



SCHOLASHIPS



TANZANIANS BENEFIT FROM KOREA EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMMES **PAGE 3**

HEALTH



TRAINING INSTITUTIONS ON THE SPOTLIGHT **PAGE 4**

AGRICULTURE



SUNFLOWER GROWERS SEEK LOANS TO BOOST PRODUCTION **PAGE 5**

GOVERNANCE



GAMASARA WATER PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION **PAGE 7**



Eat less meat, says UN climate change panel

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

EFFORTS to curb greenhouse gas emissions and the impacts of global warming will fall significantly short without drastic changes in global land use, agriculture and human diets, leading researchers warn in a high-level report commissioned by the United Nations.

The special report on climate and land by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) describes plant-based diets as a major opportunity for mitigating and adapting to climate change and includes a policy recommendation to substantially reduce meat consumption.

Yesterday, the IPCC released a summary of the report, designed to inform upcoming climate negotiations amidst the worsening global climate crisis. More than 100 experts compiled the report in recent months, around half of whom hail from developing countries.

"We don't want to tell people what to eat," says Hans-Otto Pörtner, an ecologist who co-chairs the IPCC's working group on impacts, adaptation and vulnerability. "But it would indeed be beneficial, for both climate and human health, if people in many rich



By 2050, dietary changes could free millions of square kilometres of land, and reduce global CO2 emissions by up to eight billion tonnes per year, relative to business as usual, the scientists estimate

countries consumed less meat, and if politics would create appropriate incentives to that effect."

Researchers also note the relevance of the report to tropical rainforests, where concerns are mounting about accelerating rates of deforestation. The Amazon rainforest is a huge carbon sink that acts to cool global temperature, but rates of deforestation are rising, in part due to the policies and actions of the government of Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro.

Unstopped, deforestation could turn much of the remaining Amazon forest into a degraded type of desert, possibly releasing over 50 billion tonnes of carbon into the atmosphere in 30 to 50 years, says Carlos Nobre, a climate scientist at the University of São Paulo in Brazil. "That's very worrying," he says.

"Unfortunately, some countries don't seem to understand the dire need of stopping deforestation in the tropics," says Pörtner. "We cannot force any government to interfere. But

TURN TO PAGE 2

Shein: SADC states must ratify protocols and implement them



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (L) listens to CRDB bank client, Emmanuel Silanga giving testimony on a loan enabling him to buy cotton from farmers, as a purchasing agent. The premier visited the CRDB pavilion at the climax of the 27th Agricultural, Livestock and Fishing exhibition - Nanenane 2019 - held nationally at the Nyakabindi grounds in Simiyu region yesterday. Right is CRDB Managing Director Abdulmajid Nsekela. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PM: List traders given money to buy cotton

By Guardian Reporter, Simiyu

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa has directed commercial banks and regional commissioners to identify and list names of traders offered loans to purchase cotton under a government guarantee, for easy tracking to ensure that there is no diversion of funds.

Speaking in Simiyu region when wrapping up this year's Agriculture Exhibitions (Nanenane) at the national level, Majaliwa said the government is committed to ensuring that farmers get what they deserve from cotton.

"The government has decided to revive



The premier stated that the government will ensure that all the cotton is transferred from famers to cooperative unions

cooperative unions and the process is now going on smoothly. What we are now asking for is support from farmers. We want you to choose people who will be committed to lead these unions," he said.

The premier stated that the government will ensure that all the cotton is transferred from famers to cooperative unions.

"Let me assure the farmers that the entire cotton in your homes will be collected and you will be paid your money," he emphasized.

He outlined a new payment system for cotton farmers as one among steps towards overhauling the sub-sector that employs

TURN TO PAGE 2

Dr Shein said that Tanzania used Kiswahili as the medium of communication in partnering with combatants from member states in the bloc during the liberation struggle. "Kiswahili is currently facilitating communication and businesses in the East African Community (EAC) and the African Union has accepted Kiswahili as an official language," he reiterated

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein yesterday urged Southern African Development Community (SADC) member states to timely ratify protocols as they are finalized and take initiatives to domesticate and implement them.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam at the closure of the 4th SADC Industrialization Week Dr Shein asserted that member states to fast track the regional 2015-2063 industrial drive by developing industries and procuring intra-SADC products.

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

"We must build a culture of loving our own products and do away with hiring experts from abroad. There should be efforts to ensure technological advancement to realize our industrialization strategy, enhance intra-regional trade and increase market and employment opportunities," the Isles leader underlined.

He told delegates that SADC member states can create market and employment opportunities



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

through establishment of industries and procurement of locally made goods. He insisted the need for innovation and value addition to locally manufactured products so that they compete with imported goods.

SADC has an integrated market of 16 countries, a combined population of 327 million and a GDP of about \$ 599 billion.

"Member states should advance their information and Communication Technology (ICT) capacity to cope with globalization, technology advancement and be able to search for markets online," he urged.

He commended the idea of promoting the use of Kiswahili as another official language in the SADC Secretariat.

"This is a major landmark towards strengthening our region's integration and expands the horizon for our businesses. History shows that Kiswahili played an important role in uniting Tanzanians despite the presence of numerous local languages," he pointed out.

Dr Shein said that Tanzania used Kiswahili as the medium of communication in partnering with combatants from member states in the bloc during the liberation struggle. "Kiswahili is currently facilitating communication and businesses in the East African Community

TURN TO PAGE 2

Hunting firm assets held for defaulting on villages' levy

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

MISFORTUNE never comes single-handedly, as the doomed Green Mile Safari Company whose tracking licence was revoked this week, is facing another problem, the company's assets have been impounded over dues to local villages.

Speaking at a public meeting in Mundarara Ward of Longido, District Commissioner Frank Mwaisumbe ordered the police and other security organs to work with local divisions, wards and villages surrounding

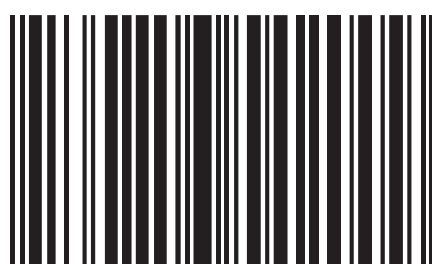


the East Natron hunting block to ensure that Green Mile assets continue to be held pending the settlement of dues owed to local communities.

About 23 villages mapped within the Longido, Kitumbeine and Engarnaibo divisions in the district reportedly demand more than 300 million/- in defaulted levies from the hunting firm.

On Wednesday, the minister of Natural Resources and Tourism Dr Hamisi Kigwangala (pictured) retracted the hunting

TURN TO PAGE 2



9 770856 542009



Deputy minister in the Vice President's Office (Union and Environment) Mussa Sima looks how gold is being purified by using mercury at Mugusu area in Geita region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PM: List traders given money to buy cotton

FROM PAGE 1

about 500,000 farmers across the country.

Under the new system -farmers will be required to open a bank account into which their payments will be made.

Earlier, Minister for Agriculture Japhet Hasunga requested the premier to extend the exhibitions for some

days.

Speaking recently when he visited the NMB Bank pavilion during the Nanenane Exhibition in Nyakabindi, Simiyu region, the newly appointed Deputy Minister, Hussein Bashe said the government through the ministry plans to create a friendly environment for financial institutions to invest in agriculture and putting in place a proper lending system for

farmers.

"There are problems with inputs especially in cotton farming, where the government through the cotton board has spent a lot of money importing and exporting for farmers but the results have not been clear," he said.

He asked financial institutions to discuss how to provide credit to farmers, also stop using agents and

instead go directly to the sub-sector to spend their money and it will be returned by farmers as soon as possible after harvesting.

Cotton, which is grown in 56 districts in 17 regions of Tanzania Mainland, is one among strategic crops to help with the transformation of the economy towards a semi-industrialized middle income status by 2025.

Shein: SADC states must ratify protocols, implement them

FROM PAGE 1

(EAC) and the African Union has accepted Kiswahili as an official language," he reiterated.

Octavian Mshiu of the SADC Business Council said the council will provide support for President John Magufuli as he assumes the SADC chairmanship.

"With the strong leadership of President Magufuli, Tanzania will spearhead the region's industrialization agenda," said Mshiu, noting that the council will mostly give suggestions to governments and the SADC Secretariat rather than complaining.

He called on member states to

use available resources to build the economy, quoting the late Mwalimu Nyerere who once asserted that African can become an economic powerhouse if countries trade within themselves.

Earlier, SADC Executive Secretary Dr Stergomona Tax said that declarations of the 4th SADC Industrialization Week should also insist on the need for countries to ensure affordable and accessible energy.

Dr Tax noted that member states should look beyond gas and energy as major infrastructures, to consider tapping other sources of energy to facilitate industrialization.



President Dr. Ali Mohamed Shein

Telecom launches 3G network site in Kisaki

By Guardian Reporter

THE leading digital lifestyle company Tigo Tanzania has today launched a 3G network site in Kisaki, Morogoro region.

Speaking at the launch event in Kisaki, Tigo's Morogoro regional sales manager, Frank Anthony, said availability of the 3G network in the area will positively impact economic and social activities in the area.

"With the launch of the 3G site in Kisaki, we are creating a better experience for our customers who live in the rural areas to enjoy innovative digital services including content being developed for education, entertainment and business. This will surely open up new opportunities and

foster socio-economic development."

Anthony said along with faster data speeds, the 3G network provides a much better call quality and level of reliability.

"In addition, customers who will purchase any internet packages will be awarded with 100MBs every day for 30 days. This offer is valid for 30 days from the launch of the 3G site," he said.

The launch of Tigo's 3G service in Kisaki is a continuation of the network's series of launches of the same in other regions across the country.

The Kisaki 3G site launch is the tenth out of 52 sites across the country that are lined up for an upgrade to the 3G and 4G LTE network particularly in the central, coastal, south, north and Lake zones.

Eat less meat, says UN climate change panel

FROM PAGE 1

we hope that our report will sufficiently influence public opinion to that effect."

While fossil fuel burning for energy generation and transport garners the most attention, activities relating to land management, including agriculture and forestry, produce almost a quarter of heat-trapping gases. The race to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees above pre-industrial levels the goal of the international Paris climate agreement reached in 2015 might be a lost battle unless land is used in a more sustainable and climate-friendly way, the latest IPCC report says.

The report highlights the need to preserve and restore forests, which soak up carbon from the air, and peat lands, which release carbon if dug up. Cattle raised on pastures of cleared woodland are particularly emission-intensive, it says. This practice often comes with large-scale deforestation such as in Brazil or Colombia. Cows also produce large amount of methane, a potent greenhouse-gas, as they digest their food.

The report states with high confidence that balanced diets featuring plant-based, and sustainably-produced animal-sourced food "present major opportunities for adaptation and mitigation while generating significant co-benefits in terms of human health."

By 2050, dietary changes could free millions of square kilometres of land, and reduce global CO2 emissions by up to eight billion tonnes per year, relative to business as usual, the scientists estimate.

"It's really exciting that the IPCC is getting such a strong message across," says Ruth Richardson, the Toronto-based executive director at the Global Alliance for the Future of Food, a strategic coalition of philanthropic foundations. "We need radical transformation, not incremental shifts, towards a global land use and food system that serves our climate needs."

The report cautions that land must remain productive to feed a rising world population. Warming enhances plant growth in some regions, but in others including northern Eurasia, parts of North America, Central Asia and tropical Africa increasing water stress seems to reduce the rate of photosynthesis. So the use of biofuel crops and the creation of new forests seen as measures with the potential to mitigate global warming must be carefully managed to avoid the risk of food shortage and biodiversity loss, the report says.

Farmers and communities around the world must also reckon with more intense rainfall, floods and droughts resulting from climate change, warns the IPCC. Land degradation and expanding

deserts threaten to affect food security, increase poverty and drive migration, the report says.

About a quarter of the Earth's land area appears to suffer soil degradation already and climate change is expected to make things worse, particularly in low-lying coastal areas, river deltas, drylands and permafrost areas. Sea level rise is adding to coastal erosion in some regions, the report says.

Industrialised farming practices are responsible for much of the observed soil erosion and pollution, says Andre Lapierre, the Oxford-based executive director of Global Open Data for Agriculture and Nutrition, an initiative to make relevant scientific information accessible worldwide.

The report might provide a much-needed, authoritative call to action, he says. "The biggest hurdle we face is to try and teach about half a billion farmers globally to re-work their agricultural model to be carbon sensitive."

Nobre also hopes that the IPCC's voice will give greater prominence to land use issues in upcoming climate talks. "I think that the policy implications of the report will be positive in terms of pushing all tropical countries to aim at reducing deforestation rates," he says.

Regular assessments

Since 1990, the IPCC has regularly assessed the scientific literature, producing comprehensive reports every six years, and special reports on specific aspects of climate change such as the present study at irregular intervals.

A special report released last year concluded that global greenhouse-gas emissions which hit an all-time high of more than 37 billion tonnes in 2018 must sharply decline in the very near future to limit global warming to 1.5 degrees and that this will require drastic action without further delay. The IPCC's next special report, about the ocean and ice sheets in a changing climate, is due next month.

Governments from across the world will consider the IPCC's latest findings at a UN climate summit next month in New York. The next round of climate talks of parties to the Paris agreement will then take place in December in the Chilean capital of Santiago.

António Guterres, the UN secretary general and secretary to the panel, said last week that it is "absolutely essential" to implement that landmark agreement and "to do so with an enhanced ambition".

"We need to mainstream climate change risks across all decisions," he said. "That is why I am telling leaders: don't come to the summit with beautiful speeches."



Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Permanent Secretary Dr Zainabu Chaula addresses Dodoma Institute of Health and Allied Sciences students during her visit on Wednesday. Photo: Correspondent Ubrahim Joseph

Hunting firm assets held for defaulting on villages' levy

FROM PAGE 1

licence granted to Green Mile Safari Company, bringing to a halt the firm's game tracking activities on the East Lake Natron tourism hunting block.

"While we support the minister's decision to revoke the Green Miles hunting licence, it is important to remind them that the debt that the firm owes to villages here was not revoked. So it is high time they settle their dues before packing," the DC affirmed.

Speaking during the meeting, representatives of the 23 villages claimed that more than 329 million/- was owed to them by Green Miles Safaris Limited which conducted hunting activities in the area, but has not been paying village dues.

Mundarara Ward councillor Alois Mushao revealed that as per contract, the company was required to pay an annual fee of 5.5 million/- to each of the 23 villages, but since 2013 when the agreement was signed, the investor managed

to settle only the first year's dues.

"And when we started complaining last year, hosting the Deputy Minister here, the management of Green Miles again paid the dues for another year. This means the firm is yet to pay accumulated dues for five years.

Around 47 firms were granted hunting licences in various parts of the country and are supposed to settle annual fees amounting to US \$ 5000 to each of the villages in their precincts, money which is supposed to be invested in community development projects.

In addition to paying levies to the villages, hunting firms were also obliged to assist in anti-poaching and illegal logging activities in protected areas.

The Longido DC also expressed concern over an incident of the killing of 16 giraffes by poachers, within the space of three months last year, all occurring in the hunting block belonging to Green Miles Limited, indicating that there was some laxity in issues of security

in the management.

The Longido District Administrative Officer, Toba Nguvula said the hunting firm was conducting some illegal practices in the area, including torturing animals, using automatic weapons to kill game and allowing children to hunt with firearms.

Elinami Mshau, a resident of Orupekeni village said they hoped that the new investor will be considerate enough to ensure that local villages benefitted from hunting in like manner as the firm.

Efforts to contact Green Miles Safaris director Abdalah Salum Awadhi were unsuccessful yesterday as he failed to pick up his phone. However, on Wednesday he released a statement claiming that they have not yet received any letter from the ministry revoking their licence.

But the Longido DC said the official letter was sent to the Green Miles office yesterday, which means the matter was valid when he spoke, not when he failed to pick the phone.



Korea International Cooperation Agency deputy country director K-hyun Baik talks at the Koica alumni conference organised by Global Korea Scholarship and Koica held in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

By Guardian Reporter

Tanzanian officials and students benefit from the Korea educational programmes

ABOUT 80 Tanzanian government officials have been supported to undergo Master's programme in Korea through Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), according to ambassador of the Republic of Korea to Tanzania, CHO Tae-ick.

He made the revelation in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday when speaking at the 2019 Joint Alumni Conference of the Global Korea Scholarship (GKS) and KOICA's scholarship programme in Tanzania. The event brought together those who had come back from Korea and those who are expected to begin their studies in Korea starting this year.

Addressing participants, ambassador Tae-ick said the government officials have been undergoing studies since 2012. He added that apart from the officials, the GKS had supported almost 80 Tanzanian students to pursue undergraduate and graduate studies

since 2008.

"Most of the scholarship beneficiaries come back to Tanzania and become important assets to the socio-economic development as Tanzania travels its path towards realisation of the development vision 2025 and steps towards becoming a middle-income country", said the ambassador noting that Korea once travelled the same path that Tanzania is now taking.

He noted that Tanzania and Korea have enjoyed a good bilateral relationship since 1992, and that Tanzania is one of the 24 priority partner countries of Korea's official development aid (ODA) for the year 2016/2020.

He said Tanzania has received \$ 517 million from Korea for the past

27 years. He said that Korea has been a major partner for Tanzania's development cooperation in areas such as agriculture, fisheries, education, vocational training, healthcare, ICT, water management and infrastructure development.

Ambassador Tae-ick said the assistance is being extended through Korea's aid agencies including Korea Exim Bank, KOICA and Korea Foundation for International Healthcare (KOFIH).

Tanzania opened its Embassy in Seoul Korea in January 2018 which was a landmark for the relationship between the two countries. The Embassy was opened by the then Foreign Affairs Minister Augustine Mahiga.

One of the Alumni, Dr Robert

Suphian a lecturer at the University of Dar es Salaam Business School and coordinator at Korea Studies Center (KSC-UDSM) urged selected Tanzania students who are going Korea to concentrate on studies as the universities has good libraries and higher student/teacher ratio.

"Koreans are disciplined, you must respect their culture by working hard, keeping time, be open as well as respecting elders", Dr Suphian noted.

Another beneficiary, Judith Kidamba currently working with Korean company-GS Engineering and Construction Cooperation, constructing the new Selander Bridge in Dar es Salaam, insisted on Tanzanian students to follow traditional rules of Koreans so as to cope with life.

Tanzania now harmonises 30 standards used in SADC region

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

TANZANIA has harmonised a total of 30 standards that are applicable in Southern African Development Community (SADC), it has been learnt.

Speaking at the ongoing SADC industrialisation Week and exhibition, the Tanzania Bureau of Standards public relations officer Neema Mtemvu, said the standards were harmonised according to the requests from the manufacturers and traders.

She said traders who want to export goods to the SADC region has to contact TBS to understand lists of harmonised standards.

According to her, the bureau would continue to harmonise standards according to the requirements of the country involved.

"Harmonisation of standards is a continuous process, we shall not hesitate to do so in order to help our manufacturers access markets in the SADC region", she added.

Mtemvu urged Small and Medium entrepreneurs to approve their products with relevant organs that would enable them to secure markets in nearby countries.

She said the quality mark licence which is issued by the bureau is recognised and accepted all over the country.

TBS in collaboration with other government organs has been supporting SMEs to access quality mark

after following several procedures, she said

"Up to moment a total of 300 SMEs had been supported free of charge to access the mark and now they are able to sell their products in local and foreign markets," she added.

Explaining on the mark, she said it gives the mandate to the companies to undertake measures for quality control of products of all descriptions and promote standardisation in industry and commerce.

She noted that most of the industries tend to ignore to bring their products for approval something which led to unnecessary delays and losses for manufacturers concerned, it is important to consult us voluntarily for the betterment of the consumers.

The official directed all the manufacturers to continue producing goods that meet TBS standards to avoid legal measures.

It was reported recently that some SMEs had secured market of their products outside the country.

"Already there are many certified SMEs that had now secured markets of their products in the East Africa Community (EAC) and Southern Africa Development Community," said a senior official from the bureau.

Apart from licence, she said manufacturers must also adhere to integrity during production processes that would make their products be marketable.



REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL – Legal Services

RFP 2019 – 08/01

Closing Date: Friday 23rd August 2019, 2pm (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Pact Tanzania is a non-profit organization with its offices located in Dar Es Salaam. Pact Tanzania serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization as we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses and government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable and vibrant.

Pact Tanzania invites proposals from eligible, registered local legal firms to provide Legal services for a period of two years Renewable on a yearly basis subject to satisfactory performance.

Terms of References (ToRs) for this assignment will be shared on request through procurementTZ@pactworld.org. The proposal should address the specifics of the ToRs in the order in which they appear and should include a detailed section on the methodology and approach you would adopt in meeting the ToRs

Interested eligible vendor must submit the following information to Pact Tanzania:

- Narrative financial proposal
- Current company profile
- Copies of registration certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, tax clearance and TIN certificates
- Descriptions of similar assignments, and at least two (2) names and addresses of client served
- Each tender should also indicate the charges/costs and mode of payments.
- Current audited financial statement

Interested, eligible dealers/vendors should deliver their proposal to:

The Tender Committee
Pact Tanzania
74 Uporoto Street, Victoria
P. O. Box 6348, Dar es salaam, Tanzania

All proposals must be in Tanzania shillings and enclosed in a plain sealed envelope.

The deadline is 2pm EAT Friday 23rd August 2019.

Please note:

1. Late or incomplete bids will not be accepted.
2. Electronic bids will not be accepted.
3. The Proposal that complies with all the specifications/requirements and offers the lowest price, shall be selected.
4. Pact may cancel solicitation and not award.
5. Pact may reject any or all responses received.
6. Issuance of request for quotes does not constitute a contract commitment by Pact.
7. Pact reserves the right to disqualify any offer based on offeror failure to follow the solicitation instructions.
8. Pact reserves the right to waive minor proposal deficiencies that can be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition.
9. Pact will be contacting all offerors to confirm contact person; address and that the proposal was submitted for this solicitation.

215386401



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS - AUDIT SERVICES

RFQ 2019 – 08/02

Closing Date: Friday 23rd August 2019, 14:00 hrs (Dar es Salaam, Tanzania)

Pact Tanzania is a non-profit organization with its offices located in Dar Es Salaam. Pact Tanzania serves communities challenged by poverty and marginalization as we envision a world where everyone owns their future. To do this, we build systemic solutions in partnership with local organizations, businesses and government. Our goal is thriving, resilient communities where those we serve are heard, capable and vibrant.

Pact Tanzania invites proposals from eligible, registered local Audit firms to provide External Audit services for a period of two years from 01 October 2018 to 30 September 2020. (Renewable on a yearly basis subject to satisfactory performance).

Terms of References (ToRs) for this assignment will be shared on request through procurementTZ@pactworld.org. The proposal should address the specifics of the ToRs in the order in which they appear and should include a detailed section on the methodology and approach you would adopt in meeting the ToRs

Interested eligible vendor must submit the following information to Pact Tanzania:

- Narrative financial proposal
- Current company profile
- Copies of registration certificate and address of their registered office, valid business license, VAT, tax clearance and TIN certificates
- Descriptions of similar assignments, and at least two (2) names and addresses of client served
- Each tender should also indicate the charges/costs and mode of payments.
- Current audited financial statement

Interested, eligible dealers/vendors should deliver their sealed proposals to:

The Tender Committee
Pact Tanzania
74 Uporoto Street, Victoria
P. O. Box 6348, Dar es salaam, Tanzania

All proposals must be in Tanzania shillings and enclosed in a plain sealed envelope.

The deadline is 2pm EAT Friday 23rd August 2019.

Please note:

1. Late or incomplete bids will not be accepted.
2. Electronic bids will not be accepted.
3. The Proposal that complies with all the specifications/requirements and offers the lowest price, shall be selected.
4. Pact may cancel solicitation and not award.
5. Pact may reject any or all responses received.
6. Issuance of request for quotes does not constitute a contract commitment by Pact.
7. Pact reserves the right to disqualify any offer based on offeror failure to follow the solicitation instructions.
8. Pact reserves the right to waive minor proposal deficiencies that can be corrected prior to award determination to promote competition.
9. Please be advised that PACT (T) will not meet any costs incurred by you in preparing your proposal nor any other pre-contract costs.
10. Pact will be contacting all offerors to confirm contact person; address and that the proposal was submitted for this solicitation.

215386501

Ardhi University student wins 'China-Tanzania friendship Awards Essay' competition

By Correspondent James Kandoya

ARDHI University student Humphrey Mrema yesterday emerged the winner of the China-Tanzania Friendship Awards Essay Competition that aimed at sharing their stories and emotions about China-Tanzania Friendship.

Maro, who is pursuing a Bachelor of Science and Regional Urban Planning degree expressed his intentions of ensuring more girls students get access to sanitary pads.

"I appeal to the embassy to support my goal of ensuring that more girls students have access to sanitary pads to enable them to do well in their studies," he said.

According to Maro, who is also the co-founder of a Non-Government Organisation 'Youth Survival Organisation' hinted that sanitary pads were one of the major challenges facing most girls students in Tanzania the situation which sometimes make them fail to attend classes for several days.

He added that currently he was finalising his proposal intended to be submitted to the Chinese embassy in the country for further implementation.

"Trust me, even if today all countries in the world will disappear and remaining Tanzania and China, still our country Tanzania will sustain to provide for her people because China is not only our friend, but also our companion, our neighbour and our hope at times of difficulties," he said.

In the ceremony held at embassy premises Maro was awarded a certificate and cash prize of 300,000/- while winners of the second prize were Hobokela Mwinbe from Songwe Regional Commissioner's Office and Landeline Mutajwaa from JW Bukanga high school in Musoma, Mara region who received 200,000/- each.

The third winners among the English and Swahili articles were Phelister Marwa, quality assurance officer from the Ministry for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, Rebecca Patrick from Sokoine University of Agriculture and David Mahene from Mkwawa University College of Education.

However due to their outstanding

performance, Wang Xiaole (Ayube Damiani), Hasan Manyama and Li Xianhui from the demonstration centre of China agricultural technology were awarded special contribution awards.

Speaking at the awarding ceremony, the Chinese ambassador to Tanzania Wang Ke said the essay competition was organised in collaboration between the China embassy and Tanzania-China Friendship Promotion Association.

She said since the event was launched, quite a number of Tanzanian friends and Chinese compatriots submitted their articles among them was a 80-years old retired executive who took part in the founding of Chinese-Tanzania joint shipping company in 1966.

The envoy said the articles showcased the China-Tanzania relationship that also deep rooted in the people, relying on the people and truly benefitting the people.

"Bearing the good wishes of carrying forward the China-Tanzania friendship and in line with the people-centred concept, we will continue to uplift the China-Tanzania relations to a new level," she said.

"We will also give more resources to people's livelihoods by increasing support in the fields of education, health care and water supply, making the Rafiki programme cover more and more people," she added.

The envoy highlighted the need to encourage people-to-people exchanges, particularly the youths exchanges and youth development, and make the China-Tanzania Friendship successfully for the future generations.

Representing secretary general of the Tanzania and China Friendship Promotion Association Joseph Kahama said the association played a very significant role to ensure the friendship between the two countries was maintained.

"The essay competition was not meant to make our youth compete among themselves but as a platform to reflect, renew our partnership and impart the knowledge about our historical friendship to the young Tanzanians, so that they can own, cherish it with their heart," she explained.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (L) presents a trophy to the director of operations, Workers Compensation Fund (WCF) Anselim Peter for emerging the first winner in Social Security Fund category during the NaneNane fair at Nyakabindi grounds in Simiyu region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Electronic Tax Stamps helps TRA to identify products made in Tanzania

By Guardian Correspondent, Bariadi

THE rolling out of Electronic Tax Stamps (ETS) to carbonate and soft drinks has helped the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) to know the number of products that the country produces and the tax to be collected.

Apart from this, the ETS has increased revenue, increased tax base and closed tax evasion gaps among manufactures according to TRA's Tax Payer Education officer Godfrey Kumwembe.

"We have now managed to know how

many products the country produces and at the same time we also know how much tax they are supposed to pay," he said in an interview during the ongoing Agriculture exhibition fair (NaneNane) in Simiyu region.

He said currently TRA is working on finalising a process whereby a user can verify ETS stamps through an application in the phone first on soft drinks, water, juice and CD and DVDs.

TRA collected 15trn/- in 2018/19 financial year on the targeted 18bn/-.

The commissioner for policy analysis at the Ministry of Finance and Planning Mgonya Benedicto said the ETS application on phone will control manufactures who have been installing fake stamps on products hence subjecting the government to losses.

TRA announced 1st August this year as the effective date for the implementation of phase two of the ETS to carbonated and soft drinks manufacturing companies.

According to TRA, the ETS second

phase will also apply to products such as sweetened or flavored waters and other non-alcoholic beverages, with the exclusion of fruit vegetable juice.

He decision to roll out the ETS and ending physical stamps, stems from incidents of tax evasion and counterfeiting.

In January this year, TRA started the first phase of ETS system on wines, spirits and cigarettes. The system was fully rolled out for all alcoholic drinks, cigarettes and bottled water on June 15, this year.



TIB Development Bank's board chairperson Dr. Mary Mashingo (R) admires cables locally produced by Konnect Wire Co. Ltd during the 4th SADC Industrialisation Week ongoing at Julius Nyerere International Convention Centre in Dar es Salaam. Looking on are Konnect Wire Co. Ltd's sales officer Ally Omary (L) and TIB Development Bank's marketing and corporate affairs manager Saidi Mkabakuli (C). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

PS puts health training institutions on spotlight

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Permanent Secretary (PS) in the ministry of Health Community Development, Gender, the Elderly and Children, Dr Zainabu Chaula has put health training institutions on the spotlight for the delay in issuing certificates to graduates once they completed studies.

Speaking here yesterday, she said there are about 77 institutions that are notorious for the delay, causing a lot of confusion to their graduates who need the certificates to apply for jobs or promotions at work places.

She issued a three months ultimatum for any of such training facilities that have not issued the documents to do so immediately.

Chaula made the statement while addressing management and the students of Dodoma Institute of Health and Allied Sciences (DIHAS).

She called on health training facilities in the country to ensure that they provide their past students who had not been given certificates before action is taken on them.

"In the past there was this challenge where by health colleges failed to issue certificates on time, but the

government has started working on the matter," she said, adding that such delays were violation of the graduates rights.

She also called upon management of the training institutions to be more innovative and creative in the process to increase revenues so as to provide meals for the students.

"Students come from different backgrounds thus it is prudent to provide meals for them as it is proper to study while thinking about how and where you will get food," she noted.

On a different note, the PS also challenged students who completed studies at the health institutions to show difference in health services deliverance.

The head of Dodoma Institute of Health and Allied Sciences, Rehema Mligo while addressing the meeting said the total number of students at the college is 250 with 15 trainers and eight supporting staff and three other staff members from outside the college.

She said the college was initially known as Mirembe was established in 1973 with the aim to provide training on maternal health care as well as mental health care.

Mothers failure to breastfeed is associated with lack of paid maternity leave-says study

By Guardian Correspondent, Manyara

LACK of paid maternity leave amongst many women in Tanzania was a major challenge facing mother's failure to exclusively breastfeed their babies.

The situation also hinders mothers to continue breastfeeding their babies for the recommended period of six months. Statistics indicates that in Africa and Asia only one among 10 women get enough time to breastfeed

their children while globally the number is four in every 10 women.

However, it has been discovered that women with low income get back to their jobs earlier after delivery. Studies show that some of them breastfeed their babies for the first few days.

The remarks were made on Wednesday during the celebrations to mark the international World Breastfeeding Week held at Riroda ward in Babati district, Manyara region. The event was organized by World

Vision Tanzania (WVT).

The World Breastfeeding Week is celebrated every year to encourage breastfeeding and improve the health of babies around the world. Babati

District Commissioner, Elizabeth Kitundu said Tanzania has recorded many successes in facilitating breastfeeding and children nutrition, but yet more has to be done to improve the situation.

She said that only 40.6 per cent of babies are exclusively breastfed for six

months in Manyara region while the national rate is 57.8 per cent.

The DC noted that global statistics show that nearly 90 per cent of the employees including women are from the informal sector facing a number of challenges that hinder them from properly breastfeeding their babies.

Dc Kitundu named the challenges as long distance from their residences to work places, long working hours and unfavourable working environment.

World Vision Tanzania nutrition

officer in Babati district, Joan Msuya called upon males to support their partners and avoid making love for at least three months after delivery. She insisted that to ensure proper breastfeeding, women have to get fully support from their spouses.

Speaking on behalf of other women who are currently breastfeeding, Felista Munna (37) commended World Vision Tanzania for educating them on proper ways to breast feed their children.

Coordinator for children and maternity health in Manyara, Emma Ngatoluwa said that 2018 data indicate that 90.2 per cent of the babies in the region are given supplementary food at six or eight months. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends exclusive breastfeeding starting within one hour after birth until a baby is 6 months old. Nutritious complementary foods should then be added while continuing to breastfeed for up to 2 years or beyond.



Deputy minister in the President's Office (Public Management Good Governance) Dr. Mary Mwanjelwa together with Ngara constituency MP Alex Gashaza (R) and Ngara District Commissioner Lt Coln Michael Mtenjele on their way to inspect tree planting farm initiated by Tasaf beneficiaries in Kagera region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Sunflower growers seek loans to boost production

By Guardian Reporter, Simiyu

SMALL holder farmers engaging in sunflower cultivation in Meatu district, Simiyu region have appealed to the government to assist them secure loans from banks and financial institutions to increase capital and expand their businesses.

They were concerned that lack of enough capital had been hindering their efforts to expand and engage in large commercial farming.

Speaking on behalf of sunflower farmers, Elizabeth Nguhi from

Tumaini Sunflower Farmer's Group told journalist that they are in need of capital to be able to engage in large commercial farming of maize, sunflower seeds and establishment of sunflower processing factories.

She was speaking yesterday at the Byakabindi grounds in Bariadi district, Simiyu region during celebrations to end the week long agricultural trade fair popularly known as Nane Nane.

According to Nguhi, most of the framers in the region have set targets to produce more sunflower seeds, but they are facing financial constraints

to expand their farms and purchase processing machines.

"We do not have enough capital to expand our businesses. With financial assistance we can grow more sunflower seeds and process them locally", she said adding that one acre is hired at 80,000/- per season.

OXFAM international, Charles Buregeya said the organisation is working with a Dar es Salaam based non-governmental organisation—Relief Development Society (REDESO) to economically empower farmers in the region.

He said that members of the Tumaini Sunflower Farmer's Group were provided with 500,000 each.

Tanzania spends at least 400bn/- per year to import edible oil, according to the Agricultural Non State Actors Forum (ANSRAF). The country currently imports at least 500,000 tonnes of edible oil annually while local production stands at 180,000 tonnes.

According to the 2015 report by the world Food Agricultural Organization (FAO), Tanzania is expected to produce 1 million tonnes of sunflower seeds by 2023.

NGO's association conducts consultation forum for CSOs

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Association of Non-Governmental Organizations (TANGO) is today conducting a consultation forum for Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) to create shared understanding and collective engagement of various regional matters ahead of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) ministerial and heads of state summit.

During the forum, delegates are expected to evaluate achievement of the 2015-2020 Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP) of SADC, among others.

A statement released yesterday by TANGO programme manager, Zaa Twalangeti said that CSOs from across the country will make submission regarding the performance of the RISDP and their demands to the ministers and heads of state summit which is slated for August 17th and 18th, 2019.

Under RISDP countries within SADC had set goals on industrial development, market integration, which is making progress although intra-regional trade had remained small.

Others are financial integration, infrastructure development, peace and security cooperation, institutional framework and special programmes which were designed to result in improved human capacities for socio-economic development such as education, health, HIV/Aids and other diseases of public health importance.

The special programmes also includes employment and labour, food and nutrition security, trans-boundary natural resources, environment, statistics, private sector, gender equality, science, technology and innovation and research and

development.

According to TANGO 30 per cent of the mentioned special programmes have been achieved and more are likely to be achieved by the end of the implementation period.

The organisation suggest that to achieve all the targeted goals under RISDP, member states should enhance the pace of ratifying protocols once they are finalized and take initiatives to domesticate and implement them.

It calls for the SADC Secretariat be more proactive in including civil society and the private sector in the design of policies and strategies as well as ensuring the visibility of SADC regional programs is increased among all member states and promoting credibility for a regional institution and cultivating the spirit of a regional community.

Civil society organizations underscores the need to trade more with each other in SADC in products with value added hence the case for developing regional value chains. Trade related infrastructure constraints and other trade policy instruments such as Non-Tariff Barriers (NTBs) and restrictive rules of origin should continue to be accorded high priority.

"Some Member States usually scrutinize CSOs and the private sector favouring those leaning towards the status quo. There is a perception that NGOs and CSOs advocating for change are not welcome. SADC needs to become more open so that it can mitigate Member States shortcomings so as to get more informed opinion", read the statement in part.

It recommends that initiatives are taken to ensure alternative means of resource mobilization especially in mobilization of resources and ensure that the Regional Development Fund is operationalised.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

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

THE POSITION

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

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

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

KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE REQUIRED

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

MODE OF APPLICATION:

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

Deadline 15th August 2019.



SCHOLARSHIP ANNOUNCEMENT MWALIMU JULIUS NYERERE MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND DEADLINE 23RD AUGUST, 2019

The Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Memorial Scholarship Fund is announcing Scholarships for the 2019/2020 academic year. The primary objective of the Fund is to promote interest and excellence in Mathematics and Science courses among female students in the United Republic of Tanzania.

The Fund provides Scholarships to two best female Tanzanian students to pursue Undergraduate studies in Mathematics and Science in Tanzania's accredited universities. It also provides scholarships to one male and one female Tanzanians top students to pursue undergraduate studies in Economics, Information Technology, Accounting and Finance.

Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Scholarship Fund provides two more scholarships to students intending to pursue Master's programmes in Economics, Information Technology, Accounting, Mathematics and Finance.

The Scholarships are granted on academic merit and based on a rigorous selection process. Successful applicants are granted full scholarship which covers all university direct cost for tuition fees and student direct costs (meal, accommodation, book and stationery allowance, field practical training, special faculty requirement) as specified in the respective institutions' costs structure as well as one laptop computer.

The scholarships are awarded as follows:

1. Undergraduate Degree Programmes (4 Scholarships)

The Undergraduate Scholarships are granted to top performers in Advanced Certificate of Secondary Education Examinations (ACSEE) to pursue Undergraduate degree programmes in two categories:

Category A: Science and Mathematics Studies (Female Students only)

Category B: Information Technology, Economics, Accounting and Finance Studies (Male and Female Students)

The Fund will obtain the list of the 2019 ACSEE top ten (10) students from the National Examinations Council of Tanzania (NECTA) and the said Scholarship will be granted to qualified candidates.

For more information on the requirements for Undergraduate Scholarships, please visit the BOT website www.bot.go.tz.

2. Master's Degree Programmes (2 Scholarships)

The Scholarships are open to both female and male best students who are to enrol in Master's degree programmes in the

fields of Mathematics, Science, Economics, Information Technology, Accounting and Finance.

Requirements:

- a) Applicant must be a Tanzanian citizen.
- b) Applicant must have obtained First Class or an Upper Second Class (honours) in the Bachelor degree with a minimum GPA of 4.0 from an accredited university within the United Republic of Tanzania.
- c) Applicant must not be more than thirty-five years of age and should have completed Bachelor's degree in studies related to Mathematics, Science, Economics, Information Technology, Accounting or Finance.
- d) Applicant must have applied/be admitted to a full time Master's degree programme in an accredited university within the United Republic of Tanzania. The programme should commence in 2019/2020 academic year in any of the following fields: Mathematics, Science, Economics, Information Technology, Accounting or Finance.

Applications are invited from qualified candidates.

Mode of Application:

Applicants are required to complete Scholarship Application Forms which can be accessed on the BOT website: www.bot.go.tz.

Printed forms can be obtained from the Fund Administrator, Bank of Tanzania Head Office, 2 Mirambo Street, 11884, DAR ES SALAAM. The forms can also be obtained at the Bank of Tanzania Branch Offices (Arusha, Zanzibar, Mwanza, Mbeya, Dodoma, Mtwara and the Bank of Tanzania Training Institute, Mwanza).

All application forms should be completed and submitted to the Chairperson, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Memorial Scholarship Fund, Bank of Tanzania Head Office, 2 Mirambo Street, 11884, DAR ES SALAAM by 23rd August, 2019 (16:00hr).

Note:

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

**The Chairperson,
Scholarship Awards Committee,
Mwalimu Julius Nyerere Memorial Scholarship Fund,
Bank of Tanzania,
2 Mirambo Street,
11884, DAR ES SALAAM.**

Tel No. +255 22 2233041
Fax No. +255 22 2234088



ADVERTISEMENT
INVITATION TO TENDER (ITT)

TENDER TITLE: DESIGN AND CONSTRUCTION OF NYERERE-MBARAKI ROAD TO BITUMEN STANDARD

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20180564

The County Government of Mombasa (CGM) with support from TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) invites sealed bids from reputable bidders for Design and Construction of Nyerere Road (A14) - Mbaraki Road (C1142). The road is to be upgraded to Bitumen Standards (**FIDIC EPC /TURNKEY BASED**).

The tender documents can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the Tender Title and Number in the email subject should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com.

The closing date for submissions is **23 September 2019 at 11.00 am (Kenya time)**.

Interested, qualified and eligible consultancy firms/consortiums should submit bids in line with the bidding instructions in the tender document.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender 7 days or less prior to the submission deadline



ADVERTISEMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR SUPERVISION OF NYERERE-MBARAKI ROAD

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20180565

The County Government of Mombasa (CGM) with support from TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is seeking bids from qualified firms/consortiums to provide Consultancy Services for Supervision of Nyerere Road (A14) Mbaraki Road (C1142). The road is to be upgraded to Bitumen Standards (**FIDIC EPC /TURNKEY BASED**).

Terms of reference for these assignments and the tender documents can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com.

The closing date for submissions is 12 September 2019.

You are further advised that only applications from registered firms/consortiums shall be accepted. Interested, qualified and registered consultancy firms/consortiums should submit bids in line with the bidding instructions in the tender document.

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender seven (7) days or less prior to the submission deadline.



The Republic of Uganda

ADVERTISEMENT
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS (RFP)

TENDER TITLE: CONSULTANCY TO CONDUCT THREE BASELINE STUDIES IN THE CONTEXT OF TRADEMARK EAST AFRICA (TMEA) UGANDA CROSS-BORDER TRADE PROGRAMME

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20190123

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) and Ministry of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives (MTIC) is seeking consultancy services to establish reliable baseline values of the TMEA Uganda Cross Border Trade Programme for key outcome and output indicators. The baselines will form the basis for establishing the targets that will be measured throughout the implementation of the project.

Terms of reference for this **consultancy and the Request for Proposals (RFP)** document can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the above Tender Title and Number should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com.

Interested bidders **MUST** submit separate technical and financial proposals via TMEA procurement mailbox at the address procurement@trademarka.com. **The closing date for submissions is 30 August 2019.**

TMEA cannot answer any query relating to this tender five days or less prior to the submission deadline



MAMLAKA YA DAWA NA VIFAA TIBA



TAARIFA KWA UMMA
TAHADHARI YA UWEPO WA MATAPELI
KWA WATEJA WA TMDA

1. Mamlaka ya Dawa na Vifaa Tiba (TMDA) inapenda kuwatahadharisha wateja wake kuwa wamejitokeza watu ambao hujifanya kuwa ni watumishi wa TMDA na kuonesha nia ya kuwasaidia wateja wanaohitaji huduma kwa lengo la kuwatapeli.
2. Watu hao ambao ni matapeli wamekuwa wakiwasumbua wateja kwa njia ya simu za mkononi wakiwataka kuonana nao nje ya Ofisi na katika muda ambao si wa kazi au kuwataka watume pesa kwa njia ya simu ili huduma walizomba zifanyiwe kazi kwa haraka.
3. TMDA kupitia ofisi ya Makao Makuu na Ofisi zake za Kanda, inapenda kuarifu umma kuwa huduma zote zitolewazo na TMDA hazitolewi kwa kificho au nje ya Ofisi za TMDA, hivyo inapotokea mtu anakushawishi akupe huduma kwa utaratibu tofauti na ulioainishwa hapo juu, tafadhali toa taarifa mara moja katika Ofisi zetu za Makao Makuu na Kanda. Hivyo watu wenye kuonesha dalili za kutaka kutoa msaada kwa kujificha au nje ya Ofisi za TMDA sio watumishi wa Mamlaka.
4. Kwa taarifa hii, wateja wote wa TMDA mnaelekezwa kupata huduma kutoka kwa watumishi wenye vitambulisho halali na waliopo katika ofisi zetu tajwa hapo juu au Kituo cha forodha na kwamba malipo yote ya ada na tozo kwa huduma zitolewazo yanatakiwa yafanyike kupitia benki au mawakala waliothibitishwa wa benki husika baada ya kupatiwa ankara kifani (Profoma invoice) na Namba ya Malipo ya Serikali (Control Number).
5. Kwa maelezo zaidi unaweza kuwasiliana nasi kupitia ofisi za TMDA Makao Makuu au Ofisi za Kanda zilizopo Dar Es Salaam, Mwanza, Simiyu, Arusha, Mbeya, Dodoma, Mtwara na Tabora au kupiga simu bila malipo kupitia Na. 0800110084.

Imetolewa na:

Kaimu Mkurugenzi Mkuu,
Mamlaka ya Dawa na Vifaa Tiba (TMDA),
Mtaa wa Mwanza, Kitalu T, Kiwanja Na.6
S.L.P 1253, Dodoma Au
S.L.P 77150, Dar es Salaam
Simu: +255 22 2452108/2450512/2450751
Simu bila Malipo: 0800110084



Motorbike rider and passenger ignore the signboard prohibiting them to use the road along Church of Pinda at Kinondoni in the outskirts of Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Aweso dissatisfied with Gamasara water project implementation pace

By Correspondent James Kandoya

DEPUTY Minister for Water Jumaa Aweso has directed the Tarime District Council in Mara region to breach the contract with Kumba Quality Ltd Company implementing the construction of Gamasara water project after showing dissatisfaction with its progress.

Aweso made the directive yesterday after a tour that aimed among other things to inspect water project implemented in the region.

He said since 2018, the government has paid 50bn/- but up to August 2019 its implementation had only reached 20 percent and according to him the contractor has disappeared.

"Indeed, I'm not satisfied with progress of the project, I therefore direct you, the Tarime District Council to breach the contract with current water contractor," he said.

He however urged the Rural Water Supply and Sanitation Agency (RUWASA) in Musoma to continue supervising

and complete the remaining job.

In his tour Aweso also inspected one water borehole drilled well in Gamasara village that use a pump manufactured by a graduate at Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA), James Ryoba, water irrigation engineer.

In another development, the government said it was finalising the process of signing a contract with the Arab Bank for Economic Development in Africa (BADEA) and The Social Fund for Development (SFD) to construct Mugango-Kiabakari water project in Mara region.

Aweso said the project worth US\$30.69 million will be signed on August 15, this year and aimed at improving water services in Mugango, Kiabakari, Butiama, adding, the process of tendering is still going on.

He said once the project was completed, about 80,000 people of 13 villages residing 12 kilometres from the main water pipe will benefit from the project adding that the government

had set 8.5 bn/- to construct it. "The aim of the government was to end water problems to the people living in lake zone," he insisted.

In Tanzania, demand for both water and sanitation are high. The market for water products (storage tanks, pipes, rain harvesting facilities, etc.) and suppliers appears to be dynamic. And by taking advantage of the growing digital finance sector, there is a strong opportunity for our WaterCredit solution in Tanzania.

On April 6, this year, President John Magufuli directed the former Minister for Water and Irrigation, Prof Makame Mbarawa, to sit with his experts and design ways that will facilitate quick supply of clean water in needy areas.

This came after Prof Mbarawa highlighted, among other things, the infrastructural challenges his ministry was facing when it comes to the distribution of water to residential areas in Tunduru district, Ruvuma region.

Private school in Mbeya registers over 60 needy students for free education

By Guardian Reporter

SIXTY-FOUR students from low income families in Mbeya Region are now getting free education at the Dar es Salaam-based Patrick Mission High School as part of the institution's move to assist the needy children in the society.

School director, Ndele Mwaselela revealed this yesterday when speaking to journalists on the school's plan to contribute to the government's efforts to improve education sector.

Mwaselela said the decision came after being asked by some regional and district readers to help students from poor families to get free education at his school.

"As a learning institution, we responded to their requests because we know the importance of education and in this we're complementing the government's efforts to boost the country's education sector," he said.

Mwaselela said his move to improve education sector especially in Mbeya Region was recognised by President's Office Local Government and Regional Administration who rewarded him with certificates as among important education stakeholders.

"I am proud of this recognition from presidency office because it encourages me to continue with efforts of helping students from poor families to enjoy better education like others and that's why I am always ready to renovate and build new classrooms and toilets to enable public school's students learn in good environment," he said.

He said as one of education stakeholders he will always do what he can do to make sure even students from public schools enjoy good learning environment adding that other people must complement government's efforts to build and renovate their classrooms and toilets.

Mwaselela said each year, Patrick Mission High School enroll students who enjoy free education with full accommodation and later graduate with good performance to high level and universities.

Mwaselela said he is now in a campaign to sharpen teachers' skills in Mbeya Region something which he said will help the region do wonders in the coming national examinations for both primary and secondary schools.

TIGO named official provider of internet connectivity at the 2019 SADC ordinary Summit

By Guardian Reporter

TIGO Tanzania has announced that it is the official provider of Wi-Fi connectivity to all the attendees at the 39th Ordinary Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Ordinary Summit which kicked off on August 5th at the Julius Nyerere International Conference Centre (JNICC).

Tigo's contribution leverages upon this year's 39th SADC Summit theme; A Conducive Environment for inclusive and sustainable industrial development, increased intra-regional Trade and Job Creation, whereby the free Wi-Fi connectivity and Tigo business solutions on offer will ensure that national and international delegates are connected with what is going on around the globe and thereby enhance regional integration and industrial development.

This was further cemented by the Prime Minister of Tanzania, Kassim Majaliwa, who visited the Tigo booth on the August 6, 2019, whereby he lauded Tigo's zeal to sponsor free internet connectivity for visiting delegates and also expressed his satisfaction on the quality of the ultra-fast Wi-Fi at the Summit.

"Tigo's Managing Director, Simon Karikari said: "Tigo is the leading provider of business to business solutions (B2B) and has always strived to provide the best services for customers in the country. The fact that we are able to offer ultra - fast internet to the SADC delegates is a proof that our services are of world class standard."

Visitors and delegates at the summit will get to experience the ultra-fast 4G+ network which further distinguishes Tigo as the mobile operator that offers its innovative services that address the dynamic needs of national and multi-national customers.

"We are pleased to offer free internet connectivity to visiting delegates from the SADC member states so that they can be able to keep abreast with happenings in their home country while at the same time following proceedings at the summit," added Karikari.

JAMHURI YA MUUNGANO WA TANZANIA
MAMLAKA YA MAWASILIANO TANZANIA
ISO 9001: 2015 CERTIFIED
TAARIFA KWA UMMA

VIFAA VYA MAWASILIANO YA KIELEKTRONIKI VILIVYOIDHINISHWA NA MAMLAKA YA MAWASILIANO TANZANIA

Mamlaka ya Mawasiliano Tanzania (TCRA), inapenda kuufahamisha Umma kwamba, vifuatavyo ni vifaa vya Mawasiliano ya Kielektroniki vilivyoidhinishwa kwa ajili ya matumizi hapa nchini kwa kipindi cha kuanzia Mwezi Januari mpaka Juni 2019. Aidha Mamlaka ya Mawasiliano Tanzania, inapenda kuufahamisha umma, waagizaji, wasambazaji na muuzaji wa vifaa vya Mawasiliano ya Kielektroniki nchini, kuwa kwa mujibu wa Kanuni ya 22 ya Kanuni za Mawasiliano ya Kielektroniki na Posta (Viwango vya Vifaa vya Mawasiliano ya Kielektroniki) ya mwaka 2018; ni kosa kisheria kwa muagizaji, msambazaji au muuzaji wa vifaa vya Mawasiliano ya Kielektroniki, kuuzwa vifaa vya Mawasiliano ya Kielektroniki, ambavyo havijaidhinishwa na Mamlaka ya Mawasiliano Tanzania kwa ajili ya matumizi ya humu nchini. Kwa kuzingatia hilo, ni budi kila muagizaji, msambazaji au muuzaji wa vifaa vya Mawasiliano ya Kielektroniki kuidhinisha vifaa vya Mawasiliano ya Kielektroniki na Mamlaka ya Mawasiliano Tanzania kabla ya kuvileta hapa nchini.

NA.	ALYEPWEWA CHETI	AINA YA KIFAA	MODELI	MTENGENEZAJI
1.	Approval Solutions, Uganda	Portable Tablet Computer	Lenovo TB - X505F	Lenovo PC HK Limited, China
2.	Multichoice Tanzania Limited, Tanzania	HD Digital Satellite Receiver	65 - HS3G03	Shenzhen Skyworth Digital Technology Co. Ltd, China
3.	Realtime International, Morocco	Intel® Wireless-AC 9260	9260D2WL	Intel Corporation SAS, France
4.	Realtime International, Morocco	Intel® Wi-Fi 6 AX200	AX200D2WL	Intel Corporation SAS, France
5.	Realtime International, Morocco	Intel® Wi-Fi 6 AX200	AX200NGW	Intel Corporation SAS, France
6.	TND Technologies LLC, Dubai	Digital Camera with WiFi and Bluetooth	DS126761	Canon Inc., Japan
7.	Nexleaf Analytics, United States of America	Remote Temperature Monitoring Data Logger	ColdTrace5	Nexleaf Analytics, United States of America
8.	Medtronic, Inc., United States of America	Evera MRI XT SureScan	Evera MRI XT SureScan	Medtronic, Inc., United States of America
9.	Nokia Solutions and Networks (T) Ltd, Tanzania	Flexi MR10 RF Module	FRPD	Nokia Solutions and Networks Oy, Finland
10.	Nokia Solutions and Networks (T) Ltd, Tanzania	Nokia AirScale RF Module	FHPD	Nokia Solutions and Networks Oy, Finland
11.	Nokia Solutions and Networks (T) Ltd, Tanzania	Nokia AirScale RF Module	AHPB	Nokia Solutions and Networks Oy, Finland
12.	Nokia Solutions and Networks (T) Ltd, Tanzania	Nokia AirScale RF Module	AHPMDA	Nokia Solutions and Networks Oy, Finland
13.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	iPad Air	A2152	Apple Inc., United States of America
14.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	iPad Mini	A2133	Apple Inc., United States of America
15.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	AirPods	A2031	Apple Inc., United States of America
16.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	AirPods	A2032	Apple Inc., United States of America
17.	Tutandae Technologies Limited, Tanzania	Smart POS	ZV3	Jiezhong Tech Co. Limited, China
18.	Wow! Approval Services Inc., Taiwan	Unit Assy, BCM	HAR0001	Sumitomo Wiring Systems Ltd, Japan
19.	Anyu International Approval Co, Taiwan	Wireless Headset	A00082	Logitech Europe S.A., Switzerland
20.	Anyu International Approval Co, Taiwan	Wireless Dongle	A00083	Logitech Europe S.A., Switzerland
21.	IB-Lenhardt AG, Germany	Tire Pressure Monitoring System ECU G6 433 MHz	TSSSG4G6b	Huf Backing Electronics Bretten GmbH, Germany
22.	IB-Lenhardt AG, Germany	Foldable Key Transmitter	RFK1A	Valco Comfort and Driving Assistance, France
23.	JFC, Korea	Instant Blood Glucose Monitoring	ACCU-CHEK INSTANT	Roche Diabetes Care GmbH, Germany
24.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	iPad Air	A2123	Apple Inc., United States of America
25.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	iPad Mini	A2124	Apple Inc., United States of America
26.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	AirPods Charging Case	A1938	Apple Inc., United States of America
27.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	Powerbeats Pro	A2047	Apple Inc., United States of America
28.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	Powerbeats Pro	A2048	Apple Inc., United States of America
29.	Approval Services Tanzania Ltd, Tanzania	Transceiver Remote Entry	920287A	Hirschmann Car Communication GmbH, Germany
30.	Approval Services Tanzania Ltd, Tanzania	Transceiver Remote Entry	920287B	Hirschmann Car Communication GmbH, Germany
31.	Approval Services Tanzania Ltd, Tanzania	Ethernet Switch	QFX5120-32C	Juniper Networks, Inc., United States of America
32.	Approval Services Tanzania Ltd, Tanzania	Display Audio	AH1802	Panasonic Automotive Systems Asia Pacific Co. Ltd., Thailand
33.	Approval Solutions, Uganda	Portable Tablet Computer	Lenovo TB-8604F	Lenovo PC HK Limited, China
34.	China Africa Navigation Group Co. Ltd, Tanzania	GPS tracker	G05	Huohou Zhongyidong Technology Co. Ltd., China
35.	JFC, Korea	Car Navigation	MIB3 01	LG Electronics Inc., Korea
36.	LG Electronics Inc., Korea	Wireless Power charger	WC510MV20	LG Electronics Inc., Korea
37.	Nawa, Kenya	Alcatel Tablet	Alcatel 9009G	TCL Communication Ltd, China
38.	Nawa, Kenya	Mobile Wi-Fi Router	Alcatel MW40VD	TCL Communication Ltd, China
39.	Nawa, Kenya	LinkKey	Alcatel TK40VD 4G Modem	TCL Communication Ltd, China
40.	Taizhou LG Electronics Refrigeration Co. Ltd, China	Wi-Fi Enabled Refrigerator/Freezer	GC-B459NLH2	Taizhou LG Electronics Refrigeration Co. Ltd, China
41.	Wow! Approval Services, Inc.,	Body Control Module	HAR0004	Sumitomo Wiring Systems, Ltd, Japan
42.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Itel Mobile Phone	i5615	Itel Mobile, China
43.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Itel Mobile Phone	i6130	Itel Mobile, China
44.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Tecno Mobile Phone	P701	TECNO Mobile Limited, China
45.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Tecno Mobile Phone	K87	TECNO Mobile Limited, China
46.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Tecno Mobile Phone	K88	TECNO Mobile Limited, China
47.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Tecno Mobile Phone	LB7	TECNO Mobile Limited, China
48.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Infinix Mobile Phone	X620B	INFINIX Mobility, China
49.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Infinix Mobile Phone	X620	INFINIX Mobility, China
50.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Infinix Mobile Phone	X224B	INFINIX Mobility, China
51.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Infinix Mobile Phone	X624	INFINIX Mobility, China
52.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Itel Mobile Phone	S33	ITEL Mobile, China
53.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Itel S32 Mini	W5003	ITEL Mobile, China
54.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	ITEL P33	W5504	ITEL Mobile, China
55.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Itel Mobile Phone	IT5091	ITEL Mobile, China
56.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Itel Mobile Phone	i6910	ITEL Mobile, China
57.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Itel Mobile Phone	P32	ITEL Mobile, China
58.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Itel Mobile Phone	A14	ITEL Mobile, China
59.	Carikare Technology TZ Limited, Tanzania	Itel Mobile Phone	S13	ITEL Mobile, China
60.	Channel VAS Holdings Limited, U.A.E	HP SERVER	HPE MSA 2050	Hewlett Packard Enterprise, United States of America
61.	Channel VAS Holdings Limited, U.A.E	Cisco 300 Series Manages Switch	SRW2024 24-port Gigabit Switch	Cisco Systems Inc., United States of America
62.	Channel VAS Holdings Limited, U.A.E	HP SERVER	HP ProLiant DL360 Gen10	Hewlett Packard Enterprise, United States of America
63.	C-NET Technologies (T) LTD, Tanzania	HYBRID IP-PABX	KX-TDE6008X	Panasonic Corporation, Japan
64.	C-NET Technologies (T) LTD, Tanzania	HYBRID IP-PABX	KX-HTS32UE	Panasonic Corporation, Japan
65.	C-NET Technologies (T) LTD, Tanzania	Digital Proprietary Telephone for PABX	KX-DT543X	Panasonic Corporation, Japan
66.	C-NET Technologies (T) LTD, Tanzania	Digital Proprietary Telephone for PABX	KX-DT546X	Panasonic Corporation, Japan
67.	C-NET Technologies (T) LTD, Tanzania	Digital Proprietary Telephone for PABX	KX-DT521X	Panasonic Corporation, Japan
68.	C-NET Technologies (T) LTD, Tanzania	PURE IP-PABX	KX-NS1000BX	Panasonic Corporation, Japan
69.	DATA HARDWARE DEPOT LP, United States of America	CISCO ETHERNET SWITCH	ME-3400EG-12CS-M	Cisco Systems Inc., United States of America
70.	DATA HARDWARE DEPOT LP, United States of America	CISCO ROUTER	ASR1001-X	Cisco Systems Inc., United States of America
71.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	Mobile Computer	MC92N0	Symbol Technologies Inc., United States of America
72.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	Router	PTX10003-80C	Juniper Networks, Inc., United States of America
73.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	Router	JNP10003-160C	Juniper Networks, Inc., United States of America
74.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	Router	PTX10003-160C	Juniper Networks, Inc., United States of America
75.	Product Compliance Specialists, United Kingdom	iPod Touch	A2178	Apple, Inc., United States of America
76.	Approval Solutions, Uganda	Portable Tablet Computer	Lenovo TB-X505L	Lenovo PC HK Limited, China
77.	Approval Services Tanzania Ltd, Tanzania	Car AVN	IGCJ1PHE	LG Electronics Inc., Korea
78.	Approval Services Tanzania Ltd, Tanzania	Universal Metro Router	ACX6160	Juniper Networks, Inc., United States of America
79.	7layers GmbH, Germany	Instrument cluster with 125 kHz technology with Immobilizer function	17101055	Continental Automotive GmbH, Germany
80.	7layers GmbH, Germany	Instrument cluster with 125 kHz technology with Immobilizer function	17101056	Continental Automotive GmbH, Germany
81.	Ericsson AB, Tanzania	Baseband	6630	Ericsson AB, Sweden
82.	Ericsson AB, Tanzania	Baseband	6620	Ericsson AB, Sweden
83.	Ericsson AB, Tanzania	Baseband	5212	Ericsson AB, Sweden
84.	Ericsson AB, Tanzania	Baseband	5216	Ericsson AB, Sweden
85.	Ericsson AB, Tanzania	Home Subscriber Server	HSS-FE	Ericsson AB, Sweden
86.	Ericsson AB, Tanzania	MINI-LINK	PT 2020	Ericsson AB, Sweden
87.	Ericsson AB, Tanzania	Virtual MSC Server	vMSCS 18A	Ericsson AB, Sweden
88.	Go Global Compliance Inc., United States of America	Product Link PL240 Cellular Radio Telematics Device	PL240	Caterpillar Inc., United States of America
89.	Nokia Solutions and Networks (T) Ltd, Tanzania	Nokia 7210 Service Access Switch	Nokia 7210 SAS	Nokia Solutions and Networks Oy, Finland
90.	Nokia Solutions and Networks (T) Ltd, Tanzania	Nokia 7750 Service Router	Nokia 7750 SR	Nokia Solutions and Networks Oy, Finland
91.	Nokia Solutions and Networks (T) Ltd, Tanzania	Nokia 7705 Service Aggregation Router	Nokia 7705 SAR	Nokia Solutions and Networks Oy, Finland
92.	Nokia Solutions and Networks (T) Ltd, Tanzania	Nokia Photonic Service Switch	Nokia 1830 PSS-4	Nokia Solutions and Networks Oy, Finland
93.	Nokia Solutions and Networks (T) Ltd, Tanzania	Nokia Photonic Service Switch	Nokia 1830 PSS-16	Nokia Solutions and Networks Oy, Finland
94.	Realtime International, Morocco	Wireless Headset	A-00072	Logitech Europe S.A, Switzerland
95.	Realtime International, Morocco	Wireless Dongle	A-00073	Logitech Europe S.A, Switzerland
96.	Realtime International, Morocco	2.4GHz USB Transceiver	C-J0007	Logitech Europe S.A, Switzerland
97.	Realtime International, Morocco	2.4GHz USB Transceiver	C-U0010	Logitech Europe S.A, Switzerland
98.	Realtime International, Morocco	Bluetooth Keyboard	Y-R0056	Logitech Europe S.A, Switzerland
99.	Realtime International, Morocco	Cordless Mouse	M-R0062	Logitech Europe S.A, Switzerland
100.	Realtime International, Morocco	Cordless Mouse	M-R0064	Logitech Europe S.A, Switzerland
101.	Realtime International, Morocco	2.4GHz USB Transceiver	C-U0016	Logitech Europe S.A, Switzerland
102.	Realtime International, Morocco	Wireless Presenter	R-R0013	Logitech Europe S.A, Switzerland
103.	Realtime International, Morocco	2.4GHz USB Transceiver	C-U0008	Logitech Europe S.A, Switzerland
104.	TND Technologies LLC, Dubai	Multifunction Printer with WiFi & Fax	F171902	Canon Inc., Japan
105.	TND Technologies LLC, Dubai	Multifunction Printer with WiFi & Fax	F173302	Canon Inc., Japan
106.	UL Taiwan Co. Ltd., Taiwan	Dongle	RG-1216	Chicony Electronics Co. Ltd, Taiwan
107.	UL Taiwan Co. Ltd., Taiwan	802.11 b/g/n RTL8723DE Combo module	RTL8723DE	Realtek Semiconductor Corp., Taiwan
108.	UL Verification Services PH PL., Philippines	Remote Keyless Entry (Hand Unit)	TWB1G0076	ALPS ALPINE CO. LTD., Japan
109.	Wow! Approval Services Inc., Taiwan	Immobilization system	A2C8418800	Continental Automotive GmbH, Germany
110.	Yellow Box Africa Limited, Tanzania	Hyundai Mobile Phone	SEOU1 K1	Shenzhen Zhongteliu Electronics Co. Ltd., China
111.	Yellow Box Africa Limited, Tanzania	IKU Mobile Feature Phone	F101	Shenzhen Zhongteliu Electronics Co. Ltd., China

Imetolewa na:
MKURUGENZI MKUU
Mamlaka ya Mawasiliano Tanzania (TCRA)
Mawasiliano Towers
20 Barabara ya Sam Nujoma
S.L.P. 474
14414 DAR ES SALAAM
TANZANIA
Julai, 2019

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

Newsdesk

News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON
0757154767
General line: 0745700710
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

Advertising

Manager Sales and Marketing: KAUTHAR DSOUZA
0767223311
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com

We can stop world hunger

IN politics, humanitarian aid, and social science, hunger is a condition in which a person, for a sustained period, is unable to eat sufficient food to meet basic nutritional needs. So in the field of hunger relief, the term hunger is used in a sense that goes beyond the common desire for food that all humans experience.

Throughout history, portions of the world's population have often suffered sustained periods of hunger. In many cases, this resulted from food supply disruptions caused by war, plagues, or adverse weather. While progress was uneven, by 2015 the threat of extreme hunger subsided for many of the world's people. According to figures published by the FAO in 2019 however, the number of people suffering from chronic hunger has been increasing over the last four years. This is both as a percentage of the world's population, and in absolute terms, with about 821 million afflicted with hunger in 2018.

While most of the world's hungry people continue to live in Asia, much of the increase in hunger since 2015 occurred in Africa and South America. The FAO's 2017 report discussed three principal reasons for the recent increase in hunger: climate, conflict, and economic slowdowns. The 2018 report focused on extreme weather as a primary driver of the increase in hunger, finding rises were especially severe in countries where the agricultural systems were most sensitive to extreme variations in weather. While the FAO's 2019 report found there was also a strong correlation between increases in hunger and countries that had suffered an economic slowdown.

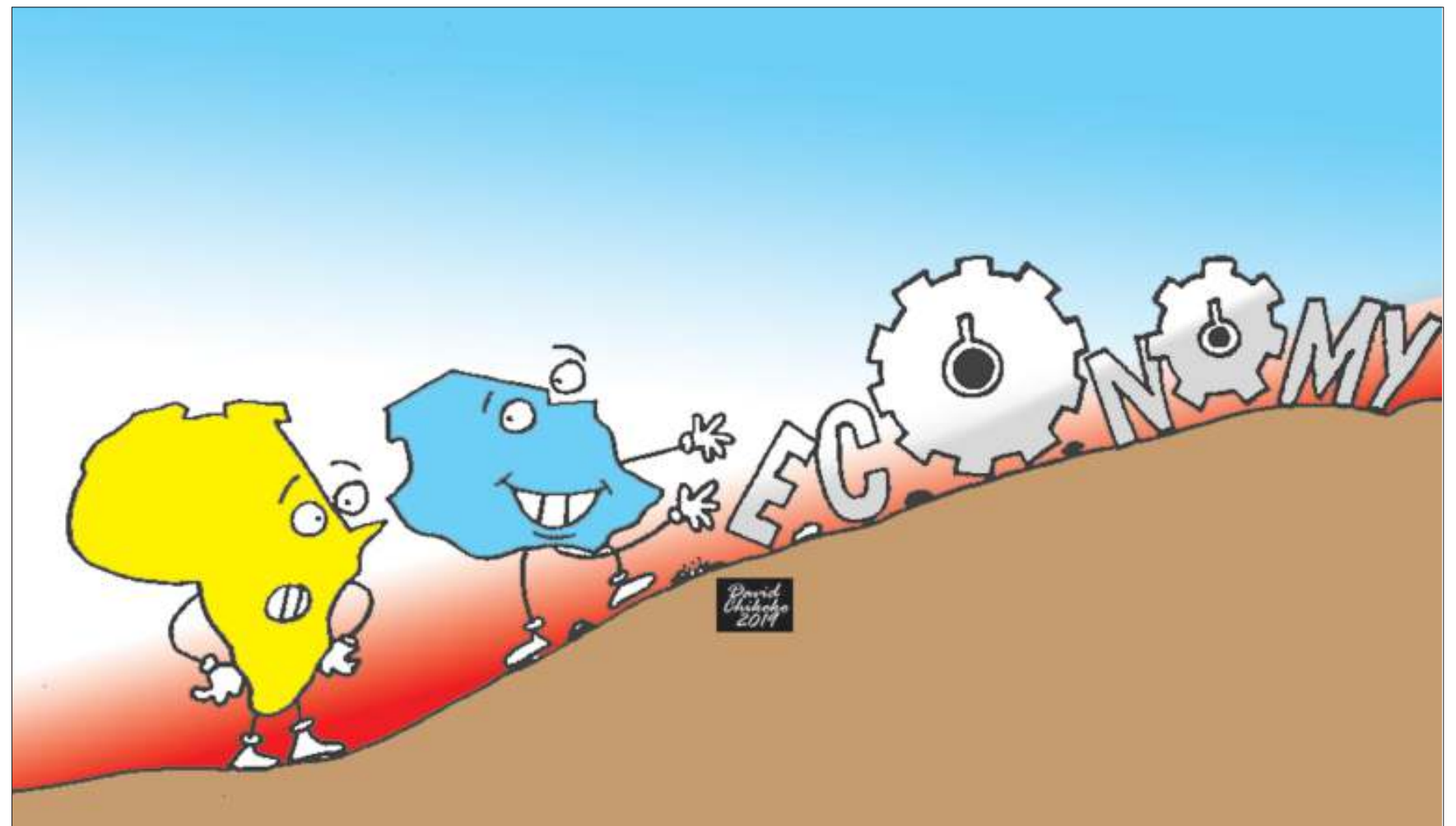
Many thousands of organisations are engaged in the field of hunger relief;

operating at local, national, regional or international levels. Some of these organisations are dedicated to hunger relief, while others may work in a number of different fields. At the global level, much of the world's hunger relief efforts are coordinated by the UN, and geared towards achieving the 2030 Sustainable Development Goal for "Zero hunger".

UN leaders gathered to release the latest SOFI report detailing this year's progress on SDG 2 of Zero Hunger; the report, focusing on the role of economic downturn on hunger, found that rates of hunger and obesity are still on the rise worldwide.

The latest version of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World report finds that the number of hungry people worldwide is on the rise for the third year in a row. At a discussion of the report's findings in Washington, D.C., experts declared the findings exemplary of the challenges involved in eradicating hunger and malnutrition, as well as the challenges involved in achieving Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 2 of Zero Hunger by 2030.

In 2017, the total number of hungry people amounted to 811 million; in 2018, it reached a total of 820 million. "One news article described it as 'global hunger stable,'" explained Congressman Jim McGovern at a discussion of the report's findings. "For those who suffer from hunger, from food insecurity, whose children suffer from malnutrition and under nutrition, there is nothing stable about their situation," says McGovern. "We can't turn a blind eye to the fact that what is stable in their lives is suffering."



Ethical leadership is much more than just confronting corruption

By Faiez Jacobs

WE have to return to what Nelson Mandela called the 'RDP of the Soul' when he bemoaned the speed with which South Africans want to accumulate wealth instead of helping others.

Whenever we celebrate a significant event, such as the birth of Nelson Mandela or as is the case now, National Women's Month, there is a call not to only set a month aside for commemorations.

But, argue those who want more from society, let's make the principles that underpinned the life of Mandela or Women's Month a way of life, a set of ethics that will unite South Africans to do the right thing all the time. I agree. As a society, we have been fragmented by apartheid and brainwashed by a political philosophy that wanted, as Hendrik Verwoerd said, to turn blacks into hewers of wood and drawers of water. Concomitantly whites, because of the benefits gifted to them by the Verwoerdian philosophy, would-be masters over blacks. That warped thinking fell in 1994 with the first democratic elections to elect a new government ever held on South African soil. And while we embraced the results of those elections, we did not do the hard job of removing from our presence the stereotypes that apartheid had nailed into each group.

We also did not make a stand over what we felt are a set of ethics that would be embraced and advanced by all South Africans. It is fair to say that each language or colour group has continued on its own way, following its version of what is ethical, without giving a thought to a common set of ethics for all.

It is time to stop this ingrained way of following different ethics for different groups. We need to make every day a Mandela Day, as well as turn each day into one that is free of violence against women, children, the elderly and men. We need to change not only for the sake of our children but for our own sake as well.

Our country demands this of us: to choose an exemplary living, caring for others and to turn our back on a lifestyle that glitters with the rewards that a life of no ethics brings.

We should resist the temptation to fall in love with the vitriol and hate that the Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) want to introduce into our life.



Business is extremely important to a country's economy

BUSINESS is the activity of making one's living or making money by producing or buying and selling products such as goods and services. Simply put, it is any activity or enterprise entered into for profit. It does not mean it is a company, a corporation, partnership, or have any such formal organization, but it can range from a street peddler to big companies.

Having a business name does not separate the business entity from the owner, which means that the owner of the business is responsible and liable for debts incurred by the business. If the business acquires debts, the creditors can go after the owner's personal possessions. A business structure does not allow for corporate tax rates. The proprietor is personally taxed on all income from the business.

The term is also often used colloquially but not by lawyers or by public officials to refer to a company. A company, on the other hand, is a separate legal entity and provides for limited liability, as well as corporate tax rates. A company structure is more complicated and expensive to set up, but offers more protection and benefits for the owner.

The private sector has expressed satisfaction with reforms made by the government recently to enhance ease of doing business in the country as recommended in the Blueprint whose implementation began last year.

Presenting a report on the status of implementation of reforms highlighted in the Blueprint, Prof Lucian Msambichaka said among positive reforms is the role redefining for the Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) and the Tanzania Medicines and Medical Devices Authority (TMDA).

This followed as the government folded up the Tanzania Foods and Drugs Authority (TFDA), a move that has reduced the number of permits, inspection requirements and fees that investors had to apply for.

"The reforms have brought a positive

impact to both the private sector and the government. The private sector has been able to significantly reduce compliance costs and in turn increase productivity. On the other hand, the government has observed an increase in compliance and in some instances, revenue," said Prof Msambichaka.

The veteran UDSM economist was tasked to evaluate the changes as part of Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC) working groups.

Some of the reforms have been highlighted in the Blueprint which proposes to improve the business environment through reduction of regulatory burdens and risks faced by businesses in seeking to comply with regulations.

The TNBC was established under Presidential Circular No. 1 of 2001 and tasked with fostering public and private sector dialogue on issues of economic policy. In November 2018, Chief Secretary John Kijazi launched the TNBC working groups tasked with scientifically informing policy makers on the best way of implementing business enabling environmental reforms through public-private dialogue.

The working groups have resolved to benchmark the status of reform implementation and to communicate what has been done so far by the government to improve the business environment with key stakeholders and the broader public, the don noted.

In his remarks, the minister for Trade and Investment, Innocent Bashungwa reaffirmed the government's commitment to implementing the Blueprint.

"The government believes in a private sector driven economy as this is essential to achieving middle income economy ambitions," said Bashungwa.

The government will continue to use stakeholders' forums to communicate reforms currently being implemented and to highlight which reforms are and would have the highest impact on the private sector, the minister underlined.

Our struggle, which the angry EFF fails to understand, was just, moral, and informed by values, beliefs and ethical behaviour.

We should choose the way of Mandela, Tambo and the men and women who gave their all to our struggle for freedom. This should not be too difficult because each of the world's major religions and many people's groups follows its own version of the Golden Rule that says, "do unto others".

In our own country, we have the concept of Ubuntu: a person is a person through other people. Accepting a life filled with common South African ethics is a choice all South Africans have to make and follow. It's not a choice that the government can make for us: it's a personal one that if welcomed into our midst by the majority will change our country and government. In the ANC this approach is encapsulated in the document called Through the Eye of a Needle which states that: "As a movement for fundamental change, the ANC regularly has to elect leaders at various levels who are equal to the challenge of each phase of struggle. Such leaders should represent the motive forces of the struggle. To become an ANC leader is not an entitlement. It should not be an easy process attached

merely to status. It should be informed first and foremost by the desire and commitment to serve the people, and a track record appreciated by ANC members and communities alike. "Those in leadership positions should unite and guide the movement to be at the head of the process of change. They should lead the movement in its mission to organise and inspire the masses to be their own liberators. They should lead the task of governance with diligence.

And, together, they should reflect continuity of a revolutionary tradition and renewal which sustains the movement in the long term." We have not always been faithful to these dictates. Evidence delivered at the Zondo Commission into State Capture might have been riveting, salacious, disgusting to some. But to many of us they are distressing and a necessary process that shows how much we have wandered from the principles enunciated in Through the Eye of a Needle.

We have to return to what Nelson Mandela called the "RDP of the Soul" when he bemoaned the speed with which South Africans want to accumulate wealth instead of helping others.

He told University of Cape Town

students when giving the Steve Biko Memorial Lecture 15 years ago: "The values of human solidarity that once drove our quest for a humane society seem to have been replaced, or are threatened, by crass materialism and pursuit of social goals of instant gratifications."

In the new dawn, President Cyril Ramaphosa has described leadership for South Africa we want as embodying humility, good morals and ethics. We agree with Mandela and Ramaphosa about the characteristics of ethical leadership.

We also agree with Ramaphosa that we are committed to building an ethical state in which corruption, patronage, rent-seeking and the plundering of public money will not find a home. Last Thursday, in Cape Town I spoke about ethical leadership as part of critical dialogue, and what came out clearly is that ethics is more than just confronting corruption. It is about staring down economic and structural inequalities, gender discrimination and gender-based violence. Every day should be a new dawn day, a day on which we can harvest the joy of having overcome apartheid colonialism, slavery and exploitation. Each should also be dedicated to ending patriarchy. The time for real renewal is now.

Conservation and population: Rational balances in tourism, farming and biodiversity

By Michael Eneza

TO what extent is it shocking news that there are just around 22,000 wild lions left in Africa, on the basis of recent draft analysis on the fragility of the continent's lion populations? That was the big or trending story among conservationists at the start of the week, reacting to a draft report titled 'State of the Lion: Fragility of a Flagship Species,' by Amy Dickman and Amy Hinks from the Wildlife Conservation Research Unit at the University of Oxford. The report calmly observes that wild lions have vanished from 95 per cent of their historic range but it is unlikely that the 'historic range' is a shared ideal, a wild Africa.

Detailing the situation, the report elaborates that in countries like Malawi, approximate wild lions stand at five in total, 30 in Nigeria, 25 in Angola, 22 in Rwanda and 20 in Niger, which means that conservation enthusiasts follow the tendency in lion numbers the way one follows patients in hospital, as to who is taken out of intensive care, and who is finally released from the ward. They hence also noticed that countries with larger lion populations include Tanzania (8176), Kenya (1825), Mozambique (1295), South Africa (2070), Zimbabwe (1709) and Zambia (1095). Here too it appears that discomfort prevails.

Some data in the report were somewhat tantalizing, for instance to suggest that there are more wild rhinos than wild lions, while everyone had heard how prized are rhino and elephant tusks, and little of the same can be said for lions. Other figures in the report which may to an extent appear curious include an observation that there are 14 times more African elephants and wild gorillas than wild lions and nearly 350,000 people for every one wild lion. The part about elephants was definitely surprising as they are more assiduously hunted while lions are acute foes if feed on cattle or kill people, not in the wilderness.

The report's observations provide some clues to grapple with the situation, either as to how far one ought to regret the situation that lion numbers have excessively diminished, though one wonders if this is a real concern for farmers in the 'wilderness' or rural areas to be more accurate. Chances are that this is



not the case, while the study says that 40 per cent of current wild lion range is in protected areas while 14 per cent of wild lion populations don't overlap at all with protected areas. That means for each 100 lions in the wild, 14 are likely to feed on cattle or kill a human being at any moment, the report authors are still creating an impression that there are far too few lions. Would bigger numbers kill less people, cattle?

The report does not provide details on anguish and bitterness on lion impact on marginal populations near protected but unfenced areas and thus exposed to lion attack with relative ease, but look at the issue from lion's point of view. 'The major threats to Africa's lions are the loss and degradation of habitat, bushmeat snaring and conflict with people when lions threaten them or their livestock,' it said, quoting one of the report experts. How far should Africa be safe for lions and indeed how many, is a question that makes analyses of lion populations

Maasai communities have lived in harmony within the rich ecosystems of East Africa for centuries. File photo

sound distantly colonial in character, unrealistic idealism as to what is good.

While there are solutions being pushed to sort out the conflict between lions and habitats especially near protected areas, there is a lacuna that is vivid enough, but doesn't come straight to the eye until one starts to think of dynamics. Would current demarcations withstand population expansion, and when people need land, it is practical to say that national parks ought not to be touched? For that matter does Tanzania in particular have too much land under protection or should it be opening more reserves, as we did recently?

These questions are scarcely raised in public discussion or say in the legislature, as they belong to relatively different areas, both of which have their specific assumptions. One side of those assumptions is the wildlife range aspect, which is a strong argument because tourism is the leading foreign exchange earner, and perhaps likely to remain so for a while to

come, industrialization efforts notwithstanding. The other side is the farming dimension, which by definition ought to be located in non-reserved areas, but with land diminishing there is plenty of encroachment and more use of marginal land near conservation areas, which means people crawl too close to lions; have themselves to blame if they are within 'range.'

It is hence not altogether convincing that protecting reserved areas is the key to maintaining habitat, in which case what is needed is proper funding and astute management of such areas, as well as bringing the population to alternative means of obtaining resources, for instance cutting back on bushmeat by poultry initiatives.

Sharing out the benefits of conservation appears the principal strategic outlook. But if we have an economy where rising population means widening farming acreage, how far is all of this sustainable?



Zimbabwe President Mnangagwa chats with his South African counterpart Cyril Ramaphosa when the latter paid an official visit to Zimbabwe from March 11-12, 2019. File photo

ZANU and ANC: When dominant parties beget virulent internal opposition

By Ani Jozeni

WHEN countries are forged out at independence by dominant nationalist parties that at once take up the majority of the population in one or other expression like ethnicity or language, religious persuasion and loyalty to a nationalist leader, chances of such parties being removed from office are minimal. At the same time it isn't necessarily a condition for expression of democracy or authoritarianism, as often what takes place during such moments depends on the vision and ethical orientation of the leader. Depending on circumstances the leader can have his way and government fashioned for decades after such a vision.

Still in the same kind of environment what becomes of a political regime even when there are kindred characteristics of the sort does not depend on the leader alone, as in the final analysis a leader's vision only mitigates crying, hidden and potential contradictions among the people. How the policy vision takes up the bread and butter questions is primary in how these loyalties fold out, but in the final analysis it is crude survival that determines loyalty to regimes. Even in the case of nearly total economic failure as it was the case in Zimbabwe, the nationalist movement did not have an alternative of who should be ruling.

What sort of surprised observers was how farm seizures led to economic failure, and recent reports talk of hyper inflation of more than 100 per cent annual rate of inflation, which most pundits here may not be able to grasp. Tanzania had acute shortages of commodities in the early 1980s and a rapidly weakening currency until proper liberalization set in, which saw prices stabilizing and the currency depreciating gradually, a permanent state of affairs. Again, despite its hyper inflation, Zimbabwe is ranked well above Tanzania in some unclear index that measures happiness, where Tanzania is regularly near the bottom.

A similar disconcerting facet is the manner in which ethical parameters of politics influence one another, as global political correctness would have it that Zimbabwe ought to learn from the rainbow thinking of the late South African iconic nationalist leader Nelson Mandela, but the reality is different. Mandela's thinking is part of global left liberalism, the era of global peace and harmony without a shred of radical nationalism remaining in language or symbolic reference, like 'Make America Great Again.' But this outlook is being eclipsed as nationalism is being restored not just in the US or European Union but even in South Africa, as the ANC openly contemplates farm seizures, following Robert Mugabe, not Mandela.

At the same time, dominant political parties face a chal-

lenge of sustainability of what people and their leaders, elites or institutions, actually agree upon. South Africa and Zimbabwe reached majority rule from self-governing settler states where South Africa was an established colonial state while Zimbabwe, then known as Southern Rhodesia, was fledgling as its UDI (unilateral declaration of independence) was still-born and never accepted by the global community. It remained a distant province of South Africa, where Britain still exercised ultimate powers of legality, on whom to confer the hallowed status of nationhood.

Zimbabwe had a 10 year start into majority rule before South Africa took the first steps to arrive there, because the US had lost ability to defend an openly racist state in Congress, and slapped sanctions in bank guarantees in 1986. Shaken in its commerce and facing revolts all over the country it had excessive waste of resources trying to police the whole of southern Africa to be safe for apartheid. South Africa suffered a key defeat in guerrilla warfare in Angola at Cuito Cuanavale after a long campaign from 1987 to 1988.

By the time the Berlin Wall was coming down late 1989, it just signaled to white South Africans that the cherished illusion that they held for so long, that the apartheid state was a bastion against communism, was no longer tradable currency. Meanwhile, Mandela as ANC paramount leader had spent years in prison thinking about how to get out of the situation, not for himself but all South Africans, and was finally convinced to follow not Mahatma Gandhi whom he knew and had largely rejected, creating the ANC armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe, but Dr Martin Luther King Jr. Non racial love works, not hate.

While Mandela was putting together his political philosophy in the years of incarceration, and it came as sweet cold water from a refrigerator to enable the South African population mix to move forwards from the violence of apartheid, militants were gnashing their teeth and counting their mantra. Zimbabwe held itself from acting on the land issue to enable the newly freed Mandela to succeed in taking the country to majority rule, then held itself again for the four years of his rule. After that period, and with Britain totally adamant that the farms are a Zimbabwean issue, meaning it should be solved democratically through the various communities' elected representatives, Mugabe had another solution: 'Africa for the Africans.' While this created mayhem, and even an intense level of violence against militants coming up in the wake of economic morass, it did not destroy the fabric of democracy in that country. Similarly, contesting ANC hegemony on account of state capture and its result, seeking to seize farms to raise popularity tests the Mandela edifice strongly. But if democracy came out vibrant, shaking off Mugabe, harmony shall prevail.

Why more intra-African trade, technology transfer won't be easy

By Nimi Mweta

PRESIDENT John Magufuli has appealed for intensification of intra-technology transfer among African countries to facilitate trade improvement and move the continent out of poverty. It is a combination of actions which if taken intensely enough and in the right direction, has a potential to unlock plenty of the continent's potential, but it is definitely not an easy matter. It isn't the first time this idea comes up.

The president was speaking at the opening of the Southern African Development Community (SADC) Industrialization Week and Exhibition in Dar es Salaam, where he said industrialization has marginal contribution to economic development of the continent due to trade barriers. That is indeed the case as Africa experiences trade barriers the way countries all over the world put up such barriers to protect local industries or other producers. Africa has few trade barriers with Europe as it sells free, taxes imports high.

Conference reports indicated that this year's Industrialization Week is hosted under the theme 'A Conducive Environment for Inclusive and Sustainable Industrial Development, Increased Intra-Regional Trade, and Job Creation,' which is a statement of purposes rather than a precise summary of what can be achieved. It is more in line with what Africa wants rather than what it has already sketched out in terms of methods as practical and feasible, on the basis of economic models thus tested. There is plenty to do here.

President Magufuli said there will be more trade opportunities in Africa if intra-African trade and exchange of technology are enhanced, which must have been difficult for the delegates to grasp what it meant, until it was elaborated. He said that in simple words Africa consumes what it does not produce and



produces what it does not consume, therefore the region needs to work on conducting business within the various countries and in that context it will be able to move forward. There was a definite limitation of vision while the purpose is candidly expressed, as the problem is that technology is hardly located here.

While observers and policy advisers felt that the Industrial Week and exhibition offers an opportunity for African and especially SADC countries to discuss how best to conduct business and support each other by opening markets for each other and ending trade barriers, it was easier said than done. The catch to the problem is embedded in the notion of 'helping each other,' as it refers to a situation where opening markets and removing trade barriers might not yield the best results for domestic industries. If this is still the main

Leaders at past AU Boosting Intra-African Trade Workshop on Trade Finance and Trade Information in Africa. File photo

expectation at the level of policy making, it will be difficult to reverse it just to help one another.

There was also a vital statistic that industries contribute only 11 per cent to GDP of the economic bloc, in which case Africa and the SADC zone in particular ought to work to emulate developed countries in Europe and Asia as they chiefly invested in industries. This is true at the general level as to what those countries did, but it doesn't say how they did it, how they ensured that they reach those results, and why in particular socialist countries in Europe and the Far East failed in industrialization until they moved to open up their economic systems, to enable foreign investments. We have such a situation, but in what manner can it be described as adequate to elicit the Far East and even South Asia results, industrially?

Nor indeed can it be said that Tanza-

'Karibu' SADC delegates and please embrace ACDEG

By GAUDENSIA MNGUMI

HELLO delegates for the 39th Southern African Development Community (SADC) Summit, 'karibuni' we welcome you to our spiffy Dar es Salaam. Wishing you a nice stay and a fruitful meeting that will make our region stand out of the crowd.

We all agree that in the world today most national and international problems solving strategies are axed on unity and collaboration, that's why for a potentially wealthy region like SADC, which is endowed by enormous natural resources like Mountain Kilimanjaro, Akosombo and Inga River, Vic Falls and Lake Nyasa, in order to move ahead we have to work together.

It is about collaborating and always working together to kick out poverty, underdevelopment and all life uncertainties prevalent in Africa.

Being united and collaborating needs the entire continent; hence the African Union (AU) vows that making Africa coordinated and remaining united is best done via regional economic communities (RECs) and SADC is among them.

So, our bloc the SADC, the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (Comesa), the East African Community (EAC), the Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas), the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS), the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD), and the Community of Sahel-Saharan States (CENSAD) in the northern part of Africa are all jacks to propel continental unity.

SADC and other RECs all once agreed in AU meetings that the RECs are power houses for advancing African Union (AU) agenda like the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance (ACDEG).

The ACDEG is a 'master gland' for African development aiming at attaining the 2063 agenda for 'the Africa we want'.

As you gather in Dar es Salaam, for the annual regional summit, being one of the AU 'power houses' for the southern part consider advancing the ACDEG charter in the region.

The Dar Summit can be a starting point to ensure that SADC takes an active role in the implementation and promoting sustainable development



African Union Chairperson Egypt's President Abdel Fattah el-Sisi

through advancing the AU policy of integration.

The 39th SADC Summit is sitting at a time when most of the members have not yet ratified the ACDEG instrument.

One of the strategies and instruments for coordinating efforts to alleviate African socioeconomic challenges is through regional coordination. If RECs, SADC inclusive cannot deliver in supporting the African Union's ACDEG programme in this region, who else will do it?

The African Union has established the ACDEG instrument but the charter has not been sufficiently implemented to tackle Africa's chronic socioeconomic challenges.

Despite the fact that ACDEG has been in place since 2007, well over a decade, results have been patchy because there are no supportive policies and mechanisms to domesticate and report on activities related to the charter.

For example today youths in the region including students in polytechnics and universities may feel that their lives have no meaning or purpose because they obtain no jobs thereafter.

High rates of unemployment render not only SADC youths but African young people rudderless. Having stayed out for years, many become virtually unemployable and can't find income generating activities, which experts say is 'self employment.'

This is happening at a time when the continent has a very good ACDEG strategy, but many countries are losing democratic space as they hesitate to ratify, domesticate and report on the implementation of the charter.

The AU appreciates that Africa has plenty of natural resources but African economies create very few employment opportunities. The only way to make abundant natural resources work for Africa is to develop a strategy, hence the ACDEG protocol but signing the democratization charter is lagging behind.

Article 40 Of ACDEG situates: "State parties shall adopt and implement policies, strategies and programs required to generate productive employment, mitigate the impact of diseases and alleviate poverty and eradicated extreme poverty and illiteracy."

Additional article 33 (5) of the Charter insists on prudent and sustainable utilization of public resources while article 6 challenges the states parties to ensure equitable allocation of a nation's wealth and natural resources to alleviate extreme poverty in the continent. SADC officials are aware that ACDEG is a guiding instrument for African countries to build entrepreneurship, develop business skills and set up proper economic programs for creation of employment opportunities. This is vital to rescue the African youth who without proper planning risk having the breadth of their talents perishing, save a few that fit with haphazard engagement in sport or entertainment.

Too many of the youth in Africa feel that there is no hope at all, no excitement. They don't have jobs or money and at the same time the younger generation encounters an array of problems like HIV/AIDS infections, drugs and alcohol abuse. It looks as if there is little hope for their future mostly due to the prevailing high rates of joblessness.

SADC SITUATION

The AU charter puts in place standards of good governance and values of democracy which in-



SADC Summit Chairperson Dr Hage Geingob, the President of the Republic of Namibia

clude the rule of law, free and fair elections, challenging of election results in a court of law, respect for human and people's rights to development, good governance and commitment to zero tolerance on corruption.

SADC countries like other parts of Africa on several occasions have been under pressure due to disputes over election results and in some cases a number of citizens lost their lives.

States have witnessed protesters clash with the police. In several events government critics claimed that the respective governments tamper with counting and rig election results.

Opposition parties are always protesting against official electoral commissions.

SADC leaders cannot deny the fact that opposition parties and some democracy protagonists whether in Zimbabwe, Zambia, Malawi or Congo DRC are not happy with elections managed by respective electoral bodies.

They constantly accuse election management bodies of 'rigging the polls' with the help of the state apparatus, indicating that even State

House is involved in each case, on the ground that heads of states appoint commissioners running electoral bodies.

Oppositions accuse election commissions of not being 'neutral election referees.' If that is the case, is it not the time for SADC supreme elders to embrace ACDEG to mitigate such election apprehensions in the region?

The low pace of ratification, domesticating and reporting on the African Union Charter and other democracy instruments automatically reduces the commitment of the continental body to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the ambition of attaining the Agenda 2063 -the Africa We Want.

ACDEG underlines creation of a robust and resilient Africa, managed and governed by good governors elected or chosen by African people in free and fair elections administered by credible electoral commissions. This is stipulated in article 2(3) of chapter two of the ACDEG protocol.

It emphasizes that the state parties should promote the holding of regular free and fair elections so

as to institutionalize legitimate authority of representative government as well as democratic changing of governments.

AWARENESS RAISING

Despite that SADC as it is for other RECs has Permanent Representatives at the AU Headquarters in Addis Ababa, however many people in this region are not aware of AU treaties and related charters.

The East African Civil Society Organizations' Forum (EACSOF) says that NGOs and other civil society organizations (CSOs) in East Africa have been in the forefront to sensitize various stakeholders like members of Parliament, top government officials, state agencies, political leaders and the media to increase support and popularization of the ACDEG protocol in order to speed up the ratification, domestication and implementation of the charter.

EACSOF reports that there is scant knowledge of ACDEG as well other treaties, indicating that much remains to be done.

In the past, Seif Sharif Hamad, the former CUF Secretary General who earlier this year year joined ACT Wazalendo, told The Guardian that the opposition in the country is not quite aware of the ACDEG protocol and its commitment to support and promote political pluralism in Africa.

Hamad, one of the most prominent political figures in Tanzania was asked if the opposition can help to push the ACDEG agenda particularly in shaping the democratic process in order to minimize queries and discontent during elections.

The SADC Civil Society Forum is doing the same work as EACSOF in the East African Community. It operates in SADC region at the national and regional level to engage with various stakeholders to popularize the charter, creating awareness on the African Governance Architecture (AGA) and the ACDEG protocol.

The AGA is a roadmap for promoting good governance and strengthening democracy in Africa, with the ACDEG protocol being part of the AGA framework.

Regional integrations are expected to lead to an all-African common market by the year 2025

By MUHARRAM MACATTA

WITHIN the geographic area of COMESA there are the Southern African Customs Union (SACU) with its associated monetary union (the Common Monetary Area, CMA), the Southern African Development Community (SADC) and the East African Community (EAC).

Some countries in this region are also joined with countries in the Horn of Africa in the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD).

West Africa would be served by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) which pre-dated the Lagos Plan. A Preferential Trade Area (PTA) was established in 1981.

To cover the countries of East and Southern The Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) became the champion of regional integration, already in the mid-1960s proposing the division of Africa into regions for the purposes of economic development.

Current African integration arrangements can be divided into two broad groups: those that fit into the Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) adopted in April 1980 and those that were either in existence or came about outside the LPA.

Africa, which was eventually replaced in 1993 by the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa (COMESA); for Central Africa the treaty of the Economic Community of Central African States (ECCAS) was approved in 1983 but remains to be fully ratified.

Together with the Arab Maghreb Union (AMU) in North Africa, these arrangements were expected to lead to an all-African common market by the year 2025.

The Lagos Plan was followed up in 1991 by the Abuja Treaty, re-affirming the commitment of the OAU's Heads of State to an integrated African economy. In April 2001, African Heads of State



Leaders attending the 38th Summit of the 16-member Southern African Development Community in Windhoek. File photo

launched the African Union at Sirte to replace the OAU.

A second group of integration arrangements has grown up outside the LPA. Two important RTAs are associated with the former CFA zone.

There is the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU) within the ambit of ECOWAS and the Economic and Monetary Union of Central Africa (CEMAC) within the proposed ECCAS region.

The Lagos Plan was promoted by the ECA and launched in a special initiative by the OAU. It envisaged three regional arrangements aimed at the creation of separate but convergent and over-arching integration arrangements in three sub-Saharan sub-regions.

This specific article considers the experience of regional integration schemes in sub-Saharan Africa (SSA). Regionalism in Africa has always had a strong political motive.

Since way back in 1950s 'Pan-Africanism', as an expression of continental identity and coherence, distinguishes regional integration in Africa from other regions in the developing world.

But the economic arguments for re-

gional co-operation are also particularly strong given the small size of many SSA countries in economic terms.

Furthermore, most African countries remain highly dependent on agriculture and suffer from high levels of food insecurity. In these circumstances, one would expect African regional integration schemes to be most focused on exploiting whatever synergies may exist to promote food security.

Despite the force of these arguments, virtually all regional integration efforts in SSA to date have failed. The reasons for the lack of success in the past and whether the current momentum for new regional initiatives addresses these problems are discussed herein.

Despite the multiplicity of groupings, SSA regional groupings have not been very effective. Among the reasons for this can be mentioned:

However, recorded trade underestimates the volume of actual trade and, if proper account was

taken of the size of informal trade, the African numbers would not look so out of line. Furthermore, there is evidence that the importance of intra-regional trade has been steadily increasing in recent years.

Most African states have suffered from severe macroeconomic disequilibria, foreign debt service burdens, over-valued currencies, lack of trade finance, and a narrow tax base, with customs duties a substantial source of revenue.

The protective import substitution strategies adopted by most countries since independence resulted in a host of regulations restricting trade such as licensing, administrative foreign exchange allocation, special taxes for acquiring foreign exchange, advance import deposits etc.

Thus the economic context has been unfavourable to the development of regional commitments. The design of African integration schemes around inward-looking industrialization meant that the economic costs of participation for member states are often immediate and concrete.

It could be (in the form of lower tariff revenues and greater import competition), while the economic benefits are long-term and uncertain and are often unevenly distributed among member states.

The dominance of a few countries and the huge disparities in size among members of regional groupings led to concerns about the distribution of benefits. Regions have found it difficult to address the equitable distribution of gains and losses from integration. Mechanisms to provide compensation to the less developed members of groupings have been either

absent or ineffective.

Regionalism has been driven from above by public sector organizations and has lacked the support and involvement of the private sector and the general public. Cooperation has been seen as involving bloated and expensive bureaucracies, rather than opportunities for growth and development.

There are some institutional weaknesses, including the existence of too many regional organizations, a tendency towards top-heavy structures with too many political appointments.

Maybe failures by governments to meet their financial obligations to regional organizations, poor preparation before meetings, and lack of follow up by sectoral ministries on decisions taken at regional meetings by Heads of State.

Integration is hampered by the existence of weak states and political opposition to sharing sovereignty. Integration arrangements are not characterized by strong supranational bodies and virtually all integration institutions are intergovernmental.

We have seen how a new momentum is building up behind regionalism in Africa, but that there are competing visions for the objectives and design of regional integration arrangements. On the one hand, there are those who argue that, because of the poor record of regional economic integration, African countries should "forget theoretical schemes of the pan-African type (a 'United States of Africa') or the neo-colonial type (a customs union).

By replacing them with sim-

pler, cheaper, more productive, and more cost-effective models of integration through projects - choosing priority sectors for development (agriculture, industry, power, transportation, and training) and identifying specific, concrete projects in each sector to be implemented on a community basis, with possible financial support from outside.

On the other hand, there are the erstwhile skeptics among the donors who have been converted to supporting regionalism of a certain type, one which is outward-looking, which is focused on trade facilitation, which has strong private sector involvement and which has light institutional structures.

Finally, there is the traditional model of top-down African regionalism, espoused by the AU and endorsed by African Heads of State, which has a strong rhetorical basis and a largely political significance.

The EU's desire to encourage regional economic groupings as potential trade partners in negotiating EPAs under the Cotonou Agreement implies that trade integration as well as functional co-operation will necessarily be an important policy instrument of African regionalism during the decade.

This has implications for those interested in promoting a food security dimension to these agreements as outlined. For example, food security is explicitly addressed in the Cotonou Agreement in the provision which reads: "The Agreements shall include provisions aimed at fostering food security in accordance with WTO rules".

4G adoption in Africa still low even with 5G looming in the horizon

By Guardian Reporter

TELECOMMUNICATION technology advances quite slowly but the implementation is even slower. We have moved on from 2G then 3G to 4G in the past 20 years or so in Kenya. 5G is looming in the horizon but the adoption of 4G is still low in the country and in the continent in general.

According to the latest Global System for Mobile Communications (GSMA) report, 4G adoption in the continent is quite low. This is interesting since the hype over 5G is starting to build up and we are yet to have proper 4G coverage in the continent.

However, 4G uptake in the region is still slow. By the end of 2018, 4G accounted for 7% of total connections according to the report. This is thanks to the high cost of 4G enabled devices and the delays in assigning the 4G spectrum to

established service providers. However, this is changing. 7 LTE networks have been launched since the start of 2019 in areas like Ghana and Burkina Faso.

In 2019, they say that 3G will overtake 2G to become the leading technology to be used in Sub-Saharan Africa with just over 45% of connections.

GSMA predicts that 4G adoption will overtake 2G in 2023 and will form 23% of connections by 2025. Speaking of 5G, GSMA predicts that 5G connections will rise to about 3% of total connections by 2025.

Meanwhile in the region, the number of smartphone connections rose to 302 million in 2018 and will more than double that to 700 million by 2025. Sub-Saharan Africa has 456 million unique subscribers of which 239 million use mobile internet as of 2018.



Defence seeks compassion for Tanzanian who tried to smuggle heroin into Canada

By Kevin Martin

TRYING to smuggle more than a kilogrammes of heroin into Canada, including a quarter of it in her stomach, should land a Tanzanian woman a 10-year prison term, a prosecutor said Wednesday.

But the lawyer for Mariam Salehe said the mother of four, including three minors living in poverty in a Dar es Salaam suburban slum, deserves some compassion.

Defence counsel Lisa Burgis Der said a sentence in the six- to eight-year range, minus credit for the 280 days Salehe has served since her arrest last November, would be a suitable punishment.

Burgis Der noted Salehe was simply a courier, desperate for cash when she agreed to travel to Calgary on behalf of a stranger she met in her eldest son's home of South Africa.

The lawyer read a note from

her client, translated from her native Swahili, for provincial court Judge Margaret Keelaghan to consider.

In it, Salehe wrote of her isolation at the Calgary Remand Centre, where fellow inmates are regularly visited by relatives, while she has no family or friends in Canada.

According to a statement of agreed facts made an exhibit when Salehe pleaded guilty in April to importation, the then-

39-year-old was arrested after arriving in Calgary from Johannesburg, via Amsterdam.

A Canada Border Services Agency officer became suspicious when Salehe said she was visiting her sister, who'd just had a baby, for 30 days with only a carry-on sized suitcase.

Salehe was then referred for a secondary examination.

An X-ray of her suitcase determined there was an organic substance in the lining and a hand

search found a false bottom with a package containing a white substance. "CBSA officers asked Salehe, with the assistance of a translator, if she swallowed anything prior to travelling to Canada. Salehe said she had swallowed 24 pellets of 'animal product,'" the exhibit said.

She said she only knew the first name of the person who provided the pellets and was concerned for her health because she feared they might con-

tain heroin.

Salehe was then taken to the Peter Lougheed Centre where over the course of the next eight hours, with the help of laxatives, she was able to pass the contents of her stomach.

"The pellets consisted of a white substance wrapped in clear plastic."

Testing later confirmed the substance was heroin, weighing 1.33 kilograms, including 312 grams in the pellets.

Salehe told police she was to receive \$5,000 on arrival in Calgary from a man who would meet her at the airport and tell her how to remove the pellets.

Burgis Der said her client has no intention of claiming refugee status once her sentence is done and just wants to return to her children, who are currently being cared for by an aging aunt.

Keelaghan will hand down her sentencing decision later this month.



Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa (L) congratulates, the Representative of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), Fred Kafeero (R), after the latter delivered a speech on behalf of UN Agencies - FAO, World Food Programme (WFP), The United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Office of the UN's Resident Coordinators' Office (UNRCO) that participated at the National Farmers' Day (Nane Nane) celebrations in Simiyu region. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Brewer and Kilimanjaro project launch campaign to plant 1,000 trees

By Guardian Reporter

AS part of its contribution towards environmental conservation and protecting water towers within Kilimanjaro region, Serengeti Breweries Limited (SBL) in partnership with The Kilimanjaro Project has launched a campaign to plant 1,000 trees.

Speaking during the tree planting occasion at the brewery, SBL managing director, Mark Ocitti, said the exercise demonstrates the company's commitment to environmental conservation not only within its premises but also to the general surroundings the country.

The trees have been planted at its breweries located at Pasua in Moshi district as well as Mwanga district.

The tree planting event was also attended by British High Commissioner to Tanzania Sara Cooke and the UK PM Trade Envoy Andrew Rosindell who were on a tour to the brewery.

"This is a clear manifestation of SBL's commitment to collaborate with other stakeholders in implementing socially impactful initiatives for the common good of the society," said Ocitti.

The tree planting by SBL comes amid concerted efforts to limit greenhouse gases emissions both regionally and globally, by increasing forest cover in order to combat climate change and guarantee a safe environment for current and future generations.

SBL's initiative is in tandem with the company corporate social responsibilities main focus areas which include Provision of clean and safe water to communities through a program known as Water of Life (WOL); a scholarship program for needy students to pursue higher education; a program to assist local farmers and; an initiative to promote 'Responsible Drinking'.



SBL's initiative is in tandem with the company corporate social responsibilities main focus areas which include Provision of clean and safe water to communities through a program known as Water of Life (WOL)

NGOs call for a 'renewable future for rivers, climate and people'

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

WORLD Wildlife Fund (WWF) and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) have launched a research report that argues that solar and wind power and energy storage technologies can meet the world's energy needs while preserving the health and connectivity of river systems.

The report highlights the scope for renewables to serve developing countries while avoiding construction of hydropower dams on some of the world's major rivers, such as the Amazon, Mekong, and Irrawad-

dy rivers.

Announcing the report, WWF highlighted a global study published in the science journal Nature. The study showed that, of rivers measuring more than 1,000 kilometers in length, just 37% remain free-flowing.

TNC drew attention to the recommendation of the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES) to protect and restore river connectivity in the interests of maintaining freshwater fisheries and the well-being of local riparian communities.

Noting that dams and reservoirs

are the major cause of river habitat fragmentation, WWF highlighted that the falling costs of renewable energy can make electricity systems affordable for populations that previously lacked such access.

The 104-page report titled, 'Connected and Flowing: A Renewable Future for Rivers, Climate and People,' finds that more than 3,700 hydropower dams are currently being planned, including large ones in Cambodia, Tanzania, and Brazil.

The authors argue that, in comparison, wind and solar energy technologies are low-cost and low-impact, as well as being low-carbon, and could meet global

renewable energy targets many times over.

The report contains examples of countries that have successfully navigated a transition to ecologically-friendly alternatives, such as the use of "small hydro" in Switzerland, strategic dam removal in Maine, US, and uptake of solar and wind energy in Chile.

The authors recommend that governments reassess their plans for hydropower to factor in the full value of rivers, and create competitive frameworks to accelerate the renewable energy revolution and help meet

the international commitments of the SDGs, the Paris Agreement on climate change and the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).

They call on developers and financial institutions to facilitate the transition to renewables by supporting more comprehensive upstream planning and improving their own project assessments by using sustainability protocols and safeguards.

SDG target 7.1 aims to ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services, while target 7.2 seeks to increase substantially the share of renewable energy in the global energy mix.

8 times graduates could stay relevant in their career paths

GROWING up in a typical Tanzanian family, every adult remotely related to you sells you the same dream. Study hard in school, get good grades, pursue a prestigious course and you are guaranteed of success in life. Come graduation, your entire family attends the ceremony.

Once the celebrations are over reality rears its ugly head. The entire vibe about education being the key to success turns out to be a big fat lie. The world doesn't care how great your grades are. Titles accrued from your fancy papers mean nothing. You have to fight for limited opportunities with thousands of other graduates with similar qualifications; some even have master's degrees and additional certifications when you have none.

Weeks turn into months. You send out tens of job applications. The organizations don't have the decency to acknowledge receipt of your application or send a regret email. You begin to wonder why you wasted years and resources to get that over-glorified piece of paper when your agetates who never went to college seemed to be doing well in life. You check betting apps every now and then in an effort to change your fortunes. While on campus you swore never to accept a monthly salary of less than 50k, now you wouldn't mind working for a stipend that only covers rent, food, and transport.

You are not alone. Thousands of other graduates are experiencing exactly what you are it's just that they are putting on a brave face. You should be open to,

Embrace uncertainty

Most graduates find it twice harder to handle uncertainty. In academics when you study hard, revise past papers and follow laid down instructions, excelling is almost guaranteed. Life, on the other hand, is different. You can do your best, work twice harder or sacrifice everything but still fail because there are many other factors that come into play. This fear of the unknown, rejection and failing is what drives most graduates to choose formal employment over entrepreneurship.

With huge corporations going under, no firm in our generation is immune to change. This means you have

to find a balance in the uncertainty, embrace rejection and failing as part of your journey to greatness

Acknowledge that no job is beneath you

Someone must have lied to graduates that having academic papers means you can only be the boss. Lots of graduates turn down gigs they feel are beneath someone of their stature. Others carry this mentality into the workplace, publicly ridiculing older colleagues especially those with less academic qualifications. This sad state of affairs has hindered many of us from progressing in our respective careers.

A degree of any kind only proves you have the capacity to think critically and learn. Stop acting like you are the smartest person in the room. Do away with that misplaced ego. Seek to learn from those who have been doing it longer by tapping into their wealth of experience. This will enable you to become a better professional and prove to them that you are ready to be entrusted with bigger roles in the organization.

In addition, go for internships and volunteer in as many organizations as you can. As an intern, you have unparalleled access to people in the organization you wouldn't if you were an employee. Use that opportunity to network, make valuable professional contacts and learn everything about your career.

Pursue at least two different fields

Being an expert in one field is no longer a wise move. Tech gurus are working overdrive to devise – cost-effective & more efficient – ways of doing business. Imagine spending your entire lifetime building a single career path then one day you are declared redundant thanks to some new technology.

Social media has replaced broadcast media as a major source of news, cut into their profits, forcing major media houses to undertake massive layoffs. Mobile banking is equally revolutionizing the financial services sector.

In 2017, Artificial Intelligence bots Lisa and Billy were designed to provide the public with access to legal services hence cut down the cost of hiring lawyers for some tasks. No profession is unscathed by technological



disruption.

Combining at least two different fields allows you to reap the benefits of being multidisciplinary and offers a lifeline should one career path go tits up

Build a Personal Brand

Think of yourself as an item on a supermarket shelf full of similar products. What would make a potential customer pick you over other products? The answer is your branding.

Most professionals especially those in technical fields detest marketing themselves. They believe their work should speak for itself. That's an old school of thought. There are millions of other people who can do what you do. The Best way for you to beat them is to aggressively market yourself while still offering excellent services.

Thanks to internet penetration in this country it is much easier to create a personal brand. All you need to do is figure out the kind of professional you want the world to perceive you and endeavor to showcase that on all your social media pages. Running a blog where you regularly publish about issues in your area of expertise catapults you into a thought leader.

Socialize outside your circle

We often hang out exclusively with our contemporaries. Communities of those who share similar interests or life philosophy. Interacting with older people and those out of our social

circle is frowned upon. There are a few benefits to this arrangement, nonetheless, it limits your growth and perspective towards life.

You get to compete with your pals in achieving things you collectively find appealing instead of pursuing what's really important.

I was a victim of this until I began spending more time with men and women in their late forties & fifties. Where else my friends and I were blowing our cash on luxuries, designer clothes, gadgets, accessories & never-ending parties, those older men and women invested their money in tangible assets.

It is through my interactions with people outside of this circle that I learned invaluable information on how to acquire land, managing property, invest, run a business and secure a future...a bright future.

Develop financial discipline

Financial discipline is one thing that eludes many of us regardless of education levels, age, profession, gender or intellectual capabilities. The society is hell-bent on molding us into important members of the society, professionals but ignores the most important life lesson, which is on how to handle money.

We all relate to someone who lives in a house whose rent is higher than their salary, apparently because he or she is a well-known figure, then constantly borrows cash from his or

College Comfort Zone
With
Salima Hamisi

saly30@gmail.com
0762 174 124

her friends to stay afloat. Making money is the easier part, keeping the wealth you generate is requires a higher degree of financial discipline otherwise you could end up falling from grace to abject poverty should your business go under or you are fired for whatever reason.

Since this knowledge isn't inborn, enlist the help of a financial consultant or friend who is good with money to help you come up with a budget and strategy on how to best save, invest and spend your money.

Live through all of life seasons

The last couple of months have inscribed this lesson on my forehead. See, for a long period of time, my life was smooth. Everything I touched turned into gold. Midas touch. I was winning in every sphere of life. It felt like I was superhuman. There are times I would flirt with the idea that I'm probably an alien, un-touchable by issues that afflict feeble human beings, then life happened.

Suddenly, my winning streak was no more. Nothing I tried to do would turn out successful. One loss after another. No matter how hard I worked things just didn't go as expected. I spent weeks trying to get my mojo back until someone pointed out to me what I was going through is simply life. There are seasons in life. There are times you will be in deep pain others full of joy. There are times success will be your middle name others failure will pitch a tent in your living room. The trick is never to let the sea-

sons get into your head.

Appreciate each season and pick lessons from each. The most important lesson from this fact of life is that nothing is permanent so don't stress over it or mistreat people thinking you will never need their help. Through it, all find a way to stay happy, hopeful and enthusiastic.

Start Now

If I plucked a strand of my hair each time someone told me they are waiting for the perfect moment to embark on actualizing their business idea, talent or life goal, I would be completely bald by now.

I attribute this to popular TV shows on entrepreneurship which have corrupted our minds to think there are perfect moments in life. You prepare a 1-minute sales pitch, attend countless networking events hoping that one day you will bump into an angel investor rattle off your pitch and boom you sign a multimillion shillings deal. This works for a very tiny fraction in real life because lady luck smiles upon those who are prepared.

If you have a business idea, hope to further your education or have an unexploited talent the best time to start pursuing it is now. Waiting for the stars to align perfectly may never come to pass. To make it worse, responsibilities balloon with each passing day. If not careful you will soon be part of those who spend their days wallowing in regret. I wish I did it when I had a chance.

Today is very much guaranteed not tomorrow.

Planting herbs in China's 'water tower': Alleviating poverty the ecological way

CHINA'S achievements in poverty reduction in recent years have been unprecedented. Official data shows China has lifted more than 700 million people out of poverty in the past four decades. By 2020, China aims to eradicate poverty to build a moderately prosperous society.

Qumalai, is such a deeply impoverished county, located in the north of Yushu Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture of China's northwest Qinghai Province. It is a pure pastoral highland in the Qinghai-Tibet Plateau, mainly inhabited by Tibetans.

Its average altitude is more than 4,000 meters, with a typical plateau cold climate characterized by coldness and anoxia, lengthy exposure to sunshine and strong ultraviolet radiation. The annual temperature difference is small, but the daily temperature difference is large.

The harsh climate and geographical conditions have caused the county to be deeply impoverished. Among its 45,718 population, 11,328 people from 3365 households are registered as poor, said Li Jian, deputy secretary of the Qumalai County Party Committee.

Li said that a lack of industries has been the bottleneck for local development. "The largest industry, cattle and sheep, is facing limited grazing because of the degradation of grassland," Li lamented. "We must build two or three more industries as a matter of urgency, which can protect the ecological environment and increase people's income."

However, creating industries in Qumalai requires caution. As the core area where Asia's three greatest rivers - the Yellow River (mother river of China), Yangtze River (the world's third largest river) and the Lancang River (also known as Mekong River) and the longest river in Southeast Asia), start their long journey of life, Qumalai bears great ecological significance which can never be overemphasized.

Each year, the source area of the three

rivers supplies about 6 billion cubic meters of water downstream. It is therefore called the "China Water Tower." It is also the most concentrated area of plateau biodiversity, home of the Tibetan antelope, wild yaks, Tibetan wild donkeys, brown bears, snow leopards, wolves, hawks and larks.

Qumalai's special geographical location, abundant natural resources and important ecological functions make it an important ecological filternet not only for China, but also for Asia and the world.

In 2016, Chinese President Xi Jinping emphasized that Qinghai must shoulder the great responsibility of protecting the source of the Three Rivers and the "China Water Tower."

With the ecology being the first priority, the central and local governments have made relentless efforts for years. In 2015, the central government established a compensation mechanism for ecological protection among regions.

Qinghai Province has also created jobs as grassland ecological guardians for 49,000 registered poor people, said Wang Guang, deputy director-general of the Qinghai Forestry and Grassland Bureau.

At the county-level, Qumalai has set up more than 60 ecological animal husbandry cooperatives.

These cooperatives largely optimize resources and can operate with less labor, enabling young herdsmen to accept vocational education and skills training.

As a local governor, Li is more concerned about how the local people can go beyond this goal of poverty eradication and realize prosperous development in a sustainable way.

In Li's eyes, a solution lies in Maduo township, where some six hours' trek through bumpy roads, mountains and rivers can reach from the county downtown. He sees potential in a large Chinese herbal plantation there.

Oddly, it used to be a place which by no means had any connection



Water flows in the Three-River-Source region./ Credit to Three-River-Source National Park website

with "hope." "No one would want to come, and only old horses know the way," Tuju Luozhoujiangcuo, secretary of the Party Committee of Maduo township, said. There are no roads, no electricity, and no network signals. In summer, even off-road vehicles may fall into a marsh at any time.

Because of the climate, rodent infestation and historical overgrazing, the desertification of the land is particularly serious, with nearly 60 percent of the grasslands desertified. Without good grazing grassland, nearly 70 percent of the herdsmen in the whole township moved to Golmud and other places, added Tuju.

But this started to change two years ago when Zhengletang Biotechnology Group came and set up its subsidiary QumalaiZhengbaicao Traditional Chinese Medicine Planting Co Ltd, which plants isatis root and sophora flavescens roton about 3,333 hectares of uncultivated land.

As the pioneer of alpine herbal

plantations, Zhengbaicao faces enormous challenges. In addition to the lack of infrastructure, raising herbs in cold areas with an average altitude of 4,500 meters is by no means an easy task. The first thing the company needed to figure out was the feasibility of its plan.

With the help of experts from various institutions, including the Chinese Academy of Sciences and China Agricultural University, after a long period of research and tackling key scientific and technological bottlenecks, the company has mastered the necessary cultivation, purification and extraction technology.

After more than two years, the first experimental batch of plants has been successful. Li said that the old idea that Qumalai was too high for planting had been disproven.

In fact, Maduo township's high altitude has proven to be an advantage for herbal plantations as it offers a large area of available uncultivated land, and excellent water quality and soil. Herbs grown here

will be pollution-free.

So far, the planting base has rented nearly 6,667 hectares of land in Maduotownship, involving 14 herdsmen, and the annual income from the land transfer alone exceeds 2 million yuan (\$285,000).

In the words of Wang Lige, general manager of Zhengletang, the herbal plantations not only bring job opportunities to local herdsmen, but also better preserve the water and soil and control local rodent infestation. He said the alpine rodents eat grass roots, largely causing soil desertification. The herbal roots are bitter, effectively controlling rodent infestation.

Cuojiudojie, 35, lives in poverty in Guoyang village in Maduotownship. Other than around a dozen livestock for the six-member family, he has no other source of income. Last year, he worked in the plantation base loading and unloading, and earned nearly 20,000 yuan (about \$2,850) in three months, a significant income.

At the same time, he learned to

drive a tractor at the base. He said he plans to buy his own tractor to till the land next year. "Now I can work at my own home, and this won't affect my daily grazing work. But also when I return home at night, I can also continue my pastoral work," he said.

Cuojiudojie is not the only one. In 2018, Zhengbaicao recruited more than 30 herdsmen in Maduotownship. Like him, herdsmen come to the base to work after releasing cattle and sheep in the daytime. In the evening, they drive cattle and sheep back to their enclosures. During the past year, the minimum income of herdsmen from the base was 7,000 yuan (\$995) and the maximum income was 30,000 yuan (\$4,266).

Sun Jianfei, chairman of Zhengletang Biotechnology Group, said the base only hires local herdsmen for the labor work, because people from other places would struggle with altitude stress. "In the future, we plan to set up a primary processing plant," he said. "Hopefully this can add some value to the herbs and achieve self-hematopoietic capacity."

For a township like Maduo, where residents have always depended on nature to raise livestock, this is the first time for them to work at an enterprise at their doorstep. This is exactly what Zhengbaicao wants to achieve, hoping that the herbal plantations would make the local herdsmen "stay".

With the alignment of ecological, social and economic effects, Sun said the plantation base will be expanded to 6,667 hectares in the next phase, and will gradually expand to 66,667 hectares, making it one of the largest Chinese herbal planting bases in China.

By Property Watch Reporter

SMALLHOLDER farmers in the country have been advised to modernise their farming by mechanising through FahariKilimo Account of CRDB Bank Plc.

Prime Minister, Kassim Majaliwa said yesterday after visiting CRDB's pavilion on the climax of Nane Nane Agriculture Fair that FahariKilimo is an ideal vehicle through which many smallholder farmers will revolutionise their farming methods by way of value chain system.

"This kind of creativity by CRDB Bank which has come up with this package targeting our farmers is well aligned with the government's plans to revolutionise the country's agriculture sector which is dominated by smallholder farmers," Majaliwa said.

He said that FahariKilimo will also assist investors seeking to establish agro-processing factories which add value to commodities to get equipment for such multibillion shillings investments.

"This credit vehicle by CRDB which also provides some other auxiliary services such as training of farmers in modern agro-practices and use of inputs will facilitate a desired value chain in the country's agriculture sector," the PM added.

Explaining government's plans to empower smallholder farmers and enable them to be bankable, Majaliwa said the state will undertake a nationwide surveying and identification of farms so they should be legal plots of land which will add value.

"I know that one of the reasons behind high interest rates charged on

MAJALIWA ADVISES FARMERS TO MECHANISE THROUGH CRDB'S FAHARIKILIMO



Nsagali Company Limited's founder and Managing Director, Emmanuel Silanga gesturing inside his ginnyery in Bariadi. Photo: courtesy of NMB.

implements and inputs loans such as tractors, planters, irrigation equipment, construction material and investment loans targeting agro-processing.

"In empowering farmers and agro-processing investors, we work in collaboration with many partners such as ETG Agro who with us as a team, we give tractors to farmers through concessional loans," the CRDB Group's chief stated.

In order to get the tractors, a farmer needs to contribute a minimum of 35 percent of the value while the bank pays the 65 percent and the borrower has three years to repay the loan. "This loan is free of any collateral because the tractor itself qualifies as collateral," Nsekela pointed out noting that so far CRDB has disbursed over 650bn/- to the agriculture sector with 97.3bn/- give to cotton subsector, sugarcane production 167.3bn/-, coffee got 36.6bn/- and tea received 60bn/-.

"Today, we are accompanied by Managing Director of Nsagali Company Limited, Emmanuel Silanga who is runs ginnyery and recently the bank gave him a loan to facilitate smooth buying of cotton from farmers," Nsekela concluded while promising the PM that CRDB is ready for any tasks ahead.

loans given to the agriculture sector is lack of legal recognition of smallholder farms through issuance of title deeds which makes them a risky group," Majaliwa noted.

Briefing the premier, CRDB Group's Managing Director, Abdulmajid Nsekela said FahariKilimo is a vehicle tailor made to suit the needs of smallholder farmers in all aspects and graduate them into commercial farmers.

"The FahariKilimo Account is free of charge to open and has no monthly running costs charged on farmers with focus on facilitating smooth payment of farmers after selling their produce," Nsekela said while revealing that so far, more than 30,000 farmers have enrolled.

"Once a farmer has opened this account, they directly qualify for several benefits associated with it which include capacity building through training and access to many products and services offered by CRDB," Nsekela added.

He further pointed out that in addition to capacity building, FahariKilimo enrolled farmers also qualify for agro-

NMB issues 40bn/- to cotton farmers, ginnyeries to finance new crop season

By Property Watch Reporter, Simiyu

AS smallholder cotton farmers struggle to find markets for their commodity this season, NMB Bank Plc has issued a 40bn/- loan to finance farmers and ginnyeries to process the white gold before supplying markets.

Briefing Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa when he visited NMB's booth at the 26th Nane Nane Agriculture Fair which reached its climax yesterday, the bank's Head of Retail Banking, Filbert Mponzi said the bank has over the years backed the agriculture sector through financing, equipment hire purchasing and capacity building of smallholder farmers through training.

"This year we have already given loans to two ginnyeries which are purchasing farmers' cotton for value addition before supply markets," Mponzi said adding that since 2010, NMB in partnership with its holding company, Rabobank started NMB Foundation, a vehicle targeting the agriculture sector.

He assured Majaliwa that NMB has the financial and technical muscles to help commercialise the country's agriculture sector through NMB Foundation which combines both aspects in assisting



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa (gesturing) talks to one of the farmers who have benefited from NMB Bank Plc's loans and training at the bank's pavilion during the climax of the 26th Nane Nane Agriculture Fair held in Simiyu region yesterday. With mike in hand is NMB's Head of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Savings and Credit Cooperation, Filbert Mponzi. Photo: courtesy of NMB.

farmers, agro-dealers and agro-processing investors.

"I call upon all farmers and agro-dealers who want financial or technical support to come to NMB which will also train them on basics of agribusiness," he added stressing

that training is an important aspect before giving out loans to anyone to avoid defaults.

Under the NMB and Rabobank deal, efforts are done to enhance good governance and transparency, financial

literacy and technological know-how through NMB Foundation for Agricultural Development which addresses capacity challenges.

"NFAD aims at strengthening the management of the farmers' associations and cooperatives, with their members in terms of leadership, governance, marketing and financial skills," the NMB Head of Retail Banking added.

Speaking after the briefing, Prime Minister Majaliwa commended the bank for targeting agriculture in its loan disbursing portfolio saying such a move is helping to increase productivity through value addition of commodities.

"I am happy that NMB Bank has already issued loans to cotton farmers and ginnyeries at low interest rates which means that the cotton subsector can now contribute significantly to gross domestic product," Majaliwa said.

He urged major cotton buyers such as ginnyery owners to go to NMB and get loans which will facilitate a smooth cotton buying season. "This is your bank so make use of its by getting affordable loans," the premier who was the chief guest at the fair added. The 26th Nane Nane Agriculture Fair which started on August 1, officially ended yesterday.

Mozambique: Nyusi lays first stone for LNG factory in Palma

MAPUTO

Mozambican President Filipe Nyusi on Monday laid the first stone in the construction of a liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant in the Afungi Peninsula, Palma district in the northern province of Cabo Delgado.

Nyusi told the ceremony that this marked the turning of a new page in the country's history, paving the way for Mozambique to become one of the largest producers and exporters of LNG in the world. Two LNG factories (known as "trains") will be built at Afungi. Nyusi said they will produce 12.6 million tonnes of LNG a year, of which 11.1 million tonnes are already earmarked for sale through medium and long term contracts. Hence the viability of the undertaking is guaranteed.

"Mozambique is taking giant steps towards generating more sources of revenue that will allow the structuring of our economy in the long term, in the national, regional, continental and global context", said Nyusi. "Nothing will be as before," declared the President.

"Implementation of this project", he continued, "is part of our strategy of industrialisation expressed in the local transformation of our resources into products of value destined for the national and international markets."

The final investment decision for this project was signed on 18 June in Maputo between the government and the consortium exploiting the natural gas resources in offshore area one of the Rovuma Basin, headed by the US company Anadarko Petroleum.

Anadarko holds 26.5 per cent of Area One and is the operator. Its partners in the Consortium are the Japanese company Mitsui (20 per cent), PTTEP of Thailand (8.5 per cent), the three Indian companies ONGC Videsh, Bias Rovuma Energy, and BRPL Ventures (each with ten per cent), and Mozambique's own National Hydrocarbon Company (ENH - 15 per cent).

Anadarko will not be operator for much longer, since the company is being sold to Occidental Petroleum, and the French energy giant Total has agreed to buy all of Anadarko's African assets, including Rovuma Basin Area One from Occidental.

The confirmed reserves of gas in Area One are 76 trillion cubic feet. The total investment envisaged is around 25 billion US dollars. 14 billion dollars will come from bank loans, and 11 billion from the capital of the partners in the Area One Concession. This is far and away the largest investment in the history of Mozambique.

The liquefaction process involves cooling the gas to a temperature of minus 162 degrees Celsius. At this temperature, its volume shrinks to just one six-hundredth of its gaseous state. The LNG will be exported in tanker ships that will dock at special berths to be built at a new port in Palma. There will be five berths, four for LNG and one for condensate. Each of the tanker ships will be 300 metres long and can hold the equivalent of about a million barrels.

Nairobi city estates face demolition in height audit

NAIROBI

More than 70 percent of residential buildings in Nairobi are not compliant with the county government's zoning policy on the number of floors.

Nairobi County Assembly Planning, Housing and Lands committee chairman Anthony Karanja said only 25 percent of all city buildings adhere to the policy. "It has come to our notice that the planning department and unscrupulous developers have been approving and developing structures outside the county's zoning policy and if left unchecked we will have a disorganised county," said Mr Karanja.

He said the committee will from next week start inspection of buildings to re-evaluate their approvals and recommend, among other things, demolition and regularisation of the buildings. "We are giving the notice to the executive to put their house in order because as a committee, we will be going round from next week to re-evaluate the approvals of the buildings. It is becoming a menace," he said.

"It has even become a nightmare to plan for vital services such as garbage collections because the houses contravene the county's zoning policy," he stated. The damning revelation emerged during the Committee's session on Tuesday

where officers from the Urban Planning were questioned over the influx of unapproved buildings in the capital city. Zoning is a planning control for the built environment that includes dividing land into sections, permitting land use on specific sites to shape the layout of towns and cities and enable various types of development.

In Nairobi, the zoning regulation has divided the capital into 15 areas with a specific height of building and building type allowed. Mr Karanja explained that unscrupulous developers are working closely with county officials to flout the county's zoning policy.

The MCA pointed out that officers from the planning department had colluded with unscrupulous developers and put up buildings in total disregard of the zoning policy, which guides on how many floors a structure should have and the maximum number of buildings allowed for in a certain zone.

He said the situation has been fuelled by the existence of cartels in the county comprising of sub-county administrators, planning officers and enforcement officers who are allowing the illegal structures to be put up.

"People are being allowed to construct on road reserves, airport land, public land, and military installations outside the zoning policy. In an area like

Kileleshwa where buildings are only allowed to go four storeys, we have since established that some buildings in the area go up to 15 floors," he said.

The Waithaka MCA appealed to Governor Mike Sonko to rein in rogue officers from the urban planning and housing department who were responsible for the haphazard building of structures. "We are calling on the governor to keep a keen eye on his officers and expose those working with the cartels responsible for the proliferation of unapproved structures and buildings in the city," he said. Over the years, Nairobi houses demolition has been on and off for several reasons.

TANGO APPLAUDS SADC'S INDUSTRIALISATION DRIVE BUT FAULTS FALLOUT IN IMPLEMENTATION

By Property Watch Reporter

INDUSTRIAL development as one of Southern Africa Development Community is an important factor in creating jobs and reducing levels of poverty in the 16 member nations' bloc.

Tanzania Association of Non-Governmental Organizations' Programme Manager, Zaa Twalangeti said under a Regional Indicative Strategic Development Plan (RISDP), progress in establishing industries has been given a thrust by many SADC members including Tanzania.

Twalangeti said the RISDP was partially aimed to see how the region is performing in its efforts to end poverty which is the key concern of the region with an estimated 40 per cent of the SADC population living in abject poverty.

"The RISDP was also aimed at allaying manifestation of poverty as being through poor social indicators, including low productivity of labour and land, malnutrition, illiteracy, unemployment, underemployment and declining life expectancy," Twalangeti said.

He noted that evaluation of the RISDP which covers the period 2015-2020, has established that industrial development has been placed at the core of the integration agenda. "Industrialization of SADC has been acknowledged as central to diversifying the region's economies," the TANGO Programme Manager said in a statement.

Among other things, the SADC blue-print for industrialization is the bloc's industrialization strategy and roadmap which is also backed by an Action Plan. "However an as-



SADC industrialisation trade show currently taking place in Dar es Salaam.

essment of the performance of the plan which has been done by Daima Associate of Tanzania as commissioned by the SADC Secretariat show that the plan which is supposed to be implemented by member state does not indicate tangible projects that are directly implementing the strategy," Twalangeti noted.

He added that SADC member states are still largely implementing their own industrialization policies which have not deliberately domesticated the regional industrial strat-

egy. "The performance assessment also shows that the implementation of the strategy has not yet realized significant impact in the region and this can be evidenced by the sector's sluggish growth of 1.2 percent in 2017 compared to 2.7 percent in 2016 and its transformation in terms of diversification and growth of value chains has at best been modest," he added.

The assessment also shows that profiling of regional value chains in the priority sectors of agro-pro-

cessing, mineral beneficiation and pharmaceuticals was completed and what remains is for member states to domesticate the strategy and value chains and implement the strategy, Twalangeti noted.

On market integration, the TANGO Manager said it is making progress but intra-regional trade remains dismal with fair progress being made with regard to the implementation of the SADC free trade area by member states.

"Among the key milestones was the

consolidation of the SADC free trade area in the first three years of a revised RISDP and the region has fairly managed to phase down tariffs but despite the implementation of the SADC FTA being implemented, the goods market in the region remains small," he argued while pointing out that the assessment has also shown that there are many supply side constraints, inadequate trade related infrastructure and other trade policy instruments such as non-tariff barriers and restrictive rules of origin.



One of the scandal-ridden projects done by DN International in Masaka, Kigali.

Court annuls auction of property in DN International housing saga

KIGALI

Creditors who delivered supplies or bought homes from the defunct DN International are celebrating a court ruling that has cancelled an auction through which KCB Bank Rwanda had taken over their land.

The ruling, made by the Commercial High Court last month, dismissed the public auction of land that was used by DN International as collateral in the Green Park Villas housing project in Rusororo Sector, Gasabo District.

Through that auction, which was conducted in 2015, KCB Bank Rwanda had sold the land in order to recover the money it lent to DN International and bought the property itself.

Now, judges at the Kigali based Commercial Court in

Nyamirambo have cancelled the auction after establishing that some homes that were auctioned did not belong to DN International's collateral to KCB Bank Rwanda and that not all the rules that govern a public auction were respected.

The ruling was welcomed by people who had delivered supplies or bought homes from the defunct DN International, saying it gives them a second chance to recover money they invested in the real estate project in case the land is sold as part of an ongoing liquidation process.

In late 2017, at least 75 of the creditors, including Francis Bayingana as the lead petitioner, launched a lawsuit in order to dismiss KCB's ownership of the land DN International had used for the Green Park Villas housing project.

"The verdict means that KCB is now a creditor like any other creditors of DN International. As the procedure of insolvency law stipulates, all creditors are now going to get something from the remaining property out of DN International's assets according to one's investments in the project," Bayingana told The New Times on Tuesday.

He had always argued that it was unfair for KCB to take over the land that was used as collateral in the Green Park Villas housing project in Rusororo area after DN International failed to complete the construction works.

The petitioner said that he and other investors had sued as part of last-ditch efforts to help those who supplied construction materials or made down payments for housing units to recover their

money by selling the land on which the homes were to be erected.

Green Park Villas housing project was still incomplete when the scandal-hit DN International failed to operate, forcing the owner, Nathan Lloyd, to flee the country in 2011. Bayingana and others have since sued the defunct DN International, which is now under liquidation, seeking over Rwf780 million in compensation as the realtor failed to deliver the promised homes and hadn't managed to pay all its critical suppliers of materials and services ranging from security guards to iron sheet and cement providers.

"So far, we are still negotiating in order to get the money we invested," Bayingana said. When DN International folded, as a financier of the project, KCB through the public

auction now dismissed by the commercial court had seized the incomplete estate in an effort to recover over a Rwf1.5-billion loan it was owed. But the bank did not take care of paying those who supplied construction materials or the prospective homeowners who had made down payment on the houses.

The Insolvency Administrator for DN International, Vedaste Mugemanyi, equally welcomed the court ruling, explaining in an interview with this newspaper that the verdict gives him a chance to have more assets left by the defunct company which could be sold in order to pay its creditors.

It is not yet clear if KCB Bank Rwanda, the main loser in the ruling, will appeal against it as George Odhiambo, the Bank's Managing Director, told this newspaper on Tuesday that

he hadn't yet looked at the verdict in order to decide the way forward.

Before the Green View Park Villas estate, DN International, which was founded by Kenyan-US businessman Nathan Lloyd, had been embroiled in wrangles in another estate; Hill View Estate in the nearby Masaka in Kicukiro District.

The developer, who had received full payment from prospective home owners in the estate, failed to pay the bank - then Fina Bank, the current GT Bank - that had financed the development of the 28-home estate.

The owners were then surprised to learn that the property they had occupied for a few months was going under the hammer for the bank to recover its money. Eventually a negotiated agreement was reached and the auction was called off.

Mauritius gets Saudi Arabian tourism boost as Chinese stay away

PORT LOUIS

Let down by falling numbers of Chinese visitors and fretting about Brexit, the tourism industry of Mauritius is turning to an unexpected savior: Saudi Arabia.

While surging numbers of Chinese visitors to the Indian Ocean island's resorts helped underpin an 11 per cent annual growth rate in tourists in 2015, that slowed to 4.3 per cent last year, partially as a result of the scrapping of direct flights by China Southern Airlines.

In 2015 Mauritius attracted 90,000 visitors from China. The total this year is likely to be less than half that, according to figures from the national statistics agency. A weakening pound and the prospect of a further currency plunge if the UK exits Europe this year, is another cause for concern: The UK is Mauritius's fourth-biggest source of tourists.

But now Saudi Arabian visitors are coming and for the country, famed for white-sand beaches and dramatic mountains, that's a bonus. Tourism accounts for 8 per cent of its gross domestic product and indirectly employs a fifth of its workforce.

In the first half of this year, Saudi visitors almost doubled to 9,219 from the previous year, thanks to three flights a week from Riyadh and Jeddah introduced by Saudi Arabian Airlines in 2017. Diplomatic ties between the two countries have strengthened since, with Mauritius opening an embassy in Saudi Arabia last year and a state visit from Saudi's interior minister a few weeks later.

"It's really been a happy surprise," Jean-Michel Pitot, chairman of Mauritius's association of hotel and restaurant owners, said in the capital, Port Louis. "Those planes are well-filled. I didn't expect that."

While the Indian Ocean island nation has traditionally enjoyed a steady stream of visitors from Europe, a legacy of its colonial history, it's been struggling for years to draw tourists from other continents. For Americans, it's simply too far away. The African market, despite its proximity, remains largely untapped because of poor flight connections and the relatively high cost of vacationing in Mauritius.

Even though Saudi Arabian tourists represent only a tiny fraction of the island's 1.4 million annual visitors - more than its population of 1.27 million - their spending power has helped compensate for the drop in arrivals from China. Saudis typically stay in private luxury villas and they tend to spend lavishly on meals and services.

There is a wider debate between the government and hotel owners association as they publicly argue over the causes of the overall slowdown in visitors. Arrivals rose only 0.5 per cent to June, well below a target of 2.5 per cent for the year.

While some tourist operators blame fierce competition from more luxurious destinations, such as Maldives and the Seychelles, others say it's because of the weather, or point to the numerous stray dogs that roam the country's winding roads. The government pledged earlier this year to increase spending on cleaning campaigns and keeping the country pretty and efficient - with a metro in and around the capital as one of its projects.

CONSTRUCTION

RIYADH

Saudi Arabia, which is pushing forward with renewable energy targets for its Vision 2030, has invited 60 companies that pre-qualified to submit bids for six solar energy projects with a combined capacity of 1.5 gigawatts.

The Ministry of Energy, Industry and Mineral Resources expects the projects to attract approximately 5.2 billion Saudi riyals (\$1.4bn) of private-sector investment.

The request for proposals for two smaller "Category A" projects with the capacity to produce 100 megawatts or less was opened on Thursday with a deadline of December 3. This follows the issuance in July of proposal requests for four larger "Category B" projects with a capacity of above 100MW and a deadline of November 18.

The list of companies that secured the initial qualification, published on Saudi Arabia's Renewable Energy Project Development Office (Repdo) website, includes Masdar from Abu Dhabi.

Other successful applicants include 28 companies from Saudi Arabia and global corporations, such as American photovoltaic manufacturer First Solar, China Machinery Engineering Corporation, Korea Electric Power Corporation and Japan's Sumitomo Corporation. Applicants are classified as managing members, technical members or local managing members.

Category A projects require all

SAUDI ARABIA INVITES BIDS FOR SIX SOLAR ENERGY PROJECTS



A man walks past a solar park in Riyadh.

three member types, while Category B projects do not need a local member. The smaller projects carry a minimum requirement of 17 per cent local content,

as per regulations it is to increase the national economy's contribution of products and services.

All projects tendered are 100 per cent independent

power producers that will be backed by 20 to 25-year power purchase agreements. The six projects being tendered in round two represent the first half

of this year's project development pipeline. Another six projects, in round three of the National Renewable Energy Programme (NRED), will be tendered by the last quarter of the year. Round one for 700MW of solar and wind energy projects took place in 2017, when the development office was formed.

The world's largest oil exporter has been looking to diversify its resources and recently revised its renewable energy target from 9.5GW to 27.3GW in 2024. By 2030, it wants to reach 58.7GW capacity, comprising 40GW from solar photovoltaic, 16GW from wind and 2.7GW from concentrated solar power. Saudi Arabia's first wind power project, costing \$500 million, reached a financial close in July. The 400-MW wind farm had been awarded to a consortium led by France's EDF and Masdar.

\$754m Chevron House sale shows Singapore office demand



View from the River Thames in London. The UK's Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors has warned that Brexit uncertainty is forcing sellers of luxury homes to accept lower prices.

SINGAPORE

Singapore's CBD is seeing decade-high capital values, driven by strong demand for quality office space in the Island State.

Just last month, Chevron House - a 32-storey office and retail building in the heart of the city's CBD - was sold to US real estate fund AEW for \$1.025 billion (US\$754 million), a 35 percent increase on capital value from when it was purchased in 2017.

"The strong growth in Singapore office capital values over the last 12 months is supported by the market's very favourable demand-supply dynamics and a benign interest rate outlook," says Regina Lim, Head of

Capital Markets Research for Southeast Asia in JLL.

Office rents in the city have been steadily climbing in the past two years with this year's growth forecast of 12 percent expected to outpace the rest of the region. The rental market has "improved significantly" in the last 18 months, says Lim. "Demand for office space is strong even with increasing rents, driven mainly by professional services, technology and flexible work spaces providers."

Demand for office space in the nation state is unwavering. According to Forbes Magazine, 59 percent of large multinational technology companies have set

up their Asian headquarters in Singapore, with Hong Kong coming in at 18 percent.

Occupied office stock in the CBD has increased significantly by 6 percent in 2018, compared to just 2.3 percent annually between 2013 and 2017, supported by a mix of new entrants, expansions and renewals. Alongside increasing demand, the city is set to face supply shortages in the CBD until at least 2021 which may lead to rents growing by 4 to 6 percent annually in the next 5 years.

A changing CBD
 A recent announcement of a 'CBD incentive scheme' from the Urban Redevelopment Authority could change both the type and supply

of office space in the CBD in the next 5 years. The scheme is part of the government's decentralisation strategy to bring jobs closer to homes and inject more residents and vibrancy into the CBD.

"Many existing developments lack the retail and lifestyle elements that corporates now expect," says Lim. Buildings which meet the size requirements and are at least 20 years old are eligible for a 25 to 30 percent higher plot ratio if they're converted into mixed use developments by their owners.

"By encouraging the redevelopment of older buildings into integrated mixed use developments, we believe Singapore

will widen its lead as a global city for companies, talent and capital," she says.

There are more than 20 buildings with over 6.5 million square feet of office space eligible for the scheme, according to estimates from JLL. If redeveloped - this will exacerbate the supply shortage in the CBD in the short term.

Over the next 5 years office supply will constrict to 0.4 million square feet per annum, compared to an estimated demand of 0.7 million square feet, according to JLL data. "This compelling demand-supply dynamic is one of the key reasons for the strong rise in capital values," says Lim.

Brexit uncertainty forces sellers of luxury homes to accept lower bids

LONDON

Britain's luxury property market remained under pressure in July as more million-pound-plus homes sold for under the asking price. Almost 70% of agents said the prices paid for homes marketed at over £1m (\$1.2 million) fell short, according to the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors.

The report published on Thursday found heightened Brexit uncertainty weighing on the property market as a whole, with new Prime Minister Boris Johnson threatening to let Britain crash out of the European Union on October 31 unless a new deal can be negotiated.

RICS chief economist Simon Rubinsohn said the findings contain "little comfort" for the housing market. "Some support may be provided by an easing in the cost of money which could feed through into lower mortgage finance costs, but this may be insufficient to provide a spur to lift activity given the clouds hanging over the economy," he said.

RICS said an index of prices returned to clear negative territory. Weakness was felt most in London, East Anglia and the Southeast, where values are expected to continue declining over the next year - despite a falling pound making it cheaper for foreigners to buy UK assets. Elsewhere, the outlook is brighter, with agents anticipating healthy price gains in Scotland, Northern Ireland and Wales.

Rental prices are also expected to rise amid growing demand and diminishing supply, with landlords starting to sell up because of higher taxes, a ban on charging tenants one-time fees and proposals to abolish section 21 notices, which give landlords the power to evict tenants at the end of their contracts without reason.

Aldar Properties posts 5pc rise in Q2 profit on back of strong sales

ABU DHABI

Aldar Properties, behind mega projects such as the Formula One race circuit on Yas Island, said second quarter net profit attributable to the owners of the company jumped 5 per cent on the back of higher revenues.

Net profit rose 5.35 per cent in the second quarter to Dh470.4 million from the year earlier period, Aldar said in a regulatory filing on Thursday to the Abu Dhabi Securities Exchange, where its shares are traded. The biggest listed developer in Abu Dhabi saw revenue in the second quarter climb 10 per

cent to Dh1.66 billion, boosted by rising sales and strong development activity.

"There is an upswing in sentiment towards Abu Dhabi's real estate market with the recent announcement of our Dh9bn worth of development projects since the start of 2019," said Talal Al Dhiyebi,

chief executive of Aldar Properties. "Those, coupled with government initiatives to spur economic growth, are having a positive multiplier effect on the wider Abu Dhabi economy and stirring confidence."

In July Aldar was awarded contracts worth Dh5bn from multiple Abu Dhabi government

entities to deliver three projects in the capital as the emirate continues to spend on infrastructure and economic development schemes. The company has about Dh2bn in off plan sales. Revenue in the first six months of year surged 15 per cent to Dh3.4bn from the same period a year earlier.

WORLD

President Trump visits mass shooting victims; protesters shout 'Do something!'

EL PASO, Texas

U.S. President Donald Trump met victims and first responders from last weekend's deadly shootings in Texas and Ohio on Wednesday, as chanting protesters accused him of inflaming tensions with anti-immigrant and racially charged rhetoric.

Trump visited hospitals where victims were treated in El Paso, Texas, on the border with Mexico, and in Dayton, Ohio, after massacres 13 hours apart that shocked the country and reopened a national debate on gun safety.

In both cities, crowds of protesters gathered to confront Trump and condemn his visit. Some held signs reading "Trump is racist," "Love over hate" and "Send him back!"

Chanting crowds in Dayton urged Trump: "Do something!"

The president and first lady Melania Trump avoided the press on both hospital visits and stayed out of public view.

They visited survivors in their hospital rooms at the University Medical Center in El Paso and Miami Valley Hospital in Dayton, and thanked the medical staff and first responders,

White House spokeswoman Stephanie Grisham said.

"It was a warm and wonderful visit," Trump said on Twitter after leaving Dayton. "Tremendous enthusiasm & even Love."

Trump also visited law enforcement personnel at an emergency operations center in El Paso to thank them for their response on Saturday, when a man killed 22 people at a Walmart store, apparently after posting an anti-immigrant manifesto online.

In Dayton, nine people and the suspect were killed in a rampage early on Sunday.

"The job you have done is incredible," Trump told gathered officers and staff. "I wanted to come and thank you."

Before leaving Washington, Trump said that in the wake of the shootings he wanted to strengthen background checks for gun purchases and make sure mentally ill people did not carry guns. He predicted congressional support for those two measures but not for Democratic efforts to ban assault rifles.

"I can tell you that there is no political appetite for that at this moment," Trump told reporters at the White



President Donald Trump

House. "But I will certainly bring that up ... There is a great appetite, and I mean a very strong appetite, for background checks."

Dayton Mayor Nan Whaley and U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown of Ohio, both Democrats, accompanied Trump in Dayton and told reporters they urged him to call on Senate Republican leader Mitch McConnell to bring the Senate back from its summer recess to work on a House-passed bill that expands background checks on gun buyers.

Brown said he asked Trump to promise he would sign that bill. "He only said that we will get things done," Brown said, adding the president had been "comforting" to the victims.

Whaley said she agreed with Trump's decision not to visit the district where the shooting occurred given the high emotions in the community.

'NOT INTERESTED'

"A lot of people that own businesses in that district are not interested in the president being there," she said. "A lot of the time his talk can be very divisive and that's the last thing we need in

Dayton."

Trump later criticized the two Democrats for their comments, saying on Twitter the news conference they held was "a fraud. It bore no resemblance to what took place."

Trump told reporters at the El Paso operations center the two Democrats "should not be politicking today."

Democrats say Trump's anti-immigrant, racially charged language at rallies and on Twitter has fanned racist, white nationalist sentiments, creating a political climate that is conducive to hate-based violence.

The massacre in the predominantly Hispanic city of El Paso is being investigated as a hate crime and act of domestic terrorism, authorities said. The FBI said the Dayton shooter also explored violent ideologies.

An open letter to Trump on Wednesday in the El Paso Times described the border city as having "a deep tradition of racial harmony" whose people came together after the tragedy. It admonished Trump for calling El Paso one of the country's most dangerous cities in his February State of the Union address.

"He's going to make war between us. Racism is starting to pop up more and more. Mexican people are fed up. He's going to create chaos around here," said Fernando Montoya, 45, who joined the protesters at a park in El Paso.

On Monday, Trump gave a speech focusing on mental health reforms, tighter internet regulation and wider use of the death penalty. Democrats accused Trump of hiding behind talk of mental illness and the influence of social media rather than committing to laws to restrict gun ownership.

In Iowa, Democratic presidential front-runner Joe Biden said Trump had "fanned the flames" of white supremacy.

"We have a president with a toxic tongue who has publicly and unapologetically embraced a political strategy of hate, racism, and division," the former vice president said.

Former Texas congressman and El Paso native Beto O'Rourke, another 2020 presidential contender, said Trump "helped create the hatred that made Saturday's tragedy possible" and thus "has no place here."

Agencies

Pakistan expels Indian high commissioner after downgrading bilateral diplomatic ties

ISLAMABAD

PAKISTAN on Wednesday informed India to withdraw its high commissioner after the country decided to downgrade diplomatic relations and suspend trade ties with India during a national security committee meeting amid recent Kashmir tensions.

Prior to the expel notification, a Pakistani Foreign Ministry official told Xinhua that the ministry has been told to cancel all the commitments with the Indian embassy.

The Indian government has also been informed that Pakistan will not be sending its high commissioner-designate to India, the Foreign Ministry here said in a state-

ment.

Pakistan adopted a series of measures during the national security committee meeting on Wednesday against India in the wake of India's revocation of the special status to Indian-controlled Kashmir.

Meanwhile, the country's parliament passed a resolution against the Indian decision and the recent surge in unprovoked firing and shelling by Indian forces along the Line of Control, the de-facto border between the two countries in the disputed area.

Addressing the joint session here, Fakhar Imam, chairman of the Pakistan's National Assembly's Committee on Kashmir, said that



Kashmir is an internationally recognized dispute on the agenda of the United Nations Security Council, and the Indian move posed a great threat to peace, security and stability in South Asia.

The joint parliament session

also called upon the Organization of the Islamic Cooperation to convene an extraordinary high level session on the Indian move, and asked the international community to stop India from undertaking the actions that may lead to a dangerous escalation to affect not only South Asia but the entire world.

During the national security committee meeting chaired by Prime Minister Imran Khan, senior cabinet ministers and military officers discussed the situation inside Indian-controlled Kashmir and along the Line of Control.

Khan (pictured) also directed all diplomatic channels to be activated to highlight human rights violations in India-controlled Kashmir

and directed the military to continue its vigilance and be prepared to face any aggression.

Pakistan also decided to take the Kashmir issue to the United Nations.

Talking to the local media, the country's Foreign Minister Shah Mahmood Qureshi said that his country will take the issue to the UN Security Council, and will also take friendly countries into confidence regarding the dispute.

Local reports said that Khan has made a telephone conversation to his British counterpart Boris Johnson. However, the details of the conversation were not revealed yet.

Xinhua

Hong Kong's most urgent task is to stop violence, end chaos, restore order

SHENZHEN

THE most pressing and overriding task of Hong Kong is to stop violence, end the chaos and restore order, a central government official said here Wednesday.

Hong Kong is facing the most severe situation since its return to the motherland, said Zhang Xiaoming, director of the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council, at a symposium jointly held by the office and the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR).

"The most pressing and overriding task at present is to stop

violence, end the chaos and restore order, so as to safeguard our homeland and prevent Hong Kong from sinking into an abyss," Zhang (pictured) said.

More than 550 people attended the meeting, including HKSAR deputies to the National People's Congress, national and provincial political advisors from HKSAR, leaders of patriotic political and social organizations in Hong Kong, as well as those from relevant youth, education and professional organizations and mainland enterprises operating in Hong Kong.

At the symposium, Zhang briefed the attendees on the central authorities' policies on stabi-



lizing Hong Kong's situation while Wang Zhimin, director of the Liaison Office of the Central People's Government in HKSAR, proposed how to implement the policies.

If the violence and chaos are allowed to continue, not only the safety of Hong Kong citizens' lives and property will be endangered, the governance authority of the

SAR government, the cornerstone of the rule of law in Hong Kong, the prosperity and stability of Hong Kong, and the "one country, two systems" will also be destroyed, Zhang said.

"Citizens of Hong Kong will not allow this to happen. The people of China will not allow this to happen," Zhang said.

He said the central authorities will never sit by if the situation in Hong Kong worsens to a turmoil that the SAR government can not control.

"According to the Basic Law (of the HKSAR), the central authorities have ample methods as well as sufficient strength to promptly settle any possible turmoil should

it occur," he said.

As many people in Hong Kong have pointed out, the ordinance amendment issues have changed in their essence, and now bear the features of a "color revolution," Zhang said.

The criminal activities that blatantly challenged the bottom line of the "one country, two systems" principle must be punished by law, Zhang said, noting that plotters, organizers and directors behind the scenes must be held for criminal responsibility.

Zhang stressed support for the chief executive and police of the HKSAR, calling it the key to stabilizing the situation in Hong Kong.

Xinhua

Defiant Salvini says time may be running out on Italy government

By Bloomberg



DEPUTY Premier Matteo Salvini increased pressure on Italy's ruling coalition, reportedly giving Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte a Monday deadline to shake up the cabinet and indicating that if his partners in the Five Star Movement don't yield to his demands he'll dissolve the government.

"I'm not one for half measures, either we can do things fully and well or I am not one who clings on to his seat," Salvini said on Wednesday at a rally in the coastal town of Sabaudia. "Something has broken down in recent months," he added, referring to the coalition.

The 10-year yield premium over Germany, a key gauge of risk in the Mediterranean nation, climbed toward the widest level in a month. It rose by as much as nine basis points to 2.09% before paring the increase to four basis points.

Italy's de facto leader has been stepping up his rhetoric in recent days, sending thinly veiled threats to his Five Star partners that either they stop trying to delay his agenda or he's ready to pull the plug on the government and try to force early elections. Salvini, the League party leader, has called for deep tax cuts and investments, even if they fall afoul of European Union rules.

Salvini supporters have been pushing him for months to ditch the coalition as the League's poll numbers approach 40%, a result that could allow it to govern on its own.

Beach campaign

The deputy premier on Wednesday canceled rallies at beaches south of Rome as he preferred to stay in parliament and huddle with advisers and colleagues. In the evening he held a long meeting with Prime Minister Giuseppe Conte and has since called off events scheduled for Thursday.

Salvini has given Conte until Monday to accede to his demands for changes in the cabinet or he could meet with Italy's president to begin the process of breaking the government up, Corriere della Sera reported. The League leader is calling for the immediate ouster of Transportation Minister Danilo Toninelli. He's also reported to be seeking to replace other cabinet members, notably Finance Minister Giovanni Tria.

In a Wednesday night speech, Salvini thanked Conte and fellow Deputy Premier Luigi Di Maio, who heads Five Star and with whom he has quarreled incessantly since the government was formed over a year ago. But he denied he is merely seeking more cabinet posts for the League and added that what happens next is "in the hands of the Italian people."

"Like in marriage, if you spend more time quarreling and trading insults rather than making love, it's better to look each other in the eyes and take an adult decision," Salvini said, adding that decisions could be made "in the coming hours."

Xinhua

Russia views Kyrgyz events as domestic affair, diplomat says

MOSCOW

RUSSIA considers that the events related to an operation to detain former Kyrgyz President Almazbek Atambayev are the Central Asian republic's domestic affair, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said in an interview with Ekho Moskva radio station.

"We view this event as the country's domestic affair and also the embassy has released recommendation for Russians to avoid the scene of the operation, if it continues. I think we will give a deeper assessment to these events some time later," Zakharova (pictured) said.

On August 7, Kyrgyz special forces launched an operation to detain former Kyrgyz President Almazbek Atambayev, who has been charged with corruption and stripped of his immunity.

However, his supporters put up resistance in Koy-Tash, Atambayev's hometown where his residence is located. One special forces officer died and 52 people were injured in the clashes, including a journalist and law enforcement officers.

The operation failed to detain the former leader, who has repeatedly denied all charges.

On Thursday, Kyrgyz President Sooronbay Jeenbekov said that the former leader had violated the constitution by putting up armed resistance to law enforcement officers. In turn, Atambayev announced plans to bring his supporters to Bishkek to hold a protest rally.

Agencies



China's fixed investment grew 15.6 percent on average

THE investment in fixed assets in China grew at an average annual rate of 15.6 percent over the past 70 years, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) on July 30, in a report regarding achievements in economic and social development since the People's Republic of China was founded.

Analysts say that fixed investment is the basis for development and the high growth rate shows China's sound foundation and huge potential for economic growth and sustainability, as the figure provides important clues as to the economy's capacity to produce more goods and services.

China's investment in infrastructure and basic industries has kept growing

over the past years. Investment in the transportation industry grew at an average annual rate of 16.7 percent from 1996 to 2018, according to the report.

"China's infrastructure grew out of nothing from 70 years ago, and now leads the world in infrastructure investment, with the nickname 'infrastructure maniac,'" Zhao Xijun, vice director of the School of Finance at Renmin University told the Global Times on July 30.

China has formed a comprehensive transportation network including railways, roads, water transport and air transport. In terms of information transmission, the total length of optical cable lines in China ranked first in the

world by the end of 2018, which shows the outstanding effect of investment in the information industry, according to the report.

"China is the world champion in terms of the length of railways and roads, as well as the number of big bridges and ports," said Zhao.

Over the past 70 years, investment has been one of the major drivers of China's economic development, with the national capital formation rate (the proportion of total capital formation in GDP during an accounting period for a country) rising from 38.9 percent in 1978 to 48.5 percent in 2011, the highest since the reform and opening-up, the report said.

The capital formation rate was 48.2 percent in 2010 when China became the second largest economy in the world and outpaced Japan, whose rate was 19.8 percent, according to data from the World Bank.

In 2018, China's capital formation rate stood at 44.9 percent, and total capital formation contributed 32.4 percent to economic growth, said NBS.

With the continuous growth of its economic power, China's industrial structure has begun to move toward high-end industries, and investment in high-tech industries has been growing rapidly.

From 2013 to 2018, China's investment in high-tech industries grew at an

annual rate of 16.9 percent, 6.2 percentage points higher than was seen in the whole industry.

Investment in high-tech manufacturing grew at an average annual rate of 15 percent, 5.4 percentage points higher than that of all manufacturing industries.

Investment in high-tech services increased by 20.3 percent on average, 8.2 percentage points higher than the total investment in the service sector.

"China has gained lots of experience from infrastructure construction as well as training talents, which makes a solid foundation for industry upgrade," said Zhao.

Some high-tech industries, including

aerospace, satellite navigation, smartphones, computers and electronic communications, have formed an integrated, well-equipped and capable industrial ecosystem, moving toward the middle and high-end of the global industrial chain, the report said.

Meanwhile, the diversification pattern of Chinese investors has taken shape, increasing the vitality and driving force of reproduction.

Particularly after the reform and opening-up, with the continuous improvement of the socialist market economy system, the enthusiasm for investment of various market entities has been stimulated.

Global Times

China brings even brighter prospects for global development

TEN years after the 2008 international financial crisis, the global economy has again reached a crossroads. World economic growth remains sluggish, and economic globalization is encountering headwinds. Besides, trade and investment tensions are on the rise, placing impacts on the global industry landscape and financial stability, and dampening the confidence of international investors.

More than ever, the world needs to uphold and champion multilateralism. Facing such situation, China is offering convincing and effective plans.

In the first half of 2019, Chinese President Xi Jinping attended three major diplomatic events at home and five international conferences, and made seven trips to foreign countries for state visits.

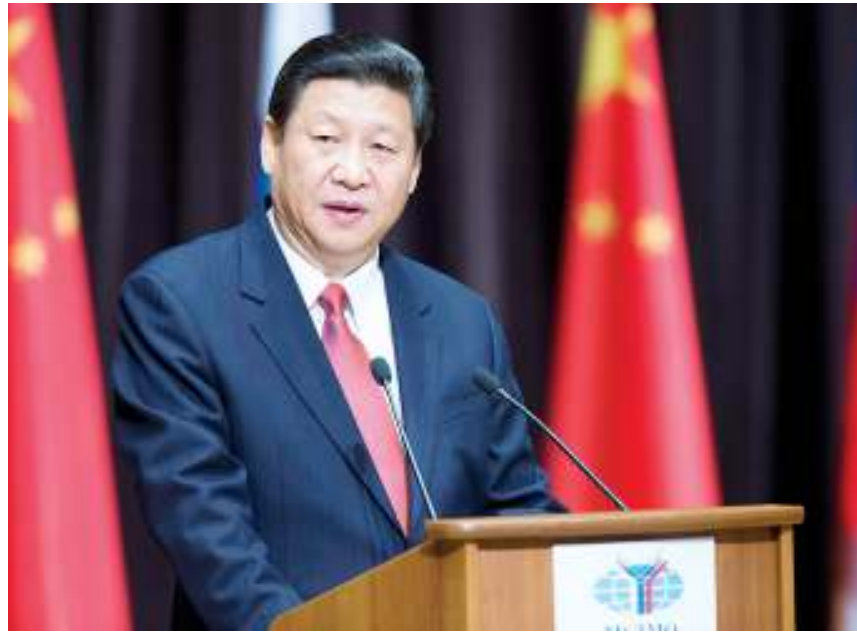
By grasping the general trend of development and focusing on the future of the world, the Chinese schemes offered by the Chinese President are injecting confidence to the global community and charting the course for world economy and global governance.

China's achievements have strengthened confidence for the world economy. According to country's half-year economic statistics of 2019 released recently, its GDP exceeded 45 trillion yuan (about \$6.6 trillion), up 6.3 percent year-on-year. The growth was among the fastest in major economies.

Such economic performance soon became a hot topic for global media. China is building a more robust, a more diversified economy, said CNBC.

The Chinese economy not only has maintained stability while making progress, but also is enjoying great potential, resilience and flexibility. It contributed over 30 percent to the world economic growth.

The world will do well when China does well. As the country maintains



Chinese President Xi Jinping

steady growth, its role as an anchor and engine for the whole world economy will become more prominent.

China's solutions are guiding high-quality development. In response to the root causes of imbalanced, uncoordinated and unsustainable development in the world economy, Xi prescribed a solution of working together to build a high-quality world economy.

The second Belt and Road Forum for International Cooperation (BRF) started a new journey of high-quality development of Belt and Road cooperation. China has also taken a series of concrete measures including encouraging third-party cooperation, trilateral cooperation, and cooperation between the government and private capital, which further highlighted the inclusiveness and balance of development.

These measures have not only effectively activated the resources of developed countries, but also encouraged more developing countries and small

and medium-sized enterprises to integrate into the global supply chain, industry chain and value chain, so that all parties concerned can benefit from international trade and investment.

More and more developed economies and international organizations are joining the Belt and Road cooperation under a variety of cooperation models. As a result, the path for the Belt and Road will inevitably become wider and the cake of mutual benefit will become bigger.

At the G20 Osaka Summit, President Xi called on all parties to work together to build a high-quality world economy, persist in reform and innovation to find more impetus for growth, and progress with the times and improve global governance. He also asked all parties to rise up to challenges and break bottlenecks in development, and uphold partnership and resolve differences properly.

In pursuing high-quality develop-

ment, all countries should resolve the common challenges, rise above geographic and man-made fences, and accommodate both immediate and long-term needs, so as to chart the course for overcoming challenges facing the world economy and have more people share the fruits of innovation and development.

Chinese wisdom is recalibrating the direction of global governance. "The history of human society is marked by a transition from isolation and exclusion to openness and integration. This is an unstoppable trend," Xi said.

As a staunch advocate and defender of economic globalization, China actively encourages all parties to promote multilateralism and free trade.

In March, President Xi and European leaders discussed cooperation in global affairs, pooling strength for multilateralism. In June, Xi and the heads of state of Russia, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan strengthened the top-level design and outlined specific arrangements. They further consolidated the alignment of development strategies between China and Belt and Road countries, mapping out a blueprint for win-win cooperation in the new era.

At the historical juncture of the changing and complex international situation, President Xi made dialogue and discussions at the G20 Osaka Summit more cooperative, inclusive and win-win. He called on all parties to base themselves on common interests and focus on long-term development.

"We must not allow ourselves to become prisoners of short-term interests and make irrevocable mistakes of historic consequences," Xi's remarks have been well received inside and outside the venue of the summit. To advocate and practice multilateralism has become a consensus and common aspiration of most countries in the world.

China's actions are creating opportu-

nities for common prosperity. "A more open China will further integrate itself into the world and deliver greater progress and prosperity for both China and the world at large," Xi said at the second BRF.

Especially in the current world when protectionism and unilateralism continue to impact multilateral cooperation, China, as the largest trading partner of more than 100 economies in the world, continues to expand opening-up, deepen reforms, enhance trade and investment liberalization and facilitation, and build an open world economy.

To this end, more will be done to open up the Chinese market wider. Greater initiative will be demonstrated in expanding imports. More steps will be taken to improve the business environment. Equal treatment will be extended to all foreign investment. Greater efforts will be made to advance trade talks.

With such confident proposals, China is putting into practice its commitment that its door of opening-up will not be closed and will only open even wider. These proposals also demonstrate the global vision of China to synergize its own development with the common development of the world.

"We, as the leaders of major economies, are duty bound to re-calibrate the direction of the world economy and global governance at this critical juncture, work together to boost market confidence, and bring hope to our people."

Chinese President Xi's remarks on global economy and trade at the G20 Osaka Summit are still resonating. The vision of the Chinese leader and the sense of responsibility of the major country are staunch forces to ensure that the ship of the global economy will finally sail to a brighter future.

People's Daily

Somalia launches public awareness campaign on one-person, one-vote 2020/21 polls

MOGADISHU

SOMALIA on Wednesday launched a public awareness campaign on the 2020/21 elections to ensure residents keep abreast of ongoing preparations for the one-person, one-vote exercise.

Hussein Abdi Adan, a commissioner from the National Independent Electoral Commission, expressed optimism that the next elections will be peaceful and urged the public to participate in the forums to fully understand the process.

"We have formulated policies and are currently pushing for the adoption of the election laws. We are also organizing public awareness campaigns and identifying potential polling centers," Adan said, according to a statement issued by the African Union Mission in Somalia (AMISOM) after the launch of the campaign in Mogadishu.

"The town hall meetings will provide an opportunity for the public to familiarize themselves with the National Independent Electoral Commission's five-year Strategic Plan, which outlines a roadmap for achieving one-person, one-vote universal elections in 2020/21," he added.

AMISOM said it will facilitate a series of town hall meetings in Mogadishu for Federal Member States to educate and update Somalis on the electoral and constitutional process.

Simon Mulongo, deputy special representative of the Chairperson of the African Union Commission for Somalia assured the people of Somalia of AU mission's support in facilitating the engagement forums, countrywide.

Xinhua

S. Korea sees uncertainty last despite Japan's hi-tech nod

SEOUL/TOKYO

SOUTH Korean President Moon Jae-in said yesterday that uncertainty would last over Japan's export curbs on South Korea despite Tokyo's first approval of exporting a chip material to Seoul since imposing tighter curbs of such materials in early July.

Moon said during a meeting of the presidential National Economic Advisory Council that despite the first approval by Japan, what was unchanged was a fact that "uncertainty is still alive."

Moon also said tighter curbs would undermine Japan's international credibility and accused Tokyo of using its industrial advantage as a weapon against another country, Reuters reports.

"The measures so far undermine the trust of the free trade order and the international division of labor," Moon said, according to Reuters. "Even if there are any gains, it will be short-lived. In the end it is a game without winners, where everyone, including Japan itself, becomes a victim."

Moon's comments came after Japan earlier in the day permitted the shipment of extreme ultraviolet (EUV) photoresist to South Korea, according to the presidential Blue House.

It is one of the three materials which Japan tightened regulations in early July to curb export

to South Korea. The three materials are crucial for the production of memory chips and display panels that are the mainstay of the South Korean export.

The latest export approval followed "strict examination", Japanese ministers said, cautioning that Tokyo could consider expanding its controls beyond the three high-tech materials, reports Reuters.

Industry Minister Hiroshige Seko said Japan does not usually announce each export approval, but did so this time after South Korea described Japan's recent curbs as an "embargo" on shipments, according to Reuters.

He was quick to add that Tokyo would expand the curbs beyond the three specialized chemicals - fluorinated polyimides, photoresists and hydrogen fluoride - if there were any cases of "improper" use, Reuters added. Some of the chemicals, which are used to make smartphone displays and chips, can also be used in weapons.

The approval and subsequent warning illustrate how Tokyo is upping the ante in the diplomatic row while at the same time is unwilling to unilaterally stop exports to South Korea.

On Wednesday, Japan promulgated last week its decision to remove South Korea from its "white list" of trusted trading partners, but it did not impose additional curbs on materials



South Korean President Moon Jae-in

exported to South Korea.

Moon said it needed to see how Japan would act, but he noted that his government had been prepared for the worse-case scenario right after Japan's tighter regulations on the three materials last month.

The president vowed to take Japan's export restrictions as an opportunity to reduce import dependence on Japan and expand the development of home-grown parts and materials, while continuing diplomatic efforts to resolve the trade issue with Japan.

Moon reiterated his position that Japan's action was an "economic retaliation" against the South Korean top court's rulings that ordered some of Japanese companies to compensate the South Korean victims who were forced into hard labor without pay during the 1910-45 Japanese

colonization of the Korean Peninsula. Japan says the matter was settled by a 1965 treaty normalizing bilateral ties.

South Korea was scheduled to take a call on its plan to drop Japan from a similar "white list" of countries on Thursday, but trade ministry officials said the plan had been put off until further discussions, according to Reuters.

Given the curbs in place, Japan's approval to export the three materials could take up to 90 days, slowing shipments.

But it remains unclear if the initial approval from Tokyo signals a breakthrough in trade relations. "They approved only one out of a number of items, and they said they would approve exports for pure civilian purposes," a South Korean senior trade ministry official told Reuters. **Agencies**

Russian embassy accuses London of hiding Skripal case details

LONDON

BRITISH authorities continue to spread misinformation about the Salisbury incident, seeking to hide the details of the case, a press officer at the Russian embassy in London said in a statement on Wednesday.

"Almost one and a half year has passed since the Salisbury incident involving a former Russian military intelligence officer and his daughter, but Russia still hasn't received any intelligible information from London on how the investigation is progressing, although we have sent more than 80 requests through diplomatic channels."

Seeking to fill the void, the British continue to make up various stories, trying to disguise them as facts," the statement reads.

"All arguments used to prove Russia's alleged involvement in this mysterious incident, which is what former British Prime Minister Theresa May loudly spoke about, have miserably failed. Apparently, the reason for such behavior is that making the details of this shady story public is not in London's interest," the press officer added.

On Wednesday, The Guardian wrote that "Scotland Yard has examined the role of the Russian president, Vladimir Pu-



Sergei Skripal

tin, in the novichok nerve agent attack in Salisbury."

"We're police officers, so we have to go for evidence. There has been a huge amount of speculation about who is responsible, who gave the orders, all based on people's expert knowledge of Russia. I have to go with evidence," Metropolitan police assistant commissioner Neil Basu said, as cited by the newspaper.

"Unfortunately, we are once again witnessing how British authorities are manipulating national and global public opinion by way of ridiculous bogus stories."

In order to keep the Salisbury incident afloat, the British are using media tools to spread blatant misinformation and fake news," the statement said.

"Meanwhile, the fact that the United States has recently imposed a second round of sanctions on Russia over the Salisbury events makes it perfectly

clear who pays the piper in this large-scale anti-Russian campaign," the Russian embassy's press officer noted.

Skripal saga

According to London, former Russian Military Intelligence (GRU) Colonel Sergei Skripal, who had been convicted in Russia of spying for Great Britain and later swapped for Russian intelligence officers, and his daughter Yulia, suffered the effects of an alleged nerve agent in the British city of Salisbury on March 4, 2018.

Claiming that the substance used in the attack had been a Novichok-class nerve agent developed in the Soviet Union, London rushed to accuse Russia of being involved in the incident. Moscow rejected all of the United Kingdom's accusations, saying that neither the Soviet Union nor Russia ever had any program aimed at developing such a substance.

Chief Executive of the Defense Science and Technology Laboratory (DSTL) at Porton Down Gary Aitkenhead said later that British experts had been unable to identify the origin of the nerve agent used in the attack on the Skripals.

On August 1, the US administration earlier imposed a second round of sanctions on Russia over the Skripal incident.

Agencies

Venezuela talks in the balance as US ups pressure on Maduro

BOGOTA, Colombia

FOR weeks, representatives of Venezuelan President Nicolás Maduro and his would-be successor, opposition leader Juan Guaidó, have been shuttling back and forth to Barbados trying to agree on a common path out of the country's prolonged political standoff.

The meetings have been slow-going and shrouded in mystery, with neither side disclosing details. But now Maduro's supporters are accusing the US of trying to blow up the fragile process.

The purported explosive: sweeping new sanctions that freeze all of the Maduro (pictured) government's assets in the US and even threaten to

punish companies from third countries that keep doing business with his socialist administration.

"They're trying to dynamite the dialogue," Foreign Minister Jorge Arreaza said Tuesday at a news conference to denounce comments by US National Security Adviser John Bolton defending the asset freeze. "But nobody, not even 1,000 Trumps or 500 Boltons ... will make us abandon the negotiating table."

Building on its role as a facilitator of Colombia's peace process, Norway in May managed to overcome deep distrust arising from past failed attempts at dialogue and bring the two sides together in Oslo. Talks have since moved to the

Caribbean island of Barbados, where the fifth round wrapped up last week.

Neither side has said much about what is being discussed although speculation has swirled in political and diplomatic circles that Maduro's envoys have expressed a willingness to call an early presidential election under a revamped electoral board and foreign observation. The US has insisted Maduro must give up power before any elections can be deemed credible.

Three people involved in the talks from different sides have described the environment as serious-minded and cordial, with each delegation dining and traveling back and forth to the



island from Caracas separately.

All three insist progress has been made, even if the thorny topic of elections is being left for last and an all-encompassing deal based on a six-point agenda is some way off.

The people agreed to speak to The Associated Press only on the condition of anonymity because they weren't authorized

to divulge details of the talks.

Such insider accounts differ sharply from the assessment of Bolton and other hardliners inside the Trump administration who have accused Maduro of using the talks to buy time.

"We will not fall for these old tricks of a tired dictator," Bolton declared Tuesday at a meeting in Peru of more than 50 governments aligned against Maduro. "No more time for tap, tap, tapping. Now is the time for action."

To be sure, nobody in the Trump administration has disavowed the talks, and some analysts believe Bolton's "bad cop" persona and his threats of more punitive actions to come may even provide a boost to the

mediation effort.

David Smilde, a sociology professor at Tulane University who has studied Venezuela for over 25 years, said similar strong-armed tactics by the US failed to prevent a negotiated end to the civil wars in Central America in the 1980s.

Then, as the Cold War was still raging, US funding of the contra army in Nicaragua in direct defiance of a regional peace plan actually increased international support for it.

"Ironically, obnoxious, bald actions by Bolton to sabotage the talks could end up favoring negotiations," said Smilde.

Like Maduro, Guaidó, who heads the opposition-controlled congress, has shown no willing-

ness to ditch the talks despite pressure to do so from hawks inside his coalition who accuse him of turning a blind eye to Maduro's alleged torturing of opponents.

"We are doing everything possible to continue the Norwegian mechanism," Guaidó said Tuesday when asked whether talks would continue.

But while neither side wants to bear the blame for a collapse, an eventual deal still faces huge obstacles.

Maduro, although severely weakened by the US sanctions and increasingly isolated internationally, still enjoys the support of powerful allies like Russia and China.

Agencies



Serena Williams, of the United States, waves to the crowd after defeating Elise Mertens, of Belgium, during the Rogers Cup women's tennis tournament Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2019, in Toronto. (AP)

Serena Williams advances in Rogers Cup

TORONTO

SERENA Williams won her first match since losing the Wimbledon final, beating Elise Mertens of Belgium 6-3, 6-3 on Wednesday night in the second round of the Rogers Cup.

The 37-year-old Williams has won the event three times, all in Toronto, and has a 31-4 match record.

"I feel like my movement is great – been working on my fitness, so I felt like it really was able to shine through today," Williams said. "I'm loving going out there, and I'm loving kind of running. So it's a good thing."

In the third round, she'll face Russia's Ekaterina Alexandrova – a 6-4, 6-3 winner over Zhang Shuai of China.

"Now that I'm just injury-free, I'm just enjoying being able to train, and I haven't been able to do it since January, really," said Williams, seeded eighth. "So I just think that the fact that I can train and practice and get in the gym is really going to be helpful for me."

Wimbledon champion Simona Halep of Romania beat American qualifier Jennifer Brady 4-6, 7-5, 7-6 (5).

The winner last year in Montreal, Halep lost a 4-0 lead in the third set when Brady won five straight games. Halep broke Brady for the third time in the set to go up 6-5, but Brady broke back to force the tiebreaker.

"It was a very, very tough one," Halep said. "I expected it because I knew that she's going to serve big and also the forehand is big. I didn't feel 100% ready for the tournament because I had a long break (after Wimbledon). But I'm really pleased with the way it

was today, the fact that I fought till the end."

The 26-year-old Halep will face Svetlana Kuznetsova of Russia. Kuznetsova beat Donna Vekic of Croatia 7-6 (4), 6-3.

Second-ranked Naomi Osaka of Japan reached the third round when German qualifier retired because of a left abdominal injury. Osaka led 6-2 in her first match since losing in the first round at Wimbledon.

Canada's Bianca Andreescu beat Russia's Daria Kasatkina 5-7, 6-2, 7-5. On Tuesday night, the 19-year-old Andreescu beat fellow Canadian Eugenie Bouchard.

Third-ranked Karolina Pliskova of the Czech Republic also advanced, beating American qualifier Alison Riske 6-4, 6-7 (4), 6-2.

Poland's Iga Swiatek beat 15th-seeded Caroline Wozniacki 1-6, 6-3, 6-4 in the late match. Swiatek will face Osaka.

No. 16 seed Anett Kontaveit of Estonia reached the third round when Carla Suarez Navarro of Spain retired with a hip injury while trailing 7-5, 3-1. Kontaveit will play Pliskova.

Victoria Azarenka of Belarus was eliminated, falling 7-5, 7-5 to Dayana Yastremska of Ukraine.

Ukraine's Elina Svitolina, the 2017 Rogers Cup winner, moved onto the third round with a 6-3, 3-6, 6-3 victory over Katerina Siniakova, and 2015 champion Belinda Bencic of Switzerland edged Julia Goerges 5-7, 6-3, 6-4. Bencic and Svitolina will face each other Thursday.

AP

Tiger Woods has effect on Thai sports like few others

JERSEY CITY, N.J.

TIGER Woods' first vacation to Thailand was a lot different than when he goes there for work.

"No one knew who I was," Woods said Wednesday with a smile.

That might be true when no one's trying to bother him at a resort with his mother, children and girlfriend. Still, there's no question Woods is one of Thailand's most lauded sports heroes.

His mother was born and raised in Thailand. Since his first Masters win in 1997, Woods' face has been plastered across Bangkok's newspapers and television stations throughout his highs and lows.

Woods identified himself "Cabinasian" – Caucasian, Black, American Indian and Asian – on "The Oprah Winfrey Show" in 1997. Even so, he has always reciprocated the special kinship he has with his Thai roots.

"We wanted to have at least one time where the kids got a chance to experience Thailand with my mom, and so it was special for all of us," Woods said. "The fact that my kids got a chance to be with my mom in her home country was pretty special considering that that may never happen again."

Woods has won his share of tournaments in the Southeast Asian country – he won the 1998 and 2000 Johnnie Walker Classics in Phuket and Bangkok. The 1998 victory was the most memorable – he started the final round eight shots behind Ernie Els, shot 65 and beat him in a playoff. That remains his greatest final-round comeback.

And it was at the 1998 tournament in Phuket that Chuah Choo Chiang, senior director of communications for the PGA Tour who has spent most of his career involved in Asian Tour golf, truly realized the impact Woods had on the region.

"As Tiger was about to win the tournament, one of the Thai players said, 'Hey, it's no problem, it's a win for Thailand as well,'" Choo Chiang said. "And this was a professional on the Asian Tour."

It was like that beyond the borders of Thailand, stretching all over the world. Woods has played in every continent except Antarctica – and returned with a trophy from each. His appeal is massive, and it is particularly strong across Asia.

Woods has played in Thailand, Japan, Taiwan, China, Malaysia,



In this Jan. 28, 1997, file photo, Tiger Woods' mother, Kulthida Woods, holds up an advertisement in Bangkok for the Honda Asian Classic which pictures her son. Woods returned to Thailand this summer with his mother and two children. (AP Photo)

Turkey, Abu Dhabi and Dubai. The two tournaments he hosts have title sponsors from South Korea and India. He returns to Japan in October for an exhibition and for the Zozo Championship, the first PGA Tour event in Japan.

He played in his mother's home country for the first time in 1997. According to a Sports Illustrated story, Woods landed in Bangkok after a 20-hour flight from Los Angeles. The plane's first-class cabin was bombarded by cameras and journalists from four of the five national TV stations, who began broadcasting live. This was two months before he won the Masters, which set off the first phase of "Tigermania."

Woods was exhausted from the flight and his hectic start to the season. In the delirium, one reporter asked what Woods would like to say to the

Thai people.

"I'll sign everything outside," a bleary Woods said, according to the story.

To this day, Thailand's frenzy for Tiger continues. According to Choo Chiang, the excitement levels are the same – if not higher – especially since Woods won the Tour Championship at the end of last season and the Masters in April. It was his first major in 11 years.

"You see young kids in Thailand having the same reaction as to what kids had 20 years before," Choo Chiang said. "They're emulating his swing. They're just in full awe of Tiger."

Thai's own world-standing in golf is rising.

Four Thai women were among the top 50 on the LPGA Tour money list last year, led by Ariya Jutanugarn, who won

the U.S. Women's Open and ended the year at No. 1 in the world ranking.

Kiradech Aphibarnrat, the first Thai PGA Tour member, is sometimes referred to as the "Asian John Daly" for his power and girth. Next on the horizon could be 23-year-old Atitwit "Jazz" Janewattananond, who played in the penultimate group at Bethpage Black in his PGA Championship debut. He is on the cusp of cracking the top 50 in the world ranking.

Aphibarnrat and Janewattananond have talked in length about the effect Woods has had on their lives. It's evident his profound impact is a part of every Thai golfer.

"I could bet you my last dollar every single one has been inspired by Tiger – 110%," Choo Chiang said.

AP



Joelle Saade, violinist, plays Iraq's national anthem during an opening ceremony of the West Asia Football Federation Championship at Kerbala Stadium in the city of Kerbala, Iraq July 30, 2019. REUTERS

In Iraqi holy city, row over female violinist at soccer match shows social rift

KERBALA, IRAQ

THE match should have been cause for young Iraqis to celebrate. Their national team beat Lebanon 1-0 in the first competitive international hosted by Iraq for years in the holy city of Kerbala, complete with an opening ceremony of music and dance.

Instead, the event drew high-level criticism which many of the city's youth say shows the gulf between them and the political and religious establishment.

At the opening ceremony last week for the West Asia Football Federation Championship, a tournament of Arab countries hosted by Iraq, a Lebanese woman violinist not wearing the Islamic headscarf and with uncovered

arms played Iraq's national anthem.

Many Iraqis were elated that such a ceremony, typical of international football tournaments, could finally take place on their soil after football governing body FIFA last year partially lifted a ban largely in place since 1990 on Iraq hosting competitive matches over security concerns.

Iraq's Shi'ite Muslim endowment which administers religious sites and property, backed by prominent conservative politicians, rushed to condemn the performance saying it "overstepped religious boundaries and moral standards ... and violated the holy sanctity of Kerbala."

Iraq's Ministry of Youth and Sport which organised the ceremony first defended it, then said: "the ministry

will coordinate with official bodies to prevent any scenes that contrast with the holiness of the province."

For many Iraqis, especially women, it was a reminder of the power Islamic authorities, Islamist parties and conservative Iran-backed politicians still wield after years of conflict and sectarian killing, as Iraq tries to recover and open up to the outside world.

"We thought the event was a positive message, that a more normal life can come to Kerbala," said Fatima Saadi, a 25-year-old dentist, sitting in a coffee shop in Kerbala.

"Most of us rejected the politicians' comments - the holy ground is where the shrines are, but outside those places there's a different life."

Kerbala is hallowed ground for Shi'ite Muslims. It houses the shrine of the Imam Hussein, the Prophet Mohammed's grandson and most revered Shi'ite imam who was slain in battle.

Millions of Shi'ite pilgrims, mostly from Iraq and Iran, visit every year. Shi'ite religious authorities say women should wear the headscarf everywhere in the city.

"There's nothing to stop a ceremony taking place at Kerbala stadium, or from women attending," said Sheikh Wael al-Boudairi, a local cleric.

"But we disagreed with the way in which the woman appeared in that stadium, and that she played (violin) - it is against the holy character of Kerbala."

Shi'ite scholars hold various views on what type of music pious Muslims should listen to. For many, playing of an instrument in Kerbala would be forbidden, they say.

Saadi, who wears a headscarf but not the full black robe that most women in Kerbala wear in public, said society had closed off there since the 2003 U.S. invasion of Iraq that toppled dictator Saddam Hussein and since which mostly Iran-backed Islamist parties and groups have dominated Iraq.

Former Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki of the Dawaa party and Qais al-Khazali, a rising political leader who heads a powerful paramilitary faction took to social media to criticise the ceremony.

Observant but liberal Iraqis, who say they are the majority in the country's urban centres, hoped for high-level pushback from Iraq's top Shi'ite cleric Grand Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani, who holds enormous sway, but he has not commented on it.

Other Iraqis say the football ceremony debate has been used to distract from Iraq's real problems, including corruption and a suppression of rights they blame on those in power.

"The politicians and religious authorities are out of touch. They don't understand what the street wants or the nature of Iraqi society," said Dhikra Sarsam, a civil activist in Baghdad.

REUTERS

CAF Cup debutants Pyramids ready to rise into an African force

JOHANNESBURG

A CHANGE of name and owner has turned Egyptian club Pyramids FC into a force to reckon with ahead of their African debut Friday in the CAF Confederation Cup.

Previously known as Al Assiouty Sport, the club was bought by Saudi Sports Authority chairman Turki al Sheikh last year and the impact was immediate.

Pyramids finished third in the just completed Egyptian Premier League, trailing only traditional giants Al Ahly and Zamalek, and are FA Cup contenders.

The top-three finish secured the Cairo-based outfit a place in the second-tier Confederation Cup and they debut at home to Etoile from Congo Brazzaville.

Etoile have made little impression in three appearances and it would be a surprise if they prevented Pyramids winning the preliminary tie and reaching the round of 32.

Pyramids hired French coach Sebastien Desabre after he guided Uganda to the knockout phase of an Africa Cup of Nations last month for the first time in 41 years.

The Uganda connection does not end there as winger Lumala Abdu, who impressed during the tournament in Egypt, has been signed from Swedish club Kalmar FF.

Another newcomer to the Pyramids squad is Ghanaian forward John Antwi, who moved from fellow Egyptian top-flight club Misr el Makassa.

Defenders Ahmed Ali, Mohamed

Atwa and Tarek Taha, midfielder Mahmoud Hamda and winger Islam Issa, have also joined.

- Challenge dominance - While Egypt are the most successful nation in CAF club competitions with 33 titles, 29 of those have been won by either Ahly or Zamalek.

Al Sheikh wants to challenge the dominance of the Cairo giants and the CAF performances of Pyramids will be closely watched.

Although the club may be debutants, the likes of captain and midfielder Abdallah el Said and goalkeeper Ahmed el Shenawy gained vast international exposure playing for Ahly and Zamalek.

Pyramids are one of 19 newcomers to a competition that is the African equivalent of the UEFA Europa League.

Among them is Mogadishu City Club, the first Somali side to compete in the Confederation Cup since it replaced the African Cup Winners Cup and CAF Cup competitions in 2004.

Mogadishu cannot play at home because of ongoing violence in the east African nation, which will lessen their chances of overcoming fellow newcomers Malindi from Zanzibar.

Daring Club Motema Pembe of the Democratic Republic of Congo are the only preliminary round side to have lifted a CAF trophy, beating Kenyan Breweries in the 1994 Cup Winners Cup final.

AFP

FIFA dragging its feet in Afghan sex abuse scandal, says coach

BERLIN

WORLD soccer's governing body FIFA has been dragging its feet and needs to urgently widen the investigation into a sexual abuse scandal involving Afghan women players, national coach Kelly Lindsey said in a letter to FIFA boss Gianni Infantino.

The former president of the Afghanistan Football Federation (AFF), Keramuddin Keram, was banned from football in June for life after FIFA's ethics committee found him guilty of abusing his position and sexually abusing female players.

Keram, also a former FIFA Standing Committee member, was accused by at least five Afghan female football players of repeated sexual abuse from 2013-18.

He was also fined one million Swiss francs (\$1.03 million).

But Lindsey and Khalida Popal, the team's programme director, said in their letter that several other individuals had been named by the players as being directly or indirectly linked to the case and no action had been taken against them.

Victims and whistleblowers were in fear of repercussions, they said.

"...the accounts and evidence provided to you named other

individuals as well, and referred to a widespread culture of abuse, with complicity at all levels of the AFF," they wrote in their letter to Infantino dated Aug. 6.

"The accounts mention numerous other individuals, including senior individuals in ongoing positions of power, who committed sexual and physical abuse and/or failed to report abuse even though they knew or ought to have known of the abuse and/or sought to cover up abuse.

"This, and the apparent inaction from FIFA since these concerns were raised, has allowed that culture of abuse to continue to thrive in the AFF."

FIFA said it was looking into the claims.

"As far as the letter sent by Ms Lindsey and Ms Popal is concerned, we can confirm that FIFA is carefully looking into allegations that have been made against additional persons," FIFA said in a statement.

"As stated before, FIFA will not hesitate to impose sanctions if and when justified, just as it recently did in the case of the President of the Afghanistan Football Federation, who has been banned from football for life."

REUTERS

Ibenge raises to 10 number of Cup of Nations coaches who have gone

KINSHASA

FLORENT Ibenge quit Wednesday as coach of the Democratic Republic of Congo, raising to 10 the number of 2019 Africa Cup of Nations coaches who have departed.

Javier Aguirre (Egypt), Clarence Seedorf (Cameroon), Paul Put (Guinea), Ricardo Mannetti (Namibia) and Emmanuel Amunike (Tanzania) were fired.

And Ibenge became the fifth coach to leave after Herve Renard (Morocco), Sebastien Desabre (Uganda), Stuart Baxter (South Africa) and Sunday Chidzambwa (Zimbabwe).

Renard, the only coach to win the Cup of Nations with two countries, has been hired by Saudi Arabia and French compatriot Desabre joined Egyptian club Pyramids FC.

The failure of former Dutch star Seedorf to get defending champions Cameroon beyond the last 16

followed unsuccessful stints with clubs in Italy, China and Spain.

Ibenge, who also coaches Kinshasa side V Club, became increasingly successful in three Cup of Nations with the Congolese Leopards.

He took the two-time African champions to third place in 2015, the quarter-finals in 2017 and the round of 16 last month.

Announcing his resignation at the national football association offices, Ibenge said: "I wish my successor good luck, the best, and I hope he can take the team further than I."

Football official Emmanuel Kande said: "Florent Ibenge has expressed his willingness to serve Congolese football again but for the moment we have separated."

DR Congo are ranked ninth in Africa and 56th in the world and were placed with Gabon, Angola and Djibouti or the Gambia in a 2021 Cup of Nations qualifying group.

AFP

Lampard faces baptism of fire at Old Trafford

LONDON

FRANK Lampard might have hoped to ease his way into the Chelsea hotseat at his beloved Stamford Bridge but his top-flight managerial bow takes place on hostile territory against Manchester United at Old Trafford.

The return of Chelsea's record goalscorer to west London as manager was the most intriguing development of the summer and Sunday's blockbuster is the standout clash as the Premier League cranks back into life.

It all begins today when last season's runners-up Liverpool host newcomers Norwich City and continues on Saturday when champions Manchester City go to West Ham United and Tottenham Hotspur host Aston Villa.

Few would bet against City and Liverpool slugging it out for the title again - such was the unforgiving nature of last season's duel when they won their last 14 and nine league games respectively to finish with 98 and 97 points.

Chelsea, then under Maurizio Sarri, were a distant third on 72 points, ahead of Tottenham (71) with Manchester United sixth after a woeful finish in which they won none of their last five games, signing off with a home defeat by relegated Cardiff City.

While Sarri's methods were never embraced by the fans, the Italian steered Chelsea into the Champions League and won the Europa League so he can hardly be deemed a failure.

Lampard will start with goodwill aplenty but needs only to look as far as the United bench during Sunday's baptism of fire to know that being a club great takes you only so far.



Frank Lampard

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer enjoyed a dream start to life as Manchester United manager last season, taking 26 points from his first 10 league games after replacing Jose Mourinho.

But the bounce did not last and the Norwegian will find himself under intense scrutiny as fans seek tangible evidence that United can challenge City.

Solskjaer has been backed in the

transfer market with Swansea City flying machine Daniel James and Crystal Palace's Aaron Wan-Bissaka snapped up before United this week paid an eye-watering 80 million pounds (\$97 million) for Leicester City's commanding England centre back Harry Maguire.

TRANSFER BAN

While United have spent big,

REUTERS

PSG look set to extend Ligue 1 dominance, with or without Neymar

PARIS

WITH or without Neymar, Paris St Germain look set to continue their Ligue 1 dominance for another season with other clubs simply unable to match their huge spending power.

The Qatari-owned club have won the league for six of the last seven seasons, with only AS Monaco interrupting the run in 2016-17, and finished 13 points clear of the field last season and 16 points ahead the season before that.

Their dominance so complete that last season was largely regarded as a failure after they missed out on the two domestic cup competitions and were knocked out of the Champions League in the round of 16, placing coach Thomas Tuchel under pressure to do better this time.

Although they officially kick off their season at home to Nimes on Sunday, PSG's season does not start in earnest until February when the Champions League knockout stages get under way. Everything that comes before that is regarded as a formality.

So far, it has been a quiet transfer window by their standards although they have still spent around 80 million euros on Abdou Diallo from Borussia Dortmund, Idrissa Gana Gueye from Everton and Pablo Sarabia from Sevilla, while Ander Herrera has joined from Manchester United on a free transfer.

The big question concerns unsettled forward Neymar who the club would be sanctioned for missing the start of pre-season training last month amid talk of a return to Barcelona.

The Brazilian will have to serve a three-match Champions League ban this season after insulting match officials during their elimination against Manchester United.

ALTERCATION WITH SPECTATOR He was also banned for three domestic matches at the end of last season following an altercation with a spectator following their French Cup final loss to Stade Rennes.

PSG's new sporting director Leonardo Araujo, back for a second stint in the role, has said that Neymar can leave if a buyer is found. "But to date, we do not know if anyone wants to buy him or at what price," he told Le Parisien.

Previously sporting director at AC Milan, Leonardo will be tasked



Neymar

with implementing a tougher disciplinary approach demanded by club chairman Nasser Al-Khelaifi.

"Players will have to be more responsible than before," Al-Khelaifi told France Football in June.

"It must be completely different. They will have to do more and work harder. They are not there for their own amusement."

"I do not want star behaviour any more," he said, adding that Leonardo would enjoy his "total

confidence."

Olympique Lyonnais and Olympique de Marseille, who along with AS Monaco are seen as the only teams capable of capitalising on any PSG slipups, are among seven teams starting the league

under new coaches.

Olympique Lyonnais, in a bold move, have given former Brazil international Sylvinho his first senior coaching role, the 45-year-old having previously worked as assistant to Roberto Mancini at Inter Milan and then Tite with the Brazilian national side.

They visit Monaco - who must improve on a dismal last season - in the league's opening match on Friday.

Meanwhile, former Porto, Chelsea and Tottenham Hotspur coach Andre Villas-Boas has taken over at Marseille, his first job after nearly two years on the sidelines. His side kick off at home to Reims on Saturday.

Lille, a surprise second last season, are not seen as serious contenders after selling Nicolas Pepe, scorer of 22 goals last term, to Arsenal for 80 million euros (\$89.53 million), and forward Rafael Leao to AC Milan for 32 million.

Nantes have named Patrick Collot as interim coach after Vahid Halilhodzic stepped down on Friday after 10 months in charge. "I had big ambitions for this season, unfortunately the club did not do what I wanted," said Halilhodzic. (\$1 = 0.8936 euros)

REUTERS

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Lampard faces baptism of fire at Old Trafford

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

EATV

TONIGHT @ 21:00

FRIDAY

10:57 Jikoni Na Jane
11:00 DADAZ (live)
13:30 Kili Za Wana
14:00 Radio:PlanetBongo Live
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 55ELEKT
17:55 Kurosa
18:30 eNews
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 Friday Night Live

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE (FNL)
is where EATV and East Africa Radio combine to bring you an explosion of Friday Night entertainment. The base gets louder, the fun gets addictive and the guest list is exclusive! It's a party on TV.

eastafrica RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM
DAR ES SALAAM

Simba jet off to Mozambique



A section of Simba players celebrate after posting a goal in one of the last season's Mainland Premier League matches.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

SIMBA SC are due to jet off to Mozambique today to play Uniao Desportiva do Songo on Sunday in the CAF Champions League preliminary round first leg clash.

The Tanzania football big guns' Head of Information and Communication Department, Haji Manara, said the team is in perfect frame of mind ahead of the clash against the Mozambique side.

Manara did not issue more details of the team's trip to Mozambique only saying they are well prepared for the game.

"The team is to jet off

to Mozambique tomorrow to play against Uniao Desportiva do Songo on Sunday, the team is in perfect frame and we are confident of doing well," he said.

However, unconfirmed reports say the team depart without three players, keeper Aishi Manula, midfielder Ibrahim Ajibu and defender Wilker Henrique da Silva.

The two teams will play on

Sunday before the return leg, slated for two weeks later at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Aggregate winners of Simba SC against Uniao Desportiva do Songo clash will face aggregate winners of the game pitting FC Platinum of Zimbabwe against Nyasa Bullets of Malawi to seek qualification for group stage of the continental competition.

Simba's head coach Patrick Aussems is reported to have said he is optimistic of good results in Mozambique.

The coach issued the comments on Tuesday after his side had cruised to 3-1 win over Power Dynamos of Zambia in an international friendly at the National Stadium.

Aussems said the team will strive to get good results away

from home on Sunday.

"We don't know the team [UD Songo] well, I have not seen them play, but we will do our best and get a convincing result to take back home," he said.

On paper, UD Songo seem pushovers, but they are not a side people should underrate as the club posted victory over DRC big guns TP Mazembe two years ago.

Gymkhana Club to host ladies tennis coaching program

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

DAR ES SALAAM Gymkhana Club (DGC) is tomorrow expected to host ladies tennis coaching program, organizers have disclosed.

Sanjay Chokshi, who is the DGC Tennis Section Captain, said all is set for the Ladies Tennis Coaching Program (LTCP), which is open to both members and non-members who are above 21 years and below 50 years can participate.

He said the LTCP targets to give women a chance to play the sport as in most cases they are busy at homes and work places with no time to play tennis.

"Once again Ladies Tennis Coaching Program (LTCP) is organized by DGC Tennis Section, reason for organizing LTCP, as we all know ladies are so busy with their house work with kids and office work. Cardio Tennis is a fun group activity for anyone at any playing level looking for a fun way to burn calories and interact with others outside of the gym," said part of information from Chokshi.

Chokshi said women should be encouraged to be involved in all sporting activities.

"Let us promote tennis and other sports in our society and give them opportunity to play instead of sitting home," he said.

He said the winner and runner-up will get trophies and certificates of participation and medals will be given to all participants.

The organizer said those willing to compete should contact the DGC reception desk.

Tanzanite make it to COSAFA U-20 Women Championship final

By Guardian Reporter & Agencies

NATIONAL U-20 women soccer squad, Tanzanite, have inched closer to winning the COSAFA U-20 Women Championship's top honour, cruising to the final after recording 2-0 win over South Africa in the semi-final in Port Elizabeth yesterday.

The Tanzania team will lock horns with Zambia in the final, slated for Sunday at Wolfson Stadium, given the latter notched victory over Zimbabwe in the other last four stage's match that took place the same day.

Tanzanite netted the goals in the first period and they then put spirited showing to keep their opponents in check.

Skipper Eneikia Kasonga drilled in the first goal for Tanzanite on the 18th minute. Opa Clement made it 2-0 for the side on the 30th minute.

The squad is a guest side in the competition, which is organized by Council of Southern Africa Football Associations and aimed at promoting women soccer in the region.



Thelma Phiri of Zambia U-20 women team (L) tackles Pheromona Kizima of Tanzania U-20 women squad during the 2019 COSAFA U-20 Women Championship match held at Wolfson Stadium, Port Elizabeth, in South Africa on Tuesday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF SYDNEY MAHLANGU

Tanzanite's head coach, Bakari Shime, disclosed shortly before the team's

departure for Port Elizabeth the team, consisting of 20 players, went for bet-

ter preparations, insisting his squad is keen on making its presence felt.

"We thank God we were in great shape in the camp for almost one month. We also appreciate contribution from all people, which aimed at seeing to it our camp runs smoothly and in the end get players for the competition," he noted.

Shime added the team's preparations went on smoothly, insisting the team's technical bench hopes each of the players will fulfil her duty and represent the country well.

He appealed to soccer enthusiasts in the country to rally behind the team, given the approach will motivate the squad to put scintillating performance in the competition.

Esther, Tanzanite's member, noted the team has undergone good preparation for the competition and she believes the squad will excel in the showdown.

She noted Tanzania soccer followers should understand the team is eager to emerge victorious in the tournament and will for that matter settle for nothing short of wins in their matches.

Sarah Chao, who heads the delegation, disclosed

the team is in good shape, adding the squad will give its all in the competitions.

She added the team's players are in high spirit, pointing out each of the players has promised to fulfil her duty.

The country will add an extra dimension to the field for the COSAFA championship and continue a long tradition of teams from the country competing in Southern African competitions. The senior national women's side have enjoyed some excellent results down the years, while the Under-20s have also had the ability to spring a surprise, though their entrance to the stage has been more recent.

The country has attempted to qualify for the African Under-20 Cup of Nations for Women in the last three editions only.

In 2014 they defeated Mozambique 15-1 on aggregate in the first round but lost 9-1 to South Africa in the next stage.

In 2015 they were beaten 4-0 by Zambia in the first stage, and in 2018 lost 9-0 to continental powerhouse Nigeria.

Flexibles by David Chikoko



“

Let us promote tennis and other sports in our society and give them opportunity to play instead of sitting home