



RESENTMENT



PROTESTS AS VILLAGERS LOSE KEY WATER SOURCE PAGE3

DIPLOMACY



DR SHEIN: PROBLEMS ARE SOLVED THROUGH DISCUSSION PAGE4

COMMENTARY



MEDIA FREEDOM MUZZLED AS JOURNALISTS TARGETED PAGE 8

SPORT



TFF, SOCCER STAKEHOLDERS MOURN MENGI PAGE20

DR REGINALD MENGI, EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF IPP LIMITED CURRICULUM VITAE AND CAREER PROFILE

EARLY LIFE

Dr Reginald Mengi was born into extreme poverty. His family owned a plot of land which was barely an acre and they lived in mud huts together which the few livestock that they owned. Very often he had one meal a day and sometimes none at all and he worked to school barefoot. Notwithstanding these circumstances Dr Mengi managed to study accountancy in the UK and qualified as a chartered accountant. In Tanzania he worked with the audit firm Cooper Brothers (later Coopers & Lybrand and now Price Waterhouse Coopers) and rose to become Managing Partner and Chairman. In October 1989 he left Coopers & Lybrand to concentrate on his own businesses.

BUSINESSMAN AND ENTREPRENEUR

Dr Reginald Mengi was the Founder, Owner and Executive Chairman of IPP Limited with interests in: print media, famous for the Guardian, Nipashe and other newspapers; and for electronic media (ITV, East Africa and Capital televisions and radio stations). Under IPP Group is also Bonite Bottlers, a product of famous beverage Coca Cola and a leading bottler, Kilimanjaro water. Dr Mengi also had interests in mining, oil and manufacturing sector including pharmaceuticals, CNG (Rwanda), cement and automobiles assembly.

SOCIAL ENTREPRENEUR AND PHILANTHROPIST

Dr Reginald Mengi pioneered corporate and individual social responsibility in Tanzania by contributing his time and resources to worthy causes. Dr Mengi viewed himself as a water pipe that carries water to consumers in society or in other words, a mere conduit and he derived satisfaction in giving and sharing with humility. Some initiatives in social entrepreneurship and philanthropy included:

1. Poverty eradication and economic empowerment. For many years Dr Mengi financed youth and women based economic groups and community development projects through various grassroots programmes including Village Community Banks and Savings and Credit Co-operative Society (SACCOS). Over the years Dr. Mengi was an outspoken campaigner for issues such as youth employment and implementation of economic empowerment policies to ensure that Tanzanians participate fully in economic

TURN TO PAGE 2

Death of philanthropic industrialist Dr Mengi



IPP Executive Chairman Dr Reginald Abraham Mengi (77), for decades a world-acclaimed industrialist and philanthropist whom thousands upon thousands of youth, entrepreneurs and persons with a wide range of physical and other disabilities look to for assistance and comfort, is no more.

The author of the recently published epic motivational book 'I Can, I Must, I Will: The Spirit of Success' breathed his last while in Dubai.

All along he dutifully and solidly stood as a guiding light and a shepherd particularly for the companies under his command, notably The Guardian Limited, Bonite Bottlers, ITV/Radio One, East Africa Radio & TV.

Condolences pour in for philanthropist Dr Mengi

By Guardian Team

PRESIDENT John Magufuli is among thousands who sent messages of condolences yesterday following the news of the passing on of IPP Executive Chairman Dr Reginald Mengi.

Soon after news of the death in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, broke in the early hours of yesterday, business and political leaders as well as individuals who knew the philanthropic industrialist reacted with messages



His death is a great tragedy to all development stakeholders. I hope his children will take his dreams and good things forward

consoling his family, friends and Tanzanians in general. In a post on his verified twitter handle, President Magufuli said, in part: "I am saddened by the news of the death of mzee and my friend Dr Reginald Mengi. I will remember him for his enormous contribution to the development of our country and his vision as contained in his autobiography entitled I Can, I Must, I Will."

Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan also posted in her twitter account that, among other issues, she would

TURN TO PAGE 2



9 770856 542009 >

DR REGINALD MENGI, EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF IPP LIMITED CURRICULUM VITAE AND CAREER PROFILE

FROM PAGE 1

activities and strike an equitable balance between foreign and local investors.

2. Challengers facing the disadvantaged. For many years Dr Reginald Mengi contributed his time and resource to helping improve the lives of disadvantaged sections of society especially those with disability. As a result, he consistently participated in setting up development projects which focus on people with disability and spoke out against the discrimination which they face. For example, Dr Mengi was one of the first persons to publicly condemn atrocities being committed against people with albinism who are being mutilated and killed because of barbaric superstitions which have become particularly vulnerable because they are considered easy targets. His efforts which have also included offering rewards for information leading to the arrest of perpetrators of these atrocities played a significant role in creating public awareness and igniting action.

Another example was the luncheons which Dr Reginald Mengi regularly hosted for the 24 years for people with disabilities. These annual events attended by over five thousand people became an important platform for raising awareness of the challenges which face people with disabilities. As part of this continuing efforts to support persons with disabilities Dr Mengi created a foundation known as 'The Dr Reginald Mengi Person with Disabilities Foundation'.

3. Education. Over the last three decades Dr Reginald Mengi's efforts in this area have included setting up scholarships to encourage students to do well in their studies and to assist those who do well but are unable to pursue further studies due to financial constraints. Dr Mengi also contributed to funding schools which target disadvantaged sections of the community. For example, Dr Mengi partly financed the running of a girls boarding secondary school for nomadic Maasai who had no access to education and were destined to become child mothers and live in poverty. Many have been educated and through a scholarship programme which he sponsored some of those who passed have gone on to university. As Hunger Ambassador in Tanzania Dr Mengi advocated for a national scheme to provide free meals to school children to enhance school enrolment and attendance.

4. Health. Dr Reginald Mengi took part in many health initiatives including publicly championing the use of condoms to halt the spread of AIDS, breast cancer and polio. Through the Lions International Club, Dr Mengi has sponsored over a hundred children to undergo lifesaving heart surgeries in India. On the other hand, the Rodney Mutie Heart Hospital in Moshi is under construction, it will be a modern and complex hospital in East and Central Africa to serve more than 1000 people.

5. Conservation and protection of the environment. Dr Reginald Mengi's initiatives in the area of conservation have included initiating and funding a campaign to reforest Mount Kilimanjaro in order to reserve the melting of its famous snowcap due to global warming and deforestation. This campaign which Dr Mengi was funding since it started in 1987, has led to over twenty-seven million trees being planted a total of one hundred million trees by the end of 2019. Dr Mengi's social activism in environmental issues took a national dimension when he was appointed Chairman of the Tanzania Environmental Management Council (NEMC) in 1997, a position held until 2006.

A CHAMPION OF JUSTICE AND TRANSPARENCY

Dr Reginald Mengi's ethos has always been that we all have a moral obligation to expose and fight social injustice and for this reason he was an outspoken campaigner against social injustice and in particular corruption. In this regard, Dr Mengi denounced perpetrators of corruption in political assemblies, public events and press conferences to debate and sensitize the public about corruption and social injustice. In March 2005 he went further and started two investigative newspapers called This Day (English) and Kulikoni (Kiswahili) with the primary objective of focusing on social injustice and corruption. These newspapers had a significant impact in the fight against social injustice in Tanzania.

In April 2009, at great personal risk himself and those close to him, Dr Mengi held a press conference and openly warned that ground corruption had reached very dangerous levels and mentioned five businesspersons whose names kept on being linked to acts of grand corruption as 'sharks of grand corruption'. Dr Mengi received public praise in the media by Members of Parliament, religious leaders, and members of the public for his tenacity.

PUBLIC SERVICE POSITIONS HELD BY DR. REGINALD MENGI

Over the course of his career Dr Mengi held many public service positions including:

1. Chairperson of the Board of Directors, Tanzania Standard (Newspaper) Limited. This company owns and publishes the Government newspapers Daily News and (later) Habari Leo.

2. Commissioner, Salaries Review Commission.

The Salaries Review Commission was established by the president, Mwalimu Julius Nyerere in 1985 with the objective of presenting a comprehensive salary review. Dr Mengi was appointed one of the commissioners of the commission which was chaired by Ambassador Amon James Nsekela, to review the organization structure, salary structures and remuneration of civil services. Some recommendations of the Nsekela Commission especially on categorization or nomenclature of posts remain in use today.

3. Chairman of the National Board of Accountants and Auditors Tanzania (NBAA).

The NBAA is the statutory organization for all accountants and auditors in Tanzania. Dr Mengi was appointed by the president of the United Republic of Tanzania in 1984 to be its chairman and reappointed so that he eventually held this post for sixteen years up to 2000.

4. Chairman of the National Environment Management Council Tanzania (NEMC).

NEMC is an independent body established by law to regulate environmental matters. Dr Mengi was appointed by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania to chair this body for nine years, from 1997 to 2006.

5. Chairman, Commonwealth Press Union (CPU) Tanzania Chapter. Dr Mengi was Chairman of this organization from 1997 to 1999.

6. Board Director of LEAD (Leadership for Environment and Development International)

LEAD International is an initiative established by the Rockefeller Foundation in 1991 for the purpose of training selected mid-career professionals in issues related to environment. Dr Mengi was elected as a Director in May 2000 to 2003.

7. Commissioner, Tanzania HIV/AIDS Commission (TACAIDS)

This is a statutory commission established in 2001 to create and implement a response to HIV and AIDS. Its commissioners are appointed by the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania and Dr Mengi was a commissioner 2002 to 2009.

8. Chairman Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI).

This is an umbrella organization representing the private manufacturing sector and industries in Tanzania. Dr Mengi was its Chairman between 2005 and 2009.

9. Chairman, East African Business Council (EABC).

This is an organization within the East African Community, an economic and administrative union of Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi and South Sudan (the Partner States). The EABC was established with the primary objective of setting a common regional business agenda and advising the Partner States. Dr Reginald Mengi was elected its chairman for the year 2008. The organisation's headquarters are situated in Arusha City in northern Tanzania.

10. Chairman, ICC Tanzania (a National Committee of the International Chamber of Commerce).

Dr Reginald Mengi was chairman of this organization from 2000 to 2007.

11. Director, Board of the Commonwealth Business Council (CBC).

This is an organization which was established under the Commonwealth of Nations Charter. Its headquarters are located in London. Dr Reginald Mengi was elected to its Board of Directors in 1998 and held this position until 2013.

Up to quite recently Dr Reginald Mengi held the following positions:

1. Founding and Chairman, Media Owners Association of Tanzania (MOAT).

This is an organization which represents media owners in Tanzania. Dr Reginald Mengi was elected as chairman in 2003 and held this position since then.

2. Foundation and chairman, People with Disabilities Trust Fund, Tanzania (PDFT).

This is an NGO which mobilizes funds for people with disabilities. Dr Mengi was its Chairman since 1992.

3. Members of the International Investors Round Table, Tanzania.

This organization was established by the President of the United Republic of Tanzania with the stated purpose of promoting international investment and Dr Mengi was invited to become a member. The Roundtable Committee presents its recommendations to the Government of Tanzania and these have greatly influenced Tanzania's foreign investment policy.

4. Chairman, Economic Empowerment Working Group of the Tanzania National Business Council (TNBC).

The TNBC is public/private sector initiative established to serve as a forum of public-private sector dialogue on strategic direction for promoting investments and accelerating economic growth and poverty eradication. The Working Groups are actually think tanks made up of experts who advise on various issues. In May 2007 Dr Mengi was appointed by the TNBC Chairman, the president of the United Republic of Tanzania, to chair one of these working groups which was entrusted with formulating practical strategies for empowering Tanzanian businesses especially SMEs.

5. Chairman, Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF).

TPSF is the apex body for the Private Sector in Tanzania and Dr Reginald Mengi was its Chairman from 2014 to his death.

6. Patron, Jane Goodall Institute Tanzania, from March, 2018.

7. Trustee, Centre for Chinese Studies (CCS) part of the University of Dar es Salaam College of Social Sciences (CoSS) from April, 2018.

VARIOUS AWARDS, TROPHIES, TOKENS AND CERTIFICATES GIVEN TO DR. REGINALD MENGI

In recognition of Dr Mengi's philanthropic achievements, his unwavering commitment to the fight against social injustice and his public service, Dr Mengi received several international and national awards over the years including:

1. The order of the United Republic of Tanzania in 1994. By His Excellency Ali Hassan Mwinyi, President.

2. The order of the Arusha Declaration of the First Class in 1995. By His Excellency Ali Hassan Mwinyi, President of the United Republic, for earning great distinction for Tanzania economically, politically socially and in defense of Tanzania diligently and at considerable personal sacrifice.

3. The Business for Peace Award 2012. Awarded on the 7th May, 2012 in Oslo by the Award Giving Committee of Nobel Laureates of the Business for Peace Foundation based in Oslo and is supported by business leaders, politicians and academics around the world. Dr Mengi was selected as one of seven Honorees of the Business for Peace Award 2012 which is given to business persons who, through their own actions and commitments, promote socially responsible and ethical business practices in an outstanding way, and stand out as examples to others.

4. 2010 Global Leadership and Humanitarian Award and the 1st United Nations NGO Lifetime Achievement Award. Awarded on the 28th May, 2012 by the Global 2000 (2010) International, a registered member of the World Association of Non-Governmental Organizations, member NGO of the United Nations Department of Public Information

and registered NGO in consultative status with UNESCO. These awards are given to individuals and institutions throughout the world who are making significant contributions to the work of the United Nations in achieving the millennium development goals and objectives especially in the areas of poverty reduction and helping people with disabilities.

5. The 2008 Martin Luther King Drum Major for Justice Award. By the United States of America in recognition of Dr Mengi's commitment in the fight against social injustice and in combating corruption.

6. The East Africa Environmental Network (EAEN) Leadership Award.

7. The International Order of the Lions Award by the International Association of the Lions Club 4th March, 2014 given to Dr Mengi "for his unselfish dedication to humanity and outstanding achievements from which all humankind will benefit."

8. Life Achievement in Philanthropy Award by the East Africa Association of Grant-makers (EAAG) in 2013. Given in recognition of Dr Mengi's involvement and contribution to growing philanthropy in East Africa.

9. East Africa's Most Respected CEO in East 2nd position in 2001, 2002 and 2003 after which the poll was discontinued. The poll was sponsored by the Nation Media Group and conducted by Price Waterhouse Coopers.

10. Certificate of Appreciation for his contribution to the International Association of Lion Clubs 1996 - 97.

11. 19th September, 2017 certificate given to Dr Mengi by the Chartered Institute of Taxation for England and Wales marking 50 years of membership.

12. Appreciation of Dr Mengi's services as Chairman of the National Board of Accountants and Auditors of Tanzania (NBAA) Governing Board 1984 - 2000.

13. The Environmentalist of the Century Award 2000 - Kilimanjaro Region in 2000. In recognition of Dr Mengi's efforts towards conserving and protecting the environment of Mount Kilimanjaro and in particular his role in the forestation campaign.

14. Certificate of Appreciation by the Government of the United Republic of Tanzania. Given on 31st March, 2011 by His Excellency Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, President of the United Republic of Tanzania for Dr Mengi's significant contribution towards the success of peaceful 2010 General Elections Campaign.

15. The Environmental Conservation Award Grade One. Given by His Excellency Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete, the President of the United Republic of Tanzania on 9th December, 2012 for his tireless efforts and contribution in environment protection and conservation.

16. The Champion behind Women and Children's Health in Tanzania Award. Given by the Tanzania Health Promotion Initiative (THPI).

17. Token by the Dar es Salaam Religious Leaders Committee for Dr Mengi's support to society without religious, racial or tribal discrimination.

18. On the 6th June 2015, Award

of 'the Most Inspiring Entrepreneur' by the Dar es Salaam University Marketing Association (DUMA) which is affiliated to the Department of Marketing of the University of Dar es Salaam Business School (UDBS).

19. June 2015, Letter of Appreciation from the National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) under the Prime Minister's Office in recognitions of Dr Mengi's efforts towards economically empowering the youth through the 3N Business Idea Competition.

Dr Reginald Mengi was also publicly recognized via:

. Doctor of Humanity Degree awarded by Japan Bible Institute on the 10th March, 2012.

. Uhuru Torch Ceremony Support 1996

. Tanzania Muslim Hajj Trust - Certificate of Appreciation for Service and Cooperation 1998

. Certificate of Appreciation - Founder Benefactor of the University of Dodoma 2005

. Certificate of Supporting National Sports Day for the Disabled - 2000

. Joint certificate of Appreciation from the then National Chief Commander of CCM Youth Mzee Rashid Kawawa and the Commander of CCM Youth Coast Region Hon. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete for supporting Mwalimu Nyerere Memorial Walk - 2000

. Certificate of Appreciation from Rombo Development Trust Fund - 2003

. Certificate of Appreciation from the Registered Trustees of the Community Development Services (RTCDs) - 2004

. Msama Promotions - Trophy in recognition of caring for and valuing people with disability - 2006

. Certificate of Appreciation from BAKWATA - for Support and Dedication to Society - 2006

. Trophy of appreciation from Command and Staff College - Arusha 2006.

. Msama Promotions - Trophy for High Respect Award - 2007

. Certificate from Tanzania Institute of Media Education (TIME) for creativity

. Token from Africa Development Bank for Support and Dedication to Society.

. December 2014, Trophy by TAWSE SACCOS inscribed WE APPRECIATE YOUR CONTRIBUTION TO THE SOCIETY AND YOUR VALUABLE PRESENCE IN LAUNCHING TASWE - SACCOS DEC, 2014.

. 7th December 2014, Tuzoya Amani Tanzania' by Kamati ya Mkesha Mkubwa Kitaifa/Dua Maalum' (kwa) Kutetea Amani na Ustawi wa Taifa kwa Muda Mrefu'. The Award was signed by Bishop Godfrey E. Malasy who was the chairman of Kamati ya Mkesha Mkubwa Kitaifa/DuaMaalum.

. Certificate of Supporting the Uhuru Torch Ceremony 1996.

. 16th November 2014, trophy given by New Hope Family Group (NHFG) which is a centre for orphaned children. The trophy has an inscription which says 'Hongera Dk. Reginald Mengi kwa kujali na kuthamini jamii, Mwenyezi Mungu azidi kukubariki 2013 - 2014 imetolewa na Hew Hope Family Orphans and was presented by Turkish Ambassador to Tanzania H.E Ali Davutoglu.

Dr Reginald Mengi's book I CAN, I MUST, I WILL: The Spirit of Success

On the 2nd July, 2018 Dr Mengi's book 'I CAN, I MUST, I WILL: The spirit of Success' was launched in Dar es Salaam in a ceremony graced by his Excellency Dr John Pombe Magufuli, President of the United Republic of Tanzania.

expressed his grief following the death, saying the country has lost a development pillar and an honest patriot who devoted his life to serving the advancement of his nation.

"I have received the news of Dr Mengi's death with deep sadness. As he once said, people who leave a mark never die. His thoughts, philosophy, creativity and selflessness will continue living with us," tweeted government spokesman Dr Hassan Abbasi.

Business tycoon Mohammed Dewji tweeted: "We belong to Allah and to Allah we shall return... May his soul rest in eternal peace."

FROM PAGE 1

remember the late Dr Mengi who died at the age of 77 for his flexibility in supporting the community.

The UN Resident Coordinator in Tanzania, Alvaro Rodriguez, tweeted in his official account: "United Nations TZ joins Tanzania in mourning his death. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family. May his soul rest in peace."

Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children deputy minister Dr Faustine Ndugulile also expressed sorrow following the news of the loss, saying the nation would always remember Dr Mengi for his

creativity, courage and eagerness in doing things for the good of the country's development.

Dr Ndugulile cited Dr Mengi's recent project idea of establishing stem cell research and a therapy centre as among the projects "which I will never forget, as before his death the two of us met and discussed extensively on the implementation of the idea and its impact for the nation".

Simiyu Regional Commissioner Anthony Mtaka said Dr Mengi has left a great mark owing his contribution to the country's development as he

has helped a lot of people by giving them employment, capital and encouragement.

"Dr Mengi also didn't hesitate to extend his support to serve the lives of a number of Tanzanians by funding their treatment. He supported many cancer and heart patients," Mtaka added.

Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner Anna Mghwira described Dr Mengi as one of the persons that her region would continue honouring owing to his contribution, especially in the development of industries and

agriculture.

"His death is a great tragedy to all development stakeholders. I hope his children will take his dreams and good things forward," she said.

Freeman Mbowe, National chairman of the main opposition party Chadema and legislator for Hai constituency in Kilimanjaro Region, said: "The deceased was my relative; we come from the same place. He was a very special person to me; my condolences to the people of Hai and all Tanzanians."

Opposition ACT-Wazalendo leader Zitto Kabwe, who is the legislator

Condolences pour in for philanthropist Dr Mengi

Protests as villagers lose key water source

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

MORE than 45,000 residents from five wards in Arumeru district have protested a move by district authorities to take over the Ngarenarok water source without consulting them.

The residents are concerned that Ngarenarok is the only water source they depend on, insisting that the move will result into life difficulties as they also depend on the water to generate income.

A resident, John Lukumayi said: "We depend on Ngarenarok water source for our survival.

The monies we generate from various activities conducted at the river are used to pay school fees and house rent."

He said the decision to take over management of the river will push them to poverty.

Lukumayi called upon Water Minister Prof

Makame Mbarawa to intervene on the matter and listen to both parties before deciding whether the water source should remain under the management of villagers or the district authority.

Chairman of Masanga canal committee in Shiboro village, George Mollel, said the decision by Arumeru district officials will have a negative impact on the lives of villagers because they were using the water for irrigation farming.

He said: "Water flow at the Masanga channel started to decrease in 1998 after El-Nino rains, but the flow has decreased further after the government took over management of Ngarenarok River."

He said that water from Ngarenarok has been directed to other uses for customers paying on a monthly basis.

He said that in 2003 the villagers resolved to start paying for water services, paying 70,000/- per month. He said the amount increased to 100,000/- per month after five

years.

Mollel, a resident of Lemong'o village in Oldonyosambu ward and others from Lenjani in Lemanyata ward said they had requested authorities to allow them use the water, but they were refused.



We depend on Ngarenarok water source for our survival. The monies we generate from various activities conducted at the river are used to pay school fees and house rent



Foreign Affairs, East Africa, Regional and International Cooperation ministry permanent secretary Dr Faraja Mnyepe (3rd-R) exchanges resolutions on a cooperation agreement with Uganda Water and Environment permanent secretary Alfred Ollot after endorsing them at the end of a good neighbourliness meeting held in Kagera Region yesterday. Others are Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development permanent secretary Dorothy Mwanyika (R) and her Livestock and Fisheries counterpart, Prof Elisante ole Gabriel (2nd-R). Photo: Correspondent Munir Shemweta

Uganda, Tanzania sign Kagera Basin accord

By Guardian Reporter

PERMANENT Secretaries responsible for social, economic, environment, foreign affairs and international cooperation from Tanzania and Uganda have signed agreement to strengthen ties in the specific areas and for the protection of boundaries.

The agreement was signed in Dar es Salaam yesterday after a two days meeting attended. Tanzania was represented by the Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation, Dr Faraji Mnyepe while Alfred Ollot, his Ugandan counterpart, led the other delegation.

Officials who participated in the meeting included permanent secretaries for ministries of livestock and fisheries, housing and settlements development, energy and water.

Experts from the ministries met prior to the meeting whereas they discussed on collaboratively working on the challenges facing Uganda and Tanzania, especially people living near the border. Their suggestions were submitted to permanent secretaries.

Major issues discussed during the conference were safeguarding the Tanzania/Uganda border and protection of Kagera River by ensuring sustainable land

management in practice in the Kagera basin. Tanzania and Uganda benefit from the river as residents from both sides engage in economic activities tied to the river.

Addressing delegates, the Permanent Secretary in the Livestock and Fisheries Ministry, Prof Elisante ole Gabriel said through such meetings, Tanzania and Uganda are likely to strengthen bilateral ties in social and economic sectors.

Prof ole Gabriel noted that the agreement will ensure sustainable management of the Kagera basin as well as equitable use of resources for the benefit of citizens of both countries.

Alfred Ollot said such meetings are a clear indication of strengthened bilateral relationships between the two countries. "What we have agreed will benefit citizens of both countries," he noted. Dr Mnyepe said: "Our agreement is for mutual benefit. Residents from both countries will enjoy using the many resources available at Kagera River as well as ensure its sustainability."

The Kagera Basin straddles four countries namely Burundi, Rwanda, Uganda and Tanzania. It is characterized by severe land degradation linked to loss of soil fertility, caused by population pressure and primitive farming methods.

Kenya bans sports betting ads on social media, billboards

NAIROBI

KENYA has moved to control runaway sports betting by banning gambling adverts on social media, billboards and mainstream media between 06:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m.

The east African nation has also banned the endorsement of sports betting or gambling operations by celebrities.

In a statement on Thursday, acting director of the Betting Control Board Liti Wambua said gaming is a demerit good, and all such goods have the potential to harm the consumer with a possibility of leading to addiction.

"Any form of advertisement of gambling henceforth must be approved by the board and such messages must contain warning messages of the consequences of gambling including its addictiveness," Wambua said. "The warning message must constitute a third of actual advertisement."

The ban must be adhered to by May 30, the director said. The move comes about a month after the government linked the fast-growing sports betting industry to increased digital debt among the youth and suicide cases.

Interior Cabinet Secretary Fred Matiang'i said the majority of the Kenyan youth, many of them jobless, are borrowing multiple times from the about 50 digital lending platforms to bet.

Up to 76 percent of Kenyan youths aged 35 and below are engaged in some betting. Of the 76 percent, 54 percent are from poor backgrounds, Matiang'i said. "What are we doing to our youth?"



Any form of advertisement of gambling henceforth must be approved by the board and such messages must contain warning messages of the consequences of gambling including its addictiveness

WORLD'S BEST BUSINESS CLASS

Experience a journey like never before

Fly with us and find yourself in a world you have only ever imagined. Take advantage of our incredible offers and experience premium travel like never before.

Business Class fares starting from

USD 2,057*

Business Class companion fares starting from

USD 1,896*

As a valuable Privilege Club member, you can also earn double Qpoints in premium.**
Not a Privilege Club member yet? Enrol now at qmiles.com

Book by 6 May 2019 for travel until 30 November 2019.

qatarairways.com/travelpremium

Visit any Qatar Airways sales office or your preferred travel agency

*Terms and conditions apply, please review at the time of booking
**To be eligible for the bonus Qmiles offer, Privilege Club members must register by 30 November 2019 or at least 24 hours prior to travel, whichever is earlier.

GOING PLACES TOGETHER



Airtel customers line up to register their mobile phone lines at the firm's headquarters in Dar es Salaam yesterday - too early, of course, as the process will officially run right to the end of the year. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Henry Mwangonde

Open varsity hosts Zim delegation

THE coming of technology has changed modals for provision of distance education by removing student - lecture distance as well as simplifying assessment hence reaching out to the majority, a Zimbabwean don said yesterday.

The Acting Registrar of the Zimbabwe Open University (ZOU) Justina Mtezo said technology has dominated the way in which Open Distance Learning (ODL) is provided reaching an extent

where it is now known as ODeL.

A delegation from ZOU is in the country to visit the Open University to see their operations for glimpses of best practices.

"We are now doing restructuring and benchmarking of our institution. We have visited regular universities but we saw that being an open distance OUT is the best for us," she said.

In his remarks, OUT Deputy Vice Chancellor for Learning Technologies and Regional Services, Prof Alex Makulilo said there are many areas that the university is doing well, noting that most emerging open universities in the region have been making such visits.

"Activities that we are doing have earned us accolades and we are determined to offer the best services

in the region," he said. OUT announced in March this year that it was set to adopt new technology for provision of distance education, basically video conferencing to teach and invigilate examinations to students far away.

The programme is part of OUT plans to embrace improved technology as a new modal for provision of open distance education.

Dr Shein: Problems are solved through discussion

By Guardian Correspondent, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has said the best way to resolve conflicts between workers is through discussions, underlining that using wisdom is beneficial, while conflicts and tensions yield nothing positive.

Dr Shein (pictured) was addressing a rally for the International Labour Day on Wednesday at Tunguu grounds in Zanzibar South region. He said the government has been frequently meeting with Zanzibar Trade Union Congress (ZATUC) as both sides believe that this is the best way to solve problems and maintain harmony.

The Zanzibar Workers' Day theme was "National economic stabilisation for improved workers welfare" while at an international level the theme was "Uniting Workers for Social and Economic Advancement."

"The government values the contribution of workers in economic development. That's why it has been taking measures to address challenges facing workers," said Dr Shein. Noting that problems are resolved through negotiations.

He said the peace and tranquility that Isles residents are currently enjoying hinges on best conflict resolution methods, through discussions.

The government will continue improving public servants' working environment by constructing new office buildings, he said, urging civil servants to adhere to work ethics to ensure good governance and improved services to the people.

Acting chairman of the Zanzibar Trade Union Congress (ZATUC), Khamis Mvinyi Mohamed commended the government seeking solutions to workers' problems.

Zanzibar has been marking the International Workers Day each year



whereas last year the celebrations were held at Wete, North Pemba region. The seventh phase government under President Shein directed authorities to make sure Workers' Day celebrations are held at different regions in the Isles.

In his various addresses, President Shein has been insisting on promoting human rights and improving workers welfare. Last year, Dr Shein assured workers in the public sector and private entities of improved conditions, depending on the economic situation.

He said the government wishes to improve worker's welfare regardless of the kind of employer. Workers are a major and valuable asset since they are the ones contributing the most in the development process, the Isles leader intoned.



The government values the contribution of workers in economic development. That's why it has been taking measures to address challenges facing workers



USAID/Tanzania Water Resources Integration Development Initiative (USAID/WARIDI)

Request for Proposal

For Construction of 2 gravity Water Supply Schemes in Iringa and Morogoro

Winrock International is a sub-contractor to Tetra Tech the prime implementing partner for the USAID/Tanzania Water Resources Integration Development Initiative (USAID/WARIDI) pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and in accordance with USAID Contract No AID-OAA-I-14-00068/AID-621-TO-16-00003.

WARIDI is a USAID funded five-year activity which seeks to achieve improvements in health, water resources management, agriculture, climate change adaptation and the environment in Tanzania. WARIDI promotes state-of-the-art approaches in cross-sectoral, integrated management of water-related resources and services

Through this RFP, USAID/WARIDI requests for quotations from qualified locally registered contractors (Registration by Contractor's Registration Board is a must) to bid for the Construction of the following Gravity Water Supply Schemes;

WARIDI-0009-2019-Lugalo (Kilolo District, Iringa Region)

WARIDI-0017-2019-Lukicha (Kilombero District, Morogoro Region)

A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be obtained via email from **Procurement Officer, Winrock International, JR House, Old Dar es Salaam Road, P.O Box 768, Morogoro, Tanzania**, email: waridi.procurement@winrock.org no later than Friday May 10, 2019. Any questions should be sent by Friday May 10, 2019 at 5.00pm East Africa Time; and will be responded to in one all-inclusive written document provided to all bidders via email on **Monday May 13, 2019**.

Quotations must be received no later than **12:00 Noon East African Time on Friday, May 24, 2019**. Late submissions will not be accepted. All quotations are to be submitted following the guidelines listed in the bidding documents. Telephone requests will not be honored.

Bids shall be opened in public, in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend, at **Winrock International offices, JR House, Old Dar es Salaam Road, P.O Box 768, Morogoro, Tanzania, at 2.00 pm, on Friday, May 24, 2019**.

Winrock International

215210001



USAID/Tanzania Water Resources Integration Development Initiative (USAID/WARIDI)

Request for Quotations

For Supply of Pipes and Fittings

Winrock International is a sub-contractor to Tetra Tech the prime implementing partner for the USAID/Tanzania Water Resources Integration Development Initiative (USAID/WARIDI) pursuant to the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961, as amended, and in accordance with USAID Contract No AID-OAA-I-14-00068/AID-621-TO-16-00003.

WARIDI is a USAID funded five-year activity which seeks to achieve improvements in health, water resources management, agriculture, climate change adaptation and the environment in Tanzania. WARIDI promotes state-of-the-art approaches in cross-sectoral, integrated management of water-related resources and services

Through this RFQs, USAID/WARIDI requests quotations from qualified locally registered Vendors to Supply pipes and fittings as summarized in the table below and detailed in Attachment 7 of bidding documents. The supply is organized in four batches as follows;

Batch 1: WARIDI-0019-2019: MADUMA, KIBENGU/USOKAMI AND LUGALO-IRINGA (KILOLO and MUFINDI)

Batch 2: WARIDI-0020-2019: MAGOLE, MBIGIRI AND MANDELA- MOROGORO (KILOSA)

Batch 3: WARIDI-0021-2019: LUKICHA- MOROGORO(KILOMBERO)

Batch 4: WARIDI-0022-2019: MIKI-MOROGORO (KILOMBERO)

Type of pipes	Size	Class
GS Pipes	3/4 inch - 6 inch	Medium to Heavy Duty
HDPE Pipes	25mm - 110mm	PN10
uPVC Pipes	75mm - 160mm	PN10 - PN16
IPS Pipes	25mm	PN10

A complete set of the Bidding Documents may be obtained via email from **Procurement Officer, Winrock International, JR House, Old Dar es Salaam Road, P.O Box 768, Morogoro, Tanzania**, email: waridi.procurement@winrock.org no later than **Friday May 10, 2019** at 5.00pm East Africa Time; and will be responded to in one all-inclusive written document provided to all bidders via email on **Monday May 13, 2019**.

Quotations must be received no later than 12:00 Noon East African Time on Friday, May 17, 2019. Late submissions will not be accepted. All quotations are to be submitted following the guidelines listed in the bidding documents. Telephone requests will not be honored.

Bids shall be opened in public, in the presence of the bidder's representatives who choose to attend, at **Winrock International offices, JR House, Old Dar es Salaam Road, P.O Box 768, Morogoro, Tanzania, at 2.00 pm, on Friday, May 17, 2019**.

Winrock International

215210001



LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE

Justice Lugakingira House, Kijitonyama, P. O. Box 75254, Dar Es Salaam, TANZANIA
Telephone: 2773048, 2773038, Fax: 2773037, E-mail: lhrc@humanrights.or.tz
Website www.humanrights.or.tz

TAARIFA YA MKUTANO MKUU WA MWAKA WA KUMI NA NANE WA WANACHAMA WA KITUO CHA SHERIA NA HAKI ZA BINADAMU

Kwa wanachama wote wa Kituo cha Sheria na Haki za Binadamu,

Tafadhali fahamu kuwa Mkutano Mkuu wa mwaka wa 18 wa Kituo cha Sheria na Haki za Binadamu unatarajiwa kufanyika siku ya Jumamosi tarehe **25 Mei 2019**. Mkutano huo utatunguliwa na Warsha itakayoanza Saa 2.30 asubuhi katika ukumbi wa mikutano wa Justice Lugakingira katika ofisi wa Kituo cha Sheria na Haki za Binadamu zilizopo Kijitonyama Dar-es-Salaam.

Katika Mkutano huo Ajenda zifuatazo zitajadiliwa:

1. Kufungua Mkutano
2. Kuthibitisha Akidi
3. Kupokea Ajenda
4. Kumchagua Mwenyekiti wa Mkutano Mkuu
5. Kuthibitisha kumbukumbu za Mkutano Mkuu wa kumi na saba
6. Yatokanayo na kumbukumbu za mkutano wa kumi na saba
7. Taarifa ya Bodi ya Wakurugenzi.
8. Taarifa ya ukaguzi wa hesabu za mwaka 2018
9. Kumteua Mkaguzi wa hesabu za Mwaka 2019
10. Kuthibitisha Wanachama Wapya wa Kituo
11. Tarehe ya Mkutano mkuu ujao
12. Mengineyo
13. Kufunga Mkutano

Tafadhali thibitisha ushiriki wako.

Wasalaam,
Kituo cha Sheria na Haki za Binadamu

Bi Anna Henga
Mkurugezi Mtendaji



LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE

Justice Lugakingira House, Kijitonyama, P. O. Box 75254, Dar Es Salaam, TANZANIA
Telephone: 2773048, 2773038, Fax: 2773037, E-mail: lhrc@humanrights.or.tz
Website www.humanrights.or.tz

JOB OPPORTUNITY: PROCUREMENT OFFICER

The Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) is a Tanzanian, non-governmental organization that is private, voluntary, non-partisan, and not-for-profit sharing organization. It is registered and incorporated under the Companies (Act), Cap. 212, R.E. 2002, as a company without shares limited by guarantee, it has been in operation since September 1995.

For more about LHRC, <http://www.humanrights.or.tz>
LHRC intends to increase its workforce by recruiting a Procurement officer as detailed below, qualified candidates are requested to send their details.

Position: PROCUREMENT OFFICER (1post).
Reporting to: Director of Finance and Administration
Duty Station: Justice Lugakingira House, Kijitonyama Dar es salaam

Terms of Service: Full Time 2 and 7months Contract -renewable.

Duties and Responsibilities.

The position will involve but is not limited to the following areas of responsibility;

- Estimate and establish cost parameters and budgets for purchases
- Participate in the preparation of Annual procurement plan
- Create and maintain good relationships with vendors/suppliers
- Make professional decisions in a fast-paced environment
- Maintain records of purchases, pricing, and other important data
- Review and analyze all vendors/suppliers, supply, and price options
- Develop plans for purchasing equipment, services, and supplies
- Maintain list of suppliers and their qualifications, delivery times, and potential future development.
- Participate in the evaluation process of various tenders, Expression of Interest (EIOs)
- Submit Monthly Progress reports to Director of Finance and Administration
- Perform any other activity as assigned by the supervisor.
- A secretariat to the LHRC Procurement Committee.

Minimum Qualifications, Competency and Experience.

- Must be Tanzanian Citizen
- Degree in Procurement and Supply Management or related fields,

- Solid knowledge and understanding of procurement processes, policy, and systems
- Two (2) years previous experience as procurement officer or related position
- Proficient computer skills, including Microsoft Office Suite (Word, PowerPoint, Outlook, and Excel)
- Ability to analyze problems and strategize for better solutions
- Ability to negotiate, establish, and administer of contracts
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Ability to multitask, prioritize, and manages time efficiently
- Accurate and precise attention to detail
- Ability to work well with management and staff at all levels
- Knowledge of procurement processes, policies and procedures
- Goal-oriented, organized team player

General Conditions

Application should include the following;

- A well Detailed Curriculum Vitae which incorporates all contacts telephone/Mobile numbers, postal address e-mail and Physical address as well as a motivational letter.
- Certified Copies of relevant Certificates of Form IV, VI, University Degree, Academic Transcripts, Birth Certificates, and all other relevant certificates
- Full Names and detailed address of three referees (Address should include Mobile Phone(s), email and postal address.

Mode of Application

All applications should be sent to Legal and Human Rights Centre through postal address or via email as indicated below.

Executive Director
Legal and Human Rights Centre
P.O BOX 75254
Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

OR
Email: lhrc@humanrights.or.tz

Deadline for applications: May 16, 2019. However, applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and a successful candidate may be obtained before the deadline. Therefore, kindly send application as soon as you can.

Further considerations:

Only short listed candidates will be contacted for further details & test / interview; if you don't hear from us, consider yourself Unsuccessful.



LEGAL AND HUMAN RIGHTS CENTRE

Justice Lugakingira House, Kijitonyama, P. O. Box 75254, Dar Es Salaam, TANZANIA
Telephone: 2773048, 2773038, Fax: 2773037, E-mail: lhrc@humanrights.or.tz
Website www.humanrights.or.tz

Job Opportunity: MONITORING, EVALUATION AND LEARNING (MEL) OFFICER

Introduction

The legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) requires the professional skills of an experienced Monitoring Evaluation and Learning Officer to join the Monitoring and Evaluation Function of the organization. LHRC is a self- reflective organisation that values collective and individual learning; an important practice that has been core to its ability to remain on the cutting edge of whatever is done, renew energy as well as have the strengths to withstand processes of rusting and erosion. For more about LHRC kindly visit www.humanrights.or.tz

Qualifications

At least a bachelor's degree in Monitoring and Evaluation, project management, social sciences, environment sciences, development studies, management, law, or any other related studies. Experience working with NGOs for at least 5 years of experience in project/programme cycle management; project/programme monitoring & evaluation, high quality report writing, financial management, organisational development, capacity building, organising & delivering trainings, organizing field events/workshops. The candidate should be fluent in Swahili and English and able to work independently with minimum supervision/guidance.

Main Responsibilities

The MEL Officer will support the Programme Officers, partners and Directors mainly in the following areas:

- Developing & implement LHRC MEL strategy;
- Supporting LHRC partners in developing & implementing MEL strategies;
- Ensuring high quality management of the ongoing LHRC programs;
- Regular monitoring of LHRC programmes to ensure timely delivery of the expected results;
- Ensuring regular & systematic monitoring & proper documentation of LHRC programmes' outcomes and impacts;
- Planning and implementing capacity building measures for LHRC members to ensure high quality and impactful programme management/implementation;
- Supporting the development of learning materials within LHRC programmes;

- Facilitating learning and knowledge exchanges within LHRC platform;
- Ensuring timely reporting by LHRC partners and reviewing them;
- Supporting timely and high quality reporting to LHRC donors,
- Take part in resource mobilization through participation in proposal development with other program staff.
- Design, implement and evaluate projects with an aspect of resource mobilization

Terms of Service: 2 years and seven months contract renewable.

Duty Station: Dar es Salaam, Justice Lugakingira House, Kijitonyama

Reporting to: The Executive Director

Applicants should send their applications (motivation letter & detailed C.V. including 3 references and supporting documents) to

Executive Director
Legal and Human Rights Centre
P.O BOX 75254
Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

OR

Email: lhrc@humanrights.or.tz

Deadline for applications: 16th May, 2019. However, applications will be reviewed on a rolling basis and a successful candidate may be obtained before the deadline. Therefore, kindly send application as soon as you can.

Further considerations:

- Female candidates are encouraged to apply;
- Only short listed candidates will be contacted for further details & test / interview;
- Interviews are scheduled latest by 20th May 2019;
- A successful candidate is expected to report to the office latest by the first week of June, 2019;



NOTICE OF TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (TAWLA) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (AGM)

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Article 8.2 (c) of the Constitution of Tanzania Women Lawyers Association that the Annual General Meeting shall be held at SERENA HOTEL on Saturday 25th May 2019 from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and that the business to be transacted shall be as set out below:-

Agenda

1. Reading of the notice convening the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda.
3. Confirmation of the minutes of the AGM held on 26th May 2018.
4. Matters arising from the minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting.
5. Election of TAWLA Vice Chairperson.
6. To receive and consider for adoption the report from the Executive Council for the year 2018.
7. To receive and consider for adoption the Audited Accounts for the year 2018.
8. Appointment of Auditor for the year 2019 financials.
9. To receive and consider for adoption Membership Affairs Committee report for the year 2018.
10. Any other business with the leave of the Chairperson.
11. Date of the Next Annual General Meeting.
12. Closing of the meeting.

FURTHER NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT after the Annual General Meeting there will be a Continuous Legal Education (CLE) session which will be held on the same day and venue from 11.30 a. m to 4.00 p. m. The theme for the CLE is "LEADING AND EVOLVING: WOMEN PARTICIPATION IN LEADERSHIP." Kindly register your interest to attend via: office@tawla.or.tz or 0752286286 not later than 20th May 2019. All non TAWLA members who wish to attend should pay TZS. 60,000/- which can be deposited into **TAWLA ACCOUNT No. 04007280013** Bank of Africa or MPESA No. 0752286286 and TIGO PESA No. 0658386286. The seminar will attract two (2) CLE points. All TAWLA and TLS members are highly encouraged to attend.

DATED AND SIGNED AT DAR ES SALAAM THIS 3RD DAY OF MAY 2019.

BY ORDER OF THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF THE TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION.

TIKE MWAMBIPILE
SECRETARY

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

Upgrade your skills regularly to fit into the new digital era, personal secretaries urged

MAINTAINING and keeping secrets at workplaces are among the major topics being addressed in the ongoing meeting of Personal Secretaries taking place here.

The concern comes up just as the country experiences massive leakage of confidential information from public offices. These have been making rounds in online platforms and social media outlets, causing alarm.

And now that became among the observations made here during the premier sessions of the ongoing 7th Conference of the Tanzania Personal Secretaries Association (TAPSEA), taking place at the Simba Plenary hall of Arusha International Conference Center (AICC) here

More than 2300 personal secretaries from all over the mainland and Isles are gathering in Arusha for the 7th meeting, with the theme 'Time Management for better productivity,' and according to the TAPSEA chairperson, Zuhura Maganga, the delegates need to learn the importance of integrity and confidentiality.

"Personal Secretaries are important components of any institution, organization or ministry but their significance have always been downplayed, or belittled to an extent of them losing

morale," reminded the chairperson of TAPSEA, who also advocated for the increment of PS's salaries and improved remuneration.

But for the other major concern it has been observed that most Personal Secretaries serving various offices in Tanzania are still stuck in the previous generation, the type who were trained on short-hand jotting and manual typewriters and now it was thus time to upgrade them so that they may fit into the new digital world.

Anneth Charles, the Secretary Gen-

eral of TAPSEA said the association has 1900 registered members and that Zanzibar Isles have pumped in over 100 personal secretaries to attend the 2019 event.

The Tanzania Personal Secretaries Association (TAPSEA) through the two-day conference and the third day's Annual General Meeting, targets address the issue of the impact of Information and Communications Technology (ICT) in modern working environment plus the required training among personal secretaries and how the profes-

sion can be improved against the backdrop of developments in science and technology.

The TAPSEA conference is third to be held at the national level in Arusha. The inaugural one was held in Arusha in 2011 and climaxed with some members of the delegation fighting.

The second meeting was held in Mwanza in April 2012. The third, well attended one returned in Arusha in May 2013.

The Arusha Conference this year has brought together more than 2000

personal secretaries from government ministries, institutions and private companies from both the Tanzania mainland and Zanzibar over 90 percent of these are women.

The conference opened by George Mkuchika the minister from President's Office (Public Service and Good Governance) is also providing a forum for the secretaries to review the Secretarial etiquettes and ethics; and to exchange ideas on various challenges that they face in their day to day work.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

African Underground Mining Services (AUMS) is an international leader in mechanised hard rock underground mining with operations throughout Africa (Ghana, Tanzania, Mali, Burkina Faso) Established in 2007, we have spent over 11 years building a strong reputation for being a safe and high performing underground mining services contractor. We are driven by the continued success at our operations and exceeding our client's expectations – both in terms of safety and performance.

AUMS is a joint venture of recently merged Australian Mining Contractors Barmenco Ltd and Ausdrill Ltd making the business the second largest Mining Services provider in Australia.

The collective talent and expertise of our workforce is the key to our success, and we are looking for talented people to join our business. We seek to build teams who are loyal, committed to our company values and dedicated to helping our clients.

In return, we provide state of the art facilities, equipment, technology and opportunities to work on projects in Australia and Overseas. We look forward to receiving your application for the following position.

Longhole Driller

- Geita Gold Mine, Geita

Position purpose:

- This position is responsible in carrying out Underground production drilling of various sized holes, and other tasks directed by the Shift Supervisor.

Key Accountabilities:

- Complies with all HS&E policies, procedures and instructions. This includes the correct use of safety devices and protective equipment, prompt reporting of any hazardous situations, which they cannot themselves correct, making the necessary changes to eliminate or control the hazard and reporting immediately any accident or injury which arises in the course of their work.
- Complies with relevant Mines Safety Acts and Regulations.
- Takes reasonable care for their own safety and that of other persons who may be affected by their acts.
- Performs pre-start checks and SWICs.
- Ensuring inspections and maintenance is carried out on all equipment before use.
- Ensures that all tools are serviceable and safe.
- Must Work to minimise equipment downtime and maximise productivity.
- Must carry out standard work place inspection practices and procedures and prepare the areas for drilling, charging or scraping in accordance with mine safety procedures.
- Maintains a high standard of housekeeping.
- Liaises with the underground shift supervisor to:
- Ensure all work is done in a safe and efficient manner;
- Advise when items of equipment are out of service and when they can be returned to service.

Key Performance Tasks include:

- Accurately drilling a series of Long holes to a design pattern using a mechanised drill.
- Reads and accurately follows mine instruction plans with skill and precision ensuring holes are drilled to design line, gradient and profile.
- Communicate with surveyors, geologists and engineers to optimise drill patters and metres.
- Set up and troubleshoot on Long hole Drill rigs.
- Accesses face conditions at the start of the job and scale from height according to site requirements.
- Recording Information

Essential Requirements:

A demonstrated passion for safety and a proactive attitude toward ensuring that safety is front of mind for all employees at all times.

A minimum of 12 months experience solely as an Underground Long hole Driller.

Knowledge of Underground Mining Practices and the efficient operation of an Underground Long hole Machine.

Highly organised and able to work efficiently with limited supervision.

Basic First Aid

Valid Driver's License

Completed secondary school

If you have the necessary skills, drive and experience to be an asset to AUMS Operations Team, we welcome your interest and encourage you to apply.

Only applications with a current Resume attached will be considered for employment.

Please send your CV along with a detailed covering letter via email recruitment@aumsg.com

Application letters should reach the above on or before 17th May 2019, 18hr00.

BEWARE OF CONMEN! AUMS (T) Limited does not receive money in exchange for a job position. Should you be asked for money in exchange for a job offer or suspect such activity, please report this immediately by calling +255 682 660 123 or +255 682 660 256 or +255 682 660 893.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

African Underground Mining Services (AUMS) is an international leader in mechanised hard rock underground mining with operations throughout Africa (Ghana, Tanzania, Mali, Burkina Faso) Established in 2007, we have spent over 11 years building a strong reputation for being a safe and high performing underground mining services contractor. We are driven by the continued success at our operations and exceeding our client's expectations – both in terms of safety and performance.

AUMS is a joint venture of recently merged Australian Mining Contractors Barmenco Ltd and Ausdrill Ltd making the business the second largest Mining Services provider in Australia.

The collective talent and expertise of our workforce is the key to our success, and we are looking for talented people to join our business. We seek to build teams who are loyal, committed to our company values and dedicated to helping our clients.

In return, we provide state of the art facilities, equipment, technology and opportunities to work on projects in Australia and Overseas. We look forward to receiving your application for the following position.

HR Manager

- Geita Gold Mine, Geita

Position purpose:

AUMS(T)Limited is looking to recruit a Human Resources Manager who will be based at GGM's mine site. The purpose of this role is to provide a broad range of human resources support to ensure smooth realization of company strategic goals in Tanzania. To design and implement integrated systems of work and an organization structure and support systems for effective recruiting, localization, ensuring the right people at the right time.

Duties and Responsibilities:

- Plan and execute human resources services within the mine infrastructure in response to the business unit need and risk; in accordance with legal requirements and with relevant supporting policies.
- Provide specialist human resources support and advice to all the functional divisions at the mine.
- Implement the AUMS values system and account for the on-going application and monitoring of the Organizational values to ensure appropriate behaviours of all Managers and employees.
- Ensure that AUMS is designed and structured in the most cost effective and efficient manner.
- Ensure that managers are provided with a framework for making human resource decisions based on the AUMS business framework.
- Ensure appropriate skills availability (staffing levels and competencies)
- Facilitate the skills retention and succession planning initiatives
- Draw up a comprehensive localization plan
- Ensure that AUMS consistently finds and recruits the right person into the right role
- Understand and apply the theory of remuneration within a Tanzania labour market.
- Establishes the framework within which managers must ensure the ongoing alignment of individual employee activities with the strategic objectives of the business.
- Ensure that the AUMS human resources department are appropriately developed, educated and trained.
- Reporting to and supporting the Operations Manager:AUMS as required
- Interaction with regulators and government functions (as appropriate).
- Implementation of relevant policies; improvement of policies so that they better fit the regional circumstances.
- Ensure all expatriate employees permit and residence documentation is submitted as per the requirements of the government department responsible for processing and periodic follow up in obtaining the permits.

Essential Requirements:

- Graduate in Human Resources Management or equivalent
- Post graduate in business management will be advantageous
- Minimum of 15 years' experience in Human Resources of which 5 years should have been at a Management level.
- 10 – 15 years' post qualification experience
- Able to understand the nature of the gold mining industry and to identify business risks.
- Detail orientated with a preference of checking data twice, before passing it on. Accuracy and quality will be extremely important.
- Able to travel and remain on site as and when required.
- Open to Tanzanian citizens only.
- Valid Tanzanian Driver's Licence

If you have the necessary skills, drive and experience to be an asset to AUMS Operations Team, we welcome your interest and encourage you to apply.

Only applications with a current Resume attached will be considered for employment.

Please send your CV along with a detailed covering letter via email recruitment@aumsg.com

Application letters should reach the above on or before 17th May 2019, 18hr00.

BEWARE OF CONMEN! AUMS(T)Limited does not receive money in exchange for a job position. Should you be asked for money in exchange for a job offer or suspect such activity, please report this immediately by calling +255 682 660 123 or +255 682 660 256 or +255 682 660 893.



Prof Aldin Mutembei (2nd-L) from the University of Salaam's Institute of Kiswahili Studies presents a certificate of attendance earlier this week to David Keasi at the Form Six graduation ceremony for students of Thomas More Machirina High School. He was the chief guest. Looking on (L) is the school's founder, Prof Justinian Galabawa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Bolt introduces in-app dharura (SOS) button for driver partners in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

BOLT, (formerly Taxify) one of the leading on-demand transportation platforms in Africa, has introduced an 'dharura' (SOS) button on the driver application with the goal of boosting driver safety.

Drivers on Bolt platform can now use this additional safety feature whenever they are in areas where they feel insecure or are placed in dangerous situations. The integration of the dharura (SOS) button comes on the back of Bolt's plans to further utilize technology to keep drivers safe on the roads.

The Country Manager for Bolt in Tanzania Remmy Esseka said Safety of both drivers and passengers is of

highest importance.

"We are adding an additional layer of driver safety to the existing features such as live GPS tracking of trips and rating system.

"The dharura (SOS) button embedded in the Bolt driver app triggers a distress call to SGA Security Tanzania Limited, the region's leading security solutions provider with fixed base operations in East Africa", he said

He added that when the Bolt dharura (SOS) button is triggered, a call is made to SGA Security dispatch center that, after verifying the driver's membership, dispatch an ambulance or security team to the driver's location to provide first responder assistance.

"Bolt will pay a retainer fee as well as a pre-approved cost for each

incident" he said

Faustina Shoo, Sales and Marketing Manager, SGA Security: "We stay committed to responding to our client's/partners' needs as we will provide emergency road rescue services to Bolt drivers towards our partnership. Bolt drivers are always assured of getting immediate support 24 hours through SGA Control Room Emergency service in case they encounter any problems during their journey."

In February this year, Taxify changed its name to Bolt as it aims to roll out the electric scooter rental service into its markets.

The CEO of Taxify, Markus Villig, was quoted as saying that the old name was way too restrictive as it had the name "taxi" in it.

SONGEA URBAN WATER SUPPLY AND SANITATION AUTHORITY (SOUWASA)



VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Songea Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (SOUWASA) is an Autonomous Government Agency operating under the Ministry of Water. It was established on 1st July, 1997 under Act No.8 of 1997 and later strengthened by Act No. 12 of 2009. SOUWASA is charged with the overall responsibility of operations, maintenance and management of Water Supply and Sanitation services within Songea Municipality.

Applications are invited from suitable, qualified, dynamic, experienced and performance driven Tanzanians Male and Female to fill in an excellent career opportunity of:

1. COMMERCIAL MANAGER

REPORTING TO: Managing Director
TERMS OF SERVICE: Permanent and Pensionable
WORK STATION: Songea Municipality

Essential Duties and Responsibilities

- Head of the department responsible for Managing, processing and storage of customer records, zone supervision, billing and customer relations matters of the Authority.
- Advises the Managing Director on all issues concerning business of the Authority.
- Checks and directs subordinates on customer data collection, entry, computations and analysis to ensure they are effectively and efficiently done.
- Develops and implements strategies for meeting customer demand for water and improving customer service.
- Supervises subordinates to ensure that a customer survey is carried out continuously to understand the current credit status, needs of customers, all customers are registered and that water supplied to consumers is billed according to the agreed procedures.
- To conduct water balance analysis in order to control Non-Revenue Water (NRW) demand.
- Establishing policies that will ensure satisfaction for water and sewerage customers.
- Monitors the revenue collections from customers and advice appropriate policies and plans to ensure timely payments.
- Oversees the preparation and dispatching of periodic customer monthly invoices to ensure that all customers are supplied with correct invoices at appropriately specified intervals.
- Develop strategies to ensure an increase of new customers.
- Prepares and recommends tariff setting formulas and required prices depending on the established costs.
- Performs any other duties as may be assigned by the Managing Director.

Minimum Qualifications Required, Competency and Experience

- Must be Tanzanian citizen
- Must not be above 40 years from May 2019
- Holder of a Master's Degree in Business Administration or equivalent from a recognized institution with relevant work experience of Seven

years in a reputable organization.

- Must possess computer skills and application in billing, commercial software and management skill.
- Good command in English and Kiswahili (Written and Verbal).
- Working experience in Water Supply and Sanitation is of an added advantage.
- Experience in marketing and customer services of an added advantage.

Remunerations

- Attractive salary within SOUWASA scale

General Condition

All applications should be in written form and have to be enclosed with the following documents:

- A well detailed Curriculum Vitae which incorporate all contacts telephone/mobile numbers, postal address, e-mail and physical address.
- Certified copies of relevant certificates of Form IV, VI, University degree, Academic Transcript, Birth Certificate and two recent passport size photographs.
- Certificates from foreign examination bodies for Ordinary and Advanced level education should be verified by NECTA and those from foreign Universities must be verified by TCU.
- Full names and detailed address of three referees (Address should include Mobile Phone, email address and postal address).

Mode of Applications

All applications should be sent to the SOUWASA Registry Office by hand, registered postal office or EMS and be addressed to the undersigned:

The Managing Director,
Songea Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority,
P. O. Box 363,
SONGEA.

Telephone: 0252602326

THE DEADLINE OF RECEIVING APPLICATIONS IS ON 24th MAY, 2019. NB: ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATE WILL BE CONTACTED FOR INTERVIEW, AND THOSE WHO WILL NOT HEAR FROM US SHOULD CONSIDER THEMSELVES AS UN SUCCESSFUL.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

African Underground Mining Services (AUMS) is an international leader in mechanised hard rock underground mining with operations throughout Africa (Ghana, Tanzania, Mali, Burkina Faso) Established in 2007, we have spent over 11 years building a strong reputation for being a safe and high performing underground mining services contractor. We are driven by the continued success at our operations and exceeding our client's expectations – both in terms of safety and performance. AUMS is a joint venture of recently merged Australian Mining Contractors Barminto Ltd and Ausdrill Ltd making the business the second largest Mining Services provider in Australia.

The collective talent and expertise of our workforce is the key to our success, and we are looking for talented people to join our business. We seek to build teams who are loyal, committed to our company values and dedicated to helping our clients.

In return, we provide state of the art facilities, equipment, technology and opportunities to work on projects in Australia and Overseas. We look forward to receiving your application for the following position.

Legal Counsel

- Geita Gold Mine, Geita

Position purpose:

The successful candidate will be tasked to deal with legal and regulatory affairs of AUMS(T) Limited from its site as well as provision of general but timely, effective and professional legal advice in issues related to Labour and industrial relation issues, environmental, community relations, compliance matters, human rights issues, contract drafting and review as well as any matter affecting or which may potentially affect the business and which may require legal intervention or attention.

Duties and Responsibilities:

1. Litigation

- Enter appearance in the prosecution or in defense of the Company and its resources in all judicial and quasi-judicial bodies including regulatory bodies for and on behalf of the Company
- Provide active, proactive and effective oversight of all litigation matters relating to the company including maintaining accurate case reports and records
- Formulating an effective strategy for the prevention, management and resolution of disputes.
- Advise and engage management at site in all decision making processes concerning litigation
- Draft necessary documents and correspondences
- Liaise with external counsel representing or handling matters for and on behalf of the Company.

2. Employment and Labour Relations

- In consultation with the Human Resources Department provide guidance, training or any related services as shall be directed by the line manager and other senior managers on labour compliance matters and advice department on general legal aspects of labour, industrial relations and other aspects of the business.
- Provide advice on relevant corporate, mining, environmental, labour standards, policies and procedures.

3. Regulatory and Compliance

- Attend regulatory and compliance aspects of AUMS's operations before and when they occur or materialise.
- Monitor and record legal and legislative developments affecting or which may have implication on the Company's operations.
- Provide oversight and support on matters related to permitting and licensing and ensuring timely availability submission of statutory reports to relevant regulatory bodies.
- Prepare, update and regularly advise and sensitise site Management compliance related matters.
- Draft or review Company policies, contracts or other documents and to ensure that rights, privileged, entitlements of the Company acquired or emanating from any law, contract or engagement with third parties are protected and enforced where necessary, where infringed.
- Analyse and identify risks potential presenting legal risks or liability relating and emanating from environmental management and which may negatively impact or expose the company into liability.
- Participate in meeting with stakeholders such as OSHA, MEM, Local Government where requested to do so by Management.

4. General Matters

- Assist the Operations Manager on all legal matters as may be required or requested from time to time.
- Assist in all Company secretarial matters.
- Participate in advancement, perseverance and upholding interest of the Company while in contact any third party while representing the Company as may instructed by the Management.
- Handle ad-hoc assignments related to company business as shall be required by any Senior Management of the Company on site.

Essential Requirements:

- A University graduate with a degree in Laws. Masters' degree may constitute an added advantage.
- A registered Advocate of the High Court of Tanzania and subordinate courts thereto and licensed to practice law in Tanzania.
- Knowledge in legal practice in Tanzania, procedures and principles pertaining to such practice.
- Litigation, policy making, knowledge of administrative law, corporate, environmental and mining laws, policies and regulations.
- Experience in the mining or extractive industry is an added advantage.
- At least 7 years of experience practicing corporate, mining, natural resources law or general aspects of law.
- Proven experience in criminal prosecution or defense and civil litigation.
- Strong interpersonal skills, customer oriented mind-set, excellent problems solving capacity as well as analytical and organizational skills.
- Skilled in the analysis and interpretation of legal documents, instruments and policies which have or can potentially impact the business of the Company.
- Ability to work independently, under minimum supervision, under pressure and deliver by meeting deadlines.
- Good planning and organizing skills
- Strong analytical and leadership skill
- Strong command of both spoken and written English and Swahili
- Valid Tanzanian Driver's Licence

If you have the necessary skills, drive and experience to be an asset to AUMS Operations Team, we welcome your interest and encourage you to apply.

Only applications with a current Resume attached will be considered for employment.

Please send your CV along with a detailed covering letter via email recruitment@aumsg.com

Application letters should reach the above on or before 17th May 2019, 18h00.

BEWARE OF CONMEN! AUMS(T) Limited does not receive money in exchange for a job position. Should you be asked for money in exchange for a job offer or suspect such activity, please report this immediately by calling +255 682 660 123 or +255 682 660 256 or +255 682 660 893.

Let's guarantee our children as good a deal as practicable

AT a truly historic three-day international meeting held in Arusha, government leaders, major donors and civil society organisations were availed an excellent opportunity to address the pressing needs of Tanzanians youngest children - meaning those aged between zero and eight years.

The theme of the rare gathering was as soothing as it was compelling: "Nourish their bodies. Feed their minds. Secure our future". It could hardly have been put better.

A critical look at the facts and figures made available to delegates and the media painted a sombre picture of the lot of millions of infants and young children.

The situation is all the sadder considering the huge number of organisations established with the express aim of soliciting funds and other resources with which to add value to the lives of these otherwise helpless children. Were this indeed the case, these children would surely more fully enjoy their basic right of developing to their fullest potential and therefore contribute fully to their communities and the larger society.

Unfortunately, some of those setting out ostensibly to champion the rights of these fragile members of society often end up misusing the very resources that would have helped them accomplish their noble vision.

The result shows in the data periodically given by such notable agencies as UNICEF and UNESCO, particularly in relation to the nutrition, health care, education and safety of infants and younger children.

Cases in point include these cruel facts, all well-substantiated and widely acknowledged: a whole 42 per cent of under-fives in Tanzania are physically

and emotionally stunted, another 16 per cent are malnourished, 63 per cent don't attend pre-school, and half of all young children in rural areas live below the basic needs poverty line.

This First Biennial Forum on Early Childhood Development and was co-organised by the government and reputable international agencies including the World Bank, UNICEF, The Bernard van Leer Foundation, and Children in the Crossfire.

As noted, there was also a heavy presence of representatives of scores of Tanzanians NGOs, CBOs, FBOs, etc., among them an umbrella agency known as Tanzania Early Childhood Development Network - TECDEN, for short. All these had visions and missions that that were just about identical, declaring that they were out to contribute to the building of a Tanzania where all children in the zero to 8 age bracket "are treasured in such a way that their basic rights are met and their rights to survive and really thrive are realised".

There was much optimistic talk at the Arusha meeting - as well as consensus on the need to mobilise community, national and international resources to support the implementation of programmes revolving around children's nutrition, health care, early learning and protection.

We only hope that all concerned will implement their pledges and ensure that all resources coming their way but meant to improve the lot of infants and younger children actually go into supporting the right causes and not otherwise.

All stakeholders must take stock of their contribution to initiatives to guarantee our children as good a deal as resources allow, at least by desisting from acts likely to sabotage such well-meaning efforts.

We need to be a lot more vigilant to wage a winning war on malaria

Arich blend of interventions, among them sensitisation of the citizenry on the importance of ensuring a high standard of environmental hygiene, is credited with having helped Zanzibar to cut the prevalence of malaria from 40 per cent in 2005 to as low as less than one per cent a short eight years later.

Other interventions cited include the use of insect-treated mosquito nets, proper diagnosis and undergoing medication as prescribed by health experts.

Some six years ago, the Zanzibar Malaria Control Programme (ZMCP) appeared all but convinced that progress was encouraging enough for the world to expect the Isles to not even a single case of locally acquired of the killer disease by this year.

The year is still in its infancy and anything can happen, but a recent random survey in parts of metropolitan Zanzibar provides little evidence that the dream remains hopelessly remote - that is, that hitting the target by the projected deadline is highly unlikely.

Officials would not confirm or deny it, all right, but there is every indication that there are now a lot more mosquitoes in the municipality than obtained during what could be described as the peak of the Isles' success in reining in mosquitoes and therefore reducing the incidence and prevalence of malaria and other vector-borne diseases.

IRIN, a news agency that focuses on humanitarian stories in regions often forgotten, under-reported, misunderstood or ignored, reported in early 2010 that the gains Zanzibar had made in combating malaria were at risk.

It was none other than the head of ZMCP's diagnostic unit who admitted as much, stating: "Despite the achievements in reducing malaria, a lack of funds for awareness-

raising, indoor residual spraying and surveillance, is a challenge. Also, we have a problem with people's resistance to behavioural change, particularly in keeping the environment clean and in the use of mosquito nets."

Unless urgent measures are taken to build on the 1970s' internationally applauded progress Zanzibar had registered in rolling back, and occasionally thereafter, we may witness these fears confirmed.

That would be disastrous, to say the least, as this is a disease known to have immense capacity to cause untold havoc whenever there are slip-ups in efforts to implement precautionary measures.

In the circumstances, we hope to see enhanced levels of vigilance, surveillance, monitoring, evaluation and response across the Isles. This would be with a view to making sure that no one uses financial constraints, say, to justify reluctance or refusal to undergo malaria testing and treatment.

Such behaviour would definitely increase the risk of slipping back, and with it completely unnecessary consequences such as further transmission and deaths.

Experts see having proper strategies and joining hands in sustaining control measures as the easiest and most cost-effective way to prevent malaria from striking even with greater vengeance.

But, as will have been learnt from one of the front-page news stories in this issue of The Guardian, the Zanzibar government has good news for the Isles, Tanzania and the world. And it is that it is embarking on a fresh drive to keep malaria at bay.

However, the news will make much more sense if it jolts the rest of Tanzania into following suit - with concrete action. The reason for this is simple: malaria is endemic in many parts of the country, with Zanzibar not the worst hit.

R.I.P.



Media freedom muzzled as journalists are being targeted for telling the truth

MEDIA freedom remains under threat in several countries in southern Africa with journalists put in jail for simply doing their job, Amnesty International said yesterday as it took stock on World Press Freedom Day.

"In the past year, we have seen blatant attempts to muzzle the media and restrict the right to freedom of expression in countries such as Madagascar, Zambia, Mozambique and Zimbabwe with journalists being harassed or jailed simply for doing their work, with far-reaching implications including self-censorship," said Deprose Muchena, Amnesty International's Regional Director for Southern Africa.

"This onslaught is undermining the very essence of free societies, where journalists must be able to do their work without fearing intimidation, harassment or other reprisals."

In Madagascar, investigative journalist Fernand Cello spent nearly two years in jail after he was convicted on trumped-up charges related to his work, concerning the fabricated accusations that he stole a cheque book. He was acquitted by the Fianarantsoa Appeal Court on 2 April 2019.

In Mozambique, radio journalist Amade Abubacar is out on bail pending his trial after languishing in pre-trial



detention for almost four months after he was arrested for interviewing a group of displaced people who were fleeing attacks by militant groups in their homes in Cabo Delgado in January.

Amade is facing trumped-up charges of "public incitement" and insulting public officials through electronic media among others. A date for his trial is yet to be set.

In December last year, investigative journalist Estacio Valoi was abducted by the military and held incommunicado for two days in Mocimboa da Praia district, north of Pemba, accused of spying and aiding and abetting militant

groups. He was later released without charge, although his equipment remains confiscated by the military for "further investigation".

In June 2018, Pindai Dube, a journalist working for eNCA, an independent television news station based in South Africa, was arrested by police in Pemba and accused of spying. He was released three days later without charge.

In Zambia, the Editor-in-Chief of The Rainbow Newspaper, Derrick Sinjela, is currently serving an 18-month jail sentence after being convicted in December 2018 on contempt of court charges for publishing an opinion piece written by an activist alleging

corruption in the judiciary. Sinjela was unfairly convicted and jailed for criticising the judiciary over a case that had been completed.

In early March, authorities suspended the broadcasting licence of independent news station Prime TV for 30 days, citing failure to comply with the conditions of its licence. The station was later re-instated after almost a month of blackout.

In Zimbabwe, police raided the offices of online news site 263 Chat and fired tear gas into the newsroom after chasing reporter Lovejoy Mtongwiza to the adjacent offices of 263 Chat's on 4 April. This was after he filmed the removal of street vendors by the police in the capital, Harare.

"Authorities must stop treating the media with contempt and open up the space for journalists to do their work safely without having to look over their shoulders," said Deprose Muchena, adding: "A vibrant and independent press is essential for the enjoyment of human rights. Journalists should not be treated as enemies of the state."

Amnesty International Southern African regional office has been consistently speaking out against attacks on journalists and media workers in countries such as Madagascar, Mozambique, South Africa, Botswana, Zambia and Zimbabwe over the years.

ABUJA

SENIOR Nigerian government officials and key investors have endorsed the African Development Bank's Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones (SAPZ) initiative, describing it as a pathway to Africa's agricultural revolution.

SAPZs are designed to concentrate agro-processing activities within areas of high agricultural potential in order to increase productivity and competitiveness. The initiative will provide millions of youth and rural men and women with employment and entrepreneurship opportunities.

Speaking at an investment forum held at the bank's office here on Tuesday, Nigeria's Agriculture and Rural Development minister Audu Ogbeh said the country was eager to work with the bank to develop the SAPZs.

"I can't thank the African Development Bank and all the investors gathered here today enough. We need

Investors say AfDB special processing zones will drive agricultural revolution

to make agriculture work again. It is with initiatives like this that we can truly create wealth and employment for our teeming youth population," Ogbeh said.

The investment forum was an opportunity to secure the commitment of key agribusiness companies and banks in the planning, investment and implementation of priority SAPZs in Nigeria.

Key participants included top government officials and big industry players, including the Dangote Group, the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN), Flour Mills of Nigeria, Olam International, the Nigeria Private Sector Alliance (NiPSA), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), commercial and development banks, the United Nations Industrial Organisation (UNIDO), and the Cocoa Association of Nigeria.

Prof Banji Oyelaran-Oyeyinka, Special Adviser on Industrialisation to the AfDB president, said the initiative could boost the gross domestic product (GDP) of rural regions and bridge the rural-urban divide.

"Nigeria currently trails in the supply of quality agro-processing products. Nigeria must take advantage of the opportunities in this sector to create non-oil sector jobs and raise its GDP," he said.

Africa could become a net exporter of agricultural commodities, potentially replacing imports worth \$110 billion. The continent could also double its market share for select processed commodities. The value of Africa's agribusiness sector is expected to reach \$1 trillion by 2030 and has been described the next "oil sector".

"This investors' forum is extremely critical. Those of us working in the

sector will work closely with the African Development Bank and the government of Nigeria on this huge opportunity," said businessman Mansur Mohammed Ahmed, Executive Director of the Dangote Group and Chairman of the Manufacturers Association of Nigeria (MAN).

"We support the SAPZs intervention of the African Development Bank. Our Group is interested in investing in agri-inputs production and supply across the Special Agro-Industrial Processing Zones to be set up," said Sadiz Kassim, Director at Tropical General Investments Group (TGI Group) - a major industry player.

Together with its development partners, the bank is investing heavily to rapidly scale up agricultural production. The SAPZs depend on strong public and private sector partnerships.

Trump's arms control gambit: Serious or a poison pill?

WASHINGTON DC

SMART U.S. leadership is an essential part of the nuclear risk reduction equation. Unfortunately, after more than two years into President Donald Trump's term in office, his administration has failed to present a credible strategy to reduce the risks posed by the still enormous U.S. and Russian nuclear arsenals, which comprise more than 90 percent of the world's nuclear weapons.

Instead, Trump has threatened to accelerate and "win" an arms race with nuclear-armed Russia and China as tensions with both states have grown. Trump has shunned a proposal supported by his own Defense and State departments to engage in strategic stability talks with Moscow.

Trump also has ordered the termination of the 1987 Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces Treaty without a viable plan B, and his national security team has dithered for more than a year on beginning talks with Russia to extend the 2010 New Strategic Arms Reduction Treaty (New START) before it expires in February 2021.

Now, the president is dropping hints that he wants some sort of grand, new arms control deal with Russia and China. "Between Russia and China and us, we're all making hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of weapons, including nuclear, which is ridiculous," Trump said on April 4 as he hosted Chinese Vice Premier Liu He in the Oval Office.

According to an April 25 report in The Washington Post, Trump formally ordered his team to reach out to Russia and China on options for new arms control agreements. The instructions on Russia apparently call for the pursuit of limits on so-called nonstrategic nuclear weapons, a category of short-range, lower-yield weapons that has never been subject to a formal arms control arrangement.

At first glance, that may sound prom-



National Security Advisor John Bolton (R), listens to President Donald Trump during a briefing from senior military leaders, in the Cabinet Room on April 9, 2018. File photo

ising. Bringing other nuclear actors and all types of nuclear weapons into the disarmament process is an important and praiseworthy objective. But this administration has no plan, strategy, or capacity to negotiate such a far-reaching deal. Even if it did, negotiations would likely take years.

China, which is estimated to possess a total of 300 nuclear warheads, has never been party to any agreement that limits the number or types of its nuclear weaponry. Beijing is highly unlikely to engage

in any such talks until the United States and Russia significantly cut their far larger arsenals, estimated at 6,500 warheads each.

Russian President Vladimir Putin may be open to broader arms control talks with Trump, but he has a long list of grievances about U.S. policies and weapons systems, particularly the ever-expanding U.S. missile defense architecture. The Trump administration's 2019 Missile Defense Review report

says there can be no limits of any kind on U.S. missile defenses—a nonstarter for Russia.

These realities, combined with the well-documented antipathy of Trump's national security advisor, John Bolton, to New START strongly suggest that this new grand-deal gambit does not represent a serious attempt to halt and reverse a global arms race.

It is more likely that Trump and Bolton are scheming to walk away

from New START by setting conditions they know to be too difficult to achieve.

With less than two years to go before New START expires, Washington and Moscow need to begin working immediately to reach agreement to extend the treaty by five years. Despite their strained relations, it is in their mutual interest to maintain verifiable caps on their enormous strategic nuclear stockpiles.

Without New START, which limits each side to no more than 1,550 deployed strategic warheads and 700 deployed strategic delivery vehicles, there will be no legally binding limits on the world's two largest nuclear arsenals for the first time in nearly five decades.

Extending New START would provide a necessary foundation and additional time for any follow-on deal with Russia that addresses other issues of mutual concern, including nonstrategic nuclear weapons, intermediate-range weapons, and understandings on the location and capabilities of missile defense systems and advanced conventional-strike weapons that each country is developing.

A treaty extension could help put pressure on China to provide more information about its nuclear weapons and fissile material stockpiles. China also might be more likely to agree to freeze the overall size of its nuclear arsenal or agree to limit a certain class of weapons, such as nuclear-armed cruise missiles, so long as the United States and Russia continue to make progress to reduce their far larger and more capable arsenals.

If in the coming weeks, however, Team Trump suggests China must join New START or that Russia must agree to limits on tactical nuclear weapons as a condition for its extension, that should be recognized as a disingenuous poison pill designed to create a pretext for killing New START.

Before Trump and Bolton try to raise the stakes for nuclear arms control success, they must demonstrate they are committed to working with Russia to extend the most crucial, existing agreement:

New START.

Sierra Leone's journalists demand justice for "murdered" colleague and call for law reform

LONDON

IBRAHIM Samura, erstwhile editor and publisher of New Age, an independent Freetown newspaper, was beaten up with "heavy-duty metal chains and sticks" during Sierra Leone's presidential run-off election in March 2018—in front of the police and army. He died from his injuries three months later. But more than a year since the assault the perpetrators are yet to be brought to book.

The Sierra Leone Association of Journalists (SLAJ) has called on the government of President Julius Maada Bio for the immediate prosecution of all those who physically assaulted a newspaper editor last year.

The attack on Samura and at least two other reporters occurred in full view of security personnel, as the journalists covered the elections no more than 50 feet from the police station in the Freetown suburb of Lumley.

"The continuing delay in bringing them to justice is breeding a culture of impunity," Ahmed Sahid Nasralla, the national secretary general of SLAJ, told IPS. "We are calling on the police and on the government to take action. The investigation has been done. It's up to the authorities to now prosecute. We will continue to put pressure on them to do so."

According to SLAJ, Samura's death is directly related to the beating he received, which caused the intracerebral haemorrhage the autopsy determined caused his death. Further, medical experts say if Samura did not suffer "similar blunt force trauma about the head" from the time of that merciless beating to the time of his death, then it is "very safe" to conclude that those who beat him in March caused his demise.

The five perpetrators, so-called "high-powered hooligans", comprise: a former deputy minister from the then ruling All Peoples Congress party (the APC), Ibrahim Washingai Mansaray;

Ten months after the journalist's death, none of the infamous "Samura Five" have been arrested. This is despite the fact that police say the neces-



Press freedom in Sierra Leone faces continued pressure, even under the government of President Julius Maada Bio.

sary warrants had been issued. Some reporters have attributed this to the fact that before his death Samura had publicly accepted an "apology" from the APC, in effect offering "pre-emptive forgiveness" to those who some see as his murderers.

But, as the publisher of Sierra Express Media, Adeyemi Paul, said: "He may have forgiven them, but a crime is a crime. The role of the police and the courts is to arrest and prosecute criminals, not to offer forgiveness." Not unexpectedly, most journalists share this view. Amara Samura (no relation), editor of The Vision newspaper, said: "Those who beat Ibrahim Samura should be brought to justice, because that beating caused his death - apology or not."

Fayia Amara Fayia of the Standard Times newspaper, said there were rumours Samura had accepted "compensation" from ex-President Koroma, whose daughter was one the alleged attackers. "Journalists should not enter into such arrangements with their

abusers, because it will lead to impunity," he said.

Many journalists who had hoped the election of Bio as president augured well for press freedom in Sierra Leone have been disappointed. The harassment, intimidation and beatings of journalists has continued under the rule of his Sierra Leone People's Party (the SLPP).

Barely a month after Bio assumed office, SLPP supporters assaulted Yusuf Bangura, a radio reporter for the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Corporation (SLBC). His attackers said it was "payback" for his "negative reporting" of the SLPP and Bio in the run up to the elections.

Then last September, Fayia Amara Fayia was arrested at the television studio of AYV Media during a live broadcast. His arrest was ordered by the deputy information minister, who claimed the reporter had libelled the

president in one of his articles. Fayia was later released without charge. That same month several journalists were attacked and their equipment damaged by alleged SLPP thugs while covering a bye election in the northern Kambia district.

In January of this year the editor of Sierra Express media, Alusine Bangura, was beaten up at his office by men who, he says, not only identified themselves as supporters of the SLPP, but were also wearing t-shirts emblazoned with the ruling party's emblem. He suffered serious injuries to his head and torso from the beating the group dished out to him. Three of his colleagues had been lucky to escape.

"I recognised one of the men, a hefty bloke, a popular thug for the SLPP," Bangura told IPS. "There were about 13 of them. Had it not been for the guys in the area, who came to assist me, I might have been killed."

According to Bangura, this was the second attack on their offices. The first one happened in April 2018, just after Bio took office. "They attack us because they say we are too critical of the government," he continued. "They also said we criticised them when they were in opposition. But that is our duty, to keep the politicians on their toes. We are always critical of government, any government."

These attacks against journalists going about their lawful business can be seen as evidence of a culture of impunity which the continuing failure to prosecute the alleged killers of Samura has fuelled in Sierra Leone. Many believe that if a precedent is set, where people are punished for attacking journalists, it would serve as a deterrent to these almost pedestrian assaults on journalists who are simply doing their jobs. As Bangura said, "I myself could have easily been killed in January by those thugs."

It will be recalled that Harry Yansaneh, the acting editor of For Di People newspaper, was killed in 2005 after an SLPP MP, Fatmata Hassan, sent her children and assorted thugs to beat him up. In this case, which is eerily similar to Samura's, the killers got-off scot-free. It can even be argued that Samura might be alive today, or that Bangura might not have sustained those serious injuries, if Yansaneh's alleged killers had been convicted back in 2005 of even the lesser charge of manslaughter or, at worst, aggravated assault.

In a cruel twist of fate, Yansaneh had become acting editor of For Di People after substantive editor Paul Kamara was jailed for two years for allegedly libelling President Ahmed Tejan Kabbah, whose SLPP government invoked draconian crimi-

nal libel legislation to convict the journalist.

Perhaps one reason why the present SLPP government is reluctant to prosecute Samura's killers is because it will mean not only that they would have to also prosecute their own supporters who routinely beat up journalists, as we have seen, but also those who killed Yansaneh in 2005, there being no statute of limitation for murder.

But the president would do well to recall his words to members of the SLAJ when he addressed them last December. Bio had said: "I would like us to remember the heroism of someone who is not here with us tonight - Ibrahim Samura... Never again should we have a government or politicians who abdicate their duty to protect journalists and become the perpetrators of violence against journalists."

A month after the president said this, thugs severely beat up the editor of Sierra Express Media. They then ran away—and live to assault another journalist another day.

As SLAJ calls on the government of President Bio for action against the so-called "Samura Five", its members are also looking to the government to fulfil their manifesto promise to repeal criminal libel laws, which previous governments have used to muzzle the press and to punish outspoken journalists like Kamara.

Speaking to IPS from South Africa, Angela Quintal, Africa Programme Coordinator at the Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ), said: "President Bio must move swiftly to ensure that the law on criminal and seditious libel is finally repealed, something that he committed to when he came into power last year."

IPS

Future of our planet requires deeper cooperation, long-term thinking

UNITED NATIONS

FOR most of the 7 billion people on the planet, global institutions are remote, far removed from their day to day existence. Yet, our global institutions matter.

They shape the global systems - such as international trade rules - that will enable the more than 3 billion poor people worldwide, who live on less than about 20 yuan a day, to rise out of poverty.

In 2015, the world's leaders agreed on the transformative 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which laid out a path to shared prosperity and sustainability. But implementing the 2030 Agenda requires a fundamental shift toward sustainability in our financial systems.

The global financial architecture must enable trade and capital to flow across borders in a way that is stable and sustainable. This would help fund necessary investments, including in resilient infrastructure, and help put countries on sound financial footing. The architecture should also protect against shocks, but allow rapid responses to shocks when they do occur.

There is some progress to report. A joint assessment of financing global sustainable development, just completed by the United Nations - in collaboration with other international institutions, including the International Monetary Fund, World Bank, and World Trade Organization - finds that private sector interest in sustainable finance is growing.

Investors gradually realize that the way corporations manage environmental and social risks can impact financial performance. Sustainable development is also increasingly incorporated in public budgets and development cooperation.

But these changes are not happening at nearly the required scale, nor with the necessary speed. For example, annual spending on education in the poorest countries alone would need to more



than triple to achieve universal education aspired to under the 2030 Agenda.

The gap on infrastructure financing in developing countries remains on the order of hundreds of billions of dollars.

In today's interconnected world, major challenges cannot be solved by countries acting alone. Rather than retreating from multilateralism, the international community must strengthen collective

action.

International trade has made a significant contribution to economic growth and development. When we work together, we can achieve great things for the good of all people.

The Belt and Road Initiative is an example of how countries are working together to find new

paths to prosperity. The resulting infrastructure will enhance connectivity between Asia and Europe, and expand connections with Africa and South America. It provides important opportunities for countries to deepen cooperation and deliver sustainable infrastructure.

Achieving sustainable develop-

ment - particularly eradicating poverty, reducing inequality, and combatting climate change - requires a long-term perspective, with governments, the private sector, and civil society working together.

Yet most private capital markets are short-term oriented and put pressure on corporate executives to demonstrate profits on a quarterly basis. A more uncertain world begets even more short-term behaviour.

Private businesses hesitate to commit funds to long-term investment projects if economic prospects are unclear. During periods of financial insecurity, households often focus on their immediate needs.

If the Belt and Road Initiative could take a long-term perspective, it will help to build long-term, stable and sustainable financing into the multilateral system. It can be at the forefront of efforts to counter short-term behavior.

Aligning both private and public incentives with sustainable development, and better measuring the impacts of investments and policies on sustainability, will further our global efforts. Private financial markets in China, like those in many other middle-income countries, are growing in size and importance.

If markets are to become a tool that promotes sustainability, rather than short-term speculation, the policies need to be carefully designed. For example, governments can price externalities, such as the cost of environmental pollution, ensuring that the true costs of investments are recognized and considered.

Requiring more meaningful disclosure by corporations on

social and environmental issues can help. According to a KPMG survey of about 5,000 companies from 49 countries conducted in 2017, 75 per cent now publish corporate responsibility reports and 60 per cent include some sustainability information in their financial filings.

Their efforts should be further encouraged so that some internationally recognized standards in sustainability reporting could be agreed in the future. Countries can also promote long-term investing by supporting efforts to build indices for stock markets that includes companies with sustainable business practices.

China also blazes the trail in green finance. The green credit guidelines, issued by the China Banking Regulatory Commission in 2012, is a pioneer example of standards that promote loans to more climate-friendly projects.

Moreover, China is a leader in green bond issuances. Lessons learned by China and others can be shared through international platforms, such as the United Nations, to find synergies and strengthen policy frameworks.

At this time when greater global cooperation is needed, the multilateral system is under stress because of a backlash against globalization in some parts of the world. Initiatives like Belt and Road can and should demonstrate the positive power of global cooperation.

It can help reshape both national and international financial systems in line with sustainable development. If we fail to do so, we will fail to deliver sustainable development for all. The very future of our planet is at stake.

IPS



TRIBUTE TO DR. REGINALD MENGI

We are deeply saddened by the passing of Dr. Reginald Mengi. We wish to convey our heartfelt condolences to his family, friends and the people of Tanzania.

Dr. Mengi modelled the spirit of entrepreneurship, resilience and generosity demonstrated across his numerous business and philanthropic pursuits. He will remain a beacon of inspiration and hope to many people in Tanzania and across Africa.

He was a treasured mentor and friend to all of us at Coca-Cola and we will cherish his memory in our hearts forever.

Rest in Peace



Post-abortion care 'spares' hundreds

BY GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

Post Abortion Care (PAC) services are saving hundreds lives of women with pregnancy miscarriages from falling into maternal deaths in Sengerema District, Mwanza Region.

Interviews during a rapid journalists' survey to uncover the salient features of higher maternal mortality in Mwanza, it was confirmed that many women in the region are using traditional herbs to induce abortion, terminating unintended pregnancies, which leads to unsafe abortions.

The Sengerema Designated District Hospital last year served 850 women with post abortion care services, which is approximate to two to three patients daily or more 90 women per month who need the services.

Modesta Masala, a midwife and health counselor of the Sengerema Designated Hospital said many of the patients admitted due to miscarriage and abortion complications had induced termination of pregnancies using traditional herbs.

"In 2017 we treated more than 600 women and last year the number rose to more than 800 women, aged 20-26 needing post abortion care services," said Modesta, profiling the situation.

"After treating them, we refer them to family planning services or to the nearest health facility to where they live because ours is a religious hospital. We don't provide family planning services," she elaborated.

The hospital doctor in charge, Dr Sister Marie Jose Voesen said about 9,000 to 10,000 pregnant women admitted yearly or there because of the good services, which attract many patients from neighboring districts.

Commenting on post abortion care services, Dr Marie said they offer it for free and make sure all the package is obtained at the hospital. They just treat the women if they have pregnancy miscarriages with love.

"Our duty is to treat them without judging them that they had intended to induce termination of pregnancies. We treat them as ones who had pregnancy miscarriages and a few were found with traditional herbs in their wombs," said Sister Marie.

The doctor in charge said that last year they had 23 maternal deaths contributed by number of facts that cannot be directly counted as caused by unsafe abortion because she believe many women terminates at the early pregnancy stages using traditional herbs.

Maria Magoa, the District Health Coordinator said women in that district are using traditional herbs to terminate pregnancies which leads to unsafe abortions.

"We have 42 health facilities which provide maternity services, and beside the 23 deaths from the designated hospital, in all the other centers there were just two deaths related to maternal mortality," she said.

Sengerema District Medical Officer, Dr Petet Mao said many miscarriages treated in the designated hospital were the outcome of women using traditional herbs to induce termination of pregnancies.

"Using traditional herbs is a major challenge to women who don't want to carry on their pregnancies and give birth, and they go to traditional healers because they know it's illegal to terminate pregnancies," said the Segerema DMO.

"There are some implications and complications in using traditional herbs to induce an abortion. They vary and include herbs, high doses of chloroquine and detergent, which is a leading cause of maternal deaths," he declared.

Pregnancy termination is restricted by law in Tanzania, widely motivating women to induce abortion which is almost always unsafe, and contributes to high maternal morbidity and mortality. Yet the majority of abortion-related deaths are preventable, as are the unintended pregnancies associated with abortion, he further observed.

The 2015-16 Tanzania Demographic and Health and Malaria Indicator Survey (TDHS-MIS) reveals that Mwanza, one of the six regions of the Lake Zone records high maternal mortality, high fertility rate, low contraceptive prevalence rate (CPR), and high HIV prevalence rate than the national average.



Joseph Simbakalia (gesturing), public sector co-chairman of a Tanzania National Business Council task force formed to collect and analyse experts' views on the best ways to implement Tanzania's industrialisation agenda towards 2025, presides over talks on the issues at a meeting in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. To his right is his private sector counterpart, Ali Mufuruki. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

'Plastic bag bans will help reduce toxic fumes'

BURNING plastic smells awful. It also gives you that choking feeling... which is no surprise when you know that plastic is basically made of oil and gives off toxic fumes when it burns.

Incineration of plastic waste in open fields is a major source of air pollution. About 12 per cent of most municipal solid waste is made up of plastic of one kind or another, and 40 per cent of the world's garbage is burned, according to a the study "Toxic Pollutants from Plastic Waste - A Review."

The plastic bag bans recently announced by Tanzania and Zambia, which follow effective bans in Kenya and Rwanda, are good news in terms of air pollution, given that much of Africa's waste ends up in flames.

"This is such positive news and I hope more countries in Africa and the world follow suit in phasing out single-use plastics," says James Wakibia, a prominent campaigner for Kenya's plastic bag ban implemented last year. "It's sad that Uganda's ban is not working," he adds.

The burning of plastics releases toxic gases like dioxins, furans, mercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (better known as BCPs) into the atmosphere, and poses a threat to vegetation, and human and animal health.

Dioxins settle on crops and in our waterways where they eventually enter our food and hence our bodies. These dioxins are potentially lethal persistent organic pollutants that can cause cancer and disrupt thyroid and respiratory systems.

Phthalates, the very chemicals that give plastic their desirable qualities—flexibility and softness—are endocrine disruptors, associated with a plethora of health problems, from fertility issues and neonatal impacts on babies to allergies and asthma.

"Burning of plastic waste increase the risk of heart disease, aggravates respiratory ailments such as asthma and emphysema and cause rashes, nausea or headaches, and damages the nervous system," says the study.

Burning plastic also releases black carbon (soot), which contributes to climate change and air pollution.

Around the world, efforts are being made to reduce the amount of plastic waste that ends up in landfills or in our oceans. For instance, in March 2019, the European Union approved a law to ban many single-use plastic items, such as plastic cutlery, single-use plastic plates, plastic straws, and plastic balloon sticks, from 2021.

"Plastic that cannot be recycled should stop being manufactured," says Wakibia. "It really doesn't make sense to manufacture products whose value is measured in minutes and which persist for an eternity without degrading. We are killing the planet with our greed to make profit without care. Burning plastic contributes a lot to air pollution and people living near dumpsites and those working there are at a great risk of developing respiratory diseases and cancer," he adds.

In March 2019, the United Nations Environment Assembly passed a resolution entitled Addressing single-use plastic products pollution. The resolution encourages governments and the private sector to "promote the more resource-efficient design, production, use and sound management of plastics across their life cycle".

It also encourages Member States to "take comprehensive action, in regard to single-use plastic products, to address the waste through, where appropriate, legislation, implementation of international agreements, provision of adequate waste management infrastructure, improvement of waste management practices and support for waste minimization".

Air pollution is the theme for World Environment Day on 5 June 2019. The quality of the air we breathe depends on the lifestyle choices we make every day.

By Guardian Reporter

Bank awards winners of its 'Double Your Deposit' Campaign

STANDARD Chartered Bank Tanzania Limited yesterday announced its winners of the second raffle of its 'Double Your Deposit' Campaign which is aimed at enhancing financial inclusion and the culture of savings through its recently launched Digital Bank on Mobile.

The newly launched Digital Bank on Mobile, which is accessible via the SC Mobile Tanzania App, enables individuals to open accounts wherever they are without needing to visit the Bank's branches at any stage of the account opening process.

Five winners were picked at yesterday's first raffle of the 'Double your Deposit' campaign.

Speaking at the event to pick the winners, the Bank's Head of Digital Banking, Victor Makere, said that the Campaign had been running for four weeks and that it is geared towards rewarding the Bank's individual clients in the Personal and Priority segments by doubling their deposits. He added that the campaign also incorporates additional monetary prizes to enable more clients benefit from the ongoing campaign.

Edgar Mwombeki Kiiza of Ukonga

emerged as the overall winner of the first raffle of the Standard Chartered Bank's "Double your Deposit" campaign, seeing him double the amount that he has deposited at the Bank through the SC Mobile Tanzania App.

The Bank also announced four other winners for various categories of the campaign. These include; Sabhai Mukama Maitarya who won 500,000/-, Fransisca Gerwin Faya who won 250,000/-, Mussiba Mtani who won 50,000/- and Noranancy Vera Niko who won 50,000/-.

Speaking about the details of the

campaign, Mr. Victorsaid that the potential clients were required to deposit a minimum of 100,000/- for the period of the campaign which ends in May 2019. The Bank will doublethe lucky winner's deposit up to a maximum of 1,000,000/- of money deposited. More winners will also be drawn bringing to five the total numbers of winners at every raffle. The raffles will take place every two weeks until the end of May.19.

"I am happy to inform you that ourDigital Bank on Mobile and the 'Double Your Deposit' campaign

have been well received in the market and we have been opening more than double the number of accounts that we would otherwise open through our normal branch channels thereby enhancing Financial inclusion which is one our main goals of introducing the

Digital Bank on Mobile," Victor said.


The Digital Bank on Mobile which was launched towards the end of February this year is accessible through the SC Mobile TanzaniaApp that can either be found on Play store or App store.

Victor urged more Tanzanians to leverage on the Digital Bank on Mobile and join the winners list.



Standard Chartered Bank head of digital banking Victor Makere (L) leads the second raffle of the bank's 'Double Your Deposit' Campaign in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are Senior Gaming Auditor from Gaming Board of Tanzania JehudNgolo(C) and the bank's corporate affairs, brand and marketing manager, Mariam Sezinga. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



**IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL OF TANZANIA
AT DAR ES SALAAM**

APPEAL NO. 4 OF 2019

BETWEEN

TANZANIA ELECTRIC SUPPLY COMPANY LIMITEDAPPELLANT

AND

ABDUL AZIZ BRUNO NGOMUO.....1ST RESPONDENT

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

REGULATORY AUTHORITY2ND RESPONDENT

(Notice pursuant to Rule 16 of the Fair Competition Tribunal Rules, 2012)

TAKE NOTICE THAT an appeal has been lodged in the Tribunal against the whole decision of the Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority (EWURA) given on the 7th March, 2019 in which EWURA ordered the Appellant to put the 1st Respondent in the appropriate tariff category as per his electricity consumption and awarded costs of the complaint to the 1st Respondent.

The Appellant contends that the award issued by EWURA was not based on the evidence tendered and the decision was made in an error of the law. Thus, the Appellant prays for orders setting aside the award with costs.

BY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE any person who considers that he has sufficient interest may apply to intervene in the proceedings within seven days of the first publication of this notice to the Fair Competition Tribunal, 9th Floor, Ubungo Plaza, Morogoro Road, P.O. Box 79650, Dar es Salaam.

GIVEN UNDER MY HAND AND SEAL of the Tribunal this 2nd May, 2019.

REGISTRAR

Chinese company helps disadvantaged Kenyan students to pursue career dreams

NAIROBI

TONY Ndivo's tiny frame has not deterred the 12-year-old son of a fruit vendor from soldiering on in his academic journey with full knowledge that dividends were beckoning in the horizon.

Born and raised in a farming village located about 60 kilometers south east of the Kenyan capital Nairobi, Ndivo was exposed to penury at a tender age but never gave up on his quest to succeed in school.

The student was among top performers in last year's primary school final examinations and managed to secure a slot at a national high school near his ancestral home.

Ndivo's impressive score and humble background caught the attention of the operator of Mombasa-Nairobi Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), which had pledged to bankroll his secondary school education.

It feels great to be among the beneficiaries of the scholarship from the operator, Ndivo told Xinhua during the award ceremony for the scholarship for bright but needy Kenyan high school students held on April 27.

"I promise to work hard and realize my dream of becoming a neurosurgeon," he said.

He was the youngest among the three beneficiaries of the inaugural scholarship from the Chinese operator of the SGR that aims to help Kenyan youth

pursue high school education amid financial constraints at home.

Li Jiuping, general manager of the Chinese company operating the SGR, said the company is committed to helping Kenyan youth with a passion to excel in school despite their financial conditions.

"The excellent academic performance of Ndivo and his two colleagues was brought to our attention and we are confident of their potential and bright future amid difficulties," said Li.

"We decided to do whatever we could to sustain their study and hope our assistance will help them realize their dreams and life's goals," he added.

The company has set aside 1.2 million shillings (about 12,000 U.S. dollars) to cater for the tuition fees, textbooks, uniforms and personal care for Ndivo and his two colleagues throughout their four year's secondary education.

Li said the scholarship is in line with the company's corporate social responsibility that emphasizes on timely response to the needs of local communities.

Ndivo's ancestral home is located along the Mombasa-Nairobi SGR corridor where the operator has supported projects to lift the living standards of vulnerable groups like youth, women and children.

Catherine Mbithe, a 15-year-old daughter of a single parent and small-scale farmer, was elated after learning that she was among scholarship benefi-



ciaries, having demonstrated remarkable dedication to her studies despite financial hardships in her family.

This kind gesture by the company will pave way for eventual realization of her dream of becoming a mechanical engineer, said Mbithe.

She was among top performers in last year's final primary school examinations and is already enrolled at a local high school where

her amiable personality, hard work and drive has won her accolades from tutors.

Josephine Kitili, Mbithe's biological mother, said she was confident her daughter will become an accomplished engineer thanks to financial support from the company. "I have so much faith in my daughter who has never lost hope despite financial stress in my family that at some point disrupted her studies," said Kitili.

Leon Wasike, a 14-year-old high school student who is being raised by a guardian, is determined to become a civil engineer now that tuition fees and other incidentals will not be an issue for the next four years.

He scored 412 out of 500 marks at last year's Kenya Certificate for Primary Education and is currently enrolled at a public secondary school in western Kenya.

Juliana Wafula, who is Wasike's

guardian, said the teenage boy, who is well adjusted, has passion for studies and community service, is the pride and hope of the larger clan.

"It is very uplifting to witness my son receive a scholarship covering his entire high school education and I promise to offer him moral support as he embarks on a journey to success," said Wafula

Xinhua.

Renewables to become the norm for the Caribbean

KINGSTON

JAMAICA and other Small Island Developing States (SIDS) are embracing renewable energy as part of their plans to become decarbonised in the coming decades.

The Prime Minister of Jamaica, Andrew Holness, has committed the island nation to transitioning to 50 percent renewable energy by 2030.

"I believe that we can do better. Jamaica has sunshine all year round and strong winds in certain parts of the island," Holness said.

Solar Head of State (SHOS), a non-profit that helps world leaders become green leaders by installing solar panels on government buildings, has been assisting Jamaica and other Caribbean countries with their renewable energy transition.

James Ellsmoor, the group's Director and Co-Founder, said they partnered with the Jamaica's government to install and commission a state-of-the-art solar photovoltaic (PV) array at Jamaica House—the Office of the Prime Minister.

"Following similar installations by the President of the Maldives and Governor-General of Saint Lucia, Jamaica's prominent adoption of solar, sets an example for other nations around the world that renewable energy can make a global impact," Ellsmoor told IPS.

"While island nations such as Jamaica are the most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, this project is a reminder that they are also leading in finding solutions."

Holness heralded the solar installation on his office as emblematic of the clean energy technologies that must be deployed by Caribbean nations to decarbonise economies, reduce regional fossil fuel use, and combat climate change.

"I have directed the government to increase our target from 30 percent to 50 percent, and our energy company is totally in agreement. So, I believe that by 2030, Jamaica will be producing more than 50 percent of its electricity from renewables."

Peter Ruddock, manager of renewable energy and energy efficiency at the state-owned Petroleum Corporation of Jamaica, hailed the prime minister's decision as a step in the right direction.

"We do have to look at our indigenous sources—the wind, the sun—it



shows good leadership for the Office of the Prime Minister to be outfitted with solar panels, which will reduce their consumption," Ruddock said.

Due to a historic lack of diversification of energy resources, Jamaica has been heavily reliant on imported fossil fuels, resulting in CO2 emissions and high electricity prices that are up to four times higher than the United States.

Caribbean nations are also vulnerable to hurricanes and extreme weather.

The installation of the state-of-the-art solar photovoltaic (PV) array at Jamaica House—the Office of the Prime Minister. Courtesy Solar Head of State

er. Renewable energy increases islands' resilience—stabilising electricity supply in the wake of natural disasters.

"We emit negligible greenhouse gases but when the impact comes we are most impacted," Una May Gordon, Jamaica's Director for Climate Change, told IPS.

"The prime minister believes in what we are doing. He believes that renewable energy has a role and a place in the Jamaica energy

mix. A commitment has been made for transformation.

"We are building the resilience of the country. We have to transform a number of our production processes and the only way to do that is with renewables," Gordon added.

SHOS believes the region's youth can play a vital role in the climate change fight and has also conducted a solar challenge in partnership with Jamaica-based

youth groups, which invited young people from across the island to create innovative communications projects to tell their communities about the benefits of renewable energy.

On the heels of a successful programme in Jamaica, SHOS is collaborating with the Caribbean Youth Environment Network (CYEN) to launch the Guyana Solar Challenge—a national competition in Guyana to engage and

educate youth nationwide about the benefits of renewable energy.

"With our partners at CYEN we will run a Solar Challenge in every Caribbean country to educate young people about the benefits of renewable energy for their communities," Ellsmoor told IPS.

"The economic and environmental conditions for the Caribbean are very specific to the region and often information coming from outside the region does not represent that. Launching this challenge in Guyana is particularly important as the country starts its journey into petroleum, and we want to show that the best opportunity is to invest these new funds into the sustainable development of the economy, and renewable energy is central to that," he said.

The Guyana Solar Challenge is open to young people between 12 and 26 years of age. Competitors are asked to harness their creative energies (in any form such as a song/video, art installation, performance piece, viral meme, sculpture) towards raising awareness about renewable energy, specifically its potential to deliver long-term economic benefits, reduce harmful environmental impacts, and increase energy security and independence for Guyana. Winning projects will demonstrate creativity and an ability to educate the public about the specific benefits of solar energy for Guyana.

Sandra Britton, Renewable Energy Liaison at Guyana's Department of Environment said she's happy that young people are now taking the initiative to share the concept of renewable energy and to promote it as Guyana transitions to a green economy.

"We have developed the Green State Development Strategy, which will be rolled out shortly, and within the strategy it is envisioned that Guyana will try to move towards 100 percent renewable energy by 2040," Britton said.

IPS

MLIMANI CITY PARENT FIRM TURNSTAR HOLDINGS POSTS IMPRESSIVE RESULTS



Mlimani City's main entrance in Dar es Salaam. File photo.

By Property Watch Reporter

BOTSWANA based Turnstar Holdings Limited reported a 497 percent profit increase in the year ended January 31, 2019.

Turnstar Holdings which owns Mlimani Holdings Limited jointly with University of Dar es Salaam, posted a whopping 128 million pulas (over 27.6bn/-) during the period compared with P25.7 million (over 5.5bn/-) made in the previous year.

But despite the impressive performance, the Botswana Stock Exchange listed company said Mlimani City did not contribute much because of vacant office space and an idle Mlimani Conference hall.

"The group has posted satisfactory results, despite challenging economic conditions. The Botswana rental revenues have increased by 3 percent whilst operational expenses have been contained. The current downturn in the Tanzanian economy has affected the Mlimani commercial office and conference centre revenues," the report stated.

The Turnstar annual results further noted that vacancies in the commercial office space affected its results but

expressed hope that things will pick up this year. "However, management is confident that several office blocks will be tenanted during the current year. The conference centre has been refurbished, and is currently attracting several new bookings. The retail mall is performing to its optimum capacity," the report added.

The finance costs relating to the additions to both Game City and Mlimani City have been fully incurred for the year under review as the buildings were completed during the 2018 financial year, and part of the finance costs for the 2018 financial year, were capitalized to the project costs, the annual report said.

Turnstar which also has a subsidiary in Dubai pointed out that its property continues to perform well hence management is on the lookout to seek more investment

opportunities to expand its property portfolio.

"In its half year results for July 2018, the group recorded a total comprehensive income of P108.3 million with a profit of P55 million. Commenting on the results the group Chairman Patrick Balopi explained that rental revenue and operational expenses remain at par with the previous half year.

The Group consists of Turnstar Holdings Limited (Botswana), Island View (Proprietary) Limited (Botswana), Mlimani Holdings Limited (Tanzania), Turnstar Investments Limited (UAE) and Palazzo Venezia Holdings Limited (UAE).

The results also said appreciation of the Botswana Pula against the UD dollar during the year also contributed to the super profits. "The appreciation resulted in an exchange gain in the Turnstar

and Group results for the year ended 31 January 2019. Stakeholders are reminded that, the foreign exchange translation gains and losses are unrealised and dependant on the US \$ / BWP exchange rate as at year end," the report added.

Further, the Group has ensured that, the US dollar dominated liabilities are serviced by US dollar income so that it is not exposed to actual exchange fluctuations. "The translation gain reported for the year ended 31st January 2019, occurred when translating the US dollar denominated investments and other financial assets of the Group's Tanzanian and Dubai subsidiaries. The subsidiaries report in US dollar and UAE dirham currencies, whilst the Group's functional currency is the Botswana Pula," the report concluded.

Biometric sim-card registration going on at all Airtel Money branches

By Property Watch Reporter

THE public should visit any Airtel Money branches on main shops to undertake SIM card registration under biometric technology.

Speaking earlier today in Dar es Salaam, Airtel Tanzania Public Relations Manager Jackson Mmbando said that earlier last year the Tanzania Communication and Regulatory Authority (TCRA) launched a biometric pilot project in six selected regions for new customers which proved to be a success.

After completion of the pilot project, the government announced that registration of existing and new SIM cards by biometric system whereby people are supposed to produce their National identity cards or a National Identification Number (NIN) provided by NIDA in order to qualify for register effective May 1 this year and will go on until end of December this year.

Committed to implement the government's directives, Airtel Tanzania officially kick-started the exercise of biometric registration system on May 1 and that necessary equipment has been deployed at more than 600 Airtel Money branches and 20 main shops across the country for FREE.

"So a customer can choose to visit any of their nearest service point to register their line using biometric system ahead of the December deadline to avoid last minute inconveniences," said Mmbando.

Airtel Tanzania has plans to set up more registration centers or set up camps at major government institutions and offices with purpose of ensuring that the exercise goes on smoothly. "We advise any institutions or companies with big numbers of staff to contact our customer service department so that our team of staff can visit them for registration exercise," Mmbando added.

The finger print registration is only available to customers (both existing and new ones) with National Identification Card (National IDs).

"The biometric registration system is efficient, convenient and ensures maximum security for everyone and I take this opportunity to call upon the public to come out and register now instead of waiting for last minutes commotion," added Mmbando who further noted that existing Airtel customers are encouraged to confirm accuracy of their registration details by dialling *106# and if the information is incorrect, customers are urged to visit the nearest Airtel shop rectify their details.

"The law is very clear, every customer has an obligation to ensure that their details are accurate because using SIM card with another person's details is illegal hence punishable by law," Mmbando warned.

What Eskom's Pension and Provident Fund thinks about prescribed assets

JOHANNESBURG

IN a position paper on prescribed assets published in March, the Eskom Pension and Provident Fund (EPPF) cautions against shifting investment decision-making from the private sector into government hands.

This follows the ANC sketching in its election manifesto a plan to investigate the introduction of prescribed assets as a means of mobilising funds for housing, specific infrastructure projects and job creation.

In a carefully worded abridged version of the paper, the EPPF says it "would prefer to lean towards deepening the interventions already afoot in the market to complement the good intentions of prescribed assets, without compromising the quality of investments" and goes on to argue in favour of impact investing.

But what is impact investing?

Impact investments are regarded as those that can have a positive human impact - or, as the Global Steering Group for Impact Investment puts it, investing for a measurable financial and social

or environmental return.

Malcolm Fair, managing director of RisCura, says there are already strong movements globally toward reporting not only the financial returns, but social as well as environmental returns when investing. Given the computing power available, it will only be a matter of time before this becomes mainstream.

South Africa continues to grapple with meagre economic growth, unemployment, poverty and income inequality - and interventions have not had the desired effect.

'Hotbed for instability'

Elias Masilela, executive chair of DNA Economics, says given the imbalances South Africa is facing, one can only conclude that it is a hotbed for instability. "We need a swift and innovative response to the problems we are faced with and I would like to propose that impact investing is that swift response. The nice thing with impact investing is that you don't have to rely on governments to deliver on it. The private sector can take the lead without any support from the state and make things happen."



As the country grapples with unemployment, poverty and inequality, there are growing calls for SA to embrace impact investing as a means of addressing some of the challenges.

Globally, over \$230 billion in impact investments has already been recorded, mostly in the developed world. The move to impact investing has in part been fuelled by a belief that maximising returns for investors - in this case pension fund members - is of no use if the environment and social

fabric in which they are living in, and ultimately retire into, is unstable (whether due to social, environmental or other factors).

Data from the Registrar of Pensions shows that in 2017, retirement funds registered under the Pension Funds Act had almost 42% of assets allocated

towards insurance policies, 15.5% in public shares, 10.1% in collective investment schemes, 8.7% towards debt and less than 1% in private equity.

Private markets

A paper on pension fund allocation published by the Bertha

Centre for Social Innovation and Entrepreneurship at the UCT Graduate School of Business suggests that while responsible and impact investments are possible through various asset classes, including public and private equity and fixed income, private markets are by far the most commonly used instrument. "The low domestic allocation to private equity is likely symptomatic of underinvestment," it notes.

While there are good arguments for using retirement fund money to develop a country like South Africa on the social as well as economic front, questionable investments by the Public Investment Corporation have raised fears that advocating for more investments into the unlisted space could fuel mismanagement of pension fund members' hard-earned money.

State-capture 'PTSD'

Heather Jackson, head of impact investing at Ashburton Investments, says collectively South Africans are suffering from a form of post-traumatic shock (given the revelations around state capture, and political and

economic turbulence).

The country is facing major challenges, but there are solutions and the investment community holds significant power and resources to assist in creating the type of environment people want to retire into. "It is not easy, but impact investing is a mechanism to seriously, seriously look into to help," Jackson says.

While it is not by any means the whole solution given the complexity of the challenges the country is faced with, impact investing has a much more important and valuable role to play, she argues.

Jackson says there is often a conflation about risk when investing into poorer communities. One example is affordable housing, which is often considered too risky to invest in by mainstream commercial banks. Yet one of Ashburton's investments - an organisation that supports contractors in refurbishing inner-city bank buildings as a way to create affordable housing in well-located areas - shows that the default rates are at least on par, if not better, than those experienced by most of the commercial banks.

MOBILE PHONE FIRM RENOVATES BUKOBA SHOP

By Property Watch Reporter

A renovated and expanded Tigo shop in Bukoba municipality opened this week as the mobile phone services company improves its services in the Lake Victoria located town.

The revamped shop will allow Tigo Tanzania customers get all necessary services and products such as Sim cards swapping, TigoPesa services, device sales, data services, biometric registration and business services.

Speaking at the launching ceremony, Tigo's Lake Zone Director, Uthmaan Madati said the improvement of the new shop is in line with the company's strategy to improve service delivery to its customers.

Madati said Tigo continues to live up to its promise of providing customers with more convenient access to its products and services. "Our ambition is to provide better services and products in a modern environment," he noted.

Kagera Regional Commissioner, Brigadier General (retired) Marco Gaguti commended Tigo for its determination in investing its resources to ensure customers receive world-class services.

"Customer service is often at the heart of a business which aims to provide an exceptional service that leaves the customer feeling valued and respected," Gaguti said.

"Tigo is exemplary in investing its resources in crafting an intentional and wonderful customer experience which differentiates them from the rest," Gaguti added.

The new shop features a special experience zone where customers get the oppor-



Kagera Regional Commissioner, Brigadier General Marco Gaguti (in Kaunda suit) cutting a tape to open a refurbished Tigo Bukoba shop.

tunity to test different Tigo products such as mobile phones before they can buy them.

"This enables our customers to get the feel of the product before

purchasing to match their needs," Madati pointed out.

Tigo started its operations in Tanzania in 1995 and currently ranks as one of the largest mobile

phone services company trailing only Vodacom which is the market leader. Through its distinctive and diverse product portfolio in voice, text messaging, high-speed inter-

net and mobile financial services, Tigo has pioneered digital innovations such as the first smartphone in Kiswahili, TigoPesa Application and mobile application.

China agrees to invest \$1.8bn in Ethiopia's power grid

BEIJING

THE State Grid Corporation of China has announced that it is to invest \$1.8bn in Ethiopia's electricity transmission and distribution networks, New Business Ethiopia reports. The deal agreement was made following a visit to Beijing by Abiy Ahmed, the prime minister of Ethiopia, in which he held talks with the China Export and Credit Insurance Corporation (Sinosure), which agreed to organise the funds.

Ethiopia has made the development of its estimated 60GW of renewable energy a cornerstone of its 15-year Growth and Transformation Plan. The country now has about 4.5GW of installed capacity for a population of more than 100 million whose demand for power is growing at about 30% a year. At present, 30% of the country has access to electricity and, in areas where there is grid coverage, only 60% of households are connected. To improve the situation, the government has set out a plan to construct 9,000km of distribution lines and 19,600km of transmission line.

Although the Ethiopian economy has been growing by more than 10% a year since 2006, it is struggling to service its foreign debts. During Prime Minister Abiy's visit, China agreed to cancel all interest accumulated from its debts, estimated at between \$12bn and \$20bn. However, lack of funds is putting a brake on infrastructure investment. According to Addis Ababa newspaper The Reporter, the Ministry of Transport has announced that the construction of Ethiopia's electrified railway between Awash and Hara Gebeya has made little progress in the past nine months due to lack of funds.

Tangier tech city plans revived with selection of Chinese giant CCC

RABAT

PLANS to build a 2,000ha new city outside Tangier, intended to attract hundreds of Chinese manufacturers to boost the Moroccan economy, have been revived with the selection of a new Chinese partner after withering last year.

First announced to the accompaniment of a brass band in Beijing in 2016, and officially launched in a blaze of publicity in March 2017, the Mohammed VI Tangier Tech City project was quietly abandoned in 2018.

Originally sponsored by Haite Group, primarily an aviation company based in Chengdu, and Morocco's BMCE Bank of Africa, the plan was to invest \$1bn in a 10-year project to build a manufacturing and technology hub.

However, Haite withdrew from the scheme sometime last year, reportedly over problems with its scale and a dispute over who would own the completed city.

Now Haite has been replaced by a Chinese construction giant, China Communications Construction Company



Morocco's King Mohammed VI with Haite chairman Li Biao during the 2017 launch of the tech city.

(CCCC), and its subsidiary China Road and Bridge Corporation. The two signed a memorandum of understanding with the Moroccan government on 26 April in

Beijing during the Belt and Road Forum.

CCCC was chosen after a lengthy search that began in September last year. A Moroccan ministerial source

quoted by website Navva said: "The selection was tough and at the end we had two finalists, both major players in the Road and Belt initiative. The consensus was for CCCC."

The new developer will take over existing plans. The business case is that 200 Chinese companies will open factories, generating around \$10bn in investment and creating 100,000 jobs. The attraction will be Morocco's free trade agreement with the EU and the US, as well as the growing African market.

Ilyas Omari, the chairman of the Tangier-Tetouan region, pointed out that since Tangier is on the Strait of Gibraltar the city would be just 15km from Europe, and would be supported by the modern port of Tangier Med, the motorway network, a high speed train line and industrial and logistics areas.

BMCE Bank of Africa commented in a statement that the agreement reflected the determination of the three groups to develop the tech city by "providing all the necessary means to move forward in the implementation of the project".

China reported to decline financing for final stage of Kenya's modern railway

NAIROBI

PRESIDENT Uhuru Kenyatta had gone to Beijing asking for half of the money to be given as a grant, with the rest being a loan with soft conditions, but China declined and repeated a request for "sufficient proof of viability" for the scheme, sources told newspaper The Daily Nation.

State-owned giant China Communications Construction Company (CCCC) finished the line from Mombasa to the capital Nairobi in May 2017, and is scheduled to finish a second leg from Nairobi north to Navaisha this summer, but the planned third leg from Navaisha to the Victoria Lake port of Kisumu, and onward to Uganda, now looks in doubt.

It was "a slap in the face for Nairobi", commented the Nation, which separately cited "infrastructure economic experts" terming the now-truncated line as "a railway to nowhere", for which Kenyan taxpayers are due to start paying "0.7 per cent of the economy" to repay Chinese loans for the first legs starting in June 2019.

The Kenyan government responded to the reports published 26 April with a statement denying that the issue of funding the extension to Kisumu had ever been on the agenda of the meeting between Kenyatta and Chinese President Xi Jinping.

At the same time, Kenya's transport cabinet secretary James Macharia said the new, standard gauge railway to Naivasha would now be linked to



Standard gauge tracking laying in Kenya

the old metre-gauge line to Kisumu.

In 2016, CCCC was awarded contracts to build all three phases, plus a new port at Kisumu, but China's reluctance to fund the long-planned third leg emerged in the media in September last year. China has come under critical international scrutiny for its policy of infrastructure

lending, which has increased indebtedness in some developing countries.

Media report that while the Mombasa-Nairobi link carried 2.6 million passengers since its opening, it made a loss of some \$98m in its first year. President Kenyatta did return from Beijing with other infrastructure deals, however.

Described as public-private-partnerships, they include Chinese financing for the construction of the Waiyaki Way-Jomo Kenyatta International Airport expressway, the expansion of the Northern bypass, and the construction and maintenance of the Konza data centre and smart cities project.

China completes Africa's biggest mosque as UN raises plight of Muslims at home

ALGIERS

COSTING some \$2bn to build, the Great Mosque of Algiers (Djamaa El Djazair), built by China State Construction Engineering Corporation (CSCEC), is now set to open in the Algerian capital.

Visible from all over the city thanks to its 265-metre-high minaret, the mosque complex covers an area of 400,000 square meters, making it also the third largest mosque in the world, reports China's state broadcaster, CGTN.

Its 20,000-sq-m prayer hall can accommodate 37,000 worshippers at once, while the total capacity of the mosque complex is 120,000. The complex includes a park, library, public square, cultural centre, staff housing, a religious school, and even a fire station.

It is the biggest religious building ever built overseas by a Chinese company, state news agency Xinhua said. Construction took CSCEC nearly seven years after it won the bid for the project in 2011. Work started in August 2012.

Even as news of the completion was spreading yesterday, however, it emerged that the United Nations Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, had raised the plight of Muslims in China's Xinjiang region during a visit to Beijing last week.

"The Secretary-General discussed all relevant issues with the Chinese authorities ... that includes the situation in Xinjiang," UN spokesman Stephane Dujarric told reporters yesterday.

In the meeting Guterres stood by his High Commissioner for Human Rights, Michelle Bachelet, who has repeatedly pressed China to let the UN investigate reports of disappearances and mass detentions of Muslims in the Xinjiang region and elsewhere, the spokesman said.

PROPERTY MARKETS

EMAAR AND P&O MARINAS START DH25BN DUBAI COASTAL PROJECT



The AED 25 billion Riviera style coastal destination in the heart of Dubai.

DUBAI

DUBAI'S largest listed developer Emaar Properties and DP World's P&O Marinas are starting a Dh25 billion coastal project that will transform the emirate's historic port area.

The project, dubbed Mina Rashid, will be a riviera-style coastal destination by the Dubai Creek, Emaar Properties said in a statement on Thursday. The project will feature Dubai Mall by the Sea, a floating yacht club, Dubai's longest swimming pool and waterfront homes.

"With Mina Rashid, we are creating a future-ready city," Mohamed Alabbar, chairman of Emaar Properties and Emaar Development, said. "The evolution of the city today as a knowledge-based economy, offering significant opportunities across all business sectors, drives demand for world-class developments that will further enhance economic growth."

Emaar Properties, builder of the world's tallest tower Burj Khalifa, is pressing forward unfazed by softening real estate prices amid increasing

supply and faltering demand in the wake of lower oil prices that slowed regional economies. The UAE's biggest-listed developer posted a 30 per cent rise in full-year 2018 net income which reached Dh7.2bn at the end of December. Dubai, which relies on tourism and trade, has invested billions of dirhams in new leisure and entertainment projects to lure visitors and investors.

The Mina Rashid project will feature 430 wet berths to accommodate large yachts and attract cruise-ship tourists, hotels, a private beach club, a pedestrian harbour bridge and a beach the size of two and a half football fields, Emaar said.

"Mina Rashid will strengthen Dubai's position as a global city and the premier cruise hub in the Middle East," Sultan bin Sulayem, chairman of DP World, said. "Our venture with Emaar will contribute to the city's cruise tourism and create another strong economic catalyst."

P&O Marinas, a unit of DP World-UAE, provided the land to Emaar for the project and will develop marinas and berthing facilities. It built and operates the Hamdan bin Mohammed

Cruise Terminal, which the new facilities will complement, P&O Marinas said. The Hamdan bin Mohammed Cruise Terminal received over 2.3 million visitors since its inauguration in 2014, and has seen per-year visitor numbers rise by 172 per cent between 2014 and 2018.

In a separate statement to Nasdaq Dubai, DP World said it will receive about \$450 million (Dh1.65bn) between years four and nine, and 30 per cent of future profit. There will be no cash investment from DP world in the project, the port operator said.

Mina Rashid will be home to the Queen Elizabeth II, that has been converted into a 13-deck floating hotel, with an exhibition and theatre. The new destination will have midrise waterfront homes with promenades, Venetian piazza, retail and restaurants by the sea, hotels, interconnected parks a 500-meter canal, art galleries, theatre and museum, Emaar said.

As part of Mina Rashid, Emaar announced the Sirdhana project comprising one, two and three-bedroom waterfront apartments and townhouses. The residential collection is named after the British Royal

Mail Ship, the first vessel to dock at Mina Rashid. Sirdhana will be located near the QE2, a community park and 'The Dubai Mall by the Sea.'

The apartments, with views of Downtown Dubai and the waterfront, will feature amenities including a recreation room, community podium with a gym, children's play area and recreational courts. The Dh25bn project, located near Bur Dubai, is 15 minutes from the Dubai International Airport and will offer direct link to House of Sheikh Saeed Al Maktoum. Emaar did not say when work on the project will be completed or set a delivery date.

The historic Mina Rashid was the first modern port in Dubai, opened in 1972, and turning the tiny trading village into a major port of call between East and West.



Trump and Democrats agree \$2 trillion target for infrastructure renewal

WASHINGTON

IN a rare meeting of minds, US President Donald Trump and Democratic congressional leaders yesterday agreed on a \$2 trillion plan to upgrade America's highways, railroads, bridges and broadband.

Trump met Senate minority leader Chuck Schumer and speaker of the House of Representatives, Nancy Pelosi, who said the meeting was a first step to finding common ground.

There will be a further meeting in three weeks, at which they will discuss how the programme is to be funded.

Pelosi told reporters: "We came to this meeting with an understanding that there's great need for rebuilding our infrastructure, with a recognition that we stand at a pivotal place in terms of building infrastructure with a future ... we're very excited about the conversation we had with the president about advancing an agenda of that kind."

Schumer said they began with a lower number but that Trump was "eager to push it up to \$2 trillion".

As well as spending on roads and water, funding would go to renewable energy and developing universal access to broadband.

The agreement will please bodies such as the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE), which has been stridently calling

for more infrastructure investment for years.

Its "Report Card for America's Infrastructure", a survey carried out every four years, gave the country a poor grade of "D+" in its 2017 edition.

It commented at the time: "Deteriorating infrastructure is impeding our ability to compete in the thriving global economy, and improvements are necessary to ensure our country is built for the future."

Its analysis argued the US has been meeting only half of its infrastructure spending requirements, and that failing to spend adequately risked rising costs, falling business productivity and GDP, lost jobs and, ultimately, reduced disposable income for American families.

In line with yesterday's agreement, the ASCE had recommended a \$2 trillion spending programme, which it said would be enough to close the country's "infrastructure gap".

Regarding funding, it said "Congress and the states must invest an additional \$206 billion each year to prevent the economic consequences to families, business, and the economy".

Trump made infrastructure investment one of the pillars of his campaign, and has brought forward a number of plans since inauguration (see further reading), however little progress has been made with a coordinated federal plan.

Saudi Arabian retailer Fawaz Alhokair seeks 3.1bn riyals in IPO

RIYADH

SAUDI retailer Fawaz Alhokair Group is seeking to raise as much as 3.1 billion Saudi riyals from selling shares in its malls unit, the company said on Sunday. It is the country's largest initial public offering since lender National Commercial Bank raised \$6bn in 2014.

The group secured regulatory approval to list on the Tadawul stock exchange earlier this month. Arabian Centres, which owns the franchise for brands such as Banana Republic and Zara, set the price range of the IPO at 26 riyals to 33 riyals, valuing the company at as much as 15.7bn riyals.

Saudi share sales slowed as the kingdom's economy grappled with lower oil prices. Listings by companies and real estate investment trusts raised almost \$900 million last year, down from \$6.7bn in 2014, according to data compiled by Bloomberg.

Riyadh has been encouraging more family owned companies to list in a bid to deepen its capital markets as part of reforms aimed at reduc-



Makkah Mall operated by Arabian Centres.

ing reliance on oil revenue, according to Reuters. Samba Capital, Morgan Stanley, NCB Capital, Goldman Sachs, Citigroup, Credit Suisse, EFG Hermes, Emirates NBD Capital KSA and Natixis are managing the offering.

The offering includes a total of 95 million shares, comprising 65 million existing shares to be sold by the current shareholders and 30 million new shares to be issued by the company by way of a capital increase

The announcement of final offer shares allotment and refund of excess subscription is due on May 14.

Arabian Centres owns 19 malls, making it the leading owner and operator of shopping malls in Saudi Arabia by total gross leasable area as of December 31, 2018, the prospectus said. Gross proceeds from the sale of new shares would be used for debt repayment, the document said.

Store-based retailing still dominates

the Saudi market, contributing 97 per cent of total retailing in 2018, according to a market study cited in the prospectus.

Arabian Centres plans to expand its operations to 27 malls within four years, including four in the next 12 months, its chief executive Olivier Nougrou said this month. Four cinemas are already under construction, with 12 more to come over the next two years, he added.

Investcorp's \$170m property buy boosts US portfolio to \$2bn

BAHRAIN

INVESTCORP, the Bahrain-based company which counts Mubadala Investment Company as its biggest shareholder, acquired a portfolio of US properties, pushing its total investment into the country's real estate market to \$2 billion in the past 18 months.

The Manama-listed alternative investment manager took over eight single-tenant distribution properties in various locations across the US for a combined purchase price of approximately \$170 million, it said in a regulatory filing. The properties of US Distribution Centre in logistics sector covers a total of 130,064 square metres, it added.

The recent acquisition adds to "our growing portfolio of assets in the logistics space, a core component of our global real estate investment strategy," said Hazem Ben-Gacem, co-chief executive of Investcorp. "We have a bullish outlook on logistics real estate assets because we believe they are supported by strong market dynamics, especially on the back of the healthy growth in e-commerce." The properties are fully leased long-term across key cities in the US, which will enable the company to reap

attractive cash flow, he added.

Investcorp, in which Mubadala holds a 20 per cent stake, has been on an acquisition spree in recent quarters. The company, which had \$22.5bn in assets under management at the end of December, aims to double these to around \$50bn in the next three years.

Since its inception in 1982, the company has made more than 185 investments in the US, Europe and the broader Middle East and North Africa, including Turkey. Investcorp has invested across a range of sectors with the total transaction value exceeding \$59bn.

The company is looking to raise in excess of \$7bn this year for acquisitions in the Arabian Gulf and Asia. It expects its GCC portfolio of \$1bn to rise to \$1.5bn to \$2bn in the next five years as it eyes assets in social infrastructure including health care, education and entertainment.

Investcorp has already set up a \$1bn GCC infrastructure fund, which is a 50-50 joint venture with asset manager Aberdeen Standard Investments.

Formal fundraising for the venture will start soon, Rishi Kapoor, the company co-chief executive told The National earlier this month.

WORLD

UK defence chief fired over Huawei leaks, denies involvement

LONDON

BRITISH Prime Minister Theresa May fired her defense minister on Wednesday over a leak of discussions in the National Security Council about Chinese telecoms company Huawei, the latest of her allies to be ousted from government.

The sudden dismissal of Gavin Williamson, who "strenuously" denied involvement in the leak, was another blow for May, whose own premiership hangs by a thread after her failure so far to usher Britain smoothly out of the European Union.

The firing also underlined how seriously her team treated the leak from the National Security Council, which discusses Britain's national security, intelligence coordination and defense strategy, and involves only certain ministers from her cabinet to keep its talks as secret as possible.

That secrecy was broken last month when the Telegraph newspaper reported Britain would allow Huawei a role in building parts of its 5G network, setting London at odds with Washington over the next generation of communications technology.

Sources were forced to say that the role would be limited.

In a letter to Williamson, May wrote that an investigation into the leaks had provided "compelling evidence suggesting your responsibility for the unauthorised disclosure".

"No other, credible version of events to explain this leak has been identified," she added after putting the "latest information from the investigation" to

Williamson earlier on Wednesday.

Williamson, who rose quickly up the ranks of the governing Conservative Party after backing May to become prime minister in 2016, denied responsibility.

"I am sorry that you feel recent leaks from the National Security Council originated in my department. I emphatically believe this was not the case."

"I strenuously deny that I was in any way involved in this leak and I am confident that a thorough and formal inquiry would have vindicated my position."

May appointed international development secretary Penny Mordaunt to succeed Williamson as defense secretary, and named prisons minister Rory Stewart to Mordaunt's former role.

Mordaunt will be Britain's first woman defense minister.

May has overseen several departures in her cabinet, with many quitting rather than being pushed.

One notable exception was Boris Johnson, now one of her strongest rivals, who quit last year in protest at her plans to keep close trade ties with the European Union after Britain leaves the bloc, stirring rebellion in her party's ranks.

'CRISIS'

For some in the Conservative Party, Williamson was an odd choice for defense minister after his predecessor, Michael Fallon, quit in a sexual harassment scandal in 2017.

Best known for his role as chief whip, the Conservatives' parliamentary en-

forcer, Williamson coaxed lawmakers to toe the party line, sometimes by introducing them to his pet tarantula Cronus, named after the god of time who swallowed each of his children according to Greek mythology.

Many in the Conservative Party felt his promotion to defense minister was little more than a prize for his role as whip, which included brokering a deal with Northern Ireland's Democratic Unionist Party to prop up May's government.

He caused a stir last year when he told Russia to shut up and go away after a nerve agent attack on a former Russian double agent in the English city of Salisbury.

His colleague, foreign minister Jeremy Hunt, said he was sorry over Williamson's firing "but given the gravity of the situation there was no other alternative outcome," the Press Association quoted Hunt as saying as he arrived in Addis Ababa.

Opposition parties called for a criminal investigation into the leak, with the main opposition Labour Party describing the Conservative gov-



ernment as chaotic and "incapable of sorting out their own crisis".

"Conservative infighting has undermined the basic functioning of government, and has now potentially put security at risk. The police must urgently investigate," Nia Griffiths, Labour's defense policy chief, said in a statement after Williamson was fired.

For many Conservatives, the National Security Council leak increased doubts over how much control May had over her ministers after she offered to resign if lawmakers backed the Brexit deal she reached last year with the EU.

They did not back it and she has yet to win its approval after asking parliament three times.

Last week the culture minister, Jeremy Wright, said leaks from the National Security Council endangered the ability of the committee, which is made up of senior ministers and hears regularly from intelligence agency bosses, to get unequivocal and frank security advice from experts.

Agencies

Catholic services in Sri Lanka capital canceled for second week

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka

CATHOLIC services are being canceled for a second weekend in Sri Lanka's capital after the government warned of more possible attacks by the same Islamic State-linked group that carried out Easter suicide bombings.

Rev Edmund Tillakaratne,

spokesman for the Colombo diocese, said yesterday that Cardinal Malcolm Ranjith had canceled all Sunday services in the diocese based on the latest security reports.

Last week, Muslims were told to stay home for Friday prayers and all of Sri Lanka's Catholic churches were closed. Instead of the usual Sunday Mass, Ranjith delivered a

homily before clergy and national leaders at his residence that aired on television.

The April 21 bombings at churches and luxury hotels killed 253 people and officials have warned that suspects linked to the bombings are still at large. A Cabinet minister said Tuesday that intelligence warnings had indicated government minis-

ters could be targeted by the same group, which pledged its loyalty to the Islamic State group.

Ranjith has criticized the government's apparent failure to share near-specific intelligence on the Easter plot and some of the suspects involved. Sri Lankan police late Wednesday released the names and photographs of nine suicide

bombers who carried out the Easter attacks. They included extremist preacher Mohamed Zahran, also known as Zahran Hashim, who was described as the attack leader, and another suicide bomber's wife, who blew herself up, along with her children and three police officers, at a villa belonging to her father-in-law, who is a prominent spice trader.

Towns evacuate, tourists flee as cyclone menaces India's east coast

BHUBANESHWAR, India/NEW DELHI

INDIA has evacuated more than 300,000 people along its northeast coastline by boat, bus and train ahead of a severe cyclone due to make landfall today, with many villagers piling household possessions on to trucks before fleeing their homes.

Severe cyclonic storm Fani was churning up the Bay of Bengal about 320 km (198 miles) south-southwest of the Hindu temple town of Puri where special trains were put on to evacuate tourists and the beaches were empty.

In total, about 1.2 million people are expected to be evacuated from

low-lying areas of 15 districts in the eastern state of Odisha to cyclone shelters, schools and other buildings, authorities said.

"We are maximizing efforts at all levels for evacuation," Odisha's Special Relief Commissioner Bishnupada Sethi told Reuters.

Fani was generating maximum sustained winds of 170-180 km (105-111 miles) per hour, the state-run India Meteorological Department (IMD) said. Cyclone tracker Tropical Storm Risk rated Fani a mid-range category 3 storm.

The cyclone will make landfall by today afternoon, the IMD said.

The navy has deployed seven warships and has six planes and seven helicopters on standby along

with divers, rubber boats, medical teams and relief materials.

Authorities have also shut down operations at two major ports - Paradip and Visakhapatnam - and ships have been ordered to move out to avoid damage.

In Paradip, television footage showed residents piling bicycles, sewing machines and gas cylinders on to small trucks and leaving for any of nearly 900 shelters supplied with food, water and medicines.

Odisha state government has deployed hundreds of disaster management personnel, closed schools and colleges and asked doctors and other health officials not to go on leave until May 15.

India's cyclone season can last

from April to December, when severe storms batter coastal cities and cause widespread deaths and damage to crops and property in both India and neighboring Bangladesh.

Technological advancements have helped meteorologists to predict weather patterns well in advance, giving authorities more time to prepare.

In 1999, a super-cyclone battered the coast of Odisha for 30 hours, killing 10,000 people. A mass evacuation of nearly a million people saved thousands of lives in 2013.

Indian Oil Corp, the country's top refiner, said its 300,000 barrels per day (bpd) Paradip refinery in Odisha state did not need to shut down

for now.

An executive at Reliance Industries Ltd, which operates an oil and gas block off the east coast, said its operations had not been affected. India's National Aluminium Co Ltd said there was no need to halt operations.

In a Tweet, Indian airline Vistara, a joint venture of India's Tata Sons and Singapore Airlines Ltd, said it would waive cancellation charges for flights to Odisha's capital, Bhubaneswar, and Kolkata, the capital of West Bengal, until Sunday.

IndiGo Airlines, the country's largest domestic carrier, said it had canceled flights to Visakhapatnam, in the southern Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

China mulls further opening up financial markets

BEIJING

CHINA plans to unveil a slew of new measures to further open up its financial markets in order to improve the sector's management and competitiveness, according to the country's top banking and insurance regulator.

A total of 12 new rules will be released soon on the basis of profound research and evaluation. Guo Shuqing, chairman of the China Banking and Insurance Regulatory Commission told Xinhua in a joint interview, adding that China's financial opening-up efforts have already drawn a positive market response.

The upper shareholding limits for a single Chinese-funded bank and a single foreign-funded bank in a Chinese commercial bank will be abolished simultaneously, according to Guo. Asset requirement for foreign banks to set up foreign-funded legal person banks or branches as well as for foreign financial institutions to hold stakes in trust firms will also be removed.

The financial authorities will treat all domestic and overseas entities equally, while cooperation and competition will be carried out subject to the same rule, he said.

In addition, restrictions on Chinese shareholders in a Sino-foreign joint-venture bank will be eased. The requirement that the sole or major Chinese shareholders should be financial institutions will be abolished.

The new rules will also allow overseas financial institutions to hold stakes in foreign-funded insurance companies operating in China.

The new rules will encourage overseas financial institutions to conduct equity, business and technological cooperation with banking and insurance institutions controlled by private capital. The new opening-up measures will permit foreign-funded insurance companies to invest in or set up insurance agencies in China.

Currently, the shares of foreign-funded banks and insurance companies' total assets have reached 1.64 percent and 6.36 percent, respectively, in China.

"By further expanding the opening-up and forging a level playing market environment, it will help to ensure sufficient competition, optimize equity structure and regulate shareholders' behavior," Guo said.

Xinhua

Moscow hopes Kiev will hold unbiased investigation into Odessa tragedy

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Foreign Ministry said in a statement yesterday it expects that Ukraine will create conditions for carrying out an impartial and unbiased investigation into the May 2, 2014 events in Odessa and punish those guilty.

"Five years have passed since the bloody events of May 2, 2014 when after the atrocities of Ukrainian radicals in the Odessa House of Trade Unions at least 50 were burned alive and hundreds of innocent people were hurt.

This chilling tragedy, which shocked the entire civilized world, was the consequence of this policy of Ukrainian nationalist forces, who seized power in a coup d'etat," the Foreign Ministry said.

The statement highlights that five years after this "disgusting crime" its instigators and perpetrators have not yet been found. Despite the calls of international organizations and human rights activists to carry out a thorough investigation, Kiev continues hindering it.

"All this allows us to say about the complicity of the Ukrainian leadership with those awful events. Particular cynical is the fact that Ukraine's law enforcement agencies continue prosecuting those who managed to escape from fascist thugs," the ministry said.

The Russian Foreign Ministry noted that Kiev's Western sponsors continue keeping silence about the Odessa events.

"It's obviously not advantageous for them to admit that they are backing those forces at the helm of the country, whose arms are wet to the elbows with blood," the document says.

"Instead of really demanding that the Ukrainian authorities find and punish those responsible for cruel crimes in the House of Trade Unions, over the past five years we have been hearing from Western partners just deliberations on the democratic nature of their pro-tees."

On May 2, 2014, Ukrainian radical nationalists, including members of the Right Sector organization (outlawed in Russia) set fire to the House of Trade Unions in the city of Odessa, where protesters against the coup had found refuge.

According to official estimates, the clashes killed 48 people, most of whom lost their lives in the House of Trade Unions tragedy, while 240 more people were reported to be injured in the inferno and its aftermath.

At least 22 people were recognized as instigators, but exclusively anti-Maidan supporters were arrested. Five of them spent more than three and a half years in custody, but later were recognized as not guilty.

Shortly after the verdict, Ukraine's prosecutors and the Security Service brought new charges against two of them into separatism, and placed them under arrest. Later the prosecutors appealed the court's acquittal.

Agencies

Man held over placing knives at prince's school in Tokyo disparages imperial system

TOKYO

A MAN who was arrested for trespassing and placing knives on the school desk of Prince Hisahito at his school in Tokyo has made disparaging remarks about Japan's imperial system, sources close to the case said yesterday.

The critical remarks were made during investigators' interrogations, the sources said, following Kaoru Hasegawa, 56, being sent to prosecutors Wednesday after being arrested Monday for trespassing on the grounds of Prince Hisahito's school

and leaving a make-shift weapon on the young prince's desk.

Prince Hisahito is the 12-year-old grandson of Emperor Emeritus Akihito and is currently second in line to the throne behind his father Crown Prince Fumihito, who is the younger brother of the emperor.

Prince Hisahito attends the Ochanomizu University Junior High School in Tokyo's Bunkyo Ward. The school's security footage showed that a man disguised as a construction worker and wearing a helmet and mask had talked his way into the school under the pretense of being a

plumber last Friday.

Hasegawa had found out that Prince Hisahito attended the school by checking online, investigators said yesterday, and despite the prince's bodyguards being in attendance outside the school, Hasegawa gained access to the school and found the prince's classroom.

Investigators said they had found that some wires had been cut and had retrieved a pair of gardening shears hidden at the school grounds.

They believed Hasegawa had tried to knock-out the school's surveillance system by cutting the wires

with the shears, in this premeditated incident, prior to entering the school.

While inside the classroom, Hasegawa placed two fruit knives, the blades of which were painted pink and duct-taped to a 60-cm-long aluminum bar to form a pitchfork, or two-pronged bayonet, and put the weapon on the desk of Prince Hisahito.

He told investigators he located the prince's desk by referring to a seating chart in the classroom. No written message was left at the scene and Prince Hisahito was not in the

classroom at the time the weapon was placed on his desk, investigative sources said. The police tracked down Hasegawa after he had been on the run for four days after the incident, by scouring through video surveillance footage taken in a number of different locations.

He was eventually detained at a hotel in Hiratsuka, about 50 km away from the school in downtown Tokyo, on Monday.

He was thereafter served an arrest warrant. Hasegawa was sent to prosecutors Wednesday. He has admitted trespassing on the grounds of

Prince Hisahito's school and leaving the make-shift weapon on the young prince's desk.

The incident occurred as Japan was preparing to celebrate the ascension of Emperor Naruhito on Wednesday. Local police are continuing to probe the full motive behind the incident and whether Hasegawa intended to carry out an act of violence against the prince with the weapon had the prince been in the classroom at the time he entered the school.

As yet, investigators have not revealed the full nature of the negative remarks Hasegawa has made about

Biden's rise in 2020 race catches Trump's eye, unnerves his allies

WASHINGTON

JOE Biden's rapid emergence as front-runner in the race for the 2020 Democratic presidential nomination has caught the attention of President Donald Trump and unnerved some of his allies, who believe Biden is a potentially dangerous rival.

Biden soared from "will-he-or-won't-he-run?" status to the head of the crowded Democratic field just days after announcing his candidacy last week, pulling away from Senator Bernie Sanders and a host of other rivals in opinion polls.

A CNN poll gave Biden a 15-point lead in a field of 20 Democratic candidates.

Some Trump advisers see the former vice president, with his mainstream blue-collar appeal, as a tough opponent in the three states that carried Trump to his improbable victory in 2016 - Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania.

Losing any of those states in 2020 would make Trump's path to re-election more problematic.

"They think they're in trouble there and they think he's a real threat," said one outside Trump adviser, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Trump's initial response to Biden's entry into the race was to use a well-worn playbook - give him a mocking nickname - "Sleepy Joe Biden" - and insult his intelligence.

"I have known Joe over the years," Trump said on Fox News. "He is not the brightest light bulb in the group, I don't think, but he has a name that

they know."

Trump later went on a Twitter tirade after the largest U.S. firefighters union endorsed Biden, including posting dozens of retweets on Wednesday from purported firefighters and their friends and families professing support for the Republican president or criticizing Biden.

Despite his focus on Biden, some of Trump's friends said he did not seem particularly concerned about him, at least at this stage, given that the first votes in the nominating process will not be cast until early next year.

White House counselor Kellyanne Conway played down the idea that Trump saw Biden as his biggest threat. "No, I think it's just fun to remind everybody about him. ... Maybe he's an easy mark, and he just announced for president of the United States," she told reporters.

Trump allies said Biden, who was vice president under Trump's predecessor, Barack Obama, could still get chewed up by a large, diverse field of Democratic rivals, many leaning to the left of Biden and discussing policies such as tax hikes for wealthier Americans and government-run healthcare.

As long as Democrats are moving left, said David Urban, a political consultant and Trump campaign aide in 2016, "I like our chances whoever is at the top of the ticket for the Democrats."

WARNING SIGNS

The Trump re-election campaign said it believed that whoever emerges as the Democratic nominee would



US Democratic presidential candidate former Vice President Joe Biden holds a campaign stop in Des Moines, Iowa, on Wednesday. REUTERS

have adopted policy stances out of tune with most Americans.

"There is no centrist lane in the Democrat primary," said Trump campaign communications director Tim Murtaugh. "We view them as one big liberal organism right now with 28 heads."

Still, there are warning signs for Trump.

He won narrow victories in 2016 over Democrat Hillary Clinton in Michigan, Wisconsin and Pennsylvania with the help of blue-collar voters who once voted Democratic but switched to Trump. Trump's advisers said repeating his victories in those crucial states next year might be a tall order.

Biden, a longtime U.S. senator from Delaware, held his first campaign rally in Pennsylvania and has quickly sought to make the campaign into a battle against Trump rather than against his rivals for the Democratic nomination.

One Trump confidant said poll numbers indicated Biden stood to do well at this point at least in Pennsylvania and Wisconsin and potentially in two other Trump states, Florida and North Carolina.

If that were to happen, the confidant said, it would be hard for Trump to make up the losses with wins in other states in order to get to the 270 Electoral College votes needed for victory.

"There's not really a lot of room to

expand the (electoral) map over the previous results," the confidant said.

In a response to Biden, Trump has touted strong economic indicators in Pennsylvania, where unemployment is at a historic low.

But some allies said Trump had not been disciplined about selling his record on the economy and that his lack of a healthcare overhaul plan was hurting him along with his preoccupation with migrants at the U.S. southern border.

They added that Trump had time to straighten out his message for the long slog to the November 2020 election.

"We've got a long way to go," said one Trump confidant.

Agencies

US is trying to sow confusion and fear in Venezuela to demoralize its citizens - diplomat

MOSCOW

THE US' actions against Venezuela are directed at demoralizing the citizens of this country through aggressive rhetoric, Russian Foreign Ministry Spokeswoman Maria Zakharova said on TV channel Rossiya-24 live on Wednesday.

"We see that the life of the Venezuelan people is deteriorating, in particular and chiefly because of the US' actions," she said. "It is not soft power, of course. Soft power is carrying out seminars, symposiums, using culture and science".

"This is aggressive rhetoric, this is direct intimidation, blackmailing and threats," Zakharova stressed.

"During the past months there have been direct addresses to the Venezuelan people and the wish to sow panic, fear and the sense of a great anxiety and treachery in order to demoralize the Venezuelans."

Washington's aggressive rhetoric is directed at the Venezuelans who live and work in the US, the diplomat said.

"They have to use new theses all the time, so that the concept of the regime change proposed by the White House was noticeable; arguments are needed for it," she said.

Agencies

Barr cancels second day of testimony, escalating battle with US Congress

WASHINGTON

ATTORNEY General William Barr on Wednesday canceled plans to testify before the House of Representatives about his handling of Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Russia investigation, further inflaming tensions between U.S. President Donald Trump and Democrats in Congress.

Barr was expected to face the Democratic-controlled House Judiciary Committee yesterday, but pulled out after the two sides were unable to agree on the format for the hearing.

"It's simply part of the administration's complete stonewalling of Congress," Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler told reporters.

Justice Department spokeswoman Kerri Kupec said Nadler's proposal to have committee lawyers question Barr was "unprecedented and unnecessary," saying questions should come from lawmakers.

The Justice Department also said on Wednesday it would not comply with a Nadler-issued subpoena seeking an unredacted version of Mueller's report and underlying investigative files from the probe.

Earlier on Wednesday, Barr spent more than four hours before the Republican-controlled Senate Judiciary Committee where he fended off Democratic criticism of his decision to clear Trump of criminal obstruction of justice and faulted Special Counsel Robert Mueller for not reaching a conclusion of his own on the issue.



U.S. Attorney General William Barr returns to a Senate Judiciary Committee hearing entitled "The Justice Department's Investigation of Russian Interference with the 2016 Presidential Election." on Capitol Hill in Washington on Wednesday. REUTERS

In his first congressional testimony since releasing a redacted version of Mueller's report on April 18, Barr also dismissed Mueller's complaints that he initially disclosed the special counsel's conclusions on March 24 in an incomplete way that caused public confusion.

Illustrating tensions between the two men, Barr described as "a bit snitty" a March 27 letter from Mueller in which the special counsel urged him to release broader summaries of his findings - a step Barr rejected. Trump seized on Barr's March 24 letter to declare that he had been fully exonerated.

Several Democrats on the Senate committee called for Barr's resignation.

Democrats have accused Barr of trying to protect the Republican president, who is seeking re-election next year. They pressed Barr on why he decided two days after receiving the 448-page document from

Mueller in March to conclude that Trump had not unlawfully sought to obstruct the 22-month investigation.

"I don't think the government had a prosecutable case," Barr said.

'ALLEGATIONS NOW PROVEN FALSE'

The report detailed extensive contacts between Trump's 2016 presidential campaign and Moscow and the campaign's expectation that it would benefit from Russia's actions, which included hacking and propaganda to boost Trump and harm Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton. The report also detailed a series of actions Trump took to try to impede the investigation.

Mueller, a former FBI director, concluded there was insufficient evidence to show a criminal conspiracy and opted not to make a conclusion on whether Trump committed obstruction of justice, but pointedly did not

exonerate him. Barr has said he and Rod Rosenstein, the Justice Department's No. 2 official, then determined there was not enough evidence to charge Trump with obstruction.

Barr often appeared to excuse or rationalize Trump's conduct, asserting that the president may not necessarily have been trying to derail Mueller's investigation.

Democratic Senator Mazie Hirono told Barr that he had sacrificed a "once-decent reputation for the grifter and liar that sits in the Oval Office."

Senator Lindsey Graham, the committee's Republican chairman, rushed to Barr's defense, telling Hirono: "You've slandered this man."

Trump had been unfairly smeared, Barr said, by suspicions he had collaborated with Russia in the election. "Two years of his administration have been dominated by the allegations that have now been proven false. To listen to some of the rhetoric, you would think that the Mueller report had found the opposite," Barr said.

Barr was critical of Mueller for not reaching a conclusion himself on whether Trump obstructed the probe.

"I think that if he felt that he shouldn't go down the path of making a traditional prosecutorial decision, then he shouldn't have investigated," Barr said.

Barr was asked about the report's finding that Trump directed then-White House counsel Don McGahn in June 2017 to tell Rosenstein that Mueller had conflicts of interest and must be removed. Agencies

South Sudan says any extension on forming unity govt is a violation

JUBA

South Sudan yesterday maintained its position of forming a transitional unity government (TGoNU) on May 12 as warring parties meet in Ethiopia to review the implementation of a peace deal signed last September.

Ateny Wek Ateny, president Salva Kiir's spokesman, told Xinhua in Juba that the government's position remains the same on forming the TGoNU in accordance with the peace agreement mediated by regional body Inter-Governmental Authority on Development (IGAD). "Our position is that the (unity) government should be formed on May 12, because any extension or provision not agreed upon is violation of the peace agreement," Ateny (pictured) said.

He said President Kiir, a key signatory to the peace deal signed in September 2018 together with rebel leader Riek Machar, will not be present at the meeting in Addis Ababa. Instead a high-level delegation led by the information minister will attend the gathering.

The main rebel group, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A-IO) led by Machar, wants a six-month extension of the pre-transitional period, citing delays in security arrangements, unification of forces and determination of number of states and boundaries before TGoNU can be formed.

Puok Both Baluang, the SPLM/A-IO deputy director of information and public relations, confirmed that Machar will attend the meeting, adding that their demand for extension of the pre-transitional period is genuine.

He said President Kiir, a key signatory to the peace deal signed in September 2018 together with rebel leader Riek Machar, will not be present at the meeting in Addis Ababa.

Instead a high-level delegation led by the information minister will attend the gathering. The main rebel group, the Sudan People's Liberation Movement/Army (SPLM/A-IO) led by Machar, wants a six-month extension of the pre-transitional period, citing delays in security arrangements, unification of forces and determination of number of states and boundaries before TGoNU can be formed.

Puok Both Baluang, the SPLM/A-IO deputy director of information and public relations, confirmed that Machar will attend the meeting, adding that their demand for extension of the pre-transitional period is genuine.

South Sudan descended into conflict in December 2013, killing tens of thousands and displacing about 4 million others. An earlier peace agreement, signed in 2015, collapsed after clashes erupted in July 2016 in Juba, forcing rebel leader Machar to flee the capital.

Delays in implementing the crucial outstanding issues in the latest peace deal have caused fresh fears that the parties may again return to conflict. Xinhua



World Bank gives credit to Belt and Road construction

BEIJING

THE World Bank recently issued a series of articles, discussing the influence of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) on infrastructure, foreign trade, cross-border investment, and inclusive and sustainable growth of countries and regions along the route.

The organization believes that the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) is an ambitious effort to improve regional cooperation and connectivity on a trans-continental

scale.

The BRI is expected to improve transportation infrastructure and economic environment, thereby substantially lowering trade costs, promoting cross-border trade and investment, and boosting growth for Belt and Road countries, regions and even the whole world at large, the World Bank said.

Michele Ruta, Lead Economist in the Macroeconomics, Trade and Investment Global Practice of the World Bank Group, believes that the BRI regional

cooperation will enhance transportation infrastructure such as railways, promote rapid growth of cross-border trade and investment, and drive the economy.

According to the first-ever quantification of the influence of the Belt and Road construction on trade costs conducted by Ruta and his research team, for Belt and Road economies, the BRI transportation projects, either completed or under construction, can cut shipment time for Belt and Road economies by an average of 1.7 to 3.2 percent. For

the world, the average reduction in shipment time will range between 1.2 and 2.5 percent.

China carries out cooperation with other countries on building highways, railways and ports following the principles of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits.

Progress has been made in the BRI hallmark projects, such as the high-speed rail line linking Belgrade to Budapest, and China-Laos railway. These projects will bring greater connectivity to those countries.

The Bagamoyo Port project in Tanzania will benefit the country as well as other countries in the region. The Addis Ababa-Djibouti railway and the improvement of Djibouti's port will contribute to a decrease in shipping time between Australia and Ethiopia of 1.2 percent. The initiative can have positive spillovers on other economies, Ruta remarked.

A World Bank research found that the BRI-proposed transportation network could lead to a reduction in travel time. The reduction in time - and by extension

transportation cost - could result in a 4.97-percent increase in total foreign direct investment flows to BRI countries. These positive effects can raise Sub-Saharan countries' GDP growth by 0.13 percentage point.

Maggie Xiaoyang Chen, professor of economics and international affairs at George Washington University and an economist in the research department of the World Bank, told People's Daily that the BRI is conducive to the soft infrastructure of the BRI countries, including the policies,

procedures and mechanisms.

She believes that soft infrastructure includes the facilitation of customs clearance, as well as the improvement of laws, regulations and business environment.

World Bank studies indicated that BRI cooperation will cut the costs of global trade by 1.1 to 2.2 percent and those of trade along the China-Central Asia-West Asia Economic Corridor by 10.2 percent. What is more, it will contribute at least 0.1 percent of global growth in 2019. Xinhua

The
Guardian

SPORT



Bonite Bottlers Area Sales Coordinator, Leonard Makule (L), hands over a cash prize of 100,000/- to Arusha resident, Noela Michael, during a handover ceremony for Coca-Cola's ongoing campaign, dubbed 'Kunywaah na Ushinde', held at the plant in Moshi recently. The campaign which is in line with this year's Coke Studio season aims at rewarding loyal Coca-Cola consumers with lots of prizes including cash, TVs and various Coca-Cola merchandizes. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

Semenya to run in Doha as storm rages over new IAAF rules

CAPE TOWN

DOUBLE Olympic champion Caster Semenya will run her last 800-metres today before the International Association of Athletics Federations imposes hugely controversial new rules limiting testosterone in female athletes.

Semenya, who has spent years trying to get the new IAAF regulations thrown out, will compete at the Diamond League meeting in Doha against 2016 Olympic silver medalist Francine Niyonsaba - who recently revealed she had similar difference in sexual development (DSD) characteristics to the South African.

Both must then begin taking medication to lower their testosterone levels if they wish to compete over that distance based on the new rules, which the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) said on Wednesday were necessary to ensure fair competition.

IAAF president Sebastian Coe, speaking in Doha on Thursday, said he was grateful to CAS for the verdict.

"It is very straightforward for any association in sport," Coe told a media briefing. "Athletics has two classifications - it has age and it has gender. We are fiercely protective of both. We are really grateful that CAS has upheld that principle."

Coe refused to take more questions, but the case is likely to have far-reaching consequences for women's sport, and has split opinion around the globe.

Athletics South Africa likened the new IAAF regulations to apartheid, and both it and Semenya's lawyers have said they could contest the CAS ruling dismissing her appeal against their introduction.

Under the rules to take effect on May 8, female athletes with high natural levels of testosterone wishing to compete in events from 400-metres to a mile must medically limit that level to under 5 nmol/L, which is double the normal female range of below 2 nmol/L.

Testosterone increases muscle mass, strength and haemoglobin, which affects endurance. Some competitors have said

women with higher levels of the hormone have an unfair advantage.

Barring further legal action, Semenya finds herself at a crossroads: Either she submits to the regulations or looks to compete in longer distances.

She claimed the 5,000-metres title at the South African Athletics Championships last week, an event not covered by the IAAF regulations, but in a modest time of 16:05.97, well below the qualifying standard for the world championships of 15:22.00.

This potential lifeline means Semenya may not abandon the 800-metres yet, though any advance to the Swiss Federal Tribunal could take months to reach a verdict and leave her career in limbo.

Former sprinter Michael Johnson, who won four Olympic gold medals between 1992 and 2000, believes the regulations are right for women's athletics.

"It was always going to be a difficult situation because through no fault of her own she just happens to have this condition," Johnson told Reuters.

"The IAAF has to make a decision on the line that's drawn between the female races and the men's races. I think the decision was based on the fairness of sports, so that there is a level playing field for all of the athletes in any given race."

Semenya, 28, has vowed to fight on, whichever distance she races in.

"I know that the IAAF's regulations have always targeted me specifically," she said in a statement released via her lawyers on Wednesday.

"For a decade the IAAF has tried to slow me down, but this has actually made me stronger. The decision of the CAS will not hold me back. I will once again rise above and continue to inspire young women and athletes in South Africa and around the world."

Her personal best of 1:54.25 in the 800-metres will make her the quickest in the field in Doha's Diamond League meet, the first time she will compete over the distance in 2019.

REUTERS



Caster Semenya

McCollum leads Blazers past cold Nuggets, 97-90

DENVER

AFTER giving up 39 points to Damian Lillard in the opener, the Denver Nuggets were determined to make sure Portland's role players would have to bear the burden of evening up the series.

His teammates were up to the task on a night that Lillard, who came in averaging 34.8 points in the playoffs, was held to 14 points on 5-of-17 shooting.

CJ McCollum led six Trail Blazers in double figures with 20 points in a 97-90 victory at the Pepsi Center on Wednesday night that evened their series 1-1.

"It's very important," said Enes Kanter, who chipped in 15 points for Portland. "Teams can't guard him with one man. They were sending double-teams, triple-teams. That's when I said, 'He's making himself better, but at the same time he's making everybody else better around him.' He was passing the ball, really active on defense. He's been unbelievable, man."

The series shifts to Portland for Game 3 Friday night, and Lillard's hoping a return to the Moda Center will help him find his long-range rhythm after he misfired on 14 of 19 3-pointers in Denver.

The Nuggets trimmed a 17-point, third-quarter deficit to 95-90 in the final minute thanks to an astonishing 14 offensive rebounds in the fourth quarter and a 19-9 run before Rodney Hood's two free throws with 17 seconds left iced it.

"The good news is they had all of those offensive rebounds but they didn't convert a lot," Portland coach Terry Stotts said. "They were 8 for 24 on second-chance points. We were fortunate we came away not hurt as badly as we could have been on the offensive boards."

Nikola Jokic had 16 points and 14 boards but got off to a slow start and wasn't nearly the take-control force he was in Game 1, when he scored 37 points.

"The last quarter we missed a lot of put-backs, but 23 offensive rebounds is a big number," Jokic said. "The first half we had open shots but we didn't make any of those."

With Jokic taking - and missing - just one shot in the first quarter and scoring six points in the first half, the Nuggets trailed 50-35 at halftime after the franchise's worst quarter ever at home in the playoffs, one in which they made just 5 of 23 shots and missed all 10 of their 3-pointers.

Nuggets coach Michael Malone said he admonished his team at halftime, "if you're not making shots, maybe attack the basket, maybe get to the foul line, maybe get to the rim."

They started doing that after halftime, but the Blazers answered time after time, getting 15 points from Hood, 11 from Al-Farouq Aminu and 10 from Zach Collins.

BANGED UP

Denver sparkplug forward Torrey Craig's nose was bloodied after he was knocked down and slammed into teammate Monte Morris' foot early in the second quarter. Moments after Craig hobbled off, leaving a trail of blood, Maurice Harkless rolled his right ankle and also left the game.

Harkless didn't return but Craig came back in the second



Denver Nuggets center Nikola Jokic, left, fights for control of a rebound with Portland Trail Blazers forward Al-Farouq Aminu during the first half of Game 2 of an NBA basketball second-round playoff series Wednesday, May 1, 2019, in Denver. (AP Photo)

half.

Jamal Murray spent part of the fourth quarter on the stationary bike trying to loosen up his tight right thigh. He missed 12 of 18 shots.

Craig, whose insertion into the starting lineup turned around the Nuggets' first-round series against San Antonio, returned with a face mask with 3 minutes left in the third quarter. He immediately grabbed a rebound and his 3-pointer with a minute left in the quarter was Denver's first since 1:11 of the first quarter.

"I think Torrey Craig is the unsung hero of the game," Malone said. "He's got some (guts). He's got some toughness."

SCUFFLE

Jokic pushed Kanter, who slammed into Craig with 43.5 seconds left on a made free

throw. Murray took exception to Kanter staring down the fallen Craig and a scuffle ensued at midcourt. The two were assessed a double technical.

BOW TIES

Stotts and his assistants rocked bow ties Wednesday night in honor of Jon Yim, the team's video coordinator and player development coach who was seriously injured in an auto accident last week that left him hospitalized with a broken leg and collapsed lung.

"That was dope," Harkless said. "I thought it was pretty cool. They all took a picture before the game in the locker room, probably send it to him. That's a cool gesture. We all wish he was here. We're all praying for him. We feel him. He's a big part of our team still. We'll see him when we get home."

AP

Welcome to the world of performance-reducing drugs

By Paul Newberry

EVERYONE is supposed to be doing their best to rid sports of doping.

Yet, in a baffling decision Wednesday, South African star Caster Semenya was ordered to take drugs if she wants to keep running for championships.

Talk about sending the wrong message. In a debate that has been raging for the better part of a decade, Semenya keeps getting singled out because her body naturally produces higher levels of testosterone than most females.

While this trait - which her attorney describes as "a genetic gift" - undoubtedly gives Semenya an edge on the track, why is that any different than the physical advantages possessed by all elite athletes?

No one made Ted Williams wear a patch over one eye when he stepped to the plate because his freakishly good vision helped him hit a baseball better than just about anyone else. No one thought it would be fair to tie Muhammad Ali's ankles together because he was so much faster and quicker than the heavyweight boxers of his era.

No one wanted to put up a higher goal for Wilt Chamberlain to shoot at because he was far taller than most basketball players in the 1950s and '60s. No one ordered Michael Phelps to swim in a weighted vest because of his long torso, double-jointed ankles and a metabolism that produced less lactic acid than other athletes.

Yet the Court of Arbitration for Sport essentially did that to Semenya.

The highest court in world sports issued an admittedly discriminatory ruling that will force the two-time Olympic champion and woman like her to take medication to suppress their levels of the male sex hormone if they want to compete in certain track and field events.

"That's so ironic," said Joel Maxcy, head of the Department of Sport Management at Drexel University in Philadelphia. "The whole performance-enhancing substance world has been about not taking things. But here, they're going to force her to take something. To me, that's very ironic and very odd and not right."

CAS, it seems, is leading us into a scary new world. While trying to eradicate the persistent scourge of PEDs, they've opened the door to PRDs - performance reducing drugs.

"This sort of goes away from the whole concept of sports and the star athlete," Maxcy said. "We've always understood that they have genetic gifts that put them above and beyond. I don't see why this should be any different than that. She seems to be a specific target. But the justification for this ruling is that they need to level the playing field."

That's nonsense, of course. But even more troubling, the CAS ruling diminishes Semenya's impressive accomplishments and downplays all the other factors that go into the making of a world-class athlete - which, when taken in their entirety, are much more important than the physical gifts.

A searing passion to be the best.

A willingness to work harder than anyone else. A steely focus that blocks out all potential distractions.

A head for the game, which requires putting in countless hours to study techniques, strategies and those who want to beat you.

Rest assured, winning gold in the last two Olympic 800-meter races was not simply because of Semenya's testosterone levels, though plenty of rivals have persistently clung to that foolish notion.

After getting smoked by Semenya at the 2016 Rio Olympics, British runner Lynsey Sharp tearfully complained that she was, in essence, the victim of a rigged race because CAS initially overturned rules that would have forced the South African champion to take testosterone suppressants.

"It is out of our control and we rely on people at the top sorting it out," Sharp wept after finishing sixth. "The public can see how difficult it is with the change of rule, but all we can do is give it our best."

After crossing the finish line, Sharp hugged fellow runners Melissa Bishop of Canada and Poland's Joanna Jozwik, who also missed out on the medal podium. "We see each other week in and week out, so we know how each other feel," Sharp said, hinting that the other two were just as disgusted about losing to Semenya.

But that display pointed to another troubling aspect of this case, which began at the 2009 world championships when Semenya - then only 18 - was forced to take a humiliating sex verification test to prove she is a woman. It's impossible

to ignore the racial overtones of a black athlete's accomplishments being challenged by a largely white group of rivals, especially when we've already seen it happen to tennis great Serena Williams and basketball star Brittney Griner.

Sharp, Bishop and Jozwik are white. So is another British runner, marathon world record holder Paula Radcliffe, who warned that a ruling in the South African's favor could signal the end of women's sports because it would supposedly embolden transgender athletes to compete in female events.

"To say there is not a racial element to this at all is probably naive," Maxcy said. "Would this have happened to a white American athlete? Maybe not." Just as troubling, there have long been whispers about Semenya's masculine appearance and, though the results of her sex test were never released, it was widely reported that she has intersex traits.

"There's a lot of body shaming going on here," said Mark Conrad, director of the sports business program at Fordham United, who has followed Semenya's case closely. "A lot of stereotypes come into play. That's unfair to her. She's a very good runner. She could have been born with this and still been doing 10-minute miles."

Semenya's case is likely just the tip of a seismic shift in sports. Going forward, CAS will surely face much more challenging issues regarding transgender athletes and those who identify as gender neutral.

This was not a promising start.

Klopp unsure if Liverpool can play much better

BARCELONA

LIVERPOOL manager Jurgen Klopp said his team could not have played much better despite their 3-0 loss to a Lionel Messi-inspired Barcelona in the Champions League semifinal first leg at the Nou Camp on Wednesday.

"Football is like this. It is about scoring goals and they scored three and we scored none but the performance was really good, the boys played a super game to be honest but against a side like Barcelona, a few moments are enough to give them the opportunity," Klopp said. "What can I say? I am really happy with the performance but of course not too happy with the result, we have to take that, that's football and we know that. You don't get grades, only a hard result and we have to accept that."

Liverpool went in 1-0 down at the break but after dominating the early part of the second half, Messi struck twice including a superb long-range free kick that gives him 600 for his club career.

Klopp's side had their chances too with James Milner having two

shots saved and Mohamed Salah striking the post.

"That is how it is. How we created the moments was outstanding, how we caused them problems was outstanding, we controlled the game so well," Klopp said.

"We went in at halftime, analysed the half, told the boys what we can do better and what have to do it again. I don't know if we can play it much better to be honest," he said.

"But then you have that one moment, the ball hits the crossbar ... and then Messi is there for an easy goal. Then a wonder strike again, that is how it is. That ball was obviously unsavable," Klopp added.

"Barcelona showed they had more experience. We saw that in the moments when they stopped our rhythm, going down, but that's part of the game," the German said.

Liverpool must now try to turn the game around at Anfield, an even harder task without an away goal.

"3-0 is not the easiest result but we have another game [second leg] and our people will be there," he said.

(AGENCIES)

Messi hits out at fans for 'ugly' Coutinho whistles

BARCELONA

LIONEL Messi criticised Barcelona fans for jeering Philippe Coutinho when he was taken off in the second half of Wednesday's 3-0 Champions League win against Liverpool at Camp Nou.

Messi struck twice in the second half, bringing up 600 Barca goals in the process, to leave his side in a commanding position heading into next week's semifinal second leg at Anfield.

But Barca's win was tainted by the treatment former Liverpool playmaker Coutinho received when he was replaced by Nelson Semedo just before the hour mark. The club's record signing endured a difficult night against his teammates but Messi didn't believe his performance was deserving of the whistles aimed at him by his own fans.

The Argentina international even celebrated his first goal -- which made it 2-0 in the 75th minute following Luis Suarez's opener -- by telling the home supporters not to whistle their own players. "We're at the defining stage of the season and we have to be more united than ever," Messi told reporters after the game. "I said that at the start of the season. It's not the time to criticise anyone."

"We have to support each other and stick together for the rest of the season. It is ugly to treat a player like that when they're taken off."

While Coutinho's Camp Nou struggles endured, it was another electric performance from Messi, 14 years to the day since he scored his first goal for the club against Albacete. His second goal was a sublime free kick from 30 yards.

He now has 12 goals in Europe this season and 48 in all competi-

tions, with Barcelona on the verge of a first Champions League final since 2015 and with a treble in their sights. They've already won La Liga and have a Copa del Rey final to come against Valencia later this month.

However, the scoreline did flatter Barca slightly. Liverpool had their chances throughout the game, with Marc-Andre ter Stegen making three good stops and Mohamed Salah missing a great late opportunity to grab an away goal when he struck the woodwork.

"We're not used to not having the ball and we struggled a little," Messi admitted. "But that's how the game went and we had to find a way through in whatever way necessary. They didn't manage to score and that's important."

"We were better in the first half and they pressed well in the second, but they didn't have too many chances. Of course, they wanted to get a goal, an away goal is huge. We have a good advantage but we know it's not over. Anfield's a really tough place to go."

Coach Ernesto Valverde also warned that the tie is far from over. Barca were knocked out in the quarterfinals last season by Roma when, despite winning the first leg 4-1, they were beaten 3-0 at the Olimpico.

"Liverpool had some clear chances -- one off the post," Valverde said in his postgame news conference. "And there was a great save by [Ter Stegen]. They had their moments and we had to suffer at times but, in the end, we got a good result against a really strong team."

"But it's a similar result to last year. We also had a three-goal lead against Roma."

(AGENCIES)

Porto keeper Casillas says he is 'feeling strong' after heart attack

MADRID

SPAIN'S World Cup winning captain Iker Casillas, 37, suffered a heart attack while training with his Portuguese club Porto on Wednesday, but later tweeted from hospital to say he was "feeling strong".

Casillas played 167 times for Spain and famously captained them to their first ever World Cup win in 2010.

He also won the 2008 and 2012 European Championships with the national side and his exploits earned him the nickname 'Saint Iker' as well as making him one of Spain's best known personalities.

Porto said Casillas had suffered an "acute" heart attack during training, but that he was stable in hospital and "the heart problem has been resolved".

Casillas later tweeted: "Everything under control here, it was a big scare but I'm feeling strong. Thanks a lot for all your messages and your sup-

port." Born in Mostoles, Madrid, Casillas came through Real Madrid's academy and spent the bulk of his career there before joining Porto in July 2015. His 725 matches between 1999 and 2015 but him behind only his former team mate Raul, with 741, on Real's all-time list. During that time he won five La Liga titles and three Champions League crowns.

He goalkeeper is married to the Spanish television journalist Sara Carbonero, with whom he has two children.

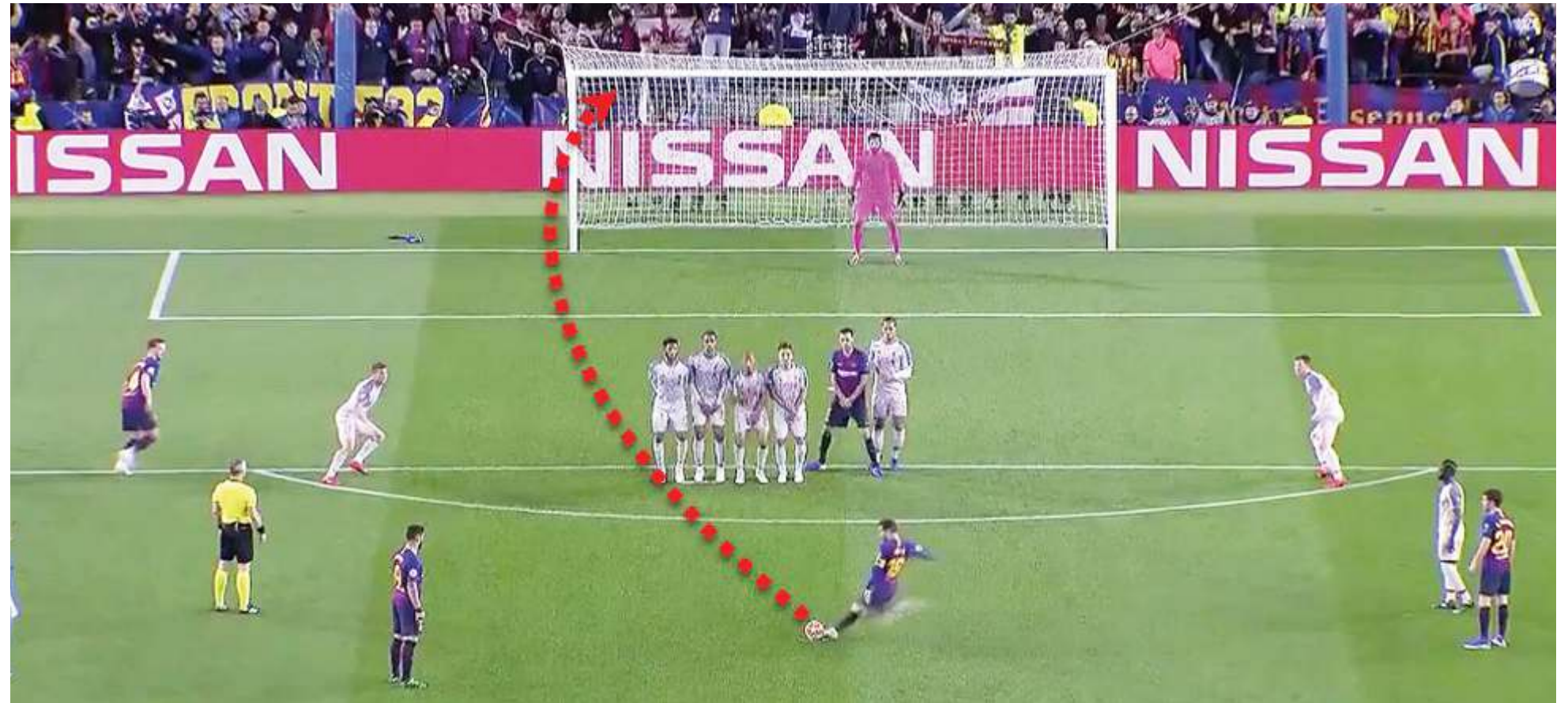
Madrid wished their former captain a full recovery, saying:

"Real Madrid would like to offer all our support to our beloved captain Iker Casillas. Throughout his professional career, he always overcame the hardest challenges in order to bring glory to our club ...

"He has taught us to never give up and has shown us numerous times that the best way to win is to remain as strong as possible when times are tough."

REUTERS

Messi torments Liverpool with 600th Barca goal in 3-0 win



Lionel Messi's 600th goal for Barcelona was an absolute stunner. (Agencies)

BARCELONA

LIONEL Messi put Barcelona on the verge of the Champions League final with a devastating double in a 3-0 home win over Liverpool in the first leg of their last-four clash on Wednesday, taking his goal tally for the Catalans to 600.

The Argentine's milestone goal was a moment of brilliance as he curled a dazzling free kick into the top corner from distance to add gloss to a scoreline that did not reflect the balance of play.

Yet whereas Barcelona took their chances with clinical precision, Liverpool wasted a string of opportunities that fell their way.

Former Liverpool striker Luis Suarez reminded the visitors of his superb finishing by opening the scoring in the 26th minute of a tense and finely-balanced first half at the Nou Camp, darting between two Liverpool defenders to divert Jordi Alba's cross into the net.

Barca captain Messi scored the all-important second goal of the night in the 75th minute, chesting the ball down on the rebound and dribbling it over the line after Suarez had ham-

pered the crossbar with a shot with his knee.

The Argentine then added to Barca's already huge advantage to take into next Tuesday's second leg at Anfield by smashing home his sizzling free kick in the 82nd minute.

"Four goals would have been better than three but this is a very good result," Messi told reporters.

"We know that the tie isn't over, Anfield is a very difficult place to go but we're happy with the super game we played tonight. They clearly wanted to score because an away goal means a lot but they didn't and we have a great advantage."

LITTLE MERCY

Liverpool, who were beaten 3-1 in last year's final by Real Madrid, played far better than the scoreline suggested, carving out a number of clear chances but spurning them all.

Barca's South American duo of Suarez and Messi showed little mercy whenever they sniffed out a chance and condemned Jurgen Klopp's side to their first defeat in any competition since January with some ruthless finish-

ing.

Klopp praised his side's performance but he was not optimistic about the likelihood of a miraculous turnaround.

"I was completely happy with how we played, we played between the lines, we had chances and caused them a lot of problems," the German told a news conference.

"If you lose away it's not a massive problem as long as you scored a goal but we didn't score that goal and that makes things a lot harder. We have a chance because it's football but we had a much bigger chance before tonight."

Suarez spared little thought for his former employers following his eventful three-and-a-half-year stay on Merseyside, as he celebrated his opening strike with relish, racing behind the goal and wagging his finger at the delighted Barca fans.

GLORIOUS CHANCE

Sadio Mane squandered a glorious chance to level for the Premier League side later in the first half but scooped the ball over the bar, while James Milner and Mohamed Salah were

both denied by Barca's excellent Marc-Andre ter Stegen later on.

Klopp's side had done an impressive job of shackling Barca's all-time top scorer Messi, but there was little they could do when the Argentine pounced on the loose ball after Suarez had hit the crossbar.

Messi sparked further celebrations at a packed Nou Camp with another outstanding free kick, yet the drama in this blockbuster European encounter was far from over.

Liverpool again went agonisingly close to snatching an away goal as Barca's Ivan Rakitic scrambled the ball off the goalline only to find the feet of Salah, who somehow smashed the rebound against the near post.

Barca could have seized an even bigger advantage in the tie with two golden chances as Liverpool tired that fell to substitute Ousmane Dembele, but the Frenchman missed the target the first time then shot straight into the hands of goalkeeper Alisson Becker.

REUTERS

Liverpool made Messi angry and paid the price

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

THE best way to deal with Lionel Messi is to treat him like football's version of the Incredible Hulk: Don't make him angry and you might just be spared an ordeal of pain and humiliation.

Liverpool midfielder James Milner did not get the memo, judging by his crude first-half barge on the home side's No. 10 during Barcelona's 3-0 Champions League semifinal first-leg win Wednesday at the Nou Camp, and it is fair to say that the Premier League side went on to reap a whirlwind of two-goal Messi's annoyance.

"In these moments, he is unstoppable," Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp said afterward of Messi. "My boys didn't show him too much respect or treat him harshly to try to stop him, but he is a world-class player and he showed that again tonight. What else can I say?"

For Milner, perhaps there was a sense of déjà vu. Back in March 2015, while playing for Manchester City, the former England international inadvertently became a YouTube sensation when he was nutmegged by Messi during a Champions League round-of-16 tie against Barcelona.

On that occasion, the Argentine forward played the ball through Milner's legs and left his opponent sliding on his backside before scampering away on another of his mazy runs. Four years on, Milner saw the opportunity to exact revenge.

Bad move. Although referee Bjorn Kuipers did not issue the yellow card that Messi demanded, in that moment Barca's talisman went from being a threat to a man possessed, and the full force of his fury was played out in the second half, when his brilliance left Klopp's team hanging on in their attempt to reach a second successive Champions League final.

Liverpool actually played well -- Barcelona goalkeeper Marc-Andre ter Stegen made several fine saves, while Mohamed Salah hit the post with a glorious chance -- but ended up beaten by the same score as Manchester United, who were much less impressive during their own 3-0 defeat two weeks ago.

Messi was ultimately the difference between the two sides, scoring his 599th and 600th Barcelona goals in the process, but former Liverpool forward Luis Suarez laid the foundations for victory with a stunning finish from Jordi Alba's pinpoint 27th-



Barcelona's Lionel Messi celebrates scoring their third goal against Liverpool during their Champions League Semi Final First Leg match at Camp Nou in Barcelona, Spain on Wednesday. (Agencies)

minute cross.

Gerard Pique rolled back the years with a majestic performance in defence, while Arturo Vidal was an incessant bundle of energy in midfield for Ernesto Valverde's team. But in truth, while others deserve their honourable mentions, this game was all about one man.

Klopp joked in his pregame news conference that Messi sounded as though he was issuing a "threat" in August when he insisted Barcelona would make up for last season's quarterfinal exit to Roma by going all the way in the Champions League this year. On Wednesday, the Liverpool manager saw at first hand that the 31-year-old had not been joking.

Messi played like a man on a mission against United, and Liverpool got the same treatment. His first goal, a tap-in after Suarez had hit the bar, came after a period of

Liverpool pressure early in the second half; his second, seven minutes later, was a jaw-dropping free kick from 30 yards that is up there with the best he has ever scored.

It prompted 90,000 Catalans to bow as they chanted his name, but as ever, there was so much more to Messi's display. Perhaps the best example of his genius was borne out in the final seconds of second-half stoppage time when, after breaking clear, he teed up Ousmane Dembele with a sumptuous reverse pass inside the penalty area.

The French winger simply had to hit the target from 12 yards to make it 4-0, but Dembele somehow shot directly at Alisson, whereupon Messi threw himself to the ground in disbelief at his teammate's wastefulness.

Playing alongside Messi must be a dream, even for the likes of Dembele, who

is nowhere near being on the same wavelength. Every pass is perfectly weighted into the path of a teammate, and he creates so much space by dragging opponents away when he has the ball that it is not unusual to see three Barcelona players unmarked in attacking positions.

Messi coasted through this game at times, coming alive only in short bursts, but so destructive were those contributions that Liverpool are in need of a footballing miracle if they are to overturn this deficit Tuesday.

Anfield has been the venue for several tales of the unexpected on European nights, but for all the magic of the old stadium, it will struggle to compete with that which exists in Messi's boots.

"It's football, so we have a chance," Klopp said. "But we had a better chance before the start of this game."

SPORT

Messi torments Liverpool with
600th Barca goal in 3-0 win

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Coaches from across Tanzania in a group picture with English side Southampton FC coaches prior to the start of a clinic, organized by gaming firm SportPesa, at the Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday. The clinic, which stretched for three days, is an effort by SportPesa to promote the sport at the domestic level. : SPORTPESA

COSAFSA hands down ZIFA Disciplinary Body verdict

CAPE TOWN

THE Council of Southern Africa Football Associations (COSAFSA) has announced the verdict of their Disciplinary Body into the sanction handed down to the Zimbabwe Football Association (ZIFA) for their failure to honour an agreement to host the 2019 COSAFSA Cup.

ZIFA have received a conditional suspension from COSAFSA, but can remedy the situation within two months if they confirm the country as hosts of the 2020 COSAFSA Cup, and provide the already signed guarantees from the Zimbabwe government to this effect.

Failure to do so will see the association suspended, though the two-month grace period will allow the national team to compete in the 2019 COSAFSA Cup in Durban, South Africa from May 25-June 8.

ZIFA have also been fined US\$50,000, with a further amount of US\$150,000 suspended until the above condition over 2020 hosting has been met.

The COSAFSA Disciplinary Body was chaired by Antonio Caetano de Sousa, accompanied by Adrian Kashala and Daud Suleman.

It means it is now all systems go for the draw for the 2019 COSAFSA Cup, which will be held on the Soccer Africa magazine show.

Madagascar is the only one of the 14 COSAFSA countries who have declined an invitation for 2019, but will be replaced by Africa Cup of Nations-bound Uganda in what is an exciting development for the country.

The Cranes have now qualified for back-to-back continental championships and will provide an exciting extra dimension to the field in Durban.

The format for the competition will be the same as in previous years, with the eight lowest-ranked sides to be drawn into two pools each containing four sides.

The top two teams in those pools will advance to the quarter-finals, where they will play on the six higher-ranked nations.

The six seeded sides are Botswana, Lesotho, Uganda, South Africa, Zambia and defending champions Zimbabwe.

The four quarterfinal winners advance to the Cup semi-finals, while the losing teams will drop into the Plate competition, which provides extra matches for those teams.

This year's COSAFSA Cup will provide vital preparation for teams heading to the Africa Nations Cup in Egypt from June 21-July 19, with Angola, Namibia, South Africa, Zimbabwe and Uganda the five from this year's field.



TONIGHT @ 21:00

FRIDAY

10:59 Jikoni Na Jane
11:00 DADAZ (live)
13:30 Kafi Za Wana
14:00 Radio:PlanetBongo Live
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 S5ELEKT
17:55 Kuraga
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Skonga
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.

east africa 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



Reginald Mengi

TFF, soccer stakeholders mourn Mengi

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadana

TANZANIA, on Thursday, lost another luminary sports lover, IPP Executive Chairman Reginald Mengi, who passed away in United Arab Emirates.

Mengi, who during his life was passionate about sports development and growth in the country, passed away in Dubai. During his life time, Mengi was involved in the development of sports, mainly football.

He was renowned for his philanthropic work in the country and beyond, was an icon, a patriotic Tanzanian and was, as well, the patron for the national U-17 soccer team, Serengeti Boys.

He did his best to see the team qualify for the 2019 FIFA U-17 World Cup, which will be played in Brazil, and he promised the team good rewards. His death is a big blow to the sports fraternity and the country as a whole, due to this, many have poured their moving eulogies to the man, who worked hard to see his country become a prosperous nation in every sector.

During his life, Mengi contributed a lot to sports development in the country as his

companies supported and sponsored many national events, which included volleyball and netball championships. Many have described him as a principled man who loved his country and offered to serve it with patriotism.

"Death has robbed us one of the great statesmen of this country, the pillar of the business community, a man who wanted to see his country prosper, I love his book titled I can, I must, I will," President John Magufuli posted on his twitter account.

Former Member of Parliament Lazaro Nyalandu said Mengi was an asset to the country and he will cherish the latter's contribution to the development of the country.

"Mengi was a man who did a lot for his country, the country will miss him a lot," Nyalandu disclosed in his post.

Tributes also poured from soccer loving Tanzanians, who included Mikumi Member of Parliament, Joseph Haule, alias Professor J, who described the death of Mengi as very shocking to the nation.

"Rest in peace Mengi, we will miss you," Haule said in his statement.

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Tulia Ackson, also mourned the passing of

Mengi, whom he described as a true statesman and a patriot to the nation.

"It's very sad that the nation has lost one of its great sons, Mengi was one of the people who did a lot for the betterment of our nation," she said. Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) president, Wallace Karia, also received with grief news of Mengi's death.

Karia sent condolences to Mengi's family, relatives, friends and the rest of domestic soccer fraternity for the death.

The TFF boss noted Mengi had offered immense contribution to promotion of the sport in the country, insisting his contribution was still in demand.

"I have been shocked by news of Mengi's death. We are all witnesses to the way in which he contributed to promotion of the sport from club to national team level, his contribution was truly still in demand," Karia noted.

"On behalf of TFF I am sending condolences to his family, IPP Group of Companies, relatives, friends and the country's soccer fraternity," Mengi had closely been supporting Serengeti Boys when the squad took part in this year's U-17 AFCON tournament, which took place in Dar es Salaam from April 14-28.

Yanga cling on to top spot

By Guardian Reporter

YANGA have continued to cling on to the top position in the 2018/19 Mainland Premier League, cruising to 2-1 win over Prisons at the Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

The league leaders had a first meaningful chance on the second minute in which they won a free kick almost 30 meters out.

The opportunity was wasted as midfielder Ibrahim Ajibu's shot went into Prisons keeper Aron Kalambo's hands.

Prisons made their way into Yanga's area on two occasions thereafter, the latter's defenders stood firm to foil the moves.

Prisons threatened to pull an opener on the 20th minute as Yanga keeper Ramadhan Kabwili punched a looping header by the former's striker Adam Adam.

Yanga went 1-0 up two minutes later, as midfielder Papy Tshishimbi headed in a well taken free kick by Ajibu taken a few meters from Prisons' box.

Yanga won the free kick after Prisons' defender Leonce Mutalemwa had fouled the former's fullback Paul Godfrey. Prisons goalie Kalambo had to come out of his comfort zone to save a dangerous center by Yanga left fullback,



Yanga midfielder, Ibrahim Ajibu (R), dribbles past Prisons midfielder, Vedastus Muhambi, during the Mainland Premier League match that took place at the Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam yesterday. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TFF

Jaffery Mohamed on the 24th minute.

Prisons levelled matters through striker Ismail Kada on the 32nd minute, as he banged in a well taken corner kick by midfielder Salum Kimenya.

Kalambo stood firm to collect a weak header by Yanga striker Heritier Makambo several minutes later, preventing the opponents from registering the second. The visitors

went close in which Kada outpaced the hosts' defenders, he could however only direct his right foot effort to the side net.

Godfrey made quick interchange of passes with midfielder Tshishimbi a few minutes before the breather and the latter released the former, whose cross was easily saved by Kalambo.

The opening stanza ended

with the two squads scoring a goal apiece.

Prisons could have notched a second on the 49th minute as Adam got the better of Yanga defenders, he though blasted over. Ngassa released Makambo on the 62nd minute, a left foot shot by the forward was cleared by Kalambo. Yanga went 2-1 up on the 65th minute, as Makambo connected a center by Ajibu with a firm header.

The Congolese striker, for that matter, brought his goals tally to 16, equaling Simba striker, Meddie Kagere, and Mwadui forward, Salim Aiyee. Second half substitute, Mwynyi Haji, whipped in a good cross on 74th minute, Kalambo collected it to frustrate Yanga forward that had sped into the area to slot home.

The visitors squandered a chance to pull an equalizer during the closing stages of the game, in which Kada could only manage a weak right foot shot from close range, hardly troubling Kabwili.

The Dar es Salaam giants as well had the last laugh in the league's first phase match, which took place at the Soikoine Stadium last year, winning 3-1.

'Complete breakdown of trust with Hales', says Eoin Morgan

LONDON

EINO Morgan, England's captain, has said that a "complete breakdown of trust" between Alex Hales and his England team-mates led to his banishment from the one-day squad, and confirmed that it was the senior players who reached the conclusion that they wanted him to play no further part in their World Cup preparations.

In a damning expression of the extent to which Hales has fallen from grace since it was revealed that he was serving a 21-day ban for a second failed drugs test, Morgan said that the protection of England's team culture was sacrosanct as they embark on the final preparations for a home World Cup campaign in which the team are currently rated the No. 1 side and pre-tournament favourites.

Speaking on the eve of England's one-off ODI against Ireland in Dublin, Morgan laid out the process by which Hales was removed from the squad on Monday morning, having attended a pre-season get-together in Cardiff that previous weekend.

"I spoke to the coach [Trevor Bayliss] at depth," Morgan said. "I spoke to all of our senior players - I actually called the meeting with the senior players to discuss moving forward, how it would affect the team, and the team culture."

"We've been working extremely hard over the last 18 months to try and build that team culture and established values that we could adhere to."

"But with this Alex has clearly demonstrated a lack of respect for these values, and there has been a complete breakdown of trust between the team and Alex. Out of that meeting, everybody agreed that the best decision was for Alex to be de-selected."

Morgan added that the decision had been reached in consultation with "the six most experienced guys in the team, [including] myself", namely Joe Root, Moeen Ali, Ben Stokes, Jos Buttler and Chris Woakes.

"We've been around a very long time," he said. "We've been through thick and thin. And, as a group, culture is extremely important to us. And that resounding theme came out of that meeting, and we felt that, moving forward, it would actually have quite a significant contribution, particularly going into the World Cup and Ashes year."

"We will need at least 15 men to win that World Cup. For whatever way Alex would have dealt with it, the other 14 people would have been dragged down and that would have been quite a weight taken forward, and that didn't outweigh his performance."

Having reached their decision, the next step for the squad was to inform the senior management and selectors of their wishes, with the upshot that Ashley Giles, the England managing director, cited the "best interests of the team" in confirming Hales' de-selection, "to ensure they are free from any distractions and able to focus on being successful on the pitch". **AGENCIES**

