lagos markets to advance financial inclusion

By Smart Money Reporter

**I**N a bid to advance financial inclusion across some major African markets, global payments technology company, Visa, has announced its collaboration with PalmPay targeting Ghana, Nigeria and Tanzanian markets.

The partnership allows PalmPay to launch a mobile wallet application in the three African countries through which customers will be able to access funds via online or via offline access points. Additionally, they will also be able to make and receive accept individual and merchant payments.

Visa cardholders can make payments via the mobile wallet application as well as make online and mobile payments by providing their card details to their PalmPay profile. Meanwhile, non-card holders are able to generate a virtual Visa card when register.

In addition to the features, the PalmPay App also provides various financial products offered by third parties with a loyalty points program for customers in order to attract more customers to use it.

"PalmPay will help us reach consumers and merchants not previously addressed by traditional financial services, across Africa. Around the world, there is a growing

recognition that cash is a major impediment to advancing financial inclusion and Africa remains a cash-centric region," said Visa's Vice President Strategic Partnership, Fintech, and Ventures, Otto Williams.

"Delivering access to digital payment services on more mobile phones will be a significant step towards the continued expansion of financial inclusion on the continent," Williams added.

"We are building a digital financial ecosystem that brings together the best services and offers from across each market, which will be made available to anyone with a smartphone, including the unbanked," said PalmPay's CEO, Greg Reeve.

"Most existing apps are built to only cater for people who already have formal financial accounts - that is you can only send money, request for loans once you have an account to deposit or receive such loans. With our mobile wallet, third parties can plug into our platform and encourage people who are just joining the digital world, to make and receive payments," Reeve added.

Besides Visa, PalmPay is planning to expand partnership with other industry players such as Ecobank Group and Global Technology Partners. The mobile app is currently tested by some private beta customers in Ghana, Nigeria, and Tanzania. It will be launched to the public soon in the



Visa and PalmPay branded card.

## Africa's only way out of poverty is to industrialise

By Noah Smith, Bloomberg

AFRICAN industrialisation has to be among the most important things happening in the world right now. The vast continent, with more than 1.2 billion people, is home to an increasing fraction of the human beings who are still mired in extreme poverty.

By 2030, the World Bank projects that almost all the people in extreme poverty will live in sub-Saharan Africa. The reason is twofold. First, Africa's population is growing rapidly.

Second, Africa has lagged in the industrialisation necessary to generate mass employment. The lack of strong, stable governments – a legacy of colonialism – has made it difficult to provide the education, infrastructure, court systems and other public goods that help prepare countries for the leap from subsistence farming to factory work. Well-meaning Western aid and international development agencies couldn't fill the gap. Meanwhile, nations in East Asia and Southeast Asia became the world's factories before Africa did.

But late doesn't mean never. Rising labour costs in China, and the threat of US tariffs, are finally causing manufacturers to diversify their supply chains. Some of their factories will go to Vietnam and Bangladesh, two rising stars of the developing world. But those countries won't be big enough to replace China, which means that if manufacturers really want to keep costs down, many will have to look to Africa.

This process is already well underway. In her book "The Next Factory of the World: How Chinese Investment Is Reshaping Africa," Irene Yuan Sun – a development-aid worker turned McKinsey & Co researcher – describes the wave of private Chinese investment sweeping the African continent. This investment often goes overlooked by the international press, which tends to focus on China's splashy government-backed infrastructure projects and loans. But what Sun describes is something else – Chinese businesspeople moving to Africa and building privately owned factories.

In 2017, Sun's research team estimated that there are about 10 000 such factories on the continent, and the number is surely higher now. Nigeria, Zambia, Tanzania and Ethiopia have the largest concentrations, but many other countries are in the mix. Although China still has less total capital invested in Africa than in other regions, it's catching up fast.

That foreign direct investment – and manufacturing more generally – is one reason African growth is taking off.

The picture Sun paints of Chinese capitalism in Africa is not always a pretty one. She cites anecdotes of corruption, pollution, overwork, injuries and managers' disdain for local workers – phenomena that seem universal to every country in the early stages of manufacturing. But Sun argues powerfully that this ugly, costly process is still the only way that countries can escape poverty.

The programs of liberalisation and deregulation offered by Western countries in the 1990s under the name of the Washington Consensus failed to produce the desired results. Development aid from rich countries has done some real good (and occasionally some bad) in Africa, but hasn't been enough to change the continent's basic economic conditions. And with a few small exceptions like Botswana, natural resources have generally been more of a curse than a blessing. The only thing that reliably seems to transform poor countries into rich ones seems to be the so-called flying geese theory – the idea that manufacturing moves in waves, looking for the next cheap, politically stable production base.

Now the geese are finally flocking to Africa. This isn't the neo-colonialism that some fear – indeed, Sun finds that Chinese factories overwhelmingly employ local African workers rather than imported Chinese laborers. Nor is there any sign that automation has made labor-intensive manufacturing obsolete. In other words, there is every indication that the process that brought Europe and Asia out of poverty is starting to work in Africa.

The question for the US and other developed countries is how they can help African industrialisation continue. An industrialised Africa is in America's best interests. First of all, with Chinese costs rising, African factories are necessary to keep the prices of clothes, electronics and other goods from rising too much.

And while some may claim that African competition is taking jobs from American manufacturers, the truth is that if that manufacturing were done in the US, it would be mostly automated.

## The smartphone market is in decline, and nothing is coming to save it

NEW YORK

ANALYST firm IDC reports that smartphone shipments for the first quarter of this year were down 6.6% from the same period of 2018, the same week that Google CEO Sundar Pichai said it's harder than it used to be to sell pricey, high-end phones. Samsung, too, reported earnings this week, and said that it expects competition in the "mature" smartphone industry to put more pressure on its business in the second half of the year. It is hard to see how, or if, the smartphone market returns to growth from here.

### Holding fast

As long ago as 2017, we got indications that people were hanging onto their smartphones longer. In 2018, major hedge fund Maverick Capital said that the "glory days" of the smartphone revolution were behind us, as the increasingly scant differences between older and newer devices make it harder to justify each successive upgrade.

New customers are going to be hard to find, too – at least domestically, as nearly 80% of Americans have smartphones these days. Different companies are taking different tactics to hedge against this slowdown.

Apple has, for instance, doubled down on its services business – Apple Music, iCloud, and Apple Pay – to help the company generate more revenue per iPhone user, which could offset slowing device sales. Expect



Business Insider's Matt Weinberger tries on the Microsoft HoloLens 2.

that strategy to escalate in the future, as the Apple TV Plus streaming service and the Apple Card credit card roll out to consumers.

This approach is showing some positive early signs, with Apple reporting this week that its services revenue in the latest quarter was up 16% from the same period a year ago.

Others, like Samsung, Huawei, and Motorola, are forging ahead in the smartphone market, with bets that new technologies like high-speed 5G wireless internet and fold-

able screens will entice people to upgrade. Samsung alone is expected to ship this year a 5G-compatible version of the Samsung Galaxy S10, as well as the delayed Galaxy Fold foldable smartphone.

Realistically, it's going to be a long time before 5G truly blankets the world, and the fiasco around the Samsung Galaxy Fold – where some reviewers found that the device broke after only a couple of days of use – shows that it may be a while before foldable

smartphones are truly ready for prime time, if they ever are. Eventually, prices are likely to level out, as they always do in the years following the introduction of new technology. Still, this is going to be a tough sell in the short term – folding screen or no, and 5G wireless internet or no, these devices really just run the same apps and websites as less expensive phones, with little meaningful functional difference. Besides, companies like OnePlus are making perfectly good phones, at medium-range prices.

So while the smartphone market is not all doom-and-gloom, the glory days of the early smartphone boom are not likely coming back for anyone.

### So what comes next?

The good news is that we can already see what comes after the smartphone. Just about every tech company in Silicon Valley and beyond is at least experimenting with augmented reality (AR), the technology for projecting digital imagery over the real world.

Companies including Apple, Facebook, Microsoft, Samsung, Google-backed startup Magic Leap, and even "Fortnite" developer Epic Games all consider AR to be the next great computing interface. Microsoft and Magic Leap already have AR goggles on the market, with Apple said to be working on "smart glasses" that could be unveiled as soon as this year.

## Bank of Kigali explains why clients are required to update account details

KIGALI

CLIENTS of Bank of Kigali who will not have updated their personal information and details by May 15, will not be able to access their accounts or make transactions, the bank has said.

According to the lender, the request to clients to provide updated information and details is part of the requirement of opening an account in any financial institution in Rwanda and all over the world. This will allow the bank to know the client they are dealing with.

Aimable Malaala, the head of compliance at Bank of Kigali, said that among the benefits to clients following the exercise will be that the bank will be in position to protect

clients from fraud as well as improve delivery of services.

"Once your full identity is clear, it will help the bank to protect the client against all types of fraud, including identity fraud. It will help the client to access digital channels that the bank is rolling out which improves customer experience," he said.

From the bank's perspective, the updated information will go a long way in improving the quality of services to individuals, knowing clients' risks how to handle it in terms of financial crimes. "Providing updated information also allows the bank to comply with laws and regulations in Rwanda and with international best practices in place which require financial institutions to have customer data updated on regular basis,"

he added.

The development comes at a time when banks across the world have severally been said to have been unknowingly used in money laundering schemes as well as financing illegal operations. It is expected that, with more customer information, banks will be able to easily detect suspicious transactions such as funding for terror operations, money laundering among others.

Among ways that clients can provide the information to the bank ahead of the deadline is visiting their nearest branch, and filling in and submitting forms which will allow the bank to do verification of the documents to avoid any form of fraud.

"We are looking at ways of doing it digi-

tally, however the bank is still assessing the risks involved and will advise accordingly. There is no cost involved in updating the information for clients," Malaala added.

The bank says that clients, who will not have complied risk being unable to transact after May 15. "The risk for not complying are serious because any account with incomplete Know Your Customer details shall not be allowed to transact come May 15, 2019," he added.

The directive had led to concerns of safety and security by a section of customers of their data but the bank allayed fears saying that any information shared by the client to the bank shall be fully protected and safe as per by national laws and by bank policies.





NMB Western Zone Manager Sospeter Magese (2nd L) briefing Deputy Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, the Elderly and Children, Dr Faustine Ndugulile (3rd R) on some of the services offered by the bank when he visited its pavilion at an International Day of Midwives exhibition held in Bariadi municipality of Simiyu region. Photo: courtesy of NMB.

## Deputy Health Minister dares NMB, others to help reduce maternal deaths

By Smart Money Reporter

THE private sector including commercial banks have an important role to play in supporting government efforts to reduce maternal death by increasing the ration of midwives from 1:11,000 to 1:4,000 within the next five years.

Deputy Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, the Elderly and Children, Dr Faustine Ndugulile said in Simiyu this week that in order to attain the target, the government plans to increase

the number of midwives from 47,870 who are currently in service to 52,130 during the period. "Apart from the support you have given to Simiyu region, we also request that you as NMB can look into assisting the government in this endeavour," Dr Ndugulile said after receiving an assortment of medical items worth 15m/- donated to health centres in the region that NMB and other private companies have a responsibility to back government efforts to invest in social services including health.

"We thank NMB management

and staff for the continued support to the health sector which makes you truly a good corporate citizen," the Deputy Minister who is also Kigamboni legislator, said.

Briefing the Deputy Minister on the donation, NMB Bank Plc's Western Zone Manager, Sospeter Magese said the donation was deliberately done during events to commemorate International Day of Midwives to recognise importance of the group in society.

"We (NMB) recognize challenges in health and education sectors hence give them prior-

ity because they are important pillars in growth and community development," Magese.

Magese who donated four labour ward beds, delivery kits and mackintosh sets to assist health service provision in Simiyu region's health facilities, said of the 1bn/- that NMB has allocated to invest in community services this year, a lot goes to education and health sectors.

He further said that the NMB budget also targets to finance disaster relief aid which is part of the bank's corporate social responsibility areas.

## South Sudan says agrees oil exploration deal with South Africa

JUBA

COUNTRIES will sign a production sharing agreement for an untapped exploration block in the East African country.

South Sudan and South Africa will sign a production sharing agreement for an untapped exploration block in the East African country, whose production has been hampered by civil war, South Sudan's petroleum ministry said on Monday.

The Exploration Production Sharing Agreement (EPSA) for Block B2 will be signed by Ezekiel Lol Gatkuoth, South Sudan's Minister of Petroleum and Jeff Radebe, South Africa's Minister of Energy, the ministry said in a statement.

Blocks B2 and another, B1 were once part of a 120 000 square kilometre area known as Block B, which was divided into three licences in 2012 and is thought to be rich in hydrocarbons although very little drilling has been done there. The block lies in greater Jonglei State.

The world's youngest country, which split from Sudan in 2011, has one of the largest reserves of crude in sub-Saharan Africa, only a third of which have been explored. The country lost many of its oilfields to a civil war that broke out two years after its independence. A September peace deal is largely holding.

In April, Awow Daniel Chuang, director general for



Ezekiel Lol Gatkuoth, South Sudan's Minister of Petroleum.

petroleum at the ministry of petroleum, said production was expected to reach around 195,000 barrels per day by the end of the year, from 175,000 at present, and rise to 220 000 bpd by early 2020.

The government has said production would reach pre-war levels of 350 000 to 400 000 bpd by mid-2020. More than 400 000 people died in South Sudan's civil war, which displaced around a third of the country's 12 million people population and plunged parts of the country into famine.

## Kenya's crude oil to hit global market this year

NAIROBI

KENYAN crude oil could test the global markets before the end of this year, latest developments indicate, as stocks of the commodity continue to pile up at a storage facility in the port city of Mombasa.

In its latest operational update for the period January 1-April 25, 2019, British firm-Tullow Oil plc (Tullow), says the first export cargo is expected in the third quarter of 2019, even as exploration and drilling intensifies in the Turkana region.

This comes as the Early Oil Pilot Scheme continues to truck 600 barrels of oil per day (bopd) to Mombasa, where 80,000 barrels of oil are being stored ahead of export. The crude oil from the Turkana oil fields is being stored at the defunct Kenya Petroleum Refineries Ltd (KPRL) (refinery) facility at Changamwe, Mombasa.

"Following receipt of regulatory authority approval, which is expected shortly, production will be increased to 2,000 bopd, with the first export cargo expected in the third quarter of 2019," the firm notes.

Tullow has been searching for buyers of Kenya's small-scale crude petroleum exports since last year ahead of the first shipment, with a number of unnamed potential buyers said to have expressed interest. "Tullow has begun to market Kenya's low-sulphur oil ahead of the first lifting with initial market reactions being very positive," Tullow said in a recent statement.

Petroleum Principal Secretary Andrew Kamau had earlier revealed that buyers from Europe, India and China had expressed interest Kenya's crude oil, though the government remains mum on the exact potential buyers.

Sources within government revealed to The Exchange that the country has reached out to at least 18 global oil refinery firms for uptake of its first crude oil. According to the government, the first batch is intended to test the international markets' reception to the country's crude oil before commercial production picks. Tullow plans to commit to commercial oil production later this year.

"Tullow continues to target a Final Investment Decision (FID) in Kenya by year-end although this remains an ambitious target," the management said this week.

The firm is finalising its Front End Engineering Design (Feed) studies for the planned construction of a crude oil pipeline from Turkana to Lamu, where the country is developing its second major sea port.

"Tullow is finalising its FEED studies for both the upstream and midstream, and both the upstream and midstream ESIA's (Environmental and Social Impact Assessments) remain on track for submission to the National Environmental Management Agency at the end of the second quarter," CEO Paul MCDADADE said.

"The government of Kenya, via the National Land Commission, has gazetted the land required for the upstream development in Turkana and, so far, approximately two-thirds of the pipeline. Discussions with government regarding key commercial agreements are making steady progress. A late 2019 FID remains contingent on these key government of Kenya deliverables," the management notes in its update.



Andrew Kamau, Principal Secretary in the State Department of Petroleum, Ministry of Energy and Petroleum in Kenya shows a sample of Tullow Oil.

CURRENT NEWS

## April vehicle sales a beacon of hope - Wesbank

JOHANNESBURG

APRIL vehicle sales offers a beacon of hope for the South African new car industry as sales rose 0.7% compared to April 2018, says Wesbank.

This is the first increase in sales this year and brings a slowly declining trend in sales to a halt, according to figures released by the National Automobile Association of South Africa (Naamsa).

Naamsa said the latest vehicle sales reflected a welcome

surprise on the upside with export sales continuing to perform exceptionally well. The declining trend in the new vehicle market since the beginning of the year came to a halt in April 2019.

"While the market will no doubt be reassured by this good news, it should not grasp at any major turn-arounds just yet," warned Ghana Msibi, WesBank executive head of the motor division. "The April market total of 36 794 units was still way behind March sales of 47 687." While April sales are traditionally

slower due to fewer selling days and the Easter holiday season, the marginal increase remains valid compared to similar trading conditions last year. "Dealers, in particular, will have found some solace in the satisfaction of a 1.3% increase in sales through the showroom floor and the market swung in favour of passenger cars," said Msibi.

Passenger car sales rose 3.9% to 24 989 units while Light Commercial Vehicle (LCV) sales declined 8.1% to 9 810 sales during April compared

to the same month last year. Dealers accounted for a wider spread in the split of sales with passenger cars increasing 6.9% and LCVs down 11.5%. This is in contrast to recent dealer channel performance where LCVs have out-performed passenger cars.

"Household budgets are continuing to remain under pressure and consecutive months of petrol price increases will no doubt begin to take their toll," said Msibi. "Combined with the natural uncertainty ahead of May elections, the April sales

performance becomes even more reassuring as these conditions could easily have resulted in the continuing decline trend."

Total market sales year-to-date are down 3.7% compared to 2018, passenger cars accounting for a 6.2% decline while LCVs are up 0.7%. According to the Nedbank Economic Unit, the vehicle market is likely to record some gains during 2019 in line with the anticipated recovery in overall economic activity, although the improvement will be modest and could be weakened by power

disruptions and uncertainty.

It sees April's sales figures as in line with other indicators of real economic activity, which continue to reflect the generally subdued economic environment. "There is unlikely to be any significant build up in demand pressure on prices as economic activity and underlying confidence remain weak," commented Nedbank.

Meanwhile, Momentum Investments expects discretionary spend on items, such as new vehicles, to remain under pressure given ongoing

consumer headwinds, including pressure on disposable income. However, the Naamsa forecasts an increase in momentum in vehicle exports for the remainder of 2019.

Investec economist Lara Hodes said the consumer continues to remain constrained, burdened by rising administered prices (especially electricity and fuel prices) and muted levels of income growth. As such, we do not anticipate any meaningful uptick in new vehicle sales in the near-term.



# Sudan may need help from China and IMF to stabilise economy



Protestors in Khartoum.

**KHARTOUM**

**S**UDAN, once an oil rich country, needs economic policy reforms, foreign direct investment and wider fiscal support to help its economy ride out ongoing political uncertainty, which may push Khartoum to embrace China and the International Monetary Fund.

Years of international isolation that ended less than two years ago with the lifting of US sanctions, and a mismanaged economy exacerbated popular discontent that pushed the all-powerful army to end Omar Al Bashir's 30-year rule earlier this month.

An acute shortage of foreign currency and a dramatic rise in price of staples such as bread were the flash points behind the nationwide protests which started December and led to the ensuing turmoil. Though Khartoum received a lifeline from Saudi Arabia and the UAE who pledged \$3 billion (Dh11bn) in aid, that generosity may not be enough to pull Sudan's economy out of a downward spiral.

"Prior to the recent political developments, the economy of Sudan was facing substantial challenges," said Nassib Ghobril, chief economist at Lebanese lender Byblos Bank, which operates in Khartoum.

Acute shortages of foreign currency, limited access to external financing, an absence of foreign correspondent banking relationships, low oil transit receipts from South Sudan, a weak business environment, coupled with US sanctions on the Sudan, had marred the economic prospects over the past decade. The independence of South Sudan effectively meant Khartoum's loss of 80 per cent of its oil production, 60 per cent of its fiscal revenue and about half of its foreign exchange proceeds.

In October the IMF, projected Sudan's real gross domestic product (GDP) to contract 2.3 per cent in 2018 and 1.9 per cent this year, following an expansion of 1.4 per cent in 2017. The Economist Intelligence Unit, however, has a more conservative view and expects the economy to slow down to 0.4 per cent this year.

The "anticipated contraction in [economic] activity in 2019 reflects the substantial challenges facing the economy," said Mr Ghobril.

Of the \$3bn pledged by the UAE and Saudi Arabia, \$500 million is destined for the country's central bank to help shore up Sudan's pound. The package aims to stabilise the country's fiscal position, which in the past has spent an estimated 70 per cent of the budget on security. Moving forward Khartoum will need to implement structural

reforms to its economy which will require greater financial backing.

"Besides its Gulf allies, Sudan will also look toward Egypt and Ethiopia for aid. However, China will be Sudan's major donor as it has significant investments in Sudan's oil sector," said Sreya Ram, research Analyst at The Economist Intelligence Unit. "The authorities will also try to get a financial aid package from the IMF, but that will not be forthcoming until a civilian transitional council is formed and a stable government is established, which will happen only over the longer term."

The Institute of International Finance (IIF) said Sudan's practice of "monetising the fiscal deficit led to rapid growth in the money supply -- over 60 per cent year-on-year in both 2017 and 2018 -- leading to rapid inflation."

In the near term, consumer prices are likely to remain high, "amplified by the sharp depreciation of the Sudanese pound," IIF said. "However, we expect a downward trend if the authorities show clear signs both in words and in actions of a sustained and enhanced commitment to tightening monetary policy."

While the all-powerful army and politicians try to decide, who will run the country in the future, the \$500m deposit from Saudi Arabia and the UAE to Sudan's central bank will support the Sudanese currency- but only in the short term.

"A stable government, better liquidity and a strong external sector is what is required to ensure long-term stability in the foreign exchange market and boost growth. However, we expect this to happen only over the longer term," said Ms Ram of the EIU.

Besides aid from allies, the chance

of foreign investment flowing to the country is unlikely in the short-term despite the removal of the US sanctions in 2017. The country had little investment from western countries in the past and in the current situation, whatever foreign investment Sudan attracted is likely to decline in the wake of uncertainty.

Though Chinese companies are increasingly becoming risk averse, especially with regard to states perceived to have poor repayment records "some investments into Sudan's oil and gold sectors are likely to be forthcoming from China," Ms Ram said. Sudan needs to reduce inflation and stabilise its currency, risks that "would act as major deterrents to substantial foreign investment," she added.

Khartoum could also help turn its economy around by renegotiating a transit fee for South Sudan's oil exports through its territory. Both countries have an agreement under which South Sudan reportedly pays transit fees per barrel for exports. However, transit fees are well below the levels originally agreed in 2013, when international oil prices were much higher, and South Sudan continues to run up arrears relating to these payments owing to domestic instability in its own territory.

For the country to restore confidence in its economy, the political situation would need to stabilise before any economic reforms can be implemented, Ms Ram said.

"The most effective solution would be direct loans or aids received into developing its infrastructure and capital projects," she added. "These will restore some confidence for investors ... [and] implementing policies to encourage private investments into the oil and gold sectors is essential."

## Ramadan at work : HR best practice

**CORPORATE WELLNESS**



By Bhakti Shah, MPH

**T**HE observance of Ramadan is very personal and powerful symbol of unity, with Muslims around the world fasting simultaneously while bringing family and friends together.

Although fasting is usually the primary association with Ramadan, the month involves a lot more exertion than refraining from food and water. Eating the first meal at sunset, extra prayers, late nights and a heightened emphasis on patience and virtue are all part of experiencing the holy month.

HR practitioners, line managers and other stakeholders need to be aware of the personal and religious sensitivities of their staff. Understanding their experience and accommodate their particular needs shows good management and helps ensure people perform to the best of the abilities. Implementing policies that accommodate can only lead to nurturing mutual trust and ultimately lead to higher staff retention, better morale, more effective teams and greater productivity.

Although consultation is always key to creating policy, there are some best practice guidelines that HR and others can adhere to when wanting to address Ramadan in the workplace.

Some suggestions are made in this article, however their relevance will really come down to understanding your workforce.

Best Practice for Ramadan at Work

1. Establish when Ramadan is approaching and who this could affect at work.
2. Ensure all staff working with colleagues who are observing Ramadan are aware of what fasting entails and how this could impact someone. Colleagues need to appreciate how fasting can translate into behavior and working practices.
3. If shift work is the norm, look at any changes that can be made to offer those fasting, the opportunity to swap shifts or change their working hours that suits all parties.
4. For those in 9-5 roles, consider flexi-time options to start and finish times. See if allowances can be made for people to work lunch hours and breaks in return for an earlier finish.
5. Asking a fasting employee to attend a lunch meeting demands a lot

of them. Many may politely agree, and some may decline. Be understanding of those that do not feel comfortable sitting and watching people eat and drink.

6. If welcoming someone into your office for a meeting who you believe could be fasting, simply ask on arrival if they want a drink. If they decline you can be pretty sure that they are fasting and there is no need for you to keep offering them a tea.

7. If you bring food and drink out into the office space, do not allow it to be placed right next to the desk of someone fasting. If you normally eat your lunch at your desk, try and show some discretion.

8. Mark special allowances for fasting employees to take a break at sunset to break their fast if they happen to be still on shift. This needs to be an ample time to break their fast, pray and then eat properly.

9. If you have a canteen, try and arrange for some meals to be saved for people fasting so that they have some choices at the end of the day.

10. Avoid booking meetings for the afternoon. If high concentration levels are needed from people, don't expect this after lunchtime. Use the morning when people are still relatively fresh.

11. Do not expect people to commit to evening functions. The evenings are dedicated to eating, prayers, gatherings within the family and wider community.

12. Be accommodating to allowing upto 10 days off towards the end of Ramadan. There is a practice whereby the acts of worship are intensified within the last 10 days of Ramadan.

13. Be prepared for people to take between 1-5 days holidays at the end of Ramadan to celebrate Eid. This is the one time of the year where whole families and communities get together to share presents and good food.

14. If fasting members are working remotely, work out time differences and how their daily routine will impact you in terms of meetings, deadlines, SLAs, etc.

15. Try and use Ramadan as a platform for greater understanding and improving team dynamics. Why not arrange afternoon gentle yoga and meditation practice to help calm and relax?

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

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

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VIEW FROM THE TOP

## IMF says continued reforms and SME funding key to Menap's economic growth

**ABU DHABI**

IN the wake of a slowing global economy, Middle Eastern countries need to press ahead with structural reforms, fiscal consolidation, diversifying their economies, boosting employment and harnessing the disruptive powers of technology, a senior International Monetary Fund official said.

"It's ever so more important to implement structural reforms ... and there are a certain number of low-hanging fruits," Jihad Azour,

IMF director of the Middle East and Central Asia department, said in an interview with The National. "It's important to pursue the consolidation that has started a few years ago and to anchor it into the medium-term fiscal framework. This is where the target should be."

The Washington-based lender is projecting global growth to slow to 3.3 per cent in 2019, from 3.6 per cent last year before rising up again to 3.6 per cent in 2020. Uncertainty over Brexit and trade tensions between the US and

China, the world's two largest economies, have dented global economic output.

Within the broader Middle East, North Africa, Afghanistan and Pakistan region (Menap), overall gross domestic product (GDP) is projected to slow to 1.5 per cent this year from 1.8 per cent in 2018 before accelerating by 3.2 per cent next year, according to the IMF's regional economic outlook released on Monday.

Economies of oil-exporting Menap countries are expected to expand by 0.4 per cent this

year with their non-oil GDP output rising 2.1 per cent. Their economies will accelerate by 2.8 per cent and non-oil GDP output will rise by 2.9 per cent in 2020.

Oil-importing economies are expected to slow to 3.6 per cent from 4.2 per cent last year and rebound to 4 per cent in 2020. Oil exporters have pressed forward with economic diversification agendas in the wake of a three-year oil price slump that began in the middle of 2014. The implementation of VAT, reduction of the public wage

bill and removal of subsidies on fuel and electricity sectors were "steps in the right direction," Mr Azour said.

While fiscal stimulus programmes to kick-start economic growth are good, oil exporters need to move forward gradually with an "instrument-driven financial inclusion policy" that addresses macro and sectoral issues as well as challenges facing companies, Mr Azour said. "It's an integrated framework that is needed here," he said.

These policy decisions will allow sovereigns to be more predictable in terms of their consolidation plans and will make them less dependent on the evolution of the price of oil.

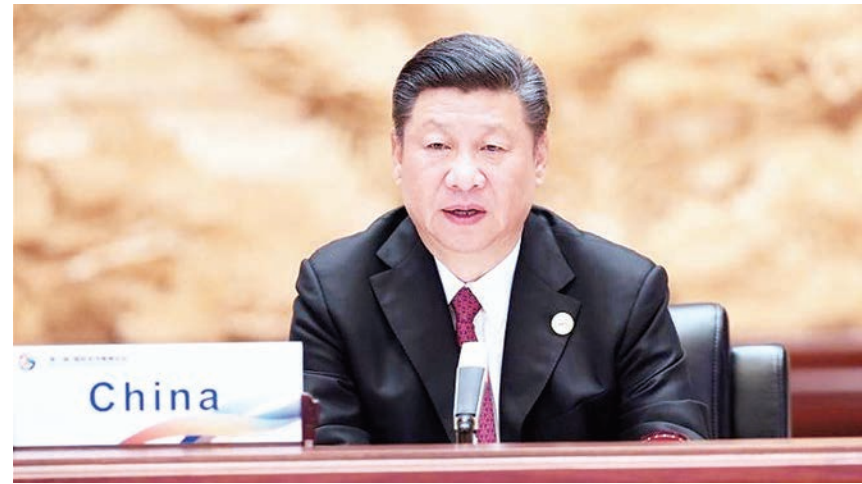
"The path of diversification will help the economy to be less dependent on the fiscal stimulus," said the IMF official, who previously served as Lebanon's finance minister.

"For the GCC, it is still important to pursue fiscal adjustment by anchoring their fiscal policy into medium-term

fiscal plans ... [that] will allow them to be less impacted by movement in oil price."

Although the last five years have shown that the recovery from the oil price shock is slow, higher than average growth of the non-oil economy is positive, Mr Azour said. In the long term, the region needs to "better understand how the fourth [industrial] revolution is going to shape up the global economy and what is the play a region like GCC could benefit from", he added.





Chinese President Xi Jinping

## President Xi's speech lays out blueprint for Belt, Road

BEIJING

PRESIDENT Xi Jinping's speech in Beijing at the opening ceremony of the Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation embraces the global community and could be seen as having two distinct parts, analysts said.

The first part is aimed at the developing world and refining the Belt and Road Initiative blueprint for development; the second part is directed at the developed world, including the United States and the European Union.

Hans Hendrichske, a professor of Chinese business and management at the University of Sydney Business School, said, "If you look at the first part of the speech, Xi addresses some of the criticism that has been made about the Belt and Road Initiative, especially debt, transparency and corruption."

At the opening ceremony of the Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation on April 26, Xi said: "We should focus on priorities and project execution, move forward with result-oriented implementation, just like an architect refining the blueprint, and jointly promote high-quality Belt and Road cooperation."

Xi also assured leaders and delegates from 150 countries that the BRI has "zero tolerance" for corruption, and he pledged financial sustainability of the global infrastructure project.

In a way, it "is saying the concerns expressed by some have been noted and taken onboard," Hendrichske said.

But it is the second part of the speech that should be looked at in a different context, analysts said, where Xi says, "Going forward, China will take a series of major reform and opening-up measures and make stronger institutional and structural moves to boost higher quality opening-up."

The reform and opening-up measures Xi refers to are expanding market access for foreign investment; enhancing international cooperation in intellectual property protection; increasing the import of goods and services; deepening international macroeconomic policy coordination, and ensuring the implementation of opening-up related policies.

Lee Boon Keng, an associate professor of banking and finance at Nanyang Business School in Singapore, said, "The BRI is a strategic initiative that is meant to bring the world closer, with projects aimed at raising economic prosperity for participating countries."

On the reform measures, Lee said

all countries should embrace in order to raise the level of economic development globally, and what China wants is to raise the efficiency and competitiveness of its economy.

"China would continue on these initiatives regardless of the Sino-US trade tension," Lee said.

The trade tension is providing China with an opportunity to make its globalization initiatives clear to the rest of world, hence, the speech is also about China's efforts to embrace the global community, he added.

Lee said China will also benefit from the increase in economic connectivity, but this will not be at the expense of the other countries.

Pushan Dutt, a professor of economics at INSEAD in Singapore, said: "President Xi spoke about intellectual property protection, stable exchange rates, balanced trade, reductions in trade and investment barriers and even climate change."

"These reforms, if carried out, will create a huge boost in confidence about the stable functioning of the world trade and investment system," Dutt said. "It will also allow China to transition from a country that benefits from the rules of the global trading system to a country that is a guardian of this system and guides its evolution."

Hendrichske said broadening market access to foreign investment has been a concern not just for the US, but for Europeans as well.

"The five points outlined by Xi signal to the developed world that China has been listening to their concerns," Hendrichske said.

While assuring China's long-term strategy of opening-up, Xi said in his speech that "we may, by engaging in bilateral, trilateral and multilateral cooperation, fully tap into the strengths of all participants".

Rajiv Biswas, Asia-Pacific chief economist at global research firm IHS Markit, said the BRI has acted as an important catalyst for foreign direct investment flows among Belt and Road partner nations into a wide range of infrastructure projects.

Many of the BRI's projects are improving transport connectivity by construction of roads, ports, airports and railways, creating a better business climate for foreign direct investment into the BRI.

Biswas said China has introduced several measures for liberalization of foreign capital inflows, such as increasing the areas accessible for foreign capital and simplifying the procedures for establishing foreign-invested enterprises.

He said China, as the leader of the BRI, has pledged to improve the pro-

## Seventh batch of Chinese doctors arrive in South Sudan

JUBA

THE seventh batch of Chinese doctors arrived in South Sudan on Saturday to conduct a one-year medical assistance mission in the world's youngest country.

The 15-member team, composed of 13 specialists and two support staff, will replace the outgoing 6th batch. Riek Gai Kok, South Sudan's health minister, hailed the contribution of the Chinese doctors to

the country's health sector through provision of free medical services to citizens. Since 2013, Kok said, Chinese doctors have offered surgeries and capacity-building to South Sudanese health workers. "We thank you very much for that personal sacrifice you have made to come to South Sudan to serve your brothers," he said.

"You have saved thousands of thousands of lives here," Hua Ning, Chinese Ambassador to South Sudan, said the healthcare cooperation between Bei-

jing and Juba has helped ease the disease burden afflicting civilians.

He pledged to further strengthen bilateral cooperation, expressing the hope that as peace returns to South Sudan, the local people will enjoy better and more effective medical services. Sun Yaxi, head of the departing Chinese medical team, said that despite the difficult working environment in South Sudan, members enjoyed their stay in the east African nation.

Xinhua

## 41 dead in Russian plane's fiery emergency landing

MOSCOW

A RUSSIAN airliner burst into flames while making an emergency landing at Moscow's Sheremetyevo airport on Sunday evening, and 41 people died, officials said.

The Sukhoi SSJ100 operated by national airline Aeroflot had 73 passengers and five crew members on board when it touched down and sped down a runway spewing huge flames and black smoke.

Russia sees no reason to ground its domestic-made Sukhoi Superjet 100 aircraft after one of the passenger planes burst into flames during a crash-landing on Sunday, Russia's transport minister said yesterday.

Russia has recovered the bodies of 41 people killed in the accident, Transport Minister Yevgeny Ditrikh told reporters. Thirty-three passengers and four crew survived, he said. Six of the survivors are in serious condition and receiving treatment, the minister said.

Video showed desperate passengers leaping out of the plane onto inflatable evacuation slides and staggering across the airport's tarmac and grass, some holding luggage.

The airport said in a statement that the plane, which had taken off from Sheremetyevo Airport for the northern city of Murmansk, turned back



This photo taken from a video distributed by Russian Investigative Committee yesterday, shows employees of the Russian Investigative Committee working at the wreckage of the Sukhoi SSJ100 aircraft of Aeroflot Airlines at Sheremetyevo airport outside Moscow, Russia. (AP)

for unspecified technical reasons and made a hard landing that started the fire.

Video broadcast later on Russian television showed flames bursting from the jetliner's underside as it lands and then bounces. The plane apparently did not have time to jettison fuel before the emergency landing, news reports said.

The SSJ100, also known as the Superjet, is a two-engine regional jet put into service in 2011 with considerable fanfare as a signal that Russia's troubled aerospace industry was on the rise. However, the plane's reputation was troubled after defects were found

in some horizontal stabilizers.

The plane's manufacturer, Sukhoi Civil Aircraft, said the plane in Sunday's accident had received maintenance at the beginning of April. Aeroflot said the pilot had some 1,400 hours of experience flying the plane.

The plane is largely used in Russia as a replacement for outdated Soviet-era aircraft, but also has been used by airlines in other countries, including Armenia and Mexico.

This is the second fatal accident involving a SSJ100. In 2012, a demonstration flight in Indonesia struck a mountain, killing all 45 aboard.

Agencies

## S. African Airways to start direct flights to Guangzhou

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH African Airways (SAA) said on Sunday it would establish its first direct flight between Johannesburg and China's Guangzhou in September.

SAA CEO Vuyani Jarana said this is aimed at catering for business and corporate people traveling be-

tween the cities. Jarana said there would be three flights a week, with flight time of approximately 13 hours and 40 minutes, providing the shortest travel time on a nonstop basis between the two points.

Adding a direct service to Chinese mainland, combined with SAA's current popular flights to Hong

Kong, "provides SAA with growing opportunities," the CEO said in a statement. "It also gives our traders access to the center of Chinese manufacturing."

SAA said it hopes the decision would benefit it financially, adding that it has also signed interline agreements with the likes of China Southern Airlines, China

Eastern Airlines, Air China, and Hainan Airlines.

"We are confident that the introduction of this route is based on sound commercial considerations and will not only benefit SAA but South Africa as a whole, as China is the largest source market in Asia and South Africa's largest trading partner," Jarana added. Xinhua



## Trump's former lawyer Cohen to report to prison for hush payments

NEW YORK

MICHAEL Cohen, the lawyer who once vowed to "take a bullet" for President Donald Trump but now calls him a "con man," yesterday was expected to begin serving a three-year prison sentence for arranging hush payments to two women who said they had sexual encounters with the president and lying to the U.S. Congress.

Cohen (pictured), Trump's longtime former personal attorney, was expected to report by 2 p.m. (1800 GMT) to the Federal Correctional Institution in Otisville, New York, about 70 miles (110 km) northwest of New York City. He is expected to stay at the prison's minimum security camp.

Cohen's prison term completes a stunning fall for the 52-year-old native of New York's Long Island whose



career was tethered to Trump as he evolved from wealthy real estate developer to reality TV personality to politician.

For more than a decade, Cohen served as Trump's personal lawyer and self-described "fixer."

The relationship began to sour after FBI agents raided Cohen's Rockefeller Center office and Park Avenue hotel room in April 2018 as part of an inves-

tigation that grew out of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's investigation into Russian interference in the 2016 U.S. election.

The information gathered in the raids contributed to a series of criminal charges against Cohen that caused his dramatic split with Trump.

Cohen publicly broke with Trump in July 2018, telling ABC News he intended to put family and loyalty to his country ahead of the president. Cohen and his wife, Laura Shusterman, 49, have two adult children, Samantha and Jake.

BLIND LOYALTY

In congressional testimony in February in Washington, Cohen said, "I am ashamed that I chose to take part in concealing Mr. Trump's illicit acts rather than listening to my own conscience. I am ashamed because I

know what Mr. Trump is. He is a racist. He is a con man. He is a cheat."

During his sentencing in December in New York, Cohen said, "My weakness can be characterized as a blind loyalty to Donald Trump, and I was weak for not having the strength to question and to refuse his demands. I have already spent years living a personal and mental incarceration."

Cohen said during his sentencing he would provide as much information as he could to prosecutors about his former boss.

Trump, for this part, has blasted Cohen on Twitter, calling him a "weak person" as well as a "bad lawyer and fraudster."

Cohen pleaded guilty in August 2018 to violating campaign finance law, bank fraud and tax evasion in a case handled by federal prosecutors in New York. Agencies

## India's heartland states vote in fifth phase of election

JAIPUR/SRINAGAR

INDIA'S northern heartland voted yesterday in the fifth phase of a staggered general election, with Prime Minister Narendra Modi hoping his record on national security will win him a second five-year term.

More than 87 million people across seven states are eligible to vote in this phase, which includes some of the country's most electorally important re-

gions such as Uttar Pradesh, the state with the most members of parliament.

Rahul Gandhi, the 48-year-old leader of the main opposition Congress party, is contesting in the Uttar Pradesh constituency he has won three times, facing a tough challenge from cabinet minister Smriti Irani of Modi's Hindu-nationalist Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

Analysts say Modi's nationalist rhetoric has resonated deeply in the north. The BJP

swept to power in 2014 with an overwhelming majority based largely on its strength in northern states.

The party has run a campaign highlighting Modi's tough stand against rival Pakistan following a suicide bomb attack by a Pakistan-based militant group that killed 40 Indian paramilitary police in the disputed northern region of Kashmir in February.

Party members have also been accused of playing on communal tension, in particu-

lar between majority Hindus and minority Muslims, in Uttar Pradesh.

The BJP enjoys the support of several right-wing groups that want to see the party keep a promise to build a temple on the ruins of a 16th century mosque in Uttar Pradesh's Ayodhya city - a flashpoint in tensions with minority Muslims.

"The main issues here are the temple, nationalism and the country's economic development," said Sharad Sharma,

an Ayodhya-based spokesman for the Vishwa Hindu Parishad, or the World Hindu Council, a group linked to the BJP.

Modi's focus on national security in the election, which began on April 11, has helped him shift many voters' attention away from unemployment and a weak agrarian economy that have led to extensive farmer protests.

"We only want Modi," said 73-year-old Roshan Lal Sharma, voting in Jaipur city in the

northwestern state of Rajasthan.

"The world now recognizes India and Modi."

But Pareswari Sorathiya, a 28-year-old software engineer voting in Jaipur, said unemployment and low pay for graduates were major issues for him.

"The government needs to focus on jobs," Sorathiya said.

BOYCOTT IN KASHMIR

Voting was marred by violence in the northern Muslim-

majority region of Kashmir, where Muslim separatists have been fighting the security forces for decades.

The separatists called for a boycott and only a trickle of voters showed up - just over one percent by mid-day, an election official said.

Protesters threw stones at polling stations and at least one person was shot and wounded when police opened fire, police in Kashmir said. Agencies



## International community calls for peaceful solution to Venezuelan crisis as coup attempt fails

CARACAS

RUSSIAN Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said on Sunday the Kremlin has condemned Washington's so-called campaign to overthrow Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro, urging the United States to cancel its "irresponsible" plans.

Meeting with his Venezuelan counterpart Jorge Arreaza, the senior diplomat was requested to call on U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo to realize that dialogue is the only solution to the Venezuelan crisis during their upcoming meeting in Finland.

Many nations and international organizations have called for a peaceful settlement of the Venezuelan crisis after a failed coup attempt initiated by opposition leader Juan Guaido on April 30 and some expressed support for Maduro.

"We reaffirmed solidarity with the friendly people of Venezuela and support for the legitimate president elected by the Venezuelan people on May 20, 2018," Lavrov said on Sunday, adding that Russia is ready to join possible efforts of international and regional mediators like the "Montevideo mechanism," which was jointly proposed by Mexico and Uruguay and backed by other countries.

Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan condemned the coup bid, saying "those who attempt to appoint a post-modern colonial governor to Venezuela, where the people are sovereign and where the president comes through elections, should know only democratic elections determined the way to govern the country."

Mexican President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador also said that his country will adhere to its constitution and the principles of non-intervention, self-determination of the people and peaceful settlement.

United Nations (UN) Secretary-General Antonio Guterres called Tuesday for "maximum restraint" in Venezuela to avoid violence and restore calm, his spokesman said in a daily briefing.

China's Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Lu Kang told a press briefing last month that "the Venezuelan affairs



should be determined independently by its people.

The government and the opposition need to seek a political settlement through peaceful dialogue under the framework of the Constitution as soon as possible.

Despite the calls for peaceful settlement, Pompeo said Wednesday that Washington will further raise costs for Cuba and Russia because of their support for Maduro -- a remark following U.S. President Donald Trump's tweets urging Cuba to cease its operations in Venezuela in a bid to save itself from "a full and complete embargo" and "highest-level sanctions." Cuban Foreign Minister Bruno Rodriguez tweeted in response that "I strongly reject Trump's total blockade threat."

The Russian Foreign Ministry also said in a statement on the same day that Lavrov had warned of the "gravest consequences" of "aggressive steps" against Caracas in a call with Pompeo.

Meanwhile, U.S. media reported that the White House has not reached a consensus on whether to engage in military intervention in Venezuela to support Guaido.

Pompeo told financial news channel Fox Business on Wednesday that a peaceful solution was still desired but that "military action is possible."

Moreover, as U.S. National Security Advisor John Bolton has pushed for a more aggressive policy on Venezuela, he "has angered some within and outside the White House," according to a report of the Washington Post.

Washington has been pursuing a policy of economic sanctions and diplomatic isolation against the Venezuelan government.

It recognized Guaido as the nation's "interim president" on Jan. 23, days after Maduro was inaugurated for a second term. Amid the ongoing power struggle between the ruling socialist party and the U.S.-backed right-wing opposition, ordinary Venezuelans are finding it increasingly hard to get on with their lives.

## Russian border guards may resume joint exercises with US in Pacific

PETROPAVLOVSK-KAMCHATSKIY

THE US Coast Guard and the border guards of Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) will consider resuming joint drills in the area delimiting the maritime boundaries of the two countries in the Pacific Ocean, the press office of the FSB's Directorate for the Eastern Arctic Region said yesterday.

The FSB's press office made this statement following a visit by representatives of Russia's Border Guard Service to the United States.

"In Anchorage (the state of Alaska, USA), a meeting was held between experts of the FSB's Border Guard Directorate for the Eastern Arctic Region and the US Coast Guard's 17th District.

The sides discussed the results of inter-agency interaction and worked out further areas of cooperation. Besides, the sides agreed to consider holding joint drills in the area delimiting the maritime boundaries of the two coun-

tries," the statement says.

As the FSB's Board Guard Directorate noted, the consistently developing cooperation and the high level of inter-agency information interaction between the US Coast Guard and Russia's Border Guard Service have helped considerably reduce poaching in the northern part of the Pacific Ocean.

The Alaska and Kamchatka border guards signed an agreement on cooperation in protecting aquatic biological resources in the convention area in 1996.

Cooperation envisages efforts for preventing violations of fishing rules, ensuring control of customs declaration of fishing catches, and also protecting the Northern Sea Route between Chukotka and Alaska.

The FSB's Border Guard Directorate for the Eastern Arctic Region is responsible for protecting the border that is over 20,000 km long and makes up a third of Russia's total borders.



## Pompeo says still evaluating 'appropriate response' to DPRK's latest projectiles firing

WASHINGTON

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said in an interview aired on Sunday that the United States is "still evaluating the appropriate response" to the latest firing of projectiles by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK).

Pompeo (pictured), in his interview with CBS's "Face the Nation," hinted at possible correlation between DPRK's firing of projectiles and its top leader Kim Jong Un's Russia visit.

"You saw this happen too right after his visit to Russia. Right - right after he spoke with Vladimir Putin, he made the decision to take these actions," he said. "We're still evaluating the appropriate response."

South Korea's Joint Chiefs of Staff said earlier this week that the DPRK had fired unidentified short-range projectiles off its east coast.

"The toughest sanctions in the history of North Korea remain in place. That's probably what's putting some of the pressure on Chairman Kim today," Pompeo said, reacting to a question on whether the latest situation warrants more sanctions.

However, he still invited the DPRK to negotiate with the U.S. side on denuclearization.

"I want everyone in your audience to know we're going to exhaust every diplomatic opportunity there is," Pompeo said. "I continue to invite our counterparts for negotiations. We still believe there is a path forward where Chairman Kim can denuclearize without resort to anything beyond diplomacy. We're hopeful that we can achieve that."



"We've made real progress between Singapore and Hanoi and we hope that progress can continue. It would be the best outcome for the world," Pompeo said.

U.S. President Donald Trump on Saturday via twitter expressed "confidence" in an ultimate "deal" with Pyongyang.

He tweeted that "anything in this very interesting world is possible... Deal will happen!"

The DPRK's official Korean Central News Agency (KCNA) reported Sunday that Kim guided the strike drill of defense units in the East Sea of Korea on Saturday. **Agencies**

## Summit demonstrates China's leapfrog into digital ascendance

FUZHOU

CHINA yesterday sounded another heartening note for its development of information technologies, as both companies and the government rush to harness this nationwide tech boom to raise efficiency, buoy public satisfaction and even tackle corruption.

The second Digital China Summit opened yesterday in eastern China's Fujian Province, shedding light on the latest information technologies that have penetrated the country's government, industries and society.

The Chinese government has expected information technologies to nurture new economic engines and upgrade old industries as the country shunts from the high-speed economic growth to the path of high-quality development.

Huang Kunming, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, in a keynote speech at the summit called for advancing the building of a digital China and smart society, stressing the role of information technology in promoting high-quality development.

Huang, also head of the Publicity Department of the CPC Central Committee, said China's advantages in internet technology innovation, technology application and as a huge market should be transformed into advantages in developing a digital economy.

The official called for achieving breakthroughs in core technologies, enhancing protection of intellectual property rights, advancing information infrastructure construction and narrowing digital gaps between urban and rural areas.

A report reviewing the country's



A staff member from a water ecology management service provider shows visitors how to test drinking water quality using a block-chain-based management and control system at the 2nd Digital China Exhibition in Fuzhou, southeast China's Fujian Province, yesterday. (Xinhua)

digital development in 2018 was also issued at the summit, pointing to rapid growth in sectors including electronic information manufacturing, software service, communications and big data.

The report published by the Cyberspace Administration of China said the country last year recorded more than 9 trillion yuan (1.3 trillion U.S. dollars) in online retail. China's digital economy reached 31.3 trillion yuan in scale, accounting for one-third of the national GDP in 2018.

Provincial-level e-government platforms have also slashed time for getting government permits by an average of 30 percent, noted the report.

Trendy technologies from driverless vendor vehicles and facial recognition security checks to 5G networks are being used at the event in the city of Fuzhou. A number of tech compa-

nies are displaying their cutting-edge products including Baidu's driverless vehicles, Huawei's AI chip "Ascend" and Foxconn's "future factories."

Pony Ma, CEO of China's internet giant Tencent, said at the summit that the company, by working with Fujian police, has used its facial recognition technology to help 1,000 families find missing family members in the past two years.

Hu Xiaoming, president of Ant Financial that runs the popular online payment network Alipay, said at the event that one of every four Chinese now handles government services on Alipay, making it the country's largest platform that offers access to government services.

ByteDance, known for its short video sharing app TikTok, also demonstrated its poverty-relief project at the summit, which it said has trained

10,000 people from 505 impoverished Chinese counties and helped sell 1.94 million yuan worth of agricultural products.

Information technologies have drawn more attention in recent years, particularly in China's industrial sectors, where they are credited with revving up automation in traditional factories and creating new industries.

As China steps up its industrial upgrade, which will result in inefficient industries being phased out, booming e-commerce is believed to have cushioned the job market by creating a deluge of new positions from online shopping "guides" to scooter-riding couriers of take-out food.

Meituan, an online food delivery platform in China, said it draws 31 percent of its riders from phased-out industries. The company has 2.7 million courier riders, boosted by China's booming online food delivery.

According to the China Academy of Information and Communications Technology (CAICT), China's digital economy provided 191 million jobs last year, marking a yearly increase of 11.5 percent.

### E-GOVERNMENT

One of the major highlights at this year's summit is the many e-government apps, which have mushroomed across China to incorporate a wide range of government and public services. They are part of the government's efforts to cut red tape to benefit residents and businesses alike.

In Fuzhou, the host city of the event, a citizen's typical day now revolves around the e-Fuzhou app, which allows users to buy bus tickets, pay tuition fees and manage social security accounts without the need of visiting government offices. **Xinhua**

## Libya's Haftar orders troops to fight harder during Ramadan

BENHAZI/TRIPOLI

EASTERN Libyan forces commander Khalifa Haftar urged his troops trying to take Tripoli to battle harder and teach their enemies an even bigger lesson, because the Muslim month of Ramadan that began yesterday was a month of holy war.

His comments came just hours after the United Nations called for a week-long humanitarian truce following a month of fighting for the capital that has displaced 50,000 people, killed

around 400, and badly damaged some southern districts.

Haftar had already defied the United Nations when he launched his Tripoli offensive a month ago on the same day UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres was visiting the capital to prepare a national reconciliation conference.

Haftar's Libyan National Army (LNA) which is allied to a parallel government in the east, has not been able to breach the southern defences of Tripoli, which is held by the internationally recog-

nized government.

On an audiotape released by his force's spokesman, Haftar said Ramadan had not been a reason to halt previous battles when he seized the eastern cities of Benghazi and Derna as he expanded his power and the country collapsed into chaos after the toppling of Muammar Gaddafi in 2011.

"Officers and soldiers in our armed forces and the auxiliary forces, I salute you in this glorious days and urge you with your strength and determination to teach the enemy a greater and bigger

lesson than the previous ones, as we've always known you to do, till we uproot it from our beloved land," Haftar said.

He did not mention the UN call for a truce.

In a statement earlier on Sunday, the UN Mission in Libya (UNSMIL) appealed for a truce starting on Monday morning at 0400 local time to coincide with the beginning of Ramadan.

As the United Nations issued its statement, artillery shelling could be heard coming from southern outskirts of the capital, where the LNA has been trying

to breach defenses by Tripoli forces.

The renewed conflict threatens to disrupt oil supplies, drive increased migration across the Mediterranean to Europe, and scupper UN plans for an election to end rivalries between parallel administrations in Libya's east and west.

### Holy month

The speech by Haftar, a former Gaddafi general, included religious references to historic campaigns by Muslim forces.

"Our battles against terrorism in

Benghazi and Derna did not stop in the holy month of Ramadan but we increased our determination and strength in this holy month," he said.

Emad Badi, a Libya researcher, said Haftar might be trying to reach out to ultra-conservative Salafis. They are among his forces, but also have a presence in Tripoli.

Haftar's LNA seized the sparsely populated but oil-rich south of the country earlier this year before turning on Tripoli last month. **Xinhua**



The Guardian

## SPORT



## 'Avengers: Endgame' assembles second-biggest second weekend ever

LOS ANGELES

DISNEY'S "Avengers: Endgame" continues its unprecedented box office run, assembling another \$145 million at the domestic box office during its second weekend in theaters.

"Avengers: Endgame" now stands as the second-biggest movie of all time with \$2.188 billion worldwide. The Marvel juggernaut became the fastest film to gross \$2 billion globally in just 11 days, crushing "Avatar's" record of 47 days. It has now generated \$619 million at the domestic box office and \$1.56 billion internationally.

In North America, "Avengers: Endgame" dipped 59% from its opening weekend. That wasn't enough to secure the biggest second weekend of all time, a record still held by "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" with \$149 million.

However, it passed "Avengers: Infinity War" (\$114 million) to hold the second-biggest weekend ever. Only six films have ever surpassed \$100 million in their second weekends.

Repeat viewings from comic-book enthusiasts, as well as premium formats like IMAX and 3D have helped box office receipts reach extraordinary heights. IMAX theaters have accounted for \$170 million of tickets sold across the globe, while just under \$1 billion has come from 3D screens. Only two films in history – "Avatar" and "Star Wars: The Force Awakens" – have earned over a billion dollars from the 3D format.

Overseas, "Avengers: Endgame" remained the No. 1 film in all markets aside from Japan. This weekend, the superhero blockbuster raked in another \$282.2 million from 55 international markets. Top foreign territories include China (\$575 million), the United Kingdom (\$89.9 million), and Korea (\$82.1 million).

While "Avengers: Endgame" continues to be the de facto choice among moviegoers, a number of brave studios opened new movies to mixed results.

"The Intruder," a psychological thriller from Sony and Screen Gems, fared the best among newcomers. It debuted in second place, amassing \$11 million from 2,222 North American locations. That's a solid start since the studio shelled out \$8 million to produce "The Intruder."

The PG-13 thriller centers on a married couple who recently purchased their dream home, only to realize the seller keeps creepily meddling in their life. While "Avengers: Endgame" continues to be the de facto choice among moviegoers, a number of brave studios opened new movies to mixed results.

Lionsgate's "Long Shot," a raunchy R-rated romantic comedy starring Seth Rogen and Charlize Theron, nabbed the No. 3 spot with a tepid \$10 million from 3,230 screens. Jonathan Levine directed the movie about a journalist (Rogen) who tries to win over his former babysitter-turned-politician (Theron), who is now running for president. It garnered mostly positive reviews since its premiere at South by Southwest. The opening weekend audience skewed female (56 percent), while 68 percent of moviegoers were over the age of 35.

This weekend's final new release, "UglyDolls," launched in fourth place well below expectations, stumbling with \$8.5 million from 3,652 venues. STX's animated musical cost \$45 million to produce.

The A-list voice cast includes Kelly Clarkson, Nick Jonas, and Pitbull, who all recorded new music for the movie. The family friendly adventure follows a group of misfit dolls who learn to embrace what it means to be unique.

Meanwhile, Disney's "Captain Marvel" got another boost from "Avengers: Endgame." It landed at the No. 5 spot, generating \$4.3 million during its ninth weekend in theaters. The superhero tentpole, starring Brie Larson, has earned \$420 million in North America and \$1.12 billion globally.

Thanks to "Avengers: Endgame," the year-over-year deficit in ticket sales continues to shrink. After this weekend, box office receipts are pacing less than 10 percent behind last year, according to Comscore. Hollywood is banking on a number of summer hits, including "The Lion King," "Toy Story 4," and "Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw" to help close that gap.

"If slow and steady wins the race, then the oncoming barrage of big summer titles should collectively over time knock the percentage even lower and in systematic fashion in the coming weeks," said Paul Dergarabedian, a senior media analyst at Comscore.

## Leonard scores 39, Raptors beat 76ers 101-96 to tie series

PHILADELPHIA

KAWHI Leonard got some help from his teammates to stay close and then finished it off himself.

Leonard scored 39 points, including a clutch 3-pointer with 1:01 left, and the Toronto Raptors beat the Philadelphia 76ers 101-96 on Sunday to even the Eastern Conference semifinal series at 2-2.

"Just really growing up learning from great players, I was fortunate enough to be on some good teams early," Leonard said, "so I was able to see defenses and go on deep playoff runs and I feel that helped me out today."

Marc Gasol scored 16, Kyle Lowry had 14 and the Raptors rebounded after consecutive losses to reclaim home-court advantage. "We needed some punch around the roster," Raptors coach Nick Nurse said. "It was a different mentality. Guys were looking to shoot, taking the first shot that was there." Game 5 is Tuesday night in Toronto.

Jimmy Butler scored 29 and JJ Redick had 19 for Philadelphia. The 76ers are trying to reach the conference finals for the first time since Allen Iverson led them to the NBA Finals in 2001.

Toronto, which earned the No. 2 seed after winning 58 games, has been bounced out in the semis two straight seasons.

Joel Embiid struggled after scoring 33 points in Philadelphia's 21-point victory in Game 3. The All-Star center played through an illness and only had 11. Sixers coach Brett Brown said Embiid texted him early in the morning saying he wasn't sure if he could play.

"To his credit, he willed his way through it," Brown said. Butler banked in a 3-pointer from the top of the circle as the shot clock expired after briefly losing the ball to give the Sixers an 84-81 lead in the fourth. But Gasol answered with a 3 to tie it and the Raptors went up 89-85 on Leonard's jumper. Butler and Leonard traded a pair of free throws before Redick hit a 3 to cut it to 91-90 with 2:07 left.

Following a turnover, Embiid missed a layup. Leonard then nailed a step-back 3 to put Toronto up 94-90. Danny Green made four free throws in the final minute to ice it.

Brown called Leonard's 3-pointer a "backbreaker" and compared his ability to create his own shot to Kobe Bryant. The 3 came right before the shot clock expired and Leonard had Embiid in his face.

"I came off a pick-and-roll. They were switching. Embiid is a



Toronto Raptors' Kawhi Leonard, center, goes up for the shot against Philadelphia 76ers' Ben Simmons, top, during the first half of Game 4 of a second-round NBA basketball playoff series, Sunday, May 5, 2019, in Philadelphia. (AP Photo)

good defender, long, and I just wanted to get it to the back of the rim," Leonard said.

Playing before a raucous crowd, the Sixers failed to take control of the series and now must win at least one more game on the road to advance.

"We got humbled," Butler said.

Serge Ibaka made the defensive play of the game in the second quarter, racing back down the floor to reject Tobias Harris during Philadelphia's 3-on-1 fast break. But the Raptors missed a shot on the opposite end and Embiid answered with an emphatic

dunk.

Later in the quarter, Embiid blocked Ibaka and found Ben Simmons for a dunk. Embiid blocked Ibaka again 35 seconds later and Butler hit an 11-footer. Butler's 3-pointer with a second left in the second quarter got the Sixers within 47-45 at halftime.

Leonard scored six points during a 13-0 run in the first quarter to help the Raptors take a 22-11 lead. But the Sixers outscored Toronto 10-2 to cut the deficit to 24-21 after one.

AP

## Kipchoge to make new sub-two hour marathon attempt this year

LONDON

KENYAN world record holder Eliud Kipchoge is to make another attempt at breaking two hours for the marathon later this year, probably in Britain, in a project backed by Jim Ratcliffe, the billionaire owner of chemical firm INEOS.

Kipchoge ran two hours and 25 seconds in his "Breaking Two" project on Italy's Monza motor racing circuit in 2017, though the time was not ratified for record purposes as he used "in and out" pacemakers and a moving drinks station.

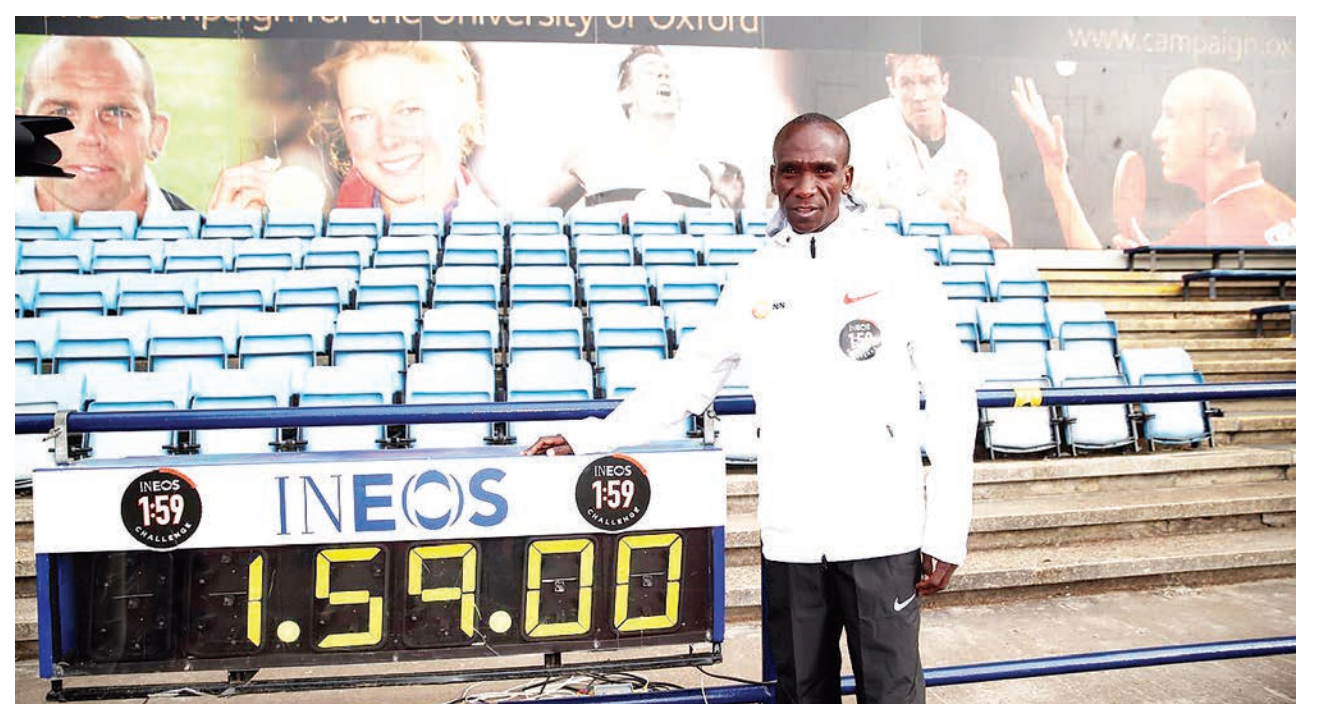
Last year he lowered the legal world record by an astonishing 78 seconds when posting 2:01.39 in Berlin and last week ran the second-fastest time in history when winning the London marathon in 2:02.37.

With an Olympic marathon gold and an amazing record of 11 wins from 12 races over the 26.2 mile distance, breaking two hours would appear to be the only thing missing from the CV of a man ranked among the greatest his sport has seen.

"This would really surpass everything because this will go in the history as far as the human family is concerned," Kipchoge said when announcing the bid at the Iffley Road running track in Oxford where Briton Roger Bannister became the first man to break four minutes for the mile 65 years ago on Monday.

"It is not about recognition or ratification but to make history and to pass on a message that no human is limited. Running the fastest-ever marathon of 2:00.25 was the proudest moment of my career."

There are still many details to be ironed out for the new attempt, labelled "The 1.59 Challenge" though it is likely to be in September or October on a two or three-km circuit course, probably in Britain and



Kenya's Eliud Kipchoge poses for a photograph at Iffley Road Sports Centre in Oxford, Britain in this April 30, 2019 file photo. REUTERS

possibly in one of London's Royal parks.

It will again be un-ratified as the Kenyan will use a phalanx of pacemakers who run a number of laps, dipping in and out so that they can maintain the phenomenal two minute, 50 seconds per km pace necessary.

Although Nike is not spearheading the attempt as it did in Monza, Kipchoge, 34, will again wear their somewhat controversial carbon-insulated Vaporfly shoes that Nike says improve running economy by up to four percent.

### MENTALITY CHANGE

The shoes have been passed legal by the sport's governing body the IAAF, though some critics say they give such an advantage that without them Kipchoge would be a "routine" 2:03/04 performer.

The shoes, pacemakers, apparel,

wind-blocking paceclock car and rolling drinks stations helped take Kipchoge agonisingly close in Monza and he says the lessons learned then will make him even more likely to pull off a feat that would undoubtedly rank at the very top of human sporting achievement.

Most importantly, Kipchoge said, has been a change in mentality as, having come so close there and subsequently massively improved his best legal time, he now fully believes he is capable of maintaining the necessary pace.

Ratcliffe, 66 and a keen runner for decades, said that the missing link could be a crowd to watch and encourage, after the Monza attempt took place in front of a handful of media, sponsors and associates.

"If Eliud has got a fantastic crowd cheering him on, it's going to make a bit of difference and we don't need to make a lot of difference to make up

26 seconds," he said.

"I was in the pace car in front of Eliud for the London Marathon and he was looking very serene and comfortable. He's still getting better."

Ratcliffe has taken over ownership of cycling's former Team Sky, funded Ben Ainslie's 2021 America's Cup sailing challenge and owns Swiss soccer club Lausanne Sport.

"It's good fun. We make billions in profits so what's wrong with investing a bit of that in sport, in good challenges, good people?," he said.

"Eliud is the finest marathon runner there has ever been and I think it will be very inspirational, to get kids putting running shoes on."

"It would be an extraordinary achievement. It's almost super-human, isn't it really? To break two hours in a marathon is quite unthinkable."

REUTERS



## Juventus-bound Ramsey bids emotional farewell to Arsenal

LONDON

AARON Ramsey made a tearful farewell to Arsenal after 11 years at the club on Sunday and said he was looking forward to the next phase of his career at Juventus.

The Welshman, whose season ended prematurely after he sustained a hamstring injury last month, is set to join the Italian champions in the close season after signing a four-year deal in February. Ramsey, who is the club's highest scoring central midfielder with 64 goals, was given a guard of honour by his team mates and presented with a memento after Arsenal's 1-1 draw with Brighton and Hove Albion at the Emirates Stadium.

"Obviously it's very emotional, it's been a hell of a journey," the 28-year-old told Sky Sports. "Eleven years of my life, so much has happened in that, when I look back. You can tell by my voice how much it means to me.

"I'm really excited for the new challenge and new chapter in my life (at Juventus) but today it's all about this.

"This is where I grew up. I just

want to take this in today and let it settle in for a few more days before I can really look forward and concentrate on that. "I'm going to club that's playing in the Champions League, and playing with (Cristiano) Ronaldo. And that's going to really sink in now, so I can get my head around that in the next few weeks and really look forward to that challenge." Goalkeeper Petr Cech, who is retiring at the end of the season and was also honoured by Arsenal, said Ramsey's departure was a big loss for the London club.

"I think when he came from Cardiff nobody really knew how great a player the club brought in and I think he gave everything he could all those 11 years," Cech said.

Arsenal also confirmed the departure of striker Danny Welbeck. The Englishman, signed from Manchester United in 2014, has not played since he had an ankle surgery in November and his contract expires at the end of the season.

"I spoke with the club about this situation," manager Unai Emery said. "The decision is he is going to leave.

REUTERS

## Chelsea feeling the strain of fighting on two fronts - Sarri

LONDON

CHELSEA coach Maurizio Sarri said his players were showing the strain of competing in the Europa League after they struggled for 45 minutes against Watford on Sunday before winning 3-0 to boost their chances of a top-four Premier League finish.

Chelsea drew 1-1 at Eintracht Frankfurt in the first leg of their semi-final on Thursday, leaving them little time to prepare for the visit of FA Cup finalists Watford.

"I think that in the first half we were in trouble because we were tired physically and mentally. Then in the second half they lowered their intensity so we took control of the match," Sarri told reporters.

"We were lucky of course because we scored after two minutes and after the first goal probably we improved mentally and were able to play very well for 30, 35 minutes." Chelsea were booed off by many of their fans at halftime with Watford having dominated the opening period.

But goals from Ruben Loftus-Cheek and David Luiz early in the second half, both set up by Eden Hazard, were followed by Argentine Gonzalo Higuain's strike in the 75th minute.

"It is not easy to play after 60 hours," Sarri said referring to the midweek Europa League trip to Germany.

CHELSEA BOOST

Sunday's win, combined with Manchester United's earlier 1-1 draw at already relegated Huddersfield Town and Tottenham Hotspur's 1-0 loss at Bournemouth on Saturday, boosted Chelsea's chances of returning to the Champions League next season.

They moved up to third place above Spurs, who they lead by a point, and extended their advantage to five points over fifth-placed Arsenal, who were playing at home to Brighton & Hove Albion in Sunday's late game.

Chelsea visit Leicester City in their final league game of the season next Sunday.

A return to Europe's top club competition - a bare minimum for Italian coach Sarri in his first season in charge - had looked in jeopardy as recently as February after a 6-0 thumping by Manchester City, a third defeat in four league games. But Chelsea have now lost only twice in 11 matches while Spurs, Manchester United and Arsenal have all stumbled.

Sarri conceded he had made an error on Sunday by not resting France midfielder N'Golo Kante, who left the field early in the first half with a hamstring injury.

"I think I made a mistake because today probably he had to rest. Sometimes it is very difficult to put on the bench a player (who is) so important like Kante, Hazard. I think it is very difficult to recover him for the next two matches."

REUTERS

## Barcelona chief wants Champions League changes, Liga games abroad

BARCELONA

BARCELONA president Josep Maria Bartomeu has said the Champions League must undergo changes to ensure elite teams face each other more often and remains committed to the idea of playing Liga matches abroad.

European soccer's governing body UEFA met with representatives from its member clubs in March to begin discussions over the future of the Champions League and other continental competitions from 2024 onwards. European Club Association (ECA) chairman Andrea Agnelli has invited his organisation's 232 member clubs to an assembly in June to discuss the future of UEFA competition.

Barcelona beat Manchester United in the Champions League quarter-finals and are on course to reach the showpiece match in Madrid on June 1 after beating Liverpool 3-0 in the semi-final first leg ahead of next Tuesday's decider at Anfield. "Fans ask us for more European games. And from 2024 the new format will allow that. We're going to change it for the better," Bartomeu said in an interview

with British newspaper The Guardian published on Sunday.

"When we played Manchester United it was the first time they'd been here in 11 years. Against Liverpool it was the first since 2006. It can't be that we play many games but not against teams like Liverpool and United." United beat Barca in the 2007-08 Champions League semi-finals on their way to winning the competition, but lost to the Catalans in the 2009 and 2011 finals, while Liverpool defeated Barca at the last 16 stage in the 2006/07 season. Bartomeu said he opposed the idea of certain teams being guaranteed places in the Champions League, however, adding: "No-one's talking about a closed league or a Super League. It will be an evolution, and attractive. It won't be a revolution." Bartomeu added that he was still in favour of playing Spanish top flight games outside Spain, after his club withdrew from La Liga's proposed match between Barca and Girona in Miami last January, citing a "lack of consensus".

REUTERS

# The worst is yet to come for Man United

HUDDERSFIELD, England

THE most worrying thing for Manchester United right now, as their last hope of qualifying for the Champions League slipped away at Huddersfield with Sunday's 1-1 draw, is that there is no guarantee things will get better any time soon.

Players will come and go over the summer as Ole Gunnar Solskjaer gets his first real chance to shape his squad, but we have been here before. David Moyes, Louis van Gaal and Jose Mourinho have all been given money to spend - more than £600 million between them - since Sir Alex Ferguson retired, but for the fourth time in six years since the Scot departed, United will finish the season outside of the Premier League's top four.

It was just what they deserved too. A bright opening 15 minutes saw them take the lead through Scott McTominay's second goal of the season, but by the time Lee Mason blew the final whistle, United were genuinely hanging on. Isaac Mbenza scored the equaliser in the second half after a long punt from goalkeeper Jonas Loss.

The ball was in David De Gea's net just 13 seconds after a United corner thanks, in part, to Luke Shaw's miskick at the loose ball as it travelled more than 60 yards beyond him. The goal stung even more as Mbenza coolly finished between De Gea's legs.

Huddersfield had lost 22 of the past 24 games in all competitions but ended the afternoon feeling disappointed they had been unable to find a winner. Solskjaer said afterward that his team "had not been good enough." He was right, but it was an assessment that could easily be applied to most of the games played since Ferguson signed off.

The summer promises a fresh start, but just a week away from the end of the season, there are far more questions than answers. De Gea is on the verge of entering the final year of his contract. There are doubts about Paul Pogba's future. There is still no technical director in place, leaving Solskjaer to orchestrate the recruitment drive alongside executive vice-chairman Ed Woodward.

There are deficiencies in every area of the squad. The defence has conceded a goal in each of their past 14 games: United's worst run since 1970. At the other end, they've managed to score two goals in a game just once in the past two months, contributing to a dismal run of just two wins from their past 11 games in all competitions.



Huddersfield Town's Isaac Mbenza scores their first goal against Manchester United during their Premier League match at John Smith's Stadium in Huddersfield, Britain on Sunday. REUTERS

Watching it unravel again at Huddersfield, Sky Sports pundit Gary Neville was scathing. "This is not a team," said the former United defender, "and the more I watch this, it's not a team."

"Do you know what it reminds me of? It reminds me of the Tottenham team that Mauricio Pochettino picked up. A group of players that looked like individuals, nothing there, no real spirit and he dismantled it piece by piece, and Ole Gunnar Solskjaer needs to dismantle this piece by piece."

Whether you agree with Neville or not, it at least reflects the challenge facing the Norwegian as he aims to revive a club that still consider themselves to be one of the biggest in the world.

Solskjaer, at least, is trying to be realistic. He branded the Europa League "the right place" for United, and he already has ques-

tioned whether they can get anywhere near Manchester City and Liverpool next season. They've averaged around 70 points a season since 2013, and this year Liverpool could rack up 97 and still finish second.

Debate about when they will be ready to challenge for the Premier League or the Champions League again is, for now, pointless. Solskjaer's first job is to get United back into the top four, and judging by the performance at Huddersfield on Sunday, that is easier said than done. It is a club without direction, seemingly lurching from one crisis to another.

It's tempting to think that a chance to throw money at the problems during the transfer window will fix everything, but there is nothing from the recent past to suggest that is the case. Brazilian midfielder Fred was signed for £48 million a year ago but was an unused substitute at the John Smith's Stadium.

(AGENCIES)

## Table doesn't lie, says Solskjaer, as United miss top-four spot

LONDON

MANCHESTER United manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer admitted his side can have no complaints about finishing outside the Premier League's top four after their fate was sealed by a lacklustre 1-1 draw at bottom club Huddersfield Town on Sunday.

Needing six points from their last two games, and results to go their way, United were always facing a tough task to qualify for next season's Champions League.

But a failure to beat a side who had managed only 14 points in their previous 36 games, just about summed up the malaise United find themselves in as the season ends in an anti-climax.

"We haven't deserved to be top four, we've chased the pack and been given chances, the league is so tight. When we got the opportunities we didn't take them," Solskjaer, who initially sparked a spectacular change in fortunes after Jose Mourinho was sacked in December, told the BBC.

"The table doesn't lie in the end."

United, runners-up last season, have seen Manchester City and Liverpool, vanish into the distance this season, and Solskjaer, who was given the job on a permanent basis in March, faces a huge challenge to close the gap next season.

It will involve major surgery to the squad with captain Antonio Valencia certain to move on and midfielders Ander Herrera and Juan Mata out of contract.

The club must also decide what to do with under-performing players such as Paul Pogba, Alexis Sanchez and Romelu Lukaku. There were glimpses of a brighter future on Sunday from the likes of Scott McTominay, who scored United's goal, and substitute Tahith Chong but that was scant consolation to the fans who trudged out of the ground.

Former defender Gary Neville did not hold back during his role as co-commentator for Sky Sports.

"This is Huddersfield Town who have struggled all season. Watch this Huddersfield team, they haven't got the quality, but I like watching them a lot more than watching the ones in the red shirts to be honest with you," Neville said.

"Nothing on can identify with them. Not about this United team I like at all. They're just awful. They're a despondent group of people."



Ole Gunnar Solskjaer

United have won just one of their last six league games and were dismantled by Barcelona in the Champions League quarter-finals. Next year they will be in the Europa League, a level Solskjaer says is fair indicator of where United are.

"Europa League is probably the right place for us this season," Solskjaer said.

"The Europa League can be a positive - look at what Arsenal and Chelsea (who are both in the semi-finals) have done this season."

Captain Ashley Young said it was a "massive disappointment" for the club to finish outside the Champions League spots.

"This feels like a defeat," Young said. "I don't know what the problem has been.

Right now we can't put our finger on it.

"When you talk about a club like Manchester United fighting for the top four it's not what you want to be talking about. We should be talking about winning titles and trophies and that's the disappointment."

REUTERS



# SPORT

The worst is yet to come  
for Man United

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

## Saida wary of dishonest managers

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

TANZANIA's prominent traditional music artiste, Saida Karoli, has disclosed she is now careful when it comes to selecting managers with a view to doing away with dishonest people.

"I was quite popular in traditional music the country early in 2000 and I got opportunity to stage plenty of shows in and outside," Saida (pictured) noted.

She pointed out much as she was popular, she did not have tangible success from the status because of a few dishonest people that ripped her off.

"This time around I'm careful in seeking managers so that I can keep dishonest people off. I had expected Ruge Mutahaba will find a manager for me, but unfortunately he passed away," she disclosed.

She said she had in the past signed contracts written in English whilst she did not know the language, a situation she believes contributed to her failure to live up to expectations.

Saida, who is presently living in Mwanza, noted she had planned to relocate to Dar es Salaam, but Mutahaba that had been coordinating the plan passed away.

"I'm now smart, I don't think there is any person that can exploit me, that is why I had been looking forward to having Mutahaba as my manager but he has passed away," she noted.

She disclosed she will never fall victim to fraudulent the same way she did in the past, when she was riding high in traditional music in the country.



National Arts Council Executive Secretary, Geoffrey Mwingereza.

## Government committed to promoting arts

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE government has said it is committed to seeing to it that arts is used to contribute to the national economic growth in the country.

Geoffrey Mwingereza, the Executive Secretary of the National Arts Council (BASATA), issued the statement at the opening of clay purple exhibition, dubbed 'Temperature of Purple Clay, Chinese purple clay artworks exhibition', in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

He said his council knows the value of arts to the economic growth of the country and the council, thus, works closely with various stakeholders within and outside the country for the sole purpose of the advancement of the creative industry in the country.

He hailed the Chinese Embassy in Tanzania for hosting cultural exchange programs, saying the approach is improving the sector in the country.

Mwingereza gave an example of local visual artist who will participate at an arts exhibition in Hong Kong at the end of this month.

"Some of our local visual artist will, at the end of this month, showcase their works in Hong Kong, this will help them reach to wider Chinese audience," he disclosed.

He noted although there is a cultural diversity between Tanzania and China he believes the emerging cross continental communication opportunities provide an unprecedented platform from which to share value systems, cultures, beliefs and traditions of people across the globe.

He disclosed through the exhibition and workshops, he believes that there is much to learn from China with regard to reaching international markets in the area of pottery.

Exhibitor Ge Tao from Yixing in China and founder of Ge Sheng pottery said he is happy to be in Tanzania to exhibit his works.

He said he is in the country along the trajectory of the 'Belt and Road' with Chinese purple sand, culture and continued responsibility of history.

Tao said pottery is a symbol of human evolution and represent the original of human wisdom.

"The Chinese ceramic cultural has a long history, the purple clay belong to one of the categories of Chinese ceramics, original from song dynasty and flushed in Ming and Qing dynastic. He disclosed it is a wonderful flower in the world of arts, adding he has exhibited it in many parts of the world.

On his remarks, Chairman of China's Cultural Center in Tanzania, Gao Wei, said the exhibition is an clear indication of the good and strong relationship that exists between the two countries.

He also said it is his belief that artists from both countries will share a lot of this during the period.



Lipuli FC has knocked Yanga out of the 2019 Azam Sports Federation Cup last four

## Yanga crash out of ASFC semi-finals

By Guardian Reporter

YANGA's efforts to book a place in the 2019 Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) final have ended in vain, as they succumbed to 2-0 defeat to Lipuli FC in the last four stage match at the Samora Stadium in Iringa yesterday.

Yanga were under pressure on the 16th minute of the pulsating match as the team's keeper Klaus Kindoki punched a dangerous free kick taken by Lipuli FC defender Haruna Shante.

Kindoki then thwarted a header by forward Daruweshi Saliboko from close range.

The visitors went close on the 26th minute in which a header by forward Heritier Makambo, who had attempted to connect in a corner kick by midfielder Ibrahim Aji-bu, went off target.

Striker Paul Nonga registered the opener for Lipuli FC two minutes later in which he slotted in from close range following the failure by Yanga defenders to foil an attack.

Saliboko made it 2-0 for Lipuli FC on the 38th minute, banging a rebound home from close range.

Kindoki had earlier cleared an effort by the forward off a free kick by defender William Lucian, Saliboko then made the most of the rebound.

Keeper Mohamed Yusuf stood firm between his posts to frustrate Yanga midfielder Papy Tshishimbi who had unleashed a fierce shot from close later in the half.

A timely clearance Yanga defender Andrew Vincent that thwarted Lucian dangerous centre from the right prevented Yanga from conceding a third.

Yanga went close on two occasions in the latter stages only to be frustrated by the agile Yusuf.

Lipuli were still 2-0 up when the opening stanza came to a climax.

Yanga threw overboard a chance to reduce the deficit on the 63rd minute as they wasted an indirect free kick they won thanks to a mistake by keeper Mohamed.

The visitors had earlier on gone close twice as they sought to take control of the proceedings.

They wasted a glorious opportunity to find Lipuli's back of the net later on as right fullback Juma Abd blasted a free kick, taken from close range, way over.

The visitors kept on pushing upfront during the closing stages in an effort to reverse the score line but were frustrated by the hosts' zealous defending.

Yanga had progressed to the last four stage of the competition with a win over Mwanza's Alliance FC in the penalty shoot-out of the last eight stage.

Winning this season's Mainland Premier League is for that matter the only opportunity for Yanga to battle it out in CAF competitions next season.

Lipuli FC will confront Azam FC in the final of this year's ASFC, given the latter registered a 1-0 win over Kinondoni Municipal Council FC in the last four stage on Friday evening.

## Malawi target 2019 COSAFA Cup quarterfinals

JOHANNESBURG

MALAWI are targeting a 2019 COSAFA Cup quarter-final against Zambia as the team seek to advance past the first round of the competition for the first time since they claimed the Plate title in 2015.

The Flames have been drawn in Group B alongside Mozambique, 2015 Cup winners Namibia and Seychelles in what looks an open pool that will be tough to call.

It is a fact backed up by Malawi coach Meke Mwase, who says while they should be confident they can advance, there will be no easy games.

"[It is] tricky in the sense that at times, we have struggled against teams like Mozambique and Namibia," Mwase says. "So, on paper it might look fair, but realistically it could be tough as well." Malawi skipper John Lanjesi has been part of the squad at the last three COSAFA Cup tournaments and he took knows how difficult their task will be.

But have failed in the first round for the last three years, he adds there is a steely determination to put that right in 2019.

He adds that the team can also build on excellent recent showings against top African nations Cameroon and Morocco for inspiration.



Malawi national soccer team's coach Meke Mwase.

"It is disappointing that we could not make it past the group stages in the past

three editions," Lanjesi said.

"But I believe that go-

ing by our performance in recent games, especially against Morocco and Cam-

eroon, we have the potential to cast that spell. It will also depend on our commitment and self-belief." The Flames squad will likely be very similar to the one that is currently in camp for their African Nations Championship qualifier against eSwatini, against who they played to a 0-0 draw in the first leg in late April.

Malawi have been runners-up in two COSAFA Cup competitions, reaching the final for the first time in 2002 and then making the decider again the following year.

Although they were beaten in both legs of the finals by South Africa and Zimbabwe respectively, the Flames have shown they are a side to be reckoned with.

Malawi did beat past winners Angola and Zambia on their way to the final in 2002 and the next year disposed of Zambia, again on penalties, in the semifinals.

Malawi have a strong record in regional competition, having also won the East and Central African Senior Challenge Cup three times - in 1978, 1979 and 1988.

Last year they failed to pick up a victory in the COSAFA Cup, drawing with Angola and Botswana, but losing to Mauritius.

**TONIGHT @21:00**

**TUESDAY**

11:00 DADAZ (live)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 Dakika 10 Za Maangamzi  
15:00 FUNGUKA  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:30 MIAJADALA  
21:00 Nirvana  
21:30 Wakilisha  
22:00 Grace Na Asili Yangu  
22:30 Bongo Hits

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05:00 EA Breakfast  
09:00 Supamix  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM**