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### National Pg 3

71,971 refugees back in Burundi



### National Pg 4

Minister warns customs officials



### National Pg 5

Farmers need knowledge on new methods



### National Pg 6

Tanzania to exploit L. Victoria waters



## Acacia Mining gearing up for North Mara gold exports

LONDON

UK Acacia Mining has been given the go-ahead by Tanzania's Ministry of Minerals to resume gold exports from its flagship North Mara gold mine, the company said yesterday.

In July, Tanzania's Ministry of Minerals suspended gold shipments from North Mara while it conducted an investigation at the mine.

"We saw the previous suspension of exports from North Mara as a measure aimed at pressuring Acacia to recommend any proposal put forward by Barrick for the minority shareholding of Acacia," Peel Hunt mining analysts said in a note dated Monday.

Last month, the boards of UK-based Acacia Mining and Canadian Barrick



**Last month, the boards of UK-based Acacia Mining and Canadian Barrick Gold agreed to the offer from Barrick, the world's second-largest gold miner, to purchase the 36.1% Acacia shares it did not hold**

Gold agreed to the offer from Barrick, the world's second-largest gold miner, to purchase the 36.1% Acacia shares it did not hold.

Nevertheless, London-listed Acacia said the Ministry of Minerals believes that certain provisions of the mining regulations from 2010 were violated and has directed the management at the North Mara mine to submit a feasibility study report and mine plan for its approval by Friday.

"The ability to resume export of gold from North Mara is positive. However, it appears that the mine is continuing to attract the scrutiny of the authorities with the ruling that the feasibility study and current mine plan are to be submitted for review by August 16," analysts at investment group SP Angel said in a note similarly dated Monday.

Last month, Acacia said its second-quarter production was higher due to a 38.6% year-on-year increase in gold production at North Mara to 119,113 oz offset by expected reductions in production at its Buzwagi and Bulyanhulu operations also in Tanzania.

# Fire victims' names to be engraved in stone



Muslim faithful in Eid el-Hajj prayers at Jamhuri Stadium in Dodoma yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

A perimeter wall will be put up around the graveyard in memory of the victims whose official number as of yesterday was 71. Sixty bodies were buried on Sunday after a mass funeral and the burial of others continued yesterday

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

A monument will be built at the graveyard where the bodies of people who died on Saturday after a fuel tanker overturned and exploded have been buried in Morogoro Region.

Speaking here during his visit to Kola cemetery, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa directed regional authorities to ensure that gravestones are also erected once the remains of the victims have all been identified and buried.

A perimeter wall will be put up around the graveyard in memory of the victims whose official number as of yesterday was 71. Sixty bodies were buried on Sunday after a mass funeral, while the burial of others continued yesterday.

Although the place will be walled and with a towering monument, relatives of the victims buried there will be allowed to freely visit the graveyard and conduct rituals according to their faiths and traditions, the premier noted.

"Only nine bodies preserved at the Morogoro



**Officials said many of the victims were trying to siphon fuel from the tanker after it overturned**

regional referral hospital are yet to be identified, the rest have been identified," he said.

The Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Policy, Parliamentary Affairs, Employment, Youth and the Disabled) Jenista Mhagama said that DNA samples have already been taken from the remains for ease of identification, urging those with missing relatives to visit the facility so that all are identified and laid to rest.

Maneno Emmanuel, association of motor taxi operators (bodaboda) chairman at Gwami area in the municipality—which lost scores of members—appealed to such operators to exercise restraint whenever accidents happen.

Officials said many of the victims were trying to siphon fuel from the tanker after it overturned.

On Sunday, the premier formed an investigative team to establish if there was laxity on the side of government authorities in the circumstances that led to the fire disaster.

He gave the team five days to submit the horror accident report to his office.

The investigative team needs to find out why responsible government bodies including police and traffic officers failed to take action, including restricting people from scrambling for fuel when the tanker overturned.

Speaking during his visit to survivors

## Dr Shein stresses peace, tolerance in Eid address

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohammed Shein yesterday called on all residents of the islands to maintain peace, unity and tolerance which he said are crucial for development to take place.

Addressing the national level Eid el Hajj Baraza which at Langoni grounds Urban West region's A district, Dr Shein said the progress being made in various sectors of the economy have been possible because of the peaceful environment.

"We hear sad stories of countries that have lost peace. Residents of those places cannot engage in productive activities because of chaos. Even the faithful cannot pray," he told the gathering.

He said the peace being enjoyed in the country is a gift from God that all Tanzanians have the



**Dr Shein noted that Tanzania as a whole and Zanzibar in particular has in recent years been recording steady economic growth which must be maintained by ensuring that the conducive environment is not disrupted**

responsibility to protect because history shows that once peace is lost, it is very expensive to regain it.

Dr Shein noted that Tanzania as a whole and Zanzibar in particular has in recent years been recording steady economic growth which must be maintained by ensuring that the conducive environment is not disrupted.

"As people live in harmony, they work hard, create wealth and enable the government to collect taxes for development projects that create basic services such as infrastructure, healthcare and education," he explained.

President Shein noted that his government has done a lot to improve the welfare of workers as evidenced by the fact that civil servants can

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## BoT: Digital innovation eases fraud in banking

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

ALTHOUGH recent advancements in digital technology have made banking more efficient, digital innovations have also made it easier for criminals to defraud unsuspecting customers, stakeholders have cautioned.

Participants in the week-long East African Banking School, a regional conference organized jointly by institutes of bankers in Kenya, Tanzania and Uganda have been cautioned that new technology in the financial sector has brought along new problems, including digital criminal syndicates.

Benard Kibesse, Deputy Governor at the Bank



of Tanzania, said that various new innovations are being introduced in financial services everyday with the promise of more convenient services for the customer and a more modern and efficient workplace for bank employees.

Kibesse (pictured) pointed out that the same people behind such innovations sometimes collude with racketeers targeting the financial sector, with the theme of this year's EA Banking School being 'the role of ethics in the digital age of financial services.'

The top BoT official said that innovations have brought about a number of concerns among various stakeholders, as regulations don't exist

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## Fire victims' names to be engraved in stone

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who were admitted at the Muhimbili National Hospital in Dar es Salaam on Sunday, President John Magufuli said that the government would pay medical bills of the more than 60 people injured in the explosion.

There have been calls from some quarters to prosecute the injured to stop people stealing from the scene of accidents in future, but the president said it was not the time to judge those caught up in the accident.

## South African activists up on Mt Kilimanjaro with Trek4Mandela

JOHANNESBURG

A group of South Africans over the weekend scaled Mountain Kilimanjaro in Tanzania as part of an upcoming summit dubbed Trek for Mandela or Trek4Mandela.

The journey up Africa's highest point was made to coincide with Women's Day (a national celebration) and the expedition was part of plans to raise funds to help a million girls through school.

The group was led by South Africa's former Public Protector, Thuli Madonsela, their feat has since attracted a lot of commendation on social media platform, Twitter.

The Public Protector is the leading anti-corruption watchdog in the country. Madonsela is currently into advocacy surrounding social justice.

"22 of the 23 climbers made it to the rooftop of Africa, with one summiting Stella Point and the remaining 21 reaching Uhuru Peak. "Post the summit, two of the team members fell

ill with high altitude related sickness and were evacuated to a hospital. They were observed overnight, and both were released yesterday morning," a media briefing read.

President Cyril Ramaphosa joined in offering congrats to the trekkers. The team has since returned to South Africa. "We applaud you for your efforts and affirm your success in this endeavour," his message on Twitter read.

The Trek4Mandela is an Imbumba Foundation Initiative supported by Nelson Mandela Foundation and Caring for Girls group. The Foundation hosted an official welcome back and media debrief on Sunday, August 11.



**We applaud you for your efforts and affirm your success in this endeavour**



Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein addresses Eid el-Hajj Council in Zanzibar's West A District yesterday. Photo: Zanzibar State House

## Dr Shein stresses peace, tolerance in Eid address

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afford to go for Hajj as opposed to yesteryears when it was only possible after retirement with pension money.

He said this year, 2,500 Tanzanians performed Hajj including 1,700 pilgrims from Zanzibar. Hajj is the Muslim pilgrimage to Mecca which all

Muslims are expected to make at least once during their lifetime if they can afford it, as the pilgrimage is one of the five pillars of Islam.

"We are thankful that our colleagues managed to fulfill this important prayer because many fail to do so because of costs," he said.

Dr Shein challenged well-to-do Muslims who have not yet performed Hajj to drop all manner of excuses they give and do the right thing.

He used the opportunity to extend his condolences to families and friends of victims of the oil tanker and fire disaster which claimed at least 70

lives in Morogoro municipality at the weekend.

President Shein said Zanzibaris have joined their fellow Tanzanians in mourning the deaths and are praying for quick recovery of the survivors so that they can resume their nation-building activities.



Foreign Affairs, East Africa, Regional and International Cooperation minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi pictured in Dar es Salaam yesterday trying one of the motorcycles expected to be used in Heads of State and Government motorcades during the upcoming (August 17-18) Southern African Development Community (SADC) Summit. Looking on is State House transport officer Zuberi Kachingwa. Photo: Foreign Affairs ministry

## South Africa sends condolences to Tanzania over fuel tanker tragedy

PRETORIA

THE South African government yesterday sent condolences to the people of Tanzania after a fuel tanker explosion on Saturday killed over 60 people.

"We received the sad news of a fuel tanker explosion that tragically killed over 60 people in Tanzania. I wish to express on behalf of the South African Government our heartfelt condolences to the people and Government of Tanzania," said the International

Relations and Cooperation minister Naledi Pandor.

Minister Pandor conveyed the country's condolences at her department's monthly media briefing on international matters.

The tragic explosion took place as President Cyril Ramaphosa prepares to visit Tanzania for the first time as head of state since he was sworn in as President of South Africa.

Ramaphosa is set to visit Tanzania on a two-day state visit on 14 and 15 August

2019, at the invitation of President John Pombe Magufuli.

According to International Relations and Cooperation minister Naledi Pandor, the state visit by the Ramaphosa aims at deepening of existing economic, political, cultural and social relations between the two countries.

In 2011, an agreement establishing the Bi-National Commission (BNC) between South Africa and Tanzania was signed.

The inaugural session of the BNC

took place in Tanzania in 2017, and South Africa is expected to convene the next BNC, at an agreed mutual date.

In 2018, South African exports amounted to R5.8 billion, whereas imports from Tanzania amounted to R479 million.

South African exports to Tanzania are predominantly in the areas of manufacturing, machinery, mechanical appliances, paper, rubber products, vehicles, iron, and steel, including services and technology.

## BoT: Digital innovation eases fraud in banking

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for some potential infringements.

Rising cases of tech-related fraud in recent years are seen in other sectors as well, but the financial segment is not only more lucrative but also cross-cuts into them all, he elaborated.

The main part of monetary transactions in Tanzania and other East African countries are nowadays being executed digitally through mobile handsets, he stated.

"Financial institutions need to adequately inform their clients about what services they were agreeing to when prompted to make choices on their preferences," he cautioned.

It was observed during the conference that banks are currently moving their customers 'out of their banking halls and onto their digital and agent systems,' by extending alternative channels while downsizing their branch networks and capacity and in some cases eliminating some services from the banking hall.

For his part, Patrick Mususa, Executive Director of the Tanzania Institute of Bankers (TIOB) said the organization has 8000 members, and it makes efforts to ensure that they are all well trained and kept up to date on new developments.

"We keep reminding them that as long as IT experts in financial institutions remain faithful, it won't be easy for outsiders to break into the system and commit crimes," said Mususa.

But for workers in the banking sector things are far from being rosy, participants said, noting that digital developments are driving whole business and functional units to be restructured, downsized or totally scrapped.

As a result, employees are either being re-assigned or being made redundant without employers articulating company policies or set out plans for treatment of staff who are at risk of redundancy or redeployment.

Gilbert Ommbongo, Executive Director for the Kenya Institute of Bankers said citizens of East Africa still do not trust financial institutions and unless the banks work to build trust, people will shun away from the institutions. "This is a major concern because the economy can only grow when citizens deposit their money in local banks," he declared.

Having celebrated the diverse possibilities that recent technological disruptions have introduced in the

financial services industry, this year's Banking School focuses on the possible application of ethics in the digital age of financial services, its emerging challenges and opportunities.

The banking school serves as a forum where bankers from the region, through presentation of researched papers by top bankers and other invited speakers, dialogue on a range of issues that impact on their careers and the financial services environment in general.

It is a forum for learning, interaction and networking with colleagues and experts from across the region and beyond, providing important personal and business contacts and a rare opportunity for valuable exchange of views in both a professional and social perspective.

The major objective of the school is to raise the level of knowledge, competence, professionalism, integrity and confidence among the participants through bringing together employees, employers, regulators, policy makers and experts in financial services to bridge the communication gap.

That will help to promote co-operation, interaction and networking, exchanging ideas and seeking solutions to similar challenges in respective economic and banking sectors in the regional context.

The EASB also aims at updating knowledge on the principles and practice of modern banking and finance, making participants aware and appreciating wider issues they have to deal with, equipping them with the knowledge and skills appropriate to cope with enhanced responsibilities.

Through school gatherings, participants get to enhance their confidence through taking part in case studies and discussion groups touching business strategy and personal development, envisioning current challenges facing banking and financial services.

"Banking schools are therefore contributing to the development of highly skilled, professional and competent bankers in the region," organizers said.

More than 120 participants are attending the 2019 instalment of the East African Banking School at the Ngurdoto Mountain Lodge here, drawn from partner states of the East African Community and beyond, with invited delegates from India, Nigeria and new EAC member South-Sudan.

# 71,971 refugees back in Burundi - UNHCR

By Guardian Reporter

MORE than 70,000 refugees have voluntarily returned to Burundi under the special programme implemented jointly by the two governments and the United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR).

The move follows improvements in the political situation and socio-economic conditions since the outbreak of political violence in 2015.

According to UNHCR, the number reached 71,971 as of June at 30 June 2019, since the programme commenced in September 2017. The programme promotes voluntarily registration and repatriation of refugees to their home country (Burundi).

In its statement availed to the media recently, UNHCR said that among them, 36,350 (50.5 percent) are women and 35,621 (49.5 percent) are men.

It further stated that the highest number of returns were to Ruyigi, Muyinga, and Makamba provinces (16,268, 13,724 and 12,630 returnees

respectively).

In 31 August 2017 the Tripartite Commission (United Republic of Tanzania, Republic of Burundi, and UNHCR) issued a joint communiqué and agreed to implement a work plan from September 7, to 31 December 2017, which entails the voluntary repatriation plan of Burundian refugees who wish to return to Burundi.

On 28 March 2018, a follow up Tripartite Commission Meeting was held in Bujumbura, Burundi. While UNHCR continued to maintain that it will assist and not promote voluntary returns to Burundi due to the unresolved political situation, both governments reaffirmed their commitment to promoting return and upholding the principle of voluntariness.

With the completion of Phases I, II and III, the two governments, UNHCR and key partners agreed to implement a new work plan to return 72,000 individuals from 5 April to 31 December 2018. The voluntary repatriation of

Burundian refugees will continue as planned until a new Tripartite Commission Meeting addressing arising needs is called. While UNHCR is not promoting voluntary return to Burundi, it is supporting the operation to ensure that returns are based on the principles of voluntariness and informed decisions, and take place in safety and dignity.

The Tripartite Commission also acknowledged that while some refugees may opt to return now, others may still have well-founded reasons for not returning at the present time and will continue to be in need of international protection.

During his official visit in Tanzania early this year, The UN High Commissioner for Refugees, Filippo Grandi emphasized that refugees should never be pressured to decide if they should return to their home countries.

According to him, refugees need to have a meaningful choice about whether they wish to return based on

the facts and realities on the ground. There should not be any direct or indirect pressure exercised on refugees to choose whether to return.

"Conditions are still uncertain in both DRC and Burundi," Grandi said

to, noting that nevertheless some refugees are volunteering to go back and are supported by UNHCR. "It is important that nobody is forced back, that repatriation remains a voluntary exercise."

He called for more international support to ensure refugees who return voluntarily are able to successfully reintegrate in their countries of origin.



Josephine Otieno (kneeling), an official with Shinyanga Region's Tinde health centre, apologises on behalf of nurses at the facility associated with racial discrimination and allegedly fond of hurling insults. This was at a meeting held at the weekend and addressed by Solwa legislator Ahmed Salum and Shinyanga regional CCM chairman Mabala Mlolwa. Photo: Correspondent Marco Maduhu

## NEMC enhances capacity of environmental experts

By Guardian Reporter

THE National Environment Management Council (NEMC) in collaboration with Geography Department of University of Dar es Salaam have conducted a five day training to environmental experts with a view to enhance capacity building in matters related to Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA).

Speaking to journalists during the closing of the training in question, NEMC Director General, Dr Samuel Gwamaka said the collaboration between NEMC and University of Dar es Salaam in capacity building to professional guides was of greater importance especially at this time when the government has embarked on building the industrial economy.

"This cooperation will go a logway in reducing delays in conducting Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) which is the big challenge now hindering government efforts in attracting new investments," he said.

Dr Gwamaka added that the training came at an appropriate time given the fact that the government is focused in building industrial and middle income country by 2025.

"The industrialization will come with positive and negative changes to our country as the history shows in some countries, therefore it is a high time we became more keen on environmental protection matter without becoming a stumbling block to the wave of investors pouring in eyeing investment opportunities," he said.

Dr. Gwamaka pointed out that despite the challenges in conducting the EIA, NEMC is making a closer follow-up on conducts of professional guides and guide companies.

"We have to a larger extent worked towards solving the challenges facing the sector by registering some 819 EIA professional guides, some 370 environment assessors and 159 EIA guide companies and these efforts have increased efficiency," he said.

For his part, the University of Dar es Salaam Head of Geography Department, Dr Opportuna Kweka commended the cooperation saying it would ease the conduct of EIA.

"I commend NEMC and the University for the programme in question because it will facilitate and easy the implementation of EIA in the country leading to increase in investors," he said.

Dr Kweka said the training was divided into three section, adding that the first one is done and certificates have been issued. "This is the first phase of the training which has incorporated 21 trainees from various professions, future professional guides and public agency officials, participants have been given certificates by NEMC, we will have other

trainings like this in the near future," he said.

Engineer Nelson Samson who was one among the participants commended the organisers of the seminar, saying it has enlightened participants on matters related to EIA.

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## TENDER NOTICE

### REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR VARIOUS SERVICES

1. National Bank of Commerce Limited has set aside funds for the procurement of various services during financial year 2019/2020, it is intended that, part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payment under the various contracts.
2. Request for proposal is open to all eligible service providers with proven experience and capacity to offer the required services. Interested eligible bidders are invited to apply for the provision of below list of services;
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  - vii. Business Continuity Management System
  - viii. Trade Finance System
  - ix. Pricing Tool and Application
  - x. People Case Management System
  - xi. HR Capital Management System
  - xii. Global Exposure Management System
  - xiii. GEPG on Wakala
  - xiv. Financial Crime Compliance application
  - xv. FATCA and CRS Tool
  - xvi. Cash Threshold Reporting
  - xvii. BOC Loan Automation
  - xviii. Dangote Integration
  - xix. GEPG on POS & E-Commerce
  - xx. Card Production and Personalization
3. Request for Proposal documents can be downloaded from the website at [www.nbc.co.tz](http://www.nbc.co.tz) and then click 'Procurement' to access the document.
4. All Proposals in one original and one copy set properly filled in, and enclosed in sealed envelope marked as per service name written on the RFP Document and should be addressed to; CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER, NATIONAL BANK OF COMMERCE LIMITED, HEAD OFFICE BUILDING, 6<sup>th</sup> FLOOR, and P. O. BOX 1863 DAR ES SALAAM.
5. Sealed applications and Bids must be submitted not later than Friday, 06th September 2019 at 1600 hrs. Proposal shall be delivered by hand to the Tender Box located at reception of Head Office building, ground Floor along Sokoine Drive /Azikiwe Street.

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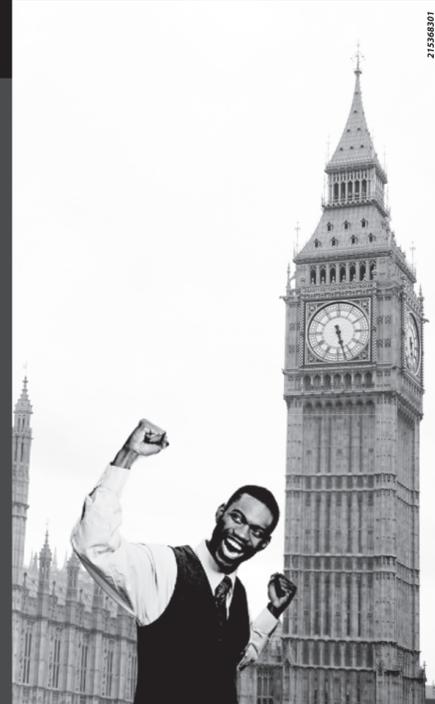
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## Stop harassing traders, farmers, minister tells Customs Dept officers

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast,

Bukoba

INDUSTRY and Trade minister, Innocent Bashungwa has urged custom officers at various border posts countrywide to stop harassing farmers and traders when exporting goods.

Bashungwa was concerned that facilitating smooth exportation of the agricultural products will help boost farmer's income as well as the country's economy.

He made the directive over the weekend when speaking at a function to mark the 25th anniversary of a Karagwe based Non Governmental Organization 'Mavuno' and 1st graduation of Mavuno's model girls secondary school.

The Minister noted that most farmers fail to sell their crops to neighbouring countries due to bureaucracy. He insisted on the officials to facilitate farmers to sell their crops since there is a huge demand of the crops including bananas and soya in the neighboring countries. "Farmers should be assisted to sell their agricultural products outside the country. There is a huge demand for banana and soya beans in Rwanda, but the country are importing the products from Zambia," he said.

He said Tanzanian farmers can grab the markets in Rwanda, but there should also be efforts to assist them to engage in modern farming for increased productivity. He said that extension officers and district agricultural departs must collaborate to help small holder farmers to engage in commercial farming.

The Minister also insisted on agricultural officers to assist finding markets since most of them do not

know where to take their crops.

Mavuno Director, Charles Bahati said the organization which was established in 1993 works to assist villagers from 13 villages to use their available resources for development. He said the organization was previously working in Karagwe and Kyerwa district, but currently they operate in many villages within the region.

Bahati said that Mavuno has constructed 582 water wells with the capacity to produce between 16,000 and 22,000 liters benefiting more than 13,000 people.

The organization resolved to establish a secondary school in 1996 after realizing that some of the girls at the area were not registered to continue with secondary education so that they help parents in domestic works such as cocking, washing and grazing.

The girls school has a total of 277 students, among them 42 will sit for this year's Form Four national examination.

Bahati said the organization is currently teaching the villagers how to engage on modern diversification agriculture to increase productivity as well as family income.



**Farmers should be assisted to sell their agricultural products outside the country. There is a huge demand for banana and soya beans in Rwanda, but the country are importing the products from Zambia**



Tememe legislator Abdallah Mtolea opens an 'open mind' symposium for young entrepreneurs held in Dar es Salaam yesterday to mark International Youth Day. Photo: John Badi

## TCCIA stakeholders agree to invest in industries

By Guardian Reporter

THE 14th annual general meeting of TCCIA Investment PLC stakeholders among other issues resolved in the construction of industries as the best way to invest of its members and also supporting the fifth phase government objective to become a middle income and industrial base economy by 2025.

Speaking shortly in the aftermath of the meeting, the TCCIA Investment PLC board chairman, Fortunatus Magambo said the decision came after considering the potentiality of the sector in profit making and increase

dividends of shareholders.

"Investing in industrial sector will assure profit making, growth of the company and dividend to shareholders," he said.

Magambo said the board would continue to play advisory role to the company and make sure that everything is going as planned for sustainable growth and development of the company.

"The fifth phase's government under the leadership of President Magufuli has shown its commitment in building industrial base economy and we as a company we are committed to further

that cause which will also increase profit among stakeholders," he said.

He said that the company aims at profit making through investments in various sectors of economy which are economic viable to protect member's shares and attract as many new shareholders as possible.

"I am calling upon Tanzanians to come out and invest in terms of shares because by so doing they will be sure of the safety of their monies and get profit through various investments," he said.

He added that it was crucial for Tanzanians to cultivate the culture of investing in stock exchange markets to

be assured of multiple benefits which include selling of their shares anytime deems to be fit.

For his part, the Chief Executive Officer of TCCIA Investment PLC, Donald Kamori said the annual general meeting's main objective was to meet stakeholders and deliberate on several issues related to management of their shares. "The meeting mainly focused on receiving the board of director's report on the condition of the company for the past year, analyzing achievements and challenges with the view to increasing efficiency and profit making," Kamori said.



### Invitation for Tender (IFT)

- Marie Stopes Tanzania (MST) is a registered Non-Governmental Organization providing Integrated Reproductive and HIV health services country wide. Established in 1989 under Marie Stopes International, MST operates 11 health facilities and 59 outreach teams.
- MST under projects fund invite sealed tenders from eligible and reputable company/individual to provide/supply the below mentioned goods and services. Interested bidders are free to participate full or partial on below tenders.
- 

Tender No	Tender Description
FT/MST/26/2019	Supply of Vehicle Tyre and Tubes
IFT/MST/27/2019	Provision of Clearing and freight forwarding services
IFT/MST/28/2019	Provision of Tax Consultancy Services

- Interested and eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including an e-mail address to [tenders@mst.or.tz](mailto:tenders@mst.or.tz), Attn: Procurement Manager. Bidders will be responsible for following up to ensure that MST has received the notification.
- Within 48 hours after receiving the bidder's intention to bid, a complete set of tendering document (s) in English language will be sent to interested bidders by e-mail. Interested bidders shall be responsible for confirming receipt of tender document(s) within 48 hours after receipt of tender document(s). MST will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing, preparation or submission of the tender documents.
- All tenders in one original, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain and sealed envelopes marked "**Tender number and description of Tender**" must be delivered by hand or post to; The Country Director, Marie Stopes Tanzania, Plot no. 421/422 Mwenge, Kijitonyama Area, P.O. Box 7072, Dar es Salaam, at or before **26th August, 2019 at 16:00pm**.
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## Govt orders arrest of people posting photos of Morogoro fuel tanker blast

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

DEPUTY Home Affairs Minister Eng Hamad Masauni yesterday directed police to arrest people circulating pictures of the recent horror accident in Morogoro through social networks.

Eng Masauni gave the order when speaking after Eid al-Adha prayers held at the main mosque in the region. He urged that circulating pictures of the deceased and victims violates country laws and humiliates them.

"Security organs including police should take action against people circulating accident pictures in social networks, those doing so are violating the country laws", the Deputy Minister noted adding such acts humiliates both, victims and the deceased.

"It was an accident that claimed their lives, what if it was me and you involved in the accident, would you be happy seeing people sharing your pictures in various social networks? He questioned.

He noted that circulating the pictures doesn't only violate country laws, but the acts are immoral and against our traditional customs. He called upon Tanzanians to stop circulating the pictures as stern legal measures will be taken against them.

Following the accident, President John Magufuli announced three days of mourning calling upon people to stop the dangerous practice of stealing fuel from tankers.

The accident occurred on Saturdays at an open area, near the main Msamvu

bus terminal killing more than 70 people who were scrambling for fuel.

The tanker registered T717 DDF with a trailer 645 CAN Toyota Scania overturned at Msamvu, in Morogoro. The vehicle was heading to Iringa from Dar es Salaam.

During his visit at the Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) on Sunday afternoon, President John Magufuli urged doctors to provide first class specialized treatment to the 43 injured persons admitted at the facility at government costs.

A similar tragedy occurred in Mbeya in 2000 when a number of villagers were burned in explosion of oil tanker. At least 33 were killed during the incident that happened at Isongole village.

## TCCIA advised to educate members on trade to decrease cost of doing business

By Correspondent Mutayoba Arbogast,

Bukoba

THE Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (TCCIA) has been urged to educate its members on international trade to ease the costs of doing businesses as well as reduce losses that traders incur when crossing borders for businesses.

Tanzania's High Commissioner to Kenya Dr Pindi Chana made the advice during the 'Kagera investment forum' week which began yesterday in Bukoba.

Dr Chana has said she has witnessed some traders incur losses for not knowing some issues about international trade for example basic issues such as, how much moisture is needed when exporting maize, where to park the luggage after arrival, agreements and other procedures.

She said Kenya has 529 companies investing to Tanzania, with the capital of 1.7bn/- and 56,250 employment opportunities for the EAC member states.

The forum is organised by Kagera Regional Commissioner, Brigadier

General Marco Gaguti and brought together traders from the region, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Kenya.

The forum also brought together Tanzania ambassador to the mentioned countries to explore various opportunities available in neighbouring countries which can benefit Kagera traders and the country in general.

Tanzania's ambassador to DRC retired Lt Gen. Paul Meela said 48per cent of Congolese are Swahili speakers, and the country is in great need of food

and building materials especially in Bukavu, Goma and Kivu, where there is no much competition which Kagera traders can benefit a lot.

Ernest Mangu Tanzania's envoy to Rwanda said Rwanda is a country of hills with no enough land suitable for agriculture, so they need food crops from Tanzania, notably bananas and maize, sardines and a big number of fresh fish as there international meetings held there.

He strongly advised the Kagera traders to partner with Rwanda traders who are experienced in international trade with markets in Europe and Asia, and that Kagera can do good in pepper agriculture which Rwanda exports in abundance.

Kagera R C Gaguti said Kagera region is one of Lake zone regions that constitute 27-per cent of Tanzania population, and due to its strategic geographical location, the region is at the centre of the entire East African Community market of population about 190 million.

"This implies that goods and services produced in Kagera Region, have a potential market within the EAC and beyond," he said.



**This implies that goods and services produced in Kagera Region, have a potential market within the EAC and beyond**

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

# Livestock keepers urged to set cattle prices basing on weight

THE government has called upon livestock keepers across the country to start setting cattle prices basing on calculated weight instead of the current auctions where prices are negotiated.

Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Abdallah Ulega made the call over the weekend during a tour to inspect livestock markets at the Namanga border between Tanzania and Kenya.

His tour followed complaints from livestock keepers in Longido district, Arusha region who claimed to be ordered to pay various levies and taxes when exporting their cattle to neighbouring Kenya.

The Deputy Minister directed municipal councils to purchase weighing scales that will be used to calculate the weight of animals during auctions. He said all the cattle auctions under the ministry are using weighing machines to calculate weight and set cattle prices.

Ulega noted that the systems will result into the livestock keepers striving to produce quality cattle to get better prices. He said under the current

auctions where prices are negotiated, farmers end up reaping below their expectations.

"At most of the slaughter houses and butchers, meat is sold per weight and even the cattle skins are sold per weight. We must start selling our animals depending on weight for farmers to benefit", said the Deputy Minister.

He challenged farmers to form a cooperative society that will help them make a single voice when demanding for various reforms in cattle auctioning.

He directed the Tanzania Meat Board (TMB) and the directorate of livestock marketing and production at the ministry to organize a livestock stakeholders' seminar in Longido district to educate them on various issues related to livestock keeping and cattle auctioning.

Ulega said the government is working to reduce taxes and levies charged to livestock keepers when exporting animals, calling on them to stop smuggling animals. He said some of the said taxes are to be paid by buyers.

"It is more costly to export cattle to Kenya rather than selling them at the international Longido cattle auction. We must shift from taking cattle to neighbouring countries but attract more buyers at our international market", he asserted.

He assured farmers in Longido district of a reliable market as President John Magufuli is set to open a major meat processing factory—Elia Food and Overseas Company Limited.

Longido district chairman, Joseph Sadira said the many taxes charged at the Longido international cattle market have resulted into increased animal

smuggling. He said livestock keepers are required to pay a tax of 35,000/- per cow and 9,000/- per goat and sheep.

"We have requested authorities to reduce the taxes to 15,000/- per cow and 4,500/- per goat. Changes in tax will reduce animal smuggling and attract more people to use the market", he noted.

Representing traders, Saluni Laizer said most of the livestock keepers

are not aware of the new tax system, hence the need to educate them. He said the traders are avoiding to use the international market in Longido over fears of being taxed.

Longido Member of Parliament, Michael Laizer said the main challenge that farmers face is lack of reliable market. He urged authorities in the district to reduce bureaucracy in issuance of business license.

"We request the government to facilitate issuance of license at district level, instead of the current system where traders have to collect the document from Dar es Salaam", said Laizer appealing for maintenance of cattle dipping facilities since only 14 out of the available 21 are functioning.

Longido District Commissioner, Frank Mwaisumbe said they are conducting regular operations to control animal smuggling. He said the operations has enabled the district to collect taxes amounting to between 6.5m/- and 9m/-.

According to Mwaisumbe, an estimated 1,500 goats and 100 cows are sold to Kenya everyday through the Longido international cattle auction.



Tanzania Youth Alliance (Tayoa) CEO Peter Masika mentors youth at a talent show held in Dar es Salaam yesterday in commemoration of International Youth Day. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

## 'Farmers need more knowledge on new technologies for growth'

DISTRICT council officers in Dodoma region have been challenged to work closely with farmers, livestock keepers and entrepreneurs to help them acquire right knowledge for better productivity.

Singida Regional Commissioner (RC) Rehema Nchimbi made the call when wrapping up the central zone annual agricultural show commonly known as Nane Nane at Nzuguni grounds in the city.

She argued that the group of people need more knowledge on new technologies and refrain from doing things the same way throughout.

"It is the duties of council officials to keep on reminding farmers, animal keepers on the modern ways of doing their activities for the betterment of the region and entire nation" she said.

Speaking with officials at the Kondoa district council pavilion, she argued that if officers work close with farmers and other small and medium entrepreneurs, the country can go far

in revenue collection as well as food production.

This on the other hand will improve income generation activities for the farmers and more income.

"I can see you are doing things with a lot of creativity but hardly reach the intended groups of people thus the need to have opportunities to reach youth, women and people with disabilities to help in capacity building", she added.

According to the RC, instead of using the money allocated for youth, women and people with disabilities, let the money be spent on conducting meeting for them and educate them on new ways of doing things.

On the same note, she called upon council officers to look for young unemployed youth so as to teach them how to make for instance alternative animal feeds.

She observed that there are quite a number of trainings that youth can undertake to help them become self reliant and employ themselves.

Early last week while officiating at the opening of the exhibition, the RC expressed concern with the low note as there were no much exhibitions compared to the past years.

Visiting the exhibitions at the Nzuguni area in the city, she expressed disappointment that most of the pavilions were just empty.

"I think the district councils are wrongly using the government money, budgeting for the agricultural exhibitions yet nothing is on display" she said.

The Singida RC who was the chief guest at the annual animal competition that attracts hundreds of livestock keepers urged the organizers to see why the situation is like that.

## WMA appeals to SADC member states to ensure manufactured products are accurately measured

By Guardian Reporter

WEIGHTS and Measures Agency (WMA) has called on the Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states to ensure that all the manufactured products are accurately measured to avoid unnecessary barriers during export.

Peter Chuwa, WMA port manager (oil measure section) made the appeal recently when speaking at the just-ended Industrialization Week and Exhibition in Dar es Salaam

Chuwa underscored the need for measurements' fairness in trade to maintain goods' standards for the countries to attain and maintain industrial economy.

According to him, maintaining measurements' fairness in products do not only benefits the consumer but traders as well, because the products

will be able to easily grab market wherever they reach.

He called on traders and processors in the member states to adhere to the laws and regulations governing weight and measures for smooth operation of their businesses.

"As a country, we have benefited a lot being among SADC members, as per SADC regulations, we have our laws which govern us to ensure quality and accurate measurements in manufactured products," he said.

According to Chuwa, the agency is solely dedicated to protecting consumers, businesses and manufacturers from unfair practices through the application of accurate weights and measures.

He called on traders and all entrepreneurs to adhere to the laws by using proper measurement instruments in an effort to protect

consumer's rights in trade, safety, health and environment.

For her part, WMA Public Relations Manager; Irene John called on the members of the public to visit the exhibitions so as to learn more about WMA and consumer's rights.

The agency endeavours to ensure optimum use of resources and fair trade interactions between investors, producers, transporters and consumers with an emphasis on consumer protection.

WMA activities centre on three major functions such as providing certification of weights and measures instruments, increasing consumer awareness in matters relating to weights and measures and to transform the weights and measures body into an efficient, effective and well managed agency.

### INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL WORK

Telegraphic Address  
Phone 2700918/274443  
Fax: 2701375  
Email: info@isw.ac.tz  
Website: www.isw.ac.tz



P.O. Box 3375  
Kijitonyama  
Dar es salaam

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

13th August, 2019

### 1.0. INTRODUCTION

The Institute of Social Work (ISW) is a Public Higher Learning Institution accredited by National Council for Technical Education (NACTE) and established by the National Social Welfare Training Institute Act. No. 26 of 1973 (as amended by the Miscellaneous Act No. 3 of 2002). The Institute offers training in the fields of Social Work (NTA Level 4 – 9), Human Resource Management (NTA Level 4 – 8 and Postgraduate), Business Administration (NTA Level 4 – 8), Industrial Relations and Public Management (NTA Levels 4–8 and Postgraduate) and Community Work with Children & Youth (NTA Level 4).

The Institute invites applications from qualified Tanzanian candidates to fill the following Vacant Posts: -

### 2.0. POSITION (1): DEPUTY RECTOR ACADEMICS, RESEARCH AND CONSULTANCY

The incumbent will be the in-charge of managing day to day operation of the Institute including promoting efficiency in academic activities related to Training, Research and Consultancy

### 3.0. KEY QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

- (a) Holder of a PhD Degree in fields of Social Work, Human Resource Management, Labour Studies and other related fields.
- (b) Associate Professor with three (3) peer reviewed Publications.
- (c) Eligible for registration as a professional lecturer with at least ten (10) years experience preferably in Research or Consultancy with Doctoral Degree in relevant field, five (5) Consultancy/Research reports of the academic and professional appreciable depth.
- (d) Must have at least ten (10) years experience out of which three (3) years should be in managerial position.

### 4.0. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Duties of Deputy Rector Academics, Research and Consultancy shall include;

- (i) Being responsible to the Rector in respect of such matters of technical education administration and delivery.
- (ii) Facilitating learning (by teaching) of academic programmes at the institution.
- (iii) Being responsible for smooth running and development of academics in the Institute.
- (iv) Advising Rector on all matters pertaining to Academics Management, quality, control and assurance.
- (v) Evaluating current progress of academics at the Institute and recommending future programmes.
- (vi) Recommending appropriate budgets for the Academic directorate.
- (vii) Overseeing research and consultancy activities at the Institute.
- (viii) Coordinating the development and establishment of academic programmes and management of academic resources.
- (ix) Performing any other duties as may be assigned by higher authority.

### 5.0 POSITION (1): DEPUTY RECTOR PLANNING, FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

The incumbent will be in-charge of all matters relating to Planning, Finance and Administration at the Institute and be able to assist the Rector in areas mentioned.

### KEY QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE:

- (a) Holder of a PhD Degree in fields of Social Work, Human Resource Management, Labour Studies, Business Administration in Finance and other related fields.
- (b) Associate Professor with three (3) peer reviewed Publications.
- (c) Eligible for registration as a professional lecturer with at least ten (10) years experience preferably in Research or Consultancy with Doctoral Degree in relevant field, five (5)

Consultancy/Research reports of the academic and professional appreciable depth.

- (d) Must have at least ten (10) years experience out of which three (3) years should be in Managerial position.

### 6.0. DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Duties of Deputy Rector Planning, Finance and Administration shall include;

- (a) Heading the Directorate of Planning, Finance and Administration;
- (b) Facilitating learning (by teaching) of academic programmes at the Institute;
- (c) Being responsible to Rector for general administration and Personnel Management of the Institute;
- (d) Advising Rector on all administrative, legal, personnel and financial matters;
- (e) Coordinating the preparation of budget of the Institute;
- (f) Ensuring maintenance of safety and security at work place;
- (g) Facilitating administration of contracts, agreements, negotiation and relationship with regulatory bodies;
- (h) Facilitating proper management of Institute properties, storages and use of office furniture and equipment;
- (i) Ensuring adherence to the Public Service Regulations, Public Procurement Regulations and Financial Regulations;
- (j) Being responsible for formulating Accounting Policies and Procedures of the Institute, submitting budgets and audited accounts and
- (k) Performing any other duties as may be assigned by higher authorities.

### 7.0 INTEGRITY CONSIDERATION:

Applicants should not have been convicted of any criminal offences in any Court of Law in Tanzania or otherwise.

### 8.0 REPORT TO: Rector

9.0 TERMS OF ENGAGEMENT: Four (4) years contract and may be re-appointed consecutively for one (01) more term of the same duration.

10.0 AGE LIMIT: Not above fifty-five (55) years at the time of application.

### 11.0 REMUNERATION:

Attractive package is set aside and will be offered to successful candidates commensurate with skills and experience possessed based on the Institute's Schemes of Service.

### 12.0 MODE OF APPLICATION:

All application letters accompanied with updated CV, Certified copies of Birth, Academic and Professional Certificates and names of at least three (03) referees indicating their contact address and telephone numbers, should be addressed to: -

Chairperson,  
Search Committee-ISW,  
Ardhi University,  
P.O. Box 35176,  
Dar es Salaam.

N.B: Letters should be sent through registered mail only before 26th August, 2019.

Applicants who are Public Servants should channel their applications through their respective employers.

Issued by:  
Rector  
Institute of Social Work  
P.O. Box 3375  
Dar es Salaam

## 40 European tourists visit Burigi-Chato National Park

By Mutayoba Arbogast, Bukoba

A GROUP of 40 tourists from Sweden and Germany have visited the newly upgraded Burigi-Chato National Park, located on the shores of Lake Victoria in Geita and Kagera regions.

The park is home to a wide collection of wildlife, including elephants, buffaloes, antelopes, lions, leopards, zebras, giraffes, chimpanzees and gorillas.

Karagwe District Commissioner, Godfrey Mheluka is the one who led the tourists to the area calling them to be good ambassadors when they go back to their home countries.

Mheluka said that the tourists visit is highly appreciated as it opens opportunities and will attract more tourists to visit the area thus raise communities' economy and the nation at large.

He also called on the locals to visit the national park, popularly as BBK as it comprises Burigi (2,200 sq km), Biharamulo (1,300 sq km) and Kimisi (1,026 sq km).

For his part, Karagwe District Council chairman Wallace Mashanda applauded Mavuno organisation for good work it was doing which also attracts the donor organizations to come in

the country.

"It is not the government alone which benefits here, but the community as well because these guests also buy local products from our small entrepreneurs here thus raise their income," he noted.

The team leader, Kurt Sayigin who is the President of Engineers without borders, expressed the group's pleasure after the visit saying it was an opportunity they won't forget in their lifetime as they have witnessed a uniqueness beauty in the park.

Minister for Industry, Trade and Investment, Innocent Bashungwa urged the director of Bukoba Kiyoyera Tours company director, Willy Rutta, to form a strong network with all visiting guests to maintain good flow of tourists in the region.

Tourism is the largest foreign exchange earner since 2012, contributing an average of \$2 billion annually, which is equivalent to 25 per cent of all exchange earnings, according to the government data. It also contributes to more than 17 per cent of the national Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and creating more than 1.5 million jobs, 500,000 of which are direct.



A Kijitonyama stretch of Dar es Salaam's Akachube Road closed to traffic pending rehabilitation, as found yesterday. Photo: John Badi



## UNAUDITED RESULTS FOR THE SIX MONTHS ENDED JUNE 30, 2019

### CHAIRMAN'S STATEMENT

During the first half of 2019, Tanzania Portland Cement Public Limited Company (TPCPLC) recorded a total revenue of TZS 158bn, similar to the performance in the first half of 2018.

In terms of Operating Profit, TPCPLC delivered TZS38.7bn thus maintaining the same margin as in the first six months of 2018. TPCPLC Net profit for the first half of 2019 is TZS 26.2bn.

TPCPLC remains the leader in the market and persists in its efforts to achieve the highest results for its shareholders and stakeholders.

### Prospects

TPCPLC will continue in its determination to maintain its market leadership position.

### Appreciation

The Board would like to thank all its stakeholders for their support during the period. We have every confidence that TPCPLC will continue to deliver value for the shareholders in the future

### BY ORDER OF THE BOARD

Hakan Gurdai  
Chairman of the Board  
22 July 2019

INCOME STATEMENT	JAN - JUN 2019	JAN - JUN 2018
	TZS'000	TZS'000
Revenue	157,596,722	157,863,811
Cost of sales	(98,032,697)	(95,003,294)
<b>Gross profit</b>	<b>59,564,025</b>	<b>62,860,517</b>
Selling and administrative expenses	(9,950,088)	(12,280,417)
Other operating income/ (charges)	(1,131,711)	(1,411,288)
Depreciation and amortisation	(9,786,410)	(10,276,822)
<b>Operating profit</b>	<b>38,695,816</b>	<b>38,891,990</b>
Financial items	(1,106,328)	537,981
<b>Profit before tax</b>	<b>37,589,488</b>	<b>39,429,971</b>
Taxes on income	(11,391,507)	(12,206,740)
<b>Net profit for the period</b>	<b>26,197,981</b>	<b>27,223,231</b>

BALANCE SHEET	30 JUNE 2019	30 JUNE 2018
	TZS'000	TZS'000
<b>Assets</b>		
Non current assets	158,649,886	161,450,642
Current assets	137,133,026	124,862,876
<b>Total assets</b>	<b>295,782,912</b>	<b>286,313,518</b>
<b>Equity and Liabilities</b>		
Equity	198,955,802	195,696,482
Non current liabilities	37,781,288	31,015,506
Current liabilities	59,045,822	59,601,530
<b>Total equity and liabilities</b>	<b>295,782,912</b>	<b>286,313,518</b>

Tanzania Portland Cement PLC  
P.O.Box 1950  
Dar-es-salaam  
Tanzania.  
Tel +255784108600 Fax: +255784108609  
www.twigacement.com  
Email: info@twigacement.com

## EAC secretariat consoles Tanzania over Morogoro fuel tanker blast tragedy

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community secretariat yesterday sent a message of condolence and comfort to the families of the victims of the fuel tanker fire tragedy in which at least 71 people were killed and 70 others injured over the weekend.

In a statement issued by EAC's deputy secretary general (in charge of Planning, Infrastructure, Finance and Administration) Eng Steven Mlote said: "EAC secretariat has received with great sorrow and pain the shocking news of the death of more than 60 people with over 70 other persons sustaining injuries in an oil tanker fire at Msamvu in Morogoro."

"On behalf of the EAC and on my own behalf, I convey my heartfelt condolences to your Excellency, and through you to: the bereaved families, relatives and friends of those who died in the accident; the government, and; the people of Tanzania," Eng Mlote

He added: "The community further wishes quick recovery to those who were injured in the accident. With East Africa emerging as the next frontier in oil and gas discoveries, the EAC will endeavor to ensure that tanker fires become a subject of The entire EAC and I share with the bereaved families, and the Government and people of Tanzania, the feelings of great loss at this time of deep sorrow."

The trading bloc also wished quick recovery to those who were injured in the incident and admitted in various hospitals.

The Morogoro's explosion happened when people tried to scoop fuel coming out of the tanker which then burst into flames.

## Tanzania to exploit Lake Victoria for fresh drinking water

By Elizabeth Mbithe

TANZANIA has announced its intention to further exploit Lake Victoria - Africa's largest freshwater body - to provide safe drinking water to its populations. The new strategy will benefit towns and villages in the northern part of the country, close to Lake Victoria.

The Tanzanian government intends to increase drinking water projects around the south shore of the Lake Victoria in the coming years, as it progressively abandons the use of groundwater to pump fresh water into Lake Victoria.

"We are working on a new plan to ensure that villages near water sources like Victoria get water directly from the lakes rather than spending more money on wells," says Jumaa Awesso, Tanzania's deputy water minister.

Large drinking water projects have been launched in some rural areas like Simiyu. The project in Simiyu involves pumping water from the lake and transporting it to a water treatment station that will make it suitable for consumption before being pumped to villages in northern Tanzania through a 135 km long pipeline. Capable of carrying 19,000 m3 of water per day, this pipeline will be laid in trenches along the main roads.

The drinking water project funded by The Green Climate Fund (GCF), a branch of the United Nations (UN), and the Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), the German development agency, is expected to benefit 263,000 people in 136 arid villages in northern Tanzania.

According to the Norwegian company Multiconsult, which carried out the environmental and social impact assessment for the Simiyu drinking water project, "the amount of water withdrawn from Lake Victoria by the Simiyu project will not significantly affect the water balance of the lake as such, but the combined impact of this project and many other water withdrawal projects around Lake Victoria must be managed in collaboration with other countries that share the same water resources".

Lake Victoria is the largest lake on the African continent with an area of more than 68,000 square kilometers. Located in a densely populated area, it is already heavily exploited for fishing, irrigation and especially for drinking water supply. Its water is pumped to supply large cities such as Kampala in Uganda, Kisumu in Kenya and Mwanza in Tanzania.

By Guardian Reporter

# Zanzibar authorities grapple with abandonment - new form of GBV

AUTHORITIES in Zanzibar are grappling with abandonment, which is a serious problem in Isles leading to gender-based violence (GBV) especially children under 18 years as their upbringing fall under single-parenting.

Haroub Suleman Hemed, Community Development Officer in Wete District, Pemba Island revealed this recently when speaking to journalists from Tanzania Media Women Association in Zanzibar (TAMWA-Zanzibar).

"This is a very common problem here. Most of our GBV cases are those related to abandonment and family breakups," said Hemed, who has been working in the office for more than 20 years.

He said: "Other forms of GBV are going down due to a number of interventions, which are in place, but abandonment of children and families still persists and this has been contributed by a number of factors, including early marriages, culture and polygamy."

The sociologist also cited poverty as one of the driving factors for men to abandon their families, as some people run away to look for job and business opportunities outside Pemba—the island which is famous for its rich fishing grounds.

But, there are those who are reluctant to take care of their families," he said, adding: "As government, we're struggling to address this challenge through regular meetings and seminars with local leaders on the negative impact of abandonment."

Fathiya Mussa Said, coordinator of Tamwa-Zanzibar in Pemba also described abandonment as one of the leading cause of GBV in the Island, revealing that there are several cases of families and women who have been abandoned by their spouses, the situation which end up fueling GBV.

Citing examples, Fathiya said in Ole Mjini area, few kilometers from Chakechake—the headquarters of South Pemba region, a man abandoned his wife and two children for good.

Apart from reporting the case, and Kadhi Court ruled in favor of the family, but enforcing the ruling becomes impossible, she said, adding:

"The situation is bad the woman

and children continue to languish in poverty, as the bread winner ditched the family for more than two years."

Fathiya also revealed that in Selem area of Wete District, parents (father and mother) deserted the family of five children.

"The father married another woman and the mother is married to another man, leaving the five children in agony," she said, noting that the children are at risk of being abused as they have nowhere to get basic needs.

"Our role is to ensure that a voice of the voiceless is heard and at some points, victims are supported by well-wishers. For instance after reporting the case of those five children who have been abandoned some well-wishers helped them to refurbish the house they are living in," she said.

Asha Mussa Omar, programme officer, Tamwa-Pemba also said despite enough media reporting on the matter, abandonment remained a thorny to

the anti-GBV fight in Pemba.

A survey carried out by Tamwa-Zanzibar titled: "Report on engagement of young media fellows (YMF), cited abandonment of children or family as a chronic problem in Zanzibar leading to GBV especially children under 18 years as their upbringing fall under single-parenting or transferred to closely related family members which in most cases leading to child

negligence.

The survey was meant to assess GBV situation in Zanzibar covering two districts - North A District of Unguja, and Mkoani District in Pemba.

The survey was conducted in order to instigate the media to demonstrate their significant role to end GBV via strategic advocacy and intervention by improving contents and focus on thematic issues encompassing GBV as

well as sensitising other actors both governmental and private institutions to be actively engaged in the fight against GBV through media.

The survey was in line with the Zanzibar's National Plan of Action to end Violence against Women and Children (NPA-VAWC), 2017-2022, signifies a commitment to end all forms of violence against women and children.



Foreign Affairs, East Africa, Regional and International Cooperation minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi (2nd-R) presents a trophy to graduand Kelvin Victor at a Tanzania International Students graduation ceremony organised by Global Education Link in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Looking on are GEL director Abdulmalik Mollie (2nd-L) and Bonaventure Katuma, chairman of union of parents with children studying abroad. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Mahiga underscores need to have essential life documents

By Guardian Reporter

CONSTITUTIONAL and Legal Affairs Minister Dr Augustine Mahiga has urged Wananchi to register and own essential life documents such as birth, death, marriage and divorce certificates.

Mahiga made the remarks over the weekend during second commemoration of the registration of documents and statistics day in Africa which was held in Dar es Salaam.

He said registering for the documents was an important exercise saying it is a legal process being held worldwide.

"Registration has been there since colonialism, though there was no

special system, it was being done manually therefore it is a requirement for every Tanzanian to register and own," he said.

According to Dr Mahiga knowing the age of a Tanzanian was a required matter saying Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA) has been doing the exercise very well.

"Am impressed with the changes that are being conducted are done to harmonize with technology because the whole world is doing so," said Dr Mahiga.

He called upon religious leaders to ensure the documents are well kept in their dockets so that when the government needs, they should easily

be available.

The Managing Director for Rita Emmy Hudson said the commemorations were the second to be held whereby the first was held last year to sensitize the society.

He said Rita offered the birth certificate registration service to 150 Wama secondary school pupils in Kibiti district in the Coast and Wama Sharaf in Lindi region.

The commemorations which brought together various stakeholders was aimed at discussing the way forward and how to implement various resolutions which were met last year when the day was last commemorated.

By Guardian Reporter

## Kikagati power station reaches financial close

THE 14MW Kikagati hydro power station being built on the border between Uganda and Tanzania has reached financial close, the Emerging Africa Infrastructure Fund (EAIF) has announced, meaning that the first tranche of debt funding has been released to the Kikagati Power Company (KPC), which will own and operate the plant when construction is complete.

The announcement of the financial close of the US\$54 million debt finance package for the Kikagati brings closer a new source of electricity that will be equally shared between Uganda and

Tanzania. The plant is located on the Kagera River, which is on the border between the two nations.

100 per cent of the energy generated by KPC will be bought by the Uganda Electricity Transmission Company Limited, Uganda's single-buyer and transmission organisation, which will then sell half the energy to Tanzania.

EAIF is lending US\$27 million and the Dutch development bank, FMO has contributed the same amount. Both

loans have 16-year terms. The overall cost of the project is US\$87 million.

Kikagati Power Company Limited is backed by the Africa Renewable Energy Fund, a US\$205 million fund managed by Berkeley Energy The plant will benefit from the "GETFIT" programme, which is funded by a number of European governments and the EU. GetFIT funding brings down the average cost of power to consumers.



**ANGLOGOLDASHANTI**  
Geita Gold Mining Limited

PO Box 532, Geita, Tanzania  
Tel: +255 282 180 100  
Fax: +255 282 180 104  
Dar es Salaam Office:  
1st Floor, Mikumi House, Plot No. 368, Mwanani Road,  
Oysterbay, Kinondoni District  
PO Box 75003, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
Tel: +255 222 121 038  
Fax: +255 222 121 050  
Website: www.anglogoldashanti.com

**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR THE PROVISION OF CATERING, CLEANING, LAUNDRY, COMMISSARY AND CAMP MANAGEMENT SERVICES AT GEITA GOLD MINE, TANZANIA**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

Geita Gold Mining Limited - GGM ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti Ltd ("AGA") subsidiary is located in North Western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria Goldfields of Geita Region, about 120km from Mwanza and 4km West of the town of Geita.

The Company currently employs about 1,780 direct employees and hosts 2,100 contractors' employees.

The Company is in the process of assessing future Catering, Cleaning, Housekeeping, Laundry, Janitorial and Commissary and Camp Management requirements for its operations and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit their Expression of Interest for the provision of these services.

**II. INFORMATION REQUIRED**

The below information is required in order to conclude the prequalification evaluation set out below:

- Detailed service provider's information with organization structure, list of manpower with CVs of key personnel, parent company (if applicable), support agencies and other facilities and resources.
- Details of completion of similar type of contracts in the last three years and similar contracts/agreements currently under execution under headings:
  - Brief scope of work
  - Value of work in Tanzania Shillings (TZS)
  - Contract duration
  - Clients name
  - Contact details of the client (GGM may approach the client directly for feedback) Health, Safety and Environment statistics (HSE), Lost Time Injury (LTI) graph, etc.
  - At least 3 reference letters from existing clients are required.
- Details of business presence in Tanzania
- Provide details on local content including:
  - local procurement of goods and services
  - local employment and training practices
  - details of percentage of managerial and non-managerial positions held by Tanzanian citizens
  - local research and development expenditure
  - shareholders structure in percentage % and nationality
  - Management structure and their nationality
  - Latest BRELA official search report
  - A copy of the latest Local Content Plan and Local Content Performance Report as submitted to the Mining Commission or equivalent information if no prior reports and plans have been submitted.
- List of policies, procedures and quality assurance practices currently in place for the execution of similar work.
- Lists of HSE management system, HSE policy and implementation procedures in line with internationally accepted practices.
- Quality assurance & Quality control plan/ procedures in place for the execution of similar type of work, Copy of ISO or any other certification as applicable
- Service provider's financial performance documents (Audited Balance sheets, Profit and Loss Account & cash flow statement, Auditors Report and Notes to Accounts etc.) for last 3 (three) years.
- Ownership: Please provide the following information about your organisation's ownership/partners/members:
  - For privately owned companies, a list of all the owners, their nationality and respective percentage ownership of your organisation.
  - For publicly traded companies, a list of all shareholders holding more than 5% with details of their nationality and percentage ownership.

**III. PREQUALIFICATION EVALUATION CONSIDERATIONS**

In evaluating the interested bidder, GGM will consider the following:

- Service Reliability** – Prospective Bidders to indicate the approach they will adopt to ensure uninterrupted catering, housekeeping, cleaning and laundry services preferably in the mining sector and in remote locations.
- Capability** – Prospective Bidders to give details of their capability regarding the provision services to similar size of clients as Geita Gold Mine. (At least 3 reference letters from existing customers are required)
- Health, Safety and Environment** – Prospective Bidders to give details of their Health, Safety and Environmental management systems.
- Permits and Certifications** – Prospective Bidders to provide details and evidence of permits and registrations issued by the relevant Government departments including OSHAS, Tanzania Food & Drugs Authority (TFDA) and any other statutory requirements related to the services.
- Sustainability** – Prospective Bidders to give details of their local labour sourcing plans and training plans as well as details of any commitments to the social development of the areas where AngloGold Ashanti mines are located.
- Financial Capability** – Prospective Bidders to provide details of their financial capability supporting their ability to render the service.
- Local Content** – Prospective Bidders to demonstrate their compliance with the requirements as set out in the Tanzania Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018, as amended.

Interested parties must submit their expression Letter of Interest ("LOI") together with supporting information to Geita Gold Mine which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the interested party, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide security services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the Geita Gold Mine Office via e-mail at tenders@anglogoldashanti.com no later than 12:00 p.m, 26 August 2019 (the "LOI" Submission Deadline).

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## The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO  
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

## Newsdesk

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

## Advertising

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

## Our memories still linger following fuel tanker explosion in Morogoro

THE horrific pictures from the fuel tanker explosion caused by scavengers were damning enough. The more recent ones in two years back were, by far, a greater reproach to the conscience of the country.

The queasiness induced by the sight of so many incinerated remains of the human body was traumatic, no doubt. But beyond this, there is the dire need to query the reasons why looting of fuel from the accident.

Over the period since independence, government in our land long to cared for the welfare of the people that victims of the tanker explosion are vandals, and to this extent, it is implied that their fiery comeuppance ought not to be rued. But the technology required to vandalise these fuel-bearing explosions bears witness against this interpretation.

Indeed our memories still linger following this fuel tanker exploded in Morogoro on Saturday, killing 71 people and injuring 65, many of whom were siphoning petrol from the vehicle, which had crashed.

The explosion occurred around 200 km 120 miles west of the capital Dar es Salaam.

We have all Tanzanians been saddened by reports of an accident involving a fuel truck which caught fire and burnt scores of people.

Following the disaster the government declared 3 days of mourning through Monday.

According to eye witnesses the tanker driver reportedly lost control while he was trying to avoid a motorcycle operator.

People had rushed to the area after the accident to siphon the leaking fuel before the explosion. They were among the victims of the tragic event.

The burial was due to start on Sunday while relatives of the deceased gathered at the Morogoro secondary school to take part in the DNA tests to identify the bodies of their loved ones.

At least 72 other people were injured and are undergoing treatment at the Morogoro Regional Hospital and National Hospital Muhimbili in Dar es Salaam, according to the reports.

In a statement issued Sunday by the presidential communication office, Tanzania's President John Magufuli announced three days of national mourning following the tragedy.

He expressed shock over the looting of fuel from the accident and warned people against the practice.

Similar incidents happened previously in different parts of Africa and the world as a whole. In July, at least 45 people were killed when a crashed fuel tanker exploded in Nigeria's northern Benue state.

About 80 people died in May in a similar accident near the airport of Niamey, Niger's capital city.

A similar deadly explosion in 2013 killed at least 29 people on the outskirts of the Ugandan capital Kampala. More than 30 people were killed in 2016 outside Naivasha town in Kenya after a fuel tanker crashed into other vehicles and burst into flames.

On 25 June 2017, a tanker truck exploded near Ahmedpur East in Pakistan's Bahawalpur District, killing 219 people and injuring at least 34 others. The truck overturned when its driver attempted to make a sharp turn on the N-5 National Highway. Once the news of the accident spread to nearby villages, hundreds of residents rushed to the scene to loot the truck of its cargo. The truck then exploded; early reports suggested the explosion was caused by someone lighting a cigarette.

## Food security for Africa: An urgent global challenge

FOOD security is a measure of the availability of food and individuals' ability to access it. Affordability is only factor. There is evidence of food security being a concern many thousands of years ago, with central authorities in ancient China and ancient Egypt being known to release food from storage in times of famine.

At the 1974 World Food Conference the term "food security" was defined with an emphasis on supply. Food security, they said, is the "availability at all times of adequate, nourishing, diverse, balanced and moderate world food supplies of basic foodstuffs to sustain a steady expansion of food consumption and to offset fluctuations in production and prices". Later definitions added demand and access issues to the definition.

The final report of the 1996 World Food Summit states that food security "exists when all people, at all times, have physical and economic access to sufficient, safe and nutritious food to meet their dietary needs and food preferences for an active and healthy life".

New breeding techniques can help Africa meet its food security and industrial needs while improving farmer livelihoods, according to a new report.

In particular, improved technologies have good potential to adapt traditional durum wheat varieties to all growing conditions of sub-Saharan Africa, according to a report released by the International Center for Agricultural Research in Dry Areas (ICARDA) at the International Wheat Congress in Canada.

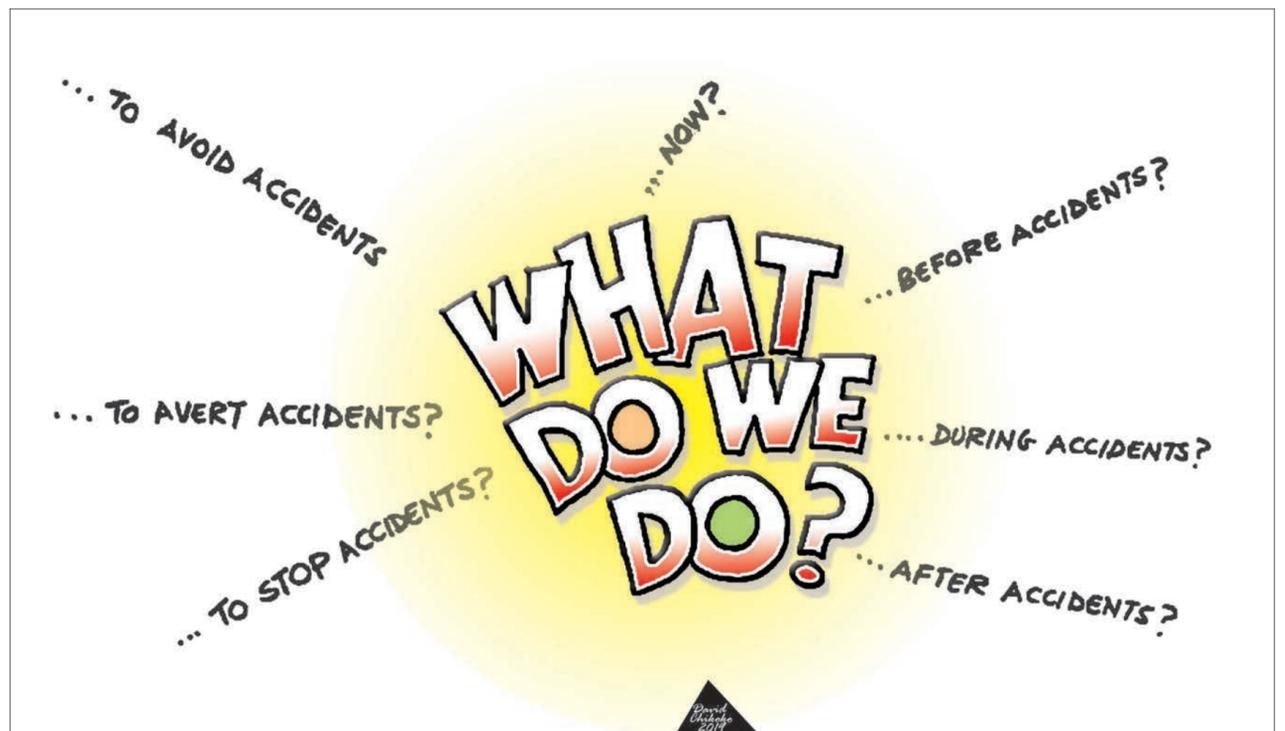
Currently, wheat is grown on only about 2.6 million hectares of marginal

lands on the continent, mostly in Ethiopia, South Africa, Sudan and about a dozen countries in sub-Saharan Africa. These areas have the growing conditions that wheat requires: low night time temperatures and warm, moist weather during early stages of growth, and sunny, dry weather in the later stages of the crop's four-month life span. As a result of this limited production, Africa spends more than €4 billion (\$4.45 billion) importing durum wheat for food every year.

Dr. Filippo Bassi, the senior scientist leading ICARDA's Durum Wheat Breeding Programme, said research done thus far shows great promise that new breeding techniques can be used to increase crop productivity. "We have used the latest molecular models to identify the most critical genomic regions controlling heat stress tolerance, and used them to further accelerate our breeding selection, so that the next 10 percent yield gain will be reached in a few years, rather than a decade," he told Alliance for Science in an interview.

Ongoing research with new technologies is also helping to produce improved crop varieties in a shorter time than is possible with traditional breeding methods, he said. "The use of genomic models will help us deliver the next round of superior cultivars in just a few years," Bassi said.

The use of new technologies to expand wheat production across Africa will play a key role in helping reduce poverty on the continent and help meet the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the report noted. Food security challenges on the continent also will be dramatically reduced by applying new technologies to breed better wheat varieties.



## And so, Mr President, when did you decide that we have a jobs crisis?

By Steven Boykey Sidley

RECENTLY a shocking admission was made by our sitting President. He said South Africa should expect 'many' job losses. He amped this up in a later speech - 'a flood of job losses', he said. This after decades of his party saying the opposite. You've got to be kidding, right?

If you take a look back at promises made by the ANC (usually around an election) you will find very specific numbers. Remember the startling "five million jobs by 2020", made by Jacob Zuma in December of 2015? Or the most recent promise of 275,000 jobs a year made by the ANC in January of 2019?

And now suddenly proclamations brimming with biblical language like "we need to stem the flood" tell us that the ANC has changed its mind about employment. Forget what we said before, they are telling us. We lied, or we hadn't understood, or we were ignorant, or we were cynical. Whatever. We were wrong.

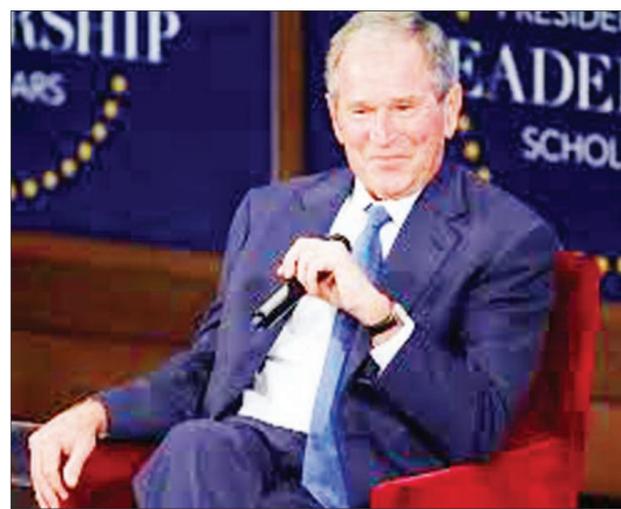
Of course, singling out the ANC is a little disingenuous. From the Democratic Alliance (DA) to the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), employment promises are thrown around like pixie dust. But here's the thing - there are no more jobs. They aren't coming back. There are no silver linings. Jobs require job-creators, of whom there are few left (the government is hopelessly indebted, business is shrinking and gasping). We also require people who can do the few jobs that are created. There aren't a lot of those either; we spill woefully under-qualified graduates on to the streets every year where they find the tragic truth of seeking jobs that can't use what they have on offer.

Let's take a look at the President's statement. He pointed to the causes of the "many" job losses we can expect. Technology, globalisation, climate change and a slow economy, he said. He did not mention incompetence, mismanagement and corruption by the ruling party, but let's give him some space here. He had seen the Nedlac employment report. He couldn't just say nothing.

All of these are indeed contributing factors, although climate change-caused unemployment is perhaps a little premature, portentous weather



Former South African President Jacob Zuma



George W. Bush made an enormous number of consequential decisions during his presidency. In his autobiography, *Decision Points*, President Bush writes, "The nature of the presidency is that sometimes you don't choose which challenges come to your desk. You do decide how to respond."

spikes notwithstanding.

Globalisation? Definitely. It simply means facing up to the reality that goods can be made cheaper and better elsewhere these days (think shoes, clothing, textiles - a business lost from our shores in 20 years). He stated it as though it was something imposed on us. No, it wasn't. We became

uncompetitive in multiple industries in the past 20 years because no one was in the guardhouse. Our fault, we lost. Not some globalisation boogeyman.

A slow economy? Well, of course. We are not making stuff and people are not buying stuff, even if they had the savings. Businesses have applied brakes to expansion. Whether this be

the fault of inflexible labour laws (it is), educational incompetence and lack of skills (of course) or tight access to capital (for sure) or corruption (obviously) or political uncertainty (indeed), it an unhelpful statement. It is like saying, "I am hungry because I don't have food". Again, the economy is slow not because it was imposed on us, it is largely because of policy mistakes made by the ruling party over the past 20 years.

And then technology, which our President mentioned first in his list. For all the talk of highways in the sky and turning South Africa into an African Silicon Valley, there are a couple of details missing. In order to create the sort of innovation and excellence required to build a technology superstate, the pre-university education system would need to be scrapped entirely and rebuilt from foundational level up, without unions and their extortionate job protection hobbling the system and with a budget that pays dignified salaries. There is simply no political will (or even understanding) that this is a requirement. And even if there was, such a glorious world would be at least 25 years out.

And the other side of technology - artificial intelligence and its Fourth Industrial Revolution cohorts are all going to be herded into employment-shredding activities. Businesses hate labour, because labour comes with demands, and machines are more compliant. And so, in the dark of their nights, CEOs dream of an organisation with no human employees and lots of smart software and hardware. This is not science-fiction - every research report from every corner of the globe predicts staggering and socially mayhem job destruction at the hands of advanced technology which has already started and will continue unabated.

And so, Mr President. When did you decide that we have a jobs crisis? Did someone hand you a dispassionate report in the past few months that caused you to suddenly understand where we are headed? Or did you know all along and choose to say nothing? And what do you intend to do? Not platitudes. Not strategies or aspirations. Tactics, budgets, spreadsheets, schedules, forecasts, timelines, critical paths, conditionalities.

Do you even have a plan?

# SADC and climate change: Is there any practicable point of departure?

By Anil Kija

EFFORTS to reduce the rise of carbon gas emissions and its climate impact in particular are the most characteristic feature of the 21st Century public agenda, that much can be asserted. Earlier it was the civil rights movement and earlier it was racial nationalism and how it led to two major world wars. The cataclysmic bombs on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, marked on August 5 for the 74 years of the Hiroshima bomb, ensured that the penchant for big wars is curbed. It stays so.

There is a much less acute campaign at the moment, whose ethos is to eat less meat so that there is a greater chance that the earth survives the onslaught of climate change, on the basis of a recent tonality from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the UN consulting desk on climate change. That ending or changing heavy animal protein consumption is the surest way to facilitate efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions and its impacts on global warming is symptomatic of the difficulty of having a handle on the matter. Is this sort of emphasis not an indication that there is little that the world can do?

When it comes to changing methods of living among large populations, to things need to be taken into account, one is tradition as it is embedded firstly in religion, the lists of clean and unclean things that bring people together and in quite a number of cases separate them.

The other aspect is social status, what a person ordinarily prefers to do when he has the financial ability to do that, and hence the preference for meat over legumes or similar diets. In Europe the consumption of meat is even taken as the basic item on the menu, while starch or vegetables are only an auxiliary, and climate change science requires all of this to change. Is it Europe or Africa that may curb meat consumption as asked?

All this doesn't look positive as only among a large portion of the population on the Indian subcontinent is such thinking accepted. Japan is a high



fish consumer and thus not a problem case in climate change, and much of Asia. Africa traditionally places a high value on meat as a mark of status, plus taste.

The UN panel examines the need for drastic changes in global land use, agriculture and human diets, saying that plant-based diets are a major opportunity for mitigating and adapting to climate change by substantially reducing meat consumption.

Yet the panelists appear to be entirely conscious of the fact that all this is an academic projection, that it is unlikely to constitute a sphere of action, for instance to introduce legislation taxing meat, likewise as noxious substances on the body causing health problems, add meat to the list.

An interesting feature of what was being said by the IPCC is that its report was designed to inform upcoming climate negotiations amidst the worsen-

ing global climate crisis, like horrendous natural catastrophes in many parts of the world. Noticeably, more than 100 experts compiled the report in recent months, around half of whom hail from developing countries. The question is whether there was a school of thought emerging among the panelists or they simply decided to take an academic position on the issue, to bad mouth meat.

"We don't want to tell people what to eat," was the reported assertion from Hans-Otto Pörtner, an ecologist who co-chairs the IPCC's working group on impacts, adaptation and vulnerability. He said though that it would indeed be beneficial, for both climate and human health, "if people in many rich countries consumed less meat, and if politics would create appropriate incentives to that effect." While the scientist simply says 'less meat,' it is easy to see from common sense that it requires a drastic cut in meat consumption to affect the entire industry, something that has scarcely been done for alcohol, even drugs.

Looking at potential policy scenarios the picture is even darker, as the rising tendency at right

wing policies for rapid achievement of national goals at the expense of global harmonization is having a telling effect on some climate change totems. The IPCC noted on the relevance of tropical rainforests, 'where concerns are mounting about accelerating rates of deforestation. The Amazon rainforest is a huge carbon sink that acts to cool global temperature, but rates of deforestation are rising, in part due to the policies and actions of the government of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro.' Despite decades of seeking to work together, there is no common environmental policy in South America.

In what amounts to plain dreaming, the report says that 'by 2050, dietary changes could free millions of square kilometres of land, and reduce global CO2 emissions by up to eight billion tonnes per year, relative to business as usual.' But as the scientists talked about 'less' consumption of meat, and SADC zone has nearly a third of global arable land by some estimates, what does each country need to do to attain those goals? Is it really to 'reduce' meat eating?

## Africa's Three Circles and SADC importance in a heated global political scene

By Miki Tasseni

ONE characteristic about African countries that has preoccupied researchers in strategic studies and how Africa fits into the world was that it is entangled in three cultural traditions that don't have much in common but they form the proper psychological or personality frame of African nations, though the combination varies. It was the late Prof. Ali Mazrui who coined the term 'Africa's Three Circles,' by which it was meant Westernisation arising from colonialism, Islam arising from earlier trading and settlements by migrants from the nearby Gulf sub-region, and traditional culture as it is quite resilient. Each of these elements has its part in the national context, and the world changes in relation each aspect.

One such situation at present - which is not exactly being aired or felt at the SADC preparatory events for the summit in Dar es Salaam at present, is the rising BDS Movement in all of Europe and the Americas, not to speak of the Middle East and Asia. For those mindful of what happened in the run to World War II, the continuous activation of negative sentiment on Israel is cause for disquiet, but Israel has a great friend in the United States, a country characterized by another 'triad' or three circles - the European component of the population where the Jewish are a small portion but hugely influential in business and public life as a whole. The other component is migrant Hispanics who tilt the balance somewhat, and the Black people.

For one thing, there is a way in which nature or fate can be a little crude, and perhaps something of that sort is happening now, where the worst spiral in anti-African violence among the US far right, which has a disproportionate presence in the police force, is shifting its gaze elsewhere. Actions of the far right on Jewish targets and even point blank shooting at crowds with substantial Jewish elements has been on the rise, shockingly, compelling President Donald Trump to declare his disenchantment with rising White extremism or nationalism, the key component in the politics of hate. It is another cycle in the hate run, from Septem-



ber II 2001 where all eyes were turned to Muslim violent extremism - but critics pointed out it must have been abetted from the inside - to police violence on blacks during the Obama presidency.

What is however likely to be noticed by African watchers of the debate on anti-Semitism in the United States is where the support for Israel in the world comes from at the moment, and it is starkly evident that Africa is replacing Europe as a source of ardent support for Israel, tied to ancestry, Biblical traditions. This is underlined in a recent article in *Algemeiner*, a Jewish website based in the United States and extensively cited in an article in the *Jerusalem Post*, an Israeli daily. It was looking at who is who in the global BDS movement standing for Boycott, Divest and Sanction against Israel for its

occupation of Palestinian territories. As the current US administration has closed the door to the traditional two state solution efforts, moved to recognize Jerusalem as Israel's capital, and sees Palestinian problems in an economic rather than a political context, global anti-Semitism is reaching fever peak. Israel loses its bastions in Europe and America, but tends to be favored in sub-Saharan Africa and SADC noticeably.

Countries on the continent which featured in the research conducted by Prof Hillel Frisch, an Israeli scholar, are Nigeria, South Africa and Kenya as bastions of support for Israel not just on the continent but globally. While two of these countries are on the fringes of the SADC zone, still it is quite evident that Kenya in particular represents the 'normal' or observable situation in SADC member countries in that regard, as the matter is not contested, unlike Nigeria possibly. In the latter context the triad is conflicting as its northern part is likely to be favorable

to the Mid East bloc that is unfavorable to Israel. But devastating warfare is leading to new thinking even in the region, and that is why the US is conducting diplomacy to circumvent Palestinians on the issues.

SADC countries tend to have solid Christian evangelistic movements who increasingly see the pilgrimage to Israel as something that one needs to do at least once in life, or if one is capable, make it a regular tourist destination to look at historical spots that Israel has plenty, along with Egypt, Jordan and Turkey. Syria too has plenty of such spots but is a no-go zone in the current chaos, save for business to be concluded in air conditioned hotel lobbies, not in the open field, visiting isolated sites in hilly regions, etc. The Sinai is a land where both Christians and Muslims have plenty to visit and see, as Moses is a prophet more shared between the three religions than other names in the tradition, but it is engulfed in a violent campaign discouraging such tourism.



## SADC Industrialisation Week: Looking beyond aid, export-led models

By Nimi Mweta

LISTENING to what high level guests speaking at different moments of the 4TH SADC industrial Week and Exhibition, one impression that stood out was that there is a thrust towards identifying economic energy within the countries and the zone as a whole. They are focused on what can be harnessed, traded or done in the zone or within the vicinity, not where SADC stands in global trade or aid expectations. This is rather different from the East African Community context, partly because SADC had fewer institutions, projects and agencies.

When Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein made an appeal that SADC states need to ratify protocols and implement them, the point was that the process of forming regionally cohesive thrust towards industrialization for that matter must be owned up substantially. A particularly relevant instrument that the Isles leader mentioned that it needs to be fast tracked was the regional 2015-2063 industrial drive, which must be underscored by developing industries and procuring intra-SADC products. It is as if there is a policy format, but it needs legislative actions and binding regulations, which must be agreed upon.

In what appears to have been an effort at synthesis of rather disparate themes or tonalities of economic policy which clash at the substance level, the 2019 SADC Industrialization Week was conducted under the theme 'Competitive Business Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development.' There are two aspects there which ordinarily draw scholars from different sides of panels or enthusiasm among the crowd, one that is likely to be a majority wishing for inclusive and sustainable industrial development, while the other side pushes for a competitive business environment. Questions still linger if the Week showed more in relation to competitive environment or an inclusive one.

Listening to the remarks by Dr Shein, it is arguable that his principal area of concern is self-reliance, where the pivotal aspect is local products gaining space in what we consume, and an inclusive element in the sense of breadth of job opportunities, supply chains, etc. The Isles leader said 'we must build a culture of loving our own products and do away with hiring experts from abroad.'

There should be efforts to ensure technological advancement to realize our industrialization strategy, enhance intra-regional trade and increase market and employment opportunities. The issue is how this need relates to a competitive business environment, whether it is embedded in it or it comes up as a regulatory requirement since the market, or competition, 'will always fail.'

While delegates to the Industrialisation Week would have had opportunities to compare experiences and take note of this or that ex-

pectation, it is the overall decline of macro-economic projections that would occupy business strategists, and their voices were scarcely audible in the conference. Contributions from top officials of private sector organizations and commercial banks tended to echo government optimism on regulatory improvement and investments that are focused on industries, as a policy format to create jobs. This is a rather weak parameter in the SADC industrialisation thrust as a whole, that it is not driven by the demand for goods but by a demand for jobs. That can be critical.

The sort of elaboration that comes up is well intentioned but stronger in its ethical aspect as to regional cooperation rather than its forecasting element, though presumably it is intended to be read also as expectation of what is likely in terms of explicit economic decision making. It is the policy thrust that 'SADC member states can create market and employment opportunities through establishment of industries and procurement of locally made goods,' which points to the need for 'innovation and value addition on locally manufactured products so that they compete with imported goods.' There is a problem of vision on how domestic brands are created, as it is by importing a big brand and it purchases a local company with a similar product, and it vehicles that brand or uses the local brand but with 'next level' technology, etc.

References to absolute potential for the region is usually whetting for the appetite, but translating into market numbers, that is, level of effective demand, is a different matter.

The guest of honor said that 'SADC has an integrated market of 16 countries, a combined population of 327 million and a GDP of about \$ 599 billion,' which doesn't quite project the state of consumption and what intra-trade can achieve, and what to do with the large amounts of industrial raw materials that characterize each other's agriculture.

To suggest that member states 'should advance their Information and Communication Technology (ICT) capacity to cope with globalization, technology advancement and be able to search for markets online,' is something that works for individual market entrants, but for countries as a whole, it is the whole problem of opening up which must be emphasized.

That is the logic of the Economic Partnership Agreement with the European Union which has been signed in patches by SADC members or rather African Union members as a whole.

With the Continental Free Trade Area and the wish to upgrade the condition for doing business as well as cut trade barriers, it might soon be realized that the biggest barriers are in trading with Europe and the United States (and others besides) and the minor barriers exist in the region.

# Revitalising indigenous languages is critical

## UNITED NATIONS

BEING fluent in a world language is a desirable skill in modern day society. However, some languages are suffering and in danger of extinction – namely those of the indigenous peoples.

“There are between 6,000 and 7,000 world languages in the world today,” Brian Keane, rapporteur of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues said in his keynote speech last week, revealing that half of them are expected to go extinct by 2100. As a result, more than 50% of the world's indigenous peoples are in danger of losing their language.

“You can't preserve or protect or revitalize indigenous languages in a vacuum – they're related to all of the other rights of indigenous peoples, principally the right to self-determination,” Keane told IPS, adding that the Permanent Forum tries to highlight all of these rights, citing several branches to assist indigenous rights.

Asked what role the Forum will play, he said: “Our role is trying to move countries forward when implementing rights and outlining declarations.” Keane said, stressing that only when indigenous peoples are able to practice self-determination, and be able to live on their ancestral territories, “can we truly protect the languages”.

The annual commemoration of World Indigenous Peoples Day took place August 9 and was organized by the Indigenous Peoples and Development Branch of the Secretariat of the UN Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. The event featured two panels, guest speakers, and performances.

Today, there are about 370 million indigenous peoples worldwide, making up about 5% of the population. However, the UN Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has predicted that, by the end of this century, between 50-90% of indigenous languages will perish.

Indigenous language is fading as a result of land seizures, forced assimilation, conflicts, climate change, development projects, and a critical gap of the



language being passed on to the next generation, attributed to a sense of fear or shame.

It has been noted that at least one indigenous language has been dying every 2 weeks and will continue to do so, if action is not taken.

It is an issue so concerning that it is reaching all corners of the world.

“We need to create reading materials, compile tales, stories and myths from the indigenous peoples,” María Fernanda Espinosa Garcés, President of the UN General Assembly declared, adding that languages are alive “as long as we speak them”.

“With every language that disappears, the world loses a wealth of tra-

ditional knowledge and cultural heritage.” UN Secretary General António Guterres declared in an official statement, adding that education has a pivotal role to play in ensuring that indigenous peoples can enjoy and preserve their culture and identity, and that intercultural and multi-lingual education will be necessary to prevent irreparable loss.

Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada concluded in his official statement: “On behalf of the Government of Canada, I encourage everyone to learn more about the cultures and languages of Indigenous peoples, here in Canada

and around the world.”

However, there are several initiatives in place to help foster indigenous language, such as the use of digital technology.

“Over the last 5 or 6 years we've really seen a boom in seeing indigenous languages online,” Eddie Avila, Director of Rising Voices said in his keynote speech, highlighting Wikipedia, emoticons, and users tweeting on Twitter in their native tongue.

“It's really a message of do it yourself,” he added, but pointed out that it is ultimately the young people behind the tools who are critical, as well as academic re-

searchers and policymakers.

Avila described designated spaces for young indigenous peoples to gather and engage in discussions.

“I think the non-indigenous youth can kind of encourage their classmates and other friends who may speak an indigenous language that it is okay to be multilingual, bilingual” Avila told IPS.

He said things are slowly changing compared to the past where there was a sense of shame to speak an indigenous language. He also stressed the importance of celebrating those differences but also recognizing the value of

maintaining those roots.

He went on to note that in a city like New York, it is very easy to see the diversity and celebrate that, but added it is not always that way around the world, again tracing back to the importance of using language online, such as Duolingo and social media.

“And I think Rising Voices, we're trying to support communities of indigenous languages, and we want to leverage technology to encourage new speakers, to promote the language, and to show that it is very functional on something as modern as the Internet, Avila declared.

## ‘Beggar thy neighbour’ policy advice

### SYDNEY and KUALA LUMPUR

THE harmful effects of falling corporate tax rates have been acknowledged in a recent International Monetary Fund (IMF) research paper. This trend, since the early 1980s, has been especially detrimental for developing countries, which rely on direct taxation much more than developed economies.

Acknowledging that existing international corporate tax rules are unfair, set by developed country governments scantily considering their effects on poor countries, IMF Managing Director, Christine Lagarde, called for a new system earlier this year.

#### BWIs and corporate tax rates

However, neither the IMF research nor Lagarde say anything about why corporate tax rates have been falling across all country groups for over three decades.

The neo-liberal ‘counter-revolution’ against Keynesian and development economics saw the brief popularity of ‘supply side’ economics during the early 1980s. The Washington Consensus of the US Treasury Department and the two Washington-based Bretton Woods institutions (BWIs) – the IMF and the World Bank (WB) – ensured its global impact.

All serious empirical research has discredited Chicago Professor Arthur Laffer's claim that lowering corporate tax rates boosts investment and growth rates. Significantly, this included work by US President Ronald Reagan's first Council of Economic Advisers chair, Martin Feldstein, and Doug Elmendorf, his Congressional Budget Office Director.

Instead, most growth during the Reagan era was due to expansionary monetary policy, as lower interest rates helped the economy rebound from the severe recession in 1982. Likewise, the 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts also failed to spur growth, according to Andrew Samwick, chief economist to his Council of Economic Advisers.



Despite their dubious premises, the Laffer curve and similar claims have re-emerged under the Trump presidency, which has already brought corporate tax rates to new lows.

#### Beggar thy neighbour

To qualify for BWI support, developing country governments were expected to undertake tax reforms, by lowering typically progressive direct tax rates in favour of regressive indirect taxation, such as value-added taxation (VAT), often dubbed the goods and services tax (GST).

A review of IMF tax policy recommendations to Sub-Saharan African countries during 1998-2008 confirmed that in typical ‘one-size-fits-all’

IMF Managing Director, Christine Lagarde

fashion, they invariably included reducing corporate and even, personal income tax rates as well as both export and import taxation, besides introducing or expanding VAT.

As an IMF paper concluded about the ostensible justification for its advice, “The complete abolition of corporate income tax would be the most direct application of the theoretical result that small open economies should not tax capital income.”

Vito Tanzi and Howell Zee, of the IMF's Fiscal Affairs Department, even recommended taxing labour, instead of capital. They argued that “small countries

should not levy source-based taxes on capital income” because, compared to labour, capital was highly mobile and could escape such taxes.

The WB's controversial Doing Business Report (DBR) argues likewise; paying taxes was one of 11 criteria DBR 2017 used to rank a country's business environment although the WB's enterprise survey found tax incentives not critical among factors affecting foreign direct investment (FDI) inflows.

#### Policy advocacy despite evidence

Thus, BWI advice, ostensibly to

investment climate surveys in low-income countries, and there are many examples in which ... investment would have been undertaken even without them. And their fiscal cost can be high, reducing opportunities for much-needed public spending..., or requiring higher taxes on other activities.”

#### Regressive tax incidence

Corporate tax rate declines over recent decades have contributed to overall tax incidence becoming more regressive as direct taxes have declined, and indirect taxes, such as VAT, have risen. VAT adoption has been central to BWI tax policy advice to developing countries.

A study of IMF advice on tax matters in 54 IMF Article IV reports between 2005 and 2008 to 10 low-income countries and 10 middle-income countries found that, “VAT was recommended or endorsed by the IMF in 90 per cent of the overall sample...”

An IMF paper found that the BWIs presume that tax is distortionary, and the tax system should focus on raising revenue while minimizing associated distortions. This precluded using taxation for other purposes, e.g., progressive redistribution. Recent IMF research shows that reduced tax progressivity has contributed to growing inequality since the 1980s.

#### Quo vadis?

Recognition of taxation's potential for both resource mobilization and reducing inequality can still bring about fundamental changes in BWI conditionalities, advice and technical assistance for developing countries. Greater developing country engagement in designing international reforms to reduce tax avoidance and evasion by transnational corporations will be crucial.

IPS

# 'Tanzania has highest maternal mortality in sub-Saharan Africa'

By Guardian Reporter

THE government needs to invest heavily in ensuring that life-saving drugs such as ferrous sulfate, mesoprostol and oxytocin are available in all health facilities to stop maternal deaths in the country, experts have suggested.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, Executive Director of Health Promotion Tanzania (HDT), Dr Peter Bujari said Tanzania is one of the countries, which have the highest maternal mortality in sub-Saharan Africa and that it has not declined since 2010.

Dr Bujari cited a ten-year retrospective analysis study (2006-2015) which found that there's an increase in the number of hospital maternal deaths in public hospitals in Tanzania.

Major direct causes are reported to be eclampsia (34 percent), obstetric haemorrhage (24.6 percent) and maternal sepsis (16.7 percent). Anaemia (14.9 percent) and cardiovascular disorders (14.0 percent) were the main indirect causes.

According to the Tanzania Demographic Health Survey and Malaria Indicator Survey 2015/16, maternal death is 556 per 100,000 among women aged 15-49.

This means, at least 11,000 pregnant women die per year due to delivery complications.

Dr Bujari said those figures show that 68 percent of deaths would have been avoided if those life-saving drugs were available in health facilities. Dr Bujari suggested the need for the government to improve logistics of clearing life-saving drugs at the point of entry, which is a challenge that leads to stock outs, expiring at the point of entry and unnecessary storage costs.

The expert said Medical Stores Department (MSD) needs to have enough stock of life-saving drugs for the next six to nine months, "but most of the country's zonal offices are below."

"This is a challenge that needs swift measures to be addressed as unavailability of those drugs in health facilities puts mothers at risk of maternal hemorrhage," he said, recommending the need for the government to review the Value Added Tax (VAT) Act of 2014 and that of public finance Act 2014 to align them with Public Procurement Act, 2016.

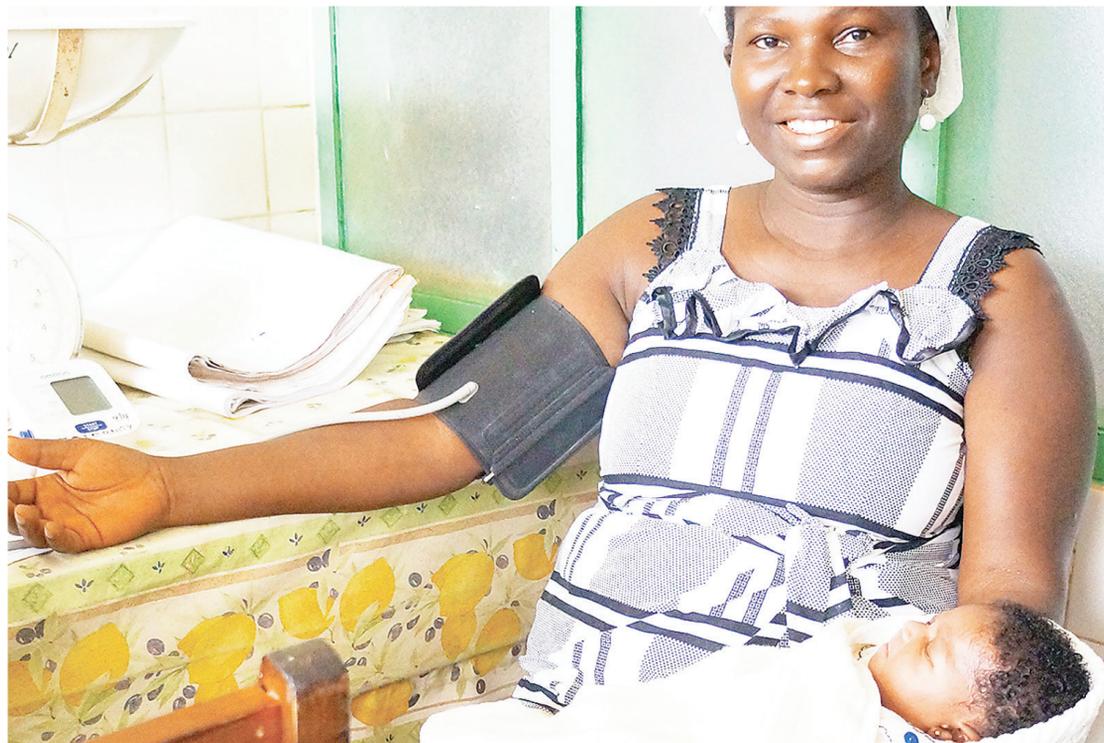
"We are also recommending the need for the government to issue the remove of Treasury circular number six of 2018 on the government notice (GN) for exemption of the life saving commodities," he said.

Flattering of Reproductive and Child Health Services (RCHS) commodities budget for three consecutive years-2017/18-2019/20 and low and irregular disbursements as compared to allocations are some of the challenges fueling maternal death in the country.

"Despite increase in population between 2017/18 to 2019/20, the budget for family planning, life saving commodities and Fansidar remained the same," he said

"So, we are recommending the need for the government to allocate realistic budget for RCHS commodities to reflect population growth and demand. This also should be in line with increasing disbursement of RCHS budget to commodities procurement," the expert suggested.

In November last year, Vice President, Samia Suluhu Hassan launched a countrywide campaign aimed at reducing maternal and infant



mortality in the country. Dubbed: Jongeze Tuwavushe Salama, the campaign engages regional and local authorities.

The campaign aims to reduce maternal deaths from the current 556 to 292 per 100,000 women and infant mortality from

the current 25 to 16 per 1,000 by 2020.

Globally, each year more than 303,000 women die and every day approximately 830 women die from preventable causes related to pregnancy and child birth. Almost all maternal deaths (99%) occur in develop-

ing countries. More than half of these deaths occur in Sub-Saharan Africa with a reported maternal mortality ratio of 239 per 100,000 live births.

Another one third of maternal deaths occur in South Asia (WHO, 2016).

# How Canadian farmers are 'leading the front' on sustainable agriculture to protect food stability

By Amara McLaughlin

IN the wake of a damning UN-backed report about the links between climate change, land use and food resources, Megz Reynolds says Canadian farmers are "leading the front" on sustainable agriculture practices that curb greenhouse gas emissions.

The southern Saskatchewan grain farmer suggested that no-till farming is one way Canadian producers can fight radical changes in the environment and prevent

onrushing threats to our global food supply.

"What we're doing by doing that method of farming is we are allowing our organic matter to build in the soil and that sequesters more carbon and also makes our soil healthier," Reynolds told The Current's guest host Laura Lynch. "Our soil is our biggest resource, and we need to be able to have it as healthy as it is so we can do the best job possible."

Farmers who employ the no-till method leave their fields alone

between harvest and planting. This results in 16 times the natural rate of soil erosion, compared to 380 times for conventional farming where fields are plowed while fertilizers are still breaking down in the soil, the report says.

For Reynolds - who grows green lentils, durum wheat, barley and flax seeds on her family-run farm near Kyle, Sask., a rural village roughly 200 kilometres southwest of Saskatoon - she only touches the soil every four years when she plants her crops.

"It allows us to absorb and store more moisture, and allows us to create more off of the land that we have," she said.

The UN's Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) lists no-till organic farming as an "important strategy" for reducing soil erosion and nutrient loss by wind and water.

The IPCC released a special report Thursday that found climate change is exacerbating the depletion of farmland, forests and other landscapes that

are already strained by human activities like farming and forestry. Both are jeopardizing the world's food security.

Agriculture accounts for 23 per cent of total net manmade greenhouse gas emissions from 2007 to 2017, the report said.

It explained that unsustainable farming practices can harm soil conditions, which amplify erosion and compromise the land's ability to absorb carbon dioxide

Educating the consumer

Kevin Petrie, head farmer at The Inn at Bay Fortune in P.E.I., believes educating chefs about sustainable animal-sourced food will result in a shift in Canada's eating habits and stop growing food waste.

"The chefs are the trend setters," he told Lynch. "They're the ones who allow the industry to move forward."

The IPCC report found between 25 and 30 per cent of all food produced is currently lost or wasted, and the consumption

of meat has more than doubled based on data since 1961.

Replacing red meat with other, more efficient protein sources like mussels will alleviate pressure on land and water, thus combating the consequences of climate change, the report states.

"People don't understand what choices they have," Petrie said. "People are willing to change, [they] just need to know where and what direction to change into."



## Breaking the silence: Journalists fighting to turn up the volume on climate change impact coverage

By Rosamond Hutt

THE British naturalist and veteran broadcaster Sir David Attenborough told this year's World Economic Forum Annual Meeting: "The Garden of Eden is no more. We have changed the world so much that scientists say we are now in a new geological age - the Anthropocene, the Age of Humans."

His words at Davos on climate change resonated with people around the world, as of course do his TV programmes - the Our Planet series was Netflix's most-watched show in the UK in April.

Yet there are too few voices like Sir David's being amplified in the mainstream media.

The climate story isn't getting the front pages and airtime it deserves from many news organizations, which can perceive it as a "ratings killer", or too complex for audiences to digest, according to a new initiative called Covering Climate Now.

The project, co-founded by The Nation and Columbia Journalism Review in partnership with The Guardian, aims to break the "climate silence" that has long prevailed within too much of the news media.

It plans to do this by sparking a discussion among journalists about how all news outlets, whether digital, television, radio, or print, can improve their climate reporting.

As an important first step, it has asked the media to commit to running focused coverage of the issue in the week leading up to the UN Climate Action Summit in New York on 23 September.

The World Economic Forum's Sustainable Development Impact Summit takes place in New York on 23-24 September 2019. Taking place during the United Nations General Assembly, the summit engages the most relevant and influential leaders across business, government, civil society, NGOs and academia to collaborate on and address the world's most pressing problems.

So far more than 60 news organizations in the US and abroad have signed up, from major newspapers and broadcasters to local TV stations, papers, and digital publications.

Not just 'one more story'  
"We're not here to tell people what to write or broadcast," wrote Covering Climate Now's co-founders Mark Hertsgaard (The Nation's environment correspondent) and Kyle Pope (editor and publisher of Columbia Journalism Review).

"All that's required is for each outlet to make a good faith effort to increase the amount and the visibility of its climate coverage - to make it clear to their audiences that climate change is not just one more story but the overriding story of our time."

The hope is that by giving greater coverage to the climate story, the public and policymakers will be informed to make better choices.

# Germany commits €35million to EAC for immunisation programme

By Guardian Reporter

GERMANY has committed Euro 35 million to East African Community to be invested in vaccination programmes in the Partner States.

Speaking at the EAC headquarters, Senior Policy Officer from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development recently, Claudia Imwolde-

Krämer said Germany is contributing Euro 35 million to immunization programmes in the EAC.

"I appreciate and acknowledge the EAC's efforts to immunize every child in the region," he said.

In his remarks, the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Planning and Infrastructure, Eng. Steven Mlote said the visit by Im-

wolde-Krämer reaffirms the strong ties of friendship and cooperation between the EAC and the Federal Republic of Germany.

"Indeed, the Federal Republic of Germany and the EAC have historically had strong and cordial relations dating back to the founding of the EAC, 20 years ago", added Eng. Mlote.

Eng. Mlote noted that the two partners been cooperating in different areas with notable achievements being realized in the Health and Pharmaceutical Sectors; Trade and Customs; Agriculture as well as Tourism.

He thanked Germany for her generous support to the EAC, noting that the collaboration between the

two parties continues to grow and become stronger.

Germany has been supporting immunisation programmes in the region in close collaboration with the EAC and Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI) since 2013. The region has made great progress in introducing new, life-saving vaccines.

# Why attempts to unseat 'the squad' are likely to fail

**D**URING the recent set of Democratic Presidential debates in Detroit, a national Jewish publication sent its reporter to the city to learn the views of local Jewish community leaders on President Donald Trump, the progressive wing in the Democratic Party and the nation's evolving perceptions of Israel. The reporter met key figures from the community in a roundtable discussion. What he found out was eye-opening.

There was consensus among participants, who were all either campaigners for the Democratic Party or Democratic-leaning, that Democratic Detroit Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib, who is the Detroit-born daughter of Palestinian immigrants and one of just two House members who back the boycott of Israel, must be defeated at all costs.

"We in this community will go against Rashida Tlaib," Lisa Lis, identified as a philanthropist and contributor to Democratic candidates, was quoted as saying. Other participants agreed, telling the reporter that they had already reached out to Brenda Jones, the Detroit City Council president whom Tlaib defeated in last year's primary, and who is considering another run. The participants also revealed that "pro-Israel folks were already socking away money to target Tlaib."

But that was not even the most alarming part of the conversation. A "pro-Israel lay leader" who wanted to remain anonymous, accused Tlaib, and the three other progressive Democratic Congresswomen of colour that make up the quartet known as "the squad", of relying on racial identity politics instead of policy just like Trump. For the squad, the lay leader said, "[Who] the weaker one is and the darker one is" determines who is "in the right". An "anti-intellectual" posture that "bodes ill for Jews and Israel", he added.

From this damning portrait, we can deduce that the wealthy elite of some Jewish communities across the United States are frightened about the rise

of progressive candidates like Tlaib because they break the mould of the traditional Democratic Congressional candidate. They are not beholden to the Israel Lobby and its donors, so they do not need to check with AIPAC before they make public statements about Israel and Palestine. They are emboldened.

They can, as Tlaib and Congresswoman Ilhan Omar plan to do, conduct their own congressional tour of Palestine, bypassing entirely the traditional, quasi-mandatory AIPAC-sponsored trip to Israel. They can, as Tlaib and Omar have done, endorse the BDS movement. They can, as Tlaib has done, even endorse a one-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and defy a funder like the lobby group J Street, which withdrew its support after she did so.

Jewish-American leaders could react to this new breed of Democratic representatives in one of two ways: They could seek common ground with the rebellious candidates and agree to disagree on subjects like Israel, but collaborate on the many domestic issues where there is consensus, or they could declare an all-out war and seek their removal from Congress.

As the report on Detroit illustrates, some Jewish community leaders who are pro-Israel have clearly chosen the second option. In the past, with their support, the Israel Lobby was able to easily unseat senators or House members they believed were anathema to their agenda. But times are changing and such an approach is likely to fail this time.

The four members of the squad, Tlaib, Omar, Ayanna Pressley and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, may have struggled more than their mainstream counterparts to win their first race for Congress, but they are struggling no longer. Each has developed a national base through a surge of media coverage, in addition to the support they derive from their own local communities.

Even if the pro-Israel forces could oust Tlaib in the next election, doing



**Congress women Rashida Tlaib, Ilhan Omar, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, and Ayanna Pressley respond to remarks by President Donald Trump at a press conference in Washington File photo.**

so would do more harm than good to the Jewish community, as it would generate furore among the popular congresswoman's grassroots supporters.

Taking a stance against Tlaib because of her views on Israel would put Detroit's Jewish community at odds with the city's other minority groups at a time when solidarity is most essential. Historically, Jews have worked to generate alliances with like-minded ethnic groups. Burning all bridges with groups that could help them topple the Trump administration would harm not only American Jews themselves but all minority groups in the country.

Despite the supreme confidence of Detroit's Jewish leaders that they can unseat Tlaib,

there is evidence of an increasing weakness on the part of the national Israel Lobby in pursuing its pro-Israel objectives. In addition to the rise of insurgent progressive Congressional candidates willing to buck the system, earlier this month a major player on the national pro-Israel scene, The Israel Project (TIP), met its demise.

The group, founded in 2002, was one of the most vocal and muscular in pro-Israel advocacy in Washington, DC.

It sought to drive a pro-Israel media agenda by planting pro-Israel stories and combating anti-Israel reporting. Its most recent leader, Josh Block, who resigned in June, got his start at AIPAC and was known for his take-no-prisoners approach.

TIP was initially extremely successful in achieving its goals, but in the last few years it stumbled badly amidst the increasing polarisation in US politics, and the actions of Israel's far-right Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu also contributed to this process.

TIP relied on donations from both Democratic and Republican donors to survive. However, when Netanyahu made his hostility towards the Obama administration clear, Democratic donors to the organisation started to gradually disappear. And when TIP and other pro-Israel groups launched a full-force media attack to destroy then-President Barack Obama's signature foreign policy achievement, the Iran nuclear deal, the alienation of Democrats was exacerbated.

And after two years of the Trump presidency and his strident, extremist approach to Israel, race relations and white supremacy, even some Republican donors faded away. That sealed the NGO's fate. It closed its doors for good last week.

While it is too early to tell whether the fall of TIP is a harbinger of things to come, it is clear that it failed to read the changing mood in the Democratic Party and the US. Whether this pattern will repeat itself in places like Detroit, and lead to the fall from grace of Jewish groups and individuals who put the interests of Israel above the progressive agenda, remains to be seen. But it is a distinct possibility.

AGENCIES

## China works with global partners to enhance exchanges among civilisations

**T**HE history of mankind is a process of active exchanges, interactions and integration among different civilizations. In the first half of 2019, by working hard to promote interaction, dialogue and harmony among civilizations, China has demonstrated the distinguished features of its major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics.

The country hosted the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations (CDAC), an unprecedented event in history, and made green and sustainable development a basic requirement for the high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

By holding the International Horticultural Exhibition at the foot of the majestic Great Wall, China is spreading the beauty of the green lifestyle to every corner of the world.

On multiple occasions, Chinese President Xi Jinping has introduced China's concept of civilization to the world, constantly gathering power for building a community of a shared future for mankind. His practice will leave a glorious page in the human history of civilization exchanges.

At present, the world is undergoing profound changes: the surging trend toward multi-polarity, economic globalization, IT application and cultural diversity. These changes are creating both prospects and challenges for the human society.

However, some people are not glad to abandon their ideological bias, and are making hypotheses of the so-called "civilization superiority" and "clash of civilizations", posing threats against the peaceful development of the world.

On the contrary, China, with a civilization of over 5,000 years, believes that civilizations come in different colors, and are equal and inclusive.

The country is taking concrete actions to promote exchanges among different civilizations and building broad consensus through the power of civilizations, so as to guide each country to cope with common challenges and create a better future.

President Xi's practice to enhance exchanges and mutual learning among

civilizations has set a good example for the world.

Attending the CDAC and delivering a keynote speech at the opening ceremony, he has given an in-depth expounding on China's ideas to promote civilization exchanges. He also participated in the Asian Culture Carnival and enjoyed the beauty of Asian civilizations together with foreign leaders.

The CDAC reflected China's deep thoughts and sense of responsibility regarding the promotion of Asian civilizations, and is hailed as an iconic international event. Director General of the UNESCO Audrey Azoulay extended her appreciation to President Xi and China's efforts to hold the conference, and what she felt also represented a common aspiration of the international society.

President Xi's visits to foreign countries in the first half of this year endowed Chinese diplomacy with humanistic spirit, and demonstrated China's image of a major country that is open and inclusive.

When visiting Italy, President Xi showed a deep knowledge of the pioneers of cultural exchanges between China and Italy. He also stressed that the similar national character and common spiritual pursuit of China and Monaco make the two peoples endeared friends who know each other well during his state visit to the latter.

The Chinese President attended an opening ceremony for a panda home at Moscow Zoo, and had a free talk over the history and presence of St. Petersburg with his Russian counterpart Vladimir Putin when having a boat cruise on the Neva River.

When inspecting the Kyrgyz guard of honor during his visit to Kyrgyzstan, Xi greeted them in Kyrgyz. And in Tajikistan, he vowed to pass on China-Tajikistan friendship from generation to generation.

Xi attended a grand gymnastics and artistic performance in Pyongyang together with local people during his trip to North Korea, and remarked that the geographical proximity and cultural affinity offer a sturdy bond between the two countries.

President Xi, seeing the beauty



**The thematic forum "Sharing Experience on Asian Governance" of the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations (CDAC) is held in Beijing, capital of China, May 15, 2019. (Xinhua)**

and respecting the diversity of world civilizations, and promoting equality, mutual learning, dialogue and mutual accommodation between civilizations, is injecting profound cultural significance into China's diplomacy.

China is winning broad recognition from the international society for its efforts to promote exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations.

At the opening ceremony of the 2019 Beijing International Horticultural Exhibition, President Xi brought up five proposals for the world to preserve what gives the planet life and embrace green development.

At the CDAC, the Chinese President expounded China's ideas of civilization, calling the world to be inclusive and always seek nourishment from other civilizations to promote the common development of Asian civilizations

through exchanges and mutual learning. He stressed that countries should create conditions for other civilizations to flourish and deliver achievements for global civilizations to transcend time and space and have a lasting appeal.

The significance of exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations has always been an emphasis of President Xi on many international occasions such as the China-France Global Governance Forum, the 19th Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan, and the 5th summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan.

He is constantly promoting the respect for diversity, harmonious co-existence, interaction and sharing, and prosperity and progress for all for global civiliza-

tions. His efforts are broadly recognized by foreign leaders who noted that there should not be, and will not be any clash among real civilizations and the beauty of the human civilizations is in dialogue.

China is leading a fashion of civilization exchanges with concrete actions. To lead a lifestyle that is green and beautiful is a common aspiration of the mankind, and to realize it, 110 countries and international organizations as well as over 120 non-official exhibitors have participated in the 2019 Beijing International Horticultural Exhibition, sharing new opportunities for the international communication and cooperation within green industries.

The Asian Culture Carnival and the splendid Asian Civilization Week achieved huge success, establishing an important platform for exchanges and mutual learn-

ing among civilizations of Asia and even the world at large.

A thematic forum on people-to-people connectivity was held during the 2nd Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, summarizing achievements and making future plans for people-to-people communication. It further consolidated the civilization foundation for common development for different countries.

President Xi proposed to work with other countries to protect Asian cultural heritage, translate Asian classics both from and into Chinese, promote film and TV exchanges and cooperation in Asia, and implement a plan to promote tourism in Asia.

Besides, China will also host a culture and tourism year with Italy and France, and invite 10,000 representatives from Belt and Road participating countries to visit China in the coming five years.

By taking active actions to promote exchanges and mutual learning among civilizations, China is resolutely building a world that is open, inclusive and beautiful.

Martin Jacques, a professor at Cambridge University noted that China has provided a new possibility by abandoning the law of the jungle, hegemonism, power politics and the zero-sum game, and replacing them with win-win cooperation, co-construction and sharing. This pioneering work has great potential to change the world, the scholar said.

Seeking wisdom from different civilizations to provide spiritual support for the people and address the common challenges faced by mankind is a special responsibility taken by China, and also a contribution made by the country to push forward global civilizations, the progress of human beings, and the peaceful development of the world.

People's Daily



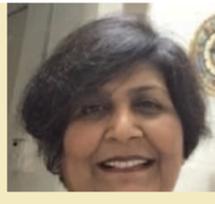
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## Experts see slight increase in endangered long-billed birds living in Amani Reserve

By Beatrice Philemon

SCIENTISTS who for over a decade, been taking measures to save an endangered bird species, Long-billed Forest-warbler are reporting progress in its numbers after intervention to restore the species natural habitat.

The scientists from Nature Tanzania and Tanzania Forest Conservation Group are saying the Long-billed Tailor bird which is only available in Tanzania in the East Africa region, has its numbers increased from between 150 and 200 individuals available in 2000 to 250 and 300 after intervention.

"The birds are responding well to the intervention to restore their natural habitat following deforestation and an invasive species of trees imported from Uganda," said Nature Tanzania's Project Manager, Victor Mkongewa said last week.

Mkongewa said with funding from Critical Ecosystem Partnership Fund, the 14 month project has witnessed significant progress from local communities involved to restore the Tailor bird's natural habitat at Amani Nature Reserve in Muheza district of Tanga region.

Mkongewa said the scientists are targeting to continue sensitizing the communities on the benefits of the rare bird while also giving them support to engage in alternative income generating activities which do not disturb the environment such as illegal mining.

"Through this project local farmers were given seeds to engage in organic spices farming, livestock keeping, beekeeping as well as planting the indigenous tree to restore the bird's nature environment while removing the invasive tree species which drives away



Women from villages around Amani Nature Reserve plant indigenous trees after removing the invasive *Maesopsis eminii* tree species to restore a habitat suitable for long-billed tailor bird's survival.

the Long-billed Tailor bird," Mkongewa noted. The rare bird which was on the verge of extinction from Amani Nature Reserve, is only found in large numbers at Amani Nature Reserve globally hence the need to ensure its numbers are restored to thousands.

"As we continue to destroy the invasive exotic tree species, *Maesopsis eminii* that re-

duced the abundance of several bird species, the long-billed tailor bird is coming back," he declared while noting that apart from attracting bird watching tourists from all over the globe, the bird will also exported once its numbers are restored to sustainable levels.

British colonial masters introduced the invasive *Maesopsis eminii* species from Ugan-

da in the 1930s. In southern Africa, the rare bird is also only available in Mozambique. Under a project dubbed, 'Sustainable Forest edge Management for the Conservation of the Long-billed Tailor bird in East Usambara Mountains,' the project involves hundreds of residents of Shebomeza and Mbomole villages.

Among other things, the communities have been given a total of 666 Cinnamon seedlings, 60 clove seedlings, 2004 Black pepper seedlings and 2004 supporting trees for planting to restore vegetation but also earn income.

The project has also donated 10 modern beehives and several pigs to Amani Catholic Church to assist congregations engage in conservation of the biodiversity of Amani Nature Reserve while others have received cows to keep as alternative source of incomes other than depending on forests.

Village leaders and their communities have also been trained on conservation and sensitized on the importance of biodiversity to humans and birds lives.

So far 21 acres of land have been cleared from the invasive *Maesopsis eminii* tree species and replanted with 42 different types of indigenous tree that take short and long terms to grow and mature. The endangered Long-billed Tailor bird has huge eco-tourism benefits because bird tourists from as far as Canada, Europe, the US and China have started flocking to Amani Nature Reserve to see them.

One of the farmers to is taking part in the project, Amri Saidi said after being sensitized on the benefits of conservation, himself and other villagers have completely changed their dependence of Amani Nature Reserve. "I and my family have also been assisted

with clove, spice, black paper and other seedlings to cultivate which is a good source of income," Saidi said noting that many young men who also engaged in illegal mining of gold in the reserve have since abandoned the trade.

He said through the knowledge and skills gained from the extension officers from Muheza district council, Nature Tanzania and TFCG, he also planted four acres of land with indigenous species of trees to conserve the biodiversity of Amani Nature Reserve and restore the Long-billed Tailor bird's habitat.

"I have already signed a contract with Nature Tanzania and TFCG to plant indigenous trees in my farm so that I can conserve the forest to bring back the Long-billed Tailor bird," he added while being backed by Aman Ward Executive Officer, Hadija Nassoro who thanked the conservation experts and project sponsors for the support.

"Nature Tanzania and TGCF's decision to bring this project to our area is a blessing because people have received training on conservation but given alternative means to survive," said Nassoro who also commended the experts for identifying the invasive tree, *Maesopsis eminii* as a threat to the rare bird.

"Right now local farmers have begun to plant indigenous trees in their farms, embark on livestock keeping and organic spice farming to conserve biodiversity of Amani Nature Reserve," she added while stressing that conservation is also important for future generations. Amani ward has four villages with a combined population of 6,772 people according to the 2012 National Census.

## Regulatory reforms, stakeholders' cooperation boost safety, security of tourists - Tato, police

By Smart Money Reporter, Arusha

IN a boost to the country spiralling tourist industry, a new reports has said regulatory reforms and change of stakeholders' mindsets, have improved safety and security of tourists.

According to a 'Tourists' Safety and Security in Tanzania Project co-implemented by the Tanzania Association of Tourism Operators (TATO) and the Police Force report, the government has undertaken several regulatory reforms leading to improved security.

"Besides the regulatory reforms, there has been a significant shift in the mind-set of all participating actors hence the improved environment," said Emmanuel Sulle and Wilbard Mkama, co-authors of the TATO commissioned report which was financed by the BEST-Dialogue.

The country which has witnessed tourist numbers increase from slightly over a million two years ago to nearly 1.5 million last year with \$2.4 billion in earnings annually, has seen the government through the Police Force and Auxiliary Services Act of 2002, establish a central mandate of tourist

security.

Thanks to the institutional reform, in 2013/14, the regulation was used to establish the diplomatic and tourism police unit responsible for the security of tourist's diplomats visiting the country. The reforms also saw the creation of National Tourism Commissioner's posts at the Force's headquarters and at regional levels.

"These are credited with playing a significant role in ensuring tourist safety and security in the country," the authors said giving an example of the Arusha Unit which has significantly increased patrols in and near the Northern tourism circuit in its latest efforts to ensure safety of the visitors.

The report further noted that among key successes is the shift in mind-set of all participating actors with an example of TATO-led initiatives in the Northern zone which ensures that tourists are now handled separately by special police officers.

In order to facilitate the realisation of the project, TATO members contributed financial and in-kind resources to build the Arusha tourism and diplomat's police station and four

police check points along the Kilimanjaro international Airport (KIA) to Ngorongoro Crater highway, the report added. They further contributed cars for highway patrols and installed furniture and Internet services in a bid to make the police station a fully-fledged tourism and diplomatic post. The numbers of visible and covert police patrols on major highways from airports and hotels to high tourist destination areas such as Serengeti National Park and Ngorongoro Crater has increased over time.

"These patrols have greatly reduced carjacking and highway robbery incidents" the authors stated while noting that Arusha Police Station has in a short period of time shown significant progress in recovering money from pick-pocket rascals.

In 2017, the stations recovered \$18,000 whereas in 2018 Arusha stations recovered \$26,250. Additionally, in the financial year 2017/18, Arusha tourist police centres managed to file 26 fraud cases, while in 2018/19 only 18 cases were recorded.

"The decreasing number of cases



President John Magufuli opens a diplomats and tourists police post in Arusha last year.

is linked to increased effort from Arusha's tourist police in tackling and tracking down fraudulent tourist ac-

tivities" the report reads in part. The study also categorized the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2002 as another

powerful tool that has been in place to ensure tourist security. Indeed, the regulations provides for gathering

of security intelligence information to counteract terror threats that might endanger tourist security.

## Treasury orders parastatals to surrender all cash

NAIROBI

THE Treasury has ordered all State corporations to surrender cash balances in their bank accounts in a move intended to cut the government's cost of borrowing.

Parastatals are among the biggest buyers of Treasury securities, which means the government ends up borrowing its own money and paying interest charges on it. The Treasury invited parastatal heads since Monday last week to negotiate

how much they would surrender to the government out of the surpluses held in bank accounts and near-liquid assets.

Treasury principal secretary Julius Muia in an interview said the directive is in line with the law and a prudent way for the government to cut its cost of borrowing. "It has happened in the past but it has not been targeting all State corporations as it is happening now. It's only that we want to be more formal how we do it this time round in a more orderly way," said Dr Muia.

"If they got surplus money they pay back and that would be taken back in accounting what is called the retained earnings and that is quite in order," he said.

**Significant amounts**

More than 10 State corporations whose balance sheets the Business Daily checked are holding more than Sh100 million, indicating that the Treasury could collect a significant amount from the directive. The parastatal heads, however, argue that the loose cash is used for financing day-to-day opera-

tions and contingencies, as well as boosting their balance sheets as they transact and borrow from banks.

Commercial banks have raised concerns over the order, which they say risks taking away the confidence money they rely on to offer loans to State corporations. They fear the directive will also lead to a flight of liquidity. The lenders have been calling State corporations for clarification on the order, with reports indicating the matter is still to be acted on as it remains in discus-

sions between the Treasury and top parastatal officials.

Dr Muia said the money will not be drawn arbitrarily, but will be discussed with each State corporation depending on their balance sheets.

**Projected requirements**

"We're not doing it without consultation, we're looking at their balance sheets, projected requirements going forward and how much of their surplus funds will be remitted to the Treasury. So it is a very orderly way in which we are doing it,"

said Dr Muia. "So far we started (by) meeting them, the process has been going on smoothly," he said. He added that Banks will just have to cope without State deposits but the money will not systemically affect the industry as it is well buffered. "Certainly when we ask State corporations to pay surplus money to the Treasury there will be a withdrawal of money from the commercial banking sector because Treasury banks with Central Bank. "But the amounts are not big, and if you look at the liquid-

ity of the banking sector they are awash with money with liquidity ratios higher than that required by the CBK," said Dr Muia. Former Treasury Secretary Henry Rotich last year went for regulators' purses, including CBK, the Kenya Bureau of Standards, Communications Authority of Kenya, the National Environmental Management Authority, Capital Markets Authority, and Insurance Regulatory Authority, accusing them of failing to remit surpluses owed to the Exchequer.

## Trade support body, Ministry of Agriculture digitise system of permits and certification

By Francis Kajubi

**D**IGITISATION of issuance of permits, licenses and certificates for agro-produce imports and exports, pesticides and other agro-inputs has significantly reduced time taken by business people to process such documents from almost three weeks to 48 hours.

TradeMark East Africa Country Director, John Ulanga said since last May when a Trade Management Information System (ARTIMIS) was commissioned, traders and agro-dealers seeking to export or import commodities, pesticides and other agro-inputs have reported an improvement of performance. The ARTIMIS project has been made possible by a 1.6bn/- TMEA funding.

Ulanga said TMEA has been working with Ministry of Agriculture and Food Security to develop the online system that allows the private sector to apply for the various documents from regulatory agencies for the past three years.

"Apart from efficiency, the system will also help in elimination of fake documents created by some traders but also reduced corrupt practices," Ulanga said noting that fake documents compromised quality and safety of locally made agricultural products and agro-inputs at international markets.

Currently the digitized system is already being used by four regulatory institutions and nine crop boards under Ministry of Agriculture. The institutions are: Plant Health Service (PHS which is a crop development division; Tanzania Pesticides Research Institute (TPRI), Tanzania Official Seed Certification Institute (TOSCI) and Tanzania Fertilizer Regulatory Authority (TFRA).

The nine boards are: Tanzania Tobacco Board (TTB), Cashew-nut Board of Tanzania (CBT), Tanzania Cotton Board (TCB), Cereal and other Produce Board; Tanzania Pyrethrum Board (TPB); Tea Board of Tanzania (TBT); Sisal Board of Tanzania (SBT); Sugar Board of Tanzania (SgBT) and Coffee Board of Tanzania (CBT).

The TMEA Country Director asserted that the system has also increased revenue being collected by regulatory authorities while ensuring that the government has latest and accurate date trade documents issued at all times.

"Acquiring of permits and licenses has been one of the major challenges facing dealers in agricultural produce and agro-inputs when it comes to importation, exportation and trading hence we decided to invest in this system which is saving time and money spent by business people in pro-



TMEA Country Director, John Ulanga.

cessing such trade documents," Ulanga added. The system was designed to accommodate government's mission in relation to the business community demands. All boards and regulatory institutions' workers went through trainings on application of the system prior to becoming operational. More than 300 agro-dealers were also trained on how to apply for their permits and certificates online.

"TMEA is looking forward to collaborate with the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries to establish a similar system that will ease the processing and issuing of certificates, licenses and permits to business people," the TMEA chief noted. TMEA has already invested in digital systems for Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority (TFDA) and the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS).

Commenting on performance of the ARTIMIS, Pesticides Registrar from TPRI, Joseph Bukalasa said since last February when the institute started using the system, it has increased transparency and predictability in the management of permits issuance relating to crops and agro-inputs.

Bukalasa pointed out that with the digitised system, TPRI has been spending between two to eight hours to issue licenses and permits compared to up to three weeks in the past. "Before this system started, we had no electronic data of our stakeholder's whereabouts. We had difficulties in tracing fees paid by traders to get permits and licenses," Bukalasa said.

Tanzania Horticulture Association (TAHA) Group's CEO, Jacqueline Mkindi said the ARTIMIS has been very helpful to her association in facilitating exports by doing away with delays which

dogged the manual permits issuance system.

"We faced delays of up to two weeks in processing phytosanitary certificates that are mandatory in export of flowers and fruits. I thank TradeMark East Africa for facilitating the establishment of this system," Mkindi said.

Joshua Muro who is Assistant Director for Plant Quarantine and Phytosanitary Services at Ministry of Agriculture also acknowledged the efficiency that ARTIMIS has brought after being integrated into Government electronic Payment Gateway (GePG) system.

Muro said ARTIMIS integration into GePG will likely increase revenue collection through elimination of fake certificates, licenses and permits by unfaithful agro-dealers. "We used to receive not less than ten complains of non-compliance each month from countries where our agro-produce are exported which include China, Australia, Pakistan and Europe but since we started using this system last May, we have not received any concern relating to Tanzanian agriculture exports," Muro revealed.

He asserted that the system has restored faith, confidence and credibility to the nation's international trading partners after years of complaints blamed on unfaithful agro-produce exporters.

"In addition, this system has helped digitization of the ministry's database and thus making it possible to contribute to the open data and big data initiatives undertaken by the government," he added while stressing that ARTIMIS has also boosted transparency and predictability in the delivery of the ministry's services to stakeholders.

## Tanzania, Uganda maize imports cut down flour prices

NAIROBI

MAIZE imports from Tanzania and Uganda have helped to stabilise the market price of the grain, averting fears of a sharp increase in flour prices on supermarket shelves.

The price of a two-kilo packet of flour has averaged Sh123 since June, defying the Ministry of Agriculture's projections that the cost would shoot to over Sh130 citing an imminent maize shortage in the country.

The ministry had repeatedly called for lifting of taxes to allow for duty-free imports, which Opposition leader Raila Odinga, the Strategic Food Reserve Fund chairman Dr Noah Wekesa and Members of Parliament from the maize growing zones opposed, saying there was enough maize in the country.

Price stabilisation

Millers attribute the current price stabilisation to improved supplies in the market. "Prices have remained consistent over the past few weeks therefore no need for finished product price change," said Nick Hutchinson, chief executive officer of Unga Group.

"Although supplies are not excessive, they are adequate, we believe that most grain is coming in from Uganda and Tanzania," he added. Millers say that they are paying between Sh3,300 and Sh3,400 for a 90-kilogramme bag at the moment in Nairobi.

Agriculture principal secretary Hamadi Boga, who had supported the import of more than 10 million bags of duty-free maize, in an interview Friday said the price of flour will remain at the current levels if the flow of grain from neighbouring countries remains at the current level.

"We have witnessed a steady flow of maize coming in from the borders and this will only help to maintain the price of flour at the current cost but it will not make them cheaper," said Prof Boga. The Ministry of Agriculture had announced in March that Kenya would run out of maize at the end of July and wanted the country to ship in grain from Mexico.

Hurt farmers

The move, however, attracted strong opposition amid fears it would hurt local farmers by forcing down prices of the commodity.

The pressure saw Agriculture Secretary Mwangi Kiunjuri change his mind on imports from Mexico, saying that maize would be procured from regional countries such as Malawi and Zambia, which have been a major source of maize to Kenya in times of shortages. This is despite the government having made an advanced plan to import 11.1 million bags of maize Mexico.

Prof Boga says the decision to import was informed by the movement of price in the market, which had hit a high of Sh120 in April from a low of Sh85 in January before settling at Sh123 currently. "We are a maize deficit country and we knew that imports would be the only way to lower the current cost of flour," he said.



Unga Group's CEO, Nick Hutchinson (R) brandishing a maize sachet.

## Nissan, BMW discuss pulling SA into electric car era

JOHANNESBURG

NISSAN Motor, BMW and Volkswagen are among carmakers in talks to bring the electric-car revolution to South Africa, as the nation's auto-factory floors risk being left behind in the global switch to greener vehicles.

The industry is preparing a unified stance on electrification to present to the government by the end of the year, Mike Mabasa, chief executive officer of the National Association of Automobile Manufacturers of South Africa, or Naamsa, said in an interview.

Among the goals is persuading lawmakers to reduce or drop a 23% import tariff on electric vehicles to help ramp up nascent domestic sales, he said. Another is to roll out a charging infrastructure in a country where the state-owned power monopoly is in deep financial crisis.

Taking steps to boost the popularity of electric vehicles in South Africa is just one part of the equation. The auto-manufacturing industry makes up about 7% of the country's economy, according to Naamsa. The sector is one of the more positive aspects of an economy expected to grow at less than 1% for a second consecutive year.

"The country needs to move forward and bring new technologies," said Mike Whitfield, Nissan's chairman for the southern Africa region. "The rest of the world will move very fast and if we don't get going we will be left behind."

South Africa has long been a hub for global automaking, at-



BMW employees work on the production line of the BMW X3 series inside the body shop of the BMW factory in Johannesburg.

tracting plants operated by seven carmakers from Toyota Motor to Isuzu Motors. Last year, the manufacturers exported almost 210 000 cars to Europe, where Volkswagen is already retooling factories to only make electric cars. That's just under a third of all local production and makes up 60% of exports.

To date, there are no firm plans for electric-car or hybrid production in South Africa, but the government and industry agreed in 2018 to extend a manufacturing incentive program, creating jobs and enabling models like the BMW X3 sport utility vehicle and Nissan's Novera pickup to be produced locally.

"The electric-vehicle play in South Africa will not be determined by the South African consumer, but by the requirements of export markets," Martyn Davies, an auto-industry specialist at Deloitte, said by phone from Johannesburg, adding that the weaker rand is also making exports more attractive.

The quality of the local plants of BMW, Ford Motor and Mercedes-Benz are good enough to make retooling quite straightforward, he said, adding that the next product made in South Africa by those automakers could feasibly be electric. Under the terms of the new manufacturing plan, the automakers will have to more than double annual production to as many as 1.4 million vehicles by 2035, and that won't happen without making electric cars as well as gas or diesel, according to Naamsa's Mabasa.

BMW's i3 and i8 are two of only three models currently available in the birth country of electric car pioneer Elon Musk, and only 620 units have been sold. Jaguar Land Rover introduced the I-Pace earlier this year, while Nissan is holding off on the launch of the latest Leaf until after an agreement is reached on import tariffs. Elsewhere on the African continent, a plan by Volkswagen to introduce an electric-vehicle in Rwanda stands in contrast to a lack of other developments.

Another barrier to an accelerated electric-car boom in South Africa is Eskom, the power provider that last week reported an annual loss of almost \$1.5 billion and requires an \$8.8 billion government bailout over the next three years.

The utility has been forced to implement intermittent rolling blackouts and is reliant on coal, which is out of step with the environmentally friendly advantages of producing electric cars, Mabasa said.

Therefore, the industry paper is likely to lay out a mixture of power sources between Eskom and privately owned renewable energy projects, he said.

But the need to turn around Eskom's financial situation is likely to be of more pressing concern to the government than using it to enable the electric-car industry, Nissan's Whitfield said.

"There is excess capacity, but quite frankly Eskom's issues have to be addressed or we will have much bigger problems," Whitfield said.

## Saudi Aramco posts \$46.9bn H1 profit as company set to buy 20 pct of Reliance

RIYADH

SAUDI Aramco said net profit for the first half of the year slid 11 per cent on lower oil prices as the company is set to buy 20 per cent of India's Reliance Industries' oil-to-chemicals business at an enterprise value of \$75 billion.

Dhahran-based Aramco said net profit attributable to shareholders for the first six months of the year reached \$46.9bn from the same period a year earlier, according to a statement yesterday.

"Despite lower oil prices during the first half of 2019, we continued to deliver solid earnings and strong free cash flow underpinned by our consistent operational performance, cost management and fiscal discipline," Saudi Aramco president and chief executive Amin Nasser said in a statement.

"Disclosing our financial results for the first time, as part of our \$12bn debut international bond issuance, marked a significant milestone in Saudi Aramco's history," he added. Saudi Aramco's financial results come amid preparations for an initial public offering, a key component of the kingdom's Vision 2030 strategy.

Aramco's earnings before interest and tax were down 9 per cent for the first half to \$92.5 billion, while free cash flow increased 7 per cent to \$38bn for the same period. The state oil company's capital expenditure stood at \$14.5bn for the first half, compared with \$16.5bn in the same period last year.

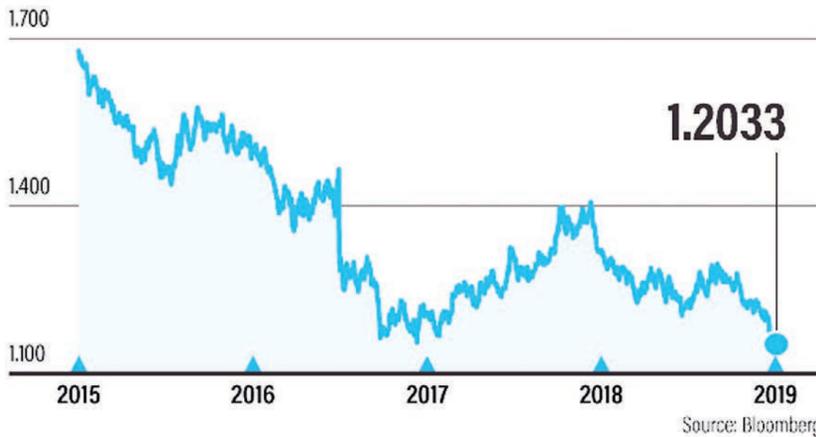
Meanwhile, Reliance Industries chief executive Mukesh Ambani announced the deal with Aramco as one of the biggest foreign direct investments in India. "This is the biggest foreign investment for Reliance and one of the largest for India. The partnership with Saudi Aramco to cover RIL's Refining and Petrochemicals assets, including 51 per cent of the petroleum retail JV," he told shareholders on Monday.

"Saudi Aramco and Reliance have agreed to form a long-term partnership in our oil-to-chemicals division. Saudi Aramco will invest for a 20 per cent stake in RIL's O2C division at an enterprise value of \$75 billion," he added.

Saudi Aramco will supply 500,000 barrels per day of crude to Reliance's refinery at Jamnagar on a long term basis. The 1.24 million bpd capacity refinery located in India's western state of Gujarat is the world's largest refining facility.

# How Britons in United Arab Emirates are cashing in on the pound's decline

## GBP TO USD



A graph showing the falling value of the British pound against the US dollar.

**DUBAI**

THE plunge in the pound since Boris Johnson was appointed British Prime Minister may be bad news for the UK, but it is good news for many in the UAE.

Sterling's troubles have effectively handed a pay rise to British residents living in the Emirates and others with financial links to the UK, as their US dollar-linked dirhams are now worth much more when converted back into pounds.

Many are rushing to take advantage of this opportunity but some are wondering if they should hold off in case sterling has further to fall. Briton Daumantas Grigaravicius, 29, has had a pay rise of 13 per cent in sterling terms since relocating to Dubai early last year.

At the time, Mr Grigaravicius negotiated his salary at a fixed exchange rate of £1 to Dh5.07, which meant that each Dh10,000 he earns was worth around £1,972. At time of writing, with £1 at Dh4.42, Dh10,000 would be worth around £2,261 before charges, giving him an extra £289.

Other expatriates arriving from the UK may be even luckier. "Those who arrived before the EU referendum in June 2016 when rates topped Dh6 could have had a 20 per cent pay rise in sterling terms," says Mr Grigaravicius, who works for Ebury Brokers in Dubai.

Mr Grigaravicius and his wife Daryl Hulse are sending as much as they can afford back home to build up their UK savings and investments for when they finally return to the UK. Ms Hulse, who works for UAE investment platform Sarwa, a robo-adviser in Dubai International Financial Centre, says always compare different providers' currency rates before making transfers. "They ultimately want your business so don't be afraid to request a better price, or take your business elsewhere."

Today's exchange rate is hugely attractive but could get even better, she adds. "Until we have Brexit resolution anything could happen."

Pradeep Kumar, chief executive at currency specialists UAE Exchange and Unimoni, says its UK customer remittances have been rising for some time as Britons cash in on their sliding home currency. "This is an opportune moment for both British expats and globetrotters with multi-currency prepaid travel cards, who can lock into today's attractive rates."

Other clients have spotted an opportunity to invest in UK property and other sterling-based assets, and are taking advantage of the low mortgage rates offered both by UAE banks and international lenders, he says.

British residents Fred Wobus and his wife Rachel have been cashing in on sterling weakness, recently sending Dh45,000 to the UK, and receiving more than £10,000. "This is the best we've seen since moving to Dubai 18 months ago," says Mr Wobus. "We regularly send money from our salaries but this month we sent a bit more than usual."

The couple is building a deposit to buy a property in Cornwall for when they return to the UK, as well as spending money for holidays home, says Mr Wobus, who works in marine forecasting. The couple transfer money using the UAE Exchange loyalty programme Club Exclusive, which gives them prioritised and personal service, and competitive rates.

They also invest in the FTSE Vanguard All-World UCITS ETF (VWRD), via offshore investment platform Interactive Brokers, although in this case there is little or no currency benefit. The ETF invests in a spread of global stocks, half of which are in the US, and Mr Wobus says: "Our payments are immediately converted into US dollars to buy those shares, so we invest in the US dollar-denominated version." Now could be a good time to buy index-tracking exchange traded funds targeting the UK and denominated in sterling, such as the iShares Core FTSE 100 UCITS ETF or the SPDR FTSE All-Share UCITS ETF.

However, the benefits are reduced because companies listed on the FTSE 100 generate three quarters of their earnings overseas, which are worth more every time sterling falls. So when the pound falls the index rises, evening out the overall effect.

Briton Chris Battle is a rare optimist about the pound, and is sending as much as he can afford to the UK now in case it strengthens. "No-deal Brexit is priced into the exchange rate, so sterling may not fall much further," he says. "If we achieve an orderly exit it is undervalued and should quickly recover."

Mr Battle owns several buy-to-let properties in England and is investing in UK crowdfunding websites, which offer returns of around 10 per cent a year by lending money to businesses and property developers. "This is far more than I pay in mortgage interest so I hope the money will grow faster and allow me to clear most of my debt in 10 to 15 years," says Mr Battle.

He acknowledges his plan isn't foolproof as timing the market is always risky. "The pound could fall even lower, so I could miss out on an even better opportunity, although I cannot see that happening from today's level," he adds.

Network and operations specialist Paul Young is keen to send all his spare money back to the UK

right now to build up savings for his retirement as fast as he can. "I normally send money every month but I don't want to miss out on today's favourable rates."

Mr Young, 49, moved to Dubai in February 2018 after 35 years of working in London. "My wife has stayed in the UK and I plan to retire there in a few years, so current sterling weakness is a particular boon."

When Mr Young first arrived in the UAE, he used a local bank until he discovered he could get better rates and lower charges by using a currency specialist, and chose UK-based Money Mover. "It has saved me thousands of pounds and also offers useful extras such as a real-time rate tracking service," he says.

Money Mover chief executive Hamish Anderson urges people to compare rates and charges rather than simply using their bank, which may be expensive. "Even if your bank quotes zero commission it may load the exchange rates, sometimes taking up to 4 per cent of your money," he says. "When comparing, always look at the actual currency amounts that you will receive."

Also check settlement and delivery times, he adds: "How long are the funds going to be in transit? Can you track the transfer or will the transaction enter a black hole until funds mysteriously turn up 10 days later?"

For larger transfers, Mr Anderson advises asking whether you will get a MT103 wire transfer confirmation, which gives you proof of payment and allows you to trace the money if it fails to arrive for any reason.

Consider splitting large payments into several smaller transactions over several days or weeks, Mr Anderson says. "This averages out your exchange rate, so you are not at the mercy of the prevailing spot rate." If you are aiming for a target exchange rate, check whether your provider will alert you when it hits that level. "Otherwise you will be glued to your computer," he says.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

# Workplace attention deficit hyperactivity - a disorder...

## CORPORATE WELLNESS



By Bhakti Shah, MPH

MANAGERS often have employees who are a challenge to motivate. Consider a scenario where you tell an employee that his or her performance is not up to standard. You take the time to meet with this employee to discuss actions to improve his or her performance, but no matter what you do, the employee continues to make the same mistake. You may form the opinion that the employee is careless, lazy or non-motivated. However, this assumption may be incorrect - your employee could simply have a brain dysfunction, such as Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD).

ADHD is a medical condition, where there are differences in brain development and brain activity that affect attention, the ability to sit still and self-control. In the workplace, ADHD may manifest as disorganization, deadlines, inability to manage workloads, problems following instructions and arguments with co-workers.

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ADHD is a medical condition, where there are differences in brain development and brain activity that affect attention, the ability to sit still and self-control. In the workplace, ADHD may manifest as disorganization, deadlines, inability to manage workloads, problems following instructions and arguments with co-workers.

3. Hyper-focusing - Break tasks into manageable chunks and set an alarm at pre-determined times to rouse the employee from the hyper-focused state. The alarm must be outside of arm's reach and must be loud enough to demand the employee's attention, or they may ignore it.

4. Hyperactivity - can make ADHD adults trapped, especially if their job is sedentary. Any activity that gets the employee moving during the day will benefit that employee's performance. Encourage the employee to take several short breaks throughout the workday. Sometimes just getting up to get a cup of coffee or make copies can constitute enough movement to help the hyperactive employee cope with a sedentary job.

5. Memory Problems - are common amongst ADHD individuals. Follow up oral conversations with emails so that the employee will have written records. In addition, encourage the employee to explore memorization techniques and practices, such as carrying a day planner, writing everything down and taking notes in meetings.

6. Time Management - Sustained attempts to arrive early (As opposed to on time) and remain focused in the face of intermediate distractions will help to arrive on time.

7. Over-commitment and procrastination - Frequently ask for progress reports on current projects.

ADHD symptoms can trigger stress at work and at home. It is important to acknowledge that ADHD is neurobiological and will not go away. The neurobiology makes it difficult to screen out competing stimuli, focus and slow down, all of which increase frustration levels. Being unable to measure up to people's expectations or feeling guilty about missing deadlines at work creates additional tension. It is therefore best to get a proper diagnosis and treatment and self-manage ADHD with regular exercises and relaxation techniques to help

- Improve mood and lower stress
- Improve memory and decision making skills
- Lower blood pressure and improve cardiovascular health
- Help achieve goals and desired changes in life
- Boost immune system to prevent illnesses
- Prepare for an important performance or event
- Add a sense of self-control and independence.

Reply back to [bhakti@impactafya.com](mailto:bhakti@impactafya.com). **corporate 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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# Huawei chief set to forge 'invincible iron army'

**BEIJING**

HUAWEI Technologies' billionaire founder intends to kick off a three to five-year overhaul of the networking giant, creating an "iron army" that can help it survive an American onslaught while protecting its lead in next-generation wireless.



Major structural shifts are around the corner as US sanctions threaten the survival of its cash-cow smartphone business, Ren Zhengfei warned in an internal memo seen by Bloomberg News and verified by a Huawei spokeswoman. The consumer business faces a "painful long march", Mr Ren wrote, a possible reference to the Communist Party's historic cross-country trek.

China's biggest technology company is grappling with an existential threat after Washington blocked Huawei from buying American technology,

cutting off vital components from Qualcomm chipsets to Google's Android operating software. Mr Ren, 74, said an internal revamp was now needed to meet war-time needs, meaning organisations deemed unnecessary or redundant will be removed. He didn't provide details about how such a restructuring might unfold.

"We have to complete an overhaul in harsh and difficult conditions, creating an invincible iron army that

can help us achieve victory," Mr Ren wrote in the letter dated August 2. "We absolutely have to complete this re-organisation within three to five years."

Mr Ren, a former engineer with the People's Liberation Army, has a penchant for militaristic language. The entrepreneur has spoken previously about a "strategic withdrawal" from certain markets in response to escalating US scrutiny. Huawei itself hasn't been clear about how Trump administration curbs would impact its 190,000-some employees worldwide but the company has begun to lay off US-based staff. The Wall Street Journal has reported.

Huawei reported slower sales growth in the second quarter compared to the first as the ban started to bite, especially into a consumer business encompassing smartphones and laptops. The company unveiled its

in-house HarmonyOS at the weekend, saying it can replace Android if Google's software was barred from its future smartphones. But Mr Ren said the company needed a lot more time to build an apps ecosystem, a major requirement for any operating software to thrive in the long run.

"Two bullets fired at our consumer business group unfortunately hit the oil tanks," Mr Ren said in his letter, without elaborating. Still, he talked about Huawei's edge against the US in fifth-generation telecommunication technologies. The Chinese company's dominance in 5G has been cited as motivation for a US campaign to contain its ascendancy, because the technology is expected to propel future modern economies. "The US doesn't use the most advanced 5G technology," he wrote. "That may leave it lagging behind in the artificial intelligence sector."



## WORLD

# President Trump for spreading Epstein conspiracy theories

WASHINGTON

DEMOCRATIC presidential contenders Beto O'Rourke and Cory Booker slammed U.S. President Donald Trump on Sunday for promoting unfounded conspiracy theories about the apparent suicide of disgraced financier Jeffrey Epstein in his New York jail cell.

After the death on Saturday of Epstein, a millionaire charged with sex trafficking who once counted Trump and former President Bill Clinton as friends, Trump retweeted a baseless claim from a conservative comedian that Clinton was involved in the death.

"This is another example of our president using this position of public trust to attack his political enemies with unfounded conspiracy theories," O'Rourke, a former congressman from Texas, said on CNN's State of the Union.

O'Rourke said Trump was trying to shift the public's focus away from last weekend's two deadly mass shootings in El Paso, Texas, and Dayton, Ohio, which have led to new calls for gun restrictions and criticism of Trump's divisive anti-immigrant and racially charged rhetoric.

"He's changing the conversation, and if we allow him to do that then we will never be able to focus on the true problems, of which he is a part," O'Rourke said from his hometown of El Paso.

Booker, a U.S. senator from New Jersey, said Trump's retweet was "just more recklessness."

"He is giving life to not just conspira-

cy theories but really whipping people up into anger and worse against different people in this country," he said on CNN.

The FBI and the Department of Justice's Inspector General have opened investigations into the death of Epstein, who a source said had been taken off suicide watch. Last month, Epstein was found unconscious on the floor of his jail cell with marks on his neck, and officials were investigating that incident as a possible suicide or assault.

U.S. Attorney General William Barr said he was "appalled" to learn of the apparent suicide in federal custody. "Mr. Epstein's death raises serious questions that must be answered," Barr said in a statement on Saturday.

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, a Democratic congresswoman from New York City and a leading progressive voice, tweeted: "We need answers. Lots of them."

White House senior adviser Kellyanne Conway said investigation of Epstein should continue despite his death.

"Jeffrey Epstein has done some very bad things over a number of years, so let's continue to investigate that," she said on Fox News Sunday. "I don't think that somebody's crimes and the accountability for that necessarily perish with them."

More than a decade ago, Epstein pleaded guilty in Florida to state charges of solicitation of prostitution from a minor in a deal with prosecutors that has been widely criticized as too lenient.



Democratic presidential contender Beto O'Rourke

ent.

Then in July, Epstein was indicted, federal prosecutors in New York accusing him of knowingly recruiting underage women to engage in sex acts with him, sometimes over a period of years while paying the women for each encounter. He pleaded not guilty.

O'Rourke and Booker are among two dozen candidates seeking the Democratic nomination to challenge Republican Trump for the White House in 2020. Nearly all of those Democrats have condemned Trump's incendiary rhetoric for inflaming racial tensions and anger.

"We've seen people's lives being threatened because this president whips up hatred. This is a very dangerous president that we have now," Booker said.

Trump had retweeted on Saturday a message from conservative comedian and commentator Terrence K. Williams, who said in part that Ep-

stein "had information on Bill Clinton & now he's dead."

Clinton spokesman Angel Urena blasted Trump for making the suggestion. "Ridiculous, and of course not true - and Donald Trump knows it. Has he triggered the 25th Amendment yet?" he said, referring to the procedures for replacing the president in event of removal or incapacitation.

Trump has a history of promoting conspiracy theories about political rivals. Even before he was a presidential candidate, Trump repeatedly questioned whether former President Barack Obama was born in the United States, even after Obama produced a birth certificate proving that he was.

During the Republican presidential nomination race in 2016, Trump spread an unfounded conspiracy theory linking the father of rival U.S. Senator Ted Cruz to the assassination of former President John Kennedy, a claim Cruz denounced as a lie.

Agencies

## Norway: Alleged mosque gunman suspect in stepsister's death

MOSCOW

A SHOOTING at a mosque in Norway is being investigated as an attempted terrorist attack and the alleged gunman in his 20s also is a suspect in his younger stepsister's slaying, police in the Norwegian capital said Sunday.

The 21-year-old man was taken into custody after the shooting inside the Al-Noor Islamic Center that wounded one person, Oslo police said. Investigators so far think no one else was involved in Saturday's violence at the mosque, located in the Oslo suburb of Baerum.

When officers went to the shooting suspect's residence, they found the body of his 17-year-old stepsister, police said Sunday evening. The alleged mosque gunman was being investigated in her death, police said.

The shooting suspect does not admit to any crime and is not speaking with investigators, his lawyer said on Monday.

"He is exercising his right not to be interrogated," his defence attorney, Unni Fries, told Reuters. "He is not admitting any guilt."

The Oslo Police department said forensic work at the mosque "confirms that several shots were fired, but the number of shots and the type of weapons are not yet established."

The department said it was working with the Norwegian Police Security Service, Norway's national domestic security agency, since the "investigation has given us a better overall understanding of the attack" at the mosque.

"The fact that the aggressor entered a mosque armed and from the investigation so far has been found to have expressed hostile attitudes against immigrants has led the police to investigate this attack as an attempted act of terrorism," the police department said in a statement.

Oslo Deputy Police Inspector Rune Skjold said during a news conference Sunday that mosque



shooting was being treated as an attempted terror attack in part because the investigation uncovered evidence of the man's "right-wing extremist views" and alleged animosity toward immigrants.

Police attend the scene after a shooting inside the Al-Noor Islamic center mosque in Baerum outside Oslo. Norwegian police say one person has been shot and lightly injured during the shooting incident at a mosque in a western suburb of the capital. (AP)

extremist views" and alleged animosity toward immigrants.

"Because of that, in relation to what he's done, it's clear that what he did has caused fear among the public, Skjold said. "And based on the views he's expressed online, it means we can safely say we are investigating an attempted act of terrorism."

Police said the suspect refused to answer questions and investigators plan to interview neighbors for information about his stepsister and her death.

Skjold said the alleged gunman was prepared to cause deaths and more injuries at the Al-Noor Islamic Center and didn't succeed because of the "great courage" of people inside the mosque.

"There is no doubt that the swift and firm response from the persons inside the mosque stopped the aggressor and prevented further consequences," Skjold said. "Trying to neutralize an armed person is always dangerous."

Agencies

# China's path of development is one and only

By David Gosset

I STARTED my wonderful relation with China since an adolescent. I used to be a huge fan of table tennis and won a championship of a French national table tennis competition at 11. Back then, China was still a remote country for me, but Chinese table tennis players were already "super heroes" in my eyes.

When I was in high school, a teacher of mine introduced to me the works of Chinese poets in Tang Dynasty, including Du Fu, Li Bai and Wang Wei. The charms of the graceful poems and the beauty of Chinese culture attracted me so much that I started learning Chinese.

When I was a student, I also had a huge interest in the ancient Silk Road which started from China. So I spent

a long time studying the route map of the Silk Road, pondering on those exotic names of different places. It is still fun as I recall it today.

My first trip to China was in 1996, during which I went to Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region. It was in summer when I boarded the train leaving Urumqi, capital of Xinjiang, and it was very hot. I had a free and happy conversation with the passengers. We talked, laughed and had watermelons together, and we soon became friends.

When I work in China, I would take trains for long-distance trips whenever I could.

Of course, the speed and comfort of today's high speed trains are totally different from those of the trains 20 some years ago.

Later I visited Xinjiang around a dozen times, leaving my footprints

in Kunlun Mountain and Hami. I also hiked to many other places of the autonomous region, seeing both the natural and cultural beauty of it. For me, every trip to Xinjiang inspires me.

Over 20 years have passed since I arrived in China for the first time. I witnessed the remarkable progress of the country's reform and opening up, and also the huge changes brought by the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to the world.

My book Limited Views on the Chinese Renaissance was debuted in Shanghai last year. It included 40 articles, presenting my research and views accumulated over years of China studies.

China's Confucianism believes that the world is a commonwealth, which is similar to the concept of a community of a shared future for mankind.

These thoughts are promoting mutual learning and exchanges among global civilizations.

Today, China is making huge contribution to multilateralism, playing an increasingly important role in the global governance system. For instance, the country has always devoted itself to the multilateral process on climate change, playing a big part in the reaching of the Paris Agreement and making important contribution to global climate governance.

However, I found the western society does not understand China very well. I hope that other countries and regions in the world can draw wisdom from China's experiences of development.

I established Europe-China Forum in 2002 to enhance mutual trust between the two sides and strengthen

bilateral cooperation.

I hope that the two ancient civilizations can further enhance communication and cooperation, so as to jointly build a community of a shared future for mankind.

Since 2015, I started to study the BRI. To promote the constant communication between Europe and China has become a lifetime pursuit of me.

At the second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF), China stressed the importance of boosting connectivity, strengthening policy synergy, promoting green and sustainable development.

I believe what China said is very important. China's efforts to promote ecological progress in recent years are constructive both for China and the world. Focusing on ecological progress and turning the Belt and Road

into a road of green development will make the international society more active to participate in the BRI.

China's progress made in a few decades is unprecedented in human history. When China is pursuing its own development, it is also transforming the world. Though the country is facing many challenges in development, it has always been able to solve them with its wisdom and make breakthroughs. China's path of development is one and only in the world.

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the founding of the People's Republic of China, and I'm looking forward to China's future development. I believe that the country will keep surprising me with its constant achievements.

(The author is the founder of Europe-China Forum)

## Russia's Bastion coastal defence systems wipe out enemy warships in Black Sea drills

MOSCOW

THE combat teams of Bastion coastal defense missile systems of the Russian Black Sea Fleet's Crimean grouping of forces have held drills to detect and destroy a notional enemy's warships in the Black Sea, the Fleet's press office reported yesterday.

"During the drills, the personnel of the Bastion coastal defense missile systems practiced the assignments of changing positions and deploying in a new positioning area with missile strikes against a notional enemy," the press office said in a statement.

Under the drills' scenario, the Fleet's command and control center has received reconnaissance data indicating that a notional enemy's strike force was preparing to deliver a strike against coastal infrastructure facilities and ships of the Black Sea Fleet.

The Bastion teams detected the adversary's warships, readied their systems and conducted electronic launches of cruise missiles. The enemy's naval taskforce was notionally wiped out," the statement says.

The drills were held as part of measures to practice interaction of units and formations of the multi-service grouping of forces in Crimea. The drills involved over 30 weapon systems.

The Bastion coastal defense system with the standardized Yakhont (Oniks) supersonic homing anti-ship cruise missile is designated to strike various types of surface ships operating as part of amphibious assault formations, convoys, surface action and carrier strike groups, and also sole ships and radar-contrast land targets under intensive fire and electronic counter-measures.

Agencies

## S. Korea drops Japan from white list of trusted export partners

SEOUL

SOUTH Korea yesterday decided to remove Japan from its white list of trusted export partners after Tokyo's such removal earlier this month.

South Korean Minister of Trade, Industry and Energy Sung Yun-mo said at a press briefing that Seoul's export control of strategic materials will be run to meet the basic principle of the international export control system.

Sung (pictured) said it will be hard to closely cooperate with a country, which violates the basic principle of the international export control system or continues to run the system inappropriately.

Under the revised act on the export and import of strategic materials, Japan was dropped off South Korea's white list of trusted export partners that are given preferential export procedure for strategic materials.

It came after Japan took South Korea off its white list earlier this month. Japan tightened regulations early last month on its export to South Korea of three materials crucial for manufacturing memory chips and displaying panels.

The Seoul's revised act was slated to take effect next month after the collection of public opinion and the legislation of the deliberation on it for about 20 days.

Sung noted that if the Japanese government calls for consultation during the deliberation period, the Seoul government would be ready to accept it at any time and any place.

Japan permitted the shipment of extreme ultraviolet (EUV) photoresist to South Korea last week, the first approval of a chip material export to South Korea since its tighter export control of such materials in early July.

However, South Korea still saw uncertainties despite Japan's approval.

Japan's export curbs came in protest against the South Korean top court's rulings that ordered some of Japanese companies, including the Nippon Steel and the Mitsubishi Heavy Industries among others, to compensate the South Korean victims who were forced into hard labor without pay during the colonization.

The Korean Peninsula was colonized by Imperial Japan from 1910 to 1945.

Xinhua



In this Aug 9, 2019, photo, Kashmiri Muslims take part in protest march after Friday prayers in Srinagar, Indian controlled Kashmir. (AP)

## Kashmir in lockdown, but India says restrictions will ease soon

By Bloomberg

LARGE parts of Kashmir remained cut off from the rest of the world as a communications blackout entered its eighth day, although India said it would soon begin gradually easing restrictions.

Television footage showed barbed wire barricades set up on the streets of Srinagar -- the summer capital of Indian-administered Kashmir -- where gun-toting security forces were guarding the streets.

Some of the restrictions, including one that prohibits the assembly of people, were eased at the weekend, according to local officials and some media reports, ahead of the Muslim festival of Eid.

The restrictions were put on place to stop the spread of misinformation, Foreign Secretary Vijay Gokhale said at a briefing in New Delhi yesterday, noting the curbs were precautionary and would be lifted.

"This is obviously a sensitive week, we have a major festival today, we have our independence day on Aug 15," Gokhale told reporters. Restrictions will be gradually eased "when we feel the law and order situation improves," he said, without giving a timeline.

Indian authorities imposed the lockdown fearing massive protests after Prime Minister Narendra Modi ended Kashmir's seven decades of autonomy in a surprise move last week.

In one swoop, the government pushed through a legislation which brought the region under central administration and allowed Indian citizens living outside the state to own land in Kashmir.

The decision was taken within days of US President Donald Trump's offer to mediate between India and Pakistan. India rejected the offer that came after Trump met Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan to seek his help to pressure the Taliban into signing a permanent ceasefire in Afghanistan.

Yesterday, large numbers of people congregated for Eid prayers across the Kashmir valley, Imtiyaz Hussain, a Jammu and Kashmir police officer,

posted on his personal Twitter handle.

Authorities established 300 public telephone booths for communication, the government said in a statement, while banks started reopening on Saturday, according to Shahid Choudhary, the administration's head in Srinagar.

Still, the situation remained tense, with footage from the BBC showing protesters marching on the streets and clashing with security forces.

Addressing nation on Thursday, Modi hailed a "new era" in Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh and said the move would bring prosperity to the region, while his Pakistani counterpart Imran Khan warned of "genocide" once the curfew is lifted.

On Sunday, Amit Shah, India's home minister said the move will bring an "end to terrorism" in the state.

Kashmir has been the main flash point between India and Pakistan since the British left the subcontinent in 1947. Both countries claim Kashmir as theirs and have fought two of their three wars over the territory.

Responding to the development, Pakistan announced a series of measures to oppose what it called "unilateral and illegal actions" by India.

Islamabad downgraded diplomatic relations and suspended bilateral trade with India and said it will take the matter to the United Nations Security Council and ensure its army remains vigilant. India urged Pakistan to review its decision.

Pakistan also imposed altitude restrictions on foreign aircraft flying over Lahore on the weekend. Relations between the two South Asian rivals are already under strain following a suicide bombing in Kashmir that killed 40 paramilitary troops in February. India responded with airstrikes and Pakistan retaliated by shooting down an Indian jet.

India accuses Pakistan of supporting armed extremists in Jammu and Kashmir. Pakistan denies the charges and says it offers only moral support to separatists.

Agencies

## Russian companies interested in Turkmenistan's oil and gas fields, says official

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Rosneft, Lukoil and Gazprom companies have shown interest in developing oil and gas fields in Turkmenistan, First Deputy Head of the Russian Government Office Sergei Prikhodko told reporters.

He noted that the energy sector and, in particular, the gas industry created during the Soviet era was an important area of cooperation between the two countries, whose potential needs to be developed.

Mutual interest in close cooperation in the gas sector was enshrined in the protocol of the meeting of the bilateral intergovernmental commission held on May 7, 2019. The parties also highlighted their intention to make joint efforts to intensify it.

Prikhodko recalled that Russia's Transneft provided oil transportation services to Turkmenistan's companies. In 2011, the two sides signed an agreement on the transit of Turkmen oil along the Makhachkala-Novorossiysk route, with 1.91 mln tonnes transported from 2011 to 2018. Plans are in

store to transport 2.26 mln tonnes of oil from Turkmenistan in 2019.

Besides, Tatneft is actively working in the Turkmen market, providing a wide range of services to increase oil recovery from the existing well stock and further use the potential for oil production.

In June 2019, Tatneft signed a memorandum of understanding with the Turkmenneft state concern to intensify cooperation in the field of drilling oil and gas wells and introduce modern technologies there.

Agencies

## Presidential hopeful seeks campaign jolt in pivotal Iowa

DES MOINES, Iowa

IT was on the third day of a five-day bus tour across Iowa last week that 2020 White House contender Kamala Harris finally seemed to hit her stride.

Armed with fresh endorsements from two of the state's most sought after political influencers early on Saturday, the U.S. Senator from California got an enthusiastic welcome from over 500 people at a Des Moines area high school.

For the first time during her tour that started on Thursday, the crowd began chanting Harris' new slogan about Republican Donald Trump's presidency: "Dude gotta go!"

The country needs a leader who can "prosecute the case against Donald Trump" and "it will take a prosecutor to do it," Harris, California's former top prosecutor and a former district attorney of San Francisco, told the audience. "And we've got quite the rap sheet."

Harris, 54, is among two dozen Democrats vying for the party nomination to take on Trump in the November 2020 election.

Months after entering the presidential race as a relatively fresh face on the national stage, Harris, who is of Jamaican and south Asian descent, has ranked fourth in most national opinion polls, behind former Vice President Joe Biden and liberal U.S. Senators Elizabeth Warren of Massachusetts and Bernie Sanders of Vermont.

Her surge in support after the first Democratic presidential debate in June in Miami, where she successfully challenged Biden's record on race, had dissipated by the second debate in July in Detroit, where she was attacked by lesser-known rivals.

A Reuters/Ipsos poll taken Aug. 1-5 showed that Biden remained in first place with 22% support, relatively unchanged from the month before. Harris was in fourth, dropping 4 points to 5.7% support over the same time period.

But in Iowa, there are signs that her campaign could be gaining traction. A Monmouth University poll released Aug. 8 showed Harris third in the state, with 11% support, behind Biden and Warren.

And on Saturday, her campaign announced major endorsements from Iowa power couple Sue and Bob Dvorsky, a former state party chairwoman and a former state senator, who supported former President Barack Obama in 2008 in his surprise upset over Hillary Clinton, then Clinton in 2016 when she eked out a win over Sanders.

The winner of Iowa's Democratic caucuses has gone on to be the party's nominee for the last six election cycles and Obama's victory there in 2008 catapulted him from little-known junior U.S. senator to the White House.



In an interview with Reuters on Sunday, Harris said she felt that her performance in the second debate did not match her stand-out performance in Miami. But she shrugged off concerns about her momentum stalling.

"You know I'm a frontrunner and that became clear on the second debate in a way that it was not on the first. You've got to be prepared to take the hits when you're a frontrunner and that's what happened," Harris told Reuters aboard a bus with "Kamala" written on it in large, capital letters.

"I honestly don't pay attention to polls," Harris said. "I hear about them but that's not my North Star because if I had listened to the polls I would have never run for any office I've run for."

During her Iowa campaign stops, Harris said repeatedly that she is in the race to win it.

Her five-day trip across the state has been a departure from the early months of her candidacy, when she courted key constituencies in urban centers and held private events while rivals relied on the traditional barnstorm politicking.

### UNDECIDED

Many Iowans who plan to participate in the February caucuses told Reuters that it will be weeks or months before they settle on their top pick.

They said they were not troubled about Harris' tendency to talk about policy in broad brush strokes, a trait that has earned criticism that she lacks a clear, specific vision.

Theresa Beckham, 49, came to a Saturday night event at a Des Moines winery to see Harris, who is on her shortlist along with Biden and An-

drew Yang, a tech entrepreneur. She said Harris struck her as someone who would be able to beat Trump.

"I wanted to hear more about what's most important to her. Things change all the time and I'd rather have a candidate that really thinks these things out," said Beckham.

Attending the Des Moines high school rally on Saturday, Nancy Davis, 68, said that she was impressed by Harris' forceful performance at the first debate but not overly concerned when she faltered during an exchange on healthcare during the second.

"Do we need Medicare for All? I'm not sure to be honest. If you have an option to get covered, that's what's important," she added.

Harris said her repeated visits to Iowa have helped her refine her policy positions, including her proposal to raise teacher pay across the country.

This time, crossing the state from west to east on a bus, she told Reuters that she had "eye-opening moments" getting up close with issues in rural America.

Harris said the upside of the bus tour was "not helicoptering in and out, but being on the ground the whole time, looking out the window and stopping where we stop and visiting a farm but then also being at a church."

She cited conversations with residents of a mobile home park who are grappling with skyrocketing rent after its recent purchase by an investment firm as eye-opening in terms of thinking about the lack of affordable housing.

"People sometimes mistakenly associate it (affordable housing) with urban areas but it's all over the country," Harris said.

Agencies

## Israeli police, Palestinian worshippers clash at holy site in East Jerusalem, spark fresh tensions

JERUSALEM

CLASHES erupted between Muslim worshippers and Israeli police in East Jerusalem's holy site on Sunday, which drew condemnation from the Palestinian government.

A video footage taken by the Jerusalem Islamic Waqf, an Islamic religious trust that controls and manages the Al-Aqsa Mosque, showed the police fired stun grenades at worshippers there.

Ikrima Sabri, a preacher at the scene, told Xinhua by telephone that the Israeli police "stormed into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound and tried to evict worshippers out of it by force."

"The Palestinian Red Crescent said at least 14 Palestinians were injured as the Israeli police stormed the mosque. Israeli police said in a statement thousands of Muslim worshippers were rioting and hurling stones, chairs and other objects at the police, adding four police officers were lightly wounded in the clashes.

"The district commander ordered the dispersal of the rioters ... and restored the public order," the statement said.

Israeli media reported that the clashes had subsided but later erupted again after Jewish visitors were allowed to enter the site to mark a Jewish holiday.

The clashes sparked fresh tensions and condemnation from Palestine. Hanan Ashrawi, a member of the Palestine Liberation Organization executive committee, held Israel responsible for "fueling religious tensions in Jerusalem." "We condemn this aggression, which is reprehensible and dangerous," Ashrawi said in a statement.

Nabil Abu Rudeineh, spokesman of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas, held the Israeli government responsible for "settlers' incursions" into the Al-Aqsa Mosque compound.

In a statement published by official news agency Wafa, Rudeineh said Abbas is holding contacts with "all relevant parties to stop the Israeli escalation" against the Palestinian people and holy sites, warning Israel not to "transform this conflict from a political one into a religious one."

Since Sunday marks the beginning of the Eid al-Adha, or the "Festival of the Sacrifice," thousands of Palestinian worshippers arrived at the Al-Aqsa compound for prayer.

This year, the Islamic festival coincides with the Jewish holiday of Tisha B'Av, a day of mourning for Jews, which therefore sees an increased number of Israeli visitors to the holy site in Jerusalem. In an attempt to avoid friction, the Israeli police first barred Israeli visitors on Sunday, but following calls by right-wing political leaders, the site was opened to visitors, resulting in a fresh round of clashes.

The Al-Aqsa Mosque compound is one of the most volatile sites in the region. Under a long-held status quo, Israeli Jews are allowed to visit the site but not to pray there.

In recent years, ultra-nationalist Israeli Jews have been challenging the status quo, demanding the government increase the numbers of Jewish visitors to the site and allow prayers.

Xinhua

## 'Currency manipulation' accusation latest weapon in US arsenal against China

FOLLOWING US President's reckless steps creating global trade and finance chaos, the US Treasury moved to name China as a "currency manipulator" on August 5, in a move denounced by Chinese economists as utterly groundless and hegemonic.

The unwarranted accusation, made after the yuan weakened past a key mark of 7 against the greenback, was to set the stage for the US to brandish its tariffs weapon, they said on August 6.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin announced the currency manipulation designation in a statement on the Treasury's website. Mnuchin will engage with the IMF to "eliminate the unfair competitive advantage

created by China's latest actions," according to the statement. The IMF has yet to publish comment on the situation.

"Labeling another country as a currency manipulator is unjustified. The US doesn't have the right to make such a labeling wantonly," said Dong Shaopeng, an adviser for the China Securities Regulatory Commission.

The US has been using this to disrupt China's economy and financial system since 2004. "It's a groundless frame-up and pure bullying act," Dong said.

The US Treasury statement cited a portion of a post by China's central bank on the same day to substantiate its allegation that China is experienced in ma-

nipulating its currency.

The portion it quoted narrates the central bank's push for continued innovation and the enrichment of China's policy toolbox to fight against short-term speculative bets and stabilize market expectations, which was nonetheless claimed by the US Treasury to be an open acknowledgement of the central bank's currency manipulating moves.

The statement by the People's Bank of China, China's central bank, highlights its belief that the yuan, which weakened past 7 due to multiple factors including market expectations of the US imposition of tariffs on Chinese products, will be kept basically stable at a reasonable and

equilibrium level.

Both onshore and offshore yuan breached the 7 mark against the US dollar for the first time in more than a decade on August 5.

A separate statement by PBC governor Yi Gang said China will not resort to yuan depreciation for competitive purposes, nor will it use currency as a tool to deal with external disturbances such as the trade conflict. The nation will stick to a market-determined foreign exchange-rate system, according to Yi.

"The US labels China as a currency manipulator on Monday because China's central bank didn't intervene and defend China's currency, how interest-

ing" Mei Xinyu, a veteran analyst close to the Ministry of Commerce, told the Global Times.

Most absurdly, the latest move couldn't hold water even by the US' own rules, analysts noted.

Per the Treasury's most recent report in May concerning the foreign exchange policies of its major trading partners, its criteria to judge whether its trading partners amount to currency manipulation include a material current account surplus, which has been lowered to 2 percent of GDP from the previous 3 percent. China's current account surplus stood at about 1.55 percent of its GDP for the first quarter of the year, lower than the ratcheted-down number,

according to Wu Jinduo, head of fixed income at the research institute of Great Wall Securities, citing data from China's foreign exchange regulator.

The criterion, essentially subjective and vague, has turned out to be another US weapon alongside trade tariffs threats, but the accusation appears to be failing, Wu told the Global Times on August 6.

Apparently, as Chinese experts pointed out, the US intends to add currency manipulation designation to its trade war ammunition.

This is the US' latest pressure-tactic move in the ongoing trade talks, which gives the US new excuses to impose more tariffs or

other sanctioning steps on China. Tan Xiaofen, deputy head at the School of Finance at the Central University of Finance and Economics, told the Global Times. "The US has extended the trade war to the financial and currency sector," Tan said.

The ultimate purpose of the US' latest drastic action is to maximize the impacts of its tariffs on China's economy. It's the US' new means in the escalating trade war between the two largest economies, said Sang Baichuan, director of the Institute of International Business at the University of International Business and Economics.

Global Times

The  
**Guardian**

# SPORT



This image released by Universal Pictures shows Dwayne Johnson, left, and Jason Statham in a scene from "Fast & Furious Presents: Hobbs & Shaw." Movie going audiences have helped the "Fast & Furious" spinoff "Hobbs & Shaw" take another lap at No. 1 even with the onslaught of new movies this weekend. Universal Pictures estimates Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019 that "Hobbs & Shaw" added \$25.4 million from North American theaters, bringing its domestic total to \$108.5 million. (AP)

## 'Hobbs & Shaw' repeats at No. 1 against slew of newcomers

LOS ANGELES

AUDIENCES helped the "Fast & Furious" spinoff "Hobbs & Shaw" take another lap at No. 1 even with an onslaught of four new major releases this weekend. From family films to R-rated adult fare, moviegoers had their pick as studios tried to capitalize on the waning days of summer. But although August can be a great opportunity for non-superhero films, it's not a sure thing. And this weekend some, such as "Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark," fared better than others, like the Melissa McCarthy and Tiffany Haddish mob thriller "The Kitchen."

"There are always going to be casualties when there are this many openers," said Paul Dergarabedian, the senior media analyst for box office tracker Comscore. "They cannot always be lined up in the top four rankings."

"Hobbs & Shaw" managed to hold on to first place again. According to estimates from Universal Pictures Sunday, the Dwayne Johnson and Jason Statham action flick fell 58% from its first weekend but added \$25.4 million from North American theaters. It's now grossed \$108.5 million domestically and \$332.6 million worldwide.

Second place went to the PG-13 film "Scary Stories to Tell in the Dark," from CBS Films and eOne Entertainment, which cut through the clutter with a better than expected \$20.8 million. Lionsgate distributed the Guillermo del Toro-produced horror which had been tracking to open in the mid-teens.

"The filmmakers and the team at CBS Films are thrilled that moviegoers are embracing the world of 'Scary Stories,'" del Toro said in a statement Sunday. "It's particularly satisfying to see families experiencing the fun of the movie together."

Good reviews helped raise its profile, although audiences were more underwhelmed after the fact, slapping it with a C CinemaScore.

Dergarabedian noted that, even with a PG-13 rating, horror movies once again prove to be, "a consistent draw at the box office."

Close behind in third was "The Lion King" with \$20 million in its fifth weekend in theaters. With \$1.3 billion globally, it's now surpassed "Beauty and the Beast" as Disney's highest-grossing "live-action" release.

Newcomer "Dora and the Lost City of Gold," from Paramount Pictures, found a healthy audience too, earning an estimated

\$17 million for a fourth place start. Starring Isabela Moner, "Dora," based on the popular television series, also got good reviews from critics and audiences, who gave it an A CinemaScore.

And in fifth place, Quentin Tarantino's star-vehicle "Once Upon a Time...in Hollywood" added \$11.6 million and crossed the \$100 million mark.

But not all the newcomers were so lucky. The dog owner tearjerker "The Art of Racing in the Rain," with Milo Ventimiglia, opened in sixth place with \$8.1 million. The Fox 2000 property was inherited by Disney in the takeover.

And the '70s-set McCarthy and Haddish crime thriller "The Kitchen" flopped in seventh with only \$5.5 million. Based on an obscure Vertigo comic, the film from first time director Andrea Berloff (an Oscar-nominated screenwriter) features both McCarthy and Haddish in more dramatic roles. But critics were not impressed: The film currently has a dismal 20% on Rotten Tomatoes and audiences also largely stayed away.

Warner Bros. distribution head Jeff Goldstein said that they were "very disappointed" with the results.

"I think that the filmmakers took a very bold approach to their choice with the movie and I think it just didn't resonate with the viewers," Goldstein said. "The good news is the movie was a fairly low-budgeted film."

Audiences also had a slew of new limited releases to choose between: The BTS concert film "Bring the Soul: The Movie," which earned \$2.3 million from only 873 locations; "Brian Banks," based on the real story of a false accusation that upends a promising football star's life which debuted in 1,240 locations and earned \$2.1 million; "The Peanut Butter Falcon," with Shia LaBeouf and Dakota Johnson, which earned \$205,236 from 17 locations; and "After the Wedding," with Michelle Williams and Julianne Moore (\$57,124 from five locations).

Still the weekend is down 10.2% and the year continues to lag 6.3% too.

"Audiences are confounded by the number of newcomers," Dergarabedian said. "There was so much overlap with all of these titles."

But the marketplace is already looking ahead to the fall and the release of "It Chapter Two."

"It's going to feel like summer in September when 'It' opens," Dergarabedian said.

AP

## Cosby appeal tests other accusers' testimony in #MeToo era

PENNSYLVANIA

WHEN three Pennsylvania Superior Court judges gather Monday to hear Bill Cosby's appeal of his sexual assault conviction, more than the aging comedian's freedom may be at stake.

As the first celebrity convicted in the #MeToo era, the court scrutiny of the case could cement – or threaten – the movement itself.

"If it's reversed, I worry that it's going to play into the narrative that stories of people subjected to gender-based violence are not going to be believed," said Professor Margaret Johnson, who teaches gender law at the University of Baltimore School of Law. "I've been struck by ... the power of the backlash against #MeToo."

Just recently, a lawyer for actor Cuba Gooding Jr., accused of grabbing a woman's breast at a New York nightclub, challenged her mental state as the case was sent to trial. The lawyer, Mark Heller, said he was starting "the 'Not Me Movement,' under the hashtag '#NotMe.'"

Cosby, charged over a 2004 encounter, first went on trial in June 2017 – months before accusations against movie mogul Harvey Weinstein would unleash the #MeToo era. Prosecutors asked to call 13 other women to bolster the account of Cosby accuser Andrea Constand.

Judge Steven O'Neill allowed just one, and the suburban Philadelphia jury deadlocked after six days of deliberations.

Cosby, long beloved as "America's Dad" for his TV role as Dr. Cliff Huxtable on "The Cosby Show," left the Montgomery County Courthouse triumphant while his lawyers delivered a scathing attack on the judge and prosecutor written by his wife, Camille Cosby.

Ten months later, the #MeToo movement in full force, District Attorney Kevin Steele doubled down, asking to call 19 of the scores of Cosby accusers at the retrial. O'Neill settled on five, whose accounts of being drugged and molested by the powerful star echoed Constand's. Chelan Lasha, in her testimony, recalled seeing him out as a 17-year-old aspiring model and actress, only to be violated.

"Dr. Huxtable wouldn't do this. Why



In this Sept. 25, 2018 file photo Bill Cosby is escorted out of the Montgomery County Correctional Facility, in Eagleville, Pa., following his sentencing to three-to-10-year prison sentence for sexual assault. A Pennsylvania appeals court was to hear arguments, Monday, Aug. 12, 2019, as Cosby appeals his sexual assault conviction. The 82-year-old Cosby is serving a three-to-10-year prison term. (AP Photo)

are you doing this to me? You're supposed to help me be successful," she recalled thinking.

Accuser Heidi Thomas called the acclaimed entertainer and arts patron "a serial rapist."

The second jury took just 14 hours to convict Cosby of all three felony sexual assault charges, finding that he drugged and violated the 30-year-old Constand when she went to his home for career advice.

"Not once were race or the #MeToo movement ever discussed, nor did either factor into our decision," the jury said in a statement, referencing defense suggestions that racism and #MeToo tainted the case. Instead, they said, they found Constand "credible and compelling."

The appeals court will consider more than a half-dozen alleged trial errors, including the defense claim that Cosby had a promise from a former prosecutor that he would never be charged in the case. That promise, they said, led Cosby to give deposition testimony in Constand's

2005 lawsuit that prompted his arrest when it was unsealed in 2015.

The defense is also challenging O'Neill's decision to let the jury hear portions of that testimony, in which Cosby acknowledges getting qualudes in the 1970s to give women before sex.

Still, the "prior bad act" testimony from the other women is the crux of the appeal. Pennsylvania law allows it only in limited cases: to show a "signature" crime pattern; to show an act was not an accident; and to rebut defense claims of consent.

Cosby's lawyers say it was used just to throw mud at him.

"The five (accuser) witnesses were inconsistent in their allegations, remote in time, and used solely as a mechanism to promote hysteria," appellate lawyer Kristen L. Weisenberger wrote in a recent brief.

Two parties have filed amicus briefs to support the conviction: the state Attorney General's Office, and RAINN, the nonprofit Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network.

"Because this case pitted the victim's otherwise-uncorroborated credibility

against that of a popular, internationally known celebrity entertainer, evidence of his relevant pattern of prior criminal conduct to rebut his consent claim was clearly admissible," the Attorney General's Office wrote.

But some defense lawyers believe O'Neill should have explained why he let more accusers testify at the retrial.

"The fact that he expanded the number from one to five raises a very substantial question," said lawyer Alan Tauber, who represented a Philadelphia church official whose child-endangerment conviction was overturned because too many priest-abuse victims testified. "What changed between the first trial and the second trial to justify that?"

Cosby turned 82 last month in state prison, where he is serving a three-to-10-year term. Whatever the outcome of his criminal appeal, his insurance company, to his dismay, has quietly settled at least nine pending defamation lawsuits filed by women accusers.

The Superior Court panel, which includes two women, reviews Cosby's case as a string of other accused predators await their day in court – Weinstein, and singer R. Kelly among them.

"This is such a high-profile case," RAINN President Scott Berkowitz said. "It's particularly important if survivors around the country are watching it closely and making up their minds as to whether to come forward and report their assault to police. And so a bad verdict, or appeal in this case, could be really discouraging."

AP

## Williams retires because of injury as Andreescu wins Rogers

TORONTO

BIANCA Andreescu became the first Canadian to win the Rogers Cup in 50 years when Serena Williams retired because of an injury Sunday.

Andreescu was up 3-1 in the first set when Williams called for a medical timeout.

Less than a minute later, the chair umpire announced that the 37-year-old Williams was retiring from the match, handing Andreescu her second WTA Premier title of the season.

The tournament's final lasted only 16 minutes.

After the chair umpire announced the retirement, Williams started to cry on her bench. Andreescu went over to comfort her, hugging her and telling Williams how much she admires the 23-time Grand Slam winner.

"I'm not a crier, but, thank you guys," said Williams as she choked back tears after accepting the second-place check. "I'm sorry I couldn't do it today. I tried but I just couldn't do it."

Williams' retirement was the last of several high-profile injuries at the Rogers Cup. Fourth-seeded Simona Halep withdrew from her quarterfinal matchup with Marie Bouzkova. On the men's side, Milos Raonic retired after two sets against Felix Auger-Aliassime in a much-anticipated all-Canadian matchup. No. 16 seed Gael Monfils then withdrew before his semifinal against world No. 1 Rafael Nadal.

The 19-year-old Andreescu, from nearby Mississauga, has victories over seven of the top 10 players in the world. Her world ranking will rise from 27th to 14th on Monday. Her previous high was 22nd.

"I'm speechless right now. I'm the first Canadian who got to the finals and has won this tournament since 1969," Andreescu said after being presented



Canada's Bianca Andreescu, left, consoles Serena Williams, of the United States, after Williams had to retire from the final of the Rogers Cup tennis tournament in Toronto, Sunday, Aug. 11, 2019. (AP)

with the Rogers Cup trophy in an on-court ceremony. "This been a dream come true, really."

"This week has not been easy. I've had many, many tough matches."

Andreescu returned this week from a right shoulder injury that sidelined her since the French Open in May. She won in Indian Wells in March for her first WTA Tour title.

"What I've been through the past two months has not been easy," Andreescu said when addressing fans. "I kept telling myself 'never give up.' I'm trying to look at my injury not as a setback but more of a challenge. I tried to embrace it

as much as I can."

Andreescu had been on the court more than any other player at this year's Rogers Cup at 10 hours, 54 minutes heading into the match against Williams.

Faye Urban of Windsor, Ontario, beat Vancouver's Vicki Berner in the 1969 final, when the tournament was still played on clay courts and called the Canadian Open.

Meanwhile, Rafael Nadal won his fifth Rogers Cup title, beating Daniil Medvedev 6-3, 6-0 on in just 70 minutes Sunday at breezy IGA Stadium in Montreal.

The 33-year-old Nadal won the event for the third time in Montreal. The first came in 2005 at age 19 over Andre Agassi, and the second in 2013. Nadal won in Toronto in 2008 and 2018.

"I played a solid match, my best match of the week so far without a doubt," Nadal said. "I did a lot of things well – changing directions, changing rhythms."

The second-ranked Spanish star won his 83rd singles title and third of the year, following clay victories in Rome and at the French Open. He extended his tour record for Masters 1000 titles to 35, two more than top-ranked Novak Djokovic.

"He was playing very well during the whole week. So for me, it was important in the beginning that he doesn't take advantage, because finals are always a little bit more difficult for everyone," Nadal said. "I've played a lot of these. I know beginnings can be tricky, especially against a great player like him but especially when a player like him is playing with a lot of confidence like he was playing during the whole week."

Medvedev, from Russia, was seeded eighth. The match was his first against Nadal.

"I knew how it's going to be," Medvedev said. "I was kind of ready for it. Then didn't manage to probably show my best tennis, but at the same time Rafa was incredible today. I need to see the match on the TV to say for sure, but congrats to him. I need to do better next time."

Nadal had a walkover in the semifinals Saturday when Gael Monfils withdrew because of an ankle injury.

Spain's Marcel Granollers and Argentina's Horacio Zeballos won the doubles title in their first event together. They beat Robin Haase and Wesley Koolhof of the Netherlands 7-5, 7-5.

AP

## Lampard hits back at Mourinho selection criticism

MANCHESTER, England

FRANK Lampard has hit back at Jose Mourinho's criticism of his team selection against Manchester United by insisting that he doesn't care what pundits say.

Mourinho, working for Sky Sports, said Lampard could have picked a team with more "know how" instead of selecting youngsters Mason Mount and Tammy Abraham for the 4-0 defeat at Old Trafford.

But Lampard rejected his former manager's claim by insisting more experienced players like N'Golo Kante, Olivier Giroud and Willian were not available to start.

"I can't drag people out of the medical room, whether they're experienced or not," said Lampard after his first competitive game as Chelsea boss.

"The players we played today, and on the bench, are the players we have. We were clearly the better team for 45 or even 60 minutes but we made individual errors that led to four goals from five shots. That's the harsh reality.

"I don't have to be too concerned about what anyone else says -- the pundits -- but what is clear is the squad is the squad we've got and I believe in it.

"Had we gone in at half-time 2-1 or 3-1 up, which we should have done, the game would have been completely different."

Lampard's team hit the post twice during an impressive first-half display but went in at the break a goal down thanks to Marcus Rashford's 18th-minute penalty.

United were clinical after the break and scored three times in 16 minutes through Rashford, Anthony Martial and Dan James prompting Mourinho, who also said Man City's "B Team" could beat United, to suggest that Chelsea had been hurt by a lack of experience.

"My feeling is that today they had a possibility to play with more know-how," Mourinho said. "[Marcos] Alonso was on the bench, Kante was on the bench, Giroud was on the bench, and to come to Old Trafford, even if this is not the huge Manchester United that used to scare people, it's Manchester United.

## Mourinho: Man City's B team could win Premier League, but not United, Chelsea or Arsenal

LONDON

JOSE Mourinho believes even Manchester City's "B team" is strong enough to win the Premier League this season, but he does not expect Manchester United, Chelsea or Arsenal to contend for the title.

Reigning champions City cruised to a resounding 5-0 victory in their opening game against West Ham on Saturday, with Raheem Sterling plundering a hat-trick.

Sergio Aguero surprisingly started on the substitutes' bench, where he was joined by Bernardo Silva, Ilkay Gundogan, Phil Foden, Nicolas Otamendi, Claudio Bravo and Joao Cancelo, City's new signing from Juventus.

Speaking to Sky Sports ahead of Manchester United's clash against

Chelsea on Sunday, Mourinho highlighted the pool of talent available to Pep Guardiola.

Asked how many teams can win the title this term, Mourinho replied: "Four. Manchester City, Tottenham, Liverpool and City's B team.

"When I looked at the bench yesterday [Saturday] and the players that were not even involved, I believe even their B team could fight for the title."

Mourinho was dismissed by Manchester United in December after a torrid run of form and the Portuguese does not expect his former side to challenge City, Liverpool or Tottenham.

"I want to say the obvious thing: we would love United, Arsenal and Chelsea to be at that level," he added.

Manchester: I enjoy playing with my teammates and I always want to win every game. I always give it everything."

Focusing on Sunday's match, Pogba said that he was delighted with United's performance against rivals Chelsea and was effusive in his praise of new teammate Harry Maguire.

"I call him 'The Beast'," Pogba said. "Honestly, as you saw, he was really impressive. He is a leader. He is right in with us in training. We talked about controlling the defence well and he has a good understanding with Victor [Lindelof]. It was a very good match to start with from the whole team.

"In the first half, we were dominated in terms of chances and possession, but we reacted in the second. Our changes enabled us to take over. We were better in possession and in terms of chances. We were lucky to have the lead through the penalty in the first half, but after a bad start, we finished the match well. We are satisfied with our performance."

## Pogba: 'Question mark' over Utd future remains

LONDON

PAUL Pogba has admitted there is still a "question mark" over his Manchester United future but has promised to "give everything" while he remains at Old Trafford.

The Frenchman has been linked with moves to Real Madrid and Juventus after saying he wants "a new challenge" earlier this summer.

Sources have told ESPN FC that the 26-year-old will not be sold despite the European transfer window remaining open until Sept. 2.

But after starring for United during the 4-0 win over Chelsea on Sunday, Pogba left the door open for a move away.

"I am always good whenever I play football," the midfielder told French reporters in the mixed zone. "It is what I love -- it is my job. I give the maximum each time I am on a green pitch.

"Obviously there have been things said, but only time will tell. This question mark remains.

"However, as I said, I am here in

# Solskjaer off to a flyer as Lampard flops on debut

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

OLE Gunnar Solskjaer was renowned for finishing well during his playing days, but the Manchester United manager is beginning to develop a reputation for impressive starts.

Solskjaer won his first eight games as caretaker boss last season, following the sacking of Jose Mourinho, and despite supporters' concerns that United had not done enough in the transfer window to challenge for a top-four finish, he saw his team make a rampant start to the new Premier League campaign by inflicting a 4-0 hammering upon Chelsea in Frank Lampard's first game as manager.

His early promise last season ultimately fizzled into a dismal run-in that saw United win just two of their last 12 games, but the early momentum was enough to secure him the top job on a permanent basis and restore some sense of positivity around Old Trafford.

Momentum is a big word in any professional sport, and Solskjaer has plenty in the bank after this stunning start to the season, which could carry his young team a long way.

For the first time in months, United played with verve, ambition and a carefree sense of enjoyment; even Paul Pogba, who made clear his determination to leave this summer, performed as though he was happy to be where he was rather than sulking in a bid to go somewhere else.

But while Solskjaer has given himself a crucial springboard ahead of the trip to Wolves on Aug. 19, Lampard will find that nobody wants to be on the flip side. No Chelsea manager has had a worse debut since Danny Blanchflower suffered a 7-2 defeat against Middlesbrough in December 1978. There can be no hiding place for Lampard.

"We made four mistakes, and they put them away," he said. "It is a reality check for us all. We are Chelsea. We don't want to come here and lose 4-0. It wasn't a 4-0 game for long periods, but we need to accept it."

Next up for Chelsea is Wednesday's UEFA Super Cup clash against Liverpool in Istanbul, a game that has become more important because of the need to slam brakes on any negative momentum before the visit of Brendan Rodgers' ambitious Leicester City to Stamford Bridge next Sunday.

Having spent 13 years at the club playing under several managers, Lampard knows Chelsea well enough to understand that a juggernaut going in the wrong direction can be difficult to stop. He needs to find a way to win quickly, even though Eden Hazard has gone to Real Madrid, while N'Golo Kante, Antonio Rudiger and Willian are not fully fit.

Lampard simply has to get on with it after a bruising experience at Old Trafford, where he won last season with Derby in the Carabao Cup. His second visit as a manager was a bruising experience because he faced a home side that played with pace, energy and hunger.

It is true that Chelsea went close to opening the scoring when Tammy Abraham hit the post and Lat



It was a good day for Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, left, but a difficult one for Frank Lampard, right. (Agencies)

er, at 1-0, saw Emerson Palmieri strike the woodwork, but the story of United's winning performance was twofold, as Solskjaer was vindicated for giving young players a chance to impress and for working hard on the squad's fitness in preseason.

"The fitter you are, the more you can do," he said. "It's as simple as that. The boys have been working hard, but this is still the start. We can still get some hard work in."

United's outfield starting lineup had an average age of just under 24, and that showed at times, with a rawness in midfield and up front, where the partnership of Marcus Rashford and Anthony Martial offered more pace and movement than any forward line that included Romelu

Lukaku, who was sold to Inter last week.

It was not until the second half, with Chelsea chasing the game, that the qualities of Rashford, Martial and Pogba truly came to the fore.

Meanwhile, the presence at the back of Harry Maguire, the world's most expensive defender at £80 million, made a huge difference to United's solidity, with right-back Aaron Wan-Bissaka also improving the defensive unit.

The beauty of momentum is that, when it is in your favour, good things happen; confidence flows and players perform as their talent suggests they should. For example, Pogba's long-range pass to Rashford to set up United's third goal -- some 95 seconds after Martial had made it 2-0

-- was the French midfielder at his best.

And with nine minutes remaining, Pogba showed his quality again as he broke forward before releasing substitute Daniel James to score.

The debutant's goal, like those it preceded, was celebrated by all 10 outfield players as a group. To cap the occasion, goalkeeper David De Gea kept a clean sheet in the league for the first time since February.

This was Day 1 for both teams, and it is true that the score flattered United as much as it was harsh on Chelsea, but Solskjaer has positive momentum, which must be harnessed to ensure there is no repeat of last year's false dawn. As for Lampard?

# Emery impressed by Arsenal's gritty win over Newcastle

NEWCASTLE, United Kingdom

UNAI Emery saluted Arsenal's gritty 1-0 win at Newcastle on Sunday as the Gunners erased the painful memories of last season's away-day woes.

Emery's side did not record their first Premier League clean sheet on their travels until April last term and managed only one in the top flight all season.

That wretched run played a key role in Arsenal's failure to finish in the top four.

But Emery has worked hard to overhaul Arsenal at the start of his second season in charge, with a host of new signings and a more determined mentality fuelling the north Londoners' solid effort at St James' Park on Sunday.

While they were only sporadically effective in attack, they remained organised enough at the back to keep Newcastle at bay until Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang fired the second-half winner.

New boys Dani Ceballos, Nicolas Pepe and Gabriel Martinelli were introduced from the bench to add more optimism for Arsenal fans.

"I want to win, I want to score and I want to do a clean sheet. Today we won and we did that," Emery said. "The balance offensively and defensively is only taken with the victory. Today in our 90 minutes, we could do that.

"Also, we created chances and we need also to create chances for our strikers and today with Auba, we won."

Asked about his new signings, Emery added: "David Luiz did pre-season with another team and he is OK to play physically, but he only trained completely with us yesterday. On Friday, he did 30 minutes with us.

"Nicolas Pepe came one week ago and physically he needs to get his best fitness to be ready to play 100 percent for 90 minutes. Today, 20 minutes is good for him.

"And Ceballos is in the middle because he came before Pepe, but he got an injury and he stopped training. He needs to know the Premier League, so today was important for him and for us."

- Defensive lapse -  
Meanwhile, Newcastle manager Steve Bruce was left to rue a key defensive lapse in his first match in charge of the club he supported as a boy.

The 58-year-old could only look on as full-back Ainsley Maitland-Niles intercepted Paul Dummett's attempted pass to substitute Jetro Willems before feeding Aubameyang.

"That's the big disappointment for us all, to lose it in the way we did, a mistake," Bruce said.



Arsenal's Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang scores their first goal during their Premier League match against Newcastle United at St James' Park in Newcastle, Britain on Sunday. (Agencies)

"We defended fantastically well throughout the game -- I can't remember my goalkeeper making a save, and that against Arsenal is a big, big positive.

"But we're disappointed that we made a mistake and unfortunately left ourselves open and got punished."

Newcastle, who handed a competitive debut to club-record signing Joelinton, started promisingly and were unlucky not to score when Jonjo Shelvey hit a post, while the Brazilian striker forced a first-half save from Gunners' keeper Bernd Leno.

"Listen, we have made a genuine mistake. When the pass was too short or whether he hasn't reacted quickly enough, at the end of the day, I can't criticise anybody for making a mistake," Bruce added.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

**Solskjaer off to a flyer as  
Lampard flops on debut**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Salome Phiri of Zambia (L) is challenged by Emeliana Maimu of Tanzania during the 2019 COSAFA U-20 Women Championship final at Wolfson Stadium, Port Elizabeth in South Africa last weekend. : COURTESY OF SAMUEL SHIVAMBU

## Mauritius to host COSAFA U-17 Boys Championship

CAPE TOWN

MAURITIUS is expected to host the COSAFA U-17 Women Championship from September 13-22.

That will be followed shortly afterwards by the Boys Under-17 Championship in Malawi from September 26-October 5.

The final event in a busy year that sees COSAFA host six tournaments in all will be the Men's Under-20 Championship in Zambia from December 4-15.

Tanzania lifted inaugural COSAFA U-20 Women Championship with a hard-fought 2-1 victory over luckless Zambia in the final on Sunday.

Zambia had triumphed by the same score line in their meeting in the group stages, but it was roles reversed as the East Africans this time came out on top.

After a cagey beginning, Tanzania took the lead when Opa Sanga swept home a cross from the left-wing, her third goal of the tournament.

Tanzania had a few opportunities to add to that lead but were pegged back 10 minutes into the second period when Lovness Malunga netted a wonderful equalizer.

She picked up the ball on the edge of the box and rifled home a shot to bring the score level.

It looked as though the game would be headed for penalties before Protasia Mbunda scored a stunning winner with five minutes remaining.

The ball was cleared to her 30 yards from goal and she crashed a shot into the net from that distance, beating Zambia goalkeeper Anna Mukumbuta with her pace and power.

That sparked wild scenes of celebration and Tanzania were able to hold on for the win and lift the trophy.

Maylan Mulenga from Zambia won the Golden Boot award with five goals, while her compatriot Cynthia Shonga was named Goalkeeper of the Tournament.

The Player of the Tournament prize went to Eneikia Kasonga, also nicknamed Lunyamila from Tanzania, who was a star throughout.

Meanwhile, South Africa have been crowned champions of the 2019 COSAFA Women's Championship after a hard-fought 1-0 victory over Zambia in the final at a full Wolfson Stadium in Nelson Mandela Bay on Sunday.

It is the third year in a row that the South Africans have claimed the regional title and is their sixth in all from the seven previous championships played as they showcased their quality fresh from an appearance at the FIFA Women's World Cup in France.

The only goal of the game was scored midway through the first half as Tisetso Makhubela netted with a fierce shot into the roof of the net after Zambia goalkeeper Hazel Nali had spilled a routine catch.

The home side, roared on by the capacity crowd, continued to create most of the chances, but both goalkeepers made excellent saves to keep the score line down.

It is still a best-ever performance by Zambia in the COSAFA Women's Championship as they earned a silver medal, to go with three previous bronzes.

There will be much to build on for them as they now look ahead to an Olympic Games qualifier against Zimbabwe at the end of this month.

Zambia's Rachael Nachula picked up the Golden Boot award in the competition for her 10 goals, while South African goalkeeper Andile Dlamini won the Golden Glove for her excellent displays.

Hellen Mubanga from Zambia was named the Player of the Tournament as her strong showings took the Shepolopo to the brink of a maiden title.

## Iyer sticks to nuts and bolts of middle-order batting

PORT OF SPAIN

SIX matches, five innings, two fifties. Average of 42.00, strike rate of 96.33. Not a bad start, you'd think, to life as an ODI batsman.

And yet, Shreyas Iyer didn't play another 50-over game for India in the next 18 months. He didn't get a game on the 2018 tour of England, and didn't even make the squad for the Asia Cup later that year. By the time the 2019 World Cup rolled around, India had played 27 straight Iyer-free ODIs, and he was no longer a real contender for a middle-order slot.

Selection is a subjective thing, and selectors can have many reasons for picking one player and leaving out another, not all of which can be explained by averages and strike rates. There may have been something in Iyer's game that didn't quite convince them. Or something in his game that needed working on away from the glare of international cricket. Perhaps they liked what they saw, but felt other batsmen offered more.

Whatever it was, Iyer is back now, part of India's line-up at the start of a fresh four-year ODI cycle. KL Rahul, who began the World Cup in the middle order and ended it as opener, and did pretty well in both roles without quite hitting peak form, is back on the bench.

So it goes, perhaps understandably, in a crowded field without any one standout choice, where convincing arguments can be made for pretty much every candidate. Until someone stakes an undeniable claim for a permanent spot, the spectator is best advised to sit back and enjoy the talent on view, and ignore the selection question.

On Sunday, there was one shot that particularly summed up what Iyer is good at. You might have seen it in the IPL, and you'll definitely have seen it if you've watched him bat for Mumbai in the Ranji Trophy.

The ball, from Carlos Brathwaite, was respectable enough, not quite short or wide, and the field West Indies had set showed an awareness of Iyer's strengths: deepish gully, backward point and cover point forming a tight ring square on the off side, and third man on the boundary, also square.

There are no unknowns in international cricket anymore. And yet, Iyer found a gap, meeting the ball on top of the bounce with a shot that wasn't quite a cut or a punch, and is perhaps best described as a stab.

Shimron Hetmyer turned to his left at backward point and shaped to dive, before deciding it was pointless. Chris Gayle expended no such effort at gully, but the ball would have beaten even Roger Harper.



A Tanzanian wushu player demonstrates the game's skills during a recent competition which was held in Dar es Salaam.

## National wushu tourney needs support, says NSC

By Correspondent James Kandoya

NATIONAL Sports Council of Tanzania (NSC) has appealed to companies in the country to put their weight behind the national wushu competition, as it is the case for soccer tournaments and events for other sports disciplines.

The council's official, Milinde Mahona, speaking on behalf of the council's Acting Secretary General Neema Msitha, said it is time for firms to play part in promotion of sports by sponsoring the tournament.

Mahona had graced the climax of the national wushu competition in Dar es Salaam last weekend.

The competition attracted about 220 participants from wushu clubs across the country and outfits from neighbouring countries.

"Wushu is very important for people's health, building patriotism, unity and good governance... I call on other stakeholders to sponsor our tournament to make it more successful," he said.

The Chinese Cultural Center's Counselor Wei Gao called on the competition's orga-

nizers to look for ways for improving the competition and reaching the community across the country.

The counselor said organizers must increase the number of participating regions and bring together all regions across the country and Zanzibar.

Eleven regions are lately participating in the competition.

Investigation Officer from the Police Dar es Salaam Special Zone, Kalimwage, one of the officials that graced the event, highlighted the need for organizers to ensure wushu involves Southern Africa Development Cooperation (SADC) member countries.

"Wushu may be used to cement our union and solidarity among the community...as a matter of fact, there is a need to ensure wushu reaches SADC region," he said.

In this year's tournament, Confucius Institute at University of Dar es Salaam's team emerged as champions, Ngwaya Shaling Kungfu Club came second.

Both champions and runners-up received awarded 1m/- while the third-placed side, Confucius Institute at University of

Dodoma's team B was awarded 800,000/-.

According to the organizers, the fourth to eighth-placed outfits were awarded 500,000/- each.

In the last year's competition, 214 athletes from 24 martial arts clubs battled it out in it.

They came from Zambia, Rwanda, Kenya and Uganda. The competition consisted of collective events, routine events and Sanda.

All contestants contributed to a spectacular display of performances. The teenage group was the spotlight with its youngest member being only eight years old.

In the competition, the small players showed great momentum with standard moves.

Tanzania Wushu Association organized this year's competition in collaboration with the NSC, Confucius Institute at the University of Dar es Salaam and the University of Dodoma.

Having been co-sponsored by the China Embassy in Tanzania, the competition had two categories namely elders and teenagers.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko



The home side, roared on by the capacity crowd, continued to create most of the chances, but both goalkeepers made excellent saves to keep the score line down.

**5 EATV** **TONIGHT @21:00**

**NIRVANA**

**TUESDAY**

11:00 DADAZ (live)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 Dakika 10 Za Maangamzi  
15:00 FUNGUKA  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SASELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:30 MJADALA  
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

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