



## Maalim Seif and supporters join ACT-Wazalendo

“After going through submissions by all sides and considering previous similar cases, I agree with the AG that the registrar was right in his decision to recognize Prof Lipumba as CUF national chairman because he did so on the strength of powers vested in his office”

By Henry Mwangonde

LONG-SERVING Civic United Front (CUF) Secretary General Seif Shariff Hamad yesterday joined the Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) in a dramatic turn of events a few hours after the High Court in Dar es Salaam ruled that Prof Ibrahim Lipumba is legitimately in office as the beleaguered opposition party's national chairman.

In the judgment by Judge Benhaji Masoud, the court said Seif had no legal mandate to challenge a decision by the Registrar of Political Parties to recognize Lipumba.

The judge agreed with the objection submitted in the case by the Attorney General on behalf of the registrar.

The AG questioned the legal basis for Seif to challenge Prof Lipumba's chairmanship without the backing of the party's board of trustees.

According to the state, only the board of trustees could sue or be sued on behalf of the party.

Yesterday's ruling forestalled the hearing of the main case in which Seif was challenged Prof Lipumba's headship of the second largest opposition party in the country.

The two leaders have led factions within the party, fighting for control for most of the last two years. The feuding factions have had several counter suits filed against each other.

But Judge Masoud's ruling yesterday was a significant setback for the Seif faction, with Prof Lipumba now confirmed in the top decision making position in the party.

Prof Lipumba was re-elected chairman last week in an extra-ordinary meeting after which he dislodged Seif.

“After going through submissions by all sides and considering previous similar cases, I agree



Embattled Civic United Front deputy secretary general Nassor Mazrui (in specs) and presumed members and supporter leave the High Court in Dar es Salaam visibly dejected yesterday after losing a case in which they were seeking the court's intervention in connection with the Registrar of Political Parties' recognition of Prof Ibrahim Lipumba as national chairman of the beleaguered opposition party. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

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## Masauni rails over police misconduct

By Felister Peter

THE Peter has arrested two traffic police officers who allegedly attacked and insulted a driver in Dar es Salaam over the weekend.

This follows a video clip circulating in social networks showing the two traffic police officers slapping and forcefully pushing the driver out of the car.

Home Affairs Deputy Minister Hamad Masauni said: “We have arrested the two traffic officers and they will be arraigned in court soon. Being a police officer doesn't permit you to break the country's laws.”

He said this in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the launch of the Road Safety and Drawing Competition initiated by Puma Energy (T) Ltd in conjunction with Amend, a road safety awareness activist group. The competition targets pupils from public primary schools.

The deputy minister noted that legal actions will be taken against unethical law enforcers, warning the police to stop harassing drivers as stringent measures will be taken against anyone is proved to violate the law.

“This country is governed by law. We want

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## UNESCO picks OUT as regional model

By Guardian Reporter

THE Open University of Tanzania (OUT) has been appointed as a centre of excellence in distance learning in Africa to help other countries adopt its successful model as the East Africa region drags its feet in adopting the system.

OUT Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, Prof Deus Ngaruko said yesterday that the institution has been selected by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) to prepare and disseminate a distance learning curriculum to be used by open universities in Africa.

With exception of Tanzania, the rest of the East African Community bloc lags behind in distance

learning because there is no single country with an operating Open University, he stated.

“There is an issue with quality assurance bodies in the East Africa region on distance learning which is also making member countries reluctant to adopt this kind of education,” said Prof Ngaruko.

He was speaking on the sidelines of a meeting with a visiting delegation from the Botswana Open University (BOU), touring the country to learn how to successfully run such an institution as an independent university with the same structure as other universities but offering distance education.

Other areas that the delegation was seeking to document at OUT is how to handle students and maintaining them as active learners for the

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## Mwanza airport to host ATCL continental flights

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

MWANZA airport is slated to feature in the highly-anticipated international direct flights by Air Tanzania Co. Ltd (ATCL).

Isack Kamwelwe, the minister for Works, Transport and Communication said here yesterday that plans are underway to have international flights at the lake zone airport, especially routes to Europe and Asia. This is part of a strategy to improve air transport in the country, he said.

Currently, there are three airports with regular passenger flights in the country, namely the Julius Nyerere International Airport in Dar es Salaam, the Kilimanjaro International Airport and Abeid

Amani Karume International Airport in Zanzibar.

Speaking at the official opening of the ATCL regional office, the minister stated that the government is working hard to revamp the national carrier.

He praised the management of ATCL for efforts that have seen the company continue doing well since the government decided to make it great again.

“We are at an advanced stage to start direct flights to Europe and other countries from Mwanza, thus ATCL's decision to have more international flights is in line with government plans to improve air transport in the country,” he said.

The government is focusing on introducing

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MNB Bank Lake Zone manager Abraham Augustino (L) and Nyang'hwale district commissioner Hamim Gwiya shake hands to signal the handing-over of equipment worth 10m/- to Kakola Secondary School and Karumwa Health Centre at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Masauni rails over police misconduct

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every civil servant to execute his/her duties in accordance with the law," said Masauni calling upon individuals, especially drivers to report any misconduct by police officers.

"It is a shame for some dishonest police and traffic officers to demand bribes from drivers. These incidences must be reported," he emphasized.

President John Magufuli recently intervened into a case involving police officers and a Tabora resident, Musa Adam Sadiki, who was detained and released after the president's intervention.

The president intervened after he read an article in a local Kiswahili daily

which quoted the accused (Sadiki), complaining that the law enforcers had forfeited his properties, detained him illegally, before charging him in court with murder, an offence he never committed.

Sadiki said among other things that the police officers who arrested him took 788,000/- from him along with his mobile phone.

Sadiki was in the hands of unethical law enforcers who prompted President Magufuli to order the relevant authorities to investigate the matter and ensure justice was done.

Decisions by the Head of State led to the DPP Biswalo Mganga having to promptly investigate Sadiki's issue.

## Three killed in gunfire exchange with police

By Guardian Correspondent, Bukoba

THREE suspected robbers have been killed in gunfire exchange with the police at Kiraka Cheusi forest in Nyamagalaga village, Biharamulo district in Kagera region.

Narrating the incident yesterday, Kagera Regional Police Commander Revocatus Malimi said that police shot the suspected bandits as they opened fire to defend themselves against the robbers who had resorted to an armed challenge.

He said police were escorting the suspects to a place they claimed to have hidden their various weapons.

RPC Malimi said when at Kiraka Cheusi forest, the suspects started to attack police officers prompting them to fire in defense and injured the three people who died on the way to hospital.

"All the suspects died when they were taken to Biharamulo district hospital. Two of them have been identified as Shaban Mangote (40) a resident of Midaho Nyakahura and Burundian national Eric Samson (19)," he said, noting that police have been hunting for Mangote for several months.

According to the RPC, Mangote

had committed a number of armed robberies in the district since October last year. He warned that police in Kagera region are determined to curb armed robberies and that no bandit entering the region will be safe.

RPC Malimi said that police also recovered one AK 47 gun and 25 bullets, urging the residents to collaborate with the police through sharing information on any suspected criminal intentions.



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with the AG that the registrar was right in his decision to recognize Prof Lipumba as CUF national chairman because he did so on the strength of powers vested in his office," he said.

In a quick turn of events, later in the day the former CUF Secretary General accompanied by various former CUF leaders announced that they were joining ACT-Wazalendo, saying the battle for democracy continues.

"I have decided to inform you that today the High Court in Dar es Salaam has made a ruling in support of the Registrar of Political Parties to reinstate Prof Lipumba as CUF national chairman. As we have stated earlier, this is a continuation of ill-planned strategies by the State to weaken CUF

and democracy in the country," Seif said at a packed press conference in the city yesterday.

The 2015 CUF Zanzibar presidential candidate said he was asking all his followers and democracy lovers to follow him in his new platform, insisting that justice will one day prevail.

CUF has been in a state of leadership crisis since August 2016 when Lipumba announced that he wanted to be reinstated as the party's national chairman. He had abandoned that position voluntarily a year earlier in protest against the opposition coalition group UKAWA's nomination of ex-prime minister and former ruling CCM party heavyweight Edward Lowassa as its joint presidential candidate for the October 2015 General Election.

Although Lipumba said he had a right to withdraw his resignation letter, a section of CUF leadership led by the secretary general (Seif) rejected this demand and went on to arrange a special party meeting to elect a new chairman in September 2016.

The meeting ended prematurely after Lipumba and his followers thronged the venue, claiming that the professor was the legitimate chairman.

Party leaders later held an emergency meeting under Seif in Zanzibar, where it was announced that the party membership of Lipumba and 10 other people had been suspended indefinitely for causing disruption in the earlier meeting.

Lipumba then filed a petition, calling on the Registrar of Political Parties

to intervene in the matter. Registrar Francis Mutungi wrote to Seif, asking for his response in his capacity as the party's secretary general to Lipumba's claims of unfair treatment.

Mutungi's office later issued a statement recognizing Lipumba as chairman, a move that did not go down well with the CUF supreme council allied with Seif, which in turn accused the registrar of deliberately fuelling the leadership crisis within the party.

Ever since, Lipumba and his supporters have established their base at the party's head offices at Buguruni in Dar es Salaam, while Seif and his supporters remained in the CUF headquarters in Zanzibar as divisions in the party's regional and district branches continued to widen.

## Mwanza airport to host ATCL continental flights

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direct flights to strategic business destinations, he said, citing for instance a country like Israel that have at least 40,000 tourists visiting Tanzania annually.

He said further that the government has made the decision to purchase modern planes in an effort to tap the country's full potential in air transport.

He used the ceremony to assure the public that Tanzanian air space is safe, explaining that there should be no fear that the recently purchased Boeing 787 Dreamliner by the government is similar to the two Boeing planes that crashed in recent months.

He urged ATCL to consider introducing a Mwanza-Dodoma route, saying there seems to be so many people likely to use such a route.

Speaker of the National Assembly Job Ndogai who was the chief guest at the event urged the ATCL management to ensure that the company does not go back to where it was before the fifth phase government came into office.

"Many people including MPs had lost hope travelling in ATCL planes and never thought that the national carrier would be in the air again," he said, noting that hearing that ATCL passengers are stranded at airports was a frequent event.

Ndogai thanked President John Magufuli for efforts that have seen the company that was down on its knees up in the air.

He urged Tanzanians to embrace the nationalist spirit and fly on Air Tanzania, saying that is what citizens of neighbouring countries that have strong airlines mostly do.

Air Tanzania Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Ladislaus Matindi told the gathering that the corporation is focused on more international routes and has introduced two trips on Monday, Wednesday and Friday for Dodoma-Dar es Salaam flights.

"After serious analysis we realized that those are the busy days. Therefore in addition to daily flights we decided to increase the number in those days," he added.



Morocco's Ambassador to Tanzania, Abid Benryane (R) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the March 18 to 23 Francophone Week celebrations in which 13 diplomatic missions in Tanzania will be among the participants. Others (from-L) are Belgian Ambassador Peter Van Acker, Swiss Ambassdor Florence Tinguely and French Ambassador Frédéric Clavier. Photo: Halima Kambi

## UNESCO picks OUT as regional model

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rest of their study time since they are vulnerable to dropout due owing to the distance factor.

The don said that it is easier to operate the system in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) zone than in the East African region.

Prof Ngaruka cited Rwanda where the institution wanted to open a campus but were asked to set up a laboratory, build classrooms and have

resident lectures, a condition that is not consonant with distance learning as such.

Prof Frank Youngman, the Deputy Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs from BOU said OUT has a big reputation in terms of distance learning education provision.

It was thus important for Botswana University to get some experience from OUT, taking into consideration that the BOU is only one year old, he pointed out.

## PM wants smooth small mining operations

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed district and regional authorities to supervise artisanal miners groups by making sure that they operate smoothly without being hampered by large miners unions.

Majaliwa issued the directive during the launching of the Geita Gold Exchange Market in Geita.

He said for a long time artisanal miners have been complaining that middle-scale miners have been thwarting their efforts to develop by interfering with leadership and operations of small-scale miners, thus

raising conflicts among them.

He demanded that artisanal miners be left free to form their own unions or leadership without being disturbed.

During the event, the premier asked the Ministry of Minerals to work together with all miners groups and unions to come up with a work plan that will ensure sustainability of the newly launched market.

"Public agencies working in the sector should make sure that fundamental infrastructures are all set on time to enable smooth operations," he emphasized.

The market will not only increase

government revenue but also improve income and living standards of the miners and surrounding communities, he declared.

He assured businessmen and stakeholders that the markets will be operated in a cooperative and participatory manner, with openness and integrity to ensure that everyone involved benefits accordingly.

The government is striving to make sure that minerals benefit the people, elevate the incomes of small-scale miners as well as boost government revenues, he stated.

Earlier, Permanent Secretary Prof Simon Msanjila said most regions had

started to establish minerals trading centres and others were in final stages to completion.

"Geita is among major gold producing regions and accounts for more than half of all gold produced in Tanzania. It has two big mining licences, 48 middle licenses and 1,119 small-scale licences. The ministry is also reviewing 258 new license applications," he stated.

Due to major efforts by the government to improve the sector, revenues from minerals production in Geita region had increased from 24.5bn/- in 2010/11 to 114.78bn/- in 2017/18, he added.



Ilala district administrative secretary Sheilla Lukuba (2nd-L) and Majohe ward councillor Mwenevyale Waziri unveil a plaque to launch the construction of a water tank and distribution infrastructure at Kichangani in Dar es Salaam yesterday in commemoration of Water Week. Photo: Halima Kambi

# Exporters of wildlife plead with Dr Magufuli over ban

By Henry Mwangonde

EXPORTERS of live animals yesterday requested President John Magufuli's intervention to save the subsector, saying their families are suffering economically following the decision to 'temporarily' ban such exports.

Adam Waryoba, the Secretary General of the Tanzania Wildlife Exporters Association (TWEA), told a press conference yesterday that they incur huge losses as they have invested heavily in the business over the years.

He said that by the time the ban was imposed on the business three years ago, they had already obtained 454 licenses from the government.

While live animal exports have been banned, breeding of animals is legal and many have invested huge amounts of money in the ventures but cannot export their animals and recoup those investments.

"We have reached this point because we do not understand why there has been some reluctance by the government to hear our cry for the whole of this time. We have been very patriotic, paid all the taxes and abided by all stipulated requirements," he declared.

The government announced recently that it was intending to ban the live animal exports permanently.

He said those who breed animals pay thousands of dollars to the government in annual licenses yet they cannot

sell the animals.

He argued that they export small animals which mostly are pests and wreak havoc to farms and the government often uses a lot of money to eradicate them.

"Up to now we have not been given strong reasons for the ban on the business because several times we have been seeking dialogue on what exactly is going on," he said, underlining that the mainstay of the business was exports of animals that are of little importance animals such as millipedes, lizards and spiders.

On refunding them, Gumbo said the government has not refunded them any amount since the ban was imposed in 2016.

The Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism Dr Hamis Kigwangalla told the National Assembly that the was in the process of reviewing the Wildlife Conservation Act, 2009 to be able to impose a total ban on exports of wild animals, noting that the temporary ban will remain in place.

A ministerial meeting with stakeholders last year showed the government has lost about 2.5trn/- in revenue since the ban was imposed in March 2016.

The minister said the ban was purposely meant to protect the country's resources including wild animals.

The government promised it will reimburse all the money paid by wildlife exporters to its agencies in various fees before an abrupt ban on animal exports was imposed but it has

not done so.

The Tanzania Wildlife Exporters Association (TWEA) has on several occasions complained of incurring losses amounting to billions of shillings which included battling lawsuits in foreign courts from their clients who decided to go the legal way after an agreement between the two sides to deliver the animals in time was not honored.

The government banned the transportation of all live animals outside the country in March 2016 until proper procedures were set up to ensure only approved animals were transported.

The decision sparked anger from exporters who complained that the ban was a surprise decision to them as it was made a month or so after they were handed licenses to operate.

The traders claimed that Tanzania has painted a bad image in a business full of competition that involves various countries including the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Zambia and many others saying it will take time to restore the trust of clients in destination countries.

The exporters said they were given a one year license to export livewild animals on the first of January 2016.

In the announcement the government cited irregularities in the way the business was conducted.

The animals are sold to zoos in the United States, Europe and Asia.

# Water sector professionals brainstorm on challenges

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

AVAILABILITY of clean drinking water is still a challenge in the country, and now the government is appealing to other stakeholders in the sector to help find solutions to the problem.

It is estimated that about 64 percent of rural dwellers have access to water compared to nearly 80 percent of urban residents with access to clean water.

This observation was made here yesterday by the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry Water and Irrigation, Prof Kitila Mkumbo who stated that one of the major challenges in the water sector is that between 20 and 25 percent of water projects in the country

do not get completed.

Officiating at the opening of the first Annual Maji Scientific, the PS said that water resources remain a critical issue, "thus the urgent need to work on how we can overcome these obstacles."

He said that a slight majority of Tanzanians are among over one billion people globally who still do not have access to clean water.

He urged the conference participants drawn from government departments, civil society organizations (CSOs), development partners and the private sector to use the occasion to reflect on key challenges in the water sector.

Prof Mkumbo affirmed that it would be useful if scientists and other partners in the meeting

demand from policy makers if they were making rightful decisions. On the other hand government would also like to know if the development partners play their role well and also if researchers are using the right scientific approach to solve the problems.

He challenged the participants to consider the possibility of coming up with a communication platform like a journal after the meeting, saying there is almost no publication on water matters in the entire East Africa region.

Earlier, the Global Water Partnership Tanzania representative Victor Kongo stated that water specialists and researchers in the country have gathered to share and learn from

each other.

The objectives include facilitating a platform for scientific exchanges among professionals in the sector and promoting innovation. "The meeting brings together experts in the water sector to deliberate on how best to improve the water sector in the country," he asserted.

Mbogo Futakamba, chairperson of the Multi-Sectoral Forum, when giving the vote of thanks noted that the two days meeting will tremendously contribute to reflections on issues in the water sector, as the proceedings and outcome will help guide policy makers. The meeting precedes the National Water Week whose climax is on 22nd March, 2019 in line with the World Water Day.



**SVERIGES AMBASSAD**  
Embassy of Sweden - Dar es Salaam

## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The aim of the Swedish development cooperation with Tanzania is to contribute to conditions for sustainable growth in the country and provide people living in poverty with better opportunities to support themselves by obtaining work and starting and running productive businesses. The main target groups are women, children and young people. Sweden's development cooperation activities in Tanzania will contribute to successively reducing Tanzania's dependence on aid. The Development Cooperation Division at the Embassy consists of about 16 officers, of which several work on Governance, Democracy and Human Rights.

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- Monthly financial follow-up,
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**Key Accountabilities:**

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- Ensure the MD's office is accessible to all and perceived as operating effectively and efficiently including liaising with stakeholders (clients, suppliers and staff on business issues).
- Supporting the MD in completing tasks as required which include; preparations of reports, proposals, presentations, budget, and related activities in servicing and developing relationship with stakeholders and partners.
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Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development minister William Lukuvi (R) issues directives to the National Housing Corporation management during a just-ended visit to Kibanda village in Muheza District in the company of members of the Parliamentary Lands, Natural Resources and Tourism Committee. Photo: Correspondent Steven William

# Indian hospitals eager to support health sector

By Getrude Mbago

TWO Indian hospitals have expressed interest in investing the Tanzania health, citing conducive environment put in place by the government.

The institutions are Medanta and Sharda hospitals which are rated among highly-respected health care providers in India.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam at the Healthcare conference over the weekend, the representatives of the institutions commended the government for the efforts which have opened space for private sector to invest in healthcare, operate smoothly and thus contribute to the national development.

The conference was part of the two-day Namaskar Africa 2019 India business forum and exhibition held from March 14 to 15 in the city.

It was organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and brought together over 40 Indian companies dealing in various sectors including health, insurance, technology, agro food and chemicals, education, energy, banking and construction.

Vaurn Aggarwal, senior manager for international relations at Sharda Hospital said that the institution was laying the ground work for the building of a diagnostic centre to provide quality and affordable services to Tanzanians.

According to him, they are currently discussing details of the investment with the ministry of health, community development, gender, elders and children.

"With rising demand for quality

healthcare, Indian hospitals have a major role to play in strengthening Africa's healthcare infrastructure and that includes setting up hospitals as well as capacity building for personnel, he said"

Aggarwal said that Sharda Hospital offers a broad spectrum of medical services from tertiary care, super specialities, general specialities, advanced diagnostic and radiology services to critical care. The same can be intruded into Tanzania through the envisaged investment, he added.

Vice President and head of international business at Medanta Hospital Navneet Malhotra said his institution is willing to help Tanzania with technical training to improve the quality of human resources thus improve healthcare provision in the country.

"I am ready to provide short in-service training to a minimum of 12 Tanzanian medical specialists annually. So the government can send the doctors and we are ready to take it from there. Our hospital treats 400 to 500 Tanzanians who come to India for medical services annually," he said.

Tanzania and India have traditionally enjoyed close, friendly and cordial relations. From the 1960s to the 1980s the political relationship was driven largely by shared ideological commitments to anti-colonialism, anti-racism and socialism in various forms.

India is also one of the leading trading partners of Tanzania, accounting for 15 percent of Tanzania's foreign trade. It is also among top five investment sources in Tanzania.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

## Commuter bus strike paralyses Mbeya city

PUBLIC transport in Mbeya city was paralysed yesterday after commuter bus operators halted services in protest against three wheeler taxis they want the government to lock out of business.

The boycott, which began early yesterday, also affected other businesses that depend on movements in the south-western Tanzania's major city.

"We are boycotting after realising that the government has failed to remove bajaj operators in the city's major roads; their presence gives us hard time as don't get enough passengers as was before," said Innocent Dawala, one of the commuter bus drivers.

He said Mbeya city authorities

had earlier removed another group of unlicensed commuter service operators who used Toyota Hiace vans with the capacity to carry 15 passengers but left the three wheeler operators to continue with the business.

"We've the order given by the authorities that we use mini buses of at least 25-seater capacity; such vehicles consume a lot of fuel compared to our competitors' three wheelers. We end up with losses because of the influx of bajajs and that is why we're boycotting," Dawala said.

Acting chairman of the Passengers Rights Association (Chakua) in Southern Highlands Stanford

Mwambogela said the boycott affected individual passengers as well as businesses in the city, urging city fathers to dialogue with bus operators and resolve the matter amicably.

Mwambogela argued that the law regulating transport in the city stipulates that motorcycles and three wheelers are supposed to operate in the peripheral areas and not the city centre.

"It is just a matter of abiding by the laws; we have to do this for the prosperity of our city," he said.

Senior officer from the Surface and Marine Transport Regulatory Authority (SUMATRA) in the

Southern Highlands Denis Daud expressed his disappointment over the strike, saying motorcycles and three wheelers, popularly known as bajaj, were not allowed to operate on the main roads within the central business district.

"They (motorcyclists and three wheeler operators) are banned from operating in the city centre," he said, appealing to law enforcers to work on the matter for the peace and tranquillity of the city.

Mbeya Regional Police Commander Ulrich Matei urged commuter bus drivers to resume work immediately and keep the city moving again.



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Further details are available upon request. Viewing dates will be on 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> March 2019 as well as 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> April 2019 from 10.00 am to 12.00 p.m. Other appointments to view may be arranged through Knight Frank on +255 22 2135306 or 2113300.

Only those tenders which meet the following qualifications will be considered:

- A bank guaranteed cheque for T.Shs.2,000,000 made out to Knight Frank must accompany each tender. In the event that a tender is accepted by the vendor but reneged upon by the person or institution making the tender offer, the vendor will retain the T.Shs.2,000,000. The amount paid shall form part of the agreed purchase price. All persons or institutions whose tenders are rejected by the vendor will have the T.Shs.2,000,000 returned to them.
- Each tender must clearly indicate the contact person, his/her e-mail, physical and postal address and his/her telephone numbers.
- The purchased amount offered must be stated in Tanzania shillings.

Sealed tenders, clearly marked "TENDER FOR THE PURCHASE OF PROPERTY ON PLOT 149 AND 151 MIKOCHENI MEDIUM DENSITY" TO BE SUBMITTED TO:

The Managing Director  
Knight Frank (T) Ltd.  
International House 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
P.O. Box 9333, Dar es Salaam.

Tenders received after 2.00pm on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019, will not be considered. Tenders will be opened immediately after the closing time 2.00pm Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 by the Managing Director of Knight Frank Tanzania. Bidders will be invited to the opening.

If for any reason the sale transaction is not approved after the bidder has paid the purchase price into an escrow account pending transfer of the property, the purchase price shall be refunded to the bidder without interest and without any prejudice to the owner.

The vendor reserves the right to accept any bid or reject any or all of the bids without having to assign any reason therefore.



### TANZANIA INSURANCE REGULATORY AUTHORITY (TIRA) HEADQUARTER OFFICES MOVING TO DODOMA

TANZANIA INSURANCE REGULATORY AUTHORITY (TIRA) is pleased to inform its esteemed stakeholders and the general public that TIRA Head offices will be officially moved to Dodoma country's Capital from Monday, 01 April 2019.

By considering presence of many Insurance companies in Dar es Salaam, the current TIRA Headquarters will change the status to a Sub Office from Monday, 01 April 2019. All Authority services to its stakeholders and the public will seamlessly continue to be delivered in Dodoma, Dar es Salaam, Zonal Offices and Zanzibar Office.

### THE ADDRESSES WILL BE AS FOLLOWS

#### HEADQUARTERS OFFICE - DODOMA

LAPF Building, 5th floor, Plot No. 4/5, Makole street  
P. O. Box 2987,  
Dodoma - Tanzania.  
Tel: +255(026)2321180  
Fax: +255(026)2321180  
Email: : coi@tira.go.tz  
Website: www.tira.go.tz

#### DAR ES SALAAM OFFICE.

TIRA HOUSE, Block 33, Plot No. 85/2115, Mtendeni Street,  
P. O. Box 9892,  
DAR ES SALAAM - Tanzania  
Tel: +255(022)2132537/2116120/2116131  
Fax: +255(022)2132539  
Email: coi@tira.go.tz  
Website: www.tira.go.tz

Issued By:

Corporate Communications Unit - TANZANIA INSURANCE REGULATORY AUTHORITY (TIRA).



Exim Bank Tanzania operations manager Doreen Mcharo (C) attends to guests at an appreciation gala dinner for customers of the bank's Tanga City branch at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Irish envoy encourages youth to venture into ICT

By Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIAN youth have been challenged to venture into Information and Communications Technology (ICT) if they are to benefit out of the world's digital economy.

Ambassador of Ireland to Tanzania, Paul Sherlock made the call over the weekend when speaking at the official launch of the Tanzania Youth Digital Summit (TYDS) aimed at empowering the next generation of digital champions by exposing them to opportunities for up scaling their digital skills as well as opportunities for jobs and income generation in the digital economy.

TYDS is funded by the Ireland Embassy in Tanzania under Irish Aid and is to be implemented by Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT).

According to ambassador Sherlock, the youth population in Tanzania is predicted to reach 15 million by 2030 and every year it is estimated that over 800,000 young women and men enter the labour market.

"This represents a challenge but also an opportunity for Tanzania's economy. If given the right skills and opportunities, Tanzania's young women and men, such as those here today, can be a dynamic driver of the country's industrialization agenda," he said.

It is for this reason, Sherlock said that last year, the Embassy of Ireland, provided more than €1.3 million (3.4bn/-) in support of a range of programmes designed to empower Tanzania's young men and women. I expect that this level will increase even further in 2019.

"The digital economy provides an excellent opportunity for young people. Globally, the digital economy is estimated to be worth more than USD 100 trillion and therefore it has an enormous potential for Tanzania both in terms of GDP growth and in the creation of high

quality and sustainable jobs," he said.

He added: "The potential of the digital economy is something of which Ireland is acutely aware. The past six years has seen remarkable growth of the Irish economy, despite a challenging regional and global environment."

He, however called on all stakeholders with an interest in ensuring that the Tanzania reaps the benefits of the digital economy, keep the empowerment of women and girls are the forefront of their minds.

"I called on Digital Opportunity Trust (DOT), Smartlab, Worknasi, and CEO Roundtable of Tanzania, ICT Commission, Tanzania Developers Community (TDC), IPF Softwares, WS Technology Consulting and others stakeholders engaged in ICT sector to engage women and girls in digital economy," he said.

*"If given the right skills and opportunities, Tanzania's young women and men, such as those here today, can be a dynamic driver of the country's industrialization agenda"*

The envoy suggested the need to empower them because there is a robust evidence base which shows that investing in women's economic empowerment can be a powerful catalyst for increasing an economy's competitiveness and ensuring sustainable economic growth.

"We know that women in Tanzania face particular barriers to engaging in the digital economy. For example, family and household responsibilities impose disproportionate time constraints which make it harder for women and girls to develop their digital skills or pursue further education," he said.

"Also women are faced with the challenge of overcoming stereotypes about their abilities and suitability to work in the technology sector."

## Ensure quality, PM tells local contractors

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has challenged local contractors engaged in various government projects to ensure quality.

The premier underscored the need for big construction companies to collaborate with small construction firms when implementing different projects, to enable small contractors to gain experience.

Majaliwa was speaking on Saturday after touring different construction projects including the ongoing expansion of a district hospital in Ruangwa district, Lindi region. He said that since contractors are paid well by the government, they are responsible for quality of the buildings.

He urged contractors to recruit labourers from surrounding communities as a way of creating jobs.

"The government cannot provide jobs to every youth. Jobs are created through a number of projects where youth are recruited as casual labourers," Majaliwa said, asking the labourers to work diligently to be considered in other projects.


Youth working with big construction companies are likely to gain experience and become good technicians in future, he stated.

Meanwhile, a sub-contractor at the

Ruangwa district hospital project, Hamisi Ali thanked the government for initiating such projects which help in creating jobs.

Ali appealed to youth to grab the various job opportunities at construction projects to generate income.

During his visit, the PM also inspected construction progress of the district's new offices, warehouses and expansion of Lucas Maria girls' secondary school.



### ADD INTERNATIONAL

#### PROGRAM OFFICER TRAINING AND EDUCATION SUPPORT

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**Employer Name :** ADD International Tanzania Program  
**Program :** Modelling Inclusive Pre-primary Education (MIPE)  
**Reporting to :** Program Manager  
**Position Type :** Fully Time 18 months  
**Location :** Dar es Salaam  
**Application Deadline :** 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019

**Description**  
 ADD International is a UK based disability rights organisation. We work for independence, equality and opportunity for disabled people living in poverty in Africa and Asia, by supporting disability activists to bring about social change. ADD International in Tanzania works in partnership with the Tanzania Federation of Disabled People's Organizations (SHIVYAWATA), national disabled people's organisations (DPOs), and with regional SHIVYAWATA branches in six regions, namely Mwanza, Shinyanga, Tabora, Coast, Lindi and Mtwara.

**Modeling Inclusive Preprimary Education**  
 This project aims to provide an opportunity for young children with disabilities to access inclusive and appropriate pre-primary education across four district councils of Kibaha TC, Kibaha DC, Mkuranga and Kisarawe in Pwani Region, Tanzania. The project will be implemented in collaboration with SHIVYAWATA. ADD Tanzania is seeking to recruit a qualified Program Officer Training and Education Support responsible for leading in the training and education component of the Modelling Inclusive Pre-primary Programme (MIPE) project in Tanzania and participate in programme processes, systems, and policy or strategy development. Specifically, the staff shall provide technical and pedagogical support to inclusive education support facilities and teams. To work with Ministry of Education Science and Technology and Local Government Authorities in the project area and other stakeholders on the required changes at school, ward and district level to make education system inclusive. This involves building into project short term in-service teacher training and long-term development of best practice for inclusive teacher education.

**Main Responsibility**  
 Programme Officer will be responsible to support pre-primary teachers on how to inclusively apply appropriate teaching and learning methodologies and techniques and supporting them in developing inclusive teaching and learning aids which will enable teachers to make their lesson more inclusive hence ensuring that pupils with disabilities in pre-primary classes achieve their learning outcomes.

**Duties and responsibilities**  
 In consultation with and guidance from the Programme Manager, Training and Education Support Officer will:

- Lead the implementation of Education and Training activities of MIPE programme
- Advise the MIPE programme on the suitable teaching and learning materials for children with disabilities based on their age
- Support pre-primary teachers to prepare the teaching and learning aid
- Advise MIPE staff and pre-primary teachers and other stakeholders including government officers on early child development care
- Representation in education and training forums at national and provincial levels and build similar relationships
- Providing specialist advice on Education and training and build similar relationships to ADD team and partners.
- Preparing and producing clear and quality reports (narrative) that demonstrates accountability;
- Support the identification, initial assessment, treatment/rehabilitation and enrolment of children with disabilities accordingly.
- Support the establishment of learning groups/team
- Organise teacher's trainings and follow up coaching and mentoring in special needs such as sign language interpreter, braille, intellectual impairment teaching, etc.
- In collaboration with the team, participate in the preparation of ECD materials, and messages communication messages, position statement and any other material relevant to the on-going campaign;
- Support on child safeguarding incident reports with the support of child protection focal point.
- Undertake any other lawful tasks as may be assigned by the line Manager

**Monitoring and Evaluation**

- Support the monitoring of the education and training activities to ensure effective project delivery
- Assist in data collection and impact stories as a way of generating an evidence-based and MIE delivery
- Work with the M&E Coordinator to monitor and share findings with schools, community and other key stakeholders.

**Financial Management**

- Setting up and overseeing component's budgets;
- Develop and submit activity budgets for MIPE education and training implementation
- Submit activity (financial) reports to the finance department within the authorised time frame and donor requirements.

**SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND QUALIFICATIONS:**  
**Required:**

- Bachelor's degree in education, preferably in Early Child Development or special Needs Education
- Knowledge and experience in working with people with disabilities and related networks
- Experience in planning and implementing education and training activities/ projects targeting different stakeholders at different levels (including teachers and learners with disability)
- Knowledge in child safeguarding policy
- Excellent training, communication and public-speaking skills, with knowledge in computer application.
- Knowledge and experience in education system of Tanzania including how to impact skills and knowledge to target groups.
- Ability to work in a fast-paced team environment; strong interpersonal skills; creative and flexible problem-solving skills

Interested candidates should send their application (consisting of Covering letter, CV) to; the following physical address


**The Country Director**  
**ADD International, Tanzania (Action on Disability and Development)**  
**Mikocheni Warioba; Plot 442, House # 59; Daima Street**

OR submit through post office; P.O Box 33659, Dar es Salaam. Closing date for receiving applications is 25<sup>th</sup> March 2019. Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

People with disabilities are particularly encouraged to apply.

215123601

### MSALALA DISTRICT COUNCIL



#### Tender No. LGA/163/2018-19/HQ/W/60

for

#### Extension of Lake Victoria water supply from Nduku to Busangi, Nyamigege, Kisuke,Gula, Ntundu, Chela, Ntobo, Masabi and the proposed Msalala DC HQ , Phase I

#### Invitation for Tenders

Date: 19<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

1. The Msalala District Council received/has applied for/intends to apply for a Grant from the Government of United Republic of Tanzania towards the cost of Extension of Lake Victoria water supply from Nduku to Busangi, Nyamigege, Kisuke,Gula, Ntundu, Chela, Ntobo, Masabi and the proposed Msalala DC HQ, Phase I and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this Grant to cover eligible payments under the contract for Extension of Lake Victoria water supply from Nduku to Busangi, Nyamigege, Kisuke,Gula, Ntundu, Chela, Ntobo, Masabi and the proposed Msalala DC HQ, Phase I
2. The Msalala District Council now invites sealed Tenders from eligible and qualified Piped System and Civil Works contractors registered in Class II for carrying out the Extension of Lake Victoria water supply from Nduku to Busangi, Nyamigege, Kisuke,Gula, Ntundu, Chela, Ntobo, Masabi and the proposed Msalala DC HQ, Phase I as follows:
  - Supply of pipes: Lay in trenches and backfilling pipes
  - Supply and install distribution pipes
  - Supply and install compression fittings and specials
  - Excavate for and construct for pipeline thrust blocks and markers, air valves, washout and gate valves markers
  - Rehabilitation of 2 water tanks (45m&90m3)
  - Construction & rehabilitation of DPs for Ntundu village
  - Construction of tank 200m3 on 12m riser
  - Supply of motor vehicle
  - Supply of motorcycle
3. Tendering will be conducted through the National Competitive Bidding (NCB) specified in the Procurement Regulations, 2013 – Government Notice No.446 and is open to all Tenderers as defined in the Regulations unless otherwise stated in the Tender Data Sheet.
4. Interested eligible Tenderers may obtain further information from and inspect the Tendering Documents at the office of the Secretary of the Tender Board, Msalala District Council, and P.O.BOX 16, Kahama, Tanzania. From 08:30hrs to 15:30hrs on Mondays to Fridays inclusive except on public holidays.
5. A complete set of Tendering Document(s) in English and additional sets may be purchased by interested Tenderers on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 5 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Tshs 300,000 (Tanzanian Shilling Three Hundred Thousand Only). Payment should either be by Cash, Banker's Draft, or Banker's Cheque, payable to the District Executive Director, Msalala District Council, P.O.BOX 16, Kahama.
6. All Tenders must be accompanied by a Tender securing in the format provided in the Tendering documents unless otherwise stated in the Tender Data Sheet.
7. All Tenders in one original plus three copies, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the address Secretary of the Tender Board, Msalala District Council, P.O.BOX 16, Kahama, on or before 10:00hrs Monday 8th April, 2019. Tenders will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Tenderers' representatives who choose to attend in the opening at the Msalala District Council, Head Office.
8. Late Tenders, portion of Tenders, electronic Tenders, Tenders not received, Tenders not opened at the Tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

Zedekiah S. Osano  
 ACTING DISTRICT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
 MSALALA DISTRICT COUNCIL

215123601

By Guardian Correspondent, Songwe

# Regions working to revive coffee sector

COFFEE stakeholders from Mbeya, Songwe, Rukwa and Katavi regions met over the weekend to discuss challenges facing the once-prosperous cash crop and come up with remarkable measures to revive cultivation of the beans.

Among the challenges include climate change, lack of reliable market and fake farm inputs.

Songwe Regional Commissioner Nickodemus Mwangela described coffee as one of the key cash crops which brings in good amounts in foreign exchange but its production has dropped. "This is a challenge that needs to be worked on, as of now on average one tree produces 0.25kg, while for our colleagues in Kenya one tree yields 6kgs of coffee beans. Here there is a problem that we need to act as government and key players in the sector," he said.

Mwangela said the land southern highland regions is fertile and experts are there to empower farmers with better agronomic practices that would scale up production.

"What I am wondering is why production is still low. Something needs to

be done," he stressed.

He encouraged local government authorities in the four regions to initiate a campaign to ensure that farmers plant improved coffee seedlings with high yields.

In the coffee growing districts, more than 200,000 seedlings need to be planted to develop the coffee sector, which of recent is going downhill, he said.

The RC directed district commissioners and directors in Songwe to ensure that the region is free from fake farm inputs, while asking extension officers to move their offices to the fields to support farmers with technical-know-how.

Joseph Mkude, Iljeje District Commissioner, said that more than 400,000 households in southern highland regions are benefiting from the cash crop.

The United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) once urged coffee

farmers to take the issue of the environment seriously for the sustainability of the sector and health benefits of consumers.

Farmers must also invest heavily in organic farming which in most cases is friendly to the environment and the people's well-being.

Coffee is Tanzania's largest export crop as on average the country produces around 50,000 metric tons each year, approximately 70 percent Arabica and 30 percent Robusta. Sales generate over \$100 million per year, according to data from the Tanzania Coffee Board.

Arabica is grown mainly in Kilimanjaro, Mbeya and the Matengo Highlands (Mbinga). Other Arabica areas include the Usambara Mountains, Iringa, Morogoro, Kigoma, and Ngara.

Tanzania is the 19th largest producer of coffee in the world, it was also indicated.



CRDB Bank Plc Director of Investments Hilda Rweshane speaks at a meeting on the empowerment of women in capital market and securities investments organised by the bank in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Dar RC calls on youth to be resilient

By Guardian Reporter

DAR ES SALAAM Regional Commissioner, Paul Makonda has challenged youth to be resilient when in pursuit of their dreams in order to become successful.

Makonda said that his personal life's story is true testament that hard work and resilience eventually pays off and counseled young people to never settle for less.

The RC was speaking over the weekend during an expo hosted by direct-selling company, QNET, to showcase the company's products and services at Mlimani City Mall in Dar es Salaam.

"My life story is proof that by working hard and being resilient one can always find the success he or she pursues. Do not settle for anything less than your full potential," he said.

The expo titled Absolute Living, in line with the company's principles philosophy, is held every year in different countries around the world with the

aim of showcasing its products and services on the ground.

It also serves as a platform for prospective customers and other interested parties to understand the company and its business model. The concept is a reflection of the firm's efforts to promote a proactive approach to a healthy, well-balanced lifestyle, with a focus on health, wellness, and education.

During an earlier media briefing, QNET Regional General Manager for Sub-Saharan Africa Region, Biram Fall stated that the company offers a wide range of high quality products and services to our customers to help them live a well-balanced life, and also address fundamental issues such as education, awareness, and personal development through our training programs, which helps them in their journey become self-employed.

"From online education courses, to holiday packages, to energy products, dietary supplements and watches, we

have a comprehensive range to cater to a wide variety of needs. At the core of it all, is our desire to provide avenues for 'Absolute Living,' he said.

The company also offers low-cost business opportunities to individuals interested in taking it up, irrespective of their education or experience.

"Tanzania is one of our most professional markets at QNET and having this expo in Dar es Salaam is a way for us to give back to our leaders here and come closer to them," he added.

People thronged the venue during the two-day expo that included products samplings on site, and demonstrations on the use of products and their benefits to customers and end users.

Business and product experts were on hand to answer questions from visitors in order to better understand the company's activities. The expo follows a series of such successful events in Togo, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Senegal, Burkina Faso and Cameroon last year.

# Markets come first, local entrepreneurs told

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbozi

TANZANIAN entrepreneurs have been urged to consider basics of business operations and management including searching for markets before establishing businesses.

Dr Ernesto Sirolli, the chairman of a US based non-profit Sirolli Institute, some of the basics includes proper financial management and as well as the quality of products.

Dr Sirolli was speaking during a capacity building and empowerment seminar to entrepreneurs in Mbozi district, Songwe region.

The project to empower small scale entrepreneurs is locally supported by Heifer International in collaboration with Sirolli institute.

He was concerned that most busi-

nesses around the globe (80 percent) fail due to poor planning as owners do not consider the basics of business which includes having a marketing team, quality assurance officers and professional people to supervise the assets and funds.

He said the two years initiative is meant to help entrepreneurs to start and grow successful businesses. The project started in October 2017 and is expected to end in June 2019.

Similar projects are implemented by Sirolli and Heifer International with focus on communities in Tanzania, Bangladesh, Honduras, Mexico, Nepal and Uganda.

"We give room to people to innovate and build their own future. We assist them in preparing business plans and ways to look for markets,"

he said.

Rose Marando, the Vice-Chairperson for Heifer International (T), said they are mostly focusing on entrepreneur groups. She said the decision to initiate the project was reached after realizing that most SMEs were not aware of basics of business management.

Some budding enterprises didn't know how to keep their sales records, hence engaged in unplanned expenditures, she pointed out.

"They need to be equipped with business skills to be able to grow their businesses," she said.

Heifer International (T) Public Relations Officer, Mercy Nyanda urged participating entrepreneurs to apply the acquired skills to further improve their businesses.

## SUGAR BOARD OF TANZANIA



### PUBLIC NOTICE

#### APPLICATIONS FOR IMPORTATION OF SUGAR FOR INDUSTRIAL USE FOR THE PERIOD JULY 2019 TO JUNE 2020

- 1.0 The Board invites registered users of industrial sugar to submit their applications of industrial sugar importation for the period 2019/2020.
- 2.0 All applications are to be made on Form SBT-05 provided herein below. If items 8 and 9 show significant variance, detailed explanation and supporting evidence should accompany applications. The applications should be submitted to the address below not later than 10th April, 2019.
- 3.0 Allocations are greatly dependent on details of past and present usage. Further, applicants should separately provide details on usage analysis for 2018/2019 separated between imports for period to March, 2019 plus stocks and realistic projections to June 2019.
- 4.0 Please address your applications to:-

Director General,  
Sugar Board of Tanzania,  
6th Floor, Sukari House,  
P. O. Box 4355,  
DAR ES SALAAM.

Fax No. 022 2130598  
E-mail: sbt@cats-net.com

SBT - 05

THE SUGAR BOARD OF TANZANIA			
B	APPLICATION FOR SUGAR IMPORT LICENCE: (Sugar for Industrial use)		Sr. No
1. I/We (Name and address of Applicant) _____ _____			
Hereby apply for a sugar Import Licence Category B to import sugar for Industrial use as stated hereunder.			
2. Registration Certificate No. _____ dated _____			
3. Quantity of sugar to be imported _____ metric tons			
4. Period (month & year), from _____ 20 ____ to _____ 20 ____			
5. Single or multiple entry _____			
6. Port (s) of entry _____			
7. Last Import License was No. _____ for _____ tons			
8. Production from the last imported sugar (item 7) is as shown overleaf.			
9. Fill in the type and quantities of products to be produced from the sugar to be imported (item 3).			
Product	Quantity	Product	Quantity
(i)		(v)	
(ii)		(vi)	
(iii)		(vii)	
(iv)		(viii)	
(Give details) _____			
Signature: _____		Designation: _____ Date: _____	
For official use			

#### PRODUCTION (previous licence(s))

1. Last Import Licence No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
2. Tons sugar imported \_\_\_\_\_
3. Total tons sugar used \_\_\_\_\_

4. Products produced PRODUCT		QNTY - Tons/Kg/Ltrs/ Cases	Sugar used Ton or Kg
(i)	_____	_____	Kg/ton
(ii)	_____	_____	Kg/ton
(iii)	_____	_____	Kg/ton
(iv)	_____	_____	Kg/ton
(v)	_____	_____	Kg/ton
(vi)	_____	_____	Kg/ton

#### CONDITIONS FOR APPLICATIONS OF IMPORT LICENCE (Industrial Sugar)

1. By signing and submitting this application to the Board the applicant declares that if granted licence the sugar he will import will be solely for industrial use and shall not be sold or disposed of in any other manner.
2. Licence granted under this application shall import Refined Sugar only.
3. This application and any licence arising there-from is governed by the Sugar Import Regulations, 2010 as amended.





# Embarking on journey towards sustainability as main thrust

By Muharram Macatta

The human life span may conveniently be designated by its maximum limit; as, for example, a life span of 100 years. The term, unless modified, here refers to maximum longevity.

The span of life is a theoretical number whose exact value cannot be determined from existing knowledge. Presumably there is a life span for the human race, but until there is discovered some property of protoplasm that definitely limits the possible duration of human life. The exact duration of man's life will remain unknown.

At first thought, the statement seems irrational. Surely no human being can live 1000 years. Even though all may agree that the likelihood of an individual living 1000 years is infinitesimal, there is no scientific proof that this statement is, or is not, true.

The indeterminacy of the maximum limit of human life span may be made more comprehensible if one chooses a number that may appear to many as a more reasonable limit. Thus, based on existing knowledge of longevity, a precise figure for the span of human life cannot be given.

Sustainable Development is an approach to achieve development by alleviating poverty and narrowing the gap between the rich and the poor without causing adverse effects on the functioning of the earth's ecosystem.

It is an important concept that requires integration in the country's economic, environmental and social components through the practice of limitation and balance.

If there is no integration within all the factors, we will be left with a country with excellent economic development, but with devastating environment, thus affecting the livelihood of the community especially the poor. Furthermore, as

we are all living in a close ecosystem, all of these factors are directly or indirectly connected to each other. This means that harming one element may cause unforeseen impacts elsewhere. For example, forest fires in the country to clear lands for plantations have caused cross-border haze, choking neighbouring villages and so forth with hazardous pollution.

This phenomenon is an annual problem, but June 2014 was the worst pollution crisis in decades happening in some regions (The Guardian, 2015).

Since we are living in an era of globalization, we have to be aware of the unforeseen problems that might emerge from economics, health and environmental crisis.

Sustainable development is an ambiguous concept that cuts across multiple disciplines. The concept of sustainability is interpreted as "an attempt to create awareness of the disturbing relations between human society and the natural environment". As the world's population, we thrived on the environmental resources for our sustenance, wealth and well-being.

With the current total of seven billion people living on this planet and estimated to increase to nine billion people by 2050, we need to manage our resourceful tactfully in order to secure the survival of the present populations and also the future generations.

The increased in the number of population will use up the energy by triple, food production will be doubled and waste generation will increase greatly.

With this in mind, we are moving towards sustainable development to be in line with the overall objectives which is "to generate and scale up action in all levels and areas of education and learning in order to accelerate progress towards sustainable development".

This is important because we are all susceptible



Ummy Mwalimu, Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, launches a cath-lab at Benjamin Mkapa Hospital in Dodoma. File photo

to environmental challenges that come with development. The effect of development has often proved to be harmful as the world's populations are now experiencing a number of extreme events which also affect our livelihood and well-being.

Thus, sustainability in terms of educating our future leaders should represent an opportunity to provide a better future for everyone. Human has dominated the ecological system from the earliest civilizations to the present.

We have progressed from food gatherers to agrarian communities where we then set as permanent residence and forest is cleared for this purpose; then followed by the emergence of Western industrial revolutions in the 17th to 19th century, which is the starting point of human modernization - using fossil fuel as a source of energy to operate machines and electricity.

All of these developments have a tremendous impact on the environment, thus with the increasing of populations the dire needs

of these natural resources have also increased.

At present, we need to set forth a paradigm shift that should embed the teaching of 'sustainable development' or 'sustainability' in order to have a prosperous future for all of us.

At the same time consider our focus is also to transform the output/outcome necessary to be a world renowned in sustainable development and transforming the three pillars of higher education, namely, talent, resources and acculturation of supportive governance.

The guiding principles for Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) government, ever since, have been for sustainable development is transforming the university into sustainability-led institutions based on the following principles:

Living within our environmental means; respecting the limit of our planet's resources by not exceeding the carrying capacity and making sure the goods and services are available and maintain at a healthy level;

While ensuring a progressive, equitable and healthy society as well as meeting the current and future needs of our multi-cultural and multi-religious society, promoting personal and spiritual well-being, social cohesion and inclusion, creating equal opportunity for all, and intergenerational equity;

Achieving a sustainable economy by building a strong, stable and sustainable economy the society-polluters pay for the price principle and efficient resource use is encouraged; Enhancing sound science-policy interactions and ensuring policy is developed and implemented on the basis of scientific evidence, taking into account the public attitudes, values and proactive policies; and

Promoting good governance together with promoting effective and participatory systems of governance at all levels of society, engaging creativity, energy and diversity. Eventually we have identified Water, Energy, Health, Agriculture and Biodiversity (WEHAB) as five critical sectors in sustainability.

Through rigorous research in all these sectors, we shall continue to improve the lives and human well-being while protecting our vulnerable ecosystem from being continuously compromised.

In addition to WEHAB, particular attention needs to be paid to (i) Climate change, variability and disaster management as what happened at Ukerewe, in the Mwanza region last year. Production and consumption and (iii) Population and poverty.

There are also implementation challenges associated with ICT, governance, security, trade and the financing context. The global sustainability focus which is WEHAB and its cross sectoral sectors are set to be in our roadmap towards sustainability.

As a means to assert our paradigm to be in line with 'sustainable development', we stress our future graduates attending and receiving high education from all local institutions of higher learning to be fully educated on this subject and

promoting education, public awareness and training.

With the success of the undergraduate and post-graduate formal curriculum in sustainability, we aspire to produce quality graduates that are literate in the subject of sustainable development.

Sustainable development is about finding balance with the practice of limitations, which will eventually benefit humankind and its environment. With this acculturation, we are embarking on the journey towards sustainability as our main thrust.

In the roadmap to sustainability, we attempt to integrate the entire activities of the university to achieve two major goals

To be a university world-renowned for its commitment to sustainability and To be sustainability-led university

The former will focus on the challenges of sustainability on global issues. This approach will build capacity at the individual, institutional and systemic levels by producing a graduate that will address sustainability challenges internally and internationally, such as the challenges of poverty and sustainability, especially in the less developed countries.

Other global issues that our graduates need to emphasize are climate change, ecosystem destruction (from agricultural, urbanization etc), water shortages caused by the pollutions of rivers and lakes (which can lead to food security issue).

In summary, we will abide by WEHAB + 3 as our main focus in dealing with sustainability issues and practices. The second goal will provide hands on practicum, piloting and prototyping experience for students and staff so they could lead by example (Centre for Global Sustainability Studies).

All of these efforts can be prepared to mainstream sustainable development on every campus and also to have our graduates to be global players in their relevant expertise with re-

gards to sustainable development.

Other than the formal curriculum, there are a number of student activities on sustainable development for example Anti Smoking/Drugs Exhibition, which should encourage students to play an active role in discouraging the bad habit.

Sustainable Development Week, which gives deep awareness to university graduate in the practice of sustainable development and White Coffin Campaign which is an environmental activity in banning all polystyrene used on campus. All of these programmes have to move forward to achieve the five priority areas of the Global Action Programmes (GAP).

We have to conclude that the earth is a closed ecosystem as we are all indirectly or directly connected to each other. With 7 billion people living on this planet and this number will only continue to grow; we need to equip ourselves against the challenges that might arise from unsustainable development.

We have the advantage in the advancement of technologies which is essential to overcome our shortfalls, for example, management of food resources, handling of waste, land clearing for housing, agriculture and industries and many more.

By practicing sustainability, we are actually finding the balance between development and protecting the earth's ecosystems. Educating our future leaders in sustainability is the only way to ensure our restricted resources are fully utilized without compromising the ecosystem.

With this vision, Tanzania Ministry of public instructions through the establishment of Centre for Global Sustainability Studies will pave its way forward to be part of the global community by producing quality graduates to link the progress of our nation with the sustainability agenda to correspond with the global changes and challenges.

By Aisia Rweyemamu

## Stigmatisation still hampering war on HIV/AIDS

Zero Discrimination Day is a global event which takes place on 1st March annually. This has been observed every year since 2014.

It is among global campaigns spearheaded by the joint United Nations Programme on HIV and AIDS (UNAIDS) to remind people everywhere in the World to promote and celebrate tolerance and inclusion.

Among others, it aims to bring together all partners, stakeholders and victims to end up discrimination in line with the principles agreed on United Nations Charter and Human Right Conventions.

Testimonials and reports portray that, Tanzania like other countries; people living with HIV are facing stigma and discrimination. This hinders effective HIV health programmes and services execution.

In the commemoration of Zero Discrimination Day this year held recently in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania Commission for AIDS (TACAIDS) in collaboration with National Council for People Living with HIV (NACOPHA) conducted

a roundtable discussion that also brought together UNAIDS, FHI360, Pact, JSI, PASADA and other stakeholders.

In the opening remarks, TACAIDS Director of Communication, Jumanne Issango, said, the aim of the discussions was to have deep interaction from different perspectives on how to abolish stigma and discrimination for People Living with HIV in Tanzania.

Testimonials from some members of NACOPHA revealed that stigma is still a problem in the entire society at different levels, suggested that more education is needed to create awareness.

"For example, some religion leaders are not willing to discuss openly about HIV/AIDS, considering a person with HIV as a sinner in the community.

"If left unattended this situation can slow down efforts in place fighting against HIV. How can someone be inspired to go for testing if later he/she will be called a sinner in the community?" questioned Pastor Emmanuel Msinga,



Chairman of Ilala PLHIV Cluster.

TACAIDS Youth Ambassador and SAUTI YETU- Ilala Youth representative, Zawadi Bahenge said she experienced high level of stigma from family level as her two children and husband are not HIV positive.

"I knew that I was HIV positive even before meeting my partner who was also aware of my health status. I have never experienced

stigma from my husband, but from other close relatives. It reached a stage where my mother in law took my kid after recognizing that he was not HIV positive. My Husband also was discriminated by his blood relatives," said Zawadi.

Mariam Magafu, Secretary of Ilala PLHIV cluster, clarifies that, most of their members have median income. "Now my question is, how can this gap be avoided so that,

people are open to each other regardless of their income, wealth or titles?"

"In my experience, I have never seen a minister or any other person from the high authority declaring that he or she is HIV positive. Here, I can see some elements of stigma," she elaborates.

Zena Adam, a youth representative from Temeke, comments; "Nowadays stigma level

has diminished but more education is needed at family level where the problem still exists at large."

The Programme manager of NACOPHA, Agnes Nyoni, said, a suitable education on HIV is needed to reach the goals of three 90s.

We have set aside proper infrastructures that would allow a good flow of information aimed to educate the entire community. We have established 167 PLHIV District clusters in the mainland Tanzania going down to village level.

"Let me invite other partners to use clusters on implementation of HIV/AIDS response as they provide meaningful engagement of People Living with HIV and community at large," she briefed.

Dr Aroldia Mulokozi of TACAIDS, says people living with HIV are facing stress and refraining from exposing their status because of stigma and discrimination in their respective society.

"This cause inferiority complex leading to PLHIV defining themselves as useless in family or community around. This can also affect production at the national level.

"Stigmas and discrimination are hindering the provision of services and implementation of HIV/AIDS programs. Some people cannot timely access HIV services or key information.

Most of the parents and guardians are not open to their children and youth, hence hinder them to access health services including HIV services. This situation will make us taking long to reach 90-90-90m goals, said Dr Aroldia.

She urges stakeholders to use right channels of educating the society on HIV/AIDS, citing an example of clusters formulated by NACOPHA.

Director of Communication for TACAIDS, Jumanne Issango briefs that, his organization is planning to collect opinions from different stakeholders that will support the formulation of a strategy that will help in fighting against stigma and discrimination.

UNAIDS representative, Kate Spring, promises to work very closely with all stakeholders to ensure the achievements of all set goals, including elimination of stigma and discrimination.

"Ending stigma and discrimination needs to be championed by all and not an individual," she insisted.

By Naza Alakija in Accra

Climate change and issues relating to it have recently been at the forefront of much public debate. Nations globally are implementing new policies to win the race against climate change whilst others, a minority, neglect to acknowledge that it is actually happening.

The United Nations has now intervened and has urged leaders that change needs to commence NOW. There is supporting evidence that irreversible changes in major ecosystems and the planetary climate system await us if we do not begin to make changes promptly.

From an increase in the earth's temperature to extreme weather patterns and rising sea levels from melting ice caps, climate change is a global phenomenon that is caused primarily from the burning of fossil fuels.

This releases carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into our atmosphere which, in turn, results in heat entrapment. Other causes include agriculture and deforestation.

Furthermore, materials such as plastic are by-products of the second industrial revolution that are causing damaging effects to the planet. The Ellen MacArthur Foundation and the World Economic Forum stated that by "2050 there will be more plastic than fish in our oceans".

Climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time. It has already had drastic effects throughout Africa, causing problems such as desert encroachment, changing weather patterns, and prolonged droughts, to name a few.

These challenges amplify all types of inequality, including gender: women and children are among those affected especially those who have had to migrate as a result of natural disasters such as flooding.

In camps for internally displaced persons (IDP) camps, women are often victims of sexual abuse and children lack access to a proper education. Lack of access to education has been associated with early

child marriages and children's affiliation with terrorist and guerrilla warfare groups.

Environmental degradation and issues such as plastic pollution and poor waste management are affecting countries all across Africa. Not only will this negatively affect the economic development, but it will also create unhealthy and perilous environments for our children.

#### What can we do?

My opinion is that one of the first and most important ways in which we can make a difference is by taking accountability. The means through which this can be implemented is by harbouring proper waste management and recycling in our homes, being conscious of one's carbon footprint, utilising public transport when possible and desisting from wasting food, water, clothing and other materials.

You need to talk about it and empower those around you, especially children, nieces/nephews and grandchildren. They are our future and it is our obligation to teach them about the importance of protecting our environment.

Growing up as a child, I recall one of the worst forms of punishment my mother bestowed was not permitting me to play outdoors. Now, imagine a time where a child does not have that option simply because we failed in providing them with a safe environment. Is this not the least we owe to our children?



**Climate change is one of the most pressing issues of our time. It has already had drastic effects throughout Africa, causing problems such as desert encroachment, changing weather patterns, and prolonged droughts, to name a few.**



## Why women are a force for good in the climate change movement



Since 'times and generations' have changed drastically, it is of fundamental importance that we begin to make changes within the educational system. Governments and policymakers need to implement climate change within the curriculums, and they need to raise public awareness.

Climate change is affecting most of the world's population today. However, those living in poverty are affected first.

UNICEF, the leading organisation in children's rights, has stated: "Climate change is a major factor driving migration in West and Central Africa...Severe flooding and drought is already causing the loss of livelihoods and displacement, while changing climate patterns are making some forms of agriculture increasingly unsustainable."

Currently, UNICEF is working on providing communities with tools and methods with which they can deal with environmental disasters and in addition to increasing opportunities within a sustainable green economy.

These include development of cyclone and flood-proof schools, climate and environmental education, youth-led innovation hubs and climate resilient WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) systems.

Today, women all over the world are fighting for gender equality, women's rights and equal opportunities. The climate change movement is no

exception to this and, as previously mentioned, the issues that come with this environmental disaster magnifies problems such as gender discrimination.

Women throughout Africa are now becoming a part of this movement and are paving the way for others to join. One example that caught my attention is Hindou Oumarou Ibrahim, an indigenous woman from Chad's Mbororo pastoralist community.

The woman has been a part of international high-level policy discussions on climate change for over a decade. In 2017, she stated: "Indigenous women are the most affected by climate change...they are the ones who are collecting food and water to feed their families..."

"In my communities and in my regions, women have the knowledge of water protection, food collection and land protection...The roles these women hold are very important at the community level."

Hindou has co-developed a 3D mapping project aimed at giving a voice to the indigenous people in national platforms, with a view to promoting cohabitation, biological conservation and peace during times of scarcity.

No matter what your mission in life is, whatever path you have chosen to create, will it not be important to implement this in a safe, harmonious and sustainable environment?

New Zealand's Prime Minister, Jacinda Arden, aptly said at the 2019 World Economic Forum: "This is about being on the right side of history. Do you want to be a leader that looks back in time and says that you were on the wrong side of the argument when the world was crying out for a solution?"

It is not easy to change our daily habits and, from my own experience, it takes much time and effort to implement a conscious way of living. However, as citizens of this world, we must all take responsibility for our actions and give back to the environment that has sustained us for millennia.

Agencies

## Women take the lead tackling climate change in Bangladesh

LONDON / DHAKA

The stakes are high for women when faced with a warming world - their livelihoods jeopardised by labour markets that tend to put men first, their family responsibilities increasing rapidly in the face of droughts and flooding, and politicians who refuse to acknowledge the challenges they face. The story of those living on the front-line of a harsher climate is simply not being heard.

Women commonly face higher risks and greater burdens from the impacts of climate change. Combined with the fact that climate change has a greater impact on people who are heavily dependent on natural resources for their livelihoods, women also have the least capacity to respond to increasingly severe natural disasters such as droughts, landslides, floods and cyclones. Despite this, and often because of this, it is women who are the drivers of adaptation to climate change.

By promoting their local knowledge of sustainable resource management, and leadership in sustainable practices at the household and community level, women are the innovators, entrepreneurs and pioneers when it comes to tackling climate change on a day-to-day basis. With this in mind, policies and projects should strive to not only involve women in decision-making and leadership processes for climate change mitigation, but put them in the driving seat to make the tough choices.

In developing countries, there are many other examples of women's inclusion at the local level, which have led to enhanced outcomes of climate-related projects and policies at a much wider often national level.

For example, in Dacope - a community in a climate-vulnerable region of Bangladesh where water resources are so heavily saline as to be poisonous. Children and adults of the community were suffering



Due to the saline water in the Khulna region, people suffer from a lack of pure drinking water. Shila Bawali and Suchitra Biswas set up a committee run by women to help the community. The purified water, generated by the reverse osmosis plant, will be available at a cheap rate to the people in their area. WaterAid, powered by the bank HSBC, is supporting this project in Dacope, Khulna, Bangladesh. File photo

from skin allergies, stomach problems and water-borne diseases due to the daily consumption of unsafe water from their only source - ponds and canals. A group of women decided they could not stand by as their health and that of their families deteriorated due to lack of safe water. Things needed to change.

WaterAid and HSBC have been working partnership for four years in this region of Bangladesh helping to provide water, sanitation and hygiene services to many communities.

Through the project, mother-of-two, Shila Bawali, 35, successfully enlisted another 44 women into a committee called "Khona Khatail Mahila Samity" to start a fund for the installation of a reverse osmosis plant to purify their water.

This plant has started the water filtration process, which takes out the impurities out of the water and makes it safe for drinking. With this plant removing the salinity from ground water, it is now safe and pure to drink for the 1,300 people living in the village and also those from other communities at a very low price. Shila plans to sell it to restaurants and cafes, so the water not only brings health benefits but

improves her family's economic outlook too.

And, as a number of the women are now trained with the essential skills to be able to maintain the water plant, it is sustainable and resilient to future climate pressures.

How does Shila feel about this success? She told WaterAid that she's now incredibly optimistic about the future - she's confident that life will be better, her children will be healthier, and she will be able to rely on her new source of clean water.

She is happy to serve the customers in her shop and is eager to see her own community blossoming with new hope.

Let's applaud women like Shila who take control of their rightful destiny, and take on new challenges and risks in their hectic lives. Through their incredible drive and ambition, they can bring about lasting change to secure the future of their family and community in the face of climate change.

IPS

# Ambassador of Tanzania views changes in China in the last seven decades as great leap forward

BEIJING

THE changes that have taken place in China over the past 70 years is a "great leap forward", Tanzanian ambassador to China Mbelwa Kairuki said in a recent interview.

One of the changes is that hundreds of millions of people in China have been lifted out of poverty, said the ambassador.

The concept of targeted poverty alleviation focuses on people's well-being, he added. "Now, this targeting initiative to reduce poverty has been quite successful at all levels," he praised.

Other changes include that massive infrastructure has been constructed in China and that China is pioneering in agriculture, according to the ambassador.

This year 2019 is special for Tanzania and China as it marks the 55th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations, he said. Over the last 55 years, Tanzania and China have cooperation in many fields.

Tanzania hopes to attract Chinese investment for infrastructure, especially in the construction of industrial parks, he said.

Tanzania is one of the main beneficiaries of various initiatives proposed during the

2018 Beijing Summit of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), said the ambassador.

In addition, Tanzania attended the first China International Importation Expo (CIIE) held in November 2018, which was a good opportunity for Tanzanian products to be promoted in the Chinese markets, he noted.

The ambassador expressed hopes for more trade between Tanzania and China and more Tanzanian agricultural products to be exported to the Chinese market, including coffee, cashew nuts, tea, sesame, and soybeans.

The Belt and Road Initiative is a global initiative by China, he said, "It is Chinese innovation and it is Chinese contribution to the world."

Currently, new challenges have arisen such as economic instability around the world. The ambassador thought these challenges need to be addressed jointly by the countries along the Belt and Road.

The ambassador hoped that Tanzania and China have an opportunity to talk on the achievements that have been made and look forward to the future during the second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation to be held next month.



Bernie Gaksch, QNET's Head of Online Education, makes remarks shortly after the opening of the firm's Expo 2019 in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: John Badi.

## Innovation is crucial, says Ruwa'ichi

By Getrude Mbago

THE Coadjutor Archbishop of Dar es Salaam Jude Thaddeus Ruwa'ichi has called on insurance companies to be innovative and come up with a special product which will enable parents with low income save a little for their children education.

Ruwa'ichi made the call in Dar es Salaam over the weekend when speaking at the annual Catholic Men Hijrah conference to commemorate St. Joseph's feast day.

During the event, Acclavia Insurance Brokers launched

a special project dubbed 'Small Christian Communities Insurance.'

The Coadjutor Archbishop said that Tanzanians should recognize the value of insurance and work on saving for their future life.

He challenged insurance companies to expand their services and eye to invest more in macro-insurance by covering the lower income population.

"We have been coming across a number of insurance projects like health, life and so forth, but an education insurance project is very rare to find in insurance services. So my plea to investors

in the sector is to think on this and come up with special products for our children to access quality education throughout their learning life," he said.

He pointed out that a good number of children in the country have been failing to fulfil their education dreams because their parents or guardians didn't save for them.

For his part, Ancelmi Mushi, managing director of Acclavia Insurance Brokers said that the overall objective of the project is to enhance the value of small Christian communities (SCCs) through insurance.

"This project provides medical and life insurance service for SCCs families. It a tool that serves to enabling members of the SCCs to attend needs adequately, especially medical bills and burial arrangements that always bind them together," he said.

A household can pay as small amount ranging from 30,000/- to 230,000/- per year for a medical insurance product.

"With the 230,000/- medical product, Acclavia will cover medical bills of 600,000/- for a delivering mother, and if any member of the family is admitted in hospital, we will pay up to

3m/- to cover medical bills, while up to 450,000/- will be provided for outpatient medical costs," he explained.

He said the SCCs project was underwritten by Sanlam Life Insurance (T) and Strategis Insurance (T), while its benefits and services were designed by Acclavia Insurance Brokers.

"We are eager and dedicated to find innovative ways to consistently exceed the expectations of our customers and business partners, while ensuring a delightful experience and affordable services," the broker underlined.

## Russia expresses support for Sudanese people, leadership in overcoming ongoing crisis

KHARTOUM

A visiting Russian official has expressed his country's readiness to stand by the Sudanese people and the leadership to overcome the current crisis, said Sudanese Presidency in a statement.

The remarks were made by Mikhail Bogdanov, Russia's deputy foreign minister and special presidential representative for the Middle East and Africa, during his meeting with Sudanese First Vice-President Awad Mohamed Ahmed Ibn Auf in the capital Khartoum.

"Russia, on the basis of the friendship which brings it together with Sudan, will stand by the Sudanese people and its leaderships ... to overcome the current crisis," Bogdanov was quoted in the statement as saying.

"I'm confident in the ability of

the leaderships in the country to overcome the economic difficulties," he added.

Bogdanov voiced Russia's strong will to enhance its ties with Sudan in the economic, political and military fields.

Russia would work to enhance Sudan's defense capabilities and contribute to the training of its military personnel, the Russian official added.

Bogdanov arrived in Khartoum on Friday evening, and met with Sudanese President Omar al-Bashir on Saturday, where he delivered al-Bashir an invitation from Russian President Vladimir Putin for the first Russian-African summit scheduled for October.

Since Dec. 19 last year, Sudan has been witnessing popular protests over the deteriorating economic conditions and price hikes of basic commodities.



A delivery drone is loaded with medical supplies.

## Life-saving drones fly medicine to Tanzania's remotest spots

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

BLOOD and medicine-filled drones swoop over Lake Victoria, bringing vital care to some of Tanzania's most remote places.

That's the goal of the state-owned Commission for Science and Technology (Costech), which since late 2017 has carried out dozens of drone flights in collaboration with Wingcopter and Deutsche Post AG's DHL to Ukerewe, the lake's biggest island. Echoing an initiative in nearby Rwanda, the pilot project has already reached more than

8,000 patients and could help revolutionize medical services in East Africa's largest country.

"We were able to deliver anti-venom to farmers who had been bitten by snakes and needed medical care quickly to avoid amputation of their limbs, or even death," said George Mulamula, project head at Costech. The next stage, he said, is to secure funding to increase the drones' medical loads to 45 kilograms (99 pounds) from 6 kilograms and widen their range to all of the more than 80 Tanzanian islands on Africa's biggest lake.

It's a project that may be especially welcome in Tanzania, which is twice the size of California and home to about 57 million people. The United Nations Children's Fund says the proportion of government spending going toward the health sector has declined over the past five years and remains short of the amount needed to provide basic services. Malaria, HIV/AIDS and tuberculosis are the main health threats.

### 'Timely Delivery'

"I know of places in Tanzania so remote that the state-run Medical

Stores Department could take several days to deliver medical supplies," said Syriacus Buguzi, a doctor and public-health advocate in the commercial capital, Dar es Salaam, which is about 800 kilometers (500 miles) from the lake. "Ultimately, people's lives are transformed through timely delivery of medicines and medical supplies," he said, welcoming the potential impact of drones.

So far, the project has had 150,000 euros (\$169,590) in funding from Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit GmbH, or GIZ, on

behalf of Germany's Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Mulamula said. Tanzania's MSD contracted GIZ and Costech to run the project.

In the test phase, when local medics on Ukerewe Island received patients needing assistance -- such as a snake-bite victim or an expectant mother needing blood -- they text messaged the referral hospital in Mwanza region. The treatment could then arrive by drone in 40 minutes, Mulamula said.

"The whole idea is to have new forms of transport that enhance green

mobility and secondly to have a cost efficient delivery instead of using a truck, which takes two days to reach the site," he said.

There's still a long way to go. Lake Victoria is divided between Tanzania, Uganda and Kenya, with the portion in Tanzanian territory roughly the area of Rwanda alone. Mulamula said his organization is working with the World Bank and other Tanzanian institutions to prepare the next phase.

"We will sit down with MSD to see how we can roll out this project across all the islands," he said.

# China, Europe on path of expanding Belt and Road cooperation

FRANKFURT

**A**nastasiya Sizikova, a young woman who lives in Germany's western city of Düsseldorf, could have hardly imagined a few years ago that her career and life would be so closely linked to China.

Speaking three languages including English and Russian, she is now a director of logistics and business development at DBO Bahnoperator company, a firm established against the backdrop of the China-proposed Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) to handle container shipments from the European Union (EU) to China using block trains.

"I'm a happy person, because I truly love my job and enjoy doing it," Sizikova told Xinhua. "Through the example of China Rail Express, we can see how fast the cooperation between China and Europe is growing, we are proud to be part of this process," Sizikova said.

Following the principle of consultation and collaboration for shared benefits, the BRI is increasingly embraced by European countries and people, who have already benefited from the development opportunities the initiative offers.

In the meantime, the BRI cooperation has been playing an increasingly important role in deepening China-EU comprehensive strategic partnership, which has come a long way since its establishment in 2003.

## MARKETS CONNECTED

Since it was proposed in 2013, the BRI has been bringing tangible benefits to both Europe and China.

Gradually growing into an iconic brand in Europe, China Railway Express, which connects 59 Chinese cities with 49 European cities in 15 countries, made 6,363 trips in 2018, surging 73 percent from 2017, according to the China Railway Corporation.

Those freight trains have rumbled along the routes, taking garments, auto parts, chemicals and other Chinese goods to European consumers, while taking back European food, machinery, equipment and timber.

For Spain, China Railway Express not only connects Madrid with China's eastern city of Yiwu, but also provides a better opportunity for the two countries to access and explore each others' markets.

"Yiwu is a great global bazaar, and for the enterprises in the community of Madrid, it's also a big door to enter the huge Chinese market," Francisco Aranda, vice president and spokesman of Business Confederation of Madrid, told Xinhua.

The Foundation for the Exchange between Yiwu and Spain, a non-profit



A cargo container of China Railway Express is loaded onto a truck at Eurokombi terminal in Hamburg, Germany, on May 29, 2018. File photo

organization founded in 2016, recently announced that it will invite some 70 Spanish entrepreneurs to present their products at the Yiwu Imported Commodities Fair in late May this year, in which Spain will be the guest country.

For Poland, one of the largest agricultural countries in Europe, the China Railway Express is a good alternative for sea transport as it helps Polish companies bring more competitive products to the Chinese market.

"That would be a great opportunity to start with fresh, short shelf life products that currently can't be delivered to the Chinese clients. It could also improve the frequency and efficiency of deliveries," said Malgorzata Cebelinska, trade director of Poland's

leading dairy company Mlepol. Seeing robust growth in the Chinese market in 2018, Mlepol is now one of the leading players in the sector of imported milk to China.

She noted that her company is considering expanding business activities and range of products in the Chinese market.

"The freight train service between China and Europe is a powerful example of how the Belt and Road cooperation can drive common development and prosperity of China and Europe with enhanced connectivity," Yang Jiechi, a member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee, said at the 55th Munich Security Conference in February.

## INVESTMENTS & JOBS

While guiding European companies' to growing businesses in China, the BRI also directly leads to new investments and jobs in Europe.

The Piraeus port, where China's COSCO Shipping has investment, is an exemplary case of win-win partnership between Greece and China within the framework of the BRI.

The port started to take a new look and achieved impressive results a few years after the Chinese investment came, in the wake of the debt crisis that hit Greece hard, Vassilis Korkidis, president of Piraeus Chamber of Commerce and Industry told Xinhua.

"It was an investment for more

than 3.5 billion euros (4 billion U.S. dollars). There are a lot of activities around the port that were activated by the port development. So that means new jobs, better-pay jobs than the rest of the workers' salaries in Greece," he explained.

The Peljesac Bridge, one of the biggest infrastructure projects in Croatia's history, is another example of win-win cooperation under the BRI. Croatian Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic said China Road and Bridge Corporation's active participation in the construction of the projects "is a concrete economic contribution."

Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban also highly valued the presence of Chinese companies in the country, saying that they

have contributed to the full employment and the long-term economic growth of Hungary.

## POSITIVE RESPONSE

As an important global public goods by China, the BRI keeps winning more and more positive feedback throughout Europe.

Michel Kempeneers, chief operating officer of overseas export and investment department at Wallonia Export-Investment Agency, told Xinhua that Belgium is very open to Chinese partners in terms of the BRI cooperation.

"We can have win-win partnerships together, talking with our Chinese colleagues with the same language of openness," said Kempeneers, adding that Belgium is not an ending point

of the BRI, but a new starting point for the rest of Europe and "we welcome these flights and trains from China with a lot of happiness."

Thilo Ketterer, a public auditor and partner at the German professional service firm Roedel & Partner, has followed the BRI from the very beginning in 2013 and took part in the first Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation in 2017.

The initiative, which brings everybody together, is "really fantastic," said Ketterer. He was deeply impressed and encouraged by the fact that the initiative has turned from vision into reality.

In fact, the BRI cooperation is extensively accepted as a major part of bilateral relations between China and the European countries.

Spanish Prime Minister Pedro Sanchez said that Spain will actively take part in the construction of the Belt and Road, which is of historic significance as China and Spain reached consensus last November to jointly push forward the construction of the Belt and Road to strengthen Asia-Europe connectivity and boost global trade.

In addition, Greek Foreign Minister George Katrougalos said Greece will actively participate in the BRI and play a constructive role in promoting the bilateral relations and Europe-China cooperation.

From the perspective of the EU as a whole, there is growing synergy between the BRI and the Juncker Plan, a 315-billion-euro (357 billion dollar) investment scheme championed by European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker in 2014 to boost private investment in European infrastructure projects.

"I would like to witness the further development of success stories of the Belt and Road Initiative, to see more countries getting involved, to see new infrastructure development along the route, and to see growing cooperation between China and Europe," said Sizikova.

Xinhua

Glasgow, Scotland

**O**ften dubbed an open-air prison on account of Israel's and Egypt's ongoing air, land and sea blockade of the coastal enclave, Gaza, is according to Amnesty International and several other rights groups, on the brink of a humanitarian disaster.

In February, Antonio Guterres, the United Nations secretary-general, highlighted the crisis, saying that the near two million Palestinians of the besieged strip "remain mired in increasing poverty and unemployment, with limited access to adequate health, education, water and electricity".

But the mainstream media does not always succeed in telling Palestine's contemporary story with accuracy and empathy.

On Thursday, in the Scottish city of Glasgow, experts discussed the media's role in covering one of the most pressing and divisive issues in international politics.

Al Jazeera interviewed three of the panellists before the event, which was hosted by The Balfour Project, a campaign group created

by British citizens to raise awareness over Britain's record in Palestine before and during its Mandate.

"You always come under particular pressure with [reporting on events in Israel and Palestine] because there is an intense and concerted Israeli media lobby - and there always was," said Sarah Helm, a former foreign correspondent for the UK's Independent newspaper. "And that includes a very intense Israeli political lobby working at every single level, which there always was too - and that was no secret and nor would they make a secret of it."

She was based in Jerusalem in the 1990s.

Helm said that her editors would often come "under pressure from the Israeli lobby in London on what correspondents out in the field were doing in a way that was not really true... [for] other foreign stories".

"Because newspapers have been got at and persuaded and pressurised by the pro-Israel lobby, the upshot over time is that the reader hasn't got a clue what this place [Palestine] is."

Today, similar concerns remain.

David Cronin, for example, who had freelanced for The

## Why the media are not covering Palestine with accuracy and empathy



Palestinian paramedics carry a wounded protester on a stretcher during clashes with Israeli forces following a demonstration near the fence along the border with Israel, east of Gaza, on March 8, 2019. File photo

Guardian, wrote in 2015 about his frustrations with the newspaper in Electronic Intifada, where he acts as an associate editor.

Having reported about atrocities against Palestinians committed by Israel, the paper was later

"not keen to have me writing from Gaza", he said, adding that one editor advised him to steer clear of covering the conflict altogether.

Time and space constraints also mean that UK media reports neglect the contextual history of the

conflict.

This includes the fact that seven out of 10 Gazans are registered as refugees, with many originating from families who were forced to flee their homes after Israel's foundation in 1948.

"It seems to me that cer-

tain absolutely fundamental facts have to be high up in any story," Helm said.

The Western media narrative has been dominated by Israel during the entire 70-year conflict, according to Ilan Baruch, the former Israeli ambassador to South Africa.

"Israel was brilliantly successful in offering a narrative to the western hemisphere that was embraced with little or no objective judgement," said Baruch, who resigned from the foreign service in 2011 because he felt he could no longer represent the Israeli government's policies.

Reporting fatigue also contributes to poor media coverage.

Sir Vincent Fean, a former British consul-general in Jerusalem, said that Gaza's "complex and deep-rooted" struggle has diminished the "appetite of Western media". "In addition to the fatigue, there is also the fact that other crises in the Middle East are bloodier, like Syria and Yemen," said Fean, who was the UK's top-ranking consular officer in Jerusalem from 2010 to 2014. "They take some of the oxygen away from the issue."

In 2017, Mariam Barghouti, a Palestinian-American

writer based in Ramallah, wrote in a column for Al Jazeera: "The mainstream media focus is always on Palestinian reaction and not on Israeli action and it insinuates that Palestinians are on the offence when in fact they are on the defence."

In suggesting a way forward, Helm said: "Editors must have the courage of their convictions" to insist historical context enables the reader, listener or viewer to understand the conflict.

"History has been allowed - and even recent history has been allowed - to disappear into a swamp," she said. "And everyone is terrified of putting a foot wrong and being accused of being anti-Semitic that they aren't even ask the [necessary] questions."

As several critics of Israeli government policy find themselves accused of anti-Jewish racism, Baruch, the former Israeli ambassador to South Africa, said the debate needed to move past conflating these two notions.

"Even criticising Zionism as the inspirational movement that created Israel is not anti-Semitism," he said. "[The anti-Semitism charge] is just a ploy to pull down criticism of Israel."

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## Shanta Gold marvelling at good production year

By Smart Money Reporter

**S**HANTA Gold Mining, which owns Chunya based New Luika Mine, has said last year was a much better period both in terms of gold production, lowering costs and increasing revenue by over 2 percent.

The company's Board Chairman, Anthony Durrant and Chief Executive Officer, Eric Zurrin described 2018 as an excellent year for the company, both operationally and financially, with the result being the highest net profit recorded by the company in four years.

According to Shanta Gold's 2018 annual results and audited accounts, total mill feed was 639,678 tonnes at an average grade of 4.4 grams per tonne for the production of 81,872 ounces of gold.

The company's turnover for the year from sales of gold amounted to US\$103.8 million, compared to US\$101.5 million made in 2017 which represented an increase of 2.3 percent. The report said the turnover increase was largely due to a proportional increase in ounces sold, with the average selling price realised for the year being slightly



Shanta Gold's Board Chairman (L), Anthony Durrant and CEO, Eric Zurrin.

lower than that of 2017.

"During the year we developed our third underground mine at New Luika Gold Mine with a safety record of zero lost time injuries. We reduced our net debt to the lowest in Shanta's producing history and strengthened our project pipeline with the release of the

economics for our second project at Singida," Durrant said in the report.

He said good performance was achieved despite operating in a challenging gold environment and in the absence of value added tax refunds in country while remaining focused on improving the business by reducing

costs this year.

"We took steps to extend the mine life at New Luika with exploration at depth adding new high-grade reserves at Bauhinia Creek during the year. We generated new targets at Lambo, Quartzberg and Porcupine South. New targets, if proven economic, could ultimately allow us to develop satellite feed for blending at New Luika," the Board Chair added.

"We are fortunate to be operating in a region hosting exceptionally high-grade gold deposits providing the opportunity to blend high-grade tonnage with the substantial existing low-grade resources which today sit outside the mine plan," he noted.

Durrant further noted that Singida's gold mine will be separated into a new company for funding by third parties at the asset level while remaining optimistic that the project will progress to production in the near future.

"We anticipate another year of steady production in 2019 and continue to critically assess all aspects of the business with a view to removing unnecessary costs, improving efficiencies and capital allocation," he underlined.

Production in 2019 is forecast to be similar to 2018 at between 80,000 - 84,000 ounces of gold, with the possibility of maintaining those levels in future years at New Luika, Durrant pointed out.

Backing the Board Chair's observation, Zurrin said production successes of 2018, in which re-

vised guidance of 80,000 ounces was beaten following a record-breaking fourth quarter, was the ability to significantly increase mill throughput which we expect to be sustained into 2019.

"One of the headline achievements in 2018 was the reduction of recurring costs by US\$7.2 million per annum. This total exceeded initial targets and was achieved through cuts to overhead costs and contract renegotiations spanning the group's entire supplier base," the CEO added.

He said importantly, Shanta's underground operations were ringfenced from cost reductions to ensure operational performance. Further cost savings of approximately US\$1.2 million are expected for the coming year following internalisation of the management of New Luika's 7.5 megawatts heavy furnace oil power plant at the end of 2018, Zurrin said.

"Ongoing cost reviews continue to identify additional cost savings which will be executed during 2019. The company is undertaking a wide-ranging exploration programme spanning the entire licence portfolio. On-mine exploration remains the highest priority, as the group looks to extend the long-term future of New Luika. The board has taken the decision to double the company's 2019 exploration budget to approximately US\$3.6 million in order to achieve this objective," the CEO added.

## Saudis urge OPEC+ to stick with oil cuts

BAKU

OPEC and its allies have much work ahead to balance global oil markets and are prepared to do what's necessary in the second half, Saudi Energy Minister Khalid Al-Falih said.

The 24-nation coalition known as OPEC+ needs to "stay the course" until June as its job is "nowhere near complete" in terms of restoring oil-market fundamentals, Al-Falih said late Sunday at a news conference in Baku, Azerbaijan. US inventories remain significantly above normal levels, and there is a risk of oversupply in the short term, he said.

But there was less full-throated support for extending the OPEC+ output-cuts agreement from Russia and Iraq - the pact's other two biggest producers. Russian Energy Minister Alexander Novak said at the same briefing that uncertainties arising from production in Venezuela and Iran make it difficult for the coalition to determine its next step before May or June.

The ministers spoke ahead of a planned meeting in Baku on Monday of a committee of OPEC+ members responsible for monitoring output. The Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries and its allies have entered its third year of curbing supply in order to defend crude prices. While they've helped engineer a 25% recovery in Brent this year, current prices of about \$67 a barrel remain well below the levels that most of the producers need to cover government spending.

Job still remains

"My assessment is that the job still remains ahead of us," Al-Falih said. "We're still seeing inventory builds." At the same time, many investors are skittish about investing in oil exploration and production due to uncertainty, and OPEC+ doesn't want a situation where crude prices are too high, he said.

"We remain ready to continue monitoring supply and demand and doing what we have to do in the second half of 2019 to keep the markets balanced," Al-Falih said. OPEC has faced pressure from US President Donald Trump to "relax" its stance on curbing supply, as severe strains on output from two members - Iran and Venezuela - threaten to trigger a shortage.

Al-Falih said the crises haven't changed his view on the need to persevere with output restraints, as losses in both those countries haven't been severe enough to prevent a renewed accumulation of oil inventories. If the slump in Iranian and Venezuelan supplies intensifies, OPEC is prepared to respond as it has in the past, he said.

Better compliance

Producers are conforming well with output cuts they agreed to make starting in January, and their compliance is improving and will easily exceed 100% in March, Al-Falih said. Saudi Arabia will pump about 9.8 million barrels a day in March and April and export less than 7 million barrels daily in both months, he said. The kingdom has a production target of 10.3 million barrels a day.

"We agreed today we need to keep monitoring the situation and by May or June to discuss decisions for the second half of the year," Novak said at the conference. Russia has trimmed its output by an average of 140,000 to 150,000 barrels a day in March compared with October, the reference month for Russia's cuts, Interfax reported.

Iraq is doing its best to adhere to its pledged reduction and will pump less in March than in either January or February, Ghadhban, the Iraqi minister, said. While welcoming the price boost from the current accord, he said he hopes that producers continue to put into effect the cuts they've promised.

"We should continue till June and then decide, but we are continuously observing and analyzing the market," Ghadhban said.



A Safeboda customer enjoys his ride.

## Safeboda launches 50pc discount on cashless rides

KAMPALA

In a bid to promote a cashless economy in Uganda, moto-taxi ride hailing firm, Safeboda has today launched a 50% discount on its cashless payments. All customers who pay for their rides cashless will a month get a 50% discount off every payment they make.

"This is one sure way to save on your transport costs," company said during the announcement. For instance, if a passenger is estimated to pay UGX4,000

for his/her trip, they end up paying UGX2,000 saving UGX2,000.

The Bukoto-based firm wants to make cashless payment a priority for its riders and passengers. The company launched its cashless option in August 2017 after both parties (riders and passengers) always had an issue when it came to change. With the cashless option coming into place, it simplified the payment plan. Passengers load cash on their Safeboda accounts through MTN and Airtel mobile money,

termining it as "Credit."

Today, becomes the second time the company runs the 50% discount on ride payments. In June last year the 50% discount was initiated offering to customers paying either by cash or credit. But this time round, in a bid of promoting a cashless economy, the company has stuck to only customers paying cashless. According to Safeboda announcement, the promo is scheduled to run for a month. Safeboda

Meanwhile, Safeboda is still leveraging and leading

in the moto-taxi hailing industry with over 8000+ riders. During the company's bi-annual party celebrating 5 years in Uganda held earlier this year, Safeboda spokesperson told this reporter that the company expects to reach 10,000 riders in Q2 this year.

Leading the market doesn't stop the company from making the experience for its customers and riders better knowing it has to face competition from likes of Bolt - previously known as Taxify, Uberboda, Dial Jack.

## Trade squabbles between the US and India ramp up over duty-free tariffs

NEW DELHI

Sanjay Jha is lobbying the Indian government to stop US President Donald Trump from withdrawing India's preferential trade status, which allowed duty-free tariffs for hundreds of products exported from the subcontinent nation to the US.

As chairman of the Confederation of Indian Textile Industry, he is concerned how the move will affect clothing traders in India, particularly those handling silk dresses, which benefit the most from the duty-free allowances. Under Mr Trump's plans, silk dresses from India will be slapped with import duties of 6.9 per cent.

"We're taking up the matter with

India's commerce ministry and we hope the status quo is maintained," says Mr Jha.

Mr Trump announced his intentions to end India's preferential trade status earlier this month, giving 60 days' notice. India is the world's largest beneficiary of what is known as the generalised systems of preferences programme, with \$5.6 billion of its exports to the US enjoying duty-free benefits in 2017. The tariff dates back to the 1970s, when it was set up to assist developing countries. India and the US have been locked in numerous contentious trade squabbles recently.

The US is India's second-largest trading partner after China, with exports to the country surging over the

past decade by more than 130 per cent to \$47.9bn in the financial year to the end of March 2018, according to figures from the Indian government.

Along with certain textiles products, other affected goods include car components and chemicals. However, Indian Ministry of Commerce has played down the impact of Mr Trump's move, saying the duty-free benefits only amount to savings of \$190m a year, with exports to the US under the programme totalling less than 0.2 per cent of the country's gross domestic product.

Economists say the end of India's preferential trade status may not have a huge direct economic impact on the country, but it is a sign of intensifying trade tensions between the two

countries.

"India and the US have been locked in numerous contentious trade squabbles recently," says Sonal Varma, the managing director and chief economist at investment bank Nomura. "India's exclusion from the list seems to be precipitated by the US's frustration at making progress on market access issues with India."

The US government says the decision followed India's failure "to provide the United States with assurances that it will provide equitable and reasonable access to its markets in numerous sectors". It also says India had "implemented a wide array of trade barriers that create serious negative effects on United States commerce."

Mr Trump, who has an "America first" stance, has previously referred to India as "the tariff king", with trade relations between the two countries strained for some time. A number of countries, including China, have been targeted by his protectionist measures.

Mr Trump says India charges the US high tariffs, as much as 100 per cent, while it enjoys duty-free benefits sending its own products to the US. The president's preferred example to illustrate his criticism is Harley-Davidson motorcycles, as the company pays duties of 50 per cent on all motorbikes imported into India.

Such scenarios fuel the imbalance in trade. Goods and services trade between India and the US reached

\$126.2bn in 2017, according to US government figures. But with imports to the US from India outweighing its exports flowing into India, the deficit with India in that year was \$27.3bn, the data reveals.

A number of other factors have sparked disagreements between the two countries in the lead up to Mr Trump's plans to scrap India's preferential trade status. Last year, the US hiked steel and aluminium duties for countries including India. India announced retaliatory tariffs on 29 goods imported from the US, including apples and chickpeas. India has repeatedly delayed imposing these tariffs, however.

## Finance ministers set to examine fiscal policies key to AfCFTA implementation



ECA Executive Secretary, Vera Songwe.

### ADDIS ABABA

The 52nd session of the Economic Commission for Africa's (ECA) Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development, will be held in Marrakech, Morocco, next week under the theme: Fiscal policy, trade and the private sector in the digital era: A strategy for Africa.

The March 20-26 conference, according to organisers, will provide an opportunity for the African ministers to examine the fiscal policies necessary for the implementation of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA).

This is within the frameworks of

the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and Africa's development programme, Agenda 2063, and the critical role of private sector in the era of the digital economy.

The AfCFTA could soon reach the minimum required ratifications to come into effect since 19 countries have already ratified the agreement. With three additional signatures, the agreement could come into effect.

According to the ECA Executive Secretary, Vera Songwe, discussions during the 2019 Council of Ministers will focus on effective fiscal policy for growth in Africa. "With its changing economic basis, Africa needs to renew its fiscal policy in order to

align with the economic order and to meet its needs for investments and growth," said Songwe.

This year's theme: Fiscal policy, trade and the private sector in the digital era: A strategy for Africa, as noted, recognises the need to improve domestic resource mobilisation on the continent and increase competitiveness leveraging on the strength of digital technology.

The conference in Marrakech will comprise plenary sessions on a series of sub-themes and at least 16 side events on various issues affecting African economies. Seasoned and high-level panelists from within and outside Africa will guide the discussions.

The annual Adebayo Adedeji

Lecture - named after ECA's longest serving Executive Secretary, Professor Adebayo Adedeji, who passed away last April, is also on the cards with discussions involving experts from within and outside the continent.

Prof. Adedeji, a scholar, thinker and activist who was passionate about Africa's development, is greatly respected for his leadership and contribution to changing the discourse of Africa's development agenda.

The Adebayo Adedeji Lecture series, is an annual discourse on contemporary issues that frame his vision. It is a commemoration of his contribution to development on the African continent.

## MultiChoice market cap approaches R50bn as shares rise in early trade

### JOHANNESBURG

Shares in MultiChoice [JSE:MSG] rose by 15.5% in early trade on Wednesday after the entertainment company listed on the Johannesburg stock Exchange. Shares started trading at R95.50 on Wednesday, and were changing hands at R110.27 just before noon.

With just over 438 million shares at issue, the company had a mid-morning market capitalisation of R48.5bn. This makes it roughly the same size as a company like Tiger Brands, South Africa's biggest food producer. This would also put it in the Top-50 JSE-listed firms by market capitalisation.

"We are happy with where the share opened and how it is trading," MultiChoice Chief Financial Officer Tim Jacobs told Bloomberg in an interview at the JSE. "We expect it to settle down in the next three months."

"We have identified about 40 million additional subscribers that could be signed on in the middle income and mass market," Jacobs said. About half the company's current customer base is in South Africa, and the focus after listing will be to accelerate growth on the rest of the continent, he said.

Musa Makoni, trading specialist at Purple Group told Fin24 on Wednesday that, as expected, there was quite a bit of volatility when the shares started trading, but by late morning this seemed to have stabilised. "For now it is still early days and it would be a gamble to make a call on where



Calvo Mawela, MultiChoice group CEO, left, and Imtiaz Patel, right, its executive chairperson, at MultiChoice's listing on the JSE on February 27, 2019.

it is heading. With any listing, you will get euphoria at the beginning," said Makoni.

MultiChoice was previously part of Naspers and unbundled from its parent company in September 2018. Brands that fall under the MultiChoice umbrella include SuperSport, DSTv, GOtv, M-Net,

Showmax and digital protection company Irdeto. Calvo Mawela, MultiChoice Group CEO, said in a statement on Wednesday that the company was well positioned to generate shareholder returns and future growth.

"We are overwhelmingly positive about MultiChoice

Group's future. With the largest pay-TV footprint across Africa, we understand our customers and tailor our offering and services to suit market-specific video entertainment needs." Shares in Naspers [JSE:NPN], meanwhile, were down -3.63% at noon at R3 028.00.

## Rwandan Central Bank roots for minimum wage

### KIGALI

The lack of an official minimum wage to facilitate workers' compensation in the event of bodily injuries is affecting the performance of the insurance sector, the central bank has said.

In the process of determining rightful compensation for workers when they are injured at work, courts rely on minimum wage to determine the indemnity to victims. Lack of a minimum wage, among other factors, drives speculation, thereby negatively affecting the insurance sector.

The Deputy Governor of the National Bank of Rwanda, Monique Nsanzabaganwa, told the Senatorial Standing Committee on Economic Development and Finance last week that the absence of common minimum pay was one of the issues threatening the survival of the industry.

The session was analysing the National Bank of Rwanda's 2017/2018 financial year report. "We need guaranteed minimum wage...its absence is killing the insurance sector," Nsanzabaganwa said. She added: "Because in case of bodily injuries, there is no formal reference on the basis of which compensation to the victim can be calculated," she said.

She pointed out that currently courts base on a daily wage of Rwf3,000 to make decisions, which could be misleading. The situation, she said, could inflict losses to the insurance sector because of unjustified compensations.

"Lack of minimum wage is a problem because it has left a void where judges set compensation amount as they please," she said. She concurred with insurers that some people are exploiting this gap, making an urgent call to set the basic wage.

Jean Pierre Majoro, Executive Secretary of Rwanda Insurers' Association (ASSAR), told The New Times that the fee was Rwf5,000 back in 2012 before gradually increasing to Rwf3,000 currently, pointing out that this is detrimental to the insurance sector performance.

"A study that was carried out by the Ministry of Public Service and Labour showed that a person working in informal sector earns Rwf1,400 [on average]. But, courts are using Rwf3,000 and they might continue to increase this amount," he said. He said that minimum salary is needed in order to prevent speculation by judges or lawyers.

"The move would be beneficial for both the claimant and the insurer because there have been delays resulting from disagreements that end up in court over the money that should be given to the former," Majoro noted.

Rwanda's insurance sector's total assets grew by 13 per cent from Rwf399.8 billion in 2017 to Rwf452.5 billion in 2018. Net premiums contributed to the sector amounted to Rwf116.9 billion in 2018 from Rwf109.1 billion in 2017, representing a 7 per cent increase. Total claims [paid out] rose by 13 per cent from Rwf60.3 billion in 2017 to Rwf68.1 billion in 2018.



## A British supermarket is facing boycott calls for keeping out SA swallows

### LONDON

Tesco supermarkets in Britain face a boycott unless one of its stores removes netting intended to keep swallows out of their usual nesting spot.

Every year the swallows travel some 8,000 kilometres from South Africa to spend the southern winter in more hospitable climes, in one of the more epic migratory journeys on Earth. But this year one group will find their previous nests destroyed - and an anti-immigration barrier in place to keep them away.

The group has been nesting at the Harford Bridge Tesco for at least six years, according to Chris Skinner, a conservationist who has been monitoring them. Campaigners say the Tesco superstore in Norwich used a high-pressure water spray to remove old nests, then put up anti-bird netting to keep the swallows from returning.

Skinner told the BBC that it would have been illegal to install the netting had it been done in the swallow's

nesting season, but was technically allowed because it had been done a couple of weeks before that.

Tesco said the nets were installed on expert recommendation to encourage the birds to nest at the rear of the store instead of at the front, where their droppings fall onto shopping trolleys. The company said the droppings are "a significant health and safety risk."

But Skinner argues that the poo problem could have been solved in other ways, none of which would have precluded the migratory swallows from nesting in their usual spot. The issue has become a hot topic on Twitter, with prominent and popular calls for a boycott.

But a petition around the issue had failed to gain traction by mid Saturday morning, with only 20 people signing up to demand Tesco remove the netting. The UK's Royal Society for the Protection of Birds said it would be meeting with the supermarket chain to find a solution.

# Freeing data to build off-grid energy sector: A case study from Tanzania

By Christopher Arderne and Pepukaye Bardouille

Tanzania is a global leader in electricity access, spawning many innovations in systems and business models now commonplace around Africa. There is growing investment in the mini-grid sector across much of the Sub-Saharan Africa region, with systems ranging from solar PV installations in the low kilowatt range, to hydro and biomass systems of multiple megawatts.

More recently, standalone solar solutions are filling gaps, with nearly two million Lighting Africa-verified products sold to date. At the same time, Tanzania is one of many countries to suffer from high grid connection costs and low access.

Given the current state of electricity access and the dispersed nature of the population, there is room for off-grid energy access solutions to complement the national grid. While mini-grids and solar home systems are already showing promise in many parts of the country, challenges with coordination and information-sharing between government and the private sector create a risk for developers: selecting a site that might become grid-connected before they can recover their investment. Not only can this reduce investor confidence in the sector, it also could prevent off-grid technologies from being used where they are most cost-effective.

Larger international companies have the resources to improve market intelligence, gather data on community locations and compare it with infrastructure maps, all to identify sites that are unlikely to become grid connected in the coming years.

Moreover, they have the flexibility to choose from numerous national markets. But smaller local companies typically do not have this level of access. This has created an uneven playing field with grid and off-grid efforts conducted in silos, and a sense that there is little to be gained by sharing data; instead of being seen as a public good, it is viewed as a competitive advantage.

Prioritizing long-term capacity and cross-sectoral value

Our previous research in Tanzania highlighted the importance of two key approaches to improving market intelligence in the off-grid sector: better communication between and within



New data allows connections to be modelled in detail with little effort.

public and private sectors; and supporting the development and transparency of data for unserved populations. The figure below is an example of how a different paradigm can shift attitudes about data and sharing.

An improved sharing model, with data no longer in silos

Many countries and projects have gathered data on household locations and demand indicators, with one frequent problem: The work is done by international consultants without local knowledge, and the data is stored in a way that makes it difficult to update, improve and share.

To avoid this, the International Finance Corporation (IFC) team focused on local talent and the creation of highly detailed mapping data with value beyond energy. That data is suitable for OpenStreetMap, the premier open map of the world, which provides an accessible home for this valuable data at no cost to Tanzanian taxpayers.

To achieve this, we contracted the Humanitarian OpenStreetMap Team, an international non-profit organization of mappers dedicated to humanitarian action and community development. We worked with over 100 Tanzanian youths and supervisors to digitize buildings from satellite imagery.

They brought local knowledge and understanding of villages and house-

hold systems, such as what community centers look like and what constitutes a hamlet. In addition, there is now a well-trained local skill-base in Tanzania, which can help the government and private sector to create improved data, and support similar activities in the region.

We first evaluated Tanzanian villages using existing data sources to focus our efforts on the most critical areas to be mapped. This assessment included factors such as distance from existing grid infrastructure, road accessibility and cellular network coverage. The Tanzanian mapping team then focused on these areas, with individual mappers digitizing up to 1200 buildings per day, totalling over four million buildings, in mostly rural areas and from all different regions of the country.

Instead of simply pinpointing each building, the team fully digitized each location. This means that, like many places in more developed countries, many Tanzanian towns and villages now have each building and road carefully outlined, with features like schools identified. Collecting this type of highly-detailed data gives it significantly higher power for predicting demand and determining a village's suitability for grid or off-grid connections.

This data has huge potential to help energy developers find promising communities, and more easily identify sites

that are best served by off-grid systems (or the grid) based on demand and estimated costs. This should improve returns on investment, and more effectively increase access in the country.

Beyond this, these new maps are instantly accessible to anyone via the web or mobile phone, and have the potential to be useful to other businesses engaged in these regions. This could make it much easier for markets to find products, and vice versa - not to mention helping health, sanitation and transportation infrastructure needs.

Engaging stakeholders from bottom to top

Nearly 2,000 villages were visited and surveyed with a participatory approach. Using motorbikes for transport and cell-phones for surveys, local surveyors were recruited to ensure local understanding and language. Village representatives (and in some cases every household) were interviewed about their access to, and need for, energy.

High priority villages and statistical power had to be balanced with logistical considerations and sensible motorbike routes. Developers and planners can use this data to get a much better idea of the types of institutional energy that exist, and what kind of demand and growth can be expected from village residents.

Snapshots of mapping and survey data for one village

While the surveying continued, off-grid developers and government planners were brought together in frequent workshops to ensure that this data and the process used were valuable and provided in an accessible manner. This allowed the team to change approaches and incorporate lessons learned over the duration of the project, and ensure that different needs were met. This also highlighted the need for continued engagement with all stakeholders: government, utilities, developers, financial institutions, donors and communities without electricity access.

Emerging indicators for off-grid in Tanzania

Although the primary purpose of this work is to support electrification and the off-grid community in Tanzania, there are several findings that have already emerged from the data. Above all is the great potential for both grid densification and off-grid electrification, in addition to the usual approach of grid extension. The first is indicated by the number of villages in the survey sample with grid access, but a very small number of actual connections - an opportunity for cost-effective connections.

In more remote villages, the calculus is different. Although the government is working towards bringing grid

electricity to every village, it remains to be seen how long this will take. With this new data, it is possible to make a systematic comparison of different electrification options for each village.

For smaller villages that are further from the grid, off-grid options offer the potential to bring electricity into homes more cheaply, and more quickly, than grid extension. Larger, near-grid villages would benefit most from grid extension and densification.

At least half of the modelled sample is better suited to off-grid connections, but as it stands, they are still awaiting a grid connection of uncertain arrival time. Tanzania has the potential to maintain its position as an innovator and leader in driving electrification, but it needs to take advantage of opportunities in off-grid and densification, supported by grid extension when suitable. New data allows connections to be modelled in detail with little effort.

Open data as a development enabler

The response from government and developers has been very positive, and we are working with both to help them use and improve this resource. Planners can incorporate it into their models, and developers can more quickly find and assess markets, and attract finance. That said, it will require ongoing efforts to form the much-needed links between and within these major stakeholders.

The methodology developed here shows considerable value over other methods of data collection, and is already seeing adoption in other countries, such as Zambia and Haiti. Instead of project-specific data that is inaccessible to outsiders, we have contributed to a living database of human activity. We hope to see similar approaches become more widespread in energy and beyond.

**Christopher Arderne is an energy and data specialist with the World Bank Group.**

**Pepukaye Bardouille is a senior operations officer with the International Finance Corporation (IFC), currently on external service leading Dominica's newly established Climate Resilience Execution Agency.**

## CORPORATE WELLNESS



By Bhakti Shah, MPH

Companies set aside a substantial budget for staff learning and development. This includes investment in courses, systems, and tools. But little time or money is spent on preparing and enabling the mind of the learner. The fact is, if the learner doesn't have the "in-the-moment" mental capacity to pay attention, these investments are not paying off.

Too many people enter learning experiences with too much on their minds. Its like their brains are full, with little or no room for more information or ideas. For organizations to maximize their return on investment in training, learners must pay attention to paying attention.

How can you do this? With mindfulness training - this training has been shown to improve cognitive functions, including attention, memory and executive function. All of these traits are critical for learning. Learning to manage attention is at the very core of mindfulness. But not all employees have the desire to start a mindfulness program and so it is up to the training professionals to bring mindfulness into

# Pay attention to paying attention



their classroom experiences. Here is how:

Create conducive environment for learning: Don't underestimate the importance of creating conducive environment to optimize the learning experience. Ideally, the environment should have minimal clutter, open spaces for introspection and collaboration, optimal daylight, and quiet corners for personal reflection

or mindfulness practice. In addition, if meals or snacks are served, they should be nutritious and aligned with the latest brain science on food that enhances energy and performance - i.e. more greens, grains, nuts, fruits and less sugar.

Minimize all distractions: Research shows that when people get distracted, it can take nearly 30 minutes for them to come back to what they were

doing. And the more complex the task - learning something new is one of the most challenging tasks for the mind - the longer it takes. Knowing you should minimize distractions and actually doing it is difficult. In a classroom setting, this includes having people turn off all devices unless they are part of the learning experience. During a crowded course, it can be tempting for participants to read an

incoming text or email, thinking that no one will notice. Stress to them the importance of being disciplined. Have them make a commitment to their learning experience by turning off all notifications and putting away any distracting devices or objects.

Start a new learning segment with two minutes of mindfulness: A few minutes of mindfulness training at the beginning of a new learning

experience, and in between each new learning segment, can help participants clear mental clutter and be open to new ideas and content. This can be as simple as two minutes of sitting still, inviting a sense of relaxation in the body and mind, focusing on the breath, and letting go of distractions.

Take mindful breaks: Be deliberate about what participants do during breaks. Too many people use breaks as an opportunity to check in on work activities, which is detrimental to learning for two reasons. First, it doesn't provide an opportunity for the information to settle and marinate in the mind. And this hinders the transition of information from short-term to long-term memory. Second, it creates more mental clutter. Help participants resist the urge to check their phones. Instead, encourage them to enjoy a mindful break, which could include a walk outside, writing in a journal, or an opportunity to reflect on learning with a colleague.

After the training, encourage participants to practice 10 minutes of mindfulness training every day. If their minds are clearer, more focused, and calmer, they have a better chance of retaining what they learned.

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

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# WORLD

## Ethiopia says crashed jet's black boxes show similarities to Lion Air disaster

ADDIS ABABA/WASHINGTON

THE crash of an Ethiopian Airlines plane that killed 157 people had "clear similarities" with October's Lion Air crash, Ethiopia said on Sunday, shown by initial analysis of the black boxes recovered from the wreckage of the March 10 disaster.

The crash has generated one of the most widely watched and high-stakes inquiries for years, with the latest version of Boeing's profitable 737 workhorse depending on the outcome.

Both planes were MAX 8s, and both crashed minutes post take-off after pilots reported flight control problems. Concern over the plane's safety led aviation authorities to ground the model, wiping billions of dollars off Boeing's market value.

"It was the same case with the Indonesian (Lion Air) one. There were clear similarities between the two crashes so far," Ethiopian transport ministry spokesman Muse Yihemis said.

"The data was successfully recovered. Both the American team and our (Ethiopian) team validated it," he told Reuters, adding that the ministry would provide more information after three or four days.

In Washington, however, U.S. officials

told Reuters the FAA and U.S. National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) had not yet validated the data.

Boeing's safety analysis of a new flight control system known as MCAS on MAX jets had several crucial flaws, one of which was that it understated the power of the system, the Seattle Times said on Sunday.

The FAA also did not delve in detailed inquiries and followed a standard certification process on the MAX, the paper said, citing an FAA spokesman.

The FAA declined to comment on the report but referred to previous statements about the certification process. It has said the process followed FAA's standard process.

Citing people familiar with the inquiry, the Wall Street Journal said Department of Transportation officials are scrutinizing the FAA's approval of MAX jets and a Washington, D.C. grand jury issued a subpoena to at least one person involved in the MAX's development. The subpoena dated March 11 - a day after the Ethiopian Airlines crash - listed as a contact a prosecutor from the Justice Department's (DoJ) criminal division and sought documents to be handed over later this month, the paper said.

International rules require a preliminary report on the crash to be released within 30 days. Previous air crash reports show that in such high-profile cases there can be disagreements



A woman mourns next to coffins during the burial ceremony of the Ethiopian Airlines Flight ET 302 crash victims at the Holy Trinity Cathedral Orthodox church in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on Sunday. REUTERS

It was not immediately clear whether the DoJ subpoena was related to the DoT's inquiry, which focuses on MCAS, implicated in the Lion Air crash that killed 189 people, the WSJ added.

Boeing and the FAA declined to comment on the WSJ report.

Two government officials briefed on the matter told Reuters it would not be surprising for the Transportation Department to investigate a major safety issue, but could not immediately confirm the report.

### SAFETY ANALYSIS

An official told Reuters that when investigators - after reviewing black box data from the Ethiopian Airlines crash - return to Addis Ababa to conduct interpretive work, the NTSB and FAA will assist in verification and validation of the data.

A second source said little information had been circulated between parties about the contents of data and voice recordings.

It was not clear how many of the roughly 1,800 parameters of flight data and two hours of cockpit recordings, spanning the doomed six-minute flight and earlier trips, had been taken into account in the preliminary Ethiopian analysis.

International rules require a preliminary report on the crash to be released within 30 days.

Previous air crash reports show that in such high-profile cases there can be disagreements

among parties about the cause.

In Paris, France's BEA air accident investigation agency said data from the jet's cockpit voice recorder had been successfully downloaded. The French agency said on Twitter it had not listened to the audio files and the data had been transferred to Ethiopian investigators.

In Addis Ababa, a source who has listened to the air traffic control recording of the plane's communications said flight 302 had an unusually high speed after take-off before it reported problems and asked permission to climb quickly.

Last Monday, Boeing, shares of which have fallen 10 percent in the week since the crash, said it would deploy a software upgrade to the 737 MAX 8, hours after the FAA said it would mandate "design changes" in the aircraft by April.

Boeing was finalizing the software change and a training revision and would evaluate new information as it became available, Chief Executive Dennis Muilenburg said in a statement on Sunday, after the Ethiopian transport ministry's comments.

A Boeing spokesman said the 737 MAX was certified in line with identical FAA requirements and processes that governed certification of all previous new airplanes and derivatives. The spokesman said the FAA concluded that MCAS on 737 MAX met all certification and regulatory requirements. **Agencies**

## Kremlin has not looked into compensation for Crimea having been occupied by Ukraine

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S presidential administration is not considering plans of demanding Kiev's compensation for losses sustained by Crimea's economy when the peninsula was part of Ukraine, Kremlin Spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters yesterday.

"I'm not aware that this issue has been considered in the Kremlin," Peskov said, commenting on the initiative put forward earlier by State Duma (lower house) Speaker Vyacheslav Volodin.

The Kremlin has heard about this idea for the first time, Peskov added.

On March 15, Russia's State Duma Speaker Vyacheslav Volodin suggested using European parliamentary institutions to make Kiev reimburse the losses Crimea suffered during 25 years of being part of Ukraine.

Volodin spoke at the first joint meeting of the State Duma Council and Crimea's parliament, the State Council, dedicated to the fifth anniversary of the peninsula's reunification with Russia.

Peskov said that it is the time that will resolve all disputes over Crimea's reunification with Russia. "We are certain that time will put everything in the right place," he said. "People will be making trips to Crimea and Ukraine anyway, and they will see the real state of affairs."

"The most important thing is the Crimeans' mood and their attitude to how significantly their life over the five years has changed for the better. This speaks for itself," Peskov said.

Peskov said that Moscow-Kiev relations were now at the freezing point through the Ukrainian authorities' fault.

Among other things he mentioned Kiev's pullout from a number of Russian-Ukrainian agreements and a ban on the operation of a number of Russian mass media. **Agencies**

## China issues white paper on anti-terrorism, human rights protection in Xinjiang

BEIJING

THE State Council Information Office yesterday issued a white paper on the fight against terrorism and extremism and human rights protection in Xinjiang.

The Chinese government stands firmly against all forms of terrorism and extremism, and is relentless in striking hard, in accordance with the law, at any conduct advocating terrorism and extremism and any action that involves organizing, planning and carrying out terrorist activities, or infringing upon citizens' human rights, said the white paper, titled "The Fight Against Terrorism and Extremism and Human Rights Protection in Xinjiang."

For some time China's Xinjiang, under the combined influence of separatists, religious extremists and terrorists, has seen frequent incidents of terrorist attacks, which have been detrimental to the life and property of people of all ethnic groups in Xinjiang and have trampled on people's dignity, it said.

A country under the rule of law, China respects and protects human rights in accordance with the principles of its Constitution, said the document.

China's fight against terrorism and extremism is an important part of the same battle being waged by the

international community, the white paper said, adding that it is in keeping with the purposes and principles of the United Nations to combat terrorism and safeguard basic human rights.

In today's world, faced with the severe challenges of terrorism and extremism, no country can shy away from them, it said.

"Only by strengthening our community of shared future, abandoning double standards, enhancing political mutual trust, reaching strategic consensus, and promoting exchanges and cooperation, can we effectively curb and combat terrorism and extremism in the interests of world peace and stability," the white paper said.

Besides a foreword and a conclusion, the white paper consisted of seven main sections: "Xinjiang Has Long Been an Inseparable Part of Chinese Territory," "The Origin of Terrorism and Extremism in Xinjiang," "Violent Terrorism and Religious Extremism Are Grave Abuses of Human Rights," "Striking at Terrorism and Extremism in Accordance with the Law," "Giving Top Priority to a Preventive Counterterrorism Approach," "Finding Experience for Counterterrorism and De-radicalization," and "International Counterterrorism Exchanges and Co-operation."

Xinhua



For some time China's Xinjiang, under the combined influence of separatists, religious extremists and terrorists, has seen frequent incidents of terrorist attacks

## New gun laws to make New Zealand safer after mosque shootings, says PM Ardern

CHRISTCHURCH

NEW ZEALAND Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said yesterday she would announce new gun laws within days, after a lone gunman killed 50 people in mass shootings at two mosques in the city of Christchurch.

Australian Brenton Tarrant, 28, a suspected white supremacist, was charged with murder on Saturday. Tarrant was remanded without a plea and is due back in court on April 5 where police said he was likely to face more charges.

"Within 10 days of this horrific act of terrorism we will have announced reforms which will, I believe, make our community safer," Ardern told a news conference after her cabinet reached in principle decisions on gun reform laws in the wake of New Zealand's worst ever mass shooting.

In addition to the 50 killed, dozens were wounded at two mosques in the South Island city during Friday prayers.

The owner of gun shop Gun City, David Tipple, said the suspected gunman had legally bought four weapons and ammunition online from it between December 2017 and March 2018, but it did not sell him the high-powered weapon used in the massacre.



Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern

"The MSSA, military-style automatic, reportedly used by the alleged gunman was not purchased from Gun City. Gun City did not sell him an MSSA, only A-category firearms," Tipple told a news conference in Christchurch.

Under New Zealand gun laws, A-category weapons can be semi-automatic but limited to seven shots. Live-streamed video of a gunman in one of the mosques showed a semi-automatic weapon with a large magazine.

Tipple said he supported Ardern's decision to reform gun laws as the Christchurch shootings had raised legitimate concerns.

Ardern did not give details on new laws, but has said she supports a ban on semi-automatic weapons following the Christchurch shootings.

Australia introduced some of the world's toughest gun laws after its worst mass killing, the 1996 Port Arthur massacre in which a lone gunman killed 35 people using a semi-

automatic AR-15 - the same weapon used in the Christchurch massacre.

Australia banned semi-automatic weapons, launched a national gun amnesty in which tens of thousands of guns were handed in, and made it much tougher to own firearms.

### 'TIME TO ACT'

Ardern encouraged gun owners who were thinking of surrendering their weapons to do so.

"The clear lesson from history around the world is that to make

our community safer, the time to act is now," she said.

"I strongly believe that the vast majority of gun owners in New Zealand will agree with the sentiment that change needs to occur."

New Zealand's top online marketplace Trade Me Group said it was halting the sale of semi-automatic weapons in the wake of Friday's attack.

New Zealand, a country of only 5 million people, has an estimated 1.5 million firearms.

Radio New Zealand said in a report based on police data secured through an Official Information Act request, that more than 99 percent of people who applied for a firearms license in 2017 were successful.

A New Zealand standard A-category firearm license is issued after a police and background check. Only firearm owners are licensed, not weapons, so there is no monitoring of how many weapons a person may possess.

Still, violent crime is rare in New Zealand and police do not usually carry guns.

Before Friday, New Zealand's worst mass shooting was in 1990 when a man killed 13 men, women and children in a 24-hour rampage in the seaside village of Aramoana. He was killed by police. **Agencies**

## Zimbabwe counts losses as death toll from Cyclone Idai floods rises to 70, hundreds missing

HARARE

ZIMBABWE is starting to count the losses as the death toll caused by Cyclone Idai-induced floods hit 70 across three provinces, while access to the most affected areas in southeastern Zimbabwe remains curtailed.

Manicaland Province has so far recorded 65 deaths while Masvingo and Mashonaland East provinces have recorded four and one respectively.

Hundreds if others are still missing amid fears that the body count will rise further. The most severely affected area is Chimanimani district where most of

the deaths have occurred, followed by Chipinge district in Manicaland Province.

Local Government, Public Works and National Housing Minister July Moyo told state media Herald newspaper that the 65 deaths in Manicaland were caused by drowning and injuries sustained during mudslides.

"We will continue with efforts to reach Chimanimani. Our army engineers as well as their counterparts from the Ministry of Transport are with us to help clear the way.

We want to ensure that we reach the ground and render all the necessary as-

sistance," he said Sunday night during a tour of some of the affected areas.

Moyo confirmed that an international appeal for assistance had been made and some local well-wishers were already providing help.

President Emmerson Mnangagwa, who had left the country on an official visit to the United Arab Emirates on Friday, just a few hours before the tropical cyclone hit the country, has had to cut short the trip and turned to the country yesterday.

The Meteorological Services Department has forecast sunny breaks starting yesterday as the cyclone continues

to lose intensity as it heads towards Malawi.

Roads and bridges have been severely damaged while thousands of people have been left homeless after their homes collapsed in the driving rains and floods.

Communication is difficult in some areas and anxious relatives are trying to reach their loved ones through the less damaged roads, but increased traffic is now slowing down relief efforts.

The government is now appealing to the relatives to stop driving into the affected areas until the victims have been attended to by the Civil Protection Unit.

"The Civil Protection Unit wants to appeal to the general public to avoid visiting the cyclone ravaged Chimanimani and Chipinge areas.

Increased traffic is causing road congestion that is disturbing the transportation of relief supplies and slowing down rescue efforts," a notice tweeted by the Ministry of Information, Media and Publicity yesterday.

Government ministers are touring the affected areas and hope that army engineers will quickly clear the roads that are littered with debris.

The clearer weather as the rains subside has also enabled the Air Force of

Zimbabwe to fly its helicopters to affected areas and airlift the injured for medical treatment, the government said.

However, some areas continue to be engulfed in mist, thereby slowing down rescue efforts. Churches across the country are also appealing to their congregants to help in cash or kind, while the corporate world has also chipped in with food, blankets and clothing.

Nearly 200 pupils and their teachers at St Charles Luwanga School in Chipinge, who had been stranded since Friday, were rescued Sunday.

Xinhua

The  
**Guardian**

# SPORT



Serengeti Boys' players attend training session in Arusha to shape up for the 2019 AFCON U-17 finals, which will be played in Dar es Salaam from April 14-28.

## Let us get ready to rumble

BY LLOYD ELIPOKEA

WITHIN the space of a brief time, the most redoubtable football-playing African nations at the youth level will all beat a path to our door here in the country to take part in the 2019 CAF AFCON U-17 finals, which we, as a country will be privileged to host for the very first time in our country's history.

Indeed, if perchance some of you might be thumping up your nose at the prestige of this championship due to the fact that it is admittedly little-known compared to other continental football competitions such as the CAF Champions League, CAF Confederations Cup and of course the sparkling jewel in the crown of African football, the biennial CAF AFCON finals, then you would all be collectively guilty of committing a serious blunder.

Granted, although the CAF U-17 AFCON finals are not exactly the most well-known of coveted tournaments on the African football scene, this fact should in no way at all diminish the stature of this particular championship.

After all, an earnestly contested competition

which during the last few decades has witnessed the explosion of bona fide African football-stars such as Nwankwo Kanu, and Nii Odartey Lamptey among others certainly does not deserve to be ignorantly rubbished as a tournament of little consequence.

Having thus established the credentials of the U-17 AFCON finals, the million dollars question which subsequently pops up is: are we ready as the host country to organize an admirable tournament in which everything runs like clockwork? Indeed, where the notoriously long traffic jams on the streets of Dar es Salaam are concerned, have enough comprehensive plans been drawn up in order to relieve our forthcoming visitors of their likely frustration?

In addition, in terms of accommodation for the foreign teams, are our plush five star hotels aware of the fact that there can be no room for error as the U-17 AFCON finals are not just another one of those run-of-the-mill competitions?

This writer definitely hopes so. And, regarding strictly the playingside of things, here's hoping that the Serengeti Boys can make an massive impact on the championship!

## McIlroy wins Players Championship by one stroke in Florida

PONTE VEDRA, FLORIDA

RORY McIlroy celebrated St Patrick's Day in style by becoming the first player from Northern Ireland to win the Players Championship, emerging as the last man standing to beat Jim Furyk by one stroke in Ponte Vedra, Florida on Sunday.

On a day when 15 players at one stage were within two shots of the lead, McIlroy eventually emerged from the pack, overcoming an early double-bogey by displaying enough maturity to hang tough before moving in for the proverbial kill.

McIlroy carded two-under-par 70 at the famous TPC Sawgrass course in Ponte Vedra Beach to win a championship that was first held in 1974, when it was won by Jack Nicklaus.

McIlroy finished at 16-under 272 to edge American Furyk, who with a gimme birdie at the final hole threatened to become the event's oldest winner at the age of 48.

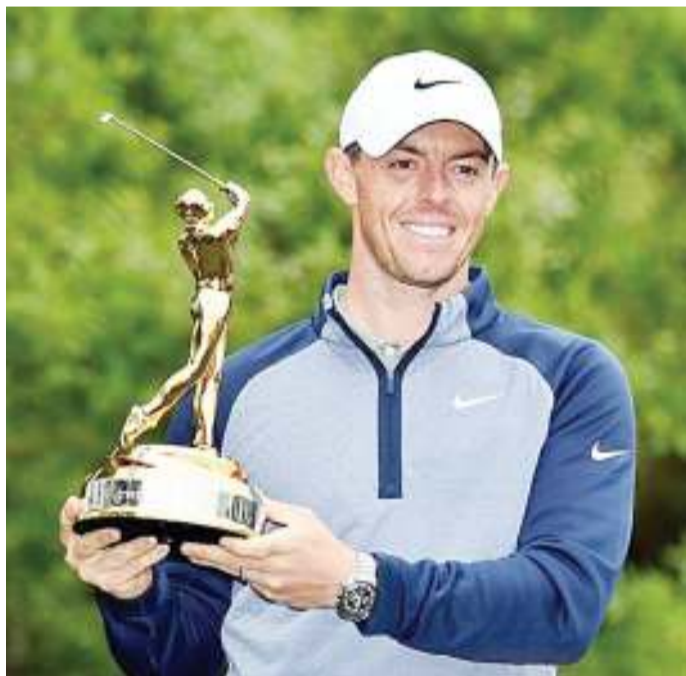
"Sawgrass and I didn't have the greatest relationship starting off," McIlroy told reporters, referring to missed cuts in his first three appearances from 2009-11.

"It's a massive win on a course (where) I've had mixed results. I had to show a lot of character out there. Any time I looked at the leaderboard I was pleasantly surprised I hadn't fallen two or three shots behind.

"That gave me a little bit of encouragement to keep going and play a great back nine. I am just thankful that it was my turn this week."

With Furyk already in the clubhouse, the 29-year-old McIlroy knew what he had to do as he played the final three holes.

After a birdie at the par-four 15th, he used his power to reach the par-five 16th in two shots and a two-putt birdie gave him the lead.



Rory McIlroy

McIlroy then safely negotiated the water-lined final two holes with tap-in pars to clinch the most prestigious tournament outside the four majors.

Furyk shot 67 to finish alone on 15-under.

"There's a little disappointment, thinking maybe I played well enough to win," said the American. "Rory obviously felt differently."

It was Furyk's 31st runner-up finish on the PGA Tour, the same number as Tiger Woods who has also won 80 times compared to his compatriot's 17.

Englishman Eddie Pepperell (66) and Venezuelan Jhonattan Vegas (66) finished two strokes behind McIlroy in a tie for third.

Pepperell and Vegas sank monster birdies at the par-three 17th, Pepperell sinking a rollercoaster 50-footer before Vegas one-upped him with a 70-footer.

Overnight leader Jon Rahm floundered, the Spaniard making three bogeys in the first

four holes and compounding his misery by dunking his tee shot into the water at the par-three 17th.

He shot 76 and finished equal 12th on 11-under.

McIlroy's win came after close calls at all five of his previous starts this year.

He will head to the Masters next month brimming with confidence, needing a victory at Augusta National to complete the grand slam of all four modern majors.

"I'm just really proud of myself the way I played the last few holes," he said.

"(I was thinking) why not me? This is my tournament and I've got to finish it off.

"I kept telling myself on the way to the 17th tee, just make three more good swings, that's all you need to do and this thing is yours.

"To step up and make those three good swings, it's very satisfying knowing that it's in there when it needs to be."

REUTERS

## Security company keeps Kili Marathon safe for 11 years



KK Security Group of Companies officials take charge of security during this year's Kilimanjaro Marathon which took place in Moshi on March 3. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

BY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

THE Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon 2019 has just ended after gathering more than 10,000 participants and almost a similar number of participants at the Moshi Cooperative University on March 3.

This is one of the biggest athletics events in Tanzania and in the entire East Africa region and it comes along with a lot of excitement and colour.

Security is one of the key issues while organizing and hosting such a big event one needs to have proper and reliable security as this is among issues that are currently raising great concern all over the world.

Wild Frontiers, who are the main organizers of the marathon, left nothing to chance and once again worked with KK Security in conjunction with the Police Force.

In December 2016 GardaWorld Protective Services purchased KK Security Group of Companies in order to have their foot print in Africa.

The KK Security Group of Companies General Manager Arusha, Claude Herssens, said GardaWorld is the largest privately owned security company based

in Montreal, Canada and employs over 80,000 personnel across the world and has a turnover of USDollars 4bn/- annually.

"GardaWorld brings with it a wealth of experience in armed and unarmed services across the globe and will provide KK Security Group of Companies with the backbone it requires in order to become a next generation Company preparing for expansion throughout Africa in the next decade," he disclosed.

"These are exciting times for the security industry and KK Security is committed to provide its customers including the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon with the best partnership."

He disclosed that they are now present in East and Central Africa (Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Malawi, and Mozambique).

KK Security's history with the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon dates back to 11 years ago when the company first proudly sponsored it and has never looked back since then.

"Our mission statement is to provide safe and secure environments through honest engagements and respect for people and that is exactly what we

are doing for Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon as well," he noted.

He said KKSTL works closely with the Regional Police Department to ensure their efforts provide the best possible security for the runners and their supporters during this prestigious annual event.

"Our security starts with advising the event organizers and ensuring we are working together as a team from the start to the end," he disclosed.

Normally, according to Herssens, security is provided right from the start when the participants are signing up for the event, during the set up for the race, the actual race day and the post-race date.

He said they work with the police in ensuring all roads which are leading to the main road which the event is taking place are closed so as to ensure a maximum safety of the race participants.

The organizers had more than 10 water tables for the marathon sponsors and KK Security ensured these water points were secured throughout the marathon.

"The security officers also participate in providing the runners with water and for the clean up after the race event to ensure due care is provided to the communities where the race was

held," he noted.

Inside the stadium, he pointed out they provide security through access control, CCTV monitoring, and wherever possible direct involvement with the organizers in the prize giving and assisting where possible.

Due to the complexity and size of the event, Herssens added they provide five mobile Response Vehicles with their respective teams, over 150 Security Officers to cover in different areas of responsibility and the senior and middle management which is involved in the organizational level of the international event.

"We ask the community to work with us as security starts with the good will of the surrounding communities ensuring that we have a successful event," he said.

Other sponsors of the Kilimanjaro Marathon 2019 include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager-42 km (Main Sponsor), Tigo-21km, Grand Malt 5km and water table sponsors Simba Cement, Keys Hotel, Kilimanjaro Water, TPC Sugar, AAR, Kibo Palace, Barclays Bank, Precision Air and CMC Automobiles.

This is the biggest marathon event in Tanzania so far that comprises the 42 km Full marathon, 21 km half marathon

## Thiem topples 'legend' Federer to win Indian Wells title

INDIAN WELLS, CALIFORNIA

DOMINIC Thiem claimed his first Masters 1000 title after coming from a set down to defeat Roger Federer 3-6 6-3 7-5 and win the BNP Paribas Open on Sunday in Indian Wells.

Momentum swung in Thiem's favour in the deciding set when he smacked a forehand winner down the line to break Federer and take a 6-5 lead.

The Austrian fell on his back and covered his face with his hands when Federer, who had been bidding for a record sixth Indian Wells title and 101st tournament victory, netted on match point.

The 25-year-old Thiem, who will rise four places to a career-high world number four on Monday, paid tribute to his opponent.

"It is such a pleasure to compete with you, to learn so much from you, and to play with one of the biggest legends of all time," he told the 20-times Grand Slam champion during the trophy presentation ceremony.

"I feel like it's not my right to congratulate you, you have 88 more titles than me, so I'm just hoping you play more and we can have some other big finals," he said with a laugh.

Federer was gracious in defeat after falling in the final in the Southern California desert for a

second consecutive year.

"It has been a great week for me even though it didn't work out today," he said.

"What a great week for Dominic. Wonderful playing at the very end and throughout the week. You deserve it."

Federer raced to an early lead, winning the first three games before wrapping up the first set in the Southern California desert.

But baseline specialist Thiem kept his composure and levelled the match in the second, gaining traction by extending rallies and unleashing a torrent of high-kicking serves to keep Federer off balance.

Federer's own serve lost some of its bite in the crucial game in the

third set with the score tied at 5-5.

"The game he broke me I didn't serve very well, so I think he took advantage of that fact," said Federer, who was not overly down about the defeat.

"I just got my 100 (career title) in Dubai and I had a good week here," the 37-year-old said.

"Really there is no reason to get down. Plus there is more to look forward to in Miami."

Thiem will also play in Miami, hoping to complete the "Sunshine Double" with a victory there after his Indian Wells win.

Meanwhile, Canadian teenager Bianca Andreescu stunned three-times Grand Slam champion Angelique Kerber 6-4 3-6 6-4 to win

the BNP Paribas Open and capture her first career title in Indian Wells on Sunday.

Andreescu used creative and aggressive shot-making to defeat the German despite suffering with a troublesome right shoulder and leg cramps on a hot and sunny day in the Southern California desert.

The 18-year-old dropped her racket and fell on her back when Kerber hit a backhand into the net on match point to deliver the tournament wildcard victory.

"It wasn't an easy match. It was one of the toughest matches I've ever played," she said in an on-court interview. "It's so incredible."

Andreescu would love to follow in the footsteps of world number one Naomi Osaka of Japan, who won the tournament last year before claiming the U.S. and Australian Open titles.

"The next is a Grand Slam. Let's see where this can take me," said the unseeded teenager who is ranked 60th in the world but will rise to 24th on Monday.

"Naomi did this last year. Now to have my name in front of so many champions it means the world to me."

Andreescu played fearlessly at the outset, breaking the former world number one in the opening game of the match and taking the first set.

REUTERS



Austria's Dominic Thiem with the Indian Wells trophy after his men's singles final victory against Roger Federer of Switzerland. AFP

## Liverpool go top, but title may be beyond them

LONDON

ON paper, this should have been a simple victory for Liverpool: the Premier League's most rampant three-man attack against the Premier League's most shambolic, error-prone defence.

In practice, it was considerably more complex. This turned into the archetypal Premier League test: away to relegation strugglers fighting for their lives, in a tight ground with home supporters on top of the players, in horrendous conditions that involved swirling wind, torrential rain, blasts of hailstones and occasional bright sunshine. Liverpool just about got through it, winning 2-1 at Fulham thanks to James Milner's late penalty.

The old cliché suggests that the sign of a good team is winning without playing well; the modern statistical analysis suggests that this is completely untrue, and that continually winning without playing well suggests a slump in form is around the corner. Liverpool must hope that this display is a hangover from their form over the past couple of months, rather than a preview of their performances to come in the run-in.

This was a surprisingly flat showing from Liverpool against a notoriously open Fulham side, who at least got men behind the ball and largely remained compact. Mohamed Salah still looks threatening rather than genuinely decisive down the right flank, surprisingly failing to trouble

Fulham left-back Joe Bryan.

Roberto Firmino dropped deep to provide some creativity from midfield, but his touch was lacking. Adam Lallana, starting in central midfield again after his fine display in last weekend's 4-2 win over Burnley, was industrious but not overwhelmingly incisive.

And that essentially left Sadio Mane to provide the breakthrough for Liverpool, and the Senegalese international responded by providing the game's two key contributions. First he darted into the box to crash home Firmino's pull-back for Liverpool's opener.

Then, after a mix-up between Virgil van Dijk and Alisson had let ex-Reds forward Ryan Babel in for the equaliser, it was Mane who won the crucial penalty, after he made a nuisance of himself inside the box and was hauled down by Fulham goalkeeper Sergio Rico. Milner calmly scooped the spot kick down the middle, which sparked wild celebrations in front of the home crowd.

But there are some concerns. Alisson and Van Dijk, the two signings widely credited with turning Liverpool into serious title challengers, were caught out for Fulham's goal; as was Milner, who eventually proved the matchwinner, but it was his wild slice into the air that put Babel through. "I asked Milner to come on and calm down the game!" Jurgen Klopp said with a laugh afterwards. "Without him, it's 1-0."

(AGENCIES)

## Sarri admits Higuain struggles: 'He can do more'

LIVERPOOL

MAURIZIO Sarri has said that he needs more from Gonzalo Higuain after Chelsea were punished for a lack of ruthlessness up front with a 2-0 defeat against Everton at Goodison Park.

Chelsea dominated the first 45 minutes but could not find a way to make their superiority count, with Higuain, Eden Hazard and Pedro Rodriguez all spinning good opportunities before Richarlison headed Everton in front and Gylfi Sigurdsson followed up his own missed penalty to make sure of the win.

Higuain has scored three goals in 10 appearances for Chelsea since his arrival on a lucrative loan deal from Juventus in January -- two against Huddersfield Town and one against Fulham -- and after the game, Sarri conceded his striker has not made the desired impact.

Asked if Higuain is struggling, Sarri replied: "In this moment, yes of course. Today he had an opportunity. Too few for him I think. He can do more."

"He was improving, but then he had some problems at the beginning of the week. He had a strong stomach ache and a fever so today it was normal that he could only play for 60 or 65 minutes. He needs to improve his physical condition and mental condition."

As the only top-four contender in Premier League action this weekend, Chelsea had a valuable opportunity to gain ground on their rivals. Instead, they will go into the final eight matches of the season in sixth, four points adrift of Tottenham

in third and three behind fourth-placed Arsenal.

"At the moment this is our limit, I think," Sarri added. "If we are able to play like in the first half with consistency then we are in another position in the table. We have this problem because we lost a similar match to Wolverhampton [in December]. We lost again in this way, for us it is a big limit."

"I think the situation is clear. We played probably the best 45 minutes of the season and then suddenly at the beginning of the second half we stopped to play, I don't know why. Without defending so we were in trouble. The situation is clear."

"It is impossible [that] the situation is a physical problem because if it is, you can go down gradually, not in one second. We played really very well in the last minute of the first half, suddenly very badly in the first minute of the second half."

"It is difficult for the players to explain to me the change. It is very difficult for me to explain to you the change. Probably it is a mental block, I think."

Asked if it is impossible for Chelsea to finish in the top four playing this way, Sarri insisted: "It is not impossible. Why impossible? We need to recover only three points I think so it is not impossible in eight matches."

"It is impossible if we cannot improve and are not able to avoid a second half like today. We need only to play like the first half for eight matches, without stopping playing and stopping to defend. This is the limit."

## Messi humbled by Betis fans' standing ovation

LIONEL Messi was given a standing ovation by Real Betis supporters after scoring his 33rd La Liga hat trick in Barcelona's 4-1 win at the Benito Villamarin on Sunday.

Messi opened the scoring with a free kick and added the second before the break after a brilliant Luis Suarez assist. He completed his treble late on with an exquisite chip after Suarez and Loren Moron had exchanged goals.

The third Messi strike, which killed off any late hopes of a Betis comeback, drew an ovation from the home supporters which the Argentine international says he has never previously experienced.

"I don't ever remember a night like this [being applauded by rival supporters]," he told Movistar after taking his goal tally for the season in all competitions to 39.

"I'm really grateful for the way the fans responded. I honestly don't remember an ovation like that [from rival fans]."

Barca coach Ernesto Valverde says Messi's treatment from the Betis fans is deserved recognition for everything he does on a football pitch.

"With Messi [in your side], everything is easier," he said in his post-game news conference. "Leo's performance was extraordinary. The whole stadium applauded him. We're fortunate to be living at a time when he's playing football."

"Opponents also enjoy what he does despite the fact he scores against them. And the [Betis] supporters recognised that. Even though rival fans suffer at the hands of him, they recognise the player he is."

Valverde changed Barca's shape for the game against Betis, dropping Philippe Coutinho and playing a midfield four after losing to Quique Setien's side at Camp Nou earlier in the season.



Lionel Messi said he can't remember ever receiving a standing ovation from rival fans as he did at Real Betis on Sunday. Photo: Agencies

Messi felt the new formation was one of the keys to Barca's comfortable win as the league leaders moved 10 points clear of Atletico Madrid, who lost at Athletic Bilbao on Saturday.

"It was important to take advantage of a really big opportunity after Atletico's result," said Messi forward, who moved on to 477 career wins in a Barca shirt, overtaking Xavi as the player to have recorded the most victories at the club.

"We couldn't slip up today. Betis are a side that treat the ball well. But we didn't suffer at all. We were really well-organised. Valverde read the game well and tactically we were perfect."

Barca's win was tainted by a late injury to Suarez, however. The Uruguay international forward, who scored a stunning solo goal, was forced off late on with an ankle sprain.

The Catalan club have confirmed he will undergo further tests on Monday to determine the severity of the injury, but he will not join up with Uruguay during the international break this week.

Meanwhile, Antoine Griezmann has offered himself to a number of Europe's biggest clubs, including Barcelona, but the Catalan club are not contemplating a move for the Atletico Madrid forward, sources have told ESPN FC.

Griezmann, 28, turned down the

chance to join Barca last summer but has grown increasingly frustrated at Atletico this season. Sources close to the France forward have said he is prepared to take a salary reduction and revealed he was even looking for an exit prior to last week's Champions League elimination against Juventus.

But various sources close to Barcelona have confirmed to ESPN FC that Griezmann is not the type of attacker the club are looking for as they seek a long-term replacement for Luis Suarez, 32. They favour a younger option. Eintracht Frankfurt's Luka Jovic and Celta Vigo's Maxi Gomez have both been watched.

There would also be concerns about Griezmann's wages, even though he's prepared to take a cut. He earns €24 million at Atletico, an amount which Barca would not be prepared to match. Even if they were, it would require shifting several big earners off the wage bill.

Griezmann signed a new deal with Atletico last year, extending his stay at the club until 2023. The terms included an initial €200m release clause, but that figure will drop to €120m this summer.

His desire to leave Atletico, first reported by L'Equipe on Saturday, comes just nine months after he snubbed Barca in the build-up to the World Cup. He made the announcement via a TV special which was produced by Gerard Pique's company. The show -- called "La Decision" -- did not go down well with the hierarchy at Barcelona at the time. Some members of the board only learned of the decision on the day it aired on television.

The France international has since come to regret his decision following what he feels has been a disappointing season at Atletico.

(AGENCIES)

## Chelsea's latest defeat a microcosm of their gloomy season

LIVERPOOL, ENGLAND

ONE step forward, two steps back. If Chelsea and Maurizio Sarri had felt the worst of a turbulent season was behind them, then the Blues' 2-0 loss to Everton was a sobering reminder that the toughest reckoning may yet be to come.

Chelsea, who for a time seemed to have been cleansed by the experience of their Carabao Cup final defeat to Manchester City, have stalled again at the worst possible moment. A place in the top four now lies squarely out of their hands and, in the eyes of the club's hierarchy at least, the logic of retaining their head coach for next season will look increasingly spurious.

This was their game in hand over Arsenal, Manchester United and Tottenham, and an opportunity they should have grasped. Everton had not beaten a top-six side in the 26 months leading up to this rainswept afternoon on Merseyside; they had lost four of their last six games and, as Chelsea picked them apart for spells of a dominant first half, there was a clear sense it would only take a goal for the Goodison Park crowd to turn.

But by the end the home fans were bouncing, their chants laced with particular Schadenfreude towards returning old boy Ross Barkley, while Chelsea were left counting the cost of timeworn failings yet again.

"In the second half we didn't play," Sarri bemoaned afterwards. It is hardly the first occasion. At Wolves in December they were a goal up and comfortably in control; they then conceded twice and, for the first time, major doubts began to seep in. They were the better side for 45 minutes at Bournemouth the following month but, after conceding once, were blown away and lost 4-0. It is an issue Sarri has so far failed to correct, although identifying it has been rather simpler.

"The problem was mental," he said. "The situation is clear," he said. "It's impossible that it is a physical problem." It was a throwback to the 2-0 defeat at Arsenal on Jan. 19, after which Sarri complained his players were "extremely difficult to motivate" and that they had lost due to their "mental approach".

The concern, then, is that their



Everton's Richarlison scores their first goal during the Premier League match between Everton and Chelsea, at Goodison Park, in Liverpool, Britain, on Sunday.

recent improvement was merely a sticking plaster -- perhaps on the back of a natural reaction to the 6-0 embarrassment at Manchester City in the league and the drama around Kepa Arrizabalaga's non-substitution at Wembley. Sarri could hardly believe the difference between Chelsea's halves here. "We played probably [our] best 45 minutes of the season," he said of their performance in the first stanza. That may have been stretching it, but they should certainly have been ahead: Eden Hazard struck the post early on and was denied by Jordan Pickford, too, while Pedro and Gonzalo Higuain both squandered openings.

It should have been enough to convince them they could turn up the

heat against opponents clearly short on confidence: instead they could not handle Everton when they came out firing and ended up surrendering meekly to a Richarlison header. After that they failed to muster any kind of response before Gylfi Sigurdsson put the match beyond them by converting the rebound from his own saved penalty.

The resolve of old has long gone; Chelsea have, to coin the cliché, no bouncebackability anymore, and the manager's inability to cajole it back out may prove his undoing. "If we are able to play like the first half with consistency we are in another position in the table," Sarri said. "[But] you have to stay in the match if you are not able to score."

Finding someone to do that regularly continues to be an issue. Higuain was brought in to do that but has now found the net three times in his 10 appearances, with two of those goals coming against bottom club Huddersfield and the other against another relegation-bound side in Fulham.

It was always asking a lot for him to adapt to Premier League football straightaway, but he struggled here and the fear is that Chelsea have a striker slightly past his prime. With Higuain also having a bout with a fever this week according to Sarri, a start for Olivier Giroud on the back of his hat trick against Dynamo Kyiv might have been a sounder decision.

(AGENCIES)

## Turkey's Erdogan plans to attend Ozil's wedding

LONDON

ARSENAL star Mesut Ozil has extended an invitation for his upcoming wedding to Turkey's President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, who plans to attend.

Accompanied by his fiancée, Amine Gulse, Ozil met with Erdogan at the Ataturk Airport in Istanbul last week to invite the leader in person.

The ruling Justice and Development Party (AKP) disclosed the news via their official Twitter page, where they uploaded a photo from the meeting. The tweet goes on to state that Erdogan has accepted Ozil's invitation.

Ozil, who was born in Germany but is of Turkish descent and has family in country, courted controversy last year after he was photographed alongside Erdogan before the World Cup.

He ended up retiring from the Germany national team after receiving

xenophobic abuse from the media citing "racism and disrespect" among the reasons behind his decision.

In a strongly worded statement announcing his decision to quit international football following Germany's group stage exit from the World Cup, Ozil wrote that he would "no longer stand for being a scapegoat."

And following his decision to invite Erdogan to his wedding, Ozil has again attracted criticism in Germany.

"I think it's inappropriate," German politician Cem Ozdemir told Bild on Sunday.

The Arsenal playmaker got engaged to Gulse in January. The date of the wedding is yet to be disclosed.

Gulse, a former Miss World Turkey, is a well-known actress in her country.

(AGENCIES)

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# SPORT

Mane double helps Liverpool ease past Bayern into quarters

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**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 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kufasa  
18:00 aNews  
18:30 Music  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:30 NJADALA  
21:00 Nirvana  
21:30 Wakilisha  
22:00 Grace Na Asili Yangu  
22:30 Bongo Hits

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**eastafrica RADIO**

05:00 EA Breakfast  
09:00 Supamix  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## Ndugai lauds Simba for making it to CAF Champions League quarterfinals



Simba's forward, John Bocco (R), challenges AS Vita Club's Kasengu Kazadi in the 2018/19 CAF Champions League Group D match, which took place in Dar es Salaam last Saturday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

**S**PEAKER of the National Assembly, Job Ndugai, has praised Tanzania's soccer giants, Simba Sports Club, for their stunning win against Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)'s AS Vita Club, saying the former showed a spirited nationalism.

Simba secured a 2-1 win over the DRC soccer big guns in the 2018/19 CAF Champions League Group D match at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Saturday evening.

The victory saw Simba, who are also Mainland Premier League defending champions, book their place in the continental competition's quarter-

finals as Group D runners-up, while DRC's AS Vita Club bowed out of the competition after finishing fourth.

Simba were also seeking vengeance against AS Vita Club, who thumped the former 5-0 in Kinshasa on match-day two.

Speaking while officiating at the launch of Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL)'s office in Dodoma, Ndugai said Simba fought hard, representing the country and should be acknowledged by all Tanzanians.

"DRC is a very big country and not all of its people knew about Tanzania but after the Saturday win, I know all sportsmen and women in the country now know there is a country called Tanzania," he said.

He said the same applies to Egypt and Algeria, whose teams Al Ahly and JS Saoura, were both clobbered by Simba at the National Stadium.

According to the speaker, Simba's success opens opportunity for other stakeholders to tap opportunities that come along with the win that has put the country on another platform.

Ndugai sent the crown into laughter saying: "Now even if Air Tanzania flies to the countries their people will easily recognize it that the plane comes from Tanzania, where Simba comes from."

Referring to the task ahead of Simba, he disclosed there is no doubt that the team under Belgian tactician Patrick Aussems is likely to perform better in the quarterfinal stage.

The speaker, who is a staunch supporter of the Msimba Street-based team, called on all Tanzanians, irrespective of their football team affiliations, to rally their support behind Simba, noting that they are on national assignment.

## Fountain Gate Academy edge Veyula FC in friendly

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu

DODOMA's Fountain Gate Academy recorded a 1-0 win over Veyula FC in a friendly match that was held at Veyula Primary School ground last weekend.

Maximillian Paranjio netted the all-important goal for Fountain Gate Academy side, made up of U-18 players, on the 67th minute to steer his team to the win.

Fountain Gate Academy team's head coach, Mohamed Muya, said although the game turned out to be tough his players played their hearts out and came out with the win.

Veyula FC head coach Joseph Musa disclosed he has a good team which is eager to emerge as champions of the Dodoma regional soccer league.

Musa also noted his club's loss to Fountain Gate team was caused by goalkeeping mistakes.

Fountain Gate Academy's Director, Japhet Makau, disclosed his school's decision to establish the soccer team aims at seeing to it the pupils boost their chance to get employment through the sport.

"We already have agents outside the country and when we see any of the school's player is ready for a professional stint, we sent him for trial. We want to open up a door for employment for the players," Makau noted.

Fountain Gate Academy outfit that was formed in October last year has already played nine matches, winning six, recording draw in two and losing one match.

The squad's only defeat came in an encounter with Tanzania's U-17 soccer team 'Serengeti Boys'.

Veyula FC had taken part in this season's Dodoma's Third Division League and had emerged as champions of the regional league in the past.



Athletes battle it out in a recent Ngorongoro Half Marathon in Arusha.

## Ngorongoro Half Marathon organizers increase prizes for athletes

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu

THE first 1000 athletes in this year's Ngorongoro Half Marathon, scheduled for April 20 in Karatu, will be presented with medals, the

race's organizers, Meta Petro Sports Promotion, have disclosed.

Meta Petro Sports Promotion's director, Meta Petro disclosed the prize will be brought to the country in the next few days.

The half marathon that is held annually will start at the gate of Ngorongoro Crater and end at Mazingira Bora ground in Karatu Town. Participants run the full half marathon (14 miles) as individuals.

Petro said this year's race will hopefully be extremely entertaining and will see an increase in prizes for winners, as opposed to the last year race.

The official noted this year's race will involve many athletes from in and outside the country because of efforts by organizers to motivate participation in the race.

Petro pointed out race numbers for athletes that will run the full 21 kilometers will be sold at 20,000/- each, whereas race numbers for the 5km Fun Race and children's event will be sold at 10,000/- and 5,000/- respectively.

He noted the organizers sought to present race numbers for children at 5,000/- each with a view to seeing to it the latter prepare well for the race.

The organizers, he insisted, aim at doing away

with simply assembling a big group of children that have not prepared well for the race.

Petro disclosed over five schools in Arusha have confirmed to field over 100 children in this year's race in which the runners will run 2.5 kilometers.

The official added they are looking forward to a big number of athletes in this year's race, as well as a lot of fans, saying the fans will be treated to entertaining action.

He disclosed preparations for the race are moving on smoothly and organizers hope everything will be ready a few days before the race day.

Meta Sport Promotions, early this week, signed contract with the Ngorongoro Conservation Area Authority for backing this year's race.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

