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National Pg 3
Germany commits euros 35 million to EAC



National Pg 4
Nane Nane agricultural exhibitions



National Pg 6
WCF introduces digital platform



National Pg 7
Reducing water raises rice yields



Africa's lion population diminishing fast - study

By Guardian Reporter

THERE are just around 22,509 wild lions left in Africa, according to a recent draft analysis on the fragility of the continent's lion populations.

The draft report titled 'State of the Lion: Fragility of a Flagship Species,' by Amy Dickman and Amy Hinks from the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit at the University of Oxford, says wild lions have vanished from 95 per cent of their historic range.

In countries like Malawi, the approximate wild lion population is five, 30 in Nigeria, 25 in Angola, 22 in Rwanda and 20 in Niger. Countries with larger lion populations include Tanzania (8176), Kenya (1825), Mozambique (1295), South Africa (2070), Zimbabwe (1709) and Zambia (1095).



It finds that 40 per cent of current wild lion range is in protected areas while 14 per cent of wild lion populations don't overlap at all with protected areas

The study notes how there are more wild rhinos than wild lions, 14 times more African elephants and wild gorillas than wild lions and nearly 350 000 people for every one wild lion.

It finds that 40 per cent of current wild lion range is in protected areas while 14 per cent of wild lion populations don't overlap at all with protected areas.

The major threats to Africa's lions are the loss and degradation of habitat, bushmeat snaring and conflict with people when lions threaten them or their livestock, says Dickman.

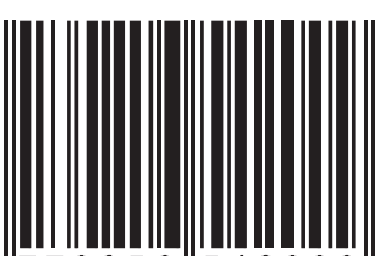
"Protected areas are key to maintaining habitat, so they need to be properly funded and well-managed. However, around half of lion range is outside protected areas, so that will not be sufficient alone."

Bushmeat snaring can be addressed by investing in alternative protein sources if driven by food insecurity, and by demand reduction and anti-poaching initiatives if driven by commercial interest.

Reducing human-lion conflict entails ensuring the local benefits of lion presence outweigh the costs, which is currently not true in most areas, says Dickman, the founder and director of the Ruaha Carnivore Project.

The project works to improve the status

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JPM urges more intra-African trade, technological transfer



President John Magufuli greets CRDB Bank Chief Executive Officer Abdulmajid Nsekela when he visited the bank's pavilion at the 4th SADC Industrialisation Week and Exhibition 2019 at the Mwalimu Nyerere Convention Center in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Centre is CRDB Bank Director for Corporate Affairs Tully Esther Mwambapa. CRDB Bank is amongst the chief sponsors of SADC Summit 2019. Photo: State House

President Magufuli said the summit offers opportunities for African and SADC countries to discuss on how best to conduct businesses and support each other by opening markets and ending trade barriers

By Henry Mwangonde

PRESIDENT John Magufuli yesterday called for intensification of intra-technology transfer among African countries to facilitate trade improvement and move the continent out of poverty.

Speaking at the opening of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Industrialization Week and Exhibition in Dar es Salaam, Dr Magufuli said industrialization has marginal contribution to economic development of the continent due to trade barriers.

This year's Industrialization Week is hosted under the theme "A Conducive Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, Increased Intra-Regional trade, and Job Creation."

President Magufuli said there will be more trade opportunities in Africa if intra-African trade and exchange of technology are enhanced.

"In simple words Africa consumes what it does not produce and produces what it does not consume, therefore we need to work on conducting business within ourselves and by doing so we will be able to move forward," he asserted.

President Magufuli said the exhibition offers



For his part, Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) chairperson Salum Shamte said the potential of private sector in Africa is not well harnessed due to cross border barriers

an opportunity for African and especially SADC countries to discuss how best to conduct business and support each other by opening markets for each other and ending trade barriers.

Industries contribute only 11 per cent to GDP of the economic bloc, despite that most developed countries in Europe and Asia chiefly invested in industries.

For his part, Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF) chairperson Salum Shamte said the potential of the private sector in Africa is not well harnessed due to cross border barriers.

He called for the private and public sectors to work together to address the bottleneck.

"If we are to create economies of scale we need to remove cross border trade barriers," said Shamte.

"We need to ask ourselves why are we using billions of dollars to import food yet we have 60 per cent of the available arable land globally."

The Minister for Trade and Industries Innocent Bashungwa said that despite the challenges, Tanzania has been doing fine in doing business in SADC as in 2018 it traded

Tanzania reforms, offers high in SADC Industrial Week opener

By Guardian Reporter

HIGHER energy costs and deficits are among the major setbacks affecting competition of products produced in the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) and delaying the region's industrialization drive.

The current energy deficit is 2,000 megawatts, according to SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Tax.

"The power deficit disadvantages our products in comparison to products produced elsewhere and imported into SADC. High energy cost emanating from the deficit increases the cost



The theme for the 2019 4th SADC Industrialization Week is "Competitive Business Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development."

of production of SADC goods," said Dr Tax when speaking at the opening of the 4th SADC Industrialization Week in Dar es Salaam.

The theme for the 2019 4th SADC Industrialization Week is 'Competitive Business Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development.'

She stated that efforts by Tanzania to produce electricity through the 2,115MW Rufiji hydropower project at the Stiegler's Gorge shall vastly increase the supply of affordable energy. The project once completed will result into lower costs of electricity production and

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Scribe in money laundering count, tax evasion charges

By Guardian Reporter

FREELANCE journalist Erick Kabendera (39) (pictured) was yesterday arraigned at the Kisumu Resident Magistrate's Court charged with three counts including money laundering, economic and organized crime.

He was brought at the court in a police Land Cruiser at around 12 noon. Present at the court were Kabendera's relatives and close friends including Kigoma Urban MP, Zitto Kabwe.

The charges were read in front of Senior Resident Magistrate Augustine Rwizile by Senior State Attorneys Paul Kadushi, Faraja Nchimbi and Wankyo Simon.



Kadushi stated that in between 2015 and July 2019, at different places within Dar es Salaam, together with persons who were not in court, they led organized crime by providing assistance in the conduct of affairs of a criminal racket with intent to reap profit contrary to paragraph 4 (l) (c) and section 57 (l) and 60 (2) of the Economic and Organized Crime Control Act, 2002.

The second count alleges that contrary to section 105 (a) of the Income Tax Act, 2008, Kabendera in between January 2015 and July 2019 within Dar es Salaam, failed to pay taxes amounting to T73.2m/- to the Tanzania Revenue

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\$999.3 million worth of goods and services compared to \$877.8 million in the previous year.

"This was an increment of 12.16 percent while imports from SADC increased from \$6000.6 million to \$604 million in 2018 same as an increment of 0.61 percent."

A total of 2,026 people from Southern

African Development Community (Sadc) member states had until Saturday registered for participation in the Industry Week, which kicked off yesterday.

Going by the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) Economic and Operations Report for 2017/18, the value of Tanzania's total intra-Sadc trade stood at Sh3.6 trillion in 2017. The summit is slated for August 17 and 18.

Scribe in money laundering count, tax evasion charges

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Authority (TRA).

Wankyo told the court that in between January 2015 and July 2019, Kabendera acquired 173,247,047.02/- while knowing the said money was the proceeds of an offence—tax evasion and leading organized crime contrary to section 3 (u) and 15 (1) (a) of the Anti -Money Laundering Act, 2006 and sections 57 (1) and 60 (2) of the Economic and Organized Crime Control Act, 2002.

However, in the Economic Crime case No. 75, Kabendera was not allowed to enter any plea as the Kisutu Court has no jurisdiction to hear the case, except by permit from the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP).

The case will come up for another mention on August 19th.

Kabendera was on Monday, July 29 taken away from his home at the

Mbweni suburb by individuals who told the family that they were police officers, but family sources said they refused to show their identity cards.

Dar es Salaam Regional Police Commander Lazaro Mambosasa then told a news conference that they arrested the journalist as opposed to reports that he was abducted. He said they are holding the freelance journalist for questioning over the status of his citizenship.

"We decided to arrest him because we had summoned him for questioning several times but he failed to oblige. The police are working closely with the Immigration Services Department to determine his citizenship," the RPC stated.

Subsequently it surfaced that the citizenship issue had been dropped and now the economic crime and money laundering charges are leveled against him in court.



Speaker Job Ndogai exchanges greetings with India Parliament lawmakers shortly after opening the meeting comprising legislators from Africa and Asia on population and development in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Parliament

Africa's lion population diminishing fast - study

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of carnivore populations and local communities around Ruaha National Park, the largest in East Africa but poorly known, with relatively few

visitors.

"The landscape maintains some of the most important large carnivore populations in the world, particularly lions, cheetahs and African wild dogs.

"These carnivores rely on village land outside the unfenced park,

where they impose major costs on local people without providing benefits. This has led to high levels of carnivore killing, so we work with villagers to protect livestock, increase conservation engagement and develop benefit initiatives which are

directly linked to wildlife presence.

"Our work has been successful, although there is much more to be done, and we are now working to maintain it and even expand the approaches elsewhere in Tanzania and beyond."



Simiyu Regional Commissioner, Anthony Mtaka (C), introduces director of operations, Workers Compensation Fund (WCF), Anselim Peter (L) to assistant manager public relations and protocol of the Bank of Tanzania (BoT) Vicky Msina when the RC and other officials visited the WCF's pavillion at the ongoing NaneNane fair at Nyakabindi grounds in the outskirts of Bariadi township in Simiyu region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Shock as man arrives home to find his 'funeral' underway

NAIROBI

Drama unfolded in Godmihaha village, Rachuonyo East in Homa Bay County when a 38-year-old man who was believed to have died a month ago resurfaced as "his funeral" was underway.

Kennedy Olwa, who is reported to have disappeared from home for almost 20 years and was presumed dead, appeared to mourners who had attended his "funeral" at his parents' home.

The man is said to have gone to Mbita town and became a fisherman after he left home.

He later relocated to Alum beach

along Lake Victoria in Rachuonyo North Sub-County.

According to Ramba Location Chief Joseph Ndege, the family of Olwa was informed that their son had died after an illness.

The family was told that police had taken the body to Homa Bay County Referral Hospital mortuary.

"The family did not waste time; they immediately started making burial arrangement. Another team was sent to the mortuary and confirmed that the man who was brought by police was their kin," Ndege said.

The family went further to make funeral announcements on local radio stations and spent a substantial amount

of money buying food for guests and other burial expenses.

Coincidentally, Olwa was listening to radio while fishing at Alum beach when he heard the announcement that he had died from an unknown illness.

"He called some of his relatives back at home to stop any plans of burying a body. Some relatives were sent to where he was to verify the truth," the chief said.

Meanwhile, burial plans went on back at home in Godmihaha village as some relatives did not believe the caller's message. This was because the man left home some 20 years ago and had not been heard from since then.

The other relatives visited him

on Saturday morning as the funeral ceremony started back at home.

When they arrived with him, they found speeches going on.

The body had been taken from the mortuary on Friday for burial on Saturday afternoon.

Ndege said the relatives who had gone to Alum beach where Olwa works returned with him as "his body" was about to be buried.

Olwa assured his relatives who had gathered for the funeral that he was still alive and they should not be worried.

The family had to take the body they were about to bury back to the mortuary since nobody claimed it.

AGENCIES

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contribute to industrialization in Tanzania and the SADC region, she elaborated.

SADC member states will access excess energy produced at the Rufiji hydropower station through the Southern African Power Pool (SAPP) interconnector.

Dr Tax asserted that to realize the goals of the Industrialization Strategy and take the SADC region to higher transformational growth, member states need to significantly increase industrial capacity by promoting manufacturing through targeted initiatives and putting in place a conducive and enabling environment, in terms of hard and soft infrastructures.

"We have to look back and see how much ground we have covered since 2014, and what needs to be done to move forward. The region can no longer afford to remain behind. We need to seize the opportunity at this crucial moment, to step up and take proactive steps in joining the global community," she urged.

Since the region embarked on industrialization, steady progress has been recorded including profiling of value chains in pharmaceuticals, mineral beneficiation and agro-processing. The protocol on industry and a Mining Vision have been developed to contribute to optimum and sustainable utilization of mineral resources across the region, the secretariat chief noted.

The private sector is a critical partner in the SADC industrialization agenda hence the need for the formalization of the SADC Business Council, she said.

"SADC recognizes the role of the private sector, values its contribution. This is evidenced in the ongoing partnership and structures that have been put in place for this purpose, including the Industrial Development Forum and the SADC Business Council," she further noted.

SADC member states are likely to expand markets for goods and services through the signing and operationalization of the new African Continental Free Trade Area, she stated. The pact had been delayed by the slow pace in the finalization of exchange of offers and the ratification of the COMESA-EAC-SADC Tripartite Free Trade Area Agreement, the SADC top official recounted.

She urged member states to finalize tariff negotiations and ratification processes for the Tripartite Free Trade Area (TFTA) Agreement, a catalyst for the Continental Free Trade Area. She

also called upon the private sector to join hands with governments in advocating for operationalisation of the COMESA-EAC-SADC Free Trade Area.

"Let us utilize trade opportunities created by the SADC Free Trade Area with an integrated market of the 16 countries and a combined population of 327 million and a GDP of about \$ 599 billion," Dr Tax appealed.

Earlier, the chairman of Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF), Salum Shamte expressed concern that basic services such as railways, roads, water, electricity and internet are seven times more expensive for African businesses compared to Asian counterparts.

It is high time that private and public sectors work together to address the bottlenecks that hold back African businesses, he said, emphasizing that the region has to work as one and remove all cross border trade barriers and increase intra-Africa investments and trade. "We should focus on collaboration rather than wasteful competition," he said.

SADC should strive to produce enough food for its people since the countries spend more than \$30 million annually to import food while the SADC region covers 60 percent of all arable land in the world.

"There are no reasons for African countries to import rice from Asia while the continent has all the potential to grow more rice," he said.

Highlighting current reforms to create a conducive business and investment climate, he said the government has jointly with the private sector developed a Blueprint for regulatory reforms and that its implementation has already begun.

"Once fully implemented, the Blueprint will change completely the way Tanzania facilitates entrepreneurs to do business. We invite our brothers and sisters from SADC to invest in the country in a collaboratively win-win approach," he said in testimony.

Shamte said that Tanzania is massively investing to improve roads, railways, air transport as well as energy production to support its industrialization drive.

Tanzania is among the top five fastest growing economies in Africa, growing at around 7 percent per annum for the last decade. The country offers massive business and investment opportunities in agriculture, livestock, fisheries, tourism, transport, logistics, manufacturing, mining and construction, the private sector leader underlined.



President John Magufuli gets a briefing from Tanzania Coffee Board Chairman who is also managing director of Amir Hamza (T) Ltd and Cafe Amimaza products at his pavilion shortly after President Magufuli inaugurated the industrial exhibitions as part of the SADC Week in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ORCI screens 1197 people for hepatitis fever in Dar

By Correspondent James Kandoya

OCEAN Road Cancer Institute (ORCI) has managed to screen 1197 people for hepatitis fever, "silent killer diseases", surpassing the set target of 1000 people during the hepatitis fever week whose climax was July 29 this year.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday at the institute to give the overall evaluation of the hepatitis fever week, the Director Cancer Preventive Services said the people response for screening was very high.

"Initially we planned to screen 1000 people in the five days, but we have managed to screen 1197 and out of them 49 were found with hepatitis fever infection," he said.

He said those found with infection will undergo further confirmatory test before getting treatment as per doctor's prescription.

"Confirmatory test will help us to know the stage of the disease and therefore enable doctors to know the correct treatment depending on the stage of the disease," he added.

According to the director, the screen camp was organised to commemorate the hepatitis fever week celebrated global July 29, of every year.

Dr Crispin said during the commemoration week, the screen services were free of charge to all people adding when the services resume each person has to pay for it.

On July 29, this year the (ORCI) announced its decision embark on outreach screening of hepatitis B by visiting communities and offices in a new effort to diagnose and treat more cases.

The Director Cancer Prevention Services at institute, Dr Crispin Kahesa said the move aimed to increase people access to life-saving testing and treatment services.

He said the move was in lined with

this year's theme "invest in eliminating hepatitis" focusing on communities and groups living at risk of getting the infection.

He revealed that hepatitis B, is attributing to almost 90 per cent of liver cancer cases diagnosed in the country necessitating the need for regular medical checkup.

"We have started screening staffs in offices to diagnose and treat them. However, our plan as an institute is to embark on outreach screening of the diseases to diagnose more people," he said.

He said in order people to be free from hepatitis - B, people should free from unsafe sex and being transfused blood which has hepatitis virus.

In the case of Hepatitis -A people should free from drinking water contaminated with hepatitis virus.

He noted that hepatitis fever was more deadly than tuberculosis and HIV/Aids, since the communicable disease was less amenable to treatment compared to HIV/Aids.

The Tanzania HIV Impact Survey (THIS-2016/2017) conducted by the Tanzania Commission AIDS(TACAIDS) showed that at least 7.3 percent of Tanzanians living on Mainland ageing 15 and above had been infected with hepatitis - B, famous known as the 'silent killer disease'.

The statistics shows that all those living in urban have been affected mostly by 4.3 per cent than in rural areas by 3.3 percent most

Of all the statistics, all those living in urban were 4.2 percent were women while 4.4 per cent were men.

"We have started screening staffs in offices to diagnose and treat them. However, our plan as an institute is to embark on outreach screening of the diseases to diagnose more people"

By Guardian Reporter

Germany commits Euros 35 million to EAC for immunisation programme

THE Federal Republic of Germany has committed Euro 35 million (89.5bn/-) to East African Community to be invested in vaccination programmes in the partner states.

Speaking at the EAC headquarters, senior policy officer from the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Claudia Imwolde-Krämer said Germany is contributing Euro 35 million to immunisation programmes in the EAC.

"I appreciate and acknowledge the EAC's efforts to immunise every child

in the region".

In his remarks, the EAC Deputy Secretary General in charge of planning and infrastructure, Eng. Steven Mlote said the visit by Imwolde-Krämer reaffirms the strong ties of friendship and cooperation between the EAC and the Federal Republic of Germany.

"Indeed, the Federal Republic of Germany and the EAC have historically had strong and cordial relations dating

back to the founding of the EAC, 20 years ago," added Eng. Mlote.

Eng. Mlote noted that the two partners been cooperating in different areas with notable achievements being realized in the Health and Pharmaceutical Sectors; Trade and Customs; Agriculture as well as Tourism.

The Deputy Secretary General thanked Germany for her generous

support to the EAC, noting that the collaboration between the two parties continues to grow and become stronger.

Germany has been supporting immunization programmes in the region in close collaboration with the EAC and Global Alliance for Vaccines and Immunizations (GAVI) since 2013. The region has made great progress in introducing new, life-saving vaccines.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

An oil distribution company is looking for a qualified candidate to fill the position Lubes Marketing & Technical Services Engineer based in Dar es Salaam.

THE POSITION

The holder of this position will be expected to Plan and implement effective pre and after sales technical services support to Company's marketing activities covering all range of lubricants to enhance customers satisfaction and confidence level to ensure technical competitiveness in the market place.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- o Carry out frequent business surveys to ensure the company has adequate lubes range in the market.
- o To recruit Lubricants customers in line with Company Processes and procedures
- o Prepare lubes equivalent charts and carry out lubrication surveys to ensure all customers use right lubricants.
- o To Carry out marketing intelligence from other Lubes players and analyse customer integrity and risks associated with lubes business. To support customers on oil and equipment condition monitoring
- o To work with lubes team to prepare/review lubes prices & budgets and sales forecasts.
- o Ensure the company has adequate product range (grades and packages) in the business area.
- o Ensure customers apply right lubricants. Prepare lubes equivalent to new customers and carry out lubrication surveys.
- o Ensure data sheets are available, correct and interpret the same to the customers.
- o To support customers and solve lubes related issues including condition monitoring.
- o Work with sales team to prepare budgets and sales forecasts. Carry out promotion activities as directed from time to time.
- o To identify the gap between the current product range and actual market requirement and fill the gaps.
- o To develop and maintain very good relationships with customers, partners and the sales team.
- o To monitor the customer satisfaction regarding quality of products and services and solve/report immediately any issues that may compromise quality of products and services.

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

- o BSc (Eng) in Mechanical or Petroleum Engineering
- o Detailed understanding of petroleum products, market and logistics.
- o Knowledge on lubes application points (equipment) and Exposure on sales and marketing procedures
- o Product knowledge (lubes)
- o 4-5 years' experience

MODE OF APPLICATION:

Interested Candidates should forward their application letters, detailed CV's, copies of relevant certificates and any testimonials which will support your application to oryxtz.recruitment@oryxenergies.com.

Deadline 15th August 2019.

215362001



Invitation to Bid

Provision of CLEANING AND GARDENING SERVICES for UNITED NATIONS AGENCIES IN TANZANIA on Long Term Basis (LTA)

UNDP Tanzania invites interested, reputable and competent cleaning companies to apply for the following ITB:

Provision of Cleaning and Gardening Services to the United Nations Agencies in Tanzania

ITB/TZA/2019/002

To access the full package of ITB, interested bidders should visit

UNDP Procurement notice website

http://procurement-notices.undp.org/view_notice.cfm?notice_id=58074

UNGM website

<https://www.ungm.org/Public/Notice/94798>

Deadline for submission of application:

1100AM (GMT+3HRS) on Thursday 19th September 2019.

The application must be written and submitted in accordance with ITB Solicitation document attached in the links above.

215362201

'Nane Nane agricultural exhibitions in central zone is still quite low'

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE annual Nane Nane agricultural exhibitions in the central zone is still quite low, the fifth day since it started as authorities question the reasons behind the low turn out.

Visiting the exhibitions at the Nzuguni area in the city yesterday, Singida Regional Commission (RC), Rehema Nchimbi expressed disappointment that most of the pavilions were just empty.

"I think the district councils are misusing the government funds, the state budgeting for the agricultural exhibitions yet nothing is on display," she said.

The Singida RC who was the chief guest at the annual animal competition that attracted hundreds of livestock keepers urged the organisers to find out why the turn out of goers is quite low.

As usual, there were many students who visited the show whereby several primary and secondary school students who visited the national assembly pavilion expressed joy of learning the procedures of the august House.

However, some were worried over conditions to be granted entry into the House blaming limited information for them to attend the august House.

"Personally I am not aware of how an individual can be granted entry

into the Parliament," one of the student said asking whether there are favours given to some selected group of individuals.

According to parliamentary standing orders section 139 any visitor may be allowed into the parliament at any location allocated for the purpose. Without favour, individual interested to attend the august House must register with the office the National Assembly Clerk.

Even though, the school children had the view that the heightened security at the lawmaking organ was also another reason barring their interests to apply for a seat in the Parliament.

Neema Kiula, Bunge officer in-

charge at the pavilion explained that every national is allowed entry into the legislative body. "This is the public place and everyone can apply for a permit to attend the sessions at any ongoing parliamentary proceedings," she said.

Regarding the security at the Parliament, the independent organ

strengthened its security since 2013 following series of terror attacks in neighbouring Kenya including the West Gate Mall.

The officer said during this year's farmer's exhibitions at the Nane-Nane grounds in Dodoma, the National Assembly had recorded a large number of school children seeking to

learn more about the parliamentary process.

"Also the children are interested in understanding the history of the Parliament and its relations with freemasons as one of its previous structures is currently named after the controversial organisation," she explained.



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Amref Health Africa is an independent, non-profit, non-governmental organization (NGO) whose mission is "to improve the health of people by partnering with and empowering communities and strengthening health systems". Amref Health Africa has over 1000 employees throughout Africa with its headquarters in Nairobi, Kenya. Amref Health Africa has offices in Tanzania, Ethiopia, Kenya, Uganda, and South Africa, Malawi, Zambia, South Sudan and Senegal and a number of offices in Europe and North America for fundraising.

Amref Health Africa-Tanzania is largely supported by Multilateral, Bilateral and National donors, implementing several programmes including HIV/AIDS/TB/Nutrition, Reproductive, Maternal, New-born and Child Health, Water and sanitation, e-learning programme and clinical outreach.

Amref Health Africa Tanzania is a Principal Recipient for The Global Fund for AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) HIV/TB grant for 2018-2020 funding cycle. Amref Health Africa is seeking applications from suitably qualified Tanzanians to support its Global Fund HIV/TB Grant for Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) thematic area. Amref Health Africa has the following vacancy based in Dar es Salaam office.

Position: Project Technical Advisor- Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) (1)
Location: Amref Country Office Dar es Salaam,
Reports to: Programme Manager (Global Fund)

JOB PURPOSE:-

The Technical Advisor for AGYW will provide professional technical, operational and administrative support throughout AGYW programming processes under the Global Fund grant. The Technical Advisor will prepare, execute, manage and implement a variety of technical and administrative program tasks primarily to facilitate AGYW interventions, undertaking progress monitoring, evaluating and reporting in areas of designation that included at least Ten(10) councils in Tanzania Mainland.

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Technical and operational support to program implementation

- The Technical Advisor will lead the delivery of comprehensive services to targeted AGYW as part of the larger Global Fund AGYW defined package of services.
- S/he will provide expert guidance on appropriate technical and programmatic approaches for scale up i.e. Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) services for AGYW, including GBV mitigation and post-violence care of life skills, IGA and others services as per national AGYW implementation manual. S/he will recommend improvements in delivery of services and engage in mentoring of sub recipients.
- Participate as appropriate in regular program field visits and /or exchange information with partners/stakeholders to assess grant progress on AGYW.
- Provide technical support including taking appropriate action to resolve issues and/or refer to relevant officials.
- Report on critical issues, bottlenecks and potential problems for timely action to achieve results.
- Provide and operational support to sub recipients, CSOs and Government collaborative entities that include but not limited to TACAIDS, NACP, TASAF and Regional Secretariat counterparts, and Local Government Authorities.

2. Program management, monitoring and delivery of results

- Work closely and collaboratively with internal and external colleagues, partners (sub recipients) to discuss operational, implementation issues, and recommendations.
- Keep records of reports and assessments for easy reference and/or to capture and institutionalize lessons learned.
- Participate in monitoring and evaluation exercises, program reviews and annual reviews with government and implementing partners to assess project and to report on required action/interventions at the program management.
- Monitor and report on the use of allocated project resources (financial, administrative), verify compliance with approved allocation/goals, organizational rules, regulations/procedures and donor commitments.
- Report on critical issues/findings to ensure timely resolution by management/stakeholders including AGYW technical working group
- Prepare regular/mandated project reports for management, donors and partners to keep them informed of project progress.

3. Networking and partnership building

- Build and sustain effective close working partnerships with TAYOA, TACAIDS, NACP, TASAF and Regional Secretariat counterparts and stakeholders through active sharing of information and knowledge to facilitate program implementation and build capacity of stakeholders to achieve and sustain results on adolescent girls and young women.
- Participate in appropriate Regional and Local Government Authorities annual and bi annual meetings/events on joint information sharing, best practice and lesson learnt.
- Provide information on potential donors in the area of designation, draft and/or provide inputs for preparation of resource mobilization materials/briefs for advocacy, fundraising and partnership development purposes.

4. Innovation, knowledge management and capacity building

- Identify, capture, synthesize and share lessons learned for knowledge development and to build the capacity of Regional and Local Government Authorities stakeholders, in the area of AGYW.
- Apply innovative approaches and promote good practice to support the implementation and delivery of concrete and sustainable program results, in the area of AGYW.
- Document and report on the best practices for development planning of AGYW initiatives
- Participate as a resource person in capacity-building initiatives to enhance the competencies of provincial clients/stakeholders.
- Work with technical group to develop and track AGYW promising practices for scale up

QUALIFICATION/EXPERIENCE

- The applicant must be a holder of a Master's degree in Public Health, Sociology, Community development or related degree program at Master's level.
- At least seven (7) years of experience in implementing HIV Programs with significant emphasis on adolescents and young people.
- Expertise in behavior change, communication, economic strengthening interventions desirable.
- Experience working with CSOs and LGAs will be an added advantage.
- Fluency in speaking and written English, with presentation skills and competency in computer application.

If you meet the criteria given above and interested in the vacancies, please send an application letter and CV combined in as one document indicating your present employer and position, daytime telephone contact, names and addresses of three referees. To be considered, your application must be received by **16.30 Hours August 15, 2019**. Please mention the job title/vacancy name or use the job title as the subject line when applying for this position failure to do that your application may not be retrieved. All correspondences should be directed to: Email: jobs.tanzania@amref.org. Direct application through mail or hand delivery will not be accepted.

1. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

2. Amref Health Africa is an equal opportunity employer and has a nonsmoking environment policy.

3. "Amref Health Africa is committed to the principles of safeguarding in workplace and will not tolerate any form of abuse, wherever it occurs or whoever is responsible"

4. Amref health Africa –Tanzania regrets that only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

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A journalist Erick Kabendera under police escort leaves Kisutu Resident Magistrate Court in Dar es Salaam after the Economic sabotage charge facing him was adjourned yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Greg Nichols

BRITISH satellite telecom Inmarsat has joined forces with a Washington DC non-profit called RESOLVE to put its satellites to work on behalf of endangered wildlife in Africa. Though it sounds like a pitch room idea for a Bourne movie, the solution will use AI, satellites, and local cameras to thwart would-be poachers.

RESOLVE has a decidedly technological approach to defending wildlife. The non-profit has developed a system called TrailGuard AI, which Intel helped develop and which is being funded and deployed by the Leonardo DiCaprio Foundation and National Geographic Society.

TrailGuard AI uses an AI-powered camera to detect humans in nature reserves, with 97 per cent accuracy, and instantly transmit images to park rangers' facilities, enabling them to identify would-be poachers and intervene. Inmarsat's network plays a key role. The solution relies on the company's L-band, global, mobile satellite communications network

By Inga Vesper

With nearly 1.4 billion people still lacking access to even the most basic toilet, researchers around the world are looking for innovative solutions, writes Inga Vesper.

First, some good news, since the year 2000, the number of people forced to defecate in the open has fallen by more than half to an estimated 673 million. However, 2 billion people still lack basic sanitation services, with more than 700 million relying on rudimentary holes or pits, a World Health Organization (WHO) report showed last month.

The problem is concentrated on around 60 high-burden countries, mostly in Africa and Asia, where water is scarce and infrastructure – such as sewer systems and water treatment plants – can be difficult to maintain. Open defecation is widely practised in some countries, but it is not a suitable alternative. It contaminates food and water through flies and can be dangerous to girls and women, as it forces them to seek out isolated spots away from their homes.

But changing toilet practices is surprisingly difficult. "It's something quite intimate," says Rémi Kaupp, a sanitation engineer for the UK-based charity WaterAid. "People don't want governments or agencies to impose what kind of toilet they have in their home. What they want is someone to deal with the aftermath."

The answer for Kaupp is on-site sanitation. The traditional pit latrine, where waste is collected in a pit under a seat, is the go-to solution for most households without access to a sewage system. But latrines have their own problems. Pits need to be emptied, a job that is dangerous without proper equipment. The waste stinks. If latrines are shared, they may get so dirty people

A camera and satellite net to stop big game poaching in Africa

to ensure the transmission of these images to rangers, overcoming the lack of reliable terrestrial connectivity in most remote nature reserves. TrailGuard AI utilises Inmarsat's mobile BGAN terminals, which are simple to set up and connect to the units and can withstand harsh environments.

"For the TrailGuard solution to work effectively we need rock solid connectivity, which, in most remote African wildlife reserves, is only achievable with satellite. Inmarsat's global, ultra-reliable satellite connectivity was the only solution that could help us overcome the connectivity challenges we faced and connect our smart sensors deployed out in the parks. This is expected to detect 80 per cent of poaching gangs operating in each area, which is by far the most effective strategy based on the resources and manpower available."

The system got its first full-time trial

when it was deployed in the Singita-Grumeti reserve in Tanzania in 2018. So far, the system has resulted in the arrest of around 30 poachers, many of whom were caught with bushmeat. RESOLVE is hoping to deploy the system at strategic chokepoints it identified within 100 African parks with high incidents of poaching.

"Wildlife poaching in Africa is at epidemic levels, but despite the best efforts of dedicated rangers, the large park boundaries and rough terrain mean that they often only find out about poaching when it's too late," says Dr. Eric Dinerstein, Director of WildTech and the Biodiversity and Wildlife Solutions Program at RESOLVE. "The TrailGuard solution acts as an early warning system, transitioning ranger teams into fully mobile, rapid-response units so that they can respond to would-be poachers and stop them in their tracks."

Faeces to fertiliser: innovations to solve the world's toilets crisis

resort to open defecation instead.

In Tanzania, a project led by WaterAid established a professional and safe pit emptying service for locals in Dar-es-Salaam's Kibondemaji district. The service processes faecal sludge to make cooking gas, manure fertiliser and water fit for gardening. The service is paid-for, but market research in the community meant the team managed to set a price that was affordable, says Abel Dugange, WaterAid's director of technical services in Tanzania.

Dugange describes how his team needed to set up infrastructure from scratch. "To have a complete sanitation business chain, we needed to have, for example, transfer stations for solid waste collections, before they are ferried to major dumping sites." He says the biggest challenge they faced was funding and buying land for this purpose. "Sanitation businesses seemed not to be well known to most banks, so it took time to educate them."

Dugange's team also needed to provide workers with safety tools, such as proper boots, masks and gloves. Dealing with faecal sludge is a health hazard, which makes collection and storage difficult in low-income, low-resource settings. Due to the hassle of digging new pits, many communities share latrines, which reduces the work load for individuals, but can also make latrines less safe and private.

A smelly business

The answer could be collection of faeces in the home. A team at the University of Delaware in the United States is working on a membrane liner with ventilation holes that can be put into standard 40-litre drums.

The laminate liner allows the water to evaporate from the faecal matter while retaining pathogens. As a result, the contents dry out and are safer to remove and handle.

The technology was field-tested in Kanpur, India, but problems remain with the time the sludge needs to dry, and with smells. "The laminate works best in warm and dry climates, since these conditions enhance evaporative drying," says Paul Imhoff, an environmental engineer at the University of Delaware, who worked on the study. He added that the costs were too high but remained positive that the technology had promise. "There is a need for less expensive laminate membranes and better design to allow more efficient air flow and drying," he says.

Other innovations cover settings where sewage systems are available, but water is scarce. A water toilet uses around 14 litres a flush, which, for a family with two children, translates into around 250 litres of water a day. At Britain's Cranfield University, a team has developed a "waterless" flush, where faeces are deposited in a rotating bowl, which is then scraped clean using a swipe activated by a handle.

The system requires neither water nor electricity and can be installed in a traditional white ceramic toilet, making it attractive for individual households. A field test in eThekweni in South Africa showed that the swiper worked reasonably well, but since no water ran down the sides of the bowl, fouling of the porcelain remained a problem. The system also struggled to deal with menstrual blood.

REDTAG

SKECHERS

Minister urges youth entrepreneurs to explore SADC summit opportunities

By Correspondent Zuwena Shame

YOUTH entrepreneurs in the country have been urged to take advantage of the coming Southern African Development Community (SADC) summit of Heads of State and government by showcasing their products and services.

Minister for Industry and Trade, Innocent Bashungwa made the statement over in Dar es Salaam over the weekend whereas he insisted the government is ready to support young entrepreneurs towards expanding their businesses.

"Taking part in the coming meeting especially the 4th SADC Industrialization Week is an opportunity for you to forge business links with foreign investors, hence promote the country's economic growth", said the Minister when opening two retail stores namely, Skechers and RedTag at Mlimani city Mall. Organized by the Ministry of Industry and Trade, the SADC

Industrialization Week will take place in Dar es Salaam from August 5-9, 2019.

Bashungwa said that young people are likely to do better in business with their business ideas and strategies only if they are financially empowered. He said the government had already put in place friendly business environment.

"Youth can do better in growth of our economy, President Pombe Magufuli trusts youth because he believe they are capable of working and bringing change", said Bashungwa as he called for young entrepreneurs to register and participate in the coming SADC summit.

He said that SADC meeting will be a trade driven assimilation method therefore it expected to result into expansion of businesses and increased exports within the SADC market.

Minister Bashungwa added the government is making various

initiatives in ensuring a conducive business environments and friendly investment climate through improvement of infrastructures such as roads, railways and air transport.

We are encouraging youth to establish businesses since by so doing we can help them grow from small to medium entrepreneurs...we aim at creating large entrepreneurs like the late Reginald Mengi who was the Founder and Executive Chairman of IPP Group of Companies.

The Minister advised Skechers and RedTag Companies to put a special section for made in Tanzania products so as to attract more foreign customers.

He said although most of their products are imported, it is an opportunity for them to sell local made products especially leather products including shoes. "Importing goods from other countries means we are creating jobs for other people as well as giving them more money. You can encourage them to establish factories in

Tanzania and use raw materials from our semi-processed products. This will help the country to achieve its industrialization strategy and create jobs", he said.

He said that locally manufactured products need perfect and modern stores to be showcased

to attract buyers.

The stores marketing manager, George Karaze said their products are of high quality and are sold at affordable prices to allow every customer purchase them.

Karaze said the stores have

various products ranging from home, school and office.

"We have exclusive shoes which are designed to help people with spine problems. Our clothes have fibers which makes them last longer even after being washed several times".



OUR BIGGEST STORE IS HERE !!
NOW at Mlimani City
Shop with us. !!



SKECHERS



TENDER NO. THPS/F01/08/2019 – 2020.

INVITATION FOR QUOTATION FOR PROVISION OF STAFF MEDICAL INSURANCE & VEHICLES INSURANCE.

Tanzania Health Promotion Support, (THPS) is an NGO established under non-governmental organization act No. 24 of 2002. It works in partnership with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children (MoHCDEG). With funding support from PEPFAR, through CDC Tanzania, and Global Fund. THPS main goal is to ensure accessible high quality health care services to Tanzanians through establishment and strengthening of comprehensive family focused HIV/AIDS Prevention, Care and Treatment services including PMTCT/early infant diagnosis, TB/HIV integration, palliative care and adherence and psychosocial support.

Tanzania Health Promotion Support has set aside funds for the operations of the Organization during Financial Year 2019/2020, it is intended that part of the proceeds of the funds will be applied to cover eligible payments under the contracts. Now intends to identify and enlist reputable and registered suppliers and service providers to enter in contracts for provision of Staff Health Insurance and Vehicles Insurance.

1. Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS) now invites sealed tenders from eligible vendors to provide both Staff Medical Insurance and Vehicle Insurance in two different sealed envelopes for the period of 2019/2020.
2. Interested bidders will be required to submit their competitive bids in two different separate bids in plain Wax seal or tender sticker seal without any mark except the address of the Procuring entity.
3. All bids will be deposited in the Tender Box at the reception desk of Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS) – Head office Located at third floor at **Coco Plaza Building**. The deadline for bids submission will be on **Tuesday 13th August 2019** not later than 2:00Pm followed by Public tender opening in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend the opening ceremony which will be held at **THPS Conference room at 3:00Pm**. All bids must be registered in our tender register before dropping it in our tender box. Bids not received timely and not opened in the public bid opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.
4. All quotes must be in Tanzania Shillings and no tender fee will be charged for this invitation to bid. All tenders in one original and one copy, properly filled and enclosed in plain wax sealed or tender sticker sealed envelopes (Not indicating bidder's name) stating clearly the lot number name of services and address to.

The Executive Director
Tanzania Health Promotion Support,
3rd Floor, Coco Plaza Building, Plot No. 254,
Toure Drive, Masaki.
P.O. Box 32605, Dar es Salaam. Tanzania

5. Note that the organization is not bound to accept the lowest, highest or any tender.
6. The evaluation of bids will be conducted as per Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS) Procurement Guidelines.

Tanzania Health Promotion Support (THPS) provides equal opportunity to all bidders

SPECIFICATIONS

Lot 1. Provision of Medical Insurance.

Tanzania Health Promotion Support desires to use the services rendered by the Service provider to provide Medical Insurance to THPS staff located in Dar es Salaam, Kigoma, Morogoro, Mtwara, Mwanza, Shinyanga, Mara, Arusha, Dodoma, Singida, Manyara, Pwani, Tanga, Arusha, Mbeya and Simiyu on Credit account basis.

Scope of the work:

- I. Service provider should provide available options/categories of service and indicate price and benefits available in each category.
- II. The medical insurance cover will include Principle, Spouse and not more than 4 children
- III. Expected number of people to be covered is 401 and service provider should provide quotes per person
 - Adult (204)
 - Children (197)
- IV. The service Provider should mention the geographic Area/coverage of their services and indicate list of Hospitals and pharmacy contracted.
- V. The service provider should show clearly the coverage and limit of the following.
 - Inpatient & Day Care treatment
 - Out Patient Treatment
 - Maternity
 - Optometry
 - Dental treatment
 - Rescue and Evacuation
 - Fast tracking services
 - Other benefits

Lot 2. Provision of motor vehicle insurance.

Tanzania Health Promotion Support is desirous of engaging the Service Provider to provide Vehicle insurance cover for THPS fleet.

The list of motor vehicle are listed below.

S/N	TYPE	DESCRIPTION
1	Toyota Rav 4	DFP 8365
2	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 819
3	Nissan Patrol	DFP 5604
4	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 820
5	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 822
6	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFP 2000
7	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFP 5564
8	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 9879
9	Nissan Patrol	DFP 5808
10	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 1999
11	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 1997
12	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 3291
13	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 821
14	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 7012
15	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 7013
16	Toyota L/C Hardtop	DFPA 2200

CSOs urge integration of climate change issues into govt's budget

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

THE government needs to partner with stakeholders in mobilising resources to complement the international climate funds, which developed countries are obliged to provide under the United Nations framework convention on climate change (UNFCCC).

This is part of the recommendations of the joint report on sustainable development goals (SDGs) prepared by 25 civil Society Organisation (CSOs).

The report was launched over the weekend in Dar es Salaam at a function prepared by FORUM CC in collaboration with Tanzania Sustainable Development Platform funded by Pan African Climate and Environmental Justice Alliance (PACJA) under the project for strengthening partnership for effective implementation of the agenda 2030 in East Africa supported by GIZ.

The report suggested the need for Tanzania to pack her nationally determined contributions (NDC) document as investment portfolio to attract private sector to finance climate mitigation issues.

Speaking over the weekend after launching the report, director of programme for Forum CC Angela Damas said the report highlights existing gaps, challenges and outlines

recommendations for accelerating implementation of SDGs in the country.

She said: "This report is aimed at helping the government to see key areas that needs a close attention and considerations in order to improve and strengthen implementation for SDGs in the country."

"It is a shadow report of the recent government report that was presented last month during the Voluntary National Review process (VNR)," she said.

Damas said the report helps to assess the position of the country in the implementation of SDGs by identifying the success and setbacks that needs to be addressed.

"We have also tried to pinpoint gaps and challenges that still retard back the efforts to address climate change," she said.

"We believe that a tangible achievements is that measured in terms of its quality rather than basing on numbers which are more quantitative," said director.

Last month, the government, voluntarily present to the United Nations (UN), the SDGs country implementation status report in order to be reviewed.

The CSOs report also recommended the government to accelerate the process of integration for climate change issues into government

ministries, departments, agencies and local government authorities' plans and budget.

The government institutions should make best use of the developed guidelines for integration process.

Secretary general of United Nations Association of Tanzania (UNA) co-convenor sustainable development platform, Reynald Maeda said the national voluntarily review is the process coordinated in the high level political forum where member countries voluntarily go for review on the implementation of SDGs.

"We decide to call for civil societies in order to provide reflection of SDGs matters after the government report," he explained.

Maeda said the civil society report provides an assessment of implementation of the SDGs from a civil society perspective, because its implementation needs close partnership of the government, private sector, public and the civil society organisations (CSOs).

"We need to see the recommendations that we delivered to the government are implemented effectively including formalisation of SDGs coordination in Tanzania," he explained.

"But, I also ask the government to priorities implementation of SDG number 16 that advocate for peace and justice," the secretary added.



Vodacom Tanzania sales expert Mandela Seth (2nd L) explains on how to use modem to visitors at the firm's pavilion during the ongoing Nane Nane exhibitions at Nyakabindi grounds in Simiyu Region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

WCF introduces digital platform

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

WORKERS Compensation Fund (WCF) is set to come up with a new system that will allow employers and workers to submit their contributions to the fund online.

Director of operations of the fund, Anselim Peter revealed this yesterday when speaking at the ongoing Nanenane exhibitions at Nyakabindi grounds on the outskirts of Bariadi town, Simiyu Region.

Peter said the idea of introducing the new system is to bring fund's services closer to customers and stakeholders.

WCF is taking part in this year's farmers' exhibition so as to raise awareness to employers and employees on the fund's activities—providing compensation to workers who suffer occupational injuries, deaths or contract work-related

diseases arising out of and in the course of their employment.

"At the WCF pavilion, our experts are educating people on the fund's responsibilities, registration, contribution procedures, and ways of getting compensations as well as receiving advices from stakeholders," Peter said, adding: "This is one of our platforms, where people are educated on our role and obligations."

Simiyu Regional Commissioner, Anthony Mtaka commended the fund's plan of building medical facilities factory as part of complementing government's industrialisation drive.

"I commend the role played by WCF director-general Masha Mshomba and the fund in general because it is our big partner in our programmes including that of building medical facilities' factory," RC Mtaka said.

He vowed that the regional

management will provide all the needed support in all stages of establishing the factory.

"So far, the site of the proposed factory has been cleared and the responsible ministry is in better position to announce tender to get a contractor who will build the factory," he said.

"As regional authorities, we honour the support made by the fund."

WCF is a social security scheme established in accordance with Section 5 of the Workers Compensation Act (Cap.263 revised edition of 2015). The main purpose for the establishment of the Fund is to provide adequate and equitable compensation for employees who suffer occupational injuries or contract occupational diseases arising out of and in the course of their employment and in case of death for their dependants.

Tanzania fishermen stuck at Mombasa port

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

A group of Tanzanian fishermen stranded at the Mombasa port for the last three weeks are calling on authorities to expedite their travel back home.

Speaking to The Standard at a centre where they are being hosted temporarily after their fishing vessel was detained, the seafarers said they fear the owners of their vessel, FV Faraja might fail to secure their passage home.

"We have been well received and are

now under the daily care of the Mission to Seafarers chaplain Moses Muli and Betty Makena of the International Transport Workers Federation. Ms Makena ensures that we get daily hot meals. But for how long shall this be the case? We need to be paid our dues and sent home," said Shaban Mohamed, the vessel's chef.

Makena said they have been in touch with one of the vessel's co-owners who promised to fly to Mombasa next week for negotiations over the safe return of the seafarers to Tanzania.

The crew of the vessel, which is docked at the Liwatoni Fisheries Complex, claimed they had not been paid their salaries for the past five months.

Blue Aqua Marine, which is listed as the vessel's owner, is said to owe the crew \$47,000 (Sh4.8 million).

"We acted fast to help minimise the crew's suffering. They are eating three hot meals a day and are free to use the amenities at this centre as efforts are made to repatriate them to their respective countries," Rev Muli said.



Wami/ Ruvu Basin board officer Simon Ngonyani (R) briefing Water deputy minister Jumaa Aweso on how the gauge station works at the NaneNane grounds in Morogoro. Photo: Correspondent Frank Monyo

Reducing water raises rice yields in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

After enduring recurring spells of drought, floods and poor harvests, Tanzanian farmers are taking up climate-smart skills to bolster farming efficiency.

In Tanzania, rice farmers who have long experienced extreme weather events are harnessing climate-smart agricultural techniques to boost their yields, whilst curbing environmental degradation. Under a 5-year project dubbed Strengthening the Capacity for Climate Change Adaptation through Sustainable Land and Water Management, farmers in the Morogoro region are adopting innovative techniques to prevent soil erosion, and reduce their water and wood requirements. The project, which started in 2016, is run by Sokoine University of Agriculture with support from FAO.

Mwajuma Kassim is a rice farmer and project beneficiary in Kidugalo village, eastern Morogoro, where more than 3,000 farmers have adopted the System of Rice Intensification (SRI) - a technique of growing more rice with less water and fewer seeds. The

method entails transplanting 8-10 day-old paddy seedlings instead of waiting for 30 days to plant them. Kassim says planting fewer seeds than usual and keeping the paddy trees alternately wet and dry rather than draining the field allows plants to get more oxygen. This practice reduces competition among the plants, while controlling the water each seedling receives to condition them to thrive in both wet and dry conditions - thus increasing their resilience to drought and floods. Kassim says her harvest in 2019 will be her best in more than a decade and that she will reap the fruits of her labour three weeks earlier than usual.

Mwanaidi Msungu, another farmer in the same village who is applying the SRI technique on her 4 ha farm, explains that she was a laughing stock when she started applying the method two years ago.

"Those who were laughing at me are now the ones who beg me to teach them. I have reaped 57 bags of rice in 2019. I hardly got 15 bags when using the traditional method," she says. Also adopting the project's land management techniques is 47-year-old Hamisi Jaka, who is using the skills he

acquired to prevent soil erosion on his farm. With a hand hoe, Jaka creates contour ridges known in Swahili as fanya chini to slow down the flow of water from the hill. "I am not worried at all about the floods, the risk of my crops being washed away is minimal," he states.

To reduce deforestation and increase climate resilience, the initiative is also encouraging farmers to switch to energy saving stoves that are more efficient than traditional cooking methods, and use less firewood. Tanzania has one of the highest rates of deforestation in sub-Saharan Africa, with about 372,000 ha of forests destroyed every year, according to FAO's 2015 Global Forests Resources Assessment. "Trees are key to protecting soil from erosion, purifying the air and water, and reducing climate change, but many are lost as demand for wood increases," says Godfrey Pyumpa, a district water engineer involved in implementing the project. "We encourage local residents to plant trees and they have responded positively in that regard," he continues, explaining that so far, around 200 farmers have planted 4,308 tree seedlings of different species.

Menstrual cups could be effective alternative for girls

By Gilbert Nakweya, Nairobi

MENSTRUAL cups may be effective alternatives to other menstrual products but girls and women need education on proper use to limit adverse effects such as difficulty with removal, a study has found.

Nearly half of the female population globally are of reproductive age but many girls and women have "limited options for affordable menstrual products", UNICEF estimates show.

Menstrual cup is a small, flexible device made of silicone or latex rubber that catches and collects menstrual blood flow but researchers say that it is often not listed among menstrual products.

"We perceived a lack of awareness about the menstrual cup and a lack of knowledge on what you can expect as potential problems when using the menstrual cup," says Anna Maria van Eijk, lead author of the study and a senior clinical research fellow at the UK-based Liverpool School of Tropical Medicine.

The study which was published this month (16 July) in The Lancet Public Health is the outcome of a review of 43 studies that were identified from 436 records in ten databases including PubMed, Cochrane Library and Web of Science. Researchers assessed outcomes of interest such as menstrual blood leakage when using the menstrual cup, acceptability of use, comfort of wearing, intention to use in future and serious adverse events.

The 43 studies involved 3,319 participants in several countries including Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Ghana, India, Kenya, Nepal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda and Zimbabwe. Researchers also identified 199 brands of menstrual cups either as cervical or vaginal cup in 99 countries,



with prices ranging from 72 US cents to nearly US\$47.

"We found no increased infection risk (reproductive tract or systemic infection) associated with use of a menstrual cup among European, North American and African women and girls compared with other menstrual products," says the study. "Difficulty with removal that required professional assistance - an adverse event we did not anticipate - was reported 47 times for cervical cups ... and twice for vaginal cups."

The study adds that about 70 per cent of participants in 13 of the reviewed studies intended to continue using the menstrual cups.

Of four studies that directly compares leakage of menstrual cups and usual products, "the leakage between products was similar in three studies and significantly less among menstrual cups for one study", the findings show.

Van Eijk says that menstrual cups have been used successfully in less optimal sanitary conditions such as refugee camps with increased comfort compared with using rags, pads and other products.

It is important for women in Sub-

Saharan Africa and other regions to know all the options for addressing menstruation, and not be limited to disposable or reusable pads, she explains.

"Women may decide for themselves if they want to give it a try or not," says van Eijk. "If women use it, over time it will reduce their costs for sanitary pads, soap and water."

The study calls on policymakers to consider menstrual cup in menstrual health programmes and be included in puberty education materials.

Caroline Kibiru, a Nairobi-based research scientist and reproductive health expert, says that several studies conducted among girls in low-income countries show that some of the girls introduced to menstrual cups and adequately trained prefer them because they are reusable over a period of about ten years. This, she says, makes them cheap to use in the long run.

The lower risk of leakage, Kabiru tells SciDev.Net, "gives girls more confidence to participate in activities that they otherwise would not feel comfortable taking part in during their periods because of the fear of embarrassing leaks".

ACCESS relieves 10,000 pupils in Tandahimba and Newala districts

By Beatrice Philemon

OVER 10,000 pupils in Tandahimba and Newala districts have benefited from the Appropriate Cost Effective Centres of Education System (ACCESS), which is geared towards mainstreaming non-formal education centres into the formal school system.

Apart from improving school infrastructure such as construction of classrooms, latrines, and hostel, the programme also work on changing the community attitude on girls' education and increased government budget allocation for education has had positive impact.

The project has brought positive results especially in areas where children had no access to schools in the two districts especially at Mnaida, Namedi, Mbeya primary schools and other schools to learn in a safe and conducive environment.

It has also enabled many children living in difficult circumstances to be enrolled in schools, and changed the lives of hundreds of pupils with access to good education and many children have enjoyed their rights to education as result of support made by ActionAid Tanzania to improve school infrastructure.

Mnaida Primary School, head teacher, Muhibu Bakari said recently that before ActionAid Tanzania introduced ACCESS Centres pupils were forced to walk long distances to the school and some pupils were forced to walk as far as eight kilometres.

Bakari was briefing journalists who visited the school to see what has been done by ActionAid Tanzania to support education development since it started to implement the Local Rights Programme (LRP) in Tandahimba and Newala district in 2002 to date.

According to him, Mnaida Primary School started in 2002 as an ACCESS

Centre to support pupils who walked long distance from Mnaida village to Mivanga Primary school to get education.

"As a teacher I express thanks to ActionAid Tanzania to establish ACCESS centre at Mnaida village and give us 3.5m/- to construct two classrooms and one Teacher's office that in turn has helped the government to transform the centre to formal school and enabled many children from Mnaida village to attend school.

The centre was officially transformed by the government to be a formal school in 2015 and right now the school has 153 pupils, six teachers and five classrooms.

He further said since ActionAid Tanzania has built a classrooms so far pupils learn in a safe and conducive environment, pupils are happy and concentrate in their studies, more children attend at the school than in the past years and get best academic results.

He said that before ActionAid built classrooms at the school children used to attend lessons under cashew nut trees or grass thatched shed houses due to shortage of classes which has contributed to school truancy especially during rainy seasons.

At the time, pupils' concentration was very poor because coming to school was not attractive to many children because of the poor learning environment. Our school started growing day to day by getting quality classrooms, the school head teacher said.

He however appealed to other well-wishers, donors, the government, and other stakeholders to support the school so that it gets teachers' houses, eight classrooms and its furniture.

ActionAid Tandahimba, LRP Coordinator, Dino Kamonalo said: "Since we started implementing the

programme in Tandahimba district in 2002, six ACCESS centres have been established, the move that enabled many children to attend schools and right now the government has transformed those centres to formal schools."

The programme also managed to build classrooms at Ruvuma, Namedi Mkola Juu, and Mnaida primary schools.

"This has reduced overcrowding in their classrooms. This alone has relieved 900 pupils," Kamonalo said, adding: "We've also constructed four teacher's house at Miyuyu, Chihwindi, Mcholi Godauni and Pachoto Primary schools."

He said Access schools had played a very big role in enabling many children to attend school and improvement of quality education as a result of supporting community initiative to improve school infrastructure especially building of classrooms, hostels.

Right now there has been increase in girls enrollment and completion rates especially in primary schools, retention rates in secondary schools have also increased.

Incidences of children pregnancies and early marriage have also reduced significantly because of successive works and establishing linkages with magistrates and police gender desks as well as proactiveness of parents and survivors of violence to report such incidences to police.

“
We've also constructed four teacher's house at Miyuyu, Chihwindi, Mcholi Godauni and Pachoto Primary schools

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1. AWE NA ELIMU YA DARASA LA SABA NA KUENDELEA.
2. AWE NA UMRI KATI YA MIAKA 25 NA 45.
3. AWE NA UZOEFU WA KUENDESHA MAGARI MAKUBWA KWA MUDA USIOPUNGUA MIAKA MITANO NA KUENDELEA.
4. AWE NA LESENI MPYA
5. AWE NA BARUA YA UTAMBULISHO KUTOKA KWA MWAJIRI WAKE ALIPOKWISHA FANYA KAZI AU CHETI CHA UTUMISHI.

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Taifa Stars win over Kenyan rivals shows selection ingenuity matters

SOCCKER lovers all over the country were breathing freely late on Sunday following a deserved win for

Taifa Stars in post-match penalty shootouts over Harambee Stars at the Kasarani Stadium in Nairobi. The two sides were in a goalless draw for the second time in regulation time, in which case the ultimate test of resilience and readiness was conducted, involving a select number of players from each side against the guardian of the nets for the other side. It was at that point that Taifa Stars won, with a 4-1 scoring spree.

The hero of the match was without a stretch of double newly returned national side goalkeeper Juma Kaseja, who grabbed two of the spot kicks while only one failed to hit the nets in the other shoot out list. The veteran goalkeeper now aged 34 demonstrated that he was still at his very best, despite not being in the national side for several years since apparent blunders in a match against Morocco in the early years of this decade cost him his position. Even then he had been recalled by Jan Poulsen, having been axed earlier for apparent errors, and managers wishing they could forget about him. He now comes back fully.

Even at club level is has been climbing the ladder once more, being signed by the up and coming Kinondoni Municipal Council FC, after spending years in upcountry premier league sides. With his two penalty saves and not allowing a goal in regulation time, he has shown that he has more than it takes to play for the national side even as a starting lineup first choice, though no impression should be created

that this is what the public expects, etc. It simply means selecting him is potentially the best choice, just.

It had to take a good amount of observation on the part of interim coach Etienne Ndayirajige and those around him to take club performance and some international outings like the recent Kagame Cup appearance in Kigali, and decided Kaseja was excellent material for Taifa Stars. Pundits may take it as routine or ordinary for coaches to recall players, but it also requires that they put aside certain mental references encrusted among decision makers, and look at the issue with an open mind. It implies that

Since the goalkeeping position is rather special in any team's line up, it is relatively easy to understand how Kaseja was discovered and brought back into the national side, but really the same ought to apply for different positions generally. One case in memory is how former Taifa Stars player Peter Tino was rather belatedly discovered to join the national side, as he was already playing excellent soccer for EAC in Arusha well before 1975, and five years or so later he was picked for Taifa Stars.

The work done in the case of Kaseja is remarkable for being timely and enabling the national side to make it through to another round of CAF tournament for home-based players, CHAN. Having another dependable goalie along with the youthful Aishi Manula augurs well for Taifa Stars, and those around the interim coach need to continue the good work of looking around, rewarding merit when the occasion credibly permits. Bravo.

SADC Industrialization Week an opportunity for investment synergies

TANZANIA is currently hosting delegates to a major industrial stakeholders' conference from member countries of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC), appended to an Industrialisation Week ahead of the SADC summit in less than two weeks. As most African countries and certainly the members of SADC are all involved in pushing an industrial thrust to resolve the crisis of employment opportunities among the youth, this event is of no mean significance. It provides an opportunity to compare notes, the probable efficiency of strategies put in place on the basis of peer review, to start with.

Another vital area is that the week of interaction both formally and informally provides a learning opportunity for stakeholders, both in government or parastatals as well as in the private sector, to know 'what is feasible, when and how.' It might have to do with opening up new markets or identifying market niches, or investment towards a public goods aspect that adds to 'demand push' for goods and services, depending on what stakeholders are involved and their areas of specialization. It is easy to see that the potential opportunities in that regard are virtually endless, but there is no time to explore, ascertain them.

What can thus be done to an optimal level is to use the time provided for assiduous networking and hard listening, to take sharper account of the SWOT parameter of our industrial thrust on the one hand, and development model or resource mobilization orientation on the other hand.

It means we take keen note of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats lingering over what we are doing, and definitely they aren't identical threats in each sector, but will have many things in common. A

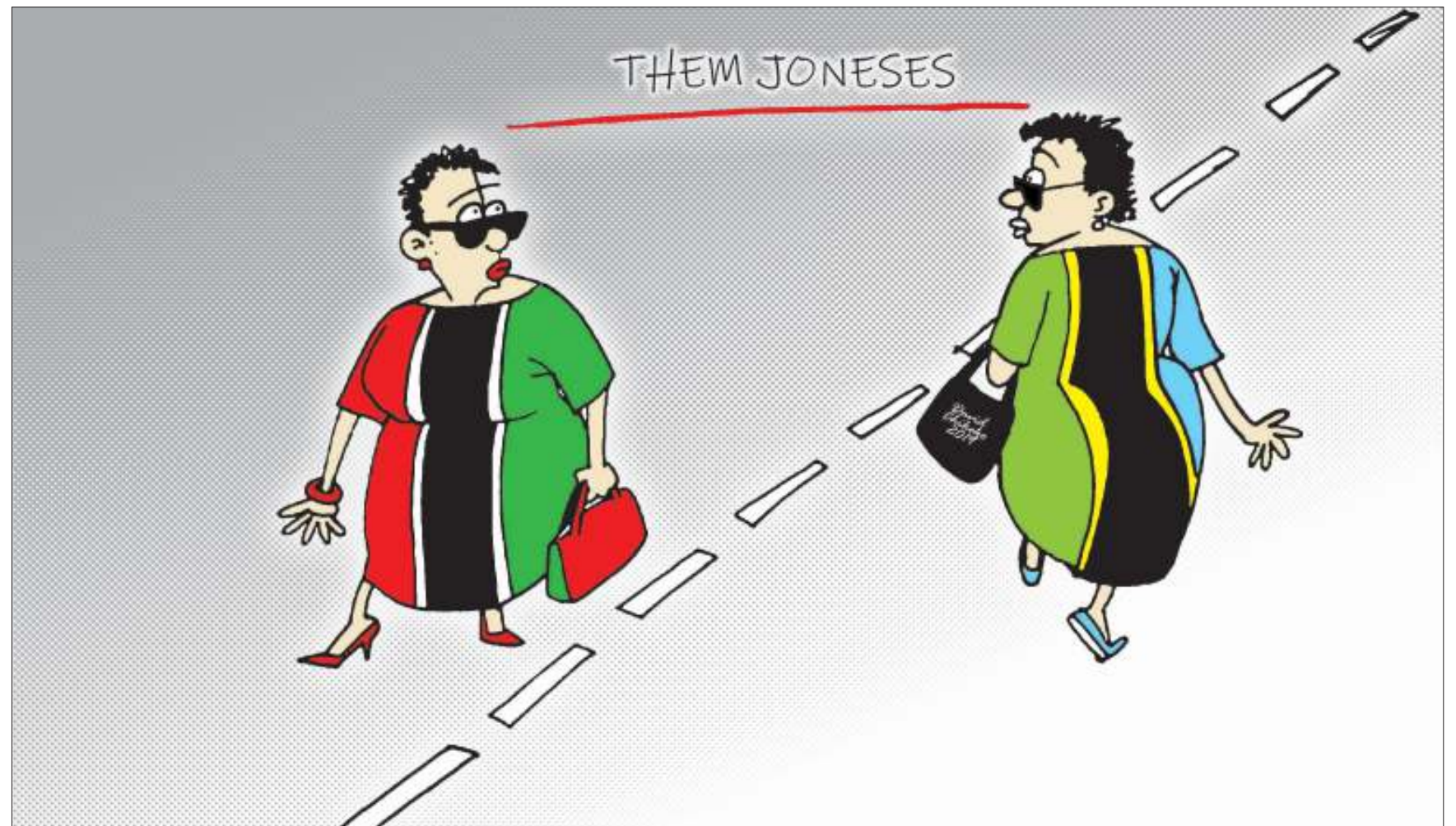
glaring example is how population pressure affects environment, requires improved methods of production, causes joblessness.

One constant difficulty about African industrialization is that we produce what we don't acutely need and must import nearly all important things that we need. For instance our textile factories collapsed nearly 40 years ago and we have relied on imported second hand clothing since then, which are more tuned to the purchasing power of those who live with less than one dollar a day, and UN statistics show they are close to 60 per cent of Tanzanians. It implies that the problem is purchasing power even with the raw materials.

Since African countries are largely similar in that regard, industrial thrust is related to niches in the European and US markets where EBA and AGOA untaxed trading facilities exist, and within the region, the sort of demand that can be met competitively by different industries.

There are plenty of problems in this regard as popular pressure requires that policy lays accent on protecting local industries, while the need to improve conditions of doing business and widening market reach requires a different approach. It prefers a level playing field where outcomes can't be predetermined in favor of local industries, notably.

It must hence be said that the SADC Industrialisation Week is finally a test of resolve, whether it is the rational approach of enhancing markets and integrated investment zones for helpful synergies at an investment level, for finance and market planning, or maintaining a narrow focus. Countries cannot be reborn in the space of one conference, and even ten conferences, but all instances of experience matter. It is important that we exchange notes, make an effort to learn; where we see we are wrong, try to admit it.



The battle for the soul of South Africa: Where power really lies

By Ben Turok

CLEARLY, President Cyril Ramaphosa has to stay within the rigours of the Constitution to sort out our state system, but this means that he cannot be held back by the requirements of ANC unity.

It seems that President Cyril Ramaphosa's repeated calls for unity in the ANC are falling on deaf ears. The clique around former president Jacob Zuma is brazen and not afraid of supporting him publicly, and that includes Ace Magashule, the ANC secretary-general. The question arises: what real power does this group exercise within the ANC and the state broadly? This issue becomes increasingly important since critical decisions are going to have to be taken as divergent pressures build up.

To answer this question, we have to go back to the original source of power within the ANC and government. The constitution of the ANC gives local branches the basic power, which is then conveyed upwards through elected delegates. The larger the branch, the more delegates. These delegates are then mandated for national conference. The branch will also make nominations for Parliament and the provincial legislatures in what is called the "list process".

Taking national conference first, it elects the top six officials and the national executive (which will subsequently elect the smaller national working committee). The Top Six meet weekly and are the engine room of everything. At present the Top Six are: Cyril Ramaphosa, president; David Mabuza, deputy president; Ace Magashule, secretary-general; Jesse Duarte, deputy secretary-general; Gwede Mantashe, ANC chairperson; and Paul Mashatile, treasurer. Ramaphosa can rely on support from Mantashe and Mashatile with Mabuza wavering.

Ramaphosa has enormous power as president of South Africa. But Magashule has a great deal of power as de facto head of Luthuli House, ANC headquarters. We shall examine each in turn.

As president, Ramaphosa appoints his Cabinet and through his ministers is in control of the public service, army and police. He appoints the premiers of the provinces and through his



Former president Jacob Zuma



President Cyril Ramaphosa

ministers, he controls the state-owned enterprises.

As secretary-general, Magashule acts on behalf of the Top Six, but with considerable personal discretion, he oversees the provinces, the ANC in Parliament, and all ANC branches. He is in charge of all arrangements for national conference and for national policy conference in between the national conferences.

He is in charge of the list process for Parliament and the provincial legislatures, acting with a list committee appointed by himself.

He also works in tandem with the deputy president, who is the

Council of Provinces. Caucus meets every Thursday morning in the Old Assembly. It is chaired by a member appointed by the chief whip and is administered from the latter's office. Caucus is normally briefed by ministers on forthcoming legislation, which is open for discussion. It is also addressed periodically by the SG and the president, who use the occasion to align MPs with the thinking in the national executive and Luthuli House generally. Members are free to give their views, but inevitably there is a strong sense of not stepping out of line.

One other committee is important but never appears to be discussed, and this is the Political Committee headed by the deputy president and consisting of several ministers, the chief whip and a few selected MPs. This committee meets informally, has no secretary and no minutes, and is only convened when there is a serious political issue in Parliament. Its function is to give political guidance but also to assert leadership where needed. It obviously reports to the SG.

As it happens, there are conflicting views and loyalties, as we see playing out in the reports of the Public Protector for instance. Parliament is meant to rule on her conduct, so what mandate will come from Luthuli House? Then there is the evidence at the Zondo Commission and the possibility of adverse findings against Zuma. This will also ultimately find its way to Parliament.

Clearly, Ramaphosa will have to stay within the rigours of the Constitution to sort out our state system, but this means he cannot be held back by the requirements of unity.

It is often argued that MPs swear allegiance to the Constitution and should therefore at all times defend the rights of ordinary citizens. But MPs also swear allegiance to party constitutions and there may well be a choice to be made.

The ANC structure we set out above shows clearly that party discipline is very strong and may well override other considerations. This becomes even more sensitive when the person leading the state is in disagreement with the person running the governing party, as the current situation appears to be.

Members of the ANC but also the people of South Africa are going to have to choose between them.

Land ecology: Is there a SADC path to an African granary?

By Anil Kija

SOUTHERN Africa as a bloc is increasingly moving upwards, to include much of the Great Lakes Region with the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) in the fold, and Burundi seeking membership. The reasons of seeking to join what might seem a rather distant club are not far to seek and differ from one country to another, where Tanzania participated quite actively in southern African liberation, while in the DRC case, South Africa played a considerable part in fending off the creeping domination of the country from neighbours. Burundi is a different issue.

In the latter case there is considerable isolation of the country as its ties with its twin state of Rwanda are rooted in difficulties arising from the Tutsi-Hutu legacy dominating each other's political scene, actively or covertly. Burundi can't form an active partnership with DRC without being partnered by Rwanda and definitely Uganda, essentially before looking outwards to Congo Brazzaville and other neighbours. But in current strategic realities no such convergence can take place as acute bitterness of the 1990s conflict lingers in how the countries relate to one another.

There is a new dimension to this bitterness, that the countries, whose regimes arose out of harboring opponents of an existing regime in a nearby country, have a mortal fear for its own opponents cloistering in a neighbouring state, plotting the downfall of the regime. They may not believe it can work this time as it did in the past but will not take chances, and would rather clear out any such opponents before they plant their roots and become an opposition community of sorts. Yet Rwanda, with a relatively free hand, has labored to do so in DRC with modest results.

What may distinguish the SADC bloc from other economic zones is that it has a spatial spread of land and other resources that would the envy of the rest. Tanzania for instance has faced a problem in approving economic union in East Africa as it is under an impression that extending right of settlement



and purchasing land will see Kenyans in particular taking up large chunks of land this side of the border. They have plenty of resources to spare and sharply seek out land, unlike in southern Africa where countries have land aplenty, save perhaps South Africa.

It is in the sphere of water resources where SADC might make a difference in a strategic context as compared to other economic groups, as West Africa is either densely populated in the wide southern part or encroached by desert in its northern part, and increasingly engulfed by violent extremists. There is little of such crisis in SADC and its ecology is one of harvesting or making use of land that lies out there, despite pockets of sharp land contentions in South Africa and its immediate lookalikes of Lesotho and Swaziland. The land chaos in Zimbabwe arose less from land shortage than from land politics, as even in the case of South Africa, a willing buyer and willing seller policy works, but militants see their natural right to grab the land, a pointer to chaos. So if SADC states could put their political act together, resources could change the land.

Comparing the chances of collective

economic effort in the EAC and SADC context from the vantage point of Tanzania, it is clear that in EAC there is at best a trade relaxation and relative harmonization that is possible, not forging closer agro-habitat convergence, for fear of class ramifications later. Were the same thrust to be based in a SADC context, few such pressures would arise as those seeking land would be coming from South Africa - and perhaps a majority of them are already in Australia and New Zealand.

Only a land grab policy as outlined by ANC leader, President Cyril Ramaphosa makes a difference, rattling the post-apartheid gravy train.

A SADC common agricultural policy is likely to focus on peasant economies rather than leveled at commercial agriculture, as the latter would easily make use of numerous credit windows from subsidized funds carrying proto-government guarantees, etc. It is at the peasant level that plenty of work needs to be done to make households self sufficient in how they produce modest levels if not of grain at least of vegetables, minimal husbandry of some sort of livestock, making the commercial part of it auxil-

iary to meeting their own basic needs. And instead of selling crops at the end of the season while failures of rain and floods now characterize the ecosystem, it is better to keep poultry and use eggs as a necessary part of diet, occasionally sell 20 chickens to a buyer.

One result of 'zero ground agro-economic self reliance' where economic activity takes place within the vicinity of the household, ending the drudgery of cultivating hectares of land open to the vagaries of weather and, worse, post harvest destruction, is leaving plenty of land to the commercial cultivation of grain.

The size of land that would be taken up would depend on the breadth and need, and were a common policy to be set up, agro-industrial companies would provide the seed capital for households to change their economic focus to 'zero grazing' in the pursuit of economic welfare, while grain prices would come down, enabling a zero grazing family to obtain it easily. And signing the EU Economic Partnership Agreement plus ratifying the Continental African Free Trade Area would give peasants a wealth of choice of grain to buy.



SADC maritime economy: Taking first steps to creating order

By Nimi Mweta

MEMBER states of the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) have traditionally not been having proper control over their maritime sphere, with state capacities more often than not ending in 12-mile coastal zone where fishing is conducted and navigating ships have to start communicating. International law on the other hand recognizes a 200-kilometer zone into the high seas that still belong to the riparian state, and mostly this has been a novelty, an imaginary portion of a country's entire territory. Recently though signs are coming up that countries are starting to come to grips with this endowment, and exercise visible administrative reach there.

That ability presumes the capacity for a working naval or police coast guard units, a scatter of viewing towers on what is taking place in high outlying seas and possibly a regular police helicopter hovering above, these days likely to be replaced by a routine drone surveillance craft. When a country can take routine data or locate ships and other operating craft, and exercise clear authority were any regulatory breaches to be made, it can be said to exercise authority in the area as otherwise that is simply high seas, with perfunctory appurtenance to a maritime state nearby. SADC member states like other African countries are enhancing their capacities in this regard.

South Africa for once has never faced such problems, as it has been a middle income economy since mid last century (a broad portion of its society, given the gross income inequalities of the apartheid era). As testimony to the ease with which it controlled territory, it even enacted a law in the 1970s that gave it the legal mandate to intervene anywhere south of the Sahara if situations arise that are negative to South African interests, that is, bomb down guerrilla camps in any of the neighbouring countries, etc. This law might have been applied discreetly in shooting down an airplane returning Mozambican President Samora Machel home early 1984 quite close to home.

Maritime challenges of a legal character have not been quite felt in the SADC zone and for that matter in Africa generally, but some disputes have surfaced here and there, or discrepancies in law and order maintenance. Farther north from the SADC zone, there was a lawless situation in the Horn zone where militants tied to warlords in Somalia were grabbing shipping and extracting ransom, claiming to extract compensation for fishing in Somali waters or not paying any taxes for using the coastal expanse. The UK navy put an end to this banditry and this specific class of gun toting entrepreneurs

with loin cloth instead of boots or camouflage plies its trade elsewhere.

Less soberly are proper inter-state maritime conflicts, both of them somewhat farcical and clearly arising from inter-tribal contests and competition rather than interpreting international law. One is a now dormant claim by Malawi for the lake border with Tanzania as the Tanzanian shoreline as decided in the Heligoland Treaty of 1890 despite its being rectified when Britain took over German East Africa in 1918. The new border was ratified by UK and League of Nations in 1925.

This contention has at certain moments come up in SADC deliberations to no actual results, as it is only fueled by electoral calculations, where firing up imagination that there is a foe to the east more or less animates passions, exercises youth imagination, etc. To his credit, fifth phase leader Dr John Magufuli opted to pay no attention to the matter, partly because the level of insistence from Malawi has somewhat dissipated. For one thing, for the Malawi contention to make sense economically, it has to be accompanied by absolute magnanimous compliance from Tanzania, as otherwise Malawi would not be in a position to enforce its viewpoint, nor strike any alliances.

At the same time, with plenty of hard rocks and scrub to be explored for minerals and natural gas, as references to petroleum are less vivacious in the last few years, strategic planning at the National Development Corporation (NDC) and the twin entity Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation (TPDC) may not see much use in raising the stakes in that pseudo-conflict by a move to seek out potential investors in the lake basin, save if it is on the land proper. Malawi has by contrast a thin stretch of territory for geologists and explorers to work upon, so the moment there is a sniff of oil or gas anywhere, the natural resource curse phenomenon begins fluttering.

There is another pseudo-conflict that is on the margin of the SADC zone but it is evident that SADC member states follow it assiduously, though the zone has little potential for that kind of contention. It is a contention between Kenya and the fledgling government of Somalia that the maritime border between them, by some miracle, follow the same trajectory as on land, not a line eastwards from the land endpoint! It is such a farcical dispute as to beg an understanding of how it even came about, except if one looks at Somalia and the sort of conflicts it brings about. This reminds one of an anecdote when the war between Uganda and Tanzania broke out late 1978, and a Newsweek bureau file concluded in its report that the war would not have come about but for the fact that Uganda was being ruled by Gen. Idi Amin, surmising it off as an 'Idi-otic' war.

South Africa and the Great Lakes: Security cooperation and inter-state competition

By Ani Jozeni

SOUTH Africa - like capitalism did according to famous revolutionary thinker Dr Karl Marx - came onto the African scene 'dripping with blood from every pore.' The state that had gunned down more than one thousand students in a spate of weeks in the Soweto neighbourhood of Johannesburg and whose economy started reeling backwards when civil rights pressure in the United States led to divestment that broke the back of this apartheid, was now the peacemaker in the region. It came into majority rule the same year as the Rwandan genocide: baptism of fire.

At the moment that the devil started its three month carnival in Rwanda, few African leaders could speak on the issue as the Organisation of African Unity had principles to guide it, and one vital principle was the non-interference in internal affairs of member states. While the Kagera River was turning into a river of blood rather than water, African countries were looking aside, and only retired president Julius Nyerere broke the ice, with a sharp tongued press conference at his home in Msasani, and indeed on the eve of victory of the Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) forces. Mwalimu leveled his attack on the OAU for retaining in its seat a blood drenched state.

As the Rwanda genocide was brought to a halt as soon as RPF took over, and culprits started being gathered wherever they could be found, the issue became basically one of United Nations institutions to sort out. They formed a court on the likeness of Yugoslavia, for trying war crimes as this genre of mass murder is often defined, and there was little that was being done at the regional level on that question. It was the aftermath of the genocide, the stabilization of the state in Kigali and its pursuit of similar designs outside (as it itself arose from a guerrilla campaign in Uganda the previous decade) that the region became concerned. And South Africa as foremost.

At the time that Rwanda was undergoing the tumult that led to the genocide, and during the time that the mat-



ter was furiously being debate among African elites, meaning learned people at various levels, or at least those keenly interested in the news, a queer regional phenomenon crept up. It was the Hima Conspiracy, which like its ancestor the Hamitic Myth was being furnished to explain the changes that were taking place in the region, that Hima groups were military inclined and warlike, and had banded together to take over the region. They had succeeded in Uganda with Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, his close confidante Paul Kagame was taking over Rwanda, and the Tutsis were in power in Burundi. It sort of spelled apocalypse for a broad school of thought.

Looking at the matter from hindsight, it appears to have been a facet of the genocide propaganda where ideas of Hima (proto-Hamitic) superiority were in the air. The fact that this racist narrative attracts some grudging respect from those it accuses of wishing to dominate or believing they are noble and more fitted to govern gave it wings to spread out, fly. It was a racial war in

Conflicts in the Great Lakes Region have common features relating to governance issues, identity division, structural violence, exploitation and access to natural resources and land, and so on. Photo: File

African or Great Lakes politics, the war of superior Himas against inferior Hutus, if that is a general name.

Proper diplomacy could only be exercised as the Burundi situation drifted into extensive civil war after 'superior' Tutsi military units loyal to veteran president Major Pierre Buyoya killed Melchior Ndadaye, in power at that time for just three months after being voted into office in July 1993. This move killed off the dialogue on Rwanda as the Hutus saw in radically clear and vivid manner what lay in store if the RPF was to be included in the government and then carries out a coup, as its forces are more united, and it has Uganda to help it next door. It was darkness.

While then VP Mbeki did all he could to bring the warring sides in Burundi to an accord, and indeed finally it was a peace accord rather than outright military victory as in Rwanda, the matter slid on until well into his retirement, as had been the case with Nyerere and Mandela. The South African experience in the second major test of its regional relations after apartheid ended was none

other but the Congo, after the same array of forces - Uganda and Rwanda - swept out the decaying Mobutu regime and installed Laurent Kabila, a veteran guerrilla with some links to them, in 1997. The clincher was four years later when youthful Rwandese guards around Kabila assassinated the Congolese leader. It appeared Rwanda was taking over, so the region said 'no.'

That is when the Congolese civil war and Africa's 'First World War' started in earnest, costing six million lives by some estimates, not because Rwanda had large armies it could mobilize but it was present in the Congo and recruiting hundreds of thousands of youths in restless mining areas or streets. The Rwandese economy, like Uganda much earlier, had already started being pegged to the vast and mineral rich Congolese state, with only a security investment to ensure that one mines and carries off the product, or obtains it in the streets, with a relatively free hand. Whether the South Africans wanted to instill order so that they could also mine is a rather different issue.

SADC: Towards a common future

Compiled By Richard Mngazija

IN April, 1980 the Southern Africa Coordination Conference (SADCC) was created to advance the cause of national political and economic liberation in Southern Africa. In July 1981, a Memorandum of Understanding came into force which formalized the establishment and operations of the organization. Its main objectives were to reduce the dependence of member States on the then apartheid South Africa, mobilize resources to promote national and regional policies as well as to facilitate cooperation and understanding amongst the member States.

In 1992, the heads of state and government decided to deepen the integration and cooperation processes in SADCC in the form of a community. This culminated into the signing of the SADC Treaty that effectively transformed SADCC into SADC. The heads of state and government also signed a Declaration "Towards a Southern African Development Community" which clearly spelled out the SADC Common Agenda. The objectives of SADC, as stated in the SADC Treaty [1] are to:

- Achieve development and economic growth, alleviate poverty, enhance the standard and quality of life of the people of Southern Africa and support the socially disadvantaged through Regional Integration;
 - Evolve common political values, systems and institutions;
 - Promote and defend peace and security;
 - Promote self-sustaining development on the basis of collective self-reliance, and the inter-dependence of member States;
 - Achieve complementarity between national and regional strategies and programs;
 - Promote and maximize productive employment and utilization of resources of the region;
 - Achieve sustainable utilization of natural resources and effective protection of the environment; and
 - Strengthen and consolidate the long-standing historical, social and cultural affinities and links among the people of the Region.
- The principal structures and institutions of SADC are:
- The Summit of Heads of State and Government,
 - The Troika system from Summit,
 - The Council of Ministers,



- Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation,
- Sectoral/Cluster Ministerial Committees
- The Standing Committee of Officials
- The SADC Tribunal
- The SADC Secretariat
- The SADC National Committees.

The executive arm of the SADC organisational structure consists of eight Directorates, namely:

- Directorate of Policy, Planning and Resource Mobilisation;
- Directorate of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation;
- Directorate of Trade, Industry, Finance and Investment;
- Directorate of Infrastructure and Services;
- Directorate of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources;
- Directorate of Social and Human Development and Special Programmes;
- Directorate of Budget and Finance; and
- Directorate of Human Resources and Administration.

The Southern African Development Community (SADC) has donated US\$500 000 to three member countries that suffered the devastation for

Tropical Cyclone Idai, namely Zimbabwe, Malawi and Mozambique in March, this year. The financial donations are as follows:

- Mozambique - US\$200 000
- Malawi - US\$150 000
- Zimbabwe - US\$150 000

SADC Regional Vulnerability Assessment & Analysis Programme (RVAA) Background

Despite economic progress in many parts of the Region, livelihood vulnerability and food insecurity are prominent features of the poverty that afflicts much of its population. SADC is committed to tackling these problems and recognises the need to develop strategies based on accurate data and analysis for short-term and longer-term chronic conditions.

Vulnerability assessment and analysis (VAA) concern monitoring of states', households' and individuals' capacity to deal with external hazards such as drought, economic crises, and climate change. Critical elements include meteorological and crop projections, household economic analysis, and food and nutrition security surveys, leading to recommendations for short term and long term interventions.

In 1999, SADC established the

Regional Vulnerability Assessment Committee (RVAC) with International Cooperating Partners and other stakeholders. This committee has spearheaded critical improvements in vulnerability analysis and food security at both regional and country level.

At Member State level, National Vulnerability Assessment Committees (NVACs) coordinate the annual vulnerability assessment and analysis. NVACs are multi-sectional committees led by relevant government ministries with wide ranging memberships, which includes different government departments, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and international organisations involved in poverty reduction and socio-economic development. NVACs carry out annual and periodic vulnerability assessments, in addition to special studies on selected topics such as nutrition, climate change and related themes that are critical in VAA.

In 2006, building on previous initiatives, the SADC Secretariat began implementing the Regional Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis (RVAA) Programme. Since its inception, the Programme has worked to create institutional and conceptual achievements, building strategies and interventions that integrate short-term responses to emergencies and livelihoods hazards with broader, longer-term approaches to chronic poverty, and livelihood vulnerability.

The RVAA system is widely acknowledged as the main system to track, report and respond to food insecurity in the Region.

Programme Goal and Activities

The SADC RVAA Programme has the following goal: Reduced poverty and vulnerability through climate-resilient livelihoods in the SADC Region.

The Programme has the following purpose: Enhanced regional and national response to climate change, poverty and livelihood vulnerability.

Programme Outputs at Regional Level

The Programme produces

outputs at the regional and national level. At the regional level, the Programme provides capacity building and other technical support to Member States' NVACs, and synthesises and analyses national VAA outputs into regional reports and policy briefs.

The annual regional synthesis dissemination reports provide an overview of the livelihood and food security situation in the SADC Region. The reports present a regional summary and include results and details at country level on food security and vulnerability, malnutrition, and crop production, among other issues.

To strengthen VAA in the Region, the RVAA Programme develops technical guidelines and special studies that provide in-depth research on priority areas, such as guidelines on e.g. Urban Vulnerability, Integration of Nutrition, HIV and Gender in Vulnerability Assessment and Analysis, and Climate Change and Livelihoods.

Programme Outputs at National Level

At national level, the Programme supports institution building of NVACs, strengthening of their technical capacity and communication of their reports and other outputs. In the Region, all Member States except Mauritius have formed NVACs.

The National Vulnerability Assessment Reports are available under the webpages of the Member States' NVACs, or the webpage of the mother institution.

- Angola
 - Botswana
 - Democratic Republic of the Congo
 - Lesotho
 - Madagascar
 - Malawi
 - Mozambique
 - Namibia
 - Seychelles
 - Republic of South Africa
 - Swaziland
 - United Republic of Tanzania
 - Zambia
 - Zimbabwe
- Livelihood zones describe geographical areas where people

largely share the same patterns of access to food, income and markets. With SADC support, NVACs have produced livelihood maps and reports, which can be accessed through the following contact.

Technical Working Groups
To guide the introduction of emerging issues and innovations into the vulnerability assessment and analysis, SADC under the RVAC has established the following technical working groups:

- Nutrition
- Information Management
- Urban Assessments
- Integrated Phase Classification (IPC) for food security
- Centre of Excellence (of five Universities) and Capacity Building
- Markets Assessments

Partners

The following cooperating partners provide technical input for the SADC RVAA programme and serve on the current Regional and National Vulnerability Assessment Committees:

- SADC Secretariat
 - Sectoral Government Ministries and departments in Member States
 - United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)
 - Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)
 - Famine Early Warning System Network (FEWSNET)
 - OXFAM International
 - Save the Children
 - United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), and
 - United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
- Between 2006 and 2008, the RVAA Programme received funding from the Republic of South Africa Government through the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) Regional Office for Southern Africa; since 2006 from United Kingdom's Department for International Development (DFID); and since 2013 from the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC).

Humanitarian aid in Nigeria's north-east: helping or hurting?

BY AKINOLA OLOJO

TEN years of Boko Haram's violence has turned Nigeria's north-east into a conflict hotspot for aid organisations. These groups help alleviate the symptoms of the crisis, but dealing with the root causes remains the job of Nigeria's government, and can no longer be neglected. Plans must be drawn up now to fill the service delivery gaps that open up when aid organisations inevitably leave.

Around two million people have been displaced in Nigeria's north-east and the humanitarian situation is worsened by the adverse impact of climate change. A year ago, the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs noted that about US\$1.6 billion would be required to ease hunger, provide shelter and healthcare and help communities rebuild their livelihoods.

The urgency of the situation remains high and a number of aid organisations have helped to address the difficulties communities face. Internally displaced people's camps are also dotted with humanitarian agencies.

A closer look at the case of Maiduguri in Borno State where most of these organisations operate reveals diverse trends. More importantly, the present dynamics offer a sense of the potential challenges that await communities in coming years.

By 2018, Maiduguri hosted at least 150 non-governmental organisations (NGOs) involved in humanitarian work. Some of these organisations were challenged by state authorities over accountability issues. More than half were operating without legal registration with supervisory agencies such as



the Corporate Affairs Commission. Following warnings, most have complied but not without suspicion regarding the authenticity of their humanitarian motives.

Staff employed by several of these organisations have secured rental housing contracts for the next five years, conveying their impression that the Boko Haram crisis will persist for a long time.

Beyond accountability and the question of motives, Nigeria's leadership must pay attention to socio-economic effects that inadvertently result from humanitarian aid. Due to attractive financial rewards offered by various NGOs, some government employees have resigned from their official positions. For local entrepreneurs in Borno,

Government responses to the Boko Haram crisis must include planning beyond the short-term help of aid agencies. File photo

business has never been better. Several hotels, business centres and restaurants are experiencing an upsurge in client visits.

Local transport workers' earnings have risen as they are hired for an entire day conveying aid workers around town. Some company drivers who previously earned less than US\$250 per month earn double and sometimes triple that through short-term contracts with aid workers.

This situation is temporary though, and foreshadows a post-conflict context where state institutions and local economies may not be able to meet societal expectations.

While inflating the purses of a few local residents, these dynamics have also induced an inflationary effect on the

local economy as a whole. Lost in the noise of fleeting profits are the voices of most local residents who lament the hike in prices of food commodities and house rents.

Proactive policymaking is needed to reinforce the state's capacity to address the societal challenges when aid organisations eventually leave. When their services are needed for another conflict situation, local economies will have to deal with the consequences of diminished aid.

Nigeria's government shouldn't wait for this to happen. Foresight and political will must drive the urgent implementation of Nigeria's Policy Framework and National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism. The third section of the

plan deals specifically with community engagement and resilience building. Among other things, it proposes providing economic opportunities and participatory decision making, especially for marginalised youth.

Given the transnational character of the Boko Haram crisis, the Nigerian government also needs to strengthen coordination with countries in the Lake Chad Basin. The recent Lake Chad Basin Governors' Forum in mid-July was an opportunity for states to firm up plans for stabilisation. The forum launched the Regional Stabilization Facility aimed at scaling up the range of interventions in affected countries. To what extent they are implemented remains to be seen.

On the question of aid organisations' accountability, authorities have in some cases taken severe action against them - for example when United Nations Children's Fund operations were temporarily suspended in December 2018.

But banning these organisations is counter-productive because it's the communities that ultimately suffer. Nevertheless, aid organisations must be aware of how their activities are embedded in the socio-economic and security environment where they operate. Ethics and trust issues are also crucial in such settings.

The presence of aid organisations is temporary. The state must take responsibility for providing human security beyond the life cycle and scope of what these organisations currently deliver. Aid agencies can only treat the symptoms and not the root causes of the crisis in Nigeria's north-east.

Akinola Olojo, Senior Researcher, Transnational Threats and International Crime, ISS Pretoria

Saving lives of the poor through use of renewable energy

By Guardian Correspondent, Mahenge

FAMILIES who have their relatives admitted to Mahenge district hospital in Ulanga district and those who are treated as outpatients have little to worry about the quality of services provided at the facility.

For women who have to undergo caesarian operations and men who have to be operated on for whatever reason, they are less worried about the outcome now that the hospital has a guaranteed supply of electricity from a renewable source thanks to installation of a solar power backup system with funding from UNDP/GEF Small Grants Programme.

In 2018, the Small Grants Programme offered 145m/- to the hospital for the purpose of installation of 14.5kW solar system that now supplies uninterrupted flow of electricity to crucial areas including the operating theatre, labour room, maternity ward, laboratory and all the wards. This has not only improved service delivery but also reduced the number of deaths which were attributed to power cuts during operations, labour or other services.

"Reliable supply of electricity has greatly improved services in the hospital. Deaths arising from power cuts are now history as previously we had between five and six deaths a year on the operating table due to electricity failure but we have none since last year. Likewise we had about 20 children's deaths a year due to power cuts but so far we have had just about one, and this was for a different reason," explained Dr. Mihambo Aloyce Kapela, the Medical Officer In-charge. He said that the solar system has gone a long way towards saving lives during operations in the main theatre, the minor theatre or in the labour room as the automatic backup system ensures that operations can still be conducted even when elec-

tricity from the grid fails.

The supply of electricity from the grid is unreliable since it is routinely cut off for 12 hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays. There are also intermittent blackouts. Electricity infrastructure for the grid system that was installed in the late 1970s is dilapidated; hence there is a lot of power leakage and wastage. This not only raises the hospital's electricity bill but also requires frequent change of bulbs. According to Dr. Kapela there is need to replace the wiring system and related accessories in order to reduce the hospital's running costs.

Aziza Jafari, the Social Welfare Officer at the hospital said that installation of the solar electricity back up system has raised the morale of staff at the hospital.

The frequent power cuts had interrupted service delivery in various departments of the hospital and this frustrated members of staff because it affected their work. "Now operations can be done smoothly.

In the labour room and the operating theatre in the maternity block women can deliver safely at any time without the threat of power cuts. Generally patients are happy and so are members of staff," she explained.

But there is something more beyond the happiness. "Usually when patients died during operations because of power cuts, relatives blamed the staff for negligence. They did not understand that what had happened was not our fault and they could not imagine that sometimes operations had to be conducted using torches when there was sudden power cut and work is in progress.

This situation strained the relationship between staff members and the public because the latter blamed the staff and held them responsi-



Dr Sister Virginia Mayala makes fun memories with a child in the maternity ward

ble for the deaths. They hated us. But this is over now, thanks to the grant from UNDP," explained Ms Jafari, adding that since installation of the backup system the number of deaths has greatly been reduced and the relationship between the members of staff and the public has normalized.

Ester Ngonji who was attending to a relative in the maternity ward said that women are happy because electricity is always available in the ward and they don't have to attend

to their newborns in the dark. "Women who came to deliver had to bring kerosene lamps or torches for emergency use when there was no electricity; they often were in darkness and it was dangerous," she explained.

However the solar system does not supply electricity to all the departments of the hospital.

The administration offices and the pharmacy use electricity from the grid which is usually on and off. Office staffs as well as

medical staffs use computers and other equipment that requires reliable electricity and their office work is the basis for quality health services.

"Everything starts in the offices where information about the patient is received and the plan for treatment is decided. The 'value-chain' of efficient service delivery begins here and these should be supplied with reliable electricity like the theatres and the wards," explained Ms Jafari.

Data tool helps indigenous people navigate their rights

By Emanuela Barbiroglu

THE average distance from home to school is five kilometres for indigenous children in Kenya. Often this journey is constrained by other factors: no roads and wild elephants or lions hanging around along the path.

Yet the children are meant to do the same exam as their peers in Nairobi, who live within easy reach of education facilities. The literacy level among these communities is below 50 per cent, whereas the national level is 70 per cent.

That is one of the reasons why Maasai activist Stanley Kimaren Riamit, the director of the Indigenous Livelihoods Enhancement Partners in Kenya, recently decided to lobby central

government for taking inequality data into consideration when determining national policies or awarding community-level grants.

More than 90 per cent of respondents said they experienced conflicts over their territories and half have lost land to settlements, land grabbing, resource extraction or other forms of land use.

Riamit realised he could make his case better and ask legislators to address his community's needs by showing, for instance, local primary schools judged as "inaccessible".

He and other indigenous people from around the world have been assessing the progress towards global goals for sustainable development using

the Indigenous Navigator, which was presented in June at the European Development Days (EDD) in Brussels.

Organised by the European Union to bring the development community together, this year the EDD focused on addressing inequalities and "building a world which leaves no one behind".

The Indigenous Navigator is an online platform to help indigenous people – the original settlers of a particular region – to monitor their rights through a series of surveys conducted in their communities. The information gathered covers 13 broad thematic areas, such as: discrimination and harassment; participation in programmes and development plans; safety of cultural and re-

ligious traditions; and extent of the lands traditionally occupied and used by them.

There are an estimated 370 million indigenous people in the world today, representing five per cent of the global population, yet they account for 15 per cent of the extreme poor.

"The purpose and use of the Indigenous Navigator is to lead us to a process that allows indigenous people to give feedback," said David Nathaniel Berger, programme coordinator at the International Work Group for Indigenous Affairs (IWGIA). "It serves the purpose of documenting the human rights and development situation of indigenous peoples as a key way to interact with duty bearers."

'Disregarded and ignored'

In particular, the Indigenous Navigator monitors the implementation of the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP), international human rights conventions, essential aspects of the Sustainable Development Goals and the outcomes of the World Conference on Indigenous Peoples.

The idea for the platform came after the adoption of UNDRIP in 2007, when organisations such as IWGIA felt that indigenous peoples' rights continued to remain "disregarded and ignored".

The Indigenous Navigator was launched in 2014, as a collaborative initiative involving, among others, Asia Indigenous Peoples Pact (AIPP), Forest Peoples Programme (FPP), the International

Labour Organization (ILO) and IWGIA. It obtained EU funding in 2018. The tools developed by the initiative include a comparative matrix that illustrates how UNDRIP articles are directly linked to other international human rights and labour standard instruments, and two comprehensive questionnaires that can be answered online or in the field.

There is also an Indigenous Navigator Index to rank countries' performance; and the Indicators framework to detect any gaps between internationally recognised indigenous peoples' rights, national legislation, and the actual situation in their communities.

However, the work is still in progress. Calculated upon infor-

mation collected by experts on a national level and indigenous peoples on a community level, the data takes time to gather.

A participatory approach at a local level has been fundamental in mobilising communities, according to Joan Carling of the Indigenous Peoples Major Group for Sustainable Development.

"Data disaggregation by ethnicity was a critical issue during negotiations [of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development] because some states refused to provide it, but we argued that it is the only way we will be visible and we can be counted," she said. "Indigenous people are not just vulnerable groups: we are development actors and cultural diversity is part of sustainable development."

Leadership training, an eye opener for women aspiring for political posts

By Correspondent Mashaka Mgeta

"The 2015 General Election was an historical moment for me...I remember how I was harassed by my male opponents both psychologically and physically, just because I contested to be elected under the position of ward counselor," the Chairperson of Iwapoma Women Group based in Dar es Salaam, Paschazia Sezali testifies.

The group comprises about 60 members who engaged in a variety of income-generating activities so that they can have economic power to finance different activities related to electoral process, especially in contesting for the representation of citizens through political parties.

"After attending the 2017/2018 training which aimed to empower women politicians and encourage them to stand for political parties across the country, I'm currently very strong and confident to contest for the general election in 2020," says Sezali, a resident of Buza in Temeke municipality.

The training on leadership skills was conducted by the Tanzania Women Cross Parties Platform (TWC-PP) in 2017/2018 and financed by African Women Development Fund (AWDF). Sezali is among 400 women who have benefited from the capacity building training of female politicians, picked from districts of Temeke (Dar es Salaam), Kilombero (Morogoro) and Kondoia and Chemba (Dodoma).

She says that in the last general election, she was the only woman amongst 10 candidates who contested for a ward counselor.

Unfortunately she was insulted, threatened and in some cases beaten by some of the candidates or their supporters. "They followed me to most of the places I went, even in my home. They insulted, threatened and accused me of trying to stop the men from winning elections," Sezali laments.

As a result, she had to go to the police station, but she feared that her opponents, who had economic power, could bribe some of the law enforcers and put her in danger instead of



African Women's Development Fund (AWDF), communication and fundraising specialist Lydia Maclean (R) joins members of the Iwapoma Women Group at Yombo-Buza on the outskirts of Dar es Salaam recently. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

getting justice.

"But the respective training taught me to be strong. I have also gained a lot of confidence. I have grown a bit old but I will contest for the coming general election with a big hope to win," Sezali notes.

She discloses that the capacity building she has received and her confidence in speaking out on issues related to women's rights have made her to be recognized by the Temeke municipal authorities, hence being offered various opportunities to serve including being a member of the environment committee and women and most vulnerable group.

What Sezali has experienced reflects the challenges women have to encounter when they seek political leadership in the country.

Anamaria Mapunda is one of the members of Iwapoma Women Group. She says there are many challenges facing women as they engage in con-

tests for leadership positions.

She cites some of them as being insulted and humiliated and sometimes being physically assaulted. The goal of this harassment has always been to discourage women from seeking political leadership.

Mapunda says women empowerment in leadership is something that needs to be done from the family level so that her personality, value and ability can be recognized and respected at an early stage. This was supported by Sezali who testified that there was a time when she attended a funeral ceremony at her area and during lunch she began serving women. However there was uproar from the majority of men who demanded that they should be served first.

Giving food to women before men were served was against norms, they claimed.

"I did this not because of disobeying the social norms that a man should start eating before a woman, but I wanted to show them the need for

gender equality in our society," she said.

She noted that currently, some men have started to change their perceptions and acknowledge that women have equal values like men, especially when leadership issues are concerned.

Another member of the group, Mary Mgaya, served as the Secretary of the Women's wing of the ruling Chama Cha Mapinduzi (CCM) at Kibasila Ward in Dar es Salaam city, but its leadership ceased after the government demolished their homes.

So, she moved to Buza Ward where she intends to run for the position of Counselor in Temeke municipal council next year.

According to Mgaya, women's engagement in public leadership enables them to gain economic power, attain persuasion skills and build courage; otherwise they may despair and give up.

Emiliana Msaguka, the programme officer for Tanzania Women Cross - Party Platform (TWC-PP) disclosed that by recognizing the importance of economic power in contesting public leadership positions, her organization included entrepreneurial skills in their project which aimed to empower women politicians and encourage them to stand for office across political parties in the country.

Msaguka says the project also trained women in entrepreneurial groups at district level in four districts thus bringing to 400, the total number of beneficiaries. "We focused on building their capacity through imparting leadership skills so that women could seek public leadership positions as well as become economically fit," she says.

The Program Officer explained that the project was started by identifying women in political parties, and with the help of District Commissioners (DCs), they got representatives from women entrepreneurial groups.

Msaguka explained that the project implementation led to the formation of women leaders' forum which prepares and submits women views on the new Political Party's Act.

According to Msaguka, five out of the 12 proposals presented by the forum, were adopted and incorporated into the new law for political parties.

She listed some of the adopted proposals in the law as follows: to increase the number of women on the political party council, to punish a member who humiliates women in political parties and to serve in the disciplinary committee.

Msaguka said in order to make the project sustainable, among the things, project beneficiaries, particularly from the women entrepreneurial groups have formed strong networks that finance their specific needs like training and capacity building programs.

"They have now realized the importance of training in various skills and other women empowerment programs which strengthen them in their careers. So they currently pay for the training they need, and for us it is a visual success that will enhance the results of our project," she says.

She also credits the African Women's Development Fund for their commitment to empowering women and the promotion of women's rights across the African continent.

Kenya's small-scale avocado growers eye Chinese market with optimism

NAIROBI

WHEN China gave Kenyan avocados a nod in April, both small and large scale growers celebrated the development because Europe has traditionally been the country's main avocado market.

With Kenya facing stiff competition from South Africa in terms of avocado exports to Europe, the Chinese market could not have come at a better time, local growers say.

Wellington Mutisya, who grows the Hass avocado variety in his two acre farm in the eastern county of Makeni, used to grapple with exploitative middlemen who denied him a chance to earn money from the highly nutritious fruit.

Mutisya said the highest amount he used to earn from one piece of Hass avocado was 10 Kenyan shillings (0.10 U.S dollars) despite it being touted as the best variety due to its longer shelf life and high fat content.

"I am just hoping both governments are looking into ways through which farmers like me who have never had a chance to reap what we deserve from our farms benefit from this deal," Mutisya told Xinhua in a recent interview.

"I know for sure my avocados are consumed in Europe where I hear a single piece goes for 3 dollars yet the same is bought from me at 0.10 dollars. Nevertheless, I am optimistic about the Chinese market," he added.

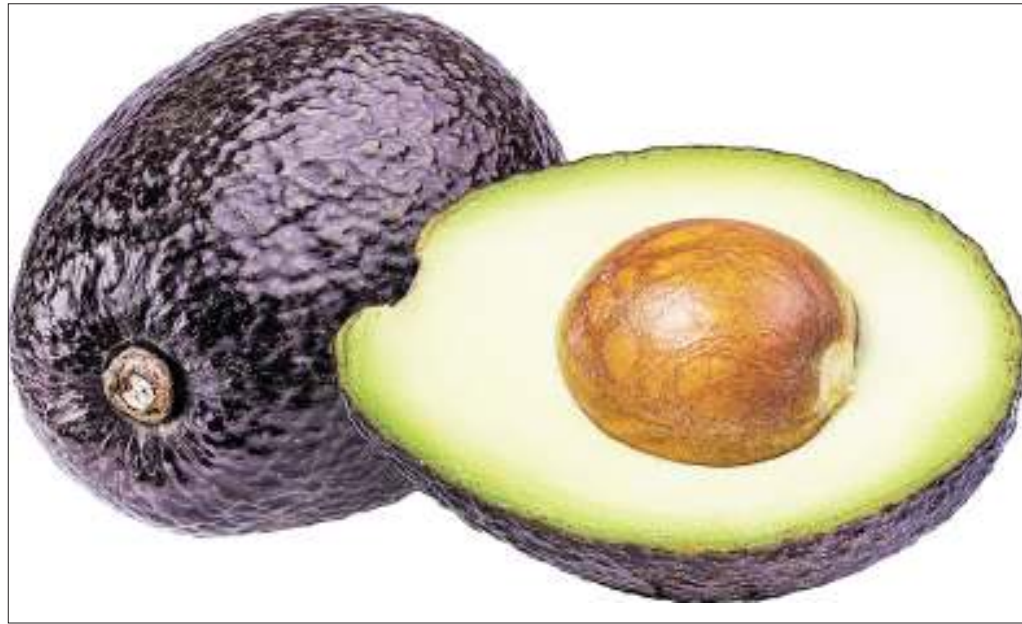
Mutisya's woes are not isolated; the export industry is run by exploitative middlemen who go around farms collecting the fruits at poor prices and later sell them at inflated prices to established export companies.

But with the country opening up more export markets for avocados, Mutisya intends to do things differently.

"I know the export market is for the big fish but I plan to give it a shot. I have approached a few companies which have established structures on how they deal with farmers," said Mutisya.

"In the meantime I will work with them but my goal is to establish my own. My son is also undergoing training on the export value chain as we gear ourselves towards tapping into this new market," he added.

Mutisya intends to increase the number of avocado trees in his farm to 1,000 in the next one year.



Wilberforce Ngige, who has been exporting fresh produce to Europe for over a decade, expressed concern that small growers like Mutisya might never reap the benefits that come with the opening of such an expansive market if the government does not provide the necessary support.

"Most farmers don't know the work that goes into collecting such fruits for the export market. Apart from selection, you need to have certification from various entities and maintaining these standards is not as easy, some of us who have been in this business have made big losses due to mistakes we could have avoided if we knew better. In 2016, I lost approximately 5,000 dollars after my produce was rejected in the United Kingdom," said Ngige.

Chris Mutai, a small-scale grower in Kenya's South Rift region, said since the announcement in April, he teamed up with colleagues and leased a 20-acre piece of land where they planted avocado trees after undertaking training on best practices in avocado farming.

They are also in the process of registering an export company in preparation for the Chinese market.

Already, they have obtained certified seedlings from the Kenya Plant Health Inspectorate Service (KEPHIS), which has been in the forefront educating farmers on which varieties do well in the export market and how to grow them.

Ernest Muthomi, chief executive of-

ficer at Avocado Society of Kenya, said the greatest challenge avocados farmers face is ignorance on which varieties do best in which markets and how to grow them.

"Most farmers follow the same script, they do what they see their neighbors do and the reality hits when the fruits mature and are ready for the market. They lack proper knowledge on varieties, quality of seedlings and crop husbandry. The Chinese market is huge but it might never be of benefit to some farmers if proper training is not done," said Muthomi.

Kenya propagates about 50 avocado varieties which include the local varieties like the jumbo and varieties such as Hass and the Fuerte.

The avocado a tree with probable origin in South Central Mexico is classified as a member of the flowering plant family Lauraceae. The fruit of the plant, also called an avocado (or avocado pear or alligator pear), is botanically a large berry containing a single large seed.

Avocados are commercially valuable and are cultivated in tropical and Mediterranean climates throughout the world. They have a green-skinned, fleshy body that may be pear-shaped, egg-shaped, or spherical. Commercially, they

ripen after harvesting. Avocado trees are partially self-pollinating, and are often propagated through grafting to maintain predictable fruit quality and quantity. In 2017, Mexico produced 34 per cent of the world supply of avocados.

Avocado tree grows to 20 m (66 ft), with alternately arranged leaves 12-25 cm (4.7-9.8 in) long. Panicles of flowers with deciduous bracts arise from new growth or the axils of leaves. The flowers are inconspicuous, greenish-yellow, 5-10 mm (0.2-0.4 in) wide.

The species is variable because of selection pressure by humans to produce larger, fleshier fruits with a thinner exocarp. The avocado fruit is a climacteric, single-seeded berry, due to the imperceptible endocarp covering the seed, rather than a drupe. The pear-shaped fruit is 7-20 cm (2.8-7.9 in) long, weighs between 100 and 1,000 g (3.5 and 35.3 oz), and has a large central seed, 5-6.4 cm (2.0-2.5 in) long.

History

Persea americana, or the avocado, possibly originated in the Tehuacan Valley in the state of Puebla, Mexico, although fossil evidence suggests similar species were much more widespread millions of years ago. However, there is evidence for three possible separate domestications of the avocado, resulting in the currently recognized Mexican (aoacatl), Guatemalan (quillaoacatl), and West Indian (tlacacolaocatl) landraces. The Mexican and Guatemalan landraces originated in the highlands of those countries, while the West Indian landrace is a lowland variety that ranges from Guatemala, Costa Rica, Colombia, Ecuador to Peru, achieving a wide range through human agency before the arrival of the Europeans. The three separate landraces were most likely to have already intermingled in pre-Columbian America and were described in the Florentine Codex.

The earliest residents were living in temporary camps in an ancient wetland eating avocados,

chilies, mollusks, sharks, birds, and sea lions. The oldest discovery of an avocado pit comes from Coxcatlan Cave, dating from around 9,000 to 10,000 years ago. Other caves in the Tehuacan Valley from around the same time period also show early evidence for the presence of avocado. There is evidence for avocado use at Norte Chico civilization sites in Peru by at least 3,200 years ago and at Cabello Muerto in Peru from around 3,800 to 4,500 years ago.

The native, undomesticated variety is known as a criollo, and is small, with dark black skin, and contains a large seed. It probably coevolved with extinct megafauna. The avocado tree also has a long history of cultivation in Central and South America, likely beginning as early as 5,000 BC. A water jar shaped like an avocado, dating to AD 900, was discovered in the pre-Incan city of Chan Chan.

The earliest known written account of the avocado in Europe is that of Martín Fernández de Enciso (circa 1470-1528) in 1519 in his book, *Suma De Geographia Que Trata De Todas Las Partidas Y Provincias Del Mundo*. The first detailed account that unequivocally describes the avocado was given by Gonzalo Fernández de Oviedo y Valdés in his work *Sumario de la natural historia de las Indias* [es] in 1526. The first written record in English of the use of the word 'avocado' was by Hans Sloane, who coined the term in 1669, in a 1696 index of Jamaican plants.

The plant was introduced to Spain in 1601, Indonesia around 1750, Mauritius in 1780, Brazil in 1809, the United States mainland in 1825, South Africa and Australia in the late 19th century, and Israel in 1908. In the United States, the avocado was introduced to Florida and Hawaii in 1833 and in California in 1856.

Before 1915, the avocado was commonly referred to in California as *ahuacate* and in Florida as *alligator pear*. In 1915, the California Avocado Association introduced the then-innovative term

avocado to refer to the plant.

Eymology

The word "avocado" comes from the Spanish *aguacate*, which in turn comes from the Nahuatl word *huacatl* [a wakat], which goes back to the proto-Aztec **pawa* which also meant "avocado". Sometimes the Nahuatl word was used with the meaning "testicle", probably because of the likeness between the fruit and the body part.

The modern English name comes from an English rendering of the Spanish *aguacate* as *avogato*. The earliest known written use in English is attested from 1697 as "avogato pear", a term which was later corrupted as "alligator pear". Because the word *avogato* sounded like "advocate", several languages reinterpreted it to have that meaning. French uses *avocat*, which also means lawyer, and "advocate" - forms of the word appear in several Germanic languages, such as the (now obsolete) German *Advogato-Birne*, the old Danish *advokat-pære* (today it is called *avocado*) and the Dutch *advocatpeer*.

Regional names

In other Central American and Caribbean Spanish-speaking countries, it is known by the Mexican name, while South American Spanish-speaking countries use a Quechua-derived word, *palta*. In Portuguese, it is *abacate*. The fruit is sometimes called an *avocado pear* or *alligator pear* (due to its shape and the rough green skin of some cultivars). The Nahuatl *huacatl* can be compounded with other words, as in *ahuacamolli*, meaning *avocado soup* or *sauce*, from which the Spanish word *guacamole* derives.

In the United Kingdom, the term *avocado pear* is still sometimes misused as applied when avocados first became commonly available in the 1960s.

Originating as a diminutive in Australian English, a clipped form, *avo*, has since become a common colloquialism in South Africa and the United Kingdom.

China ready to embark on a path of mutual benefit and win-win cooperation with the world

AS an ancient Chinese litterateur wrote, "Time stops for no one, and the seasons keep changing." Over half of 2019 has passed in the blink of an eye, and the major country diplomacy with Chinese characteristics has kept cleaving waves and forging ahead under the guidance of Xi Jinping Thought on Diplomacy.

During the past half-year, the country has made remarkable achievements in win-win-cooperation one after another, constantly writing new chapters of building a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for mankind.

The busy schedule of Chinese President Xi Jinping in the first six months of this year reflected the vision and open-minded of a leader of a major country.

Selecting Italy, Monaco and France as his first overseas destinations this year, the Chinese President has opened new space for the construction of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) and injected fresh impetus to China-Europe comprehensive strategic partnership.

In the following April and May, three major diplomatic events, including the Second Belt and Road Forum on International Cooperation, International Horticultural Exhibition 2019 Beijing, and Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations, were hosted in China, attracting nearly 50 heads of state, government chiefs and leaders of international organizations.

These diplomatic events demonstrated the global appeal and influence of China's visions and initiatives.

During the Second Belt and Road Forum on International Cooperation, Xi hosted a series of state events for visiting foreign leaders, and held over ten bilateral meetings. He has further consolidated the friendship and deepened cooperation between China and countries participating in the event.

This June, Xi made four consecutive visits, leaving his footprints on Russia, Central Asia, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), and Japan. These visits covered multiple bilateral

and multilateral events, setting a new record in the history of China's diplomacy since the founding of the People's Republic of China, and demonstrating the foresight of the Chinese leader.

By endeavoring to promote integrated planning of its relations with major countries, neighboring countries, developing countries, and its multilateral diplomacy, and continuously expanding its global partnership network, China has fully showcased its diplomatic wisdom.

These efforts were rewarding, just as Xi said at the welcoming banquet of the Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, "Frequent overseas trips may be exhausting, but we are repaid with a broader network of friends".

The courage and persistence China has shown in its diplomatic efforts have yielded rich fruits.

During Xi's state visit to Italy, China and Italy signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) on jointly advancing the construction of the BRI, making Italy the first member of the Group of Seven to join the initiative.

Besides, China and France concluded agreements on the third round of the BRI-related demonstration projects in third-party markets and launched a third-party market fund during Xi's state visit to France this March. The two countries have laid a solid foundation for BRI cooperation.

The Second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation, as a significant diplomatic event hosted by China in 2019, delivered 283 items of practical outcomes and reached cooperation agreements worth more than \$64 billion, thus ushering in a new stage of the high-quality construction of the BRI.

During Xi's state visit to Russia this June, which was his eighth to the country after being elected as Chinese President in 2013, he and his Russian counterpart jointly declared that the two countries would upgrade their relations to a comprehensive strategic partnership of coordination for a new era.



Chinese President Xi Jinping

This year marks the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between China and the DPRK, and Xi's first state visit to the DPRK since he took office as Chinese president and General Secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee came just at this critical period of history.

During the visit, the two countries agreed that they would stay true to their original aspirations and join hands to create a bright future of inter-party and interstate relations at a new starting point in history.

The fruitful achievements of China's diplomacy signified the international community's increasing approval and support for China.

It is widely agreed that instead

of adopting the selfish philosophy of "me-first" policy and pursuing a zero-sum game that result in the win of one party and the loss of the other, China integrates its own development into the development of the world and endeavors to seek universally beneficial and win-win results through its positive interaction with various countries.

It's a general consensus that such efforts of China have constantly given impetus to the high-quality development of global economy and created conditions for the prosperity and stability of the world.

By offering the world with remarkable proposals, China has lived up to the responsibilities of a major country.

Attending the China-France Global Governance Forum, the

23rd St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, the three major diplomatic events hosted by China, the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) summit in Bishkek, the fifth summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA), and the 14th Group of 20 (G20) Osaka summit, Xi has pointed direction for the world economy and global governance, as well as explored new paths for major country relations and international cooperation from the perspective of building a new type of international relations and a community with a shared future for mankind.

When faced with daunting challenges such as the deficit in governance, trust, peace, and development, as well as the rising

unilateralism and protectionism, China is willing to jointly build the BRI with its global partners and uphold the principle of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits in global governance.

It will resolutely safeguard the legitimate right to development and international equality and justice, and join hands with various countries to pave a path of common development.

China, being open, inclusive and confident, will always promote world peace, contribute to global development, and safeguard the international order.

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres spoke highly of China's positive role in the world, saying that China firmly upholds multilateralism, and safeguards equity and justice, as well as the purposes and principles of the UN Charter when the world is faced with great uncertainties and the global legal systems and multilateralism are confronted with challenges.

China has played an important role in stabilizing, and brought certainty, confidence and hope to the world, said Guterres.

As Xi said at the opening ceremony of the Conference on Dialogue of Asian Civilizations this May, "China today is more than the country itself; it is very much a part of Asia and the world."

Xi's diplomatic tours, coming at the historical moment when China is about to celebrate the 70th anniversary of its founding, signaled to the world the original aspiration and commitment of the leader of a major country who promises to put aside his own well-being for the good of his people, and also showcased the efforts made by China and its partners on its way to the center of the world stage.



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Simiyu RC urges FIs to limit cash credit to business groups

By Smart Money Reporter, Simiyu

Financial institutions should encourage groups of entrepreneurs seeking loans to get modern equipment or services to boost productivity

other than giving cash which is often misused.

Simiyu Regional Commissioner, Antony Mtaka said last week that financial institutions should only give a maximum of 10m/- cash prize to such groups if they have a qualified

accountant to help them manage it.

"Cash loans to groups have not been very well utilised partly because of lack of financial literacy which has led to management issues," Mtaka said after visiting NMB Bank Plc's pavilion at the ongoing agriculture trade fair

alias Nane Nane where business people were being trained.

He further pointed out that giving loans in term of goods and services to groups of smallholder farmers and business people because cash credit has only caused friction which leads

to thefts by leaders hence failure to repay such loans.

"When it comes to getting loans, it involves all members but once the loan is issued divisions emerge with some leaders disappearing with the cash. You find that the chairman has his own people, the secretary his people which generates a conflict," said the Simiyu Regional Commissioner.

Mtaka whose region is playing host to this year's Nane Nane national celebrations, pointed out that financial institutions should invest heavily in modern technologies to enable smallholder farmers increase their productivity.

"This training in basics of financial management should be given to all groups of small producers and business people including farmers and pastoralists so that when they take loans they invest and be able to repay," he insisted.

Briefing the RC, NMB's Head of Government Business Vicky Bishubo said as a bank, the advise will be taken and put into practice to ensure that cash loans don't become a burden rather relief to small business owners and farmers.

"We have already started putting into practice what you have said and that's why we are training these entrepreneurs and farmers today," Bishubo said while stressing that the bank's capacity building program involves all clients at every level.

More South Africans exploring moving money offshore - tax expert says

JOHANNESBURG

An increasing number of South Africans have started to research their options on how to move money offshore, according to Jonty Leon, legal manager at financial emigration at Tax Consulting SA.

The company has also noted a large increase in individuals who are expatriating funds and investing these funds offshore. "There are various speculative reasons as to why people are moving money abroad. Some are financially emigrating due to moving overseas. Other reasons include better investment opportunities abroad, the weakened rand and political instability," says Leon.

"Many mentioned that discussions regarding land expropriation without compensation has led them to feel that their investments in South Africa are no longer secure." Leon points out that the exchange control system regulate the inward and outward flow of money in South Africa and it affects both individuals and companies.

There are two main ways of expatriating funds from South Africa, namely the single discretionary allowance and the foreign capital allowance. The single discretionary allowance is for SA residents 18 years or older and with a valid SA identity document. This allowance is R1m per calendar year per individual.

The foreign capital allowance gives an SA resident of 18 years or older the opportunity to expatriate funds of up to R10m per calendar year. Prior approval is needed to expatriate funds under the foreign capital allowance.

If a person wants to move actual South African bank notes abroad, the limit when entering or leaving SA is R25 000 per individual. When travelling between countries in the Common Monetary Area - South Africa, Lesotho, Namibia and Swaziland - the amount is unlimited.

The exchange rate is another major determining factor as to when people take money out of South Africa. "Moving money outside of South African when the rand is weak is like making a bad investment. Be sure to time the expatriation of your money according to the exchange rate," says Leon.

"Compliance is another aspect of funds expatriation that needs to be carefully considered and adhered to. Those looking to expatriate funds must ensure they meet all the regulations related to the transaction."

Something as seemingly menial as providing an incorrect statement in any declaration to the SARB can lead you to be found guilty of an offence in terms of exchange control regulations. If you are found guilty of such an offence, you could be fined up to R250 000 or up to five years in prison - or both.

Tax Consulting SA also advises clients to find a reputable foreign exchange company when looking to expatriate funds.



Simiyu Regional Commissioner, Antony Mtaka addressing entrepreneurs who were attending a training on financial basics from NMB experts at the ongoing Nane Nane agriculture fair in his region. Left is NMB's Head of Government Business, Vicky Bishubo and Bank of Tanzania official, Vicky Msina. Photo: courtesy of NMB.

Global smartphone sales to fall 2.5 per cent in 2019

NEW YORK

Global smartphone sales will fall by nearly 2.5 per cent year-on-year in 2019, according to US-based researcher Gartner.

That would be the second year running smartphone sales declined, following a more than 5 per cent year-on-year slump in 2018 - the first time annual deliveries fell worldwide.

"Lengthening smartphone replacement cycles and a ban on Huawei [even though currently partially lifted] accessing technology from US-based suppliers weakened demand for smartphones in the first half of 2019," said Annette Zimmermann, research vice president at Gartner.

Despite the US administration's directive that allows suppliers to work with Huawei again, Ms Zimmermann said "the situation remains unclear." "The ban on Huawei has created negativity around the brand and is likely to open a few opportunities for other manufacturers in overseas markets such as western Europe," she added.

Gartner expects global demand to weaken further in the second half of the year due to fewer customers replacing their existing phones amid a dearth of ground-breaking innovations and additional features in newly launched smartphones, it added.

Worldwide sales of smartphones to end users will be around 1.5 billion units by the end of this year, nearly 40,000 fewer units than last year, according to Gartner. Japan, western Europe and North America will witness the steepest declines of between 4.4 per cent and 6.5 per cent. However, smartphone sales will increase by around 1 per cent in Middle East and North Africa.

"In mature markets, the high-end smartphone industry is particularly oversupplied, with higher average selling prices and no compelling new utility or experiences for users to upgrade to," said Roberta Cozza, senior research director at Gartner.

Global smartphone shipments fell by almost 2.3 per cent to reach 333.2 million units in the second quarter of 2019, according to data compiled by International Data Corporation. South Korean brand

Samsung maintained first position with a 22.7 per cent global market share while Huawei retained the number two slot with over 17 per cent market share. Suffering a yearly drop of more than 18 per cent in shipments, Apple's market share fell to 10.1 per cent.

Industry analysts say smartphone sales will grow in 2020, driven by the broader availability of 5G-enabled phones and promotional activity by service providers. "Sales will start to ramp up in the second half of 2020 as the coverage and availability of 5G hardware services improve," said Ms Zimmermann.

However, Gartner forecasts that sales of 5G smartphones will top 15 million units in 2019, still less than 1 per cent of total smartphone sales. Leading mobile manufacturers have started offering their first 5G smartphones - such as the LG V50 ThinQ, Oppo Reno 5G, Samsung Galaxy S10 5G and Xiaomi Mi MIX 3 5G - and service providers have started to offer some aggressively priced packages but overall 5G smartphone sales are set to remain small in 2019.



A smartphone on display.

Traders brace for full-blown currency war as China's yuan sinks

SINGAPORE

Traders in Asia are bracing for a full-fledged currency war, after a slide in China's yuan past the 7 per dollar mark raised the prospect of policy makers allowing their exchange rates to weaken to remain competitive.

Currencies slumped across the region Monday, with South Korea's won tumbling to the weakest in three years after the offshore yuan plunged almost

2% to an all-time low of 7.11. The yen and Treasuries rallied amid a flight to safety.

"Without a doubt the global currency war is here, and it's a natural extension of the trade war that's just taken a turn for the worse," said George Boubouras, director at Salter Brothers Asset Management Pty in Melbourne. "We're likely to continue seeing the effects reverberate through markets - I expect to see the yen, dollar and Treasuries continue to strengthen as things heat

up."

Traders are interpreting the yuan's drop past the 7 mark as a signal that Beijing is prepared to wield its currency as a tool amid a widening rift with Washington. The People's Bank of China pledged to keep the yuan stable after it dropped beyond 7 and said the decline was fuelled by expectations of further tariffs on Chinese goods.

The yen strengthened against all its major peers and touched 105.80 to the

dollar, the strongest since the so-called flash crash in January. The yield on Treasuries due in a decade slid eight basis points to 1.76%, the lowest in almost three years.

Japan's currency may strengthen to 105 in the short term as investors scramble for safety, according to Terence Wu, a strategist at Oversea-Chinese Banking Corporation in Singapore. The yen has climbed more than 3% against the greenback this

year, the top performer among G-10 currencies, as the US-China trade rift widened.

Still, not everyone is sure the moves herald the start of a global currency war. "I don't think China is trying to devalue the yuan," said Masahiro Ichikawa, a senior strategist at Sumitomo Mitsui DS Asset Management in Tokyo. "We need to see whether the central bank will continue to set the yuan lower at its fixings in coming days."

In the mean time, risk-sensitive emerging Asian currencies could be headed for further losses, according to Scotiabank. "I see further downside potential for regional currencies at the moment," said Qi Gao, a currency strategist at Scotiabank in Singapore. "When market sentiment stabilises, we could see high-yielding currencies such as the Indian rupee and Indonesian rupiah outperform the won, Taiwan dollar and offshore yuan."

Three take home 8m/- prize money from the Azania Bank's campaign



Azania Bank Limited's Senior Manager for Retail Banking, Jackson Lohay (C) speaks by phone with one of the winners of 'Amsha ndoto' campaign during a draw held at the bank's headquarters in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: courtesy ABL.

By Smart Money Reporter

THREE Azania Bank Limited lucky winners took home 8m/- in cash prize after emerging top in the ongoing 'Amsha ndoto' campaign which started in June and ends in September this year.

The winners whose names were announced in Dar es Salaam this week by Azania Bank's Senior Manager for Retail Banking, Jackson Lohay were Baraka Mmari of Arusha who won 2m/-, Rose Anaeli of Dar es Salaam who

got 3m/- and Ketus Malekamo of Mbeya who are 3m/-.

Speaking during the draw, Lohay said the bank was honouring its promise to award its customers who participate in the promotional campaign. Those eligible for the award, Lohay said are the bank's existing customers with savings not less than 1m/-.

"We encourage all the parents and guardians to open Watoto Accounts for their children so as to be assured of a safe and secure future. This way, they will guarantee themselves how to

prepare for their children in the future," said Lohay. He further noted that the Watoto Account also serves as a mechanism to nurture children into adopting a culture of saving.

Under the campaign, customers will qualify for a draw after depositing a minimum of 1m/- which also qualifies them 6 percent interest rate paid during the campaign period and throughout the year.

Congratulating the winners, Lohay encouraged more customers to join the competition,

noting that they stood a high chance of receiving cash prizes besides guaranteeing themselves a bright financial future through their savings.

The promotion, whose tagline is: 'Fanikisha ndoto yake na weka akiba ushinde tumuwezeshada ya shule,' is also conducted on different digital platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn, Google Display placement and the local websites. The campaign also involves Ziada Account.

Mozambique sues French-Lebanese billionaire against debt scandal

MAPUTO

Mozambique has started legal action against a French-Lebanese billionaire, Iskandar Safa, whose shipbuilding company is at the heart of a \$2bn debt scandal, officials said Friday. A source at the attorney general's office, in an emailed reply to AFP, confirmed "a case is ongoing" without giving details.

In London, an official at the High Court commercial division told AFP the Mozambican government had filed proceedings there against Safa. The papers were submitted on July 31 and no date has been set yet for the hearing, the source said.

Safa is CEO of a giant Abu Dhabi based shipbuilding company, Prinvest, which signed contracts with Mozambique state companies to supply ships and national maritime security. The government's legal moves came after testimony in a New York court last month by a former Credit Suisse banker, Andrew Pearse.

Safa, he said, had wired him "millions of dollars in unlawful kickbacks from loan proceeds and illegal payments" for help in securing loans from the bank. Safa has denied any wrongdoing and according to his lawyer Jacqueline Laffont, he "strongly" disputes Pearse's "baseless statements, obtained after several months of pressure from the US Department of Justice."

The scandal is rooted in loans of \$2 billion, undertaken by the government between 2013 and 2015, to buy a tuna-fishing fleet and surveillance ships. The government admitted it borrowed



French-Lebanese billionaire, Iskandar Safa.

the money secretly, forcing international donors to suspend aid.

An independent audit found that a quarter of the loans had been unaccounted for, and another \$750m, used to buy equipment, had been over-invoiced.

'Denies any wrongdoing'

The United States alleges at least \$200m was spent on bribes and kickbacks. Several people have been arrested both in Mozambique and abroad. They include Mozambique's ex-finance

minister, Manuel Chang, who is said to have received \$12 million for allegedly signing off on debt guarantees. Chang was arrested in South Africa last year on a US extradition request.

In an ongoing tussle over where he could stand trial, the Mozambican government this week said it would fight attempts to extradite him to the US after the South African government halted plans to send the minister to his home country.

When the hidden debt was revealed, Mozambique - which relies on donor aid and is one of the world's poorest countries - was plunged into the worst financial crisis in its history. The US Department of Justice has accused three former Credit Suisse workers of helping to create \$2 billion in maritime projects as a front for the scam.

They were arrested in London in early January. In May one of them pleaded guilty to conspiracy to launder funds over the case. In emailed response for comment, Prinvest spokesman on the Mozambique case, Jeffrey Birnbaum, said the businessman did nothing wrong.

"Mr Safa cannot comment on why the Mozambique government has sought to institute proceedings against him personally" until he has seen details of the claim. "He does not accept that the English Court has jurisdiction over him, and in any event, denies any wrongdoing," Birnbaum said.

Birnbaum said Prinvest delivered on its contractual commitments and took "extraordinary steps to help make the Mozambique projects succeed", but the Mozambican entities "failed to hold up their end of the agreements."

Prinvest had earlier this year instituted proceedings against the Mozambique government, which included "arbitration to recover losses and damages arising from breach of contract," the spokesman said. Safa's lawyer Laffont told AFP in France that the jurisdiction of the London court is contested, adding neither him nor his company are facing criminal prosecution either in the US or in Mozambique.

Kenya's regional imports beat exports for first time

NAIROBI

Kenya has for the first time bought more than she sold to African countries in the half-year period, signalling continued dwindling competitiveness of her products on the continent.

Trade deficit in Africa - the gap between imports and exports - stood at Sh156 million, marking the first time Nairobi has run a deficit since the Central Bank of Kenya (CBK) started to publicly keep trade records in 1999.

Data from Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) show total exports in six months through June dropped 1.96 percent to Sh107.55 billion compared with a year ago, higher than 0.99 percent in imports to Sh107.71 billion. A higher growth in imports than exports, economists say, denies Kenya an opportunity to create more jobs because local firms lose out market to foreign factories and traders.

Kenya has struggled to sustainably expand her exports to African countries since the turn of the decade, a further analysis of the official trade statistics indicate, a sign factories in Nairobi have been losing their market share partly due to import substitution amid dwindling industrial competitiveness.

Exports to key markets such as Uganda (Kenya's single largest market), Tanzania and DR-Congo have fallen from recent highs because factories in those countries are increasingly producing goods they previously ordered from Nairobi. Orders from Kampala have dropped to Sh30.77 billion in the January-June 2019 from

recent highs of Sh34.51 billion in 2013, the statistics kept by the CBK shows.

Half-year exports to Tanzania have dipped to Sh15.79 billion this year from Sh21.73 billion five years ago, while those from DRC have dipped to Sh6.86 billion from Sh10.12 billion. Imports from Uganda, on the other hand, have doubled to Sh13.95 billion in June 2019 from Sh5.14 billion in 2014, while Tanzania's has grown to Sh12.95 billion from Sh8.34 billion.

The Kenya Association of Manufacturers (KAM), the sector lobby, has in the past blamed "continued erosion in our competitiveness" on levies, fees and taxes which have kept cost of production for factories high.

The Treasury has in the Finance Bill 2019 proposed to cut Import Development Fee (IDF) on raw materials and intermediate goods to 1.5 from 2.0 percent, and increase the same on finished imports to 3.5 percent. Other proposed protectionist measure aimed at cushioning Kenyan factories include raising Railway Development Levy (RDL) on finished imports to 2.0 from 1.5 percent.

Factories are, however, yet to start enjoying a 30 percent refund on power bills, due to delayed gazette of guidelines for benefitting firms. About 54 percent of manufacturers a survey released on July 3 by Strathmore University and global business management software firm Syspro cited energy as single largest cost driver for factories.



Workers at Rivatex East Africa Limited in Eldoret town, Uasin Gishu County.

Bitcoin surges past \$11000 as cryptos rally amid market turmoil

BEIJING

Bitcoin climbed past the \$11 000 level for the first time since mid-July to lead gains among the biggest cryptocurrencies, as risk assets across Asia tumbled on escalating trade war tensions.

The largest cryptocurrency surged as much as 12% from Friday's close and traded at \$11 565 at 12:50 pm in Hong Kong, according to consolidated Bloomberg pricing. The Bloomberg Galaxy Crypto Index tracking a basket of cryptocurrencies jumped as much as 7.2% as rival digital coins including Ether and XRP also rallied.

"With the turmoil in markets and the streets, suddenly digital gold doesn't seem like such a bad idea," said Jehan Chu, managing partner at blockchain investment and advisory firm Kenetic Capital. "Bitcoin is increasingly seen not only as a bet on the future, but as a shelter for the present."

China's yuan fell past 7 per dollar, a key psychological level for traders, roiling global markets and driving other currencies lower. The risk-off shift intensified on reports China had asked

state buyers to halt imports of American agriculture imports, further escalating trade tensions after US President Donald Trump last week proposed adding 10% tariffs on another \$300 billion in Chinese imports starting September 1.

"A lot of this might have to do with some capital flight out of China" after Trump's tariff announcement, said Tom Maxon, head of US operations at electronic-payment products company CoolBitX. He noted that it's hard to tell for sure, and said the current Bitcoin bull market has produced a lot of positive dynamics that could be fuelling the move as well.

Bitcoin's rally this month comes after a July sell-off as lawmakers including Trump questioned Facebook's plan to create its own cryptocurrency Libra. The digital currency has seen prices triple this year after a difficult 2018.

"Bitcoin should test \$12 000 soon," said Charles Yang, head trader at Hong Kong-based over-the-counter digital-asset trading firm Genesis Block. "This is, of course, assuming we believe macro issues actually drive Bitcoin."

Tax enlightenment for NGOs to avoid the TRA penalties

By Anna Kyando

It has been a puzzling subject amongst Non-Governmental Organizations in Tanzania to determine whether they actually need to pay taxes and file tax returns. I understand the reason behind this thinking is, NGOs are not operating with the intentions of deriving profits, but rather to take care of the welfare of the community or the public. The question among NGOs' stakeholders is, why they would need to pay any taxes or rather file any returns in Tanzania, if they are not operating with the motive of deriving profits.

The paradox arises from the requirements under the Income Tax Act, 2004 (ITA), which requires companies including NGOs to file returns and pay taxes if any, while NGOs through the definition provided by the Non-Governmental Organizations Act (CAP. 56), believe that they are community based organisations, which are established and operate for the benefit or welfare of the community, hence tax obligations should not apply to them.

ITA does not define NGOs but rather it defines charitable organization to mean a resident entity of a public character and the entity must have been established and functions solely as an organisation for the relief of poverty or distress of the public, the advancement of education or the provision of general public health, education, water or road construction or maintenance.

The ITA further requires that, for the organization to be recognised as a charitable organization by the Tanzania Revenue Authority, it must be issued with a ruling (charitable status certificate) by the Commissioner General (CG) of TRA stating that it is a charitable organisation or religious organisation.

NGOs therefore need to note that, in absence of charitable status certificate from TRA, the organization will be treated in the same way as a profit making organization and will be required to make payment of Corporate Income Tax (CIT) in case of surplus being established.

Further, even after attainment of "charitable status," the NGO will not automatically be exempted from payment of CIT, but rather, the corporate tax treatment of the organization will be different from tax treatments of profit making organizations.

While computing the income from a charitable organization, the organization will be required to include all gifts and donations received by the organization or religious organisation and will be allowed to deduct amounts applied in pursuit of the organisation or religious organisation's functions and 25



Anna Kyando (akyanto@kpmg.co.tz), a senior tax advisor at KPMG in Tanzania. The views expressed here are the author's and do not necessarily represent the views and opinions of KPMG.

percent of the organisation or religious organisation's income from its charitable business without any deduction or investment.

Another grey area facing NGOs is on whether they are required to comply with Skills Development Levy (SDL) obligations, such as paying SDL or required to file SDL monthly returns and semi-annual statements.

In 2014, the government through the Finance Act, broadened SDL exemptions coverage to cover different entities as opposed to initially exempted entities which were limited to any government departments and any public institution which is non-profit making and wholly financed by the government. However, following the amendments in 2014, the exempted entities included the following organizations: A government department or a public institution which is wholly financed by the state; Diplomat missions; United Nations and its organization; International and other foreign institutions dealing with aid or technical assistance; Religious institutions whose employees who employees are solely employed to: administer place of worship or give religious instructions or generally to administer religion, charitable organization and local government authority.

The Finance Act, 2014 further defined charitable organization which forms part of the exempted list to mean a resident entity of a public character registered as such and performs its functions solely for relief of poverty or

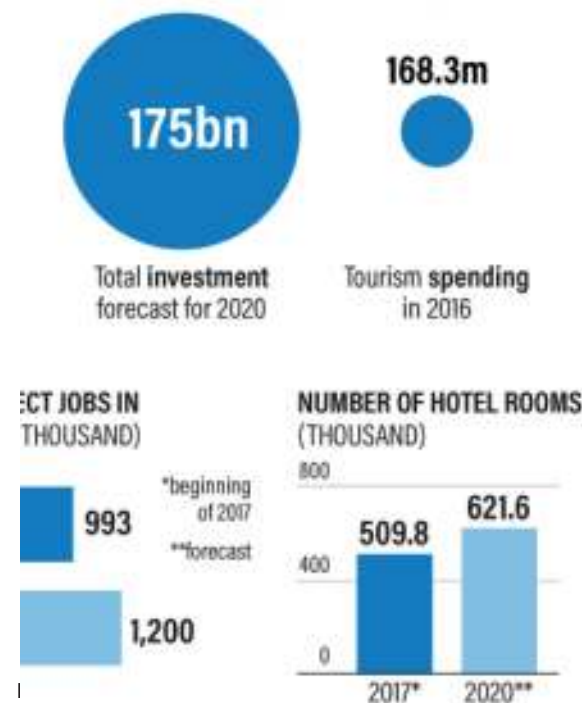
distress of public, provision of education or public health and the Commissioner General is, upon due diligence making, satisfied that the business conducted by such entity is for public goods.

The condition which requires the attainment of a charitable status ruling from the CG in order to enjoy special treatment under CIT is also provided for SDL exemption. Therefore, for NGOs to qualify for SDL exemption, they need to be approved by the CG of TRA and issued with a charitable status certificate.

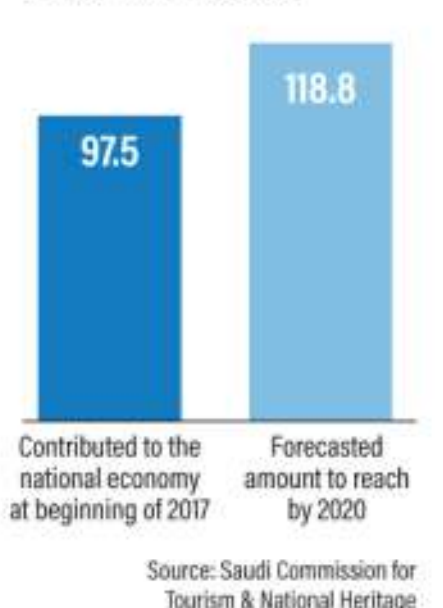
Further, NGOs need to be aware that, even after attainment of charitable status, they still need to file Statement of estimated tax payable, Return of income, SDL monthly returns (although no SDL is payable), and semi-annual returns to the TRA. Failure of filing the returns exposes NGOs to late filing penalties, which is currently capped at 225,000/- or 2.5 percent of the outstanding tax liability which is higher, for each month the return has remained unfiled.

The non-filing of the said returns has exposed many NGOs to penalties which could clearly be avoided by filing proper returns to the TRA. It is therefore encouraging that, NGOs need to apply for charitable status and follow up with the TRA on the applications made for attainment of such status, and make proper return filings to the TRA in order to be compliant with the applicable tax laws.

AJJ BY NUMBERS (SAUDI RIYAL)



TOURISM AND NATIONAL HERITAGE SECTOR (SAUDI RIYAL BILLION)



Hajj now offers enormous opportunities for start-ups

DUBAI

As Hajj approaches, the millions of pilgrims descending on Makkah will test the city's ability to cope to the absolute limit. Restaurants, accommodation providers and travel companies, every business will operate at its optimum.

Wadi Makkah is an investment company driven by the twofold goal of making the Hajj and Umrah experience as seamless as possible and to help fledgling Saudi businesses use the period as a commercial launch pad. The company is an "incubator" offering free support to innovative start-ups seeking a place in the temporarily enlarged market and beyond.

Wadi Makkah invests in companies, offers workspace, access to expertise and legal or technical advice. As Ahmed Al Shehri, a Wadi Makkah business consultant, told The National, the company helps start-ups to flourish.

Among those start-ups the incubator has backed is an Airbnb-like company focused on Makkah that helps property owners let out their apartments to pilgrims. Another start-up aims to help visitors and travel agents navigate the dizzying array of hotels on offer.

Wadi Makkah is owned by Umm Al Qura University in partnership with several state bodies including the General Investment Authority, Ministry of Hajj and Umrah, and Makkah's sustainable development chamber.

Gaining high-level, free-of-charge support of this level does not come easy and is fiercely competitive. Applications are open to everyone but Wadi Makkah's location means most companies, about 80 per cent, have to be based in the holy city and usually have a Hajj or Umrah related business.

"You come to us and you say: 'I have a business model, I have this idea, I need you guys to help start the company,'" says Mr Al Shehri. He says the investment company is an unusual venture capitalist that boasts the added dimension of providing training and free advice. The focus is to nurture

and support companies through the year they spend working with Wadi Makkah.

The incubator's university tie-up means recent graduates are among those who win Wadi Makkah's support. "Some of them are students only just graduated and they have good habits and good hopes and ideas and dreams, but they need guidelines," says Mr Al Shehri.

"Now we're trying to find people who have business ideas [and] a business model. We help them. We fund them to start up companies and we host them in our place and get them consultations, space, facilities and funds," says Mr Al Shehri.

"So we say, 'Yes, show us your business model.' We say, 'Ok you need to do market analysis, we'll help you to conduct market analysis [and] it's free of charge,'" he says. Wadi Makkah can also help the start-ups draw a pitch to big investors as they try to enter the larger Saudi market. One of them, Mr Al Shehri says, is worth more than 4 billion Saudi riyals (Dh3.91bn) per year.

The demand for accommodation during Hajj - considered the world's largest human gathering with almost 2.4 million pilgrims in 2018, according to Statista - rockets over the period. This is where UmrahPro, which was backed by Wadi Makkah, steps in. In many ways it resembles hotel reservation website bookings.com. It is a website where users can pick accommodation for the period of Hajj and Umrah.

"Because we know how extremely frustrating it is to find high-quality hotels at the lowest prices, we wanted to make things easier for you and save your time by comparing an incredible number of hotels in Makkah," writes Umrah Pro on its website.

It works closely with travel agents, who are often the first port of call for people planning their pilgrimage. Another company is Mabet4u. It also advertises apartments for the Hajj season including some that are for women only.

VIEW FROM THE TOP

CORPORATE WELLNESS



By Bhakti Shah, MPH

Anxiety disorder in the workplace

in anxiety disorders, such feelings are crippling, extreme, and/or persistent.

Having an anxiety disorder is not a sign of personal weakness. In fact, experts believe that anxiety disorders are caused by a combination of biological and environmental factors, much like physical disorders such as heart disease or diabetes. Anxiety can be successfully treated with psychological therapy and/or anti-anxiety medications, with the best results coming from a combination of both.

Anxiety disorders are associated with poor job productivity and shot and long-term work disability. The negative effects of anxiety on occupational outcomes are compounded when symptoms accompany insomnia, depression, which significantly increases the risk for impaired work performance and long-term absenteeism.

While anxiety can be extremely unpleasant, it does not have to be permanently disabling. For most people with mental illnesses, successfully maintaining a job is an essential part of recovery and wellbeing. Employers can help facilitate this by creating an informed and accommodating work environment, which can be achieved through the following strategies.

- Educate employees and managers about mental health disorders, including anxiety



disorders. Integrate mental health educational messages in health communication strategies.

- Promote the use of an employee assistance program and other related health programs. Encourage employees to seek care when they need it by educating the workforce that mental illnesses are real and are medical illnesses, and can be effectively treated.
- Certain job characteristics are associated with lower work satisfaction, greater distress, and more absenteeism; these include higher levels of job demand, lower levels of control over tasks, and lower rates of coworker support. Giving employees more control over their assignments and schedules and ensuring a collegial, supportive environment

may help individuals with anxiety perform better.

- Employees with anxiety disorders may benefit from certain accommodations such as modified workspaces, flexible schedules and a permission to take periodic breaks throughout the day.
- People with anxiety often struggle with organization, planning and time management and might need extra coaching or skill-building in these areas. In such cases, be sure to clearly communicate your performance expectations by providing specific instructions and regular, ongoing feedback.
- It is not uncommon for employees with anxiety

disorders to experience numerous work absences. Supervisors should work with employees on an individual basis to handle excessive absences, stay in regular contact with absent employees and work collaboratively on a return-to-work plan.

- Remind all employees of the availability of resources for staying healthy and productive. Ensure that employees know how to access care confidentially and quickly.
- Finally, maintain an empathetic, understanding attitude toward working with individuals with anxiety. Like other mental illnesses, having an anxiety disorder carries with it a certain amount of stigma and misunderstanding from others. By demonstrating an openness to address anxiety as seriously as any other medical conditions, those affected will feel more willing to ask for assistance. A supportive workplace also can help employees feel more loyal, committed and motivated to perform well for the company, which is ultimately to everyone's benefits.

The World Health Organization has reported that an estimated 12 billion working days will be lost to untreated depression and anxiety by year 2030, resulting in a global cost of \$925 billion. The upside to these staggering figures is that for every \$1 invested in treating depression and anxiety, there is a \$4 return for the economy, yielding a 5% improvement in workforce participation - representing a \$399 billion return on investment.

Clearly, supporting programs that improve worker access to treatment for anxiety makes good financial sense for individual companies as well as for the global economy.

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

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WORLD

Investigation ongoing into Texas shooting that left 20 dead

EL PASO, Texas

THE shooting that killed 20 people at a crowded El Paso department store will be handled as a domestic terrorism case, federal authorities said as they weighed hate-crime charges against the suspected gunman that could carry the death penalty.

A local prosecutor announced Sunday that he would file capital murder charges, declaring that the alleged assailant had "lost the right to be among us."

The attack on Saturday was followed less than a day later by another shooting that claimed nine lives in a nightlife district of Dayton, Ohio. That shooter was killed by police. Together the two assaults wounded more than 50 people, some of them critically, and shocked even a nation that has grown accustomed to regular spasms of gun

violence.

Investigators focused on whether the El Paso attack was a hate crime after the emergence of a racist, anti-immigrant screed that was posted online shortly beforehand. Detectives sought to determine if it was written by the man who was arrested. The border city has figured prominently in the immigration debate and is home to 680,000 people, most of them Latino.

Using a rifle, the El Paso gunman opened fire on shoppers during the busy back-to-school season.

The attack targeted a Walmart and did not spread to other nearby shopping areas, El Paso police Sgt. Robert Gomez said.

Most victims were inside the store. By Sunday evening, all bodies had been removed from the store and the parking lot, police said. They did not release names or ages, though some



This image provided by the FBI shows the suspect Patrick Crusius. (AP)

families announced that loved ones had been killed.

Despite initial reports of possible multiple gunmen, the man in custody was believed to be the only shooter, police said.

Law enforcement officials identified him as 21-year-old Patrick Crusius from Allen, a Dallas suburb which is a nearly 10-hour drive from El Paso.

The suspect's grandparents, Larry and Cynthia Brown, issued a statement Sunday evening. A family friend read the statement aloud outside the couple's home in Allen, KDFW-TV reported.

The Browns said they were "devastated" by the shooting and were praying for the victims. The couple added that while Crusius' driver's license shows their Allen residence, he had moved out of

the home six weeks ago. Crusius was living with his grandparents while he attended nearby Collin College.

Crusius was arrested without police firing any shots and was jailed without bond, authorities said. There was no immediate indication that he had an attorney.

Gomez said Crusius surrendered after being confronted by officers on a sidewalk close to the scene. Police did not know how many bullets were fired or why the attack stopped.

"We don't have information on what prompted him to stop firing," Gomez said.

El Paso Police Chief Greg Allen said the suspect was cooperative and "forthcoming with information."

Police said they did not know where the weapon was purchased. Allen acknowledged that it is legal under Texas law to carry a long gun openly in a public place.

"Of course, normal individuals seeing that type of weapon might be alarmed," but before he began firing, the suspect was technically "within the realm of the law," Allen said.

Relatives said a 25-year-old woman who was shot while apparently trying to shield her 2-month-old son was among those killed, as was her husband. Mexican officials said six Mexican nationals also were among the dead.

Mexico planned to take legal action against whoever sold the gun to the suspect, the country's foreign minister said. Gun ownership is highly restricted in Mexico, requiring special permits, and gun shops are rare.

US President Donald Trump denounced both shootings, saying "hate has no place in our country." Addressing reporters in Morristown, New Jersey, the president said on Sunday that "we're going to take care" of the problem. He said he's been speaking to the attorney general, the FBI director and members of Congress and was expected to make an additional statement yesterday.

Agencies

S. Korea reviewing military intel-sharing pact with Japan

SEOUL

THE South Korean Defense Ministry said yesterday that it was reviewing whether to maintain a military intelligence-sharing pact with Japan amid an escalating trade row.

"Regarding the renewal of GSOMIA, the government is reviewing whether it is right to continue exchanging sensitive military intelligence with a country that takes issue with the lack of trust and the security-related problems," Defense Ministry spokesperson Choi Hyun-soo told a press briefing.

Asked about the rising speculation to rescind the bilateral intelligence-sharing pact, the spokesperson said nothing has been decided yet.

It was the reiteration of an announcement by the presidential Blue House, which was made on Friday after Japan's removal of

South Korea from its whitelist of trusted trading partners that are given preferential procedure for export.

On July 4, Japan tightened regulations on its export to South Korea of three materials crucial for the production of memory chips and display panels, which are the mainstay of the South Korean export.

The General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) was signed in November 2016 by South Korea and Japan despite strong oppositions from the South Korean people.

Many South Koreans saw the deal with Japan as unacceptable because the Japanese leadership had yet to sincerely apologize for its militaristic history. The Korean Peninsula was colonized by Imperial Japan between 1910 and 1945.

The GSOMIA had been automatically renewed each year in August.



South Korean defense ministry spokesperson Choi Hyun-soo

If either party wants to scrap the pact, the party will be required to notify the other of its intention 90 days in advance.

This year's notification deadline falls on Aug. 24.

South Korean Defense Minister Jeong Kyeong-doo told a parliamentary defense committee

session that Seoul was cautiously reviewing the GSOMIA as Japan linked its export curbs to security issues, though the Seoul government had internally considered the GSOMIA renewal previously.

Jeong noted that the government was very carefully reviewing the GSOMIA as it is intertwined

very much in relations between the allies in terms of security issues.

Regarding the annual military drills on and around the South Korean easternmost islets of Dokdo, called Takeshima in Japan, the Defense Ministry spokesperson told reporters that South Korea was still reviewing the schedule and scale of the Dokdo defense exercises.

The Dokdo exercises, involving the South Korean navy, air force and coast guard, have been conducted twice a year, mostly in June and December, but this year's first-half drills were delayed to see developments of the Seoul-Tokyo relations.

Following Japan's removal of South Korea from the whitelist, local media speculated that the South Korean military would stage the Dokdo drills this month.

Agencies

US fails to rectify INF violations, senior Russian diplomat says

MOSCOW

THE United States has taken no steps to remedy the violations of its commitments under the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov told reporters yesterday.

"In fact, the US has not taken any necessary steps on rectifying violations of its commitments under the treaty," Ryabkov said.

According to the senior diplomat, first of all, this concerns the deployment of Mk-41 launchers of cruise missiles on the ground, which is banned under the treaty.

"No progress has either been made on the so-called target-

missiles, fired by the US from the ground to test its air defense system, which are similar by their characteristics to ballistic intermediate-and shorter-range missiles.

This also concerns the Pentagon's use of unmanned combat aerial vehicles, which are fully defined by the treaty's term such as 'a ground-based cruise missile,' he said.

Need to boost dialogue

Moscow and Washington need to continue dialogue on arms control, the Russian deputy foreign minister told a briefing on Monday.

"We are still open for an equal



and meaningful dialogue with the United States on issues related to the INF Treaty [the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty] and other strategic stability issues, based on mutual respect and mutual consideration of interests," he noted.

"There is a need to continue inter-agency consultations on arms control with a focus on nu-

clear weapons, which resumed in Geneva on July 17," the senior Russian diplomat added.

Any further steps regarding arms control should also take into consideration missile and nuclear potentials of France and the United Kingdom, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov pointed out.

"Certainly, when considering any further steps on arms control over missile and nuclear armaments and discussing the prospects of any negotiating formats or any possible deals, we will insist that this process should take into account the potentials of France and the United Kingdom," he said.

According to Ryabkov, regardless of the reports that Paris and London have not been beefing up their power and potential and have stabilized them at a certain level, Moscow will not change its position.

He explained that when the New START (Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty) was signed with Washington in 2010, Russia reached the limit "beyond which any further steps in this sphere would be possible only if all factors influencing the strategic stability and potential of all states that have respective capabilities in the missile and nuclear sphere were taken into account."

Agencies

China to promote high-quality development of BRI cooperation

THE second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF) to be kicked off soon in Beijing is attracting worldwide attention. The promotion of high-quality development of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) will be a focus of the forum that is themed on "Belt and Road Cooperation: Shaping a Brighter Shared Future".

To ensure that the BRI achieves a deeper and more practical level of effects, progresses steadily, and has far-reaching outcomes, each party concerned should further build consensus, align development strategies and set priorities for cooperation, for which the second BRF will serve as the best platform.

The transition toward high-quality

development of the BRI will inject a stronger guiding power into the changing situation of the world.

The world is facing a trend of anti-globalization, while the Belt and Road construction is a proof to the skeptics that globalization can proceed among countries in an organized and orderly manner, said Jacques Godfrain, president of Charles de Gaulle Foundation from France.

His point echoes with the international society's new understanding on the role of the BRI in the modern era.

To achieve high-quality development of the BRI, China will continue upholding the principle of openness, inclusiveness and transparency, listen to constructive suggestions from all

parties, and make economic globalization more open, inclusive, balanced and beneficial to all.

Aleksandar Vučić, President of Serbia, remarked that the BRI is promoting world stability by connecting different countries, cultures, and peoples spiritually and materialistically.

The transition toward high-quality development of the BRI will open up new space for Belt and Road construction.

Chinese President Xi Jinping's trip to Europe this March drew attention from the world. During his visits, China and Italy signed a MoU on the Belt and Road cooperation, and Monaco also expressed its willingness to participate in the Belt and Road cooperation.

China and France signed agreements on the third round of the BRI-related demonstration projects in third-party markets and kicked off a third-party market fund.

During a meeting in Paris, leaders from China, France, Germany and the European Union conducted constructive discussion. German Chancellor Angela Merkel suggested that the EU speed up the bilateral investment negotiations with China and make active exploration in joining the BRI.

French President Emmanuel Macron noted that the EU could align its development strategy with the BRI in an innovative way and jointly promote Eurasian connectivity.

More and more global enterprises

will grow their business along the Belt and Road. It reflects their confidence in the BRI's transition toward high-quality development.

General Electric is expecting to enjoy double-digit growth in revenues along the Belt and Road in coming years, and financial giant Citigroup Inc. is now providing all-round services for the enterprises investing in the Belt and Road countries.

According to a report recently released by Germany Trade & Invest, German companies could, in the short term, participate in the third-party market cooperation in implementing BRI projects as contractors, suppliers and partners, and in the long run, the BRI means a huge opportunity for

them as it will create larger markets.

The transition toward high-quality development of the BRI will bring more tangible benefits to the development of the countries.

People from the BRI countries are expected to see more livelihood projects, and green projects will also become a focus of the Belt and Road cooperation.

China will continue aligning development strategies with each country, build a batch of key cooperation projects, implement the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and attach more importance on livelihood improvement and environmental protection while deepening cooperation.

People's Daily

Pressure mounts at US-Mexican border with more African migrants awaiting

MEXICO CITY

MEXICO'S National Immigration Institute (INM) reported an alarmingly growing number of Africans migrating to the United States via Mexico, through legal immigration or human trafficking.

In the first half of 2019, the number of African migrants heading north was higher than the 2018 total, with a sudden surge starting April.

Some 3,712 African migrants were brought before immigration authorities between January and June, a 25.5-percent increase year-on-year.

INM statistics show the flow of African migrants across Mexico's southern border with Central America doubled in the second quarter, with a whopping 75 percent coming from Cameroon and the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Two factors are at play in the dramatic rise of African migrants, Alejandro Encinas, deputy minister of immigration and human rights of Mexico's Interior Ministry told Xinhua recently.

The first is that they touched down from Brazil through legal migration processes, from where they depart in search of better opportunities following the South American country's economic plights.

The second factor is that international human trafficking rings are facilitating their migration north via Mexico. Echoing Encinas' analysis, Raul Benitez Manaut, professor with the Center for Research on North America at Mexico's National Autonomous University said the rise in African migrants indicated that the international trafficking network has expanded its reach to Mexican ports of entry.

"It's not free for a Nigerian, a Congolese or an Angolan to arrive here ... It's impossible to get from Africa to Mexico without a good criminal network that knows and has contacts all along the route," said Benitez.

The presence of African migrants is turning out a greater challenge for Mexican immigration officials due to cultural and religious differences, mainly language, diet and customs.

Like their Central American counterparts, the African migrants are finding it tough to seek asylum in the United States.

On June 7, the Mexican and U.S. governments reached an agreement in a bid to drastically reduce the influx of undocumented Central American migrants.

In early July, about 200 African migrants, mainly Cameroonians, protested outside a border-crossing point between the U.S. city of San Diego, in California, and the north Mexican town of Tijuana, to demand speedier acceptance of entry applications. With the U.S. unlikely to be very responsive, many of the African migrants may opt to remain in Mexico, said Benitez.

Xinhua

Bottom line on Hong Kong brooks no challenge

BEIJING

THE bottom line of the "one country, two systems" principle brooks no challenge.

Black-clad, masked protestors removed the Chinese national flag from a flagpole in Tsim Sha Tsui of Hong Kong and later flung the flag into the water on Saturday, an unforgivable, lawless act that has blatantly offended the national dignity, is an insult to all Chinese people, including Hong Kong compatriots, and must be severely punished in accordance with law.

Escalating violence by radicals instigated by behind-the-scenes masterminds since mid-June has severely undermined the law-based governance and social order of Hong Kong, negatively impacted the local economy and people's livelihoods, and damaged the region's image.

From storming the Legislative Council Complex and blocking roads, to attacking police officers with bricks, sharpened iron rods and even petrol bombs, from surrounding Hong Kong police headquarters and disrupting the normal work of local government departments, to besieging the building of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) and defacing the national emblem, as well as Saturday's flag-insulting, all these evil acts have exposed the attempts of some radicals and the forces behind them to paralyze the HKSAR government, undermine the "one country, two systems" principle, seize control of the HKSAR and use the chaos in Hong Kong to contain the overall development of China.

Since the return of Hong Kong, the central government has repeatedly stressed that it will ensure the principle of "one country, two systems" remains unchanged, is unwaveringly upheld, and is fully applied without any distortion or alteration.

Xinhua

India scraps Kashmir's long-held autonomy, escalating tensions

By Bloomberg

INDIA has revoked the special constitutional status of Kashmir in a move that's drawn protests in parliament and risks worsening its already fraught security relationship with rival Pakistan in the disputed region.

It took Prime Minister Narendra Modi's government just a couple of hours to erase seven decades of autonomous state government in Kashmir, which analysts say is aimed at integrating a region that has been at center of its acrimonious relationship with Pakistan.

President Ram Nath Kovind signed the law and Minister for Home Affairs, Amit Shah, announced the government's plan in parliament soon after. Lawmakers are now debating a proposal to split the state in two -- Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

Under Article 370 of the constitution, the state of Jammu and Kashmir enjoyed complete autonomy and the state legislature was free to draft its own laws except in the areas of communications, defense, finance, and foreign affairs, while Indian citizens were prohibited from purchasing land in the state.

It was especially drafted in the 1950s after the kingdom of Kashmir agreed to join the Indian republic. The ruling Bharatiya Janata Party had pledged to scrap the article in its electoral manifestos of 2014 and 2019.

"Article 370 should have been revoked much earlier," Shah told the parliament. "But it needed political will. And the Modi government has the political will to do it."

In the lead up to the controversial step, prominent political leaders in Indian-administered Kashmir were placed under house arrest and the Indian paramilitary forces deployed thousands of extra troops across the



Indian paramilitary soldiers stand guard during curfew like restrictions in Jammu, India, yesterday. (AP)

valley in one of the most widespread security crackdowns in recent years.

India also evacuated thousands of tourists, students and pilgrims -- citing terrorist threats -- and has reportedly restricted phone and Internet services over the last 48 hours.

The move goes beyond the right to buy land or live in Kashmir, Khalid Shah, Delhi-based fellow at the Observer Research Foundation, said by phone.

"It shows that from now on the opinion of people won't matter. People's

opinion about their own land doesn't matter," Shah said. "That's a scary situation for any democracy. My sense is that this will lead to long term political consequences and will prolong the conflict."

India's rupee slid the most since December.

'Regional crisis'

Pakistan Prime Minister Imran Khan warned in a tweet Sunday that India's "new aggressive actions" had "the potential to blow up into a regional crisis."

In a statement released Monday, Pakistan's Foreign Ministry issued a strong condemnation of India's actions and pledged exercise all possible options to counter what it described as New Delhi's "illegal steps." India-controlled Kashmir is an internationally-recognized disputed territory, Pakistan said, and no unilateral step by India can change this.

The Indian Army said on Sunday evening it had responded to an increase in cease fire violations and infiltration attempts along the line that

divides Indian-controlled and Pakistan-controlled Kashmir.

Meanwhile, the decision to place two of Kashmir's former chief ministers, Omar Abdullah and Mehbooba Mufti, under house arrest at midnight further added to a sense of crisis in the state.

"I believe I'm being placed under house arrest from midnight tonight & the process has already started for other mainstream leaders," Abdullah tweeted.

India's arrest of political leaders without an explanation is "unprecedented," Akhil Bery, South Asia analyst at risk consultancy Eurasia Group, said in an email.

"It has the potential to embolden Pakistan-based terrorists to begin ramping up attacks again," said Bery. "This also fits into Imran Khan's narrative that India is the one responsible for escalating the tensions -- he managed to convince President Trump of that and this is only going to support his message further."

The Ministry of External Affairs did not immediately respond to requests for comment on the political crackdown.

Last week, India rebuffed US President Donald Trump's offer to mediate between the south Asian nation and Pakistan, which have long-running tensions centering on Kashmir, an area in the Himalayas claimed in full -- and ruled in part -- by both. In late February, Modi's government authorized airstrikes against Pakistan in response to a terrorist attack in Kashmir.

The extra troop deployment came as thousands of devotees are on an annual pilgrimage to the Amarnath cave in the state that houses a shrine to the Hindu god Shiva. Since then, the pilgrimage has been curtailed and the devotees were asked to return home.

Agencies

First batch of international scientific projects to board China's Space Station

THE China Manned Space Agency (CMSA) and the United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs (UNOOSA) jointly announced the first batch of nine scientific projects selected for the China Space Station (CSS) at a press conference in Vienna, Austria.

The nine projects involve 23 research bodies from 17 countries, including Switzerland, Poland, Germany, Italy, Norway, France, Spain, the Netherlands, India, Russia, Belgium, Kenya, Japan, Saudi Arabia, China, Mexico, and Peru. Some are from governmental agencies while some are from privately-owned entities.

Besides, the first batch covers a wide range of disciplines from space astronomy, microgravity physics and combustion science, geosciences, to space life sciences and biotechnology.

Wang Qun, Permanent Representative and Ambassador Plenipotentiary and Extraordinary of the Permanent Mission of the People's Republic of China to the United Nations and other International Organizations in Vienna, described the move as a vivid manifestation of China's embrace of multilateralism, inclusiveness and openness and its commitment to sustainable development.

It embodies the vision of building a community with a shared future for mankind in outer space, said Wang.

At the press conference, Simonetta Di Pippo, director of UNOOSA, highly commended Chinese government's efforts to open its space station to all the UN members.

She said that such a measure will strongly promote the international cooperation in manned space exploration, and engage more countries in the study on manned space flight.

People's Daily

New Zealand government plans to ease abortion restrictions

WELLINGTON

NEW ZEALAND'S government announced yesterday that it plans changes to the country's abortion laws that would treat the procedure as a health issue rather than a crime.

While abortions have been available in New Zealand for decades, the procedure is still regulated under the Crimes Act which came into force in 1961. Many say that presents unnecessary obstacles for women who are seeking abortions.

In order to get an abortion under the current law, women must be able to prove to their doctor that their pregnancy presents a danger to their physical or mental health.

The proposed new law would remove that requirement for women who are up to 20 weeks pregnant. For those more than 20 weeks pregnant, a doctor or health practitioner would still need to approve the procedure.

Justice Minister Andrew Little said the changes would bring New Zealand into line with many other developed nations.

The proposed new law would also allow anti-abortion activists to be banned from campaigning near abortion clinics if they were harassing patients.

"Approaching a woman going to an abortion clinic and throwing leaflets and pamphlets in their face, or chanting various dreadful

epithets about them for taking that health measure I think is totally inappropriate in what is already a very stressful time," Little said.

Jackie Edmond, the chief executive of Family Planning, New Zealand's largest referrer of women to abortion services, said the proposed law was a huge step forward.

"This has been a long time coming," she said.

Still, Edmond and others had hoped the proposed changes would go further and remove the need for women to face a legal test when seeking abortions after 20 weeks of pregnancy.

Christian lobby group Family First said it was "shocked and dismayed" with the proposed changes.

"The focus of this proposed abortion policy shift is entirely on women having a right to an abortion, but completely ignores both the status of the unborn child, and the wellbeing of the mother," spokeswoman Gina Sunderland said in a statement.

To come into effect, the bill will need to be approved by a majority of lawmakers following a six-month period of public consultation. Lawmakers have been asked to vote on the bill in accordance with their conscience rather than strictly along partisan lines.

Statistics indicate the number of induced abortions in New Zealand, which has a population



New Zealand's Justice Minister Andrew Little announces plans to liberalize abortion laws yesterday, in Wellington, New Zealand. (AP)

of 4.9 million people, peaked at more than 18,000 in 2003 and has fallen steadily since then to 13,000 last year. Edmond said the decrease was due to more reliable contraception and better sexual-education.

Little said he didn't expect abortion rates to increase as a result of the proposed changes, although said women may seek to have abortions earlier in their pregnancies.

Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said that bringing the issue to a vote fulfilled a campaign promise.

"I made a pledge during the election that I would bring this issue to Parliament and we are doing that, and as I say, this is the furthest this issue has gone since the 1970s," Ardern said. "But now it is in the hands of individual members of Parliament." Agencies

Iran's Zarif says Tehran will leave nuclear deal if necessary

DUBAI

IRAN will leave its 2015 nuclear deal with world powers, Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said yesterday, if Tehran's interests were not protected by other parties to the pact.

"Iran will leave its 2015 nuclear deal with powers if necessary," Zarif told a news conference broadcast live on state TV, "calling on Europeans to accelerate their efforts to shield Iran's economy from US sanctions."

He criticized US sanctions imposed on him on Wednesday, saying Washington had closed the door to diplomacy over Iran's 2015 nuclear deal, which US President Donald Trump exited last year.

"Sanctioning a foreign minister means failure in talks," Zarif



said.

If other countries heed US calls to stop buying Iranian oil, Tehran has threatened to block all exports via the Strait, though which a fifth of global oil traffic passes.

Iran will no longer turn a blind eye to "maritime offenses" in the Gulf, its foreign minister said, a day after it seized an Iraqi oil tanker there that it accused of smuggling fuel.

Revolutionary Guards seized the tanker and its seven crew near Iran's Farsi Island north of the Strait of Hormuz, state media reported, in show of power

amid heightened tension with the West that minister Mohammad Javad Zarif blamed US authorities for fomenting.

"Iran used to forgo some maritime offenses in ... (the) Gulf but will never close (its) eyes anymore," Zarif told a news conference.

Oil tanker traffic through Hormuz and other strategic waterways has become a focus for the standoff between Washington and Tehran, into which Britain has also been dragged.

Fueling fears of a Middle East war with global repercussions, the Guards seized British tanker Stena Impero near the Strait of Hormuz in July for alleged marine violations, two weeks after British forces captured an Iranian oil tanker near Gibraltar accused of violating sanctions on Syria.

Agencies

Russia, Iran to conduct naval drills this year, Iranian Navy commander says

MOSCOW

Tehran expects to hold joint naval drills with Russia this year and preparations for the maneuvers will begin soon, Iranian Navy Commander, Rear Admiral Hossein Khanzadi said yesterday.

"Earlier, we signed an agree-

ment [on joint exercises] with Russia's Armed Forces and the Russian Fleet's command. Soon the preparations and maneuvers' planning will start and they will be carried out this year," Khanzadi was quoted by the Fars news agency as saying. He gave no details about the area where the drills would be

held.

According to the commander, "the situation in the Persian Gulf is absolutely calm," despite the fact that "the United States and the United Kingdom by their lies and bluff are trying to make this region look as unsafe and make it so."

Agencies

Jack Ma's US\$290bn loan machine is changing Chinese banking

By Bloomberg

JACK Ma's online bank is leading a quiet revolution in the way Chinese mainland lends to small businesses, taking aim at a credit bottleneck that has held back Asia's largest economy for decades.

Using real-time payments data and a risk-management system that analyzes more than 3,000 variables, Ma's four-year-old MYbank has lent 2 trillion yuan (US\$290 billion) to nearly 16 million small companies.

Borrowers apply with a few taps on a smartphone and receive cash almost instantly if they're approved. The whole process takes three minutes and involves zero human bankers.

The default rate so far: about 1%.

The financial-technology boom that turned Chinese mainland into the world's biggest market for electronic payments is now changing how banks interact with companies that drive most of the nation's economic growth.

As MYbank and its peers crunch reams of new data from payment systems, social media and other sources, they're growing more comfortable with smaller borrowers.

For Chinese mainland's US\$13 trillion economy, the implications could be profound. Non-state firms -- mostly small businesses -- account for about 60% of growth, employ 80% of workers, and have been

squeezed by a more than two-year government crackdown on shadow lenders.

"Small and medium enterprises are really the boiler room of the economy," said Keith Pogson, global assurance leader for banking and capital markets at Ernst & Young based in Hong Kong.

"It used to be a segment that banks thought was too difficult and too risky. But now they run their model and work out what the risks are so they feel more comfortable."

The Chinese mainland is quickly becoming a world leader in the use of big data and artificial-intelligence technology to make loans, according to Cliff Sheng, co-head of Chinese



mainland financial services at Oliver Wyman, a consulting firm. Among the country's biggest advantages: it takes a more relaxed approach toward privacy than many other jurisdictions.

"Our legal framework and regulatory environment -- which raise fewer privacy concerns -- make it easier to

generate a huge amount of data and thus provide an unparalleled testing bed," Sheng said.

One uniquely Chinese source of information for banks is the social credit system, which is being tested in cities across the country. In one potential scenario cited by MYbank President Jin Xiaolong in a recent interview, a small-business owner whose social credit score dropped because he failed to return a borrowed umbrella would find it harder to get a loan.

But the biggest data trove may come from payments providers like the one operated by Ma's Ant Financial, the biggest shareholder of MYbank. After obtaining authorization from

borrowers, MYbank analyzes real-time transactions to gain insights into creditworthiness.

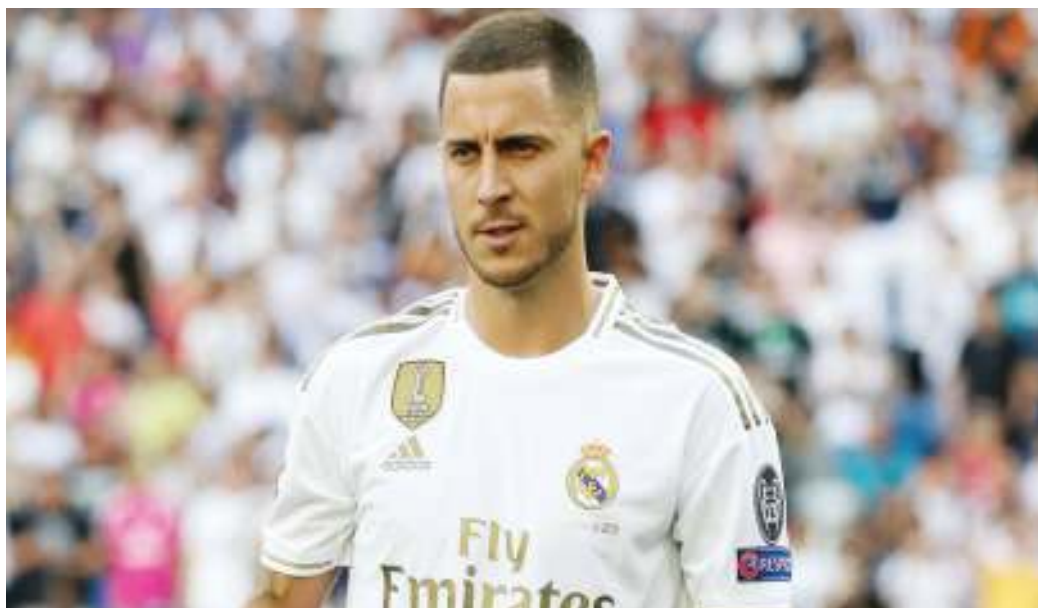
For example, a drop in customer payments at a retailer's flagship store might be an early indicator that the company's prospects -- and its ability to repay debt -- are deteriorating.

The upshot of more information is a loan approval rate at MYbank that's four times higher than at traditional lenders, which typically reject 80% of small-business loan requests and take at least 30 days to process applications, according to Jin, who plans to double MYbank's roster of borrowers in three years. He said the Hangzhou-based firm's operating cost per loan is about

3 yuan, versus 2,000 yuan at traditional rivals.

MYbank, which earned 670 million yuan last year, is far from the only lender using technology to boost small-business lending. Units of Tencent Holdings Ltd. and Ping An Insurance Group Co. both have similar offerings, while China Construction Bank Corp. is dramatically ramping up its presence in the space.

The nation's second-largest lender unveiled a mobile app in September that can process loan applications for as much as 5 million yuan in two minutes. Construction Bank boosted its small-business lending by 51% last year, more than twice as fast as the industry.



Eden Hazard

A new European season close at hand

BY CORRESPONDENT LLOYD ELIPOKEA

INDUBITABLY, last season's European football campaign was a rip-roaring success.

And, while there may have been doubtlessly just cause for the likes of PSG and Juventus to celebrate seeing as the former club won the French Ligue 1 crown without much fuss while the latter giants almost cantered to yet another Serie A triumph respectively, few would dispute the assessment that it was the English Premier League (EPL) which was patently a cut above all the other internationally renowned and foremost football leagues of Europe.

Mind you, this is not just a subjective view but it is actually borne out by telling evidence.

Exhibit A of this evidence or smoking gun if you like can be gleaned from the UEFA Champions League last season, which featured an all-English final between Liverpool and Spurs for the first time since 2008.

But, the English clubs were not done yet with their vintage exploits last season. For as things turned out, it would be high-flying EPL football outfits who absolutely ruled the roost in European Football's second tier championship the Europa League as well.

Indeed, in a historic achievement which slackened many a jaw worldwide, Chelsea and Arsenal would face-off against each other in the very first-ever all-English UEFA Eu-

ropa League final.

And despite the grand finale of the tournament proving to be a one-sided affair, no one could actually begrudge Chelsea their eventual triumph after the Blues had conquered the Gunners 4-1 to seal the title.

Hence, in light of all that, one doesn't need a doctorate in quantum physics to work out that the gigantic EPL clubs will come under intensive scrutiny in the forthcoming season.

Another likely talking point of the new European season will be the eager search for the heirs apparent to the throne of Lionel Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo as unquestionably the two best players in the world.

With Messi and 'CR7' now getting on in age, there has increasingly been an animated and enthusiastic debate over which young gun in the beautiful game has the mettle to upend the Argentinean and Portuguese all-time legends.

The young guns who are oft mentioned as being capable of soaring to unexplored heights of individual brilliance include the Belgian Eden Hazard, the Gallic sensation, Kylian Mbappe, the ascendant English forward Marcus Rashford and of course who could forget the jewel in the Brazilian crown, Neymar.

Indeed, in particular, it will prove to be interesting to see how the likes of Mbappe and Hazard perform especially when one recalls that the latter is now a Real Madrid player.

Hungary win a testament of team work, says Hamilton

BUDAPEST

LEWIS Hamilton hailed his Hungarian Grand Prix victory as 'the ultimate testament of teamwork' on Sunday after reeling in Red Bull rival Max Verstappen with a superb combination of speed and strategy.

Starting third on the grid, Hamilton swiftly passed Mercedes team mate Valtteri Bottas and then it was game on as the five-times world champion and the heir apparent set about their own private duel.

Verstappen made a clean getaway from pole position and it took Hamilton all but the last four of the 70 laps to catch and pass the 21-year-old Dutchman.

Mercedes got the strategy spot on, despite the Briton's reservations.

He had been told it was 'Hammer Time' when Verstappen made his first pitstop but despite then going wheel-to-wheel with the Red Bull after his own subsequent stop, could not make a move stick.

So Mercedes switched their approach, taking a gamble on two stops and calling Hamilton in for medium tyres with 22 laps remaining and Verstappen on hards.

He rejoined the track with a deficit of nearly 20 seconds to make up. "I don't know if that was the right call, man," Hamilton told the team over the radio.

With 18 laps to go, the gap was 17.5 seconds. At 15 remaining, it was 15. With 12 left, Hamilton was 14.7 behind and it was looking like a tall order with Red Bull turning up Verstappen's engine modes.

"We've got clear air until the end of the race. I know you can do this, mate; fastest man out there," his race engineer assured him.

With 11 to go, the gap was down to 11.9 seconds. Eight remaining and 8.5 to make up.

Then, on lap 64 and with the gap at 5.5 seconds, and the Red Bull almost in Hamilton's sights, Verstappen took to his radio and informed his team: "The tyres are dead".

The possible suddenly seemed inevitable and there was only a second in it by lap 66. A lap later and the champion was in front, Verstappen unable to offer much resistance down the straight.

"I think with four or five laps to



Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton celebrates winning the Hungarian Grand Prix on the podium with his trophy while Red Bull's Max Verstappen and Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel look on at Hungaroring in Budapest, Hungary on Sunday. REUTERS

go, I had him four seconds ahead and I could see him in my sights, so maybe he's struggling with his tyres. So after that I was like 'OK, we've got a serious race on here'," said Hamilton.

"It felt like the steepest wall to climb when you come out that far behind, but the team had relaxed faith that we would do it and I'm grateful for their hard work and the decision."

The strategy was right but neither Hamilton nor the team had total faith in it. What they did have was trust and a driver who made it work.

"They're very, very calm when they talk about the strategy like that today," said Hamilton, who has now won eight of 12 races and goes into the August break with a massive 62 point lead over Bottas.

"(They said) 'No, no, truly believed you could do it.' For sure they were nervous as hell that it wasn't going to work. I think collectively we made it happen."

Meanwhile, Max Verstappen is in the form of his life but the 21-year-old Red Bull driver was reluctant to give himself a season's rating after a Hungarian Grand Prix weekend in which

he started first and finished second.

Sunday's race at the Hungaroring was the last before the August break and the top three finishers were asked to rate their first-half performance out of 10. Mercedes' five-times world champion and Sunday's race winner Lewis Hamilton, who now has a haul of eight wins in 12 races with nine rounds remaining, suggested he might give himself an 8.8 or 8.9.

Ferrari's Sebastian Vettel, who finished more than a minute adrift of Hamilton in third place and has not won a race since last August, suggested a simple five – also his racing number – in his case.

"I think I struggled here and there to really get on top of the car," he said.

Verstappen, who has finished his last 21 races in the top five and won two of the last four with a first pole position, held back.

"I don't rate myself in numbers," said the Dutchman, producing an immediate reply from an amused Vettel: "What do you do instead? Letters?"

"No, I hate putting a number on it because it reminds me of school as well, which is not

that long ago," retorted Verstappen, the sport's youngest ever driver and race winner but now a veteran of 93 races.

"I'm always quite critical and I think it always can be better. I'll never be satisfied," he added. "I think it's been very positive and I've had good results but there are always things to work on."

Vettel refused to let go, pointing out that he and Hamilton had rated themselves.

"I cannot rate myself like that," insisted Verstappen. "I don't know. I find it a bit weird to say an eight or..."

Hamilton, who had battled Verstappen for much of the race before reeling him in and overtaking four laps from the end, stepped in.

"It's easier to rate yourself because you often remember how many mistakes you've made, when you've done good, when you've kind of been under par and he'll know whether he's been on par or below par," said the Briton.

"I think today he drove exceptionally as he has particularly in the past three or four races. So if that continues, he's going to continue to operate in the high nines towards 10s."

REUTERS

'The Rookie' star alleges sexual harassment, discrimination

NEW YORK

AFTON Williamson, co-star of the ABC crime series "The Rookie," said she's quitting the show because of sexual harassment and racial discrimination she experienced during the show's first season.

In an Instagram post Sunday, Williamson said that throughout the filming of the show's pilot, "I experienced racial discrimination/racially charged inappropriate comments from the hair department."

Williamson said the treatment worsened when she was sexually harassed by a recurring guest star, bullied by executive producers and ultimately was sexually assaulted by a crew member at a wrap party.

ABC Studios responded later Sunday with a statement, largely referring to its pro-

duction partners, Entertainment One.

"The allegations involve a production from Entertainment One," the network said. "In late June, eOne made us aware and informed us that they launched an investigation that is ongoing. The safety of working environments is a top priority for us, and we take this matter very seriously." Entertainment One, in a statement of its own, said it takes Williamson's claims seriously. "We have initiated an independent investigation which is ongoing and as such, it would be inappropriate to comment at this time," the production company said.

A representative for Williamson didn't respond to messages seeking further details on the actress's claims, or whether the alleged sexual assault was reported to the police.

Williamson, who is African

American, was also highly critical of how her claims were handled by showrunner and executive producer Alexi Hawley, who is white. Williamson said she filed reports on the incidents to Hawley, but they weren't seriously investigated by the network or shared by Hawley with other producers.

"After my initial report of sexual harassment, I was assured that the actor would be fired," said Williamson of the guest star. "I was also asked to film with him the very next day as a courtesy to the script, even though we had not begun filming the episode yet."

Representatives for Hawley didn't immediately respond to messages Sunday.

Williamson co-starred in the Los Angeles-based ABC drama. In the show, Nathan Fillion stars as a rookie police officer. AP



Baraka Magufuli, a popular Tanzanian comedian (C), in jovial mood with Morogoro Regional Education Officer, Joyce Baravuga (R), and a regional official shortly before welcoming Uhuru torch race at Gwata town on Sunday. Joyce had inspected and inaugurated development projects at Morogoro District, Morogoro Municipal and Mvomero District. PHOTO: MICHAEL SIKAPUNDWA

'Smiling Cinderella' Shibuno claims stunning Women's British Open triumph



Japan's Hinako Shibuno reacts as she holds the trophy as she celebrates after winning the Women's British Open golf championship at Woburn Gold Club near Milton Keynes, England, Sunday, Aug. 4, 2019. (AP Photo)

MILTON KEYNES, ENGLAND

'SMILING Cinderella' Hinako Shibuno completed a fairytale week by winning the Women's British Open in her first LPGA event at Milton Keynes on Sunday.

The 20-year-old Japanese rank outsider, who earned her nickname because of her radiant smile, rammed home a lengthy birdie putt of just under 20 feet at the final hole to edge out American Lizette Salas by one stroke.

Playing outside Japan for the first time as well as in her first major, Shi-

buno reacted with glee and astonishment, covering her mouth with her hand after the winning putt rattled in at Woburn for a closing four-under-par 68.

She finished on 18-under 270 to become the second Japanese woman to win a major, after Hisako "Chako" Higuchi in 1977.

Salas, two behind overnight, caught Shibuno on the front nine and thought she had done enough with a seven-under 65 final round.

But Shibuno, ranked 559 in the world at the start of the year, found

five birdies on the way home.

"I still feel like I'm going to vomit," Shibuno said moments after her victory.

"I was more nervous on the front nine but I was OK on the back nine. I felt like I was going to cry on the 18th but the tears didn't come out."

Shibuno, who started the day with a two-shot lead, double-bogeyed the third hole, which perhaps was a blessing in disguise in that it relieved the pressure of being the frontrunner.

"I don't think many people, including me, like to be in a situation where

you're leading," she said.

"I feel like it's better to be behind than leading. That was true today and I was able to play easier when I was in that position."

"I was looking at the board all the time, and knew my position, where I stood in the tournament. That was also true before the putt on the 18th and I was also thinking about if I were to make this putt, how I was going to celebrate."

Runner-up Salas rued a five-foot birdie putt at the final hole that lipped out.

"I'm not going to lie, I was nervous," she said. "I haven't been in that position in a long time. I gave it a good stroke. I controlled all my thoughts. It just didn't drop, so congrats to our winner."

South Korean Ko Jin-young (66) finished two shots behind in third place, completing a magnificent major campaign that included victories at the ANA Inspiration in April and last week's Evian Championship.

"I had a little pressure, but I like that pressure," world number one Ko said.

Guardiola picks out six contenders for Premier League title race

LONDON

MANCHESTER City manager Pep Guardiola said he expects this season's Premier League title race to be more open than last season's when his side pipped Liverpool to the line in a two-horse race after an epic tussle.

City beat Liverpool on penalties in Sunday's Community Shield at Wembley – the traditional curtain-raiser to the season – after a high-tempo clash ended 1-1.

The two sides look likely to go toe-to-toe again when the season begins at Anfield on Friday with Liverpool home clash against Norwich City before City open away to West Ham United a day later.

Last season City won the title with 98 points to Liverpool's 97 after Guardiola's side won their last 14 Premier League games. Chelsea, Tottenham Hotspur, Arsenal and Manchester United completed the top six.

Guardiola played down suggestions a similar story would unfold.

"I think at the beginning of the season, all six of these teams are contenders," he said.

"I don't know if it will be like last season, two real contenders, I think United with (expected new signing,

Harry) Maguire and the other players, Arsenal too, Chelsea and Tottenham.

"I think there will be many, many contenders this time."

City dominated the first half against Liverpool with Raheem Sterling giving them an early lead.

But Joel Matip levelled late on and Liverpool would have won but for the excellence of City keeper Claudio Bravo who made several fine stops and saved Georginio Wijnaldum's penalty in the shootout which City edged 5-4.

Both teams struggled for intensity at times, Liverpool before the break and City after it and Guardiola suggested the demands on players over the summer were unreasonable, especially with many of his squad being involved in the African Cup of Nations and Copa America tournaments.

"The show must go on and I'm optimistic if they listen to the players," the Spaniard said.

"The NBA has an incredible amount of games but then five months off. Riyadh Mahrez had 10 days off.

"People say about the amount of money we earn but it's not normal."

REUTERS

Klopp 'completely happy' with display vs. Man City

LONDON

JURGEN Klopp was "completely happy" with Liverpool's performance in the Community Shield defeat to Manchester City on penalties, pointing out the character and fight shown by his side will fuel their pursuit of silverware.

Sunday's showdown at Wembley between the Premier League champions and the continental kings ended 1-1 in normal time with Joel Matip's header cancelling out Raheem Sterling's effort. Gini Wijnaldum was the only player to miss his kick in the resulting shootout, which Pep Guardiola's men won 5-4.

City were slick and more clinical than Liverpool in the first half, but the Reds dominated the second period with eight shots on target to one. A Kyle Walker scissor-kick denied Mohamed Salah the winner on 93 minutes, with goalkeeper Claudio Bravo – who Guardiola felt was the man of the match – thwarting Xherdan Shaqiri shortly after.

"I'm completely happy about the full performance," Klopp said. "If you want to be prepared for Man City, you have to make a preseason game against Man City; no team plays like them. You saw that in a few moments in the first half, when they can do what they do. We struggled a little bit positioning-wise but that's normal. We changed that for the second half, which helped us a lot.

"Football-wise, the second half was just really, really good, the best way you can play against City. They are in the early stages [of preseason] as well. They will be in a different shape in a couple of weeks, for sure.

But having this amount of chances we had today is a very good sign for us, absolutely. I liked the game a lot. I don't like the result, but I liked the game a lot, so for us it was very, very important.

"We will try everything. It's not as much important what I could say but what the boys showed today. I thought they looked pretty hungry.

"That doesn't mean it will work out, but we fought today after all the things that were said about the competition, both teams wanted to win it desperately, I saw that. My team is not in doubt about being satisfied or whatever, to stop working or stop running.

"The character of the team is still incredibly good. We had a difficult preseason but the boys did what they had to do and were affected by it.

"We played football games against really good teams and that didn't feel too good. It was very important we all gave ourselves and our supporters a sign of the performance today. Now let's carry on."

Only one point separated Liverpool (97) and title winners City (98) in the league last season and Guardiola expects Klopp's charges to be their greatest challengers again.

"We know who we will face [for honours]," he said. "Liverpool are champions of Europe. They are a top-class team. The difference is only one point ahead, one penalty. It's minimal. It's good to play them to show the guys, this is the team we're gonna face this season and how well prepared we have to be to win the titles."

(Agencies)

Lewandowski questions Bayern's transfer policy after defeat

DORTMUND, GERMANY

BAYERN Munich striker Robert Lewandowski is calling on the club to make high-profile signings that can have an immediate impact rather than players with potential.

Speaking after Bayern's 2-0 loss to Borussia Dortmund in the German Supercup on Saturday, Lewandowski rued the lack of a game-changer among Bayern's substitutes and appeared to question the club's transfer policy.

"Sure, the young players on the bench have potential, that's true – but sometimes you need direct reinforcement from someone who can come in and help the team," Lewandowski said.

In contrast to Dortmund, which has significantly boosted its squad over the summer, Bayern has only signed French defenders Benjamin Pavard and Lucas Hernandez, while Arjen Robben, Franck Ribery, James

Rodriguez, Mats Hummels and Rafinha have all departed the club. German forward Piete Arp has arrived from Hamburger SV though it is unclear if he will remain with the club or be loaned out for the season.

Lewandowski had already called on Bayern to make more signings while the team was on its summer tour in the United States.

"My opinion remains the same, because today was precisely the right time where we could have looked and seen what could happen if we had such a professional player ready to come on," the Polish striker said Saturday.

Bayern is reportedly in talks with Manchester City over Germany forward Leroy Sane. Both Kicker magazine and the Sueddeutsche Zeitung newspaper have reported that Sane has agreed to join the club for what would be a Bundesliga-record sum.

AP

Man City and Liverpool's still well ahead of their rivals

LONDON

LET'S be brief when it comes to the "things we learned" from the Community Shield: good luck to the rest of the Premier League.

Liverpool and Manchester City, the winners of the 2019-20 curtain raiser at Wembley, show zero signs of letting up. If anything, they look more determined than ever to shatter records and set new benchmarks, both driven on by the presence of the other to be the very best versions of themselves, even in a friendly. There were 77,565 in attendance at the iconic stadium to witness a 1-1 draw that was settled 5-4 on penalties in favour to City, but the numbers were not as important as the eye-opening effort and application from the main contenders for the crown this season.

The teams' desire to succeed could be gauged by watching Mohamed Salah, who only returned from his post-season break on Monday and played 45 minutes against Lyon before this tougher test. He was constantly speeding around the attacking third, shrugging off markers and showing fast feet to get 10 shots away – two hit the post, one was cleared off the line (we'll come to that next) – which was more than City managed in total.

You could see it in the 93rd minute too, when the Egypt international looked certain to have won the match for Liverpool with a header, only for a scissor kick from Kyle Walker on the goal line to avert danger just before it could go in. Those acrobatics at that stage of the encounter – a friendly, remember – underlined City's ruthlessness and refusal to lose a game.

The most intense element of the showdown didn't even happen on the pitch, but in the technical area of the Premier League champions.

Pep Guardiola paced throughout the match in frustration, furiously pointing out spaces his side weren't



Man City's first trophy of the season didn't come easy at Wembley on Sunday. (Agencies)

exploiting to his liking. He put his hands over his head and over his eyes in disbelief at missed chances or misplaced passes, even leaning against the advertising hoardings in annoyance after an indecisive Raheem Sterling dithered, with only Alisson to beat, and failed to make it 2-0. The 48-year-old was so worked up that he even created an imaginary red-card situation when David Silva and Joe Gomez challenged for a high ball and the Liverpool defender got to it first. Guardiola fumed to fourth official Stuart Attwell, suggesting that the England international had gone in on his player dangerously and with force. His continued protestations earned him a yellow card. In a friendly.

Tensions eventually spilled over late in the second half, with City's boss exchanging words with Jurgen Klopp, Jordan Henderson, Andrew Robertson, Virgil van Dijk and just about anyone else in red. At the

final whistle, there were a lot kinder exchanges marked by a wealth of respect, with both camps fully aware that another almighty battle will brew between them over the season ahead.

It's been 1,253 days since the last and only time these teams have previously met at Wembley, and the upgrade for both since City won the 2016 League Cup – also on penalties – has been staggering. They are now, by quite some distance, the supreme powers of English football.

Back then, however, Klopp had been in the Liverpool job for four months and only two of his starting XI, Henderson and Roberto Firmino, in that final were also in his Community Shield first II on Sunday afternoon. Guardiola wasn't in situ at the Etihad yet, with Manuel Pellegrini seeing out a final term that ended with City 15 points adrift of domestic champions Leicester City. Liverpool were 21 below the pace but

fast-forwarding to the present day, it is difficult to imagine any side bar Tottenham getting remotely close enough in the league to trouble these two.

"We know which team we will face [as Premier League contenders]," Guardiola said postmatch. "They are the champions of Europe, so I give a lot of credit to the players for the way we played in the first half.

"At this level the difference is nothing: one penalty, one point. It was good to face them to show the guys how well prepared we have to be to win the title."

Klopp echoed this desire after the match. "We will try everything to win more trophies this season, and I thought what the boys showed today, they looked pretty hungry," he said. "Both teams wanted to win it today. My team is not satisfied."

And neither are City. Another epic campaign awaits.

(Agencies)

Chelsea's Christian Pulisic is not your wonderboy anymore - 2

BY SAM BORDEN, ESPN GLOBAL SPORTS CORRESPONDENT

That, I assure him, will happen quickly and often in the Premier League. But Pulisic will always reckon with a different contextual comparison because of his nationality. It doesn't especially matter that Mbappe is French when considering his value as a player; France has produced plenty of international stars and will produce more. Pulisic, though, is playing as the face (and legs and feet) of American soccer. If he fails, it isn't clear when another American will have a chance like this.

That reality is no doubt part of why the initial reaction to Pulisic's Chelsea move, at least from outsiders, has been tempered with a fair bit of caution. While Chelsea is a club teeming with stature and success, it is nonetheless known as one of Europe's great powder kegs. Its owner, Roman Abramovich, is a notoriously erratic Russian oligarch who has made 14 managerial changes in 16 years and has cultivated a culture of turnover at Chelsea that a former team employee once described to me as a "combustible nightmare."

What that means for Pulisic is that he will be playing under (no surprise) another new Chelsea manager, Frank Lampard, who was a longtime star player for the club but has only one season of coaching experience. Pulisic also will be charged, at least in part, with replacing Eden Hazard, a Belgian wizard who is generally considered one of the 10 best players in the game. (Hazard left Chelsea for Real Madrid after seven seasons.)

Add in a transfer ban that means Chelsea isn't allowed to sign more players for a year – ratcheting up the heat on the current crop even more – and it creates a set of circumstances that are, as Donovan says when we meet up this spring to talk about Pulisic, "concerning to me."

Donovan had a solid spell playing abroad himself, but he really built his legacy on his work with the U.S. national team and in Major League Soccer. Pulisic's task, he says, is something far greater. "I can see it being a massive home run for him,"



Christian Pulisic

Donovan says. "[But] Chelsea spends a lot of money on a lot of players. They have money forever. They can spend \$70 million to bring in Pulisic, and if it doesn't work right away, it's no problem. They can move on to the next player."

He shrugs. "He's not going to be afforded as much leeway if things don't go well as he would at a different club."

Stu Holden, a former national team

forward who played with Bolton Wanderers for four years, says the same, calling Chelsea a club with "rich history and tradition" that is also "unstable" and "a bit of a mess."

Even Jurgen Klinsmann, the German legend and former U.S. national team head coach who gave Pulisic his first international call-up, isn't totally sold. He praises Pulisic for "jumping into the colder water" but then adds, "I thought maybe another

one or two years in Dortmund wouldn't have been wrong."

What they are all expressing, in one way or another, is the uncomfortable certainty that it will not be enough for Pulisic just to shine with Chelsea; he will have to shine quickly. As Donovan says, there is little doubt about Pulisic's place when it comes to the U.S. national team – "For the next decade, he's going to be the most important player" – but it is not so easy to say the same for Chelsea.

Could Pulisic step right in and thrive? Absolutely. Lampard says Pulisic is the kind of player "who wants to take people on, the sort of player the fans are going to like," while longtime defender David Luiz says he believes Pulisic "is going to have a great future with us." And maybe it really will be that easy. But could Pulisic struggle or get injured or find himself on the bench or out on loan to some smaller club? Could we look up next spring and wonder where he went? The list of talented young players who went to England and had that result isn't exactly short.

Nevertheless, Pulisic seems undaunted. He talks about normal nerves and overwhelming excitement and confidence and nerve, delivering the sort of steely assurance that is both accepting and dismissive at the same time. Even when I mention the notoriously harsh British news media, he barely wavers.

To be Continued

Gwiji by David Chikoko



Arusha set to host FEASSSA games

SPORT

Man City and Liverpool's still well ahead of their rivals

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Director of Sports Development for the Department of Education Supervision in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Governments, Leonard Thadeo.

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

DESPITE students being just back from the last June holidays, primary and secondary schools in Arusha will again be temporarily closed for two weeks as more than 7000 people, among them 4000 young sports personalities jet into Arusha, in few days from now.

The visitors, most being school students, teachers, government officials and other personalities from five East Africa countries, will be here for 10 days, attending the 2019 installment of the Federation of East Africa Secondary Schools Sports Associations (FEASSSA) games.

The Director of Sports Development for the Department of Education Supervision in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Governments, Leonard Thadeo, said all arrangements for the matches are in place and schools in Arusha will

close for two weeks to pave way for the events.

The games' organizing committee, comprising more than 4000 students from five East Africa Community Member States. They will be accompanied by their teachers, coaches, supervisors, as well as respective education officials and other supporters.

The FEASSA games, starting here from August 15-25, 2019, involves more than 4000 students from five East Africa Community Member States.

They will be accompanied by their teachers, coaches, supervisors, as well as respective education officials and other supporters.

In total, some 7000 visitors will be gathering in Arusha next week for the regional sporting

competitions held here under the auspices of the FEASSSA.

Participating countries include Rwanda, Kenya, Uganda, Burundi and hosts, Tanzania, and education officials from five of the participating countries have already jetted into Arusha to make initial arrangements and preparation for the event.

Zanzibar will also be represented in the games as separate entity from Tanzania

Mainland.

"The Tanzanian team with 746 players will be camping at Saint Patrick School in Sakina," Thadeo noted, adding that the FEASSSA games will help groom upcoming sports talents in the countries.

The Acting Chairman of the organizing committee, Hargeney Chitukulo, said it was great honour for Arusha to host the East Africa games for secondary schools.

He noted the venues for the games include the Sheikh Amri Abeid Stadium (which will host athletics as well as opening and closing ceremonies), Saint Constantine (hockey, netball and swimming).

The International School of Moshi (ISM) (basketball, swimming, rugby and handball), TGT (football and handball), Arusha Meru (basketball and volleyball), Magereza (football), Ngarenaro Complex (football and basketball) are also in the list of venues for the games.

The president of FEASSSA, Mugisha Justus, said so far the arrangements are going as planned and the regional secondary school games will roll out a total 13 sports disciplines.

They include soccer, handball, lawn tennis, table tennis, rugby, tennis, netball, volleyball, swimming, hockey, all forms of athletics and others.

Masabo Martin, the head of Lycee De Kigali from Rwanda and General Secretary of Rwanda Secondary Schools, said his country, which hosted the games last year, is well kitted to tackle other East Africa Member States in the forthcoming games, insisting that victory is not an option for them.

Students coming for the games will be hosted at several schools, including Peacehouse Secondary Schools, Sakina Girls, Sakina 2 Center, Edmund Rice, Arusha Girls, Arusha Secondary, Angelico Lipan and Trust Saint Patrick.

5 EATV **TONIGHT @21:00**

TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ (live)
13:30 Kall Za Wana
14:00 Daka 10 Za Maangamzi
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SLEKET
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 Nirvana
21:30 Wakilisha
22:00 Grace Na Asili Yangu
22:30 Bango Hits

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09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

'We had sufficient wickets in hand' - Powell

LAUDERHILL

WEST Indies all-rounder Rovman Powell believes his side was well-placed with "sufficient" wickets in hand to make a powerful launch in the last four overs to overhaul the target of 168 against India in the second T20I. Instead, a lightning alarm forced an initial delay at the 15.3-over mark with West Indies needing 70 to win before torrential thunderstorms officially ended proceedings with India declared winners by 22 runs via the DLS method.

"I think the wicket was a little bit better," Powell said after Sunday's defeat while assessing West Indies' batting performance compared to a day earlier when they struggled to 95 for 9 after being sent in. "It came onto the bat a little more. It didn't spin as much or it wasn't as slow as yesterday. As a team, I just thought we were an over behind. If the game had finished, we probably would have won or come very close.

"I think we had sufficient wickets in hand. We had Kieron Pollard and [Shimron] Hetmyer at the crease, and Carlos Brathwaite and Keemo Paul to come in. I think those are guys that could have brought it to them. I guess in the end India are runaway winners but we don't look at it and say we were far behind."

But rather than a possible finishing kick that was stymied by rain, a bigger issue was a poor start to their innings for the second day in a row as West Indies once again found themselves at 8 for 2. West Indies captain Brathwaite had said a day earlier that Sunil Narine was kept down the order in the first T20I so as not to expose him to offspinner Washington Sundar turning the ball away from him. Yet, Narine was sent in less than 24 hours later to open for the first time in a T20I for West Indies.

Despite Narine's well-documented success as an opener in T20 leagues, the strategy failed for West Indies as Washington didn't concede a run off the bat in his first two overs bowling to the left-handed Narine - who opened after John Campbell was left out of the XI - and Evin Lewis. Narine racked up nine dot balls against Washington with the sequence ultimately ending in a failed charge that saw the batsman bowled for 4.

"Sunil, around the world, has opened for different franchises," Powell said. "We decided as a team that we were going to use that option today but unfortunately it just didn't come off."

In contrast, Powell found success, top-scoring for West Indies with 54 off 34 balls at a venue that he is familiar with. Playing for Jamaica Tallawahs, he has made five appearances at the Central Broward Regional Park in the last two CPL seasons. That helped.

"I'm comfortable with the ground," Powell said. "It has been my home ground for maybe the last year or two with regards to the CPL. So I've played a lot of cricket here. I think it has got very good facilities and I feel at home whenever I come here."

Powell said that although India had already clinched the three-match series, he didn't feel the results were particularly lopsided. Instead, he thought West Indies were not far off from turning the results around on Tuesday in the final T20I in Guyana to help give the hosts a momentum boost heading into the ODI series.

AGENCIES

Dodoma, Singida should cherish college artistes- Jaffo

Correspondent Renatha Msungu Dodoma

MINISTER of State in President's Office- Regional Administration and Local Governments-, Selemani Jaffo, has called on Dodoma and Singida regions to make the most of artistes from colleges when the regions' authorities host government activities.

Jaffo (pictured) noted the approach will help the artistes gain experience.

He issued the call after artistes from the University of Dodoma (UDOM) and other groups had staged impressive performance at the 26th edition of the Nane Nane Day exhibition that took place at Nzuguni ground in Dodoma.

Jaffo noted time has come for Tanzania to nurture artistes in colleges that will work with other



artistes to develop the entertainment industry.

He disclosed the country needs artistes that have been trained in colleges, insisting they will pro-

mote the country via a variety of performances they showcase.

He noted a prominent television series titled Sultan, has, for instance, won the hearts of many

people in the country, pointing out there is a possibility for local artistes to prepare films which will win prominence globally.

"You might find out profes-

sionals involved in production of Sultan series range from doctors to professors, they are all well-educated artistes, this proves performance genres are becoming popular," Jaffo added.

He pointed out all concerned authorities need is engaging the services of local arts groups from colleges in a variety of activities with a view to giving the artistes chance to gain experience, improve their performance and, later on, win prominence.

Jaffo moreover requested the artistes that are studying in colleges to make the most of their skills when they get chance to perform in various events.

He disclosed in some of the countries, professionals including teachers, doctors and others participate in films, despite working in their respective professions.

A variety of events have taken place at the exhibition that include shows and games which involve animals.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

I CAN STOP SMALL CRIMINALS WITH THIS. WHAT ABOUT THE BIIG CRIMINALS?

FOR THAT USE YOUR HEAD. IF IT DOESN'T WORK, USE YOUR FEET

