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PM sees NMB as development ally

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has hailed NMB Bank as a keen ally for the government in enabling development efforts in various sectors, especially in education and health.

He was officiating at a charity marathon organised by NMB Bank yesterday in the commercial capital to raise funds for treatment of fistula patients at the CCBRT Hospital, a facility chiefly catering for disabled persons.

Following NMB Bank activities shows that throughout the year the bank has been close to the community assisting efforts in various areas, with health and education topping the bill, he stated.

"NMB Bank is an example to be emulated by other financial institutions," he said, underlining the government's appreciation.

Minister, TANESCO line up groping for answers

By Henry Mwangonde

MINISTER for Energy January Makamba has tasked the newly appointed Tanzania Electric Supply Co. (TANESCO) management to work to achieved targets of efficiency, profitability and good customer care.

Addressing the firm's zonal managers in Dar es Salaam, he said that from now on there will be no interference from the government, citing this as among the reasons for failures in achieving the company's goals, hence enable it to enhance performance and unlock the company's potentials.

The minister expressed confidence in the newly appointed management and the board "which consists of people with vast experience in running business-oriented entities."

"The new management and the board will be free to operate. We want Tanesco to contribute to the national economy but also serve the people better with electricity supply as the core business," he said.

Tanesco is the largest government commercial entity with an asset net worth of 13trn/- but it has been poorly managed, he declared, highlighting the



Vice President Dr Philip Mpango (R) accompanied by his wife, Jenisia Mpango (next to him), when conversing with NBC Bank managing director Theobald Sabi (L) in Kasulu at the weekend on the bank's extension of loans to SMEs. This was at the ongoing third national exhibition organised by the Small Industries Development Organisation (SIDO). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

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Food agency not buying maize from traders - RC

By Correspondent Gideon Mwakanosya, Songea

MAIZE already purchased by traders from farmers will not be part of current efforts to purchase maize from farmers at 500/- per kilo by the National Food Reserve Agency (NFRA).

The presence of large amounts of maize already purchased from farmers at lower prices and being resold to the agency led the regional authorities to suspend buying maize at the Ruhuwiko buying centre in Songea, administrative centre of Ruvuma region and main centre for the region.

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Zanzibar VP for more Tanga port marketing

By Guardian Correspondent, Tanga

ZANZIBAR Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdulla has directed the Tanzania Ports Authority (TPA) to intensively market the port of Tanga regionally and abroad as it is soon expected to start handling big ships.

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Food agency not buying maize from traders - RC

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The regional authorities was absolutely particular about who should obtain the 500/- per kilo treatment, that the maize must still be in farmers' hands for the purchasing price and NFRA target to be implemented.

This affirmation came up as the regional commissioner, Brig. Gen. Wilbert Ibuge in the company of Agriculture minister Prof Adolf Mkenda were inspecting maize purchasing by NFRA in Songea and Mbinga districts.

He said the centre should only accept maize from farmers and from centres in rural areas, saying that traders have the capacity to store the maize or export the stock on their own, elaborating that the money NFRA disburses is meant to enable farmers prepare for maize cultivation in the coming season.

Maize stocks already delivered at the buying centre and had remained there for long periods and whose owners were listed by NFRA are to be bought, he stated.

In the 2020/21 farming season the region produced 1.6m tonnes of crops, namely good grains, cash crops, and horticulture products, failing to reach the target of 1.78m tonnes but attaining 91 per cent or regional expectations, he stated.

Out of this quantity, 1.38m tonnes were food crops, 67,772 tonnes was of cash crops,

and 158,795 tonnes horticultural produce, he said, elaborating that food needs for Ruvuma region totaled 470,000 tonnes and while 914,705 tonnes sold to wider markets.

In the 2020/2021 season, maize was purchased by private firms along with NFRA and the Cereals and other Crops Board of Tanzania (CPB).

In the first purchasing phase, NFRA bought 60,000 tonnes of maize despite an initial target of 32,000 tonnes at an average of 500/- per kilo at main buying centres and 470/- in rural centres, he said, noting also that in the second phase, the NFRA Songea Zone was tasked to buy 35,000 tonnes of maize at 500/- per kilo in all buying centres.

For his part, the minister thanked President Samia Suluhu Hassan for providing an additional 50bn/- to buy maize, whereas in regard to Songea Zone, the target has been increased to 35,000 tonnes from the original 6,000 tonnes.

The price of 500/- per kilo is a subsidy provided by the government so that every farmer benefits from it, he added.

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Geita regional commissioner Rosemary Senyamule (C) pictured at the weekend witnessing the exchanging of partnership documents between GF Trucks & Equipment Ltd director Salman Karmal (L) and the secretary of the miners' association in Geita Region, Golden Hainga. This was at the ongoing Geita mining exhibition. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PM sees NMB as development ally

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tion of this commitment.

He pointed at fistula as a debilitating condition for many women, thus for the NMB Bank to think of raising funds through the marathon event was a unique undertaking that will be remembered by those needing assistance at present.

"You are being creative," he remarked, stressing that the way the commits itself to corporate

social responsibility was in many ways special, assuring the bank government cooperation in efforts directed at uplifting needy sections of the community.

Earlier, NMB board chairman Edwin Mhede said this year's marathon has mobilised many participants, which shows that many in the community are ready to assist the needy is asked for instance through sports.

NMB Bank saw that instead of waiting for years to find 1bn/-

needed for it to extend sufficient assistance for fistula operations at the hospital, the money will now be obtained during this marathon in particular, he stated.

He paid tribute to scores of people coming forward to contribute to treatment costs of fistula patients, noting that this turnout is linked to it NMB performance as a financial institution with extensive social connections. Some of the profit we get is ploughed back to the community as a ges-

ture of support for their efforts, he further declared.

For her part, NMB Bank chief executive officer Ruth Zaipuna said the bank came up with the strategy by exposure to seeing how women suffer from fistula, many failing to meet treatment costs.

NMB Bank saw the importance of working with CCRBT Hospital to use the marathon event to raise funds to assist fistula sufferers, she explained.

With the marathon event NMB Bank has surpassed the target of commitments to the hospital, collecting 400m/-, thus more than 100 fistula sufferers will receive treatment with the financing this year, she elaborated.

Health minister Dr Dorothy Gwajima said women's rights are human rights, hailing NMB Bank for organising the major fund raising event, in caring for women suffering from fistula.

Zanzibar's VP for more Tanga port marketing

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Following major expansion and improvements at the port, investment in marketing is required to attract more traders to use the port, he said, inspecting continuing improvements at the port, being carried out by China Harbour Engineering Co. (CHEC).

He urged TPA director general Eric Hamisi to set out strategies to ensure that the port starts producing positive outcomes following those improvements.

He said the government injected 400bn/- for port expansion and improvement works so as to revive the port and stimulate the Isles and Mainland economy. The port management was yet to take up marketing strategies to pull more businessmen to use the port.

As the government has injected billions towards port improvement we need to see positive impacts of using the funds. The port has potential jot just for Tanga region but the Isles, northern zone regions and East African countries, he stated.

"So you should consult marketing and finance departments to make sure this port is well promoted internationally while intended improvements are on their final stages," he said.

Advertising the port must include promotional prices for handling ships and cargoes for at least one year and a conducive environment for business people. They must be convinced to pay tax as laid out in the law, he emphasised.

Responding, the TPA CEO acknowledged that the port authority doesn't have advertisement strategies for the port following improvements, pledging to consult stakeholders and also involve Tanzanian embassies abroad.

In collaboration with embassies, the management seeks to establish offices, advertise through presentations, brochures and flyers on what Tanga port offers, he stated.

CHEC project manager Lyu Wei said construction work is set out in two phases, with phase one which cost 172bn/- ending May 2020. It included dredging of depth of berths, landing port equipment and conducting navigational surveys.

The on-going second phase billed at 256bn/-, involves soft soil and ground treatment, deep water harbor facility, along with furniture and quay works, pavements, service facility as well as water and power supply.

After dredging, the turning channel will enable big ships to anchor at dockyards about 200 meters from two kilometers out, and berths dredging increased the depths from four to seven meter depth to 13 to 15 meters. A mobile harbour crane and rubber tyred gentry are expected to arrive by the year's end, he said.

Port manager Donald Ngale said that completion of renovations will help decongest the larger port of Dar es Salaam, cut costs of double handling by 40 per cent, and increase handling of goods to three million tonnes annually from 700,000 tonnes at present. The changes will reduce fuel consumption by tug boats, he added.



Installation of columns in progress yesterday at Mwanza Region's Kigongo-Busisi bridge, which is still under construction. The bridge is 3,200 meters long is scheduled for completion in February 2024. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Minister, Tanesco line up groping for answers

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fact that last year Tanesco collected 1.8trn/- in revenues.

Tanesco has the potential to perform better than it is performing and this will be possible with proper planning and focused management supported by a strong board, the minister said.

Among the challenges affecting Tanesco is electricity losses, losing 16-percent of generated electricity in the past year, he said, underlining that the utility was operating in the old way even as the world was moving rapidly technologically. Tanesco has no updated tools of detecting

power outage in its supply lines, he pointed out.

He emphasised on evaluating everyone's performance and set-backs derailing performance as a whole, the same, while the newly appointed managing director Maharage Chande said his focus would be human capital like staff motivation. Paying for performance and collective planning will be profitable, he asserted.

The second area of focus is customer care, similarly noting that there were no shortage of ideas on raising capital but how to execute such projections, suggesting that success for Tanesco

was difficult "and our mentality should be what will we do or fall down together as a team."

The government has lately overhauled the power utility to increase efficiency and unlock its potentials, with the president appointing Omary Issa, the former head of the disbanded Presidential Delivery Bureau, as board chairperson.

Chande, an executive with MultiChoice was assigned to the position of managing director, transferring five senior officials from the financially troubled state company.

The changes target improving

the performance of the utility, its image marred by power outage complaints and debts approaching 1trn/-, a tell order even with a new top management and board members with vast private sector backgrounds, observers noted.

The changes signal a move to embrace a proactive business culture in the company, holding a near monopoly on electricity generation, transmission and distribution.

It also recycles members of strategic unites of the fourth phase government, like the Big Results Now (BRN) team, headed at the time by then planning com-

missioner, Dr Philip Mpango.

Its original design was to solve development challenges through quick and efficient pursuit of results in priority sectors of education, energy, agriculture, water, transport, health, the business environment, and resource mobilisation.

Minister Makamba fell out with the fifth phase leadership and played an anterior role as adviser in his parliamentary role, until bouncing back with the removal of former minister Dr Medard Kalemami, who is MP for Chato since 2015

VP calls for interest slash

By Guardian Reporter

VICE President Dr Philip Mpango has urged banks and other financial institutions to consider lowering interest rates especially for women to access loans so as to further support the group and stimulate economic growth.

He made the call during the weekend at a brief discussion with the National Bank of Commerce (NBC) during the official launch of the third edition of the international exhibition organized by the Small Industries Development Organization (SIDO).

He lauded NBC for taking deliberate measures to improve services provision and ensure that it reaches the majority of women in town and rural areas with attractive bank services.

Dr Mpango said borrowers were on the increase due to deliberate measures by the bank to put less stringent loan conditions, to lower the lending interest rate which as a policy does not exceed the 16 per cent limit, together with cooperation with various stakeholders including Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB).

"It is my call that you consider lowering the interest rate even more, especially for loans destined for women where experience has shown that they are trustworthy borrowers and diligent in making repayments," he said.

The bank's executive director, Theobald Sabi reinstated the bank's commitment to continue supporting Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) in various ways including training

and provision of soft loans to improve their businesses.

He assured the VP that the bank has been working on the issue of interest rate and that further steps to make lending more easily at the bank were in the pipeline.

He said NBC Bank has been organizing various training for entrepreneurs through seminars organized via NBC Biashara Club network in collaboration with SIDO and TanTrade.

"The trainings are designed for entrepreneurs from various sectors. The training also feature instruction to traders on how to access services from NBC Bank like loans and low-charged accounts, preparation of business plans in order to enable the entrepreneurs operate in an efficient manner and be capable of ascertaining profit gained or loss incurred," he said.

Sabi noted that the bank has so far advanced loans worth 10bn/- to Kigoma Region, adding that apart from the loans, the bank was also monitoring the progress of projects run by the traders with a view to giving them advice.

"We have a partnership agreement with SIDO and TanTrade to make sure that we consolidate our endeavour to support entrepreneurs and small-scale producers in order to support the government efforts stimulating economic growth and generating employment.

Apart from the 10bn/- that we have issued to traders here in Kigoma, we cooperate with a number of Agricultural and Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS) to fulfill our dedication to channel funds to the agricultural sector", said Sabi.



Frank Nyabundege, Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank's managing director, is vaccinated against Covid-19 in Dar es Salaam at the weekend during the launch of the government's mobile vaccination initiative. The drive, which is implemented in collaboration with the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute, is meant to arm farmers with knowledge to help them make informed decisions with respect to the pandemic. Left is Dar es Salaam Regional Medical Officer Dr Rashid Mfaume. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TADB supports govt's fight against Covid-19

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA Agricultural Development Bank (TADB) has officially joined the government's mobile vaccination initiative as it seeks to play a role in increasing the number of Tanzanians who receive the COVID-19 jab.

In partnership with the Jakaya Kikwete Cardiac Institute (JKCI), TADB coordinated a sensitisation campaign on the COVID-19 pandemic and its vaccination to the lender's employees and other stakeholders at the weekend.

Speaking during the launch of the campaign exercise at the weekend, the TADB Managing Director, Frank Nyabundege said the initiative sought to ensure that farmers - who account for over 60 per cent of Tanzania's population - get relevant knowledge that will help them to make informed decisions regarding the COVID-19 pandemic and its vaccines.

"Through this initiative, we seek to spread public awareness regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. We have also set up a vaccination centre here in line with the government's mobile vaccination initiative," he said.

That way, he said, the country will be able to save lives of its farmers who feed the nation and also contribute immensely to the economy.

"Through this mobile vaccination centre, we are contributing to the government's initiative of increasing the number of such centers. Initially, there were 550 but now there are a total of 6,784 centers. This gives a chance for TADB employees and their family members to get the job at the bank's headquarters

free of charge," he said.

He urged all farming stakeholders across the country to visit any of the centers so they can receive the jab which will protect them against COVID-19.

"Data from the World Health Organization (WHO) show that so far, a total of 4,697,099 people have succumbed to the pandemic. I therefore ask my fellow Tanzanians to get the jab so as to reduce the possibility of

death in case they get affected by COVID-19," he said.

Gracing the event, the Regional Medical Officer for Dar es Salaam, Dr Rashid Mfaume commended TADB and JKCI for the initiative and called upon Tanzanians to do away with some unfounded and negative sentiments regarding Covid-19 vaccines.


"While I commend the bank, I also want to assure Tanzanians that these vaccines are

safe. These vaccines will boost the capacity of the body to effectively fight the virus and thus reduce the possibility of death in case you acquire it (the Covid-19 virus)," he said.

For a country to develop, he said, it needs a healthy workforce hence the need for Tanzanians to go and receive the jab for the general good of their families and the nation as a whole. The director for cardiac diseases at the JKCI, Dr Tatizo Waane said there was no

difference between COVID-19 jabs and other vaccines for various other diseases that Tanzanians have been subjected to for decades.

"These vaccines do not have any serious negative effect. They are just like any other vaccine. As experts, we will continue to stress the need for people to go and receive the jabs as the best way to protect themselves against the COVID-19 pandemic," he said.



Power in People

MS TCDC seeks Head of Finance

MS Training Centre for Development Cooperation (MS TCDC) is focused on a mission to build the capacity of leaders of present and future struggles for a more just, democratic and sustainable world. For more information please, visit www.mstcdc.or.tz

MS TCDC wishes to secure the services of a Head of Finance. This is a Managerial position reporting directly to the Operations Director. The selected candidate will be expected to provide overall leadership and coordination of the financial management and internal control systems of TCDC and its projects, resource mobilization and provision of advice on financial matters to department heads, maintenance of accounting records, preparation of financial reports, ensure control over the organization's assets and liabilities, budgeting and budget controls, cash-flow management and support internal/external audits. The Head of Finance must have a strategic mindset, sound leadership qualities and a broad understanding of financial management principles. Follow the link to read more about the role: <https://mstcdc.or.tz/news/mstcdc-seek-head-finance>

Candidate Profile

- A Bachelor degree in Accounting, Commerce or Business related discipline with CPA qualification as a must. Membership of professional accounting association NBAA, is required and is an added advantage.
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Terms and conditions:

The position of Head of Finance will be based at the MS TCDC training centre in Usa River, Arusha under the following terms and conditions:


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Application Process:

To apply, submit a motivation letter about why you are the most suitable candidate for the position, a resume and three (3) referees to jobs@mstcdc.or.tz by Monday, 11th of October, 2021 midnight East African Time (EAT) with title *Head of Finance*. We value all applications but we can only respond to short listed candidates. While all applicants will be assessed strictly on their individual merits, women are strongly encouraged to apply.

The first round of interviews will be conducted on **19th of October, 2021** and a potential second round of interviews will be conducted on **25th of October, 2021**. Desired Start date: 15th of November, 2021 or soonest possible.

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Children in Crossfire recently secured funding from the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation to deliver an ambitious three-year project championing ECD policy and programming advocacy in partnership with the Tanzania ECD Network (TECDEN) and the Union of Tanzania Press Clubs (UTPC). The new project to be more popularly known as 'Mtoto Kwanza!' will provide lead support to the government of Tanzania and wider ECD stakeholder ecosystem to raise the profile of ECD policy and programming in Tanzania, including supporting the roll-out of the anticipated landmark National Multisectoral ECD Programme at national and sub-national levels. The project will support civil society engagement with national monitoring mechanisms as well as establish a network of local civil society organisations (CSOs) across all mainland regions of Tanzania to effectively engage regional and local government in ECD programming. Community engagement will be enhanced via a network of ECD champion journalists reporting on all ECD domains across all regions nationwide.

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Detailed **JOB DESCRIPTIONS** and **APPLICATION FORMS** for these exciting positions can be downloaded from: <https://www.childrenincrossfire.org/stay-connected/join-our-team>

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Only those candidates selected for interview will be contacted.

Closing date for applications: Wednesday 6th October 2021





Bongo Flava artiste Zena Mohammed alias Shilole (2nd-R) "sells" Vodacom Tanzania's newly launched 'Kimbiza na 4G ya Ukweli' service to Dar es Salaam residents at the weekend. The initiative is meant to sensitise the public on the efficiency and reliability of the mobile phone service provider's new network. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Govt appeals for achieving sustainable development

By Getrude Mbago

THE government is calling for more collective efforts from stakeholders to support the government's efforts to conserve the environment and fight against climate change impacts which of late are causing great impacts in the society.

Minister of State in the Office of the Vice-President, Union and Environment, Selemani Jafo made the call in Dar es Salaam yesterday during the commemoration of the Global Islamic CIVIC Day.

He urged stakeholders to continue to prioritize climate change adaptation and mitigation projects for Tanzania to support achieve its development goals.

Jafo said that for the country to attain its development goals, having a patriotic generation that prioritizes environmental conservation, is a matter of paramount importance.

He said, early this week, President Samia Suluhu Hassan attended the United Nations General Assembly summit and shared with the World that the government is preparing the National Climate Change Strategy.

"Today, I am proud to see the Ismaili community is putting this vision into action creating a sustainable impact in the community. Through Ismaili CIVIC, I can see that you are working on clan-ups, sanitation, tree planting and creating awareness in Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mbeya, Mwanza and Zanzibar. You are leading by example and I hope to see this programme continue and impact more public sites across the country," he said.

He said the government has taken and continues to take measures to protect the environment.

Jafo emphasized more on cleanliness calling residents to ensure that their surroundings remain clean all the time. "Factories and companies should plant trees and flowers around their areas," he said.

He warned those excavating sand and other resources in rivers something which poses a huge threat to the environment.

The minister said the government will not hesitate to take stern measures to those who will be found degrading environment including any water resources and rivers.

Amin Lakhani, President of the Ismaili National Council for Tanzania said: "We have come here together to launch community service initiatives that will support local schools and market places by volunteering more to care for the environment. We have cleaned, planted trees and repainted the Muhimbili Primary School as well as educating children on the importance of conserving the environment."

Govt, UNCDF launch national guideline for LGA investments

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government in collaboration with the United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) has launched the national guideline for the preparation of local government authorities (LGA) strategic investments.

It is a new manual for LGA's project teams that provides a step-by-step technical guidance on how to identify, develop, finance and manage their income generating infrastructure investments.

Speaking while officiating at the launch of the guideline, minister of State, President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government, Umyy Mwalimu said the document is important to LGAs as the government is set to increase investment at the

grassroots.

She said, "This guide is an historic book, and it is very important because it has directly aligned a five-year development plan". The minister also noted that UNCDF has been doing different investments to support investment in local government authorities.

Mwalimu congratulated and acknowledged UNCDF for their continued support in making sure the guide has reached that stage. She added that investment and innovation is a key to development of any country, thus such efforts towards investments are welcomed.

Head of UNCDF Tanzania, Peter Malika, while speaking at the event stressed his organization's commitment to continued support to the government in pushing further the de-

velopment agenda and improving livelihood through increased investments.

He observed that UNCDF has prioritized its support towards attainment of the country's objectives by working with the government to build national capacities and investing in local development.

"Tanzania has set a target of becoming middle-income country by 2025 and to ensure its implementation we are supporting the government to localize sustainable development by solving the most critical challenges of today" he said.

He added that the guideline launched will pave way for improved number of investment ready projects that will access development capital.

Malika emphasized that UNCDF together with the UN system in Tan-

zania and the government of Sweden shall continue working with the government to achieve inclusive economic growth.

However, he also noted that it is important for PORALG to strengthen ties with UNCDF through their collaborative approaches towards development.

Malika said, "Would like to assure you of our full support as you embark on launching this document for the benefits of our local authorities and the entire country as whole."

The launching ceremony of the guideline was preceded by official opening of the PORALG's working session for the recently appointed local government directors and presided by various leaders from the government ministries and other UN agencies.



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 - Develop and oversee implementation of strategies that will attract employees to open up about their mental health
 - Coordinate interdepartmental and intradepartmental

communication strategies

- Listen to employees' concerns, seeking ways to address them
- Initiate and implement interdepartmental, departmental, sections and units stress management activities that will also to promote team work
- Plan, implement and manage the overall Talent Acquisition Strategy
- Prepare periodic reports
- Perform any other official duties that may be assigned by supervisor

6. TERMS AND CONDITIONS:

Five (5) years contract with remuneration and fringe benefits as per ATCL Scales and Incentive Scheme

7. MODE OF APPLICATION FOR ALL APPLICANTS:

- Interested applicants must submit a duly signed letter for consideration of the application attached with the following:
- A detailed curriculum vitae (CV),
 - Certified copies of all certificates (including secondary school), other relevant certificates, Applicants who have studied outside Tanzania should have their certificates approved by relevant authorities Tanzania Commission for University (TCU) or National Examination Council (NECTA)
 - Two recent passport size photographs
 - Name and address of at least two reputable referees;
 - Applicant's reliable contact address, email address and telephone number.

Note: Misrepresentation of qualifications or any other information on application shall warrant legal consequences

8. CLOSING DATES:

Applicants should consider the following closing dates for this post as follows:

Within Fourteen (14) days from the first date of this announcement

Applicants who previously applied for similar position may re-apply

The application letters should be directed to the following address: -

Managing Director and CEO, Air Tanzania Company Limited,
P.O. Box 543,
DAR ES SALAAM
25th September, 2021

Date: 27 SEPT, 2021

Tanzania Standard Newspaper



ESAMI MASTERS PROGRAMMES - EVENING CLASS

ESAMI Business School is inviting applications for its Masters in Business Administration MBA and MSc Project Management scheduled to start as follows:

MBA (Dar es Salaam Centre)	-	4th October, 2021
MBA (ESAMI HQ, Arusha)	-	11 October, 2021
Masters in Project Management (Dar es Salaam)	-	25 October, 2021
MBA - Human Resource Management (Arusha)	-	11 October, 2021
Masters in Project Management (Arusha)	-	11 October, 2021

■ Programme Structure - The two-year programme is offered in modular form in the evenings. Students will attend classes in the evening from 17:00hrs -22:00hrs for two - three weeks in every two and a half months.

■ Admission Criteria - Candidates for the MBA and Masters in Project Management must be holders of at least a first degree from a recognised University or Holders of an internationally recognised professional qualification. Candidates must be proficient in both spoken and written English.

■ Application Procedures - Candidates must submit a completed application form with the following attachments

- Current curriculum vitae
- Certified copy of degree document
- Certified copy of official transcript
- Letter of recommendation
- Passport size photograph
- A non-refundable processing fee of US\$30

All documents accompanying the application must be in English.

Applications and enquiries to be directed to: -

The Country Coordinator, ESAMI, Golden Jubilee Tower, 11th Floor, Wing A, Ohio Street. P. O. Box 22290, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Tel: +255 22 2112670/2115046; Mobile: +255 713 327 728

Email: esamidar@esami-africa.org; adminbs1@esami-africa.org

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Alfred Ndumbaro (R), manager of the Tanzania National Roads Agency (TanRoads) for Tanga Region, pictured in Muheza at the weekend briefing Zanzibar Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdullah (2nd-L, in green shirt) on the ongoing construction of the Muheza-Amani road. Photo: Correspondent Hamida Kamchalla

Great African Cycling Safari an excellent opportunity to market EAC integration agenda - EALA Speaker

By Guardian Reporter

SPEAKER of the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA) Martin Ngoga said the Great African Cycling Safari is an excellent opportunity to market the EAC integration agenda to its actual owners who are the people of East Africa.

Speaking during the grand finale of the Great African Cycling Safari at the EAC headquarters Ngoga said the purpose of the cycling safari was to create awareness around the integration process by sensitizing communities along the bike tour as the cyclists interacted with the people.

The Speaker of the East African Legislative Assembly Rt. Hon Martin Ngoga made his remarks saying: "I am glad to note that the cyclists used the safari not only to sensitize the people along their route on regional integration, but to preach peace and unity, promote tourism, as well as plant trees to mitigate effects of climate change and to enhance citizens' awareness about COVID-19," said the Speaker.

Ngoga disclosed to the cyclists that one of the global priorities under the 6th EAC Development Strategy that will be implemented over the next five years is the promotion of awareness creation and dissemination of information to the Community.

"Let me take this opportunity to assure our gallant cyclists that the EAC is highly supportive of this event. As the EAC we will sit with the organizers to see areas of corporation going forward," he added.

The Speaker commended the private sector

through EABC, the umbrella body of private sector organizations in East Africa, for providing corporate sponsorship for the Great African Cycling Safari that has been without a sponsor since it started and the media in all Partner States for giving maximum coverage of the novel initiative and seeks support from East Africans.

Minister of Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr. Damas Ndumbaro commended the cyclists for flying the EAC flag and the flags of the six EAC Partner State's flags for 6,000 kilometers across Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and back to Tanzania.

He said the tour is in tandem with the wishes of the EAC Summit of Heads of State who have been keen on taking the EAC to the people at the grassroots. Hon Ndumbaro challenged the EAC Secretariat to formalize the Great African Cycling Safari into the EAC system and make it as an EAC Event.

"The Great African Cycling Safari is indeed one of those successful initiatives of that we from the Partner States must utilize to champion the integration agenda," said the Minister.

Cabinet Secretary for Tourism and Wildlife, Republic of Kenya, Hon. Najib Balala stressing the point during the Grand finale of the Great African Cycling Safari at the EAC Headquarters

Hon. Najib Balala said the Great African Cycling Safari has the potential to grow to be recognized internationally just like 'Tour de France' that so far has had 108 editions since it came into existence. "It is an important event as it aims not only to sensitize people of the

ACT Wazalendo to boycott meeting with police

By Guardian Reporter

ACT Wazalendo party yesterday said it will not participate in meetings scheduled to bring on board between political parties and the police force in Dodoma next month.

According to a statement issued by party's publicity and ideology official Salim Bimani said ACT-Wazalendo arrived at that decision after careful consideration.

He said the reasons for the party's decision not to participate in the meeting were due to the schedule of the meetings between the parties and the police force.

From October 21 to 22 this year, the top leaders of our party will be at the national conference on justice, peace and reconciliation convened by the Tanzania Democracy Center (TCD). The meeting is expected to be attended by President Samia Suluhu Hassan," said Bimani.

Bimani said another reason is lack of feedback on their letter sent to the Registrar of Political Parties requesting the session to involve the Minister of Home Affairs.

"After the Registrar of Political Parties announced the meeting with the parties, ACT-Wazalendo through its party leader Zitto Kabwe, wrote a letter to the meeting to include the Minister of Home Affairs who is in charge of political affairs and the Police Force. So far we have not received any feedback on the issue and the direction is that the session will be for the Police and political parties only," said Bimani.

Also, the party claimed that another reason for its decision not to participate in the conference was the remarks made by some of the leaders expected to meet, indicating that the session could be used to further curb political activity in the country.

"The remarks of the Inspector General of Police (IGP), Simon Sirro after his meeting with the Registrar of Political Parties does not reflect the good intentions of the session," said Bimani.

"His statement that in Tanzania there is no problem with foreign meetings and that the problem lies in internal meetings and the law should be enacted is a clear indication that the session can be used to further

curb political activities in the country."

The Registrar of Political Parties Judge Francis Mutungi announced the meeting with the aim of ending the ongoing tensions between the police force and the parties and a preliminary meeting has already been held between the Registrar's Office and the police force on October 21 it will be the turn of the parties to the police force.

FCS launches five-year strategic plan

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Foundation for Civil Society (FCS) has unveiled its five-year strategic plan (2022-2026) with additional five thematic focus areas including peace and conflict management.

Speaking at the official launching of the FCS five-year strategic plan held over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, the foundation's executive director Francis Kiwanga said the new plan marks the beginning of the organization's 4th strategic period.

He said the new strategy had broadened more new areas of focus compared to the previous strategies that introduced a re-orientation into three focus areas, namely: governance, livelihoods, markets, and capacity development.

"In light of the expressed needs of stakeholders, grantees and government in particular and the review of the mission and vision, additional thematic areas have been introduced.

Kiwanga named the new thematic areas as governance, sustainable livelihoods, gender equality & disability inclusion, peace and conflict management as well as FCS institutional development.

"In implementing the strategy, our ultimate target group is citizens. We shall continue to give special attention to the poor people especially (women and men), women, children, People with disabilities (PWDS), youths and other vulnerable and marginalized groups," he said.

He said by 2026, the strategy will ensure the citizens are actively participating in electoral processes that are more free, fair and inclusive.

The strategy must ensure that youths, people with disabilities and women have secured greater access to markets, jobs and livelihood assets and resources.

Kiwanga noted that the strategy increased awareness among women of their rights as stipulated in legal frameworks, improved accessibility to social services and infrastructure among people with disabilities & the elderly (especially women and disabled).

According to him, the FCS must also ensure that by 2026, communities are more effectively dealing with conflicts.



ADMISSION INTERVIEWS

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09TH OCTOBER 2021 09.00 AM

16TH OCTOBER 2021 09.00 AM

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Feza Nursery and Daycare
0712 339 268
- DAR ES SALAAM - KAWA
Feza Primary School
0712 339 237
- DODOMA - KILIMO KWANZA
Feza Nursery and Primary School
0762 508 000
- ZANZIBAR - KISAUNI
Feza Nursery and Primary School
0777 869 414

Vacancy Announcement

Directors



On behalf of our client in the **Banking Industry**, Empower is in search of **Directors** to fill emerging vacant positions in a leading foreign Bank in the Top 10 in Tanzania, which specialises in providing facilities and services to public and private sector corporations, diplomatic missions and international organisations as well as Corporate, SME and Retail Customers. Their operations in Tanzania empower the financial success of both the people and businesses that bank with them.

We invite suitably qualified candidates to fill the **vacancies** where the successful candidate(s) will be expected to add value and expertise to help drive the continued growth of the Bank.

Requirements

Senior Management experience and knowledge in economics, finance, accounting, insurance, entrepreneurship or audit. The successful candidate(s) must be technically proficient and financially literate

Demonstrable interest and working knowledge of using new technology and innovation in emerging market contexts and an avid focus on digital transformation. Senior Level experience in the Fintech Industry or experience building a successful Digital, or Fintech business.

Previous Board experience is an advantage, particularly candidates who have chaired a Board Audit Committee. The successful candidate should have a track record of integrity and ethical conduct and be over 30 years of age with a minimum of 10 years leadership experience at director/senior management level

Application Instructions

1. Interested and qualified applications should register on www.empower.co.tz
2. Setup your profile & upload the following documents:
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Deadline
8th October 2021

www.empower.co.tz



Rogers Titus, who has just completed Form Four at Sunshine Secondary School in Kibaha District, demonstrates to guests how a human heart functions. This was at a graduation ceremony held at the school at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

No student will be sent home for failing to pay fees, says Dar school manager

By Correspondent Joseph

Mwendapole

THE management of St Anne Marie Academy schools has declared that no student will be sent home for failing to pay school fees after a parent had passed away.

Schools that are under St. Anne Marie Academy include Sunshine, St Anne Marie Academy, Brilliant, Rweikiza Nursery and Primary of Bukoba and St Anne Marie Academy of Mbezi Kimara in Dar es Salaam.

Schools' director Dr. Jason Rweikiza declared the commitment over the weekend in Kibaha District, Coast Region during the 14th Sunshine graduation ceremony held at the school.

He said in 2021 St Anne Marie schools had lost 93 parents something that have devastated the children and many of them have dropped out for failure to pay school fees.

"We have been losing many parents every year and this year we had lost 93 parents and this frustrate academic performance of the children any many of them can no longer afford to pay school fees but from today I declare no student will be sent home after the death of his parent," he said

"If the student is in Standard One, he will continue until Standard Seven and if he is in Form One he will proceed to Form Four," said Dr. Rweikiza who is also Bukoba Rural MP.

He further said they have prepared a strategic plan to improve academic

performance of the school's networks and among the things they are going to implement is to continue with award giving to students who excel well in their national examinations. He said any student who will pass in Division One will get 600,000/- and for those who will obtain Division II will get 200,000/- adding that the aim is to abolish Division IV and Division III in all schools. The Sunshine head of the school Frank Raphael said the Form Four leavers were prepared well and they are ready for the national examinations in November.

He said Dr. Rweikiza had facilitated the school with different facilities including learning materials, books, modern laboratory, projector, photocopy machines, clean water and health

facilities.

"We have everything we wanted here so parents should continue their trust in Sunshine because the previous academic performance of the school is encouraging and we promise to continue doing better and better," he said



We have been losing many parents every year and this year we had lost 93 parents and this frustrate academic performance of the children

Z'bar calls on people to explore ICT in developing blue economy

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR has expressed its intention to make sure its citizens develop modern digital economy that goes in tandem with the blue economy.

The remarks were given by the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Works, Communication and Transport Amoul Hamil when handing over tele-centre to Tumbatu secondary school that was constructed under the sponsorship of Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) aimed at providing ICT services for students and teachers as well as Tumbatu residents.

"Our anticipation as government is that we are now going to implement our intentions to make sure we implement our development strategies in accordance with the set development goals for both the Zanzibar government and the Union Government in the entire utilization of ICT," he said.

He said what his ministry will make sure it puts in place strategies so that many more schools and members of the community get ICT services for strengthening the modern economy.

He said the ICT centre sponsored by TCRA is the sixth one among infrastructure facilitated by TCRA through ICT to make sure many Zanzibaris enjoy ICT services.

Speaking on behalf of TCRA managing director during the handing over event Zanzibar TCRA office head Esvatie Masinga said the aim of TCRA is to make sure ICT services become inclusive to reach as many people as possible.

"Zanzibar's TCRA office has resolved to concentrate in islands near Unguja where we have two centred that have already been inaugurated. This one is the sixth and we plan that in the next financial year we shall seek more funds so that we go to Kojani island and other areas to install other ICT centres," she added.

Beneficiaries of the project expressed their pleasure to have the ICT centre saying it will boost education and other services via the centre.

For his part, Tumbatu secondary school headmaster Jala Pandu Khamis said not only the centre will be a centre for learning, but will also provide ICT services for students of the two secondary schools in Tumbatu island.

Earlier, the Permanent Secretary invited other communications stakeholders, especially from educational institutions and places where ICT services have not reached to support the government aims to develop the blue economy.

ROSA LUXEMBURG FOUNDATION TANZANIA

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

EDITING KARL MARX'S "DAS KAPITAL" KISWAHILI TRANSLATION

Rosa-Luxemburg-Stiftung (RLS) invites applications for editing the Kiswahili translation of "Das Kapital"-Capital Volume 1 (The Process of Production of Capital) and its Kiswahili Guidebook.

Description of the services requested

Volume 1 of Karl Marx's "Das Kapital" has been translated into Ki-Swahili (hereinafter "Mtaji"). The Kiswahili translation of Capital is accompanied by a Kiswahili guidebook on reading "Das Kapital" (hereinafter "Utangulizi"). The service requested shall include editing the translation and its companion (Utangulizi), and in particular define the appropriate terminology of key concepts taking into account the history of engaging with Karl Marx's work within the Tanzanian academic and labour movements. We would therefore prefer team applications that combine experts with linguistic and Marxist backgrounds.

The editors shall carry out the following assignments:

- Edit the Kiswahili translation of Mtaji and propose the appropriate Kiswahili terminology to be applied throughout the publication.
- Establish appropriate terminology that pays attention to the history of popular education and struggles of the working people in Tanzania, in particular those working in the industrial sector.
- Utangulizi – edit the guidebook and apply the established terminology.
- Consult with the translator of Mtaji and author of Utangulizi in the process of establishing the appropriate terminology.

Qualifications

We welcome team applications from scholars with a minimum qualification of an master's degree in Ki-Swahili and any social sciences or humanities with a bias on political economy. In addition, applicant must:

- Have strong and proven knowledge about Tanzania's political economy and involvement in leftist political, academic and labour movements.
- Have strong and proven knowledge of Marx writings and Marxist theory
- Have proven ability to translate academic texts of high quality from English into Kiswahili

- Have proven ability to transfer complex academic work (in English) in summary that simplifies matter and is written in Ki-Swahili

We are committed to diversity and equality of opportunity. Women are encouraged to apply.

Expected output

- Edited final manuscript of Mtaji approved by its author/translator
- Edited final manuscript of Utangulizi approved by its author/translator

Applications should be accompanied by:

- Cover letter
- Curriculum Vitae with publication record
- Record of translations/publications edited
- Budget and time plan that has to be based on a number of words:
 - Mtaji: 399,920
 - Utangulizi: 71,564
 - Fee of TZS 250,000/= per day for the author/translator

The project should start no later than November 15, 2021 and be completed latest by July 31, 2022.

Applications should be sent by electronic mail to dorothee.braun@rosalux.org till 22nd October 2021 the latest. If you do not hear from us by 27th October 2021, please consider your proposal as not being successful.

About Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung

Active since 1990, the Rosa Luxemburg Foundation (RLS) has been committed to the analysis of social processes and developments worldwide. In cooperation with organizations around the globe, the Foundation works on democratic and social participation, empowerment of disadvantaged groups, alternatives for economic and social development, ecological sustainability, conflict prevention, and peaceful conflict resolution, among others.

The RLS Head Office is based in Berlin / Germany (<https://www.rosalux.de/en/foundation/more-about-us/>). The East African Regional Office has been established in Dar es Salaam / Tanzania. Further information could be obtained by writing to us through the email above. Our website is www.rosalux.or.tz



Save the Children

Invitation to Tender

ITT/SCITZ/2021/019

Provision of Designing and Printing services

Save the Children International (SCI) is the world's leading independent organisation for children. We work in 120 countries. We save children's lives; we fight for their rights; we help them fulfil their potential. We work together, with our partners, to inspire breakthroughs in the way the world treats children and to achieve immediate and lasting change in their lives.

SCI Tanzania Office intends to enter into Framework Agreements (FWAs) with a reputed and qualified companies for provision of Designing and Printing services for its projects in Tanzania. The FWAs will be for the period of two (2) years.

SCI is therefore inviting companies with good qualification, experience and proven track record to apply for this service.

Interested companies are required to send email requesting tender documents to the Email address;
tanzania.logsshared@savethechildren.org

Sealed bids marked: "Provision of Design and Printing services" should be submitted by hand or post to the address below latest by **October 18th 2021 on or before 1400hrs (2.00pm).**

Address to;

Procurement Committee
Save the Children International - Tanzania
Country Office, Plot No. 257 Kiko Avenue, Mwai Kibaki Road,
Mikocheni A
P. O. Box 10414, Dar es Salaam

Any proposal received after the indicated time shall be rejected.

Report bribery in public procurement - PCCB

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

CONTRACTORS have been advised to report to the Prevention and Combating Corruption Bureau (PCCB) names of officials who solicit corruption to favour them during tendering process.

Contractors Registration Board (CRB) chairperson Eng. Consolata Ngimbwa made the call over the weekend in Mwanza Region when wrapping up the three-day financial management training for local contractors from across the country. The training covered taxations and compliance, risk management, elements of financial statements and the importance of using electronic system in procurement.

Eng Ngimbwa said contractors should not entertain corruption

practices by receiving or give it to the tender board officials adding that if they decide to adhere to professionalism and ethics corruption will be a history in the construction industry.

"If we agreed to end this practices am sure we will change and improve this sector so you must change from now because if you entertain corruption you will kill your profession and mind you that corruption can not help you to grow stand for yourself," said eng Ngimbwa

In another move, eng Ngimbwa argued local contractors to form one strong association which will have a strong voice to speak to the government and other forums about their challenges in the construction industry.

"You all remember that I have

been speaking about this regularly. Some of you who attended previous annual consultative meeting know how I have been insisting about this, you have many association which cant help you, come to gather and have one strong association" she said

On his side, (CRB) Assistant Registrar (Research and Development eng David Jere, said the training were attended by 92 contractors from different classes.

He said the training on financial management intend to help local contractors to be aware on how to manage their revenues and balance sheet.

Eng Jere said participants of the training have learnt taxation issues especially on the best way they can preserve record to avoid unnecessary tax interest and fine from Tan-

zania Revenues Authority (TRA).

He said the training is continuous and will be conducted recently in the regions of Iringa, Dar es Salaam na Dodoma.

According to eng Jere on October this year CRB will conduct training on business management skills in Iringa, December in Dar es Salaam Contracts management and January 2022 there would be training about Construction Pre contract Practices in Dodoma.

He said another training about contract management will be held

in January February 2020 in Dodoma and Joint Ventures in Dodoma March 2022.

He said the intention of the training is to build capacity so that they can compete in big construction project which currently are dominated by foreign companies.

Based on contributions from law enforcement and procurement specialists stakeholders describe how bribery is committed through the various stages of government purchasing; how bribery in public procurement is related to other crimes,

such as fraud and money laundering; and how to prevent and sanction such crimes. A ground-breaking report throws new light on the shadowy mechanisms and patterns of bribery in public procurement and offers insider expertise that governments and international organisations can use to improve their anti-corruption policies.

A major part of the world's exports of merchandise and commercial services are linked to public procurement.



Dr Richard Sambaigwa (2nd-R), chairman of the NGOs coordinating, cuts the ribbon in Dar es Salaam at the weekend to launch the Foundation for Civil Society's 2022-2026 strategic plan. With him are FCS executive director Francis Kiwanga (R), president Dr Stigmata Tenga (C) and board chairman Sosthenese Sambua (2nd-L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Qatar leader calls for coordinating efforts to curb Covid-19 pandemic

By Guardian Reporter

SHEIKH Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Emir of the State of Qatar has called for the importance of coordinating efforts to combat the Covid-19 pandemic and to secure treatment for all.

Addressing the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, the Qatar leader said it is also necessary to ensure equitable distribution of vaccines and their accessibility to the countries in the Southern Hemisphere.

"Qatar always keen to establish an atmosphere of peace, stability and cooperation, especially in the region, and its commitment to settle any differences through constructive dialogue, as embodying the principle of resolving differences through dialogue based on common interests and mutual respect," he said in his speech made available in Dar es Salaam.

He added the importance of resolving differences in viewpoints with Iran through rational dialogue and mutual respect.

Concerning the Palestinian issue, Sheikh Tamim held the international community responsibility for achieving a comprehensive and peace settlement beside establishing a Palestinian State on the 1967 borders with East Jerusalem as its capital, alongside the State of Israel as well as resolving the refugee issue as agreed upon by the international community for decades.

"Withdrawing of the US from Afghanistan after negotiations with the Taliban movement is considered as an important turning point, that requires the Afghan people and the international community to work persistently to achieve a comprehensive political settlement and pave the way for stability" He noted.

He pointed to Qatar's efforts to evacuate thousands of individuals and families of different nationalities, as a matter of humanitarian duty that Qatar firmly believes in.

Regarding the crisis in Syria, Libya and Yemen, he said: It is not permissible to neglect the Syrian issue, which requires the international community to exert great efforts to end the crisis through a peaceful solution in accordance with the Geneva Declaration and implementing of Security Council Resolution No. 2254.

Speaking on the positive steps of the situation in Libya, he mentioned the positive result of the ceasefire and the convening of the Libyan Political Dialogue Forum which led to the election of representatives of the interim executive authority afterward.

"These days mark the fiftieth anniversary of Qatar joining the membership of the United Nations and Doha has become a hub of international action in the region. We look forward to operating the United Nations House in

Doha soon" he added.

"Qatar has participated in international efforts to combat terrorism and address its causes through supporting education, addressing poverty and unemployment among youth" he said.

On the challenges of climate change, the Emir of Qatar said that efforts must be continued as it is one of the most important serious challenges of our time, noting that Qatar has taken the necessary measures to develop technologies related to climate change and clean energy.



SHREE SANATAN DHARMA SABHA

25th September, 2021

NOTICE OF EXTRA ORDINARY GENERAL MEETINGS

An extra ordinary general meeting shall be held on Sunday, 3rd October 2021 at Shree Laxminarayan Mandir at 10:00am - Pramukh Swami Sabha Grah. All members of Tanzania hindu community are required to attend on time.

The Agenda of the meeting shall be Introduction of the draft of new constitution for Shree Sanatan Dharma Sabha.

After the meeting of 3rd October the members shall be able to read the draft of new constitution at the office of SSDS. And Members should send their questions in writing to the office of SSDS for the attention of the Secretary General after reading the draft and before the review meeting.

A second Extra Ordinary meeting shall be held on 17th October, 2021, Sunday at Shree Laxminarayan Mandir at 10:00am – Pramukh Swami Sabha Grah. All members of Tanzania hindu community are required to attend on time.

The Agenda of this second meeting shall be as below:

1. To review and respond to only the questions received by the secretary general of SSDS after reading of the draft of new constitution by the members.
2. To set a date for an Extra Ordinary General Meeting to approve and adopt the draft of new constitution for Shree Sanatan Dharma Sabha.

Yash Desai
Hon. General Secretary
Shree Sanatan Dharma Sabha

Providing Unity and Religious Leadership to the Hindu Community of Tanzania

Shree Sanatan Dharma Sabha	Telephone:	Society Registration No:	E-mail:	Web page:
Pramukh Swami Street P. O. Box 5 Dar es Salaam, Tanzania	+255 22 2132835 Mobile: +255	463 TIN: 101-321-207	mandir@ssds.or.tz	www.ssds.or.tz

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MONDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2021

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

UNCDF ventures need to target private firms, not local councils

NEW techniques and initiatives are coming up each passing day from various government institutions managing various sectors or portions of those sectors, at times on their own or with collaboration from kindred institutions, in this instance a financial organization linked with the UN system. The United Nations Capital Development Fund (UNCDF) is something in the shadow of the World Bank, so when it backs an initiative by a major government agency or they organise it under its auspices, it is difficult for those supervising the sector, and governance as a whole, to ignore it. Yet it must be policy crosschecked.

The event at hand was the launching of nationwide guidelines for preparation of local government authorities (LGA) strategic investments, described as a manual for LGA project teams that provide a step-by-step technical guidance on how to identify, develop, finance and manage income-generating infrastructure investments. The chief guest on the occasion was none other than the minister, Ummu Mwalimu, who holds the Regional Administration and Local Governments docket, approving of the plan as important for LGAs. She said that the government looks forward to increase district level investments.

There was something of an aura of breakthrough among those present, describing the guide book as historic, directly aligned a five-year development plan, with the UN agency conducting various activities to support investments by local government authorities. While the minister was effusive in her praise for UNCDF for developing the guidelines up to this point, with emphasis on investment and innovation, there are crucial issues to be

raised. It relates to individual initiative policy direction of President Samia Suluhu Hassan, lately emphasised by Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa in an inspection tour of Kagera region.

From the look of the model being invoked, it appears that district councils would be the project owners, initiators and accessing financing from UNCDF in particular, which ab initio is an unreliable strategy. Sweden was cited as the main backer of that initiative, but as it is a capital development fund, there is an undeniable impression that it is supposed to be revolving credit, paid out for an initiative and repaid so that others can be lent money as well. That way it is sustainable as a fund and actually aids capital growth.

UNCDF may provide back up funds to banks or SACCOS willing to lend to entrepreneurs given specific work to do in relation to district development plans. That would ease its accounting and repayment of funds, whereas issuing the money to districts is a sure avenue of losing it, and those given the projects have to be put to a competitive test of credibility and sufficient equipment, credit or capital backing, etc. Local favoritism is useless though it may be popular with local politicians, sharing most such projects, as law amendments in the past allowed ward councilors to apply in procurement tendering, construction, etc.

Most of today's young and bright development specialists are not familiar enough with happened in the past, where each district had a series of development companies manning all sorts of things, except corner shops in the streets or food vending. They controlled butcheries, baking bread, transportation etc and all of them failed. If national level parastatals have

With Blue Economy, International Maritime Day will concern us more

PORIONS of the shipping community and shipping organizations must have been pondering what we have achieved in the country in relation to World Maritime Day marked on September 23, though as with some other world commemorative days, there are differences as some countries mark the day on September 30. The commemoration has two distinctive aspects that have developed over time, the original intention being to enhance international cooperation in marine safety, especially in distress situations without evaluating the 'friendliness' of the country to which the distressed vessel belongs. It is part of the corpus of what is known as international humanitarian law developed during the past century.

While this day is strongly linked to maritime activity, it is distinct from issues linked to seafarers unions, where in the past there have been pressures on employing local people among those who regularly use our ports, etc.

The maritime day is tied to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) with a founding United Nations convention entering into force in 1958 and thus IMO came into being the following year. Even with strategic rivalry in what was known as the Cold War, global humanitarian law was developing.

The part of the convention which has gradually become important to Tanzania is what an IMO write up says are technical matters, like the highest practicable standards in matters concerning maritime safety, efficiency of navigation and prevention and control of marine pollution from ships. There have been glaring incidents on the past where coastal zones aren't safe from waste transported aboard large ships and looking for points of disposal. It is a market of sorts, fraught with organised crime connections, etc.

To foster higher accountability

in this mechanism, the IMO member states audit scheme came into force on 1 January 2016, increasingly playing a key role in supporting effective implementation of the organization's mandate by providing a comprehensive and objective assessment of how effectively it administers mandatory IMO instruments, where pollution control and related issues is the key. As we open more of our coastal tourism areas to operations of international firms, auditing will acutely needed.

With projects like the East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) being implemented, starting to receive giant tankers loading oil and clearing residue somewhere, it is not far off for us to start being engaged more forthrightly. It is hence relevant to take notice that both in tourism and in energy sector development we aren't far from involvement in practices that are negative either to maritime safety or to environmental protection. We aren't there yet but marking this international day is a reminder that we aren't an island in the matter, as threats in our vicinity touching on maritime safety or political stability spill over this way.

There was for instance a piracy problem along the coast of Somalia a decade or so ago, which troubled shipping operators with ridiculous ransoms paid to gun-toting youths, until the UK Navy and others decided to sweep the groups off the vicinity of the ships. The Mozambican flare up is less a rebellion in the northern part as a conquest by pirates to extract ransom from gas operators. All these are maritime woes to which enhanced international cooperation has had to be mobilised, for threats didn't arise from within the Mozambican economic or social mix but maritime conveyed threats from its northern reaches.

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Tip-toeing through S.African legal minefield of land expropriation without compensation

By Pam Saxby

GO carefully when venturing into land 'expropriation without compensation' territory. You go where angels fear to tread. And be 100 per cent sure you've got whatever you want to say absolutely right, or else! Careers are at stake, not to mention the country.

As a mere hack, one becomes used to attempts at sully one's reputation. And, eventually, one learns to turn the other cheek. Most of the time. But when several respected academics (and a public interest lawyer, *nog al*) accuse one of making an erroneous statement about the law-making process, something has to be done. Especially when that law-making process is about land expropriation with nil compensation. A veritable minefield, to put it mildly...

For the record, the statement appeared in a teaser to an Opinionista piece about the Constitution Eighteenth Amendment Bill and the Expropriation Bill. It was added by Daily Maverick – with whom this mere hack has no quarrel, incidentally. Absolutely none. As at least one of the respected academics knows only too well (Daily Maverick having published several of her articles over the years), an editor reserves the right to do what editors do. In this case, an editor altered the heading and asked a question.

So? The opinion piece lists irrefutable facts, bullet point by glaring bullet point. They do not include "asking if Parliament is putting the cart before the horse by trying to finalise the Expropriation Bill before finalising the constitutional amendment process". The opinion piece quotes a media statement issued by the National Assembly ad hoc committee responsible for drafting proposed amendments to section 25 of the Constitution. At the time, the statement expressed concern that running parallel oral submission processes on the two bills might be "putting the cart before the horse".

In its closing paragraphs, the opinion piece asks three questions:

- What will become of the Expropriation Bill if the Constitution Eighteenth Amendment Bill isn't passed?
- What will become of the hopes and dreams of people whose expectations of imminent access to land were raised during all the provincial public hearings?
- What will happen if the Constitution Eighteenth Amendment Bill isn't passed by the National Assembly?

The first question asks about the



fate of the Expropriation Bill if the Constitution Eighteenth Amendment Bill isn't passed. After all, its contents are much the same as a 'D' version of the 2015 Bill, which was:

- Passed by Parliament in 2016;
- Remitted the following year because of then-President Jacob Zuma's reservations about its public participation process;
- Withdrawn in the light of a National Assembly decision to prepare legislation amending section 25 of the Constitution to provide for land expropriation for nil compensation when just and equitable;
- Revised to include a sub-clause giving practical effect to yet-to-be-finalised draft Constitution section 25 amendments; and
- Tabled in October last year.

Should the Constitution Eighteenth Amendment Bill not be passed, the fate of the Expropriation Bill lies not in the hands of academics or lobby groups, but in the hands of the majority party in Parliament. That, too, is a fact. So, with respect to the academics (and the public interest lawyer)

who challenged the opinion piece, they are in no position to attempt to answer the question. They may, can and probably will speculate. But they do not know.

The second question asks about the consequences of unfulfilled expectations. Which will become an issue whether the Constitution Eighteenth Amendment Bill is passed or not. With respect to the academics (and the public interest lawyer), they don't know what will happen; the lobby groups don't know; privileged South Africans living in suburban bliss don't know; people with large tracts of unused land don't know; and Parliament doesn't know. This may be why some of us are having sleepless nights. Because we have all been warned.

During one of his final appearances as a member of the ad hoc committee responsible for preparing the Bill, EFF Deputy President Floyd Shivambu upset a great many people by saying that what happened during July's widespread social unrest will "look like a picnic" if the ANC continues to ignore

his party's proposals for land reform. Which it has. But the ruling party is also concerned.

Towards the end of May, in his capacity as committee chair, ANC MP and National Executive Committee member Mathole Motshekga said that "failure... to produce a satisfactory report" on the bill's public participation process would be "tantamount to planting a time bomb in one's own house, bringing the whole house down". A few days later – in the context of spiralling land invasions and their associated "conflict" – he remarked that, should the process of finalising the bill be perceived to "drag on" unnecessarily "we may lose control over the people".

Two weeks later, Shivambu observed that, since people "are already taking back the land", this may be the only way forward if "the politicians can't agree". Which they don't.

So, Motshekga and Shivambu have already answered the opinion piece's third question, which was rhetorical – in case the academics (and the public interest lawyer, *nog al*) hadn't noticed.

Chancellor Merkel's legacy will continue to shape Germany's political landscape

BERLIN GERMAN Chancellor Angela Merkel has navigated the country through many small and large crises and her legacy will likely continue to shape the country's political landscape after the federal election set for later yesterday.

Merkel always seemed to find the right words to calm heated tempers, alleviate fears and strengthen cohesion. During the financial crisis from 2008 to 2009, her first real test as a crisis manager, she prevented a bank run in Germany by credibly ensuring citizens not to worry.

"We tell savers that their deposits are safe," Merkel said just at the right moment. But the financial crisis was more than simply overcome.

Overall, the Merkel years were the best economic period that Germany has ever witnessed. Prosperity in Germany has never been greater and no Group of Seven (G7) country grew more strongly in the past 16 years. For the first time since the 1960s, the government under Merkel also managed to balance Germany's national budget, a concept now commonly described as "black zero."

One sign of the Germans' increased standard of living under Merkel is that individual demand for living space has grown steadily, from an average of 41.2 square meters when Merkel took office in 2005 to 47.4 square meters today.

At the same time, consumer spending on leisure and entertainment increased by 30 percent, and seven million new jobs were created. "In Germany, we have experienced a golden decade, mainly because as an exporting country we have benefited from growth in China and in the other Asian markets," said Deutsche Bank chief Christian Sewing recently.

"This globalization will continue, but supply chains will change."

The financial crisis grew into the euro crisis which lasted from 2010



to 2015, and there was no time for Merkel to catch her breath.

Again, she kept her composure and led the way as the head of the most populous and economically strongest country in the European Union (EU). Merkel prevented the breakup of the zone by imposing austerity measures on financially weak member countries rather than kicking them out of the eurozone.

But the price for stability in Europe was political turmoil at home. The fact that Merkel described further financial aid for Greece as "alternativlos" (without alternative) was heavily criticized and the Alternative for Germany (AfD) was founded as an anti-euro party.

It has since firmly established itself to the right of Merkel's conservative CDU/CSU and changed the country's political landscape because traditional coalitions no longer obtained the required majority. With the refugee crisis starting in 2015, the far-right AfD gained further momentum but Merkel met the outcry against streams of war refugees from Syria with stoic calm, strength and her iconic saying "We can do this."

What her political enemies considered a weakness was seen as a strength by international partners as well as most of society. Guided by humanitarianism, Merkel held firm to Germany's right to asylum and open borders,

asserting herself as a key player during the refugee crisis. In 2015 alone, 890,000 protection seekers were initially registered in Germany and supported by thousands of volunteers, with more than one million asylum applications being filed in the following two years.

"Angela Merkel had started out as a chancellor of change, she became a chancellor of preservation," writes journalist Ralph Bollmann in his book about Merkel. She saved the eurozone, but at the same time left behind a "reform backlog" in domestic politics.

Before becoming chancellor, Merkel already served as environment minister in the Kohl government and initially presented herself as "climate chancellor" after she won the election.

Just before the end of her term, Merkel was able to pass a new climate law with stricter binding targets. However, the move was not entirely voluntary as it required a direct court order to ramp up the country's climate targets to be in line with the 1.5-degree goal of the Paris Agreement.

After a devastating tsunami hit Japan in 2011 that led to the nuclear catastrophe in Fukushima, Merkel immediately called for a moratorium for Germany's oldest nuclear power plants. Although the country had already set a complete exit plan under Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder,

Merkel accelerated the process. It was a move that cost billions of euros in compensation payments to utilities and might even be reversed in the current climate crisis when cutting carbon emissions has the highest priority.

Only in a couple of years will we be able to assess the consequences for energy and climate policy caused by Germany's decision in 2011 to accelerate the phase-out of nuclear energy," political advisor at Infratest dimap Michael Mertes told Xinhua. "In any case, Merkel will be remembered as a successful crisis manager," he added.

Xinhua



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INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST – PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF DETAILED ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FOR CAF PLANT DESIGN AND BACKFILLING IMPLEMENTATION AT GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

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

The Company is in the process of procuring a service for Provision of detailed engineering solutions to CAF plant design and backfilling implementation at GGML and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of the below service.

NB: THE DOCUMENTS REQUESTED BELOW MUST BE SUBMITTED WHEN EXPRESSING INTEREST ON THIS SERVICE/WORK. QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE SUBJECTED TO ANGLO GOLD ASHANTI – GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED VETTING PROCESS.

Scope of work:

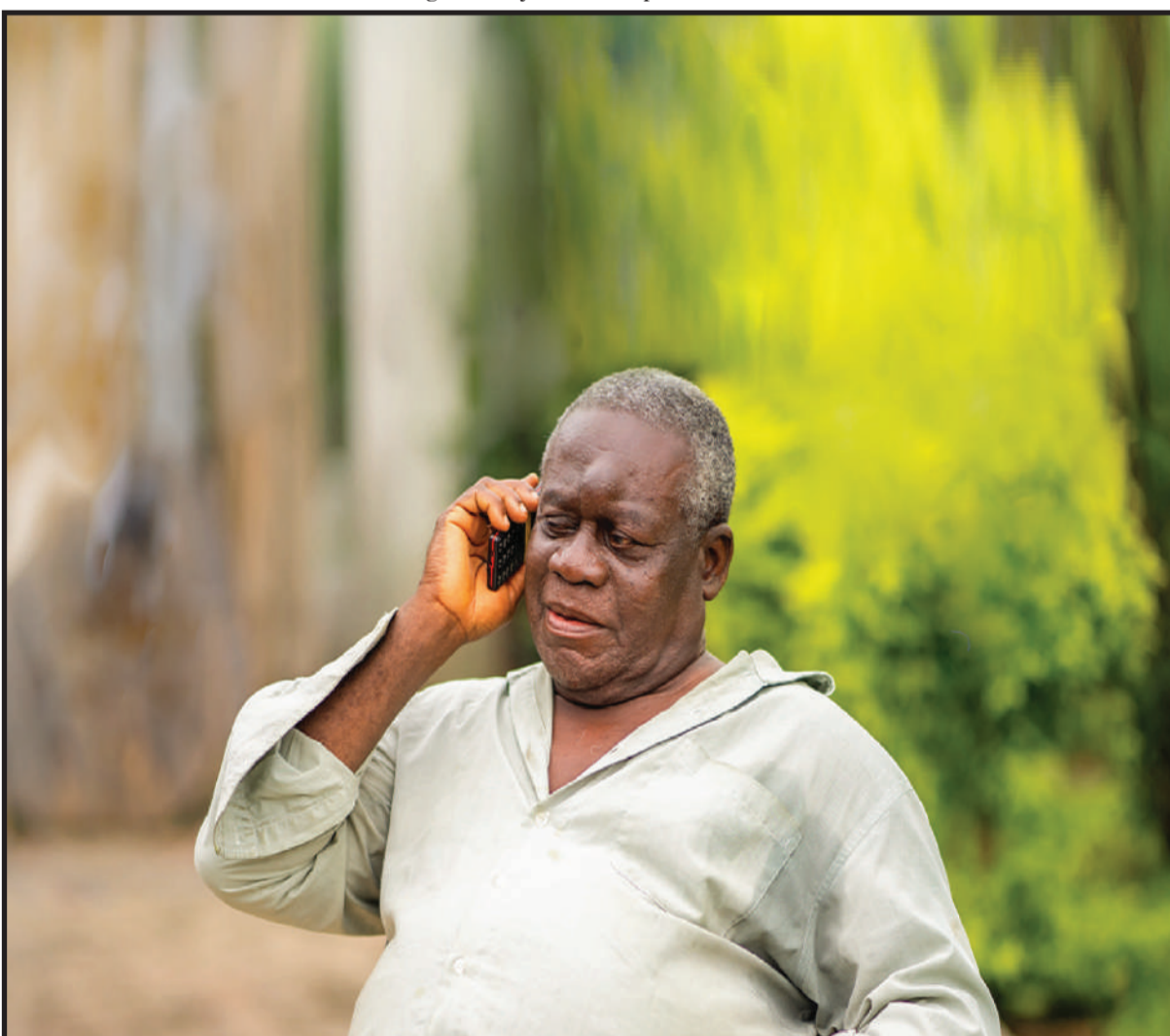
REFERENCE NUMBER	SERVICE DESCRIPTION
GGME01290	PROVISION OF DETAILED ENGINEERING SOLUTIONS FOR CAF PLANT DESIGN AND BACKFILLING IMPLEMENTATION AT GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

II. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	1.54%
Company Code of Conduct	1.54%
Company Code of Ethics	1.54%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	1.54%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	1.54%
Copy of 2021 BRELA search Registration Documents	1.54%
Copy of Company Memorandum and Article of Association	1.54%
Copy of Latest BRELA Application of Annual Returns	1.54%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	1.54%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	1.54%
Company Shareholding Structure (ownership of shares in percentage (%), Share certificates and Passport/Voter or National ID card for Management & Shareholders	1.54%
List of Directors	1.54%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission	1.54%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	5%
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	2.5%
At least 1 reference from the applicant's banker regarding supplier's credit position	2.5%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	5%
OSHA Compliance Certificate	1.25%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	1.25%
Safety and Environmental Policies	1.25%
Health and Safety Programme	1.25%
OTHER POLICIES	5%
Gifts / Hospitality / Sponsorship Policy / Procedure	1
Policies / Procedures dealing with Forced and Child Labor	1
Policies / Procedures dealing with Abuse, Discrimination and Harassment	1
Grievance Procedure	1
Human Rights Policy / Procedure / Programme	1
PAST EXPERIENCE	5%
At least 3 names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	1.7%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	1.7%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	1.7%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA (GGME01290)	60%
The contractor must be able to optimize the cemented aggregate backfill at Geita Gold mine and continuously offer technical support	5%
The contractor must have vast expertise in mine backfill design and past experience in similar projects in Africa and across the world. Design and deliver complete backfill system	20%
Provide services including laboratory testing, backfill mix design and binder optimization, feasibility studies, engineering, commissioning and start-up as well as on-site training and contracted backfill placement.	20%
The contractor must be able to work with our equipment's to develop the feed materials and recipes, build the mobile process for backfill production and placement and implement the quality control	5%
The contractor must be able to set the standard for backfill service by performing their own in-house test work, understand the science behind the solution and able to implement robust designs that have been proven in the field.	10%
Total	100%
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION	
The scope of this work comprises	
1. Prepare Backfill Manual that presents the system description, backfill methodology including backfill strength selection, backfill recipe selection and the backfilling process and quality control procedures for the cemented aggregate fill plant.	
2. Prepare CAF Mix design spreadsheet and offer technical support on site, train QA/QC team	
3. Continuously support QA/QC Team on Compressive strength test unit, providing operating and Maintenance manual	
4. Define CAF system description which will comprises of Waste Rock crushing circuit and batch plant with weigh hopper and mixer	
5. Design and manage laboratory test programs for the design and optimization of backfill recipes and binder analysis, etc.	

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the **SERVICE DESCRIPTION AND REFERENCE NUMBER (GGME01290)** of the service they intend to express interest on **THE SUBJECT OF THE EMAIL** together with supporting information to **GGML**, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the **GGML** Office via e-mail at **geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com** not later than **08:30 A.M 04th October 2021** (the "LOI" Submission Deadline). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.

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PM commends TARI for successful research on improved oil palm seeds

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

THE government will continue using internal resources and Tanzanian agricultural researchers to produce improved seed varieties to transform agriculture in the country, says Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa.

He said the Ministry of agriculture through TARI has proved that the country has good and hardworking researchers who can conduct fruitful researches for our country's development.

Speaking at Kasulu district in Kigoma region after visiting Red Cross' field of oil palm commercial seedling of tenera variety over the weekend, the Prime Minister said the government has decided to use the improved seeds produced by Tanzanian agricultural researchers because some imported seeds are poor in quality and do not yield desired fruits.

"When the government through TARI started this work of research and production of improved oil palm commercial seedling of tenera variety in 2018, I saw it as a difficult work but TARI director general Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo assured me that it was possible and easier," he said.

Instead of importing the improved oil palm seeds from outside, the government through TARI decided to conduct the research and produce own improved oil palm and the exercise has been successful.

The Prime Minister said the research work started in 2018 and in 2019, the improved oil palm commercial seedling of tenera variety were panted and just less than three years, they have already started producing bunches of fruits.

So far TARI has produced more than 6.5 million improved seeds of oil palm tenera variety and the target is to produce 10 million improved seeds per annum.

TARI's work has also quenched the thirst of Members of parliament in Kigoma who were asking for the improved seeds for their farmers in the region.

"We decided to transfer TARI from Dar es Salaam to Kihinga and we brought all agricultural researchers here and the research work started immediately in in Kigoma," he said.

Members of Parliament were requesting that farmers want to grow the improved oil palm commercial seedlings of tenera variety, I have come to tell you that the improved seedlings are available in plenty," he added.

The seedlings are also available at all district and

town councils, military institutions such as 821 Bulombora KJ which has 4,000 and until now it has planted 400 acres of oil palm. It has extra seedlings to plant 300 acres in October this year when the rains begin.

Kwitanga Prison service is planning to grow 6,000 acres of oil palm and have already planted 700 acres. Primary and secondary schools have also established small farms ranging from three to five acres depending on the size of the school.

Investors and individual farmers are also planting the improved oil palm commercial seedling of tenera variety in different locations.

Besides TARI, Bulombora and Kwitanga, Red Cross has become the fourth institution that is supporting the government's efforts to transform agriculture. Red cross in Kasulu district has established a 25-acres of improved oil palm commercial seedling of tenera variety and are in good condition.

"I urge you Kasulu farmers and other residents to grow the oil palm, it is a profitable perennial crop that one can rescue you. It is the crop that you can continue harvesting for more than 30 years.

If you love your son or daughter who is in primary school, I urge you to grow this crop as soon as possible," he stressed

He said parents should grow three or more acres of oil palm for their children because the perennial crop will help take them to universities and other high learning institutions.

"When your son completes University, he can decide to come back home and continue developig the crop or venture into entrepreneurship through this crop," he said.

Kigoma is blessed for having fertile soil and good climate for agricultural. Kigoma residents are energetic and have passion with agriculture that why the government has put efforts to transform



The Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa greets government officials upon his arrival at Kwitanga prison service oil palm field in Kigoma. Right is TARI director general Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

agriculture in the region, he added.

The government has transferred TARI and brought it at Kihinga Kigoma to develop the crop and President Samia Suluhu Hassan has directed that at this period, the seedlings should be distributed for free to the farmers so that even those who don't capital can grow the crop.

He urged Kasulu residents to stop stealing the seedlings from their neighbour fields, instead they should request the seedlings from relevant institutions and will be given for free.

"The seedlings are available even if you want more than 1,000 you will get for free. I directed kasulu district council to establish oil palm nurseries for the farmers and have done so. I have been informed that the seedlings are being distributed to the farmers for free, he added.

He urged you to form small farmer groups and AMCOS and grow the improved oil palm commercial seedling of tenera variety.

He reminded farmers to gradually start removing the traditional dura varieties and replace them with the improved oil palm commercial seedling of tenera variety. "I direct again that all extension officers should work with rural farmers to train them on good agricultural practices right from the farms preparation to harvesting," he said.

Prime Minister said TARI has played a pivotal role to transform the crop right from research to production.

This is the new variety after crossing two local varieties namely dura and Pisifera.

Tenera are characterized by thick mesocarp, thin shell and high yielding potential, a situation, researchers say give them more advantage of higher oil content over traditional dura variety.

When you arrive in Kigoma whether on aircraft or by road, what you see in the fields are the traditional low yielding dura variety which were established long time

in the 1920's.

TARI director general Dr. Geoffrey Mkamilo said since the government directives in 2018, the Ministry of agriculture through TARI has been working around the clock to make sure that the improved seeds are available for every farmers.

"After that research, we worked with different partners to produce massively and disseminate to the farmers, investors and other stakeholders and we managed. Today, the production and dissemination are being done at different institutions such as Bulombora national service, Kwitanga Prison service and at all district councils in Kigoma region. In fact all Kigoma district councils and eleven other districts outside Kigoma are producing the seedlings and disseminating to the farmers," he said.

He said several important interventions have been taken. The first intervention is to produce enough improved commercial oil palm tenera variety and supply to all farmers farmers. The second intervention is to deploy all the potential area for palm oil production in Tanzania by planting Tenera variety.

The third intervention is to replant the old oil palm trees existing in Tanzania with Tenera variety.

The country require a total of 570,000 metric tons of edible oil but the current production stands at 40 percent of the required edible oil while 60 percent is actually imported. This cost the nation approximately 44 bn/- annually

Therefore, he said the government has decided to boost oil palm by facilitating farmers and institutions with the improved commercial oil palm tenera variety to address shortage of edible oil in the country.

Following recent judgment against Zuma, one can only expect pro-Zuma forces to launch offensive against judiciary

ON Friday, 17 September the Constitutional Court dismissed Jacob Zuma's application for his 15-month sentence to be rescinded. Not only did the former president's application fail to meet the requirements for a rescission but the court also found his antics to be part of his "creative attempts" to avoid punishment.

"Zuma intentionally declined to participate in the contempt proceedings, and disdainfully dismissed a further opportunity when invited to do so. Zuma only now attempts to justify his absence from this Court.

"His plea of poverty is totally irreconcilable with his extra-curial statements that not only unequivocally evinced his resolve not to participate in the proceedings, but also displayed his attitude of utter derision towards this Court," said Justice Sisi Khamepe in delivering the Constitutional Court's majority ruling.

But these facts will not matter to Zuma's supporters, who have already mounted a spirited propaganda campaign - depicting the former president as a victim of an intolerant judiciary.

Mzwanele Manyi, who speaks on behalf of the Jacob Zuma Foundation, said the court's ruling will have a negative impact on foreign direct investment. As to how the two issues are related remains a mystery.

As expected, the ANC will publicly assuage society with platitudes about respect for the rule of law and the supremacy of the judiciary. However, it is known that the party's structures hold the courts in similar contempt to the way Zuma does.

Following the recent judgment against Zuma, one can only expect the pro-Zuma forces to launch an



offensive against the judiciary.

At a meeting with the party's Top Six officials in July, the KwaZulu-Natal Provincial Executive Committee accused the courts of playing into the political field.

"It is worth noting that the government and the ANC lost almost all court cases in the period between 2014 to 2019... It is also an open secret that cas-

es brought to court against the government and the ANC post the 54th national conference are generally dismissed, and mostly with costs to the litigants. The central question would be what, if any, has been practically done by the government and movement to secure so much consistent victory in court cases, except an impression that judges are players in the political space," said

the report. The 54th congress is the December 2017 conference where Cyril Ramaphosa was elected as president.

This is a serious charge coming from KwaZulu-Natal, given its influence within the ANC.

Since the 2007 Polokwane national conference, KZN has been the ANC's biggest province, sending the highest number of delegates to the national conferences. With their strength in numbers, the province has become a powerful bloc with considerable influence over ANC decisions.

It is almost impossible for any candidate to win a conference without the support of KZN. I use the word "almost" deliberately, given that Ramaphosa was narrowly elected president without the backing of KZN in 2017 at Nasrec. The province had fully thrown its weight behind Nkosazana Dlamini Zuma as its preferred candidate. It is now a record of history that, had it not been for the then Mpumalanga premier and ANC provincial chairman David Mabuza making an 11th-hour flip - directing some of his supporters to Ramaphosa - the ruling party would have had its first female president.

The province may have lost at Nasrec after Mabuza demonstrated to them that dominating in numbers alone and without strategy counts for nothing.

It was a mistake that KZN will not

make again going forward. It still wants to be the most powerful province of the ANC as the clock inches closer to the next elective conference in 2022.

It is not enough for ANC leaders to just issue general statements about respect for the rule of law. They must directly challenge their comrades.

But the leadership won't say a thing. Most will be seeking reelection next year. Ramaphosa does not want to offend KZN, especially with the local government elections a few weeks away.

It would be worrying if this view is generally held within the party. For a while many had characterised the Zuma supporters as a fringe group of howlers. Clearly this is not the case.

We have seen ANC conferences taking rogue resolutions that have had an adverse impact on our democracy.

The Scorpions were disbanded within six months after the problematic 2007 ANC conference resolution.

We are still paying the price. That's why we should watch the coming provincial conferences of the ANC very closely.

CAPITAL RADIO

RATIBA YA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

Rescuers pull villagers from flood waters in Xinyang city in China's Henan Province.

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

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya CAPITAL RADIO



CAPITAL RADIO

Lions Club of Dar es Salaam donates 200 desks valued at 32m/- to Ilala primary school

By Guardian Correspondent

LIONS Club of Dar es Salaam-Mzizima has donated 200 desks worth 32m/- to Mzinga B primary school in Ilala District, Dar es Salaam Region as part to supplement government efforts to offset the current shortage of school desks in primary schools nationwide.

Speaking at the official handing over of the desks in Dar es Salaam, Lions Club-Mzizima president Muzafeer Kaderbhai said the donation is in line with the Club's commitment to support community initiatives seeking to improve quality of education and thus uplift people's living conditions.

"We believe that through this donation, the quality of the country's primary education would substantially improve, hence produce future leaders, doctors, engineers and other potential experts—who are key pillars for the growth and development of Tanzania," said Lions' Club leader at the ceremony graced by the Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, Amos Makalla.

He affirmed that Lions Club-Mzizima—one of the major non-profit-making-organizations which have been in the forefront in supporting the less fortunate in Tanzania is keen to continue supporting the government's course to provide necessary assistance to education and other social sectors in the country.

"In other words, the Lions Club-Mzizima is more than committed to complement government strategies geared at improving the welfare of communities of Tanzanians throughout the country," noted Lions Club chief.

In his address after receiving the desks, Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, Amos Makalla said the desks will greatly improve the learning condition for children in Mzinga primary school, calling

upon other well-wishers to come forward and join the effort to avert the existing shortage of desks in the region.

"We sincerely want to thank Lions Club of Dar es Salaam-Mzizima for supporting us in our effort to offset the existing shortage of desks in primary schools in Dar es Salaam region. I believe that these desks will go a long way in creating a conducive environment needed for their effective learning," noted RC Makalla.

During a recent visit to Mzinga B Primary School in January 2020, members of Lions Club-Mzizima observed children sitting on the floor. "Seeing this, our Club agreed to fabricate 200 school desks. The desks were ready a long time ago, but due to COVID-19 pandemic the school was closed. We are now happy to say all children sit on desks," according to the Club's official statement circulated to the media outlets yesterday.

Moreover, Mzizima Club has so far dug 17 deep wells in 17 Government Primary and Secondary Schools in the past seven years at the cost of Two Hundred Fifty Five Million. All the deep wells are functioning and all regularly serviced and maintained by the Club till date. 35,000 students and teachers are benefited by this project under the supervision of Lion Jayesh Raichura. They also conduct totally free two to three Eye Camps in remote areas of Tanzania whereby the Club provides free spectacles to those in need and conduct Cataract surgery to about 100 - 150 needy patients at each camp. Each camp costs about 20ml.

Lions Club of DSM - Mzizima also provides monthly food to the Human Dreams Orphanage at Kigamboni where 40 disabled children are housed. Solar Electricity was also installed at this Orphanage center.



Dar es Salaam regional commissioner Amos Makalla (in tie) cuts the ribbon at the weekend of the handing-over of 200 desks worth 32m/- donated by Lions Club of Dar es Salaam-Mzizima to Mzinga B Primary School in Ilala District. Witnesses include the club's president, Muzafeer Kaderbhai (in black jacket and specs). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Telecom vows to continue investing on network expansion

By Guardian Reporter

AIRTEL Tanzania has pledged to continue investing on network expansion aiming to bring services and products close to customers in both urban and rural areas.

This was said by Airtel sales manager in Masasi District Boniphace Mango during the launch of six Airtel money -branch over the weekend.

"Airtel Tanzania is in a long-term plan of promoting and upgrading its services to attract more customers and especially those living in rural areas. We all understand the challenges facing our fellow Tanzanians living in rural areas and more in the communication sector. Our goal is to do away with those challenges and make sure they enjoy communication services as free as their fellow counterparts in urban areas", Mango said.

He added that for that reason, Airtel has upgraded all its communication towers in the District to 4G giving customers and residents the freedom to communicate.

"Our Airtel 4G network comes with modern technology and fast and quick internet services. I use this opportunity to call all residents and customers in Masasi District to come and upgrade their SimCard to Airtel 4G network for free."

Airtel has also launched another five Airtel Money Branches within Masasi District and this one for today makes six of its kind within the district. This is to make sure that our customers get services at their closest reach. Airtel Tanzania will continue investing in improving its services and products to match the daily digital life of our customers, Mango added.

Speaking after officiating the launch of the new Airtel Money Branch, Efrosina Chikojo who represented Masasi District Commissioner promised to continue supporting and safeguarding the company's investment in Masasi something that will enable the company to continue investing heavily within the region.

"I have learned that Airtel Tanzania has been in the process of upgrading and promoting its

services for better communication services and especially at rural level. For that reason, Airtel in Masasi has launched its 4G network and at the same launched Airtel Money Branches. Its own pleasure for big telecommunication services like Airtel Tanzania coming to invest in our District. I want to assure Airtel that the government will provide all the needed support and safeguard its investment for the benefit of Masasi District," Chikojo said.

He added: "In many cases, companies investigate places of investment before any move in order to avoid losses. This has been a different case for Airtel. I take this opportunity to commend them for that and especially for making our rural areas are all covered with proper telecommunication services."

Chikojo called upon Masasi residents to use Airtel services and especially Airtel Money services to ensure the safety of their money and be able to withdraw anytime as the company has now a number of branches at every corner of the district.

Provision of Audit Services



About WaterAid Tanzania

WaterAid Tanzania Country Programme is part of WaterAid, which is an International Non-Governmental Organization (INGO) with its head office in London, UK; dedicated to the provision of safe water, sanitation and hygiene education to the world's poorest people. WaterAid Tanzania collaborates with the Government of Tanzania (GOT) at three levels: Local Government Authorities (LGA), Regional and Central Government and works in partnership with local organizations to set up sustainable Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Interventions/projects using appropriate technology that can be managed by the communities themselves.

WaterAid has had its operations in Tanzania since 1983 under the name "WaterAid Tanzania" which is registered as Non-Governmental Organisation in The Republic of Tanzania (NO.S0.7557). WaterAid Tanzania operates as a Country Programme and functional office of WaterAid UK; within East African Region. The head office is in Dar es Salaam, Rufiji Street, Plot No. 1469, Masaki Area within Kinondoni District.

About the audit services

WaterAid Tanzania external auditor will be retained for a period of 3 years subject to annual review between the two parties, the audit engagement letter will be reviewed and renewed each year as appropriate. After three years, the services will be advertised, and the auditor appointed this year will be eligible to retender, subject to national laws on auditor reappointment.

The Auditors

The auditor shall be an auditing firm, independent and legally registered to operate in Tanzania with a valid business and professional licence. The firm shall be a well established, reputable, and experienced in auditing work in Tanzania, with profound experience of auditing international NGOs accounts operating in Tanzania.

Scope of the audit

The auditors will be required to audit a set of accounts for WaterAid Tanzania as part of statutory requirement; and condition on various funding agreement with development partners. The audit involves, but not limited to ascertaining whether:

- Value-for-money has been achieved on funds provided and spent;
- Funds have been utilized in accordance with the aims and objectives;
- The expenditures and financial records are in line with the generally accepted accounting principles; and has been prepared in line with IPSAS.
- The financial reports fairly present financial situation including income received, expenditures during the period and cash position at the end of the respective reporting period.

Time frame

It is expected that the audit for each financial year ended in March may take a maximum of two weeks and will be completed by 22nd June each year. Before this date the audit findings should have been presented to the Country Director for comment.

Audit visits are expected to be completed during May, to allow time for completion and resolution of any issues. The exact timetable will be agreed at the start of each year end cycle.

The terms of reference can be found on the WaterAid Tanzania website:

<https://www.wateraid.org/tz/media/14861>

Submission of proposals:

The hard copy of the proposal should be submitted in sealed envelope, clearly marked "Proposal for provision of Audit services" addressed to:

Country Director, WaterAid Tanzania P.O. Box 33759 Plot 1469 Masaki Street, Off Haile Selassie Rd, Msasani Peninsular, Dar es Salaam.

Deadline for submission will be on 14th October 2021 at 10:00am and the opening at 11:00hrs same day

216478601

Provision of Consultancy Services



Purpose:

To recruit a Consultant to support WaterAid Tanzania Country Programme in transition process of its financial accounting and reporting to IPSAS

1. Introduction

Following the recent NBAA technical pronouncement no.3 of 2020, that mandate the adoption of IPSAS for NGOs and Associations effectively for the periods beginning on or after 1st July 2021 with earlier adoption permitted and encouraged. Therefore, to meet the revised reporting requirement using IPSAS, WaterAid Tanzania is looking for an eligible consulting firm to facilitate the conversion of its financial reporting standards from IFRS to IPSAS as a new and mandatory standards for financial reporting in Tanzania.

2. Scope

The scope of this IPSAS implementation consultancy services and deliverables of work shall cover the following three major phases /categories, and detail activities as follows.

- Undertake diagnostic study and gap analysis between the existing reporting standard and IPSAS and impact analysis
- Design Processes/System changes in accounting policy and procedure to enable financial reporting based on IPSAS.
- Assist in the compilation of financial information to comply with IPSAS including disclosures.

Time frame

The work is expected to be completed within a period not exceeding 3 weeks following the signing of the works contract.

The terms of reference can be found on the WaterAid Tanzania website:

<https://www.wateraid.org/tz/media/14856>

Submission of proposals:

The hard copy of the proposal should be submitted in sealed envelope, clearly marked "Proposal for Consultancy Services" addressed to:

Country Director, WaterAid Tanzania P.O. Box 33759 Plot 1469 Masaki Street, Off Haile Selassie Rd, Msasani Peninsular, Dar es Salaam.

Deadline for submission will be on 14th October 2021 at 10:00am and the opening at 11:00hrs same day

216478501

Health workers can close gap between science and anti-vaxxers in post-truth era

By Remy Daroozala

IT is important to restore trust among the public and to do so we cannot afford to turn our backs on anti-vaxxers. It will be difficult. The trauma of these past two years on those in health-care is unparalleled. Huge personal sacrifices have been made, lives lost, and so it is unsurprising that hospitalised anti-vaxxers face compassion fatigue from embattled and embittered staff. We are human after all.

We live in a strange and interesting time. Last week, the SABC did nothing to justify its incessant calls for TV licence payment when it gave a drama teacher from Plumstead 10 minutes of near-uninterrupted airtime to spew every debunked conspiracy theory under the sun into the microphone of a hapless reporter.

She was standing outside Groote Schuur Hospital, where I worked during the first Covid-19 wave. I felt my whole body tense up with fury. My compassion and understanding abandoned me and my mind was filled with unpleasant mental images. I started writing this piece as an exercise to try and find that compassion again.

In the recent past, alternative facts and conspiracies were largely limited to political matters, but as coronavirus spiralled out of control and government responses faltered worldwide, healthcare was pulled into the swamp. This wasn't the tired old political football match of health service funding and provision; this was the very nature of our intentions being brought into question. The nightly applause and pot banging seem but a distant memory.

As the pandemic has worn on, the public appetite for measures to control it has waned. In response to a mistrust of government, a num-

ber of people are seeking their own answers and their own reality and find no shortage of public figures, sports stars and even prominent doctors publicly stating their anti-vaccination stance.

The recent FDA and Sahpra approvals will do little to change minds that are already made up. As one accidentally self-aware critic of vaccines noted, "If you think the vaccine-hesitant are going to feel reassured by the FDA's approval you have no idea how much research they have done."

While the relationship between science and society was complex prior to the pandemic, the past 18 months has seen this complexity ramp up. Medical research and science have been inextricably linked with government processes. The utilitarian mission of healthcare has been turned on its head as we have been lumped with a corrupt political elite supposedly using the pandemic to control the masses.

Simultaneously, the scientific process has been laid bare. While it was never hidden, it stayed mostly out of sight, but the public interest element of the pandemic has led to the process being broadcast worldwide. As a community, we have scrambled to understand the pandemic and evidence has changed rapidly and constantly.

Science by its very nature is open, debatable, and falsifiable but to a sceptical public, this nature appears as uncertainty echoing that of a government making up its response as it goes along.

This uncertainty has posed an unprecedented test for clinical research as noted by Adalberto Fernandes: "The risks of the pandemic increase the uncertainty of science and its communication. In turn, the uncertainty of science and its communication aggravate the risks of the pandemic."



As a result, the perceived credibility of science has been challenged.

The rights of the individual have now become a public health concern. In an unpredictable world escaping the clutches of control, people defend the only thing they can grasp on to, their bodies. We have even seen religious zealots co-opt pro-choice language and slogans, so identified with an intellectual position that impressive mental gymnastics are required. Rather than accept new evidence, people tend to seek what reinforces their existing worldview. We must recognise that our facts and figures may be of little use against such cognitive dissonance.

Those opposed to vaccines in South Africa are thankfully a minority, but a sizeable and vocal one. It is tempting to regard them as paranoid tin-foil-hat wearers and look the other way, but other important factors are at play. The demographics of those opposed to the vaccine in South Africa reveal some interesting figures.

In a recent report, 27% of white South Africans reported that they would definitely not get the vaccine, double that of any other individual race group. Along political lines, 61% of ANC supporters reported they would get the vaccine, while only 8% would not. In contrast, 20% of DA and 24% of EFF supporters reported they would not get the vaccine. Certainly, among the white population, this could indicate a perceived disenfranchisement as well as a loss of trust in the government and its instruments, the healthcare service included. Post-truth largely succeeds in its acceptance

of previously "ignored" people and their ideas. While those people are in the most part responsible for the information they consume and ultimately their health, we provide a service that makes them our responsibility too.

So, what does this mean for us as healthcare workers and how do we move forward in this new world?

As we communicate scientific information, we do so in an effort to decrease risk and uncertainty. In doing so, we generate other risks such as misunderstanding, producing competing and confusing information and worst of all, we may be seen to further objectionable political ends.

It is up to us as a profession, as those in a position of authority, to better relate to our public. The Einsteinian definition of insanity is doing the same thing repeatedly and expecting a different result. So, while we continue to quote the reputable studies and statistics to them, backed by real experts, it is not enough. It is important to realise that you cannot change someone's mind by force. "He that complies against his will, is of his own opinion still."

We must think of new ways to get our message across.

First, we must restore trust and to do so, we cannot afford to turn our backs on anti-vaxxers. It will be difficult. On a personal level, the trauma of these past two years on those in the healthcare service is unparalleled. Huge personal sacrifices have been made, lives have been lost and so it is only natural that emotions and bias accompany this.

It is unsurprising that hospitalised anti-vaxxers face compassion fatigue from embattled and embittered staff. We are human after all. We must allow and acknowledge these feelings and find space in our institutions, both physical and emotional for their safe and unbridled expression.

Then, we must reach out. Our principles and professionalism will invite us to see these people as victims of another disease that stands in its own class, the infodemic. We must focus on this new illness in front of us, and not the behaviour that led to it, else we risk subverting our sacred purpose. Compassion and empathy will prevail. A superior, mocking attitude will only increase the gap between us all.

We must also adapt our messaging. The way that we communicate with all our patients will have been forever changed by Covid-19. It's imperative that in our eagerness to end the pandemic we are mindful to communicate the vaccine in a way that "preserves the possibility that it can be disproven in the future". Any perceived rigidity of thinking will prevent us from reaching those who feel that we are not offering alternative options, even if those alternative options are merely to refuse vaccination.

Next, it will be important for us to place some distance between ourselves and the government and our next greatest opportunity to do this is to vocally stand firm against mandatory vaccinations for the general population.

While it is desirable to maximise coverage, any actions to this end will further erode trust and we will be responsible for setting a dangerous precedent. Let's leave private entities like businesses and airlines to decide whether access is contingent on having received a vaccine.

Social protection at a crossroads and poverty on the rise

By Annalena Oppel

HOW can we ensure a resilient and inclusive recovery from COVID-19? How can we hold on to the target of eradicating poverty and hunger by 2030, with the pandemic still ongoing?

I recently had the opportunity to participate as a lead discussant at the UN DESA expert group meeting with many distinguished speakers sharing their insights on achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in 2030 despite the COVID-19 pandemic.

One of sessions discussed future pathways for social protection. Discussants evaluated a set of policies that are gaining significant interest as a tool for recovery but also in building more resilient, adaptive, and inclusive social protection systems going forward.

The COVID-19 pandemic has led to an increased number of social protection measures to help people cope with economic challenges. A total of 4,648 policy measures that addressed the economic and health challenges of the pandemic were identified worldwide.

Most of them fall into the field of social assistance (for example cash or in-kind transfers), with 955 policies receiving fiscal support from a government (UN-ESCWA, 2021).

However, many of these programmes are temporary, and it is not yet evident whether they will remain an integral part of social protection in the long run.

Many of the challenges that have gained greater visibility during the pandemic have existed long before the pandemic started. As evidenced by the Sustainable Development Goals, the international commu-

nity and policy makers were still in the pursuit of ending poverty and hunger, and establishing good health and well-being.

Yet as many as 115 million people might be pushed into extreme poverty by the end of 2021 - a major setback in the progress already made. Hence, challenges that continued to exist before can worsen if they remain unaddressed.

Social protection can constitute a tool to address multiple challenges, including poverty, food insecurity or inequalities.

A major concern or point of debate is fiscal space or fiscal prioritization. In other words, to what extent can countries afford and sustain social protection programmes.

This is an ongoing debate, with parties providing various funding solutions, but the most sustainable is often considered to be that

of domestic revenues. An initiative in 2015 showed that countries do not need to invest an unreasonable amount in order to implement Social Protection Floors - a framework that captures basic provisions in the area of income and health. In 103 countries, the required resources would amount to less than 5 percent of GDP.

There are then only 12 countries which would require international assistance to implement Social Protection Floors as required resources exceed 10 percent of GDP.

Already in 2012 - the same year that ILO proposed the Social Protection Floor (Recommendation 202), two UN experts proposed a Global Fund for Social Protection (GFSP) for Least Developed Countries (LDCs) to ensure financial feasibility and enable countries to put ambitious social protection

schemes into place.

In light of COVID-19, there is a growing momentum to revisit this proposal (for example, see here and here).

Another important aspect that was discussed during the expert forum is the availability of data. Data enables evidence-based policy making or to assess the design and feasibility of social policies.

Regarding fiscal capacity, the Government Revenue Dataset (with a newly released version in August 2021) can provide a valuable source on domestic revenues. It covers tax and revenue collection in 196 countries since the 1980s and can provide some insights into how previous crises may have affected fiscal space.

Band-aids or pathways to sustainable development?

Overall, the GFSP and current discussions provide examples of opportunities to propel social protection

forward in order to address poverty and inequality.

Ongoing debates, political will, fiscal space, and prioritization will show whether we are on a pathway towards more adaptive, inclusive, and sustained social protection systems, or whether the current expansion of programmes remain short-lived initiatives.

As we move forward, research can support this process by providing timely insights and advice on the effectiveness of current programmes in addressing persistent challenges, e.g., poverty, hunger, and inequality.

At UNU-WIDER, the GRD project, as part of the Domestic Revenue Mobilization programme, is working on different aspects of revenue collection, which can support developing countries to make social protection a lasting solution towards sustainable development.

It is also important to gain

a better understanding of the current political climate to see whether public support is aligned with a global mission of building back better, within which social protection can play a crucial role.

*The UN University-World Institute for Development Economics Research (UNU-WIDER) provides economic analysis and policy advice with the aim of promoting sustainable and equitable development for all. The institute began operations over 30 years ago in Helsinki, Finland, as the first research centre of the United Nations University.

The writer is a Research Associate at UNU-WIDER* working on the World Income Inequality Database and the Government Revenue Dataset. She obtained her PhD from the Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK.

RADIO One RATIBAYA VIPINDI JUMATATU - JUMAPILI

Table with 7 columns: MONDAY, TUESDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY, FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY. Each column lists a schedule of radio programs and their broadcast times (e.g., 05:00 AM HALI YA HEWA / KUMPEMBAZUKA I, 06:00 AM AMKA NA BBC).

Tembelea mitandao ya kijamii ya Radio One



CRYPTO-FRENZY

Nigeria, Ghana sprint to join digital currency race

LAGOS

Nigeria and Ghana are racing to adopt a central bank digital currency as they look to ride the wave of popularity of cryptocurrencies in West Africa's two largest economies.

Central banks in both countries have partnered with foreign financial tech companies to create digital versions of their currencies, joining the global train of countries exploring the initiative. Nigeria, Africa's largest economy, will launch its eNaira digital currency on October 1, while Ghana will trial e-Cedi from this month.

Nigeria has seen a boom of cryptocurrencies, despite a ban on banks making the transactions, as people look for ways to escape the weakening naira currency and offset high cost of living and unemployment in Africa's most populous country.

"Nigerians are investing in cryptocurrency as a means of store value and to carry their funds outside the shores of the country," said Ayodeji Ebo, head of retail investment at Lagos-based investment firm Chapel Hill Denham. "eNaira will be for transactionary purposes."

Central banks across the world are exploring ways to create virtual money as legal tender following the growth in digital payments, cryptocurrency and privately issued stablecoins. Both so-called central bank-backed CBDCs and cryptocurrency are virtual money: CBDCs are issued and regulated by the central bank while the other is out of government control.

China became the first major economy to pilot a digital currency last year. Since then, five countries have launched digitised currencies, according to a CBDC tracker by American think-tank Atlantic Council. Although some African countries such as Kenya, South Africa and Rwanda are exploring CBDCs, Nigeria and Ghana have already reached advanced stages.

The Bank of Ghana is partnering with

German firm Giesecke+Devrient (G+D) to pilot the e-Cedi. The scheme is part of a broader plan to digitise the country and its government. G+D will provide the technology that will be tested in a trial phase with local banks, payment service providers, consumers and others.

Nigeria selected global financial technology company Bitt Inc. for its CBDC launch known as "Project Giant" after more than three years of research into the digital currency. "The CBN will rely on the company's tested and proven digital currency experience, which is already in circulation in several eastern Caribbean countries," the Central Bank of Nigeria said.

The new eNaira will be issued by the CBN as legal tender like the current naira currency and will operate on the Hyperledger Fabric Blockchain. It will also follow the official exchange rate. Starting from October 1, customers will be able to download the eNaira app and fund their mobile wallets using their existing bank accounts, according to CBN governor Godwin Emefiele.

Boom and concerns
Nigeria's central bank has long worried about the impact of cryptocurrencies and stablecoins that are fast becoming popular among young and tech-savvy residents.

Young Nigerians continue to explore new ways to make money and store value in the face of double-digit joblessness and inflation as well as the collapse in value of the local naira. Nigeria's central bank earlier this year ordered lenders to stop facilitating cryptocurrency transactions over allegations they were being used for money laundering and terrorism financing.

In spite of the central bank ban, many Nigerians still skirt traditional sectors to use cryptocurrency for overseas transactions. Emefiele says eNaira will benefit Nigeria's economy in many ways, from cross-border trade to making remittance inflows more efficient.

Zimbabwe bolstering emissions targets ahead of climate summit

HARARE

Zimbabwe has adopted a more ambitious target for emissions reduction ahead of a United Nations climate conference in November, the country's new climate change plan showed.

The southern African country is now committed to a 40% drop in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 across all sectors of the economy, compared to a "business as usual" scenario in which emission reduction policies are not implemented.

Zimbabwe had previously committed to a 33% emissions reduction in its first Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) in 2017. NDCs are non-binding plans for climate action submitted by

countries since the Paris Agreement of 2016.

The new target is for Zimbabwe's total greenhouse gas emissions to be curbed to 44.7 million tonnes of carbon dioxide equivalent (Mt CO₂e) by 2030. If no action is taken emissions are projected to hit 75.4 Mt CO₂e by then. Emissions in 2017 were 35.84 Mt CO₂e, according to the NDC's most recent national-level estimate.

The biggest source of Zimbabwe's greenhouse gas emissions is the agriculture and forestry sector, with the energy sector ranking second. Thermal power generation is the main driver of energy sector emissions.

RECOGNITION

PM Majaliwa salutes NMB for raising over 400m/- to boost fistula treatment

By Guardian Reporter

OVER 400m/- raised by NMB Bank Plc that will go towards financing the treatment of women suffering from fistula aligns well with government's efforts to improve health delivery to the public.

Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa said in Dar es Salaam during the weekend when he presided over an NMB Marathon meant to raise the funds, that NMB remains one of the government's important partners in as far as investment in social services including health is concerned.

"NMB has been a regular supporter of the government by donating to communities various items such as desks, learning materials, iron sheets to assist with construction of classrooms but also medical equipment," Majaliwa said.

He pointed out that fistula has emerged as a serious health challenge facing women in the country many of whom cannot afford to pay for its treatment hence NMB's decision to fundraise for the group is commendable.

"This is a very good example of good corporate behaviour which other financial institutions should emulate. I want to assure you that the government led by President Samia Suluhu Hassan appreciates such efforts," he added.

Briefing the PM on the marathon and its intended objective,



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (presents a dummy cheque to CCBRT Hospital's CEO, Brenda Msangi raised through NMB Marathon held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Others are: NMB board chairman, Dr Edwin Mhede (2nd L), NMB CEO, Ruth Zaipuna (L) and Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children minister, Dr Dorothy Gwajima (2nd R).

NMB Board Chairman, Dr Edwin Mhede said the marathon is becoming a popular event hence the target of raising 1bn/- in four years to finance fistula patients will be realised within a year.

"We had a target of 250m/- every year but we have beaten the target because now we have raised over 400m/-. I can assure you honourable guest of honour that we will manage the feat within a year," Dr Mhede said.

Dubbed NMB Marathon with a theme 'Mwendo wa Upendo,' the charity event was attended by

about 3,000 people who included Health Minister, Dr Dorothy Gwajima, NMB CEO, Ruth Zaipuna and CCBRT Hospital's CEO, Brenda Msangi.

Speaking at the same event, Zaipuna her management decided to venture into fistula treatment support after seeing that many women are suffering from the disease which is costly to treat hence can't afford to do so.

"Fistula is a disease which women get during delivery and according to UNFPA, the country has over 10,000 women suffering

from the disease," she said while adding that 3,000 new cases are recorded annually of which only 1,300 get treatment.

"The huge treatment costs are the reason behind many women's failure to get treatment. We are informed that fistula treatment per woman costs 4m/- which is big for an ordinary Tanzanian woman to afford," the NMB chief executive noted. She said the bank decided to work with CCBRT Hospital which offers treatment so that the majority of the women who suffer from the disease get treatment.



Songas Limited's social-economic development manager, Nicodemus Chipakapaka (3rd L) hands over 200 desks worth 14m/- to Mkuranga district commissioner Khadija Ally at a ceremony held at Mwinyi Secondary School in Mkuranga district, recently. Over the past five years, Songas has donated 1,850 desks to public schools in Kilwa district. Others are Mwinyi Secondary headmaster Martin Chuwa and Mkuranga education officer Benjamin Majoya (in glasses) who were joined by some students. Photo courtesy of Songas

TECH SAVVY

Sub-Saharan Africa mobile financial services use more than triple in six years

JOHANNESBURG

Nearly half of all consumers in Sub-Saharan Africa use mobile financial services in 2021 - a more than three-fold increase in the last six years. This is according to a new Ericsson Consumer and Market Insight report titled Mobile Financial Services on the Rise.

The research was conducted by Ericsson Consumer & IndustryLab in early 2021. It surveyed 3,200 consumers across six Sub-Saharan African countries - Senegal, Angola, Ivory Coast, Ghana, and Ethiopia - to assess the growth of mobile financial services in light of technology and infrastructure gains across the region, as well as the impact of

COVID-19 on financial behaviour.

The report also highlights the impact of COVID-19 on mobile financial services uptake, with 54% of consumers saying that they use mobile financial services transactions more now. About 70% are more positive towards mobile financial services as a preferred contactless alternate to cash.

The report highlights that users list faster transactions as the number one factor that would encourage them to use mobile money services more often in the near future. About 70% believe that faster transactions would encourage them to use mobile money services more while 51% highlighted higher security. Most non-users are now aware of mo-

mobile financial services, with as many as 8-in-10 saying they are very interested to start using it.

Lucky La Riccia, Vice President and Head of Digital Services, Ericsson Middle East and Africa, said: "This new research underlines the significant empowering role that mobile financial services play in Sub-Saharan Africa, both in combating the impact of the pandemic and in fuelling economic development across Africa through the transformational potential of expanded and affordable access to financial solutions."

He added: "Our aim is to support the digitalisation of Africa through technologies such as mobile broadband. Ericsson's mobile financial solu-

tions support this aim as we accelerate financial inclusion."

Communications Service Providers (CSPs) are the most popular mobile financial services supplier, with up to 90% of Sub-Saharan African mobile financial services users now using the technology through these companies.

Mobile financial services are currently enabling basic financial services such as withdraw, transfer, storing money, as well as advanced services such as micro-finance and insurance. According to Ericsson, its Wallet Platform is already used by numerous CSPs worldwide to serve nearly 300 million registered users.



Lucky La Riccia, head of digital services at Ericsson Middle East & Africa.

SETBACKS

BoT says Covid-19 behind decline in exports of goods and services in July

By Geoffrey Tusiime, TUDARCO

THE value of exports of goods and services declined by US\$ 405.3 million from US\$ 9,382.1 million to US\$ 8,976.8 million in July, 2021 as compared to the corresponding period last year.

According to Bank of Tanzania (BoT) Monthly Economic Review for August 2021, the decline was observed in travel receipts, reflecting the impact of the coronavirus pandemic. "Exports of goods increased by five percent to US\$ 6,473.1 million, with non-traditional exports rising by US\$ 703.1 million to US\$ 5,562.8 million," the central bank report said.

The report however, said the country recorded a notable increase from the exports of gold, manufactured goods and horticultural products. "Gold exports increased by US\$ 261.9 million to US\$ 2,990.5 million and accounted for 53.8 percent of non-traditional exports. This



Bank of Tanzania governor, prof Florens Luoga speaks at a past event.

was largely boosted by high prices in the world market," the BoT stated.

The export of manufactured goods increased by 36 percent to US\$ 1,116.2 million while horticultural products increased to US\$ 332 million from US\$ 194.6

million. "Exports categorized under other sub-group surged by 84.1 percent to US\$ 739.3 million, mostly due to an increase in exports of rice and beans to neighbouring countries, and oilseeds to Asia," the MER said.

On a month-to-month basis, export value of non-traditional goods slightly decreased to US\$ 591.4 million from US\$ 596.3 million in July 2020. Traditional exports decreased by US\$ 593.7 million during the period from US\$ 991.4 million largely due to low prices, owing to subdued demand in world market attributable to effects of the Covid-19 pandemic. "The decline was observed in all traditional export crops, except coffee and sisal," the central bank's MER stated.

Meanwhile, the value of imports of goods and services increased

to US\$10,044.9 million in the year ending July 2021 from US\$ 9,853.3 million in the corresponding period in 2020, mainly because of a rise in imports of machinery and all consumer goods except food and foodstuffs.

The BoT report said the value of goods imported during the period increased to US\$ 8,716.5 million from US\$ 8,301.3 million. "Oil imports, which constituted 18.4 percent of all goods imports, rose moderately by 5.7 percent to US\$ 1,601.5 million," the report added.

Oil prices have been rising since June 2021, contributing to the increasing imports bill. Similarly, on a monthly basis, goods import bill increased by US\$ 129.5 million to US\$ 757.1 million in July 2021 as compared to the corresponding period last year.

LITIGATION

Oil trader says petroleum firm likely 'decided' Nigerian polls

LONDON

An oil trader has alleged that Nigerian National Petroleum Corp cargo allocations could have contributed to general election preparations. Lawsuits in London and New York have shed light on how fees that trading firms paid agents to win oil contracts from Nigeria's state energy company may have raised funds for the country's past two elections.

An ex-BP Plc oil trader alleged this week that cargo allocations by the Nigerian National Petroleum Corp. could have contributed to preparations for general elections in 2019. And a former Glencore Plc employee in July admitted paying a middleman \$300,000 to secure a crude shipment from the NNPC, understanding the money would be spent on the nationwide vote that took place four years earlier. A spokesman for the NNPC didn't respond to three calls and three text messages seeking comment.

Jonathan Zarembok said in a witness statement made public this month that emails sent in 2017 by a BP executive in Nigeria were a "clear red flag" and implied "there would be pressure to pay bribes." The emails discussed how preparations for elections would get under way in 2018. "We understand what that means," the executive wrote.

He filed an employment claim against BP, alleging he was fired for raising concerns about the large sums being transferred to intermediaries to win business in Nigeria. The company then wired \$900,000 in fees to a local agent after securing two oil cargoes from NNPC, he said.

"BP is defending in full and denies all allegations made by the claimant," the company said in a statement. It declined further comment while Zarembok's case at a London employment tribunal continues.

President Muhammadu Buhari and his ruling All Progressives Congress retained power in the 2019 vote. Presidential spokesmen didn't respond to calls and emails seeking comment on Zarembok's allegations. Similar details emerged two months ago, when Anthony Stimler, who left Glencore in 2019, pleaded guilty to corruption and money-laundering charges.

COMPETITION

30 animal feeds firms close shop in two months

NAIROBI

Thirty animal feed manufacturers have closed down in a span of two months as a shortage of raw material and a sharp decline in demand from farmers pushes them out of business, says the Association of Kenya Feed Manufacturers (Akefema).

Manufacturers are grappling with a tight supply of important ingredients such as soya and sunflower cake, whose price have more than doubled after Zambia, which is Kenya's key source market placed a ban on exports.

The shortage of these ingredients has seen the price of feeds, especially poultry shoot up on a weekly basis with a 50 kilogramme bag of Unga Limited layers marsh now retailing at Sh2,850 from Sh2,750 last week.

Of the 30 that are now closed, 15 shut down in the last one month, creating a huge deficit of animal feeds in the market, hence pushing up the cost. "So far the number of millers that have shut down have hit 30 with 15 of them closing in the last one month," said John Gathogo, the publicity chair of Akefema.

The price of a 70 kilogramme bag of dairy meal has gone up from Sh2,500 in August last year to Sh3,400 currently, chick marsh is retailing at Sh4,200 from Sh3,250 while layers is now selling at Sh3,800 from Sh3,100. The high cost of feeds has seen farmers cut down on feeds as they seek to avoid high expenses involved in acquiring them.

Zachary Muniyambu of Kiambu Farmers Cooperative Society says out of 750 members of the group, only 430 are still in business with the rest having



A worker carries a bag of animal feeds.

shut down. "A lot of our members have closed, running a poultry farm has become unsustainable because of high costs of feeds," said the farmer.

Millers quest to have

government allow them to ship in Genetically Modified yellow maize and soya was dealt a blow after the State said the ban that is still in place cannot warrant importation at the moment.

The processors had requested the government to allow importation of the two produce in order to ease the current cost of raw material. The cost of Soya has doubled from Sh65 a

kilo in August last year to Sh130 currently while sunflower meal has gone up from Sh25 to Sh35 while sunflower meal has gone up from Sh25 to Sh35.

SCOUTING

Rwanda eyes Chinese investors at China-Africa expo

KIGALI

Rwandan officials are looking to persuade Chinese companies to invest in the country at the second edition of China-Africa Economic and Trade Expo (CAETE) that kicked off on Sunday, October 26 in Hunan Province of China.

Organized biannually by the Chinese Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM) and the Government of Hunan Province, the event is considered to be the most important exhibition within the framework of China-Africa Cooperation.

It brings together African countries and top Chinese leaders, economists and business people, focusing on key areas including trade, tourism and investment promotion, agriculture technology, innovation, energy and power, joint industrial parks, infrastructure, financial cooperation, health and so on.

During the inaugural edition of the event that took place in 2019, Rwanda participated successfully, as, for example, the Gashora Farms secured a USD 500 million deal to export dried chili to China. For this year's CAETE, Rwanda was invited as one of the "Guest Countries of Honour," which gives it a platform for more visibility and media coverage.

Speaking to The New Times about Rwanda's expectations at the second edition of the expo, James Kimonyo, the Rwandan envoy to China said it is not only an opportunity to showcase goods and services, but also to attract investors. "It is a platform for us to present the investment opportunities in Rwanda, to attract potential investors," he said.

"Yes, we have the market (in China) for products like chili and coffee, but do we have enough quantities to supply this massive market? So, we

want to encourage Chinese to invest in the supply side, by expanding local firms and bringing in technology, so that we will get enough products to take to the Chinese market."

The expo also comprises meetings with policy makers, economists and other influential people - which, according to Kimonyo, presents an opportunity to showcase to them the reforms that the country has put in place in terms of improving the investment climate.

Due to Covid-19, many people from Rwanda could not travel to China, but sent their products there to be showcased with the assistance of the embassy and some other Rwandans living in the Asian country. Among the products to be exhibited by Rwanda are: coffee, chili, tourism services, avocado oil, tea and so on.

During one of the forums of the expo, Rwanda's Minister

of Trade and Industry Beatha Habyarimana will deliver a keynote speech on September 27, where officials will be discussing the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on China-Africa production capacity cooperation, among other topics. Hunan, the province where the expo will take place, is very key to China's economy.

With a GDP of more than USD 600 billion, Hunan ranks in the top 10 among Chinese provinces and boasts 10 competitive industrial clusters including agro-processing, construction machinery, electronics, new materials, automobiles and parts and mining.

Recently, on behalf of the City of Kigali, the Embassy of Rwanda to China signed a letter of intent with Hunan Province, aimed at deepening economic cooperation between the two sides with industrial development, education and so on.



Rwanda's Trade and Industry minister, Beatha Habyarimana.

ACTIVISM

UN launches pledge to stop building coal power plants

NEW YORK

Seven countries have signed a pledge initiated by the United Nations to stop building new coal power plants, with the aim to gather more signatures before the global climate summit COP26 in Glasgow next month.

The No New Coal agreement is the latest attempt to try and piece together a global phase-out of the dirtiest fossil fuel. UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres wants to end the pipeline of new plants this year, while COP26 President Alok Sharma has said his goal for the summit is to "consign coal to history." Chile, Denmark, France, Germany, Montenegro, Sri Lanka and the U.K. signed the latest pledge.

"Moving away from coal is not a death knell for industrialization, but rather a much better opportunity for green jobs," said Damilola Ogunbiyi, chief executive officer of the UN-backed international organization Sustainable Energy for All. That's "what will drive other countries to join," she said.



Damilola Ogunbiyi, CEO of the UN-backed international organization Sustainable Energy for All.

A separate initiative launched in 2017, called the Powering Past Coal Alliance, sets a higher bar. It includes 41 countries that have committed to phasing out existing coal

operations as soon as 2030 in many cases, on top of promising not to build new plants. An additional 40 nations outside the alliance don't have a single coal power plant in the pipe-

line, according to environmental think tank E3G.

That means more countries were ready to commit to not building new coal plants, but not all were ready to phase

out existing operations. The No New Coal pact adds a missing step in the ladder for such nations by allowing them to make an easier pledge in the hope that it will ultimately accelerate the end coal.

In the run up to COP26, a number of such voluntary alliances are being created. Last week, the U.S. and European Union launched the Global Methane Pledge that aims to reduce emissions of the super-warming gas by 30% within a decade. Last month, Denmark and Costa Rica launched the Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance seeks to end the extraction of oil and gas by midcentury.

The patchwork of alliances targeting dirty sources of energy or specific greenhouse gases is a far cry from the systematic, orderly energy transition that the world needs. Rather, it's an acceptance of the political reality of climate diplomacy that has to accommodate countries' different stages of

development.

Burning coal for electricity generation contributes to about a third of the world's total carbon-dioxide emissions. All emissions from coal power plants should end by 2040 if the world is to keep warming below 1.5 degrees Celsius, according to the International Energy Agency.

The No New Coal pact got a boost before its launch, with President Xi Jinping telling the UN general assembly this week that China will stop building coal power plants abroad. He didn't provide details, but the announcement could mean an end to about 40 gigawatts of new coal power plants. That would avoid as much as 235 million tons of emissions, according to Global Energy Monitor. Xi's pledge came after similar commitments from the only other remaining major financiers of overseas coal power plants - Japan and South Korea - earlier in the year.

"China's decision is pretty much the end of public financing for coal," said Chris Littlecott, associate director of fossil-fuel transition at E3G. "Private investors now face all of the risks of investing in coal on their own."

The pipeline of new coal power plants has collapsed globally over the past decade. Since 2015, the world has cancelled 1,175 GW of coal power plants - about the same size as China's existing coal fleet, according to E3G - and thus avoided billions of tons of carbon dioxide that would have been dumped annually.

The No New Coal pact is a big step for some signatories. "Sri Lanka has been debating whether to build new coal plants for a few years," said Christine Shearer of Global Energy Monitor, which tracks coal power plants globally. "If countries like Pakistan and Malaysia join, then we can really start to see the end of new coal plants."

CONCERN

World's top coffee crop keeps shrinking, leading to shortage

BRASILIA

Normally in September, Brazilian coffee farmers would be filling warehouses to the brim with the world's biggest harvest of gourmet beans. Trucks often wait in queues for an entire day to get their cargo. This year, the crop is so small that the long lines of trucks have all but disappeared.

Brazil probably harvested nearly 40% less arabica coffee than last year, and the least amount since 2009, according to crop forecasting agency Conab. The loss is equivalent to about two thirds of US consumption, and Americans drink the most coffee in the world. The dramatically lower production could mean shortages coming for the beans.

"There's no line of trucks waiting to load coffee at the warehouses," said Regis Ricco, a director at Minas Gerais-based RR Consultoria Rural. "Farmers send a truck with coffee to the warehouses, and a few hours later the truck is back, when normally it would take as long as a day. It is alarming."

The fact that Brazil's crop keeps shrinking means prices will keep rising for consumers that want a gourmet morning brew. Expensive coffee is just one of many commodities seeing inflation, stoking concerns about rising food costs around the globe.

Wild Weather
Brazil's crop was hurt by drought in multiple locations, combined with frosts and freezes in July. Adding to that, the nation's crop fluctuates each year between

a low and high-yielding cycle, and this year was a smaller one.

Farmers in Brazil probably collected 30.7 million bags of arabica this year, compared to 48.8 million last year, Conab said in a Tuesday report. A bag weighs 60 kilograms. Arabica futures have gained 44% so far this year on ICE Futures U.S. in New York.

The gourmet coffee shortages have already driven roasters in Brazil to shift to robusta, a more bitter tasting, cheaper variety of beans. Coffee blends that were half robusta will be as high as 90% this year, said Marcio Candido Ferreira, a director at Espirito Santo-based trader Tristao Cia. de Comercio Exterior. Although the robusta harvest is at a record in Brazil, it's completely sold out as buyers race for supplies, Ferreira said.

There's little relief seen coming. Even before the devastating frosts in July, the U.S. estimated Brazil's stockpiles at the lowest in decades. The adverse weather will severely hurt the next two arabica-crop harvests, with droughts being twice as destructive as frost, Jose Donizete Alves, a researcher at Lavras Federal University, said at an industry conference Tuesday.

The country's dry season is forecast to start earlier than usual next year, according to Luiz Carlos Molion, a meteorologist. Still, coffee price spikes have historically been transitory. Rallies around 60% have been the threshold for more supply to come on and cap prices, according to Bloomberg Intelligence.



A coffee farm in Brazil.



ITV CAPITAL SATURDAY 18 Sept SUNDAY 19 Sept MONDAY 20 Sept WEDNESDAY 22 Sept THURSDAY 23 Sept FRIDAY 24 Sept SATURDAY 25 Sept SUNDAY 26 Sept

WORLD

Life expectancy for UK males falls first time in 40 years

The life expectancy of UK men fell for the first time on record, a sign of how the pandemic has raised mortality in the nation.

Males born between 2018 and 2020 are expected to live 79 years, according to a report from the Office for National Statistics. That's seven weeks less than those who were born in the two years prior, and the first drop since the early 1980s when the statistics office started compiling data.

The latest expectancy for women remained little changed at 82.9 years.

The report is just the latest demonstration of the huge death toll inflicted on the U.K. by the pandemic. Over 136,000 have died with coronavirus in the country, the highest total in Europe.

ONS Statistician Pamela Cobb cautioned that

the estimates assumed that the unusually high levels of current mortality would be sustained over a person's lifetime. Once the pandemic is over "it is possible that life expectancy will return to an improving trend," she said.

Among the UK's constituent nations, males in England have the longest life expectancy at 79.3 years, followed by Northern Ireland and Wales. Scotland has the lowest expectancy, with men likely to live 76.8 years.

Russia

Russia reported a record 828 COVID-19 deaths in the latest day, as officials warned of a new wave of the pandemic.

The real number of deaths linked to the coronavirus is likely much higher, as the initial reports by the government's COVID-19 task force



An elderly man holds a walking stick as he walks along the beachfront promenade in Eastbourne, UK, on April 1, 2014. File photo

are generally revised upward.

Moscow's Deputy Mayor Anastasia Rakova said this week that the capital was reopening coronavirus hospital wards as cases spiked, according to Ria Novosti.

US

The number of people dying with COVID-19 in US hospitals appears to have peaked, the latest sign of reprieve after the Delta variant fueled record spikes in infections in some states.

The seven-day average of US hospital deaths with confirmed or

suspected COVID-19 is down 8.9 percent from the recent peak on Sept 16, according to US Department of Health and Human Services data.

Meanwhile, Colorado's attorney general announced a nurse practitioner has been fined \$40,000 for marketing "alleged cures" for COVID-19, including the anti-parasite drug ivermectin. Siegfried Emme, owner of Loveland Medical Clinic, also advertised intravenous therapies, according to Colorado Attorney General Phil Weiser.

Agencies

Wang: China to advance initiative for global growth with all parties

BEIJING

CHINESE State Councilor and Foreign Minister Wang Yi yesterday said China will continue to work with all parties to advance the Global Development Initiative and make positive contributions to accelerating the implementation of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and bringing benefits to people of all countries.



Wang (pictured) made the remarks when attending the opening ceremony of the Sustainable Development Forum 2021 via video.

Chinese President Xi Jinping's proposal of the Global Development Initiative in his statement delivered via video at the general debate of the 76th session of the United Nations General Assembly drew a blueprint for the development of all countries and international development cooperation, and charted the course for advancing global development and international development cooperation, Wang said.

Noting the COVID-19 has brought multiple crises and challenges to the international community, especially developing countries, Wang said the importance of implementing the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has not weakened but increased, and it is becoming increasingly urgent to deepen international development cooperation.

"China calls for taking the opportunity of implementing the Global Development Initiative, strengthening political commitment, and taking practical actions to push forward the international development cause," Wang said.

Wang called on all parties to deepen anti-epidemic cooperation and jointly overcome the challenge of the pandemic; to step up macro-policy coordination to promote economic recovery; to stick to green and low-carbon development so as to actively respond to climate change; to uphold fairness and justice and create a favorable environment for development; and to uphold true multilateralism and deepen global partnership for development.

This forum was held online and offline, with the theme of "People-centered Sustainable Development." UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres delivered a written speech to the forum.

Xinhua

Russian Interior Ministry to strengthen control over migrants

MOSCOW

THE Russian Ministry of Interior intends to strengthen control over migrants in Russia by introducing modern information technologies, the Ministry's press center told TASS.

The Ministry prepared earlier a draft law in the context of activities for implementing the State Migration Policy Concept 2019-2025 in 2020-2022, aimed at strengthening control over entry and stay of foreigners, establishing migration rules and migrants' receipt of statuses corresponding to goals of their entry.

"One of the goals of draft law development is to increase the security support level, particularly on account of wider implementation of modern information technologies in procedures of state services provision and exercise of the state control," a press center's spokesperson said.

The draft law passed public hearing and was sent to the Russian Ministry of Economic Development for preparation of an opinion, the spokesperson said. "December 2021 is the deadline for presentation of the draft law to the Russian government," the Ministry noted.

Foreigners more frequently violated the public order, staged mass brawls and used force against authorities, First Deputy Minister of Interior Alexander Gorovoi said earlier. Tough response measures are taken against violators in all cases.

Agencies

Hamis denies allegation of having assets, investments in Sudan

GAZA

THE Palestinian Islamic Resistance Movement (Hamis) on Saturday denied the allegation that it has assets or investments in Sudan that were recently seized, according to a spokesman in Gaza.

The denial of Hamis, which has been ruling the Gaza Strip since 2007, came as media reports on Thursday claiming the Sudanese authorities in Khartoum seized assets and investments belonging to Hamis estimated at 1.2 billion U.S. dollars.

The reportedly seized assets belonging to Hamis include real estate, company shares, a hotel in Khartoum, money exchange offices, a television station, and more than one million acres of farmland.

"Hamis doesn't have any asset or investment in Sudan, nor does it have any problem with the Sudanese authorities," said Hamis Spokesman Hazem Qassem.

Xinhua

UAE basks in vaccination success with Chinese cooperation

Hong Kong

WITH the United Arab Emirates now among the countries with the highest COVID-19 vaccination rate, boosting the prospects of the upcoming Dubai Expo, experts have credited the country's success to its early health cooperation with China.

The UAE was the first country to roll out Sinopharm-developed COVID shots to the general public in December last year. By March, the UAE announced that it will start manufacturing those vaccines locally under a joint venture between the Chinese pharmaceutical giant and an Abu Dhabi-based firm.

As of Sept 23, at least 82 percent of the UAE's nearly-10 million population have been fully vaccinated against COVID-19 and more than 19 million doses have been administered, figures from the UAE's National Emergency Crisis and Disaster Management Authority or NCEMA showed.

Other vaccines in use in the

UAE include those developed by Pfizer-BioNTech, Oxford-AstraZeneca and Moderna, as well as the Russian Sputnik V jabs.

Ben Hanson, consultant physician and chief executive officer at Dubai-based consultancy firm Rivers International Management Services, said the collaboration of China and UAE in COVID-19 vaccine development has "set the standard internationally" over the past year.

Shaojin Chai, an assistant professor in the Department of International Relations at the University of Sharjah, said there is growing awareness among people that the UAE government's adoption and provision of the Sinopharm vaccine to all segments of the population has played an important role in curbing the pandemic and preparing for the upcoming world fair in Dubai.

Expo 2020 Dubai, which is expected to host exhibitors from almost 200 countries, opens on Oct 1 after being de-



Boxes of China's Sinopharm COVID-19 vaccine are seen during vaccination at the Guru Nanak Darbar Gurudwara (Sikh temple) in Dubai on Feb 28, 2021. AFP

layed by a year due to the pandemic.

The expo was originally planned to be held from Oct 20, 2020 to April 10, 2021 but was put off to the revised schedule of Oct 1, 2021 to March 31, 2022.

The World Health Organization had approved Sinopharm and Sinovac coronavirus vaccines for emergency use in May and June, respectively. The Chinese pharmaceutical companies have both signed agreements with Gavi, a global vaccine alliance, in July to ship

half a billion doses by mid-2022.

The agreements come amid growing threats of the Delta variant. Some 110 million doses of the Chinese vaccines were immediately available to participants of the COVAX Facility, a United Nations-backed initiative aimed at equitable access to COVID-19 vaccines globally.

Rasha Al Joundy, a senior researcher at Dubai Public Policy Research Centre, said with the pandemic receding steadily in the UAE in the last few months,

and the easing of some restrictions related to mask-wearing in public and private places, it marks the outcome of "a reliable pandemic policy".

Cooperation with China to produce the COVID-19 vaccines in the UAE and making it available to residents in the needed amounts as early as possible was crucial to this success story, Al Joundy noted.

Dubai, she said, was "transformed into a global vaccine logistics hub", strengthening its capabilities to fight the pandemic, including a multilateral pledge by the UAE to distribute 25 million doses to COVAX.

"This would not be possible without cooperation with China, but it certainly needed collaboration with international organizations, which the UAE established as well," the researcher said.

On Sept 15, the World Health Organization said that most countries in the Middle East reported a fall in the number of coronavirus cases and deaths in recent weeks.

Xinhua

Taliban welcomes US measures allowing humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan

KABUL

THE newly-formed administration of Afghanistan has welcomed the United States' recent measure allowing the flow of humanitarian assistance to the Asian country, the country's Ministry of Foreign Affairs said yesterday.

"The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan (IEA) welcomes recent decision by U.S. Treasury Department allowing U.S. government agencies along with international and non-governmental organizations and banks to facilitate the flow of food and medicine to the IEA," Abdul Qahar Balkhi, the ministry's spokesman, said in a statement.

Afghanistan hoped all countries including the United States and international organizations

will continue to establish and enhance ties with the Afghan government, and to continue providing humanitarian assistance to the Afghan people, he added.

Amir Khan Muttaqi, acting foreign minister of Taliban caretaker government, on Thursday said that Afghanistan wants to have friendly relations with the international community, including the neighboring and regional countries.

On Friday, the United States issued general licenses, allowing the U.S. government, NGOs and certain international organizations to engage in transactions that are necessary to provide humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan.

Earlier this month, UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres warned that the possibility of a complete economic collapse



Photo taken on Aug. 4, 2021, shows the site of a car bomb in Kabul, Afghanistan.

in Afghanistan was "serious," highlighting an urgent need for funding support to Afghans.

He also appealed to the countries pledging 1.2 billion U.S. dollars in relief for Afghanistan to take action quickly.

Besides, Taliban authorities have vowed that the aid will

reach those in need in a completely transparent manner.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) of the Taliban caretaker government also welcomed on Sunday Pakistan's decision on exempting Afghan traders from paying sales tax on fresh fruit.

"As a result of efforts by MoFA of the Islamic Emirate of Afghanistan and through negotiations and agreement aimed at resolving issues of fresh fruit export, the Islamic Republic of Pakistan has exempted previously levied 17 percent sales tax on fresh fruit exports from Afghanistan effective Sept. 24, 2021," spokesman Balkhi said in a statement.

He said land-locked Afghanistan has welcomed "this decision and calls for increased trade and transit, and further facilitation between the two countries."

Afghan traders also welcomed the measure, describing Pakistan as a good market for Afghan fruit, calling upon the government to facilitate the export of their fruit to the neighboring country.

Xinhua

First International Summit on BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS) Applications held in China

THE first International Summit on BeiDou Navigation Satellite System (BDS) Applications, themed "BDS serves the world, application fuels the future," was held in Changsha, central China's Hunan province on Sept. 16 and 17.

China's BDS system has realized compatibility and interoperability with other Global Navigation Satellite Systems (GNSS), and will promote the development of today's navigation and positioning, as well as timing

technologies, and lay a solid foundation for the development of a more flexible, solid and elastic structure of the navigation satellite technology, said Simonetta Di Pippo, Director of the UN Office for Outer Space Affairs, in a video message to the summit. This summit would make a contribution to the international application of space technologies, she added.

The BeiDou Navigation Satellite System, or what's known as BDS-3, was officially commissioned on July 31,

2020, marking the completion of a satellite constellation fully and independently developed by the Chinese.

However, the BDS benefits not only the Chinese, but also the entire world. At present, it has been applied in over half of the countries and regions around the world.

As a matter of fact, the BDS has been gradually introduced to other parts of the world and started serving other countries' socio-economic development and infrastructure construction

since the second phase of the project, or the BDS-2 was completed in 2012.

In 2013, the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation of Myanmar purchased hundreds of BDS/GNSS receivers to collect agricultural data and manage land across the country.

Two years later, BDS high-precision receivers were used in the construction of a 300-meter-high headquarters for the National Bank of Kuwait. Receiving BDS signals ensured millimeter-level meas-

urement error in the vertical direction during the construction, and it marked the first time that the BDS navigation and positioning technology was applied to high-rise building monitoring overseas.

The information integration system for Pakistan's new Islamabad International Airport commenced its construction in 2017, and the BDS was applied for high-precision timing services. In 2018, 1,046 high-precision GNSS receivers powered by the BDS were used in the survey and construction of land right confirmation, road, railway and water conservancy projects in Indonesia.

So far, BDS products have been exported to over 120 countries and regions, providing services for more than 100 million users.

The BDS belongs to China, and the world, too, said Mohamed Ben Amor, Secretary-General of the Arab Information & Communication Technologies Organization. He noted that the organization will support the construction of the BDS and promote the system in all Arab countries and even beyond, so as to expand the influence of the system and its application, enhance the system's application, and benefit local communities.

The powerful performance of the BDS is why the system has such a big presence in international and domestic socio-economic construction. The positioning accuracy of the system has reached 2.5 meters horizontally and 5.0 meters vertically. **People's Daily**

International community opposes politicisation of human rights issues, baseless allegations against China

GENEVA

In a joint statement delivered Friday at the 48th session of the United Nations (UN) Human Rights Council, 65 countries voiced their opposition to the politicization of human rights issues, especially those unfounded allegations against China out of political motivation.

Pointing out that the allegations are based on disinformation, the joint statement, delivered by Pakistan on behalf of the countries, rejected interference in China's internal affairs under the pretext of human rights.

In addition to the joint statement, six member states of the Gulf Cooperation Council issued a joint letter to back China, and more than 20 countries expressed their support for China in their national statements.

As Hector Constant Rosales, permanent representative of Venezuela to the UN Office in Geneva, has said, the latest voice from the international society once again highlighted the need to respect countries' sovereignty, independence and territorial integrity, as well as the basic norms and principles that govern international relations.

OPPOSE POLITICIZING HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

The joint statement delivered by Pakistan said that issues related to Hong Kong, Xinjiang and Tibet are China's internal affairs that brook no interference by any external forces, and reiterated support for China's

implementation of "one country, two systems" in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

It called on all states to uphold multilateralism, solidarity and collaboration, and to promote and protect human rights through constructive dialogue and cooperation.

Also on Friday, Chen Xu, permanent representative of China to the UN Office at Geneva, stressed at the session that the trick of taking human rights as a political tool should be jointly opposed and rejected by the international community.

"Turning a blind eye to their own human rights problems, some countries, out of political purposes, continue to interfere in the internal affairs of others under the pretext of human rights, in an attempt to impose their own values on others," the Chinese envoy said.

He further pointed out that this seriously undermines the sovereignty and independence of other countries as well as international solidarity and cooperation, and causes persistent damage to the international efforts to promote and protect human rights.

Earlier this week, speaking on behalf of a group of countries at another meeting of the ongoing human rights session, Chen highlighted that a democratic and equitable international order is essential to the promotion and protection of human rights.

Urging all parties to practice true multilateralism and make the international order more just and equitable, Chen stressed the importance



Protesters hold placards with anti-racism messages during the Million People March demonstration to protest against systemic racism in the UK in London, Britain, Aug. 30, 2020. (Xinhua)

of the UN-centered international system and the international order underpinned by international law, and expressed opposition to bullying, unilateralism and double standards.

The Chinese diplomat called on all nations to remain open and inclusive, respect the diversity of civilizations and the development paths independently chosen by countries, and refrain from imposing one's own social system and model on others or creating division and confrontation.

INTERVENTION, POWER POLITICS GET NO SUPPORT

Using human rights as a political tool to serve their own interests, some Western countries have indulged in intervention and power politics, cre-

ating countless human rights disasters around the world.

The UN human rights session from Sept. 13 to Oct. 8 is held at a time when Afghanistan is experiencing dramatic changes after the United States' hasty withdrawal from the war-torn country. Delivering a joint statement on behalf of a group of countries earlier this month, Jiang Duan, minister of the Chinese mission to the UN in Geneva, pointed out that by April 2020, at least 47,000 Afghan civilians had been killed in the war waged by the United States and more than ten million Afghan people had been displaced.

"The United States and its allies have conducted military intervention in Afghanistan for 20 years, which se-

verely undermined the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Afghanistan, compromised its economic and social development, and violated the human rights of the Afghan people," Jiang said.

In another joint statement delivered at the session, Jiang said that although the U.S. military has withdrawn from Afghanistan, the crimes of killing civilians by the U.S. troops and its allies must be thoroughly investigated and the perpetrators must be held accountable.

"The drastic change in Afghanistan shows once again that military intervention and power politics get no support. Imposing the American-style democracy on others will only lead to chaos and turmoil and is doomed to failure," he said.

HUMAN RIGHTS WOES IN THE WEST

The international community has also voiced deep concerns over the human rights situation in some western countries, calling on them to face up to and solve their own problems.

Speaking on behalf of a group of countries on Friday, Jiang told the UN council that systemic racism and racial discrimination are deep-rooted in Britain, while hate speech, xenophobia and relevant violence are increasingly exacerbated there.

The diplomat further pointed out that Britain has serious poverty, with one third of families that have children under the age of five living in poverty. (Xinhua)

Rwandan genocide 'kingpin' Bagosora dies in Mali - sources

BAMAKO

A FORMER Rwandan army colonel who was accused of masterminding the slaughter of 800,000 people during the 1994 genocide has died in prison in Mali, Malian officials said on Saturday.

Theoneste Bagosora was serving a 35-year sentence after being found guilty of crimes against humanity by the then International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (ICTR). His sentence had been reduced from life in prison.

"It is confirmed. He was over 80 years old, he was seriously ill, with heart troubles. He was hospitalised several times and had three surgeries. He died today in a clinic," a source in Mali's prison administration who sought anonymity told Reuters.

A second source at Bamako's Court of Appeal confirmed the death. Prosecutors accused Bagosora, then cabinet director in the defence ministry, of taking control of military and political affairs in the central African country after President Juvenal Habyarimana was killed when his plane was shot down in 1994.

The Tanzania-based tribunal accused Bagosora of being in charge of the troops and Interahamwe Hutu militia who killed some 800,000 minority Tutsis and moderate Hutus in 100 days. (Agencies)

South Korea readies booster rollout for 'high-risk groups'

KUWAIT CITY / TEHRAN

SOUTH Korea will start offering booster shots to "high-risk groups," including people over 60 and medical workers, Prime Minister Kim Boo-kyum said during a COVID-19 response meeting, adding that the country also plans to expand vaccine eligibility to teenagers and pregnant women.

Three-quarters of the population have received at least one vaccine dose, with less than half fully vaccinated, according to the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency's website Sunday. The Seoul metropolitan area remains under the government's strictest social distancing measures.

South Korea's daily COVID-19 cases hit a record high in the aftermath of the Chuseok holiday on Saturday.

The country reported 3,273 more cases of COVID-19, lifting the total number of infections to 298,402, according to the Korea Disease Control and Prevention Agency.

It topped the previous daily high of 2,431 tallied in the prior day, surpassing 3,000 for the first time since the first case was found here in January last year.

Australia

Australian Prime Minister Scott Morrison said state premiers must not keep borders closed once agreed COVID-19 vaccination targets are reached.

"We can't stay in second gear," he said on a Sunday morning television program. "We've got to get to top gear in living with the virus."

State governments where COVID-19 cases are low, such as Queensland and Western Australia, have been reluctant



Elderly women wearing face masks attend a dance class re-opened for the first time since the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic at Seodaemun Senior Welfare Centre in Seoul on July 1, 2021. (AFP)

to open their borders. Morrison says that will need to change when fully-vaccinated rates reach 80 percent, which he expects to happen before the end of the year.

"I can't see any reason why Australians should be kept from each other," the leader said. "And so that puts a heavy, heavy responsibility on those who would seek to prevent that from happening."

Supply issues have restricted the country's vaccination rates, with about 51 percent of Australians older than 16 having received both jabs.

On Sunday, Australia's second most populous state Victoria reported 779 new local cases of COVID-19, a day after adding its highest daily figure since the beginning of the outbreak. New South Wales recorded 961 new infections.

Speaking on Australian television's Weekend Sunrise program after meetings with leaders from the Quad group in Washington, Morrison said there is a used-by date on COVID-19 restrictions.

"There comes a time when you've got to honor the arrangement you've made with the Australian people, and that is when you get to

80 percent vaccination, it's very clear that you can start opening up," he said. "That's what Australians want. We have that arrangement with them, get yourself vaccinated and we can ensure that Australia can go forward and not be held back by the strong controls we've had to live with."

Morrison also said that his government has been working on their sustainable climate policy plan to achieve net zero emissions by 2050. He says he intends to achieve the emission targets without having to tax people.

"We can do it without having to shut down our industries and regions," he said.

Indonesia

A shortage of healthcare workers and logistical flaws are hampering Indonesia's efforts to inoculate its people against COVID-19, leaving the world's largest archipelago trailing its neighbors despite being among the first in Southeast Asia to start the program.

Only 17.9 percent of Indonesia's 270 million people are fully vaccinated, behind almost every major economy in the region, according to Bloomberg Vaccine Tracker. About 32 percent have re-

ceived their first dose, placing the nation among the bottom four on the list.

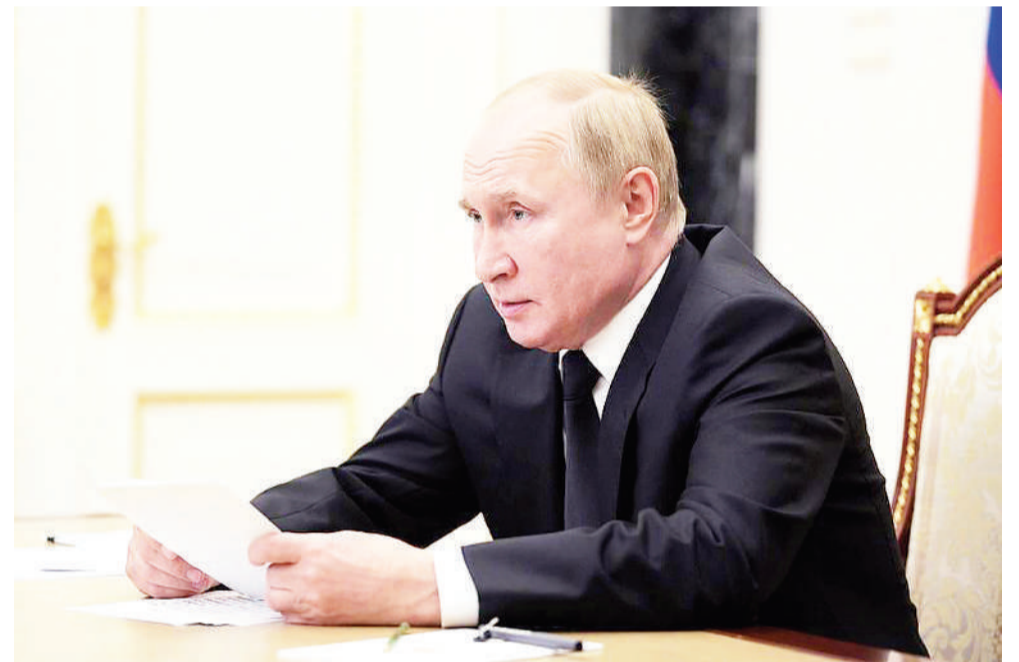
"Supply at the national level is no longer an issue, getting shots into the arms of the people is," said Griffith University epidemiologist Dicky Budiman, who is assisting the government in improving vaccination coverage. "Even in East Java, where there is sufficient stocks, there isn't enough vaccination booths and not enough vaccinators on site to deliver the shots."

The slow inoculation progress risks Indonesia's efforts to keep the pandemic under control and sustain the fragile recovery of its \$1.1 trillion economy. A new outbreak caused by the more contagious delta variant forced the government to reimpose its strictest mobility curbs at the start of the third quarter, with the restrictions helping bring down its weekly death count to the lowest since mid-April.

The nation is slowly building up its COVID-19 vaccine stocks after a shaky start earlier this year, and has so far received 273.6 million doses, some in the form of bulks that need further processing, the information ministry said in a statement Friday. The government targets inoculating 208 million people across the country.

The administration is setting up more vaccination centers with help from the police, army, and intelligence personnel, educating those who are still hesitant and improving data tracking via an app, COVID-19 task force spokesman Wiku Adisasmito said in an interview on Thursday. With an aim of administering more than 1 million shots a day, the government expects to reach 70 percent coverage before the end of the year. (Agencies)

Poverty in Russia needs to be brought down to minimum, says Putin



President Vladimir Putin

NOVO-OGARYOVO

RUSSIAN President Vladimir Putin has urged to bring poverty to a minimum in the country and lift "a considerable amount of people" out of it.

"We all have numerous common challenges and common tasks. It is necessary to bring the poverty level in the country down to a minimum and to help a considerable amount of people out of it."

It is necessary to improve the conditions of life, development and education, and simply the nutrition of children in low-income families, to raise for everyone the level and accessibility of quality modern education, healthcare and to continue transformations in the structure of the economy for cutting-edge high-tech industries," Putin said on Saturday in a video conference with leaders of the parties that have won

seats in the lower house of Russia's parliament (State Duma).

As the president noted, it is "extremely difficult, but an absolute priority."

"It is necessary, of course, to boost the economic growth. Those are not simply general, but uniting us goals. I am convinced that the experienced traditional parliamentary parties and the new political forces, which will be represented in Duma, will be aware of their responsibility to Russia and will do their utmost to justify the confidence - high confidence - shown by voters to them," the president added.

A huge income gap between the rich and poor in Russia is a problem, Putin said.

"The problem of enormous economic inequality between those whose incomes are very modest, to put it mildly, and those who receive such an income that

most of our citizens cannot even dream about, can be solved in various ways, but it is a problem," Putin said at a meeting with leaders of the political parties that have won seats in the new State Duma in the recent elections.

The president emphasized that efforts should be joined to resolve that problem.

The meeting was attended by United Russia Chairman Dmitry Medvedev, CPRF party leader Gennady Zyuganov, LDPR party leader Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, A Just Russia - Patriots - For Truth party leader Sergei Mironov, New People party leader Alexei Nechayev, and several party members with them, as well as Vyacheslav Volodin, the former State Duma Speaker of the United Russia party, Chief of Staff of the Presidential Executive Office Anton Vaino, and Sergei Kiriyenko, his first deputy.

China grants certificate to its first batch of 'carbon-neutral' petroleum

SHANGHAI Environment and Energy Exchange (SEEE) issued China's first petroleum carbon neutrality certificate to China Petrochemical Corporation (Sinopec Group), China COSCO Shipping Corporation Limited (COSCO SHIPPING Group), and China Eastern Airlines at a ceremony jointly held by the three conglomerates in Shanghai on Sept. 22.

The day also marked the first anniversary of China's announcement of carbon peak and carbon neutrality goals at the United Na-

tions General Assembly.

The first batch of crude oil certified as carbon neutral, which weighed 30,000 tons, was from the share of Sinopec Group's wholly-owned subsidiary, Sinopec International Petroleum Exploration and Production Corporation (SIPC), of crude oil produced in relevant projects in Angola.

It was imported by China International United Petroleum & Chemicals Co.,

Ltd. (Unipe) under Sinopec Group, transported by COSCO SHIPPING Group, and refined by Sinopec Shanghai Gaoqiao Petrochemical Co., Ltd., a petrochemical company affiliated to Sinopec Group.

There will be 8,963 tons of motor gasoline, 2,276 tons of motor diesel, 5,417 tons of aviation kerosene, 2,786 tons of liquefied petroleum gas (LPG), 6,502 tons of marine diesel, and 2,998 tons of low-sulfur

marine fuel oil produced from the imported crude oil.

This year, Sinopec Group plans to make carbon-neutral gasoline and diesel available to the public in certain gas stations and cooperate with China Eastern Airlines to launch carbon-neutral flights.

China Classification Society Certification Company (CCSC), as a third-party verification institution, carried out accurate cal-

culations of the carbon dioxide (CO2) emissions produced during the whole life cycle of the carbon-neutral products, from oil exploitation to the consumption of these products, in a bid to neutralize the equivalents of the greenhouse gas emissions.

According to estimations, the batch of crude oil imported by Unipe produced 103,526.19 tons of CO2 emissions through-

out its life cycle.

Sinopec Group was responsible for compensating for the greenhouse gas emissions produced in the exploitation, storage, and processing of the crude oil, the transport of the petroleum products, as well as the combustion of the motor gasoline, motor diesel, and LPG produced from the crude oil; COSCO SHIPPING Group carried out duties of offsetting the carbon emissions caused

by the transport of the crude oil and combustion of the marine fuel oil and China Eastern Airlines compensated for the greenhouse gas emissions produced in the combustion of the aviation kerosene.

Giving play to their respective advantages, the three conglomerates jointly established a new model of green transport and blazed a trail for achieving net-zero CO2 emissions throughout the life cycle of products through cross-industry cooperation. (People's Daily)

R. Kelly fate now in jury's hands at sex trafficking trial

NEW YORK

R. Kelly's fate is now in a jury's hands after weeks of lurid testimony in his sexual misconduct trial.

The panel of seven men and five women began deliberating racketeering and sex trafficking charges against the R&B superstar Friday afternoon, ending the day without reaching a verdict. They are due back in court today to resume their work.

A couple hours into the deliberations, the jurors sent the judge a note asking to review a transcript of testimony and evidence regarding a woman who claimed Kelly sexually assaulted her in 2003 when she was a 21-year-old radio station intern. She testified she was kept locked up in a recording studio for days and drugged before the assault.

Prosecutors and defense attorneys finished their closing arguments last week. The 54-year-old singer is accused of running a Chicago-based

criminal enterprise that recruited his accusers for unwanted sex and mental torment.

The witnesses said Kelly subjected them to perverse and sadistic whims when they were underage. He has denied any wrongdoing.

Kelly "believed the music, the fame and the celebrity meant he could do whatever he wanted," Assistant U.S. Attorney Nadia Shihata said in federal court in Brooklyn in a fiery rebuttal to the defense's closing argument that portrayed Kelly as a victim of false accusations.

But, she added, "He's not a genius, he's a criminal. A predator." She added that his alleged victims "aren't groupies or gold diggers. They're human beings." The 54-year-old Kelly, perhaps best known for the 1996 smash hit "I Believe I Can Fly," has pleaded not guilty to racketeering charges accusing him of abusing women, girls and boys for more than two decades.

AP



Yanga's Tunisian head coach, Nasreddine Nabi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Nabi calls for patience at Yanga ahead of 2021/2022 season

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

YANGA's head coach, Mohamed Nabi, has expressed dismay at the Mainland Premier League regulation demanding clubs to use eight foreign players in league matches.

The Tunisian coach pointed out he though must respect the regulation that has recently been set by Tanzania Football Federation (TFF).

Nabi noted: "I wish I could use all 28 players as much as I can, I have 28 players but I can only start eight foreign players, I know I have to respect the regulations set by TFF, and use the players that are fit and deserving to play."

Asked about players likely to start in the Premier League, Nabi revealed that, as a professional coach, it is hard and never possible to disclose players set to find their way into his lineup on the matchdays.

The Tunisian coach moreover asked his side's members and supporters to be patient towards the new season as they have a good squad for the new season and, when the team has a good connection, it will be a big threat.

He also thanked the Yanga officials for registering quality footballers as well as being patient when the results are not satisfactory, including being eliminated from the 2021/22 CAF

Champions League's first preliminary round.

"We have a highly competitive group of players, we just need to be happy, I know Yanga fans deserve to be happy, but they have to be patient, and once this squad is well connected is going to be a very competent team in Tanzania," Nabi revealed.

"I want to thank GSM Group's boss, Gharib Mohamed, Hersi Said, the club's Chairman, Mshindo Msolla, for their sacrifice and giving their all for this team," Nabi noted.

In terms of injuries, Nabi hinted that players like Balama Mapinduzi who missed last season, and Yassin Mustafa who was out for six months before the end of the season, will need to undergo light training before returning to competitive form.

He disclosed: "They have been out for a long time I can't give them a chance to play tomorrow (Saturday)'s game (against Simba) because they are not 100% fit heading into this game."

"They need to follow physical fitness training programs and when they a fit they will be back into contention."

Yanga beat Simba 1-0 in the Community Shield clash, played at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last Saturday, which signaled the beginning of the 2021/22 season.

Former Simba SC skipper vouches for discipline among up-and-coming players

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

FORMER Simba SC midfielder, Henry Joseph, has advised young Tanzanian soccer players to work hard and value discipline to achieve their goals in their football career.

Joseph, who served as the club's skipper at some point, said so due to the presence of many talented players in the Mainland Tanzania Premier League as well as other leagues supervised by the Tanzania Football Federation (TFF).

According to the veteran midfielder, domestic footballers lack continuity when they rise to prominence at a young age.

Joseph pointed out: "The only thing they need to do is to have discipline on and off the field. The discipline on the field is hard work because your life as a young player is on the field."

"Discipline off the pitch includes respecting people, and



Henry Joseph

living purposefully on and off the field."

Speaking to The Guardian, Joseph did not want to make it clear that he has retired from the game of football while he is currently going for a CAF Diploma D coaching course.

He disclosed that he is still an active member of the domestic soccer fraternity as he wants to share his experience.

The midfielder revealed: "Nowhere did I say I have retired from soccer, but the day will come when I will

issue a statement, at the moment, I have not yet retired but I am studying a coaching course."

Joseph maintained local footballers should strive to opt for professional stints outside Tanzania.

He issued the opinion

about the impact brought about by the increasing number of foreign players in the Mainland Premier League as opposed to locals going for professional stints beyond the country's borders.

"It is important for the aspiring soccer players to make an effort to go abroad. This would help even when we want to form a strong national team, the presence of players playing abroad would facilitate good integration and good results."

"I call on the government, TFF, and the various sports stakeholders to support the development and co-operation of various agents to be able to send our players out," Joseph revealed.

Joseph also congratulated the senior national team for successfully leading Group J of the ongoing African Qualifiers for the 2022 World Cup.

According to Joseph, he is pleased with the ability of the squad's technical bench led by coach Kim Poulsen.



Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa (L), NMB Bank's Board Chairman, Edwini Mhede (2nd L), NMB Bank CEO, Ruth Zaipuna (3rd L), and the institution's Chief of Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi, do some light aerobics with other runners immediately after participating in the 5km run of the inaugural NMB Marathon, which took place in Dar es Salaam last Saturday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Giniki, Nathalia hold sway in 2021 NMB Marathon

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister, Kassim Majaliwa, last Saturday led more than 3,000 runners to participate in a charity race, known as the 2021 NMB Marathon, which ended with Arusha-based Emmanuel Giniki and Nathalia Sule emerging as winners in the 21km race for men and women categories respectively.

The 2021 NMB Marathon, which started and ended at the Leaders Club ground was held under the theme, 'Mbio za Upendo.'

The event, which was organized by NMB Bank in collaboration with CCBRT Hospital, aimed at raising funds for funding the treatment of women suffering fistula disease in the country.

Majaliwa participated in the 5km race, accompanied by

several government leaders, including Commissioner General of Immigration (CGI), Anna Makakala, Minister for Health, Gender, Elderly and Children, Dorothy Gwajima, Dar es Salaam Regional Commissioner, Amos Makalla, NMB Bank Chief Executive Officer, Ruth Zaipuna and her CCBRT Hospital counterpart, Brenda Msangi.

Giniki emerged as the men's 21km race champion, followed by Fabiano Sule of Tanzania Police and Faraja Damas of the Tanzania People's Defense Forces.

Nathalia beat the rest of the athletes in the women's 21km race to emerge as champion, Secilia Ginoka of the Tanzania People's Defense Forces finished second, and Tunu Andrea of Singida came third.

Giniki got a cash prize amounting to 1.4m/- for his vic-

tory, whereas Sule walked away with 1.1m/- and Damas raked in 700,000/-.

The same prizes were presented to women's category winners, Nathalia (first), Secilia (second), and Tunu (third).

In the men's 10km race, Inyasi Sule from Arusha Talent Club emerged as the first winner followed by Mudrakat Ngachi of Tanzania People's Defense Forces and Nelson Mbuya of the Zanzibar's JKU ended third.

Inyasi won 700,000/-, Mudrakat received 500,000/-, and Mbuya walked away with 300,000/-.

In the women's 10km race, Monalisa Leonard of the National Service (JKT) emerged as the winner, followed by Aisha Lubina of Arusha, while Rosalia Fabian of Zanzibar's JKU finished third.

The 10km's women's category

winners won the same prize as the men's category winners, namely 700,000/-, 500,000/-, and 300,000/-.

John Slima emerged as a 5km run's champion, whereas Mkama Richard and Regan Allen ended second and third respectively.

Hamida Nassoro led the women's 5km race, followed by Suzana Thomas that finished second, and Happiness Julius who settled for the third spot.

The female and male winners won 250,000/-, 150,000/-, and 100,000/- each.

Dar es Salaam's Mgima Saidi won the 5km race (boys), followed by Ryan Nkusi and Abdallah Athumani (both from Dar es Salaam).

Lauren Dickson won the 5km race for girls, followed closely by Vanessa Kabula and Rayyan Issa.

Jesus wins battle of strikers over Lukaku in key Man City win

LONDON

EVERY team with title aspirations needs a reliable No. 9 to deliver in the biggest games, and Saturday's clash between Champions League winners Chelsea and Premier League champions Manchester City was settled by one of them. It just happened to be the guy who has spent all summer hearing his team needs a new striker rather than the £97.5m club-record signing who scored the clincher as City won 1-0 at Stamford Bridge.

This was a day when Pep Guardiola and his players reminded everyone that City remain the team to beat in the Premier League, but it was also an occasion when Gabriel Jesus showed that he can still be the man to score the goals to deliver more success at the Etihad.

And if we are talking about reminders, Romelu Lukaku's underwhelming performance up front for Chelsea also highlighted how the former Everton and Manchester United forward still has it all to prove when up against the top teams and best defences.

It was Jesus who performed like the complete centre-forward in this game, not Lukaku, and that was all the more surprising considering that the City striker was not even selected to play in his favoured position by manager Guardiola. Jesus spent all but the final eight minutes of this game operating on the wide right of a front three, with midfielder Phil Foden deployed as a false nine through the middle, but the Brazil international was a livewire from start to finish, pressing the Chelsea defenders throughout and taking a physical battering from Antonio Rudiger.

His goal -- a close-range shot deflected off Jorginho in the 53rd minute -- was a reward for his effort and ability to shrug off the disappointment of having to play out of position for much of the game. It was also enough to consign Chelsea to their first defeat of the season and end Thomas Tuchel's three-game winning streak over City since replacing Frank Lampard as manager in January.

"Gabriel is always giving everything," Guardiola said. "You cannot say anything to him. Every single game, he runs for his teammates in every single actions. These types of players make me happy."

It is in the high-pressure games that you learn most about teams, and both Tuchel and Guardiola will have come away from this clash armed with new knowledge about their attacking play. Tuchel, for example, may already have realised that his team needs greater variety going forward if they are to win the Premier League this season, as this defeat offered confirmation of that.

Lukaku's summer arrival from Inter Milan was designed to give Chelsea the cutting edge that they lacked last year, when Timo Werner failed to measure up as a consistent scorer following his £47.6m arrival from RB Leipzig, but as he did against Liverpool last month, Lukaku failed to threaten against City.

The 28-year-old has certainly given Chelsea a focal point up front and his hold-up play has greatly improved during his two years in Serie A, but his movement continues to be predictable and he still doesn't do enough to go in search of the ball when his team struggles to deliver it to him.

Perhaps Chelsea needed the creativity of Kai Havertz from the start of this game, rather than as a 60th-minute substitute, to get the best from Lukaku, but after failing to impress against Liverpool, Lukaku has now done the same against City and, at some point, he has to provide a threat in these games if Chelsea are to win the title. If he can add the work rate and movement of a Robert Lewandowski, Harry Kane or Edinson Cavani, Lukaku will make Chelsea formidable, but right now, he is making life far too easy for the top-class defenders he is facing.

City forward Jesus is a different player to Lukaku, but he is a centre-forward nonetheless. That he has not been trusted by Guardiola to fill the void left by Sergio Agüero's summer move to Barcelona highlights the manager's lack of faith in the 24-year-old. City's failed pursuit of Kane will have done little to boost Jesus's confidence either. But while he is not regarded by City as the solution to their search for a world-class centre-forward, Jesus' qualities enable Guardiola to play with a front three in the absence of a Kane or Lewandowski.

Jesus stretches defences and selflessly soaks up physical challenges to hold the ball up for his advancing teammates. And he will also go looking for the ball or make the runs that create space for the likes of Foden, Kevin De Bruyne, Bernardo Silva and others to attack teams.

"Sometimes we believe we need a proper striker to finish, but the important thing is the way we play," Guardiola said. "The most important thing is doing it as a team and as a unit. It's like last season. Sergio [Agüero] was injured all year and we won the Premier League."

Jesus may never play through the middle again under Guardiola, but he can still be an asset and he showed that against Chelsea, who carried virtually no threat until the closing stages. Despite their late flurry, Chelsea ended the game without registering one shot on target.

Yes, they had started the season well prior to this defeat, but Chelsea still don't possess the variety of City and Liverpool when going forward. Early-season hype has suggested that they are favourites for the title, but this was a much-needed reality check. As for City, they still need a centre-forward, but they don't lack players capable of scoring to win big games.

Chelsea still need to prove they have that in their locker.

ESPN

Man City's super Saturday restores title grip

LONDON

MANCHESTER City sent out a warning they remain the team to beat in the Premier League as a dominant 1-0 win at Chelsea, combined with unexpected dropped points from Manchester United and Liverpool completed a perfect Saturday for Pep Guardiola's men.

Had this week gone wrong for Guardiola, the English champions could have found themselves nine points adrift of Chelsea, Liverpool and United - the three sides hotly tipped to pose more of a challenge for the title this season.

A 0-0 draw at home to Southampton last weekend reopened the debate of why City spent £100 million on Jack Grealish in the transfer window rather than a goalscorer to fill the shoes of the departed Sergio Agüero.

Trips to Stamford Bridge and Anfield, where City have not won in front of fans since 2003, beckoned with a Champions League visit to Paris Saint-Germain sandwiched in between.

But City passed the first test of an exacting eight days with flying



Jesus' effort rooted returning Chelsea goalkeeper Edouard Mendy (front) to the spot has his 53rd-minute winner was enough. (Agencies)

colours to get revenge for their Champions League final defeat to Chelsea and end the hoodoo Thomas Tuchel had on Guardiola towards the end of last season.

The Blues victory in Porto completed a hat-trick of wins in three different competitions over City.

However, Guardiola turned the tables in the tactical battle as City's blend of possession and pressing hounded Chelsea inside their own half and rarely let them escape on the counter-

attack.

"For 60 minutes, until the goal, we were very strong in the last 20 metres of the field but only there unfortunately. The other 80 metres, we were not good enough," said Tuchel.

"We were not good enough today to escape pressure. Our ball possession wasn't the sharpest in terms of switching the play to hurt them, to give us confidence and to breathe."

Guardiola acknowledged on Friday that

City lack the "weapon" up front that their title rivals have in the goal-scoring records of Cristiano Ronaldo, Romelu Lukaku and Mohamed Salah.

The lack of a striker will continue to raise questions for as long as City fail to turn their domination into goals.

Even the one centre-forward available to Guardiola, Gabriel Jesus, has been rebranded as a right winger so far this season.

The Guardiola way - Jesus showed why he

is not trusted through the middle as he missed two glorious chances either side of his decisive goal, which only found the net via the aid of a deflection off Jorginho.

However, City's strength does not come from one individual, but an expensively assembled squad honed to play the Guardiola way over the past six seasons.

"It doesn't matter where we play, we try to play our way," said a beaming Guardiola afterwards as he set a new club record tally of

221 wins as City manager.

The contrast between the cohesion of City's system under a world class manager and United's disjointed collection of stars is why the blue half of Manchester remain favourites for the title.

Ronaldo could not rescue Ole Gunnar Solskjaer's men as he failed to score for the first time since returning to Old Trafford in a 1-0 defeat to Aston Villa.

Solskjaer's decision to keep Bruno Fernandes on penalty duties also backfired as the Portuguese blazed a stoppage time spot-kick high into the Stretford End.

Only three goals separate City and United, with Chelsea sandwiched in between, all on 13 points from six games.

Liverpool are one clear at the top of the table on 14, but it could also have been better for Jurgen Klopp's men had they not blown the lead twice to draw 3-3 at Brentford.

Next weekend it is Liverpool and City's turn to go head-to-head at Anfield. But a super Saturday for Guardiola's men means even defeat won't be a knockout blow in the title race.

AFP

Manchester United slump and mounting injuries a worrying trend for Solskjaer

MANCHESTER, England

OLE Gunnar Solskjaer has been at Manchester United long enough to know that you are never more than one game away from a crisis, and after Aston Villa's 1-0 win at Old Trafford on Saturday, it's now three defeats from the past four games for the Norwegian.

A first Premier League defeat to the season -- thanks to Kortney Hause's 88th-minute winner and an even later penalty miss from Bruno Fernandes -- followed on quickly from the Carabao Cup third-round exit to West Ham on Wednesday and a shock defeat at Young Boys in the Champions League on Sept. 14.

It's only September and the past 10 days will be quickly forgotten if United can string together a run of form either side of the October internationals. For now, though, it is not going well.

"I thought we were very good on the transition, attacked quickly and then when we got up there the final decision, the execution, the quality wasn't good enough to get goals," said Solskjaer after a chaotic 90 minutes. "The game ebbed and flowed -- it was a good game for the neutral. Unfortunately, we get a goal against us on the corner. We didn't have enough control, even though we had 60% possession and 30 shots. What hurt us was the corner kick at the end and Bruno, one of his very rare misses."

The mood can change very quickly when you're in charge at Old

Trafford. Writing in his programme notes ahead of the game, Solskjaer said: "I'm very happy that we've started the Premier League season on the front foot and I really couldn't ask for much more from our start to the Premier League campaign at Old Trafford."

It was a case of famous last words. It looked like it might be one of those frustrating afternoons for United until Hause headed in Emiliano Buendia's corner at the near post just two minutes from time to make a poor result look even worse.

Solskjaer wasn't happy, and not just because the goal had come from a set piece. "You see the inconsistencies, VAR (video assistant referee) and decision-making," he said. "[Lol] Watkins is clearly obstructing David [De Gea] as the header goes in. The linesman does well, calls the decision into VAR, but they turned it down, so bad decisions again."

Still, even with the summer arrival of Raphael Varane from Real Madrid, United have now gone eight top-flight home games without a clean sheet for the first time since the 1971-72 season. The cause wasn't helped by losing both Luke Shaw and Harry Maguire to injury, but the warning signs were already there.

Matt Targett missed a sitter at the back post in the first half, and De Gea needed to make a good save from Watkins after the Spaniard was handed a hospital back-pass from Maguire. At the other end, United had 28



Ole Gunnar Solskjaer fumed at VAR's decision not to overturn Aston Villa's late winner. (Daily Mail)

shots, and while Emiliano Martinez made a couple of good saves, he didn't need to play out of his skin to earn Villa their first win at Old Trafford since December 2009. It was only their

second Premier League win over United in their last 46 attempts.

United's best chance fell to Fernandes in stoppage time when Mike Dean awarded a penalty after Edinson Cavani's

header hit Hause on the hand. Fernandes, rather than Cristiano Ronaldo, took responsibility but blasted his kick high into the Stretford End.

There's no point Solskjaer complaining his team don't get enough penalties if they are going to miss the ones they get, although he suggested afterward Fernandes had been put off by the Villa players who crowded the penalty spot before the kick.

"Bruno is such a good penalty taker and you would back him with your mortgage," said Solskjaer. "He will step forward every day of the week for the club and the team and sometimes it just doesn't go your way. It is such a fine line between heaven and hell. What I don't like is how they crowded the referee and the penalty spot. They got what they wanted."

It was United's final effort and the 55th shot they've had over the course of the past two games without managing to score. It was unfortunate for Solskjaer

that because of injuries to Shaw and Maguire he could only bring on Cavani as his one attacking change; Anthony Martial and Jadon Sancho were both left stranded on the bench.

The issue for Solskjaer now is what happens from here. Beat Villarreal on Wednesday and Everton on Saturday and the past week and a half will look like teething problems for a team still trying to gel. Continue to struggle, however, and the pressure will start to mount ahead of a run of games that already look daunting.

United's next four league games after facing Everton are against Leicester, Liverpool, Tottenham and Manchester City. Solskjaer has a history of getting good results when he has needed them most, but it would be a lot to expect any team to come through a fixture list like that unscathed.

United and their manager are at a crucial juncture.

ESPN

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Man City's super Saturday restores title grip

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Metacha Mnata

Goalie ready to play for Polisi Tanzania in 2021/22 season

By correspondents Ismail Tano & Nassir Nchimbi

POLISI Tanzania's new goalkeeper, Metacha Mnata, has announced that he is ready to serve the team in the 2021/22 Mainland Premier League season which starts on Monday.

Metacha has joined Kilimanjaro-based Polisi Tanzania as a free agent after ending a two-year contract with historical champions, Yanga.

The goalkeeper said that since joining the team he has had a good start and he eagerly waits for the league's start to fulfill his new responsibilities with the team.

"I am thankful since I joined the Polisi Tanzania, I have been getting a lot of support from my teammates and officials which makes me want to play for my team," Metacha revealed.

The goalkeeper said he believes the team will do well this season due to good signings, but even competition for a chance to play is one of aspects that prove the squad will be a force to reckon with.

Metacha who is also a member of the senior national team, Taifa Stars, said one of his goals is to play at the highest level as he did for his former clubs to continue to get call-up to the senior national team and get a chance to play professional football abroad.

Last season, Mnata was punished by Yanga for misconduct, he showed a section of the outfit's fans the middle finger after a Premier League clash against Ruwu Shooting, played in Dar es Salaam, which ended with Yanga cruising to 3-2 victory.

Meanwhile, Dar es Salaam's Kinondini Municipal Council FC has made it clear that the squad is aiming at finishing in one of the top four positions in this season's Mainland Premier League.

The squad is set to begin its search for successful campaign in the top flight by taking on Polisi Tanzania at the latter's backyard on September 29.

The KMC FC had set up a temporary camp at the seaside town of Morogoro.

The side has brought in several new entries, including forward Miraji Athuman who was turning out for Simba SC, Awesu Ally and Iddi Kipagwile from Azam FC who are on loan.

It also has veteran defender Hassan Kesya, who turned out for Mtibwa Sugar the previous season, but is currently starting a new challenge at KMC FC.

Christina Mwangi, KMC FC Information Officer, noted that the main thing they need is to get positive results in the new season.

"Preparations are going well and every player needs to see to it everything that is planned is fulfilled. The key thing at the moment is to keep preparing for our matches. We believe we will do well," she said.

One of the club's leaders insisted his side is ready for the new season, pointing out that there is a lot of confidence in the existence of plans to continue where they left off last season and the mistakes they made last season will be addressed.

Christina said nothing is impossible so it is a matter of time before the league starts.

The official pointed out: "Nothing is impossible, last season we started well but there are mistakes that we could have made that the technical bench will work to prevent recurrence."

"For the new season we need to win the league's title as we have done a good registration and the players should fulfill their responsibilities so the fans will continue to support us," she said.

Kenya, Tanzania ministers tee off golf tourism to boost leisure travel industry



Dar es Salaam golfers that took part in a recent Diplomatic Golf tournament pose for picture at the event, which took place at Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club course.

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA has started to invest heavily on sports tourism in efforts to expand travel packages to boost the industry which needs major boost after suffering global pandemic.

The Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, through the Tanzania Tourist Board (TTB) has just launched 'Golf Tourism,' to become regional tourism sports events that are set to attract new types of sports-oriented leisure travelers from overseas as well as those living around the East African region.

In introducing the special package of sports tourism, Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Damas Ndumbaro, invited his Kenyan counterpart, Najib Balala, to tee off the event at the Kilimanjaro Golf Club, in Meru, Arusha.

"Kenya is already ahead in Golf Tourism, but since Tanzania is now following suit, it is just fitting to have the Kenyan minister to officially grace the event," Ndumbaro noted during the occasion to open Golf Tourism at Kilimanjaro Golf Club in Arusha.

Kenya's Minister for Tourism and Wildlife, Najib Balala, pointed out that golf being a popular international sport, which attracts millions of players, can thus greatly boost the country's incoming tourists traffic.

Tanzania figures that, with proper promotion, better packaging and active synchronization with other tourism packages, golf events can help drive incoming tourists' traffic to reach 5 million by the year 2025 when earnings from the travel industry are targeted at 6bn/-.

The country will cooperate with its immediate neighbour, Kenya, in organizing international golfing events to attract participants from all over the globe.

"Of course, golf is always regarded as a sport for the wealthy and affluent people, these are exactly the patrons we are targeting," Balala maintained.

The TTB Chairman, Judge Thomas Mihayo, said the COVID-19 pandemic took a drastic toll on the country's tourism industry and in an effort to revive the sector, it was im-

portant to include new packages and offers.

The Tanzania Golf Union (TGU) president, Chris Martin, pointed out that while launching Golf Tourism is a good initiative, the country is still being constrained with inadequate golf courses to complement the efforts.

According to Martin, Tanzania needs to establish golf courses and activities in each and every region across the nation, because in order to attract international players, the country must also have enough professional golfers to give challenge.

Golf is yet to penetrate well in Tanzania, where the only form of sport most people seem to be conversant with, is low-end soccer.

The inauguration of the 'Tanzania Golf Tourism,' was conducted in-synch with the ongoing third Diplomatic Golf Tournament which attracted more than 140 participants from 13 countries around the world.

Cricket needs to come together to extricate itself from a mess of its own making

SYDNEY

THE game in the time of COVID-19 is already challenging. The international schedule urgently needs a re-evaluation.

Hollywood comedians Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy's signature line, "Well, here's another fine mess you've got me into", could easily apply to cricket's current scheduling predicament.

In the comedians' case it was heavyweight Hardy accusing his bumbling partner Laurel of yet another blunder. Cricket has only itself to blame for the bloated, unworkable schedule that the Covid pandemic has blown up like a left-over land mine.

First, there was England's withdrawal from a December 2020 ODI series in South Africa following a Covid outbreak. The pace of scheduling breakdowns picked up recently with India's refusal to play the last Test in the five-match series against England.

That was followed in quick succession by New Zealand's last-minute withdrawal from a T20 series with Pakistan, which prompted England to cancel their proposed men's and women's tour of that country.

There's no doubt that completing cricket tours unhindered during the pandemic is a precarious business.

Just surviving from day to day is an accomplishment in the current climate. Nevertheless the treatment meted out to Pakistan, in particular, appears to be excessively harsh, considering the way

they have unselfishly toured other countries during the pandemic.

Pakistan have now learned a lesson about the game that the former England captain and accomplished broadcaster Tony Lewis once eloquently expounded about on air.

After a particularly strenuous overseas winter bonding session, the England team had quickly found itself in trouble after the loss of early wickets in the first Test of the summer.

"Ah, that's better," chanted Lewis, "now the England players will understand the reality of the situation: it's every man for himself."

"Or, as it might be more correct to say in modern cricket parlance: 'It's every man and woman for themselves.'"

This is especially so in the lamentable case of Afghani-

stan, where the dreaded Taliban have more or less decreed female sport is a no-no.

This will more than likely result in the Afghanistan men's team having their first Test with Australia cancelled, and their probable ultimate removal from the status of Test-playing nation.

An international schedule that has lately flourished like a mushroom in the dark is now resembling a block of Jarlsberg cheese with its trademark holes.

The situation could reach a critical point when the England players are presented with the restrictions that will more than likely apply during their Ashes tour of Australia.

Confronted with a choice between a severely diminished Ashes series or a hastily arranged replacement tour, Australia might feel sympathy

for what countries like Pakistan have experienced.

Could this possibly bring one of the "Big Three" to a crisis meeting of the ICC with a feeling of empathy for the plight of lesser nations? Only an eternal optimist would answer "yes" to that question.

Nevertheless that is what is needed - some sympathy, in the light of the constant Covid disruptions to the international calendar.

From cricket's point of view, the only good that could come from the pandemic is a thorough re-evaluation of the schedule.

However, that would require the cricket countries to come together in good faith with a view to making decisions in the best interests of the game.

As we've seen over the years, and particularly in

more recent times, the likelihood of this happening is about the same as that of Donald Trump displaying humility.

In the early 2000s when the game's administrators followed the golden rainbow and discovered the IPL at the end of it, they unwittingly transferred enormous power into the hands of the players.

There's no better time for the administrators to call in that favour and work with the players to map out a better and more equitable future for the game.

If that situation were to eventuate and the result is a workable schedule that accommodates all, cricket will have the pandemic to thank for helping extract itself from a nice mess of its own making.

AGENCIES



Exim Bank Tanzania staff congratulate themselves after participating in the NMB Marathon 2021 held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend, aiming at raising 1bn/- for financing the treatment of women suffering from fistula. In addition to participating in the race, the bank also donated 10m/- to the organizers of the race to support the noble act. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Flexibles by David Chikoko

