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Page 13



Sudanese PM Abdalla Hamdok survives assassination attempt

KHARTOUM

SUDANESE Prime Minister Abdalla Hamdok on yesterday morning survived an assassination attempt in the capital Khartoum.

A car bomb that seemed to target him exploded moments after his convoy had passed the scene of the blast in the capital.

A statement released by the Prime Minister's office indicated that no one in the convoy was hurt from the incident

Sudanese State TV reported that the incident happened at around 9 am local time in Cooper suburb, northeast of Khartoum.

A statement released by the Prime Minister's office indicated that no one in the convoy was hurt from the incident.

The PM took to Twitter to post reassurances on his health.

"I assure the Sudanese people that I am well and completely healthy. What happened will not stop the march of change and will only be an additional inspiration for the revolution. This revolution is protected by its peacefulness and its price was the blood that was shed as sacrifice made for a better tomorrow," he said.

Witnesses said a number of vehicles were damaged due to the explosion but it was not clear if there were victims or injured people in the explosion.

Minister of Information and the government official spokesman will issue a detailed statement on the incident soon.

Meanwhile, Sudan has called on Egypt and Ethiopia to return to negotiations on

TURN TO PAGE 2

'Poison found in Mangula's body'



President John Magufuli chairs a Cabinet meeting at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: State House.

By Guardian Reporter

POLICE said yesterday that there is evidence of poisoning in CCM Vice Chairman (Mainland) Philip Mangula's body.

The long-serving politician was reported to have collapsed in office in Dar es Salaam last week and was admitted to Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH).

Dar es Salaam Special Police Zone Commander Lazaro Mambosasa told journalists in the city that police, collaborating with other defence and security organs, had established that there is poison in Mangula's body.

He said police received information

Commander Mambosasa warned that the special police zone will take acute stern measures against anyone found to have engineered, supervised or carried out the crime

TURN TO PAGE 2

Coronavirus: SADC plans to hold meetings by video

By Henry Mwangonde

HEALTH ministers in the Southern African Development Community (SADC) have recommended the temporary suspension of face-to-face meetings in SADC activities due to the spread of the coronavirus.

The ministers have instead recommended that SADC meetings be held via teleconference or video to avoid spreading the disease.

Ummu Mwalimu, the minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly

Let us not look only China alone but at all sorts of countries," he emphasized

and Children who chaired the meeting, said the ministers recommended the temporary suspension of face-to-face meetings.

The recommendation will be presented to the wider

council of ministers for a formal decision to be taken, she said.

The recommendation was made yesterday two days ahead of the SADC council of ministers in Dar es Salaam.

Health ministers were meeting to share information and look at how each country was preparing to fight the global pandemic, she said.

Presenting the meeting's resolutions to the media, SADC Executive Secretary Dr

TURN TO PAGE 2

New weather radars now lined up for Mbeya, Kigoma

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is set to install two modern weather radars in Mbeya and Kigoma regions to boost accurate weathers reports for various regions, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works, Leonard Chamuhilo said yesterday.

Officiating at the opening of a five -day training session for officials of the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA),

Chamuhilo hailed the management for good work and dedication that has uplifted the organization's image from the time it was an agency, up to early September 2019

he said Tanzania leads several countries in the region with good meteorological services but the government is determined to improve further as the services are vital in national economic development.

Chamuhilo stated that currently there are two functioning weather radars in Dar es Salaam and Mbeya regions while the third one in Mtwara is still under

TURN TO PAGE 2

TCRA ICT AWARDS

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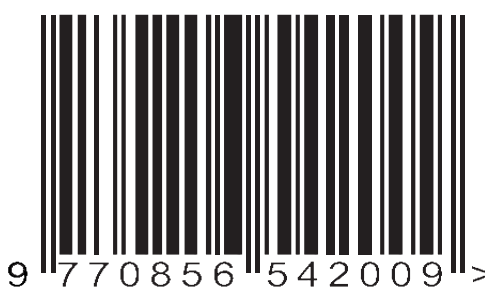
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New weather radars for Mbeya, Kigoma

FROM PAGE 1

installation. The government is geared to have even more accurate weather forecast reports, he stated.

The aim is to provide meteorological services that meet stakeholders' expectations thereby contributing to the protection of life and property, environment and the national goal for poverty eradication.

"Modern meteorological equipment is crucial in improving accuracy of weather reports in the country. TMA is doing a good job that has enabled its chief executive to be appointed the third vice president of the World Meteorological Association," he said, specifying that the government looks forward to boost the authority's infrastructure.

Chamuhilo hailed the management for good work and dedication that has uplifted the organization's image from the time it was an agency, up to early September 2019.

The training was organized to help empower the TMA management with enhanced knowledge now that it has become an authority.

Dubbed 'fundamentals of regulation and cost recovery' it was also convened to help TMA focus on improved revenue collection and the legal framework of operations.

TMA has increased accuracy in meteorological

services but a similar effort needs to be directed towards boosting revenue collection among other requirements, he stated.

The government will continue improving weather infrastructural capacity to ensure improved performance for the benefit of all Tanzanians, the ministry's chief civil servant noted, urging the board of directors to focus on improving workers' welfare and control the revenue collected.

Earlier in her opening remarks, TMA Director General Dr Agnes Kijazi said the training is meant for managerial capacity building on its new roles.

TMA has strived to provide the best services and has managed to work above the global benchmark of 70 percent, reaching 80 percent of accurate weather forecasting and other services, she declared.

She expressed gratitude for the government for continued support leading to an increase in services, making Tanzania take a step ahead of the regional average. "It is only through government support and technical training that makes TMA recognized beyond our borders," she said.

The public now has a lot of trust on TMA than it was the case before, with strong teamwork that the organization has attained that far, the director added.



East Africa Television programme coordinator Sophia Proches (R) and East Africa Radio head of programmes Lydia Igarabuzi (L) with MultiChoice Tanzania managing Director Jacqueline Woiso. It was shortly after they had an audience with her in Dar es Salaam at the weekend in 'Mwanamke Kinara', a media campaign programme on the contribution of women to society. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Coronavirus: SADC plans to hold meetings by video

FROM PAGE 1

Stergomena Tax said the ministers have mutually agreed to declare the coronavirus a public health emergency.

The meeting also commended measures taken by China and the World Health Organisation (WHO) to contain the outbreak.

The ministers further called

for national preparedness and a contingent fund for preparedness measures and treatment.

They similarly sounded out on the need for extensive public education on the pandemic, having met as a matter of urgency, spending a whole day to discuss the coronavirus outbreak.

Among other agenda, the ministers peered over the latest

situation analysis of Covid 19 by the WHO Secretariat.

The ministers' meeting was held as some African countries have already reported cases of the disease, including South Africa, also a SADC member.

Dr Damas Ndumbaro, the deputy minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, clarified that SADC citizens

in China were safe.

He objected to those who believe that the coronavirus was spreading only from China, noting that cases that were reported in some African countries originated out of China.

"Let us not look only China alone but at all sorts of countries," he emphasized.

He said Tanzanians in China

and other citizens from SADC countries are safe because China has managed to control new infections of the disease.

"The important thing for us as SADC countries is to start preparedness measures to ensure that our level of preparedness to contain the disease is high," he added.

'Poison found in Mangula's body'

FROM PAGE 1

from the party on Monday last week (March 2) to the effect that Mangula had been poisoned.

Mangula was said to have collapsed in his Lumumba Street office in Dar es Salaam on February 28, only a day after a crucial meeting of the party's central committee.

The main - and possibly only - item on the agenda of the meeting was understood to have deliberations on accusations relating to ethical breaches against three leading cadres: former CCM secretaries general Yusuf Makamba and Abdulrahman Kinana as well as former Foreign minister Bernard Membe.

The police commander said that the report the police received from the party's secretariat said that Mangula was rushed to MNH and placed in the intensive care unit (ICU).

"In their investigation of the incident, police in collaboration with other defence and security organs, have established that there was poison in Mangula's body. Investigation as to how the poison entered his body are still in progress," he noted.

Commander Mambosasa warned that the special police zone will take acute stern measures against anyone found to have engineered, supervised or carried out the crime.

"Police will take stern measures regardless of whether it is a member of the family, from inside or outside CCM, inside or outside the country, and whether in the government or any other political party," he declared.

On February 29 President John Magufuli paid Mangula a goodwill visit at his Muhimbili hospital bed. Information on the incident was released by the Director of Presidential Communications at State House, Gerson Msiywa, complete with a video clip showing the president conversing with the hospitalised vice chairman and shortly later in bedside prayers together.

The day before Mangula was reported to have collapsed in office, the central committee announced a decision to strip ex-foreign minister Membe of CCM membership.

The pronouncement was made by the Secretary for Ideology and Publicity in the party's national executive committee (NEC), Humphrey Polepole, as one of the resolutions of the central committee made on account of Membe's conduct.

As for the two former secretaries general, Makamba was forgiven after writing a letter of apology, while Kinana got away with a stern warning and barred was from vying for any elective post in the party for 18 months.

The three top CCM cadres were summoned for interrogation by the party's Ethics Committee after their voices were frequently heard in social media outlets.

They were accused of having suggested that CCM was losing attraction, of questioning the way the country was being run, and of perceiving the party as having failed to shield the two former secretaries general against an individual they said was fond of besmirching their reputation.



Diamond Trust Bank Tanzania staff and customers take part in an International Women's Day awareness event in Dar es Salaam, as found at the weekend. Meryvon Pool, Ambassador of the Seychelles to Tanzania, graced the event as chief guest. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Sudanese PM Abdalla Hamdok survives assassination attempt

FROM PAGE 1

the Renaissance Dam to reach a satisfactory agreement, reiterating its call to avoid anything that might negatively affect the negotiation process.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs issued yesterday a statement clarifying what happened at the (153) session of the Council of the League of Arab States at the ministerial level that was held on the 4th of current March in Cairo.

The statement stressed the Sudan's keenness on the success of the Renaissance Dam negotiations for the interests of the three countries.

The foreign ministry statement noted that the Sudan has expressed reservations on the draft resolution on the Renaissance introduced by Egypt to the meetings of the ministerial council indicating that Sudan was not previously consulted on the draft resolution.

The statement asserted that the draft resolution does not serve the spirit of dialogue and negotiation under the auspices of the United States and the World Bank in Washington to reach an agreement between the three countries Egypt, Sudan and Ethiopia on the process of filling and operation of the dam.

The statement indicated that the Sudan has proposed an amendment to the draft resolution in line with the goal of encouraging the parties to continue dialogue and stay away from everything that would escalate the dispute and polarization that does not serve the desired goal in agreeing to a roadmap that serves the water interests of the three countries, and provides them with sustainable development requirements.

The statement went to note that Egypt has refused to make any changes to the draft resolution, which prompted Sudan to express its reservation.

The statement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs stressed that the Sudan will remain keen on the success of the Renaissance Dam negotiations, in the interests of the three countries.



The Ambassador of France to Tanzania, Frédéric Clavier (C), addresses journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on celebrations to mark the 50th anniversary of joint efforts to promote French. With him (from-L) are Jean Kitembo Mbilika, Charge de Affaires in the Democratic Republic of Congo Embassy, Belgian Ambassador Peter Van Acker, Canadian High Commissioner Pamela O'Donnell, Morocco Ambassador Abdelilah Benryane, Comoro Ambassador Ahmada El Badaoui, and Swiss Embassy Head of Consular Affairs Clude Voutat. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

Mwanza-Musoma highway temporarily closed to traffic

By Guardian Correspondent, Mwanza

THE Simiyu bridge on Mwanza-Musoma highway in Magu district has been temporarily closed to traffic following damage due to the ongoing rains.

According to the statement issued by Mwanza Regional TANROADS manager Eng Marwa Rubiriya the closure took effect on March 8 will continue until March 18 to allow for major repairs.

Eng Rubiriya said they had decided to make emergency repairs to avoid accidents. He said the road will remain closed from 9.00 pm to 5.00 in the morning to allow for repairs and requested police assistance to implement the exercise.

Speaking during an inspection tour of the bridge, Mwanza Regional Commissioner, John Mongella said following the challenge, the road will be closed for the

times indicated for a period of ten days to give room for repairs.

He said the government has plans to build a new bridge hence the steps currently being taken are only short term and appealed to the wananchi to be patient.

A Magu resident, Lusia Isack said the problem has instilled fear among them whenever they cross the bridge, but thanks to the government for having taken quick decisions to rehabilitate it.

He said the dilapidated infrastructure and of the bridge had created congestion of vehicles making it difficult for people to perform their daily activities.

"This bridge is very defective and even if you are a passenger on a motorbike you are risking your life," he added.

The bridge, built in 1962 at Kisaba in Lubugu Ward is dilapidated and no piers supporting the bridge in the middle.



The government has plans to build a new bridge hence the steps currently being taken are only short term and appealed to the wananchi to be patient

French embassy allocates over 1bn/- to education scholarships

By Guardian Reporter

THE French embassy in Tanzania has allocated Euro 384,000 (over 1bn/-) for education scholarships in the 2020/2021 academic year which will also include training of professors who will teach French language in Tanzanian schools.

The embassy is planning to offer between 30 and 50 scholarships to Tanzanians this year whereas about 120 students have so far applied for the scholarships, according to France ambassador to Tanzania, Frédéric Clavier.

He made the statement in Dar es Salaam yesterday when a group of 13 diplomatic missions who are members of the International Organization of Francophonie (OIF) briefed journalists on celebrations of French language and Francophonie week which will be held from March 17th to 28th, this year.

A number of events have been lined up during the week including art exhibition, football tournament, contemporary dance and live music performance.

The ambassador noted that

there is a rising number of Tanzanian students and professionals who are learning French whereby nearly 1.5 million Tanzanians are proficient in French. He said Tanzania shares borders with three member countries of the Francophonie—Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Rwanda.

"About 59 per cent of French speakers are in Africa, the number is expected to rise to 80 per cent by 2050", said the ambassador noting 21 Africa countries have French as an official language.

He informed that in Kigoma region, Francophones account for about 6 percent of the population, while the national average is 2 percent.

Earlier, Ambassador Abdelilah Benryane of Morocco in Tanzania welcomed Tanzania to join the Francophonie as observer.

He said the Francophonie aims to promote French language and its diversity, peace, democracy and human rights. It also works to strengthen education, training and research as well as develop economic cooperation supporting sustainable

development. Benryane who is also the Vice President of Francophonie Ambassador Group said there are 300 million people in the world who speak French. He said the number is expected to rise to 500 million people in coming years.

"French is the 5th most spoken language in the world with 132 people learning the language. It is the 4th most used language on the internet", said Benryane.

He however said his embassy is consulting the French embassy to facilitate college stu-

dents to learn French language before completing their Degree courses. He said the move will help them to directly apply for scholarships and join higher learning institutions in French speaking countries including Morocco.

According to the Ambassador, the number of Tanzanian students applying for scholarships at the embassy is small whereas the 20 scholarships offered by Morocco Embassy in Dar es Salaam were not used. He said in 2017, only 10 out of the 20 announced scholarships were utilized.

"Reasons we want college students to study French at the Alliance Francaise is to enable scholarship beneficiaries to directly join studies instead of spending a year learning French. Most of the students fear to apply for the scholarships because they don't want to spend time to learn the language", he noted.

The OIF in Tanzania comprises of 13 diplomatic missions—France, Belgium, Canada, Egypt, Morocco, DRC, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles Island, Switzerland, Comoros Islands, Burundi and Vietnam.

'East African nations free from coronavirus'

By Correspondent Marc

Nkwame, Arusha

ALL the six countries making up the East African Community (EAC) plus the ones on the Horn of Africa are free from the Coronavirus spread, making the region a safe haven for tourists and other travellers.

Kenya, Rwanda, Uganda, Burundi, Tanzania and South-Sudan have not recorded a single case of Corona infections not even a suspect and the same case applies to their immediate neighbours of Sudan (Khartoum), Somalia, Ethiopia, DR Congo, Zambia and Malawi that now create an even safer buffer zone.

World Health Organisation figures indicate that only nine African countries have so far reported Corona cases, these include, Egypt, leading with 48 cases; Algeria with 17; Senegal recording 4; South-Africa with 3; Morocco (2); Cameroon (2); Tunisia (2); Togo (1) and Nigeria also with a single reported case.

Despite the little spread of the virus and governments


being proactive in deploying cautionary measures, experts caution that there is still significant worry that a full-blown outbreak on the continent could wreak havoc given weak and underfunded public health systems and infrastructure.

With just 9 out of the 55 countries on the continent being infected and only 63 people out of the population of more than 1 billion residents reported with COVID-19 virus, Africa remains the safest haven yet, as far as the global outbreak of the deadly China-originat-

ed Corona is concerned.

At least 106,000 people around the world are currently infected with the Coronavirus as per World Health Organisation (WHO), report dated on the 9th of March 2020. China, where the disease originated, tops the bill with 80 859 confirmed cases.

A total of 3100 people have so far died from Corona in China alone. Elsewhere in the world, the death toll from COVID-19 virus has reached 484 making the total number of Corona deaths reaching 3584



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: No. RFP/2020/SUP/001

FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF FRAME AGREEMENTS FOR PROVISION OF ROAD CARGO AND PASSENGERS TRANSPORT SERVICE IN TANZANIA.

1. Background:
The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Representation Office in Tanzania, invites qualified suppliers to make a firm offer for the establishment of Frame Agreement(s) for the provision of Road Cargo and Passengers transportation services (referred to hereinafter as services).
UNHCR may award Frame Agreement(s) with initial duration of 2 (two) years, potentially extendable for a further period of 1 (one) year. The successful bidder(s) will be requested to maintain their quoted price proposal for the duration of the Frame Agreement(s).

2. Eligibility:
Service providers or traders duly registered with relevant government authorities, with sound financial basis, relevant experience, reputed clientele and with knowledge of how to meet UNHCR's needs are invited to participate in the bidding process.


The tender documents can be collected from the following UNHCR Offices:

UNHCR Representation Office Tanzania Plot 1658 Masaki, Rufiji Street P.O. Box 2666 - Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	UNHCR Field Office Kasulu Kimobwa (Mlimani Area) P.O. Box 332 - Kasulu, Kigoma
UNHCR Sub- Office Kibondo Kabigwa (Near TANESCO) P.O. Box 49 Kibondo	UNHCR Field Unit Mwanza Mwanza Airport P.O. Box 2273 - Mwanza

CRUCIAL DATES FOR THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Deadline for receiving requests for clarification	Tuesday 22nd March 2020 at 23.59 hours EAT
Suppliers' conference meeting	Wednesday 25th March 2020 at 11.00hours EAT
Deadline for submission of offers	Tuesday 14th April 2020 at 16.00 hours EAT

UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.



TCRA ICT AWARDS 2020

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) is calling on all TCRA Licensed Service Providers to participate in the first TCRA ICT Awards 2020.

The Main Purpose: To identify, recognize and reward our stakeholders who have demonstrated outstanding performance in the promotion of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) thus contributes to improving the quality life of the citizens through the increased digital industrialization of the economy.

How to Get Winners: All licensees are required to submit participation forms online. Nominees in their respective categories will be published online. Users of ICT goods and services will vote either through online portal or Short Messages Services (SMS).

Where to Get Details: All the Awards categories, Guidelines, Selection criteria and how to vote are available through www.ictawards.tcra.go.tz

Important Timeline

- Submission of participation forms starts from **1st February to 15th March, 2020.**
- Public voting of nominees takes place from **1st to 30th April, 2020.**
- Public announcement of winners in their respective categories will be made on **15th May, 2020** as part of the World International Telecommunications Day (ITU).

For Inquiries: Call hotline number **0800 008272** (Toll Free) or

Email Address: ictawards@tcra.go.tz

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NOTES OF VACANCY

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Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa symbolically presents 11 tractors to Greyson Nyari (R), chairman of Tanga Region's Mkonge Cooperative Society, at Mwelya Sisal Estate in Korogwe District yesterday. NMB Bank Plc has issued 11 tractors and 22 trailers worth a total of 1bn/- as a loan to four Mkonge cooperatives. Looking on is the bank's Chief of Retail and Agri Banking, Filbert Mponzi. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Government underscores need for post code system

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE post code system for residential addresses is among the levers for the development as it will simplify country's tax collection as well as beef up the country's security.

This has been expressed by the deputy minister for Transport and Communications, Atashasta Ndiye (pictured) when he spoke with staff and workers of Mbeya city council on the importance of the post code and physical address system.

The deputy minister said the government has already provided funds for implementation of the exercise countrywide starting at national, regional, district and ward levels. He called upon councils to offer cooperation for successful implementation of the exercise.

He said communication authorities have already finalized the initial of formulating the post code for the entire country and what has remained is for the exercise to identify wananchi's settlements to be provided with physical addresses.

He said the post code system for physical addresses of people's residences is a basic method that will help to identify permanent structures for them to be given addresses including street names and house numbers.



Eng Ndiye said the system is very important for the country's development especially in tax collections and easily enabling the wananchi's access to loans from financial institutions.

He also said the mobile phone communication countrywide is well developed and that with the 3G communication system working well.

Mbeya city executive director, James Kasusura said the city is well prepared for the exercise as it is expected to be the first city in the country to have the post code system for physical addresses.

He said up in its budget for the 2019/2020 financial year, Mbeya city allocated 5m/- for the exercise while in the coming 2020/21 budget it will set aside 6m/- for the implementation of the exercise.

Journalists urged to support war on poaching, enhance tourism

By Rahma Suleiman, Zanzibar

TANZANIAN journalists have been urged to help educate the public on the need to curb poaching and boost local tourism.

An expert on wildlife conservation, Exper Pius made the call when presenting a paper at a two-day seminar for journalists in Dar es Salaam recently on how to report news relating to environ-

mental conservation and wildlife protection through promoting Tanzania's environment, conservation, and tourism project (PROTECT).

The two-day seminar was organized by Journalists Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) with the support from United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

Pius who was one of the facilitators

at the training said it's time for journalists to fight against poaching to save wildlife which is important in luring tourists who are visiting the country.

He described media as a key tool towards scaling up the fight against wildlife poaching, which poses a serious challenge to the growth of tourism industry.

"We've a wide range of wild animals, but, poaching remains a

serious threat. That's why it is important for media practitioners to help to educate the public on the need to support anti-poaching initiatives," he suggested.

He, however, suggested the need for local government authorities to allocate budget on wildlife conservation particularly for communities living near protected areas such as national parks, game and forest reserves.

"This will help to reduce pressure to wildlife," he said.

Tourism expert, Moses Njole said that tourism also contributes to more than 17 per cent of the national gross domestic product (GDP), creating more than 1.5 million jobs.

"Most tourists coming to Tanzania are interested in visiting national parks and game reserves, that's why it is important to pro-

tect the wild animals for the country to continue getting more forex."

JET executive director John Chikomo said: "With capacity building, journalists will be able to improve their knowledge and capacity to report effectively on environmental issues. This, in turn, will attract more tourists and investors."

He said that the idea would en-

hance the attainment of the industrialisation status come 2020 and middle-income country in 2025.

He added that it would also promote foreign currency from the tourism sector.

According to Chikomo, the decision by the USAID and JET is part of the implementation of various international environmental agreements that Tanzania had signed.

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:

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- 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.
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MODE OF APPLICATION:

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

NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

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Embassy of the United States of America

U.S. MISSION DAR ES SALAAM VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The U.S. Mission in Dar es Salaam is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the position below.

Position Title: PHS – HIV CARE AND SUPPORT

Vacancy Number: DaresSalaam-2020-2014

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties, responsibilities and qualifications required is available at: <https://tz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants MUST follow instructions in the notice on the website: Failure to do so will result in an incomplete application. Previous applicants do not need to reapply.

Only Shortlisted candidates will be contacted only via email.

CLOSING DATE: MARCH 24, 2020

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PORT MATTERS



How newly signed SGR rail deal for TZ, DRC and Burundi will make Dar port low-cost Sea access route



By Guardian Reporter

The recent signing of agreements to construct a Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) from Tanzania connecting Burundi and the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) signified the beginning of a journey to make Dar es Salaam Port the cheapest route in goods

transportation to landlocked countries. THE government through Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) and the Tanzania Railway Authority (TRA) has embarked on a plan to link landlocked countries to the port of Dar es Salaam which is the only available route to get to the sea for landlocked countries in

Southern Africa such as Zambia, Malawi, Burundi, DRC and Rwanda. Currently transporting a single container from Dares Salaam Port to Lubumbashi in DRC costs about \$900 a move that costs businesses to a large extent. Recent re-

sumption of operations by Tanzania Railway Corporation (TRC) along the central railway line and the use of ferry wagons in cargo transportation have been cited as the major reasons behind the rise of consignments handled by Tanzania



the markets available. "After the tour of DRC president some ships are being manufactured in DRC to be transporting goods in Lake Tanganyika," he said.

According to Kakoko improvement of the Port's infrastructure is an ongoing exercise because it has been performing rather optimally, yet under very difficult conditions.

In his remarks TRC Director General Masanja Kadogosa said "We want to reach as far as DRC and our aim is to transport all the goods via the rail mode which will eventually reduce the costs that transporters incur when they do so."

The Port of Dar es Salaam is vital for the economies of Tanzania and neighboring countries in enhancing its operational potential will boost trade and job creation across the region and reduce the current cost of \$200-400 for each additional day of delay for a single consignment.

The Dar es Salaam Port currently has 11 berths, with seven of these dedicated to general cargo (including container, dry bulk, break bulk and Roro operations) and four to container operation.

The Port handled 13.8 million tons in 2016 up from 13.1 million tons in 2013 and 10.4 million tons in 2011 reflecting an average growth of 9-percent per year over the last five years while recent figures indicate positive trends.

Upon completion of the project, it is estimated that the capacity of the Port of Dar es Salaam will be increased to 25 million tons over the next seven years following the World Bank board of directors's approval of \$345 million credit and a \$12 million grant to the new Dar es Salaam Maritime Gateway Project (DSMGP).

The investment in the port is also expected to improve waiting time to berth from 80 hours to 30 hours as well as overall productivity.

The government has contributed about \$63 million through Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) while other partners are Trade Mark East Africa and the United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID) which has contributed \$12 million.

nia Ports Authority (TPA) through its ports in Lake Victoria.

The three countries have entered into an agreement to construct a standard gauge railway in a move aimed at easing transport.

Currently Tanzania has embarked on a scheme features a \$6.7 billion, 2,561km standard gauge railway (SGR) linking the Dar es Salaam port to Rwanda and Burundi. Furthermore, two additional lines will connect Dar es Salaam to the coal, iron ore, and soda ash mining regions in Northern and Southern Tanzania with a price ticket of \$6.6 billion.

Speaking when he hosted the visiting DRC Minister of Transport and Communication Ways Didier Mazengu who visited the Port of Dar es Salaam recently, Minister for Works, Transport and Communication Isaack Kamwelwe said the

move will ease transportation of goods in the east African region.

"We want to connect our countries but in the long run we will reduce the costs that business men and women carry when transporting goods within our countries, this we believe will go a long way into improving our economies," he said.

The Congolese Transport Minister from visited all the sites where the railway will be connecting whereas designs have already been made from Uvinza to Msongati and the designer has already finalized.

Minister Kamwelwe said the current expansion of the Dar es Salaam port by China Harbor Engineering Company Ltd (CHEC) will enable Port of Dar es Salaam to handle large vessels ferrying up to 6,000 containers when the project will be completed.

The Minister also said during told the visiting Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) President Felix Tshisekedi early last year that the port was currently handling ships with a capacity of ferrying between 3,000 and 4,000 containers. "The expansion of the port will not only benefit Tanzania but also its neighboring landlocked countries, including the DRC," he said.

In his remarks the Congolese minister said the implementation of the SGR project by the three countries was an implementation of resolutions by Heads of States to ensure there was a way of linking the countries.

TPA Director General Deuseddit Kakoko said the port was carrying out market research in various countries including DRC to ensure they make use of all



The expansion of the port will not only benefit Tanzania but also its neighboring landlocked countries, including the DRC," he said.



Female judges at African Court stress need to extend support to orphans and homeless children

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

FEMALE Judges from different countries serving at the African Court on Human and People's Rights here have called upon all citizens in Tanzania to be compassionate to homeless children, especially orphans in the country as many of them experienced great suffering.

The lady justices who spent their entire women's day, last weekend at one of the local orphanages in Arusha, showed sympathy to the little angels at the Nkoaranga Orphanage in Arumeru District, especially upon learning that the foundation of the children center was built upon various cases of women who lost their lives while delivering babies.

Accompanied by the President of the African Court, Justice Sylvain Ore from Ivory Coast, the Lady Justices who visited the Nkoaranga orphanage and pledged support to the center included, Lady Justice Ntyam Mengue from Cameroon; Lady Justice Stella Anukam from Nigeria; Lady Justice Bensaoula Chafika from Algeria and the Tanzanian Judge, Lady Justice Imani Aboud.

"The children in our orphanage center come from various areas in Arusha Region and outside the region," explained Dr Sam Kiwesa, the Director at Nkoaranga Hospital and also the in-charge of the orphanage.

"We have children with different

backgrounds, some were placed here after their mothers passed away during delivery; others are picked from the streets and there are those whose parents suffer from mental illness and cannot take care of them," Dr Kiwesa stated.

The lady justices donated items valued at 5 million/- to the Nkoaranga Orphanage, these include, foodstuff, medicine, children toys, clothes, washing and drying machine.

The Court's President, Judge Sylvain Ore pledged his own contribution of US \$ 1000 to the Children's Center, equivalent to 2.3 million/-, promising to continue supporting the orphanage in future.

Based in Arusha, the African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights (also known as 'the Court') is a continental court established by African countries to ensure the protection of human and peoples' rights in Africa. It complements and reinforces the functions of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights.

The African Court has jurisdiction over all cases and disputes submitted to it concerning the interpretation and application of the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights, (the Charter), the Protocol and any other relevant human rights instrument ratified by the States concerned.



Female judges from various countries serving at the Arusha-based African Court on Human and People's Rights pictured with children and staff at Arumeru District's Nkoaranga Orphanage, where they spent the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Marc Nkwame

Tanzanian students urged to utilise scholarship opportunities for higher learning studies in India

By Beatrice Philemon

FIFTEEN leading Indian universities and institutes are in the country under the Study to India Programme intending to help Tanzanian students explore courses and scholarships offered in particular higher learning institutions based in India.

Study to India Programme Officer, Nikhil Mahajan, said the courses and scholarships are

open to qualified Tanzanians in the fields of health, industries, petroleum management and information and communication technology, among others.

Mahajan was speaking in Dar es Salaam recently during the International Students Fair Africa (ISFA), an education fair organised in collaboration with the Indian High Commission.

"We are in Tanzania to look for international students interested

to study in India, they can apply for different courses in our universities since we also offer scholarships," he noted.

He said interested students should apply now because the online qualifying test which will be done for 90 minutes will be conducted on March 14th and 15th 2020. He urged Tanzanian students from different universities and colleges to grab the opportunity as Indian universities

offer quality education.

"Passed students will be granted full scholarships to study in India", he said adding that those who will miss the scholarships will be given a 50 percent sponsorship.

Gandhi Institute of Technology and Management (GITAM), Director-International, Kishan Kaza added that majority of students who visited the fair have applied for various courses.

Kaza said GITAM has students from over 24 countries. He said students taking nursing courses will be attached at the GIMSR Hospital for practical. The hospital is equipped with 362 beds and operation theatres.

Indian High Commissioner to Tanzania, Sanjiv Kohli said Tanzania is the largest beneficiary of Indian education scholarships in Africa.

"We are happy that students

are here today to see what Indian universities offer in education and we encourage universities in Tanzania to tell students about the Study to India programme for them to benefit with available education scholarships," he noted.

According to the High Commissioner, the support to Tanzania's education sector has helped to produce a number of experts who are now contributing to the country's socio-economic devel-

opment. He said the support also strengthens bond, trusts and co-operation between the two countries.

The Indian government is so far providing scholarships in various fields such as engineering, ICT, accounting, computer studies, rural development, diplomacy and many others.

The number of beneficiaries has also increased to more than 500 people.



INADES Formation Tanzania (IFTz)

9th March 2020

VACANCIES

Job Title: Conservation Agriculture Coordinator

Main Purpose: Responsible for co-ordination and execution of socio-economic training activities in the fields of agroforestry, soil and water conservation, land-use management, adaptation to effects of climate change, organic farming and conservation agriculture.

Qualifications and experience: A minimum of bachelor's degree in either of the following: agriculture, sustainable, conservation agriculture, agroecology, climate change and or related fields. Have a minimum work experience of 3 years in at least one of the above fields.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Under the supervision of CPD, takes part in drawing up of Annual Budget through identifying activities to be done, duration etc., within the framework of Policy Guidelines.
- Conduct trainings on soil and water conservation, land-use management, farmer innovations in soil and water management, organic farming and sustainable agriculture.
- Co-ordinates and implements training activities under the Institution Capacity Building of Vi Agroforestry Core Partners Project, Sustainable agriculture, Food Security and Environmental Conservation.
- Co-ordinates project activities in the Dodoma areas particularly Chemba and Kondoa Districts, in collaboration with other trainers.
- Oversee and support ICBP project officers in the co-ordination and implementation of project activities, including organizational capacity building of targeted NGOs and CBOs located in Mara, Mwanza and Kagera Regions
- Drafts Educational Materials in consultation with and the supervision of the CPD and in collaboration with other trainers and the Managing Director
- Prepare activity and monthly reports, under the supervision and evaluation of the CPD.
- Collaborates with other trainers in carrying out of Social Studies, Researches and other Consultancy Assignments undertaken in accordance with the planning of activities and after agreement with the Managing Director.
- Undertakes any other duties as may be assigned by the line manager and or The Managing Director of the NO.

Applications

Applications, including cover letter, resume and copies of academic certificates and testimonials should be sent to The Managing Director, INADES Formation Tanzania, P. O. Box 203, Dodoma, Email: inadesformation.tanzania@inadesfo.net, no later than **Friday 18th March 2020, at 17:00hrs.**



Job Description

Job Title: Nutrition Officer

General Description of the Job: He/She will be responsible for the project output 4: increased consumption of high nutritious diets through women and youth participation in sustainable nutritional sensitive horticulture value chains in Iringa and Njombe and reporting all nutritional aspects of the project, "Building inclusive and competitive horticulture businesses in Tanzania's Southern Highlands".

Responsibilities and Duties

- The nutrition officer will work under the general supervision of the program coordinator and will require independent initiative in the preparation, and implementation of nutrition activities in the target areas.
- He/She will coordinate and implement the nutrition activities through increasing market access and consumption of diverse and quality vegetables.
- He/She will establish network of LGA community development officers that raise awareness and coach community leaders on the importance of high-nutrition diets.
- He/She will establish women and youth peer groups in the FBOs to promote high-nutrition diets.
- He/She will support establishment of commercial high nutritious traditional vegetable seeds production.
- Raise community awareness and consumption of diversified, nutrient dense, fortified and nutritionally adequate vegetables.
- Improve nutritional status and intervention through increasing production of diverse and safe vegetables, increased household food availability and gender sensitive interventions.
- Coordinating capacity building and technical support for beneficiaries on nutrition issues including nutrition dietary diversification and nutrient dense diets.
- Work with the M&E officer to monitor beneficiary adoption of the new nutrition targeted practices and vegetable consumption methodologies.
- Promoting food safety including appropriate methods of handling, preservation, processing, storage and utilization of foods.
- Disseminating and promoting/demonstrating vegetable preparation and utilization; best practices; and energy and time saving methods for women.
- Establish linkages and facilitating collaboration across relevant sectors, agencies and public stakeholders working with the targeted community.
- Executing any other duties assigned by the supervisor.
- Strengthen and promote community engagement processes in the project areas, particularly identifying project beneficiaries, assessing their needs and addressing and resolving community issues.
- Perform and document regular monitoring of all project activities in close coordination with the M&E officer.
- Ensure a safe working environment for all people involved in project implementation and maintain the highest standards of behaviour when working with the project beneficiaries.
- Adherence to all organizational policies and procedures as outlined in policies and procedure manuals.
- Responsible for establishing and maintaining a good working relationship with all staff and for attending and participating in regular staff meetings.
- Any other duties as assigned from time to time.

Qualifications

- Minimum bachelor's degree in nutrition and or related fields.
- Have at least 5 years relevant work experience in enhancing nutrition awareness raising, preferably with rural communities.
- Experience with development and dissemination of nutrition promotional materials for rural communities through use of varieties of media is highly preferred.

Applications

Applications, including cover letter, resume and copies of academic certificates and testimonials should be sent to The Managing Director, INADES Formation Tanzania, P. O. Box 203, Dodoma, Email: inadesformation.tanzania@inadesfo.net, no later than **Friday 18th March 2020, at 17:00hrs.**

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Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) technicians have a challenging time working on a water pipe meant to run from Kimara to Tabata Kinyerezi via Bonyokwa, as captured yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

'EAC I Deserve' campaign launched in Kigali

By Guardian Correspondent

A year-long campaign to inspire East Africans to embrace the integration agenda dubbed 'The EAC i Deserve' which targets to ignite, sustain the enthusiasm and create a new momentum that will inspire every citizen in the region to play their part in the integration agenda has been launched in Kigali, Rwanda.

The campaign aims at creating opportunities for East African Community (EAC) citizens to express themselves on how they feel after 20 years of the integration and what should be done for it to work better for their lives in the coming years.

Rwanda's Director General of African Cooperation, Diyana Gitera said the campaign was an important part of EAC's 20th anniversary activities and that it will increase communication and awareness as it engages the most critical stakeholders—the youth, on an exciting path towards EAC's integration.

Gitera said: "It is my hope that the campaign will turn out to be a milestone that creates a new momentum to inspire East Africans to embrace and deepen the integration process".

She cautioned participants on the challenges that will be equally part

of the narrative throughout the campaign.

"Our wish is to appreciate the positive impact of the EAC, but also and perhaps more importantly, correct the course wherever necessary," she said.

She reminded the youth that the short film competition entailed in the campaign was meant to enable them to capture real stories on the EAC while demonstrating how more innovative EAC could be to get to the 'EAC we want'.

EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of Planning and Infrastructure, Eng Steven Mlote, said that in the last 20 years, the community had witnessed commendable growth in trade, infrastructure and better policies. He added that regional social cohesion needs to be improved.

"We need to invest more in people-to-people relations for better and improved integration agenda," said Eng Mlote.

He said the campaign would offer East Africans the opportunity to voice their concerns and share suggestions on how best EAC can forge forward as a region.

He urged Rwandans and the youth in particular to participate in the discourses and freely share ideas and

suggestions with the EAC Secretariat, the EAC Legislative Assembly, Partner States, and the East Africa Court of Justice, and other institutions of the bloc.

"The future belongs to our youth'. Our EAC Vision 2050 requires skills, innovations, manpower and strategy to attain. Putting our youth at the centre of this blueprint brings us a step closer to accomplishing it," he said.

He disclosed that the campaign would engage the young people in EAC through a Short Film Competition, adding that prize money of US \$25,000 was up for grabs by 33 youthful winners in the creative campaign.

EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of the Productive and Social Sectors, Christophe Bazivamo said the campaign provides a platform to hear stories from every East African on the impact the EAC has made to his or her life and the future direction the citizens want the region to take.

Bazivamo informed that EAC through various policy initiatives has achieved commendable results during the past 20 years, namely, new infrastructures projects, regional industrialisation policies, healthcare approaches, Common External Tariffs and Common Higher Education Area, among others.

Stakeholders highlight need for more involvement of special groups in elections

By Guardian Reporter

IN celebrating the International Women's Day (IWD) local organizations under the umbrella of 'Ushiriki Tanzania' have highlighted the need for inclusive election process with priority given to women, youth and people with disabilities to contest for various posts in political parties.

Tanzania and several other countries around the world have yet achieved the 50/50 participation goal in political posts, hence the need for more

efforts to ensure more women participate in the election process by voting and contesting.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam on Saturday, chairman of Ushiriki Tanzania, Israel Ilunde said: "We have identified some of the areas in ensuring fully participation of special groups in the coming elections and other public activities. We want responsible authorities to create a conducive environment for people with disabilities to vote".

Ilunde said authorities should

set aside enough budgets for civic education and improve operations of state organs during elections to protect human rights.

"It is important to ensure gender equality and fully participation of women at every stage of election. Ushiriki Tanzania insists amendments to the Political Parties Act to ensure recognition of special groups," he noted.

Ushiriki Tanzania Vice Chair, Rose Reuben said the organisation's core agenda for the IWD

is to insist on gender equality in political activities including election process, voting and contesting for different posts within particular political parties.

"We are pushing for gender equality and end of violence against women. The presence of women at decision making posts would facilitate removal of oppressive laws", said Reuben.

Reuben is also the Executive Director of Tanzania Media Women's Association (Tamwa)

said it was important for the National Electoral Commission (NEC) and other government institutions involved in the election process to ensure inclusive representation of women, youth and people with disabilities in the election process.

Authorities should also work on challenges facing women with disabilities on inclusive election process including creation of an enabling environment at polling stations to enable them vote comfortably, she said.

"Political parties should avoid

stigmatisation of people with disabilities during preliminary election in which voters of each party nominate candidates, this has been one of the major reasons contributing into few women picking nomination forms in their parties," she asserted.

Bob Wangwe, Executive Director of the Tanzania Constitutional Forum (TCF), said the government should put in place policies that recognise women as well as people with disabilities and their rights. He urged political parties to give more

chances to women to contest for various posts in the coming general elections.

According to Wangwe authorities should fast-track preparations of regulations of the Political Parties Act.

The theme for this year's IWD was 'I am Generation Equality: Realising Women's Rights', it is aligned with UN Women's new multigenerational campaign, Generation Equality, which marks the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

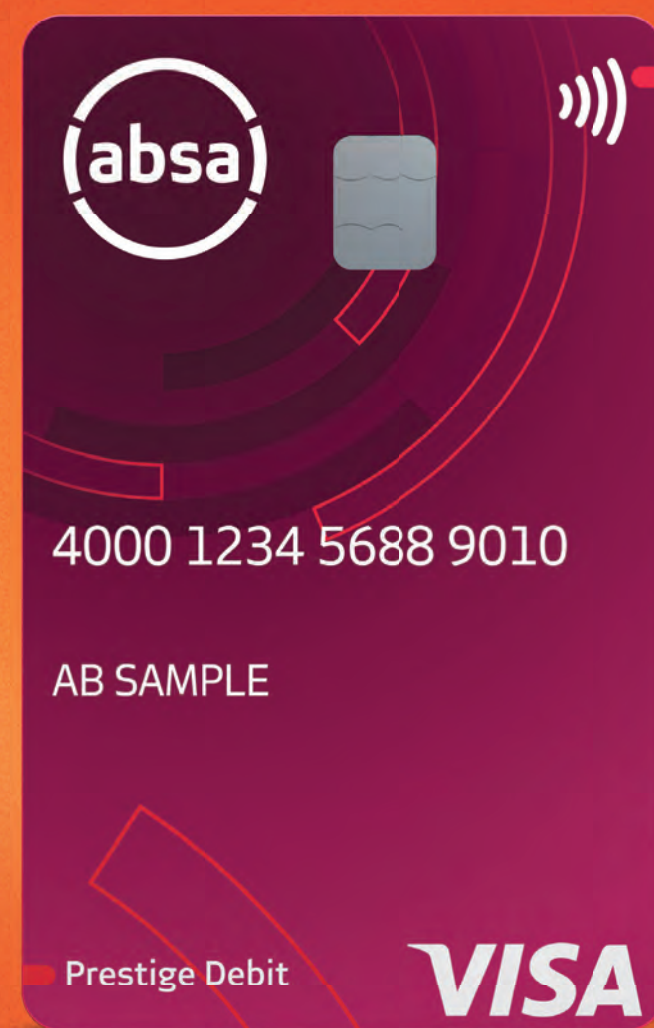


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TUESDAY 10 MARCH 2020

**Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

It's strange that human activity remains a threat to biodiversity

TANZANIA is one of the twelve mega-diverse countries of the world endowed with different natural ecosystems that harbour a massive wealth of biodiversity. The country hosts 6 out of the 25 world renowned biodiversity hotspots hosting more than one-third of the total plant species on the continent and about 20 per cent of the large mammal population. The biodiversity wealth contributes significantly to the socio-cultural, economic and environmental goods and services to the country and peoples' livelihood. Tanzania is a Party to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD) since 1996, and adheres to its international obligation to protect and conserve its biodiversity as a global resource.

Tanzania is also among the tropical countries richest in biodiversity, containing parts of two global biodiversity hotspots: the coastal forests of eastern Africa and the eastern afromontane - with 38 per cent of her land area in protected areas for conservation. Most of Tanzania's threats to biodiversity and the environment are an outcome of land use practices.

Mainstream land use planning laws in Tanzania have general provisions on integrating climate change and biodiversity issues into spatial planning frameworks, while sectoral policies and laws have more elaborate provisions. The national technical committee on land use planning was re-launched in 2018.

Biodiversity is the variety and variability of life on Earth. Biodiversity is typically a measure of variation at the genetic, species, and ecosystem level. Terrestrial biodiversity is usually greater near the equator, which is the result of the warm climate and high primary productivity.

Biodiversity is not distributed evenly

on Earth, and is richest in the tropics. These tropical forest ecosystems cover less than 10 per cent of earth's surface, and contain about 90 per cent of the world's species.

Marine biodiversity is usually highest along coasts in the Western Pacific, where sea surface temperature is highest, and in the mid-latitudinal band in all oceans.

During the talks at the Food and Agriculture Organization headquarters in Rome, several African and Latin American countries expressed the need for financial support to protect life-supporting ecosystems and develop mechanisms to share profits from discoveries linked to their genetic resources, such as new drugs.

Small-scale schemes to protect ecosystems already exist under the UN climate convention, with countries with large forests receiving payments to reduce emissions from deforestation and degradation.

When asked whether obtaining sufficient financial backing from developed nations for so-called mega diverse countries would be the key sticking point in the agreement, senior UN officials cautioned that negotiations were ongoing but said the targets would not be implemented without resources.

When we are talking about biodiversity, it's not just biodiversity, it's our life on this planet.

If the loss of biodiversity continues at this pace, human beings won't be on this planet. It's about us assuring our survival here and for generations to come.

Countries with high biodiversity include China, Colombia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo and India, according to various definitions. The world should support poorer countries with high biodiversity to help conserve life-supporting ecosystems.

Animal husbandry practices play a major economic and cultural role

LIVESTOCK is commonly defined as domesticated animals raised in an agricultural setting to produce labour and commodities such as meat, eggs, milk, fur, leather, and wool. The term is sometimes used to refer solely to those that are bred for consumption, while other times it refers only to farmed ruminants, such as cattle and goats.

The breeding, maintenance, and slaughter of livestock, known as animal husbandry, is a component of modern agriculture that has been practiced in many cultures since humanity's transition to farming from hunter-gatherer lifestyles. Animal husbandry practices have varied widely across cultures and time periods, and continues to play a major economic and cultural role in numerous communities.

Livestock farming practices have largely shifted to intensive animal farming, sometimes referred to as "factory farming"; over 99% of livestock in the US are now raised in this way.[4] Intensive animal farming increases the yield of the various commercial outputs, but has also led to negative impacts on animal welfare, the environment, and public health. [5] In particular, livestock, especially beef, dairy and sheep stocks, have out-sized influence on greenhouse gas emissions from agriculture.

The government has put in place strategies whereby come 2021 vaccines for various livestock diseases will start being produced locally. This was revealed by the Deputy Minister for Livestock and Fisheries, Abdallah Ulega in Mwanza when he talked to this paper recently. Production of six types of vaccines for livestock diseases to eradicate conning done to herders who buy fake vaccines.

We are told that the vaccines being produced are for Newcastle disease, mistiss and anthrax among others for both animals and poultry.

It is against this backdrop the livestock keepers need plunge dips (or simply, dips) which are baths designed to immerse livestock in liquid pesticide or other treatment.

Typically a dip is designed as a narrow channel (about the width of the animal) through which the animals walk, immersing them in progressively deeper liquid until the animal is completely immersed (apart from its head so it can breathe). The channel then becomes progressively shallower until the animal exits. Because many animals can walk through the channel one after another, it is an efficient method of delivering pesticide or other liquid treatments to a large herd.

A liquid product used to treat the livestock by immersion in a plunge dip is also known as a dip. Some of the herders in the country have explained the challenges facing them including the ineffectiveness of many vaccines making them fail to have a solution for their problems. This comes in two ways - low quality vaccines and drugs smuggled into the country by unfaithful business people which have already expired, or those manufactured by rogue factories unknown to the government.

Another challenge livestock keepers facing is the lack of extension services - they are not visited by veterinary officials, hence the herders decide to look for themselves for drugs and vaccines for their animals bumping into fraudsters while doing so.

We appeal to the government through Tanzania Food and Drugs Administration (TFDA) to examine the quality of all drugs entering the country, veterinary extension officers to stop staying in their offices. For it would be a relief to them if the government will implement its strategies to have animal vaccines produced in the country as well as educating them on the better use of the drugs.



I've seen things you people wouldn't believe... and I am angry

By Ismail Lagardien

ALL those moments may be lost in time. But it should not be forgotten that the same people who are now pointing fingers at black populism, were once populists themselves.

I have been writing for a long time. I have been writing since the time when my first mentor, Don Mattera, started his Roots newspaper in Eldorado Park almost 40 years ago, when I held down two or three jobs. One of those jobs was learning the craft of journalism. It's been hit and miss since then. After a few twists and turns (and a couple of decades later), I am back writing full-time. As I write, these days, I have an overbearing sense of moral collapse, and of an anger welling up, at least within me. But anger is never an option - or so I have been told, nor is despair when you write. Only objectivity is...

I cannot match, in explaining myself, the moment in Roy Batty's C-Beams monologue in the movie Blade Runner, where he approaches something of a technological singularity; that speculative point at which robots start feeling, and thinking, and developing an attachment, and finding meaning in the false memories that were implanted in them.

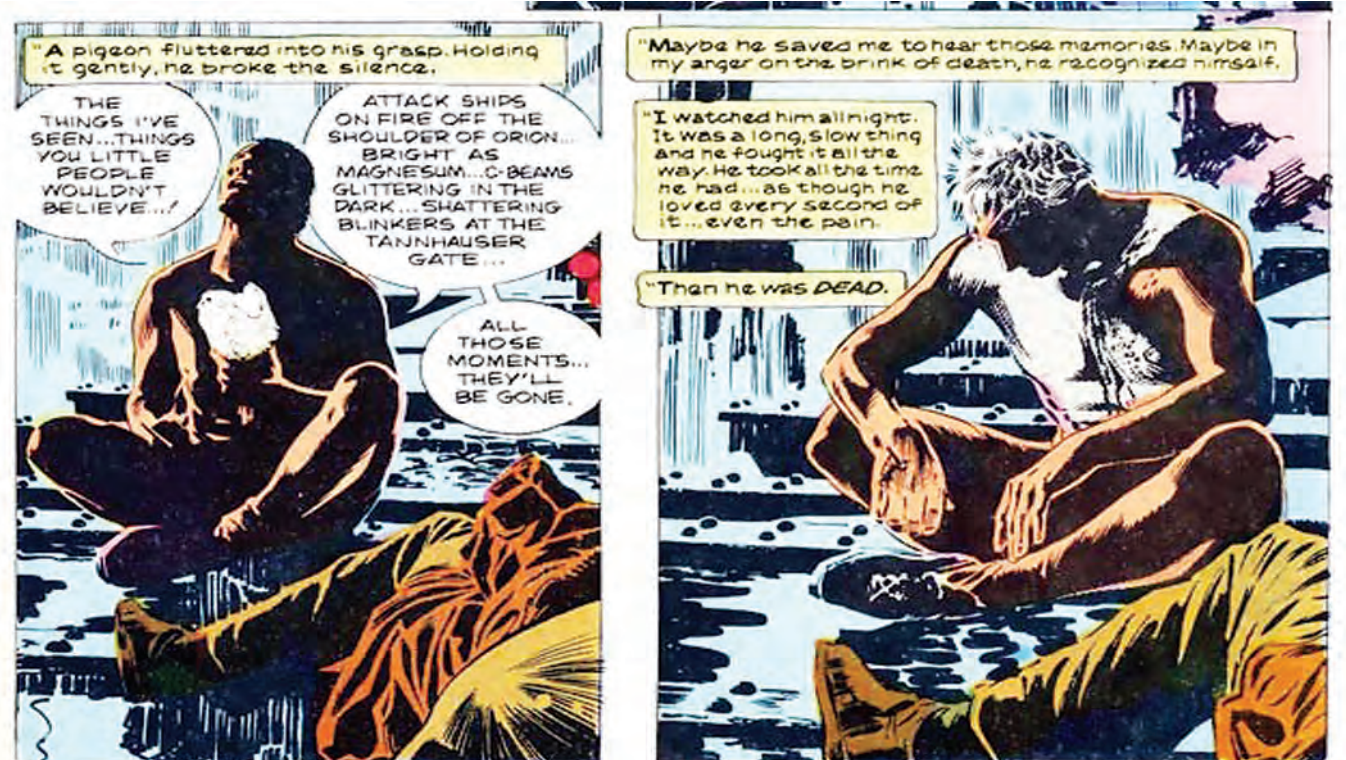
But yes, I have seen a few things, done a few things and, well, I have written a few things. All the while, the one thing that I have been taught, or that I have been expected to adhere to, is to contain my anger.

I remember, always, what the spouse of a colleague once told me: "My husband does not empathise with the people he interviews, that's why he is a good journalist." I'm afraid it was never that easy for me at the time. The townships in which I spent my childhood were in flames.

Even in academia, anger is considered to be "irrational," often not "objective" or "too emotional" and, therefore, not a good starting place for scholarly analyses. It's not easy to toe this line. Not when you are really, really angry. It's hard to keep a straight face, anywhere in the world, when people have bombs dropping on them.

It's hard to avoid being angry

I was reminded, a couple of weeks ago, about the time when Nato, led by the US, bombed the former Yugoslavia in 1999, and left the people of Novi Sad with-



out water for eight days (some folk used water from the river to flush their toilets), without electricity, and living in constant fear of bombs dropping from the skies. I was angry. So were the people of Novi Sad. Why, asked a retired lawyer, Milenko Mrdjanov, "did they have to destroy it [another bridge] so completely, leaving no chance for repairs."

Said one pregnant woman, Maja Zecevic, at the time, "The worst thing is that Nato is targeting the psychology of people. Now we feel anger, which is not characteristic, and we think all the world is our enemy, and that is not good for people."

When I saw the latter stages of the Rwanda genocide I was angry. I get angry every time I visit Srebrenica, or when I visited Babi Yar (twice), a ravine in which the Nazis slaughtered thousands of Jews, and Soviet prisoners, and, alas, the one time I visited Auschwitz.

As I write, now - it might be at a different level of barbarism and cruelty - the concatenation of events around the State of the Nation Address (SONA), and around the willful obstructionism at the Zondo Commission (it is all connected) has made me unbelievably sad, and angry. The one thing that I have held on to, over the time that I worked as a reporter, a photjournalist, an academic and as a public policy-maker, is never imagine that everything is about me, but it is hard to live with the sadness and anger that has brought the country ever closer to the moral collapse of all our democratic ideals.

I am angry, now, when I hear Dudu Myeni and Jacob Zuma complain about being too broke

to go to court. I want to break something when I read about Carl Niehaus leading a chorus of vacuous encomia in support of Zuma.

I get angry when I hear yet another one of those commentators or analysts, for whom humanity, with all its shortcomings and weaknesses, began in 1994. Earth is more than 4.5 billion years old.

Our human ancestors have probably been around for about six million years, our "modern" forebears evolved about 200,000 years ago, and civilisation, as we know it, is only about 6,000 years old, but some people would imagine that the Earth, and everything that makes us human, started in 1994.

And so, things like crime, corruption, lies, maladministration, and economic mismanagement never occurred in their prelapsarian world with the imagined progressive and puritan values of Western Civilisation.

If, for Francis Fukuyama history ended sometime in 1989, to them history started in 1994. They don't want to hear about anything that happened before 1994, because what happened afterwards is all that matters.

This is a type of white middle-class blame attribution (and the self-satisfaction of a wish fulfilled) that is at the heart of their charges of populism - when those populists happen to be black.

They were populists once

So what am I wanging on about? Well, having made clear the anger and sadness over what seems like our moral collapse, I should say that I have been invited to speak at Wordfees next

month, and the topic is "Populism's Underbelly". While I look forward to it, immensely, it may be difficult to suppress the anger and disappointment that have overwhelmed so many of us. It is going to be difficult to keep an "objective" distance, or be "rational".

Paraphrasing Roy Batty, in what is probably the most beautiful soliloquy on film, I have seen things that people either have not seen, or refuse to see; we cannot let it all be lost in time. The same people who are now pointing fingers at black populism were once populists themselves - the only difference was that they were white people (Afrikaners), and they wanted to establish "positive Christian and pure Afrikaans" institutions.

According to one paper, I came across a few years ago (I hope my notes are correct), between 1937 and 1956, the head of the Department of History at Stellenbosch University, Professor HB Thom purposefully promoted links between "the volk" and their history, in a manner that satisfied the Afrikaner national objective by blending political and cultural life and "science" into a harmonious whole.

The intellectual objective was a synthesis of "volks geskiedenis" and "scientific" history - which was blended into what was considered to be "truth". Under Thom's guiding hand a generation of historians was created and the Afrikaner cause was sharpened - as a bulwark, at least in part, to the "liberal West". I don't think I have all of this wrong, but the only view that was foregrounded at the time was prevailing Afrikaner orthodoxy.

Projected from Stellenbosch, this "objective-scientific" project extended across South Africa's universities after the Second World War as part of creating a white South African nation. It was, therefore, not just an intellectual project; it influenced hiring, firing, the success, and the very permissibility, of what was accepted as scholarship.

According to this paper (I can't locate it, so I am writing from notes I made), in 1949, after the Afrikaners had captured the state, the editorial board of the Archives Yearbook took offence to any academic thesis that contradicted Afrikaner nationalism, and white hegemony in general.

One thesis, that year, was censured for being offensive, and was described as "nigger-loving, anti-apartheid and negrophobic nonsense".

And so, when we discuss populism, today, let us remember, that those who look down their noses at irascible, noisy, and populist students, were once irascible, noisy and populist students themselves.

Why, then, am I angry?... This beaming of Afrikaner nationalism across the country resulted in me knowing the words to Vader Jacob before I knew the words of Nkosi Sikelel' iAfrica. You have no idea how angry that makes me.

China moves to stabilise employment amid epidemic

NANJING

China is taking a string of measures to ensure job creation, facilitate employment of migrant workers and college graduates, and solve difficulties for businesses to stabilize employment amid the novel coronavirus outbreak.

Although the outbreak has hit the job market hard, there will still be vast job opportunities in the development of new growth engines and the upgrading of traditional engines, said vice education minister Weng Tiehui.

SPRING is usually a peak hiring season in China. But this year's novel coronavirus outbreak has disrupted the pace of recruitment, especially for college graduates, and stranded a large number of migrant workers in the country's west, resulting in labor shortages in some eastern regions.

In order to mitigate the impact on employment, China has started to take a string of measures to ensure job creation, facilitate the employment of rural migrant workers and college graduates, and solve difficulties for small and household businesses.

MORE SUPPORT FOR MIGRANT WORKERS

There were 290 million rural migrant workers in China in 2019, with 75 million working outside their home provinces. They are among the hardest-hit by the epidemic.

In order to organize migrant workers to resume production in the wake of the prolonged Lunar New Year holiday, authorities across China have arranged chartered vehicles to take workers from their homes directly to the factories.

Days ago, a chartered plane carried over 140 migrant workers from the city of Tongren in the southwestern province of Guizhou to the manufacturing city of Kunshan in east China's Jiangsu Province.

The workers, each carrying their health certificates, boarded the chartered aircraft after body temperature measurement. After landing, they were directly picked by buses of Kunshan Q Technology Co., Ltd., a high-end camera module manufacturer, to avoid unnecessary human contact.

Wang Jianqiang, general manager of the company, said the company has received 70 percent more orders for March than a year earlier. However, he was not sure whether the company could deliver products on time because of labor shortages amid the epidemic.

After learning the urgent need of the enterprise, local authorities decided to seek more workers to fill in the vacancies. "We worked with related departments in Tongren to dispatch more than 700 workers to Kunshan, half of whom are poverty-stricken individuals, with free flight and railway services," said Liu Ping, a local official in Kunshan.

Liu added that the measure can both help workers acquire jobs and ease labor shortages in Kunshan. "More importantly, it can develop a talent pool for the future industrial shift from the well-developed east to the less-developed west."

Authorities in many regions are also helping rural workers secure jobs in their hometowns.

In the city of Huaian in northern Jiangsu, the local government has announced a slew of measures including the introduction of jobs and employment subsidies to encourage migrants to work in their hometown.

After a series of online employment procedures, Zhou Dongxia scored a job at a local hat manufacturing factory with a monthly salary of 4,000 yuan (about 577 U.S. dollars).

Zhou worked in a cable factory in Shanghai last year but was stranded at home after the Spring Festival. As she was worrying about her family income, the hat factory began to recruit more workers, especially returned migrants like her.

"Now I can work and look after my family at the same time," Zhou said.

PAYMENT EXEMPTION FOR ENTERPRISES

In the epidemic center of Hubei Province, enterprises are trying every means to resume production and provide more jobs.

Kanghong Cereals, Oils and Foodstuffs Co., Ltd. in the lockdown city of Huanggang has promised an extra daily subsidy of 100 yuan for every contract worker during the epidemic. Now 80 percent of its contract workers have returned to work and another 32 temporary workers have been recruited.

Yu Xibing, a business manager of the company, said despite a 60-percent rise in operation costs, the company will take on greater social responsibility and provide more job opportunities.

Large companies can withstand the impact of the epidemic over a long period, while small and medium-sized firms are more vulnerable.

According to a survey of over 6,000 small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) conducted by the China Association of Small and Medium Enterprises, nearly 70 percent of the respondents said their operating incomes decreased amid the epidemic, and nearly 90 percent said their funds for business operations could hardly last over three months if the contagion continues.

The Chinese government has rolled out a series of policies, including subsidies and cuts and exemptions of tax and social insurance payments, to help enterprises



Migrant workers from Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region get off a chartered airplane at Sunan Shuofang International Airport in Wuxi, east China's Jiangsu Province, Feb. 26, 2020. (Xinhua)

through the epidemic and lower the unemployment rate. A total of over 500 billion yuan in social insurance payments is expected to be cut and exempted.

Suzhou Tongjin Precision Industry Joint-stock Co., Ltd. has received about 34,000 yuan in subsidies for stabilizing the employment of over 80 workers. The subsidy can help sustain staff confidence and resume production more quickly, said Cheng Xianfeng, general manager of the company.

In a bid to stabilize employment, many companies also offer online vocational training programs and some authorities even offer subsidies for workers taking part in the online pro-

EXPANDED CHANNELS FOR COLLEGE GRADUATES

College graduates in China are experiencing more pressure to find jobs this year as their number reaches a record high of 8.74 million while job recruitment has dwindled or been postponed due to the coronavirus outbreak.

The Ministry of Education has announced measures to ease the pressure, including launching an online campus recruitment service and expanding the enrollment of master's degree students.

Li Hu, who is to graduate this summer from Jiangnan Univer-

sity, is looking for job opportunities through an online spring campus recruitment. During the popular hiring season in normal years, masses of companies go to campuses to advertise their jobs.

"After submitting my resume on the university's employment system, I have been receiving job matches on my smartphone," said Li, who has not returned to the university campus since the coronavirus outbreak.

The university will also hold an online job fair this month, which is expected to provide more than 48,000 jobs by attracting nearly 800 companies.


To provide more job opportunities, the country will expand

recruitment in basic education, primary-level medical care and community services, according to vice education minister Weng Tiehui.

Although the outbreak of novel coronavirus has hit the job market hard, there will still be vast job opportunities in the development of new growth engines and the upgrading of traditional engines, said Weng.

Many Internet firms are adding new staff to cope with business surges amid the epidemic.

Yuanfudao, an online tutoring platform based in Beijing, has launched its new spring recruitment plan with over 10,000 job posts ranging from teachers to programmers. *Xinhua*



TENDER NOTICE

The Danish Refugee Council (DRC) Intends to Purchase Vitenge.

Therefore, the Danish Refugee Council in Kibondo request the suppliers to submit their prices for the above goods.

The bidding documents can be collected at the Danish Refugee Council Office in Kibondo from 10th March, 2020 during the working days and hours. **8:00 Am to 4:30 Pm** in the following address: Old IRC Road Area, Kibondo. You can call on: **+255627428470** or through email jackson.maseke@drc.ngo to receive the soft copy by email.

The closing date for the submission of the bids is 24th March, 2020 at 4:30 Pm.

The ITB will be opened in a public session on **26th March, 2020 at 10:00 AM** at DRC Kibondo Office, PO Box 177 Kibondo by the DRC Tender Opening Committee.

You can return your bid form through RFQ.TZA@drc.ngo OR DIRECT TO THE DRC OFFICE otherwise is void



International Organization for Migration (IOM)
The UN Migration Agency

INVITATION TO SUBMIT EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FOR MULTI-HAZARD DISASTER RISK ASSESSMENT AND MAPPING IN BURUNDI

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Burundi is inviting consultancy firms, INGOs, Universities and Research Institutes to bid for a nationwide 'Multi-Hazard Disaster Risk Assessment and Mapping in Burundi' (Ref# EO/IOM/001/2020) to commence in May 2020. The requested services will have a focus on torrential rains, flooding, earthquakes, violent winds and landslides.

Applicants are invited to submit Expressions of Interest (EoI) containing: 1) company profile, names and bio-data qualifications and experience of personnel; 2) demonstrated prior experience with multi-hazard risk assessments and hazard map production and list of major clients with references; and 3) company license.

Please submit the EoI either by hand or through mail to IOM with office address at IOM Main Office #13 Avenue Ririkumutima, Bujumbura, Burundi or email at IOMBurundiProcurementLogistics@iom.int no later than 20 March 2020 on or before 3 pm - Burundi Time. Short-listed applicants will be invited to submit full technical and financial proposals in April 2020.

For more information on the specific requirements for this EoI submission please visit: <https://www.iom.int/procurement-opportunities>

Journalism should be unhooked from commercial models of funding

VICTOR Pickard (pictured), Associate Professor at the University of Pennsylvania's Annenberg School for Communication in the US, argues that local journalism is in crisis and we have no choice but to radically reform our news and information systems.

What happens when advertisement revenues dry up and subscriptions are not enough to cover the basic cost of your journalism?

This is the scenario in many local communities in the US - where the market's failure to support local journalism has resulted in lay-offs, bankruptcy and widening news deserts.

Radical reforms to help journalism survive have been the focus of the research conducted by Victor Pickard, author of the new book "Democracy without Journalism?: Confronting the Misinformation Society".

Ahead of his appearance at this year's (June 17-19) World News Media Congress in Zaragoza, Spain, he explained to the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA) why he believes that journalism needs to be unhooked from existing commercial models if it is to survive. Excerpts:

WAN-IFRA: As local news organisations continue to shrink and collapse, there appears to be an urgent need to fund journalism in a different way. Which approaches do you think show the most promise?

Victor Pickard: The market's failure to support journalism at a systemic level necessitates nonmarket approaches. Two general approaches have potential. One approach aims to minimise commercial pressures by relying on private capital. In the US, for example, news organisations can move toward this model by converting into non-profit institutions (see the Salt Lake Tribune) or what might be considered low-profit institutions or, at least where profit is not the sole



criterion for success - such as public benefit corporations (see the Philadelphia Inquirer).

These structures can help struggling newspapers transition into a more sustainable model that is less dependent on commercial revenue and more reliant on charitable support. They also can incentivise newspapers to focus more on public service missions instead of chasing after ever-diminishing profit margins. Additionally, individuals and foundations can support these news organisations.

A second approach is a public option, which is more systemic and, in many ways, more promising, but also more politically fraught. Public

investments in local journalism could build on public broadcasting systems to provide news and information across all types of media and platforms. One major benefit with public systems is that a universal service mandate is baked into their DNA. One concern with these models is their political independence. Although government should help set up the funding mechanisms, this money should be guaranteed with no strings attached. The government can have no control over news operations, which should be democratised and bottom-up.

What are, in your opinion, the underlying root causes for the state of crisis the journalism industry finds itself in nowadays?

The core root of today's journalism crisis is what I refer to as "systemic market failure". Commercial journalism always has been prone to crisis because of endemic tensions, especially its over-reliance on advertising revenue.

The internet was not the cause of this pre-existing vulnerability, but when advertisers and readers migrated to the web where digital advertising revenue pays only a small fraction of print

advertising (most of which goes to Google and Facebook), the 150-year-old business model irreparably collapsed.

Advertising had long served as a subsidy for print journalism, which is expensive and rarely pays for itself. Subscriptions and other payments schemes have not worked for most outlets and there really is no commercial replacement for supporting local journalism. We must, therefore, shift our paradigm to focus on non-market-based means of support.

In your Nieman Lab prediction you wrote that "By changing news media's core structures of ownership and control, we will finally let journalists be journalists." Can you elaborate on that?

I argue that the first step towards saving and reinventing journalism is to de-commercialise it. But the second step must be to democratise journalism, which includes empowering news workers.

Most people become journalists for relatively noble reasons (certainly not to become wealthy). They hope to serve the public and cover stories that will make a difference.

If we democratise the institution so that journalists have more control over their working conditions and over what stories they can write, it would be liberating and allow them to focus on the reasons why they joined the profession in the first place.

Restructuring our news media so that institutions are owned and controlled by local communities and by the journalists themselves is an essential step toward democratisation of the news.

You also wrote that the industry's crisis presents an opportunity to reinvent journalism. Are you hopeful that this

can be achieved? How do you envision this different journalism landscape?

It may seem counter-intuitive, but I am actually optimistic that this crisis has a potential silver lining - that it is also an opportunity to reimagine what journalism could and should be.

A legitimate question might be how bad things will need to get before we begin to make the necessary structural reforms. Regardless, it will be a long, hard slog and many initiatives will come and go, but the experiments will continue.

At the end of the day, democracy requires journalism and I have faith that we will figure out a way to support it. The market is not going to do it for us; we have no other choice but to radically reform our news and information systems.

Do you think your model/vision could work outside the first world west?

Yes, I do. Obviously, media reform should take on the particularities of the communities in which it is situated. I don't think such reforms will work in non-democratic countries for obvious reasons, but communities must democratically decide on how to design their own media. They must be involved with every level of governance and media production.

Creating new newsrooms can't be imposed from the top down or from western countries to the rest of the world. Such processes must be organic and bottom-up.

While I think there are some enduring and universal concerns that cut across all countries - for example, the ideal that all people should have equal access to news and information - media organisations must be sensitive to specific needs and cultural contexts.

• *A WAN-IFRA dispatch.*

Staying safe in the eye of the storm: The coverage of protest movements

By Colette Davidson

JOURNALISM is inherently risky business, but covering protest movements comes with its own specific set of safety challenges. Journalists and editors can take steps to protect themselves and mitigate the risks.

Journalist Louisa Lim has been covering the protests in Hong Kong - over the Fugitive Offenders amendment bill - on and off since they began in June 2019. For reporters and photographers on the ground, there is a constant threat of being beaten; sprayed with teargas, pepper spray or water cannons using chemical additives; and hit by rubber bullets, sponge grenades or even live ammunition.

But sometimes, says Lim, the simple fact of being in a large crowd can be the most risky situation for journalists.

"It's easy to get trapped if you are not careful," says Lim, an award-winning journalist based in Melbourne, Australia, who has reported from China for a decade.

She notes: "And of course crowds do have a particularly volatile dynamic, and can sometimes turn on reporters.... During these protests, the mood can shift on a dime and without warning, and police seldom follow their own guidelines."

Social and protest movements have taken place in most societies around the globe throughout history. As journalists continue to throw themselves into such potentially violent situations - some as local reporters and photographers, others as foreign correspondents - it is essential to be properly trained and know the risks before entering a new environment. Both journalists and editors have a responsibility to make safety a priority in what can quickly become a dangerous atmosphere.

Protest movements can become volatile for any journalist, regardless of experience, but certain profiles are particularly susceptible to hostility. Freelance journalists, who may have not had hostile environment training, access to security advisors or appropriate security equipment - like bullet-proof vests and gas masks - are



especially vulnerable.

Female journalists and journalists who are a cultural minority in the country in which they are reporting can be particular targets, says Thomas Durkin, Education Programme Director of the James W. Foley Foundation. He says that dangers can present themselves as physical risks but as online harassment and cyberbullying as well.

Shaun Earl Harris, a photographer and founder of Afrika Moves Media Agency in South Africa, was caught up in protests in Johannesburg in September 2019, when South Africans pitted themselves

against foreigners.

Harris, who is Jamaican and Rastafarian by faith, says he almost got caught up in an angry mob while taking pictures of the damage and loss of life following protests in Johannesburg's central business district.

"As I passed through the terminal, I saw in front of me a body on the ground uncovered, lying spread out," he says, adding: "I was recording but wanted to take images, better images, so I took out the camera, raised it to my eye and started to shoot images. Then I heard a shout, 'Hey! What you do-

ing, Rasta? What you doing taking pictures?'"

Harris says that, with the help of a few local residents, he was able to escape a potentially violent or lethal situation. Sometimes, it doesn't matter whether journalists are foreign or locals - it is the mere fact of being a journalist that can cause added risk.

Louisa Lim says that, while reporting in Hong Kong, she witnessed escalating violence against journalists by both police and pro-police protesters. Journalists were beaten up inside subway stations and assaulted on the street. There was also a

risk of getting injured in the crossfire of protesters throwing Molotov cocktails or bricks at police.

"Working journalists face a wide variety of serious threats including lethal force used against them," says Lim, elaborating: "Perhaps just as worryingly, they are being targeted for being journalists, so sometimes wearing high-visibility vests and visible IDs is actually more dangerous as it draws attention to their status as journalists."

Despite the increased risk for journalists of self-identifying as such during a protest movement, most experts - and journalists such as Lim herself - say that using appropriate safety equipment is vital for covering civil unrest. A high-visibility jacket, helmet, full-face mask, visible press ID, and bullet-proof vest are a first start for protecting one's physical safety. Extra phone batteries can be essential.

Journalists should also stay to the edge of crowds and always be aware of possible escape routes. Making sure they are not alone is also vital - pairing with another journalist on the ground or a local fixer, and regularly checking in with a staff member back in the office. This can be a challenge for freelancers, but should still be the goal for all journalists, says Harris.

"Freelancers like to run free, trying to get the best story," says Harris, adding: "But always liaise with your fixer, newsroom, picture editors - whoever you have direct contact with - so that they know where you are and how safe you are. This can save your life and bring you back home safely."

Of course, even before journalists go out on assignment, there are things that newsrooms and editors can coordinate. Thomas Durkin says that the best way to mitigate risk is through preparation, and that all members of the newsroom - including journalists, crew members and managers - should complete a risk assessment beforehand.

Newsrooms must also clearly inform staff about the support available, from emotional counselling to health or life insurance. And journalists must be realistic with themselves about their physical and emotional thresholds.

"Yes, there is pressure to get out there and get the scoop, but if a journalist deems the risks too great to cover a story, this decision should not be treated as a source of shame or stigma," says Durkin. "Ultimately, the most important question every journalist must confront is whether the potential risks involved are worth the benefits of covering a situation and completing an assignment," he notes.

• *A report by the World Association of Newspapers and News Publishers (WAN-IFRA).*

ADVERTISEMENTS



Embassy of the United States of America

U.S. MISSION DAR ES SALAAM VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

The U.S. Mission in Dar es Salaam is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the position below.

Position Title: PAINTER

Vacancy Number: DaresSalaam-2020-2019

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties, responsibilities and qualifications required is available at: <https://tz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/>

HOW TO APPLY:

Applicants **MUST** follow instructions in the notice on the website: Failure to do so will result in an incomplete application. Previous applicants do not need to reapply.

Only Shortlisted candidates will be contacted only via email.

CLOSING DATE: MARCH 23, 2020

215660401



Embassy of the United States of America

VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Embassy of the United States of America
Dar es Salaam

VA No.: DaresSalaam-2020-018

March 10, 2020

The U.S. Mission in Dar es Salaam is seeking eligible and qualified applicants for the position below.

Who May Apply: All Interested Candidates/All Sources

Position Title: PHS – Influenza/Emerging Infectious Diseases
Grade: FSN - 11

Open Date: March 10, 2020
Close Date: March 23, 2020

Basic Function of Position: The Sr. Public Health Specialist for the Field Epidemiology and Laboratory Training Program (FELTP) works under the supervision of the Division of Global Health Protection Program Director to provide technical assistance and oversight for all CDC-funded programs in support of: 1) Tanzania national and sub-national governments, and; 2) national and international non-governmental organizations (NGO) and implementing partners supporting Global Health Security (GHS) activities in workforce development, field epidemiology/outbreak responses and laboratory system strengthening.

The incumbent serves as the primary CDC contact for external partners for all issues related to CDC-supported workforce development, field epidemiology/outbreak responses and laboratory strengthening, and including outbreak response components. Serves as the primary contributor to the planning, development, and review of workforce capacity building activities for workforce development, field epidemiology/outbreak responses and laboratory strengthening including outbreak response components of the annual Global Health Security Agenda (GHS) Interagency Workplan for Tanzania. They monitor and evaluates progress of projects, identifying technical, personnel, logistical, and financial challenges and makes or recommends revisions as necessary to overcome obstacles and constraints to progress.

Education: Bachelor's level degree in Applied Biology, Molecular Biology, Medical Laboratory Technology or medicine, pharmacy, veterinary medicine, biology, microbiology or chemistry is required.

Completion of additional 6 months of post-graduate training in Applied Epidemiology and Laboratory Management, or Master of Public Health, MSc Medical Microbiology or Masters in Biomedical Sciences is required.

Experience: A minimum of three years working in field epidemiology or laboratory setting, either health care, national reference or laboratory, veterinary sciences, or research-oriented facility is required.

HOW TO APPLY: All applicants must apply via the Electronic Recruitment Application (ERA). Please find the vacancy announcement and the complete position description listing all duties, responsibilities, and qualifications required for this position on Electronic Recruitment Application – ERA site.

Please visit the Embassy website to view current openings and to apply online through the Electronic Recruitment Application (ERA).

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. If you have any questions, please contact the Human Resources Office dar-recruitment@state.gov or extension 4024.

Drafted: HR: GRayat (Soniya)
Cleared: HRO: SBoston
Cleared: CDC: JBarnes
Approved: MGT: JYoung

215660701



WWF for a living planet®

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT PEOPLE & CULTURE (HR) OFFICER

The WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature), an international conservation organization, is seeking for a competent and highly motivated **People & Culture (HR) Officer**, to be based in Dar es salaam.

Mission of the Department

To ensure WWF Tanzania Country Office applies the highest standards in human resources management in order to facilitate the implementation of its Conservation Strategy.

Major duties and responsibilities:

- Assist in ensuring that personnel contracts are fair and compliant with both WWF Standards and Tanzania Employment and Labour Relations Act 2004;
- Assist in ensuring that personnel recruitment, induction, performance appraisals, contract compliance and renewals, and exits are correctly managed
- Assisting in ensuring that best practice in human resources management is available for and applied to all WWF Tanzania personnel;
- Ensure that personnel recruitment, induction, performance appraisals, contract compliance and renewals, and exits are correctly managed
- Ensuring that WWF TCO staff does work in an environment that is safe and free from all forms of discrimination or harassment.
- Preparation of Weekly, monthly and Quarterly People & Culture reports and the preparation of presentations for managers in a need basis.
- Works closely with and seeks support from, the People & Culture Manager and the Heads of Departments/Programmes, and liaises, as appropriate with the ROA, WWF International and other WWF offices; on matters of Human resources in consultation with P&C Manager.

Required Qualifications and skills: University degree in Human Resources Management, Public Administration or other related fields, Post-graduate diploma in Human Resources Management, Membership of a relevant professional body would be a strong asset; Proven track record in human resources administration and management, At least 3 years of professional experience in Human Resources Management; Experience working in International NGO will be a strong asset. Knowledge of the institutional, legal and policy framework of employment and HR management in Tanzania.

Additional information: Detailed Terms of Reference can be obtained via http://wwf.panda.org/who_we_are/jobs/. Applications must include a complete Cover Letter & CV with full contact details of three referees and should be addressed to the People & Culture Manager, via email to: hresources@wwftz.org by **Thursday, 19th March 2020** at 4:30 pm. Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted and the interviews will take place in Dar es Salaam. WWF is an equal opportunity organization.

215661901



WWF for a living planet®

TENDER – SUPPLY OF COOLING PLANT – MARINE PROGRAMME

Service Provider for Supplying Ice Producing Machine System

Background: Tanzania nearshore marine waters and coastal habitats of Kibiti, Mafia, Kilwa, Kigamboni and Mtwara Rural districts form part of an important East Africa priority seascapes area that is considered amongst the richest and most important marine resources in the region. The area includes Songosongo archipelago, Mafia Island and the Rufiji Delta. The project area concerned is approx. over 9,000km² in size and embraces more than 69 coastal villages. The 5 coastal districts are directly involved by the action with a total human population of approx. 200,000. The area includes the largest contiguous block of mangrove forest (Rufiji) as well as extensive coral reefs: These habitats harbor the equal highest levels of coral and fish biodiversity in the region, as well as important sea turtle nesting sites and the only remaining dugong refuge in Tanzania.

Project: In 2019 WWF Tanzania secured fund to implement the Kigali Cooling Efficiency Project (K-ECP) which aims at enabling communities of artisanal fishers to access clean and efficient cooling facilities to ensure safe food production, storage, use and transportation.

Supply: With above background, WWF Tanzania is inviting interested manufacturer of ice making machines, to supply machine with capacity of 1,500kgs per 24hours which also use environmentally friendly technologies, low Global Warming Potential and zero Ozone layer Depletion in order to comply with the K-CEP resolutions. The machines can be 1, 2 or 4 pieces as long as they attain minimum amount of ice 1,500kgs/per 24hrs with low energy consumption. More specifications are available on request (a summary specifications chart may be requested through the contacts highlighted below)

Important requirements: the manufacturer/supplier must have technicians /service providers in Tanzania or within East African countries for easy contact on installation supplies and other after sale services. Provide your cost, CIF Dar es Salaam and time of delivery

Submission of Application Documents: Interested suppliers are requested to submit the tender documents to procurement department through the email address below and the sealed hardcopy application documents (items and price quotation) should be submitted at the WWF Tanzania Office, located at Kiko Street, off Mwai Kibaki Road, Mikocheni, Dar es Salaam; or through the following addresses:

Procurement Manager
WWF Tanzania
Plot 252 Kiko Street off Mwai Kibaki Road
P. O. Box 63117
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 22 277 5346/277 2455/270 0077
Fax: +255 22 277 5535

tz.procurement@wwf.panda.org

For additional information, including requesting for **Detailed Specifications**, kindly contact us through the above address. Tender application documents should be fully signed, highlighting company profile and experiences of supplying such items, unit costs and delivery time. Kindly submit your tender documents by **Tuesday 26th March 2020 at 1600hrs. Only successful applicant will be contacted.**

215662701

Women's work in the DRC is weighty indeed



Kasomba women walk up the steep slopes to Kamituga's quarries, carrying baskets full of quartz stones on their backs. File photo

By Ines Della Valle

WITH her arms raised above her head, she grips the rope and leans forward to keep the basket full of heavy stones tethered behind her back. Beside her, the other women do the same as they make their way from the bottom of the valley, up a steep and slippery pathway of mud and rocks, towards the top of the Kamituga mining site in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo.

I am exploring the narrow alleyways of the quarry, trying not to slip on the difficult terrain, when I spot them, a line of women emerging silently from an indistinct place down the hill - backs leaned forward to help them carry their load, feet mostly bare or shrouded by a simple pair of worn-down sandals.

The Kamituga quarry is the largest artisanal gold mine in South Kivu province. These women are the maman kasomba - the transportees - responsible for carrying stones up the valley - a two-kilometre, hour-long journey they make several times a day.

The stones will be crushed by other women (known as maman twangaises) into very fine quartz powder, in the hope of finding traces of gold, which are often contained

within the stones like thin veins running inside them.

For each run a woman makes, she will earn a little less than \$2.

For a trace of gold Kamituga is the third-largest city in South Kivu, home to some 280,000 people. Its economy is largely dependent on mining activities. According to the last recorded figures (from 2012) the gold mine employs about 13,000 people, but some say this number may be nearer to 18,000 today.

Overlooking the mine is an agglomeration of shacks, surrounded by food stalls and shops for the workers; the tiny corridors and alleyways are muddy and crowded. The city extends around the valley and seems to reach to the doors of the mine itself.

More than 40 percent of the people involved in the artisanal mining sector in the DRC are women - but most do not reap the rewards.

In Kamituga, men are still the primary miners, going into the caves to bring out big pieces of quartz. They choose the best ones with the biggest traces of gold, and discard the smaller stones. Women then search among the leftovers to find any remaining stones with the tiniest traces of the precious mineral, which they then carry up the valley.

They raise their eyes to look directly at me, almost pierc-

ing the lens of my camera, and even though they are leaning, they stand tall. There is no sign of defeat in them, but a fierce push of strength from within.

South Kivu - still a conflict-ridden area of the DRC, which has been economically and socially devastated by years of civil war, poverty, humanitarian crises, and violence between armed groups - is not an easy place, especially for women. Violence against women is extreme and widespread.

The women who work in these mines, the ones in this photograph, are often exploited and treated unfairly. For many, it is a lifelong condition to endure endless shifts of heavy, back-breaking work, and be the only ones providing sustenance for their families.

Yet, they raise their eyes, look firmly ahead and keep their balance.

Carrying the load for all of us

Despite the heaviness of the stones on their backs - stones scavenged from waste - the baskets these women carry still contain some hope of gold. Although the women in this picture carry a weight on their backs, their bodies lean forward to keep their balance. Although the walk is long, their pace is brisk; their look is not one of prostration. They raise their eyes to look directly at me, almost piercing the lens of my camera, and even though they are leaning, they stand tall.

There is no sign of defeat in them but a fierce push of strength from within.

And in photographing that, I realise that these women reflect and represent the struggles and strengths of women throughout the world.

I also realise that the weight these women carry is not merely physical. The weight is their struggle for everyday survival, for dignity and for self-realisation. Another struggle women worldwide share.

We may think we are separated from each other - because we are from different contexts, different worlds - but we are not.


We are the women who are fighting in the streets of Lebanon and Chile. We are the woman who is selling tissues on the crowded streets of Cairo. We are the woman who sells bread to me every day in Italy. We are the women in that quarry in Kamituga.

Each is carrying the load for all of us. Their nerve is our nerve. Their resistance is our resistance. Their struggle is our struggle.

Through many years working with women, for women, and creating stories about women, this is one thing among the many I have learnt: we are not victims, we are strong, we walk tall, we give life.

We keep our pace brisk, our eyes raised, and our feet in balance - sometimes leaning our backs to help us carry the load.

AGENCIES

 the Jane Goodall Institute

JOB OPPORTUNITY

Finance & Administrative Manager Kigoma, Tanzania

Organization Overview:

Founded in 1977, the Jane Goodall Institute (JGI) USA is an international non-governmental organization that continues Dr. Goodall's pioneering work on chimpanzee ecology and behavior. Its mission is to promote wildlife conservation, in particular chimpanzee sustainability, through research, education, and community conservation. The breadth of JGI's mission reflects Dr. Goodall's personal philosophy that the survival of all species, whether chimpanzee or human, depends upon the collaboration of all people. In 2012, JGI formally adopted an ambitious 30-year goal to protect 85% of Africa's wild chimpanzee populations in their natural habitats. In reaching this goal, JGI will capitalize on its considerable strengths and experience gained from working throughout the chimpanzee range, which includes more than 50 years of chimpanzee behavioral research at the Gombe Stream Research Center; its 20 years of developing people- and community-centered conservation strategies; its impressive expertise in the use of geospatial technology to innovatively map and monitor human and chimpanzee use of forest resources; and its global environmental and humanitarian youth program - Roots & Shoots.

Under its Department of Africa Programs (AP), JGI USA implements community-based conservation activities in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Republic of Congo, Tanzania, and Uganda. Our Africa Programs partners include but are not limited to the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), Disney Foundation, Arcus Family Foundation, Allen Family Foundation, US Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), the Turner Foundation, and a strong individual donor base.

The USAID-funded Landscape Conservation in Western Tanzania Project strengthens landscape scale conservation in the western geographical landscape of Tanzania through the development of a strategic landscape approach built upon USAID's previous and continued support to NRM and conservation in Western Tanzania. This is a five-year funded cooperative agreement under USAID.

JGI is searching for a Finance & Administrative (FAM) Manager to join a dynamic team of professionals responsible for the implementation of the program and the responsible stewardship of resources. Reporting directly to the Chief of Party (COP) based in Kigoma, the FAM will be responsible for overseeing the administrative and financial management, accountability requirements and human resources management for this project, ensuring accurate and timely financial and administrative support services are providing to the program team. S/he has overall supervisory responsibility for the finance team and the administration team, focusing on general ledger activity, daily posting process, payroll, accounts receivable and accounts payable, month-end closing process and financial report preparation.

Work involves the ability to manage a queue of priorities; responsibility for making independent decisions based upon knowledge of organization operations, policies and procedures; and assigning and reviewing the work of support staff. Providing technical assistance to staff in implementing and complying with financial and administrative procedures to ensure compliance with regulations and serve as the financial liaison to JGI, local NGOs, other implementing partners and implementing units.

JGI is currently seeking to recruit suitably qualified and competent Tanzanian to fill the position of Finance & Administrative Manager with the following job functions and qualifications below:

Essential Functions:

- Coordinate, including being able to perform, activities across the various accounting functions: payroll, accounts payable, accounts receivable and general accounting.
- Manage weekly accounts payable process under the direction of program leadership. Support Staff Accountant in payroll, monthly billing and daily accounts receivable processes.
- Prepare and/or coordinate monthly reconciliation of general ledger accounts. Work with HQ accounting to report timely and accurate financial data.
- Facilitate "closing" of financial records on a monthly basis and in a timely manner.
- Support the leadership for the external annual audit process.
- Work closely with the Tanzania and HQ program and financial support teams.
- Review expenses to ensure that they have been recorded consistently and in accordance with JGI policies and procedures, generally accepted accounting procedures and USAID requirements.
- Ensure the collection of accurate and complete documentation to support accounting entries in accordance with established JGI policies and procedures and USAID requirements.
- Work closely with accounting staff to review accounting process and procedures, analyze and reconcile accounts and recommend controls to prevent errors and promote efficiency.
- Coordinate with the Grants Manager to assess the capacity of grant applicants and review request for advances, liquidations and support documentation.
- Provide high quality and proactive technical support to the program team including the review and interpreting financial results and making corrections in the G/L as identified.
- Ensures proper cash handling procedures; responsible for proper control of petty cash.
- Performs related duties as required

Minimum Qualifications:

- A minimum of a Bachelor's degree (preferably a Master's degree) in Business Administration or Finance.
- At least five years of experience managing the financial and administrative aspects of donor-funded assistance programs of similar size, complexity and setting.
- Demonstrated experience in managing and supervising a team.
- Demonstrated experience in managing sub-grants including conducting risk assessments
- Ability to communicate effectively in English, both verbally and in writing.
- Broad understanding of national laws, policies and norms related to accounting and administration.
- Demonstrated experience in budgeting, human resources, procurement and compliance issues.

Application Procedure:

All applications should be submitted together with the signed application letter, most recent curriculum vitae (resume), copy of relevant certificates & transcripts, testimonials, active mobile phone number & e-mail address, and should be sent to the following e-mail address: jgi-tanzania@janegoodall.or.tz with a subject "Application for Finance & Administrative Manager".

Only the shortlisted candidates will be contacted for the interview.

Deadline: Five (5) days from the first date of advertisement.

JGI Tanzania is an equal opportunity employer and considers all applicants on the basis of merit without regard to race, national or tribal origin, religious belief, sexual orientation, and marital status.

QUALIFIED WOMEN ARE HIGHLY ENCOURAGED TO APPLY.



INVITATION FOR TENDER (IFT)

- Marie Stopes Tanzania (MST) is a registered Non-Governmental Organization providing Integrated Reproductive and HIV health services country wide. Established in 1989 under Marie Stopes International, MST operates 11 health facilities and 59 outreach teams.
- MST under projects fund invite sealed tenders from eligible bidders to provide the below mentioned tender. MST is encouraging all interested bidders to participate.

Tender No	Tender Description
IFT/MST/06/2020	Supply of 47 Laptops and its Accessories

- Interested and eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including respective e-mail address to tenders@mst.or.tz Attn: Procurement Lead. Bidders will be responsible for following up to ensure that MST has received the notification.

- Within 48 hours of receiving the bidder's confirmation of receipt of IFT and intention to bid, bid documents in English language will be sent to interested bidders by e-mail. Interested bidders will be responsible for confirming receipt of bid documents within 24 hours after receipt of bid document(s). MST will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing, preparation or submission of the bid documents.

- Bidders must submit bid in a sealed envelope by hand, post or email by 27th March 2020; Time 1200 HRS to: The Country Director, Marie Stopes Tanzania, Plot no. 421/422 Mwenge, Kijitonyama Area, P. O. Box 7072, Dar es Salaam, marked "Tender number IFT MST/06/2020 for the Supply of 47 Laptops and its Accessories". Email submission should be two hours before deadline. Late submission of the bid will not be considered during evaluation.

Country Director
Marie Stopes Tanzania
P.O. Box 7072
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania
Tel: +255 22 2774991-4
Fax: +255 22 2774990
E-mail: tenders@mst.or.tz

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NOTE: MST takes any unethical action very serious, therefore; any form of fraud and/ or corruption is not tolerated in MST. If any of our staff ask for kickback and/ or commission, Please report the incident to the Country Director, Phone No. +255 757 170 042

For any enquires relating to this tender or document please contact Procurement & Logistics Lead. Phone No. +255743495035

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CURRENT NEWS
BrighterMonday connects thousands of job seekers to hiring companies online

Page14



BUSINESS NEWS
MTN employees plan to strike as stores sale fallout intensifies

Page15



OUTLOOK & ANALYSIS
Mwanajumaa Kombo beats the odds to become first woman air traffic controller

Page15



NMB Bank Plc's chief retail and agri banking Filbert Mponzi (C) briefs Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa at a past event.

PM impressed as bank issues 1bn/- loan for buying tractors to boost sisal farming

By Smart Money Reporter, Korogwe

ELEVEN tractors valued at over 1bn/- which NMB Bank Plc has given to sisal farmers in Tanga has been applauded by Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa who termed the move as necessary to revolutionise agriculture in the country. Majaliwa said in Tanga this week while handing over the 11 tractors in Korogwe district to sisal farmers who he challenged to make better use of the equipment and other NMB services to boost sisal cultivation in the country.

"NMB has an innovative team which has done the same thing in other strategic crops such as cotton, cashew nuts where farmers have been equipped with similar tractors which I also handed over," Majaliwa who was on an official tour of Tanga region stated. He urged the farmers to exploit fully NMB's services and products because of its extensive branch network in the country hence easily available to farmers most of who reside and do their trades in rural areas. In his welcoming remarks to PM Majaliwa, Tanga Regional

Commissioner, Martine Shigela assured the premier that the tractors will be fully utilised to boost sisal farming in the region where mismanagement and embezzlement have reduce production to record levels. "These tractors are a big relief to our farmers in Tanga because until recently they were being exploited unfairly by Katani Limited to the extent being near bankrupt," he said noting that the government has since intervened at improved the situation to allow farmers get loans and improve their incomes. Briefing Majaliwa earlier, NMB's

Chief Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi said the bank has given agriculture priority because it understands that it is a government's priority sector as the nation heads towards industrialization. Mponzi said, NMB also attaches a lot of importance to the agriculture sector because it employs over 80 percent of rural folks while millions more in urban areas rely on commodities to survive which comes from mostly smallholder farmers. "NMB has so far issued loans worth over 1.024bn/- to four primary cooperative societies to purchase these 11 tractors and 22 trailers to assist

with cultivation and transportation of sisal," Mponzi added naming the cooperatives as Ngombezi, Magunga, Mwelya and Magoma. In a vote of thanks, Korogwe sisal farmers' agriculture marketing societies Chairman, Greyson Nyari commended NMB for the support and promised to deliver on the government's strategy to boost sisal cultivation and growth. "This soft loan from NMB will help us improve production in our farms, repair farm roads to help easy transportation of commodities to markets," said Nyari while pledging to also invest in agro-processing.

Trend-setting Africa luxury dialogue held in Ghana pulls the world into the continent

ACCRA

The first Africa Luxury Dialogue event took place in Ghana recently, presented as a forum that explored the luxury landscape in West Africa.

Hosted by Accra-based boutique digital marketing and media agency WaxPrint Media, the event programme featured representatives from international luxury brands in all sectors - including LVMH Moët Hennessy, Versace Collection, Mercedes-Benz, Kempinski Hotel and Remy Martin - alongside Ghanaian and Nigerian luxury entrepreneurs and thought leaders like Roberta Annan, Fred Deegbe, Jewel Arthur, Ken Kweku Nimo and Tamara Jonah-Goka.

Also among the 300 influential professionals, influencers and celebrities were attorney Nana Ama Botchway, beauty personality Debbs Bjuku, New York-based celebrity stylist Rachel Johnson, actress Salma Mumin, actress/producer Ama K. Abebrese, and media personalities KOD, Lexis Bill and Eli Kharis.

Luxury not new to Africa "The concept of luxury is not new to Africa, however it is still relatively new to many of the established global brands who are just beginning to see the region as a viable market. It was important for us to host Africa Luxury Dialogue on the continent, especially in Accra, and bring together a collective of stakeholder voices in the local luxury landscape who also have a wealth of experience in Europe, North America and Africa," says Muhammad El Muhajir, director of strategy at WaxPrint Media. The opening panel discussion 'International Luxury from Global to West Africa' was moderated by Roberta Annan, managing partner of Roberta Annan Capital Partners, and included panelists Manish Nambiar, GM of Kempinski Hotel; Asad Nazir, CEO of Silver Star Auto/Mercedes Benz; Viola Labi, GM of Versace Collection; and Armand Faure, brand ambassador at Remy Martin, who shared their personal and professional experiences working for prestigious luxury brands in Africa and their vision for its future evolution.

The panel reiterated the importance of global brands collaborating with local partners to create a truly personalised and localised experience for clients. The programme continued with a series of intimate interactive dialogues and presentations between luxury entrepreneurs, thought leaders and brand representatives. Fred Deegbe, founder of Heel the World Footwear, and Ken Kweku Nimo, author of Luxury Fashion in Africa: History, Brands and Contemporary Issues discussed building an indigenous African brand, and sourcing materials and manufacturing locally to meet international standards.

Aldo Manfreda, a luxury retail specialist and Tamara Jonah Goka, founder of Lionhearts Events, explored creating unique local experiences that reflect both an African and global perspective. Wellington Baiden, founder of Portal Forest Estate, and Muhammad El Muhajir, director of strategy at WaxPrint Media engaged in dialogue focused on sustainability as luxury and Baiden's 20+ years work developing a local forest and nature eco-system as a sustainable business model.

Judith Biel, general manager at Yolo Experiences, and Elizabeth Oputa, brand manager of Moët Hennessy Nigeria discussed the hospitality industry, training customer service staff and creating spaces, events and experiences targeting luxury enthusiasts. Jewel Arthur, founder of Cre8Africa shared her vision for African luxury and experience building an interior design brand, and allowed attendees to interact with her line of furniture and home accessories during the presentation. NuAfropolitan designs is a featured retail outlet at The Galleria at Kempinski.

Ubongo targets 60m African child viewers on online learning by 2025

By Francis Kajubi

LOCAL edutainment company, Ubongo targets to reach 60 million child viewers of its online cartoon learning programmes by 2025. Ubongo's co-founder and CEO, Nisha Ligon said at a Building Brains conference 2020 held in Dar es Salaam last week that there has been remarkable progress on kids learning approaches since the program started in 2014. "Our team has expanded to almost 50 people across six countries in Africa while our audience has peaked 17 million viewers a month from an average of one million in 2014," said Ligon whose brands include Akili and Me Series, are beaming on multi-platform on TV, radio, interactive voice response and YouTube. "We are setting ambi-

tious goals to make effective edutainment freely available to children in all countries of Sub-Saharan Africa over the next five years," she said noting that Ubongo's vision is to equip Africa's next generation with the educational foundation, critical skills and positive mindsets for a better future. According to her, there are 500 million kids in Africa to date and almost 50 million more are born every year with parents in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda saying that Ubongo's programs have improved their children's learning life. Ubongo's Learning Programme researcher in Tanzania, Aneth Ngugi said they have been applying digital platform to get the data on the number of people reached and where they are located. Ngugi said before making

any content the program goes through curriculums to find out where the gaps are and work on them. "About 90 percent of parents in Tanzania and Uganda believe that Ubongo edutainment is helping their children achieve their dreams and aspiration. Our latest research on the impact of an educational media intervention to support children's early learning in Rwanda found that kids who watched Akili and Me program in Kinyarwanda achieved significantly greater learning outcomes in pre-literacy and motor skills" said Ngugi. Ubongo has recently introduced a new programme called 'Akili Family Tunakujenga' a caregiver brand that empowers parents and guardians to support children's cognitive development and well-being at home, she added.



Children aged between 4 and 10 years assemble toys during an Early Childhood Development Conference dubbed Building Brains, which Ubongo hosted in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.



From L: Fred Deegbe, Heel the World; Viola Labi, Versace Collection; Muhammad el Muhajir, WaxPrint Media; Jewel Arthur, cre8Africa.

BrighterMonday connects hundreds of job seekers to hiring companies online



BrighterMonday's outgoing CEO, Mili Rughani (2nd L), and Roam Africa CEO Clemens Weitz (2nd R) during a breakfast discussion held in Dar es Salaam last week. Others are BrighterMonday's incoming CEO, Reshma Shariff (R), and business product manager Ezra Kimondo. Photo courtesy of BrighterMonday.

By Francis Kajubi

OVER 7,000 job seekers were connected to 300 companies looking for people to hire online last year thanks to BrighterMonday Tanzania Limited's platform and expertise.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam last week, BrighterMonday's Sales Manager, Amina Mohamed said at a human resources personnel and business leaders breakfast that the job seekers were from all professions.

BrighterMonday which is a subsidiary to ROAM Africa, has a premier online job portal which has been receiving about 200 recruitment adverts from an average of 350 companies which are posted on its website.

"Apart from recruitment processes, the company also works to build skills for professionals, profiling and providing personalized career guidance to match the right candidates with available opportunities," Mohamed said.

She said their company earns revenue from firms that use their platform and pay monthly fees for each person they hire from BrighterMonday's platform.

According to her, the company is present in nine African countries, namely; Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Nigeria, Ghana, Senegal, Ethiopia, Mauritius, and South Africa.

ROAM Africa CEO, Clemens Weitz said the global market place for employment has been digitized to an extent that pushes businesses to run online platforms to recruit

hence denying publications such opportunities which means wastage of resources in terms of both money and time.

"Internet and the use of data is vital in the best recruitment processes. At this times when employers need no big number of staff, companies are considering the importance of hiring right personnel that can serve to their expectations," Weitz said adding that in order to get the right candidates, they are forced to consult technology rather than use ordinary hiring models.

The breakfast session was attended by over 50 professionals and business leaders from different disciplines.

In her opening remarks of the discussion, BrighterMonday Tanzania's outgoing CEO, Mili

Rughani counseled human resource professionals to handgrip and mingle their emotions with leadership positions and still remain productive at their respective work places.

Rughani urged them not to ignore key emotional intelligence notions that include gut feelings, mindfulness, embracing feedback, self-appraisal, empathy, among others which if well managed ease leadership pressure.

"Leveraging on technology, BrighterMonday focuses on solutions that allow it to look through machine learning and algorithms to identify the right candidates for the right organization," she said noting that BrighterMonday's platform provides all employment solutions to firms and job seekers.



Airtel Tanzania Limited's business enterprise manager, Alice Maziku, leads fellow female staff members in distributing sanitary towels to Kiguzi Primary School pupils in Mkuranga District, Coast Region, yesterday to commemorate International Women's Day. Airtel Tanzania's female employees visited the school to donate an assortment of goods including cement and tiles for the construction of a modern latrine. Photo courtesy of Airtel.

Output drop in China due to coronavirus costs world economy about \$50bn, UN says

GENEVA

The contraction in China's output due to the coronavirus outbreak has cost the global economy about \$50 billion as exports declined, according to a United Nations agency report.

China, the world's second-biggest economy, is a key provider of components for many products including automobiles, mobile phones, medical equipment and clothing. Global trade is suffering and supply chains have taken a hit across sectors, with factories across China remaining idle or only partially operating as Beijing tries to curb the spread of the virus.

"The 2 per cent contraction in China's output has ripple effects through the global economy and thus far has caused an estimated drop of about \$50bn across countries," the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) said. "The most affected sectors include precision instruments, machinery, automotive and communication equipment."

The coronavirus which started in the Chinese city of Wuhan, has spread to more than 70 countries, killed more than 3,200 people and infected more than 94,000 people. Countries such as Iran, South Korea and Italy are now reporting faster infection rates than

China.

The slowdown in China's economy led to its manufacturing Purchasing Manager's Index (PMI) plunging to 37.5, its lowest reading since 2004. It implies a 2 per cent reduction in its output on an annual basis. A reading below 50 is indicative of a contraction in an economy and one above 50 points to expansion.

Container vessel departures from Shanghai were substantially lower in the first half of February but increased in the second half. However, the Shanghai Containerised Freight Index continues to decline, indicating excess shipping capacity and lower demand

for container vessels.

Currently, about 20 per cent of global trade in manufacturing intermediate products originates in China, up from 4 per cent in 2002. "China has become the central manufacturing hub of many global business operations. Any disruption of China's output is expected to have repercussions elsewhere through regional and global value chains," UNCTAD said.

"Even if the outbreak of Covid-19 is contained mostly within China, the fact that Chinese suppliers are critical for many companies around the world implies that any disruption in China will be also felt outside the

country's borders, impacting European, American and East Asian regional value chains," the UN agency said.

The industries expected to be affected include machinery, automotive and chemicals in the European Union; machinery, automotive and precision instruments in the US; machinery and automotive in Japan; machinery and communication equipment in South Korea.

Countries or regions suffering the highest export losses include the EU, estimated at \$15.6bn, the US at \$5.8bn, Japan (\$5.2bn), Singapore (\$2.1bn), South Korea (\$3.8bn) and Vietnam (\$2.3bn), among others. The impact on

the economies of Saudi Arabia and the UAE is estimated to be \$40 million and \$16m respectively, the report noted.

"A reduction in Chinese supply of intermediate inputs can affect the productive capacity and therefore the exports of any given country depending on how reliant its industries are on Chinese suppliers," the report said.

Some European auto manufacturers may face a shortage of critical components for their operations and companies in Japan may find it difficult to obtain parts necessary for the assembly of digital cameras.

The World Bank along with the International Monetary Fund are



Cargo at the Inland Container Depot in Embakasi, Nairobi.

KRA to auction 300 overstayed containers, cars

NAIROBI

The Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) will auction more than 300 lots of overstayed containers and vehicles at the Port of Mombasa and the Inland Container Depot in Nairobi as it moves to rid the hubs of unclaimed goods.

Customs Warehouse Lists compiled on a public notice identified 74 lots of assorted commodities at the ICD in Embakasi and its peripheral storage facilities (PSFs) that were leased to accommodate overstayed cargo while 286 lots were identified in Mombasa for the auction.

KRA has set auction for this week and interested bidders have been invited to view the goods with the full details being listed in a public notice published on the taxman's website. Logistics for the auction are meant to ensure that the exercise runs smoothly at different storage facilities leased for storage of goods that have stayed for more than 21 days.

Kenya Ports Authority (KPA) has leased a number of PSFs which include Mitchell Cotts, Nairobi Inland Container Terminal (NICT), Regional Logistics and Makongeni. Data shows that by the end of January, the four PSFs were holding 1,742 unclaimed Twenty-Foot Equivalent Units (TEUs).

According to the customs warehouse lists, consolidated cargo comprises the majority of lots slated for auction, which are linked to small traders who import using proxies who pose as clearing agents and either swindle them or take long before paying the requisite fees to clear their cargo.

Other importers who will lose their cargo through auction are those who first import the goods and then look for

financing to clear them and pay duties, which may backfire when the demurrage charges accrue to an unmanageable level.

Importers have also blamed the high storage charges due to delays in clearing cargo through the ICD in Nairobi, which industry players have blamed on both the partner government agencies involved in clearing goods as well as clearing agents and importers who delay in lodging clearance documents.

The status report of the ICD for the week ending February 12 indicated that only 48 per cent of the goods did not attract storage charges at the facility. Those cleared in 5-10 days stood at six percent while 22 percent of the goods was cleared between 11-21 days. About 14 percent of the goods were cleared after 21 days, meaning that the cargo attracted both storage charges as well as Custom Warehouse Rent (CWR).

According to the Shippers Council of Eastern Africa (SCEA), government procedures and system failures continue to choke performances at the Port of Mombasa and ICDN, which has seen importers pay Sh3.324 billion in demurrages.

Inefficiencies caused by government agencies and system hitches account for 31 per cent of lead factor for port dwell time with a total of 54 per cent of clearance time being spent on securing permits.

As KPA continues to automate its services to improve its efficiency, lack of streamlining its network has caused delays in cargo clearance due to system failure or problems associated with system users resulting to more than 50 per cent of cargo at the ICDN not being cleared within the set free period.

CURRENT NEWS

Mwanajumaa Kombo and how she set record as Tanzania's woman air traffic controller



TCAA Civil Aviation manager Mwanajumaa Kombo.

By Correspondent Beatrice Philemon

TALK about women venturing into men's exclusive professional areas, you probably will pounce into Mwanajumaa Kombo who defied all odds to become the country's first air traffic controller in 1988.

"When I ventured into this profession in 1980s, men discouraged me saying it's no place for women because it involves excessive use of brains and muscles," said Kombo who at 58 remains glued to a job she has loved most since joining several decades ago.

Kombo who hails from Mkinga district of Tanga region, joined the then Directorate of Civil Aviation under its Director general, Lot Mollel. "I was awarded an air traffic controller license in 1988 by DG Mollel after undergoing training," she said while extending her friendly smile.

Kombo recounts that her interest to control planes began at a tender age when she was a little girl attending primary school back home in Mkinga thanks to inspiration from her sister who worked in the aviation industry.

"My sister was an airport ground hostess who inspired me because of her decent uniform but also verbal encouragement that there are many aviation courses that I can take," she said explaining that her career started in 1986 when she joined Civil Aviation Training Centre where she graduated two years later.

The eloquent Kombo who has two foster children said having realized her ambition to control air space traffic, she also imparted the same character into the kids who have since turned

pharmacist and engineer.

Kombo who went through the usual national education system joining National Service or popularly known as JKT in 1985, faced a number of challenges but mostly resistance from men and some fellow women who questioned her competence to rival men in the trade.

"Despite the discouragements, I always told my distracters that I must succeed which later on convinced them to start trusting me with minor roles till such time that they developed full confidence in me," she added while daring young women who are facing similar challenges never to give up.

"Stay firm and realize your dreams, allow no one to dictate terms to you on what you should do," Kombo stressed noting that days of male dominance in rare professions such as aviation are over because today women are flying planes as pilots, engineers and flight managers.

"As we mark International Women's Day, it is important to remind our girls that no profession is exclusive for men, not even space science," she pointed out while extending her trade mark smile that has earned her many friends at Julius Nyerere International Airport where she plies her trade.

She marvels at initiatives to encourage girls venture into Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) related courses as an important vehicle towards having more women in such professions mentioning institutions like Women and Electronics in Tanzania (WOET) as being front runners in such initiatives.

"Today, if one wants to become an air traffic controller then they need at least a first degree in science related disciplines," Kombo revealed saying the profession is still lagging behind in terms of recruiting more women compared to men.

"So far, Tanzania has only 23 women air traffic controllers which accounts for 17 percent of the total which is still very low compared to 137 men in the trade," the TCAA's Civil Aviation Manager added.

Kombo's arguments were backed by WOET Chairperson and Founder, Emma Kabali who also deplored the few number of women taking STEM related studies in the country. "In a bid to motivate more women and girls to participate STEM related disciplines, WOET has come up with a new program to inspire, empower and motivate girls and young women to choose STEM related courses at school.

Kabali said under the program, so far three girls from Saint Joseph College of Engineering and Technology and Dar es Salaam Institute of Technology have been sponsored by WOET to undertake STEM related courses as well as linked them to employers after graduating.

So far one girl has been employed at Dangote Cement Factory in Mtwara region while the second one at Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority as an Air Navigation Engineer. Our mission is to recruit more women in electronics subjects in Tanzania" she said while paying tribute to people like Kombo who have helped to nurture and mentor girls and young women aspiring to join science related trades.

Job cuts double workers' loan defaults to Sh52bn

NAIROBI

Personal loan defaults have nearly doubled over the past three years to Sh52.3 billion in a period when Kenya's economy has resulted in job cuts and near stagnant wages, leaving thousands of people in a debt trap.

The latest Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) data shows that defaults from personal unsecured lending jumped Sh3.6 billion in the three months to June, the biggest increase when compared to other segments like mortgages, trade and manufacturing.

Thousands of workers have taken out a combined Sh712 billion in loans, mostly without collateral, for short-term needs like buying furniture, vehicles and urgent family expenses like healthcare. The mounting defaults are a reflection of the struggles that borrowers are facing in an economy that has witnessed a string of job losses in recent months across nearly all sectors as firms intensify austerity measures to protect their profits.

This has seen workers who had taken loans on the strength of their pay slips end up defaulting as they struggle to secure new jobs as companies freeze hiring plans. The Sh3.6 billion jump on personal loan defaults is higher compared to a Sh1.5 billion rise in the trade segment and drops of Sh1 billion and Sh100 million in manufacturing and mortgage defaults respectively.

Ken Gichinga, the chief econo-

mist at Mentoria Economics, said that reduced cash flow in the economy has hurt companies' sales, triggering job cuts that ultimately led to a rise in personal loan defaults.

"Many of the people who lost jobs had running loan facilities. Losing jobs with no available opportunities disrupted their income streams and defaults followed," said Mr Gichinga. "It is a case of a weak economy becoming weaker. Companies are not selling as much as they used to before and they therefore do not require additional workforce."

While the Kenyan economy expanded 6.3 percent in 2018 from 4.8 percent in 2017, private sector activity – which translates to jobs and higher pay – has remained muted. The 2019 full year growth numbers are yet to be released.

"If you look at the employment index (in the PMI) since the beginning of 2017, it's been quite neutral, meaning it's not like there has been improvement in new jobs," said Jibril Qureishi, the regional economist for East Africa at Stanbic Bank #ticker:CFC – which tracks companies' performance monthly through the Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI).

Jobs creation

Economic Survey 2019 data shows that 78,400 new formal jobs were created in the economy in 2018 compared to 114,400 in 2017. This is the slowest pace of formal job growth since 2012 when the economy churned out 75,000, adding to the crisis of youth unemployment. The data does not capture job cuts and

net employment, which have a bearing on loan repayments by salaried staff.

Defaults in the banking sector increased to Sh5.6 billion in the three months to June, with the personal loan segment alone accounting for 64.2 percent of the bad loans. A significant share of the personal lending is unsecured, making it difficult for banks to pursue other recoveries like property auction.

The higher non-performing digital loans have triggered the increase in the number of defaulters reported to one of Kenya's three credit reference bureaus (CRBs), hurting the borrowers' chances of being able to borrow more.

In the last three years, 2.7 million people, in a population of 45 million, have been negatively listed with CRBs, according to official data. A 2019 survey by Financial Sector Deepening (FSD) showed that more than half (51 percent) of Kenyans reported a worsened financial status, with many battling excess debt from multiple sources, especially the mobile lending apps.

FSD further said that more than half of borrowers had sold assets, borrowed or cut back on expenses to repay loans while a quarter were using over half of their monthly income to service loans. Banks have stepped up debt recovery efforts to clean up their loan books, leading to a spike in property seizures by aggressive lenders. This is reflected in default rates of other loan segments such as mortgages, which had the highest rise in bad loans in 2018.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

India moves to auction houses in a bid to recoup assets from fleeing businessmen

MUMBAI

"I will sell. No regrets." belted the auctioneer to the wealthy collectors who had gathered at the Mumbai auction house. A hammer came down and a bid was closed at 134 million rupees.

The lot on offer was a painting by MF Husain – a revered artist often referred to as the Pablo Picasso of India. It had been a prized possession of the diamond jeweller Nirav Modi, the man accused of being behind the country's biggest ever bank fraud. Fittingly, the painting, titled the Battle of Ganga and Jamuna, depicts the struggle between right and wrong.

This was a record price for the Hussain's work. It was one of 40 lots belonging to Modi that were being auctioned off for India's

fraud investigation office, the Enforcement Directorate, in Mumbai last week. These ranged from rare pieces of artwork, including an Amrita Sher-Gil painting that went for above \$2.2m to custom-made Hermes handbags, one of which was sold for more than \$20,000, a Girard-Perregaux watch fetched \$136,000 and the jeweller's Rolls-Royce Ghost was picked for \$250,000.

"It really exceeded everyone's expectations," says Minal Vazirani, the president and co-founder of Saffronart, the Indian auction house that hosted the event. "It's rare to see such a collection come to market."

The auction was held in an attempt to recover money from Modi's assets and is part of a wider government crackdown on fugitive economic offenders. The jeweller is accused of defrauding

a single Mumbai branch of Punjab National Bank (PNB), one of India's largest state-owned lenders, of \$2 billion. The scam was unveiled in early 2018, and Modi, who was eventually cornered in the UK, is currently in a London prison as he fights against extradition to India.

Nirav Modi, who is not related to Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, is a Mumbai jeweller whose pieces have been worn by Hollywood stars and India's elite. Allegedly, certain bank employees issued letters of undertaking, a form of guarantee, to other banks so that companies linked to Mr Modi could take out loans – which were essentially unsecured – from overseas branches. But as the scandal came to light and authorities raided the jeweller's businesses, he was nowhere to be found.

MTN employees threaten to strike with stores sale fallout worsens

JOHANNESBURG

The squabble between MTN and its Branded Channel employees has escalated and job stoppages are being contemplated for next week.

The employees allege MTN has implemented phase one of its transformation strategy, which has seen eight shops being sold off without consultation. With the sale, workers claim their salaries and benefits have been drastically reduced. In some instances, they allege up to two-thirds of their current earnings have been cut.

MTN denies this, saying it has received offers to purchase from several existing store owners but no sale agreements have been concluded. However, documents seen by ITWeb show a list of "stores to be transacted to expandable dealers" which was sent to the employees. The document lists MTN stores in Wonderboom Junction, Pinecrest, Vereeniging, The Square Farramere, Cavendish and Golden Acres as among those to be transacted.

Further, the documents show the benefits employees will lose include paternity leave, paid overtime, compa-



Jacqui O'Sullivan, executive for corporate affairs at MTN SA.

ny medical aid contribution, provident fund, life and disability cover, funeral benefits and maternity leave. To cap it, the documents show salaries will be reviewed from 1 April.

Currently, MTN Branded Channel employees receive a basic fixed package, 10% provident fund, 2.5% risk cover, R200 airtime and 60% medical

aid employer contribution. From next month, those affected will only receive a fixed basic salary plus commission, the documents show.

In spite of the document having been sent and some signed by the new dealers, MTN SA's executive for corporate affairs, Jacqui O'Sullivan, denies employees will be affected. She says:

"MTN has been deliberate in ensuring the change of ownership of the affected stores would not result in job losses. To this end, our employees of the affected stores will be transferred with the business in a Section 197 process.

"This will ensure the affected employees remain employed by the new store owner on 'no less favourable terms and conditions' consistent with the labour regulations." According to O'Sullivan: "The transfer does not interrupt the employees' continuity of employment, nor the employees' contract of employment. Temporary staff of the affected stores will be made permanent prior to the transfer to the new owner."

She says MTN is further ensuring transferred employees do not get impacted by the transfer during the first 12 months post the effective date. "This ensures employees are not negatively impacted financially during the first 12 months of the transfer."

O'Sullivan adds that formal Section 197 engagements with only the affected stores, employees and union representatives commenced on 17 February. However, an employee from the affected shops says there were no consulta-

tions and with the new structure, they will be earning R4 500 from a previous basic of R25 000 a month.

"There is likely to be a strike next week; we are waiting for the union. Wonderboom Junction Store was sold without telling the employees and the new owner has been calling the shop three to four times a day threatening them that it's his shop. Our salaries have been reduced from R25 000 a month and now we will be taking home only R4 500, it's over for us at MTN," says the employee.

Another employee from a different MTN store region says: "MTN is exploiting its employees because those dealers who bought the stores don't offer any benefits for employees. The stores have been sold without communication or staff knowledge.

"In the past, they would transfer a shop to a dealer and accommodate the staff in other stores. Why is the process different?" The Communication Workers Union says no formal consultations have been entered into with MTN.

Secretary-general Aubrey Tshabalala tells ITWeb that MTN only informed shop stewards on Friday last week of

the sale. "This is basically madness. On Friday, they confirmed it's a done deal; it means they have a buyer and already concluded the business model."

He adds: "We are the sole representative union at MTN; we have not been consulted. Consultation means you send a letter to the union and we send specialised representatives. You can't say you meet with shop stewards who are employees of the company and say you have met the union."

Tshabalala says the union is pursuing multiple avenues, including approaching courts and "industrial action is one of the avenues." ITWeb reported last year that MTN employees had expressed fears the company's move to sell off its stores (Branded Channel) will result in them losing their jobs.

The company denied retrenching staff, stating its objective with the project is not to close stores, but to rather increase, not only the company's store footprint, but also its BBBEE ownership of MTN stores. "It will be interesting to know who will buy these shops; we know there are four executives who are crafting this process for their own benefit," says Tshabalala.

WORLD

Wuhan shuts hospitals amid drop in COVID-19 patients as cases outside China soar

WUHAN

WUHAN, the epicenter of the novel coronavirus outbreak in central China's Hubei Province, on Monday suspended another temporary hospital as the number of COVID-19 patients continued to drop in the city.

The temporary hospital of Jianghan, which was converted from the existing international exhibition center of Wuhan, closed at 3 p.m., bringing the number of closed temporary hospitals to 14.

The city has begun suspending operations of its emergency makeshift hospitals, which were converted from public facilities for the treatment of patients with COVID-19.

To treat patients with mild symptoms and isolate the source of infection, Wuhan converted public venues such as exhibition centers and gymnasiums into 16 temporary hospitals.

The conversion work of the temporary hospital of Jianghan began at 5 p.m. on Feb. 3, and it was delivered to Wuhan Union Hospital and put into operation at 5 p.m. on Feb. 5.

With a total of 1,564 beds, the temporary hospital of Jianghan received its first patient at 9 p.m. on Feb. 5.

Twenty-one medical teams from other provincial-level regions and six hospitals from Wuhan worked in the hospital.

Over the past 34 days, the temporary hospital of Jianghan received a total of 1,848 patients, saw 521 patients being transferred to other hospitals and 1,327 patients discharged.

It had the most available beds, admitted the most patients and saw the most discharged patients among all the temporary hospitals in Wuhan.

Some 12,000 patients were treated in all of Wuhan's temporary hospitals, according to the city's COVID-19 control headquarters.

The other two temporary hospitals remaining in operation are expected to close Tuesday, the headquarters said.

The medical staff who had been deployed to the makeshift hospitals will remain on standby.

The provincial health commission said earlier that Hubei will gradually



Medical workers from Zhongnan Hospital of Wuhan University inspect in "Wuhan Livingroom" makeshift hospital in Wuhan, central China's Hubei Province, on Saturday. All patients at the "Wuhan Livingroom" makeshift hospital were discharged or transferred by Saturday afternoon and the facility closed on Sunday. (Xinhua)

shut down temporary hospitals and cut the number of hospitals designated for the disease while maintaining strict prevention and control measures. On Sunday,

Wuhan closed another two makeshift hospitals. One of the two closed hospitals, converted from a sports venue had 1,000 beds with more than 1,000 medical and other staff.

A total of 1,056 patients were treated in the hospital since Feb. 12, with no medical staff infected. Another one, covering over 6,100 square meters, had treated 990 patients with 996 beds since Feb. 17.

Meanwhile the World Health Organization (WHO) Sunday evening said in its daily situation report on COVID-19 that the virus has spread to more than 50 countries.

Among that new countries are Cambodia, Austria, Hungary, Egypt, Peru, Bulgaria and Maldives.

A total of 105,586 confirmed cases of COVID-19 had been reported worldwide as of 10:00 CET on Sunday, an increase of 3,656 infections from the previous day, including 3,610 new cases outside China. Among 24,727 confirmed cases outside China, 484 people have died of COVID-19, which marked an increase of 71 deaths compared to the previous day.

As of Sunday morning, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Faroe Islands, French Guiana, Maldives, Malta, Martinique and Republic of Moldova have reported cases of COVID-19 for the first time in the past 24 hours, bringing the total number of countries and regions affected by the coronavirus outside China to 101. **Xinhua**

THE OUTBREAK OF COVID-19

'We pray for the better'

By Dr Suleiman Haji Suleiman



Introduction

A RECENT bunch of pneumonia cases caused by a new type of coronavirus was first detected in the city of Wuhan, Hubei province, China, in December 2019.

The World Health Organization (WHO) on February 11, 2020 announced an official name for this respiratory disease as coronavirus disease 2019 with its abbreviation "COVID-19".

According to WHO Chief Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the name COVID-19 was chosen in order to avoid stigmatizing a certain location or people because some have called the novel coronavirus "Wuhan Virus" or "China Virus".

In Wuhan, which is the epicenter of COVID-19 outbreak and the provincial capital of Hubei, Chinese health officials have reported nearly 50,000 confirmed COVID-19 cases as of March 8, which accounts for approximately 62% of the total number of confirmed cases in mainland China.

The virus is reported to be spreading from person to person in parts of the country and outside China, but most of the people affected by COVID-19 are associated with their travel to Wuhan.

Source and Spread of Virus

Pneumonia cases of unknown cause in the city of Wuhan deemed to have shared exposure to Huanan Seafood Market. The local health authority released an epidemiological alert on December 31, 2019, then the market shut down on the next day.

Suspected patients with fever and dry cough were transferred to hospitals. After this alert, soon was a formation of expert team including physicians, epidemiologists, virologists and government officials.

At the onset of these infections, suspected patients were diagnosed based on clinical characteristics, chest imaging and the ruling out of most common bacterial and viral pathogens that cause pneumonia.

The isolation of suspected patients was conducted using airborne precautions designated hospital in Wuhan including Jin Yin-Tan Hospital. Recently, the determination of COVID-19 is confirmed by real time RT-PCR and next generation sequencing.

On January 23, 2020, one day before Chinese New Year's eve, the Chinese Government announced that Wuhan was to be placed under lockdown, which means that all flights and buses connecting Wuhan and other cities, and all public transport in Wuhan would be suspended.

The Chinese Government was very concerned about the massive movement of people during the Lunar New Year, which would increase the spread of the virus across China and even to foreign countries through tourists.

Furthermore, millions of Chinese would stay at their hometown for around one week and then return to the cities where they work. But one week is shorter than the incubation period of COVID-19, which is 14 days. To contain the epidemic, the Chinese Government decided to extend the Lunar New Year holiday.

Prevention of COVID-19

The COVID-19 epidemic is a test of China's healthcare system and capacity. China has surprised the world when it built two hospitals for COVID-19 patients within two weeks. It's true that no other country could mobilize both resources and manpower at such a speed.

Researchers and scientists are trying their best to find the solution of this deadly virus. Currently there is neither vaccines to immunize people nor highly effective medicine to cure COVID-19 patients.

People who have been infected with the virus receive supportive care in order to help them relieve symptoms and support vital organ functions. Healthcare workers and scientists suggest that the best way to prevent the spread of the disease is to avoid exposure to the virus.

Physicians, epidemiologists, virologists and government officials announced everyday preventive actions in order to prevent the spread of the disease, which include washing hands frequently with alcohol-based hand rub or soap and water, covering your mouth and nose with flexed elbow or tissue when you cough or sneeze, avoiding the touch of eyes, nose or mouth with unwashed hands, avoiding close contact with suspected patients, etc.

Wuhan as home for many foreign nationals

Wuhan is home to dozens of universities and colleges. Many international students remained in Wuhan and are asked to stay indoors, where the Chinese Government imposed a lockdown to avoid the spread of the virus.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of China is actively coordinating with local governments to ensure that all foreigners, including international students in China, follow relevant government instructions and take precautionary and protective measures, and that all foreigners are treated in the same way as the Chinese nationals are treated.

Tanzania is one of the countries in the world which has its citizens in Wuhan and Hubei province. The Chinese Government should be praised for the great efforts it has made to ensure the safety and health of all foreigners in Wuhan by providing them with adequate goods and services, including masks, disinfectants, daily necessities and psychological counseling.

The measures taken by China are truly remarkable. We, as good citizens of the international community, should lend full support to our Chinese brothers and sisters in the fight against the COVID-19 epidemic, which is a common enemy of the mankind.

(The author is an official in the Office of the Vice President of Zanzibar.)

Washington's poisonous coronavirus politics must end

BEIJING

THE global battle against the novel coronavirus has reached a critical stage, as the number of confirmed cases worldwide has surpassed 100,000, with more than 100 countries and regions hit.

Yet instead of focusing on fighting the epidemic in their own country, some in the United States are trying to shift the blame and politicize humanity's common challenge by stoking pernicious anti-Chinese sentiments.

Their dangerously irresponsible statements are highly counterproductive at this drastic hour that demands solidarity and cooperation, and could be much more menacing than the virus itself.

In a CNBC interview on Friday, when asked whether the United

States could achieve similar success to China in battling the virus, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo blamed Beijing for what he called imperfect data from China, which put the United States "behind the curve" in containing the outbreak.

Also last week, U.S. broadcaster Fox News host Jesse Watters asked China to apologize for the epidemic in a talk show, misinforming the public that the disease "originated in China."

Their smear against China is unfounded. Since the outbreak, China has been keeping the international community updated in a timely and transparent manner.

As for the United States, China has notified the country of the epidemic and China's control measures dozens of times since early



US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo

January, said Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesperson Hua Chunying last month.

What's more, the origin of the virus remains unclear, as scientists and researchers around the world are still trying to figure it out.

So, why is China being targeted by people like Pompeo and Watters - notably, since the outbreak? One immediate reason is Washington's chaotic and sloppy epidemic response. Many in the United States, including commentators, politicians and ordinary citizens, are complaining about such things as the slow disclosure of infection numbers and sluggish testing for the virus.

Obviously, some in Washington are in a hurry to find a scapegoat.

Also, in this politically-charged election year, some U.S. politicians have again picked up their China-bashing habit to get media exposure and grab cheap political gains. Of course, a more deep-seated problem is those China bashers' misguided understanding of the Asian country, as well as their lack

of motivation to learn about China. In their eyes, everything about the United States is right and is the best in the world.

Everybody else should simply follow. A fast developing China with a unique political and social system, therefore, poses a threat to the United States.

However, as the epidemic is spreading to more countries and regions, and infecting more people around the globe, it is time for countries to build a united front to win the war on the disease.

Those U.S. rumormongers' attempts only serve to encourage fear, division and hate.

For the sake of their own people, and of those around the world, they should finally hit the brakes on their egoistic demagoguery. **Xinhua**

Twitter labels Biden clip reposted by Trump as manipulated

SAN FRANCISCO

TWITTER Inc on Sunday used its new "manipulated media" label for the first time on a video clip of US Democratic presidential candidate Joe Biden that was retweeted by President Donald Trump.

The video, which was posted on Saturday by White House social media director Dan Scavino, showed Biden stumbling on a speech in Kansas City, Missouri, in which he said the words "Excuse me. We can only re-elect Donald Trump."

Biden's full sentence, which was cut off by the clip, was "Excuse me. We can only re-elect Donald Trump if in fact we get engaged in this circular firing squad here. It's gotta be a positive campaign so join us."

Twitter implemented its new policy, which labels tweets with manipulated or synthetic media such as deepfakes or more manually edited videos, on March 5.

However, Twitter's new label was not showing for all users.

The tag was applied on Sunday afternoon, but Twitter said it was not showing when people searched for the tweet or clicked into it, only when it was seen in timelines. A Twitter spokesman said the company was working on a fix.

"The video was NOT manipulated," said Scavino in a later tweet.

Social media companies are under pressure to police misleading or false information on their platforms ahead of the US presidential election in November, in which Biden



and Senator Bernie Sanders are vying to be the Democratic nomi-

nee to oust Republican President Trump.

The video, which had about 5.8 million views on Twitter at the time of writing, was also posted on Scavino's Facebook page, where it had about 1 million views.

The Biden campaign slammed Facebook Inc. for showing the video on its platforms without labels.

"Facebook won't say it, but it is apparent to all who have examined their conduct and policies: they care first and foremost about money and, to that end, are willing to serve as one of the world's most effective mediums for the spread of vile lies," said Greg Schultz, Biden's campaign manager.

Facebook did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

Names of downed Malaysian airliner victims read out as murder trial opens

AMSTERDAM

RELATIVES sat listening with bowed heads and eyes closed, as the names of all 298 victims of a missile strike on a Malaysian airliner were read out in a Dutch court yesterday as the murder trial of four fugitive defendants began.

Malaysian Airlines Flight 17 was hit by a surface-to-air missile on July 17, 2014 while flying over Ukrainian territory held by pro-Russian rebels on its way from Amsterdam to Kuala Lumpur.

None of the accused in the disaster - three Russians and a Ukrainian - were present in the courtroom and all four are be-

lieved to be in Russia. Only one sent a defense lawyer.

Judges ruled earlier that the men had waived their rights to attend and said proceedings would continue without them.

The mood in the courtroom was somber and hushed as prosecutor Dedy Woei-a-Tsoi read out the names of those who died when MH17 crashed in eastern Ukraine on July 17, 2014.

"The silence in this court during the reading of all the names of the victims makes it (MH-17 disaster) clear once again and that means a moment of silence was fitting," Presiding Judge Hendrik Steenhuis said.

Prosecutors say the suspects

helped supply the Russian missile system that downed the plane. The four face preliminary charges of the murder of 298 people and of causing the aircraft to crash, resulting in the death of all aboard.

"Many people have long waited for this day," Steenhuis said in opening remarks.

"This tragic loss of so many lives has touched many all over the world. The court wants to say it realizes the impact of the loss of so many human lives and that the way it happened was almost incomprehensible."

The defendants - Russians Sergey Dubinsky, Oleg Pulatov and Igor Girkin and Ukrainian Leonid Kharchenko - held senior posts in

the pro-Russian militias in eastern Ukraine in 2014.

"It is very important for us because nobody had expected there would be a trial at all," said Anton Kotti, who lost three family members in the disaster. "We hope the judge gets so much evidence that he can only come to one conclusion: 'guilty'."

A Dutch-led international Joint Investigation (JIT) team spent years collecting evidence before issuing arrest warrants for the four suspects last year.

If convicted, the four men could face sentences of up to life in prison. However, Russia does not extradite its citizens, and the Kremlin has questioned both the

legitimacy of the international investigation and the independence of the court.

Countries participating in the investigation - Ukraine, the Netherlands, Australia, Malaysia and Belgium - agreed in 2017 to hold trials in the Netherlands under Dutch law after attempts to set up a U.N.-backed tribunal foundered over Russian opposition.

The aircraft's downing led to sanctions against Russia by the European Union. It also heightened tension between Russia and Western countries who blame it for the disaster.

The dead included 196 Dutch citizens, 43 Malaysians and 27 Australians, among others.

Saudi princes' detentions sent a message: Don't block my path to the throne

DUBAI

SAUDI Arabia's crown prince meant to send a strong message to critics within the royal family by detaining senior princes this weekend: Don't you dare oppose my succession to the throne.

The main target in the crackdown, sources said, is King Salman's brother, Prince Ahmed bin Abdulaziz, one of only three members of the Allegiance Council, the royal body that endorses the line of succession, to oppose Mohammed bin Salman becoming crown prince in 2017 in a palace coup.

Four sources with royal connections said the move aimed to ensure compliance within the ruling Al Saud family, in which there have been rumblings of discontent, ahead of an eventual succession upon the king's death or abdication.

One of the sources described the detentions as a preemptive effort to ensure Prince Mohammed's "ascent will be rubber stamped by the Allegiance Council when the time comes".

Ahmed, 78, was detained on Friday along with Mohammed bin Nayef, who was crown prince until he was ousted in 2017 and replaced by Mohammed bin Salman. Ahmed's son Nayef and Mohammed's brother Nawaf were also detained, said two other sources with royal connections.

The princes have been held at royal villas in the capital Riyadh and some

were allowed to contact their families, those sources said.

Crown Prince Mohammed, who has moved ruthlessly to tighten his grip on power, feared disaffected princes might rally around Ahmed and Mohammed bin Nayef as potential alternatives to take the throne, said two of the sources with royal connections, and a senior foreign diplomat.

"This is a preparation for transferring power," said one of those sources. "It is a clear message to the family that no one can say 'No' or dare challenge him."

Saudi authorities have not confirmed or commented on the detentions, which have not been covered by Saudi media. The media ministry has not responded to detailed requests for comment.

If Mohammed bin Salman, 34, succeeds his father, it will be Saudi Arabia's first generational transfer of power since the death of state founder Abdulaziz Ibn Saud in 1953, who was followed by six of his sons in succession.

The Allegiance Council, made up of one member from each house of 34 sons of Abdulaziz, is designed to ensure that the hundreds of princes that make up the royal family's next generation unite behind the new king.

The senior foreign diplomat said the detentions were another blow to the country's image abroad just as it appeared to be recovering from the



Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman

furor over the 2018 killing of journalist Jamal Khashoggi and criticism of the Yemen war.

Crown Prince Mohammed previously detained senior royals and prominent Saudi businessmen in 2017 at Riyadh's Ritz-Carlton hotel, unnerving investors at home and abroad. More recently, it seemed those days of unpredictability had been put to rest as Riyadh assumed this year's presidency of the Group of 20 major economies.

ROYAL DISCONTENT

When sources initially described the latest detentions in recent days, several of them said the detained princes had been accused of plotting a coup to thwart Mohammed's accession. However, some of those sources, and others who later spoke about the detentions, have since offered milder justifications, describing the arrests as a response to an accumulation of misbehavior rather than a plot against the crown prince.

Two sources used the same phrase, saying the princes were being warned with a "twist of the ear" to stop criticizing the crown prince.

While hosting traditional gatherings known as majlis, Prince Ahmed had raised questions about the crown prince's stance on several issues, including a U.S. plan for the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, one of the sources said. There was no way to contact Ahmed or the other princes to comment on the allegations. Sources said he returned from a trip abroad the night before he was detained.

Ahmed on Saturday asked his family to deliver his bisht, a traditional coat worn at formal occasions, suggesting he might soon make a public appearance, said two sources including one with royal connections.

Saudi insiders and Western diplomats say the family is unlikely to oppose the crown prince while the king is alive, and the monarch would not turn against his favorite son, to whom

he has delegated most responsibilities of rule.

The recent detentions sparked speculation about the health of 84-year-old King Salman, but sources have said he remains mentally and physically sound. State TV on Sunday aired a clip of him accepting oaths of office from two new Saudi ambassadors.

Mohammed bin Nayef's brother Saud and Saud's son, Interior Minister Prince Abdulaziz, who were both rumored to have been among those detained, also appeared conducting official business in photographs published by state media on Sunday.

Royals seeking to change the line of succession have viewed Prince Ahmed as a possible choice who would have support of family members, the security forces and some Western powers, sources have said.

The other two members of the Allegiance Council who opposed Mohammed bin Salman becoming crown prince in 2017 are younger and less prominent than Ahmed. One of them lives abroad.

"Disgruntlement was gathering around him (Prince Ahmed) and he was letting it happen," said the fourth source with royal connections.

Critics have questioned the crown prince's ability to lead after the 2018 murder of Khashoggi by Saudi agents and an attack last year on a Saudi oil facility, the sources said.

Agencies

US, Russia remain largest exporters of weapons in the world

STOCKHOLM

THE United States and Russia remained the main exporters in 2014-2019, although the volume of arms sales of Russia decreased compared to 2010-2014 by 18%. That is according to a report by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI), released yesterday.

The new report on the state of world arms trade notes that in 2015-2019 the trade volume increased by 5.5% compared with the previous five-year period (2010-2014).

"Between 2010-14 and 2015-19, exports of major arms from the USA grew by 23 per cent, raising its share of total global arms exports to 36 per cent. In 2015-19 total US arms exports were 76 per cent higher than those of the second-largest arms exporter in the world, Russia. Major arms transferred from the USA went to a total of 96 countries," report notes.

"Half of US arms exports in the past five years went to the Middle East, and half of those went to Saudi Arabia," says Pieter D. Wezeman, Senior Researcher at SIPRI.

"At the same time, demand for the USA's advanced military aircraft increased, particularly in Europe, Australia, Japan and Taiwan."

Russian export

The share of Russia's military exports over the past 5 years amounted to 21% of the global volume, which is 6% less than the indicator for the period 2010-2014. The supply of Russian weapons to India, Russia's main partner in the field of arms trade, decreased significantly - by 47% as compared with the previous period 2010-2014.

Major arms exports by Russia decreased by 18 per cent between 2010-14 and 2015-19. "Russia has lost traction in India."

Agencies

Russia-Turkey agreement on Idlib to yield tangible gains - Erdogan

ANKARA

THE latest agreement on Syria's Idlib signed by Russia and Turkey will yield tangible results, Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan told Turkish journalists on board the presidential plane on his way back home from Russia. Extracts of this interview

were published by the daily Hurriyet on Friday.

"Our friends (Russia - TASS) keep an eye on the ceasefire, scheduled to take effect at 00:01 of March 6, 2020 (already in force - TASS).

The truce has brought significant gains in a few areas. It protects our borders from the ter-



rorists and from the regime [of Syria's President Bashar Assad].

The truce provides the ground for stabilization and normalization in Idlib. It protects our military personnel there and also civilians," he said.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan met

in Moscow for talks on Thursday to agree on a ceasefire and a number of other measures for settling the situation in Syria's Idlib province.

Under the achieved agreements, all hostilities were to be brought to an end along the whole disengagement line starting from March 6.

On March 15, Russia and Turkey will start joint patrolling of the road M4. A security corridor is to be created along the road. Moscow and Ankara confirmed their commitment to preserving Syria's sovereignty and agreed to push ahead with resolute struggle against terrorism.

Agencies

Traditional Chinese medicine plays vital role in Zhejiang's epidemic prevention, control

TRADITIONAL Chinese medicine (TCM) is achieving great effects in treating the novel coronavirus pneumonia patients in China.

By Feb. 18, TCM had been applied to treat 1,136 confirmed cases, or 96.84 percent of the total in eastern China's Zhejiang Province, among which 493 recovered, 523 improved conditions, and 120 were still in observation. The province's hospitals had discharged 544 patients of the novel coronavirus pneumonia upon recovery, accounting for 46 percent of the total.

An 88-year-old patient of the novel coronavirus pneumonia was cured by Hangzhou Xixi Hospital, Zhejiang through TCM and discharged on Feb. 15. "This undoubtedly reinforced our confidence in TCM in treating the virus," said Lin Shengyou, deputy head of the TCM expert team of Hangzhou and vice president of Hangzhou Hospital of TCM who also participated in the treatment for the 88-year-old.

The patient firstly received regular treatment in western medicine after being hospitalized, but the western anti-virus drugs were not bearable for him - a senior with chronic disease, introduced Lin. "After we carried out combined treatment of TCM and interferon neutralizer therapy, the patient started recovering rapidly," he said.

Northern Zhejiang's Huzhou also had a similar case. A 56-year-old patient who was once in critical condi-



A patient of novel coronavirus pneumonia surnamed She bows to doctors before leaving hospital to express gratitude, Feb. 22, 2020. The 28-year-old woman was cured by People's Hospital of Deqing County, Huzhou, east China's Zhejiang Province. Photo by People's Daily.

tions soon had her symptoms alleviated after TCM was introduced to her treatment. Her body temperature gradually fell to normal level and chest distress was relieved.

According to Ji Bing, head of Huzhou's TCM expert team to combat the novel coronavirus and vice president of the TCM Hospital of Huzhou, TCM has been applied in the treatment for 10 confirmed cases in the city.

Zhejiang Province has carried out targeted TCM treatment, striving to make it play a comprehensive and in-depth role in the battle against the epidemic at an early stage. In addition, TCM has been applied to treat suspected patients

in the province.

According to Xie Guojian, director of the TCM management bureau under Zhejiang's health commission, TCM doctors in the province would join diagnosis before suspected cases are confirmed, and the patients would take Chinese medicines as early as possible. Based on the reports by local and provincial TCM experts, the early TCM treatment has obviously relieved patients' symptoms such as fever and cough, Xie added.

On Jan. 24, flight TR188 that carried over 330 passengers landed at Hangzhou Xiaoshan International Airport. 219 passengers received herbal medicine for prevention

from the city's TCM hospitals. TCM was also introduced to passengers and crew members in quarantine.

When quarantine period ended on Feb. 8, none of the passengers or crew members was tested positive of the novel coronavirus. "It fully demonstrated the preventative effects of TCM on high-risk groups," Xie noted.

Zhejiang's TCM titans and experts have launched synergistic operation with experts in each city, and optimized recommended TCM treatment plans for four times according to national schemes, Zhejiang's climate, geographical environment and characteristics of the infected cases in the province. Besides, they also regulated the practices of TCM prevention and treatment, as well as dos & don'ts for recovery.

At present, many hospitals in the province, apart from introducing TCM decoction, are also launching acupunctherapy, acupuncture and Baduanjin exercise, a traditional aerobics form.

Now, Zhejiang is requesting those in close contact with the infected to take TCM for prevention, and suspected patients will also receive TCM treatment as early as possible. TCM doctors are required to join the whole treatment process in quarantine wards, and cured patients are also advised to take TCM for further recovery.

People's Daily

ROK: DPRK test-fired short-range projectiles

NEW YORK/SEOUL

THE Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) test-fired short-range projectiles into the East Sea yesterday in what was believed to be part of ongoing firing drills, the Republic of Korea (ROK)'s Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) said.

The JCS said in a statement that the ROK military detected short-range projectiles of multiple types, which were launched northeastward from areas near the DPRK's eastern town of Sondok in South Hamgyong province at about 7:36 am local time.

The projectiles flew as far as around 200 km at a maximum altitude of some 50 km. ROK and US intelligence authorities were analyzing further details, the JCS said.

The JCS noted that the launches were seen as the part of the DPRK's joint strike exercises, involving multiple rocket launchers of multiple types, for a wintertime drill following the previous ones on Feb 28 and March 2.

A week earlier, the DPRK fired two short-range projectiles, which traveled about 240 km at an altitude of some 35 km, into the eastern waters.



People watch a TV showing a file image of an unspecified missile launch by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) during a news program at the Seoul Railway Station in Seoul, Republic of Korea, yesterday. (AP)

The JCS said the ROK military was closely monitoring relevant situations in preparation for possible further launches while maintaining a thorough defense readiness.

It expressed "strong regret" over DPRK's projectile launches, adding that such acts run counter to the basic spirit of the inter-Korean military agreement in which the two sides agreed on defusing military tensions and building trust on the Korean Peninsula.

The military agreement was signed during the third summit between ROK President Moon Jae-in and top DPRK

leader Kim Jong-un that was held in Pyongyang in September 2018.

ROK's national security advisor Chung Eui-yong held a video meeting with the defense minister and intelligence chief to analyze DPRK's latest test and intent, the presidential Blue House said.

Japanese Defense Minister Taro Kono said the projectiles appeared to be ballistic missiles and did not fall into Japan's exclusive economic zone, though the government was examining details about the launch.

Agencies

To help with Africa's development tests sense of responsibility, vision

HOW to offer tangible assistance for Africa is an important topic of international concern. It shall be a shared responsibility and vision for members of the international society to play their due roles in constructive global cooperation that propels the development of African countries.

However, what U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said during his recent trip to Africa failed to showcase such responsibility and vision.

Preaching that "countries should be wary of authoritarian regimes with empty promises", the U.S. Secretary of State bragged that the U.S. can provide better offers for Africa than any other country. He said that only the

economic partnership with the U.S. can help Africa achieve "true liberation".

However, Pompeo's remarks were slammed by local media immediately after he capped his tour. A South African newspaper said in an article titled Don't Fall for U.S. Propaganda that the trip doesn't appear to have produced anything tangible so far, other than anti-Chinese and pro-U.S. rhetoric.

A report by American media also said that the "true liberation" rhetoric was exaggerated, citing an Ethiopian critic.

Pompeo's trip to Africa marked the first one paid by a U.S. Secretary of State in the recent two years. Though he made high-pro-

file remarks, his country was not doing anything to support them. When West Africa is seeing deteriorating situation of anti-terrorism, the White House is conceiving large-scale military withdrawal, and the U.S. announced visa restriction for nearly a quarter of African population just ahead of Pompeo's trip to Africa.

The U.S., failing to offer development plans for Africa, was sermonizing the continent with the doctrines that have been used for years and proved outdated. Such practice is believed by the international media to have released a chaotic signal.

American media said bluntly that Pompeo's trip announced no major agreement or new initiative,

while African scholars pointed out that the U.S. will only lose the game by comparing itself with other countries, and alienate the African national leaders who don't want to be forced to pick sides. U.S. senior officials shall focus on genuine development plans for Africa if they want to be accepted.

It's obvious to all that U.S.-Africa cooperation has never been prospering over the years. However, the U.S. attributed such failure to Africa's cooperation with other countries, which is totally ridiculous, as African countries have always said that they remain open to cooperation with any country.

The ineffective cooperation between the U.S. and Africa was not caused by external factors,

but the neglecting of the U.S. itself. When a new Africa strategy was raised by the White House in 2018, African scholars pointed out that the strategy barely cared about the focal problems facing Africa, such as hunger, unemployment, surging population and climate change.

Just as many African observers believe, some American politicians never cared about the development of Africa, or take African countries as respectable and equal partners. As a result, it's hard for the African people to believe the "beautiful lies" made by these politicians.

Perhaps what the U.S. Secretary of State experienced in Africa might have further embarrassed

him. He was received at the Bole International Airport of Addis Ababa expanded in part by Chinese funds, and his entourage passed through the capital where Beijing has built highways, said an article by American media, adding that the Secretary of State met the chairman of the African Union at its towering headquarters built and paid for by China.

"As things stand, China is already winning the hearts and the minds of Africans. The West will have to either change tact or forever play catch up," said Ethiopian scholar Mehari Taddele Maru. The U.S. has always taken Africa as a battlefield for major-power games, rather than making sustained efforts to develop its

economic relations with the continent.

"The U.S. may be the world's biggest economy characterized by its huge gross domestic product and a strong currency, but its international market dominance should not give it unrestricted liberty to insult African heads of state by telling them who their friends should be." What African media said conveys the common aspiration of the African people.

To help Africa with concrete actions tests a country's sense of responsibility and vision. Real friendship is achieved through weal and woe, rather than glossing. The African people know clearly who their real friends are.

People's Daily

SPORT



Morogoro Municipal Director, Sheila Lukuba (3rd R), presents Morogoro Regional Administrative Secretary, Emmanuel Kolobelo, with cultural gifts and a framed picture of the latter at an event that aimed at celebrating International Women's Day, which took place at Jamhuri Stadium in the region last week. Kolobelo was the event's guest of honour. PHOTO: MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

LeBron & Co. snap Clippers' streak at 6 with 112-103 victory

LOS ANGELES

LeBRON James closed out a weekend to remember. First, he outdueled Giannis Antetokounmpo and the Milwaukee Bucks in a match-up of NBA conference leaders. Then he kept the Los Angeles Lakers rolling with a victory over the streaking Clippers.

James had 28 points, seven rebounds and nine assists Sunday in 112-103 victory that ended the Clippers' six-game winning streak. He put up 37 points, eight rebounds and seven assists Friday against the Bucks.

"His best weekend in a Lakers uniform I'm assuming," first-year coach Frank Vogel said. "I wasn't here last year but, in my mind, this was the best two-game stretch. Really just dominated both games and helped close them out."

The Lakers won their fourth in a row and 11th in 12 games. Anthony Davis scored 30 points and Avery Bradley added 24.

"It's a really good weekend for us, playing against two of the best teams, the top two teams in the league with us as far as record-wise," James said. "I just think we kept our composure throughout the whole game."

The Lakers recently clinched a playoff berth for the first time since 2013, and it's possible they could meet the Clippers in the postseason. The crowd made it feel like a playoff atmosphere, with a strong contingent of raucous Lakers fans on hand for what was a Clippers' home game. They chanted "MVP! MVP!" when James completed a 3-point play that tied the Lakers' largest lead of 12 points with 40 seconds to play.

The Clippers led 53-49 at halftime with their largest lead of nine coming in the second quarter.

"Just trying to come out in the second half and not let the game get away from us," Davis said. "We wanted to make sure we come out with a little bit more offensive intensity and aggression."

Paul George scored 31 points, Kawhi Leonard added 27 and Montrezl Harrell had 20 for the Clippers. They lost to the Lakers for the first time in three games this season.

With the Lakers up by four points, James hit a 3-pointer to open the fourth. His 3-point play and a basket by Davis capped a 14-6 run that pushed it to 99-87, their first double-digit lead of the game.

"The first time we played Milwaukee and the previous two times we played the Clippers we beat ourselves," Davis said. "When we don't do that – get a shot on goal every time and don't turn the ball over – then we're a tough team to beat."

The Clippers had more turnovers (15) than assists (12).

"When you don't move the ball on top of that you can't win the game," Rivers said.

George and Leonard combined to score 12 straight points during a stretch in the fourth, but they could never get a sustained run going.

"They were the team that really wanted it and they went and got it," George said. "It's hard to beat any team three times in a row in this league. It doesn't set us back."

Bradley hit four of his season-high six 3-pointers in the third, helping the Lakers take their first lead since the opening quarter.

Meanwhile, in Houston, DJ. Augustin scored 24 points off the bench, Aaron Gordon added 19 and the Orlando Magic got a 126-106 win over slumping Houston on Sunday night to hand the Rockets their fourth straight loss.

"We didn't worry about what the Rockets were doing," Augustin said. "We just wanted to come out and play our game."

The Rockets won six in a row before hitting this rough patch in which they haven't just lost games but have looked out of sorts in losses to the Knicks, Clippers and Hornets before Sunday's defeat. Houston's four-game losing streak matches a season high.

Houston star James Harden said he feels "very strange" on the court right now and he has "no clue" why things are going so wrong. But he remains confident the Rockets can get back on track.

"We're not really worried, just frustrated," he said. "It seems like it's just all going bad, but the way you get out of it is to keep pushing through, keep fighting through and the tide will turn around and we'll make a turnaround."

Houston trailed by 25 at halftime in another lackluster performance a day after falling behind 20-0 in a 108-99 loss at Charlotte. During their winning streak the Rockets were looking to move up in the Western Conference standings and get one of the top three seeds. Now they've tumbled into sixth place in the West and need to find a way to get back on track before they fall even further with five weeks left in the regular season.

Houston coach Mike D'Antoni said he believes his team is "questioning everything" as things have started to snowball, but like Harden he believes the Rockets have the players to turn things around.

"We will get through this and we will be good on the other side," D'Antoni said. "So hopefully this is rock bottom. I don't know that, but if it gets much worse it will not be pretty."

Russell Westbrook led Houston with 24 points to give him at least 20 in a career-long 33 straight games, but he also topped the Rockets with eight of their 18 turnovers. Harden scored 23, but made just six of 19 shots and turned the ball over four times.

Nikola Vucevic added 16 points with 16 rebounds for Orlando, which won its second consecutive game after dropping the previous three.

The Magic scored the first five points of the second half to extend their lead to 76-46 with about 10½ minutes left in the third quarter.

AP

Spotlight in race for top four and relegation battle in VPL

By Correspondent Michael Mwebbe

THE 2019/20 Vodacom Premier League match involving Simba SC and Yanga, popularly known as 'Dar Derby', may be done and dusted, but the league's campaign is not.

There are plenty of important clashes on match day 28 with ramifications at both ends of the table.

With Simba SC and Yanga, who played in Dar es Salaam on Sunday given one more day to recover, there will be seven matches in different venues across the country today, with Azam FC and Namungo FC as the top teams in action.

In Dodoma, JKT Tanzania hosts an in-form Mwadui FC at the Jamhuri Stadium.

Having won their last four league fixtures, Mwadui FC can hope of at least a point which will keep them out of the relegation zone.

Fans in Mbeya will see Mbeya City FC host Mbao FC at the Sokoine Stadium as the former, placed 18th in the league log, play the 19th placed opponents in a crucial relegation clash. This is a classical six-pointer.

Mbeya City FC looked promising in the early stages under new coach, Amri Said, but they suffered a 1-0 defeat to Mwadui FC on Saturday.

Mwanza's Mbao who are five points behind can ill afford another slip-up against opponents who are as well struggling in the league.

Mbao FC suffered away day blues on Saturday, going down 2-0



Yanga defender, Lamine Moro (R), challenges Simba SC forward, John Bocco, when the teams clashed in a Vodacom Premier League match which took place at National Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. Yanga won 1-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

to KMC FC.

Being on home soil should give Mbeya City FC an edge for this one, as Mbao FC have not won on the road in their last 10 matches.

Coastal Union seek to pick up a vital win in their quest for a top four spot as they host Lipuli FC at the Mkwakwani Stadium in Tanga.

Kagera Sugar visit Ndanda FC at the Nangwanda Stadium in Mtwara, with the former looking to arrest a run of poor form that has seen them stay with no win in their last five matches.

However, hosts Ndanda have not lost a home fixture this year. That said, home advantage could ultimately make the difference but fans should expect a tight

contest.

Azam FC hosts Ruvu Shooting at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam, looking to maintain their second spot on the log.

Ruvu Shooting caused problems for Azam FC by claiming a 1-0 win over the latter earlier this season.

Aristica Cioaba's charges will be looking to claim their revenge.

At Ushirika Stadium in Kilimanjaro, Mtibwa Sugar will be looking to move within touching distance of safety.

Mtibwa Sugar's hosts, Polisi Tanzania, meanwhile, are chasing a top four spot and will fancy their chances of another home win.

In Lindi, hosts Namungo FC

seeks to keep the pressure on Azam FC and Yanga in the top three fight.

Namungo FC, nevertheless, will not have it easy against a well-drilled Bishara United at Majaliwa Stadium.

Namungo are two points behind third-placed Yanga who have a game in hand.

Biashara United, based in Mara, have moved forward in leaps and bounds since the appointment of Kenyan coach, Francis Baraza.

They, though, lost 1-0 to Lipuli FC in a rescheduled game, which took place in Iringa on Sunday morning. There is no doubt Baraza will demand an immediate response from his players.

No fans, no fun: Athletes uneasy over empty-arena solutions

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz.

AS U.S. sports leagues weigh whether to bar fans from ballparks and stadiums to help stall the coronavirus outbreak, San Francisco Giants pitcher Jeff Samardzija is one of the few players who can tell them exactly what that feels like.

"It's not very fun," he said.

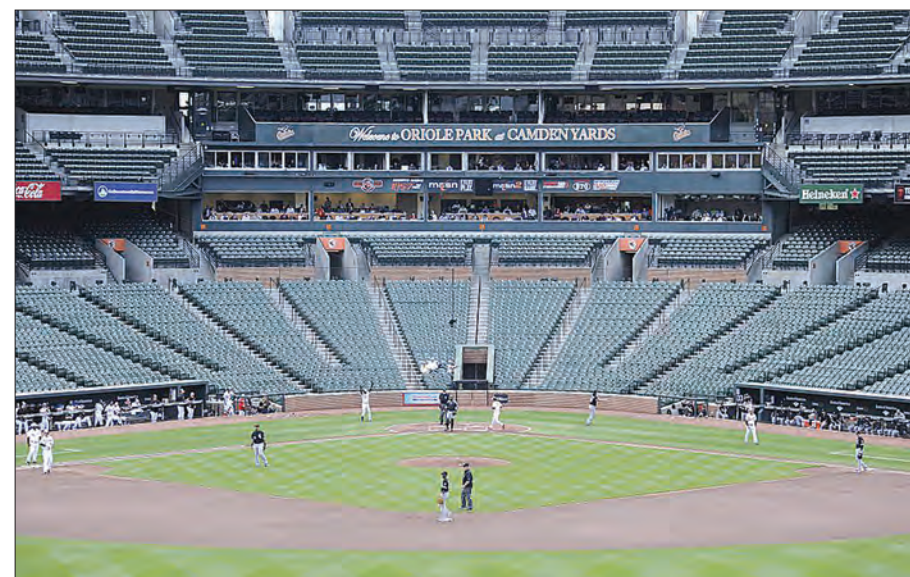
Samardzija pitched for the Chicago White Sox in a 2015 game played without fans in Baltimore due to civil unrest in the city. It was a bizarre scene at Camden Yards – a sun-drenched stadium, empty except for the teams – but something that has already become common internationally and could happen in the U.S. if there's no slowdown to the spread of the COVID-19 strain that has infected more than 100,000 people worldwide.

The global virus outbreak has caused concern about cramming tens of thousands of fans in for games that technically can go on without them.

Sports leagues in Europe, Asia and the Middle East have already locked supporters out of venues, and the NBA sent a memo to its franchises Friday warning them to prepare for the possibility that it may have to host games without fans.

While U.S. sports leagues have been in regular contact with each other regarding the outbreak, MLB and the NHL have not yet issued similar notices.

Baseball Commissioner Rob Manfred plans to discuss the coronavirus with team owners in a conference call Monday – the first league-wide call between clubs and the commissioner about the outbreak. But at this stage, the league plans to open the season in 2 1/2 weeks as planned.



In this April 29, 2015, file photo, Baltimore Orioles' Caleb Joseph connects for a single against the Chicago White Sox in Baltimore. Jeff Samardzija pitched for the White Sox in the game at Camden Yards closed to fans because of rioting in Baltimore prompted by the death of Freddie Gray, a 25-year-old black man who died in police custody. U.S. sports leaders are now weighing whether to bar fans from ballparks and stadiums to help stall the coronavirus outbreak. (AP Photo)

With the situation evolving quickly, athletes in the U.S. are becoming aware – and concerned – about the possibility of playing behind closed doors.

Los Angeles Lakers star LeBron James said Friday he "ain't playing if I ain't got the fans in the crowd," and other players also said they'd be disappointed to suit up for empty seats.

"Boring. Boring," Chicago White Sox shortstop Tim Anderson said. "We get the energy from our fans. It would suck, man."

Virus concerns are greater in some pockets of the country – like in Washington state, which has reported 16 deaths and more than 100 people diagnosed.

Fears around the outbreak have already affected sports attendance there. The Seattle Sounders drew 33,080 fans Sat-

urday night, the smallest crowd for an MLS regular season match in the soccer-crazed city since the club's inaugural season in 2009.

"That would be an odd one to play in an empty stadium," Sounders coach Brian Schmetzer said. "It'd be like 'OK, we're playing, but something is missing.'"

Washington officials are already cautioning residents to avoid large gatherings – and one of the biggest on the schedule is when the Mariners host the Texas Rangers for opening day March 26.

Seattle, like all other big league clubs, has been monitoring the situation with MLB and taken precautions around its spring training complex in Peoria, Arizona. But Mariners vice president of communications Tim Hevly said that at this

stage, "we have no specific concerns or precautions based on what is happening in Washington."

"These decisions will be made by Major League Baseball with the Mariner people that sit in a higher chair than I'm in," Seattle manager Scott Servais said. "It is serious, it is really serious. Something that we do not look lightly at. ... But hopefully it gets calmed down a little bit."

Spring training routines have been gently adjusted – hand-washing has gone up, autograph meet-and-greets with fans have been tweaked, and Servais said the Mariners have re-jiggered some dugout handshakes – but overwhelmingly, players have said they and their families have been unaffected.

All of which makes it hard to fathom that fans could be barred at some

point. "It would be weird," said Mariners pitcher Taijuan Walker, who said he hadn't played baseball without at least a few thousand fans in attendance since he was in the minor leagues.

"Certainly you want to make the right decision for our fans, everybody that's close to the game," Servais said. "We still need to play our games, if we can, but that's not for me to decide. We'll adhere to the decisions that are made. We are planning on playing a complete season this year, and I'm sure we will."

The International Ice Hockey Federation said Saturday it was canceling the women's world hockey championships in Canada, and Division III NCAA basketball tournament games were held at an empty venue at Johns Hopkins this weekend.

The sports calendar is loaded with major events in the next few months that may also be forced to adjust, including the NCAA basketball tournament and the Masters.

Golf star Rory McIlroy said he'd understand if officials kept fans away from Augusta National.

"I think people would see a lot more of the golf course," he said. "It would be kind of cool. But obviously, I'd rather play the Masters with people there than without."

"It would be just like having an early tee time on the PGA Tour, anyway," he added. "I guess for a few guys, it wouldn't be that much different."

For many athletes, there's also skepticism that leagues might go to such extremes.

AP

Ronaldinho still in jail, could face more charges

ASUNCION

FORMER Brazil and Barcelona football star Ronaldinho, being held in a Paraguayan jail for using a falsified passport, is being investigated for additional crimes, the prosecutor leading the case said on Sunday.

Osmar Legal did not clarify what the crimes were but told Brazilian news site Globoesporte "there are indications that other crimes were committed" by Ronaldinho and his brother and business manager, Roberto Assis.

Sergio Queiroz, the lawyer representing both Ronaldinho and Assis, did not immediately respond to Reuters' requests for comment.

However, Queiroz told reporters earlier in the day that the case presented so far was only about the adulterated passports, and he refused to talk about "suppositions" made in the press.

"The case as it was presented is clear," Queiroz said. "There is no other point being investigated, you can see that there in the documents."

He called the brothers' detention "arbitrary, abusive and illegal."

"They confessed that they used these false passports," Queiroz told reporters. "But there was no harm done to the Paraguayan state."

"Roberto and Ronaldinho did not know that the passports were irregular. And they cooperated fully with authorities."

Ronaldinho, the ex-Barcelona, Paris Saint-Germain, AC Milan and Gremio forward, and Roberto were

remanded in custody on Saturday after being caught trying to enter Paraguay using doctored passports.

A judge ruled them a flight risk and said they must remain in jail while the investigation takes place. Under Paraguayan law, officials have six months to complete their enquiry.

The pair spent Friday and Saturday night in a jail cell in a maximum security facility. They were given soap, pillows and mosquito repellent and were led into court on Saturday in handcuffs.

Sunday was visiting day at the prison and Globoesporte said the brothers remained inside their cell to avoid the attention of families and children visiting the other inmates.

Ronaldinho, who was last year named a tourist ambassador by Brazil's far-right government, was invited to Paraguay by a local casino owner and arrived on Wednesday to take part in a soccer clinic for children and a book launch.

He was greeted at the airport in Asuncion by throngs of fans.

Although he last played professionally in 2015, Ronaldinho, who also represented Brazilian clubs Atletico Mineiro, Flamengo and Fluminense, is still hugely popular with global football fans for his skills and showmanship.

The 39-year-old was named FIFA world player of the year in 2004 and 2005 and won the World Cup with Brazil in 2002 and the Champions League with Barcelona in 2006.

(Agencies)

Zidane on loss: Worst of Real Madrid's season

MADRID

REAL Madrid coach Zinedine Zidane has said their 2-1 defeat at Real Betis -- a result that saw them lose their lead at the top of La Liga to rivals Barcelona -- was their "worst game of the season."

A late Cristian Tello goal saw Madrid follow their El Clasico win with a loss at the Benito Villamarin, a defeat that midfielder Casemiro admitted "could cost us the league" in the latest twist in a rollercoaster title race.

With just 11 games left to play, Barcelona now lead the La Liga table on 58 points, with Real Madrid two points behind them. Madrid have lost three out of their last four games in all competitions.

"I think we played a bad game, from beginning to end," Zidane said in his post-match news conference. "It's a shame, because we had the chance to play a good game and we didn't. We didn't play at all. I don't have an explanation."

"I'm the coach and when things don't go well, or we don't do what we'd talked about, I'm responsible," he added. "It was our worst game of the season. Defensively, offensively, our energy, we didn't have enough mobility to cause the opponent problems. We conceded two goals, but what annoys me most is what we did with the ball."

Man U need more players to fight for title - Ole

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND

OLE Gunnar Solskjaer says Manchester United still need "two or three" new signings to be considered title contenders despite doing the league double over Manchester City for the first time in 10 years.

United beat Pep Guardiola's reigning champions 2-0 at Old Trafford on Sunday thanks to goals from Anthony Martial and Scott McTominay to follow up the 2-1 victory at the Etihad Stadium in December. Afterwards Solskjaer hailed a "complete" performance but insisted the squad needs more work if they are going to close the gap with the top teams next season.

"We feel we are improving all the time," said Solskjaer. "We know we

lack one two three players to be considered a title contender and some experience and we know that."

"We are just going to start talking about going up the table, getting more points."

"Chelsea and Leicester are too far ahead for my liking."

Guardiola, meanwhile, was forced to defend goalkeeper Ederson after the Brazilian put in an uncharacteristic error-strewn display. The Brazilian let Martial's opener slip under his body before almost allowing Joao Cancelo's back pass slide under his boot and into the net. And in the final minutes, he compounded a miserable afternoon by rolling the ball to McTominay for the midfielder to make it 2-0 from 40 yards. (Agencies)

Derby win hints Man United have turned a corner under Solskjaer

BY MARK OGDEN, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

OLE Gunnar Solskjaer and his Manchester United players milked the moment after completing a 2-0 derby win over Manchester City at Old Trafford. It wasn't a complete lap of honour, but three out of four stands wasn't bad, and nobody in a red shirt was rushing off the pitch. Why would they?

Some wins matter more than others and this one, thanks to goals from Anthony Martial and Scott McTominay, secured a Premier League double over City for the first time since the 2009-10 season.

It is way too early to suggest that United's victory signalled a shifting in the balance of power in Manchester from blue to red -- United are still fifth, 12 points behind second-placed City -- but Solskjaer and his players celebrated on the pitch at the end because they knew that this victory was a significant moment for the club.

"We feel we are improving as a squad and a team," Solskjaer said. "It shows we are on track and we are improving, and that we are Manchester United."

"We are closing in on the teams in front of us, but we are still fifth. We need points to catch Chelsea and Leicester, so [we] need to keep plugging away."

"But the desire, attitude, commitment, connection between fans and players pleased me most."

When City beat United in the FA Cup semifinals at Wembley in 2011, it was a pivotal moment that injected Roberto Mancini's team with the confidence and self-belief that they could win major honours and emerge from United's shadow.



Fernandes and Aleksandr Zinchenko compete for the ball midway through the first half in Sunday's clash. (Agencies)

In years to come, United's victory in this game could have a similar resonance for Solskjaer and his players because there was, finally, a sense of everything coming together for the red side of Manchester against the team -- City -- that has dominated for the best part of a decade.

United were resolute and organised at the back, where Luke Shaw continued his renaissance and Aaron Wan-Bissaka and Harry Maguire once again showed themselves to be smart buys last summer. In midfield, Fred was the player everyone hoped he would be when he arrived almost two years ago -- the busy, tenacious star of a tough Shakhtar Donetsk team -- while Nemanja Matic made a mockery of his

absence from the team for the majority of the first half of this season.

Then there was Bruno Fernandes, United's new talisman, who extended his unbeaten run to eight games since his £67 million January arrival from Sporting Lisbon. Fernandes made Martial's opener with a clever lob from a well-worked free kick and also dominated his area of the pitch, showing himself to be United's creative force. Thanks to Fernandes, the still unfit Paul Pogba has become a forgotten man who will struggle to get anywhere near this team when, or if, he plays again this season.

Up front, United are still a work in progress, especially with Marcus Rashford sidelined with a back

injury, but the pace of Martial and Daniel James troubled City all day long and was key to the home side's win. But while United were impressive, vibrant and hungry, some perspective is required.

City were without their best player, Kevin De Bruyne, due to injury and Pep Guardiola's team have inevitably lost impetus in the league with leaders Liverpool 25 points clear and the gap to fifth-place a sizable 12 points. Motivation cannot be easy with such a gulf between top and fifth and it showed in the performances of the likes of Raheem Sterling, Sergio Agüero and Eder-son, who was directly at fault for both goals.

"The reality is that the pressure is not on the Pre-

mier League," City midfielder Bernardo Silva said. "We know the position isn't going to change a lot, so maybe that is a thing."

"But it's an important game for the fans, we know that, and it is not acceptable to play like we did today."

City are still on course in the Champions League and FA Cup, having already won the Carabao Cup against Aston Villa last week, so perhaps their focus has shifted to the knockout competitions now that there is little or nothing to play for in the Premier League.

Still, United have suffered from a mental block against City in recent seasons, especially since Sir Alex Ferguson retired in 2013, so beating them in this fixture was a huge result, regardless of City's mentality and desire. More importantly, the win has also put United firmly back in the hunt for Champions League qualification.

The Red Devils now sit three points behind fourth-placed Chelsea and just five adrift of third-placed Leicester, who have lost four of their past seven league games. United still travel to Leicester in a potential decider on the final game of the season.

(Agencies)

Coronavirus leads to calls for Serie A suspension as Euro 2020 risk grows

BY GABRIELE MARCOTTI, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

ON Sunday morning, Italian players' union president Damiano Tommasi tweeted that he had written to the country's prime minister Giuseppe Conte, as well as heads of the league and the FA, asking for all football in the country to be stopped amid the impact of COVID-19, also known as coronavirus.

"The teams to be cheering on right now are performing in our hospitals and wherever there is an emergency," Tommasi wrote.

His comment followed Saturday night's measures from the Italian government, which effectively put a quarter of the population under quarantine. In the short term, Sunday's Serie A games went ahead behind closed doors, although the first of the day -- Parma vs. SPAL -- was delayed for 75 minutes.

The plan is for games in empty stadiums to continue at least until April 3, but a meeting to discuss the situation has been scheduled for Tuesday.

For the head of a players' union to take such a strong stance is bound to have repercussions. You can play games without fans, but doing so without players is more difficult (Mario Balotelli was among those to back the suspension call). And while Tommasi did not mention the word "strike," there is a key issue here, given the government has told some 16 million people not to travel except for essential work or medical reasons.

Six Serie A teams -- Milan, Inter, Atalanta, Brescia, Parma and Sassuolo -- are based in the affected areas, which raises the question: Is playing football -- professional football -- an essential reason to travel?

From a business vantage point, the answer is yes. Serie A, like most pro leagues, is basically an unscripted reality TV show. Most of its audience -- and revenue -- derives from people watching on their screens, with advertisers and sponsors paying for those eyeballs. Shut it down and you lose that, just as you have already lost gate receipts from match-going fans.

The same amounts to most other businesses, which also lose money when they go under quarantine. In many lines of work, you can telecommute, you can videoconference, you can postpone certain meetings and decisions, but it all comes at a cost. And



AC Milan's Samu Castillejo kicks from the corner in an empty stadium during the Serie A soccer match between AC Milan and Genoa at the San Siro stadium, in Milan, Italy, Sunday, March 8, 2020. Serie A played on Sunday despite calls from Italy's sports minister and players' association president to suspend the games in Italy's top soccer division. (AP)

there are jobs where you simply cannot stop, whether running an assembly line in a factory or driving a truck. What is essential and what is not?

Switzerland, just across the border, has suspended its league. What would happen, in practical terms, if Italy did the same?

The obvious answer is that there would be a fixture pile-up that would either cut the season short -- opening a hornet's nest in terms of awarding titles, European places and determining relegation and promotion -- or extend it into June. The latter only becomes an option if Euro 2020, which is scheduled

to begin on June 12, is moved. For that to happen, the situation would have to degenerate across Europe; it is not something authorities are ruling out.

Germany reached 800 cases of confirmed infections on Saturday, roughly the same number that Italy had when matches began to be postponed eight days ago. France is at nearly 1,000 and PSG's game at Strasbourg on Saturday was postponed. Neither of which means both countries were wrong to go ahead with matches -- decisions are made based on concentration of cases and patterns of infection -- but it does mean that the pos-

sibility of suspensions elsewhere is real.

Not to mention what happens if players are infected. Four from the Danish league have been quarantined after meeting with Thomas Kahlenberg, a former player who tested positive. In Holland, members of Ajax's coaching staff are also in quarantine, including former Danish international Christian Poulsen.

UEFA have said they will follow government advice, and they have little choice. Euro 2020 will be staged across 12 countries. Playing behind closed doors has been mooted, but that would come at an estimated cost of half a billion Eu-

ros in lost ticket sales, hotel and travel cancellations. Moreover, it assumes local governments permit such a scenario; if even a couple of cities shut down, a logistical nightmare would result.

Even before that, there is the question of European club competitions. Five Italian clubs -- Juventus, Napoli, Roma, Inter and Atalanta -- are still involved in the Champions League or Europa League, with the latter two in the quarantine zone. It is difficult to see a situation whereby some clubs continue with their league programmes and others do not.

Therefore, an extension of domestic leagues and subsequent Euros postponement cannot be ruled out; UEFA ultimately are beholden to their members. But when would it be played?

The first instinct would be shifting it to June 2021. That would require permission from FIFA at a time when relations between the two bodies are at a low. It would also affect events already scheduled at that time, including the UEFA Nations League, World Cup qualifiers around the world and the FIFA Club World Cup in China.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Derby win hints Man United have turned a corner under Solskjaer

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

TONIGHT @ 9:00

EATV TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Mvizi Kitoani (r)
13:00 Wovawake Live (r)
13:30 Koli Za Wana
14:00 DK 10 za Maangamizi
14:30 Bball Kings Highlights (r)
15:00 Funguka
15:30 SSPORTS (r)
16:30 #HASTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kuasa
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MUDALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)

NIRVANA
Nirvana explores the hottest trends in fashion, beauty, art and lifestyle as well as interviews with notable people from the entertainment, art and fashion industries.

eastafrica RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast
10:00 MAMAMIA
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 DADAZ (r)

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Draw pending for COSAFA Women Under-17 Championship

PRETORIA

THE second staging of the COSAFA Women's Under-17 Championship will take place in Mauritius from April 17-26.

The competition's much-anticipated draw, which will see teams learn their fate in the event, has been scheduled for Wednesday in Johannesburg, South Africa.

The COSAFA introduced the new championship in this age-group level last year, where East African guest nation Uganda ran out inaugural winners.

That event was also staged in Mauritius, and there will be a return to the islands for this competition, a fifth year in a row that the Mauritius Football Association has staged an Under-17 championship following the men's competition that was played between 2016 and 2018.

"We are grateful to the Mauritius Football Association for their eagerness to host the COSAFA Women's Under-17 Championship once more, their support for football in the Under-17 age-group, men and women, has been exemplary over the past five years," COSAFA Secretary General, Sue Destombes, said.

"We have seen an explosion of interest in women's football from our members and these tournaments are crucial in providing international exposure to young players at the very start of their careers."

"We will have a competitive field again this year and look forward to another tournament that provides a glimpse of the stars of tomorrow."

The eight teams that will compete in this year's championship are Botswana, Comoros Islands, Eswatini, Malawi, Mauritius, South Africa, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The teams will be drawn into two pools each containing four sides, with the top two nations in each group advancing to the semi-finals.

The two venues earmarked for the tournament are Saint Francois Xavier Stadium in Port Louis and the Auguste Voltaire Stadium in Flacq.

Uganda claimed the title last year when they defeated South Africa in the decider, with Botswana and Zambia the other two semi-finalists.

The latter would go on to collect the bronze medal. As ever when COSAFA stage an event, there will be CSI program put in place to leave a legacy for years to come.

COSAFA, in partnership with Spain's LaLiga, last year hosted a Youth Festival, which followed a CAF Level D course run by COSAFA to train 20 female grassroots coaches in the country.

"The programs we run during the competition are a vital component of what we do, providing some sustainable outcomes for our hosts that hopefully help them to develop the game further," Destombes said.

"Whether this is on the pitch, or the training referees, coaches and administrators, we always want to leave something behind to fulfill our mandate of growing the game of football in South Africa."

The COSAFA Women's Under-17 Championship is the first of six tournaments, three each in the men's and women's category, that are scheduled to be staged in 2020.

Kilimanjaro Marathon 2020 leaves mark



Winners of the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon 2020 display their prizes shortly after the presentation ceremony of the race, which took place in Moshi. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Guardian Reporter

THEY say all is well that ends well. The Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon 2020 is a good example of an event that was well executed and has left a big mark not just in Moshi but in the whole of Tanzania.

More than 11,000 participants from over 58 countries worldwide convened in Moshi on March 1, 2020 and enjoyed the beautiful ambiance as they ran on the slopes of the highest mountain in Africa, Kilimanjaro.

According to the organizers, in addition to the 11,000 participants, there was an equal number of participants on the routes used by the participants of the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager 42km race, Tigo Half Marathon and the Grand Malt 5km Fun Run.

The Local Race Direc-

tor, John Bayo, noted this was the biggest ever since the marathon was started 18 years ago and it made Moshi and the neighbouring towns a beehive of activities.

"Business people made good sales on both goods and services," he noted.

He disclosed that the event has been successful throughout the years because of the commitment from all stakeholders, especially sponsors and official suppliers.

The race sponsors include Kilimanjaro Premium Lager-42km, TIGO-21km, Grand Malt-5km, Maji ya Kilimanjaro, TPC Limited, Simba Cement, Unilever, and Absa Bank Tanzania Limited.

The event's official suppliers are Kibo Palace Hotel, Keys Hotel, GardaWorld Security, Precision Air, and CMC Automobiles.

"Without these sponsors, it would have been very difficult for us as sponsors to execute this but our sponsors have remained committed to the event as each

of them had a role to play," he noted.

According to Bayo, success of the event was partly due to early preparations and the event also conforming to regulations laid down by IAAF as the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager Marathon is an IAAF accredited event.

He said it is for this reason that they had to end registration for the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager 42km race and Tigo Half Marathon when capacity was reached.

"Most people blamed us for this but we had to do that for safety purposes and to also ensure provision of the important services like water, first aid and so on...this is what makes a race successful," he disclosed.

He lauded all winners for this year's event and stressed that despite Kenyans dominating the 42km race, Tanzanians did well in the 21km race.

He called on more runners to train harder for the 42km race because he believes there are

many Tanzanians who can excel in the race.

He expressed sincere regards to the race's guest of honour, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Hamisi Kigwangalla, for gracing the event and for promising to push to ensure that the roads where the marathon paces are extended to accommodate more participants in the coming year.

"This will ensure we register more as currently the roads we use are so narrow hence we cannot exceed the 11,000 mark for safety purposes," he noted.

He also thanked supporters for colouring the event as this is normally an outing for many who come with their families over the years and they come from all over the country hence this has become a yearly trait.

It is no wonder that Athletics Tanzania (AT) has lauded Tanzania Breweries Limited (TBL) Group, over its consistency in sponsorship of the prestigious

Kilimanjaro Marathon, through Kilimanjaro Premium Lager brand, for 18 years now.

The AT First Vice President, William Kallaghe, said the marathon should from now on not just be regarded as a Moshi event but rather a national one.

He disclosed that Kilimanjaro Premium Lager has played a big role over the years.

"It is very difficult to make strides in sports without proper sponsorship. We want to sincerely thank Kilimanjaro Premium Lager for its role as this has ensured that the marathon happens every year," he noted.

He stressed that the event has been attracting tourists from all over hence it deserves to be a national event.

He called on other sponsors to come up and sponsor athletics due to the huge interest among Tanzanians in the sport.

Kilimanjaro Amateur Athletics Association Chairman, Liston Metacha, on his part, noted they are privileged to have such a big event in their region.

He disclosed the marathon has had a great contribution to not just the economy of Moshi but to the whole country.

The TBL Group Trade Marketing Director, Doreen Tumubebire, disclosed they are delighted to be main sponsors of the marathon since its inception 18 years ago and the race now boasts of over 11,000 runners.

"This shows how people have realized the importance of sports in healthy living," she disclosed.

Doreen said that this year TBL Group handed over 23m/- as cash prize for the 42 km race and a bonus of 1.5m/- each to the first male and female Tanzanian runners to finish.

She said she is optimistic that more Tanzanians will pick interest in the Kilimanjaro Premium Lager 42 km race in the coming event.

Financial constraints blight Mawenzi Market FC campaign in FDL

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa, Mwanza

FINANCIAL constraints that are currently facing Morogoro's Mawenzi Market FC, which competes in this season's First Division League (FDL), have chiefly contributed to the outfit's poor showing in its away games in the tournament, the team's skipper Juma Senkumbo has disclosed.

He issued the comments shortly after the team's evening training, which took place in Mwanza last week, aiming at shaping the squad up for the FDL game against Gwambina FC, which took place in the region on Saturday.

Gwambina FC posted 2-1 victory over Mawenzi Market FC in the clash.

The player told The Guardian Mawenzi Market FC's loss was associated with financial constraints that squad lately face.

He commented there is need for soccer enthusiasts in Morogoro to support the squad financially after game against Gwambina FC, given the former were



Mawenzi Market FC players in group picture before the team's recent match in this season's First Division League (FDL), which took place in Morogoro. The squad was set to confront Gwambina FC in Group B clash of the tournament in Misungwi, Mwanza last weekend. PHOTO: MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

set to play two more matches in the Lake Zone.

Mawenzi Market FC were expected to take on Geita sides, Geita Gold FC and Gipco FC.

Senkumbo disclosed Mawenzi Market FC which consist of 25 players is now required to pay almost 300,000/- at a hotel they stayed in for over a week in Mwanza.

He noted his team can not af-

ford three meals per day, pointing out the players, in the process, are compelled to have breakfast at 11am and are therefore demoralized.

"Morogoro soccer followers and other soccer stakeholders outside the region should please support our team because it is the region's only club which plays in the FDL," he disclosed.

"There is possibility for

Mawenzi Market FC to face relegation to Second Division League (SDL) once the club faces the same challenges for a long time."

Mawenzi Market FC record in this season's FDL shows the squad has been recording good results at their home venue due to fact that most of their players find it easy to meet their needs.

Senkumbo noted in some of the side's home matches, they

thrashed Mwanza's Pamba FC 4-1.

The Morogoro squad as well notched three wins in matches against Tabora's Rhino Rangers FC, Dar es Salaam's Green Warriors FC and Geita FC.

Rhino Rangers FC suffered 2-1 loss to Mawenzi Market FC, the Morogoro squad later posted 3-1 and 2-1 victories over Green Warriors FC and Geita FC respectively.

In Mawenzi Market FC's other matches which took place at their home venue, they managed a 0-0 draw with Tanga's Sahare All Stars, the Morogoro outfit also settled for 1-1 draw with Gwambina FC.

Mawenzi Market FC as well posted similar results in games against Dar es Salaam's Transit Camp FC and Kigoma's Mashujaa FC.

"The impressive performance we put in home matches is associated with players' commitment since they use their own cash to meet needs including medication and camping," he disclosed.

"They sometimes come from their respective homes to feature in games when the outfit fails to raise funds for camp, that spirit though can not be showcased in away matches."

Mawenzi Market FC are lately placed fourth in Group B of the FDL with 21 points.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

