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'Drop weak cases to decongest prisons'

Conservationist eulogies for JK Nyerere ahead of centenary

By Guardian Reporter

AS Tanzanians prepare to mark 100 years of the birth of Father of the Nation Mwalimu Nyerere on April 13, stakeholders around Mwalimu Nyerere Foundation yesterday pointed at an understated legacy of the founder president as environmental conservation.



Dr Selemani Jafo, the Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) said Nyerere was a remarkable conservationist. Ecologists point out that acute draws back of agro-sector technology led to massive deforestation as the population increased and at various points, peasants were concentrated in compact villages to ease the delivery of social services.

Joseph Butiku, the foundation's executive director, said Mwalimu was a man of the people who cared for the environment. Nyerere emphasised to Tanzanians and the world that all human beings are equal regardless of race or religion, thus Tanzanians should respect his legacy of fighting discrimination, he stated.

Urging that every Tanzanian to reflect on the legacy he has left, in an event attended by various retired leaders including ex-premier Joseph Warioba, ex-secretary general of CCM women's wing Leah Lupembe, the retired UWT Dar es Salaam

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President Samia Suluhu Hassan cuts ribbon in Dodoma city yesterday to inaugurate 52 residential houses for Tanzania Prisons staff. Witnessing the event: Home Affairs minister Hamad Masauni (to her left), Tanzania Prisons commissioner general Suleiman Mzee (to her right), Inspector General of Police Simon Sirro (to the minister's left), Chief of Defence Forces General Venance Mabeyo (3rd-L) and Director General Intelligence Security Diwani Msuya (R). Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

By Henry Mwangonde

PRESIDENT Samia Suluhu Hassan yesterday asked the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) to abandon weak cases of remandees now filling up prisons so as to decongest the facilities.

Launching various projects at Prisons headquarters in Dodoma, the president said correctional facilities are congested because of excessive number of remand prisoners.

Remand prison congestion was highlighted by former Home Affairs deputy minister Khamis Chilo in Parliament in April last year that as of March 30 2021, about 33,473 inmates in jails counted 16,735 prisoners and 16,738 remand prisoners, placing excessive weight on prisons, expected to accommodate 29,902 inmates.

President Samia reminded top police and prosecution officials about dropping weak cases to ensure the numbers of remandees is at par with capacity of prisons, promising to take up the matter to ensure that prison operate on the basis of existing capacity.

Addressing challenges raised by the Prisons Department, the president urged less contention in the force and more teamwork to enhance efficiency. "There is a lot that I hear to be happening in prisons," she said, urging officers to work together to realise intended goals.

She also referred to the need for prisons to focus on the need to change the behaviour of inmates, as some former inmates make their way back to prisons if they are pardoned, vowing to boost allocations of budget funds to security establishments.

Pointing at shortfalls in the Prisons service, she said there are weak links between the ministry and the department, thus the department launches projects without the knowledge of the ministry.

As to land conflicts involving prisons and residents who the department says they invade land be-

...there are weak links between the ministry and the department, thus the department launches projects without the knowledge of the ministry

Tanzania joins anti-terror regional security alliance

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has declared Tanzania's commitment to regional efforts to combat a rising threat of terrorist groups in the southern Africa region, noticed in the Cabo Delgado Province, in the northern part of Mozambique.

The premier was attending an international security conference convened by King Abdullah of Jordan at the port city of Aqaba, attended by Heads of State from eastern and southern Africa as well as a number of key Western security officials.

He said Tanzania will continue to provide support to deal with the reality of terrorism and violent extremism in Cabo Delgado area



Defence and National Service minister Dr Stergomena Tax said the centre beefs up the work of member states in shaping up common approaches to facing terrorist attacks, in exchanging ...

bordering a vast stretch of southern Tanzania in Mtwara and Ruvuma regions.

The meeting explored ways of effective ways to counter terrorism in the region, with those in attendance including President Paul Kagame of Rwanda, President Filipe Nyusi of Mozambique and African Union chairman President Felix Tshisekedi of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)

Top level security officials were drawn from the United States, the European Union, parts of Asia and South America, officials said.

The meeting were part of the 'Aqaba Process' described as a counter-terrorism forum discussed a Mozambican proposal on how to strengthen cooperation to end terrorist challenges in the country and in the neighbour

Price cuts likely as Puma Energy eyes LPG market

By Guardian Reporter

CONSUMERS of Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG), who are users of cooking gas distributed in cylinders, are set to benefit from competition as Puma Energy, a Swiss multinational based in Singapore, enters the market now dominated by two companies. Puma Energy (T) expects to unveil its products to the



... the firm was already the leading oil retailer in Tanzania, and its gas will be of high quality, sold at its petrol selling stations countrywide. "We are prepared for the market competition as we are aware ... market in just over a month from now in May, expecting

to extensively widen the use of gas to enable people to switch from charcoal that is overwhelmingly relied upon in the urban areas. LPG has the potential to diminish deforestation, with over one million tonnes of charcoal used for cooking annually in urban areas, which experts say is represents 109,500 ha of forest cover creamed off, while the city of

Dar es Salaam alone uses close to 70 per cent of the produce. Dr Selemani Majige, the firm's board chairman, said the firm is working to bring its product to the market at affordable prices and reach city dwellers and peripheral areas rapidly. He said the firm was already the

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Tanzania joins Mozambique in anti-terror convergence

FROM PAGE 1

hood, underlining that the Cabo Delgado Province is close to Tanzania, making the country's participating in countering terrorism of paramount importance.

The meeting is the third since the Aqaba Process was launched in 2015, focusing on coordinating a response to rising terrorist threats by splinter groups from the Middle East and Western Asia theatre of war.

Participants examined ways of confronting threats by terrorist and extremist groups now expanding their activities in various parts of Africa especially in the Sahel belt, building on initiatives explored by the regional counter terrorism centre within the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC).

Defence and National Service minister Dr Stergomena Tax said the centre beefs up the work of member states in shaping up common approaches to facing terrorist attacks, in exchanging experience through collection, analysis of information plus capacity building training.

Terrorism must be vigorously addressed through rapid deployment of combat units, where SADC member states need to be fully committed to tackle the rising terrorist menace, she said.

Data from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) indicates that between 2007 and 2016 the African continent lost \$119bn used in combating terrorism, weakening the capacity of states to pursue vital development projects.

Deaths occurring worldwide from terrorism reached 7,142 last year on the basis of UN data, a mild drop of 1.2 per cent from the previous year and a third of the total recorded in 2015 when civil strife and terror groups reigned across a large part of Africa and Western Asia.



Puma Energy Tanzania board chairman Dr Selemani Majige (2nd-L) graces Thursday's ceremony in Dar es Salaam at which the firm awarded filling stations it considered outstanding. Third right is managing director Dominic Dhanah. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Conservationist eulogies for Nyerere ahead of centenary

FROM PAGE 1

Region chairperson Janeth Kahama and various other stakeholders.

Mwalimu Nyerere passed away on October 14, 1999 at Saint Thomas Hospital in London at the age of 77 and buried in his home village of Butiama in Mara region.

Enthusiasts converged on Thursday night ahead of the centenary

three weeks to come, where the discussion focused on Nyerere's contributions in environmental conservation.

Dr Selemani Jafo, the Minister of State in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) said Nyerere was a remarkable conservationist. Ecologists point out that acute draws back of agro-sector technology led to massive deforestation as the population

increased and at various points, peasants were concentrated in compact villages to ease the delivery of social services.

The fact that approximately 40 per cent of the land in the country is protected, with extensive wildlife parks and forests shows the environment theme that guided the work of the founder president, Dr Jafo noted.

Celebrating Nyerere's centenary

demands that the country rededicates itself to protecting the Union and the country's environment, he declared, expressing satisfaction that the past leaders here and young people came to the event, passing the torch of the legacy of the Father of the Nation.

Tanzanians have every reason to be proud of the leadership legacy left by the late Mwalimu Nyerere, leading to succession by President

Samia Suluhu Hassan in line with the constitution, making history as the first woman running mate, vice president and finally President of the United Republic, he further noted.

He praised the work of President Samia for diplomatic bridge building including a remarkable address at the 26th UN conference on climate change in November last year.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa pictured in Aqaba, Jordan, on Thursday holding talks with the Chairman of Jordan's Chiefs of Staff, Gen Yousef Alhunaity (2nd-L). This was shortly after a meeting where the agenda was on security in the South Eastern Africa region, including in Mozambique. Right is Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation deputy minister Mbarouk Nassor Mbarouk. Photo: PMO

Price cuts likely as Puma Energy eyes LPG market

FROM PAGE 1

leading oil retailer in Tanzania, and its gas will be of high quality, sold at its petrol selling stations countrywide. "We are prepared for the market competition as we are aware of the presence of a number of dealers in the LPG business," he remarked on Thursday night at an event to award its dealers across the country. Urging dealers to focus in quality services and quality fuel or other products, he said that apart from coming up with new products, the board of directors had resolved to increase the number of fuel selling stations to over 150 by 2025.

The board is working to see fuel selling stations set up in rural areas, he said, while managing director Dominic Dhanah said that from 2018 to 2021 the firm increased the number of fuel selling stations from 52 to 80. Directing his remarks at quality as the focus of competition, he em-

phasised that the firm is working to improve provision of services to ensure its products remain the number one choice to consumers, citing its entrance into the LPG market soon as an expression of this drive.

Puma Energy stakeholders including the government have been pushing for the company to expand its businesses, to boost its share value and dividends, he stated, noting that the award ceremony was not conducted in 2020 and 2021 on account of uncertainties tied to the outbreak of COVID-19.

Puma Energy (T) is a joint venture firm with Puma Investments Ltd holding 50 per cent shares and the Treasury Registrar's office the other 50 per cent, a midstream oil marketing firm engaged in large storage and distribution of petroleum products. Locally it has storage capacity of 94 million litres, operating 80 petrol stations country-wide and servicing eight airports, he added.

Ex-Togo premier Houngbo first African to head ILO

GENEVA

Gilbert Houngbo, the former prime minister of Togo, was on yesterday elected the next head of the International Labour Organisation, and will become the first African to lead the UN agency.

After two rounds of voting, the ILO's governing body elected the 61-year-old to succeed British trade unionist Guy Ryder, who steps down at the end of

September, after 10 years in the job.

"You have made history," Houngbo told the governing body after the election.

"I am deeply and absolutely honoured to be the first representative of the African region to be selected to lead the ILO after 103 years."

Houngbo was chosen from among five candidates and had been seen in a strong position

after the African Union threw its weight behind him.

Currently head of the Rome-based International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), he also enjoyed strong backing on the labour side.

He has previously held several high-level positions within the UN system, such as finance director at the UN Development Programme (UNDP) and deputy director-general of ILO itself, from 2013-

2017.

His opponents in the race were former French labour minister Muriel Penicaud, South Korea's ex-foreign minister Kang Kyung-wha, South African entrepreneur Mthunzi Mdvaba, and ILO deputy Greg Vines of Australia.

Houngbo's win marks a dramatic shift for the ILO, which since its founding in 1919 has been led by men only from Europe or

the Americas.

The oldest specialised UN agency has 187 member states, which are, uniquely in the UN system, represented by governments, employers and workers.

The organisation's governing body counts 56 members, with half of them representing governments, and a quarter each representing employers and workers. AGENCIES

AU commission scales up quality sustainable investment in Africa

By Guardian Reporter

OVER the past few years, both domestic and foreign direct investment (FDI) has come to play an increasingly important role in the economic development of many countries. It is now widely recognized that FDI can offer important advantages for the recipient economies. In addition to capital inflows, FDI can lead to transfer of technology and know-how, improve access to international markets, and spur competition.

The African Union Commission, Department of Economic Development, Trade, Industry, and Mining (ETIM) organized a technical workshop to develop a comprehensive strategy for the mobilization quality and sustainable investment into Africa from March 22nd to 25th, 2022 in Cairo, Egypt.

The workshop was organized with the aim of developing a comprehensive strategy for the mobilization of quality and sustainable investment in Africa which will then be used by

the AU Member States to attract both Domestic and FDI into their respective countries.

Representing the Commissioner for ETIM, Hussein Hassan, Head of Industry and Mining division highlighted the impact of domestic investment and FDI in African economies.

He said "Many countries are stepping up their efforts to attract FDI flows in their countries through, liberalization of FDI entry requirements such as improving policy credibility, transparency of the legal and

regulatory framework, property rights, transaction costs, risks and removing other impediments to attracting investments."

He added that the African Union Commission, in close collaboration with the African Governments, the African Investment Promotion Agencies, and other relevant stakeholders has embarked on developing a continental Strategy to mobilize Quality and Sustainable Investment in Africa. The strategy is expected to enhance the attractiveness of the continent and

enable greater flows of both domestic and global MNCs into the continent which will ultimately lead to increased economic growth and sustainable development through the creation of wealth, new employment opportunities, and improvement of the living standards of the African people. African independent experts from private sectors, civil societies, and academia from east, west, south, and northern African countries are attending the workshop.

Dr Mwinyi lauds Chinese govt for supporting Z'bar economic growth

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has thanked the Chinese government for its long-term and important support to Zanzibar's economic and social development.

Among the Chinese support include the donation of COVID-19 vaccines and medical supplies.

Dr Mwinyi made the remarks when he met with Chinese ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian who paid a courtesy call on him.

The two sides had a cordial exchange of views on China-Tanzania and China-Zanzibar cooperation. Chief Secretary of the Zanzibar Revolutionary Government Eng. Zena Ahmed Said, Chinese Consul General in Zanzibar Zhang Zhisheng and some other officials were present at the meeting.

President Mwinyi stressed that Zanzibar and China have always been good friends and partners, standing shoulder to shoulder. "Zanzibar is willing to work with China to vigorously carry forward Zanzibar-China traditional friendship, and push forward the development of Tanzania-China relations so as to

better benefit the two peoples," he said. Ambassador Chen forwarded Chinese Vice President Wang Qishan's best wishes to President Mwinyi. She said that China and Tanzania, and China and Zanzibar enjoy profound friendship forged by Chairman Mao Zedong, President Julius Nyerere, President Abeid Karume and other older-generation leaders.

China-Zanzibar relations are built upon solid foundation and have achieved remarkable progress in recent years. China is ready to take the implementation of the outcomes of the Eighth Ministerial Conference of the Forum on China-Africa Cooperation (FOCAC) as an opportunity, to further align the Belt and Road Initiative with Zanzibar's development strategy, expand bilateral cooperation in infrastructure, blue economy, agriculture and other fields, and promote China-Zanzibar practical cooperation to bear more fruits.

Ambassador Chen also met with the First Vice President of Zanzibar, Othman Masoud Sharif and the Second Vice President of Zanzibar, Hemed Suleiman Abdalla on the same day.



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi has an audience at Zanzibar State House on Wednesday with China's Ambassador to Tanzania, Chen Mingjian (L). They discussed a wide range of issues relating to China-Tanzania and China-Zanzibar cooperation. Photo courtesy of Chinese Embassy

Tanzania loses 17trn/- annually to revenue collection loopholes

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo Dodoma

WHILE budgetary estimates process for the fiscal year 2022/23 start to take shape, tax and revenue experts as well as development partners have challenged the government to address existing loopholes in tax collections in the country.

This comes after a new research showing that the country has been losing at least 17.4trn/- annually from 2013 to date, through the said loopholes in revenue collections.

Entitled "How The Government is Losing in Taxes", the research was conducted through support from Action Aid Tanzania in cooperation with the various public institutes and ministries.

This was raised during a special meeting that brought together stakeholders in education, social development, economists and planning officers from district to regional levels of Dodoma regions.

The meeting, held under financial patronage from Action Aid Tanzania, was tailored to provide a key platform to chart possible ways to improve budgetary allocations toward the vital sectors, with an eye to attain equity development within the country.

Presenting the research findings, Dr Balazi Morwa, tax advisor from Action-Aid Tanzania, observed that just 20 percent of the estimated revenue lost in 2019/20, which stood at US\$1.9 billion, equivalent to 3.4 trillion could pay for 186,898 pre-primary and primary teachers, the cost of educating all 3.5 million children estimated to be out of school, as well as construction of all 226,065 classrooms to be needed, among others.

He added that the major efforts in revenue collections so far demonstrated by the sixth phase government will likely not pay back needed results if the said loopholes will not timely be fixed.

"From the findings, it is prudent for the government, policy makers and relevant authorities to ramp up collective efforts to help contain the challenges in the country's revenue collections corridor in order to stimulate needed development from across the country," he stated.

According to the study, the loopholes include illicit financial flows, harmful tax incentives, unrealistic tax objections as well as unresolved tax appeals machinery, including TRAB

and TRAT.

Others are non-payment of tax arrears, inadequate compliance by public authorities, informal economy as well as failure by public authorities to use the Election Fiscal Devices (EFD), among others.

He urged for improvement in budgetary allocations towards the vital socioeconomic sectors in the country, chiefly education and health.

"There is a need for the government to start doing productive analysis in determining and prioritizing the sectors which are supposed to receive giant monies," he said.

For instance, apart from not having a clear and reliable benchmark for understanding which levels in the education sector produces human power with major contributions towards building the national economy, he said the budget has always been being Gender-Sensitive.

Responding on behalf of the Dodoma Regional Commissioner (RC), Assistant Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS), Asante Rabi Sangeoi, hailed the stakeholders for the timely presentation, noting that the government, from national to regional levels will work to solve the concerns.

"The government has always been impressed with the good contributions and support from the development partners, including Action Aid," he appreciated.

The stakeholders wanted the government to ensure it increased budget allocations towards the education sector, at least to comply with the Dakar Framework for Action - Education for All.

The Framework, among others, directs governments to achieve quality basic education for all by 2015 or earlier, with particular emphasis on girls' education.

Among the chronic challenges that continue to haunt the country's education sector, from primary and secondary levels, according to the stakeholders, include shortage of classroom and put latrine structures, desks and facilities and trainers towards the students with special needs.

Joram Wimmo, ActionAid project coordinator said the NGO will continue cooperating with the government and citizens to push for the improvement of key socioeconomic sectors within the district, as well as in other parts of the country.

JICA emphasises regular washing of hands

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is appealing to the public to continue adhering to hygiene measures which include washing hands frequently so as to fight diseases.

In early 2021, JICA Tanzania launched a hand-washing campaign dubbed; "Let's get rid of diseases by washing our hands regularly" which translates to "Tokomeza magonjwa kwa kunawa mikono mara kwa mara" in Swahili.

Germs on unwashed hands can be transferred to other objects such as table tops, doorknobs, toys, and then to other children. Removing germs by hand washing is therefore an effective way to prevent diarrhea, respiratory infections and even other communicable diseases.

In a statement availed to the media yesterday JICA stated: "We started it in our office and encouraged all the staff to wash their hands properly. We then introduced ourselves outside the office

beginning with the JICA projects and its personnel."

In the campaign, JICA created nearly 20,000 posters and 500 banners with manga cartoons designed by Inoue Kimidori to promote hygiene habits and behaviour change symbolized by hand washing at the right time and the right way. It is important that we take action to contribute to the prevention of infectious diseases for our families and our country by incorporating proper hand washing habits.

"Keeping all children healthy is an important goal of childcare programs, and proper and careful hand washing can help children and childcare providers prevent the spread of germs that can cause illness," read part of the statement.

The statement explained that JICA introduced the campaign to a few selected schools in Ilala and Kinondoni districts, and then extended to all public primary schools in all five districts of Dar es Salaam covering more than 50,000 students in total.

"We prepared an above manga cartoon and a banner showing proper hand washing procedure and the importance of hand washing, which was demonstrated by five volunteer kids to the school children," it added.

The hand washing campaign also reached eight primary schools and four secondary schools in the Kisarawe region, covering nearly 6,000 students. During this campaign, JICA received a lot of positive feedback from beneficiary schools, some of which are as follows:

Head Teacher of Olympio Primary School: "We thank JICA for this campaign. We believe it will influence behaviour change within our students. They will be good ambassadors to their friends and relatives."

A student from Diamond Primary school: "I really like cartoons, apart from enjoying the cartoons I am also learning the importance of washing my hands timely."

The Head Teacher of Kigogo Primary School: "Thanks to JICA support to

Tanzania, today we receive this burner and Manga cartoons it will remind the students of the importance of hand washing, we are looking forward to continuing with this relation."

Students on their part said: "We are happy and we learned the importance of hand washing. Before I was washing my hands a few times maybe before or after a meal, but today I learned it is important to wash my hands many times after touching or finishing doing some things so that I can remove the bacteria, which I cannot see with my eyes."

JICA expressed its determination to expand this campaign to government primary schools, government hospitals, and government secondary schools in Zanzibar. JICA hopes that this campaign will spread to a wider area of Tanzania.

Nearly 20,000 posters and 500 banners with manga cartoons are distributed to all public primary schools in Dar es Salaam and several primary schools and secondary schools in Kisarawe district, Coast Region.

TCCIA, ICC sign five-year MoU to strengthen trade, business links

By Beatrice Philemon

TANZANIA Chamber of Commerce and Industry (TCCIA) and the Indian Chamber of Commerce (ICC) have signed a five-year Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) aimed to strengthen trade and business links between two countries.

This was conducted on Thursday evening at the Business Roundtable in power, energy and construction that involved businessmen and women from different countries including India and Tanzania.

Speaking after signing the agreement, TCCIA's President, Paul Koyi said the new partnership will create a new era of economic growth, helping Tanzania to add value to agricultural produce, boost exports and imports as well as assist farmers to obtain best price for what they grow.

Koyi said in May or June this year, TCCIA's members will visit India to share experience, learn and gain experience from their counterparts on what they offer and see technologies they have that will be suitable in value addition especially for agricultural produce.

He called on TCCIA's members to be ready and utilise the opportunity well as the country invests in establishment of factories for value addition.

In his remarks, Deputy Minister for Investment, Industry and

Trade, Exaud Kigahe said the signing of the MoU shows how the two countries are working together to strengthen investment and business relations.

He said India and Tanzania are determined to work closely towards finding the best ways to unlock new potentials and reinforce the existing trade and investment opportunities that exist between our two countries.

Trade between Tanzania and India reached US\$2.22 billion in 2021/2022. India exports worth US\$1.21 billion and imports worth US\$1.01 billion, this makes India as the third largest bilateral trade partner of Tanzania after China and UAE.

"I invite more Indian companies to come and invest in Tanzania and I have been told that 30 Indian companies are in Tanzania participating in the 6th Edition of power and energy Africa Expo 2022 in Dar es Salaam including 20 Indian Companies are also participating from building and construction sector at Build expo Africa 2022," he said

In 2020, Tanzania was elevated to lower-middle income category. Economic activities with the highest contribution to GDP including agriculture and construction both of which had robust growth.

Agriculture's growth of 5.3 percent reflected favourable weather conditions that enabled a bumper harvest. While construction's growth of 12.9 percent was a con-



Indian Chamber of Commerce regional director Debmalya Banerjee (L) and Tanzania Chamber of Commerce and Industry (TCCIA) president Paul Koyi (R) signing a five-year MoU on the promotion of business links between the two countries. Looking on (standing, from-L): Indian High Commission's second secretary, Raj Ganger; India's High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan (2nd-L); Industry, Trade and Investments deputy minister Exaud Kigahe; and Tanzania-India Business Forum secretary Suresh Kumar. Photo courtesy of Indian High Commission

sequence of the infrastructure investments, especially roads, railway and airports.

Kigahe said there are several investment opportunities in the country that are yet to be fully utilised.

"Large deposits of gold, diamonds, precious stones, natural gas and some other minerals remained under-exploited for long due to lack of investment and technologies," he noted.

In 2021, Tanzania's commodity exports were US\$5,349.53 million while Tanzania's import was US\$10,881.74 million with a trade deficit of US\$5,532.21 million.

Tanzania's commodity exports are traditionally composed of gold, cashew nut, precious metal, dried leguminous vegetables, oil seeds and oleaginous fruits, coffee, tobacco, rice, fish fillets.

Tanzania's main imports are petroleum products, medicines, motorcars, and other motor vehicles, edible oil, steel, electrical apparatus and other products.

India High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Pradhan added that India is the prominent trade partner in Tanzania and biggest exporter in Tanzania.

"We have a lot of Indian investment in Tanzania and right now we invite Indian companies to invest in Tanzania especially in education, health and pharmaceutical areas to create joint ventures and do business."

The main goal is promote economic and business links between two countries and assist Tanzanians to access high quality health services and improve the education sector.

IN THE HIGH COURT OF TANZANIA
AT DODOMA
APPELLATE JURISDICTION
CRIMINAL REVISION NO. 01 OF 2022
(FROM ORIGINAL CRIMINAL CASE NO. 18 OF 2018
IN THE RIMS COURT OF DODOMA AT DODOMA
DPP..... APPELLANT/APPLICANT
Original accused/Prosecutor)
VERSUS
THADEI BONIFACE KAYOMBO & 2
OTHERS..... RESPONDENT
(Original accused/Prosecutor)

TO ADELHAD MGENI
TAKE NOTICE that the 05 day of 04/2022 at 9:00
O'clock in the forenoon has been fixed for the
Mention/Hearing/Judgment/Ruling of the appeal
against conviction and sentence filed by the Applicant
in the above case.
Given under my hand and the seal of the Court this 17
day of 03/2022

Govt says it will support agricultural seed agency

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE government has promised to support the Agricultural Seed Agency (ASA) to pay all its debts owed by various seed producers calling it to continue making strategies to expand farms and capital.

Director of crop development from the Ministry of Agriculture, Nyasebwa Chimagu made the assurance yesterday here while opening a meeting between ASA and seed producers.

The meeting which aimed to identify seed producers, including familiarising with officials from the ministry and ASA, brought together seed producers from various regions in the country.

Chimagu said the ministry will work with the institution to ensure it pays the amount of money that the producers claim so as to motivate them to continue producing seeds.

He said currently, seeds production opportunities are greater but production is still low, so it is good for the producers and other investors to chip in and expand seed production fields to achieve the government's goal.

"All seed producers that claim their funds, don't worry as the government is committed to work with ASA to ensure it pays off all your debts," Chimagu said.

He explained that the agreement entered between ASA and the producers is a business, so the institution should make sure that it develops a good work plan so that producers can continue producing

quality seeds that will bring productivity to farmers and the nation at large.

He also said the ministry is planning to start visiting seed producing areas, to identify the challenges that farmers face and find solutions which will simulate production of quality seeds.

"We only need your cooperation, once we start visiting you in your producing farms," he added.

However, he urged the producers to utilise the knowledge gained from the conference to make changes in their seed production activities, including finding suitable land for cultivation.

He also called on the ASA to ensure that meetings like that are sustainably organised so as to ensure maturing producers get the education to produce quality seeds that will bring positive results to the community. ASA chief executive Dr Sophia Kashenga thanked the government for allocating funds to help them increase the production of quality seeds so as to meet the needs of the country.

She said ASA cannot work without having private producers, which is why they have organized the conference to get to know each other and provide education on how to produce quality seeds of various required crops.

Msrman Modhwadin, a seed producer from the Kilosa based-Aria Plantation Ltd said the group face various challenges including poor infrastructures, a situation that thwarts efforts to increase production.



Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development deputy minister Ridhiwan Kikwete (3rd-R, foreground) cuts the ribbon in Dar es Salaam on Thursday to launch Build Expo Africa 2022. To his right is the Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania, Binaya Srikanta Pradhan. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Public institutions, private organisations challenged to prioritise internal auditors

By Correspondent Faustine Feliciane

PUBLIC institutions and private organisations have been challenged to prioritise internal auditors to help achieve development goals and enable the country to move forward.

The advice was given in Dar es Salaam yesterday by the Vice Presidents' wife, Mboni Mpango at the launch of the new logo and website of the Tanzania Internal Audit Institute (IIA).

She said it is important that all the institutions use internal auditors because they help in providing an overview of what is happening within a

specific institution.

She was of the view that internal auditors are an eye of any institution when it comes to self-evaluation as well as planning for development strategies. She said prioritizing them would not only help in implementation of institution tasks, but the country's development.

"Both public and private institutions can hardly operate without reliable internal auditors, they play an important role in stimulating development of the institutions and the nation at large," said Mboni.

She also urged IIA to continue being

innovative in its operations and to look on how it can transform its systems to work digitally following the on-going global technological changes.

Zanzibar's Internal Auditor General, Fatuma Hamis Mohamed said despite the various challenges, internal auditor remains the eye of the government and accountants in overseeing the collection and use of government funds.

She noted that in executing their duties in Zanzibar, internal auditors have been coming across problems of poor financial reports especially in procurement and other sectors.

"There are challenges in

understanding procurement laws and regulations, as auditors we continue to educate various institutions on the rules to ensure their financial statements are in required standards," said Fatuma.

IIA Tanzania President, CPA Zelia Njeza said the launch of the new logo as well as the institute's website will accelerate modernization; thus enabling it to digitalize its works.

He said they are still struggling with educating people on the importance and roles of internal auditors as most Tanzanians have been confusing them with external auditors.



Iringa University student Fanleck Chaula pictured yesterday taking needy youths at Igoda village in Mufindi District through the basics of entrepreneurship under Youth Agency Mufindi (YAM) project sponsorship. The idea is to help them engage meaningfully in self-employment. Photo: Correspondent Francis Godwin.

Tanzanians urged to resist temptations to stop making efforts to rein in COVID-19

By Correspondent Sabato Kasika

TANZANIANS have been urged to continue taking precaution measures against COVID-19 following recent announcement by the World Health Organisation (WHO) on the new variant of the respiratory disease.

The piece of advice was given by Diana Mbena, chairperson of a non-governmental organisation-Eden Twins Foundation that works towards the fulfilment of twins' dreams in life and their involvement in the society. The foundation provides assistance to twins from poor households.

Speaking to this paper yesterday, Mbena said that one of the major prevention against COVID-19 is to get vaccinated as well as adhering to guidelines issued by health professional including social distancing, wearing face masks and hand washing with soap and running water or using alcohol based hand rubs.

"I have heard the Health Minister, Ummu Mwalimu confirming to journalists that the new COVID-19 variant has not been diagnosed in our country, but it is important to continue taking protective measures," she said.

She said since the new variant has been reported in some countries, there are possibilities of Tanzanians getting it as well.

"We also educate people on the importance of being vaccinated. We work with twin children from disadvantaged families, these people need to get the jobs so that they are protected from the disease," said Mbena.

According to the health minister, the total number of those eligible for vaccination stands at around 30.7m people who are aged 18 and above, thus so far vaccination has reached 9.81 percent.

Mwalimu urged political leaders, civil servants and others to maintain advocacy on the importance of being vaccinated.

Mass protection of people against COVID-19 requires that up to vaccinate 70 percent of eligible members of the public are vaccinated, the minister underlined.

To achieve the set target, vaccination services would now be offered at bus stations, residential areas and at different types of gatherings, she specified, appealing to regional commissioners to enhance COVID vaccination sensitization.

Local contractors called on to establish joint ventures

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole, Dodoma

CONTRACTORS have been called upon to join forces through joint ventures in order to bid for high-value projects.

The Contractors Registration Board (CRB), has been urged local contractors to be very careful and make due diligence when looking for joint ventures (JVs) projects.

The idea is to avoid conflict during the execution of construction projects.

The board also urged them to find trustful and committed contractors who observe the industry ethics and professionalism because the trend show that many local contractors JVs projects fails due to selfishness

among them.

CRB Advocate, Salehe Njaa made the call in Dodoma yesterday when presenting a paper on Joint Ventures Aspect, Legal and Regulatory Framework during the two-day training for local contractors.

He said Joint Ventures projects is like marriage which need someone to undergo due diligence before signing the contract so that he/she can be comfortable during the implementation of the project adding that contrary to that it might become a disaster.

He said many clients prefer their projects to be implemented by joint Ventures models so he urged them to change their attitudes and start working in partnership with their colleague so that it become easy to

get tenders regularly.

"Joint Ventures are very good but you must be carefully with people you need to join them. You must know their financial muscles, how committed and trustful they are, take time to know their background don't rush because you can get yourself in disaster," he said.

Salehe said it is very important for people who wish to go for joint ventures to be aware of ethics because the experience shows that some of them when they get advance payment they reallocate some of money to other businesses.

The official said some local contractors believe in shortcuts and they don't follow procurement or financial procedures something which at the end of the day results

in contradictions during the implementation of the projects.

Salehe said it is not advised to enter in JVs with lazy contractors because experience shows that many of them abandon the site and continue with their personal business while their partner suffer alone to supervise the JVs project.

He said the situation has resulted in conflict among themselves and CRB has been receiving complaints from partners who want to remove others from their JVs due to laziness and misconduct in the implementation of project.

"We've one case where three contractors went for JVs and during the implementation of the project two of them wrote a letter to CRB that they want to remove

one partner. We interviewed that partner and realized that he is not committed and he never attended the site for over three months so that's why we need you to know each other first," he said.

He also said contractors need to enter in JVs with people who are transparent and trustful in their daily conduct to avoid conflict especially in financial matters especially during the material mobilization to start the project, citing one example where three contractors were implementing a project in JVs but they abandoned the project for a while and the client decided to contact CRB to know what went wrong with the contractors.

Access to clean and safe water crucial for smooth learning, schools advised

By Guardian Reporter

SCHOOLS have been urged to invest and emphasize sanitation, ensuring that there is access to clean and safe water so as to support smooth learning and development of children.

Various reports point out that a favourable learning and teaching environment is vital in improving children's performance in schools.

Gladys Micheal, an education stakeholder and owner of Joygla Early Beginner Children's Daycare based in Arusha Region, made the call early this week during the commemoration of the World Water Day.

She commended the government for investing in free basic education saying more still needs to be done in the area of learning and teaching environment as well as water and sanitation.

Micheal noted that a conducive learning environment will attract and enable young children to love school, perform well in examinations and later become good experts to serve in various sectors.

Research shows that the economic returns to investments in childhood development and early education are immense and rewarding both at the family and the national level.

"By giving a child proper education at an early stage you prepare them for greater educational attainment and higher earnings in future," says Gladys Micheal an educator in Arusha Tanzania.

She also urged parents and residents of the area to keep a close eye on their children's education, monitoring their progress and morals.

She said: "It is not only about getting your child to school but ensuring that the school offers the right and conducive environment

for your child's proper upbringing. For this to happen sanitation is very important, so today as we celebrate this very important day, I cannot overemphasize the importance of access to clean and safe water, especially in our schools."

She further explained that early childhood is our most important learning period, this is when we develop advances in reasoning, language acquisition, and problem solving. During this period, the most important influence is a child's environment which can dramatically influence development of brain, character and physical wellbeing of the child.

"We prioritize sanitation above all else. We ensure that our children wash their hands, have water in the bathrooms and also drink clean and safe water, we cannot underestimate the value of water, water is life," she added.

Addressing guests at the function, including regional government authorities, parents and water and sanitation stakeholders, Richard Muluga Mwihechi, the Lemara Ward Development Officer, Arusha, said there is no excuse for parents not to ensure their children start school early but again pointed out the need for caretakers to provide the best possible care and education.

"Parents play a central role in ensuring that their children receive the best possible early start upbringing by taking the time to research the environment that their children are learning in," he said.

March 22 marks the World Water Day, when leaders, companies and organisations come together to discuss world water issues. This year, the World Water Day Forum was held in Dakar, the capital of Senegal.



Motorcycle taxi rider clearly violating road safety regulations while putting his own life and the life of his "passenger" at serious risk, as caught at the Mbezi Mwisho section of Dar es Salaam's Morogoro Road yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Costech inaugurates four research priorities

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Tanzania Commission for Science and Technology (Costech) has launched four research priorities to be conducted from 2022 to 2026 which will facilitate the establishment of ethics committees and national guidelines on research.

Deputy Minister for Education, Science and Technology Omari Kipanga launched the priorities in Dar es Salaam on Friday. They have been funded by Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

COSTECH Director General, Amos Nungu said using national guidelines; it

has managed to establish committees to oversee ethics in research in sectors of agriculture, livestock and fisheries as well as forestry in Tanzania mainland.

He named the institutions currently using the committees as Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TARIL), Tanzania Fisheries Research Institute (TAFIRI) and Tanzania Forestry Research Institute (TAFORD).

He said the commission was also working on establishing guidelines for managing research in Zanzibar in sectors of agriculture, health, livestock and fisheries.

"We are also establishing the same

at the National Bureau of Statistics office and the office of the Second Vice president in Zanzibar," he said.

He named areas which are being prioritised as human life development, building a vibrant economy based on industries and tourism and heritage.

Other areas include sustainable natural resources and other cross-cutting issues including Information and Communication Technology (ICT) as well as to add value to products that are locally produced.

The deputy minister Kipanga noted that all researches to be conducted should be taken through the committees

and be approved by COSTECH.

"Due to the importance of the committees in promoting quality research, the government through COSTECH will continue to empower the committees to ensure they are translated into action," he said.

He said the government has increased budget for COSTECH from 3.8bn/- to 9bn/- to facilitate research conduct and quality in the country.

On his part, Swedish ambassador to Tanzania Anders Sjöberg promised to issue 20bn/- to fund research through COSTECH.



Zanzibar's Health minister, Nassor Ahmed Mazrui (2nd-R, in specs) presents cooking oil to Mnazi Mmoja Hospital's Maternity Department head, Margret Selvesta Tayari, as part of a consignment of items Ahmad Mohamed Al-Falasi Foundation extended earlier this week as assistance to the ministry's staff in the Isles. Photo: Rahma Suleiman

WHO issues alert to African states easing COVID-19 measures

GENEVA

THE World Health Organisation (WHO) is urging caution over the increasing number of African countries rolling back COVID-19 surveillance and quarantine measures.

The WHO says this is especially "worrisome in a continent that still has the lowest rates of vaccination in the world".

It said that because of the pressure to open up the economy, countries were cutting back on surveillance and other measures.

"It is a matter of concern that nearly half of all countries

in Africa have stopped tracing the contacts of cases. This, along with robust testing, is the backbone of any pandemic response", said Matshidiso Moeti, the WHO's regional director for Africa, in a virtual press conference on Thursday.

The WHO's caution comes amid a recent spike in COVID cases in other parts of the world.

"Lifting the public health measures does not mean lifting the foot off the pedal of pandemic vigilance," Dr Moeti said.

About 201 million people or 15 percent of Africa's population are fully vaccinated compared with the global average of 57 percent, according to WHO.

Comesa, partners in quest for sustainable fish trade

By A Special Correspondent

COMESA in collaboration with IGAD, EAC, SADC, IOC, Lake Tanganyika Authority (LTA) and the Lake Victoria Fisheries Organisation (LVFO) have renewed their partnership of working together in implementing a programme on sustainable development of Fisheries commonly known as ECOFISH in the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and the Indian Ocean Region.

The partnership, started three years ago after a 28 million Euros finance agreement was signed by the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), on behalf of COMESA, EAC, IGAD and SADC, with the European Union (EU).

Over the years, the implementing partners have been steadily imple-

menting the agreed programmes amid the challenges brought about by COVID-19.

COMESA Secretariat hosted the 3rd Steering Committee Meeting in Lusaka during which the teams could track the progress and performance of the programme and make recommendations for implementation. Apart from COMESA Secretariat, fish experts from IGAD, EAC, SADC, IOC, LTA and LVFO participated in the meeting which was held both physically and virtually.

Assistant Secretary General for Programs Dr Kipyego Cheluguet officially opened the meeting and urged the team to make recommendations that will help the fish and fish industry sector to grow and be sustainable. He pointed out that majority of fisheries

value chain actors are small-scale and live primarily in coastal and inland lake areas in the region.

He lamented that despite the significant importance of fisheries as a sector especially the small scale and the potential to contribute significantly to global poverty alleviation, many small-scale fisheries in the EA, SA and IO region are not in a good state, and people dependent on these remain impoverished and most vulnerable to climate change impacts.

He added that, the development of the blue economy may also have detrimental consequences on small-scale fisheries that have to compete with other sectors for the use of coastal areas, inland lakes and rivers. The ECOFISH programme is designed to

create awareness and tackle some of these challenges.

The meeting was informed that COMESA supports its Member States to implement their Blue Economy Strategy in such a way that it does not affect the lives and livelihoods of small-scale fisheries.

"We are therefore optimistic that the present Steering Committee meeting will guide ECOFISH programme to have special attention to small-scale fisheries and create an understanding of the concept of sustainable development and its implications to the sustainable management of the inland and marine fisheries in EA-SA and the Indian Ocean region," Dr Cheluguet said.

The meeting commended the development of the blue economy satellite

account which was recently validated that it would play major role in complementing efforts in capturing the required data. Capturing of the data on ecosystem and fisheries habitat is expected to support evidence-based policymaking and monitoring of the marine as well as inland fisheries of the EA-SA-IO region.

COMESA, EAC, IOC, IGAD, SADC, LTA and LVFO are also collaborating in harmonizing of Monitoring Control Surveillance which is expected to strengthen capacities in the sustainable development of the fisheries resources.

Speaking from Mauritius, Head of Cooperation at the EU to the Republic of Mauritius and the Republic of Seychelles, Milko Van Gool reiterated the

EU's support for both inland and marine sustainable fisheries in the Eastern Africa, Southern Africa and Indian Ocean region.

He mentioned that recently during a regional Indo-Pacific forum, ECOFISH was yet again cited for its contribution to fighting illegal fishing in the Indian Ocean region. Therefore, expectations were high on this programme and the management team needed to deliver and show results.

IOC Secretary General, Prof Vélazouod Marimoutou urged the team to focus on successes recorded so far and make recommendations on how best to implement the remaining activities for the benefit of the region and partners.

War in Ukraine could spark food riots in poor countries, warns WTO boss

GENEVA, Switzerland

ROCKETING global food prices as a result of the war in Ukraine could trigger riots from those going hungry in poor countries, the head of the World Trade Organisation has said.

Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala warned food-producing countries against hoarding supplies and said it was vital to avoid a repeat of the Covid pandemic, when rich countries were able to secure for themselves the bulk of vaccines.

The WTO director general expressed concern about the knock-on effects of Russia's invasion - stressing the dependence of many African countries on food supplies from the Black

"I think we should be very worried. The impact on food prices and hunger this year and next could be substantial. Food and energy are the two biggest items in the consumption baskets of poor people all over the world," Okonjo-Iweala said.

"It is poor countries and poor people within poor countries that will suffer the most."

Okonjo-Iweala, a former Nigerian finance minister, said 35 African countries were dependent on food imported from the Black Sea region, adding that Russia and Ukraine were responsible for 24% of global supplies of wheat.

Agriculture has always been a vexed issue at the WTO, with continual rows about governments subsidising their own farmers while restricting access to their markets. "Discussions are pretty heated. They are always heated because these are huge issues," she said.

Okonjo-Iweala has just completed her first year as head of the WTO, having been appointed to provide some political impetus to an institution beset by disputes over how to liberalise trade and the mechanism for settling disputes.

The WTO director general said progress was being made but admitted: "Since I got here things have been quite tough. It is not an easy job."

After being strongly critical of the "vaccine apartheid" that affected Africa during the pandemic, she said WTO member states had to resist the temptation of protecting their own food stocks.

"It is a natural reaction to keep what you have - we saw that with vaccines. But we shouldn't make the same mistake with

food."

The WTO estimates 40% of the increase in global wheat prices during the food crisis of a decade ago was the result of hoarding.

Only 12 countries currently have trade restrictions on food in place, Okonjo-Iweala said, including El Salvador, Cambodia and Egypt. "Other countries are trying to do things that are positive and we should learn from their best practice."

"We must make sure we learn the lessons from vaccines and previous food crises. I am not sure we can fully mitigate the impact of the war in Ukraine because the numbers involved are huge, but we can mitigate some of it."

The WTO director-general said she was worried Ukraine's planting season would be disrupted by the conflict and that supplies of fertiliser would also be limited.

Ukraine typically provides half the wheat to the World Food Programme, the UN agency that provides emergency supplies to countries in conflict or experiencing natural disasters such as famines.

"If we don't think about how to mitigate the impact of the war that will be another catastrophe not just this year but next year," she said.

There was a danger of a repeat of the food riots that marked a previous period of rapidly rising prices in the late 2000s, she added. "We are talking to our members and urging them not to compound this crisis by having export restrictions on food."

Russia and Ukraine are among the 164 members of the WTO, a body founded on the idea that trade would lead to greater prosperity and peace.

"This model has delivered for years and lifted people out of poverty," Okonjo-Iweala said. "The war doesn't undermine the fact that trade can help build resilience and achieve peace."

Countries including the US, the UK, Canada and the 27 countries of the EU have imposed tariffs on Russia by removing its most-favoured country status, a WTO rule that means the same trade terms should be offered to all member states.

Okonjo-Iweala said she could not envisage Russia being thrown out of the WTO because the process would be complicated, convoluted and require 75% of members to approve.



Tanzania Education Authority director general Bahati Geuzye (2nd-L) presents a certificate to a Sengerema Secondary School leaver at graduation ceremony held at the school's premises earlier this week. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Firm planning to lease farm inputs to farmers using 'pay as you use' model

By Guardian Reporter

AN agricultural investment and advisory firm, Grosso Africa, has announced plans to invest \$15 million to lease farm inputs to farmers from 16 earmarked regions through a pay as you use model.

The company's founder and Chief Executive Officer Nuradin Osman told journalists recently that the aim was to increase value to the country's fertile soil by avoiding tilling.

He said limited mechanization prevents farmers from making the most out of their farms, often forcing them to expand into virgin for-

ested land.

"The continent holds more than 60 percent of the world's arable land which if properly utilized can meet the continent's food requirements with surplus for export," he said. He however said most of this land is under severe pressure from urbanization, poor agricultural practices, desertification and degradation.

The plan targets farmers from Morogoro, Arusha, Tanga, Mbeya, and Iringa among other regions comprising 50,000 hectares to enable them to become consistent suppliers of the grains to foreign markets

where currently world consumption grain stands at 70grams per person.

"Our approach is to provide the inputs including tractors worth 200m/- to farmers who cannot raise capital for the equipment," he said.

According to him to ensure the arable land is optimally used and in a sustainable manner, they seek to introduce mechanization facilities for hire and in doing so, the continent can produce the animal feeds and hence animal protein it needs to feed.

Likewise he said, limited mechanization prevents farmers from making the most out of their farms, often

forcing them to expand into virgin forested land.

"We provide 100 hp tractors, soil management, drills, agrochemical application, machinery, harvesting machinery," he said.

He, therefore, said there is a need to present mechanization solutions that not only allow for more effective land usage and hence production but also ensure that such is done in a sustainable manner.

He said they aim to issue the equipment to farmers who plant crops that can be added value like maize, beans, rice as well as animal feed.



Yohana Maitei Kadogoo (L), councillor for Ruvu Remit ward in Simanjiro District, joins technicians in the construction of a laboratory at Ruvu Remit Secondary School on Thursday. Photo: Correspondent Gift Thadey

Grumeti in new initiatives to save Rubana River

By Guardian Correspondent, Serengeti

GRUMETI Fund is leading initiatives aiming to protect the Rubana River from human activities that threaten its existence in the Serengeti ecosystem, Mara Region.

The initiatives involve restoration of vegetation on the banks of the river and conservation awareness campaigns targeting villagers living near the river, according to officials.

Relationship manager at Grumeti Fund David Mwakipesile told reporters in Mugumu recently that the fund has also donated 26,000 tree seedlings to be planted in all areas surrounding the river banks.

Grumeti Fund is a non-profit organisation that supports conservation and community development activities in Western Serengeti.

The organisation is one of key stakeholders who had earlier this year formed a special task force

to rescue the river (Rubana) from extinction.

Besides Grumeti Fund, other stakeholders having conservation experts in the task force include Lake Victoria Basin Water Body (LVBWB), Tanzania Forest Services (TFS) and World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF).

Reached for comments, chairperson of the Task Force Kanuni Kanuni said: "The aim of the task force is to rescue all rivers in the Serengeti ecology but we have started with Rubana River."

He said the target is to plant 36,000 trees on the banks of the river which is also a source of water for wildlife and several hundreds of neighbouring villages.

"LVBWB has provided us with 21 beacons and we are looking for more partners to support our initiatives," Kanuni said.

The task force, he said, is working closely with the offices of Serengeti District Commissioner and District Council Executive Director (DED) to save the river.

Kilombero assures Tanzanians of availability of sugar for Ramadhan

By Guardian Reporter

THE Kilombero Sugar Company Limited (KSCL) has assured the public of sugar availability during the holy month of Ramadhan which is expected to start early next month.

Fimbo Butallah, the company's Commercial Head said yesterday when speaking to journalists at the company's offices in Dar es Salaam. He

said that KSCL has taken measures to address the issue of sugar shortages that often occur during the month of Ramadhan.

Fimbo said: "We are aware that in a free market economy, we as producers are not in a position to set product prices for retailers. However we have a great responsibility to offer our advice to prevent arbitrary price increases, especially where we as

sugar producers have not raised our product prices. We urge traders across the country not to raise sugar prices during the holy month of Ramadhan to avoid inconveniences to the public."

The statements comes following a history of rising prices of many food commodities each year during the holy month of Ramadhan, causing inconvenience to citizens, especially those who fast during the month of

Ramadhan.

He urged all traders including wholesalers and retailers who sell 'Bwana Sukari' products to refrain from arbitrarily rising sugar prices, which has been a source of frustration for sugar consumers where the product is highly depended upon during the fasting period.

Fimbo revealed that Kilombero Sugar Company has enough sugar

in stock to take the country safely through the holy month of Ramadhan, adding the sugar manufacturer has already obtained permits to import sugar to close production gaps.

"We have already started the process of importing sugar which is expected to start arriving in the country any time from now. We would like to reassure the public on steady sugar prices, especially for the 'Bwana

Sukari' brand as the company has set strategies to address the problem of rising sugar prices which often occurs during Ramadhan," said Fimbo.

KSCL, in which Illovo Sugar Africa holds 75 percent of the shareholding and the government 25 percent is preparing for its expansion project that will double the company's sugar processing capacity and reduce sugar shortages in the country.

Project aiming to add value to agro products to benefit more than 250,000 farmers in Arusha

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

MORE than 250,000 farmers in Arusha District are expected to benefit with an agricultural project which aims at adding value of the products from farm level to consumers.

Speaking yesterday when launching the project which is supported by the France and Belgium's Island of Peace (IDP), Project Manager Ayesiga Hiza said the project will be implemented for five years (2022-2026).

Hiza said the project aims at assisting farmers to practice commercial agriculture and increase productivity. He said farmers will be trained on proper storage of harvested crops to ensure safety of foods and transportation.

"We will also assist them to secure markets for their crops since it has been a challenge facing most of the farmers. They will be trained on how to take care of their farms to ensure the soil remains fertile throughout the years," he said.

With better agricultural practices, farmers will increase harvest, thus improving their welfare, added Hiza.

He added: "Over 60 per cent of the land we live in is at risk of becoming a desert due to bad agricultural practices; excessive use of chemicals contributes to reduced soil fertility."

Hiza said that through the project farmers will be trained on ecological agriculture, which focuses on keeping the soil fresh all the time; thus being used for generations.

He said through the project, more than 20 schools will be reached, with the aim of ensuring that the technology is imparted to students from an early age and make them able to take care of the environment and cultivate productively.

Arumeru District Commissioner, Richard Ruyango said the project will specifically train farmers on ecological farming targeting to boost the sector as well as improving the welfare of smallholder farmers through value addition.

Ruyango said the project is also meant to ensure food security at family and national level as harvests are expected to increase tremendously.

"This project is a solution to farmers because it focuses on better agricultural practices. It will help farmers to abandon traditional farming methods and engage on

productive agriculture," he said.

Dominick Ringo, CEO of the organisation for the promotion of technology for smallholder farmers, said the project is of great benefit to farmers as it aims to enhance productivity, especially during period when the world experiences the negative impacts of climate change.

"Residents will practice farming in manner that preserves the environment; the project will assure us of food security through increased productivity," he said.



Kahama district commissioner Festo Kiswaga lends a hand in the making of bricks for the construction of a 1,000-litre water tank at Itumbili village in Chambo ward earlier this week. He was on an inspection tour of the implementation of development projects. Photo: Correspondent Shaban Njia.

Insecticide-treated bed nets could boost malaria fight - study

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

BED nets treated with a new kind of insecticide cut malaria cases in children by almost half in a large trial in Tanzania, according to a study in *The Lancet*, raising hopes of a new weapon in the fight against the disease.

Bed nets have been instrumental to the vast progress the world has made in recent decades against malaria, with millions of lives saved.

But progress has stalled in the last few years, in part because the mosquitoes which spread the infection have increasingly developed resistance to

the insecticide used in existing nets.

The study involving more than 39,000 households in Tanzania shows nets, treated with chlorfenapyr as well as pyrethroid, lead to a remarkable decline in malaria prevalence.

In 2020, 627,000 people died of malaria, mainly children in sub-Saharan Africa.

Now, researchers at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine in the UK (LSHTM), the National Institute for Medical Research and Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College in Tanzania, and the University of Ottawa in Canada have shown that a

new insecticide -- the first in 40 years -- is both safe and effective in a real-world randomised trial.

The nets, treated with chlorfenapyr as well as pyrethroid, the usual chemical used, reduced malaria prevalence when compared with the existing nets by 43 per cent in the first year and 37 per cent in the second year of the trial.

The study involved more than 39,000 households and followed over 4,500 children aged 6 months to 14 years old.

The nets, developed by BASF in Germany and LSHTM, are marginally more expensive than the current nets, at around \$3 per item, but

the researchers said the savings in preventing cases outweighed the initial increased outlay.

Chlorfenapyr works differently than pyrethroid, effectively grounding the mosquitoes by causing wing cramps and making them unable to fly, and therefore bite, spreading the infection. The chemical was first proposed for use against malaria 20 years ago, and has been used for pest control since the 1990s.

The World Health Organisation has already pre-qualified the use of the new nets, but the trial, funded by the British government and the Wellcome Trust,

could lead to more widespread recommendations for their use.

"This is the first evidence in real-life conditions," said Dr Jacklin Moshia, the study's lead author from the National Institute for Medical Research, Tanzania (NIMR).

Alongside progress on a malaria vaccine, which was approved by the World Health Organisation (WHO) last year, the team said the net could be another tool in the malaria toolbox.

However, they warned that it is important to ensure that mosquitoes do not also quickly develop resistance to chlorfenapyr if used widely.



Liwale District Council chairman Mohamed Mtesa (L) presents a motorcycle number plate and ignition key to the district's bodaboda chairman, Idi Hema, at earlier this week's handing-over of five motorcycles worth a total of 13.2m/- donated by Liwale legislator Zuberi Kuchauka. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Four people dead in different incidents in Manyara Region

By Guardian Correspondent, Babati

FOUR people have died in different incidents in Manyara Region, including one who was bitten by a hyena and another after being attacked by a crocodile while swimming in Ruvu River in Simanjiro District.

Manyara Regional Police Commander, Benjamin Kuzaga said the deceased died at different times.

He said in the first incident, March 20 this year, at Dareda Village, Ayagayala ward, Babati District, remains of the body of January Flavian (56), the resident of the village was found in a farm after he was attacked by a hyena.

"It is claimed that the deceased was eaten by a

hyena after he fell down inside a farm owned by one Hando Baso due to drunkenness," said the RPC.

He said in another incident, a Std 2 student of Ngaye Primary School, in Loiborsoit Ward, Simanjiro District, Siamoi Yona (10) died after he was attacked by a crocodile.

He said the incident happened on March 17 this year when the student was swimming in Ruvu River.

The RPC further said in another incident, a boy of between 11 to 14 years of age, resident of Hanganoni in Babati District, whose name could not be identified died on March 17 this year after he got stuck in thick mud after being swept away by waters of Faheri River.

Prosecutors promise to go after poachers' 'ill-gotten' gains to end money-laundering, wildlife crime in EA

By Guardian Correspondent

FOR more than five years, Chinese national Yang Feng Glan, aka Ivory Queen, organised, managed, and financed a sprawling wildlife crime racket in Tanzania, buying, collecting, transporting, and selling trophies including elephant tusks.

With the money she earned, she spent lavishly, including on a large farm where she built three modern new houses. But once arrested and convicted, not only was she sentenced to 15 years in prison, but both her illicit earnings and the assets she bought with them were taken back.

The farm with its three houses was seized. She was ordered to

pay back twice the value of the elephant tusks she was illegally found possessing.

Now other wildlife criminals across east and southern Africa have been put on notice that the long arm of the law is coming for them in the same way.

Prosecutors from 11 African nations meeting in Nairobi recently and pledged to deepen their cross-border collaboration on this "asset recovery" - taking back the proceeds of crime - and on ending the money-laundering that allows ill-gotten gains to be used for profitable investments.

The commitments came at the close of the East Africa Association of Prosecutors' (EAAP) technical committee meeting and the

regional prosecutors' training workshop.

Themed "The Use of Asset Recovery, Anti Money Laundering and International Cooperation in Combating Wildlife Crime and other Emerging Transnational Crimes" it was held in Nairobi, Kenya between March 14th and 17th, with support from Space for Giants, TRAFFIC International East Africa through the USAID-funded Conserving Natural Capital and Enhancing Collaborative Management of Resources in East Africa (CONNECT) project, and UNODC.

Gitonga Murang'a, EAAP Secretariat Coordinator, said: "We will intensify training on asset recovery, cybercrime, and wildlife

crime in each member country to ensure that all the prosecutors involved are speaking with one voice and sending the same message to poachers and other perpetrators of these crimes in the region that wildlife crime won't pay."

Murang'a added: "The association will set up a regional prosecutor's exchange programme to enhance capacity building on various thematic prosecutorial areas and stimulate international cooperation amongst the member states."

The EAAP has been conducting inter-agency training over the past five years, which has helped greatly in creating the much-needed momentum and pushing

great success in the region.

Katto Wambua, Director of Wildlife Law and Justice at Space for Giants, said: "The trainings have improved the standards of prosecution of wildlife and environmental crimes, and these cases are treated as serious transnational organised crimes. Prosecutors have also led efforts to amend the law in their countries in this context and some wildlife crimes now attract life sentences."

Jamal Juma Kafumbe, the Prosecutors' Forum Coordinator, TRAFFIC International East Africa, said: "While the positive strides are visible, this illicit trade continues because of the demand for wildlife assets such

as ivory in markets, specifically in Asia. We must start shifting our efforts to putting pressure on the markets that generate this demand.

He said that domestic laws allow international cooperation in asset recovery matters, and this will have a longer-lasting effect on the overall efforts we are making on this end.

"Moving forward, the association will increase the effectiveness of international legal cooperation on illegal wildlife products in consumer states in Asia. Also, enhanced collaboration between the EAAP and East Africa Community (EAC) would facilitate the process of harmonisation of laws thereby easing Mu-

tual Legal Assistance requests," he said.

Members from Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Kenya, Malawi, Mozambique, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia, were reminded of the network the association has provided them with to share experiences and further strengthen ways to strip international wildlife traffickers of their ill-gotten gains.

The prosecutors paid a courtesy visit to the Prosecution Training Institute under implementation in Nairobi by the Office of the Director of Public Prosecution in Kenya that will serve the Eastern, Central, and Southern African countries.

Quality agriculture calls for more than irrigation

WITH ambitions of the sixth phase government being directed to all spheres where drastic change is needed to alleviate conditions of everyday life, some truisms may start coming into the open as to the real impediments to progress. One such need is the appeal by Agriculture minister Hussein Bashe for strategic investors to invest in irrigation schemes and infrastructures for crop production and food security to be enhanced. The minister was partially admitting that the government can't reasonably shoulder this task.

If one was to take time to go through parliamentary contributions on irrigation, it is unlikely that MPs' contributions would have focused on the private sector taking up irrigation in earnest, but the government fulfilling its promises in the sphere. It comes down to each elected MP being required to implement the sort of pledges made to constituents in this or that area, expectations that are well inserted into the ruling party election manifesto. Politically, the government boxes itself into an electoral promise it can't meet.

With these expectations, some MPs at times come up with novel ideas and demand that the government puts them into action, and that is what happened with Bashe took to the floor repeatedly during the fifth phase, laying out elaborate bits of vision on private sector inclusion in agriculture. At a certain point, fifth phase president John Magufuli acknowledged that he has a point, and appointed him deputy minister to start laying the

framework for such action, or being in a position to advise the right steps when such occasions arise. With sixth phase cabinet changes, he now finds himself having to implement the vision.

There are two scenarios open to the minister in that regard, one is failure - or other actors and the overall cabinet take up the vision of private sector inclusion in agriculture in a full fledged manner. So far there are some middlemen in agriculture selling inputs or purchasing crops. Irrigation is an especially stressful need as it is unavoidable and virtually incapable of being provided with credit, unless there are state guarantees. That is largely the case with the agro-sector development bank, but it can't shoulder agro-sector needs on its own, and it is unclear what portion of need its lending ability can actually take up.

The sort of finances needed in irrigation agriculture and hindrances to commercial banks lending such capital are nearly identical with the livestock sector, as keeping large herds of animals needs water supply infrastructures. What is needed is digging up ground water sources and conserving it in tanks rather than ponds that evaporate, so that large plastic containers are spread out for cattle to drink from, eliminating the wandering from one district to another in search of water ponds, polls or streams. That is why elevating titles to land occupancy to individual rather than customary titles is vital, by scrapping the notion of village land altogether as it hinders access to loans, as land can't be put up as collateral.

We should all be concerned with the welfare, fate of unborn child

ONE of the lesser known world days is the International Day of the Unborn Child, an annual commemoration pioneered by the Catholic Church and slated for March 25 each year. Chroniclers say it was established by Pope John Paul II in the early 1990s and many countries gradually took to marking the day. It was designed to coincide with the Feast of Annunciation, the day when Holy Mary was given the information of the child she would carry, an event of enormous historical importance for all of humanity.

What is central to the International Day of the Unborn Child is opposition to abortion, where according to the chronicle, John Paul II viewed the day as "a positive option in favour of life and the spread of a culture for life to guarantee respect for human dignity in every situation." That is where problems start, the situation in which an unborn child is inserted, who cares for the welfare of the fetus, or later the child. Abortion often begins from neglect and contempt of pregnancy, where a woman feels it as an indignity.

The United States of America is perhaps the country where the difference between support and opposition for abortion divides the country in unequal halves, with the matter fervently battled in each election across each state and for each seat being contested for. Yet there are those in far off countries looking at the 'pro-life' and 'pro-choice' divide as a moral debate in an affluent environment. For many

young women who risk their lives conducting often unsafe abortions, the reason is neglect of fetus, contempt for pregnancy shown by the man responsible, with no replacement for such person, as a comforter of sorts.

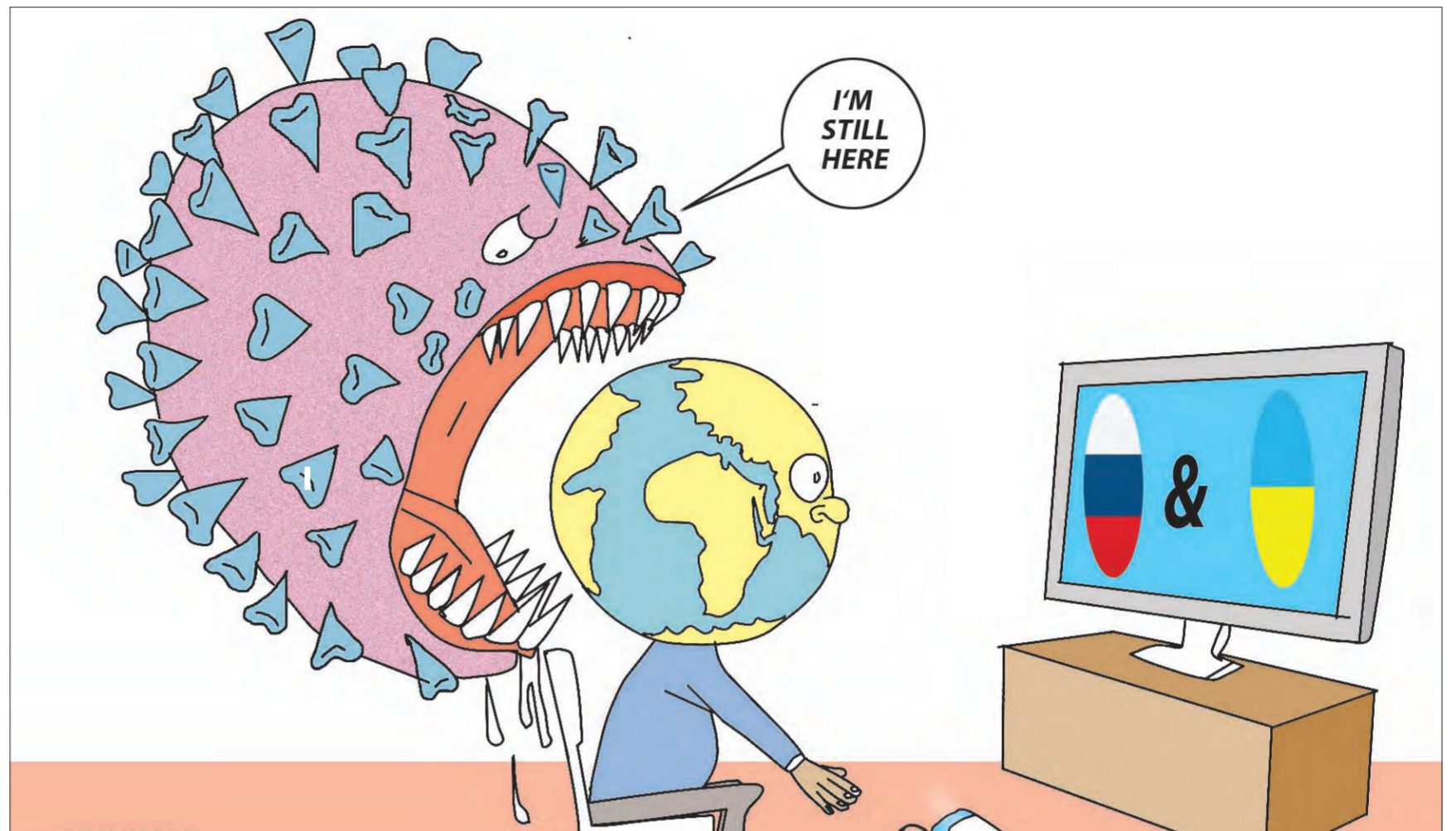
Despite an avalanche of sermons on kindness and caring for the weak, only systematic programming of caring for pregnant women and ensuring the welfare of the unborn as well as infants, by their inclusion in a programme like the Tanzania Social Action Fund (instead of handing money to aging drunkards at times). Activists have never really shown an inclination to go in that direction, as there is often an excess concern or make believe about women as a whole, where the more affluent or those in an assured family environment are mixed up with those who suffer on their own with pregnancy, infants or toddlers. The gap has to be filled so that young women don't risk their lives in abortions; they don't hate their fetuses.

In criminalizing abortion, we ought to go a stage higher and stop the idea that it is young women who ought to value life, as the more responsible position is that if no partner is ready to acknowledge the unborn child, a reliable social fallback facility ought to be there. While we don't have a welfare state with guaranteed minimum wage, we can start with those who are pregnant, lactating or caring for toddlers on their own. Many will snort but it is the humane alternative to abortion.

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Making it easier for Diaspora to invest pays

By Special Correspondent

Zimbabwe's investment drive under the Second Republic is ensuring that Zimbabweans living outside the country, the diaspora community, receive special attention for several good reasons.

First of all, they obviously know and care about the country, even if they have made long-term plans to settle elsewhere, and most have fairly close relatives living in Zimbabwe.

Under the present Constitution they remain citizens of Zimbabwe, even if they have become naturalised somewhere else and carry a foreign passport, so long as they or one of their parents was born in Zimbabwe.

So they know they have citizen and resident rights in Zimbabwe and this can make it easier, especially when linked with local knowledge and the ability to empower a relative to act for them if necessary.

One particular problem, and President Mnangagwa touched on this indirectly when he spoke to a diaspora audience on his visit to Dubai for Zimbabwe's special investment meetings, is that a lot of Zimbabweans living abroad are not ultra-wealthy people able to make big time investments. But a fair number of comfortably off.

So the President was suggesting that some, perhaps with ties to a particular district or area, could combine together and do something worthwhile and useful.

That makes sense, and the suggestion opens a number of other possible routes for the ordinary person living abroad to make a contribution, and fulfil whatever family commitments they have in Zimbabwe at the same time.

Special investment funds could be set up that those in the diaspora could invest in. These would have to be exceptionally well-managed, and we suspect that those looking at investing their money would want well-known private companies or banks who have a totally clean record. But these exist.

It could even be possible, if there was enough demand, to have provincial investment funds, so people could have more direct impact on where they came from or where their parents came from, because we are now starting to see more and more children born in foreign lands as foreign citizens, but who have parents born in Zimbabwe and still have cousins and grandparents living here.

These investment funds might well have advantages over modest direct investments in a particular business. First they would spread the risk. Not every business will succeed, but if you invest in a reasonable number you



We now have the Zimbabwe Investment and Development Agency that is there to deal with investment queries, and it does not seem unreasonable that this agency should have a section that deals with queries from the diaspora, that is Zimbabweans living abroad.

can predict in advance how many will make it.

Some of the funds, or some of the money in a fund, might actually go on loans rather than buying a share in a

sort something out on a more regular basis is the special requirements of some investors.

At the Dubai meeting one Zimbabwean doctor long resident in Australia said he was keen on building a private hospital near the Victoria Falls or Robert Gabriel Mugabe International Airports and President Mnangagwa said if he was serious, then land would be made available.

But the fact that the question was asked and the President had to personally intervene shows that something more normal and formal is required.

We now have the Zimbabwe Investment and Development Agency that is there to deal with investment queries, and it does not seem unreasonable that this agency should have a section that deals with queries from the diaspora, that is Zimbabweans living abroad.

This section could go a bit further with Zimbabweans than perhaps it might do with others, being able to tell them where land is available to buy, or how to apply for State land where the State owns most of the land such as around major airports.

Of course the modern, united and reformed Zimbabwe Investment and Development Agency does already offer a lot of the services any investor needs, and part of the problem might well be bad memories. Someone who left the country 20 years ago might still be haunted by visions of bureaucrats who do little and politicians who want an envelope stuffed with cash.

So among other requirements is getting the Second Republic message across that all investors are welcome and obviously a Zimbabwean living outside is especially welcome.

And that the new policy of making it easy to do business is not a slogan but a detailed policy directive backed by legislation and administrative action, and if anyone wants a "sweetener" then the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission really want to hear about this.

The special teams of ministers assembled to accompany the President on his most crucial investment drives can reassure audiences that we mean what we say and outline where investment would be especially welcome, but the nitty gritty of the detailed requirements is probably best handled by the officials who do this for a living and who have been simplifying their bureaucracy to make it a lot easier to meet the essential requirements.

But it remains an excellent idea to involve the Zimbabwean community around the world. Many countries find these informal links extremely useful and a common heritage often provides the elements of trust and communication that really oil the wheels of business, trade and investment.

business. A lot of businesses have mentioned that it is difficult to borrow foreign currency in Zimbabwe, because those who have it tend to hoard it rather than use it.

Yet there are plenty of businesses with good accounts and which are highly viable that would be safe bets for a foreign currency loan.

The funds would need to be able to sort their investors according to need. There will be some investors, for example, who simply want a monthly or quarterly return that they could direct towards an aging parent or use to pay school fees for a successive string of young relatives.

Then there might be those who while living and working abroad hope to return one day to Zimbabwe, even if only to retire, and when they come back would like a capital sum or be able to buy a pension or simply be able to have a regular income.

A well-managed fund should be able to cope with all these needs and demands to the advantage of those outside the country and those inside.

The other area where we need to

Take action against unfair termination of employment contract

By Telesphor Magobe

A FEW months ago, we saw in this column that "ignorance of the law is no defence" in civil and criminal liability. We also saw that if a person is ignorant of the law, he or she will most likely lose his or her labour rights. For, how could he or she demand or claim them if he or she doesn't know them?

Look at it in this way: you are employed by company X, but you don't know your rights as stipulated in the Employment and Labour Relations Act, 2004 (R.E. 2019) and its Regulations, this means that you don't know what you can demand or claim, what will you do? You won't do anything, will you?

For a few weeks now we have been made aware that a certain local media employer, who had not remitted his employees' contributions to the National Social Security Fund (NSSF) and the Public Social Security Fund (PSSF) for a long time, has finally done so and his ex-employees have been flocking to the company and NSSF and PSSF offices to process their unclaimed

contributions.

These are the employees who had either terminated their employment contracts for personal reasons or had their employment contracts terminated on the grounds of operational costs and the closing down of business.

Possibly some or all employees, who had their contracts terminated, might not have received (if they qualify) their severance pay as provided for in Section 42 of the Employment and Labour Relations Act. Subsection (1) defines severance pay as a sum of money equal to seven days' basic salary for each completed year of continuous service with that employer for up to 10 years.

If X was employed by company Y for 20 years, then X is entitled to severance pay of up to 10 years. If he or she has worked with company Y for 5 years, then he or she is entitled to severance pay of up to 5 years, but if X has worked with company Y for less than 12 months, then X is not entitled to any severance pay when he or she is laid off on the grounds of operational costs.

Severance pay is given

on the termination of employment if the employee has completed 12 months continuous service with the employer. However, it won't apply if the contract has been terminated fairly.

This means that if an employee's contract has been terminated on the grounds of his or her misconduct, capacity compatibility or operational requirements of the employer, but an employee unreasonably refuses to accept an alternative employment offer with the same or any other employer, then severance pay won't apply.

If the employee has attained the age of retirement or his or her contract of service has expired or ended by reason of time, even in this case it won't apply either. However, the payment of severance pay does not affect an employee's right to any other pecuniary entitlements.

Actually, when an employment contract is terminated the employer must state this in a notice of intention to terminate the contract on the grounds of operational costs.

But most employers

are happy if employees do know their rights. As a result, many employees may be subjected to unfair employment.

Section 37 of the Employment and Labour Relations Act provides for what unfair termination of employment is. Subsection (1) states: "It shall be unlawful for an employer to terminate the employment of an employee unfairly" (unreasonably).

Subsection (2) provides that termination of employment by an employer is unfair if the employer fails to prove three things: that the reason for the termination is valid and it is a fair reason-related to the employee's conduct, capacity or compatibility or based on the operational requirements of the employer and that the employment was terminated in accordance with a fair procedure.

Termination on the grounds of operational costs, which many employers claim to have affected their business to the extent of deciding to lay off their employees, is covered in Section 38 of the Employment and Labour Relations Act.

The burden of proof

in unfair termination proceedings lies in the employer. Section 39 states: "In any proceedings concerning unfair termination of an employee by an employer, the employer shall prove that the termination is fair."

If you are employed, you must have come across a situation in which a colleague or friend of yours told you that he or she had been told to go and see the human resources manager, who gives him or her a notice of retrenchment and tells him or her that on such and such a day and date and at such and such time he or she is invited for hearing.

A colleague or friend of yours could have told you that he or she was told to go with a representative, who "must be an employee with the company". But the human resources manager didn't put it in writing that the "representative must be an employee with the company".

After receiving the notice of retrenchment, the human resources manager may print a statement in which he or she states what the employee was told and that he or she would go for hearing with a representative. If this



happens to you or to a colleague or friend of yours, know for sure that you or he or she has been taken for a ride and the human resources manager might have taken advantage of your or his or her ignorance of labour rights.

The reason for this is that the human resources manager knows that no employee who is still in service will defend a colleague or friend who has been called for hearing pending retrenchment. Even if he or she would defend his or her colleague or friend of his or hers, is he or she really competent to represent him or her during hearing? That is, is he or she really conversant with his or her fellow

employee's labour rights and can defend him or her without risking his or her own job?

What a sad story to hear especially amidst a growing phenomenon of unemployment! Being unemployed is really distressful and requires one to learn the skills of how to cope with such a situation lest one is traumatised. Losing a job has also family implications especially if the person laid off is the breadwinner. It may shatter a person's dreams or those of his or her dependants.

During retrenchment the reasons put forward include operational costs as the company may not be doing well to maintain all employees. So, some of

them have to be laid off to give it a breathing space and reassert itself.

However, it is important that retrenchment complies with the Employment and Labour Relations Act and its Regulations to make it lawful, otherwise the entire exercise will be unlawful. If it happens that you or a colleague or friend of yours is unfairly laid off, you or advise the colleague or friend of yours to take legal action against unfair termination of employment contract.

Today's legal aphorism: "He who sleeps on his [or her] rights loses them."

The author is a lawyer based in Dar es Salaam. He can be reached at tmagobe@gmail.com

Children starve to death as malnutrition ravages Eastern Cape

By Estelle Ellis

SEVEN children have died of severe acute malnutrition in the Eastern Cape Town of Butterworth this year, as relief organisations say they have been inundated with requests for food.

Figures from the Eastern Cape health department show that in January, seven children were admitted to the Butterworth Hospital with severe acute malnutrition – one died. Then, in February, six children were admitted – all died.

Three of the children had tested positive for HIV at birth, but there was no record of them being brought back to the clinic for follow-up treatment.

The cases of another three children were flagged by health authorities. Although they had no underlying conditions, they were living with caregivers who were either undocumented or struggled to access grants due to old age.

One of the children had missed nine doses of childhood immunization.

According to the provincial department of social development, the latest research into poverty in the Eastern Cape shows that an estimated 72% of the population lives below the poverty line – considerably higher than the national average of 60%.

Finance MEC Mlungisi Mvoko said in his budget speech that due to an increase in the number of children needing access to school feeding schemes, the budget for this had been boosted.

A study done by the Grow Great campaign at the end of last year in Mqanduli, about 100km from Butterworth, found that about 24 per cent of children seen by researchers were stunted.

It's estimated that 25 per cent of children in the province are stunted due to chronic under nutrition

and exposure to infections. The Eastern Cape's estimate of stunting is slightly lower than the national average of 27 per cent.

Among the 1,431 children surveyed in the Grow Great study, stunting was identified in 336 children, of whom 94 were severely stunted.

Risk factors identified by the study include inadequate access to sanitation, not having a birth certificate by age five, not benefiting from a child support grant by age five, having a low birth weight, being identified with either moderate acute malnutrition or severe acute malnutrition or being underweight.

Apart from access to food, the study also highlighted access to clean water and proper sanitation as ways to address stunting.

"Given the high levels of unemployment and food insecurity brought on by the Covid-19 pandemic, we expect that the nutrition profile of children under five in Mqanduli and surrounding villages will have further deteriorated.

"Given the lifelong impact of poor nutrition and stunting, this community should call for interventions that speak to both the direct and indirect causes of malnutrition," the study concluded.

A separate 2021 study done by Dr Cheryl MacKay, head of neonatology at Dora Nginza Hospital in Gqeberha, and doctors Nosisipho Mandla and Siyazi Mda, using 2018 statistics, concluded that there were serious problems with severe acute malnutrition in the province.

Children from the western part of the Eastern Cape are generally treated at Dora Nginza Hospital. The study concluded that "The prevalence of severe acute malnutrition at Dora Nginza Hospital is high, and children are at significantly increased risk of mortality.

"Specific risk factors for mortality include sepsis, urinary tract infection, nu-



The latest research into poverty in the Eastern Cape shows that an estimated 72 per cent of the population lives below the poverty line – considerably higher than the national average of 60 per cent. (Photo: Hoseya Jubase)

tritional oedema (abnormal fluid retention caused by a lack of nutrients) and [low levels of potassium in the blood]. Modifiable factors associated with severe acute malnutrition need to be targeted urgently to improve outcomes," the study reads.

The town of Butterworth was not mentioned in a policy speech given by Social Development MEC Siphokazi Mani-Lusithi as she announced that R62.1-million had been allocated to a support programme for mothers of children under the age of five "who are affected by malnutrition".

Social development department spokesperson

Mzukisi Solani said on Thursday that, despite several requests, they were still trying to ascertain from the health department the situation in Butterworth.

Areas identified by Mani-Lusithi to address malnutrition were Ntabankulu, Lusikisiki, Port St. Johns, Cradock and Middelburg.

But since 2020, the Democratic Alliance's Edmund van Vuuren said in a statement, the provincial legislature has heard that the department had underspent its budget for social relief of distress.

Solani said it was more a question of a "roll-over" of funds than under spending, as they needed time to ex-

pand their beneficiary list. "It was requested because we were in the process of finding a fair distribution method to eliminate the middleman and get value for money," he said.

From the beginning of March 2022, the department has distributed thousands of food parcels throughout the province – but help has come too late for some.

Corene Conradie, who coordinates the Eastern Cape response for Gift of the Givers, said the demand for food relief had been increasing since the first lockdown was announced in 2020, and that they were inundated with requests for

food. "Not only for children," she said. "I visited Kidds Beach yesterday and there is a community of elderly people who are just getting sicker and sicker because they do not have enough to eat."

She also highlighted the plight of the undocumented, who cannot access social relief of distress grants.

Gift of the Givers has been distributing a nutritious paste to vulnerable children to fight malnutrition.

A volunteer at a single soup kitchen in Motherwell said they now have to provide three times the number of meals they provided before lockdown.

Coralie Peo-Swartz said they were almost completely tapped out and could not keep up with pleas for food.

"We have stopped giving handouts at the office because of security risks. We currently assist care facilities, the elderly and creches as they are living hand-to-mouth on donations received. At the moment we are almost tapped out.

"Welfare organisations are really, really struggling. As we are more specifically project-driven and not a welfare organisation, we try to do referrals of those who knock on our door or phone us," she said.

UN pledging conference on Yemen attracts only one Arab donor

By Thalif Deen

WHEN North and South Yemen merged into a single country ushering in the Republic of Yemen back in May 1990, a British newspaper remarked with a tinge of sarcasm: "Two poor countries have now become one poor country."

Described as the poorest in an oil-blessed Middle East, Yemen continues to be categorized by the United Nations as one of the 46 least developed countries (LDCs), "poorest of the world's poor" depending heavily on humanitarian aid while battling for economic survival.

But the longstanding conflict with neighbouring countries - and a civil war on the home front - has caused immense devastation to a country which, according to the UN, continues to face "the world's worst humanitarian disaster".

The UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) said last week that more than 10,000 children have been killed or maimed since the escalation of the conflict, between a pro-Government Saudi-led coalition, and Houthi rebels.

The killings and casualties, UNICEF said, was the equivalent of four children every day. These are just the incidents the United Nations has been able to verify, so the true figure is "likely far higher", said the agency.

As the conflict enters its eighth year, with no end in sight, the London-based humanitarian organization Oxfam said in a new report released March 24, "escalating death, destitution and destruction has left millions of Yemeni civilians facing widespread misery".

Oxfam Yemen's Country Director, Ferran Puig told IPS: "The world must not look away while Yemen suffers. This year's aid program is currently 70 percent underfunded, providing just 15 cents per day per person needing help. So, it's vital that countries who are usually very generous to Yemen continue their support - otherwise millions will face terrible suffering."

At a pledging conference for Yemen on March 16, co-hosted by the United Nations and the Governments of Sweden and Switzerland, only 36 donors (out of a UN membership of 193 nations) pledged nearly \$1.3 billion.

At the UN's daily press briefing on March 17, one of the questions raised was about the woeful lack of Arab donors - with only Kuwait among the 36.

Asked if the Secretary-General was disappointed, UN Spokesperson Stephan Dujarric told reporters: "We can't speak as to why certain countries gave more, why certain countries didn't give, you will have to ask them. What is clear is that, Saudi Arabia and the UAE have traditionally been very strong backers of our humanitarian appeals. In Yemen, we've always



Young boys stand in front of a damaged vehicle in Sa'ada, Yemen. Credit: WFP/Jonathan Dumont

appreciated that partnership."

Dujarric also said that Martin Griffiths, the UN's Special Envoy for Yemen, expressed his disappointment that some of our traditional partners did not give.

"I think what needs to be said clearly is that a pledging conference is there to kind of highlight the need and motivate people to give. But it's not as if people can't give after the pledging conference. So, we very much hope that those countries, who did not give yet, did not pledge, and do so".

"To speak colloquially, the door to the bank remains open. We hope we still get more pledges... and those who have pledged also convert those pledges into cash as quickly as possible."

Asked if Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates, who are involved in the conflict, have a moral obligation to donate funds, Dujarric said: "We believe that there is a moral obligation on a global scale for those who have the means to help those who most need help. There's an obligation for global solidarity across the board".

Meanwhile, the Oxfam report warned that the human cost of the war in Yemen is rising sharply as the conflict enters its eighth year, with the number of civilian deaths increasing sharply, hunger on the rise and three quarters of the population in urgent need of humanitarian support.

The international agency said another year of war would bring unimaginable suffering to civilians almost two-thirds of Yemenis will go hungry this year unless the

warring parties lay down their arms or the international community steps in to fill a massive gap in the appeal budget.

According to Oxfam, the escalating costs of war include:

- 17.4 million people currently going hungry, with predictions this will rise to 19 million by the end of the year (62 percent of the population and an increase of more than 8 million since the conflict started).

- 4.8 million more people in need of humanitarian assistance than in 2015, the first year of the conflict.

Since UN human rights monitoring was withdrawn in October 2021, the civilian casualty rate has doubled, now reaching well over 14,500 casualties.

- 24,000 airstrikes have damaged 40 percent of all housing in cities during the conflict.

- And during the last seven years, over four million people have been forced to flee from violence.

The Ukraine crisis, said Oxfam, has exacerbated the situation, raising concerns over supplies of grain and cooking oil. Yemen imports 42 percent of its grain from Ukraine and Oxfam has been told prices have already started to rise. In Sana'a bread went up 35 percent over the week that fighting broke out (200 Yemeni Rial to 270 Yemeni Rial).

Oxfam's Puig said: "After seven years of war, Yemenis are desperate for peace - instead they are facing yet more death

and destruction. Violence and hunger are on the increase once more and millions of people cannot get the basics their families need.

"People can't afford to pump water to irrigate their crops and in remote areas where people rely on trucked drinking water, they can't afford to pay increased prices meaning they have to use water that is not safe to drink. City dwellers in some areas are experiencing electricity cuts of 10-12 hours a day those who have them are relying on solar panels to charge mobile phones and supply a small amount of power."

He said farmers are unable to afford to transport produce to markets, causing prices of fresh produce to rise even further. Buses and motorbike taxis are becoming unaffordable leaving many unable to pay the cost of transport to healthcare facilities and other life-saving services.

"Health facilities across the country could soon be forced to shut off life-saving equipment because of lack of fuel. During the last few days, local media in Taiz have reported that the Al Thawra hospital has stopped its operations due to the fuel shortage".

Government employees, he pointed out, have not been paid since the end of 2016. The COVID-19 pandemic coupled with new restrictive regulations has reduced the number of Yemenis able to work in Saudi Arabia and send money to relatives at home.

"And a spiralling currency devaluation means that what little income people may have buys less and less every day forcing Oxfam and other aid agencies to regularly increase the cash transfers they provide to support vulnerable families".

Civilian deaths and injuries in the conflict have doubled since the UN body responsible for monitoring violations of international humanitarian law in Yemen was removed in October of last year, said Puig.

"There have been over 14,554 civilian casualties since recording by the Civilian Impact Monitoring project started in 2017. During the last seven years there have been over 24,600 airstrikes across Yemen.

In the last few months, shifting frontlines have led to an increase in landmine deaths and injuries around Marib where retreating forces lay them to slow down their opponents. Civilians using mined roads or gathering firewood in contested land are often victims".

Yemenis faced with these problems are forced to resort to cope any way they can. People live in a cycle of debt, increasing numbers are resorting to begging, the reports points out.

"Yemen desperately needs a lasting peace so people can rebuild their lives and livelihoods. Without peace the cycle of misery will continue and deepen. Until then, adequate funding for humanitarian aid is critical," Puig declared.

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

Maasai girls call upon government, stakeholders to do more towards access equal opportunities

By Guardian Reporter

GIRLS in the Maasai communities in Arusha region are calling on the government and stakeholders to put more effort and support them to access equal opportunities in education so as to enable them achieve their life dreams and contribute well to the country's development.

Neema Siloma (18) from Loliendo district said she got an opportunity to join secondary education and passed Form Four exams but could not continue with her A-level studies because her parents opted to educate her brothers.

"Because of the cultures and norms, girls are seen as a liability, therefore, are not taken to school, I had no option than to listen to my parents, but I wanted to continue with school," Siloma said in an interview with this paper.

Benezet Boniface, a social worker from the region said the Child Act of 2019 protects children, but some cultures and norms are difficult to break especially with the Marriage Act 1971 that allows children at the age of 14 to get married with the consent of parents.

"We are working to ensure Maasai girls are taken to school because it is their right, however, because the Marriage Act of 1971 which has not been amended, parents are still taking advantage to marry off their girls instead of taking them to school," he said.

Boniface noted that empowering and educating adolescent girls is one of the best ways to stop poverty from being passed from generation to generation.



"This is especially important when it ensuring girls, who have huge potential to play a transformational role in economic and social development in the future, are able to access quality education and take control of their lives, make changes in their societies," he said.

The Law of Marriage Act 1971 set the minimum age for boys to marry at 18 years old, but Sections 13 and 17 allowed girls to marry at 14 with the consent of the court, and at 15 with parental consent.

However, children's rights and the rights of girls in particular took a major step in 2019 after the Court of Appeal delivered a judgment upholding a 2016 landmark high court decision holding that neither girls nor boys may marry before 18.

Director of Msichana Initiative, Rebeca Gyumi said there is need to build capacity of stakeholders and the society at large on the proposed draft so as to push the Parliament to bring change on the Marriage Act of 1971.

She said by amending the law, it will greatly help to fight child marriage, which has been affecting and thwarting a number of young girls from achieving their dreams.

Gyumi said in a bid to end child marriage in the country, the law should be amended specifically sections 13 and 17 which provides for girls to be married before the age of 18.

She noted when young girls are forced to marry; they face potentially lifelong harmful consequences.

They are essentially subject to state-sanctioned rape and are at risk of increased domestic violence, forced pregnancy and negative health consequences, while being denied education and economic opportunity.

"We must continue to apply pressure to ensure that the government of complies with the ruling issued by the High Court and truly puts an end to child marriage in the country," she said.

Ngorongoro District Commissioner Raymond Mangwala said he was raised by his mother and sister and therefore he understands the importance of developing women in the community.

"It is important that these girls' rights movements involve both

women and men because they also need access to sex education in order to change the mindset and attitudes of society and to stop violence" he said.

In another development, a resident from Ngorongoro who did not want to be named said girls have no room in their parents houses and therefore lack of special sleeping areas for girls increased acts of violence such as rape, pregnancy and child marriages.

She further noted that the responsibility of livestock rearing was for women and girls in the family and when livestock is lost, women are severely punished even if they are not at home on the day the animal got lost.

Clean water essential to curbing spread of diseases in East Africa

By Guardian Correspondent

THE East African Community (EAC) has been experiencing frequent disease outbreaks such as cholera, measles, rift valley fever, yellow fever, Crimean-Congo hemorrhagic fever, and COVID-19, among others.

Extensive land-borders and intense trade and travel facilitate the spread of infectious diseases across countries in the EAC region.

Christophe Bazivamo, EAC deputy secretary general, productive and social sectors said that good water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) practices, that are consistently applied, can help to curb the spread of waterborne and other communicable diseases.

"This is especially important in areas that experience high levels of human mobility, particularly at border crossings and transportation corridors where local communities have a higher risk of infection. These critical public health hot spots should be targeted with timely health, hygiene promotion and access to safe water interventions," he said.

He added: "We are happy with the progress of this project, and we hope that the handwashing water facilities and related structures will be handed over to respective Partner State governments very soon."

Bizavamo said the Treaty for the Establishment of the EAC provides for joint action towards the prevention and control of epidemics of communicable and vector-borne diseases, as well as pandemics, that might endanger the health and welfare of the residents of the Partner States.

Access to safe drinking water - a precious resource often taken for granted - is a human right. However, access to clean, affordable water remains a real challenge for many people in the East and Horn of Africa, with vulnerable groups being disproportionately affected. Beyond using it for drinking, water also plays an enormous role in preserving the health of people across the region.

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) aims to ensure universal and equitable access to safe and affordable water for those in need, complementing safe water provision with information about appropriate sanitation practices and the systematic promotion of good hygiene.

Together with the EAC Secretariat, IOM is currently implementing a regional health project targeting more than 6 million migrants, border and host communities at 19 key points of entry (PoEs) and migration routes in the six EAC Partner States: Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, South Sudan, Tanzania and Uganda.

This intervention is facilitated through the 'Support to Pandemic Preparedness in the EAC Region (PanPrep)' project which is implemented through the Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) GmbH on behalf of the German government.

The EAC-IOM project aims to strengthen the capacity of governments in the region to prevent and address the spread of COVID-19 and other infectious diseases of public health concern in the EAC region.

The project is also establishing hand washing stations and providing access to water in up to three selected high-risk areas in each of the 6 Partner States.

Through the intervention, which runs from June 2021 to May 2022, IOM is connecting hand washing facilities with sustainable, clean and running water through context-adapted interventions, for example by building water systems in South Sudan and Uganda, and connecting them to existing national water systems that are usually located far from the PoEs, and by constructing a rainwater harvesting system in Rwanda.

To date, more than 4.7 million people have been reached by behavior change interventions, including health and hygiene risk awareness activities and capacity building of key community influencers. Additionally, 31 fixed hand washing facilities, 3 water yards, 5 toilet/lavrine blocks and 4 pipeline connections to a water source have been constructed across the 6 countries to improve access to clean water and hygiene services in high-volume migration areas.

Despite the EAC intervention, the need remains to scale up the preparedness and response capacity of the Partner States, ensuring access to clean and running water for the entire population, as well as hygiene services, knowledge and behavioral change interventions.

IOM's Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) initiatives throughout the East and Horn of Africa have included the construction and rehabilitation of boreholes and wells, water trucking, surface water treatment systems, hygiene promotion campaigns, and distribution of hygiene kits, among others. IOM is also working with communities and governments across the region to protect water resources

UNICEF supports polio vaccination campaign after case in Malawi - govt

By Guardian Correspondent

OFFICIALS in southern and eastern Africa are working to vaccinate 9 million children against polio after a confirmed outbreak in Malawi.

The emergency campaign began in that country this week. Vaccines are being given by mouth to children everywhere in the country.

UNICEF is deploying similar efforts in Tanzania and Zambia.

The United Nations children's agency, UNICEF, says the larger goal is to expand the vaccination campaign into neighbouring Mozambique, Tanzania and

Zambia. UNICEF is working with the governments of those countries and other partners in the area.

Agency officials said there will be three more rounds of vaccinations in the coming months. The goal is to vaccinate more than 20 million children.

Mohamed Fall is UNICEF Regional Director for Eastern and Southern Africa. He said: "This is the first case of wild polio detected in Africa for more than five years and UNICEF is working closely with governments and partners to do everything possible to stop the virus in its tracks."

UNICEF, the World Health Organization, the Global Polio Eradication Initiative and other partners are supporting the vaccination campaign. It began after doctors confirmed in February that wild poliovirus had infected and paralyzed a three-year-old in Malawi's capital, Lilongwe.

Fall warned, "Polio spreads fast and can kill or cause permanent paralysis."

People most commonly contract polio when they drink dirty water. The virus can be carried in human waste. Children under the age of five and those living in areas with

poor sanitation are most at risk. Fall considers the shared effort by neighbouring countries as critical, noting, "There is no cure for polio, but the vaccine protects children for life."

"We are working," he added, "to make sure parents, as well as community and religious leaders, know how important it is that every child receives their vaccine."

UNICEF has more than 36 million treatments of the polio vaccine for the first two rounds of immunizations in Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Zambia.

In Malawi, UNICEF is providing

270 new vaccine refrigerators and is repairing others. The agency is also supplying temperature measurement devices, vaccine carriers and cold storage containers. In partnership with the World Health Organization, UNICEF has trained 13,500 health workers and volunteers, 34 area health officers and 50 religious leaders.

In Mozambique, the children's agency is helping supply vaccines to local stores. It also assists in training programs about vaccine use for thousands of supervisors, health workers and media providers.

WFP welcomes United States' support for refugees in Zambia

LUSAKA

THE United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) welcomes a \$650,000 contribution from the United States (through USAID's Bureau for Humanitarian Assistance), to provide cash assistance to around 18,500 refugees from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) residing in the WFP-supported Mantapala refugee settlement in Zambia.

This contribution will allow WFP to continue cash assistance for up to three

months.

"The support from the U.S. government could not have come at a more crucial moment as WFP urgently needs funding to continue providing cash assistance to DRC refugees who depend on our support to put food on their tables," said Cissy Byenkya, WFP Country Representative in Zambia.

Cash assistance empowers refugees, allowing them to buy varied food items and diversify their diets.

Cash assistance also helps stimulate local markets and

foster peace between refugees and the host community.

"While WFP is very grateful to donors, we appeal for their continued support as additional funding is required to assist refugees until the end of the year as we aim to shift focus to self-reliance activities, reducing refugee dependency on external assistance," added Byenkya.

Depending on availability of resources, WFP and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) will support the refugee population

become self-reliant though the formation of savings groups, implementation of agricultural activities and improved access to finance for income generating activities.

The U.S. government has supported the refugee operation since 2018, when the Mantapala Refugee Settlement was established by the Government of Zambia.

In 2021, the U.S. government contributed \$610,000 to support the food and nutrition needs of DRC refugees in Zambia.



BUSINESS

Airtel Africa requests \$194m from IFC to invest in network expansion

LAGOS

AIRTEL Africa has proposed to raise US\$194-million through debt from the World Bank's International Finance Corporation (IFC) to initiate network investment across seven subsidiaries and refinance existing loans.

Airtel Africa is an integrated mobile phone operator operating in 14 countries across Sub-Saharan Africa.

The IFC stated: "(it) will support the project with a debt package of up to US\$150 million from its own amount and up to US\$44 million in mobilisation from MCPP (Managed Co-Lending Portfolio Programme) funds."

According to the financial institution the funds will be used to support Airtel Africa's operations and investments across the seven subsidiaries including Chad, DRC, Kenya, Madagascar, Niger, Republic of Congo and Zambia.

Airtel Africa had not responded to requests for comment at the time of publishing.

In January this year, the company said it was serving over 122 million people across African 14 markets in which it operates including Kenya, Malawi, Nigeria, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia.

It said it will continue to execute its growth strategy to deliver on its market potential afforded by demographics and market dynamics across voice, data and mobile money services.

The company's need to invest in network expansion follows a statement included in its financial report for the period ended 31 December, 2021 that "there is now an improvement



in customer growth trends across its operations with Nigeria returning to strong customer growth after a period affected by the implementation of 'know-your-customer' requirements."

At the time Airtel Africa CEO Segun Ogunsanya said: "We will continue to invest in expanding and evolving our platform to further deepen both financial and digital inclusion across Africa. I continue to see huge potential across voice, data and mobile money and our strategy is delivering against these opportunities."

In July 2021, Airtel Africa inked a deal to sell about 7.5% stake in its mobile money unit to Qatar Holding LLC for around US\$200-million following a similar transaction with global payment processor MasterCard for US\$100-million with the aim of using the proceeds to invest in network and infrastructure in the respective operating countries among others.

Cameroon tightens up legislation governing personal financial data

YAOUNDE

THE government of Cameroon is looking to promulgate Bill No. 2016/PJL/AN Governing Banking Secrecy and effectively broaden existing legislation to include microfinance institutions and other payment service providers.

If passed, the Bill will broaden Law No. 2003/4 of 21 April 2003 that currently governs the use of personal financial data but within the confines of commercial banks.

The government said that developments within the technology and finance industries have increased the risk of cybercrime and rendered current legislation obsolete.

The Bill is under review by the National Assembly which is expected to make a final decision in a matter of weeks.

If adopted, electronic payment service providers like MTN Mobile Money, Orange Money, Express Union Mobile Money, BGFI Money, amongst others, as well as their employees, will be compelled to guarantee the confidentiality of the personal and

financial data of their clients and refrain from disclosing such information to third parties.

However a number of authorities are exempt from the changes, including the National Economic and Financial Committee, Banking Commission of Central Africa, Bank of Central African States, National Agency for Financial Investigation, Supreme State Audit Office, the state counsel, as well as customs and taxation departments.

After a discussion of the Bill at Budget and Finance Committee of the National Assembly on 22 March, the country's Minister of Finance Louis Paul Motaze told reporters that the law is meant to "increase confidence for whoever has money to keep in the bank."

Anyone breaking the law could face imprisonment from three months to three years and/or a fine of between 1 million francs CFA and 50 million francs CFA.

If the offence is committed through electronic communication or any other mass medium, the penalty will be doubled.



President Uhuru Kenyatta pictured unveiling the ultramodern facility at Dunhill Towers in Westlands, Nairobi, on Thursday.

Microsoft opens Sh3billion tech talent hub in Nairobi

NAIROBI

AMERICAN tech firm Microsoft has opened a new Sh3 billion (\$27 million) office and labs for its premier engineering hub, the African Development Centre (ADC), after three years of operation in the country.

President Uhuru Kenyatta on Thursday unveiled the multi-billion new facility at Dunhill Towers in Westlands, Nairobi.

In a statement sent to the newspapers from Statehouse, the head of state expressed optimism that the facility will bolster the government's push to secure high-tech jobs in the digital space for the youth.

"As a premier centre of research and development for Microsoft, we all

remain confident that you - together with our young men and women - will build a local world-class talent and create innovative technological solutions that will yield global positive impacts," said President Kenyatta said.

The facility will house the research, design, engineering, and invocation teams as well as the Microsoft Garage, an incubation hub launched as part of the ongoing efforts to scale tech innovation on the continent.

The centre is one of the largest software engineering facilities in Africa and sets the standard for a new generation of technology hubs across the continent.

It has been built in a similar style to Microsoft's global offices to optimise space utilisation, air conditioning, and lighting adjustments as part of Micro-

soft's global ambition to be net carbon negative by 2030.

It also boasts of self-heating windows, a mini solar plant to power the facility, and a water treatment facility to recycle and purify the water, which is not yet available in other Microsoft offices but are available at the new ADC facility.

President Kenyatta said that Microsoft has also partnered with local universities and start-ups to provide training and skills to create job opportunities for over 200,000 young Kenyans in support of the digital economy.

The President cited the creation of off-time time jobs for Kenyans in the fields of software development, programme management, technical design, content writing, operations,

research and applied sciences as part of the mutually beneficial partnership between the Government and Microsoft.

"One of our proud achievements in developing this facility was during the construction phase when we hired over 100 builders, artisans, architects, artists, craftsmen, women groups, and other skilled and unskilled workers, all during the height of the COVID pandemic," said ADC managing director Jack Ngare.

The investments in the centres are part of Microsoft's ongoing plans for enabling digital transformation, bridging gaps in infrastructure, connectivity and capability while creating sustained societal impact on the continent.

Fact-checking orgs unite to tackle Africa's latest fake news problem

ACCRA

FACT-checking organisation FactSpace West Africa has entered into a partnership with AW Free Foundation to expand the fight against misinformation, disinformation, fake news and propaganda across Africa.

AW Free Foundation is a non-profit organisation founded by AfricaWeb, described as one of the biggest publishers in Africa operating in Ghana (ghanaweb.com), Cameroon (camerounweb.com), Nigeria (mynigeria.com), Tanzania (tanzaniaweb.com) and Togo among other African countries.

According to a statement released

by the organisations the partnership seeks to leverage on AfricaWeb's reach of 4 million multilingual visitors per month across three regions of Africa and its wide network of multilingual journalists to verify, fact-check and widely publish verified information in multiple languages across Africa.

FactSpace West Africa and AfricaWeb platforms across West, Central and East Africa have confirmed that they will introduce newly developed digital features that would, among others, rate the accuracy of information including claims by public officials, institutions etc.

Rabiu Alhassan, Director and Managing Editor of FactSpace West Africa,

said, "This is a fact-checking/publisher partnership built to address the age-long challenge of debunking that have minimal online reach. Fact-checks are always known to hobble in the face of viral misinformation. But not anymore. This collaboration will ensure that millions of Africans online get access to verified information while we ensure purveyors of misinformation are held accountable - which speaks to our positioning as a second-generation fact-checker."

Among other activities, FactSpace West Africa and AW Free Foundation would organise fact-checking training for journalists, whistleblowers, CSOs and the general public to develop their

fact-checking skills.

Emmanuel Vitus Agbenonwosi, Executive Director of AW Free Foundation, added, "In sub-Saharan Africa, journalist and whistleblowers' exposure to misinformation and disinformation, if left unaddressed, could further undermine the precarious foothold of independent media on the continent. So, with this partnership, AW Free Foundation plans to explore misinformation and disinformation in multiple African countries through in-depth research, policy briefs and to build the capacity of 2500 journalists across all 5 regions of the continent to restore trust in the media.

Togo first in Africa to host Google's undersea cable Equiano

LOME

GOOGLE'S undersea cable Equiano has arrived in Togo, and will run from Lisbon in Portugal to Cape Town in South Africa along the African coastline of the Atlantic Ocean.

Google expects internet speeds in Togo to double from the current 10Mbps to 21Mbps in 2025, while retail internet prices are predicted to decline by 14% over the same period.

The company said in the next three years Equiano aims to indirectly create 37,000 new jobs in Togo, driven by the growth of the digital economy and peripheral sectors.

Part of Google's US\$1-billion programme to build digital capacity in Africa, the new cable will also land in Namibia, Nigeria and South Africa with branches



Google Sub-Sahara Africa Managing Director Nitin Gajria said Google has worked with local partners to ensure that the cable will be able to improve reliability in global communications.

offering connections to other countries.

Equiano is scheduled to be operational by the end of 2022 and will carry 20 times more network capacity than the last cable built to serve the region.

Google Sub-Sahara Africa Managing Director Nitin Gajria said Google has worked with local partners to ensure that the cable will be able to improve reliability in global communications.

Gajria said: "As 300 million people come online in Africa over the next five years, the Equiano cable is part of our ongoing commitment - expanding opportunities and improving connectivity in order to help bring the benefits of technology to more Africans. We are partnering with multiple telecom players where Equiano lands to ensure that the cable can reach more businesses and end users across Togo and the African continent more broadly."

Togo's Minister of Posts, Digital Economy and Technological Innovation Cina Lawson said, "With this new cable, we will be able to meet the needs of the government's roadmap for bolstering the international connection to the global network."



Apple busy working on hardware subscription service for iPhones

LOS ANGELES

APPLE Inc. is working on a subscription service for the iPhone and other hardware products, a move that could make device ownership similar to paying a monthly app fee, according to people with knowledge of the matter.

The service would be Apple's biggest push yet into automatically recurring sales, allowing users to subscribe to hardware for the first time -- rather than just digital services. But the project is still in development, said the people, who asked not to be identified because the initiative hasn't been announced.

Apple shares climbed to a session high after Bloomberg reported on the news Thursday and closed up 2.3% at \$174.07. Though the stock is still down 2% for the year, Apple has now posted eight straight days of increases -- its longest streak since November.

Adopting hardware subscriptions, akin to an auto-leasing program, would be a major strategy shift for a company that has generally sold devices at full cost outright, sometimes through installments or with carrier subsidies. It could help Apple generate more revenue and make it easier for consumers to stomach spending thousands of dollars on new devices.

Already, the iPhone is Apple's biggest source of sales, generating nearly \$192 billion last year -- more than half the company's revenue.

A spokeswoman for Cupertino, California-based Apple declined to comment on the company's plans.

The idea is to make the process of buying an iPhone or iPad on par with paying for iCloud storage or an Apple Music subscription each month. Apple is planning to let customers subscribe to hardware with the same Apple ID and App Store account they use to buy apps and subscribe to services today.

The program would differ from an installment program in that the



monthly charge wouldn't be the price of the device split across 12 or 24 months. Rather, it would be a yet-to-be-determined monthly fee that depends on which device the user chooses.

The company has discussed allowing users of the program to swap out their devices for new models when fresh hardware comes out. It historically releases new versions of its major devices, including the iPhone, iPad and Apple Watch, once a year.

Apple has been working on the subscription program for several months,

but the project was recently put on the back burner in an effort to launch a "buy now, pay later" service more quickly. Nonetheless, the subscription service is still expected to launch at the end of 2022, but could be delayed into 2023 or end up getting canceled, the people said.

Bloomberg reported last year that the company has been working on a "buy now, pay later" service for all Apple Pay transactions.

The company has had preliminary discussions internally about attaching the hardware subscription program

to its Apple One bundles and AppleCare technical support plans. Apple launched the bundles in 2020 to let users subscribe to several services -- including TV+, Arcade, Music, Fitness+ and iCloud storage -- for a lower monthly fee.

The subscriptions would likely be managed through a user's Apple account on their devices, through the App Store and on the company's website. It would likely also be an option at checkout on Apple's online store and at its physical retail locations. Apple accounts are typically tied to a

user's credit or debit card.

The iPhone maker wouldn't be the first company to push hardware subscriptions. Peloton Interactive Inc. recently started testing a subscription service that lets consumers lease bikes and fitness content for between \$60 and \$100 per month. Google also has tried a similar approach with its Chromebook laptops, targeting corporate customers.

And Apple has offered several installment programs in the past to split up the cost of devices, though not with a subscription model.

In 2015, the company launched the iPhone Upgrade Program, financed through Citizens One Personal Loans, that let users spread the cost of an iPhone over 24 months and upgrade to a new model every 12 months. It also lets Apple Card users divide the cost of an iPhone or Apple Watch over 24 months or an iPad or Mac over 12 months. Wireless carriers offer several monthly installment programs as well. The new approach could make existing services less appealing. A subscription program tied to an Apple account would likely be simpler to manage than a carrier program or even the installment plans for the Apple Card.

Some on Wall Street have previously urged Apple to switch to a subscription model. Sanford C. Bernstein & Co. analyst Toni Sacconaghi pitched the idea of hardware subscriptions in 2016, saying at the time that it could help Apple get to a \$1 trillion market valuation. Apple hit that milestone without embracing the approach -- it's currently worth \$2.84 trillion -- but Sacconaghi recirculated the report on Thursday.

Compared with Starbucks coffee or a New York Times subscription, the iPhone is a bargain, he said.

"Many customers would struggle to think of a single possession they use more than their iPhones," he said. "Moreover, the cost of the iPhone is a relative bargain versus other services for which consumers willingly pay."

How investors can navigate surging inflation

NEW YORK

Inflation is soaring gas rates, Red Bull, you name it the price is skyrocketing. We know this.

But the number one question facing investors is how to protect their wealth against a rapidly declining U.S. dollar and rising interest rates. It's a simple enough question that gets to the heart of the classic dichotomy of value versus growth.

Stocks that were leaders over the last decade like FAANG (Meta Platforms' Facebook, Apple, Amazon, Netflix, and Alphabet's Google) and their various tech cousins have vastly underperformed the broader market this year. Meta got sliced in half, and Zoom is down 80 percent from its record high. There's no shortage of examples.

On the flip side, the S&P 500 energy sector has been screaming higher amid the run-up in commodities up nearly 40% this year (and it's still only the first quarter). Of the 10 sectors besides energy, only financials are in the green year-to-date and just barely so. Not surprisingly, communication services home to Alphabet, Meta and Netflix is the worst off.

All of this makes sense in the current market environment. Energy stocks are benefitting (with no immediate end in sight) from the tailwind of rising oil and gas prices. Financial stocks from banks to insurance are benefitting from higher yields as the Federal Reserve raises rates.

Meanwhile, the types of stocks that benefited most from more than a decade of ultra-low interest rates are being pummeled this year.

Many of these companies aren't profitable and are not capable of covering their interest payments at higher rates. Many of them will fail if the Fed does what it plans. Clearing out malinvestments and liquidating zombie companies while painful ultimately makes for a healthier economy. That's the business cycle.

Beware of traditional 'growth vs. value'

Both energy and financials are broadly considered "value" sectors, as that term is traditionally defined. And those previously high-flying tech stocks would mostly be classified as "growth" stocks.

Value and growth are both factors that investors screen for to see what's been working recently with the hope that it keeps on working. (Other factors investors look at are profitability, leverage, momentum, volatility ... the list goes on.)

As is often the case with finance, definitions aren't standard. The stocks that get stuffed into an ETF with value in the name may or may not actually be considered value at any given moment

For instance, the Vanguard Russell 1000 Value ETF is up 9% over the last year while the iShares Russell 2000 Value ETF is down 0.5 percent. The difference is partly explained by the universe of stocks the two ETFs are tracking.

The Russell 1000 contains large cap stocks (generally \$5 billion or more in market capitalization), while the Russell 2000 is composed of small caps.

That explains part of it. But if you were to screen for traditional value or growth metrics, you'd likely get a basket of results that differs from what an ETF might contain.

That's because metrics change over time, and any metric based on stock prices is going to change every trading day. A stock flashing value factors a quarter ago may not be value today. In fact, traditionally growth names can exhibit value characteristics if the price gets pounded down enough. And it can work the other way too.

Charles Schwab chief investment strategist Liz Ann Sonders breaks down a classic example. Two decades ago in 2002, the Nasdaq 100 would crater over 80% from its tech bubble high, and many investors were looking to scoop up bargains.

FAA warns Boeing may not win certification for the 737 MAX 10 by year-end, says source

WASHINGTON

THE U.S. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) warned Boeing Co earlier this week the planemaker may not gain certification of a lengthened version of the 737 MAX ahead of a key safety deadline set by Congress, a source told Reuters.

Ian Won, acting manager of the FAA aviation safety office that oversees Boeing, asked the U.S. planemaker in a letter dated March 21 to provide a "mature certification schedule," according to a source familiar with the letter. Won also sought updates on progress for both the 737 MAX 10 and 777-9.

Both airliner designs are under development. Certification is needed before they can enter service.

"With regard to the current Boeing Model 737-10 program maturity, the FAA is concerned it will be significantly challenged to meet the directive" of Congress in 2020, Won wrote, the source said.

Won's letter referred to the 2020 law known as the Aircraft Certification, Safety, and Accountability Act, which reformed how the FAA certifies new airplanes. The law sets a late-December 2022 deadline for imposing a new safety standard for cockpit alerts.

Only Congress can extend the deadline if the FAA does not certify the 737 MAX 10 before the end of the year.

Boeing has raised with some lawmakers the potential impact on jobs and production if the aircraft is not approved, Reuters reported last week.

The 737 MAX 10 is longer than earlier 737 MAX narrow-body airliners. The 777-9, a wide-body aircraft, is the initial version of an updated 777 design known as 777X.

In May 2021, the FAA told Boeing that,



realistically, it would not certify the 777X until mid-to late 2023.

Boeing said Thursday it continues "to work transparently with the FAA to provide the information they need and remain committed to meeting their expectations, including regarding 777-9 and 737-10 certification."

The Seattle Times first reported https://www.union-bulletin.com/seattle-times/faa-tells-boeing-it-doubts-max-10-will-meet-safety-standard-deadline/article_a549d7f4-a780-5335-99f2-4d22125de908.html the existence of the letter.

The FAA letter also asked Boeing for an update on its expected dates for major

milestones needed before the planes can win certification and enter commercial service.

Won warned existing certification schedules for the 737 MAX 10 and 777-9 "are outdated and no longer reflect the program activities" as understood by the FAA, the source said.

Asked if Boeing had an

updated schedule, Boeing said it has "no updates to share beyond our previous estimates. We are working to provide official documentation of specific milestones within the certification program in accordance with the FAA's request."

The FAA said Thursday it does not comment on ongoing certification projects.

SPORT

Italy misses 2nd straight World Cup in rapid fall from grace

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Tanzanian comedian Steve Mungele alias 'Steve Nyerere'.

Tanzanian actor opts out of Music Federation post

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIAN actor, Steven Mungele alias 'Steve Nyerere', has resigned from his post as the spokesman of the Tanzania Music Federation, known by its Kiswahili acronym SMT, after being numerously opposed by musicians since his appointment.

Mungele announced the news yesterday at a press conference held at the National Arts Council (BASATA) in Dar es Salaam.

He said he had done so intending to avoid dividing artists, given there are artists who had already shown disapproval of him and others accepted him.

"I'm not ready to lead people who are divided, as my goal was to unite artists and become a bridge," Mungele revealed.

"With a clear mind, I have resigned from this position, but I will be willing to work with artists when they need me," the comedian added.

In the saga, those who accepted him were artists of dance music, Taarab, and gospel, with some of the new generation musicians, known as Bongo Flava, rejecting him.

As a result of the dispute, BASATA intervened on March 23 and suspended Mungele

from the work until it had reviewed the two sides' arguments and came up with its statement.

BASATA's Acting Executive Secretary, Matiko Mniko, said they are the guardians of the artists and called on both sides of the dispute over the issue and listened to them.

Mniko noted the body found that each side had arguments and BASATA would rule on the matter soon.

The BASATA leader stated: "One of the responsibilities given to us is also to address conflicts when it comes to artists and what we did is one of that responsibility by calling and listening to each side and their arguments."

"I promise you that once we are done with their arguments we will provide answers and make clear what we have decided in ending the crisis as the goal is not to see artists split but we want them to work together and take art forward," he said.

Before they could respond, Mungele, who is popular for mimicking various government leaders' accents, decided to announce his resignation by calling a press conference in the city and leaving the position.

Coach Kim Poulsen impressed by Taifa Stars' young players



Tanzania's senior national soccer team 'Taifa Stars' head coach, Kim Poulsen, speaks to fullback Lusojo Mwaikenda during the squad's training in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S senior national football team's head coach Kim Poulsen says he is hopeful that the international friendly matches which Taifa Stars is playing will serve their purpose.

Taifa Stars play two international Friendly matches against the Central African Republic and Sudan at home.

On Wednesday the Tanzania squad beat the Central African Republic 3-1 at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam and will face Sudan at the same venue on Tuesday.

In a monitored radio interview that was held after the game, Poulsen said the two international friendly matches

are important as they will provide an opportunity to build a new generation of Taifa Stars.

He said he is happy that all young players who made their maiden appearance in the team made an impact.

The Danish gaffer said on Wednesday his main focus was to see how new players will embrace his philosophy.

"The purpose of the two international friendly games is to try new players, assess ourselves ahead of the CHAN qualifiers and also improve our rankings on FIFA, I hope that we will achieve our goals," he said.

Taifa Stars scored the three goals through midfielder, Novatus Dismas,

and strikers Mbwana Samatta and George Mpole in the tie that saw Poulsen use four U-20 team players.

Mpole, Geita Gold FC attacker, was making his maiden appearance for the senior national football team.

The players used by Poulsen are Haji Mnoga and Ben Starkie who both ply their trade in England with Weymouth FC and Spalding FC respectively.

Novatus Dismas of Beitar Tel Aviv of Israel and Kelvin John of Belgium's KRC Genk were as well included in the squad.

Youthful performers who started on the bench were Tepsi E Vance of Azam FC, Abdulrazak Hamza of Namungo FC, and Aboutwalib Mshery of Yanga.

Lions Cricket Club wallops DCC in DC Sisi Cup 40 Overs tournament duel

By Guardian Reporter

PROMISING cricketer Abubakar Selemani was impressive at the crease and catapulted Lions Cricket Club to a resounding 52-run victory over Dar Cricket Club (DCC) in an exhilarating Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Sisi Cup 40 Overs Division A1 tournament's match which was played recently.

It was a brilliant and much-needed result for the tie's eventual winner against DCC in the local derby played at Annadil Burhani ground.

Lions Cricket Club confidently put in a potentially worthy performance that had the players dominating the whole game in all areas against a very experienced DCC side.

After it was presented with the opportunity to bat first, Lions Cricket Club amassed 224 runs losing seven wickets in the scheduled 40 overs.

Credit should go to a solid batting partnership put by openers Taher Chakera and Mohamed Salim, giving their club an emphatic start to the duel.

The duo notched 38 runs apiece as Lions Cricket Club made its pursuit of a bigger score known.



Lions Cricket Club's Abubakar Selemani puts his batting virtuosity to show in Dar es Salaam Cricket (DC) Sisi Cup 40 Overs Division A1 tournament encounter between the club and Dar Cricket Club (DCC) that took place recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF LIONS CRICKET CLUB

The club experienced a setback in the form of an early exit of one of the key players Rijali Fentu for duck.

Fentu that came on at number three was trapped for leg before wicket (lbw) by DCC's spinner Sajad Ratansi in the batsman's first knock.

Fentu's dismissal left Lions Cricket Club reeling at 81 runs after 15.1 overs with two wickets taken.

There was moreover an impressive partnership between Ali Sumar and Selemani that had them putting 100 runs.

The youthful Selemani was in particular in stellar form, as the cricketer registered half-century and blasted three fours.

Sumar had no mercy for the

DCC cricketers, the cricketer ended two runs short of half a century with his score consisting of two fours.

Ratansi stood out from the rest of the DCC cricketers after grabbing four wickets in eight overs when the club had the opportunity to field.

The spinner's feat nevertheless did little to keep Lions Cricket Club's cricketers in check.

Fellow bowler Abdulwahid Mohamed notched two wickets, giving away 36 runs in eight overs.

Needing 225 runs from the scheduled 40 overs, DCC in response found the going tough, settling for 172 runs losing all wickets in 37.4 overs.

Team captain Adil Kassam

was the performer with the most runs in the unsuccessful chase, ending eight runs short of a half-century.

Hiren Sharma, deployed at low order, notched 30 runs not out in a late onslaught that could hardly pay off.

Meet Jetha and Dharmin Parmar that are as well DCC's dependable performers ended with double-digit scores given the players scored 23 runs apiece.

Abdulsamad Ahmed had a meaningful contribution with the ball for Lions Cricket Club, notching a four-wicket haul.

Man of the Match Selemani also showcased his contribution with the ball, notching three wickets.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

