



National Pg 3



National Pg 4



National Pg 5



Page 13

Treasury unveils 35trn/- budget estimates for next financial year

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government plans to spend a total of 34.88trn/- in the 2020/21 financial year whereby 21.98trn/- is meant for recurrent expenditure and 12.90trn/-, equivalent to 37 per cent for development expenditure.

Presenting an outline of budget proposals for the 2020/21 fiscal year here yesterday, the minister for Finance and Planning, Dr Philip Mpango said the development budget component of 10.16trn/-, equivalent to 78.8 per cent is from internal revenue sources and 2.74trn/- expected from external sources.

"The government plans to collect and spend 34.88trn/- in 2020/21, with the amount also including expenditure for the 2020 General Elections," he said.

Dr Mpango told the lawmakers that the budget focuses on the National Five Year Development Plan 2016/17-2020/21 to build an industrial economy and improve the welfare of the people.

Total internal revenue is expected to reach Sh 23.05 trillion whereby the government expects to collect tax revenue totaling Sh 19.10 trillion and Sh 3.18 obtained from non-tax revenue, while taxes collected by district councils are projected at Sh 765.5 billion.



Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation deputy minister Dr Damas Ndumbaro (3rd-L, front row) and the French Ambassador to Tanzania, Frédéric Clavier, pictured at the French Embassy grounds in Dar es Salaam yesterday gracing the commemoration of the remembrance of the victims of the terrorist attacks committed at Madrid's Atocha station on March 11, 2004. Photo: Selemani Mpocho



Ethiopian minors en route to SA remanded in Arusha

By Guardian Reporter

POLICE in Arusha Region are holding six children from Ethiopia aged between five and 12 who were rescued from a house in the city as they were about to be transported to South Africa illegally.

As of today, the children who told detectives that they were lifted from their mother's house in the Horn of Africa

TURN TO PAGE 2

“He said the government will also work to improve the business environment to promote investment, and simplify taxes

Between July 2019 and January 2020, internal revenue reached Sh 11.87 trillion, equivalent to 92.3 percent of the targeted Sh 12.86 trillion for that period.

"Out of the revenue, Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) collections reached Sh 10.62 trillion, equivalent to 96.9 percent of Sh 10.96 trillion targeted for the period," he said.

He told the committee session of Parliament that revenue collection efficiency improved in the July 2019 and January 2020 period, reaching 96.9 percent of target compared to 88.6 percent in the period July 2018 and January 2019.

He said the government will also work to improve the business environment to promote investments, and simplify taxes.

On the development budget, the minister said Sh 4bn/- is meant for repayment of matured loans, Sh 2.1 trillion for continued construction of the Standard Gauge Railway while Sh 1.6 trillion is for the Julius Nyerere power project, and Sh 6trillion is slated for other

TURN TO PAGE 2

Chadema collects 234.7m/-, CCM pays Dr Mashinji fine

By Guardian Reporter

“Magistrate's court found the seven Chadema cadres and their former secretary general turned CCM cadre guilty of incitement charges. He fined them a total of 350m/- or spending a cumulative 60 months in jail

THE main opposition party, Chadema, has embarked on an online-based fundraising campaign to mobilize resources to pay 320m/- in fines slapped on seven top party officials including national chairman Freeman Mbowe.

The fundraising through mobile cash transfers and a bank account began on Tuesday evening after Dar es Salaam's Kisutu Resident Magistrate's Court found the seven Chadema cadres and their former secretary general turned CCM cadre guilty of incitement. He fined them a total

of 350m/-, the alternative being to spend a cumulative 60 months (and not 60 years as erroneously reported in yesterday's issue of this paper) in prison.

Yesterday morning, the CCM secretary for publicity and ideology, Humphrey Polepole, paid the fines for cadre Dr Vincent Mashinji who recently decamped. This unfolded as a well publicized event hurting the latter's former associates.

Apart from Mbowe, Chadema cadres convicted and remanded in prison for failing to pay the fines promptly are

TURN TO PAGE 2

'Intelligence sharing key to defeating terrorism'

By Felister Peter

“The event was specifically meant to remember the attack committed at Madrid's Atocha station on March 11th, 2004

TANZANIA has called for cooperation among nations especially by sharing of intelligence as an effective way of countering and defeating terrorism.

Dr Damas Ndumbaro, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation made this appeal in Dar es Salaam yesterday during a tribute

ceremony to the victims of terrorism, organized by the French Embassy.

The event was specifically meant to remember the attack committed at Madrid's Atocha station on March 11th, 2004.

"For terrorism to be defeated we must complement security measures with prevention efforts that identify and address root

TURN TO PAGE 2

TCRA ICT AWARDS

TUZO ZA TEHAMA ZA TCRA ZA MWAKA 2020

Zimebaki siku 4 tu kuwasilisha fomu za ushiriki mtandaoni

Mwisho wa uwasilishaji fomu ni Machi 15, 2020

Kila mwenye leseni ya TCRA analazimika kushiriki Tuma fomu yako ya ushiriki mtandaoni sasa

Mawasiliano Zaidi: Piga simu ya bila malipo namba 0800 008272 au tuma barua pepe kupitia ictawards@tcra.go.tz tovuti ya www.ictawards.tcra.go.tz

"Boresha Maisha Kupitia Tehama kwa Uchumi wa Viwanda Kidijitali"



Ethiopian minors en route to SA remanded in Arusha

FROM PAGE 1

country ostensibly to be taken to their father in South Africa, have spent 21 days in police cells.

Arusha Regional Police Commander Jonathan Shanna told reporters here yesterday that law enforcers raided a house located at the Ngureso suburb within the city on 20th February and found the children.

He said the raid followed a tip-off from law-abiding citizens who informed the police that there were children in the property belonging to a city couple, Amina Ally and Mohammed Mahamud who could not speak Kiswahili, which was unusual given their age.

He named the children and their ages as Rukia Tajibu Ismail (12), Zainabu Tayibu (11), Kuruthumu Tayibu (10), Yimaji Tayibu (9), Arafat Tayibu (5) and Umayi Tayibu.

After questioning, the children said that they are indeed of Ethiopian nationality and that they entered the country through the Namanga border from Nairobi.

"Later a man named Ateyibo Ismail Yusuf, aged 45 years, emerged and claimed to be the father of the children but could not prove the same because although he claimed that he came from South Africa, he could not produce documents to

prove that," the RPC said.

After failing to state how he entered the country for lack of documents—just like the children—Ateyibo was also held for questioning as law enforcers try to understand how the seven people entered the country and if they are indeed related.

"We have extracted samples from the children and the adults for DNA testing to ascertain if he is the father or not," Shanna said.

The RPC said they were working on a suspicion that the children were victims of human trafficking with Tanzania being used as a passage point as it is the case with many Ethiopians destined for South Africa.

He said whatever the outcome of the DNA tests, the regional police office had reached out to the International Police Organisation (Interpol) to facilitate the return of the minors who were sneaked into the country illegally.

"We will take Eteyibo to court for entering Tanzania illegally," he said.

Arusha-based child rights activist Hasna Ally called on the police to work on the matter urgently so that the minors are released from custody.



Zanzibar residents gather at Raha Leo to collect their identity cards, as captured yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Martin Kabemba

Chadema collects 234.7m/-, CCM pays Dr Mashinji fine

FROM PAGE 1

current secretary general and Kibamba MP John Mnyika, Iringa Urban MP Peter Msigwa, Kawe lawmaker Halima Mdee, Esther Matiko (Tarime Urban), John Heche (Tarime Rural), Deputy Secretary General (Zanzibar) Salum Mwalimu and Bunda MP Esther Bulaya.

Upon arrival at the Kisutu Resident Magis-

trate's Court, Polepole was directed to deposit the money and thereafter went to Segerea Remand Prison where he facilitated Dr Mashinji's release.

Chadema started the campaign soon after the judgment which attracted the attention of a vast section of the public.

By early afternoon yesterday, Chadema deputy chairman for Zanzibar, Mohammed Issah told a

news conference in Dar es Salaam that the party had collected 234,769,000/- through various platforms put in place for the exercise.

He said the party collected more than 176m/- from contributors through mobile phones, 52.7m/- deposited by well wishers to the bank account and 4.7m/- given in cash.

"Tanzanians have

shown the world that they love justice. The contributions started as soon as we announced; we will be forever grateful for this as a party," he said in tribute.

The opposition leader said out of the cited amount, 100m/- had already been deposited into the bank ready to win the release of Matiko, Mdee and Bulaya.

During the press

conference, the top party official announced that he had already instructed the party's lawyers to work on processes to free the three senior cadres.

"Look at what the people have done in less than 24 hours. We have collected more than 200m/-; this is a great job that Tanzanians have shown and we will forever be grateful."

In his judgment,

Principal Resident Magistrate Thomas Simba said that the prosecution led by State Attorney Faraja Nchimbi proved that on February 16, 2018 at Buibui grounds within Kinondoni District in Dar es Salaam, the accused persons organised and took part in an illegal gathering in which inciting words were uttered. All of them were found guilty on this count and fined 10m/-

'Intelligence sharing key to defeating terrorism'

FROM PAGE 1

causes. We must designate holistic approaches from the grassroots, countries need to cooperate with one another including the private sector and civil society," he stated.

Dr Ndumbaro said that institutional links with regional organizations should be strengthened through exchange of critical information and knowledge.

"We need joint investigations and operations," he affirmed, noting that terrorism has affected lives than any other threat and that every region across the globe has suffered and continues to suffer its impacts.

Tanzania was a victim of terrorism following the bombing of the United States Embassy in Dar es Salaam mid-1998, he said.

Manfredo Fanti, envoy of the European Union to Tanzania, said that "after the attacks that we have witnessed, people are much stronger and braver than terrorists think."

Fanti said members of victims' association of terrorism are in the forefront to fight against the horror. The best way to fight terrorism is for countries to ensure provision of essential needs as well as better education to the people to prevent them becoming players of terrorism's ideologies.

The EU has put in place a strong legal framework to protect victims in the region through its compensation scheme, he said.

French ambassador Frédéric Clavier said although much has been

done to better identify the threats and improve intelligence, all the same human, technological and legal resources should be reinforced to counter terrorism.

"Terrorism is not only a concern in France. We also see it in other countries; it knows no borders, it is a global affair. All together we will respond to it," he declared.

Ambassador Clavier reiterated that France will never give in to terror and will always be supportive on such trials.

In his message, French President Emmanuel Macron said that the terrorists have failed to annihilate the republican promise. "They wanted to destroy the value of life but they only succeeded in making it more precious to us. They wanted to cause paralysis and divide us; they have united us."

The president said the commemoration focuses on what the nation owes all those upon whom the violence of terrorism has dealt a blow.

"Every embassy is participating in this moment where we came together and just not victims and their families, but those who rescued them are gathering in exemplary spirit of dedication and solidarity," the message underlined.

President Emmanuel Macron decided that March 11th, also the European Remembrance Day for Victims of Terrorism, be commemorated as French national day of tribute to victims of terrorism.



Tourists from Romania have a feel of Tanzanian coffee beans and natural life while sightseeing in Arusha yesterday, their trip plans overseen by the Moivaro Cultural Tourism Programme. Photo: Correspondent Woinde Shizza

New industrial policy in the pipeline - govt

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Ministry of Industry and Trade is reviewing the country's industrial policy to have ones that will go in tandem with the pace of global economic changes and achieve the 2025 middle income status.

This has been revealed by the ministry's acting assistant director of communications, research on the growth of trade and markets, Frank Mbando when opening a training semi-

nar for industrial experts on how to review the policy.

Mbando said the ministry administers various policies including those for industrial development, national trade policy, small industries policy as well as agricultural products policy. He said most of the policies are outdated.

He said global economic changes spur the government through the ministry to re-evaluate the policies including the industrial policy that is 23 years old.

He said when Tanzania sets

its sights at 2025 it is necessary to go back to the country's history that has passed through various phases in its economic history from 1961 to 1967 when it was under free market economy.

He mentioned the other phases of history as the one from 1967 to 1986 when the government controlled the economy under the socialism blueprint, and 1986 to 1995 when it made some structural adjustments to the economy.

Representative from the United Nations Industrial Devel-

opment (UNIDO), Dr Stephen Kargbo said they have decided to work with the government to enable the Ministry of Industry and Trade to prepare policies that would ensure attains middle income economy.

He said: "UNIDO prides itself in making a similar plan a success for the Zanzibar government and now we are working together with the Ministry of Industry and Trade to enable its experts have the capacity to review the policies for improvement."

Treasury unveils 35trn/- budget estimates for next financial year

FROM PAGE 1

projects.

The minister said the proposed budget ceiling includes Sh 24.07 trillion, being 69 percent of the total budget as composed of internal loans projected at Sh 4.90 trillion, external commercial loans put at Sh 3.04 trillion while Sh 2.87 trillion or 8.2 per cent of the total budget is expected from grants and soft loans.

Speaking about government expenditure for the 2019/20 fiscal year, he said the government set out to spend Sh 33.11 trillion, out of which Sh 20.86 trillion was for the recurrent budget and Sh 12.25 trillion for the development budget.

Between July 2019 and January 2020, the government authorized expenditure of Sh 18.27 trillion including Sh 1.20 trillion from development partners that went directly to various development projects, being 94.1 percent of the Sh 19.41 trillion target.

Dr Mpango said out of the disbursed amount, Sh 12.05 trillion is directed at recurrent expenditure, equivalent to 97.6 percent of the budgeted Sh 12.34 trillion, while Sh 6.22 trillion, equivalent to 71.9 percent of the targeted Sh 8.67 trillion is meant for development expenditure.

The government spent Sh 5.80 trillion in repayment of loans spent on various development projects, like water projects in Arusha and Ruvu, Kinyerezi power project, Singida-Arusha-Namanga power project and expansion of Zanzibar airport, among others, the minister added.



Vodacom business unit director Arjun Dhillon (L) makes remarks during panel discussions on agricultural technology held in Dar es Salaam yesterday as part of the Innovation Week celebrations, explaining how farmers can access agricultural information through the Vodacom network. With him are Southern Agricultural Growth Corridor of Tanzania (SAGCOT) CEO Geoffrey Kirenga (C) and agricultural policy advisor Prof David Nyange. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

RC decries massive thefts of revenues from tourism

By Guardian Correspondent, Ngorongoro

ARUSHA Regional Commissioner Mrisho Gambo has said there is huge theft of government revenues collected from tourists and their vehicles at Engasero Gate in Ngorongoro district.

Engasero gate collects revenue for three districts of Arusha region, namely Ngorongoro, Monduli and Longido. Gambo was speaking yesterday soon after his arrival at the Gate being the first day of his official visit in Ngorongoro District.

"There are reliable reports of fraud in regard to revenue from tourists and their vehicles collected at this Gate, hence I direct that the committee formed by the Arusha Regional Administrative Secretary (RAS) Richard Kwitega and all District Executive Directors (DEDs) to sit together in order to come up with a better, fool-proof way in collecting tax at the Gate," Gambo said.

He added: "It is inconceivable for the the Ngorongoro District Executive Director Raphael Siumbu to stay here for three days and collected more than 4m/-00 while you stay here and collect only 800,000/- in three days."

In regard to road infrastructure destroyed by rains in Oldonyo Lengai area, Gambo directed TANROADS Manager Eng Ngeleja Joshua to direct the contractor to immediately complete the work as it will be



very difficult for the vehicles to pass.

Earlier the Ngorongoro District Executive Director Raphael Siumbu said the fraud network of theft of government funds is big, as it involves officials from his office and thorough investigations are going on and will finish its work within three days.

"The Council collects 200m/- only and this is due to the fraud network which also involves people from my office and as of now I have changed the procedure in changing the control number," he said.

Speaking with this paper some officials of Ngorongoro District Council who collect revenue at Engasero Gate but did not want their name revealed said the money collecting devices do not work properly due to communication network problems hence they ask the tourists to pay in cash which is not collected via control number.

PM: Discrimination against people living with HIV/Aids must end

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has expressed concern over the ever-existing stigmatisation of people living with HIV/Aids, violence against women and children in the country, saying all citizen should fight against the vices.

Speaking while officiating at the official launch of a national campaign to end the vices, held here on Tuesday evening, he said the practice lead to loss of national manpower as many

youths out of fear stigmatization fear testing their HIV/Aids status.

Majaliwa said the government is doing everything possible to ensure people living with HIV/Aids get the needed services to help them live healthy and longer. The meeting brought together religious leaders, members of parliament and government officials.

The meeting was organized by the National Council of People Living with HIV/AIDS in Tanzania (NACOPHA) under

sponsorship of U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) in Tanzania and the U.S Agency for International Development (USAID). Religious leaders express commitment to use their different platforms and campaign against the vices.

The PM urged that to use their Godly given opportunities and teach their followers on the importance of eradicating stigmatization as well as violence on children and women. "Every Tanzanian has a role to play in ensuring that stigmatization does not exist anymore

in the country for all citizens deserve to live peacefully and without any fear" he said, adding that many people die in silence due to stigmatization.

He noted that Tanzania join the rest of the world in the fight against stigmatization, stating that even the holy books of Quran and Bible which the religious leaders use talk of love for another without discrimination.

Majaliwa cautioned the public from using discriminatory languages, calling on people to stop saying "those infected with Aids"

and instead say "those living with HIV/Aids".

According to the premier, war against HIV/Aids has received a lot of government support but there are people in the country who are yet to come to truth that the disease is no longer scary as it used to be several years ago.

He reminded the meeting that he was and is still an ambassador for the campaign for men to voluntarily go for testing to know their HIV status, adding that it is an endless initiative.

The PM thanked the US govern-

ment effort for supporting the initiative through USAID and PEPFAR, saying they have helped save lives of many. He also thanked NACOPHA for the move that brought together different stakeholders in the launch of the national campaign to end stigmatization.

Speaking earlier at the meeting, Speaker of the National Assembly, Job Ndugai said stigmatization is real and highly manifested in the country, including the parliament.

He remorsefully explained to the meeting how he was forced to disband a parliamentary commit-

tee on HIV/Aids after members of the committee complained to him more than three times.

"After being summoned by committee members, with similar complain of wanting to know why they were appointed to the committee, I was shocked.....I remember others saying that may be I saw that they were affected with the disease" he said, adding that when he went back to his office tears rolled his cheeks, thus the decision to disband the committee and constitute it a fresh.



Request for Proposals

Provision of Translation Services to Plan International Tanzania

RFP No. PIT/CO/38/FY20

1. Plan International Tanzania is an International humanitarian child-centered development organization without religious, political or government affiliation. Plan's mission is to achieve lasting improvements in the quality of life of deprived children in developing countries through a process that unites people across cultures and adds meaning to their lives.
2. Plan International Tanzania is therefore issuing this request for bids to firms with good qualification, experience and track records for provision of translation services.
3. Interested eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including an email address to tenders@plan-international.org Attn: Head of Procurement and Logistics. Bidding documents in the English language will be sent to interested bidders by email. Plan Tanzania will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing of the bid documents.
4. Bidders are requested to submit Technical and Financial Proposals each enclosed in a separate envelope and marked "Technical Proposal" and "Financial Proposal" respectively. The two envelopes shall then be enclosed in a single envelope.
5. Bidders must submit the proposals in a sealed envelope by hand or post to: The Country Director, Plan International Tanzania, Plot no. 496 Mikocheni Light Industrial Area, P.O. Box 3517, Dar es Salaam before 5PM Tuesday 25th March 2020, marked the above RFP number. Not to be opened before 5PM Tuesday 25th March 2020. Electronic and Late bids will be rejected.

Country Director
Plan International Tanzania
Central Technologies House
Plot No. 96 Mikocheni Light Industrial Area
New Bagamoyo Road - Next to TBCI&NECTA
P O Box 3517
Dar es Salaam



THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
 MINISTRY OF WORKS, TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION
TANZANIA SHIPPING AGENCIES CORPORATION
 TASAC



INVITATION TO ATTEND STAKEHOLDERS MEETING TO CLARIFY COMPLIANCE REQUIREMENTS WITH THE GOVERNMENT NOTICE NO. 342 OF 2018 ON REGULATED SERVICE PROVIDERS LEVY

The Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation (TASAC) has organised Stakeholders Meeting to be attended by the **Regulated Service Providers in the maritime transport sector on Wednesday, 18th March, 2020 from 9:00 am to 1.00 pm.** The purpose of the meeting is to enhance awareness on the Tanzania Shipping Agencies (Service Provider Levies and Fees) Rules, 2018 (Government Notice No. 342 of 2018) and to clarify compliance requirements with the Government Notice No. 342 of 2018.

The invited stakeholders for this meeting are **Maritime Transport Services Providers** (including Ports Operator and Terminal Port Operators), **Shipping Agents, Dry Port Operators** (including Inland Clearance Depots-ICDs and Empty Container Depots-ECDs), **Cargo Consolidators and De-consolidators, Miscellaneous Port Services Providers and Gross Mass Verifiers (GMVs).** Please note that a maximum number of representatives from each stakeholder's firm should be two (2) people, one of them should be from finance/accounts.

The meeting was organised as continuation of awareness programme following the earlier meetings held on 20th February, 2019 and 20th November, 2019 in Dar es Salaam and Mwanza respectively.

You are all welcome

Polite Reminder: It is an offence and punishable under the laws to operate in maritime transport sector and provide regulated services without a valid Certificate, Permits and/or TASAC License.

Issued by
Director General

Tanzania Shipping Agencies Corporation
PPF Tower Building 8th Floor, Garden Avenue/Ohio Street,
P. O. Box 989, Dar es Salaam - Tanzania,
Tel: +255 222 127 314, Fax: +255 222 127 313,
Email: dg@tasac.go.tz, info@tasac.go.tz, customercare@tasac.go.tz,
Website: www.tasac.go.tz

Regional budgets must indicate 10pc loans for special groups, says minister

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibaha

MINISTER of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government -RALG) Selemani Jafo has cautioned Regional Commissioners who will submit budgets without indicating the 10 percent set aside for loans to youth, women and people with disabilities, insisting the budgets will not be approved.

Jafo issued the caution yesterday at a sitting of the Coast region advisory committee that deliberated on the budget plan for the 2020/21 financial year.

"Any submitted budget proposal will not be deliberated on in the Budget Committee if it will not indicate the 10 percent set aside for loans to youth, women and people with disabilities as the law requires," he stressed.

He said in the budget proposals every regional commissioner must show a table on how each council will disperse the loans to the youth, women and people with disabilities.

He said he will not tolerate any regional commissioner who will be the reason for the Ministry's budget to get stuck and he will send to the President the names of the people who would be responsible.

Speaking on revenue collection, Jafo said the situation is far from being satisfactory in regard to Coast Region as only two councils out of nine are do-

ing well.

In the circumstances he directed the councils executive directors to ensure the revenue they collect is via the Government electronic Payment Gateway (GePG) system.

He said many money collecting devices are being tampered with hence the collected revenue does not enter government coffers.

Meanwhile Jafo issued directives to all district commissioners in the country to identify the areas that have been badly damaged by rains necessitating closure of some schools, so that alternative schools are found for students especially those facing national examinations.

The sitting endorsed a 251.57bn/- budget proposals for the 2020/21 fiscal year.



Any submitted budget proposal will not be deliberated on in the Budget Committee if it will not indicate the 10 percent set aside for loans to youth, women and people with disabilities as the law



Apaillia Kibona (R), a police health officer in Iringa Region, administers cervical cancer vaccinations on Kleruu Secondary School students yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

Education stakeholders meet to discuss Dodoma performance in national examinations

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

DODOMA regional authority has organised education stakeholders meeting to help come up with solutions to the continued dismal performance in national examinations.

Addressing a press conference here, Regional Commissioner, Dr Binilith Mahenge said the two days

meeting to be held on 21st March to 22nd March this year is expected to come up with both short and long term strategies to increase level of education in the region.

He said, the meeting dubbed 'Dodoma Elimu Forum' will be officiated by the Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa and will bring together various stakeholders from within and outside the region.

"The reality is that Dodoma region has not been doing so well in the national examinations due to various reasons and it is now time to convene such a meeting to see how to solve the problems," he said.

The RC noted that some of the key issues to be discussed in the meeting include how to improve infrastructure in schools as well

as building of dormitories to help children who travel far distance to reach school.

In 2018 minister of State in the President's Office, Regional Authority and Local Government, Selemani Jafo directed the Permanent Secretary in his ministry to investigate why Dodoma region continued to perform poorly in education.

He said Dodoma has gained the capital city status but constantly perform dimly in national examinations, saying there is a serious need to investigate the matter.

"It is not in order that the region performs badly in national examinations, I therefore direct you to conduct investigations on why the situation has remained the same and suggestions on what should

be done," he told the deputy PS who attended the meeting on behalf of the permanent secretary.

The minister added that there is need to get the root cause of the problem, adding that the authority might take actions on education officers yet there are deeply rooted problems.

Jafo observed that there are various challenges facing education

sector in the region. He said currently there are only 52.8 percent of the total classrooms, noting the shortage has increased following the free education system initiated last year. He noted that the situation is not so bad in secondary schools where the total demand for classrooms is 39,940 while the existing are 39,490, being 98.8 percent of the demand.



Tanzania Gender Networking Programme executive director Lilian Liundi speaks at yesterday's launch in Dar es Salaam of the Coalition of Women's Human Rights Defenders Tanzania. Photo: Correspondent Sabato Kasika

Embrace, exploit entrepreneurship, bank tells women in IWD message

By Guardian Reporter

WOMEN have been urged to engage themselves in entrepreneurship skills and other business activities to empower themselves and build financial stability.

United Bank for Africa (UBA)'s chief operations officer, Flavia Kiyanga made the call over the weekend at the function to mark International Women's Day.

Kiyanga encouraged women to acquire entrepreneurship skills so as to enable them to be economically self-reliance and contribute to the growth of their families and society.

She said: "It is high time women take advantage of the existing entrepreneurship opportunities for them to reduce poverty, generate income and employment."

Victoria Lupembe, head legal and company secretary at UBA also told women that now the gender balance is in place as most of the companies, like UBA Tanzania, has employed a good number of women to hold executive and non-executive roles.

In marking the special women's day, the bank donated medical equipment, 40 pieces of adult diapers, 40 body oils, laundry soap (40 pieces), toothpaste (40 pieces), toothbrush (40 pieces), 100 plates and 50 bowls, tea mugs (100 pieces), khanga (100),

mosquito nets (100 pieces), mosquito spray (5 cartons), 100 basins, 100 flip flops and 40 sanitary pads packets for women with Fistula at CCBRT hospital in Dar es Salaam.

The team of women leaders at the bank and other women employees joined forces to educate and discuss various cross-cutting issues related to women and finally enjoyed the breakfast with all the women customers invited.

UBA Tanzania women played a vital role in enabling other women through various initiatives done by the bank to support women and school girls including sanitary towels, maternity pads, and other materials.

The bank also invited female customers to the breakfast session prepared by the bank as recognition of women's vital roles in the society.

The 2020 International Women's Day focuses on the theme, 'An equal world is an enabled world 'Each for equal'.

The Day is celebrated annually on 8th March. It offers an opportunity to reflect on progress made, to call for change and to celebrate acts of courage and determination by ordinary women who have played an extraordinary role in the history of their countries and communities.

Women empowerment scheme sees over 700 food vendors formally registered in Dar

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

OVER 700 women food vendors in Dar es Salaam region have been formally registered to encourage them invest in their business in order to generate own capitals and reduce reliance on bank loans that normally carry high interest rates.

The plan is expected to help the women to be groomed up with skills on how to generate profits from their business based on daily sells and expenditure.

Jenifer Bash, the founder of Mama Alaska Jamii said this during the celebration for International Women's Day.

"We are currently preparing

them to have a business which provides tangible profits," she said.

Bash said that they conducted a research and found out that, out of four women food vendors, only one makes profit while three encounter loss daily, and this is due to lack of record keeping and management of

funds.

"Our aim is to help them to have enough cash investment in the banks in order to be bankable, and the exercise is simple, because their main challenge is insufficient capital to boost their business," she explained.

Bash also said through the groups the food vendors will

be able to have one voice to demand what they have been asking for long time.

In general, Mama Alaska programme is basically focusing on supporting women food vendors with skills on how to improve business through record keeping, financial management, investment, health and environ-

ment.

According to her, the programme has so far trained 320 Mama Lishe across the city since November last year, with support from the Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT).

"We are expecting to engage more women food vendors, 3,320 in the next phase mainly

to expand the coverage and to make sure every food vendor is reached with this programme," she explained.

According to her, the organisation is also looking on modality to see how they can involve men in the programme in order for them to support women in the business.



Eason Young (2nd-R), Keds Tanzania Ltd sales and marketing manager, presents a variety of detergents to the management of Dar es Salaam's Mwananyamala Hospital on the eve of International Women's Day (March 7) to help enhance hygiene in the facility's maternity ward. Third right is founder of Tanzania Consumer Choice Awards founder Diana Laizer, who co-sponsored the move. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Coast regional commissioner gives three-day ultimatum to cashewnut purchase bidders

By Guardian Correspondent, Kibaha

COAST Regional Commissioner Eng Evarist Ndikilo has given three days to bidders who won the tender to buy cashew nuts to pay the money to the bank.

He warned that failure to do so within given timeframe will see them handed over to the Regional Police Commander (RPC).

He gave the ultimatum on Tuesday in Kibaha at a meeting of the regional advisory committee.

He said by Friday (March 13) if none of the winning bidders will have deposited the money to the bank, he will ensure their names are given to the RPC to be dealt with.

He also directed District Commissioners in the region, if necessary to use state organs to mobilise to clear their cashew nut farms.

On the cashew nut crop that is still in the warehouses up to now, Ndikilo said they are waiting for the Agriculture Minister's visit to the region to see the situation for himself after which they will discuss how to sell the

crop. The chairman of Coast Region Cooperative Union (CORECU) (Cashewnuts) Rajabu Ng'onoma said caring of the farms in the region is not pleasing hence farmers should be educated on the matter.

Rajabu said up to now 3,700 tonnes of the cashew nuts is still in the warehouses waiting for buyers.

The Assistant Regional Administrative Secretary on Economy and Production Shangwe Tamala said in the 2019/21 cashew nuts season that began November 27 last year by opening the Mkuranga auction the expectation was to purchase 26,096,000 kgs of the crop from the region's nine districts.

He said by February this year the region had 8,958,273 kgs bought from farmers via CORECU.

Tamala said the region still has 4,888,479 kgs of third grade cashew nuts - that is not recognised by law - which has been more prominent in this season.



The Assistant Regional Administrative Secretary on Economy and Production Shangwe Tamala said in the 2019/21 cashew nuts season that began November 27 last year by opening the Mkuranga auction the expectation was to purchase 26,096,000 kgs of the crop

'Take foodstuffs, spices, honey and herbal products to Comoro'

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIAN traders have been urged to export to Comoro foodstuffs, spices, herbal products, honey and sardines if they want to make lucrative business in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

Addressing a pre-expo meeting held in Dar es Salaam recently, Comorian Deputy Amba-

sador to Tanzania Bacar Salim, urged traders who will take part in the 8-day special exhibition to export to Comoro the basic commodities which Comorians need that are currently imported from other countries. The trade fair organised by the Tanzania Saccos for Women Entrepreneurs (TASWE) will be held in Comoro starting April 17,

2020. "What is important is for you to know the exact needs of Comorians." For a long time we have been importing foodstuffs, spices, herbal medicines, honey, sardines and industrial products, especially furniture. As you prepare for the expo, pay attention to this list," the envoy advised delegates.

The entrepreneurial delegation will be led by Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Prof Palamagamba Kabudi and is expected to be received by the Comorian head of state, according to the preliminary VIP itinerary.

Salim said traders should take advantage of cordial relations between the countries to

popularise products wanted in Comoro that are produced in Tanzania.

"I commend and admire the efforts made by Tanzanian women entrepreneurs to organise this expo. These efforts strengthen relations between our two countries. Comoro and Tanzania have had trade relations for many years," he told

participants who will take part in the expo dubbed as Tanzanian Women Entrepreneurs.

TASWE chairperson, Anna Josia Matinde, said preparations for the exhibition were in final stages. "We are working on visa formalities because originally we had 60 exhibitors on the list. As a result of this meeting, the number has increased," she

said. TASWE Manager, Lilian Nyagabona, who is in-charge of the protocol affairs, said the exhibition was expected to be opened by the Comorian president, adding that feedback from Comoro showed that the trade fair would be visited by many people including Comorian traders and investors.

NIT to offer ship building courses

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

DUE to lack of ship building engineers the National Institute of Transport (NIT) will soon start providing diploma courses on ship building including undergraduate degree in ship architecture.

This was revealed here mid this week by NIT Principal, Prof Zacharia Mganilwa, who is also chairman of Marine Services Company Limited (MSCL) during training visit by NIT Governing Board at MSCL to learn how experts from Korea were constructing barges, other new ships and renovation of MV Victoria and MV Butiama.

Prof Mganilwa said the government has invested a lot of money in the four projects they visited hence for the people to benefit there is a need to produce human resources in water transport who are professional in the field.

He said due to the shortage of indigenous experts in the work being undertaken they have put up plans for 2021/21 to start shipbuilding courses whereby they will enroll 50 students for the shipbuilding diploma and 30 for ship architecture so as to produce local experts for the sector.

He said they have also seen great opportunities in the water transport sector hence the government has plans to build ships for Lake Victoria, and later Lake Tanganyika and even the Indian Ocean, adding that these projects will need local experts instead of relying on those from Korea and other countries.

Chairman of NIT Governing Board, Prof Bavo Nyichomba said as NIT, they have seen big human resources challenges in the rail, water and air transport sectors that is why infrastructures for these modes of transport are currently being developed but to a large extent the projects thereof are being

supervised by foreigners.

"After the Transport and Communications Minister's visit we saw it better for us to also visit our stakeholders to help in improving our curricula and human resources and that is why we are here to learn," said Prof Nyichomba.

However, he said all the money is carted away to Korea instead of remaining here as we could have just ordered the engines for the MV Victoria and MV Butiama costing 20b/- if we had our own experts including in welding, the Koreans could have ended up with only 4b/-.

He said apart from improving the curricu-

la to start training in shipbuilding, they have also discovered time for practical training is too little as compared to theoretical training which makes many students fail to be creative.

MSCL Chief Executive Officer, Eric Hamisi said the projects are implemented through local funds and will revolutionise the water sector in Lakes Victoria, Tanganyika and Nyasa as well as the Indian Ocean.

Renovation work on MV Victoria has reached 92 percent, when fully completed the government will have spent 22.7b/- while MV Butiama has reached 90 percent completion.

IN LOVING MEMORY



30/11/1929 - 12/03/2017

My Beloved Loving Husband, Clement George Kahama (Sweetie);

Since your departure from this passing world on 12 March, 2017 life has not been the same. Your meaningful physical presence and warm embrace is greatly missed and will be fondly remembered always.

Your family misses you and continuously prays for your soul. We love you and cherish the time and moments we spent together.

Your Wife, Janet Kahama and Family

The Guardian Limited

JOB VACANCY

The Guardian Limited, publisher of leading Tanzania newspapers, The Guardian and Nipashe, is looking for motivated and experienced people to fill the position of:

CIRCULATION FIELD OFFICER - DAR ES SALAAM

Job Purpose:

To boost copy sales and develop relationships with agents and vendors in the sales channel in the assigned area to meet your set sales targets.

Main Responsibilities:

The successful candidates will be responsible for the following key results:

- Work with the agents and vendors in making sure that the business grows and The Guardian Limited publications are available and visible and sold at the set retail prices with optimal return levels.
- Develop and grow more channels of distribution.
- Monitor indicators relating to market arrivals, circulation sales and returns indicators and make appropriate reports to Circulation Supervisor.
- Identify and build rapport with existing and potential customers by communicating the benefits of Selling The Guardian and Nipashe.
- Monitor newspaper distribution and sale trends in particular areas, prepare weekly sales plans and update supervisor on a regular basis.
- Monitor daily performance of TGL brands in your particular areas of operation in comparison to our rival publications and make reports that guide growth strategies.
- Open up new markets in particular areas of operation that will in turn translate into higher sales.
- Attend customer complaints that in one's particular area of operation so as to maintain good customer relations and protect the company's interests.
- Liaise with supervisor in credit control and debt management within particular area of operation.
- Submit daily and weekly reports on progress on activities, including meeting set sales targets.
- Manage debt collection and credit control within one's respective area operation.
- Demonstrate ability to work under minimum supervision.

Minimum Qualifications and Experience:

- University Degree in Business Administration/Sales & Marketing or equivalent.
- At least 2 year's relevant working experience.
- Excellent communication skills, computer knowledge, and familiarity with a wide range of newspapers brands.

MODE OF APPLICATION:

Apply online via HRO email address: vacancy@guardian.co.tz by March 13, 2020

NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

The Guardian Limited is an equal opportunity employer.

JICA'S COOPERATION ON TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN TANZANIA



OVERVIEW

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is one of the largest bilateral development cooperation partners in the world, and it has been extending its cooperation through a variety of modalities such as technical cooperation, concessional loans, grant and Japanese volunteers in Tanzania. In addition, recently JICA expanded its portfolio to private sector investment finance. JICA has 96 overseas offices worldwide, 28 of which located in the Sub-Saharan African Region. Tanzania is one of the largest top recipients of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA) among the Sub-Saharan African Countries, namely Kenya, Ghana, Senegal and Zambia.

Amount of Japan's ODA under JICA for Tanzania by cooperation scheme (Tsh Million*)

	Grant	Technical Cooperation	Loan
2014	113,642	69,305	31,578
2015	78,168	71,494	249,410
2016	57,789	71,452	126,315
2017	5,410	47,831	0
2018	19,747	52,378	0
Cumulative Total (1960 - 2018)	2,646,797	1,976,359	1,688,842

(* Exchange rate applied: JPY 1 = Tsh 21.0526 (Source: JICA)

Transport infrastructure development is one of the priority sectors of JICA's cooperation, and it accounts for about 27 percent of total amount of JICA's cooperation in Tanzania. The cooperation contributes to inclusive, sustainable and resilient growth, and poverty eradication through such growth. Developing transport infrastructure addresses specific goals in Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) such as Goal 9 "build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization, and foster innovation", Goal 11 "make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient, and sustainable", and Goal 17 "strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development".

JICA's cooperation considers not only for quantity but also quality, since low-quality infrastructure would hinder development of the country in a mid/long-term. In this vein, JICA conducts projects in accordance with "the Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment". It was adopted at the G20 Osaka Summit in June 2019, and it shows the strategic direction to contribute to closing the infrastructure gap, develop infrastructure as an asset class, and maximizing the positive impacts of infrastructure investment according to country conditions.

In addition, JICA assists to improve connectivity between two growing continents of Africa and Asia through Indian and Pacific Oceans, since "Free and Open Indo-Pacific" is a key for social and economic prosperity and development of the continents.

"Principles for Quality Infrastructure Investment" adopted at the G20 Osaka Summit 2019

- Maximizing the positive impact of infrastructure to achieve sustainable growth and development
- Raising economic efficiency in View of Life-Cycle Cost
- Integrating environmental considerations in infrastructure investments
- Building resilience against natural disasters and other risks
- Integrating social considerations in infrastructure investment
- Strengthening infrastructure governance.

DEVELOPMENT OF URBAN TRANSPORT NETWORK

BUILDING FOUNDATION AND INCLUSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF DAR ES SALAAM

JICA's first cooperation in the development of transport infrastructure in the country was "the Selander Bridge Expansion Project (1980 - 1982)" in Dar es Salaam. This project started in the memorable year when JICA established its Tanzania Office in Dar es Salaam in 1980. Together with the following project "Morogoro Road Improvement Project (1984 - 1987)", essential routes connecting to the Central Business District (CBD) were upgraded to four-lane roads and bridges. These expansion works increased transport capacity and supported everyday commutation and further development of residential and commercial areas along these roads.



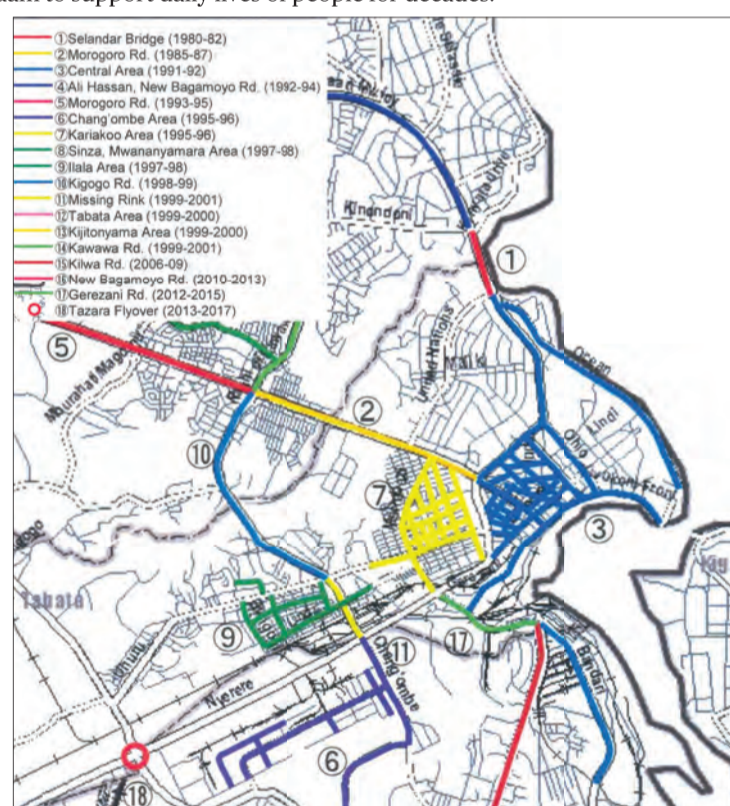
The Selander Bridge in 1982 (Source: JICA)



Official Opening Ceremony in Mangaka (Source: JICA)

From the beginning of project, JICA developed a project through close consultations and discussions with the Government of Tanzania and implementing agencies such as the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TANROADS) to find actual needs of infrastructure development.

As the result of discussions with the Government of Tanzania, JICA has implemented a wide range of road projects including community road networks of residential and commercial areas. The projects covered the Central District of Dar es Salaam Mwinijuma Street, Upanga, New Bagamoyo Road, Morogoro Road, Changombe, Kariakoo, Mwananyamala, Ilala, Sinza areas and Nelson Mandela Road. These roads formed a foundation of Dar es Salaam to support daily lives of people for decades.



JICA's Cooperation building Road Networks in Dar es Salaam (Source: JICA)

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT MASTER PLAN FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

JICA's cooperation is not only physical construction. It takes a comprehensive approach that involves urban development master planning, organizational and human resources capacity building by utilizing its rich experiences around the world.

For instance in 2007, JICA in collaboration with the President's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG) (formerly known as Prime Minister's Office - Regional Administration and Local Government (PMO-RALG)), supported the "Dar es Salaam Transport Policy and System Development Master Plan (2007 - 2008)". To ensure that projects proposed in the master plan are materialized, consultations with various stakeholders were made to make consensus for further cooperation on its implementation.

As a result of these efforts, we can presently see several projects that have been realized form the master plan. For example, the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT), aiming to establish a compact and efficient urban structure, started operation along Morogoro Road in 2016. The New Selander Bridge is now under construction aiming to ease traffic congestion along Ali Hassan Mwinji Road. Moreover, Bandari Intersection is under expansion as a new BRT route.

DEVELOPMENT OF THE MEMORABLE MFUGALE FLYOVER

The most recently completed JICA's cooperation project from priority projects of the master plan is "the Project for Improvement of Tazara Intersection (2015 - 2018)".

The project constructed the first flyover of the country, Mfugale Flyover, to remove traffic congestion at the busiest intersection between Julius Nyerere and Nelson Mandela roads connecting industrial areas with the trunk roads connecting to up-country. Before the implementation of the project, it took more than 2 hours to go to the airport from the city center. Now it takes less than 30 minutes to go through the same route.

In addition to such a life changing impact, quality management skills of implementation of the projects can also be observed. For instance, construction works at Mfugale Flyover can be cited as a good example of such quality improvement. Collaboration between a Japanese Contractor and Tanzanian workers achieved 2.5 million man-hours of no accidents record for the whole period of the project. The implementation of the project brought not only job opportunities, but also practical experiences for Tanzanian workers to acquire advanced quality management skills from their Japanese counterparts

JICA's Cooperation in Urban Transport Development

Year	Project Name
1980 - 1982	The Selander Bridge Expansion Project
1984 - 1987	Morogoro Road Improvement Project Phase 1 & 2
1992 - 1997	Dar es Salaam Road Improvement Main tenance Project Phase 1 - 4
1997 - 1999	The Project for Improvement of Bridges on Trunk Road Phase 1 & 2
1997 - 2001	Dar es Salaam Roads Improvement Project Phase 1 - 3
2007 - 2009	The Project for Widening of Kilwa Road
2007 - 2008	Dar es Salaam Transport Policy and System Development Master Plan
2010 - 2014	The Project for Widening of New Bagamoyo Road Phase 1
2015 - 2018	The Project for Improvement of Tazara Intersection
2010 - 2012	Capacity Building Project for the Improvement of Dar es Salaam Transport
2014 - 2017	The Capacity Development Project for Improvement of Dar es Salaam Transport Phase 2
2016 - 2018	Project for Revision of Dar es Salaam Urban Transportation Master Plan
2019 - Present	The Project for Improvement of Transport Capacity in Dar es Salaam
2019 - Present	The Project for Widening of New Bagamoyo Port Phase 2



Mfugale Flyover (Source: JICA)

JICA'S COOPERATION ON TRANSPORT INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT IN TANZANIA



DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC CORRIDOR

Since the 2000s, JICA's cooperation was extended beyond Dar es Salaam. While actively cooperating to remove bottlenecks of national road networks by individual construction projects, JICA extended its support in preparing the Comprehensive Transport and Trade System Development Master Plan of 2013. The master plan considered the importance of regional connectivity among neighboring countries so as to drive regional trade and economy in Tanzania as a regional hub. Furthermore, JICA committed itself to supporting economic corridor development of the African continent at the Tokyo International Conference on African Development (TICAD) V in 2013. There are significant examples of the cooperation in economic corridor development such as Trans African Highway No. 4, Mtwara Corridor and Central Corridor etc.

DEVELOPMENT OF MTWARA CORRIDOR

The Mtwara Corridor connects southern areas with Mtwara Port, the third largest port in Tanzania. These areas have a high potential of mining and agricultural industries. Based on these series of grant and loan projects such as "The Project for the Improvement of Masasi - Mangaka Road (2007 - 2010)", "Road Sector Support Project (2010 - 2016)" and "Road Sector Support Project II (2013 - 2017)", JICA interventions building a total of about 450 km of paved trunk roads, and the transport time and costs were significantly reduced by 30 - 40%.

TRANS AFRICAN HIGHWAY NO. 4 CONNECTS THE AFRICAN CONTINENT

Since 2007, JICA co-financed with the African Development Bank the development of trunk road between Iringa and Namanga on the northern border with Tanzania and Kenya. A series of loan projects such as the "Arusha-Namanga-Athi River Road -Development Project (2007 - 2014)", "Road Sector Support Project (2010 - 2016)" and "Road Sector Support Project II (2013 - 2017)", were implemented covering about 550 km of road sections along the south-north backbone road through the capital city Dodoma.

The completion of these projects was one of the most memorable events not only for Tanzania, but also for the whole of Africa. Through the project, it connected whole sections of the Trans African Highway No. 4. The concept of nine Trans African Highways was advocated by the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) in 1970 for active movement of people and goods across the continent of Africa. The Trans African Highway No. 4 connects the continent from South Africa to Egypt covering over 10,000 km. At long last after nearly a half century, the last missing link of the highway was connected by the above mentioned projects.

DEVELOPMENT OF ONE STOP BORDER POST (OSBP)

For enhancement of regional trade along the economic corridors, One Stop Border Post (OSBP) was introduced. At an OSBP, exit and entry border controls of the two partner states are co-located on each side of the border. So people, goods and vehicles stop only once for entry/exit of the country.

JICA supported the East African Community in the establishment of a regional legal framework of OSBP and JICA, in collaboration with the World Customs Organization (WCO), conducted a technical cooperation for capacity building of the East African Revenue Authorities including the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) since 2007.

Together with the enhancement of operational capability, cooperation on development of hard infrastructure improved efficiency of transportation along the economic corridors, and consequently brought significant increase of trade among countries. JICA supported the construction of OSBP facilities and a connecting bridge crossing a valley at Rusumo, on the border between Tanzania and Rwanda. The project brought significant reduction of the cross border time to 2 hours 20 minutes from the previous 8 hours 42 minutes. Another example is at Namanga, on the border between Tanzania and Kenya. Cooperation on the development of OSBP's and connecting trunk roads has improved market access for people living in remote areas. Freight traffic volume from Tanzania to Kenya via Namanga border increased 2.8 times in five years from 145,000 tons in 2014 to 409,000 tons in 2018.

JICA's Cooperation in Economic Corridor

Year	Project Name
1993 - 1994	The Project for Pavement Maintenance Equipment for Trunk Roads
1996 - 1997	The Project for Supply of Equipment for Maintenance of Trunk Roads
2001 - 2004	The Project for Makuyuni - Ngorongoro Road Rehabilitation
2002 - 2004	The Project for Rehabilitation of TANZAM Highway (Kitonga Gorge Section)
2007 - 2011	The Project for the Improvement of Masa si - Mangaka Road Phase 1, 2 & 3
2007 - 2013	Project for Capacity Building for the Customs Administrations of the Eastern African Region Phase 1 & 2
2008 - 2014	Arusha-Namanga-Athi River Road Development Project
2011 - 2013	Comprehensive Transport and Trade System Development Master Plan
2011 - 2014	The Project for Construction of Rusumo International Bridge and One Stop Border Post Facilities
2011 - 2016	Road Sector Support Project
2014 - 2017	Road Sector Support Project 2
2013 - 2017	The Project on Capacity Development for Trade Facilitation in the East Africa Region

JICA'S COOPERATION IN THE FUTURE

CONTINUOUS HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT

While developing transport infrastructure, it is also necessary to involve assistance designed to make wise use of developed infrastructure. For the development and effective use of infrastructure, JICA has been engaged in the development of the related human resources. JICA's Knowledge Co-Creation Program (KCCP) invites Tanzanian people in Japan, and it has significance with regard to the utilization of Japan's development experience and know-how by adapting them to the partner country, rather than only sharing Japan's advanced technologies and skills. Since the commencement of the cooperation, over 21,000 Tanzanian people visited Japan for training. JICA will continue to provide KCCP for further human resource development in transport sector and other related sectors.



Testing Non-Destructive Inspection of Concrete Block in Japan (Source: JICA)

URBAN DEVELOPMENT IN DODOMA AND DAR ES SALAAM

The rate of population increase is expected to continue and the population of Dar es Salaam will exceed 12 million by 2040 and, as a result, traffic demand would be more than doubled from 2027. For sustainable development with such a rapid growth of the population, JICA recently cooperated with the Government to revise the Dar es Salaam Urban Transport Master Plan in 2018 that depicted the future "Mega City" with a number of exciting projects.

The urban public transport system using urban railway together with expanding BRT services will sustain further expanding area of the city and ensure smooth transportation. Development of modern Intelligent Transport System (ITS) together with construction of flyovers at the busiest intersections will accommodate increasing number of vehicles. JICA will continue their cooperation with the Government of Tanzania to materialize the proposed projects in the new master plan, and support Dar es Salaam City to shift to a "Transit Oriented Mega City".

In the master plan, JICA together with the Government proposed a concept of "Transit-Oriented-Development (TOD)". This concept encourages modal shift from automobile use to public transportation use. Increasing road capacity to meet the increasing demand is difficult, so modal shift would be promoted. Not only development of transport nodes such as MRT station, but also enhancing attractiveness of areas around public transport at the various Sub Centre, District Centre and/or Satellite City. JICA considers that TOD will contribute the additional revenue to the MRT body so that MRT body is able to reinvest to the remaining phase of the projects.

Furthermore, JICA is considering extending its cooperation to the capital city, Dodoma. Together with the strong initiative and leadership of the Government of Tanzania, the capital city is experiencing the fastest growth. To accommodate the increasing traffic demand, JICA is conducting a feasibility study of development of inner-city roads.

DEVELOPMENT OF ECONOMIC CORRIDORS AND IMPROVEMENT OF TRANSPORT SAFETY

JICA will also continue its cooperation on corridor development. The projects that are under planning stage are "the Project for the Rehabilitation of Kigoma Port" and the "Arusha-Holili Road Improvement Project". These projects will address safety concerns in addition to improvement of efficiency of transportation of the economic corridors.



Example of Mass Rapid Transit (Source: JICA)

Kigoma Port is a transportation hub of the Central Corridor connecting Tanzania, Burundi and the Democratic Republic of Congo through Lake Tanganyika. While lake transport is an essential route for the residents, the passenger terminal has serious damages, and people are not able to board a vessel directly. Therefore, JICA has been discussing with the Government of Tanzania with a view to upgrading the passenger terminal to ensure people's safe transport.

The Arusha-Holili Road is a main transport route between Arusha and Kenya. The upcoming project will increase traffic capacity by widening busy sections of roads. In addition, the project will address the safety concern of a bridge section at Kikafu between Kilimanjaro International Airport and Moshi. This section consists of several risk elements such as poor visibility together with steep slopes and sharp curves. To ensure safe transport, JICA and the Government of Tanzania are discussing the construction of New Kikafu Bridge crossing the valley which will be of over 500 meters.

It is assumed that JICA, through the soon-coming projects, will contribute towards the further development of Tanzania, and strengthen the long-lasting bilateral cooperation between Tanzania and Japan.



Future image of Kigoma Port Passenger Terminal (Source: JICA)



Future image of New Kikafu Bridge (Source: JICA)

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

THURSDAY 12 MARCH 2020

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

Need for women's participation in politics and governance great

THE Fourth World Conference on Women: Action for Equality, Development and Peace was the name given for a conference convened by the United Nations during 4-15 September 1995 in Beijing, China. At this conference, governments from around the world agreed on a comprehensive plan to achieve global legal equality, known as the Beijing Platform for Action.

The conference was attended by representatives of 189 governments, UN agencies, intergovernmental organisations such as the European Union and League of Arab States, as well as activists and organisations from across the world. There were 17,000 participants, with a further 30,000 activists attending a parallel Forum. Gertrude Mongella of Tanzania was the secretary-general of the conference.

AS one of countries where women have held powerful positions in public life and in the private sector in Africa, Tanzania stands out as a champion of women's rights but with a lot more to do, keynote speakers said at the International Women's Day commemoration.

At the national commemoration which took place in Bariadi, Simiyu region, speakers led by guest of honour Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan hailed the country's record of not only giving women opportunities to lead in socioeconomic activities locally but spearheading the women's rights movement globally.

Canadian High Commissioner Pamela O'Donnell said through time women in Tanzania are slowly climbing the development ladder. This calls for continuity of the efforts to raise them, she emphasized.

Women make the majority of the world's population therefore their voice is vital in decision making, she said, elaborating that as the world celebrate the 25 years of the Beijing Conference countries need to fashion out strategies on how to involve more women in decision making.

There are tasks ahead and the need to address issues that hinder women from achieving their goals. Such efforts include addressing challenges that bar women from engaging in social engagements like removing barriers to careers, finding new economic strategies and private sector models that allow women's involvement more fruitfully.

There are only ten years to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), therefore we have all the time and space to mobilize resources to ensure no woman is left behind.

Tanzania is a low-income country of 54.2 million people with women constituting 27.7 million (51.9 per cent) and men 26.5 million (48.9 per cent).

But also, in Tanzania's development trajectory, the private sector is instrumental in accelerating both urban and rural economic growth with an estimated 5.2 million women and men employed by or running their micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs).

More than 50 percent of women are found in the MSMEs economic sector where there is potential to excel provided they have access to financial and capacity development support to professionalise and grow their businesses. Accelerating the growth of Tanzania's economy is critical for the reduction of the 21 per cent unemployment rate among young people and in particular rural young women.

To this end, ensuring gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls is one of the key strategies adopted by the government as the country journeys towards achieving sustainable development through its National Plans of Action.

The challenge confronting Africa is to accelerate structural transformation

AFRICA, along with Asia, is the epicentre of global urbanisation. It is undergoing a rapid urban transition and is set to be the fastest urbanising region in the coming decades. In 1990, only 31 per cent of Africa's population was urban; by 2035, the figure is projected to reach 49 per cent. Urbanization refers to the population shift from rural areas to urban areas, the decrease in the proportion of people living in rural areas, and the ways in which each society adapts to this change. It is predominantly the process by which towns and cities are formed and become larger as more people begin living and working in central areas.

Most countries are urbanising rapidly amid declining or stagnant industrial growth and low agricultural productivity. In resource-rich countries, natural resource exports and related spending, largely on non-traded services, appear to be driving urban growth and generating "consumption cities".

The challenge confronting Africa is to accelerate structural transformation by harnessing the rapid urban transition to promote economic diversification, with a special focus on industrialisation that will create jobs, enhance access to basic services and reduce inequality and poverty. Although the two concepts are sometimes used interchangeably, urbanization should be distinguished from urban growth: urbanization is "the proportion of the total national population living in areas classed as urban", while urban growth refers to "the absolute number of people living in areas classed as urban".

The United Nations projected that half of the world's population lived in urban areas at the end of 2008. It is predicted that by 2050 about 64 per cent of the developing world and 86 per cent of the developed world

will be urbanized. That is equivalent to approximately 3 billion urbanites by 2050, much of which will occur in Africa and Asia. Notably, the United Nations has also recently projected that nearly all global population growth from 2017 to 2030 will be by cities, about 1.1 billion new urbanites over the next 10 years.

Urbanization is relevant to a range of disciplines, including urban planning, geography, sociology, architecture, economics, and public health.

The current rapid urbanisation across the African continent is largely unplanned and potentially catastrophic, the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA) has stressed.

The remark was made by Thokozile Ruzvidzo, Director of Gender, Poverty and Social Policy Division at the ECA, during a high-level continental meeting that was held under the theme "Accelerating Progress with Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063 in Africa: The local Dimension," which brought together mayors and local authority leaders from around Africa.

The ECA official also stressed that the current "business as usual" scenario of urban planning and management in Africa is threatening sustainable development targets raising the need for sub-national authorities including city leaders, who are critical actors to accelerating the implementation of the two Agendas to be fully engaged in related processes.

Inevitably, the world is rapidly moving towards becoming an urban world, so it is imperative to consider how the urban context shapes sustainable development. The global 2030 Agenda for sustainable development, among other things, encourages member states to conduct regular and inclusive reviews of progress at the national and sub-national levels, which are country-led and country-driven.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO
CIRCULATION MANAGER: EMMANUEL LYMO

Newsdesk

General Line: 0745 700710
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757 154767
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Cel: + 255 686 101335 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: Ippmedia.com, epaper.ippmedia.com



Women as consumers: Key to unlocking Africa's growth

By Nkiru Balonwu

WOMEN make up 50 per cent of Africa's population and drive 70 per cent of consumer spend. This demographic represents the continent's largest growth opportunity, and yet there remains very little data available on female spending habits. If African businesses are to succeed, and indeed if we are to attract more foreign direct investment (FDI) into the continent at large, we need to build a better understanding of women in 2020.

"Study women as you would a foreign market," Forbes Contributor Bridget Brennan told us in her 2015 article outlining the 'Top 10 Things Everyone Should Know About Women Consumers'. Fast forward five years and this remains strong advice - female consumer spending habits remain a mystery to most brands, particularly in Africa.

Generally, when a business spots opportunity in a foreign market, the first thing it does is its homework: employing experts, sourcing local data, conducting feasibility studies, etc. But in the case of female consumers, where is the evidence that this information is even being compiled at all?

In Africa, a lack of data hinders the consumer marketplace at large. 'With no precise figures' is a phrase that many of us have become accustomed to when a global study begins to drill down into the African economy, not to mention the individual countries within it.

Of course there are exceptions to this rule - companies like Nielson and FMCG giants like Coca Cola, Unilever and L'Oréal have been mining data for years - but it is seldom made publicly available.

A good example of this lies in beauty sector, where women are its primary consumers. The global beauty market - including bath and shower, fragrances, hair care, makeup, and skin care - is estimated by Euromonitor to be worth US \$250bn.

But as soon as you begin to drill down into Africa the data becomes more sketchy. A 2012 study conducted by L'Oréal



Kylie Jenner sells over half of her Kylie Cosmetics company for \$600 million

estimated the overall value of the sub-Saharan cosmetics sector to be Euros €6.9bn. Within this, South Africa was found to be the largest marketplace, accounting for €3bn of total revenues, followed by Nigeria with €2.5bn.

The fact that we are having to reach back to 8yr old studies in the first place, reveals something about the extent of research being conducted in this area.

It's also an analysis that should not be taken at face value. We know that there are approximately 30 million females in South Africa compared with 100 million in Nigeria. We also know that the overall GDP of the two countries is relatively similar.

So the argument that South African women have access to greater disposable income, and are therefore more likely to spend on consumer products, is unlikely to be enough to overshadow a literal 3:1 ratio of bodies on the ground.

There is also evidence to suggest that in times of economic hardship, female spending on cosmetics products not only bucks the overall market trend, but can actually increase. The so-called 'lipstick effect' dictates that women view these types of

self-enhancement products as a means of investing in themselves, and use makeup to ensure that they achieve their professional ambitions, as well as romantic ones.

Of course, exactly how far the latter argument stacks up begins to take us into the realm of the qualitative. But in many ways that is exactly the point - there needs to be more research being carried out on both a quantitative and qualitative basis that approaches these marketplaces from the point of view of the female psyche, and with the goal of delivering the products women need.

Researching female needs more robustly could yield serious benefits for brands across the globe. In 2019, Kylie Jenner became the world's youngest ever self-made billionaire when she sold a 51 per cent stake in her cosmetics brand to Coty Inc. Rihanna's beauty offering, Fenty, is now estimated to be worth \$3bn+. Between them, these two celebrities have a combined following of 235m people on their personal Instagram accounts alone, and while they are not all female, it puts the earlier analogy of female consumers as a foreign marketplace into tangible perspective.

We know that women in general are believed to drive 70-80 per cent of consumer spend. This is because they are often, for example, primary care givers, and responsible for both old and young family members.

African women in particular are not only consumers but also the influencers of global fashion, even when western brands don't necessarily know it.

From dance and music to fashion and cosmetics, African women - and women of African heritage around the world - have traditionally influenced global culture from time immemorial and continue to do so today, be that in the form of Beyonce and Janet Jackson music videos to top fashion designers like Christian Dior, LV, etc.

Ultimately, more businesses need to start listening. Women represent Africa's largest growth opportunity, and collecting better information on their spending habits is the key to unlocking this growth.

Such work is not only the preserve of the private sector. In seeking to increase GDP and attract further FDI, Government departments need to understand how critical this demographic is to the future success of nations across the continent, and seek themselves to gather better data on women over a sustained period of time.

This can also be beneficial in the advancement of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), where female spending is particularly important because it is more likely to lift families out of abject poverty versus that of men.

Overall, there are lessons to be learned from behaviour in the fashion and cosmetics industries that can in turn be applied to help fuel wider growth across B2B and consumer sectors. Finding the answer, or answers, to the question of 'What African women consumers want' is key to unlocking future growth on the continent.

Dr Nkini Balonwu is CEO RDF Strategies and Founder/Chair of African Women on Board (AWB), an independent non-profit organisation. A version of this article has previously appeared in Africa Report.

Courts alone can't guarantee free and fair elections

BY LIESL LOUW-VAUDRAN

MALAWI'S Parliament has announced that fresh presidential elections will take place on 19 May this year, following the landmark court decision to annul the results of the elections a year ago. Will Malawi be a turning point in ensuring more credible polls in Africa?

The court decision to reject flawed elections due to ballots being tampered with and other irregularities is widely welcomed. But the role of other structures - election management bodies, observer missions and civil society - in the electoral process in Africa cannot be underestimated.

Following the court ruling, Malawi's electoral commission has fewer than three months to arrange fresh polls that are freer and fairer than last year's. Parliament has passed a new law, ordered by the Constitutional Court, that provides for a run-off vote 30 days later if no candidate gets more than 50% in the first round.

The annulled results saw the incumbent President Peter Mutharika win the elections with just 38.5%. His closest rivals were Lazarus Chakwera of the Malawi Congress Party with 36% and Saulos Chilima of the United Transformation Movement with 20%.

Activists worry that authoritarian regimes will stack courts with individuals favourable to them

Whether fresh elections will deliver a different outcome isn't guaranteed. Nothing stops Mutharika from running again, as happened during the second take on Kenya's last elections in August 2017, which were also annulled by the courts due to irregularities. President Uhuru Kenyatta won the rerun with a landslide due to the boycott by his rival Raila Odinga.

The situation in Malawi is slightly different, with activists and the opposition bolstered by their months-long protests against the election results. The two leading opposition candidates had several months to campaign, adding to the suspense of the upcoming polls. The new electoral law also amends the way the electoral commission is appointed, which could ensure greater fairness.

Shortly after the court decision earlier this year, analysts predicted that Africa's courts could play an important role in building citizens' confidence in the electoral process. While more polls are being held in Africa, their results are increasingly contested and the electorate is losing faith in the credibility of elections. This regression has led to a 'zero-sum game' where opposition parties cry foul even before the release of official results, delegitimising the elections.



Courts in Malawi, Kenya and now also Guinea-Bissau are playing an increasingly important role in election disputes.

It doesn't help that electoral observation missions, particularly from the African Union (AU) and regional bodies such as the Southern African Development Community, routinely give these elections their stamp of approval regardless of obvious flaws.

Will Malawi be a turning point in ensuring more credible polls in Africa?

Yet relying on a few judges who sometimes put their lives on the line to go against the ruling party or the incumbent cannot be a panacea to fix electoral flaws, says Electoral Institute for Sustainable Democracy in Africa's Senior Programme Manager Grant Masterson. He says in both Malawi and Kenya there was a swell of public protests against the election results, which emboldened the courts to annul them. 'We cannot see this in isolation,' he says.

In Malawi huge pressure from the government resulted in activists

being harassed and threats made against them and their families, but ultimately their efforts bore fruit. One civil society activist told ISS Today she believes there hasn't been enough recognition for these efforts. 'It is clear Malawi is cause for celebration. Courts were bowing down to the streets.'

In many African countries however - from Gabon to Zimbabwe - high or supreme courts have in the past rejected attempts by the opposition to question the election outcomes. In some cases, they are simply ignored.

This was the case in Guinea-Bissau. The winner of the second round of presidential elections, former prime minister Umaro Sissoco Embaló, proceeded with a ceremony to inaugurate himself as president, despite a pending court challenge by Domingos Simões Pereira, leader of the majority party in Parliament, who came second in the 29 December

elections. Embaló has the support of the military, which has always played a too-powerful role in Guinea-Bissau. He is also backed by outgoing president José Mário Vaz, who attended the 27 February ceremony in Bissau.

In Egypt the opposition has no recourse to the courts if election rigging is suspected

At the AU summit in Addis Ababa in February, both the newly elected Embaló and his predecessor were invited, leading to considerable embarrassment both for the AU and the leaders concerned. Embaló participated in numerous official engagements, which bestowed on him a certain measure of legitimacy.

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) has nevertheless asked the political actors to wait for the Supreme Court decision. In a 1 March statement, ECOWAS expressed its concern over the current

situation, especially the involvement of the army in the electoral process. It asked the political actors to stay within the boundaries of legal and constitutional processes in Guinea-Bissau.

Activists are also worried that authoritarian regimes will try to stack the courts with individuals favourable to them, where this is not already happening. In July 2017, Egypt scrapped the oversight of the courts over election outcomes. This means the opposition has no alternative recourse if suspected rigging takes place.

Well-known activist and former World Alliance for Citizen Participation (CIVICUS) Africa campaigner Teldah Mawarire warns of 'copycat' laws being passed in other countries. A similar scenario is the restriction on freedom of speech through censoring the internet or laws against non-governmental organisations in certain African countries. Attention to the selection and appointment of judges, particularly from the media, is often poor making it easier for courts to be stacked with people favourable to the executive, she says.

Clearly a few brave judges can't carry the electoral democracy on their shoulders. Masterson says 'deciding elections through the courts is not the way forward for democracy.' Instead, the entire system should be sound. This includes electoral management bodies that are truly independent, a voters roll that is acceptable to all and a level playing field for all candidates. Opposition parties should also have access to documents - one of the reasons court challenges often fail.

'Real democracy is when the politicians fear the voter more than the voter fears the politician,' he says.

Agencies

Street knowledge, self-drive mean more than academic papers

TWO weeks ago, I met two old friends. One is a lawyer and the other an engineer. We all graduated the same year. Luckily, they were immediately hired by reputable companies based in the city. They wore fancy suits, had expensive phones and from Facebook images, they seemed to be doing very well. Naturally, I assumed they were swimming in money.

After the pleasantries, we had an honest conversation. I was shocked to learn that both were earning a basic gross salaries, psychologically abused by their bosses and overworked. How is that even possible?

When you graduate top in your class and get hired by a renowned company everyone assumes you are making lots of money hence place high expectations on you, worst of all if you pursued a prestigious course. What they don't know is behind that fancy degree, nice suit and swanky office is a tortured soul battling depression while trying to reconcile perceived social standing and an empty bank account.

This reminded me of another friend and colleague of mine who pursued engineering and is now a renowned writer, blogger and content creator. Here's his story.

Every time he tells someone that he's a trained civil engineer they are shocked. They quickly do mental calculations on the time, sheer hard work and tuition spent on his education only for him to drop it for blogging and online content creation and then it makes absolutely no sense to them. They check him out from head to toe for clues. When their eyes settle on his rugged hair, a knowing smile form on their lips then they think maybe he's on drugs.

The very first time he interacted with an engineer was during a career fair back in high school. He had a bushy beard, thick spectacles and an air of arrogance often associated with intellectuals back then. He was so taken by his brilliance as he explained the various disciplines and career options and at that very moment he knew what he wanted to do with his life - civil engineering.

Fueled by ambition he camped at the library in a bid to understand the



infamous salts and mole concept. Chemistry was his Achilles heel yet it was essential for the career he hoped to pursue. His entire family was ecstatic when he did well in NECTA exams and was admitted to the University to study engineering.

Walking on campus with a humongous book on Engineering Mathematics in one hand and a wooden T-square in the other was enough for him to foresee his bright future in the Civil engineering Industry.

After 3rd year he was required to go for field attachment. He spent two weeks visiting countless government offices and consultancy firms across the city. It was all the same story.

'Drop your CV at the secretary's desk, we will call you as soon as a vacancy is available.'

None of them ever called, he even suspected they tossed his papers into the trash can the moment he stepped out. Exhausted, he landed in an engineering corporation located in the city center. Unable to sway him their promises, they brought in an extra desk and a letter directing that he starts his internship the following Monday. Soon after, he got another internship spot at the county planning department.

Most engineering firms don't pay interns. Some actually demand that you pay them some amount for equipping you with hands-on skills. All in all he was so happy that he could walk

in town with the intern's badge hanging from his neck.

The two workplaces were completely different. His supervisor at the county offices was a shrewd chap. He would get to the office before official opening hours then leave at midday to check on his businesses.

Since drawings for any infrastructural project must go through the department for approval before construction begins, there is rampant corruption as developers seek to hasten the process. He taught him how to survive in the industry and sometimes charge outrageous amounts for simple stuff.

The corporation had a more structured environment with all kinds of professionals ranging from accountants to architects. There were about ten engineers in his department. They were all brilliant and highly qualified. One time he chanced upon their pay slips. Boy, he was terribly disappointed.

First, their salaries weren't competitive or anywhere close to what you imagine engineers make despite working for years. Secondly, although out there the society placed them on a pedestal they were struggling to maintain that image on a tight budget. Car

loans and mortgage took a substantial amount of their monthly earnings. To make it worse, all the biggest contracts had been taken by the Chinese hence fewer projects available. They would spend most afternoons on Facebook or engage in endless political debates.

As an intern, his main duties involved rushing to the supermarket over lunch time to get the freshest veggies, sausages, and bread. He was also sent on all money-related errands

One day he met one interesting plumber during a site visit. He would undertake at least five projects a month each earning him ransom profit which is next to a cool half-million shilling for someone with little basic education yet an engineer would have to work for almost three decades to make half of that. Something didn't feel right literally!

When they resumed their studies at the university, professors were more truthful about what awaited them out there. One lecturer after another expressed their regrets for choosing the career path.

A highly-acclaimed transportation professor revealed how he regretted having studied engineering to PhD level, which meant there were fewer job opportunities for him. His peers who went into business after their first degree were minting millions and doing so much better than him in all other spheres of life while he was struggling to make ends meet. To add salt to the injury, the Bachelor of Arts guys he used to look down upon were now his bosses, earning more than he does and rubbing it in his face.

Certainly, this friend didn't want to spend the rest of his life lamenting about how unfair life was like the older engineers, he began exploring his writing talent and investing little savings in potential business ideas.

Weeks before clearing university, he applied for management trainee positions in three multinational companies based in



College Comfort Zone
With
Salima Hamisi

saly30@gmail.com
0762 174 124

Nairobi, YALI East Africa and as a volunteer to some business incubation program.

Due to naivety, his young company ran out of business soon after campus. He was struggling to stay afloat and pick up the pieces. At the back of his mind, he had a fallback plan.

The following week he received rejection emails from all the firms he had applied to. His plan B went up in smoke. He was devastated. Who the hell gets rejected by five establishments in round one of the interviews? he wasn't even good enough to become a volunteer. The writing on the wall was clear. He was a failure. No future. All he could see was darkness.

'I got a reprieve when I was invited to some water supply project in Singida that needed an engineer...' My friend added. Finally, the gods were smiling down upon him. It was now his turn to excel. He imagined himself doing what he always dreamt of. Everything was falling into place. He was delighted. He went to meet the project manager with very high hopes.

Guess what he was offered? some peanut amount of money a day to oversee the completion of an enormous millions of money contract working Sunday to Sunday. No allowance, no medical cover or any other form of compensation. To make it worse the main site was inaccessible by public transport so he would have to spend the entire amount on fuel.

Incensed, he drove off in a huff and headed to a National Reserve, which was close by. Two kilometers into the forest, the car got stuck. You know how useless 2WD cars are off-road. He was stuck all alone in the dense forest, without

any network coverage to call for help. All the frustrations come back flooding.

All he could think of was how useless he was. A big embarrassment. Ashamed of what he had turned out to be after all the sacrifices those around him had done. He broke down.

After crying for a while, he wiped away the tears and began digging out the tires with his bare hands, pruned branches and placed them on the path and dug out the tires repeatedly throughout the treacherous half-kilometer road section.

In retrospect, he learned not to take rejection personally, picked lessons from his failures and never to give up. If he was able to bounce back from rock bottom then no mountain was too big to summit.

Being in a third world country that places a high value on education, lots of parents push their kids to ostensibly esteemed careers thinking they will change family fortunes upon graduation. Many other young people get into careers with unrealistic expectations on remuneration.

This is intensified by the fact that those already in the field don't truthfully reveal to the young fellas what awaits them so as to protect the respect accorded to them by society.

That said, higher education is like modern football kit. It may give you a little advantage and enable you to play comfortably but it won't make you win trophies. Sacrifice, hard work, talent, creativity, a touch of luck, street smarts and self-drive is what makes you achieve massive success in life. Academic papers or lack thereof should never stop you from becoming great.

NATIONAL NEWS

It's thumbs-up for Tanzania on fight for rights of PWA

By Guardian Reporter

A report presented at the 43rd conference of the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) in Geneva yesterday has mentioned Tanzania as a country to be emulated for its strategies in protecting and improving the lives of people with albinism.

Ikponwosa Ero, an independent expert on human rights for people with albinism said in her report that Tanzania has excelled in having a good system for collecting data of people with albinism, calling upon other countries to emulate this example.

Ero told the council that the human rights situation for children and women with albinism in various areas of the world was still not good. But she said there are countries which have done very well in improving their lives, citing Tanzania as among them.

She also hailed Article 6 (setting out a National Youth Council) in the Union Constitution, as spelling out special steps in incorporating young adults with albinism in its processes.

The expert cited the example of the 'Mother's Love' group formed to enable women with albinism to

obtain an income, noting that the group provides education to enable women with albinism to apply protective formulas against skin diseases, etc.

Other things on which she praised Tanzania include systems to ensure that people with albinism are heard and involved in decisions that touch on their welfare directly, along with the manufacturing of special skin ointment (sunscreen) in the country, made available to those in need.

During the meeting Tanzania addressed the gathering on government steps in protecting people with albinism.

Among other things the speech explained that the government has implemented recommendations given by the independent expert during her visit in the country in 2016.

The government will continue cooperating with her to ensure people with albinism are assured of protection of their basic rights as it is for other citizens.

A representative of the World Barua Organization, an activist group based

in Geneva, praised the government for instituting a reliable mechanism for collecting and updating data on people with albinism.



Tabora RC orders arrest of people using mosquito nets for unintended purposes

By Guardian Correspondent, Tabora

TABORA Regional Commissioner, Aggrey Mwanri has directed village and street leaders to arrest all people who will be found using mosquito nets for any other purpose than protection from mosquitoes.

He said using mosquito nets for purposes other than protection from mosquitoes is against government's efforts in fighting malaria that drains the country's work force.

Mwanri was speaking at the weekend in Kaliua District during the launch of anti-malaria campaign

dubbed "Tabora region's campaign against malaria starts with me."

He said there are some people who use mosquito nets for fishing from ponds while others use them as enclosures for chicks as protection against eagles.

He added that still there are other people who use mosquito nets as fences for vegetable gardens as protection against destructive pest adding that such uses are prohibited and legal steps will be taken against whoever will be found doing so.

Earlier, Tabora Regional Medical Officer, Dr Honoratha Rutatatinisbwa said the government inten-

tion is to ensure that by 2030 malaria will be eradicated in the country.

He said statistics show that the level of malaria infection in Tabora Region is still a challenge whereas Kaliua District has 16.7 percent prevalence, followed by Uyui with 16.1 percent and Sikonge District with 13.9 percent.

Dr Rutatatinisbwa said Tabora Municipality has 8.9 percent prevalence, Nzega District 8.7 percent, Nzega Municipality 6.8 percent and Igunga District 5.6 percent.

He said more efforts are needed in the war against malaria in Tabora region.

WLAC supports over 90,000 vulnerable women, children

By Getrude Mbago

THE women's legal aid centre (WLAC) has for the past 30 years ago, supported over 90,000 vulnerable women, children, and refugees from across the country to access justice through provision of free legal aid services.

WLAC executive director Theodosia Muhulo said that with the support, majority of women who were struggling to get their rights

due to violence actions are now living a happy life and thus contributing well to the country's economic growth.

Muhulo was speaking during the weekend at the meeting which brought together women from various parts of Dar es Salaam region to discuss and share expertise on how to fight for their rights as part of the commemoration of the International Women's Day.

"We have been receiving a number of cases here and most of them are of marriage challenges where men abandon their wives and children, taking all the properties and leave them with nothing, this kind of violence is on the rise, so WLAC has helped many women who came and spoke about their challenges...most of them have regained their properties," she said.

Muhulo called upon all women who are experiencing any kind of violence across the country to speak out on the scourges so as to be helped.

According to her, there is a good number of women who are victims of GBV actions but due to lack of legal awareness about their rights, they remain silent on the actions.

She stressed that GBV war will never end if women them-

selves will remain mum on the challenges which they are going through.

Muhulo said WLAC's doors were always open to receive and listen to women's problems, empower them to attain their rights and to improve vulnerable population's access to justice across Tanzania.

According to her, since 1989, the centre has been at the forefront of the fight for the promo-

tion and protection of women's rights in Tanzania, accomplishing its successes through four units: legal aid, advocacy and networking, paralegal training and outreach, and publication and documentation.

The organization focuses on inheritance rights and gender-based violence, all issues related to gender are addressed within WLAC's work, contributing to the realization of its grand vision for

a just society that respects the rights of women and children.

Mwanahawa Bakari, a Dar es Salaam resident commended WLAC for the support which helped her repossess her land and houses which had been taken forceful by another person.

She stressed on the need for more education and awareness programmes on GBV especially to underserved communities in rural parts of the country.



Exim Bank marketing manager Mariam Mwapinga (R) briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday when announcing the names of the winners of the first round of the bank's recently launched "Chanja Kijanja na Exim Bank Mastercard" campaign, under which the bank's Mastercard users across Tanzania rewarded for making online purchases or making payments through payment point devices. Others are Exim Bank customer service senior manager Frank Matoro (C) and head of alternate channels and digital sales Paritosh Babla. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Sort out challenges impeding smooth supply of water in rural areas, Aweso orders agency

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE deputy Minister for Water Jumaa Aweso has directed managements of the rural water authorities to work on challenges that hinder smooth supply of water in rural areas, saying it is the government's obligation to ensure all Tanzanians have access to clean and safe water.

Speaking while officiating at a review meeting for the UK-funded water projects held here, he said although there has been some improvements in implementing a number of water projects some councils had not been performing well.

"It is important to undertake a special review to understand factors pushing councils to underperform as far as provision of water is concerned," he said, adding that the board of directors must be ready to take actions should there be a problem as a result of reckless managers.

According to Aweso, the government established the rural water supply and sanitation authority—RUWASA, strategically targeting to improve supervision of water projects as well as increase access and supply of water in rural communities.

However, he noted that 153 water projects worth over 66bn/- had been struggling threatening and tarnishing image of the ministry and the government at large.

The deputy minister said residents in rural communities are tasked to pay as high as 5000/- per water unit while in urban areas such as Dar es Salaam the price per unit is only 1,800/- "We need all players to be active to ensure we deliver the government promises."

For his part, Permanent Secretary in the Min-

istry of Water Prof Kitila Mkumbo explained that for some years, engineers in some council had artificially resigned with others ending to work as teachers. He said they had lost interest as the ministry was disorganized... but I can confirm to you we're now much organised, he said.

Prof Mkumbo went on to note that the government has so far released over 360bn/- from the 610 bn/- planned budget and that the ministry is optimistic that by December this year the 85 per cent of rural dwellers will have access to the water supply.

UK Aid representative, Getrude Mapunda explained that the challenge facing rural water authorities was lack of accurate data, continued water rationing and locked water points. She narrated that the challenges slows effective access or supply of the liquid in rural communities.

"We suggest that the authorities develop appropriate systems that could ensure sustainable availability of water in the country."

Eng Clement Kivegalo Director General for the Rural and Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (RUWASA) announced that the authority has received 21.3m pounds from the UK government to implement the fourth phase of payment.

It is important to undertake a special review to understand factors pushing councils to underperform as far as provision of water is concerned," he said, adding that the board of directors

Increase human activities affects road infrastructure in Rufiji

By Guardian Reporter

INCREASED human activities along the Rufiji River has been described as the major contributing factor to road destruction in the area.

Acting head of planning department from the Tanzania

National Roads Agency (TANROADS) Christina Nyamziga said that the activities which include agriculture prevent water from flowing into its normal route.

Speaking during the road board meeting held in Kibaha in Coastal region, Nyamziga noted that the activities are causing big

flow of sand at the middle of the bridge which could cause the damage of the bridge especially during rainy season.

She also highlighted other challenges as theft of road infrastructures, and increased livestock activities in some parts of the region something which

was threatening the safety of the roads.

"Another challenge is the absence of technical experts at Vigwaza weight bridge, a factor that may sometimes cause a traffic jam in case of technical faults," she said.

During the meeting, Nyamzi-

gsubmitted a budget proposal of 973.8m/- to finance development projects.

Tanroads in Coast region plans to contract 16.4 km of roads and the remaining amount - 1,756m/- to finance the central government projects for the construction of 25 kilometers of regional

road.

She noted that 4,940m/- is aimed to finance central government projects by constructing 5.7 km of highway.

Nyamziga explained that, in 2019/2020 financial year, a total of 22,475m/- were planned to be spent on various road maintenance

nance.

She said, up to December last year a total of 8,699m/- only was released for road maintenance.

For his part, Coast region Regional Commissioner Evarist Ndikilo called on Tanroads in the region to ensure that all road projects meet value for money.

Young women human rights defenders need enhanced diligence, commitment

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

EMERGING young women human rights defenders in Tanzania have been urged to work hard, champion human rights and ensure they build self confidence, determination, commitment and honesty when performing their work.

The call was made by veteran women human rights defenders during young women human rights defenders dinner gala organised by Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) during the International Women's Day commemoration in Dar es Salaam.

The Gala dubbed "Zungumza na Mwanao" created a space for experience sharing conversation between veteran women human rights defenders and emerging young women human rights defenders in Tanzania. The main objective of bringing together the two groups was to awaken a new zeal of human rights campaign on the young women, while equipping them with knowledge and transferable skills from their mothers and sisters who have been in the field of human rights for decades in order to advance their level of activism.

Some of the renowned women rights defenders who shared their knowledge and experience were Former Executive Director of Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), Dr Helen Kijo Bisimba, Dr Judith Odunga, Mary Rusimbi and TAMWA Executive Director Rose Reuben. The session was moderated by Martina Kabisama.

Sharing their experience, the veteran women human rights defenders called on the emerging young women human rights defenders in Tanzania to build self confidence and trust, to be determined, committed and form platforms.

The emerging young women hu-



man rights defenders were also urged to develop workable plans and strategies and ensure human rights are observed.

Earlier, explaining the history of the origin of women human rights defenders in Tanzania, THRC National Coordinator Onesmo Ole ngurumwa said that women human rights defenders groups in Tanzania, has been the origin of change and various reforms in the protection of human rights, since the start of movement for change in 1990's. This first generation of advocacy and rights' protection in the democratic system, worked well with a heroic spirit that has led to defending women's and human rights in general as well as democratic changes.

He named some of renowned women rights defenders who have

Former Executive Director of Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), Dr Helen Kijo Bisimba speaks to young women human rights defenders dinner gala organised by Tanzania Human Rights Defenders Coalition (THRDC) during the International Women's Day commemoration in Dar es Salaam. Photo by Gerald Kitabu

had outstanding contribution in the society include Dr Getrude Mongela, Dr Helen-Kijo Bisimba, Prof Ruth Meena, Prof Anna Tibaijuka, Mary Rusimbi, Ananilea Nkya, Prof Betha Koda, Tabitha Siwale, Gema Akilimali, Dr Judith Odunga, Evena Masawe, Maanda Ngoitiko, Catherine Sekwao, Martina Kabisama, Vicky Ntetema, Monica Mhoja, Usu Malya, Emma Kasinga, and Nakazaal Tenga.

Others are Dr Maria Kaamna, Annie Herman, Bernadetta Ndinguru, Jamila Hamudu, Christine Mwanukuzi, Maria Kaam, Mwantumu Mwalele, Asseny Muro, Marjorie Mbilinyi, Ave-Marie Semakafa, Fenella Mukangara, Susan, Salma Msenga, Hindu Lila, Leticia Mukurusi,

Demere Kitunga, Mboni Mgaza, Olive Luena and many more.

The Coalition reckoned that this first generation of rights defenders, which lasted from 1990-2010 in their activism had greatly succeeded to influence change at various levels of the society. These elderly ladies did not only defend women's rights but they saw the need to fight for human rights in general, the rule of law, new constitution, freedom of expression as well as instituting political reforms. These rights defenders were brave and with unshaken position resolved to fight on despite facing many challenges. The question that remain an answered is, was there any successful succession between first generation to the

current generation?

The current situation of women human rights defenders in Tanzania

Unlike in 2010 and before, the situation for women human rights defenders in this generation is blanketed in many challenges. Some of these challenges hindering human rights advocacy in this group include; mistrust, lack of cooperation, discriminatory working environment, fear due to current security challenges, lack of motivation and desire for activism since others join in their positions for the sake of employment.

The main difference between the old and the new generation of rights defenders is that the old defenders joined through a movement of activism while many of today's defenders have joined this field just to secure employment. Moreover, the new generation has also confined its activism on few selected areas of human rights such as defending the rights of specific groups, instead of looking at human rights holistically through collective groups, as it was the case in the first generation. That is to say, the current generation has failed to show the affiliation between the rights they are fighting for, for example, children's or women's rights, and issues of good governance, the rule of law and clean politics.

Because of such named circumstances, the prevailing situation of human rights defenders in Tanzania is rapidly deteriorating, given the fact that women have all along been a good army for defending human rights in Tanzania. In order to bring back the situation on a straight path, the participants suggested that there is a need to ensure the hereinabove challenges are properly attended as well as ensuring that a group of women human rights defenders gets constant reminders about their importance in the field of

human rights protection and promotion.

One thing certain is that, working women and gender equality advocates are now discovering new ways to break the barrier of deeply rooted patriarchal traditions and outdated corporate cultures that prevented women from holding key leadership positions in business, NGOs field and politics. As we speak more women are climbing the corporate ladder and are now holding important leadership positions in governance and business. Recent statistics for instance show that many human rights organizations are currently led by women. So let's use this opportunity as a nation to awaken zeal and burning desire of human rights campaign in the country. Although the situation for human rights advocacy is currently entangled by many challenges notably security risks, THRDC firmly believes we can still motivate this important group in human rights campaign to work diligently, in unison and with heroic spirit in defending human rights.

Ole ngurumwa said that THRDC will continue to recognize and support efforts made by our mothers and our sisters of the first generation of human rights advocacy in the country. Likewise, the coalition will continue to support women human rights defenders who keep raising their voice for the sake of a woman's right and human rights in general at every level of the society.

"In recognition of their roles we will still use their experience to build another strong army of fearless women defenders in the country, who believe in unity and who recognize the importance of defending human rights as a whole since sustainable defense of human rights very much depends on how we respect human rights as a whole," he said.

An ambitious year for climate action is a big year for women's empowerment

SEOUL, South Korea

THIS year, the Paris Agreement's effectiveness as a global response to the climate crisis is being tested as governments are preparing to submit more ambitious national targets for mitigation and adaptation.

The combined ambitions of these targets should match the urgency to strengthening resilience and limiting the disastrous climate change impacts around the world.

The Paris Agreement aims to keep global warming well below 2°C and closer to 1.5°C compared with pre-industrial levels. This means reaching a peak in global emissions shortly and achieving climate neutrality by 2050, in other words target Net Zero Emissions by 2050.

Achieving this requires stepping up immediate actions that follow new models of economic growth and development that shift policies and investments towards low-carbon, green growth solutions.

Promotion of poverty alleviation, gender equality and social inclusion is embedded in GGGI's support to our member countries in this transition. This is in recognition that achievement of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) for the Paris Agreement must align with Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) priorities.

Mounting evidence shows that gender equality is an accelerator of development and of climate action, and GGGI suggests two key priorities for International Women's Day 2020.

First, increased investments in climate change adaptation are essential for livelihoods, food security and disaster risk reduction, particularly to benefit women and girls, who are disproportionately impacted by climate change.

Second, "A Just Transition" is needed, particularly in renewable energy, to ensure enhanced opportunities world over for women to participate in decision-making and the economy.

Women and girls are more vulner-



able to the Climate Crisis

The climate crisis impacts men and women differently and given their different roles in society. In the most climate vulnerable communities, women's work and activities tend to be dependent on natural resources, and climate change results in more effort and time required to collect water, firewood, and secure food for the household.

Lack of access to sustainable energy services and productive assets and financial resources are key barriers to the ability of communities to adapt to a changing climate. With limited roles in community and household decision-making, and with lesser access to services and resources globally, women are further disadvantaged.

A study by McKinsey estimates that although women constitute 50% of the global population, they contribute only 37% to the global (formal) economy. Only 24.5% of the world's parliamentarians are women.

And, according to the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), only 15% of the world's landowners are female. Therefore, GGGI is working to make climate action

work to accelerate gender equality by promoting gender-responsive plans, policies, technologies and investments.

In Myanmar's Ayeyarwady Delta, mangrove forests are essential to people's lives and livelihoods. The Cyclone Nargis that hit the Delta in 2008 claimed more than 130,000 lives.

Consistent with a tragic global disaster pattern, 61% of those dead were female with the number much higher in some villages according to a 2014 post-disaster assessment undertaken by the Government of Myanmar and partners. This illustrates the gendered nature of climate disasters.

A UNWOMEN and UNDP review of evidence highlights how integrated approaches to political and economic empowerment are needed to support women participation and leadership in climate action, which in turns enhances their resilience. In the context of the Myanmar Delta, mangrove conservation is an essential response to the climate crisis.

GGGI is incorporating these gender perspectives into its work with the government on developing the case for community-led forest management, to safeguard men

and women's equal leadership and sustainable access to forest resources. In parallel, investments in fishery value chains could have significant positive impacts on rural women's livelihoods through access to finance, technology and markets.

Women have untapped potential in the transition to renewable energy

A transition to renewable energy is essential to fight the climate crisis. About three-quarters of the first generation of NDCs made reference to renewable energy, and this focus is likely to increase as governments submit more ambitious targets and as the price of renewable energy has come down significantly in the last 5 years since the first generation of NDCs was prepared.

This shift requires a "just transition", i.e. support for those who lose their jobs in the brown economy in the shift towards a green economy, to ensure a broad-based political will and public support for driving decarbonization of the economy. GGGI has assessed the potential for green job creation in Mexico, Indonesia and Rwanda as a result of the switch to renewable energy in the NDCs of these countries, and found that considerable employment and economic opportunities can be created.

For example, achieving Mexico's renewable energy targets 370,000 additional jobs compared to the business-as-usual scenario. While the number of green jobs gained will likely outpace the numbers of brown jobs lost, those losing their brown jobs are not the same people as those gaining new green jobs, and therefore a just transition is key.

Furthermore, by acknowledging the gender dimension of the renewable energy sub-sector, policymakers have an opportunity to ensure that women can participate in this expanding green labor

force on equal terms as their male counterparts.

An IRENA report from 2019 estimates that only 32% of the current global renewable energy workforce are women and that the gender gap is even wider in technical and senior roles. In a 2020 report on the emerging wind energy sector, IRENA concludes women constitute only 21% of the workforce in this sub-sector, which is even lower than the global average for women in oil and gas (22%).

The reasons for these gender gaps are complex, and the NDC can be an important instrument to pair climate targets with socio-economic co-benefits and women's empowerment.

A first step towards closing this gender gap is to have better quality gender data to drive responsive policies, for example in public procurement criteria that stimulate women's participation in the RE workforce, conducive workplace policies, and measures to increase the number of women in energy-related education.

In the Mexican State of Sonora, where 21% of the energy workforce are women, GGGI has engaged with a broad range of public and private sector stakeholders to explore opportunities for gender equality in renewable energy sector. This should ensure a broader talent-base for a growing sector.

At the same time, Mexico has one of the world's largest gender gaps in employment generally, and increased women's participation could therefore significantly contribute to economic growth and increased welfare.

In conclusion, while gender equality and women's empowerment are goals, they are also essential enablers of climate action and development more broadly. While upping climate ambitions in 2020, we must also step up our efforts to unlock the potential of women and girls around the world.

Agencies

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD =065=

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start

WORD FIT

3 Letter word: SEE, LEI, DOT, MAP, OUT, ICE
 4 Letter word: IRIS, REED, OOSE, DERO, HOLE, ROOD, ARMS, HOLE
 5 Letter word: OILER, HORAS, SKILL, IDLER, BALAS, ABODE, ADOBE, ASTER, SHINY, NGAIO
 6 Letter word: ENABLE, SHUT UP, GOUGES,
 7 Letter word: SLOSHES, NOONDAY, ROAD HOG,
 8 Letter word: ENDANGER, YARD SALE, SCRAMBLE

CROSSWORD

Clues: Across
 1. Islamic law (6)
 7. Metal band on prisoner (7)
 8. Totally different (8)
 9. Restore (5)
 11. Standard dialect (5)
 12. Metric unit of area (3)
 14. Fourth Populous country (9)
 16. Mountain top (4)
 17. Wanderer (5)
 20. River in central Argentina (5)
 21. Crazy (3)
 23. Hold data (5)
 24. Efforts (9)

Down:
 1. Wholesaler (10)
 2. Land animal that breeds in water(9)
 3. In place of something (7)
 4. Complete and utter (5)
 5. Tilt, distort (4)
 6. Small screen (10)
 7. Stressed, tense (8)
 10. Wrestling hold (6)
 13. Second largest Port in Tanzania (5)
 15. Founder of ZAPU party (5)
 18. Adult female horse (4)
 19. Second largest city of Yemen (4)
 22. Digit of human foot (3)

Comments: 0/09 13/7/20



Thursday 12 March 2020

Bankers applaud Bank of Tanzania's decision on financial services registry

By Beatrice Philemon

THE recent establishment of Financial Services Registry is widely expected to help banks, insurance companies and stock market dealers easily access key information on a one stop shop platform.

DCB Commercial Bank Plc's Managing Director, Godfrey Ndalalwa, said the FSR will also provide a room for financial institutions and insurers across the country to work in partnership that will reduce operational.

Ndalalwa, who represented Tanzania Bankers Association during the launch of the FSR last week pointed out that the registry which has been established jointly by Financial Sector Deepening Trust, Tanzania Cooperative Development Commission, Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) and Capital Markets and Securities Authority is an important platform that will help map out all financial services access points in the country.

He further said the FSR also help them understand areas with no access to financial services through correct data fed by stakeholders hence allow bankers to make effective decisions and invest in such areas.



DCB Commercial Bank Plc managing director Godfrey Ndalalwa

"I believe that through FSR system, bankers will provide financial services in the whole market with respect to demand," he noted stressing that the registry will ensure that regulators and private players have update to and proper at all times.

"Such data may include how many mobile money agents are

available across the country, where are they located, how many bank branches are there across the country which will enable us make good business decisions," he added.

In remarks at the launch, TCDC's Deputy Registrar, Collins Myakunga said the FSR will help the commission improve statistics relating to the number

of savings and credit cooperative societies, its members and deposits made in a transparent manner hence check against irregularities by leaders.

"But it will be easy for members to access information relating to financial services through FSR system and thus enhance surveillance," Myakunga said adding that the registry will also

help the TCDC to identify non-performing loans to address the problem early.

"As I speak to you right now there are many Saccos which are still using manual system to collect data from members and what they do which as a commission have always obtain incorrect data manually," he hinted. The TCDC has more than 3,000 Saccos across the country.

In his official remarks to launch the registry, Bank of Tanzania Governor, Professor Florens Luoga said the FSR will be the first registry of its kind in Sub-Saharan Africa that automates data collection and provides digital access to near real-time.

"This registry will serve as a national system for tracking growth and distribution of financial access points and inform key stakeholders of the National Financial Inclusion Framework (NFIF) 2018-2022 and the public in general," Prof Luoga stated while urging financial service provider to register with the FSR.

"This registration will be done through android platform FSR built by the central bank and each registered outlet will be issued with FSR ID, a certificate that contains both a human readable number and a QR code that will be publicly displayed at the outlet," he added.

The registration process will be done in two phases to be conducted between March to April and May to June this year.

Africa vulnerable to capital flight on virus concern, Fitch says

JOHANNESBURG

The spread of the coronavirus and tumbling oil prices could trigger a capital exodus from Africa, where governments have few tools available to battle external shocks, according to Fitch Ratings.

Top oil exporters such as Nigeria and Angola are specially vulnerable to the plunge in crude. The commodity lost about a quarter of its value on Monday after major producers disagreed on supply cuts to counter lower demand as the spread of the virus weighs on global commerce, Mahmoud Harb, a director at Fitch, said in a telephone interview Tuesday.

"The souring sentiment does not only affect financing in international markets, it could also lead to portfolio outflows where investors have invested in local-currency debt in countries like Nigeria, Egypt, Ghana and South Africa," Harb said. Foreign investors have sold a net R20 billion of South African government bonds this month already, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Unlike the previous oil rout in 2014, which pushed Nigeria and other major African economies into recession, the region has less budget room to increase spending this time around.

Limited buffers
"Sub-Saharan African countries have limited fiscal and external buffers in the sense that they don't have readily available assets they can use for counter-cyclical policy purposes, such as large sovereign wealth funds," Harb said.

Crashing oil prices pose a threat to the feeble recovery in Africa's largest economy, Nigeria. The International Monetary Fund last month cut its growth estimate for Nigeria to 2% from 2.5% on lower oil prices.

A rigid exchange rate, dwindling foreign reserves and high dependence on foreign inflows will constrain the government's ability to deal with lower revenues, said Harb, who is the lead analyst for Nigeria.

Fitch revised Nigeria's rating outlook to negative in December, citing the growing risk of a disorderly adjustment of the exchange rate that could stoke financial volatility and inflation. Strategists at Paris-based Societe Generale SA see a "very elevated" risk of devaluation of the naira, which has been stable over the last two years under the management of the central bank.

Harb said the rating firm is "following developments in Nigeria and possible policy announcements, but we don't have any set calendar for the next review of rating action." The Nigerian government could announce measures to weather the crisis as soon as Wednesday after a ministerial committee analyses the impact of lower oil prices.

Equity Bank commits to supporting female entrepreneurs

KIGALI

Equity Bank is committed to creating more opportunities for women in business, the lender's managing director has said.

Hannington Namara made the remarks during celebrations to mark International Women's Day on Saturday. Globally, the day was observed on Sunday, March 8, under the theme, "I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights."

"We want to develop customised services for our female clients based on their wishes and challenges. We want to create more opportunities for them," Namara noted. He said that the financial institution has rolled out several programmes, such as "Igire na Equity," aimed at facilitating women entrepreneurs grow their businesses. "We will continue to roll out such initiatives," he said.

The event was, among others, attended by Equity Bank female staff members, clients, and Evelyn Kamagaju, Equity Bank's board member. The Minister for ICT and Innovation, Paula Ingabire, the guest speaker, told participants that encouraging women to embrace banking and financial services was not a favour to them, but something they merit.

Nonetheless, she warned that "nothing is going to come on a silver plate." "We need to work hard for what we want, skill and reskill ourselves and get what we merit. Otherwise, women empowerment is not a favour," she

said. Ingabire added that institutions in finance-related sectors, such as banks, need to ensure that they were working to "empower and inspire young women to rise up."

"Women have to break the double glass ceiling. They are exposed to traditional challenges and thus need to be especially empowered," she said. Later, on Sunday, Equity Bank celebrated International Women's Day at the Remera branch where staff shared a cake. The event was characterised by heart-warming songs and colorful flowers.

Clients hail efforts to support women
Aline Gahongayire, a renowned gospel singer and businesswoman, attended the event as a distinguished client. She said she first became a client of Equity Bank four years ago. She enjoys doing business with the bank because they are eager to help business women grow, she said. Gahongayire hailed the lender's "efficient and convenient services."

"I travel a lot and I enjoy how Equity services wherever I go. Besides, they understand that breaking through as a business woman is hard so they facilitate you and help you grow stronger," she said. The musician's views were later echoed by a panel comprised of Equity Bank staff and clients.

It was noted that gender parity at the bank now stands at 46 per cent, with five women being part of their 14-member Executive Committee while two out of seven board members are women.



Equity Bank MD Hannington Namara

Huawei's earnings to be hit by US restrictions, top official says

NEW YORK

Huawei, the world's largest telecoms equipment maker, said the US blacklisting will impact the company's revenue in 2020 and could lead to permanently shifting its supply chain.

The company was placed on a Security Entity List by the US Department of Commerce in May 2019, following an executive order by President Donald Trump. The order prohibits Huawei from buying products and services from US companies.

"The US campaign has two aspects - it is limiting our ability to sell in the US and its allies and it is creating roadblocks

before us to buy from nearly 300 American companies," Andy Purdy, Huawei's chief security officer in the US, told The National.

"Last year's revenue were impacted by both [aspects] ... it is definitely affecting us. Our expectation is that 2020 will again be difficult," Mr Purdy added. Mr Purdy said the company needs access to US markets. "For example, we need to deal with Google to run the Android platform on mobile devices and we have to buy semi-conductors from American manufacturers for smooth supply," he said. "Huawei spent about \$1bn yearly in purchases [of components] from

the US that comprises about 40,000 to 50,000 American jobs. So huge value is at stake."

China's biggest smartphone maker saw its annual revenue rise 18 per cent to more than \$122 billion in 2019, which was lower than projected. In 2018, the company had grown revenue by 19.5 per cent. To mitigate the fallout from the restrictions placed on it, Huawei is sourcing suppliers outside the US. This shift in supply lines could become permanent if the situation regarding its status in the US does not change, Mr Purdy said.

"We are looking for new alternatives. It is clear from my recent

meetings at the company's headquarters in China that Huawei is successful in finding those alternatives," he said. "We still prefer to buy from the US companies but if we have to leave them, we can go elsewhere. And if things will not change soon, we will not come back."

Mr Purdy is a senior cyber-security expert in the US who has served in the Department of Homeland Security, where he helped form and launch the National Cyber Security Division and the US Computer Emergency Readiness Team.

Given his past experience with the US government, he is supervising the cyber-security

operations for Huawei in 26 countries, including in the Middle East. Huawei is a key provider of 5G components but the US government alleges it is using its equipment to spy for the Chinese government - a claim the company denies.

By the end of last year, Huawei said it had managed to secure 77 5G contracts globally, of which 12 are in the Middle East. Nearly half of its contracts are in Europe, where it faces tough competition from local companies such as Nokia, which has 63 contracts, and Ericsson with 81. Mr Purdy said European manufacturers such as Ericsson and Nokia should face the same

level of scrutiny as they also deal with Chinese manufacturers and customers.

"One should not assume that a non-Chinese company can be trusted and their equipment is safe. We cannot blindly trust anyone because they were trusted in the past," he added. Huawei has been locked in a dispute with the White House for months, with US prosecutors last month accusing the company of stealing trade secrets and helping Iran track protesters. Mr Purdy said the US restrictions are driven by the "trade war and geopolitical factors" and will hurt American companies more than Huawei.

"When you are caught up in trade wars, you do not think objectively about the pros and cons involved. That is why they [the US] are not ready to discuss things and mitigate any risks if there are any," he said. "China has made tremendous strides in research and development in the last 10 years ... still the US is way ahead. However, China's economic strength is a matter of great concern for them." Huawei is one of the world's largest investors in research and development. The company invested \$15bn in R&D in 2018 and has plans to invest an additional \$100bn over the next five years.

Here's another bid to wind up Amaco

NAIROBI

A fresh bid to wind up Africa Merchant Assurance Company (Amaco) looms after a Nairobi businessman moved to the High Court seeking liquidation.

Bernard Kihii whose application got a nod to proceed on March 4 invited other petitioners aggrieved by Amaco to join his application or those opposed to the petition to file objection ahead of the April 17 hearing.

"Any creditor or contributory of the said company desirous to support or oppose the making of an order on the said petition may appear at the time of hearing in person or by his advocate for that purpose," said the notice on the petition served via publication in last Friday's Kenya gazette and the dailies.

Reason behind Mr Kihii's move to liquidate Amaco which continues to struggle to return to profitability was not immediately clear. The latest move adds to the firm's woes. According to a recent Insurance Regulatory Authority's (IRA) report, Amaco closed the year with the highest cases of customer complaints due to delayed settlement of claims.

The watchdog reported 1,649 cases of unsettled liability claims, compared to its second quarter 1,705 cases during which 169 were settled. Outstanding non-liability claims stood at 2,005 cases up from 1,907 reported in the quarter. Some 444 fresh claims were made and 346 claims paid.

Last June, an auctioneer raided the offices of the underwriter on Mombasa Road, Nairobi, over a Sh15 million debt owed to Mama Rael Medical Clinic. In 2018 September, auctioneers stormed the insurer's Nyeri branch and carried away furniture and machines worth more than Sh100,000.

Last year, Amaco recorded a Sh75 million after-tax profit mainly boosted by lower operating costs. Liabilities decreased to 17 percent to stand at Sh1.8 billion compared to Sh2.1 billion the previous year. The firm draws up to 62.6 per cent of its business worth Sh2 billion from motor premiums. Amaco controls a 1.69 percent share of the insurance market.

Cryptos no refuge in market carnage

NEW YORK

Cryptocurrencies are not immune to the gyrations rocking global markets, plunging along with a broad range of assets on Monday in the wake of the collapse in crude oil prices.

Bitcoin, the largest digital currency, dropped as much as 16% from Friday's close after extending a sell-off begun over the weekend, and was trading at around \$7,820 as of 7:31 a.m. in New York. That's the biggest one-day slump at least since September, according to consolidated pricing compiled by Bloomberg.

The wider Bloomberg Galaxy Crypto Index fell as much as 18% as major cryptocurrencies Ether, XRP, Dash and Litecoin also retreated. Asia equities plunged with sovereign bond yields, while currencies swung wildly on Monday after Brent oil prices crashed more than 30%, the second-largest decline on record after the plunge during the Gulf War in 1991.

"Macro dominoes are falling to create a chain of negative sentiment, which is in turn triggering a sell-off of crypto," said Jehan Chu, managing partner with blockchain investment and advisory firm Kenetic Capital. "Bitcoin has always been subject to short-term sometimes-violent volatility, but today's drop is nothing we haven't seen before" and it could move lower still, he said. There's also a bullish argument, according to Chu – that the weakness in the global economy, oil's collapse and the coronavirus outbreak are helping to make the case for investing in digital assets.

Even with the latest sell-off, Bitcoin is still up about 9% this year, with much debate within the industry on the potential impact on pricing of the upcoming "halving" – a scheduled reduction in the mining rate of the coin designed to combat inflation. "A similarly rapid turnaround and appreciation is equally anticipated on the way to higher levels leading into the halving," he said.

“Macro dominoes are falling to create a chain of negative sentiment, which is in turn triggering a sell-off of crypto,” said Jehan Chu, managing partner with blockchain investment and advisory firm Kenetic Capital. “Bitcoin has always been subject to short-term sometimes-violent volatility, but today's drop is nothing we haven't seen before” and it could move lower still

UAE Central Bank urges banks to review plans

ABU DHABI

The Central Bank of the UAE is urging banks to review their business continuity plans as it established a committee to assess and identify solutions to mitigate the impact of the coronavirus on the country's economy.

Financial institutions are expected to implement measures such as the "re-scheduling of loans contracts, granting tempo-

rary deferrals on monthly loan payments as well as reducing fees and commissions" for customers affected by the virus, the central bank said in a statement on Saturday.

UAE banks remain well-capitalised and are in a good position to support customers affected by the virus, without "jeopardising their own safety and soundness", the statement said. The UAE reported 21 cases of the coronavirus

on Saturday as the outbreak continued to spread across the globe.

The World Health Organisation has raised the alarm on the virus to "very high" from "high" but stopped short of calling the outbreak a pandemic. The virus has migrated from its source in China's Hubei province, with scores of new cases being reported in countries such as South Korea, Italy and Iran. The global death toll from the virus has topped

2,900 with the number of confirmed infection cases worldwide surpassing 84,000. "[The] CBUAE continues to closely monitor the situation, and, if necessary, will provide additional guidance and direction," the statement said.

Central banks around the world are acknowledging the risks posed by the virus, which has disrupted supply lines and trade, leading to a rout in oil prices and stocks. Oil prices and global stocks slumped

to their worst week since 2008 as the virus spread to more than 40 countries.

The S&P 500 fell 0.8 per cent on Friday, declining more than 10 per cent over the week, while crude oil futures in New York declined 16 per cent. The US Federal Reserve indicated it was prepared to cut interest rates, if needed, to sustain the country's longest-ever expansion, according to its chairman Jerome Powell.

NMB Bank acting CEO urges peers: Unleash potential by going for loans

By The Banker Reporter, Baridi

WOMEN small business owners have capacity to grow their businesses and rival those owned by men if they courageously get bank loans and invest them fruitfully.

NMB Bank Plc acting CEO, Ruth Zaipuna said here earlier this week during the climax of International Women's Day 2020 that women have the ability and character to rival men if they dare exploit banking services and products available to grow their enterprises.

Address the public during the ceremony which was presided over by Vice President, Samia Suluhu Hassan, Zaipuna said many women in the country simply need to change their mindset and become confident.

"Let's be more courageous and dare to venture into big

businesses by continuing to learn and acquire new skills which will finally enable us realise our goals," Zaipuna who is the only female CEO to head one of the two largest banks in market said.

Having led NMB to rake over 140bn/- in profits last year, Zaipuna urged her fellow women to seize the opportunities being presented by current market conditions and government policy to break the glass ceiling of success.

She further noted that NMB has been the most profitable bank in the market because its management and shareholders embrace gender equality as part and parcel of its commercial activities.

"As NMB we found out that many multinationals which have excelled globally have embraced gender equality, we also chose to follow suit as the country's largest bank. Implementation of the gender equality strategy is not only within the bank but also involves

our clients," the acting NMB CEO noted.

As a result of the strategy, a number of tailor made products targeting women and their businesses have been developed hence the bank has become one of the most friendly to women and small businesses.

She also noted that the bank through its corporate social responsible program, has invested heavily in education and health with special focus on girls to ensure that they get empowered in order to realise their goals. "Let me call upon all women in the country to unite and pursue our goals as a united front instead of embracing selfish individual interests," she added.

Addressing the public at the IWD2020 climax, VP Samia urged women to grow their businesses and improve their living standards by making use of financial services being provided by banks and other financial institutions.



NMB Bank Plc acting CEO Ruth Zaipuna



Absa Group CEO Daniel Mminele

Absa Group commits to invest more in EAC region

By Francis Kajubi

MORE investments in terms of innovation to extend banking services to the majority in the East African Community region remains Absa Group Limited priority for the coming years.

Absa Group CEO, Daniel Mminele said via video conference from Johannesburg yesterday that his management is confident with its investments in EA region because it offers good returns.

"Our performance is generally good in the region and has been consistent in recent years and thus attracts new investment especially on digital platforms," Mminele said while presenting the 2019 results.

He said the region's key investment

attracting areas include quarrying, energy and tourism which in return plays as a catalyst role to bankers.

The bank's as of December 2019, recorded an increase of 6 percent in its total annual income to R80 billion from R76.5 billion in 2018. Mminele blamed South Africa's sluggish macroeconomic fundamentals and recession for the slow growth.

"We will continue to drive and execute our strategic objectives with agility and take advantage of emerging opportunities, while managing risks more effectively in response to changes in the operating environment," the former Reserve Bank of South Africa director added.

Backing Mminele's arguments, Chief Executive of Absa's Regional

Operations, Peter Motlare said the bank is optimistic about the future and the opportunities that lie ahead united under 'one Absa' across its African markets.

Motlare said Absa's objective is to develop strong, digital first financial systems in a sustainable manner and to contribute positively to the development of communities across all markets that it operates.

"We are pleased with the results of our Absa Regional Operations and their contribution to Absa Group's overall performance, having maintained double-digit growth and growing our headline earnings," he noted while stressing that the future remains promising for the regional bank.

IMF body, chaired by SA's Kganyago, wants funding help for coronavirus-hit countries

JOHANNESBURG

The International Monetary and Financial Committee has called on the IMF to use "all its available financing instruments" to help member countries hit by the coronavirus, according to a statement issued on Monday.

The IMFC held a teleconference call chaired by SA Reserve Bank Governor Lesetja Kganyago and Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund Kristalina Georgieva on Monday to discuss the impact of the virus.

"The IMF's 189 member countries stand united to address the global challenges related to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) epidemic and we extend our sympathies to all those affected," the statement said. "The economic and financial impact has also been felt globally, creating uncertainty and damaging near-term prospects. We are determined to provide the necessary support to mitigate the impact, especially on the most vulnerable people and countries."

It wants the IMF to pull together financial resources to assist those struck by the virus, it added. "We have called upon the IMF to use all its available financing instruments to help member countries in need. We are confident that, working together, we will overcome the challenge facing us and restore growth and prosperity for all."

Africa has thus far registered two cases of the Covid-19 coronavirus. However, worldwide, the number has risen to over 90 000 cases, with over 3 100 deaths. Top finance officials from the Group of Seven nations have already said that they will use "all appropriate policy tools" to mitigate economic damage from the outbreak, AFP reported earlier in the week.

According to the World Economic Forum, China's economic growth is expected to slow to 4.5% in the first quarter of 2020, its slowest since the global financial crisis of 2008. The OECD, meanwhile, has warned that the virus presents the biggest danger to the global economy since then. It has been estimated that the virus could cost the global economy some \$22 billion in the tourism sector alone.

Banks should extend financial education campaigns to their prospective borrowers

By Dr Joe Masawe



You will probably agree with me that there is hardly a person who doesn't complain about his or her income not being enough. Even people who think are rich are always complaining to be broke financially.

So you wonder as to how much money will make a person happy at all times or make someone be financially stress free. My answer is the amount of money that will make a person happy all the time is beyond the digits we have. But why? It is because the problem is not about the amount of money you earn, but rather it is about how you manage it. It is about financial management.

Financial management is a professional concept, a concept that through education can be attained. Speaking generally, it is no secret that education has the power to change one's life. Good education makes an individual de-

velop personally, socially as well as economically.

Education helps us to do our daily activities in the best possible ways. Education makes us dutiful and enables us to acquire new skills and knowledge that will impact on development in life by making us more efficient in resources management.

Education is available in almost all areas that are important in our daily lives, including finance. Financial education helps us to be financially literate. But why is financial literacy important? Financial literacy is important because it provides us with the knowledge and skills we need to manage our financial resources effectively.

Without it, our financial decisions and the actions we take—or don't take—may not achieve our objectives. It is important therefore that financial education is provided to everybody, so that our financial resources, which are scarce, are properly managed. The goal behind teaching financial lit-

eracy is to help people develop a stronger understanding of basic financial concepts, so that everybody can handle their money better. It helps us to be more rational in decision making.

The banking sector is preparing a financial education program which will assist borrowers improve their financial capability through better management of loans. Financially capable borrowers will form the cornerstone of banking sector stability, through timely loan repayments and proper utilization of borrowed cash hence stimulate economic growth.

The banking sector's financial education initiative forms part of the broader National Financial Education Framework (NFEF), which at the centre of it is the need to improve the welfare of users of financial services by deepening financial inclusion and improving the quality of financial services.

The banking community has already formulated a strategy for the implementation of financial

education to current as well as potential bank customers which aims at empowering recipients of with skills for better management of borrowed resources.

The initiative will include a strategy to promote financial education in schools, Small and Medium Enterprise (SME) owners and workers, and women groups of all types. Apart from this, the banking community will also implement an initiative aimed at ensuring that bank customers are generally better informed about the industry, so as to ensure that customers are protected through better understanding of it.

The recently adopted Tanzania Bankers Association (TBA) code of conduct will be a key instrument in promoting this initiative and will be made available to all bank customers. The code of conduct is an ethical framework which has been agreed by all banks to facilitate increased professionalism and adherence to minimum ethical standards in the sector.

This document also provides education to customers on what banks are expected to do to their customers and the obligations of bank staff to their customers. This includes the requirement for bank staff to act in a professional and ethical manner at all times. While we congratulate the banking sector for this very constructive initiative aimed at improving customer confidence, we urge all customers to seize the opportunity and be ready to increase their knowledge base, especially in the area of financial literacy.

We always believe that learning is an endless process hence, irrespective of your level of education, age, gender or even political or religious orientation, be open and ready to acquire new or more specialized knowledge, since as is always said, education is endless and key to better living.

Dr Joe Masawe (pictured) is Head of Research and Policy at the Tanzania Bankers Association

India's Yes Bank seizure triggers panic among investor, depositors

MUMBAI

India's rupee weakened to its lowest since 2018 and stocks tumbled after the central bank seized control of beleaguered Yes Bank, intensifying the risk-off mood fuelled by the spread of coronavirus cases in India.

The S&P BSE Sensex slid 2.3 per cent at the close to 37,576.62 in Mumbai, paring an intraday loss of almost 4 per cent. The rupee fell as much as 1.1 per cent before trimming losses on what traders said was suspected central bank intervention.

"Investors have turned risk-averse and the contagion is likely to hit smaller bank and nonbank finance companies," said Abhimanyu Sofat, Mumbai-based head of research at IIFL Securities. "How soon the RBI finalises the rescue plan is key as persistent operational curbs increase uncertainty."

The Reserve Bank of India put strict limits on the lender's operations while a rescue plan is devised. Under a government-backed proposal, State Bank of India, the nation's largest lender, will lead a group that will inject new capital into Yes Bank, people familiar with the matter said on Thursday.

The curbs could hardly have come at a worse time, with Indian assets already reeling from the economic impact of the outbreak. Primary schools in New Delhi have been closed until March 31 to prevent the spread of the virus with the number of confirmed patients across the country jumping to 31 this week.

The RBI capped withdrawals from Yes Bank, the country's fourth-largest lender, at 50,000 rupees and ordered it not to issue new loans. The lender's shares collapsed as much as 85 per cent before paring some losses after Governor Shaktikanta Das said the solution for Yes Bank would be swift. State Bank tumbled 6.5 per cent, while the yield on 10-year government debt slid 7 basis points.

The RBI's seizure of Yes Bank late Thursday was the country's biggest such intervention in at least 13 years. Speculation of a government rescue had been swirling for months, but the announcement unnerved markets by leaving several key questions unanswered, including the fate of depositors, creditors and shareholders.

Also unclear was how Yes Bank



Indian depositors crowd for withdrawals outside a Yes Bank branch in Ahmedabad on Friday.

clients and counterparties would cope with government-imposed caps on individual withdrawals and a 30-day moratorium on new loans and payments. A Walmart-backed Indian payments service that relies on Yes Bank to process transactions for more than 175 million users went down late Thursday, underscoring the far-reaching consequences of halting major portions of the bank's operations.

Investors responded by dumping Yes Bank's bonds and shares as well as those of other smaller lenders. Lines to withdraw money at one of Yes Bank's branches in Mumbai were larger than usual around midday on Friday, with security officers telling customers they would have to wait one and a half hours to get cash after ATMs ran out of bills.

"The market was expecting a solution," said Nilesh Shah, chief executive and managing director of Kotak Mahindra Asset Management. "People are bound to react the way they have this morning,

but the panic can easily be controlled if the government announces the contours of the revival plan."

The RBI took the decision to seize Yes Bank after noticing a surge in withdrawals by depositors, people with knowledge of the matter said. Policymakers were concerned that the outflows would accelerate once the bank releases its earnings on March 14, which could show a jump in bad loans, the people said, asking not to be identified as the matter was private. The decision came as a surprise to most Yes Bank executives.

The hashtag #YesBankCrisis was trending worldwide on Twitter. Many users shared their worries about possibly losing their deposits, even after Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman told reporters on Friday that the money was safe.

"I have about 150,000 rupees in savings here," said Amit Shinde, a 28-year-old construction

contractor, as he waited in line to take out cash. "I will be withdrawing it as soon as it's possible. I don't have confidence in the institution anymore."

Regulators' failure to provide a detailed road map for Yes Bank's rescue was criticised by some analysts and investors, who said the uncertainty could disrupt the smooth functioning of India's financial system and crimp funding to non-state banks. Private lenders accounted for about 60 per cent of the nation's new loan growth over the past 12 months, according to Credit Suisse Group.

More financial turbulence is the last thing India's economy needs. While it expanded at the fastest pace among large countries worldwide about a year ago, it has since been battered by a shadow-banking crisis, waning consumer demand and the global coronavirus outbreak. Growth is projected by the government to slow to 5 per cent in the fiscal year ended March, an 11-year low.

Global FDI to fall as much as 15% due to coronavirus, UN report says

GENEVA

Global foreign direct investments are expected to fall as much as 15 per cent in 2020 due to the spread of the deadly coronavirus, according to a report from the United Nations.

Automotive, airlines, energy and basic materials industries are expected to be hit the hardest due to the economic fall-out from the coronavirus outbreak. "The impact on FDI will be concentrated in those countries that are most severely hit by the epidemic, although negative demand shocks and the economic impact of supply chain disruptions will affect investment prospects in other countries," the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said.

The coronavirus, which originated in the Chinese city of Wuhan, has spread to more than 70 countries, killed more than 3,800 people and infected more than 100,000 people. But countries such as Iran, South Korea and Italy are now emerging to be the latest hotspots as they report faster infection rates than China.

More than two-thirds of the multinational enterprises (MNEs) in UNCTAD's Top 100 index, a bellwether of overall investment trends, have issued statements on the impact of coronavirus, also known as Covid-19, on their business. Many are slowing down capital expenditure in affected areas while 41 companies in the list have issued profit alerts that will result in lower reinvested earnings, a major component of FDI, the report said.

"On average, the top 5,000 MNEs, which account for a significant share of global FDI, have seen downward revisions of 2020 earnings estimates of 9 per cent due to Covid-19. Hardest hit are the automotive industry (-44 per cent), airlines (-42 per cent) and energy and basic materials industries (-13 per cent)," UNCTAD said.

"Profits of MNEs based in emerging economies are more at risk than those of developed country MNEs." Currently, the most significant negative revisions in the automotive industry come from parts producers based in the most affected areas in



UNCTAD secretary general Dr Mukhisa Kitui

South-East Asia. But leading car makers in developed economies have not yet registered the shock. The negative impact of the virus is likely to spread and increase further, it added.

The rapid spread of the coronavirus is also expected to delay the announcement of new greenfield projects. Mergers and acquisitions could also see a slowdown due to the current situation. Data for February showed a significant drop in the completion rate of cross-border acquisitions, which dropped below \$10 billion from normal monthly values of \$40 to \$50bn, the report said. Last week, UNCTAD said the contraction in China's output due to the coronavirus outbreak has cost the global economy about \$50bn due to a decline in exports.

China, the world's second-biggest economy, is a key producer of components used in automobiles, mobile phones, medical equipment and clothing. Global trade is suffering and supply chains have taken a hit across many sectors as factories across China are gradually resuming work after an extended shutdown that was in place to curb the spread of the virus.

The Guardian

SPORT

PGA Tour dealing with more attention off the course



Tiger Woods watches his tee shot on the first hole of the South Course at Torrey Pines Golf Course during the final round of the Farmers Insurance Open golf tournament Sunday Jan. 26, 2020, in San Diego. (AP Photo)

BY DOUG FERGUSON

SUCH is the clamor around the PGA Tour that Commissioner Jay Monahan spoke for 45 minutes Tuesday before anyone mentioned Tiger Woods.

If it's not the proposed Premier Golf League, promising riches to top players willing to leave the tour, then it's whether the Dell Match Play in Texas will still be played in two weeks because of the coronavirus outbreak, and what that means for the rest of the season.

Patrick Reed can't seem to make it through a tournament without someone heckling him over his sand-scraping incident in the Bahamas. Another player, Scott Piercy, lost two contract endorsements last week for a social media post mocking Pete Buttigieg's sexual orientation.

Those were among the topics in a week that began with the tour announcing a new nine-year media rights deal said to be worth just over \$7 billion and ends with the winner of The Players Championship getting a record \$2.7 million.

As for Woods? He's not playing this week – the fourth straight week he is sitting out – which raises a mixture of mystery and concern over the status of his health.

Monahan already has enough on his plate. Perhaps it's no small wonder he began his news conference by referencing his first year as commissioner in 2017 and the questions he faced that ranged from the next television deal to the lucrative FedEx Cup to pace of play.

So much of it emanated from the rights deal, which gives the tour four major companies in CBS, NBC, ESPN (streaming) and Discovery (direct-to-consumer for international markets) and raises the revenue from such a deal by some 70%.

That eventually trickles down to the players. How much remains to be seen, though Monahan referenced the \$15 million purse at The Players – the richest in golf history – and said, “I see us getting to \$25 million, and I see that certainly through the term (of the rights deal), if not earlier in the term.”

He also suggested the \$70 million bonus structure – \$60 million from the FedEx Cup post-season, \$10 million from the Wyndham Rewards for the regular season – could top \$100 million.

That would seem to counter the Premier Golf League, though not entirely, because the proposed league with significant Saudi funding is geared toward guaranteed money regardless of how a player performs. Even if the league doesn't get off the ground – and there doesn't appear to be much momentum – the chatter now is how the tour can look after its stars.

Monahan said he was “encouraged by the response that our players have had in our dis-

cussions.”

He was equally vague on the other seven questions related to the league, including whether players who joined would no longer be part of the PGA Tour. “If we got to that point in time, we would take measures to vigilantly protect this business model,” he said.

Monahan had a brusque ending to a CNBC interview on Monday when he was grilled on hypothetical situations involving the coronavirus. He quickly shifted back to the media rights deal and thanked the hosts for having him on.

The immediate future of golf and the virus is complicated because the PGA Tour runs six circuits – three based in the U.S., one each in Canada, Latin America and China – and thus it becomes a “market-to-market” situation.

The China tour already has postponed the start of its season.

The World Golf Championships event in Austin, Texas, is in two weeks. And while the South by Southwest film festival has been canceled, the Dell Match Play attendance is much smaller, spread out over an entire golf course and “we feel like we have support to continue to move forward with the event,” Monahan said.

Golf was far less complicated just three months ago.

The tour had reached broad agreements on a big chunk of the media negotiations. The Presidents Cup was about to begin in Australia. Woods was the playing captain, coming off a record-tying 82nd career PGA Tour victory, and he played great at Royal Melbourne. Finally, a question about Woods.

A large photo of him was on a wall to the right of where Monahan spoke, and he was asked how dependent the tour was on him playing.

That was one of the easier questions.

“Not only does it make an impact on golf fans, it reaches all tentacles of the sports marketplace worldwide,” Monahan said.

It was a big deal when Woods said his back was not quite ready because he has only played twice this year, and Woods has been saying that he'll be playing less instead of more. Monahan shared a story from Ben Crane, who once said Woods inspired kids who were involved in other sports to switch to golf.

And now Woods is effectively competing against the athletes he created.

“So his presence is here, literally, even if he's not here playing the tournament,” he said. “And the way I look at Tiger is that will always be the case. His legacy is something that will always be celebrated the next 30, 40, 50 years, or in perpetuity.”

And 50 years from now, other problems will arise. Those will be someone else's headaches.

AP

Davis misses 3 at buzzer, Nets now hold off Lakers 104-102

LOS ANGELES

IN his second game as Brooklyn's interim coach, Jacque Vaughn watched his Nets fight and scrap for 47 1/2 minutes to carve out a two-point lead over the powerhouse Lakers.

Then Vaughn had to watch from the sideline while Anthony Davis launched a last-second 3-pointer that would have undone it all.

“It's like the joy and pain of basketball,” Vaughn said. “I had the perfect sight line. I see it leave, just watching the flight of it. Looked to see if his feet were behind the line, so I said, ‘This is a 3-ball. We're either losing this thing, or we're going to win this thing.’”

Davis missed. The Nets' coaching change remains a hit.

Spencer Dinwiddie scored 23 points and hit the tiebreaking jumper with 28.3 seconds to play, and Brooklyn beat the Lakers 104-102 Tuesday night for its second straight win since Vaughn surprisingly replaced Kenny Atkinson last week.

Caris LeVert added 22 points as Brooklyn opened its four-game California road trip by beating the Western Conference's top team.

Davis hit four 3-pointers, but that wide-open 3 at the buzzer would have won it for the Lakers, whose four-game winning streak ended. After back-to-back victories over NBA-leading Milwaukee and the powerhouse Clippers last weekend, the Lakers lost at home for the first time since Feb. 6.

LeBron James had 29 points, 12 rebounds and nine assists for the Lakers, and he flawlessly set up Davis' final shot by driving the lane and kicking out to his fellow All-Star.

“A great look, a great opportunity to win the game,” James said. “We just missed it. That's what the game is about.”

Brooklyn had a 97-88 lead with six minutes to play, but the Lakers ratcheted up their defense and cut it to 100-99 on James' driving layup with 1:47 left.

Davis scored 20 of his 26 points in the second half, and he hit a tying 3-pointer with 42.6 seconds left on a setup from James.

Dinwiddie, a Los Angeles native and lifelong Lakers fan who starred at Taft High School in the San Fernando Valley, calmly drilled his mid-range jumper for the Nets' first field goal in three minutes.

“It feels good because it's a high-quality opponent on the road for a



Brooklyn Nets' Timothe Luwawu-Cabarrot (9) drives to the basket against the Los Angeles Lakers during the first half of an NBA basketball game Tuesday, March 10, 2020, in Los Angeles. (AP Photo)

team that is doing its best right now to continue to find itself,” Dinwiddie said. “Obviously, we've gone through injuries and the coaching change as well. There's been a ton of up and down. And they're one of the top, what, three teams in the league, right? The championship contenders, Lakers, Clippers and Bucks. So it's big for a team that learning and going to try to be a champion to add this win.”

James drove the lane for a layup that somehow rimmed out with 9 seconds to play, but the Lakers got the ball back after the scramble. James again drove and dished to Davis – but the All-Star couldn't connect to secure the Lakers' 50th win of the season and a triple-double for James.

“A lot of shots are going to be open with (James') ability to get in the paint and draw a defense,” Davis said. “It's our responsibility to finish plays.”

After their wildly successful weekend, the Lakers understandably seemed a bit less passionate in their return, particularly on defense. They led 58-56 at halftime despite committing nine turnovers and playing less-than-impressive defense.

Meanwhile, in San Francisco, Kawhi Leonard scored 23 points before sitting out the entire fourth quarter along

with the rest of the Doc Rivers' starters, and the Los Angeles Clippers routed the Golden State Warriors 131-107 on Tuesday night.

Paul George and Patrick Beverley scored 15 points apiece as the Clippers had seven players in double figures. Reggie Jackson added 16 points and JaMychal Green had 13 points and 10 rebounds.

Coming off a 112-103 loss to the Lakers on Sunday night that ended a six-game winning streak, the Clippers jumped out to an early double-digit lead and coasted to their third consecutive win over the Warriors.

“You never know when a game's going to be one-sided,” Rivers said. “I just like that we came out with the right approach, a business approach. We didn't have ball movement the last game and that hasn't been us. You could see the tone was set early just by the ball movement.”

Los Angeles led by 28 at the half and went up 84-50 early in the third following back-to-back 3s from Beverley.

Things went so well for Rivers' team that Leonard wound up with a three-point play when he flipped a shot up while falling over Golden State's Ky Bowman.

The Clippers moved a game ahead of Denver for second

place in the West.

Dragan Bender matched his career-high of 23 points for Golden State. Andrew Wiggins scored 21 and Marquese Chriss had 10 points and 10 rebounds.

The game was played before a noticeably smaller crowd at Chase Center as large pockets of empty seats lined the arena's upper and lower bowls. Signs were posted near entrances outside the venue, warning visitors who had shown any symptoms of the coronavirus to not enter.

“I was surprised it was that many fans,” Rivers said.

Both teams took steps toward adhering to the NBA's temporary rules closing locker room access to reporters in an effort to contain the virus. The Clippers set up a screened off area just outside their locker room for postgame interviews, with chairs set up for the media. The Warriors conducted their interviews in a nearby media room where they normally do.

“It's all very strange and awkward,” Golden State coach Steve Kerr said. “We are just going to do what we are told to do and go from there.”

The win was the 938th of Rivers coaching career, tying him for 11th all-time with Boston Celtics legend and Hall of Famer Red Auerbach.

Tokyo Olympic head shoots down comments about delaying games

TOKYO

THE president of the Tokyo Olympic organizing committee said Wednesday he has received an apology from an executive board member who said the 2020 Games should be delayed a year to two because of the coronavirus.

Yoshiro Mori called a quick news conference at committee headquarters to shoot down the comments.

“There is no plan now to change our plans,” Mori said, speaking in Japanese.

He was referring to comments from Haruyuki Takahashi reported in the Wall Street Journal. “I have spoken to Mr. Takahashi and he has apologized,” Mori said. “He certainly said an outlandish thing.”

Mori said Takahashi is speaking for himself. Takahashi is not involved in the day-to-day running of the organizing committee, which is directed by Mori and CEO Toshio Muto.

The Tokyo Olympics are being threatened by the spreading coronavirus. Organizers and the International Olympic Committee have repeatedly said the games will open on July 24 as planned, with the Paralympics opening on Aug. 25.

Any option other than opening on schedule – if the virus allows that – is fraught with problems.

The IOC's contract with Tokyo gives it almost total control over cancellation without a penalty for breaking contract terms. It



A man wearing a protective face mask, following an outbreak of the coronavirus, walks past a countdown clock for the opening ceremony of the Tokyo 2020 Olympic Games in Tokyo, Japan, March 6, 2020. REUTERS

has a reserve fund of about \$2 billion to tide it over until the next Olympics, and also carries cancellation insurance.

Delaying a year or two, as Takahashi suggested, would see the Olympics clash with events already set on the crowded world sports calendar. That would include the 2022 Winter Olympics in Beijing, and soccer's World Cup in Qatar the same year.

It also raises questions about more than 3,000 apartments being built for the Athletes Village. Those units are to be

sold off by realtors after the 2020 Olympics and should go for high-end prices.

The village is to house 11,000 Olympic athletes and 4,400 Paralympic athletes and would not likely be available.

Any delay would also affect broadcasters like U.S. network NBC, which is paying more than \$1 billion for the rights to the Tokyo Olympics. The same is true for sponsors. Broadcasting rights and sponsorship account for 91% of the IOC income.

Senior IOC member Dick Pound said last month in an

interview with The Associated Press that the Olympic body had until about the end of May to decide on going ahead – or something else. He said a cancellation might be the most likely option.

Pound, a former IOC vice president and the founding president of the World Anti-Doping Agency, said he was speaking for himself. He has been an IOC member since 1978.

The modern Olympics began in 1896 and have been canceled only in wartime.

AP

Paraguayan judge orders Ronaldinho to remain in prison

ASUNCION

BRAZILIAN football great Ronaldinho will remain in pre-trial detention in Paraguay after being refused bail or house arrest on accusations of entering the country with a fake passport.

A court rejected a request for conditional release for the 39-year-old World Cup winner and his brother, who were spending a fifth day in a police cell in Asuncion, said prosecutor Osmar Legal.

Judge Gustavo Amarilla cited the seriousness of the case and the discovery of new evidence, as well as the involvement of public officials and entrepreneurs who helped Ronaldinho get into Paraguay.

Amarilla acknowledged the harshness of the measures taken against the brothers but said it was his responsibility to ensure they did not flee the country.

"There are many procedures that need to be done with the presence of both of them," the judge said.

Legal said he opposed house arrest because the property offered as a guarantee was only valued at \$750,000 to \$800,000.

"It's a tiny amount given the economic solvency of one of the (accused)," he said.

The brothers arrived in Asuncion from Brazil on Wednesday and showed their passports to immigration police, who did not immediately notice any problem.

Hours later, when the passports were determined to be fake, investigators raided the football star's hotel room and seized the brothers' identity cards and travel documents.

- 'No crime' -
Ronaldinho said the passports had been given to him by people who had invited him to attend conferences sponsored by charities working with disadvantaged children.

A Brazilian businessman has also been arrested in connection with the fake travel documents, while two Paraguayan women have been placed under house

arrest and the country's migration director has resigned.

Ronaldinho's Brazilian lawyer Sergio Queiroz has said the brothers were carrying Brazilian documents and were given the Paraguayan passports "to facilitate the possibility of doing business" in Paraguay.

"Ronaldinho did not commit a crime because he did not know that the passport they gave him was faked," he said.

However, the body overseeing the creation of companies in Paraguay told AFP there was no regulation preventing Brazilians from applying for a business permit.

The administrator of the charity that invited Ronaldinho, Dalia Lopez, has admitted requesting the passports but said she didn't know they were forged.

A warrant has been issued for her arrest.

- Money laundering -

Amarilla said the investigation is looking into possible criminal association and money laundering.

He said the brothers' phones needed to be examined, in order to "know the true intention for their presence" in Paraguay.

Ronaldinho, considered one of the greatest footballers of all time, was a star of Brazil's 2002 World Cup win and played for European giants Barcelona, Paris Saint-Germain and AC Milan, among others.

There had been rumors he needed to use the Paraguayan document because his real passport had been seized by Brazilian authorities in late 2018 after he failed to pay a \$2.5 million fine for building a pier in a protected lake.

But it was returned to him a year later following an agreement with the public prosecutor in Rio Grande do Sul state.

As both countries are part of the MERCOSUR trade bloc, travelers between Brazil and Paraguay need only carry an identity document rather than a passport.

AFP

Cancel Premier League games over coronavirus, says Pep Guardiola

MANCHESTER

MANCHESTER City manager Pep Guardiola has said he would rather suspend fixtures than play behind closed doors in response to coronavirus because it would make "no sense" to carry on without fans.

The UK government have so far allowed fixtures to continue as normal until Tuesday when the Premier League decided to postpone City's clash with Arsenal at the Etihad Stadium on Wednesday over fears of the spreading coronavirus.

Authorities in Italy have postponed Serie A games while league matches in Spain will be played without fans for two weeks. "We are conscious of it because it has happened already in Italy," Guardiola said. "The league is suspended, in Spain the next two weeks are behind closed doors. It is going to happen here. The tendency rises at the same level as Italy before and in Spain right now."

"The other issue you have to ask is it worse to play football without the spectators. We do our job for the people and if the people cannot come to watch us, there is no sense."

"I would not love to play matches in the Premier League or Champions League or the cups without the people. But we are

going to follow the instructions of the governments. Everybody around the world is involved in that and we just follow what we have to do and follow the instructions."

Arsenal's visit would have been the first time Guardiola had gone head-to-head with former assistant Mikel Arteta after the Spaniard decided to take over at the Emirates in December.

Arsenal are ninth in the table, eight points off the top four, but they have found form under Arteta, losing just one of their last 13 games in all competitions.

"I said four years ago, after half a season I was convinced he'd be a manager and the right opportunity came up," Guardiola said.

"I would say he's done incredibly well -- his ideas, his positional play. In a short term they'll have success with him on the bench."

Guardiola is waiting to see if Kevin De Bruyne will be available after the Belgium international missed the defeat to Manchester United on Sunday with a shoulder injury.

Amyeric Laporte is also a doubt with a hamstring injury while Leroy Sane is available but is lacking match fitness after more the six months out with a knee problem.

(Agencies)

Europa League not spared from virus chaos as Manchester United go behind closed doors

PARIS

MANCHESTER United's Europa League last 16, first leg away to LASK Linz in Austria is one of five matches in the competition set to be played behind closed doors on Thursday as the coronavirus continues to wreak havoc with football on the continent.

United confirmed on Tuesday that the decision had been made "following guidance from the Austrian government", with the Alpine country having recorded 182 cases of COVID-19 by Tuesday.

The news will be a disappointment to supporters of the Austrian club hoping to see their team spring a surprise against Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's in-form side.

United's 2-0 derby win over Manchester City on Sunday saw them extend their current unbeaten run to 10 games, with eight clean sheets in that time. They are now hoping to seize the initiative in this tie before a weekend trip to Tottenham Hotspur.

Coached by the French former Bayern Munich and Crystal Palace defender Valeriy Ismael, LASK are six points ahead of Salzburg at the top of the Austrian Bundesliga as they chase a first league title since 1965.

They lost to Club Brugge in Champions League qualifying this season. The Belgians then lost to Solskjaer's side in the last round of the Europa League.

- Olympiakos owner has virus -
UEFA confirmed on Monday that



Olympiakos president Evangelos Marinakis club has revealed he has tested positive for the coronavirus. His team face Wolves behind closed doors in the Europa League this week (AFP Photo)

Wolverhampton Wanderers' first leg against Olympiakos in Greece would also be played behind closed doors.

That preceded the announcement that Olympiakos owner Vangelis Marinakis -- also the owner of English club Nottingham Forest -- had tested positive for coronavirus. He said he was taking "all necessary measures" and "feeling well".

"We share the disappointment of all of our supporters who will be affected by this decision," Wolves said.

Olympiakos top the Greek league and are hoping to claim a second Premier League scalp after eliminating Arsenal in the previous round. They also held Tottenham at home in the Champions League group stage this season.

With Italy the worst-hit European

country by the ongoing crisis, Inter Milan's home game against Getafe will be played out in an empty stadium, while no fans will be allowed into Sevilla's match against Roma in Spain.

In addition, German club Wolfsburg have confirmed their clash with Ukraine's Shakhtar Donetsk will be behind closed doors.

However, fellow Bundesliga side Eintracht Frankfurt are set to play FC Basel in front of a crowd while uncertainty surrounds the return leg in Switzerland next week. Basel have said the game will not go ahead in the country, where all football in the top two domestic leagues has already been postponed for the rest of the month.

Fans are also expected to fill Ibrox,

where Rangers entertain Bayer Leverkusen hoping to pull off a shock result against opponents on a nine-game unbeaten run and sitting fourth in the Bundesliga.

Steven Gerrard has come under pressure with his team falling 13 points behind leaders Celtic in the Scottish Premiership and also being knocked out of the Scottish Cup by Hearts.

However, their European form has provided a tonic and now they are preparing for their 17th match in the competition this season.

Gerrard, who called it "one of the toughest ties we could have got", is without veteran striker Jermain Defoe due to a calf injury.

Leverkusen announced on Tuesday that the return leg next week "was set to be played behind closed doors" after health officials in the German state of North Rhine Westphalia called for events bringing together more than 1,000 people to be called off.

Europa League last 16, first-leg fixtures on Thursday

1755 GMT kick-offs:
LASK (AUT) v Manchester United (ENG), Eintracht Frankfurt (GER) v Basel (SUI), Sevilla (ESP) v Roma (ITA), Istanbul Basaksehir (TUR) v FC Copenhagen (DEN)

2000 GMT kick-offs
Inter Milan (ITA) v Getafe (ESP), Wolfsburg (GER) v Shakhtar Donetsk (UKR), Rangers (SCO) v Bayer Leverkusen (GER), Olympiakos (GRE) v Wolverhampton Wanderers (ENG)

AFP

Italian, Spanish players' unions want European matches postponed

ESPN

THE players' unions in both Italy and Spain want the upcoming Champions and Europa League matches scheduled in their respective countries postponed amid the coronavirus outbreak.

The Champions League match between Atalanta and Valencia was played in Spain on Tuesday, with the Serie A side winning 4-3 to advance to the quarterfinals.

However, if the players' unions have their way the upcoming Champions League match between Barcelona and Napoli on March 18, and the Europa League matches featuring Inter Milan against Getafe and Roma versus Sevilla on Thursday would be postponed.

A joint statement from the players' unions in Italy (AIC) and Spain (AFE) to UEFA read: "The situation in Italy, Spain and throughout Europe regarding the serious health crisis due to the spread of the virus COVID-19 is forcing us to make difficult and, unfortunately, inevitable decisions."

"This week there are three fixtures scheduled between Italian and Spanish clubs.

"Valencia-Atalanta was played behind closed doors but today [Tuesday] the Spanish government has increased emergency measures banning all flights to and from Italy."

"Playing a game in Milan in the next few days will jeopardise the health of many people."

"Travel between Italy and Spain in the next few weeks will only get more complicated and difficult."

"There is a high risk that even next week's return games will have to be played under emergency conditions in both countries."

"AIC and AFE jointly call on UEFA that games between Italian and Spanish clubs be suspended until they can be played in safer conditions and once the emergency level has diminished in both countries."

"Coronavirus is becoming a Europe-wide issue and no longer merely an Italian one. We trust that a deep reflection on the full match calendar for European competitions be made in light of the news that gets worse hour after hour."

Also on Tuesday, Getafe president Angel Torres told Spanish radio station Onda Cero that his team would refuse to travel to Milan for Thursday's match against Inter and said they had asked for the game to be played in a different location.



Italy has suspended all sports events until April 3. (AFP Photo)

He said: "We don't want to go to the focal point, get infected, and then have to suspend La Liga. We've asked for help from the RFEF to intervene. Tomorrow we'll train in the afternoon to give more time and we'll decide, but right now Getafe won't travel to Milan."

"If we have to lose the tie, well, it's an exciting thing but health comes first. I'm not going to take any risks. If we have to lose the tie, we'll do it with our heads held high."

Tuesday had already seen numerous cancellations and storylines emerge surrounding the spreading coronavirus in Europe, beginning with La Liga announcing that top-flight football in Spain would be played behind closed doors for at least the next two weeks.

The ban on supporters attending games also extended to the country's second division.

The Spanish Players' Association

(AFE) has sent a letter to La Liga, the Royal Spanish Football Federation (RFEF) and the High Council of Sports requesting all games at all levels be suspended in the country.

Wolves had also petitioned UEFA to postpone their Europa League match away to Olympiakos saying: "The trip poses unnecessary risks to our players, staff, supporters and the families of all who travel, at such critical and uncertain times."

The petition came after Nottingham Forest and Olympiakos owner Evangelos Marinakis said he tested positive for the virus. However, that petition from Wolves was denied and the game will take place on Thursday.

On Monday, it was announced that Paris Saint-Germain's Champions League match against Borussia Dortmund on Wednesday would be played in an empty stadium.

PSG's star striker Kylian Mbappe

had been held out of training this week with an illness and was tested for the coronavirus on Tuesday, but the results came back negative.

Juventus' game against Lyon next week also will be played behind closed doors. Chelsea's trip to Bayern Munich is also expected to be played without supporters, although there has been no official confirmation.

In France, the sports minister Roxana Maracineanu has said that until April 15, Ligue 1 and Ligue 2 matches (France's two fully professional football leagues) will either be played behind closed doors or with 1,000 spectators depending on the wishes of the organiser.

Germany's Bundesliga is also studying the possibility of playing all fixtures behind closed doors, with Borussia Monchengladbach vs. Cologne the first match to be officially announced with preventative measures in place.

And Dutch football has been cancelled this weekend in the southern province of Noord-Brabant, meaning: PSV Eindhoven vs. FC Emmen, Willem II vs. sc Heerenveen and RKC vs. FC Groningen are postponed.

Talks have taken place in England, too, about a contingency plan if the coronavirus continues to spread but there are no plans to place restrictions on supporters or cancel games in the short term.

On Tuesday, it was also announced that Republic of Ireland's Euro 2020 playoff against Slovakia would go ahead, but behind closed doors and later on in the day the France vs. Ukraine friendly game on March 27 and Germany vs. Italy and France vs. Finland friendlies on March 31 went the same way.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Europa League not spared from virus chaos as Man U go behind closed doors

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Company targets promoting women's talents



A section of SBC Tanzania's female staff pose for a photo at an event gearing towards marking the International Women's Day, which took place at the firm's premise in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. The female staff showcased dancing talents and other activities at the event. PHOTO: JOSEPH MCHEKADONA

Bluefins Club swimmers ready for Mwanza competition

By Correspondent Renatha Msungu

A strong squad of 31 swimmers from Dar es Salaam's Bluefins Club are set to travel to Mwanza to participate in the Isamilo Invitational championship, scheduled to start tomorrow in the region.

The championship is an annual event held at the Isamilo School in Mwanza and organized by the Mwanza Swimming Club (MSC).

Bluefins' founder, Rahim Alidina, said the event will feature swimmers from various clubs in Mainland Tanzania.

He disclosed Bluefins has been preparing swimmers to shine in the event as well as improving their personal best time.

"We have been preparing our swimmers well for this gala and they are all in high spirit and ready to battle for medals and attain new personal best times in Mwanza," he disclosed.

"Our club has started the year 2020 very well after performing immensely well in the previous two events, this year's Morogoro International School (MIS) gala which took place in Morogoro, and the Taliss-IST gala in Dar es Salaam."

"We expect our swimmers to continue to do well in Mwanza as the target is to eventually prepare them for the National Club Championships which will be held in April."

Alidina also thanked MSC for hosting the championship as it gives many young swimmers the opportunity to swim and compete in a different environment.

Bluefins team will be made up of 12 girls and 19 boys, and will include two swimmers, Sarah Shariff and Aaron Akwenda, who represented Tanzania at the CANA Zone 3 championships held in Nairobi last year.

"Besides our top and experienced swimmers, we continue to give opportunities to talented young swimmers to participate in such events," he said.

"At this gala, we will have at least four young swimmers aged six and two swimmers aged seven, out of which two six-year old swimmers will be participating for the first time in an official club swimming gala."

"We are very excited to see our young swimmers take part in such a high profile competition at such a young age. This gala will give them the platform and the confidence which they require at this age," he said.

Bluefins' female swimmers, who will be traveling to Mwanza, are Aliyana Kachra, Filbertha Demello, Muskan Gaikwad, Aminaz Kachra, Niharika Mahapatra, Sarah Shariff, Zainab Moosajee, Maryam Ipilinga, Natalia Ladha, Anahi Shah, Alexis Misabo and Lina Goyayi.

Male swimmers are Kaysan Kachra, Avinav Mahapatra, Zac Okumu, Christian Fernandes, Enrico Barretto, Kabeer Lakhani, Salman Yasser, Adnan Hassanali, Ameer Ismail, Burhanuddin Mustansir, Idris Zavery, Moiz Kaderbhai, Qais Kanji, Saalih Mbonde, Gervas Sayi, Xavier Fernandes, Delbert Ipilinga, Isaac Mukani and Aaron Akwenda.

Yanga take aim at KMC FC

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

THE Vodacom Premier League title is no longer in the radar for Yanga's head coach Luc Eymael and his charges, with 12 matches remaining.

All that matters to Yanga right now is finishing in second place in the league and focusing on the Azam Sports Federation Cup.

To attain the two goals, the team will have to keep their winning momentum. The team is on a four-match winning run.

And in that regards, Yanga will go all in for a victory over a relegation-threatened KMC FC in a clash, which will take place in Dar es Salaam today.

Yanga secured a major morale boosting victory when they defeated rivals Simba 1-0 in the league's second phase game, which took place in the city on Sunday.

Ghanaian import Bernard Morrison scored the key goal for Yanga through a scorching first half free kick.

For now, Morrison is the key player for this Yanga side. Since signing for the club in January, he has contributed four goals and three assists across all competitions.

After shining in the clash with Simba, nicknamed 'Dar Derby', he will be relishing his chance to continue shining.

KMC FC have spent the better part of the season in the relegation zone trailing behind the hosts by 23 points. However they go into this match on the back of good form.

They claimed a second successive league win when they defeated Mwanza's Mbao 2-0 at home on Sunday morning, courtesy of goals from Hassan Kabunda and Abdul Hillary.

The club, nicknamed 'Kino Boys', however, have won just two matches as visitors this season.

While they did avoid defeat in the last two matches, the team is still placed in the relegation zone.

With just 10 match-days remaining, the squad will have to perform at

their very best to avoid getting a boot to the First Division League.

Hassan Kabunda has been a staple of the team since joining from Mwadui FC last season.

He had a fantastic match against Mbao, ending the clash with one goal and an assist.

He has not been particularly consistent this season, but he has had his moments with four goals and three assists to his name.

Another moment or two would go a long way to keeping KMC FC in the Premier League.

In head-to-head stats, Yanga and KMC FC have met in three top-flight matches since 2018/19.

Yanga have claimed two wins with one game ending in a draw.

When the teams met earlier this season, at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam in December 2019, the match ended in a 1-1 draw.

Mrisho Ngassa netted for Yanga and Abdul Hillary leveled matters for KMC FC via a spot kick.



Yanga midfielder, Deus Kaseke (R), shoots past KMC FC defender, Rayman Mgunigila, in a recent Mainland Premier League clash, which took place in Dar es Salaam.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

DAR ES SALAAM company, SBC Tanzania, has said for the country to achieve its development ambitions there is a need to give women more space to showcase their talents.

The company's Chief Executive Officer, Avinash Jha, issued the statement at a function held at the company's premises in the city on Tuesday.

The official disclosed his firm values the contribution which women make in the society.

The event was spiced up by both traditional and modern dances and several activities.

Jha said talent is one of the key areas which women can exploit for their advancement in the society.

He said SBC Tanzania has many projects which are aimed at uplifting women in the country.

"We value the contribution women are making, ranging from politics, economics to social, knowing this in mind SBC has a program where we are empowering women, currently there are nine centers in Dar es Salaam and our plan is to reach to many women," he said.

Jha also hailed women at his company for working hard.

"This is the first time that we are organizing a women's day function at our offices, next time the event will be bigger and better, we did this because we appreciate the contribution which women make at our company," he said.

This year International Women's Day campaign theme is 'Each for Equal', which promotes the concept that equal world is an enabled world.

Eveline Shewe, SBC Tanzania's women chairperson, thanked the management of the company for the function and for setting up better working conditions for women at the company.

She said the management has demonstrated that they take women's welfare at heart and the approach has motivated them to work hard as they feel they are valued by the company.

Shewe, however, requested the company that all female staff, who are breast feeding and are on night shift, should be shifted to day working time so that they can have enough time with their children.

She also asked the company to pay tuition fees for female staff who want to further their education.

The female staff, she noted, should also be given top leadership positions at the company.

"Here at the company's Dar es Salaam branch, we have 100 women, we ask the management to give women top leadership positions on merit, awards for best performing women should as well be open to all ladies working at this company," she disclosed.

"All in all, we really thank management for this function, it is our prayer that next year we should visit hospitals and centers which take care of less privileged people."

"We believe paying a visit to these places will make SBC female staff more proud."



Simba SC forward, John Bocco (R), dribbles past Singida United defender, Cleophae Sospeter when the sides clashed in a Vodacom Premier League game, which was played at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Simba notched 8-0 victory over Singida United. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Flexibles by David Chikoko

