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# 'Alter colonial era rules on upkeep of prisoners'

## Guardian has 12 writers in EJAT shortlist

By Guardian Reporter

TWELVE journalists from The Guardian Limited (TGL), publishers of 'The Guardian' and Nipasha newspapers, have been nominated for the 2020 Excellence in Journalism Awards in Tanzania (EJAT) set for Friday next week.

Organised by the Media Council of Tanzania (MCT), the completion shall field 59 nominees from various media organizations, on the basis of remarks by MCT executive director, who chairs the organizing committee, affirming that a seven judge panel picked the nominees.

The Guardian and Nipasha newspapers had 12 nominees out of a total of 20 nominees from the print media as a whole.

Nominated journalists from The Guardian Limited are Sanula Athanas, Renatha Msungu, Elizabeth Zaya, Henry Mwangonde, David Chikoko, Christina



Minister for Home Affairs George Simbachawene cuts a ribbon to launch the Prison bakery at Msalato area in Dodoma yesterday. On his right is Deputy Minister Khamis Chilo and on his left is Tanzania Prisons Commissioner General Suleiman Mzee. Photo: Correspondent Renatha Msungu

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

HOME Affairs minister George Simbachawene has instructed the Prisons Department to make sure it rectifies the inmates' upkeep system in prisons, saying it is still based on colonial era rules, while prisoners are human beings foremost, who have rights despite their criminal convictions.

The minister issued this instruction when opening a meeting of senior Prisons Department officers from Mainland regions, intended to assess the department's performance.

He said inmates are the Prisons' labour force used in various works, so the Prisons Department must look into the whole issue of the clothing they wear, the food they eat and ensure they have rest periods and other human needs.

"I call on Prisons Department officials to look into these issues, I have decided to speak about it today because I have seen many deficiencies in the issues I have mentioned," he told the gathering.

He elaborated that it is time for inmates to have better clothing and on Fridays or Sundays, even though they cannot go to houses of worship, they should look different from their routine outfits.

The inmates' conditions need to be rectified, as ethically they should be equal

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**“We faced a huge challenge this year. Most of the works that we received were below quality where the majority of the candidates submitted their works without adhering to the set conditions**

Mwakangale and Jumanne Juma., he said, listing others as Augusta Njaji, Jenifer Gilla, Mary Geofrey, Zuwena Shame and Muhidin Msamba.

"This time, a total of 59 journalists have been shortlisted out of 147 who submitted their works. Among them, 20 are from the print media, seven from online media, 33 with electronic media (television and radio stations), along with one from online newspapers," he elaborated.

Among the 59 nominees, 26 are women (10 from newspapers, two from online media and 14 from TV and radios). Men nominees are 33 where 10 are from newspapers, five from online media and 19 from radio and TV, he stated.

The Zanzibar First Vice President Masoud Othman Masoud and retired prime minister, Judge Joseph Warioba are expected to grace the awards ceremony, he said.

This year's ceremony will be held virtually due to the threat of Covid-19 infection, with winners from Dar es Salaam

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# 'Mobile transfer levies set for further slashing'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government has indicated that mobile money transfer levies are likely to be slashed further with faster pace in the

growth of the digital economy.

The Minister for Finance and Planning, Dr Mwigulu Nchemba, made this projection at a press conference here yesterday, stating that in addition to the 30

per cent reduction by the government and ten percent diminishing of service provision charges announced on Tuesday, a team of experts is busy

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# HESLB extends loans filing for JKT applicants

By Guardian Reporter

THE Higher Education Students' Loans Board (HESLB) has extended the loan application period for 15 days.

HESLB Executive Director Abdulrazaq Badru told a press conference yesterday that the added period up mid September shall enable applicants already registered through the online system to complete the process.

The decision was made in response to requests as well as advice from various education stakeholders, he stated.

"We started receiving applications on 9th July and Tuesday (August 31st) was the deadline. We had 91,445 applications out of which 12,252 were incomplete," he elaborated, affirming that the concerned parties asked for more time.

Officials of the Registration Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA) and the Tanzania Posts Corporation (TPC) attended the briefing, as the two institutions are involved in the loan application and repayment process.

HESLB is continuing with processing of 79,193 applications that are complete with all required attachments, he stated, noting that the 12,252 incomplete applications had no attachments. The 79,193 complete ones were attached with documents that the board is currently verifying, he specified.

After verifying the documents, they will refer applications for enrolment by higher learning institutions, followed by loan allocations, he stated, noting further that applicants serving in 19 National Service camps will have an opportunity to apply for

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Tanzania Episcopal Conference (TEC) Secretary General Charles Kitima (2nd L) speaks with Tanzania Centre for Democracy (TCD) Interim CEO Lawrence Malawa (L) and its chairman, Zitto Kabwe (2nd R) during an official visit by TCD officials, as the centre's leadership paid a courtesy call on the Catholic Secretariat. Right is TEC Deputy Secretary General Fr. Chesco Masama, with the two parties discussing the way forward towards improving democratic dialogue in Tanzania. Photo: Guardian Correspondent







Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba (R) briefs journalists in Dodoma yesterday on the revenue and expenditure of mobile transfer levies. He is flanked by the ministry deputy Permanent Secretary Dr Khatibu Kazungu. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

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working to see how technology can help boost economic efficiency.

Addressing a press conference on the move taken by the government following an uproar on the levies, the minister said the government has good intentions as it wishes to improve the provision of public services.

Around 63bn/- was collected in the six weeks following the start of application of the new levies, which has helped to complete the building of 220 new health centers in around 140 districts, in areas which have for decades lacked proper health facilities.

In addition, around 560 classrooms are being constructed using the new source of revenue, he said, elaborating that the focus is now on marshaling efforts to improve school facilities ahead of the new Form One intake early next year. This will be seen in the number of students doubling, thanks to free secondary education, he affirmed.

"This is a vision that is going to see an improvement in the lives of Tanzanians, especially the rural-based population," the minister emphasised, underlining that collections from 1st September will be

## 'Mobile transfer levies set for further slashing'

directed to construction of classrooms and purchasing desks.

The number of students joining Form One is likely to double from 450,000 registered this year to 900,000 in 2022 and maintaining the pace in subsequent years, as the removal of fees in primary schools and a greater thrust in registration from 2016 yields fruit.

The minister urged other stakeholders to support such initiatives through corporate social responsibility contributions, rejecting claims that mobile cash transfers per day were diminishing, saying an average of 10m transactions was being observed before the levies and it was the same level during the past month.

The Bank of Tanzania (BoT) is working on the adoption of technology to facilitate the reduction of mobile cash transfer levies, he stated, specifying that BoT was programming for the new changes, likely to be completed within seven days.

On the issue of property tax paid through the electricity vending system, the minister noted that it is not a new charge but the modality of administering it had changed.

Still, over one million power meters in villages were exempted in introducing this deduction, he stated. "Not every person with electricity connection will pay this as some groups of people are exempted," the minister affirmed, saying that retired public servants are exempted, partly because the charge is intended for cities, municipalities and towns.

An electronic system is used globally in the collection of such taxes, he stated, urging house owners not to transfer this cost to tenants.

In case a house has more than one power meter, only one meter shall be registered for the tax and where a two or three houses are in one compound and with different meters, each meter shall be subjected to the tax, he added.

## GST signs contract with STAMICO to partner in research, drilling activities

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE Geological Survey of Tanzania (GST) has signed a contract with the State Mining Corporation (STAMICO) to cooperate in research and drilling activities. Minerals deputy minister for Prof Shukrani Many told the National Assembly yesterday.

According to Prof Many, the agreement will facilitate minerals' research activities to small scale miners whereas drilling costs have been reduced compared to the amount paid by large scale miners seeking similar services.

"Small scale miners can conduct minerals research on their own, but most of them fail due to lack of drilling facilities. We are happy that GST and STAMICO will now work together under the new agreement. STAMICO owns machines capable of providing drilling services to its customers faster and at a more competitive level," said Prof Many.

He made the remarks in the House yesterday when responding to a supplementary question from Lupa Member of parliament Masache Kasaka (CCM) who wanted to know government plans to empower artisanal miners to conduct research activities.

The legislator also asked whether the government had any plans to open GST offices in southern highland regions considering that the area had a number of mines, mostly owned by artisanal miners. He also asked the government to make sure that research findings are published in Kiswahili language.

Responding, Prof Many said that GST is currently using offices owned by Tanzania Mining Commission. He said GST with headquarters in Dodoma has recently opened its offices in Geita Region.

Prof Many informed the MPs that GST started to publish its various reports and research findings in a simplified Kiswahili language since 2019.

"This is done to enable small scale miners understand the finding's content," he said adding the government through GST publishes a Kiswahili book titled 'Kitabu cha Madini Yapatikanayo Tanzania' which identifies areas with minerals across the country.

He said the government has also prepared a special book written in Kiswahili which provides guidance on minerals sample preparation.

## Samia unhappy with delayed payments to government service providers and suppliers

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan has expressed concern over the delayed payments to government service providers and suppliers, ordering the ministry of Finance and Planning to effect payments.

She is of the opinion that the situation has put them in awkward situation since some borrowed money from banks, calling for increasing amount in repayment and others injected family funds, causing conflicts among family members.

The president's apprehension was relayed here by Finance and Planning minister Dr Mwigulu Nchemba who said the head of state is not pleased with the situation whereby most primary and secondary school service providers are owed by the government.

Addressing a press conference in here yesterday, Dr Nchemba ordered all district councils in the country and other related authorities to start paying debts owed to suppliers and service providers within three months.

The minister said, "Servicing the debts will enable service providers to clear loans secured from financial institutions in order to provide services to the government"

He directed all councils to submit to his office lists of service providers that they have

paid by December, 2021.

On a different note, the minister noted that the process to reduce lending interest rates to one digit is underway following the review of the monetary policy.

He said the move to reduce lending rates was announced by President Samia Suluhu Hassan while in tour in Mwanza. The minister said that soon result of the ongoing process will be made public.

In May, this year, Dr Nchemba stated that the government would meet with top executives of financial institutions for the purpose of reviewing the monetary policy. This was with the view of seeing how to further lower interest rates.

At the same time, the minister said the president has ordered for the formation of a team of experts to look into the government tax and expenditure system and identify where things go wrong.

In another development, Dr Nchemba observed that the ministry is looking at the possibility of placing tax on mobile phone applications. He said officials are currently looking for countries charging such digital service taxes.

Speaking during the meeting, acting Permanent Secretary, Dr Khatibu Kazungu called on Tanzanians to support the government efforts aimed at improving development in the country.

## 'Alter colonial era rules on upkeep of prisoners'

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to other human beings, the only difference being in the clothing they wear and the punishment they undergo, he stated.

He applauded the slogan "New Thinking, New Look and Hard Work for Self Sufficiency" in the Prison Department, saying it should be clearly discerned and observed in regard to inmates' upkeep.

In carrying out work in projects implemented by the Prisons Department, he called upon them to observe fairness and give priority to prisoners who perform better in working on the project, whether in farming or other activities.

Proceeds from such activities should be used by the facility to solve various challenges, he stated, directing the commissioner of Prisons to review the motivation

of warders and their work performance, and communicate with the ministry on such issues, including consideration of promotions.

He urged the department to work hard in its duties, by spending wisely the funds provided by the government for development needs, urging Prisons officers to abide by directives from health experts and take precautions against Covid-19 infections.

Deputy minister Khamis Hamza Chilo said the department merits praise for the work it performs, appealing to officers to continue with the good work for national development.

Prisons Commissioner-General Suleiman Mzee said they will fully implement what has been directed by the minister.



The Guardian newspaper Managing Editor Wallace Mauggo (R) briefs Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) Chief Executive Officer Moremi Marwa (2nd R) on editorial operations during his visit at the newsroom of The Guardian and Nipashe newspapers at Mikochei Light Industrial area in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are TGL's director Joyce Luhanga, Legal and Human Resources Manager Emmanuel Matondo (2nd-R) and Nipashe newspaper Managing Editor Beatrice Bandawe (L). Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

## HESLB extends loans filing for JKT applicants

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loans in 10 days, from 20th to 30th September.

"We have been in touch with National Service headquarters and visited the camps. We promised these young Tanzanians that we would give them special opportunity to submit their applications," he declared.

Speaking at the event, senior

Posts official Mbarouk Issa said TPC serves loan applicants by delivering hardcopy application documents to HESLB from regional and district post offices.

RITA official Beatrice Mboya said the agency verifies birth certificates submitted by loan applicants through its online application, E-Huduma platform to ensure that only Tanzanians benefit from the loans.

## Guardian has 12 writers in EJAT shortlist

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later collecting their prizes at MCT offices and upcountry writers will have their gifts sent to them.

He said categories for EJAT 2020 include business, economy and financial reporting, culture and sports, health reporting, agriculture and agri-business

reporting, education reporting, road safety reporting, innovation and development reporting as well as tourism and conservation reporting.

Other categories include investigative reporting, data journalism, human rights and good governance reporting, gas, oil and mineral extraction reporting, gender, elders and children

reporting, best photojournalist, best cameraman, best editorial cartoonist, and an open category.

Dr Joyce Bazira, chairperson of the judges panel, said that a good number of submitted works were below the standards of quality required.

"We faced a huge challenge this year. Most of the works that we

received were below quality where the majority of the candidates submitted their works without adhering to the set conditions," she asserted.

Dr Bazira was glad to note that one of the nominees in this year's awards is aged below 18 years, named Hadija Sadiki from DW-Kiswahili in Dar es Salaam.





Exim Bank's head of branch network Agnes Kaganda (2nd-R) addresses a press conference to announce the bank's new Bancassurance scheme dubbed: "Bima Tu, Malipo Tuachie" during the product launch at the bank's headquarters in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Looking on is the bank's acting head of Bancassurance, Melchizedeck Muro (2nd L) and other senior officials of the bank. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Exim Bank launches new Bancassurance products

By Guardian Reporter

TO further diversify, and boost financial inclusion in the country, Exim Bank Tanzania has launched its Bancassurance scheme dubbed: "Bima Tu, Malipo Tuachie"

The lender has partnered with the top insurance companies in the country to provide its customers with top notch insurance solutions spanning across General Insurance, Health Insurance, Travel Insurance and Life Assurance all under one roof.

The service will be offered through all the bank's branches in partnership with 10 insurance companies as licensed by Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA).

"These insurance companies

include Jubilee Insurance, Fist Assurance, Heritage Insurance, GA Insurance, Alliance Life Assurance, Britam Insurance, UAP Insurance, ICEA Lion General Insurance, Strategies Insurance, and Alliance Insurance corporation" mentioned Ms. Agnes Kaganda, Exim Bank's Head of Branch Network during the product launch at the bank's HQ in Dar es Salaam.

"Our aim is to make customers experience hassle free by providing a number of value additions to client's insurance program including easy access for claims reporting, consultation, follow-up and settlement, easy claims process, reduce the overall cost impact for Managing Risk, easy of renewal where customers will be provided with renewal notification

digitally and assistance in renewal process."

"Furthermore, Exim Bank recognizes that customers always need a complete financial solution and consultation based on their specific needs, their current standards and more, instead of a generic insurance policy. Customers want a solution and not just a product." She mentioned

Speaking further on the product benefits, Mr. Melchizedeck Muro who is acting head of Bancassurance mentioned other benefits that include easy of renewal where customers will be provided with renewal notification digitally and assistance in renewal process, one-stop shop solution, where the bank offers distribution model that allows customers to get their

insurance products along with an amalgamation of other financial services under one roof, such as insurance premium financing (IPF) at very competitive terms.

"Insurance used to be the missing piece of the puzzle which Bancassurance now completes."

"Customers are looking for trust in the notion of professional expertise and the faith that they will get proper advice to buy their insurance products. Exim Bancassurance will make an easy sell for them. This goes along with insurance expertise in packaging insurance products and suggest the right products." He added.

The Insurance solution is available to both existing customers of the bank and Public in general, according to Mr Muro.

## Govt tables Fire, Rescue Force (Amendment) Act

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE government has tabled the Fire and Rescue Force (Amendment) Act, 2021 which among other things seeks to address shortcomings observed during implementation of the law and allow firemen to carry and use weapons when executing their duties.

The bill which was tabled in the National Assembly by Home Affairs Minister George Simbachawene also aims to enhance the security of Fire and Rescue Force infrastructure and personnel.

The Bill proposes amendment of section 22 of the Act by compelling an owner or operator to provide fire safety protection in a building of twelve meters above the level of the street or ground surface aiming to widen the scope of fire safety protection in buildings.

Amendments are also proposed in section 27 to provide compensation for firemen and voluntary firefighters injured or those dying in the cause of provision of fire and rescue services.

Once amended, the law will enhance the penalty and ensure that it is up-to-date and deters the commission of the approved offence.

Section 14 is proposed to be amended so as to distinguish the appointing authority for senior officers and other officers of the force to make better provision regarding their appointment, promotion, confirmation and other administrative matters.

The amendments in Section 19 seeks to empower the Commissioner-General of the Force to make orders for the general governance of the force.

The Bill also proposes amendment in the Act by adding sections 31A and 31B so as to introduce a general penalty and compounding of offences respectively. It will facilitate better administration of offences

and facilitate amicable settlement and discouragement of lengthy court trial process.

Section 31A reads: "A person who commits an offence under this Act for which no specific penalty is provided, shall upon conviction, be liable to a fine of not less than five hundred thousand shillings but not exceeding one million shillings or to imprisonment for a term of six months or both."

Section 31B reads: "Notwithstanding the provisions of this Act relating to penalties, where a person admits in writing that he has committed an offence under this Act, the Commissioner General or any officer of the force authorized by him in writing may order such person to pay a sum of money not exceeding one half of the amount of the fine to which such person would otherwise have been liable to pay if he had been convicted of such offence."

Amendments in Section 32 of the law seeks to make provisions for supervision and control of the private and public fire and rescue service providers in the country.

Part III proposes consequential amendments to the police force, immigration and Prison Service Commission Act (Cap. 24) and the Employment and Labour Relations Act (Cap. 366), to provide for their intended meaning to be in line with the Fire and Rescue Force Act, Cap. 427.



**Once amended, the law will enhance the penalty and ensure that it is up-to-date and deters the commission of the approved offence**



### INVITATION TO TENDER

### TENDER FOR PROVISION OF MANPOWER FOR CEMENT LOADING AND RAW MATERIALS OFFLOADING.

MBEYA CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED (MCCL) is a subsidiary of the Holcim Group with its industrial operations based in Plot No. 1, Songwe Industrial Area, Mbeya. MCCL now invites **SEALED BIDS** from eligible tenderers to provide skilled, semiskilled and casual manpower for cement loading, raw material offloading and other general services as described in the tender document. Eligible Bidders are required to submit bid document, properly enclosed in one sealed envelope marked **TENDER FOR PROVISION OF MANPOWER FOR CEMENT LOADING, RAW MATERIAL OFFLOADING**, and physically delivered to the below address:

MBEYA CEMENT COMPANY LIMITED,  
PLOT NO 1, SONGWE INDUSTRIAL AREA  
P.O. BOX 529, MBEYA,  
TANZANIA

At **MBEYA CEMENT CO LTD's RECEPTION** located at Administrative Building, Plot No 1 Songwe Industrial Mbeya.

Kindly request electronic Tender Documents via [mcc.tender@lafargeholcim.com](mailto:mcc.tender@lafargeholcim.com), with subject **REQUEST FOR TENDER DOCUMENTS - PROVISION OF MANPOWER FOR CEMENT LOADING AND OFFLOADING OF RAW MATERIALS.**

**DEADLINE FOR TENDER SUBMISSION: 16<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021, 14H00 PM, WHILE SITE VISIT SHALL BE HELD ON 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2021 FROM 11h00 - 13h00PM**

During site visit, Companies are required to adhere with safety rules by wearing safety boot, reflectors, helmet, safety glasses and gloves.

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## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – RFP

### CONSULTANCY: ASSESSMENT OF ZOOONIC DISEASES AND ONE HEALTH APPROACH IN TANZANIA

1. WWF Tanzania Country Office (WWF TCO) is a Non- Government Organization dealing with environmental protection in Tanzania since 1990 and it has supported the Government of Tanzania in implementing various projects on Marine, Forest, Fresh Water, Energy, and Wildlife. WWF global mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.
  2. WWF Tanzania is implementing a 'Beyond Tourism Project' (BeToP), looking at other non-tourism-related enterprises that will ensure diversification and continued benefits to the communities in the respective landscapes. Since zoonotic diseases have a negative health-related impact on people and their livelihoods and their use of natural resources, a thorough assessment of zoonotic diseases in Tanzania must be undertaken to understand better and design mitigation measures. Therefore, this consultancy focuses on the current and potential of zoonotic diseases in Tanzania, including the policy environment and connections to natural resources conservation to develop recommendations on One Health initiatives that mitigate disease, enhance biodiversity, and support human livelihoods
  3. **Specific tasks.**  
Specific tasks. The consultancy should consider the development of three identified areas of focus broadly but not limited to the following: Identification of potential types and sources of zoonotic diseases; analysis of spatial and temporal patterns of zoonotic diseases including future projections; Assessment of socio-economic and cultural impacts; Assessment of the impact of Zoonotic diseases on biodiversity conservation; identification of current human and environmental health mitigation measures; identification of environmental and social safeguards and risk assessment and develop a short concept using WWF format for future resource mobilization.
  4. **Applicant Requirement and qualifications:**
    - a. A Masters or Ph.D. in the relevant field with over eight years of work experience in the related field
      - b. Experience in zoonotic diseases and One Health Approaches;
      - c. Expertise in the overall project and program design specific with wildlife and concept development;
      - d. Experience in working with Government authorities, conservation NGOs, development and business partners, civil society organizations, and community-based organizations on One Health Approach and zoonotic diseases;
      - e. Work experience in Tanzania would be an added advantage;
      - f. Experience with policy and legislation analysis would be an added advantage;
  5. Interested applicants may further get detailed ToR uploaded on WWF website through this link [https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities/jobs/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/)
  6. Please, send full proposal (technical & financial) through procurement e mail at [procurement@wwftz.org](mailto:procurement@wwftz.org) (only soft copies are recommended), please, address your application to;
- Secretary, Procurement Committee,**  
WWF Tanzania; Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Road Plot 252, Mikochehi;  
P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077 Fax: +255 22 277 5535;  
website. [www.wwf.or.tz](http://www.wwf.or.tz)
7. Evaluation of the consultancy applications will be done based on WWF procurement guidelines and that WWF Tanzania is not bound to accept any lowest or highest proposal/bid
  8. Please, submit your full proposal to [tz.procurement@wwftz.org](mailto:tz.procurement@wwftz.org)
  9. **Deadline for submission:** kindly submit your applications as instructed by Friday, 16th September 2021 at 17.00hrs Tanzania local time. The only successful applicant will be contacted.

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**Korogwe District Commissioner Basila Mwanukuzi all smiles shortly after handing over a tractor to Potina Buga (L) who is a farmer at Mwelya sisal estate in the district, Tanga Region yesterday.** Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchiala

By Correspondent Zanura Mollele, Longido

## Human-wildlife conflicts solved - WWF and TNRF

SERVICE oriented community projects being undertaken by the World Wildlife Fund and the Tanzania Natural Resources Forum have so far helped to reduce human-wildlife conflicts in the windswept Longido District in Arusha.

According to the Longido District Commissioner, Nurdin Babu, the projects have also come in handy in environment conservation initiatives, sustainable water supplies as well as boosting tourism activities in the otherwise semi-arid precinct, known for mostly nomadic cattle grazing activities.

Speaking during the District Security Committee tour in the area, Babu pointed out that livestock managerie accounts for over 95 percent of Longido economic activities, thus water availability was extremely important. The committee inspected water boreholes, cattle

troughs; beekeeping activities, water storage tanks and environment conservation initiatives all being executed in Longido through WWF and TNRF support.

"For instance, the 10,000 liters' capacity water tank at the Matala Boys secondary school, donated by the Tanzania Natural Resources Forum will be helpful to collect water during rainy seasons and store the precious liquid throughout dry spells," he said.

Babu also stated that beekeeping projects in the area not only add other economic activities in Longido, but are also helpful in solving human-wildlife conflicts in the area.

"That is because, when beehives are installed on farms' boundaries,

the bees help to keep destructive wild animals, such as elephants at bay, thus crops remain safe and the peasants don't have to fight wildlife that encroach their farms," Babu maintained.

The TNRF Director, Zacharia Faustin said the projects, while targeting to conserve the environment, are designed such that peace and harmony are attained between people and wild animals, including helping local communities in the construction of more resilient 'Boma' enclosures to keep livestock predators away.

"We have been executing the projects within the Lake Natron Ecological Zone and also within the Endumet Wildlife Management Area," said Faustin.



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## REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS – RFP

### CONSULTANCY: ASSESSMENT OF NON-TIMBER FOREST PRODUCT BIO-TRADE POTENTIAL IN THE RUVUMA TRANSBOUNDARY PROGRAM

1. WWF Tanzania Country Office (WWF TCO) is a Non- Government Organization dealing with environmental protection in Tanzania since 1990 and it has supported the Government of Tanzania in implementing various projects on Marine, Forest, Fresh Water, Energy, and Wildlife. WWF global mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature.
  2. WWF Tanzania is in the process of implementing a 'Beyond Tourism Project' (BeToP) which is looking at other non-tourism-related enterprises that will ensure diversification and continued benefits to the communities in and around key conservation areas. More specifically, this consultancy focuses on the potential of developing viable BioTrade initiatives based on non-timber forest products (NTFPs) based on the findings of the ongoing WWF project in the Ruvuma transboundary landscape. The Ruvuma transboundary landscape encompasses the selected Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) and Village Land Forest Reserves (VLFs) in the Niassa-Selous Wildlife Corridor and is famous for its unique conservation values, including the expansive miombo woodlands, where the study will be focused excluding the protected areas namely Selous Game Reserve, Nyerere National Park and a series of game reserves and forest reserves.
  3. **Specific tasks.**  
The consultancy should consider broadly the development of three identified areas of focus but not limited to the following: Identification of potential BioTrade business opportunities; Analysis of the viability of Biotrade businesses; Assessment of enabling conditions; Assessment of socio-economic context; Assessment of the general contribution of the proposed business enterprises to the conservation of biodiversity and ecosystem services; Environmental and social safeguards and risk assessment and Development of business case
  4. **Applicant Requirement and qualifications:**
    - a. Experience and development or other relevant subjects with good knowledge of best business practices with a strong background in natural resources conservation and management;
    - b. Expertise in the overall project and program design specific with wildlife, forest, agriculture, etc.;
    - c. Experience in conservation enterprise development, management, and implementation;
    - d. Experience in working with Government authorities, conservation NGOs, development partners, business partners, civil society organizations, and community-based organizations on business and socio-economic development;
    - e. Work experience in Tanzania would be an added advantage;
  5. Interested applicants may further get detailed ToR uploaded on WWF website through this link [https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities/jobs/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/)
  6. Please, send full proposal (technical & financial) through procurement e mail at [procurement@wwftz.org](mailto:procurement@wwftz.org) (only soft copies are recommended), please, address your application to;
- Secretary, Procurement Committee,**  
WWF Tanzania; Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki Road Plot 252, Mikochehi;  
P. O. Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077 Fax: +255 22 277 5535;  
website. [www.wwf.or.tz](http://www.wwf.or.tz)
7. Evaluation of the consultancy applications will be done based on WWF procurement guidelines and that WWF Tanzania is not bound to accept any lowest or highest proposal/bid
  8. **Deadline for submission:** kindly submit your applications as instructed by Friday, 16<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 17.00hrs Tanzania local time. The only successful applicant will be contacted.

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WWF for a living planet®

WWF Tanzania Country Office  
Plot 252, Kiko Street, Off Mwai Kibaki  
Rd, Mikochehi  
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## TENDER INVITATION

### SUPPLY OF BEE HIVES & BEE KEEPING EQUIPMENT AND GEARS FOR 3 DEMO VILLAGE GROUPS IN TUNDURU AND NAMTUMBO DISTRICTS

1. WWF Tanzania Country Office is a Non- Government Organization dealing with environmental protection in Tanzania since 1990 and it has supported the Government of Tanzania in implementing various projects on Marine, Forest, Fresh Water, Energy and Wildlife. WWF global mission is to stop the degradation of the planet's natural environment and to build a future in which humans live in harmony with nature, by:
  - i. conserving the world's biological diversity;
  - ii. ensuring that the use of renewable natural resources is sustainable and
  - iii. promoting the reduction of pollution and wasteful consumption
2. WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) Tanzania, an international conservation organization, is implementing the Selous Ecosystem Conservation and Development (SECAD) Project to support the conservation and development of the Selous Ecosystem. Among the key activities within this project, WWF will be engaging interim capacity-building interventions to support communities with alternative income-generating activities, including sustainable, improved beekeeping with enhanced techniques in their production methods in Tunduru and Namtumbo districts in Ruvuma Region. To apply part of its budgetary allocation to fund eligible payments under the contract of the project, WWF will procure Beehives and Beekeeping starter kits to promote beekeeping as means to diversify income generating activities to increase community financial resource base.
3. Eligibility and Qualification Requirements
  - 3.1 Possession of a registration professional certificate or licence related to beekeeping activities from relevant authorities;
  - 3.2 The bidder must attach a minimum of 3 similar or related reference projects on which has worked. The reference projects must be of beekeeping related;
  - 3.3 The bidder must have positive reputation for good business practice and professionalism;
  - 3.4 Current physical location of the bidder mentioning region and district where is registered and operating, which will be inspected for verification;
  - 3.5 Ability to provide after sell support including training to the respective community beneficiary groups in the mentioned areas
4. Interested bidders may get further information, specifications and quantities through this link [https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs\\_and\\_opportunities/jobs/](https://www.wwf.or.tz/jobs_and_opportunities/jobs/)
5. ONLY *electronic applications/bids* properly filled, should be sent through procurement email [procurement@wwftz.org](mailto:procurement@wwftz.org) so as to reach us by or **before 1000hrs local time, Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> September, 2021**. Please, address your application to:
 

**Secretary Procurement Committee,**  
WWF Tanzania,  
Plot # 252 Mikochehi, Kiko St. Off Mwai Kibaki Rd  
Tel. +255 – 22 - 2775346/2772455/2700077  
Box 63117, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
Mail: [info@wwftz.org](mailto:info@wwftz.org);  
Web: [www.wwf.or.tz](http://www.wwf.or.tz)

Late applications, portion of applications shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstance (*please, remember that, only electronic applications will be accepted*)

  6. Evaluation of the tenders will be done based on WWF procurement guidelines.
  7. WWF Tanzania is not bound to accept any lowest or highest proposal submitted
  8. Only successful applicant shall be contacted.

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Tanzania Breweries Ltd (TBL) director of legal and corporate affairs, Mesiya Mwangoka (L) briefs police traffic senior officers on the firm's initiative to support road safety campaign during a meeting to discuss road safety issues in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Tanzanian teachers to teach Kiswahili in South Africa's primary schools

By Getrude Mbago

TANZANIAN teachers will soon go and teach Kiswahili language in South Africa's primary schools.

Tanzanian ambassador to South Africa rtd Major General Gaudence Milanzi revealed this yesterday during a virtual event where former President Ali Hassan Mwinyi handed over the patron task of promoting the use of African multilingualism (Kiswahili and isiZulu) in teaching and learning to the Minister for Constitution and Legal Affairs Prof Palamagamba Kabudi.

Milanzi said: "Everything has been completed and what is remaining is for the two governments to sign agreement to commence teaching of Kiswahili in primary schools in SA, something that will further promote the widely spoken language in east and central African nations," he said.

Ambassador Milanzi also said the new initiative to promote Kiswahili teaching using indigenous languages such as IsiZulu is a huge step which will heavily contribute to the expansion of the language as well as promote unity, intra-trade in Africa.

"We saw that this project complemented the government efforts to promote and develop Kiswahili in other countries. Our embassy here in Pretoria participates fully to ensure the goals

are achieved," he added.

Prof Hassan Kaya, the director of the Centre of Indigenous Knowledge Systems (CIKS) at the KwaZulu-Natal University appreciated Mwinyi for nurturing the initiative since it was launched in February 2020.

"Since we met you in February last year, we have made huge steps in the project. We have also established a big institution which involves 20 colleges in various parts of Africa so as to promote Kiswahili teaching and learning through indigenous languages," he said.

He said that experiences of the use of Kiswahili, the most spoken African language in the world, could be used to promote other African indigenous languages.

"Our languages including Kiswahili and IsiZulu can produce a number of employment opportunities and thus address the job crisis in the country. This also aims at improving job creation and patriotism."

Prof Kaya encouraged the teaching and learning of African indigenous languages and home-grown philosophies to promote business and investment and wealth creation.

"Let us work together to promote the use of our rich African indigenous multilingualism by teaching in our indigenous languages, promoting our home-grown philosophies and domesticating Sustainable

Development Goals (SDGs) to attain the aspirations of the "Africa We Want" African Union Agenda 2063," he said.

In his remarks, Mwinyi said he was privileged to be a patron of the initiative.

He appealed to the public and private sectors within and outside Africa to support its implementation and activities.

The former president wanted leaders and Tanzanians to promote correct use of Kiswahili.

"I'm happy that I have handed over the job to a strong and promising person whom I believe will implement the task well," he said.

Prof Kabudi commended Mwinyi for his efforts and contribution in promoting the development of Kiswahili in and outside the country.

"It is a great honour to be chosen to lead this initiative, I will continue learning from you," he said.

He noted that preliminary studies conducted in Namibia, Zimbabwe and South Africa showed that Kiswahili can be received well in those countries as well as other parts of Africa, America and Europe.

"We should change mind-sets and start seeing that our indigenous languages can unite us, promote trade and business and thus create more employment opportunities," he said.

By Guardian Reporter

## Dr Mwinyi starts implementing campaign pledges for Pemba

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has begun implementing his campaign pledges to the people of Pemba including road construction in areas of investment at Maziwangombe and Micheweni.

The 2.4km road in Micheweni in North Pemba Region has so far received the first coat of the tarmac and is expected to be completed soon.

After inspecting the road, Dr Mwinyi stressed to the residents that all his campaign pledges in regard to Pemba will be implemented, and called on Pemba residents to continue maintaining peace and solidarity in the area.

Earlier, while at Kiuyu Mbuyuni, he spoke to the residents and

promised to construct their road at tarmac level.

He told them that the road is in the plan involving the construction of building a total of 220kms of roads in both Unguja and Pemba.

He also told the area's seaweed growers on the government's aim in making sure it puts in place good environment for them including finding capital for them as well as education on seaweed growing and the construction of a seaweed processing plant in Pemba.

After listening to complaints from the villagers, President Mwinyi promised to improve health services

by beefing up the budget thereof.

During his visit, he also reached Shumba Mjini area to inspect the port area that needs to be formalised to cater for sea transport services.

At Micheweni Hospital, he officially announced that the health facility has been upgraded to District Hospital.

Many officials and residents registered their pleasure in the decision that will see its services strengthened.

President Mwinyi also visited Dr Amani Abeid Karune Secondary School and received reports over challenges it faces.

## Government working to reduce workers shortage at health facilities, says ministry

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE government is working around the clock to rectify the shortage of health workers in the country which currently stand at 45 percent.

Deputy Minister of State in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local government, Dr Festo Dugange told the National Assembly yesterday that the government is determined to improve provision of health services through construction of health facilities, thus resulted for the need of many health officials.

Dr Dugange said between May and June this year, the government has employed 6,324 health workers

adding that more will be recruited when resources are available.

He gave the statistics when answering a question from Cecilia Phareso (Special Seats-Chadema) on the shortage of staff, medical equipment and drugs in the country which are hindering the quality of health services delivery.

He said the government is committed to ensure availability of the medical devices and drugs in health facilities at all levels as the government has promised reliable and quality health services.

Dr Dugange said they are aware of the drugs shortage and the government increases budget every financial year saying this year 280bn/- has been reserved for the

purpose.

In the main question from Ally Makoa (Kondoa Mjini-CCM) on the improvement of the health services infrastructures which are dilapidated, the deputy minister said the government is aware and plans are on board to renovate them.

He said the government is aware of old and outdated hospitals in some of the municipalities, Kondoa being amongst.

The government is going on with its plan for the ongoing construction of 102 hospitals which are at different stages, for the 2021/2022 the government has set aside 14bn/- to start construction of the 28-district hospitals including that of the Kondoa township.

## Govt vows to continue improving primary, secondary schools education curriculums

By Felister Peter, Dodoma

THE government has pledged to continue improving primary and secondary schools education curriculums aiming to impart students with entrepreneurship, finance management and life skills to be able to employ themselves.

The improvements will enable Tanzanian students to cope with the current technological changes and adopt the ongoing political, economic and social changes.

This was said in the National Assembly yesterday by Education, Science and Technology Deputy Minister Omari Kipanga when answering a question from Special Seats legislator, Ngwasi Kamani (CCM).

In her basic question, the MP highlighted the need for the government to introduce

entrepreneurship studies, finance management and life skills as an alternative way to solve unemployment challenge. She also wanted the subjects to be compulsory for all the students.

The deputy minister said that currently students are taught entrepreneurship skills through various subjects whereas primary school pupils get the knowledge through different topics in Mathematics, Social Studies and Vocational Studies. Secondary school students are imparted with the skills through Civics and General Studies.

"There are elements of entrepreneurship being taught to secondary school students through various subjects such as Book-Keeping, Commerce, Economics, Accountancy, Home Economics, Mathematics and Agriculture," he

said adding emphasize is put on life skills and vocational trainings.

He said students are also capacitated on the information, communication and technology (ICT).

According to Kipanga, the government has been conducting different forums to discuss a number of issues related to improvement of the curriculums. He said such forums have already been conducted in Dar es Salaam and Dodoma regions. He said the curriculum review process is expected to be completed this financial year.

Meanwhile, Education, Science and Technology Minister, Prof Joyce Ndalichako said plans are underway to ensure all schools provide life skills training such as needle work and cookery. She said the two subjects are now taught at few secondary schools.



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### VACANCY

#### Director Surveillance and MERLA

RTI International is seeking a Director Surveillance and Monitoring, Evaluation, Research, Learning and Adapting (MERLA) for a USAID-funded malaria surveillance and monitoring project in Tanzania. The purpose of this project is to support the Government of Tanzania (GOT) to reduce the burden of malaria and to move towards the long-term goal of malaria elimination. The Surveillance and MERLA Director will be responsible for the development and management of the surveillance, monitoring, evaluation and reporting activities of this program.

The position will be based in **Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.**

**Responsibilities:**

- Leads the project's MERLA systems and approach, including developing and managing the project's relevant performance indicators, baselines, and annual targets, as well as ensures compliance to USAID and PMI requirements.
- Leads the project's support to GOT in state-of-the-art malaria surveillance, both on mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar.
- Develops project's research agenda and oversee research activities.
- Develops project's learning agenda and oversee learning activities.
- Supervises the collection, analysis and reporting on performance indicators by other project staff and counterparts, preparing data tabulations, reports, and presentations to support project activities.
- Leads, supports and/or contributes to advanced programmatic data analyses to successfully implement the project and, overall, help Tanzania to progress towards malaria elimination.
- Oversees preparation of monthly, quarterly and annual progress reports on the status of project implementation; contributes to other project reports such as annual work plans.
- Regularly reviews and updates the project's MEL plan.
- Provides oversight for project results reporting and management in collaboration with COP and project technical staff.
- Supervises and mentors 3-4 technical project staff.

**Minimum Requirements:**

- Master's Degree in public health, demography, sociology, epidemiology, biostatistics, psychology or a related field.
- Min. of 12 years' experience in monitoring, evaluation, surveillance, and research related to large-scale health development programs.
- Previous experience working in Tanzania in the field of surveillance, research and M&E.
- Excellent knowledge of data collection protocols for quality data collection, audit verification.
- Exceptional ability to analyze multiple sources of data to identify data trends and provide recommendations on project implementation.
- Demonstrated experience and familiarity with public health surveillance surveys, research methodologies, qualitative and quantitative research methods, data analysis, sampling methods, and establishment of surveillance and MEL systems in developing country contexts.
- Demonstrated experience leading and building the capacity of MERLA staff in a decentralized setting.
- Demonstrated track record in disseminating programmatic and research outcomes and findings at national and international conferences, as well as in the published literature.
- Strong knowledge of USAID MEL reporting procedures.
- Must have strong oral and written communication and presentation skills in English (tested FSI R4/S4). Must be proficient in Kiswahili.
- Strong proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite applications. Experience and familiarity with DHIS 2 and statistical software packages.
- Willingness and ability to travel frequently within Tanzania.
- Local nationals are strongly encouraged to apply.

**Application process:**

Please follow the link provided below or visit [RTI International Careers](http://www.rti.org/careers) page for more information about job opportunities.  
<http://m.rfer.us/RTIUwB3d>

The application deadline is **September 14<sup>th</sup>, 2021.**

We regret that only shortlisted applicants will be contacted.

**\*No applicant will ever be asked for any payment either to secure a role with RTI International or as a follow-up to having been awarded a position with RTI International. If anyone ever approaches you asking for any such payment, please immediately email [ethics@rti.org](mailto:ethics@rti.org)**

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# CARI empowers thousands farmers and stakeholders in rice value chain

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THOUSANDS of Tanzanian small scale rice farmers and several processors have been empowered on how to create a win-win situation for all stakeholders in the rice value chain.

They are those who have been working under the Competitive African Rice Initiative (CARI) Tanzania programme, aimed at supporting small-scale climate-friendly rice production, and advocate for cooperation on equal terms, between target groups and the private sector.

CARI has been implemented in Tanzania by Kilimo Trust (KT), a not-for-profit organisation working on agriculture for development across the East Africa community.

The programme aims at supporting the actors of the rice value chain, using the millers as anchors to link consumers and service providers in the rice value chain where rice farmer and rice miller meet for mutual benefit as equal agribusiness partner.

In its second phase, ending this month, the programme under implementation of the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) has changed the lives of many Tanzanians in the rice value chain as outlined by Kari Tanzania Chairman of the Board of directors, Prof Geoffrey Mrema during project closeout workshop in Dodoma.

He said at least 35,726 beneficiaries have been integrated and realize increased income and improved food security through the programme while 30,985 farmers signed 225 supply contracts with engaged off-takers.

Some 89,373 metric tonnes of paddy have been supplied to partners as 26,768, being 85 percent of the targeted small holder farmers that received training on sustainable rice platform (SRP).

The SRP standard is an inclusive tool for practitioners in the public and private sector to drive wide-scale adoption of climate-smart sustainable best practice among rice smallholders and keeps it real as, it is designed for farm-level impact. Each requirement is relevant, practical, and under the farmer's control.

Prof Mrema added that 10,863 smallholder farmers have received trainings in farmer business schools (FBS) while 19,017 others accessed \$ 2.9 million as in put pre-financing from financial institutions.

He added that some 17,969 farmers have accessed improved inputs as 21,010 other have accessed mechanization services. "Rice farmers in the project now understand rice farming as a business, having in mind that improved seeds are inevitable," said Prof Mrema.

CARI Programme Director, Florian Winkler, addressing the meeting visually from Ghana noted that CARI programme in Tanzania has been successful through partnership with Kilimo Trust and cooperation with the government.

"We are grateful and acknowledge the strong cooperation with Kilimo Trust" he said, adding that the realised success could not be possible without the government support.

Kilimo Trust Team Leader, Rachel Ajambo on her part said the principal aim is to foster linkages amongst rice value chain actors, and as a result, create win-win situations for all stakeholders.

She argued that the project aimed to work with rice processors and traders as value chain anchors who provide the much needed "pull" to stimulate higher production of rice by smallholder farmers.

Secondary beneficiaries are rural service providers like agro-dealers, suppliers and operators of agricultural machinery.



CCM Kinondoni District chairman Harold Maruma (L) inspects a special garbage cooling machine located at Mboji fertiliser processing plant at Mabwepande ward in Kinondoni Municipality, Dar es Salaam Region on Tuesday during the party's district political committee member's visit to inspect development projects. Second (L) is Kinondoni District Commissioner Godwin Gondwe. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

## Less women turns up for Covid-19 jabs - ministry

By Henry Mwangonde

THE campaign to roll out Covid-19 vaccination countrywide is continuing at a low pace with an increasing gender gap.

A statement from the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children said from August 4 to 28, 304,603 people were vaccinated where out of the number, 201,467 were men representing (66.1percent) and 103,127 were women representing (33.9 percent) respectively.

The statement shows men are turning out in large numbers compared to women in getting covid-19 jabs.

The statement signed by the

ministry's Permanent Secretary Prof Abel Makubi said the ministry will continue administering the vaccine rollout via health centres across the country.

"By 14th August, 1,008,400 were distributed across the country in 550 health centres," reads the statement in part.

The ministry is now asking healthcare providers to provide more education on the importance of the vaccine to people to increase turnout.

The PS hailed regional and district authorities for mobilizing people to get vaccinated especially in remote areas.

The government launched the national drive to roll out vaccines

early this month as thousands of Tanzanians from various regions registered for Covid-19 vaccine following the official launch.

President Samia Suluhu Hassan, who was joined by the prime minister, the chief justice and other leaders in taking the job, sought to reassure people about the efficacy and safety of the vaccines.

The Head of State told Tanzanians that the vaccines are safe and she would not take any risk, in a bid to assure the public of the safety of the vaccines.

Tanzania received the Johnson & Johnson's Janssen vaccine which the government received recently from the United States.

A huge chunk of the 1 million doses has already been spent on frontline and at-risk groups such as healthcare providers, the elderly, people with underlying conditions and lately-journalists.

In June, Tanzania also joined the global COVAX scheme for sharing vaccines with poorer nations, culminating in the delivery of its first batch of 1.06 million doses of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine last week.

During the launch of the campaign in Dar es Salaam, Health Minister Dorothy Gwajima promised to roll out a comprehensive public education campaign to counter vaccine misinformation.

## Activist mobilises clerics to oppose Z'bar Alcohol Control Act violation

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR's human rights and good governance activist, Ali Issa Makame has decided to convene a forum in collaboration with religious leaders to oppose the apparent violation of the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act (No 9 of 2020) by the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board.

Makame made the remarks here yesterday as he spoke with reporters saying the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board violated Section 33(1) of the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act in its decision to issue permits for the importation of alcoholic drinks to eight firms instead of three as provided for under the Act.

He said another point for contention was that the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board failed to respect Section 28(k) of the same Act that had set a condition for bars to be more than 1,000 metres away from areas with basic social services including schools, health centres, mosques, churches, madrassas, markets or bus stations.

"We, activists have decided that time has come to work together with religious leaders to organise a forum to oppose the violation of the law by the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board without any steps being taken against it," he added.

He further said before convening the forum, people in every region will be given the opportunity to give their views on the inconveniences they experience

from bars established in their residential areas.

He said the forum's resolutions will be submitted to Zanzibar President Hussein Mwinyi following failure by responsible authorities under the Ministry of State, Regional Administration and Local Government to take steps against the apparent violations of the law.

He said before enactment, the Bill for the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act was discussed in the House of Representatives as well as the cabinet, but the liquor board has failed to implement its provisions, and the silence of higher government authorities is an issue for concern.

He said the time has come for the Zanzibar Economic Crimes Act (ZAECA) to investigate why the Zanzibar Alcoholic Drinks Control and Advisory Board had issued liquor import licences in violation to the Zanzibar Alcohol Control Act (No.9 of 2020).

He also said Members of the Zanzibar's House of Representatives should come out to oppose the apparent violation to the Liquor Act.

Meanwhile, Zanzibar High Court Judge Abdurakimu Issa Ameir has set September 13 this year as the day to start the case hearing filed by the Board of Trustees of the Zanzibar Council of Imams (JUMAZA) against the Liquor Board and the Attorney General.

However, the Liquor Board Chairman, Abdurazak Abdulkadir said they issued liquor licences to more than three firms in the interest of the government in regard to tax collection.



Tanga Yemen society for charity (TYSC) chairman Abdalah Said Bazar speaks at the launch of the first water well built by the society at Tanga secondary school in Tanga region yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Boniface Gideon

## PM inaugurates MwangaHakika Bank in Dodoma

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has called upon MwangaHakika Bank (MHB) to be a saviour for small entrepreneurs and farmers.

He made the remarks on Tuesday this week as he was inaugurating the bank's branch and later addressed various officials, shareholders and other people who attended the event held in Dodoma.

"You should be a bank of choice for small scale farmers and entrepreneurs. These are groups that need your services to make economic strides," he said.

He also called on the bank to reduce its lending interest rate to go in tandem with President Samia Suluhu Hassan's intentions.

"You should abide by this requirement for you to grow as low interest rate will help in boosting trade and other economic activities," he added.

He also called on the bank to increase creativity in raising profits, enhance deposits and pay dividends to shareholders.

"Come up with new products which are better but at a low cost to costumers and reduce various fees for services provided by the bank," he added. "Take your services closer to the people especially in the peripheral areas to ensure security for their money. Look for possibilities to open branches in Mpwapwa, Kongwa, Kondoa, Bahi and other nearby areas.

He said MHB should also

strengthen the provision of education to the people on the importance of opening up accounts with the bank, by convincing them to stop keeping their money in their homes.

He also called on MHB to support government's efforts to enable the country attain the industrial economy status.

Earlier, while inviting the PM to speak, the Minister for Information, Culture, Arts and Sports, Innocent Bashungwa praised MHB stakeholders for their decision in merging up three financial institutions to become a bank.

Bashungwa, who represented the Minister for Finance and Planning said MHB has been able to reach 100,000 customers and provide

38.9bn/- in loans after merging EFC Tanzania Microfinance Bank (EFC), Hakika Microfinance Bank (Hakika) and Mwanga Community Bank (MCB).

For his part, Agriculture Minister Prof Adolf Mkenda asked MHB to assist farmers, especially sunflower and grapes growers, the main cash crops in Dodoma Region which the government has stressed over their increased production.

For his part, Bank of Tanzania (BoT) deputy governor Dr Bernard Kibesse said the launching of the bank branch in Dodoma will ensure the availability of financial services for the people and added that the merging of the three financial institutions has beefed up MHB's capital.





Vodacom Tanzania director of business unit Arjun Dhilon (L) speaks with women entrepreneurs during a workshop in Dar es Salaam yesterday aimed at promoting local entrepreneurs to expand their businesses through Vodacom's campaign dubbed: 'Pamoja Tukuze Biashara Yako', under the global hash tag SheMeansBusiness. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Farmers in Dodoma advised to invest in organic farming

By Polycarp Machira, Mpwapwa

FARMERS in Dodoma have been urged to seize opportunities brought about national infrastructures in the region and invest in organic farming for a more sustainable and profitable agriculture.

The call was made in Mpwapwa by the District Administrative Secretary (DAS) Sarah Komba, noting that the ongoing construction of the standard gauge railway (SGR) and expansion of airport in Dodoma provides opportunity for farmers to sell their produce as far as outside the country.

She observed that organic farming is more lucrative and since Dodoma region has a lot of fertile land that do not need a lot of chemical fertilizers, farmers should invest more in organic farming.

Komba made the statement while officiating at the opening of a week-long field training and exhibitions for farmers organised by Sustainable Agriculture Tanzania (SAT), a local non-governmental organisation working in the region.

The DAS who represented the District Commissioner, Josephat Maganga at the event noted that the government is working hard so that farmers can find access to market their produce as well as enabling them get inputs.

"The ongoing developments like SGR project passing through Mpwapwa, Chamwino and Dodoma districts opens opportunity for investment in organic farming in the region," she said.

She cited the government intention to buy cargo plane as one of the efforts to increase agricultural exports to other countries, hence farmers ought to learn what the international markets want and start producing.

She acknowledged activities of SAT, promoting organic farming at household level, saying the good thing is that many women are involved in the programme.

According the DAS such programmes help improve nutrition in families as women are trained on how to have organic vegetable gardens. This, she said improve health of family members, especially children who need proper diet at the first 1000 days of birth.

SAT project manager, Elizabeth Girangai in opening remarks said some 2563 farmers, 2354 women and 209 men working in 90 groups in 14 wards 26 villages in three districts in the region are beneficiaries of the programme.

She explained that Chamwino district has 1134 women and 57 men in seven wards and 15 village working in 45 groups while Mpwapwa has 1092 women and 139 men working in 36 groups within seven wards and 11 villages as Dodoma has 128 women and 13 men working in eight groups in one ward and three streets.

Girangai said they are currently benefiting from the project which empowers and train them on organic agriculture, small-scale businesses as well as access to finance so as to increase food security and improve their income.

She added that SAT in collaboration with other stakeholders convened the organic farming exhibitions to empower local farmers with knowledge in organic farming, entrepreneurship skills as well as connecting them with financial institutions.

"Through the exhibitions, farmers learn new ways to increase crop production, accruing markets, entrepreneurship knowledge, reduce dependency and be able to increase income at family and national levels," said the project manager.

*"The ongoing developments like SGR project passing through Mpwapwa, Chamwino and Dodoma districts opens opportunity for investment in organic farming in the region"*

## Group donates 6m/- worth Covid-19 protective gear to Dodoma Hospital

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

AS the government beefs up efforts to fight Covid-19 pandemic, 'Wana-Makutu' a group made up of former youth who participated in the 1989/90 mandatory training at Makutupora National Service Camp (KJ 834) in Dodoma Region has decided to support the efforts in kind.

The efforts included their purchase of medical items distributed to Dodoma Region Referral Hospital.

Speaking soon after handing over the items to the hospital the Wana-Makutu Group Chairman, Eng Philip Undile Makota said due to the items' importance, the group contributed 6m/- worth of the equipment including six boxes of face masks, sanitizers and hand gloves.

"From the procedures we created for ourselves, we managed to raise funds from group members and decided that one of the areas for assistance is the purchase of the items to fight the pandemic," said Eng Makota.

Makota also thanked the Dodoma Regional Commissioner, Anthony Mtaka in letting his office facilitate the group's visit in the region.

Earlier, the group had the opportunity to present 16mm water pipes with a total of 4,000 metres to be used in irrigation of farms at the Makutupora camp.

"The pipes will assist in farming efforts that stands to provide benefits in agricultural production," he added.

He also called upon parents not to stop their children from attending

mandatory national service training as such training instills discipline, good health, patriotism and diligence.

Receiving the items on behalf of the hospital, Dodoma Regional Referral Hospital Doctor in Charge, Dr Baraka Mponda thanked Wana-Makutu group saying the assistance arrived at the right time and will assist in fighting Covid-19 infections.

"This is a huge blessing from the patriotic group in this year," he said and appealed for other groups to do the same.



### REGIONAL MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTANT

Capital Limited is an international and highly respected mineral exploration drilling company with operations throughout Africa. An industry leader in safety with ambitious growth strategies, we are seeking applications for the following position by dedicated and professional individuals who would like to join our dynamic team. This position is based in Mwanza and will provide the opportunity to be part of a team that contributes towards the exciting growth of the mining industry in Tanzania.

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#### Role requirements:

- Act as a mentor, provide supervision, management and team building of the Tanzania team.
- Work directly with the teams in West Africa to provide support in terms of financial accounting, management accounting, audit and all other finance tasks as required.
- Act as a liaison between the Tanzania team and the corporate team in Mauritius, particularly in relation to end of month, group allocations, management reporting and audit tasks.
- Review work undertaken by local finance teams and provide feedback/assist with corrections as necessary.
- Provide support during the end of month process, including reconciliations, reporting and cost reviews.
- Prepare balance sheet reconciliations, including WIP, new venture, accruals, intercompany etc.
- Act as an escalation point for the Country.
- Prepare monthly cash plan for review, update weekly for analysis, and ensure that payments and receipts are properly allocated.
- Ensure compliance with IFRS accounting and financial statements.
- Ensure that all company accounting procedures are adhered to and that they comply with all relevant regulations.
- Prepare budgets and forecast, and ensure that costs are as per budgets, liaise with the relevant Managers for discrepancies.
- Interaction with each project in country on the financial results, including variance analysis and recommendation of improvement activities.
- Ensure the timely and accurate preparation of Ad hoc, monthly, and annual reporting for all stakeholders.
- Management of weekly revenue reporting, forecasts, and reporting to CFO for cash flow.
- Promote a culture of safety leadership at all levels of the organization.

#### You will be required to have:

- A degree or master's degree in finance and Accounting
- A professional qualification (or working towards) in the field of Accounting/ Internal Auditing would be an advantage
- A minimum of 5 years of professional experience in the field of Accounting/ Finance or Auditing
- Working experience in Tanzania region is a must
- Experience working with foreign multi-national enterprises
- Knowledge and experience with ERP systems
- Strong leadership and self-organization skills
- Effective communication skills, both English and Swahili would be an advantage
- Ability to work autonomously, use initiative and be proactive
- Ability to adhere to deadlines and a pragmatic approach to work
- Excel knowledge (advance level)
- Time management skills
- Must be willing to undertake frequent travel

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We have an immediate requirement for motivated, and professional Assistant Accountant located in Tanzania. Reporting to the Chief Accountant, you will assist the Tanzania Finance team with regards to financial reporting and you will be responsible for all accounting data capturing and filling.

#### Role requirements:

- Good knowledge of ERP systems
- Process and settle invoices on the system, including reconciliation of Accounts Payable and review of reconciliations prepared by Assistant Accountant
- Liaise with vendors for queries, as and when required and ensure that there's a communication flow between the company and the vendor
- Update cash book daily, post transactions on the system, payments and receipts, and reconcile weekly
- Prepare and review the petty cash analysis for posting and ensure expenses are correctly allocated
- Report daily bank balance to Management
- Prepare payments and send for approval, and ensure that the correct amounts are being paid to the vendors
- Prepare and process journal entries on the system
- Ensure files are kept up to date
- Assist auditors for queries
- Assist the Finance Team with ad-hoc tasks

#### You will be required to have:

- A minimum of 2 years of professional experience in the field of Accounting/ Finance or Auditing
- Working experience in the mining or manufacturing industry preferable
- Experience working with foreign multi-national enterprises is preferable
- Experience with ERP systems
- Self-organisation skills and good time management skills
- Effective communication skills, both English and Swahili would be an advantage
- Ability to work autonomously, use initiative and be proactive
- Ability to adhere to deadlines and a pragmatic approach to work
- Excel knowledge (intermediate level)

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Taking A New Look  
At The News  
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epaper.ippmedia.comDutch interest in mushrooms  
exposes horticulture potential

**A**N NETHERLANDS firm, Limax BV, is reported to have expressed interest in investing in mushroom production and processing in Tanzania, an interesting item to horticulture enthusiasts but not likely to be a major preoccupation on the day's events countrywide in most other quarters. Yet there are lessons to gather merely from that aspect of interest, and its provenance, in comprehending the dynamics of economic efficiency and what is known as comparative advantage. It is historically the key to growth.

The reason for making that observation is that Netherlands is in many ways comparable to Denmark, as a small country in that part of Europe. Netherlands is not part of Scandinavia like Denmark but belongs to what Europe knows as the Low Countries - lying on the lowlands on the northern seashores - namely Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg thus collectively known as Benelux. Scandinavia countries on the other hand consist of Denmark, Norway and Sweden, who are all monarchies and have similar cultural upbringing in how they arrived at nationhood out of the decaying Holy Roman Empire, etc.

Economic history shows that different European countries arrived at industrialization by specialising in this or that crop or sphere of production. It was not abundant mineral resources that led to prosperity but private ownership of land and gradual investment in modernized agriculture and agro processing, with milk for Denmark, and wine for Portugal, while Britain industrialized from wool, and later cotton. Tanzania could have moved to industries from sisal if world market exchange values had remained stable, if our land ownership systems facilitated modernized agriculture. And the same for Zanzibar, with cloves.

These issues must now be realized as small countries have for half a century tried to feed big countries with feet of clay, refusing to allow private ownership and capital investment to work miracles in their economies. They see development as building welfare units and where possible provide cash to poor families, but poverty as a whole remains the same. And the same lack of realism is pushing our countries to wars, or to chaos, on the pretext that it is corruption which makes us poor, whereas it is traditional structures. So if Limax Co. was given say Kilimanjaro Region to run, it would industrialise it even with mushrooms alone, but having removed the tribal system of land ownership, people selling and leaving.

Without such changes large scale farmers cannot develop as they are seen as illegitimate in their land titles, frequently attacked with machetes as in the horticultural zone in Arusha and Kilimanjaro regions in recent years. Limax Co. is aware of this so it proposes the industrial facility and less of land purchase and farming mushrooms. We can thank our Ambassador to the Netherlands, Irene Kasyanjū for visiting the firm's offices and laying the framework for a good investment, but it is the aid withdrawal situation and the dormant potential that is really troubling. While the market potential is clear, and this is really what interests the relevant authorities, it is the wider dynamic of modernized farming by structural change that is vital. Remember Netherlanders are the parents of Africa's most hated tribe, Boers, and its best farming sector entrepreneurs. How about that for some kind of food for thought about agro-sector modernisation?

We may sentimentally prefer our traditional arrangements but they are a time bomb regularly exploding everywhere in Africa, on a daily basis.

MPs are elders, they need to wear  
facemasks, or reduce session time

**E**FFORTS to grapple with the spread of the coronavirus pandemic are bringing about innovative ways in which National Assembly will be conducting its sessions at the current meeting and subsequent to it. It will split into two chambers, with those having work to do in the day's business and auxiliary staff in the legislature or government ministries permitted to use the main debating chamber. Others will be assigned to Msekwa Hall to provide for social distancing that isn't easy to exercise in the single chamber.

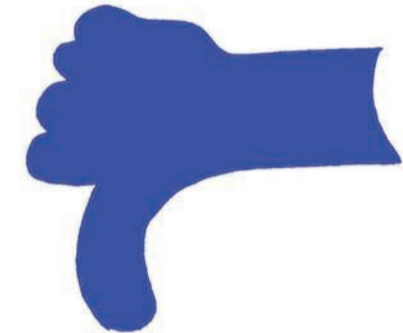
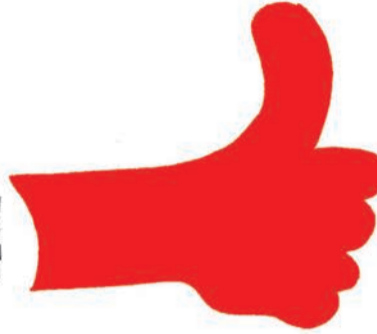
Sitting hours will be reduced from seven to five while MPs shall have to wear face masks when they take their positions in either chamber, as the legislature like other spheres of society, get even more scared of Covid-19 pandemic. There are varying reports on the situation but frankly the latest wave of infections has been more severe than others before it, while definitely it isn't a mass pandemic as it has been in other countries, though African countries have been spared from the worst of the pandemic, even at present.

While people scarcely wear facemasks in buses in the city of Dar es Salaam, hospital congestion on account of the pandemic has remained somewhat occasional, noticed more in a few big hospitals than say hospitals all over the city. Again it can't be said that social contact or exposure is the key to its spread, for if that was the case it would have spread much faster than what we have noticed so far. Covid-19 has the potential to put half the city to bed once a single individual is affected and goes home, and his household people start visiting

markets, etc. We are trying to avoid that but it isn't happening that way.

Yet there is no doubt that the more elderly people are the more exposed, and often with some underlying conditions, and as MPs are mostly elderly while not in old age as such, some precautions are in right order. Spiritually, taking precautions is an aspect of prayer, where one shows respect, even fear, of the danger of infection, so praying with precautions is more meaningful than inn being negligent, that one is practically not bothered by the presence of the disease. So MPs need to take precautions since as a sample of population or city dwellers in the capital, their potential for infection as a group or within the group is likely to be higher than other city dwellers there. That doesn't mean that youths are totally at ease, far from it, but tend to recover more easily or not having to be hospitalised, compared to more elderly people.

So the raft of measures taken by the legislature don't necessarily protect this or that individual member, relatively youthful or relatively aged from infection, but it creates an atmosphere of seriousness and serenity even for those paying for members of the legislature, apart from their own prayers. In the final analysis though they need to remember that health safeguards are only an auxiliary aspect to doing what is right to those who concern a specific individual, which includes doing what is right in discharging their public responsibilities. Scripture shows that divinity hits unjust societies extremely hard with calamities. Just how far that plays out in our environment is for everyone to observe and make up his or her mind.

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By Special Correspondent

**T**HE goodwill Zambia has gained for conducting peaceful general elections on August 12, followed by the peaceful transfer of power from the sixth President to the seventh one, won praise and respect from many local, regional and international dignitaries who witnessed the inauguration of President Hakainde Hichilema last week.

The goodwill has also resulted in the appreciation of the local currency, the Kwacha, against other international convertible currencies.

Now that the general elections are in the past and President Hichilema has been inaugurated as the seventh Republican President of Zambia, people are anxiously waiting for the announcement of the new Cabinet.

But stakeholders are calling for a lean Cabinet that will demonstrate the new administration's commitment to upholding fiscal discipline and stop the perceived

## Calls for lean cabinet timely

wastage of public resources on ministries that are perceived to serve little purpose.

ActionAid is proposing a lean Cabinet that has the capacity to resolve challenges facing the nation.

The organisation has advised President Hichilema to appoint a thin Cabinet that will be able to deliver solutions to domestic problems and competently represent Zambia on the global stage.

The organisation is also proposing the scrapping of ministries that serve no clear purpose.

Like many people, ActionAid believes that resources that will be saved from scrapping undesirable portfolios can be channelled to more pressing issues of debt repayment, boosting agriculture and creating jobs.

The new Government has been advised to learn from mistakes made by previous administrations.

For example, the Movement for Multiparty Democracy (MMD) leadership under President Rupiah Banda spent K8 billion on the Cabinet monthly with its double deputy ministers.

Mr Banda was condemned even by the Patriotic Front (PF) for presiding over a bloated government.

But the same PF raised Cabinet expenditure to K17 billion a month.

At that time, Mr Hichilema proposed a Cabinet that could be reduced to 15 portfolios, without provincial ministers, which could only cost the country K4.5 billion per month.

The K12.5 billion in savings could be channelled to other needy areas.

Therefore, with the issue of a lean Cabinet being not new to President Hichilema, who is now the appointing authority, people are hoping that his Government will heed their calls.

Nevertheless, the expected Cabinet, though lean, must be representative of the country's 10 provinces as President Hichilema himself has alluded to.

Issues such as having a sizable Cabinet, fighting corruption, ridding the country of nepotism and tribal inclinations, and respecting the rule of law, among others, will further boost the goodwill of cooperating partners as well as international lending organisations which will play a critical role in helping Zambia to rebuild its economy.

President Hichilema has already indicated that he will engage international creditors on the issue of the country's foreign debt which is unsustainable.

But a successful outcome of that engagement will depend on the President's demonstration of fiscal discipline in areas like the size of Cabinet he plans to put in place.

More biodiverse food systems will help  
address climate and nature crises

By João Campari and Juan-Lucas Restrepo

**T**HE ways we feed ourselves - through just a few crops and animals - are unsustainable for people and planet. As you read this, representatives from 196 nations are negotiating a global framework for nature that the world will adopt at COP15, a key United Nations' summit on biodiversity, due to end in May.

Known as the post-2020 Global Biodiversity Framework, it is expected to do what the 2015 Paris agreement did for climate - set targets that nations must meet to ensure global warming does not exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius.

For the Framework to succeed, we must address one area that continues to be ignored: our food systems. That is how we produce, process, distribute and consume food.

Our climate, biodiversity and food systems are inextricably linked. Food systems cause huge biodiversity losses, account for about one-third of greenhouse gas emissions, and leave 2 billion people with unhealthy diets, even as 40% of all food produced goes uneaten. The ways we feed ourselves - through just a few crops and animals - are unsustainable for people and planet. Major upcoming forums, such as

the UN conferences on biodiversity (COP15), climate (COP26), and food (UN Food Systems Summit), provide an opportunity to align top-level priorities and global commitments. Although preparations for the Food Systems Summit have highlighted the urgency in integrating food, climate and nature, food systems are not a priority in other forums.

We must remedy this and integrate food targets in climate and biodiversity agreements, to make food systems nature-positive, with net-zero emissions, by 2030.

## Targets can go further

The existing draft of the Framework includes a target to ensure that all food-producing areas are managed sustainably and ecosystems are protected and restored. But it can go further to advocate for nature-based solutions such as agroecology, agroforestry, regenerative agriculture practices and diversification.

These solutions can rival monoculture activities in producing calories and nutrients for human consumption, and support healthier soils and waterways. Evidence shows these practices can also benefit the livelihoods of smallholder farmers, who are disproportionately hit by climate and food crises.

Addressing the way we produce is critical - but we must also address how we consume food. The draft

text of the agreement targets encouraging responsible consumer choices, halving food waste, and reducing overconsumption. Again, the Framework must go further.

Nations must halve the footprint of their diets by transitioning to healthier, more sustainable patterns of consumption. This transition alone can reduce agricultural land use by at least 41% and wildlife loss by up to 46%, and reduce premature deaths by at least 20%.

Transforming food systems is central to reversing biodiversity loss by 2030, but it is also the right thing to do for people, national budgets and the economy. A new WWF report shows transitioning to sustainable models of production and consumption can create millions of new nature-positive jobs; provide health benefits, including reducing the risk of future pandemics; and enhance food security.

## Solutions that work

Of course, targets are not enough - we must promote real action. The Framework must set up clear delivery and accountability mechanisms, with robust multi-stakeholder processes at national, regional and global levels.

Examples of how integrated action can deliver benefits for people, climate and nature already exist. In recent years, CIAT worked with Brazil, Kenya and Sri Lanka

to reintroduce neglected and underutilized crops by including them in school meals and public procurement policies, updating food-based dietary guidelines, and promoting sustainable gastronomy. After seeing marked improvements in human and environmental health, the Brazilian and Kenyan Governments approved national policies to promote conservation and sustainable use of food biodiversity.

In Paraguay, WWF worked with a cooperative of female landowners to revitalize parts of the Atlantic Forest, one of the world's top five biodiversity hotspots. To combat deforestation driven by the expansion of soy plantations and livestock production, hundreds of thousands of native Yerba Mate trees were planted to prevent soil erosion, provide alternative nutritious crops, and alleviate poverty.

Superfoods from the trees provided the women with access to new markets domestically and overseas, while planting community gardens alongside them afforded access to nutritious foods - all while helping protect nature and climate.

Such work needs funding and support. Upcoming forums will be crucial in catalysing action and unlocking funding that enable policymakers to translate frameworks and development goals into solid work on the ground.



# Constructive uses of social media and digital platforms

In recent years the impact of social media has moved from entertainment to productive means of the community employing millions of youth. Recently, youth leaders from universities such as Mzumbe University, Hussein Melele and here he sheds light on Ongea project tailored its training package to ensure trainees use social media to foster socio-economic development

**QUESTION:** How is your institution tailor training programs to promote youth talents?

**ANSWER:** It is importance to recognize the right of young people. One of their rights is to promote their talents and interests. Youth play decisive role in socio-economic development. Mulika Tanzania has worked very closely with social media influencers and young leaders to champion the constructive uses of social media and digital platforms to sharpen their work and their thinking. Other programs involved promoting and amplifying their voices- Freedom of Expression (FOE) and the right to information (RTI) targeting young leaders. Some trained youth have already launched income generating projects and social enterprises. As I said earlier, we also trained them on how best they can use their freedom of expression and right to information (RTI) to seek relevant information regarding various economic opportunities available for them from the government and the



**Youth showing 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) which are urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership. This was another training conducted on SDG's by Mulika Tanzania in Dar es Salaam. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu**

private sector.

**Q: Through ongea project, what content, knowledge and skills have you been able to impart to social media users so they can use them for socio-economic development?**

**A:** Through Ongea Project, we have registered several achievements. We targeted 25 youth from different backgrounds. We have capacitated all of them to understand the process and procedures of the digital platforms and how they can use it to change their communities.

The participants have been trained

on various digital skills that are identified as 21st-century digital skills such as information management skills, communication skills, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving. The young leaders have been impacted with these kinds of skills to widen up the search of various opportunities on social, political and economical fronts. They are now able to explore and utilize various economic opportunities in the regional bodies such as EAC, SADC and AU.

**Q: How many category of users have you reached out?**

**A:** The training was able to directly

reach more than 30 young leaders from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Social enterprises, Academicians and entrepreneurs. All these are now knowledgeable and are able to use social media platforms. Some of them are using the social media to raise awareness; some use them for advocacy activities and for income generation activities.

They include young women, young men and entrepreneurs. The audience came from different backgrounds such as youth leaders from universities such as Mzumbe University, University of Dar es Salaam, youth leaders from NGOs such as executive directors,

head of programs, and head of communication departments.

Some sessions were conducted via zoom in form of webinars and the topic or modules were suggested by the target groups. To make it more youthful, some trainers were young people who had notable experience relating to the specific module or topic. They shared their professional and work experience.

**Q: What has been the impact of your training?**

**A:** As I said earlier on, the topics and modules were designed to increase awareness among young people on how to use social media platforms to influence the freedom of expression and the right to information. It also aimed at equipping the youth on social media safety and security. They now understand using these platforms by understanding the basic tips, dos, and don'ts and different opportunities.

We think that the training has equipped young people necessary skills when using online materials and advocate for change in their respective communities. Some topics were youth and digital media, online safety, social media for advocacy, introduction to freedom of expression and right to information, and gender mainstreaming on digital media.

The Ongea project is able to reach many youth through social media platforms such as Instagram, Facebook and Twitter. We have feedback from than 26,727 young people who have benefited from the program. We have created a solid foundation and built confidence. The trainees are now conversant when online interaction.

BY THANDI VAN HEYNINGEN

In South Africa, reports of women being killed by their intimate partners are an almost daily news item. For many women, home is not a safe space. But neither is their workplace.

Exact figures aren't available, but a 2018 report found that 77% of South African women said they'd experienced sexual harassment at some point during their working lives. Many workplace incidents are not reported or are swept under the carpet for fear of repercussions, worry about company or personal reputations or lack of channels for recourse.

What is clear is that incidents where women are physically, sexually or emotionally assaulted or harassed at work or on their way to work, are rooted in the wider problem of violence in our communities and homes. This is a complex social problem, with a foundation in inequality, historical oppression and persistent, harmful and discriminatory social norms around gender, race and culture.

Companies cannot afford to turn a blind eye to the problem in the workplace if they aim to function as effectively and efficiently as possible. Nor can they expect women to leave their personal issues at home, especially their experiences of intimate partner or family violence.

The abuse that women experience at home has a significant impact on their ability to function at work

The abuse that women experience at home has a significant impact on their ability to function at work. It is directly linked to reduced productivity, increased absenteeism, job losses and financial losses for businesses. Similarly, gender-based violence in the workplace negatively affects productivity and performance, increases labour costs, reduces returns and profits and tarnishes company reputation.

The private sector can help empower women through workplace-based programmes that improve family relationships and prevent violence at home and at work. The National Strategic Plan (NSP) for Gender-Based Violence and Femicide (GBVF) specifically mentions the private sector. It's not clear though, how such entities can become involved in a meaningful way, other than through financial contributions healthier conflict resolution with co-workers. Their views were corroborated by the business owner, who says absenteeism has dropped and reported incidents of conflict on the production line are fewer.

These promising outcomes also point to the feasibility of integrating group-based violence prevention into a busy workplace, with minimal disruption to productivity. The project presents an opportunity to make a real and lasting difference in the lives of employees and their families.

Employers have an obligation to create a safe working environment. Training can equip business owners and employees with the skills to

## New private sector options for preventing violence

support those who experience or perpetrate violence by providing a compassionate response and referral to resources for further support. They can also ensure clear workplace policies on gender-based violence, harassment or abuse that occurs at home or at work, without fear or favour.

As Tikketai has shown, even small businesses can become

industry leaders in supporting women and enabling violence prevention. Such frontrunners can encourage or challenge other companies or influence their supply chain partners to do the same, thereby effecting broad positive changes across an entire industry.

Sustainable change takes time. Tackling harmful gender norms and promoting healthy interper-

sonal relationships in the workplace can improve safety in the long term. By reducing violence against women and offering protection for children, these interventions can break intergenerational cycles of violence. The time to invest in these measures is now.



Work-based programmes can make the home and the workplace safer, and in the process improve productivity and profits. File photo

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# The only way to do it is to do it, whatever that 'it' happens to be

By Murray 'MJ' Blehart

**D**o you know what the hardest part of diet and exercise is? Doing it. If you just do it - you get a result. But when you don't do it - nothing happens.

Duh, right? But how often have you planned something, thought something out, or otherwise had an idea for something - then never did it?

Of course, sometimes "it" shouldn't be bothered with. The idea you had for one reason or another isn't doable.

However, when it comes to your health - physical, mental, emotional and spiritual - the only way to change it involves action. Do it or nothing changes.

## It's seldom one and done

Wouldn't it be great if you could just decide to do a thing and it was done? If all you had to do was say: "Okay, I'm eating better and exercising more" - and that was it?

Welcome to reality. Those are pretty words - which mean nothing and get you nowhere without action.

And, just for added fun - that action can't be a one-time action. You must do it again and again and again. This, for many, gets both tedious and overwhelming fast. That's just part of the challenge.

For example - my morning routine, every morning, includes exercise. I get up, read, have coffee - and then either get on the stationary bike or go for a walk.

Sometime last week I developed a knot in my left shoulder. Something, a few nights later, popped - and my shoulder has been achy on and off, since.

This morning, I really, REALLY didn't want to go for my walk. I put a heating pad on my shoulder and downed some ibuprofen and lamented taking the walk.

But I did it. And I even went further than originally intended. The path around my apartment complex, when fully extended out, takes around 40 minutes - I think it's just shy of two miles total. My wife and I tend to take a 20-minute walk most mornings. Today I did half an hour.

To get into better shape - I need to exercise daily. If I don't do it - surprise, surprise, I'll not see improvement.

The same applies to diet. What I choose to put in my system will have an impact on my fitness.

## When you don't do it

Diet and exercise are never one and done. They involve regular, routine practice. If you don't do it, you don't get benefits from it.

Let's face it - there are days that you don't do it. Sometimes, I just don't have it in me - or I must be somewhere su-



per early in the morning - and the exercise doesn't happen.

Once in a while, you crave that juicy burger, ice cream, or other decadent food. While mindfulness of your food choices is good - sometimes you just need to indulge. Just don't let it become your normal.

When you don't do it - don't beat yourself up over it. That creates a whole new problem that you don't need.

When you set out to do it - and, for some reason, don't do it once or twice - it's easy to fall into this trap.

And I do mean a trap. Once I start to get annoyed with myself or cursing myself for not doing it - before long I hit the point of stopping doing it entirely.

Then, all the work I put into improving my physical health goes out the window. And again, I find my cholesterol and AIC

rising, my weight increasing - and my anger at myself for doing it wrong adding to the inactivity.

A1C is a blood test for type 2 diabetes and prediabetes. It measures one's average blood glucose, or blood sugar, level over the past three months.

When I skip a workout or choose a less-than-optimal food - I need to accept it and move on from it. If I start lamenting it, cursing myself for it, getting upset by it - now it gets to dominate.

I can make all kinds of excuses not to do it. Then I wind up back where I began - or worse, with more work to do to get where I prefer to be. This is why it's not just about physical health.

## Do it for your whole self

Since January, I have been diligent

about more regular exercise, drinking a LOT more water, and sticking to the tenets of the Mediterranean diet.

The Mediterranean diet varies by country and region, so it has a range of definitions. But in general, it is high in vegetables, fruits, legumes, nuts, beans, cereals, grains, fish, and unsaturated fats such as olive oil. It usually includes a low intake of meat and dairy foods.

The results have been great. My energy is increased, my A1C, cholesterol and weight are decreasing, and my clothes are fitting better.

But I'm getting tired. Not physically tired, mind you. Rather, mentally and emotionally tired.

Walking the same path around my apartment complex one to three times a day gets boring. Even with slight alterations or reversing the direction - the path

doesn't change. Motivating myself to follow it is calling for more effort.

Likewise, it feels as though the Mediterranean diet programme is limiting. It's not, but the diligence of keeping to it takes more effort now.

The temptation to cheat is high. Do it - and there will be a price to be paid.

But the choice is mine every single day. Take the walk or get on the stationary bike after reading and coffee - or not. Eat the vegetable-based protein instead of the meat - or not. Snack on nuts instead of chips. Do it - or don't do it.

No one and done - frequent, regular choices. And sometimes I need the break and to sleep in and eat the ice cream. But when I do that - I also know I need to balance it.

Being present in the now and mindful helps with this. It keeps me from diving into the past and failures of prior plans - while also keeping me from striving only for a future goal - without celebrating the daily victories and achievements.

Mindfulness also gives me insight into my mental, emotional and spiritual health and wellbeing. All of which share equal importance with my physical wellness.

## Do it for you

Whatever "it" is - do it if you. The only person capable of living your life for you is you. So, if you desire to have, be, or do a thing - do it.

And don't wait to do it until the time is right, the moon is full, the stars are aligned, or what-have-you. The past has passed, and tomorrow is uncertain. However you can get to it and do it - do it for you.

One life. In these bodies, with these minds, hearts and souls, we get one shot. I don't know about you - but I would prefer to make the most of this life. So as much as I can do it - I do it.

The only way to do it is to do it. Whatever "it" is - it can't be if you don't go ahead and do it. Nobody else can or will do it for you. And that's not a bad thing. That's because nobody but you lives within your heart, mind and soul.

My health and wellness are on me - and me alone. What I need to do for it I must do repeatedly and frequently. What comes of taking that control and making choices to that end is utterly worthwhile.

What "it" do you desire to do - and are you doing it? To heal the planet, we need to begin with ourselves.

• **A Medium dispatch. Murray "MJ" Blehart writes about mindfulness, conscious reality creation, positivity, wellness, wellbeing and similar life lessons.**

# CAPITAL RADIO

# RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

MONDAY TIME PROGRAMME	TUESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	WEDNESDAY TIME PROGRAMME	THURSDAY TIME PROGRAMME	FRIDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SATURDAY TIME PROGRAMME	SUNDAY TIME PROGRAMME
05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS HALI HALISI 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-21:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPORTS 22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS  21:00-23:00HRS MALUMBANO YA HOJA  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	05:00-09:00HRS MORNING JAM 09:00-13:00HRS LETE RAHA 13:00-14:00HRS DW-RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CLUB 101 16:00-18:00HRS DALA DALA 18:00-18:10HRS HABARI 18:10-20:00HRS BOZOUK TIME 20:00-21:00HRS SPORTS 21:00-23:00HRS KIPIMA JOTO  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	07:30-10:00HRS DK 90 DUNIANI 10:00-11:00HRS KADOGOO 11:00-13:00HRS BONGO HITS 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS ZAIDI YA UMJUAVYO 16:00-18:00HRS ALIYEVUMA 18:00-21:00HRS BUZUKI TIME 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI  22:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )	07:00-09:00HRS HABARI NA MATUKIO YA WIKI  09:00-11:00HRS THE SUNDAY 11:00-13:00HRS TOP 20 13:00-14:00HRS DW RADIO 14:00-16:00HRS CAPITAL MICHEZONI 16:00-18:00HRS UKURASA WA MBELE 18:00-21:00HRS JIACHIE 21:00-22:00HRS SPOTI 22:00-01:00HRS LADHA LAINI  01:00-05:00HRS MUZIKI MCHAGANGANYIKO )

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO



# World Cleanup Day to be fêted in 40 cleanup sites



By Guardian Reporter

THIS year's World Cleanup Day will be celebrated on September 11 and 18, in 40 cleanup sites across the country, organisers have said. The annual event is being organised by Nipe Fagio, a non-governmental organization that integrates communities, private sector, and government to reach a sustainable development in the waste management sector. Nipe Fagio's Executive Director Ana Rocha said that the day is planned to be done in 20 sites in Dar es Salaam and another 20 in upcountry regions.

"We are organizing cleanups in 40 sites countrywide, in collaboration with several long-term partner organizations. Waste and Brand Audits (WABA) continue to be a priority for us and the audits are planned for all cleanup sites," she said. "The goals of organizing these cleanups are getting people to better understand the pollution found all over the country and collect data to advocate for measures, like Extended Producer Responsibility, that can address the situation". Ana reiterated that due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, the cleanups have

been fragmented into two dates (11th and 18th of September) aiming at spreading attendance and reducing the number of people in a single cleanup site. "We decided to split the cleanups into 2 days as this will help control the number of participants per site. Precautionary measures will be in place with hand-washing stations," she noted, adding: "We highly recommend anyone attending a cleanup wears a face mask." Cleanups will be done in Bariadi-Simiyu, Iringa, Koroogwe-Tanga, Mafia Island, Mbeya, Moshi, Mwanza,

Njombe, Rukwa, Shinyanga, Zanzibar, Bukoba, Kipili (Lake Tanganyika) and Dar es Salaam. As a leader of the World Cleanup Day in Tanzania, Nipe Fagio is looking forward to the good collaboration with several community groups, volunteers, and other key actors in the environmental sector in making this year's World Cleanup Day a successful one. "We need to work together so that we can beat plastic pollution and make Tanzania a clean and healthy country through awareness-raising, data collection and advocacy," Ana added.

## AWTN, AfCFTA sign pact to boost intra-regional trade and investment

By Special Correspondent

THE Africa World Trade Network (AWTN) has partnered the Africa Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Secretariat to accelerate intra-regional trade and investment through exhibitions, meetings and events.

The partnership seeks to mobilise private sector actors across Africa to drive the attainment of strategic objectives that underpin the Africa Continental Free Trade Area Agreement.

The partnership between AWTN and the AfCFTA Secretariat is meant to work towards three common objectives that support continental trade and investment promotions across Africa and promote the overall objectives of the Africa Continental Free Trade Area Agreement such as co-organising and hosting forums that support

continental trade and investment promotions in Africa and promote the overall objectives of the AfCFTA Agreement, supporting the growth and development of Africa's commercial community; and collaborating on matters of common interest, in the pursuance of enhancing intra-trade in the Continent

Speaking at the signing ceremony, Board Chair of AWTN, Otwasuom Osae Nyampong VI, said: "Intra-regional trade promises a real win for Africa, and the AfCFTA Secretariat is at the forefront of this significant progress in the continent's history; it is a second Pan-African victory after Independence. AWTN on its part has recognised this watershed moment and will act as a catalyst to boost trade relations among member states and businesses across the continent."

Otwasuom Osae Nyampong VI

emphasised: "Like the AfCFTA Secretariat, AWTN is headquartered in Accra, which has been recognised as a beacon for transformative development in the sub-region. In this partnership, AWTN commits to initiate and escalate innovative programmes to mobilise investment opportunities that will enhance sustainable trade across Africa as envisioned by the AfCFTA."

AfCFTA Secretary-General, Wamkele Mene, reiterated his commitment to ensuring that the AfCFTA is effectively implemented such that there is shared and inclusive economic growth.

He underscored: "After many years of talks and negotiations, we are now focussed on rolling out the AfCFTA across the continent", and identified young Africans and women in trade as segments of society that must benefit from the implementation of the Agreement.



**Advertisement**

**PANGEA MINERALS LIMITED: BUZWAGI MINE**

**Requests the submission of Expressions of Interest from qualifying parties wanting to participate in the below work packages as part of the closure projects at Buzwagi Mine**

Pangea Minerals Limited: Buzwagi Mine is a fully owned subsidiary of Twiga Minerals Corporation. Buzwagi Mine Site is located at the Kahama District of Shinyanga Region, northern Tanzania. There are road and airplane accesses to the mine

**Buzwagi Mine, therefore, invites "Expressions of Interest" from reputable, experienced and certified companies interested in pre-qualifying for inclusion in a tender process for the provision ONE of the following Services.**

No.	Reference no.	Description of work/goods to be procured	Pre-Qualification Criteria
2	BUZ-21-08-001	<b>Earth works:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Construct tailing storage facility (TSF) closure soil cover</li> <li>TSF embankment topsoil placement</li> <li>Construct the pit closure surrounding bund-wall</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Must have CRB class two and above registered in Civil and earthworks and active in payment of the board fees</li> <li>Fully conversant with the risks and control measures of working in Mining industry</li> <li>Team with multi discipline members should have sound Knowledge of Mine Health &amp; Safety acts.</li> <li>The company should have track record experience of similar work (Earthwork) of at least five years</li> <li>Proof of ownership of Earthwork Equipment</li> </ul>


The above Services are intended to be awarded through a competitive tendering process in which a restricted number of suitable qualified and experienced contractors shall be invited to receive the tender documents. If your company would like to be considered for **pre-qualification to receive the invitation to tender**, please submit an "Expression of Interest" on your company's letterhead together with the following additional information and/or documentation:

- Full company profile;
- Company registration documents i.e. Certificate of incorporation, business licence, TIN, VRN, Tax Clearance Certificate etc.;
- Submit copy of local content plan approval or acknowledgement of submission from the Mining Commissioner
- Company
- Applicable certification, accreditation and affiliated registration
- Years' service and experience of key personnel to be assigned to project
- Required equipment availability to perform the specific work
- Indicate the above Reference number and description on your Expression of interest submission.

Kindly send your response by email to [buztenders@barrick.com](mailto:buztenders@barrick.com) by latest close of business on the **7<sup>th</sup> Sept 2021**. Any responses received after this date shall not be considered. Please quote reference number in the subject line of your email.

Pre-qualification of any company submitting an "Expression of Interest" shall be at the sole discretion of **Pangea Minerals Limited: Buzwagi Mine**.

For and on behalf of **PANGEA MINERALS LIMITED: BUZWAGI MINE**



**INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF XH150 SYKES PUMP BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA**

**I. INTRODUCTION**

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

The Company is in the process of procuring XH150 sykes pump and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible Suppliers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of the below service.

**Scope of work:**

REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01285	SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF XH150 SYKES PUMP

**1. INFORMATION REQUIRED**

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	10%
<b>COMMERCIAL</b>	
Company Profile	1.25%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.25%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.25%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.25%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.25%
Company Shareholding Structure/Share structure of the company (ownership of shares in percentage %)	1.25%
List of Directors	1.25%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.25%
<b>FINANCIAL POSITION &amp; TERMS OF TRADE</b>	<b>5%</b>
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
<b>SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS</b>	<b>5%</b>
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Environment Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Safety and Environmental Policies	1.25%
<b>PAST EXPERIENCE</b>	<b>5%</b>
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.25%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.25%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above) where applicable	1.25%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.25%
<b>TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01285)</b>	<b>75%</b>
Supplier must be dealer of Sykes pumps and have an assurance of not less than one year warranty	30%
Assurance of onsite availability for technical support and other unforeseen emergencies	25%
Assurance of provisional training to the end user prior commissioning	20%
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>

TECHNICAL INFORMATION (GGME01285)	
Engine Type CAT-C13	
Maximum Head 184mm	
Maximum Flow 150L/Sec	
Suction Flange 200mm	
TECHNICAL INFORMATION (GGME01285)	
Engine Type CAT-C13	
Maximum Head 184mm	
Maximum Flow 150L/Sec	
Suction Flange 200mm	
Delivery Flange 150mm	
Solids Handling 43mm	
Galvanised steel, dual point lifting frame	
Manual diesel fuel fill (lockable)	
Pump and Engine control panel with emergency stop as standard	
Heavy duty battery, complete with battery box enclosure	
Vacuum (suction inlet) and Pressure (discharge outlet) gauges	
Pump operating range sign for optimum pump life and reliability	
Galvanised steel sled, complete with tyne pockets and tie down points for transportation	
<b>Total</b>	

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01285)** of the service they intend to express interest on **THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at [geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com](mailto:geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com) not later than **0830 A.M 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021** (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

=END OF ADVERTISEMENT=



# Why universal health coverage key driver for safeguarding access to medical health care

By Correspondent Daniel Semberya

The government of Tanzania envisions a country where all citizens are entitled to quality health services. Universal Health coverage (UHC) is a driver for safeguarding access to needed health care.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during Policy Forum's monthly breakfast debate whose theme was Universal care in Tanzania: What are the lessons and challenges, Chairman of the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT), Bishop Dr. Frederick Shoo said that in order for the government to mitigate the untimely deaths of its citizens who have been dying over lack of money to pay for their treatments, UHC was inevitable.

He further said that UHC required expanded access to quality health services at an affordable cost for all.

According to Bishop Shoo, UHC will contribute to healthier, more productive populations and better health makes people live longer and improves the wellbeing of families and society at large.

Bishop Shoo commended the government for allocating around 150 billion shillings yearly to pay for poor families in Tanzania.

However, he challenged

the government that despite the allocation of the mentioned amount, there were still some Tanzanians who have been dying at home when they fell sick over lack of money for them to attend treatments in hospitals.

He said "We as key stakeholders in the health sector, we call the government to ensure health insurance coverage is passed so as to save many Tanzanians."

The government needs to set aside some funds so as to carry out education awareness to Tanzanians on the benefits and importance of registering on health insurance.

Meanwhile, Bishop Shoo has urged the government to ensure all the needed medicines are available in hospitals.

"It is disheartening for a patient with health insurance to be told that the medicines prescribed to you are not here!"

For his part, Chairman, BAKWATA National Executive Committee Sheikh Khamis Mohamed Mattaka said that social protection is an important means for protecting people from the financial burden of disease.

"Currently, only one in every six Tanzanians enjoys health insurance coverage. Adding, more than 83 per cent, around 45 million people are forced to dig into their pockets when they need health sources," he said.



Chairman of the Christian Council of Tanzania (CCT), Bishop Dr. Frederick Shoo, insists on the importance of health insurance to citizens. photo: Daniel Semberya

He further noted that many Tanzanian households face high health expenditures or live in poverty due to high health costs.

According to Sheikh Mattaka, for the last ten years, annual budget estimation for the health sector has been 10 per cent of the total government expenditures, being below the 15 per cent agreed at the Abuja Declaration.

According to other literature, the African Union member states who met in Abuja, Nigeria, in April 2001, committed to allocating 15 per cent of their government budgets to health. Why? Because more resources were required to address the pressing health challenges of the day, including HIV and AIDS, Malaria and Tuberculosis.

The Abuja Declaration became a rallying call to mobilize more resources from govern-

ment coffers for the health sector...

Sheikh Mattaka further noted that the disbursement of budget funds for the health sector has been decreasing from 75 per cent in 2014/15 to 39 per cent in 2018/19.

He said that the government should not regard the health sector as expensive, but should be taken as an investment for human development.

According to him "Around 15 million Tanzanians, equivalent to 26.4 per cent of all Tanzanians, or around 3 million households are food poor, so, the government needs to pay health insurance for them so that they can access health services in the country."

Dr. Paschal Mdoe, Director of the Haydom Lutheran Hospital has urged the government to put in place a sustainable system that will ensure the Medical Store Department (MSD)

does not have shortage of medicines in their stores. "Sometimes the availability of medicines is a major challenge at MSD," he noted.

He has called upon the government to improve and invest heavily on health insurance for the benefits of Tanzanians.

Dr Mdoe, has suggested that the health insurance Act which is on the offing to be tabled in parliament should state clearly when the insurance company should pay service providers. And the Act should also hold accountable in-charges of insurances who fail to fulfill their roles and responsibilities.

The In-charge of the Rugambwa Hospital, Ukonga in Dar es Salaam Dr Sister Sara Deogratius said that citizens have all the reasons to have health insurance.

"We call upon the government to support religious organizations in the event of disease outbreaks, like this one of COVID-19, because many patients who go to their hospitals don't have money to pay for their treatments."

Meanwhile, Sr. Deogratius has urged Tanzanians who have financial muscles to support poor families to get health insurance.

Findings have indicated that even though many African countries have marginally increased health spending overall, only a

handful of countries - not as many as the fingers on one hand - have met this target in any given year. In 2018, only two countries met the target.

Achieving improved health is a costly endeavor and many African countries have limited fiscal space. Currently African countries spend USD8 to USD129 per capita on health, compared to high income countries that spend above USD4,000.

This is due to several factors, but most significant among them is a low GDP and low tax collection efficiency among African countries, compounded by low budget allocations to the health sector due to competing priorities.

Health ministry should advocate for adequate resourcing, with strong and clear arguments to invest in health as a productive sector that builds human capital, reduces poverty and inequity, safeguards health security from pandemics, improves workforce productivity and provides employment.

The Tanzanian government is committed to solving the drug shortage problem. In the past two years' budget (2016-2018), for instance, more than Tsh. 250 billion of domestic funding was allocated for pharmaceutical services, covering vaccines, maternal, neonatal and child health, family planning, and antiretroviral

and malaria drugs. These inputs can offer significant benefits for the poor because the conditions disproportionately affect this group. The challenge, however, is the low execution rate of the domestic development budget, which is the category that drugs and medical supplies fall under.

In 2016-2017, the latest year for which data are available, nearly half of the domestic budget was not executed, and the expenditure for drugs and medical supplies was only Tsh 80 billion.

As with grant transfers to LGAs/facilities, such in-kind transfers will improve the quality of services for those who visit facilities but will not fully benefit the poor who have more limited access to providers.

Tanzania is at a critical stage in refining health financing policies to accelerate progress toward UHC. A health financing strategy has been developed, envisioning a single national health insurance for the entire country, guaranteed coverage of the poor, and movement toward output-based payment mechanisms.

A proposal to amend legislation for the NHIF and CHF is expected to be considered this year. This will provide a platform for more pro-poor financing policies for both supply- and demand-side interventions.

# Taliban's quest for legitimacy - and a seat at the United Nations

UNITED NATIONS

When the Taliban captured power back in 1996, one of its first political acts was to hang the ousted Afghan President Mohammed Najibullah in Ariana Square in Kabul.

The newly-installed government played a triple role: judge, jury and hangman, all three rolled into one.

Fast forward to August 15, when the Taliban, in its second coming, assumed power ousting the US-supported government of Ashraf Ghani, a former official of the World Bank, armed with a doctorate in anthropology from one of the most prestigious Ivy League educational institutions: Columbia University.

In a Facebook posting, Ghani said he fled to the United Arab Emirates (UAE) seeking safe haven because he "was going to be hanged" by the Taliban.

If that did happen, the Taliban would have earned the dubious distinction of being the only government in the world to hang two

presidents. But mercifully, it did not. Ghani, however, denied that he had bolted from the presidential palace lugging several suitcases with millions of dollars pilfered from the country's treasury.

Meanwhile, when the Taliban ruled Afghanistan during 1996-2001, only three countries recognized its legitimacy: Pakistan, Saudi Arabia and UAE.

But now 20 years later, the first four countries most likely to provide legitimacy to a Taliban government may include China and Russia (two permanent members of the Security Council), along with Iran and Pakistan, while others could follow.

At a meeting of the 15-member Security Council on August 30, a resolution condemning the "deplorable" terrorist attack on the Kabul airport, was backed by 13 countries, with two abstentions: China and Russia. But since they didn't exercise their vetoes, the resolution was adopted 13-2.

Predictably, Taliban has now pledged a new era and a promise to cooperate with the Americans, perhaps as part of a

strategy to gain international legitimacy- and eventually a seat in the UN General Assembly, a seat now held by the ousted Ghani government.

Still, its sordid past-including public floggings and executions, enforced disappearances and violations of basic civil liberties-may come back to haunt the Taliban.

Dr. Simon Adams, Executive Director of the Global Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (R2P), told IPS there is no evidence that Taliban version 2.0 will be any different from the original Taliban, despite their attempts to convince the world that this time around they will be more user-friendly.

For decades, he pointed out, the Taliban have been responsible for war crimes, and when they last ruled Afghanistan, they perpetrated crimes against humanity.

Last time they were in government, Taliban forces systematically persecuted the country's vulnerable Hazara minority and stripped millions of women and girls of their universal human rights. The Taliban

have not changed, he argued. Beyond the glare of TV cameras and press conferences, Taliban fighters are already carrying out summary executions and evidence has already emerged of a recent massacre of Hazara men, said Dr Adams.

As an armed extremist group, as perpetrators of atrocities and as a state power, the Taliban stand in direct opposition to everything that the United Nations stands for.

"They belong in handcuffs, not sitting in the UN General Assembly hall", he declared. James M. Dorsey, Senior Fellow at the National University of Singapore's Middle East Institute, told IPS there is no doubt that the Taliban will claim Afghanistan's UN seat once they form a government.

They cannot do so before that. In terms of the International Criminal Court (ICC), there is equally no doubt that the Taliban have committed war crimes and crimes against humanity.

"The problem is they are in good company: China, Myanmar, Saudi Arabia, just to name a few".

Asked why the US wants to deal with a Taliban government that is not legally recognized by Washington, Secretary of State Antony J. Blinken said the US has been "engaged with the Taliban for some time diplomatically going back years in efforts, to try to advance a peaceful settlement of the conflict in Afghanistan".

"Going forward, we will judge our engagement with any Taliban-led government in Afghanistan based on one simple proposition: our interests, and does it help us advance them or not?"

"If engagement with the government can advance the enduring interests we will have in counterterrorism, the enduring interest we'll have in trying to help the Afghan people who need humanitarian assistance, in the enduring interest we have in seeing that the rights of all Afghans, especially women and girls, are upheld, then we'll do it," said Blinken, leaving the door open for a political relationship with the Taliban government.

AGENCIES

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

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME	TIME PROGRAMME
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Thursday 2 September 2021

## Majaliwa praises rejuvenated MH Bank's management for expansion, profitability

By The Banker Reporter, Dodoma

A return to profitability and expansion drive at Mwangi Hakika Microfinance Bank Limited has impressed Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa who has commended the board of directors, management and staff of the bank.

Speaking in Dodoma city mid this week when he officially opened the bank's new branch in the capital city, Majaliwa said a year on since Mwangi Hakika Bank was formed out of a merger of EFC Tanzania Microfinance Bank, Hakika Microfinance Bank and Mwangi Community Bank, progress has been made.

"One year is a very short period of time compared to the achievements that this bank has made so far. Also, the expansion of services by opening a total of seven branches since then is a big milestone to be proud of," Majaliwa said.

He said the government supports the bank's decision to invest and leverage on technology to create customer tailored solutions for the market. The PM was also impressed with rapid growth which aligns well with realization of the government's financial inclusion agenda and efforts to attain middle income economy by 2025.

"I strongly support you in adopting the current world's technological advancement by investing in information com-



Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa speaking during the launch of a new Mwangi Hakika Microfinance Bank branch in Dodoma city mid this week. Photo courtesy of MHB.

munication technologies with the aim of improving service delivery but also efficiency to customers," he noted while commending management for growing the bank's capital to almost 78bn/- from 40.53bn/-.

Briefing the PM on Mwangi Hakika Bank's operations in the

past 12 months, Board Chairman Engineer Ridhuan Mringo said the opening of the new Dodoma branch is part of a growth strategy targeting to extend services to the majority Tanzanians.

Eng Mringo explained that use of ICT has improved efficiency but also proved effective

in growing customer numbers which has led to financial inclusion as directed by the state. He said the new branch will serve up to 100 customers per day.

"Dodoma being the capital city was a natural choice to open a new branch for any bank including MHB because the busi-

ness potential is growing which makes our bank well positioned to tap into this opportunity," he said.

"In addition, this move is in line with the government's initiative to relocate to Dodoma where its investing in lots of infrastructure projects involving many people and companies which need efficient banking services," the noted.

Eng Mringo commended Bank of Tanzania for taking several measures to ensure that banks operate smoothly including the recent introduction of a 1trn/- special loan targeting financial institutions to boost liquidity in the market. "As we speak, the size of MHB loan portfolio is close to 40bn/- and by the year end, will cross the 50bn/- mark," he bragged.

Central bank Deputy Governor, Dr Bernad Kibesse who also attended the event, paid tribute to MHB for expanding its services in the new capital saying the new branch's opening is in line with BoT's directives to banks' to extend their services to the majority Tanzanians.

## Letshego partners US-based Panamax to drive LetsGoPAY adoption

GABORONE

Pan-African financial services provider Letshego has partnered with US company Panamax to rollout 'LetsGoPAY Digital Account' to customers across the financial services provider's footprint with almost three million enterprise active customers by 2025.

Chipiliro Katundu, Chief Product Officer, Letshego, said the 'LetsGoPay' Digital Account will be built over Panamax USA's robust digital financial platform - MobiFin Elite - that assures data security through its micro-service architecture and allows smooth integration with third-party systems to deliver a variety of use cases.

Letshego said its digital adoption level has increased to 74% at the end of June 2021 compared to 30% in the first half of 2020. The company has attributed the hike to the deployment of customer-facing digital platforms, which includes the LetsGo Digital platform.

It has also mobilised its Digital Eagles division to drive awareness of these platforms in the market and encourage more widespread adoption. "By the end of June 2021, digital loan approvals surpassed 95 000," said Letshego Group Chairman, Enos Banda.

This focused drive forms part of the company's blueprint 6-2-5, adopted

under the new CEO Andrew Okai. Okai was appointed at the start of 2020 to boost business in eleven subsidiary markets - Botswana, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Eswatini, Tanzania and Uganda.

According to stage two of the blueprint, Letshego intends to increase investment into digital and strategic partnerships towards year-end and into 2022, and support further system and product enhancements.

"By the end of 2022 the Group will see further expansion of the Group's vision to develop a foundation for 'eco-systems', expanded multi-

tier partnerships and digital hubs, all while upskilling and empowering employees and customers with world-class, digital skills that supports sustainable financial inclusion and digital-savvy economies," said Banda.

He added that COVID-19 pandemic variants mean more economic pressure on regional markets, along with intermittent access and dissemination of vaccines. This is where Letshego believes its digitisation strategy adds value by, as the company puts it - "enabling flexibility, adaptability and operational efficiencies, while enhancing an effective risk management framework."



Letshego Group Chairman, Enos Banda.

## Global government IT spending to top \$557bn in 2022

LONDON

The amount spent on information technology by governments globally is set to grow 6.5 per cent annually to \$557.3 billion in 2022 as they accelerate spending on digital transformation amid the pandemic, US research firm Gartner has said.

Modernising the existing IT infrastructure and applications as well as digital government transformation will remain high government priorities in the coming months, the Connecticut-based consultancy said in its latest report.

Other areas of investment include spending to improve customer and employee experience, strengthen analytical capabilities and scale operational agility. "Governments will continue to accelerate investments in digital technologies to respond and recover from the continuing evolution of public health uncertainties due to the Covid-19 pandemic," Irma Fabular, research vice president

at Gartner, said.

"The disruptions caused by the pandemic have also reinforced a key digital government tenet, which is public policy and technology are inseparable." The Covid-19 economic assistance funding packages - such as the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan Act announced in March and the \$955.7bn Next Generation EU fund agreed to in July last year to support European Union member states hit by the pandemic - will drive the funding, Gartner said.

The funding will focus on areas such as digital enablement, including support for sustainable growth, social programmes, cyber security education and digital inclusion. Next year, governments will allocate 64 per cent of total IT spending to services and software to boost "responsiveness and resilience" of public services.

The IT services will see the largest outlay among six sectors highlighted, totalling \$203.9bn or almost 37 per cent of the total spending, the report said. The remaining \$353.3bn-plus will go towards upgrading software,

telecom services, internal services, devices and data centres.

Covid-19 has amplified the need for governments to rapidly scale

IT infrastructure to respond to the unprecedented public demands. Gartner estimates that by 2025, more than 50 per cent of government

agencies will have modernised critical applications to ensure a robust resilience and agility in their operations.



Tanzania Commercial Bank's CEO, Sabasaba Moshingi (L) briefing new Treasury registrar, Mgonya Benedicto when the latter paid a courtesy call at the state owned bank's head office in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday to familiarise himself with management and staff. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

## Dollar crunch turns Nigerian banks into Africa's cheapest stocks

LAGOS

Nigerian banks are some of the cheapest stocks in Africa, more evidence of how a shortage of dollars in the continent's largest economy is discouraging foreign investors.

Four of the five African stocks with the lowest price-earnings ratios among companies valued at \$500 million or more are Nigerian lenders, data compiled by Bloomberg show: United Bank for Africa Plc, Access Bank Plc, FBN Holdings Plc and Zenith Bank Plc. Johannesburg-traded steelmaker ArcelorMittal South Africa completes the quintet.

Investors have been able to beat returns from the Lagos stock market by buying higher yielding debt sold by the government to fund its widening budget deficit. But it's the Central Bank of Nigeria's curbs on the repatriation of dollars that's the biggest bugbear for foreigners and the key reason for depressed valuations, said Usoro Essien, an analyst at Rand Merchant Bank.

"The foreign exchange illiquidity has frustrated a lot of foreign investors, so the apathy is not just on banks but on the market in general," Essien said by phone. The West African nation's stock market had a good 2020, climbing 50% as local pension funds barred by the state from trading in its most-lucrative short-term debt poured money into equities. That liquidity has since largely dried up and the 151-member benchmark index is down 2.3% this year, with an index of the country's largest banks sliding 3.7% as of Monday's close.

Domestic investors may be drawn back to the lowly valued stock market if fixed-income yields prove unattractive, but that's unlikely to be enough of an incentive for non-residents, Essien said. "For the foreign investor, what matters most is the ability to exit at will."



# Bolt chief says ride-hailing market surging in East Africa community

By The Banker Reporter

RIDE-hailing business is rapidly growing in the East African market as consumers in urban areas seek cheap quick means of transportation.

Commenting on the ride hailing developments in the local and regional markets last week, Bolt Tanzania Country Manager, Remmy Eseka said that the on-demand mobility service is experiencing a positive growth.

"Bolt's on-demand ride hailing platform offers flexible routing and ad-hoc requests of trips offering a more personalized transport experience to the general public, at an affordable price. Our services ensure that customers can accurately locate the vehicles, track their journey, and can be picked up and dropped off at locations of their choice, thus the rising popularity of our services," Eseka said in Dar es Salaam.

He pointed out that, moreover, ease of ordering and enhanced passenger comfort offered by ride-hailing services are likely to further propel growth in the African ride-hailing industry for the foreseeable future.

"Bolt also contributes to the 'gig economy' where we provide our platform as primary and sometimes



Bolt Tanzania country manager, Remmy Eseka.

secondary source of income for drivers who seek to pursue other responsibilities and take care of their livelihoods. This has helped drivers to have full autonomy of their time and the amounts they would like to earn," he added.

Eseka pointed out that with a growing use case of internet and smartphone in the country, people in urban cities like Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mwanza and Arusha prefer the ride-hailing services that have created a big shift in how they access transportation.

"The East Africa region is also experiencing ride-hailing growth where multi players like Bolt are providing services through their app-based solution," he added while pointing out that the e-hailing market in Africa and the Middle East was projected to grow to US 7.3 billion by 2023.

"Key factors driving demand for ride-hailing services in the region are rising urbanisation, growing youth population, increasing investments by several major players in ride-hailing services, and surging number of internet and smartphone users," the Bolt Tanzania Country Manager noted.

In 2017, Goldman Sachs predicted that the next 10 years will bring more change to how people and products move than any decade since the invention of the automobile. As the world emerges and learns to live with the coronavirus pandemic, emerging technologies and business models like ride-hailing, autonomous driving and delivery, micro-mobility and even eVTOL (flying cars) are steadily disrupting profit pools in the transport business that Goldman Sachs Research estimated to exceed US\$700 billion.

Bolt is the European super-application with a mission to make urban mobility more affordable, safe and sustainable. Bolt has 75 million customers in 45 countries across Europe and Africa.

## NCBA rehires 175 employees amid new expansion drive

NAIROBI

NCBA Group has rehired 175 employees it had let go in June last year following the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic.

The bank laid off 350 workers who were on temporary contracts as part of its cost-cutting measures at the time. It also later rolled out a voluntary early retirement programme that saw the exit of 130 staff who were on permanent contracts. But NCBA embarked on a new expansion drive this year, a move that has seen it hire some of the staff whose short-term contracts were terminated mid last year.

"Last year around June we released 350 of our non-permanent staff. Out of those that we released half of them have already come back and most of them are now on permanent contracts," said John Gachora, NCBA's chief executive. "We have been expanding and the best people to hire are people who already have worked for you before. That's why we went for them because they were all junior staff."

Mr Gachora said the bank is investing more in additional branches and expansion in technology and customer service, among other areas. The bank will soon open two branches in Nairobi - Gikomba and River Road - besides Embu, Kikuyu, Ngong, Kiambu, Kericho, Bungoma and Naivasha.

These will add to the six branches that have been opened so far this year - at Kamakis, Nyeri Mall, Mitchell Cotts, Karatina, Kakamega and Mwembe Tayari. NCBA is one of the few banks opening more branches across the country. Co-op Bank is also adding more outlets in areas where it says there are still growth opportunities.

NCBA's renewed expansion is a signal that lenders are ready to reverse some of their cost-cutting strategies adopted in the wake of the pandemic. The banking industry laid off hundreds of workers, with some closing branches and reducing or suspending dividends to conserve cash.



**Last year around June we released 350 of our non-permanent staff. Out of those that we released half of them have already come back and most of them are now on permanent contracts**

## SA tobacco tax shortfall likely after sales ban, BAT says

JOHANNESBURG

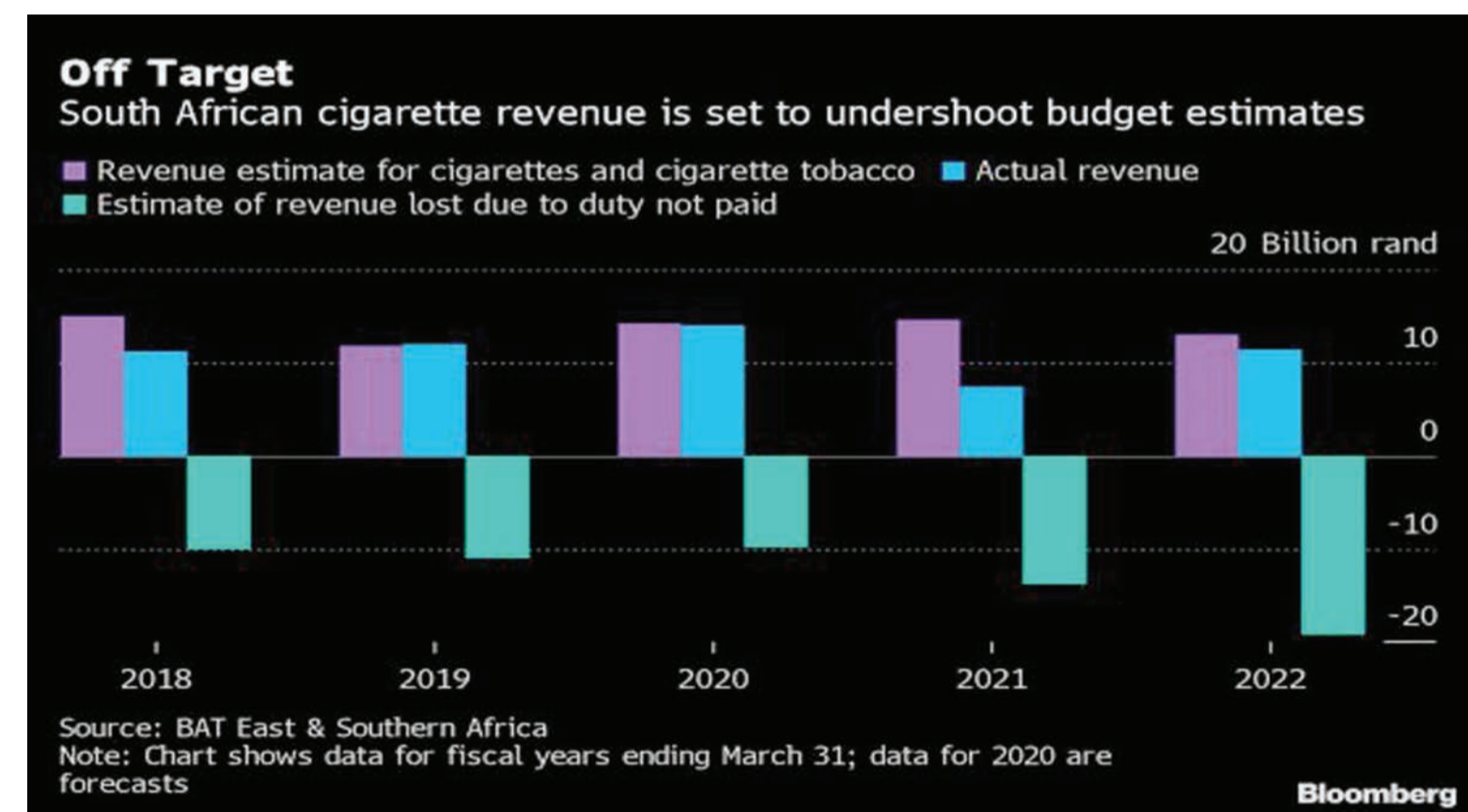
British American Tobacco Plc said illegal cigarettes make up more than half the South African market after a lengthy ban on the sale of tobacco products forced smokers to look elsewhere.

The illicit industry is maintaining its majority grip on the sector more than a year after the five-month prohibition was lifted, the company's regional unit said in a presentation to South African lawmakers on Tuesday. Contraband sales will deprive the government of R19.1 billion in unpaid duties in the current fiscal year, it said.

South Africa will probably generate R11.5 billion in duties from cigarettes and related products in the year through March 2022, BAT said. That compares with a National Treasury budget estimate of R13.1 billion.

South Africa outlawed the sale of tobacco ostensibly to help curb the spread of the coronavirus, one of the government's more controversial measures to control the pandemic. Yet smokers quickly found ways to source the products, fuelling the black market.

A University of Cape Town study found that 90% of smokers were able to purchase cigarettes during lockdown - typically at elevated prices. BAT and Japan Tobacco Inc. took legal action, with a court ruling that the ban was



SA cigarettes revenue graph.

unconstitutional. The government has since said it will appeal.

Even before the crackdown on legal sales, South Africa was one of the world's biggest markets for illicit cigarettes, according to a 2018 report published by the country's producer-funded Tobacco Institute. It could take years to reverse the impact of the criminal networks that sprung up and benefited from the ban, Edward Kieswetter,

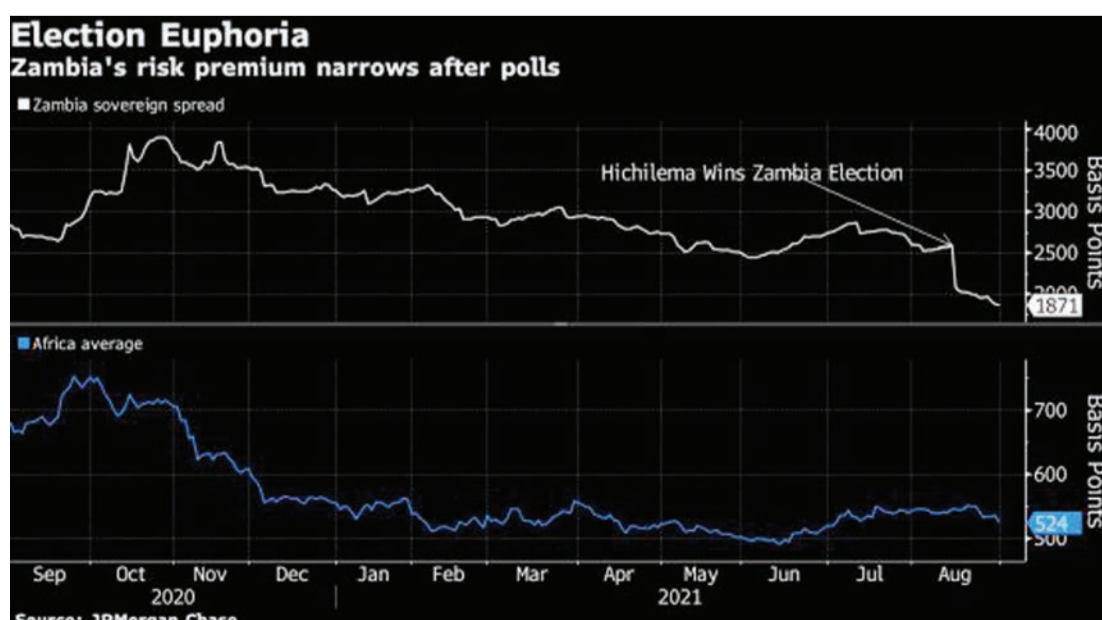
the commissioner of the country's tax agency, said last year.

The government also raised excise duties on cigarette and tobacco products by 8% in late February, triggering a 9% increase in legal retail prices but a cut on the illicit market, BAT said. The levy means the excise incidence on the most popular price category of cigarettes is now at 45%, compared with the National Treasury's targeted

incidence of 40%, Johnny Moloto, the general manager of BAT South Africa, said in a separate written submission to lawmakers.

"It is apparent that in setting the excise rate, the Minister of Finance did not fully take into account or at all, the impact of the unprecedented five months ban on cigarette trading in the prior year, which extensively destabilised South Africa's cigarette industry," he said.

## Zambia's new president pledges to uncover country's true debt burden



Zambia debt graph.

LUSAKA

Zambian President Hakainde Hichilema's government is trying to uncover the full extent of its obligations as it prepares to seek a bailout from the International Monetary Fund and begin talks to revamp the African nation's debt.

Hichilema's landslide victory in the election last month placed him in control of an economy with a "bigger hole" than he envisaged, having last year become Africa's first pandemic-era sovereign defaulter. Years of government budget blowouts fuelled by over-borrowing left the state with at least \$12.7 billion in external debt, according to the most recent official figure.

"We had known for a long time that there was non-full disclosure," Hichilema said in an interview on Tuesday, a week after taking office. "So now that we're in, we are beginning to see

that the debt numbers that were being talked about officially are not really the comprehensive numbers." An accurate picture of the nation's debt may help remove a roadblock for talks with bondholders. It may also improve chances of a bailout deal with the IMF, a prerequisite for any debt restructuring.

"Introducing more transparency is of course positive but the size of the discrepancy is what matters most," Phillip Blackwood, managing director at EM Quest Ltd. in London, said in an email. "How big is the hole is what investors are ultimately concerned with now, but this openness will of course enable current discussions with the IMF." Zambia's \$1 billion in bonds maturing in 2024 rose 1.6% to 79 cents on the dollar London on Tuesday, the highest level since March 2019.

Hichilema's new team, which he said was the "new kids on the block," on Fri-

day named Situmbeko Musokotwane as finance minister. He will lead talks with the IMF and Zambia's lenders that range from the Export-Import Bank of China to funds holding its \$3 billion of Eurobonds.

"You have deals that were structured outside the normal channels, we're talking about debt that was accrued, acquired without parliament approval," Hichilema said. "One of our jobs right now is to dig into, trying to zero in on what the true debt is: both foreign and domestic debt. We are working through it and we'll get to the bottom of it soon."

Former President Edgar Lungu's government has previously denied that it hid its obligations. The Lungu government's move to take over operations of companies including Konkola Copper Mines and Mopani Copper Mines could also add to the official public debt levels, Hichilema said.



# Advanced technology has given rise to the attention economy

I recently stumbled on an interesting report by the British Broadcasting Corporation revealing that human beings' attention span; the amount of time humans spend concentrating on a task before becoming distracted; has fallen from 12 seconds in the year 2000 to just eight seconds today.

Less than goldfish that has a 9-seconds attention span. In other words, the average human attention span is now shorter than a goldfish, blame it on technology, analysts said. At first, we blamed cellular phones for distractions, then the internet boom, later social media, and now, smartphones have become our brains' nemesis. The latter being the undisputed source of distraction.

The insights took me back to one of Mark Manson's article-the attention economy, where he illustrated how life has changed, and the economies morphed into new things. For instance, if you've ever spent time in a challenging neighbourhood or with people who grew up in poverty, you'll notice how much they talk about food – their favourite foods, what they're going to eat this weekend, how they like this and don't like that, and so on. Much of their lives and conversations revolve around food for the simple reason that the scarcity of food makes it appear incredibly important.

By Godwin Semunyu



But in the first-world cultures where food is never an issue, discussions of food among most people are superficial and usually over within a few seconds. For most of human history, the significant economic scarcity in the world was land. There was a limited amount of productive land, therefore, there was a limited amount of food.

And because there was a limited amount of food, most day-to-day economic concerns, and political squabbles involved land. Most people spent their lives contemplating what land they were going to work on, what they were going to grow, what kind of harvest to expect, and so on. Food was always on the top of people's minds.

Eventually, when the industrial revolution hit, the primary scarcity was no longer land, as machines could now help cultivate more than enough food for everybody. Now the considerable scarcity was labour. You needed trained people to run all of these machines that did all

of the cool new stuff so one could make money and get rich. Thus, for a couple of hundred years, the organizing principle in society was based on labour- who you worked for, how much you made, and so on.

Then, in the 20th century, more was produced than anyone would ever need or could ever purchase. The new scarcity in society was no more prolonged labour or land; the scarcity was now knowledge. People had so many choices of what to buy with their hard-earned money, but they didn't know what to purchase. I once visited a lavished Nike store in the US, and got overwhelmed by choices. I left.

The abundance of choices then gave way to brands. Thus, people spent most of their day-to-day existence trying to figure out what the best toothpaste was, what a toaster oven could do, and so on. The advertising and marketing fields then came to dominance to disseminate information people needed to make 'informed purchases.'

Now, the internet and smartphones have disrupted everything. The primary scarcity in society is no longer comprehensive information. In fact, there is now more information than any of us could know what to do with. Everything can now be figured out in mere seconds. My twelve-year-old son would often scold me, "You can Google that, dad, Google is your friend," whenever I ask for information or directions.

The scarcity in our world is no longer comprehensive knowledge, neither labour nor land. The new scarcity in the modern internet age is called; attention. People would do anything to get followers, the likes, impressions and comments. The new bottleneck on our economy is attention. We tend to seek attention at all costs while paying little attention to things that matter. We are indeed in an attention-based economy with an increasing lower attention span.

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# Borrowing on Safaricom's Fuliza rises to Sh1.2bn daily

NAIROBI

Borrowings from Safaricom's overdraft service rose to Sh1.2 billion daily in the six months to June this year, signalling the income shortfalls that have pushed many Kenyans to rely on short-term expensive debts.

The amount of cash disbursed on Fuliza hit Sh220.38 billion over the six months, marking a 25 percent jump from Sh176 billion in a similar period last year. The jump in overdrafts translates to Sh1.2 billion daily borrowing between January and June this year, compared to Sh972.3million over a similar period of 2020.

The overdraft service introduced in 2019 and underwritten by NCBA Group and KCB Group allows customers to meet essential needs such as shopping, rent, sending money to friends and family or paying for goods and services on mobile money service, M-Pesa.

The surge in borrowing follows a period when the economy is slowly recovering from the loss of millions of jobs that has affected household incomes throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. The impact of the pandemic has since reduced on easing of restrictions but the economy is yet to rebound to the pre-Covid period.

"Fuliza is still on a growth path that is why you see the most growth in digital loans this year is coming from Fuliza. We expect it to grow for quite some time and we still feel there is leeway for growth," NCBA Group chief executive John Gachora said.

Fuliza has become popular, especially as banks cut loans to households and businesses following the freeze on credit reference bureau listing for the better part of last year amid high rates of defaults even on bank loans.

KCB Group, Equity, and NCBA all reported that they had slowed down digital loans to avoid higher defaults in the wake of the listing freeze that lasted between April 1 and the end of September, forcing Kenyans to revert to the overdraft facility for survival. The lenders also tightened approval measures when the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) froze the listing of defaulters of Sh1,000 and below in a pandemic environment, creating a moral hazard for lenders.

The decline in value of loans disbursed via M-Shwari and KCB-M-Pesa saw borrowings via Fuliza overdraft service surge. Kenyans who had the option of using digital loans were also denied facilities especially after the CBK threw hundreds of mobile loan sharks out of the CRB mechanism.

Credit information sharing is one of the most powerful risk-management tools for microlenders who typically don't take collateral from borrowers when issuing short-term loans. The lock-out of digital lenders from CRB listings saw a 50 percent decline in loans issued over mobile phones.

The Digital Lender Association of Kenya (DLAK) estimates that the value of loans issued each month fell by half to Sh2 billion. The CBK told Parliament about 200,000 Kenyans were borrowing money on their mobile phones in 2016 but that had grown to two million in 2019, a tenfold jump.

The regulator estimates more than 100 unregulated digital lenders are operating in the country but has endorsed a plan under the Central Bank of Kenya (Amendment) Bill, 2021 to allow compliant microlenders to use the CRB which may challenge Fuliza's growing dominance.

# An expert guide to investing successfully in the EA market

By Petrus Mare

SURE Mama Samia giving the go ahead for regulators to investigate Bitcoin has shown the type of evolution Tanzania in particular has been craving for a while now. Was this just a red herring statement though? Is the block chain still worth exploring at this stage? And will enthusiasts get to say "I told you so" when it does replace fiat currencies within the next 5 to 10 years? And is all of this necessary?

Whatever your standpoint might be, there's no denying that if you had to buy Bitcoin or Ethereum through a financial planner or broker 10 years ago he would be invited to every family barbecue. Not to mention you would probably hand off the grocery list to him as well every once in a while. The golden rule is always this, start where you are and start today.

If you've traded foreign currency before then you would know that speculation is not your friend. And all you really have are the present indicators. If cryptos and forex is not your thing don't feel discouraged.

The principles still stay the same when starting your own business or investing in someone else's. Fortunately, you do not have to stand next to the ocean and count all the cargo ships waiting on the horizon to know the economy is growing.

Tanzania Investment Centre has registered 235 new projects this year alone that will bring the country over US\$3 billion in investment monies alone. Driving home from work you can notice the informal shops springing up everywhere. Merchants coming up to your car window, are all indicators of the new cash flow that's arrived in town.

Though understanding the dynamics of Tanzania's regional politics can be a hurdle. Tanzania simply offers higher returns at the moment. Most people will say my new business is my retirement strategy. That's not an inclusive strategy for most and I'm afraid you'll come short should you live-out your mantra. I have found seven strategies that will get you bouncing with guaranteed results along your new journey, so keep these in mind as you get started:

Build a 'no touch' portfolio: When you invest in stocks, bonds and mutual funds, put them out of reach by creating 'no touch' portfolios in accounts



that you will never access. This will address the need to avoid satisfactory spending when your business needs a helping hand. Create even more security by loading up your retirement accounts and kid's education accounts. Withdrawals here will have a huge penalty which will keep you honest.

Protect your assets: Creditors are always looking for their claim of the spoils. So structure your business in such a way where creditors can't reach your money if it runs in to legal peril. In addition to structuring your business appropriately, this also involves transferring assets to spouses and family or investing within retirement accounts and real estate, which in some cases are out of reach.

Diversify away from your business: Seek investments in your portfolio that are counter cyclical to your industry and business cycle. Investing in commodities may be risky in general but if your business is linked to the broader economy

or public equity markets it might not be such a bad idea, diversification will always stay key.

Invest more conservatively outside your business: Most investment professionals recommend a heavy equity portfolio for younger professionals, and a larger fixed income portfolio for older individuals. Given that an entrepreneur's business may largely cover her 'equity risk,' she may be better off with a more conservative portfolio outside of her business.

Build a cash cushion for future entrepreneurial ventures: Most of us can't pass up a good deal. That's why we become entrepreneurs in the first place. If you have the luxury of cash outflows from your business, put a sufficient amount aside for some dry powder when opportunities present themselves.

Make smart business investments: The best way to protect your personal finance is to ensure that your business has

a sound, balanced approach to investing its capital. Remember that all investments have to be fixed.

Build a great business model: Of course, the best personal investment strategy is guaranteeing that your business is successful. Building your business should be what you do best. So focus your time and effort there and make sure to consult a financial or investment planner as often as possible. You don't miss visits to the doctor to check your vitals and that your foundational aspects are in check, finances should be no different. Reference made to Inc.com: Seven principles for Entrepreneurs.

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BANKING&FINANCE

# Ugandan e-logistics startup Ridelink secures \$150,000 in pre-seed funding

KAMPALA

Ridelink which operates an e-logistics platform developed to connect small and medium-sized enterprises to a network of transport operators at the tap of a button has secured \$150,000 in a pre-seed funding round led by Ortus Africa Capital (an investment advisory firm), Omidyar Network (impact investment firm), and African Leadership Academy's Young Entrepreneurs Fund (Anzisha).

Daniel Mukisa, CEO of Ridelink explains what the funding will be used toward. "We plan on using the capital raised to build globally competitive and robust technology and accelerate our marketing campaigns."

Founded in 2017, Ridelink is an

e-logistics platform that connects SMEs to a network of transport operators all on one simple and easy-to-use platform. According to reports, the tech startup has utilised over 250 SMEs and with over 2000 drivers delivering Cargo throughout East Africa.

Through the use of technology, the tech startup aims to simplify the process for SMEs to distribute their products, increase revenue earning and improve business performance. The platform caters to SMEs in the urban, peri-urban and rural Uganda, Kenya and Tanzania.

Kenneth Legesi CEO/CIO at Ortus Africa Capital comments on the investment made into the tech startup. "At Ortus Africa Capital we are glad to add Ridelink to our story of creating impact through the provision of much-needed capital

to entrepreneurs growing Africa's economies. By co-investing alongside the Young Entrepreneurs Fund and backing African entrepreneurs with local capital, we hope this helps the entrepreneurs grow but also gives confidence to other investors in the African ecosystem to join us on this journey."

"The Young Entrepreneurs Fund is designed to incentivize co-investments into graduates of our programs like Daniel who have chosen to become career entrepreneurs. Ridelink demonstrates the ability of very young Africans to build job generative businesses and is a compelling business case for why we should all consider the opportunity to invest younger," says Thokoza Mjo of the Anzisha Prize, who manages the fund.



## WORLD

## With Kabul airport closed, fearful Afghanistsans rush for the border

KABUL

CROWDS seeking to flee Afghanistan flocked to its borders while long queues formed at banks yesterday, as an administrative vacuum after the Taliban's takeover left foreign donors unsure of how to respond to a looming humanitarian crisis.

The Islamist militia focused on keeping banks, hospitals and government machinery running after the final withdrawal of U.S. forces on Monday brought an end to a massive airlift of Afghans who had helped Western nations during the 20-year war.

With Kabul's airport inoperable, private efforts to help Afghans fearful of Taliban reprisals focused on arranging safe passage across the land-locked nation's borders with Iran, Pakistan and central Asian states.

At Torkham, a major border crossing with Pakistan that is east of the Khyber Pass, a Pakistani official said: "A large number of people are waiting on the Afghanistan side for the opening of the gate." Thousands of people also crowded at the Islam Qala border post between Afghanistan and Iran, witnesses said.

"I felt that being among Iranian security forces brought some kind of relaxation for Afghans as they entered Iran, compared with the past," said one Afghan who was among a group of eight that crossed into Iran.

More than 123,000 people were evacuated from Kabul in the U.S.-led airlift after the Taliban seized the city in mid-August, but tens of thousands of Afghans at risk remained behind.

The U.N. refugee agency UNHCR said last week that up to half a million Afghans <https://www.reuters.com/world/asia-pacific/half-million-afghans-could-flee-across-borders-unhcr-2021-08-27> could flee their homeland by the year's end.

Germany alone estimates that between 10,000 and 40,000 Afghan staff still working for development organisations in Afghanistan have a right to be evacuated to Germany if they feel endangered.

The government of Uzbekistan said it would allow air transit only for Afghans who figure on a German list of those at risk, but its land border with Afghanistan remained closed.

It could take days or weeks for the Tali-



A commercial airplane is seen at the Hamid Karzai International Airport a day after U.S. troops withdrawal in Kabul, Afghanistan on Tuesday. REUTERS

ban to settle negotiations with Qatar and Turkey over how to run Kabul's airport, in talks French Foreign Minister Jean-Yves Le Drian has said were underway.

In a resolution on Monday, the U.N. Security Council urged the Taliban to permit safe passage for those seeking to leave Afghanistan, but did not mention the creation of a safe zone, a step backed by France and others.

The Taliban have declared an amnesty for all Afghans who worked with foreign forces during the war that ousted them from power in 2001 for refusing to hand over al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden following the Sept. 11 attacks on the United States.

Taliban leaders have also called on Afghans to return home and help rebuild, while promising to protect human rights, in an apparent bid to present a more moderate face than their first regime, known for its brutal enforcement of radical Islamic law.

The militia made similar promises upon seizing power in 1996, only to publicly hang a former president, ban women from education and employment, enforce strict dress codes and adopt a punitive approach to the people of Kabul. One woman said she saw

Taliban fighters beating women with sticks outside a bank in the Afghan capital on Tuesday.

"It's the first time I've seen something like that and it really frightened me," the 22-year-old said, on condition of anonymity, because she feared for her safety.

## NO NEW GOVERNMENT YET

The Taliban have yet to name a new government or reveal how they intend to govern, unlike in 1996, when the insurgents formed a leadership council within hours of taking the capital.

The foreign minister of neighbouring Pakistan, which has close ties to the Taliban, said on Tuesday he expected Afghanistan to have a new "consensus government" within days.

In the absence of a government in Kabul, Britain and India held separate talks with Taliban representatives in Doha amid the fears that up to half a million Afghans could flee.

Washington said it would use its enormous leverage, including access to the global marketplace, over the Taliban as it seeks to get the remaining Americans and allies out of Afghanistan after the U.S. military withdrew.

Agencies

## Pope Francis denies resignation report, says leads normal life after surgery

VATICAN CITY



POPE Francis is not thinking of resigning and is living "a totally normal life" following intestinal surgery in July, he said in a radio interview broadcast yesterday.

Speaking to Spanish radio network COPE, Francis, 84, dismissed an Italian newspaper report that he might step down, saying: "I don't know where they got it from last week that I was going to resign ... it didn't even cross my mind."

He also said he was almost certain to attend the U.N. Climate Change Conference (COP26) in Glasgow in November.

In the interview, the pope thanked a male nurse at the Vatican for convincing him to undergo surgery to remove part of his colon rather than continuing treatment with antibiotics and other medicines, as some doctors had favoured.

"He saved my life," the pope said.

Francis, who was elected pontiff in 2013, underwent surgery on July 4 and spent 11 days in hospital. He had been suffering from a severe case of symptomatic diverticular stenosis, a narrowing of the colon.

"Now I can eat everything, which was not possible before ... I lead a totally normal life," he said, adding that 33 centimetres (13 inches) of his intestine was removed.

He further dismissed the report of his potential resignation by outlining his full schedule, with a trip to Hungary and Slovakia on Sept. 12-15 and visits to Cyprus, Greece and Malta in the pipeline as well his planned attendance at COP26.

Newspaper Libero reported on Aug. 23 that there was "a conclave in the air" at the Vatican - a reference to the secret meeting at which cardinals choose a new pope when the incumbent dies or resigns. It said Francis had spoken of resigning, possibly to coincide with his 85th birthday in December.

"Whenever a pope is ill there is always a breeze or a hurricane about a conclave," he told COPE. Agencies

## Russia, US preparing new contacts on cybersecurity, says Lavrov

MOSCOW

RUSSIA and the United States are preparing new contacts on cybersecurity, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov said yesterday.

"The Geneva summit [between Russian and US Presidents Vladimir Putin and Joe Biden] discussed the need in broad outline to establish a dialogue on cybersecurity after all," Russia's top diplomat said in his speech before students and lecturers of the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO).

"This is yet another issue, which Washington refused to discuss with us for several years, including an official statement by President Putin that was devoted to initiatives in the Russian-US relations on ensuring a transparent, trustworthy and fact-based dialogue on cybersecurity," Lavrov (pictured) pointed out.

"Such contacts on this issue are now being prepared and that is why there are grounds to believe that we will slightly reduce tension on the international scene in some directions," Russia's top diplomat said.

The efforts to establish a dialogue in particular spheres do not cancel the fact that the United States is seeking to deter Russia on the international scene, Lavrov said.

"This does not at all cancel the fact that the United States continues to pursue the deterrence of both Russia and China as a major task of its foreign policy along with its efforts to encourage measures that could facilitate this irritating impact on us," the Russian foreign minister added.

Agencies



## Chinese envoy: Politicising virus origins tracing will lead nowhere

TEHRAN

THE origins tracing of COVID-19, a complex issue of science, "should and can only be undertaken by scientists around the world through joint research," Chinese ambassador to Iran Chang Hua wrote in an opinion piece published by Tasnim News Agency on Monday, warning against Washington's efforts to politicize this process.

At a critical moment when the COVID-19 pandemic continues to run rampant around the world, the US intelligence community has recently compiled a so-called report on the

origins of COVID-19 to slander and attack China.

"Essentially, it is a completely mendacious report made up for political purposes and there is no scientific basis or credibility in it, which does no good for the international anti-pandemic efforts," Chang said in the article.

Calling a report jointly released by Chinese and WHO experts earlier this year as "a good foundation for international cooperation on origins tracing," the ambassador said that China has "been supporting science-based efforts on origins tracing, and will continue to stay actively engaged".



Chinese ambassador to Iran Chang Hua

Meanwhile, "we firmly oppose attempts to politicize this issue," he added.

In the article, he also criticized the United States for "not

being transparent, responsible and cooperative on this issue," saying it "hypes up the lab-leak theory while shying away from tracing the origin at home".

Noting that Iranian President Ebrahim Raisi underscored recently his staunch opposition to using the issue of COVID-19 origins tracing as a pretext to suppress and contain China, Chang said "the Chinese side appreciates the just position of the Iranian side".

China will continue to work with friendly countries including Iran and the international community to resist the setbacks of politicizing origins tracing and bring it back to the right track of scientific cooperation, making contributions to the final victory against the pandemic, he added. Xinhua

## Tigrayan forces looted aid warehouses in Ethiopia's Amhara region

ADDIS ABABA

FORCES from Ethiopia's Tigray region in recent weeks looted warehouses belonging to the US government's humanitarian agency in the Amhara region, USAID's mission director in Ethiopia said on Tuesday.

War broke out in the mountainous region last November between Ethiopian troops and the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF), which controls the region. The conflict has killed thousands and caused a humanitarian crisis.

After retaking control of most of Tigray in late June and early July, Tigrayan forces pushed into the neighbouring Afar and Amhara regions, displacing several hundred thou-

sand more people from their homes.

"We do have proof that several of our warehouses have been looted and completely emptied in the areas, particularly in Amhara, where TPLF soldiers have gone into," mission director Sean Jones told state broadcaster EBC in a televised interview.

"I do believe that the TPLF has been very opportunistic," he added.

Representatives for the TPLF and Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed's office did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

"Any interference or theft of humanitarian aid is unacceptable and prevents critical assistance from reaching people in need. Unfortunately, since



People gather as a man collects grains of wheat during a food distribution organized by the Amhara government near the village of Baker, 50 km southeast of Humera, in the Tigray Region of Ethiopia, on July 11, 2021. (AFP)

the beginning of the conflict in northern Ethiopia, we've seen instances of looting from all parties," a USAID spokesperson said.

Up to 900,000 people in Tigray are already in famine conditions, while five million others are in desperate need of humanitarian assistance, USAID estimates.

For the first time in nine months of war, aid workers this week will run out of food to deliver to millions of people who are going hungry, the head of USAID said last week, blaming the government for restricting access.

The Tigrayan forces and the federal government have repeatedly traded accusations of hampering the flow of aid.

Agencies

## Chinese enterprises a propeller for Africa's inclusive economic growth - report

CHINESE enterprises have become one of the propellers for Africa's inclusive economic growth, said a report issued recently.

The Report on Chinese Investment in Africa was launched on Aug. 26 in Beijing. The launching ceremony was attended by political and business figures from both China and Africa, as well as international scholars. They gave a high evaluation on China-Africa economic and trade cooperation, saying Chinese enterprises' investment in Africa has made positive contributions to local industrialization, employment and livelihood.

The report, initiated by the Chi-

na-Africa Business Council, was compiled by some 50 experts and researchers based on massive interviews with Chinese enterprises and entrepreneurs investing in Africa. Through 63 cases, it introduces Chinese enterprises' efforts to combat COVID-19 and reduce poverty on the continent, and summarizes the experiences of China-Africa investment cooperation.

The report says driven by the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC), Chinese enterprises are making "trivial but frequent" moves in investing in Africa, and private enterprises are playing an increasingly bigger role in the process.

Charles Onunaju, director of the Center for China Studies of Nigeria, said at the launching ceremony that China has always supported the development and construction of African countries. Many African countries have joined the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI), which indicates Africa's confidence in its cooperation with China, the director remarked, adding that China's economic development and poverty reduction offer successful experiences for African countries.

China is one of the largest sources of investment for Africa. "Since the establishment of the FOCAC, the annual growth of China's direct invest-

ment in Africa has averaged over 25 percent. China's investment in Africa achieved positive growth against headwinds in the COVID-19 pandemic," said Wu Peng, Director-General of the Department of African Affairs of China's Foreign Ministry. Investment cooperation is a strong engine for the qualitative upgrading of the pragmatic cooperation between China and African nations, Wu added.

Justin Yifu Lin, honorary dean of the National School of Development at Peking University, said the investment of Chinese enterprises in Africa both advances China's economic development and offers capital, tech-

nology, and infrastructure support for African countries, helping them translate their advantageous resources into market competitiveness.

The joint construction of the BRI and the FOCAC is conducive to the development of both China and Africa, and enterprises are what put policies into practice, Lin said.

Secretary General of the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) Wamkele Mene noted Chinese enterprises' investment, especially that in the infrastructure sector, has made huge contributions to the building of Africa's connectivity and the AfCFTA.

Successful cases of China-Africa

cooperation are listed in the report, including the China-Egypt Suez Economic and Trade Cooperation Zone, the Standard Bank of South Africa, Kenya's Nairobi expressway, Ghana's Africa World Airlines, Transsion mobile phones and media group StarTimes.

Adama Compaore, ambassador of Burkina Faso to China said Burkina Faso welcomes and appreciates the investment from Chinese enterprises, and the investment has won trust in his country. He hopes more Chinese enterprises can invest in Burkina Faso, saying his country is willing to facilitate them.

People's Daily



## Russia will soon announce new benefits for foreign partners in Kuril Islands – Lavrov

MOSCOW

MOSCOW soon intends to announce new benefits for foreign partners for doing business in the Kuril Islands, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov announced yesterday. “Soon, new benefits will be announced for foreign partners who will be ready to work with us in this part of the Russian Federation,” he said, speaking to the students and faculty of MGIMO University. The minister confirmed that there are prerequisites for joint economic and investment cooperation with Japan in the Kuril Islands, noting that Russia had already made such proposal to its Japanese colleagues several years ago. He recalled that Japan after some time accepted this proposal, but decided to limit the areas of cooperation to rather simple topics that have no strategic importance.

“We invite them to any activity sphere on the islands. This has been confirmed more than once in written contacts with our Japanese colleagues. But they want to agree that this activity is carried out not on the basis of the legislation that exists in Russia, but on the basis of a certain treaty that would have a different jurisdiction than the jurisdiction of the Russian Federation,” the minister said. According to Lavrov, some hybrid laws would operate in this jurisdiction. “But our constitution does not allow this,” he added. “We, of course, regret that our Japanese friends are missing the opportunity for joint mutually beneficial investments. But we ourselves have good plans,” the minister stressed. **Agencies**

## African campaigners say social media, airlines fuelling wildlife trade

NAIROBI

THE global airline industry and social media organizations are behind the flourishing of both legal and illegal trade in iconic wildlife species roaming African jungles, campaigners said on Tuesday. Patrick Muinde, research manager of the World Animal Protection, African Office said that enhanced vigilance on social media platforms and aviation hubs is required to combat illegal trafficking of wildlife products. Trade in Africa’s wildlife, even the ones facing threat of extinction, has thrived on social media platforms while airlines have been shipping endangered species to many destinations globally,” said Muinde. He spoke in Nairobi during the virtual launch of “Cargo of Cruelty”, an investigative study conducted by World Animal Protection, which revealed that the aviation sector and social media facilitated shipment of live animals to help meet rising demand for pets, ornaments and alternative medicine. The study reveals that West Africa had been targeted by illegal wildlife traffickers who leveraged social media to market reptiles, birds and small mammals to potential buyers overseas. According to Muinde, West Africa had been identified as a trading hub for hundreds of endangered species like snakes, parrots, scorpion, tortoise and amphibians. “There is a need to review legal wildlife trade since it has raised major conservation and public health concerns. Africa is facing the risk of an ecological and economic crisis if wildlife trade is not regulated,” said Muinde. Statistics from International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) indicate that global wildlife trade is worth about 42 billion U.S. dollars while 1.5 million live animals had been traded in the recent past. Edith Kabesiime, Wildlife Campaigns manager at World Animal Protection, African Office said that aviation, shipping industry and social media have a responsibility to support global efforts to halt illegal trafficking of wildlife. She said that transporting live animals in an unsanitary environment is a cruel practice that has also worsened the risk of pathogens’ transmission to humans. **Xinhua**

## Law allowing permitless carry of handguns to go into effect in US Texas

HOUSTON

STARTING at midnight on Tuesday, anyone aged 21 years or older can carry a handgun without a permit or any training in U.S. state Texas. Currently, Texans have to be licensed to carry, openly or concealed, a handgun. And to obtain such a license, they have to submit their fingerprints, receive 4 to 6 hours of training, complete and pass a written exam and a shooting proficiency test. These procedures will be abandoned in just a few hours. Under the state’s “constitutional carry” gun law which goes into effect on Sept. 1, people who legally own a firearm can carry it openly or concealed in Texas with no permits or trainings required. The only restriction is that you must be legally allowed to own a gun. That means you cannot have a felony or a conviction for domestic violence, according to a report from local media outlet KTRK. The law also prohibits open carry if you are convicted of assault causing bodily injury, deadly conduct, terroristic threats or disorderly conduct with a firearm, said the report. The law does require the Department of Public Safety to offer a free online gun safety course, which is not mandatory, the report added. However, there are still rules on where people can and cannot carry, and the new gun law does not grant any amnesty for these occasions, said the report. The difference is that currently businesses in Texas have to post signs in both English and Spanish to exclude unlicensed firearm owners. From Sept. 1, they will be required a third sign under the new law. The lack of training worries some, including those who run gun ranges, according to the report. “Constitutional carry means anyone can carry a gun and we cannot question them, which should be a problem to everyone,” President of the Houston Police Officers’ Union Douglas Griffith said. “It is allowing those untrained individuals to walk around with a firearm. It is detrimental to the entire public,” said Griffith. Texas may return to its Wild West past, or even worse, some gun control advocates in Texas lamented. The new law is seen as a heavy blow for the promotion of gun safety in the state. According to the website run by Texas Gun Sense, there were 3,683 gun-related deaths in 2019 in the state. Excluding Texas, 19 other U.S. states have adopted some form of permitless carry and Texas is by far the largest, according to local media reports.

## Delta variant of COVID-19 in US adds hospitalisations, nips events, devours social benefits

NEW YORK

THE raging Delta variant of COVID-19 continues to bring more people, including many children, into U.S. hospitals, and force cancellations of college enrollments and social events, in addition to disrupting Americans’ daily life and eroding their long-term welfare. Trustees for the U.S. Social Security trust fund in an annual report released on Tuesday said that the program is expected to pay benefits that exceed its income in 2021, the same as it anticipated last year at the outset of the pandemic. While the pandemic had a significant impact on the program, the trustees said, they expect Social Security’s reserves of 2.9 trillion U.S. dollars to be depleted by 2034, only one year sooner than they estimated in their April 2020 report. “Once the reserves are exhausted, benefits would be reduced automatically unless Congress steps in to shore up the program,” reported The Wall Street Journal. As COVID-19 cases surge across the United States, particularly among unvaccinated Americans, hospitals have been pushed to their limits treating the influx of patients. Five states, namely Alabama, Georgia, Texas, Florida and Arkansas, are nearly out of ICU beds, having less than 10 percent left of their ICU bed capacity, reported CNN on Tuesday. “Hospitals around the country have been stretched as cases have picked back up, but the South, where vaccinations have been lagging, has been particularly hit. Many hospitals have been reporting oxygen shortages,” said the report while quoting data from the Department of Health and Human Services. On Monday, data presented by a vaccine adviser from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) showed a hospitalization rate 16 times greater in the unvaccinated population than in those vaccinated, it added. Last week, the CDC also highlighted the potential danger for children under the age of 12, the only group in the United States ineligible for coronavirus vaccines as the hyper-infectious Delta variant tears across the country. Just this month in Brevard County, Florida, 1,623 children were infected and more than 8,000 students were quarantined. In the Atlanta area, thousands of positive cases were confirmed in schools with 23,000 students and staff have been quarantined. “Without concerted efforts to curb Delta’s transmission, things are likely to get worse in coming months. A simulation posted this month by a CDC-funded lab predicted that in elementary schools without either masks or regular testing, more than 75 percent of children might be infected with the coronavirus in the first three months,” reported The Washington Post. This year’s Wonderfront Music & Arts Festival, a major music, culinary and arts event first held in 2019 upon the stunning waterfront of downtown San Diego, has been postponed until Nov. 18 to 20, 2022 due to the surge in COVID-19 cases caused by the Delta variant. The call was made by the Port of San Diego on Monday. “The continued safety of the community had to be front and center in our decision making. We pushed as long as we could working with the Wonderfront Festival team to see if case trends might look more positive or new information would give us the comfort level needed to move forward,” said Michael G. Brown, Port of San Diego’s vice president of marketing and communications, in a press release. But at the end of the day, the situation has not improved. Knowing that people book advance travel to attend, and production crews have months of logistical planning to do, a final decision needed to be made,” he added. Organizers are now working with artists to pivot toward the new 2022 dates. A lineup announcement and ticketing on sale are expected this fall. Xavier University is dis-enrolling students who have not received the COVID-19 vaccine, reported Black Enterprise, the No. 1 Black digital media brand in the United States, on Monday. The private Catholic and historically Black college in Louisiana will begin the process at the end of this week. “I think it’s unfair to unenroll them because they still need their education. But I can see both sides,” sophomore Elise Tookes was quoted as saying. “They’re trying to protect the students that they have on campus and they’re trying to make it normal for us as much as possible.” In April, the university’s president Reynold Verret sent students a letter stating proof of vaccination would be required to attend the fall semester. Suzanne B. Goldberg, acting assistant secretary for civil rights at the U.S. Department of Education, sent letters on Monday to state education leaders in Iowa, Oklahoma, South Carolina, Tennessee and Utah, informing them that the department’s Office for Civil Rights is investigating whether their mask mandate bans are discriminatory. At the center of the department’s concerns, according to Monday’s letters, are students with disabilities who may be at heightened risk for severe illness from COVID-19. Goldberg’s letters said these investigations would focus on whether the state bans are discriminatory by preventing students with disabilities from safely returning to in-person education. **Xinhua**

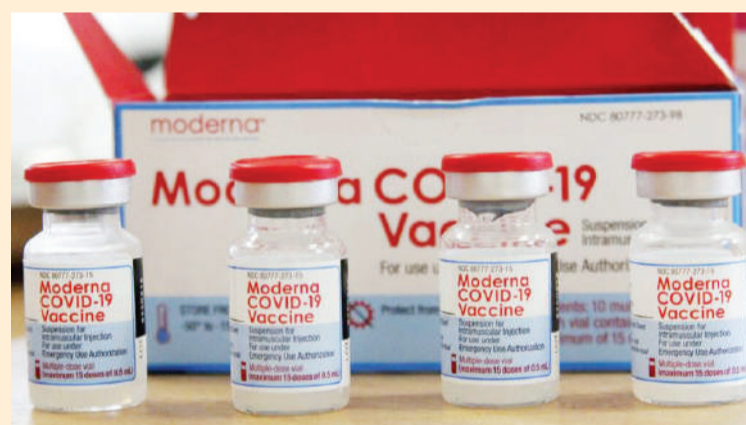


A pedestrian wearing a face mask passes in front of Pfizer's World Headquarters in New York, United States, on Aug. 23, 2021. (Xinhua)

## Study: Moderna makes twice as many virus antibodies as Pfizer

NEW YORK

MODERNA Inc.’s COVID-19 vaccine generated more than double the antibodies of a similar shot made by Pfizer Inc. and BioNTech SE in an research that compared immune responses evoked by the two inoculations. The study is one of the first to compare levels of antibodies produced by the two vaccines, which are thought to be one of the important components of the immune response. It didn’t examine whether the antibody differences led to a difference in efficacy over time between the two shots, which both were more than 90 percent effective in final-stage clinical trials. The research looked at antibody levels against the coronavirus spike protein in about 1,600 workers at a major Belgium hospital system whose blood samples were analyzed 6 to 10 weeks after vaccination. The participants hadn’t been infected with the coronavirus before getting vaccinated. Levels among those who got two doses of the Moderna vaccine averaged 2,881 units per milliliter, compared with 1,108 units per milliliter among those who received two Pfizer doses. The results, published Monday in a letter to the Journal of the American Medical Association, suggested the differences might be explained by the higher amount of active ingredient in the Moderna vaccine – 100 micrograms, versus 30 micrograms in Pfizer-BioNTech – or the slightly longer interval between doses of the Moderna vaccine – four weeks, versus three weeks for Pfizer-BioNTech. Pfizer said in a statement that its vaccine “continues to be highly efficacious” in preventing COVID-19, including against severe cases and hospitalization. A continuing analysis of its final-stage study has shown a decline of efficacy against symptomatic infection over time, the drugmaker said, but initial trial data also show that a third dose of the existing vaccine at least six months after the first two significantly raises neutralizing antibody levels. **Global tally** Coronavirus cases worldwide have exceeded 217.7 million while the global death toll topped 4.5 million, according to data compiled by Johns Hopkins University. **WHO** A new coronavirus variant that was first detected in South Africa in May does not appear to be spreading, the World Health Organization (WHO) said on Tuesday, adding it was monitoring the variant as the virus evolves. “It does not appear to be increasing in circulation,” WHO spokesperson Margaret Harris said at a UN briefing, adding the variant labeled C.1.2. was not currently classified as a “variant of concern” by the UN health agency. **ALSO READ:** New virus variant found in S. Africa has concerning mutations **Africa** The number of confirmed COVID-19 cases in Africa reached 7,767,332 as of Tuesday afternoon, the Africa Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (Africa CDC) said. The death toll from the pandemic stood at 195,544 while the number of recoveries reached 6,917,240, the Africa CDC said. **Mauritius** Mauritius vaccinated 60 percent of its population a month ahead of target and now plans to halve the number of days tourists will need to isolate on the island nation after arrival. **Italy** Italy’s introduction of a third vaccine dose is “very likely,” Health Minister Roberto Speranza said. The government is also evaluating making use of the so-called “green pass” compulsory among workers in the public sector, according to Sole24Ore daily. As of Sept 1, Italy requires travelers on planes, ferries, and long-distance trains and coaches to show proof of vaccination or of a recent negative COVID-19 test. **Agencies**

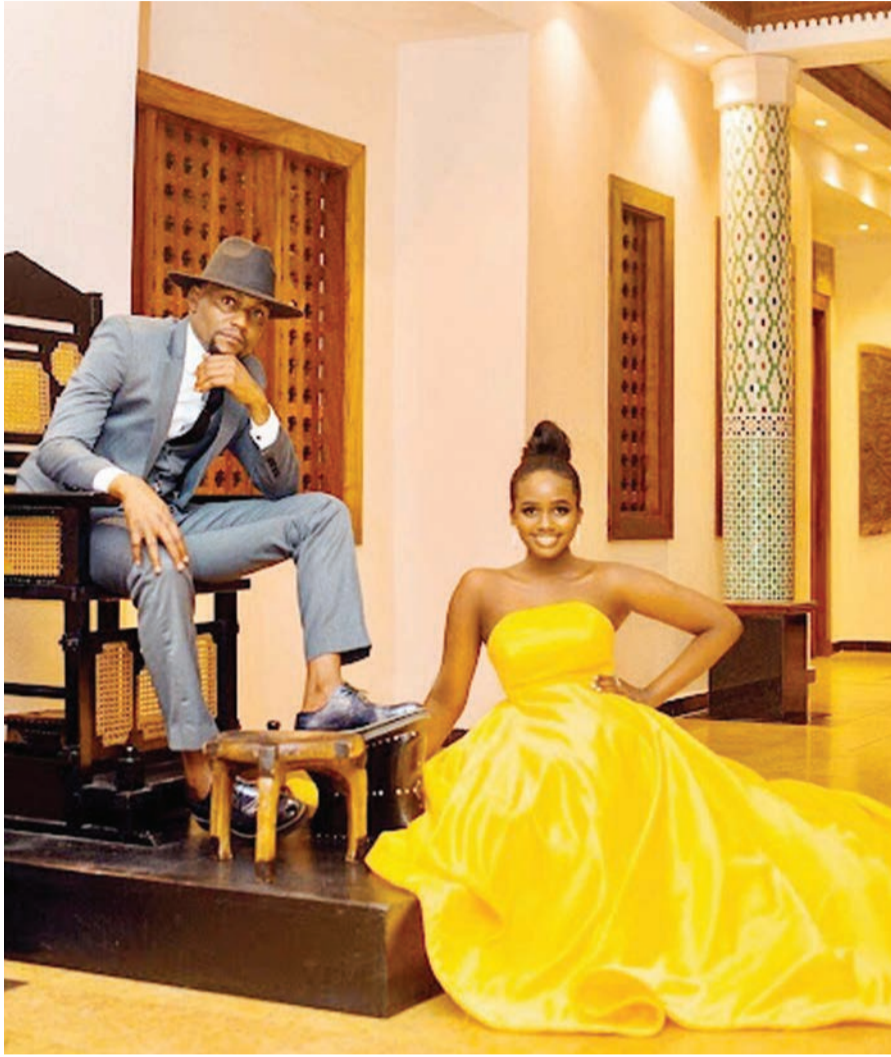


This photo shows a view of vials of Moderna COVID-19 vaccine at the Assad Ibn El Fourat school in Oued Elilil, outside Tunis, Tunisia, on Aug 15, 2021. (AP)

## COVID-19 origins probe by US intelligence community merely another political manipulation farce

THE United States intelligence community report on COVID-19 origins is “not scientifically credible”, and Washington’s assertion of lack of transparency on the part of China is only an excuse for politicizing and stigmatizing purpose, the Chinese embassy in the U.S. said on August 28. A two-page summary of the report the Office of the Director of National Intelligence released on that day does not rule out either natural exposure or laboratory accident as the origins of SARS-CoV-2, but it claims that China “continues to hinder the global investigation, resist sharing information and blame other countries”. The U.S. intelligence agencies are quite experienced in making and spreading disinformation. It cooked up the conspiracy theory that the novel coronavirus leaked from a Wuhan lab, which was soon debunked by the global science community; it then repeatedly hyped up the “lab leak” theory in disregard of the scientific conclusions in the WHO-China joint report on COVID-19 origins; more surprisingly, U.S. President openly ordered intelligence community to probe into the origins of the COVID-19, and asked for a report based on analysis of “information that could bring us closer to a definitive conclusion” in 90 days. Continuously hyping the “origins-tracing investigations”, the U.S. side doesn’t care about facts and truth, but tries hard to exhaust China’s diplomatic resources, increase U.S. leverage toward China and hedge against China’s influence. Such malicious intentions of the country have become all too clear. The despicable misdeeds of the U.S. side, while revealing the country’s disrespect for scientific spirit, have disrupted global anti-epidemic cooperation. They are “accomplices” of the pandemic and more dangerous “political viruses”. The so-called report on the origins of the COVID-19 pandemic compiled by U.S. intelligence agencies was aimed at covering up the truth about the failure of the U.S. to control the pandemic and shifting the blame for the incompetence of U.S. government to China. In the report, the U.S. continued to confuse the public by falsely accusing China of hindering global investigation, lacking transparency, and refusing to share information. Such groundless accusations are merely poorly fabricated excuses for its failed investigation into the roots of the COVID-19. Since the highly-anticipated report failed to serve its intention of pursuing presumption of guilt against China, the White House claimed that it would “continue working with like-minded partners around the world” to press China. China has always taken a scientific, professional, serious, and responsible attitude towards tracing the origins of the COVID-19. It is the first country in the world that has carried out cooperation with the WHO on global COVID-19 origin tracing. It has twice invited WHO experts to China for origin tracing, and was completely open and transparent when the experts were in China. They visited every site on their list, met every individual they asked for, and were provided with all the data they wanted. The WHO-China joint report provides authoritative and science-based conclusions on COVID-19 origin tracing, serving as a good foundation for the next stage of COVID-19 origin tracing work around the world. In contrast, the U.S. has not only reported the highest number of COVID-19 infections and death toll in the world, but caused the most serious cross-border spread of the virus. The time of the first cases of COVID-19 in the U.S. has been continuously proven earlier than previously reported. The connection between the country’s biological labs of Fort Detrick and University of North Carolina and the COVID-19 is highly suspicious. The international community strongly urges the U.S. side to show an open and transparent attitude towards concerns over these labs and provide detailed information about them. However, the U.S. has not only avoided questions and remained secretive about them, but constantly set up barriers to prevent the world from getting more information. The U.S. has confused right and wrong, arbitrarily sought presumption of guilt, and openly played double standards on COVID-19 origin tracing, continuously pursued politicization and stigmatization against China amid the pandemic, and used the COVID-19 origin tracing as a tool to serve its own interest. **People’s Daily**





Tanzanian gospel singer, Abigail Chamungwana, nicknamed 'Abby Charms' (R), pictured with popular Hip Hop artist, Shariff Thabeet 'Darassa', when the duo introduced a track, titled 'King of Kings', produced by both, in Dar es Salaam early this week. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Promising gospel singer introduces new song

By Pauline Lugaziya, SJMC

MUSIC lovers in Tanzania were earlier this week treated to a new gospel single, titled 'King of Kings'.

This brand new gospel inspiration single has been released by a prominent Tanzanian Hip Hop artist, Shariff Thabeet 'Darassa', and talented gospel singer, Abigail Chamungwana, nicknamed 'Abby Charms'.

'Abby Charms' is an 18-year-old amazing artist, pianist, guitarist, and violinist.

The song inspires all people to fear and believe in God and that he is the source of everything and can do anything so we should trust in Him.

Darassa, also a Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of a record label, known as 'Classic Music Group' (CMG), insists that he does not take any orders from human beings and urges all to only be answerable to God.

'Abby Charms' praises how God is powerful and has made her boast about His greatness and she is grateful to be where she is now.

'Darassa' is a musician and well-known rapper in Tanzania who is doing a good job in new genre music with his record label, CMG.

He is known for his amazing album released months ago, featuring so

many other artists like Sweetbert Charles 'Abbah Process', Faustina Charles 'Nandy', Omary Ally Mwangi 'Marioo', 'Country Boy', and many more.

Abby Charms, on the other hand, is an 18-year-old Tanzanian lady, a multi-award-winning vocalist, and an instrumentalist.

Apart from singing, she is also a coordinator and founder of a talk show, known as 'Teens Talk with Abby Charms', Abby Charms School of Music, and she is moreover UNICEF Youth Advocate.

On August 15 this year, she also won a youth award in the part of the entertainment. She is still struggling to achieve her dreams and is happy for where she is.

The two of them made an amazing mix of a popular gospel track titled 'Hakuna Mungu Kama Wewe' that was sung several years ago by Kijitonyama Choir.

The release of this song was one of the awaited ones and was seen to have a considerable number of views amounting to seven thousand views on YouTube within the last three days.

This new song was produced by Abbah, a famous producer, and mixed by Simon.

## DStv introduces new package

By Guardian Reporter

THE MultiChoice Tanzania (DStv) has boosted its effort to offer its customers good products via the launch of a new cheap package, known as 'DStv Poa', which was in use from yesterday.

Jacqueline Woiso, MultiChoice Tanzania Managing Director, disclosed at the package launch in Dar es Salaam yesterday the product will offer the Tanzanian customers a wide range of selection of products as per the latter's purchasing power.

Jacqueline pointed out: "This product's launch is done under our priority, which is focusing on giving our customers the best products at a cheap price."

The MultiChoice Tanzania boss disclosed: "We know our customers and the rest are going through difficulties economically and, for that matter, we have assessed the best way which will see to it the Tanzanians enjoy entertainment and other programs at cheap price."

Jacqueline revealed the 'DStv Poa' consists of over 40 good channels for news, films, sports, and lots of entertainment as per the customers' needs.

The DStv, Jacqueline pointed out, has further set up a new channel, Maisha Magic Poa, which will have great programs, which include 'Ni Yeye', hosted by popular domestic artists, Rashid Makwiro 'Chid Benz' and Khalid Mohamed 'TID'.

The channels offer such programs as 'Vichekesho vya Watu Baki', a popular comedy show 'Origino Comedy', and Swahili series, 'Kapuni', 'Sarafu', 'Mwantumu' and films 'Mambo Moto'.

MultiChoice Tanzania's Head of Marketing, Ronald Shelukindo, disclosed with the package containing a lot of channels and content, the DStv customer should expect lots of entertainment from it.

Shelukindo stated: "This is truly a good package given it has over 40 channels, all of them will be accessed at 9,900/- per month."

The official noted there is more good news for the DStv customers, whose accounts have much balance for affording the package, they will, if they wish, be connected to the package for 9,900/- and continue enjoying entertainment. New customers can seek a DStv subscription for 59,000/-.

## Azam to play both CAF Confederation Cup preliminary fixtures in Dar

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S Azam FC is set to play both CAF Confederation Cup preliminary stage games at home.

Azam FC's opponents in the stage, Horseed FC of Somalia, have chosen Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam for the squad's home clash.

Horseed FC's leadership has resorted to having their side feature in a home fixture at Uhuru Stadium following the security situation in Somalia not allowing any international game to be played at the moment.

In the preliminary round match, Azam FC will start at home at Azam Complex in Dar es Salaam, then stay for a few days before playing away at Uhuru Stadium against rivals Horseed FC.

Horseed FC's decision to play the preliminary stage's second leg of the tournament in Tanzania reduces the cost for Azam FC who had to travel to Mogadishu to play their return leg game.

Azam FC is still in Zam-



Azam FC players attend training in Zambia recently to shape up for the next season's Premier League, Federation Cup, and CAF Confederation Cup. PHOTO: COURTESY OF AZAM FC

bia for a pre-season camp where the squad is drilling head of the busy schedule for next season.

The club is one of the teams, which will represent the country in the CAF Confederation Cup.

Mara's Biashara United is as well a team lined up for the continental showpiece.

Azam FC will face Horseed FC at Azam Complex between September 10-12 while the reverse leg had been penned for September 17-19 in Somalia.

If Azam FC will turn into aggregate winners in the preliminary stage fixtures against Horseed FC, the former will come against

Egypt's Pyramid FC in the following stage.

Pyramid FC enters the tournament as strong favourites to win the title, having conceded defeat in the 2020 edition's final and thereafter getting knocked out in the semi-finals last season.

In their search for their first-ever title, Pyramids FC is going to be facing winners of preliminary stage fixtures between Tanzania's Azam FC and Somalia's Horseed FC.

Azam FC was yesterday confronting Zambia's Zanaco FC in an international friendly game and the former is today playing

on Forest Rangers before winding up their friendly games with a fixture against Zesco United.

Azam FC has so far made good signings in the ongoing transfer window, seeking to build a competitive side for both domestic and international clashes next season.

They include left-back Edward Manyama (Tanzania), defensive midfielder Paul Katema (Zambia), attacking midfielders Charles Zulu (Zambia) and Kenneth Muguna (Kenya), forwards Idris Mbombo (DR Congo) and Rodgers Kola (Zambia).

## Seasoned DJs laud Serengeti Lite's 'Take a Bite out of Life' campaign

By Guardian Reporter

A FAMOUS quote goes thus, 'Life is one grand, sweet song, so start the music!'

There are many reasons as to why people love music, top among them being that it makes them feel good, it relieves them, comforts and excites them.

Music is a kind of language of emotion, with its components and patterns representing different feelings.

People, who have difficulty expressing their feelings in words, sometimes feel more comfortable expressing these emotions through music.

Music can mimic emotions. The temporal patterns of music mirror our emotional lives, such as the introduction, buildup, climax, and closure.

When we have occasions, whether happy or sad, we normally play music. Music has the power to connect and rejuvenate people.

It sometimes gives us the strength we need to proceed in some situations. When people go to events and parties, music is one of the most important things that entertain them.

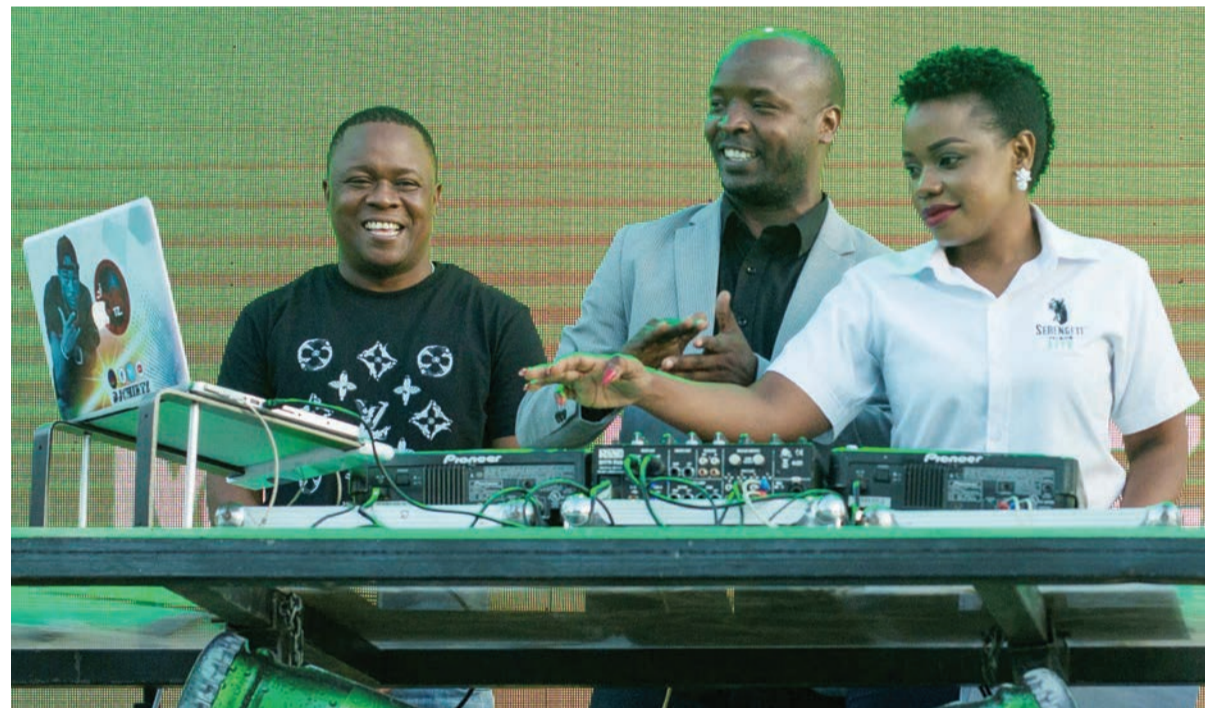
However, that music is, more often than not, steered by someone from behind the scenes. He/she is called a Disc Jockey, DJ.

The DJs are extremely important persons to the music industry.

They directly play music in front of the audience and interact with them on a more regular basis than other types of musicians.

The DJ can identify, gauge, and understand the fans' preferences and therefore play them their music of choice.

His/her ability to swim



National Arts Council of Tanzania (BASATA) Acting Executive Secretary, Matiko Mniko (C), applauds after presiding over the launch of the Serengeti Lite campaign, dubbed 'Take a Bite Out of Life', geared towards discovering Disk Jockey (DJ) talents. Standing (R) is SBL's Senior Brand Manager, Wankyo Marando, and (L) is one of the judges, Lawrence Daniel 'DJ Zero' from Clouds FM. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

with the tides and role with the punches of scores of playlists in his repertoire is a sight to behold!

That is why, Tanzania's premier beer and spirits producer Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) recently chose, through its Serengeti Lite beer brand, to launch an exciting campaign.

The campaign involves competitions pitting scores of budding DJs across the country, offering them an opportunity of a lifetime to showcase their music-mixing prowess.

The 'Take a Bite Out of Life' campaign, as it is pleasantly called, targets, among other things, to provide Serengeti Lite consumers with an opportunity to display their talents, preparing them to achieve whatever their aspirations may be in life.

The three-month campaign will involve 5,200 contestants from across the country who will participate in a DJ com-

petition whereby three lucky winners will walk away with DJ kits of up to 7m/- and will also be adopted as official DJs where they will be involved in future brand promotions and activations activities for the brand.

Lawrence Daniel, popularly known as 'DJ Zero' from Clouds FM radio station, is one of the judges of the competition.

DJ Zero says there are a lot of DJ talents out there but most of them are unable to demonstrate their capabilities as they lack platforms to showcase their skills.

"Scores of up-and-coming DJs have been asking me to assist them to become famous DJs like me but this has been difficult because I have limited resources to make them realize their dreams. However, with the coming of this Serengeti Lite-sponsored DJ competition, their long-yearned-for chance is here and the sky is now

the limit for them," DJ Zero says.

He adds: "Music is a very powerful tool for one to expose his/her feelings... I thank Serengeti Lite for realizing this and therefore, providing these youngsters with a platform to demonstrate their talents. The opportunity also means giving people access to the music they love."

Another judge, the legendary DJ John Dilinga, popularly known as 'DJ JD', notes that the local music industry is growing rapidly and thanks Serengeti Lite beer for understanding the role that DJs play in the industry, thus rewarding them with the exciting idea of the DJ competition.

"Music is always powered by DJs. I can unequivocally say that without the presence of DJs, music would be tasteless. When people enjoy their world-class Serengeti Lite beer, they will always need to have some good music that

meets their expectations, and that music will be spiced up by a DJ," 'DJ JD' says.

The SBL Senior Brand Manager, Mainstream Beer, Wankyo Marando, says any person who is above 18 years old and who feels that he/she has what it takes can participate in the competition.

"Anyone who is above 18 years can participate in the competition from where he/she is since the competition covers the whole country. Announcements on where the venues of the competition will be made in every region and district and will be done through roadshows, radio interviews, and Serengeti Lite Social media pages," Wankyo discloses.

To participate in the DJ competition, interested participants will have to register in one of the outlets dedicated to the competition within their local areas and are required to have their playlists. There will be auditions every week.



## Africa's World Cup qualifiers hard-hit by Premier League's 'red zone' rule

LONDON

AFRICA kicks off the group phase of its World Cup qualifiers on Wednesday with countries having to juggle their line-ups because of the refusal of British clubs to release some of their best players for some matches.

Most come from the Premier League, which refused permission for players to head to countries on the British government's COVID-19 red list because they would be forced to quarantine for 10 days upon their return.

Egypt must do without talisman Mohamed Salah for their home match against Angola on Friday but could use him away against Gabon next week, though original reports a week ago said the Reds had refused to release him at all.

His Liverpool team mates Sadio Mane and Naby Keita are playing in countries on the amber list and are therefore available for Senegal and Guinea respectively in both their scheduled qualifiers over the next seven days.

Nigeria have a full contingent at home against Liberia on Friday but for a more difficult Group C game away to the Cape Verde Islands on Tuesday must do without eight players based in England and Scotland, including midfield general Wilfried Ndidi and his Leicester City team mate Kelechi Iheanacho because the archipelago is on the red list.

Nigeria coach Gernot Rohr told ESPN this week that he had been forced to call up nearly an entirely new team for the second fixture, and that the integrity of the qualifiers were being put at risk by this ruling.

He said: "It is difficult to understand why England is giving exception to the Euro but not for the other World Cup games.

"They could do everything for the Euro where England participated but nothing for the World Cup players. It is very important for each country who has ambitions to qualify and this kind of decision will tarnish the competition."

Ghana will have five English-based players available for their Group G home match on Friday against Ethiopia but they cannot then travel to re-listed South Africa for their next game on Monday.

The Ivory Coast, who dropped both Wilfried Zaha and Nicolas Pepe, cannot use Eric Bailly of Manchester United or Serge Aurier of Tottenham for their first game in Mozambique on Friday but they will be available for the crunch Group D game against Cameroon in Abidjan on Monday.

"We've been under continual pressure from clubs not to select their players. In March it was the French clubs who refused and now it's the English," said Ivory Coast coach Patrice Beaumelle.

"I'm tired of the whole affair and I think it's uncalled for because everything is well organised these days with regular testing, safe travel and closed stadiums to minimise any risk," he told Reuters on Monday.

The match between the Ivorians, who won the African Cup of Nations in 2015, and Cameroon, who succeeded them two years later, is the pick of the games in the first two rounds of qualifying, which runs from Wednesday to Tuesday, Sept. 7.

The 40 countries are divided into 10 groups of four with only the winners advancing to two-legged playoffs in March, which will decide the five African teams for Qatar 2022.

This is just the latest complication for African nations, after eight teams were denied home fixtures after their stadia were deemed insufficient. As such, they have been forced to play at neutral venues, though many are without fans due to coronavirus so the loss of advantage may be minimal.

ESPN

## Kane: 'Conscience is clear' after failed City move

LONDON

HARRY Kane insists his "conscience is clear" after attempting to force through a move from Tottenham to Manchester City and believes the saga has not damaged his reputation.

The 28-year-old asked to leave Spurs before the start of Euro 2020 in the belief he had a gentleman's agreement with chairman Daniel Levy that he would be allowed to depart if a suitable bid came in.

However, Levy's valuation stood in excess of £150 million and he proved reluctant to consider parting with Kane, given he has three years remaining on his current £200,000-a-week contract.

City intimated they would be willing to pay around £100m for Kane but never made a formal offer approaching Levy's asking price, despite the England captain attempting to break the impasse by reporting back late for pre-season testing earlier this month.

Kane subsequently confirmed he was staying at Spurs "this summer" and despite an earlier frosty reaction when missing Tottenham's opening weekend win against City -- during which supporters pointedly chanted: "Are you watching Harry Kane?" -- he was greeted warmly by fans upon his first start in Sunday's 1-0 Premier League win over Watford.

ESPN

# Mbappe's non-transfer shows where soccer power lies

By ROB HARRIS

THE deal that didn't happen best defines the landscape of European football after a summer transfer window that saw unexpected moves by Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo.

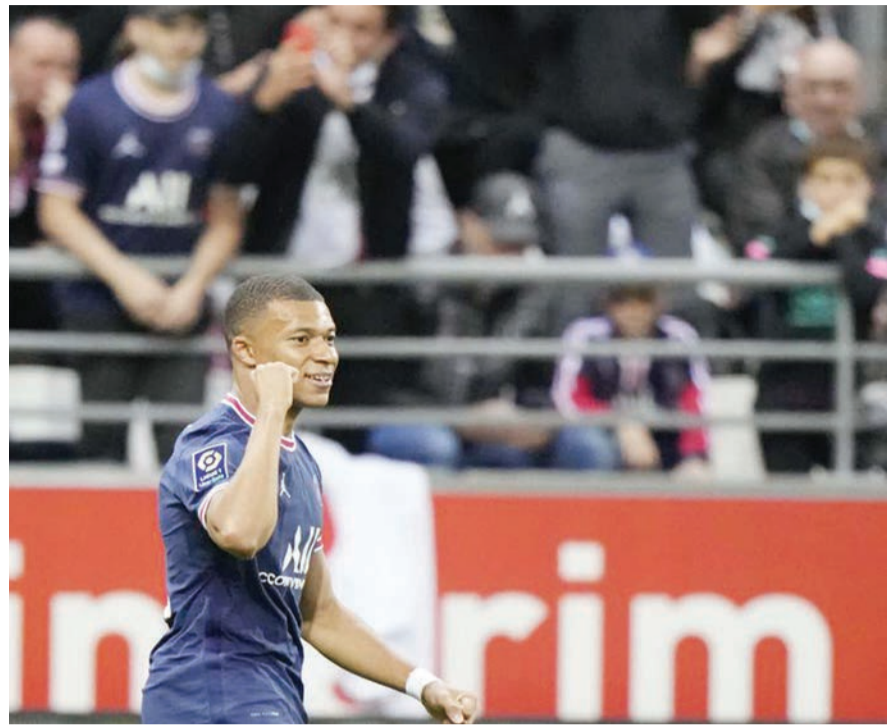
Kylian Mbappé will remain with Paris Saint-Germain this season, and the star French forward could leave for Real Madrid as a free agent at age 23 next summer for free rather than for a fee that could have exceeded \$200 million now.

A decade into ownership that leads to the emir of Qatar, PSG is among the few clubs able to weather the pandemic, protected by its sovereign wealth. The club benefits by UEFA's Financial Fair Play being in flux during an overhaul, rules that often appeared flimsily applied.

PSG also could gamble on the hope Mbappé helps it win the Champions League for the first time in a strike force with Messi and Neymar, then extend his contract.

Ultimately, there will be questions over whether Madrid could fund Mbappé's transfer. Club president Florentino Pérez has been badly bruised by the spectacularly ill-judged and short-lived Super League he fronted. Real Madrid, like others, is coping with more than a season of lost revenue caused by empty seats.

PSG never signed up to the largely closed European breakaway with



PSG's Kylian Mbappé celebrates after scoring his goal during the France League One soccer match between Reims and Paris Saint-Germain, at the Stade Auguste-Delaune in Reims, France, Sunday, Aug. 29, 2021. (AP Photo)

a dozen clubs from England, Italy and Spain in April. Instead, its Qatari president, Nasser Al-Khelaifi, emerged from the wreckage with more clout as leader of the European Club Association -- and now with a team that figures to unnerve opponents with Mbappé, Neymar and Messi leading the attack.

Even though Al-Khelaifi helped to destroy the Super League's launch, PSG's Qatari funding remains a source of ire for La Liga president Javier Tebas.

"Club states are as dangerous to the football ecosystem as the Super League," Tebas tweeted early Wednesday. "We were critical of the Super League because it destroys European foot-

ball and we are just as critical of PSG."

Little wonder, when the French club rebuffed bids for Mbappé after having acquired one of the greatest players of all time from the Spanish league.

Messi only came on the market because Barcelona, weighed down by debt that ballooned to 1.35 billion euros (\$1.6 billion), had to shed players to comply with the financial regulations enforced by La Liga. Even as the window was about to close, Barcelona cut its wage bill further by loaning high-salaried Antoine Griezmann to Atletico Madrid in a deal that might only recoup 50 million euros (\$59 million), two years after paying 120 million

euros (\$146.1 million) for the striker.

Now it's clearer why Barcelona was so willing to enrage the football order by splitting from the Champions League structure to bank an instant windfall worth hundreds of millions of euros from the Super League that never was. It also shows why Barcelona, along with Madrid and Juventus are clinging to the project despised by UEFA and fans alike, despite the prospect of a Champions League ban.

This was the transfer window that humbled the elite from Spain and Italy and, most strikingly, reasserted the status of the world's wealthiest soccer competition -- the Premier League -- as a

destination of choice.

While Messi experienced a tearful and reluctant departure from Barcelona, Ronaldo was the instigator of his push to abandon Juventus just one match into his fourth season.

More surprising than Messi and Ronaldo switching clubs in the same transfer window was the speed of the 36-year-old Portugal forward's deal to return to Old Trafford after 12 years, a decision pushed by former United manager Alex Ferguson. And Ronaldo's replacement at Juventus was Moise Kean, a forward returning to Turin after being unable to make an impact at Everton.

Serie A not only lost last season's top scorer to the Premier League but also its second-most prolific player, Romelu Lukaku, who helped to win the title for Inter Milan. A bid of 115 million euros (\$135.7 million) was accepted from Chelsea from Inter, which is hamstrung by the financial difficulties of its Chinese ownership, the Suning conglomerate.

"The players who left Italy were taken by teams that are financially stronger, but they came here to reassert themselves," Italy coach Roberto Mancini said. "This means that our league is not so bad. It's clear that it's a pity to lose them because young people always improve by watching the champions."

The Italian league's overall financial plight is not helped by having to

stream its games for free on YouTube in the Middle East after previously earning \$500 million over three seasons from beIN Sports -- the Qatar-based broadcaster also run by PSG's Al-Khelaifi that did not bid again due to a piracy dispute.

One of the few clubs able to rival PSG's financial clout remains Manchester City. Funding from Abu Dhabi's sovereign wealth fund enabled Pep Guardiola's side to pay 100 million pounds (\$139 million) for winger Jack Grealish last month.

Yet, perhaps the Premier League's transfer window was also defined by a transfer that didn't happen. Tottenham denied Harry Kane a move to City, when more than 100 million pounds (\$137.3 million) was offered, because the value of Premier League rights has been protected during the pandemic and the striker had three years remaining on his contract.

The biggest spender during Europe's summer transfer window was a fallen power off to a terrible start this season.

The signing of Japan defender Takehiro Tomiyasu on Tuesday took Arsenal's spending to 150 million pounds (\$206 million). The north London club, which last won the Premier League in 2004, is in last place with no points from three games -- just four months after being considered part of the Super League elite.

AP

## What Real Madrid can expect from new signing Camavinga

MADRID

EDUARDO Camavinga, 18, has completed a move to Real Madrid from Rennes, having been on the radar of Europe's top clubs for a few years.

The midfielder, who is the youngest player since 1932 to be called up by France, shot to worldwide fame with his performances in Ligue 1 and Madrid moved to land him on Transfer Deadline Day for around €30m, one year before his Rennes contract expires.

Now he is at the Bernabeu, what can the LaLiga side expect from the young midfielder? And just how far can his career develop?

Camavinga's background Born in a refugee camp in Angola, Camavinga moved to France with his parents and five siblings at the age of two. Eight years later, he was just starting out at Rennes' youth academy when the family home burnt down.

Having raced through youth levels, Camavinga was handed his first-team debut as a 16-year-old toward the end of the 2018-19 season. The opportunity to test his skills at Ligue 1 level was more than a token gesture; he featured in each of the remaining six games, culminating in a 3-1 win against Lille on the final day of the season.

Camavinga's career has since taken off. Start-

ing the following season as a regular, he was instrumental as Rennes finished third and qualified for the Champions League, resulting in his debut in the most prestigious club competition in Europe.

He received his first France under-21 cap against Georgia in November 2019, just days after receiving his citizenship and turning 17, and his rapid progress also earned him a place in the senior national team squad at just 17 years and nine months.

Camavinga made his France debut in the UEFA Nations League game against Croatia, where he came on for the last half an hour, and his first cap was swiftly followed by his first France goal in a friendly against Ukraine the following month. He played against Croatia again, but a dip in form during the 2020-21 season saw him return to U-21 level.

However, such a meteoric rise has seen the midfielder linked to a host of top clubs. Manchester United, Liverpool and Arsenal were among the admiring Premier League teams, while interest from Paris Saint-Germain has long been reported. But Real Madrid moved to snap up the talented youngster ahead of their rivals.

Position Very much a multi-purpose central midfielder, Camavinga burst onto the scene as a deep-laying playmaker and, despite his age and inexperience, was given



Eduardo Camavinga

full responsibility to express himself in the demanding role by then-Rennes head coach, Julien Stephan.

It was his performances as a holding midfielder that helped launch Camavinga as a rising star in Ligue 1 and for France. From the beginning of the 2020-21 season, however, the teenager predominately featured in a more advanced role,

either as a No. 8 in a 4-3-3 formation, or as one of two central midfielders in a 4-4-2.

### Strengths

From the beginning, it was Camavinga's maturity and confidence that stood out: A 16-year-old with the intelligence and technical ability to dictate the rhythm of the game, passing both short and long from midfield, while being able to

recover the ball in tackle or interception, as well as performing his pressing duties, is not often seen.

Add to that his excellent left foot, high precision in his passing game and great coordination, which often sees him elegantly dance his way out of crowded spaces with the ball at his feet, and it's clear why he has stirred up so much excitement.

In a more advanced midfield role, with slightly less space to roam, Camavinga has demonstrated tactical discipline and patience. With nearly 100 senior appearances, it is easy to forget that he only turns 19 in November, yet he has the physical, mental and technical abilities to succeed.

### Areas to improve

It's hard to pick out a major weakness in Camavinga's game on the back of two promising years in Ligue 1 -- the first of which was close

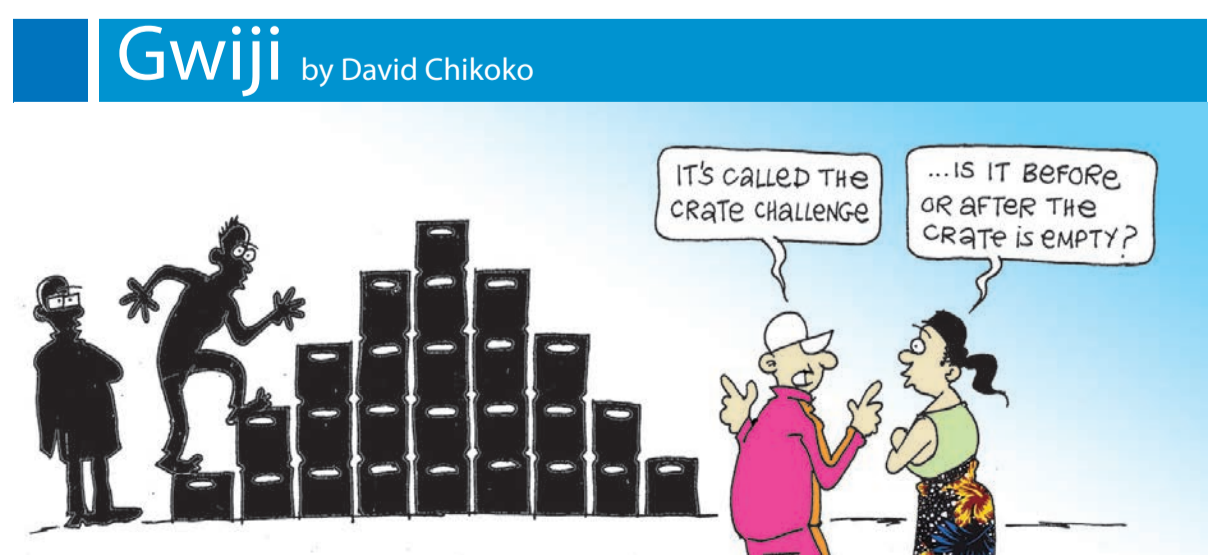
to sensational, whereas the second was more ordinary -- but he is still in development and needs regular playing time to keep progressing.

He could be even more decisive in the last third, not just by chipping in with goals and assists, but also by initiating and constructing attacking moves (though one would expect Madrid have a deeper midfield role in mind for him).

Where he fits in at Madrid

As Camavinga is so smooth on the ball, able to dictate the tempo of the game and pick forward passes between the lines with the right pace and angles, it's easy to see comparisons to Luka Modric, especially as both made their way through youth ranks as attacking midfielders, and the teenager will have no better role model than the Croatia legend.

ESPN





# SPORT

**Mbappe's non-transfer shows where soccer power lies**

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## Devotha seeks re-election for Chaneta Chairperson post

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S Netball Association (Chaneta) Chairperson, Devotha Marwa, will seek a second term at the association's polls slated for October in Dodoma.

The elections will be held on October 17 and, in an interview that took place in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Devotha (pictured) said she would like to complete unfinished projects which are already underway at Chaneta.

She mentioned some of her unfinished projects as the formation of Chaneta's new constitution and an initiative seeking to promote the sport from the grassroots.

Devotha who is also a University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) senior lecturer said her first term in office as Chaneta Chairperson was a mixed bag.

She said during her first term, they managed to pay International Netball Federation (INF) and Africa Netball Federation (ANF) outstanding fees, which saw Tanzania regain its membership in the two federations.

Devotha also said netball in the country is now well organized, given they have managed to host many coaches and umpire courses and seminars.

The official noted: "I'm in a better and stronger position than ever to undertake development projects at Chaneta, we have done a lot during my first term in office."

"We are not only members of INF and ANF, but also now we have men's netball teams, all domestic netball leagues are now active and we are working closely with all national sports associations, the media, and many other stakeholders of sports," she said.

She mentioned some of the main challenges she faced in her first term as lack of corporate support.

Meanwhile, Devotha said the National Second Division netball tournament will be held in Morogoro from the end of this month and more than 20 teams will compete in it.

Netball was one of the most popular sports in Tanzania. The sport was introduced to the country after World War I when the country was under British colonial rule.

The sport was intended for leisure and was first played in schools. For this reason, almost all primary schools in the country have a court.

Recruitment for the national team and other high-level teams started at that level.

The Chaneta was created in 1966. Women have historically dominated in leadership positions in Chaneta but men are still involved, especially in roles like coaching.

During the 1970s and 1980s, there was a push by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the British Council to promote sport and women's sport in Tanzania.

Despite netball being the most popular women's sport at the time, no investment was made into the sport.

## Taifa Stars begin pursuit of 2022 World Cup qualification



Senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' players participate in training in Dar es Salaam recently to shape up for African qualifiers for the 2022 World Cup. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA'S senior national football team, Taifa Stars, will play its first match in African qualifiers for the 2022 World Cup against DRC Congo at the TP Mazembe Stadium in Lubumbashi today.

Tanzania is in Group J with Benin, Madagascar and DRC Congo in the run-up to the 2022 World Cup to be held in Qatar.

Towards the game, Taifa Stars' assistant captain, John Bocco, has not been included in coach Kim Poulsen's squad to face DR Congo in the World Cup qualifiers fixture.

Other players left out of the 23-man list include midfielder, Zawadi Mauya, keeper Ramadhani Kabwili, and defenders, Kennedy Juma and Edward Manyama.

It should be noted that Taifa Stars qualified for the second round of the tournament after beating the Burundi national team and advancing to the group stage that has Tanzania being drawn in Group J with DR Congo, Madagascar, and Benin.

Bocco has been ruled out due to injuries, while Manyama, Kabwili, and Mauya have been left for technical reasons.

In the absence of Bocco, Simon Msuva and Mbwana Samatta will lead Taifa Stars' forward line.

Nickson Kibabage and Lusajo Mwaikenda, who have been added to the squad to replace Juma and Manyama, have shown good form with the national U-23 squad.

Kabwili, who has been named after a long absence, has not been ruled out due to the presence of Aishi Man-

ula and Metacha Mnata, and Wilbroad Maseke.

Taifa Stars' head coach, Poulsen, seems to have more confidence in the youngsters.

The list of the full squad that arrived in DRC Congo for today's game is made up of goalkeepers

Aishi Manula (Simba), Metacha Mnata (No club), Wilbroad Maseke (Azam FC).

Defenders include Shomari Kapombe (Simba), Israel Mwenda (Simba), Erasto Nyoni (Simba), Dickson Job (Yanga), Bakari Mwanjeto (Yanga),

Lusajo Mwaikenda (Azam FC), Mohamed Hussein (Simba), Nickson Kibabage (Youssofia FC- Morocco).

Novatus Dismas (Maccabi Tel Aviv - Israel), Mzamiru Yassin (Simba), Mudathir Yahya (Azam FC), Feisal Salum (Yanga), Salum Abubakar (Azam FC), and Abdulrazack Mohamed (Azam FC) are midfielders.

Forwards are Idd Selemeni (Azam FC), Abdul Suleiman (Coastal Union), Ayoub Lyanga (Azam FC), Meshack Mwamita (Gwambina FC), Mbwana Samatta (Fenerbahce-Turkey), and Simon Msuva (Wydad Casablanca-Morocco).

## Arusha set to host National Athletics Championship

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THIS year's National Athletics Championship will be held at the end of this month in Arusha, Athletics Tanzania (AT) disclosed yesterday.

Michael Washa, AT Technical Committee Chairman, said the event which is expected to attract athletes from all regions of Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar will be held at Sheikh Abeid Karume in the region from September 24-25.

He said the decision to host the event in Arusha was reached as the aim of AT is to see athletics is active in all parts of the country.

Washa disclosed: "This year's National Athletics Championships will be held in Arusha at Sheikh Abeid Karume Stadium, we extended the invitations to all regions of Mainland Tanzania and Zanzibar."

"Participating regions' athletes are supposed to be in Arusha a day before the event, so far no region has confirmed to compete at the event," he said.

Last year the two-day championship was held at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium Dar es Salaam and was sponsored by the Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) at the tune of 60m/-. The showpiece brought together 250 athletes from 28 regions of the country.

This championship was happening after five years of absence and TOC sponsored the event with funding from Olympic Solidarity (OS) and the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA).

Mbaraka James from Tanga was the winner in



Dar es Salaam athletes take part in training in the city to shape up for the previous season's National Championship. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

the men's 1500m race, beating national team athletes Gabriel Geay and Epimak Boniface.

James won the 1500m in 3:47.12, Coast Region is the National Athletics Championship's defending champion.

The region won six gold medals, nine silver medals, and four bronze medals while Arusha took the second spot with five gold

medals, seven silver, and four bronze medals. Unguja South ended third with two gold medals, a silver medal, and a bronze medal.

Zanzibar's, Urban West was fourth with two gold medals, one silver, and five bronze medals, hosts Dar es Salaam finished fifth with two gold medals and two bronze medals while Dodoma and Kilimanjaro were tied on the sixth

position by winning one gold medal, silver medal and bronze medal apiece.

Mbeya, who won one gold medal and two silver medals, ended seventh, Tanga finished eighth with one gold medal, Mwanza and South Pemba took ninth and 10th spots by winning one gold medal and two silver medals respectively.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

