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INSIDE



World Bank key regional program to uplift skills in four colleges

By Guardian Reporter

FOUR Tanzanian technical colleges are expected to take part in the US\$293million Eastern Africa Skills for Transformation and Regional Integration Project (EASTRIP).

The Tanzanian colleges which are to take part in the World Bank funded project include the National Institute of Transport (NIT), Arusha Technical College, DIT Mwanza Campus and DIT Dar es Salaam Campus.

A statement issued yesterday said that other East African countries which will participate in the project are Ethiopia and Kenya.

The project supports the development of highly specialized Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programs as well as industry-recognised short term certificate level training, and will target regional priority sectors in



A statement issued yesterday said that other East African countries which will participate in the project are Ethiopia and Kenya

transport, energy, manufacturing and ICT.

EASTRIP will be financed by the World Bank as an IDA loan of \$210 million and a grant of \$83 million, where \$8 million of the grant will go to the Inter-University Council for East Africa (IUCEA) to facilitate and coordinate the project. It will also implement regional initiatives that would promote the mobility of students and faculties within and beyond the region, and to establish a community of practices of TVET in the region, the statement noted.

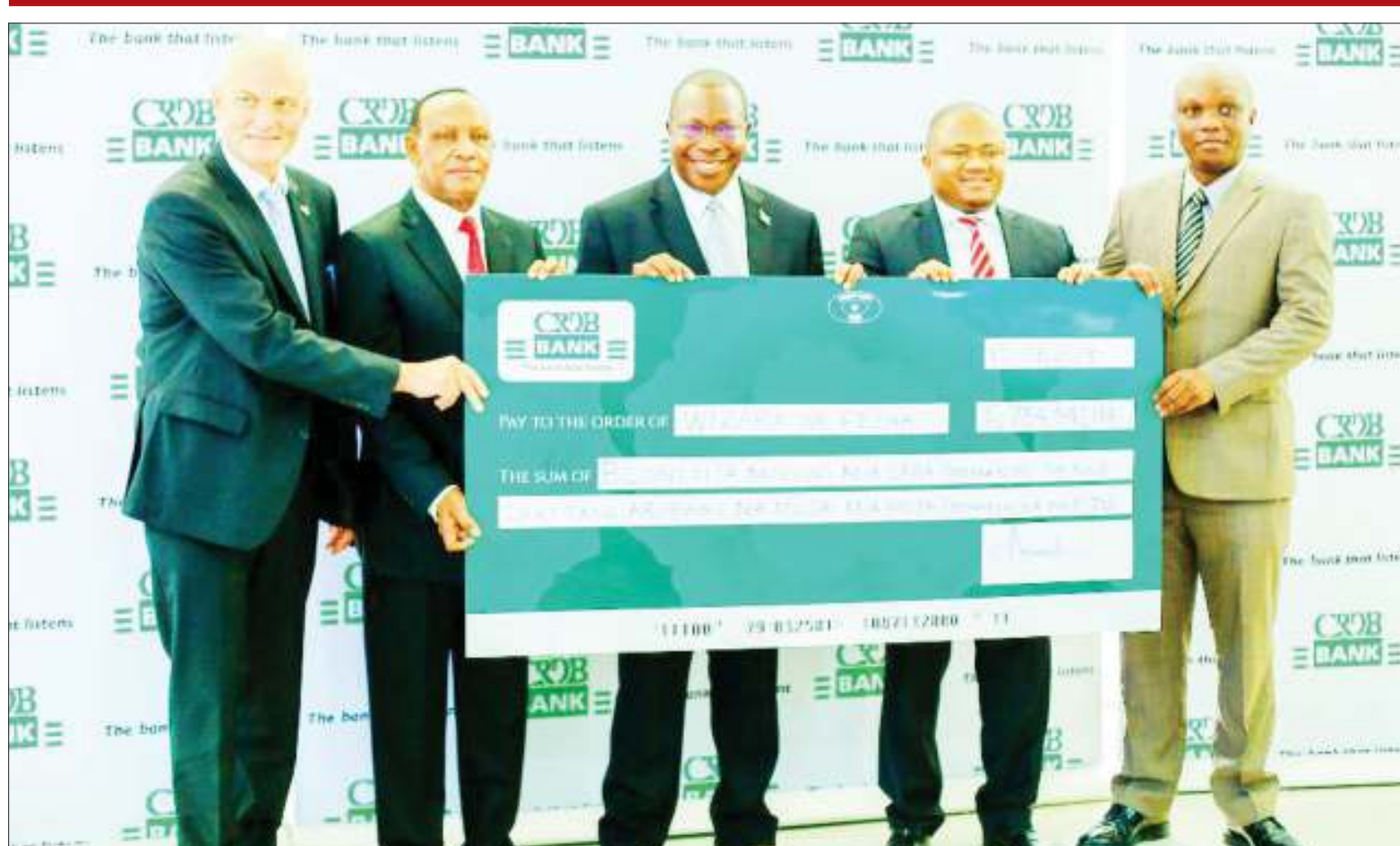
The project was officially launched by the Minister of State for Science and Higher Education of Ethiopia, Dr. Abdiwasa Abdilahi, who thanked the World Bank for considering TVET and approving the project as an IDA credit and grant.

"We are all aware of the magnitude and significance of the TVET role in developing countries such as ours, and we also know TVET is currently at an infant stage," he elaborated.

Abdilahi stated that the low recognition of TVET has contributed to its low perception status. "Thus it needs our attention and active engagement to bring the status of TVET up to speed to where

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CTI wants zero duty on crude edible oil imports



Finance and Planning minister Dr Phillip Mpango (C) pictured in Dodoma at the weekend with deputy permanent secretary Dr Khatibu Kazungu (R), CRDB Bank board Chairman Ally Laay (2nd-L), CRDB managing director Abdulmajid Nsekela (2nd-R) and Denmark's Ambassador to Tanzania, Einar Jensen. This was moments after the bank handed over a dummy cheque for 9.9 billion/- in dividends to the government and several public institutions. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

"To protect domestic industries in the iron and steel sector, we propose an increased import of 35 percent since maintaining the current rate would not offer adequate protection to local manufacturers against imported goods," he said

By Felister Peter

THE Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) has lauded the 2019/2020 budget estimates, but proposed for zero import duty on crude edible oil and increased import duty of 35 percent on iron and steel products to protect local industries.

CTI said that maintaining 25 percent import duty on crude edible oil increases production costs to industries which use the product as raw material hence affecting their competitiveness at internal and external markets.

CTI Executive Director Leodegar Tenga said in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the government should consider zero-rating the products to protect local manufacturers. Crude edible oil is zero rated in other East African partner states such as Kenya and Uganda, he elaborated.

"We request the government to review the negative aspects of the budget to facilitate a competitive business environment for the country's sound industrial development," he appealed.



He said the move is geared to encourage and promote production of edible oils by using locally produced seeds

Tenga stated that since Tanzania has a number of iron and steel manufacturers producing more than the country's demand, the coming budget would have increased the import duty to 35 percent instead of maintaining it at 25 percent.

"To protect domestic industries in the iron and steel sector, we propose an increased import of 35 percent since maintaining the current rate would not offer adequate protection to local manufacturers against imported goods," he said.

He however noted that the 2019/2020 tax reform measures will have a positive impact on the manufacturing sector as the government aspires to build an industrial economy and become a middle income nation by 2025.

"The coming budget will stimulate economic growth, create employment and mitigate the challenge of high costs of doing business for industries through implementation of the blueprint reforms as well as abolishment of 54 fees and levies imposed by ministerial departments and regulatory bodies," he said, commending decisions to establish an independent tax ombudsman under the Treasury.

A number of positive measures in the 2019/2020 budget estimates include removal of Value Added Tax (VAT) exemption on sanitary pads and application of a duty rate of zero percent instead of 10 percent on raw

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TANTRADE secures regional markets for cow peas, maize

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

Government efforts to look for foreign markets for local produce are yielding fruit as it has found a market for rice and maize in seven countries in the region, in which case producers need to tap these opportunities.

The Deputy Minister for Industry and Trade, Stella Manyanya told the National Assembly yesterday that the government through its embassies had secured ready markets for crops in Oman, Egypt, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Zambia, Burundi and Comoro Islands.



Last week, the government said it has managed to convince investors to come and invest in processing pigeon peas and other legumes

Through TANTRADE, the government received requests from the private sector in Rwanda seeking to purchase 102,000 tonnes of maize, Burundi 100,000 tonnes, Zambia 3,000 tonnes and Comoro Island 3,000 tonnes of the produce in the current financial year, she said.

Statistics from the Tanzania Revenue Authority (TRA) on crop exports show at least 39,218 tonnes had already been sold, she stated.

The deputy minister was responding to a question by Tunduma MP George Mwakajoka (CHADEMA) who wanted to know if the government was looking for foreign markets for rice and maize

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Reinforce links with private sector, US envoy tells govt

By Felister Peter

THE government needs to reinforce its relationship with the private sector by removing obstacles thwarting their daily operations, the US envoy said yesterday.

The Chargé d' Affaires of the US Embassy, Dr Immi Patterson (pictured) said the private sector is a key partner in scaling up the country's socio-economic development and job creation required to boost economic growth.

"Policy reforms should support the private



sector by removing obstacles for doing business. Our companies look for predictable policies, ease of doing business and adherence to the rule of law," said Dr Patterson at the Tanzania - US business dialogue forum in Dar es Salaam.

The dialogue was meant to discuss challenges that investors face and steps the government could take to improve the business and investment climate.

She urged the government to work on long standing issues to facilitate business and attract

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other nations are currently.”

World Bank EASTRIP Team Leader Xiaoyan Liang said a quality demand-driven TVET system can be a powerful engine for youth skills development, leading to employment and poverty alleviation, and assist in economic restructuring and transformation.

This has already been demonstrated in Korea, Singapore and China, where TVET has been used as an instrument and channel for technology transfer and skills upgrading of workers, he stated.

In 2010 Korea converted a selected number of high schools into vocational master high schools that partner with companies to create educational experiences tailored to the needs of the workforce.

The World Bank Country Director for Regional Integration, Deborah Wetzel, stressed the need for Africa to industrialise and integrate. “Low productivity and capacity impede the diversification, industrialization and modernization progress and if not addressed they could impede and even reverse economic growth. Industrialization and regional integration are key development and transformation strategies for Africa,” she said.

“Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania represent an initial group of countries working together to establish Regional Flagship TVET Institutes that will not only provide the skilled workers required by the growing economies but also, as the word “flagship” entails, become shining stars to trigger and guide continental wide TVET reform.”

World Bank Practice Manager, Safaa El Tayeb El - Kogali, said by the end of the project a total of 60,000 youths will have been trained.

“The project is a flagship model that

will set standards, and that's what we hope to create. We hope that more and more countries will join and we hope that this will be the beginning of a longer term process of upgrading skills for youths.”

Based on government nomination and competitive selection, 16 Regional Flagship TVET Institutes (RFTIs) were selected from the three participating countries. Each flagship will specialize in specific sectors and occupations with niche programs in highly specialized TVET diploma and degree programs, as well as industry recognized short-term courses. EASTRIP will strengthen the capacity of the 16 RFTIs to produce skills for regional sector markets in transport, port management, energy, light manufacturing and ICT.

Prof. Mike Kuria, the Deputy Executive Secretary of IUCEA, the regional facilitation unit of the project, pledged IUCEA's “commitment and determination to make EASTRIP a truly transformative project not only for the three participating countries but also for the rest of East Africa and beyond the borders of the region.”

By the end of the five year project, the 16 institutes will have doubled their capacity, to collectively enrol 20,000 students on an annual basis in both long-term and short term training programs in the targeted disciplines. Employers, such as major regional infrastructure projects, will benefit from an expanded and more qualified pool of skilled labour.

At the launch, some of the TVET institutes signed MOUs with industry partners to collaborate in the development of demand-driven training programs, student internships, faculty attachment and share of latest training technology, scholarships and other win-win partnership programs. The project is expected to close in December 2024.



Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa presents a trophy to NBC Bank financial director Peter Nalitoela in recognition of the bank's contribution to the people's economic empowerment. This was at a workshop held in Dodoma at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Paul Mabeja

CTI wants zero duty on crude edible oil imports

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materials used to manufacture baby diapers.

CTI Second Vice Chairman Shabbir Zavery challenged the government to invest in improving technical education to meet industrial demand. Most

industries are now moving to digital operations like using computers, hence the need for more specialized workers.

Presenting the 2019/2020 budget estimates in the National Assembly last week, Finance and Planning Minister Dr Philip Mpango said the government

will impose an import duty of 25

percent on crude edible oil such as sunflower oil, palm oil, groundnuts oil, olive oil and maize corn oil for one year.

He said the move is geared to encourage and promote production of edible oils by using locally produced

seeds.

The government plans to spend 33.1trn/- for recurrent and development needs, an increase of 1.94 percent compared to the 2018/2019 budget estimates which stood at 32.48trn/-.



Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children deputy minister Dr Faustine Ndugulile (L, foreground) has a quick word with Saudi Arabia's Deputy Ambassador to Tanzania, Ahmed bin Saleh Alghamdi (2nd-R), shortly after receiving dialysis machines donated by King Salman Humanitarian Aid and Relief Centre in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Right is Dr Shadrack Buswelu of the Health ministry's non-communicable disease coordination unit. Photo: Correspondent Getrude Mpezya

TANTRADE secures regional markets for cow peas, maize

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produced in the country.

Last week, the government said it has managed to convince investors to come and invest in processing pigeon peas and other legumes.

An Indian company, Mahashree Agro Processing Ltd, is building a factory in Morogoro with a capacity to process 700,000 tonnes of the crop per year, which is expected to start operations anytime this month.

Other industries processing the crop include Quality Pulse Exporters Ltd of Dar es Salaam, Agro Processing Pulse whose investors are from Kenya and India and Samson Agro Export Ltd from India, she elaborated.

“The government is working hard to ensure that factories processing peas are available in the country, and in an effort to broaden the market, people should consume more of the peas crops since they are good for health,” she appealed.

Nachingwea MP Hassan Masala (CCM) had similarly sought to know what the government was doing to help find market for pigeon peas farmers who despite producing in mass have no readily available market.

“Peas farmers in the country have for a long time failed to get a market for their products. What is the government doing to help them?” he demanded.

The deputy minister said the government has both short and long term strategies, where the long term

strategy includes inviting investors to establish factories.

Short term strategies include looking for markets within and outside the country, with good results having been seen since March, following visitations in search for crop markets in Malawi, Burundi, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) and Zambia.

Following the trips, Malawi has shown interest in purchasing 7,000 tonnes of pigeon peas this year and the process has started, she added.

Reinforce links with the private sector, American envoy tells govt

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more foreign direct investment (FDI). She said that businesses need a legal, regulatory and taxation framework that is consistent and transparent to operate successfully.

Patterson stated that American companies seek resolution to long standing issues such as the length of time to obtain permits, paying taxes and changing regulations and fees.

“We are looking to do business in Tanzania but with Tanzanian partners, a free, fair and mutually beneficial trade that adheres to international trade rules. Job creation for both Americans and Tanzanians,” intoned the US diplomat.

She said though the country's 2019/2020 budget provides new incentives for investors including reduction of corporate income tax for local sanitary pads producers and elimination of import value added tax (VAT) on inputs for agricultural and horticultural products, investors would wish to propose potential incentives which could spur new investments.

American businesses have invested over US \$ 4.7 billion in Tanzania and have generated 52,000 direct jobs in the last 28 years, according to statistics from the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC).

In her remarks, the Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment), Angela Kairuki said the government is implementing policy reforms so as to strike an appropriate balance between the rights and obligations of investors and the need to protect foreign investors.

“We have strong private sector collaboration between the two countries. The presence of around 238 American investors registered at TIC shows that Tanzania is a potential

US investment destination,” she said, noting that America's investment in Tanzania from 1990 to 2018 is estimated at \$4,719.71 million.

US companies have invested in agriculture, mining, tourism, manufacturing, petroleum, energy, construction, telecommunications and services, said Kairuki.

Apart from policy reforms, the government in its 2019/2020 budget estimates provides a number of incentives for investors as well as implementation of the blueprint to address cumbersome investment and business procedures.

TIC Executive Director Geoffrey Mwambe assured investors that the government will continue to improve the business and investment environment.

He said the US is among leading countries with huge investment stocks in Tanzania with a total of 239 registered projects valued at \$ 4,719.71 million.

Others leading countries are China with 723 projects worth \$ 5,962.74 million and Britain with 936 projects valued at \$ 5,540.07 million.

Factors enabling investors to invest in Tanzania include peace and harmony, economic stability, investment guarantees and rich natural resources which include arable land, natural gas, minerals, tourist attractions and a relatively cheap labour force, he added.



The dialogue was meant to discuss challenges that investors face and steps the government could take to improve the business and investment climate



Education, Science and Technology ministry permanent secretary Leonard Akwilapo (C) makes remarks during discussions in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the use of innovative self-learning software meant to increase access to basic education in Tanzania. The event was organised by UNESCO. To his right is Tirso Dos Santos

Opposition issues alternative budget

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

The Opposition yesterday presented a 29.30trn/- alternative budget and proposed the overhaul of the current system of the economy and replace with it with a social market economy which will move the country from poverty.

Acting shadow Minister for Finance and Planning David Silinde told the national assembly yesterday that despite the various changes in economic systems that the country has undergone, it has failed to remove the country and its people from abject poverty.

The social market economy is a socioeconomic model combining a free market capitalist economic system alongside social policies that establish both fair competition within the market and a welfare state

"The challenges to our economy is because we have an outdated economic system which does not match with the current global situation, the opposition therefore proposes the overhaul of the economic system if we are to move out of poverty," he said.

He said the opposition will allocate 20 -per cent of the total budget to Agriculture, Education (20-per cent), industries (15-per cent) and 10- per cent to water and health sectors respectively.

He said it was sad to see that 40-per cent of the 2019/20 development budget had been directed to three projects namely Stieglers Gorge, Standard Gauge and the revival of the Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) instead of investing more on projects that touched directly on people's lives.

According to Silinde the opposition

will service the national debt with 7trn/- instead of 10 trn/- as proposed in the national budget by Finance Minister Dr Philip Mpango.

Silinde who is also the MP for Mombasa said the government has failed to follow the five year development plan which it prepared which states 'that commercially viable projects should be left to the private sector, unless there is strong justification for doing otherwise'.

Speaking when he presented budget estimates for the year 2019/20 Dr Mpango said during the same period, the government was able to meet almost all of its macroeconomic targets in 2018, with inflation rate going down to 3.5 per cent, the lowest in 40 years.

He attributed the low inflation rate largely on bumper harvest last season where a total of 15.9 million tonnes of food crops were harvested against the country's requirement of 13.3 million tonnes.

According to the Minister Tanzania cemented its middle income status last year by raising its per capita Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to \$1,090.

“The challenges to our economy is because we have an outdated economic system which does not match with the current global situation, the opposition therefore proposes the overhaul of the economic system if we are to move out of poverty”

Geita to host zonal referral 'tourism' hospital

By Songa wa Songa, Geita

GEITA region has been chosen to host a state-of-the-art zonal referral hospital to serve Lake Zone regions and neighbouring countries.

Minister for Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children Ummu Mwalimu said here on Sunday that the decision has already been made and plans are underway to kick off the project.

Speaking during the commemoration

of the day of African child which she graced as guest of honour, Mwalimu said the hospital will be a state of the art facility that will serve not only the populous Lake Zone alone but also neighbouring countries.

"The referral hospital will also serve Great Lakes countries such as the Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda and Burundi," she said.

The project, the minister said, is more than a hospital as it has been designed for medical tourism to attract

patients from other countries.

That means it will be equipped with state-of-the-art equipment and staffed by highly-trained personnel.

"Geita region has been chosen to serve as the centre of Tanzania's medical tourism," the minister said.

Earlier, Busanda MP Lolensia Bukwimba lamented over the state of the Geita regional hospital-a former district hospital which she said is overstretched.

The commemoration event took

place at Katoro township and was co-organized by civil society organisations including Plan International.

The Day of the African Child has been celebrated on June 16 every year since 1991, when it was first initiated by the Organisation of African Unity (OAU). It honours those who participated in the South Africa's Soweto Uprising in 1976 on that day. It also raises awareness of the continuing need for improvement of the education provided to African children.

Women tasked to explore business opportunities for swifter advancement

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

INVESTMENT Minister Angela Kairuki has tasked women in the country to explore opportunities available in the budget estimates tabled last week to spur their businesses.

She said the recent tabled budget has opened up various opportunities in the businesses by scrapping nuisance taxes and tariffs which were a burden to traders.

Kairuki made the remarks to women entrepreneurs yesterday in Dar es Salaam during a breakfast meeting on public-private partnership for skills development in Tanzania that was organised by the Tanzania Private Sector Foundation (TPSF).

The dialogue brought together more than 100 women from across the country, government leaders and staff from TCCIA, about improving the business environment by addressing the challenges facing them.

She said the government decision to scrap about 54 taxes is to create friendly environment for businesses operations for traders especially women.

The minister explained that his office in collaboration with the ministry of industry and trade is also in the process to review other taxes and tariffs which are uncomfortable to traders in order to see the possibility of scrapping them.

According to Kairuki, in order to facilitate implementation of the blue print for businesses scheduled for July this year, the government will present a bill in the parliament to have a regulatory framework for smooth operations of the strategy.

"We will also convey a meeting with the ministry of industry and trade, together with TIC and responsible institutions to take you through various opportunities available for businesses together with charting easiest ways of doing businesses," she promised.

She added that, her office is in talks with various financial institutions including NMB Bank, CRDB Bank, NBC, TPB Bank and others, to see how they can soften conditions for accessing loans from the institutions.

She urged women to work hard and to embrace the character of unity, peace and love in order to have uniform decisions in conducting their businesses.

For her part, a representative of women producers from TPSF Fatma Kange said the focus of the dialogue was to bring women entrepreneurs from across the country to identify various setbacks facing them to chart strategies for addressing them.

"But also we aim to form a joint platform that will serve as a foundation for addressing the challenges facing women entrepreneurs in order to become billionaires," she said.

Kange explained that, women platform has determined to produce about 20 women billionaires out of 100 billionaires that President Magufuli wishes to produce.

Representing the chairman of the TPSF, Octavian Mshiu applauded the government decision to remove nuisance taxes and tariffs imposed to traders, saying the move is a great opportunity for women to prosper.

He urged women entrepreneurs to enhance collaboration among them in order to have one say and focus that will help to get what they plan to achieve, but also to get what they demand from the government.

Mshiu who is also a vice-president for Tanzania Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture (TCCIA) told women to use the available opportunities to expand the volume of their businesses.

Parliamentary committee urges govt to address ETS challenges

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

PARLIAMENTARY Standing Committee on Budget has urged the government to address some challenges experienced during pilot execution of the Electronic Tax Stamps (ETS) system on excisable goods.

The commit also commended the government for increased revenues collections during the implementation of the technology.

Simbachawene was presenting views of the parliamentary committee on Tanzania's state economy for financial year 2018, the national development plan 2019/2020 as well as assessment of implementation of the 2018/2019 budget and financial plan for 2019/2020.

"Implementation of the Finance Act for

the current financial year has been suitable much as there are some issues which are being addressed by the government," Simbachawene told lawmakers in the august House here yesterday.

The MP as well applauded the government for making amendments on 17 legislations during the current financial year which have led to increased revenue collections, widened the tax base, proper administration of taxes and stimulating establishment of industries.

The Minister said though some cases however there are delays on implementation of amendments of the laws passed by the assembly and endorsed by the president," he decried.

The government of Tanzania through TRA started the first phase of ETS system

on wines, spirits and cigarettes in January, this year. The system was fully rolled out for all alcoholic drinks, cigarettes and bottled water on June 15, this year.

ETS is meant to replace the hitherto paper-based tax stamps initially attached to cigarettes, wines and spirits. The old system was prone to cheating of taxes through under declaration, among other malpractices.

A Swiss firm, Société Industrielle et Commerciale de Produits Alimentaires (SICPA) won the tender and subsequently signed a contract with TRA for supply, installation and provision of supporting software and hardware for ETS management system.

The ETS management system automatically stamps the products at the end of the production line and submits the

count in real time through a system to TRA.

Available data indicates that since ETS was implemented during the first phase on tobacco and alcoholic drinks starting January, this year, collection for excise duty on locally produced spirits increased by 22.7 per cent.

TRA indicates in the data that excise duty from the spirits increased from 18.5bn/- between January and March 2018 compared to 22.7bn/- which was recorded between January and March, 2019.

"Implementation of the Finance Act for the current financial year has been suitable much as there are some issues which are being addressed by the government"

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Extract of the audited financial statements 2018

EXTRACT OF THE STATEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018 TZS '000	2017 TZS '000
Revenue	18,433,709	15,027,871
Cost of sales	(10,087,628)	(8,142,051)
Gross profit	8,346,081	6,885,820
Other income	80,617	193,427
Operating expenses	(3,631,528)	(4,006,775)
Operating profit	4,795,170	3,072,472
Finance costs	(1,171,090)	(903,452)
Profit before tax	3,624,080	2,169,020
Income tax expense	(1,007,338)	1,583
Profit for the year	2,616,742	2,170,603
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total comprehensive income	2,616,742	2,170,603
Basic and diluted earnings per share (TZS)	45.46	37.71

EXTRACT OF THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2018

	2018 TZS '000	2017 TZS '000
ASSETS		
Non-current Assets		
Property, plant and equipment	21,907,705	22,103,128
Intangible asset	835	2,152
	21,908,540	22,105,280
Current assets		
Inventories	4,537,738	4,373,078
Trade and other receivables	5,261,133	4,319,220
Tax recoverable	-	157,479
Cash and bank balances	181,274	86,556
	9,980,145	8,936,333
TOTAL ASSETS	31,888,685	31,041,613
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Share capital	5,756,030	5,756,030
Share premium	6,756,615	6,756,615
Retained Earnings	7,974,355	5,405,889
	20,487,000	17,918,534
Non-current liabilities		
Long term borrowings	3,910,000	4,680,119
Deferred tax liability	1,411,950	1,159,327
	5,321,950	5,839,446
Current liabilities		
Trade and other payables	1,068,453	3,385,460
Tax payable	-	-
Bank overdraft	314,456	-
Current portion of loans	3,112,899	2,433,920
Cylinder deposits	1,020,000	806,981
	6,079,735	7,283,633
TOTAL EQUITY AND LIABILITIES	31,888,685	31,041,613



Njombe livestock keeper Restuta Mielwa leads her cow to a national exhibition held at Dodoma city's Nane Nane grounds yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Arusha meeting on wildlife sets agenda for African heads of state conference in Japan

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha

MORE than 200 wildlife and natural resources experts from 20 countries around the continent are sitting in Arusha, for two days for the forthcoming major conference for African heads of state coming up in Japan next August.

Governments' representatives, United Nations (UN) agencies and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, partners and scientists are meeting at the Four Points, Hotel in Arusha, for two days from 17-18 June 2019, for the 'Pan-African Conference on Strengthening Information Sharing Infrastructure and Governance Frameworks to Address Human-Nature Conflicts'.

The thematic focus of the conference, organised under the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) is addressing conflicts in wildlife conservation and agro-pastoralist land-use, while also examining the opportunity for national and regional bodies as well as international organisations to play a pivotal role in strengthening geo-information sharing of infrastructure in addressing the concerns.

Minister for Natural

Resources and Tourism, Dr Khamis Kigwangalla highlighted the positive impacts in terms of enhanced efforts by the Government in protecting the wildlife and dealing with illegal wildlife activities in Tanzania, saying it has resulted to an increased number of wildlife including the elephants.

"We have witnessed a significant increase in the population of wildlife in our protected areas due to tremendous efforts put by the Government to curb poaching and illegal wildlife activities in the country," he said. The objective of the conference is to discuss how spatial data infrastructure can help governments in informing them about relevant interactions and interventions taking place in the African landscape within the broader theme of human-nature conflicts.

Dr Kigwangalla also mentioned the achievements made so far to address the problem of human-wildlife conflicts through continuous engagement of communities especially those found around wildlife protection areas. "Government interventions to address conflicts between people and wildlife have seen significant reduction in such

conflicts."

He emphasized on strengthened regional collaboration and partnerships to ensure access to sustainable funding and technical support to regional and national agencies. "Partnership remains a key factor to the success of conservation of wildlife in Africa."

UNDP Resident Representative Ms. Verity Nyagah, said there was the need for engagement of local communities and use of native knowledge, pointing out that it is important to recognize the role of indigenous skills and practices in resolving conflicts in wildlife and natural resources.

The head of sector natural resources Jenny Nunes, described the importance of protecting people's land rights through improved land planning and management.

"While we continue to support efforts to develop and enforce laws and regulations to protect wildlife, at a time when climate change is pushing people away from their traditional land, we also need to protect livelihoods of people through promotion of land use planning, community participation and equitable

redistribution of benefits from conservation activities."

On his part, Kaname Ikeda, President of The Sensing and Technology Centre (RESTEC) of Japan, pointed out on the role of research institutions in developing and using advanced monitoring technologies in intercepting poaching and illegal wildlife trade through an 'intelligence-based interception' approach to save wildlife as well lives of the forest rangers.

Edward Phiri, the director of the Lusaka Agreement Task Force, reiterated on the need for enhanced infrastructure for data sharing and exchange. "Illegal wildlife trade and trafficking is a global problem; therefore, effective cooperation is panacea but more importantly a robust data infrastructure and information exchanges are integral elements in the fight against wildlife and forestry crime in Africa".

The Director of Policy Engagement at the African Wildlife Foundation (AWF) Fiesta Warinwa, said "We are here today because we recognize the need for concerted efforts to protect Africa's priceless natural resources. We couldn't have chosen a more opportune time. The conference provides us with a unique opportunity to reckon with the mistakes of the past and chart a way forward towards

The Regional Conference, by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism in Partnership with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and supported by European Union, USAID, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, African Wildlife Foundation, Lusaka Agreement Task Force (LATF), NEPAD, WWF and Remote Sensing Technology Center of Japan (RESTEC).

A recent report published by the Intergovernmental Science-Policy Platform on Biodiversity and Ecosystem Services (IPBES), concludes that, nature is declining globally at rates unprecedented in human history and that this loss is a direct result of human activity.

The findings of the report also establish a direct threat to human well-being in all regions of the world including Africa. Increasing demands by a growing human population that puts competing demands on the natural resources of Africa brings the region to the forefront of our vulnerable co-existence with and dependence on nature for sustainable economic development pathways.

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



IN THE FAIR COMPETITION TRIBUNAL OF TANZANIA AT DAR ES SALAAM

APPEAL NO. 6 OF 2019

BETWEEN

MEDCO ENERGI GLOBAL PTE LIMITED.....APPELLANT

AND

FAIR COMPETITION COMMISSION..... 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 part of the decision of the Fair Competition Commission (FCC) in respect of the pre-condition of Merger approval by the FCC in the Merger Application No. 11 of 2019.

The appeal is based on the grounds that FCC erred in law and fact by determining a matter that did not involve competition and had no jurisdiction to make the order appealed against; and FCC erred in law by making an order outside the bounds of Tanzanian Competition Law. Thus, the Appellant pray for, among others, orders to quash and set aside the pre-condition 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 18th June, 2019.

REGISTRAR

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Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade) foreign marketing manager Stephen Kaborou (L) listens to Hill Group marketing manager James Amiri (3rd-R) at an exhibition for entrepreneurs held in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. It was organised by the Seventh Day Adventists Church of the city's Makongo Juu suburb. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Provide us with experts and inputs, farmers appeal to govt

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbulu

SMALLHOLDER farmers in Mbulu district, Manyara region have appealed to the government to provide agricultural experts, and farm inputs to increase crop production in the area located in northern part of the country.

The farmers made the request through the Mangisa Irrigation Scheme located in Dongobesh ward, Mbulu District when speaking to journalists and experts from National Irrigation Commission (NIRC) who visited the scheme.

Damiano Sulle, secretary of water users' association of the scheme lauded the government and other stakeholders for taking care of farmers by installing irrigation infrastructures in the area, which is key in transforming the people's lives.

Before the scheme, he said: "Farmers were getting between 10 and 15 bags of garlic, but after the improvement of this scheme, farmers get an average of 50 bags per hectare. To farmers, this is a lot."

"What we're appealing is for the government to improve a canal of about 50 meters, which will help

farmers to wisely use water and improve production," Sulle said.

He also suggested the need for the government to look for reliable markets of garlic through Warehouse Receipt System (WRS), as there are enough warehouses in the area.

"This will make us sell the crop at the time when the price is high," he said, adding that once farmers were assured of reliable market, the crop can be used as a catalyst to development in the area and the country at large.

Once processed, garlic can produce garlic powder, garlic paste, garlic chilli,

garlic oil, and garlic vinegar.

With the population of more than 30,000 people, Mbulu district has 2,400 ha which are fit for irrigation and of which only 1,250 ha are under irrigation, whereby there are seven schemes such as Mangisa, Dongobeshi, Tumati, Diyomati, Dirm, Ari and Bashay. Those schemes are used in growing maize, potatoes, barley and other horticultural crops.

The district has excellent climatic conditions for the production of garlic, which is being sold in major cities such as Dar es Salaam, Mwanza, Arusha, and Tanga.

Parliamentary committee calls upon government to distribute special reusable pads with users uncharged

By Henry Mwangonde, Dodoma

THE Parliamentary Budget Committee has urged the government to distribute special reusable sanitary pads for free in schools countrywide after the VAT exemption has failed to reduce the prices of the product.

The move to exempt tax on the product, according to the committee's chairman George Simbachawene has had little impact on the accessibility as well as the costs.

Simbachawene was presenting views of the parliamentary committee on Tanzania's state economy for financial year 2018, the national development plan 2019/2020 as well as assessment of implementation of the 2018/2019 budget and financial plan for 2019/2020.

"Despite the various initiatives taken by the government, they have not managed to facilitate the easy access of the hygiene product at the same time local producers failed to compete with imported ones," he said.

Commenting on the matter Members of Parliament commended the government for removing VAT on the product, however saying that it did not help the final consumers.

Bunda MP Boniface Getere explained that the government should have administered the production of the product in local industries to ensure the products were available.

"The government should have followed up on the local industries to ensure the products were available so that the girls and other people would benefit," he said.

Mtwara Rural MP Hawa Ghasia said the government should have ensured that the products were produced enough in our local industries to ensure that they were available across

the country.

On Sunday, Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) said the scraping of VAT on the sanitary pads was a punishment.

Official data shows that girls miss three to five school days to challenges associated with menstrual period. One girl also drops out of school due to teen pregnancy.

In Tanzania most girls in rural primary schools who have reached puberty do not use appropriate sanitary wear during their monthly menstrual. They use local pads, i.e. rags, raw cotton and maize cobs. Due to lack of lack of water in most rural schools, washing of reusable pads poses a serious challenge.

There are rural school girls who have not even seen a sanitary pad.

Girl pupils either use inappropriate materials to manage menstrual flow or/and opt to stay at home and not attend school during the 3-4 days of their menses.

If they attend school without proper sanitary wear, many girls soil their uniforms and may suffer psychologically due to shame and embarrassment.

It is believed that Poor Menstrual Hygiene Management (MHM) can contribute to poor performance and completion rates among girl pupils and exposes them to health



The government should have followed up on the local industries to ensure the products were available so that the girls and other people would benefit

Rights centres seek African committee's help over expulsion of schoolgirls falling pregnant

By Guardian Reporter

CENTER for Reproductive Rights the Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC) and yesterday filed a Complaint before the African committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child challenging the expulsion and exclusion of pregnant girls from public schools in Tanzania.

The Complaint was filed on behalf of female students in Tanzania and alleges violations of the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child and other international and regional human rights instruments ratified by the country.

"Forcing girls to undergo pregnancy tests against their will, expelling them from schools if found to be pregnant, and denying re-entry after childbirth infringes on their right to education and equality and non-discrimination," said Evelyn Opondo, Senior Regional Director for Africa at the Center for Reproductive Rights.

Tanzania has a long history of implementing discriminatory practices against pregnant schoolgirls.

In June 2017, Tanzania's President John Magufuli sparked outrage from local and regional human rights groups by declaring that students who become pregnant should not be allowed to finish their studies after giving birth.

"While both boy and girl students may face interruptions to their schooling, girls disproportionately bear the harshest consequences under the Tanzanian law. Pregnant school girls have a right to education and should be supported to stay in schools" said Fulgence Massawe, Director of

Advocacy and Reforms at the Legal and Human Rights Centre.

Yesterday on the Day of the African Child, the world reflected on the unique challenges that children face throughout the continent. Today, we take action to hold the Tanzanian government accountable for violating the rights of adolescent girls and the continual rise of teen pregnancies in Tanzania.

The 2015-2016 Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey found that one in four women aged 15 to 19 are mothers. Schools often lack comprehensive sexuality education, with students reporting that they do not have the information they need to prevent pregnancy. Many of these girls became pregnant as a result of rape. Currently, there is no national sexuality education

curriculum in mainland Tanzania.



Tanzania has a long history of implementing discriminatory practices against pregnant schoolgirls



RECRUITMENT NOTICE

BBC Media Action is the BBC's international charity. We believe in the power of media and communication to help reduce poverty and support people in understanding their rights. Our aim is to inform, connect and empower people around the world. With an expanding portfolio, we are now advertising for the following positions in Tanzania:

Project Manager: will be responsible for managing and delivering all aspects of BBC Media Action's new Unicef-funded project, focusing on responsible parenting and family care (RPFC). The project will form part of Unicef's work to implement its new national RPFC strategy, aiming to address major social and behavioural issues relating to parenting.

Senior Research Officer: will play a key role in leading research work for a range of projects delivered by BBC Media Action in Tanzania. S/he will work with the Research Manager to plan and implement research activities for projects focusing on the three thematic areas in which BBC Media Action works, namely governance, resilience and health.

As a member of a global team of research and communication practitioners, the SRO will have the opportunity to contribute to the organisation's work on the synthesis and analysis of best practice for Media Action's projects throughout the world.

Mentor/Producer - Presenter: BBC Media Action is looking for a Mentor/Producer-Presenter to deliver in-depth mentoring on radio production to staff at a number of our radio partner stations throughout the country. The training and ongoing support aim to build their capacity to produce varied, high-quality and editorially robust radio programmes. The Mentor/Producer-Presenter will deliver training on location at the partner stations' studios and during centrally organised training events.

Please only apply if you meet the basic criteria under the person specification which can be downloaded at:

<http://www.live.bbc.co.uk/corporate2/mediaaction/jobs/project-manager-tanzania-2019>

<http://www.live.bbc.co.uk/corporate2/mediaaction/jobs/senior-research-officer-tanzania-2019>

<http://www.live.bbc.co.uk/corporate2/mediaaction/jobs/mentor-producer-presenter-tanzania-2019>

Candidates should send their CV and a cover letter (PDF or Microsoft Word format) which outlines their experience and suitability for the role in English by email to: recruitment@tz.bbcmiaaction.org with the title of the position applied for in the subject line before 5pm on Monday 24th June 2019. Please do not send certificates or other attachments. Applicants with no separate cover letter will not be considered. These are local posts applicable to people who have the legal right to live and work in Tanzania and national terms and conditions will apply. Only shortlisted candidates will be notified.



MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT

ADVERTISEMENT

INVITATION TO TENDER (ITT)

TENDER TITLE: CIVIL WORKS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF THE PROPOSED GULU LOGISTICS HUB IN NORTHERN UGANDA

TENDER NUMBER: PRQ20181061

TradeMark East Africa (TMEA) is an organization funded by a range of development agencies to promote regional trade and economic integration in East Africa. Government of Republic of Uganda has been allocated grant funds from TradeMark East Africa which are administered by TradeMark East Africa and executed by Ministry of Works and Transport – Uganda. TMEA intends to apply the funds to eligible direct payments under the contract for which this Invitation for Bid issued.

As a result, TMEA now invites sealed bids from eligible bidders for Civil Works for the Construction of The Proposed Gulu Logistics Hub in Northern Uganda.

The tender documents can be obtained at <http://www.trademarka.com/get-involved/procurement/>. All queries quoting the Tender Title and Number in the email subject should be emailed to procurement@trademarka.com. The closing date for submissions is 17 July 2019 at 11.00 am (Kampala Time).

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



Advocate calls for release of Bishop Kameka as under High Court ruling

By Guardian Reporter

BISHOP Mulilege Kameka of the House of Prayers Shield of Faith Christian Fellowship Church has filed a suit against the United Republic of Tanzania in the East Africa Court of Justice in Arusha.

In the suit the Bishop is claiming that the United Republic of Tanzania is in breach of the Treaty for Establishment of East Africa Community which Tanzania is a signatory as a member country.

Bishop Mulilege who is represented by advocate John Mallya in the case number 10 of 2019 is currently in Segerea Remand Prison following an order by the Minister of Home Affairs that the bishop is not a citizen and he is in the country contrary to the law.

Documents filed by his lawyer state that the bishop has been in remand since December 2018, despite the fact

that on March 18, 2019, the High Court of Tanzania, Dar es Salaam Registry through Judge Mgeta gave a ruling that the bishop is a Tanzanian and that the order by the Minister was illegally issued, and the court went on to order an immediate release of the Bishop but still the Tanzanian government is yet to implement the order.

On March 28, 2019, the Senior Deputy Registrar of the High Court of Tanzania wrote to the Prison Commander of Segerea Remand Prison requiring him to implement the court order by releasing the Bishop but the same has not been implemented to date.

According to the advocate representing the Bishop such Tanzanian government conduct is contravening the Treaty particularly article 6 and 7 which requires a member country to abide by principles of Rule of Law, Respect of Human Rights and Democracy.



Turkey's Ambassador to Tanzania, Ali Davutoğlu (L), has lunch with children cared for at Dar es Salaam's Ashura orphanage, which he visited at the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Deputy minister guarantees long-haul drivers of simplified transport logistics

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE government yesterday assured drivers operating across the border that it had improved regulations and procedures to simplify transport logistic of cargo from the Port of Dar es Salaam to other destinations.

The Deputy Minister for Works, Transport and Communication engineer Atashasta Nditije disclosed this yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the Capacity Building Certificate Ward Ceremony for transporters.

The training was organised in collaboration between the World Food Programme (WFP), the United Parcel Service (UPS) - the American multinational package delivery and supply chain management company and the University of Dar es Salaam Business School.

He said that initially there were cumbersome process that led to wastage of time and increase in costs adding that fail to know processing procedures was one of the big challenge.

Nditije added that the government intends to review various fees imposed by ministries departments, agencies and regulatory authorities with a view to abolish some of them and reduce or harmonise those which are charged by more than one organization.

Commenting on the training, he said it was important tools since it will help them to protect health and safety.

"I call on the organisers to ensure it becomes a long-term course so that

it can contribute to reduce number of road crashes killing and sustain injuries," he said.

According to him, it will facilitate transport logistic along the central corridor calling other higher learning institutions to join hands to ensure transport sector become strong.

For his part, the Acting Vice Chancellor of the University of Dar es Salaam, Prof Bonaventure Rutinwa said the training aimed at improving efficacy of transporting system in the country.

He said transport sector has multiplier effects and therefore drivers must well be equipped with knowledge to reduce delaying and costs.

"Transport system is vital for movement of industrial goods from the port to other destinations. Therefore there is a need to have resilience transport system," he said.

The Head of Supply Chain, WFP, Riaz Lodhi said transport sector was very important noting that once it was strong, the nation would be strong too.

He said that since its inception, about 1000 drivers had attended so far adding that without strong drivers, the sector can transport nothing.

He said the training focused on nutrition, Human Immune Deficiency Virus (HIV), Ebola Viral Disease (EVD), and to know their rights.

"Our goal to support training to drivers is to implement the sustainable goals (SDG's), number 2 (Zero Hunger, Good Health and Well-being) and goal number 17 (Partnership to achieve the goal).

Completion of work on Makutano Juu-Natta road scheduled for Jan 2020, Parliament told

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE construction of the Makutano Juu-Sanzate-Mugumu-Loliondo-Mto wa Mbu road is scheduled to end in 2020, parliament heard yesterday.

Deputy Minister for Works, Transport and Communications, Elias Kwandikwa told the lawmakers that the 4502 kilometres road, under construction has reached 70.77 percent of the whole project.

He was responding to a question asked by the Bunda MP, Boniphace Getere who had wanted to know when the Makutano, Sanzate to Natta road would be completed, arguing the construction has taken too long.

"When shall the road project be completed to end woes that people who use the road are facing?" she asked. The MP also wanted to know if government experts have visited the road to ascertain the quality of work being done.

The deputy minister in response said the mentioned road is part of the Makutano Juu-Natta-Mugumu-Loliondo-Mto wa Mbu-Makuyuni road, stretching 437 kilometres.

He said some 50 kilometres from Makutano Juu to Sanzate is under construction to tarmac level by a contractor called M/s Mbutu Bridge JV at the cost of Sh 50.4 billion.

Kwandikwa noted that the construction began on 5th April, 2013 and was scheduled to end by 16th May, 2015 but the contractor was given more time to 28th February, 2019.

"Following various challenges including change of the design, late payment and a lot of rainfall forced the project to stall for a long time" he said.

He told the parliament that the contractor requested for more time to be able to complete the project in January, 2020.

Kwandikwa maintained that the government through TANROADS and other experts including consultant on the ground have confirmed that the ongoing construction has met the expected standards.

Meanwhile the government yesterday announced plans to renovate the Mtwara-Masasi road which is used by heavy trucks from the Dangote Company to transport cement to different parts of the region.



Iringa Urban legislator Rev Peter Msigwa of the opposition Chadema addresses one of the rallies he organised at Miyomboni/Kitanzini, Ruaha and Kihesa in the constituency last week. Photo: Correspondent Friday Simbaya

Ministry of Education and UNESCO in bid to reach children in remote villages across Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIA in partnership with UN agencies have created an open source software device that enables unreached children in remote areas learn on their own to write and read literacy and acquire basic numeracy skills.

Permanent secretary in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, Dr Leonard Akwilapo revealed this yesterday when speaking during a roundtable discussion on the use of innovative self-learning software that utilizes solar aimed at increasing access to basic education in Tanzania.

He said the technology was introduced in the country by the government in collaboration with World Food Programme (WFP) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (Unesco).

"There are so many children who are not in school for various reasons either they have absconded or are in remote areas where schools cannot be reached and pastoralists children are the most affected, that's why we came up with the programme that aims to ensure the children get basic education," he said.

He noted that so far the programme has started in Tanga, Morogoro and Ngorogoro areas and they were currently discussing ways of improving the project as well as rolling it countrywide. Further he noted that they were currently looking at ways to incorporate the programme into the ministry's learning guidelines for the children.

Unesco head in the Tanzania office, Tirso Dos Santos, said that there are 250 million children worldwide not in schools and XPrize a non profit organisation developing and managing competitors to find social challenges in collaboration with the government run a competition between the selected software organisation.

He said the tests required each product to be field tested in Swahili, reaching nearly 3000 children in 170 villages across Tanzania. Kit Kit School from South Korea and us based onebillion operating in Kenya emerged winners.

KitKit School developed a programme with a game based core and flexible learning architecture to help kids learn independently while Onebillion merged numeracy content with literacy material to provide directed learning and activities alongside monitoring to personalize responses to children's needs.

"Both teams won \$5million to continue the work," he said, adding: "Before the programme less than 10 percent of children could read one word but after the project 60 percent could read, while before less than 5 percent could read a sentence but after more than 60 percent could, in numeracy 10 percent could not subtract or add to one digit but after 60 percent could."

For her part, XPrize project officer based in Unesco Tanga Office, Basilina Levina said that while the programme proved successful the challenges encountered include remoteness of some villages that could not be reached easily making the initiative very expensive.

She said that out of 3000 tablets that were awarded to the children 2000 of them broke and had to be replaced again.



Following various challenges including change of the design, late payment and a lot of rainfall forced the project to stall for a long time



A vendor hunts for customers for his bananas near the Uhuru Street/Msimbazi Street intersection in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Guardian Photographer

By Guardian Correspondent, Mtwara

WMA implements prime minister's directive to ensure farmers benefit

WEIGHTS and Measures Agency (WMA) has started implementing the Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa's directives on ensuring that all weighing scales that are used in weighing cotton and sesame are correct.

In implementing the order, WMA has already inspected weighing machines and empowered farmers in Lindi, Mtwara and Ruvuma regions with education on their rights when it comes to weighing scales. Southern Tanzania's regions are popular for growing sesame—one of the main export oriented oilseed crops in the country.

WMA technical director, Stella Kaywa revealed this yesterday when speaking

to a team of officials who are visiting agricultural and marketing cooperatives societies (AMCOS) to inspect and test weighing scales. The move is meant to ensure that farmers are not deceived in the process of weighing their crops.

"We want to encourage farmers to grow more crops by ensuring that what they sell is measured correctly, hence complement the government's efforts to meet its industrialization drive," she said.

She added: "In order to meet the

government's industrialization agenda, there is a need to ensure that agro-raw materials are available. That's why it is important for us to ensure that farmers get what they deserve."

The official also encouraged managers of cotton and sesame buying centers to ensure that their weighing machines have correct readings so that no one is deceived.

WMA is carrying out a similar exercise of verifying scales that are used to measure cotton before the buying sea-

son starts in the Lake Zone regions.

WMA Manager of Communications and Public Relations, Irene John said that the move is part of the agency to ensure that farmers benefit from their right to profits from their agricultural produce. "This is also part of our move to ensure that weighing scales that are used in primary cooperative unions are accurate," she said, adding: "The ongoing inspection is to ensure that no one is being cheated between the buyer and the seller."

By Correspondent James Kandoya

Elders in Morogoro calls for govt intervention to amend bylaws and improve health services

OLDER people in Morogoro region are calling on the government to amend laws on rights of old people stressing the need to have geriatricians at health centres for improved health services.

Speaking in the forum to commemorate the World Elders Abuse Awareness Day (WEAAD), held over the weekend in the region, Morogoro Elderly People's Organisation (MOROPEO) director, Samson Msemembo said older people were still facing abuse, neglect and violence.

He said the day was for the first time celebrated at Municipal level this year since being recognized by the United Nations and the government in 2011. This year's theme was "Building strong support for older people, lifting voices".

The director said the day is aimed at highlighting one of the worst manifestations of ageism and inequality in our society, elder's abuse.

Elder abuse is any act which causes harm to an older person and is carried out by someone they know, trust such as a family member or friend which may be physical, social, financial, psychological or sexual and can include mistreatment and neglect.

Msemembo listed others challenges such as absence of policy and lack of drugs especially those needed to treat non communicable diseases (NCD).

"Older people are prone to get NCD's such as prostate gland and all related to that. There we call on the government to provide geriatricians to deal health with older people as it was for women and children," he insisted.

He added that the health policy prohibit health centers to prescribe NCD's drugs, the situation force them to walk longer distances to district or

regional hospitals to get the same services.

According to him, the experts at health centers should be allowed to prescribe drugs for the diseases affecting older people to reduce unnecessary disturbance.

The director also said there was low involvement of older people in the decision making organs such as Parliament and even in municipal council meetings.


One member from the Older People and Monitoring Group for NCD from Tungi Ward, Godfrey Taiko called on the municipal to increase the supply of NCD's drugs at health Centres and even in dispensaries. Representing the Municipal Medical Officer, Dr Vulfrida Kyara promised to work out on the challenges to eliminate unnecessary disturbances.

She said the municipal was planning to extend outreach

programmes to reach more older people living far from the facilities and cannot walk.

Dr Kyara said apart from that, the municipal will ensure that there were special rooms to provide health services to old people (age friendly services).

"At our municipal we are working hard to overcome challenges in the health policy to improve the quality of health services delivered to elder people," she said.



MARCAS

DEBT COLLECTORS AND AUCTIONEERS LTD.

NOTICE/PUBLIC AUCTION
14 DAYS AUCTION

MARCAS DEBT COLLECTORS AND AUCTIONEERS LTD pursuant to instructions received from: African Banking Corporation Tanzania Limited (BancABC) by virtue of Deeds described here under shall sell by Public Auction the property of *Pulses & Agro Commodities Under Mr. Baksh Vohara* and *Air Born City Limited Under Abdullatif Mohsen* on the days, dates and time as described on the table below

357.24 Acres

8,000 Acres

No	Security/Property	Location	Registration Details	Date & Time
1.	Farm NO. 2489 Loborsoit Village, Simanjiro District, Arusha Municipality	Loborsoit Village Simanjiro District, Arusha Municipality	CT.NO.25665, LONO.267402 FARM NO.2489	at 10:00 am on 2.07.2019 Tuesday
2.	Commercial Property, Land Farm No. 7/2 Essimngor Masai District	Essimngor Masai District Arusha Municipality 9,000 Acres	CT.NO.13669 LONO.19096 MP NO.56270	at 10:00 am on 3.07.2019 Wednesday

CONDITIONS FOR AUCTION

1. The highest Bidder must pay 25% of the bid price immediately after the Auction. The remaining balance must be paid within 14 calendar days from the end date. Failure by the buyer to pay the 75% balance within the stipulated time frame will result in the advance payment being forfeited and re-auctioned.


2. The property shall be sold in the conditions it is.

3. The highest bidder is not necessarily the winner. Auctioneer has the right to reserve the price.

4. All costs including registration and transfer are on account of the buyer

ANY ADVERTISEMENT PRIOR TO THIS DATE CEASE TO BE VALID

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Jukumu letu kuipokea Tanzania Mbele

215281101



BODI YA USAJILI WA MAKANDARASI (CRB)

TAARIFA KWA UMMA

Katika kuadhimisha Wiki ya Utumishi wa Umma iliyoanza tarehe 16 hadi 23 Juni 2019, Bodi ya Usajili wa Makandarasi inapenda kuwataarifu Makandarasi na wadau wote wa sekta ya ujenzi kuwa, kama sehemu ya maadhimisho Bodi imetenga dawati maalum kwajili ya kupokea maoni na ushauri juu ya huduma inazozitoa.

Zoezi hili litafanyika kuanzia saa 3:00 asubuhi hadi saa 9:30 alasiri katika Ofisi za Bodi za Makao Makuu na Ofisi za Kanda, (Mwenge, Arusha, Mwanza, Dodoma na Mbeya).

Aidha, kwa wadau wa watakaoshindwa kufika katika ofisi za Bodi, bado wanayo nafasi ya kuwasilisha maoni na ushauri juu ya huduma zetu kwa njia ya Barua ya kawaida kwa anuani tajwa hapo chini au Barua pepe; crbhq@crbtz.org.

Kwa maelezo, zaidi tafadhali usite kuwasiliana na ofisi za Bodi za (Makao Makuu na ofisi za kanda). Atakayeona tangazo hili amtaarifu na mwenzie.

Imetolewa na:
MSAJILI

<p>Head Office P.O.Box 13374, Dar es salaam, Pamba Road, Tetex House 3rd Floor Tel: +255-22-2137962/2137962-3 Fax: +255-22-2137964 Email: crbhq@crbtz.org</p>	<p>Southern Zone P.O.Box 1690, Mbeya, NHIF Tower 3rd Floor Tel: +255- 2502480 Email: crbsz@crbtz.org</p>	<p>East Zone P.O.Box 33621, Dar es salaam Coca Cola Road – Mwenge, Josam House, 4th Floor Tel:+255-222771877 Email: crbez@crbtz.org</p>
<p>Lake Zone P.O.Box 2815, Mwanza, Station Road, Tanroad Compound Tel: +255-282500218 Email: crblz@crbtz.org</p>	<p>Central Zone P.O.Box 2618 Dodoma, PSPF Plaza 1st Floor, Tel: +255- 262966040 Email: crbcz@crbtz.org</p>	<p>Northern Zone P. O.Box 16795, Arusha, Summit Centre, 4th Floor, Block B Tel: +255 – 272547107 Fax: +255 – 272547107 Email: crbnz@crbtz.org</p>

Africa has every reason to tap, use much more solar power

AFRICAN countries, blessed with sunlight all year round, are tapping free and clean energy source to light up remote and isolated homes that have no immediate hope of linking to their national electricity grid.

Electrifying rural areas poses unique challenges for African governments. Remote and scattered, rural homes, unlike homes in urban areas, are costly and often impractical to connect to the grid. Countries are seeking innovative alternatives to give rural families efficient means to cook their food and light their homes. Stand-alone sources of energy, such as solar power, wind and mini-hydro generators, can help fill the gap.

African countries must boost access to cheaper and reliable energy. Excluding South Africa and Egypt, no more than 20 per cent (and in some countries as few as 5 per cent) of Africans have electricity. This figure falls to an average of 2 per cent in rural areas where the majority of Africans live – a far cry from the 35 per cent consumption level, or more, African leaders wish to achieve.

Africa, after all, possesses some of the world's largest watercourses (hydro-potential), as well as some of the world's largest oil, coal and gas reserves. We believe that solar power, clean and renewable, fits the bill. African countries must think outside the box. The sun is free and inexhaustible. Solar technology – photovoltaic panels – converts the sun's radiation directly into electricity with no pollution or damage to the environment. The panels can generate enough power to run stoves, pump water, light clinics and power televisions. Africa has one of the best climates for this type of energy.

But even with the compelling advantages solar power offers, the

majority of Africans still rely on less efficient traditional energy sources. Wood, or other biomass such as crop waste, is the dominant fuel for cooking. This comes at a huge cost to the environment as families continue to cut down trees for much-needed fuel.

In the early 1990s, numerous villages turned to solar power in parts of Africa.

More households could afford solar power, argues the World Bank, if governments were to remove barriers, such as high import duties, that increase the cost of the panels. African leaders are demonstrating commitment to bring solar power to rural homes.

Besides domestic use, people are harnessing solar power to run small businesses.

No major marketing is needed to convince African citizens to turn to solar. The demand is high. With concerted efforts Africans will, hopefully, not languish in line for much longer. Solar electricity, states the World Bank, is as good as an electricity grid for rural households since they do not consume much power.

Solar power is the conversion of energy from sunlight into electricity, either directly using photovoltaics (PV), indirectly using concentrated solar power, or a combination. Concentrated solar power systems use lenses or mirrors and tracking systems to focus a large area of sunlight into a small beam. Photovoltaic cells convert light into an electric current using the photovoltaic effect.

A new report released by the German Solar Association (BSW-Solar) and the Becquerel Institute have revealed that with the arrival of many international investors and the race for solar projects, Africa is on track to multiply its current solar capacity six-fold or 30 gigawatts (GW) by 2030.

International Day of families provides an opportunity to promote awareness

IN the context of human society, a family from Latin: familia is a group of people related either by consanguinity by recognized birth, affinity by marriage or other relationship, or co-residence as implied by the etymology of the English word family or some combination of these. Members of the immediate family may include spouses, parents, brothers, sisters, sons, and daughters. Members of the extended family may include grandparents, aunts, uncles, cousins, nephews, nieces, and siblings-in-law. Sometimes these are also considered members of the immediate family, depending on an individual's specific relationship with them.

In most societies, the family is the principal institution for the socialisation of children. As the basic unit for raising children, anthropologists generally classify most family organisations as matrifocal a mother and her children; conjugal a wife, her husband, and children, also called the nuclear family; avuncular for example, a grandparent, a brother, his sister, and her children; or extended parents and children co-reside with other members of one parent's family. Sexual relations among the members are regulated by rules concerning incest such as the incest taboo.

The word family can be used metaphorically to create more inclusive categories such as community, nationhood, global village, and humanism. One of the primary functions of the family involves providing a framework for the production and reproduction of persons biologically and socially. This can occur through the sharing of material substances such as food; the giving and receiving of care and nurture (nurture kinship); jural rights and obligations; and moral and sentimental ties. Thus, one's experience of one's family shifts over time. From the perspective of children, the family is a family of orientation: the family serves to locate children socially and plays a major role in their enculturation and socialization. From the point of view

of the parent(s), the family is a family of procreation, the goal of which is to produce and enculturate and socialize children. However, producing children is not the only function of the family; in societies with a sexual division of labour, marriage, and the resulting relationship between two people, it is necessary for the formation of an economically productive household.

A single-parent family consist one parent together with his or her children, where the parent is either widowed, divorced and not remarried, or never married. The parent may either have sole custody of the children, or the parents may have a shared parenting arrangement, where the children divide their time equally between two different single-parent families or between one single-parent family and one blended family. Physical, mental and social well-being is lower for sole custody children, compared to children in nuclear families or shared parenting arrangements. The number of single-parent families have been increasing, and about half of all children in the United States have lived in a single-parent family at some point before they reach the age of 18. Most single-parent families are headed by a mother, but the number of single-parent families headed by fathers is increasing.

A matrifocal family consists of a mother and her children. Generally, these children are her biological offspring, although adoption of children is a practice in nearly every society. This kind of family occurs commonly where women have the resources to rear their children by themselves, or where men are more mobile than women.

The International Day of Families is observed on the 15th of May every year. The Day was proclaimed by the UN General Assembly in 1993 and reflects the importance the international community attaches to families. The International Day provides an opportunity to promote awareness of issues relating to families and to increase knowledge of the social, economic and demographic processes affecting families.

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Africa tech summit 2019: Rich mix of block chain, fintech start-ups

AFRICA Tech Summit goes from strength to strength as an event bringing together successful start-ups, new contenders and key investors. Russell Southwood picks his way through the menu on offer.

Two of the key events in the African start-ups investment circuit seem to go from strength to strength. This year's Afrobytes was held at Paris' massive start-up hub Station F and drew large crowds. Its London equivalent Africa Tech Summit was held recently and drew what looked like its largest audience yet.

I wouldn't usually start a report by describing the sponsor's speech but when it's Facebook I make an exception. Its Public Policy Manager, Africa, Access and Connectivity Kojo Boayake described what it's doing on the continent to help start-ups and it was all interesting. (Note to other event sponsors: have something to say and stay on topic). Boayake hobbled to the stage because he'd injured his foot but didn't let that break his stride.

He spoke about Facebook Connectivity, its arm for investing in connectivity infrastructure, which - among other things - is working with Main One to roll-out more fibre connectivity in Nigeria and has invested in local Wi-Fi hot-spot start-up Tizeti. It has also made fibre investments in Airtel (in Uganda) and BCS. The representative from Nigeria's Ogun State featured in the video he showed said: "In 10-15 years time, it (the internet) will have transformed society".

It has launched a start-up assistance programme called FloStartAccelerator@Ng_Hub to provide non-equity funding for start-ups and students and will roll it out in other countries on the continent in partnership with other players in the ecosystem. It also claims to have trained 66,000 African developers with new skills and helped 50,000 young entrepreneurs through #SheMeansBusiness.

All this is good business for Facebook as 145 million people a month connect to its various apps across Africa. It has also introduced an insights product called Cross Border Insights Finder which can help African start-ups find buyers for their products globally. It can look at your existing buyers and find people with similar characteristics in other countries. Indeed the second Facebook session focused on helping African start-ups to sell globally. An interesting global stat was that 70% of purchases were made from an



international site in 2017.

Tedd George chaired the Blockchain and Crypto for Africa described himself as a "sceptical enthusiast". He asked for a show of hands for different options: broadly, want to know more, want to understand more and have heard more than enough already. I was tempted to raise my hand for the last proposition but the absence of other hands made me shy. Blockchain and Crypto currency are doubtless important for Africa but as with teenagers, there is lot more talk about sex than actually doing it.

One of the early pioneers, Elizabeth Rossiello, BitPesa said that when they first talked to the Central Bank of Kenya: "They looked at us like 'what space ship did you get off?'". Kenya subsequently banned bitcoin but a number of other African countries have taken a more sympathetic approach. She commended South Africa's Central Bank which she said had issued a number of interesting White Papers on the topic: "There's a lot of fluff and crazy stuff but if you're an investor or entrepreneur, you need to get out there."

Tedd George pointed out that only 3% of people used bitcoin for actual transactions but the pushback argument was that it was really a store of value: in other words, it was investors. Making transactions on bitcoin is very slow compared to other methods. Rossiello pointed out that when a German company working with Jumia to supply merchants with credit approached BitPesa: "(The partnership) was all done in two weeks because we all had interoperable systems." This seemed to me more like an argument for digitally interoperable systems than bitcoin itself.

So what of Blockchain, the quieter and often more modest cousin of

crypto currency? Rossiello said there were several banks operating private blockchains and there are examples of blockchain being used for information tracking. But my later conversation with Ola Oyetaayo, Verto who pairs organizations that want to exchange currencies (initially it was Nairas and dollars but later other currencies) struck me as more rooted in the day-to-day realities of the continent.

Because not everything seems to happen fast on the continent. Two start-ups I saw last year at Africa Tech Summit and Afrobytes were back again still looking for funding and both are interesting ideas. Karanvir Singh, CEO, Yegomoto was back pitching his version of ride hailing and looking for US\$15 million.

He argued that Uber had actually made drivers poorer and that his approach would do the reverse using intelligent connected meters. The other start-up pitching was Dayo Akinrinade, founder of African and Caribbean dating site Africlick. Its USP is that it is culturally sensitive to things that matter to African and Caribbean daters.

The Fintech panel opened with the Chair noting that US\$500 million had been invested in the sector in 2018. Saad Sheikh, TLG Capital noted that m-money has been more successful in East than West Africa and it is "investing in these landscapes." The big announcement of the session was on 1 October this year that US investment agency OPIC (represented by Richard Woodhull) will be recreated as something called DFC and its investment cap will be increased to US\$60 billion and the requirement for a US shareholder will be removed.

In other news, O, Global Partnerships and Expansion, Flutterwave said that it had gone into Zambia with a local

partner rather than trying to set up its own operation and that in the future: "I hope and wish to do more of that".

In the New Wave: Mobile Financial Services, Credit and Data for African Consumers, Chijoke Dozie, OneFi/Carbon highlighted the credit disparity for individuals. When he was in the UK HSBC sent him a card offering him a GBP1,500 credit limit but that getting credit in Nigeria and elsewhere in Africa was extremely difficult even if you're earning. Some banks in Cote d'Ivoire actually charge 10 euros a month to have a bank account and others charge for account balance enquiries. And as Maria Rotilu, General Manager, Branch International said: "On our platform, you can access a loan in a minute."

Christos Thomaras, CFO Jumo argued that its business model had lower overheads so it would be able to address those who are financially excluded more easily than banks. But this was not the only difference: "60% of our staffing is feature creation technologists and that's very different to a bank." It does both loans and savings and claims a 92% repeat rate from customers.

Tunde Kehinde, Co-Founder, Lidya made a version of the same point: "It's impossible for everyone to solve everything. We focus on a single problem. We loan as little as US\$150 to an SME. We don't have to be in every location if we use data (to assess our customers' loan requests)."

The Venture Capital: Raising Returns and Exits Panel wrestled with the difficulties investors have with African start-ups and vice-versa. Tokunboh Ishmael, Co-Founder, Alitheia Capital said that African founders often looked for money too early before they had worked out the business idea: "They are not asking what does the customer want and what does he or she need. These are not always the same thing." She also stressed that start-up founders need to focus on a single product: "Do one thing extremely well. Anything new needs to be complementary so you don't take your eye off the ball."

Eline Blaauboer, Co-Founder and Managing Partner, African Tech Venture cautioned against expanding too quickly: "Cellulant expanded too quickly... Sindy wanted to expand to East Africa and we said no, let's just do Nairobi (initially) but it has now expanded into several other countries".

From the start-up perspective, Christina Sass, Co-Founder, Andela observed that: "If you don't want to scale, you should rethink. Working with VCs is like a marriage, you're stuck with each other for a long time."

Decentralised agricultural services and determinants of input use in Tanzania

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

SMALL holder farmers and other stakeholders have called for the government to improve agricultural input supply and ensure every village has well equipped agro extension officer to help farmers get extension advisory services on time to increase production.

They also said the current system of agricultural input supply is centralized and monopolized by few individuals mainly businessmen, a kind of system that is not giving farmers their right.

They were speaking at the national learning event on strengthening social accountability in health and agriculture in Southern Africa, an event held in Dar e Salaam recently.

The meeting was aimed at sharing working models, good and best practices, success stories and experiences in social accountability monitoring (SAM) and Public Resource Management (PRM) within the health (HIV and SRHR) and agriculture (food security) sectors from national level.

Sala Seleman, a small holder farmer from Mvumi village, Kilosa district in Morogoro region said that inadequate and untimely delivery of agricultural inputs has failed many farmers across the country from conducting profitable agriculture.

Citing an example of fertilizer, Sala who grows maize in Kilosa said that the agricultural inputs have been reaching the farmers late when they have already planted their crops. The agricultural inputs such as seeds are also said to be of low quality and expensive.

She also said there is a need to locate extension officers and equip them with working tools so that they can provide farming education to the

farmers living in remote area.

Action Aid Tanzania head of program and policy, Jovita Nawenzake from Action Aid, said "we all understand that where there is centralized and monopolized kind of system where there is no right. The power of supply is centred to the suppliers. I think that has to be looked at and change the system to benefit people rather than benefiting businessmen who are making business out of the farmers' input."

"The way local communities have been saying, there are complaints about the system of input supply. The system is centralized and monopolized by few people, a situation that deny the small holder farmers their right," she added.

Commenting on social accountability in health, she said that some of the oversight bodies are not given knowledge to successfully carry out their activities.

Citing an example of the community health committees, she said that these committees are representative of the communities but they assume power without knowledge of their duties and responsibilities, suggesting that the government has a role to capacitate them so that they can perform their administration role properly.

Normally the community committees are supposed to oversee the implementation of the health facilities but they don't know even planning and budgeting processes. They are not even told that they are supposed to be involved in the planning and budgeting. They are just there to endorse things which they are not involved in. This is supposed to be done by the government to make sure that they are accountable but they cannot be accountable if they don't understand their roles and responsibilities.



SDC national project manager Samwely Mkwatwa (standing) making a point during the meeting. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

In some villages it was revealed that since the committees were put in place they have never interacted with the communities, the communities just participated in electing them but they don't understand that their roles and responsibilities are, as result they have never held them accountable. Many committees are not responsive to their communities.

"Even the communities are not aware, some are wondering why they are not getting information about the budget or resource mobilization. For example if there is a shortage of drugs they can't ask, they don't know that there are these committees that link them and the health facilities in their respective areas.

Ward Councilor for Samba in

Mbozi District Council, Alfonsina kibona called for women empowerment so that they could get rid of men domination.

"We would like to be empowered so that we can participate in the income and expenditure, we can participate in planning and budget processes right from the family level to the district level," she said.

Commenting on the project, Samwely Mkwatwa, from Action-Aid Tanzania, and Koga Mihama from TACOSODE said that The project which has just ended sought to improve public service delivery in agriculture (food security), and health (HIV/AIDS, sexual and reproductive health and rights) by strengthening the oversight and social accountability roles of five target groups in

the SADC region.

Representatives from Kilosa health district council, Mbozi health district council, village health committee members shared their knowledge, practical experiences and the best practices on health sector especially on HIV testing for youth and adolescences. For example, they said during the project period, there has been improved social services especially the distribution of equipment, decreased maternity and infant mortality rates between 24 in 2016 to 18 in 2018, increased number of youth participation in reproductive and sexual education awareness sessions and demand for provision of youth friendly services

In Mbozi district, the health officer Albert Haule said the project increased awareness on the five SAM processes, enhanced close integrations between service providers and services users, hence it increased decision making in health issues at distinct level.

In agriculture, Mbozi agriculture district officer Aziz Mtambo also explained that the PSA project had impact on agriculture sector as it increased agriculture extension officers to assist small holder farmers in their farming activities, good use of fertilizers and land management for better farming system.

"Before the project, the farmer's awareness was limited to their ordinary farming styles, therefore through the trainings and engagements of extension officers production has improved," he said.

Kilosa District Executive Director Asagile Lucas Mwambambale commended the project saying

it has improved both agriculture and health services. Citing an example he said that the district established sugarcane farms for alternative revenue generation

It also launched a mini sugar industry for sugar production at the district level, established an animal husbandry farm, and strengthened internal resource mobilization.

Earlier on, Sabrina Masanjila from African Centre for Biodiversity (ACB) said food production systems need to respond to a fast-growing population. She also pointed on the need to strengthen the distribution of subsidy to small holder farmers to increase productivity.

"To achieve food security and combat hunger as defined in to the 2030 Agenda especially SDG 2, there is a need and deliberate efforts for the government and other stakeholders to put more emphasis on sustainable agriculture.

Action Aid Tanzania is implementing a Regional Public Resource Management (PRM) project which is funded by Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC) in a consortium with the Partnership for Social Accountability (PSA) Alliance. It is a consortium of organizations led by ActionAid International (AAI), including the Public Service Accountability Monitor (PSAM) of Rhodes University, Eastern and Southern Africa Small Scale Farmers' Forum (ESAFF) and SaFAIDS. In the first three-year phase (2016-2019), the national focus of the project was on Zambia, Malawi, Tanzania and Mozambique.

The Nigerian refugee who saved her daughters from FGM

London, England

SHE was forced to make a choice that would haunt any mother: Abandon her young son to save her three daughters, or stay with him and let her daughters face their fate.

For six months, Odachi Mustapha* (not her real name) had been siphoning money from the household allowance her husband provided, squirreling it away in a secret bank account until she had amassed £2,000 (\$2,518).

She knew it would not go very far, but it would have to do because she could not wait any longer and none of her well-off siblings was going to help her.

Odachi had been born to middle-class parents in Lagos, NIGERIA. "https://www.aljazeera.com/topics/country/Nigeria.html" Nigeria, both of whom had passed away. Her father had studied accounting and business in the HYPERLINK "https://www.aljazeera.com/topics/country/united-kingdom.html" United Kingdom and her mother ran a fashion import company.

As a teenager, she attended beauty college after high school. By the time Odachi met her future husband she was 21 and had established her own salon doing hair, nails, and make-up for the women of Lagos.

He was 20 years her senior - worldly, well-read, educated as a geologist - and worked for Mobil Oil, a job that afforded him the opportunity to travel frequently for work.

They courted for a year, and then married and Odachi moved into her husband's house.

His three daughters from a previous marriage also lived there; their mother had died, but by remarriage, the widower now had a live-in housekeeper.

The 22-year-old bride was not much older than her teenage stepdaughters, and they regarded her as an intrusion into their lives. In addition, their maternal grandparents were adamant that they knew best how to care for the girls.

In short order, Odachi gave birth to a son and three daughters of her own. The house was now awash with children - and one exhausted wife. Not surprisingly, her husband idolised his only son and wouldn't let him out of his sight.

Odachi was also overwhelmed by the

constant intrusions of her husband's family, who felt free to barge into their son's home at any time and instruct the new wife on housekeeping and childcare. "They thought I just came from nowhere to enjoy their wealth."

"The man, too, started treating me bad, you understand. His children, they will be insulting me, abusing me. I'm like a housegirl in my own house," she said.

While the teenaged children expected Odachi to clean up after them constantly, her husband verbally and physically assaulted her if she tried to defend herself.

This continued throughout her pregnancies, as the physical abuse escalated to her being punched in the face. After one particularly severe beating, she ran away but her husband came looking for her.

Odachi's children were young and she knew they needed her, so she overrode the instinct to protect herself and returned to them.

"Being in Nigeria, you're not meant to walk away from your marriage. You will be a shame to your family. Better you die in silence."

Odachi's husband soon forbid her to work as well, and the beauty business she had built disappeared.

She tried to console herself that at least she didn't need to worry about providing for her children; they had a comfortable lifestyle with a large, impressive house.

"It's like living in bondage"

Her husband even let her take a trip to the UK alone and she went to Manchester to visit her friends. On a second trip, she was able to take her eldest daughter; again they visited Manchester for a couple of weeks.

But her life at home had become intolerable and Odachi could feel her ability to cope slipping away.

"My health was getting worse and my doctors advised that I should leave this environment because I was suffering from a serious, chronic depression. I was on high medication, but I felt like committing suicide. I didn't have any say over my own life. It's like you're living in bondage."

The breaking point arrived like a thunderclap when her husband and his parents announced they planned to



perform female genital mutilation (FGM) on her three daughters to "keep them from being promiscuous".

As city dwellers, Odachi's parents did not believe in this practice, but her in-laws hailed from a village where FGM was prevalent. All her arguments were ignored.

Odachi managed to cajole her husband into letting her take the girls to Britain for a holiday before they had to undergo the cutting. He refused to let her take her son, or even apply for a passport for him.

At this point, the mother knew she had to make a choice and, since he was in no danger, she would have to abandon her young son.

It would be the price of saving her three daughters from being mutilated and suffering for the

rest of their lives. That is, assuming they survived the cutting, which 25 percent of victims do not.

According to Nafissatou J Diop, coordinator of the UN programme to eliminate FGM: "Odachi's story clearly shows that many forms of violence against women, including female genital mutilation, are closely linked. All are rooted in discrimination against women and girls, and the reluctance of male-dominated societies to grant them autonomy and equality."

It was time for Odachi to act. Always thrifty, the wife began saving in earnest now, skimming all the money she could from the household budget to save for starting a new life in Manchester. She had decided to go there since that was the place she knew best overseas, and she set to work getting visas

for the girls, ages six, 14, and 18.

In Manchester

When the family arrived in Britain, Odachi found lodging in a Manchester slum, a dismal house divided up to accommodate many flatmates; all four of them were crammed into one room, with a shared toilet down the hall.

Odachi realised she could not even afford this dwelling for long before the money ran out, while the girls were stunned to find themselves living in such squalor.

"They came from a beautiful, lavish house, and couldn't get over it. Since I brought them here, all they've known is suffering."

As children, they were not able to relate to the abstract concept that their mother was saving them from FGM, they had no knowledge whether the sacrifice was worth it.

Odachi's husband was emailing her repeatedly, telling her to bring his children back. She did not reply, focusing instead on enrolling her two younger daughters in some classes.

The girls' teachers called Odachi, they had noticed the children didn't have basic supplies, including lunch money.

Odachi explained the situation to the school and was advised to go to the Home Office and apply for asylum, so she would receive government benefits.

But Odachi's friends warned her not to listen, "because they will deport you immediately". She was too afraid to risk it because returning to Nigeria would destroy her daughters.

In January 2017, the decision to go to the authorities was made for her. "Early one morning, immigration came to the house. I don't know what led them to come. When they met me, I explained to them our story. They saw the girls were shivering and crying. The immigration people knew we are not living well, with me and all those children in one room. The house was not at all good."

Odachi was amazed at the Home Office's response: They gave the struggling family their own private accommodation. No more little girl hopping up and down because she needed to wee and someone was in the toilet. The agents also gave them provisions for food and a modest weekly allowance.

"They were so supportive," she stressed. This was a godsend since Odachi wasn't allowed to work in the UK without papers. To disobey this rule was to risk deportation.

Since then, she has been to court twice to present her case as a way to save her daughters from FGM. Her forms, seen by Al Jazeera, have a box ticked that reads: "You are liable to be detained because you are a person without leave who has been served with a notice of liability to removal."

SPECIAL INTERVIEW

How Africa's porous borders make it difficult to contain Ebola

MORE than 2000 cases of Ebola have been recorded in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) since last August. Now, despite authorities' efforts - such as screening millions of travellers moving between the DRC and its neighbours - the disease has spread.

The World Health Organisation announced on 12 June that a five-year-old boy had died in Uganda after testing positive for Ebola. A day later, his grandmother died. It's believed he contracted Ebola when they attended the funeral of his grandfather (who died of Ebola) in the DRC. The Conversation Africa's **Natasha Joseph** asked **Professor Mosoka Fallah** to explain the implications. Excerpts...

There have now been two Ebola deaths in Uganda. Do we know anything more about these cases?

We now know that a family of 14 travelled from the DRC to Uganda. Most of them crossed at the formal border, but five evaded the main port of entry. Instead they crossed over informally. Those five arrived with symptoms that included diarrhoea and bleeding. This implies a period of illness in the DRC and that they were most likely symptomatic while travelling.

It appears they knowingly evaded the official check point that would have monitored their temperature and physical signs to pick them up as possible Ebola cases.

In some ways this is a replica of the cross-border import and export of Ebola cases between Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone that were hit by the 2014 outbreak. Many borders between countries in the region are porous: people are in fact much more likely to cross into a neighbouring country without even going through a formal border crossing.

People cross for all sorts of reasons. One of them is funeral rites. The spread of the cases from Guinea to Liberia and eventually to Sierra Leone centred around funeral rites.

Authorities have worked hard



to keep Ebola from spreading beyond the DRC. Does the spread mean they need to do more, or do things differently?

The response teams from both the DRC and Uganda must be commended for preventing the mass cross-border export of Ebola cases given the complex nature of the current outbreak.

There are a lot more informal

crossings than the formal ones. The surveillance system for scanning people who are crossing into Uganda are at these formal crossings. This isn't always foolproof. When I was working in Liberia during the West African epidemic between 2014 and 2016, we found that some people would take antipyretic med-

ications to avoid being detected at the formal border crossings. These drugs bring fevers down so that scanners don't detect a high temperature.

You may wonder why people would do this. The reality is that people across geographical boundaries don't have any physical boundaries in their

minds. When they are in the DRC and fall ill, they will do what anyone would: seek support from their relatives and friends, some of whom are in border towns.

All of this means that health authorities' interventions must be strategic. They cannot physically monitor all of the informal porous borders between these countries.

What they need to do now is to mobilise all of the towns and villages that share border points with the regions of DRC that are at high risk for the export of Ebola. These villages and towns can physically monitor their individual crossing points. The local leaders and chiefs can keep a visitor log and identify a common building to keep new visitors from the DRC for observation. These logs should be reported to the regional response team daily.

The visitors can then be tracked back to their village of origin to investigate any linkage to a cluster of cases. Coordinating visitors' movements across the multiple borders will be the greatest strategic intervention. If possible, mobile application can be deployed to local youths to enter these data for real time reporting and coordination.

This strategy was employed in Liberia during the latter part of the Ebola crisis in the region and was critical in preventing the cross-border import of cases. Even within Liberia some counties - sub-regional division - did this to prevent the import of cases from Monrovia or neighbouring counties.

When Lofa county went to zero in November of 2014, it was able to maintain that status by using these methods.

What is being done now to try and ensure the cases in Uganda do not lead to more Ebola infections?

Health workers are tracking the cases, finding out who the five people came in contact with and then taking them to a treatment centre immediately. From the recent situation report from Uganda, they have tracked down 98 contacts which is very impressive. As the average number of contacts per case is 10-12. But they have gone beyond that average.

These are very critical response steps in any epidemic. The surveillance team has to enter the mind of a typical villager from the DRC who knows they're infected and is trying to escape to relatives in Uganda. They will have to figure out whether the infected people visited traditional healers or local medicine stores. How long were they in Uganda before they were picked up? In this way they'll be able to identify all the contacts and monitor them.

Ebola is a very difficult disease to contain because of human social and behavioural factors. But it can be easily contained if 100% of the infected people's contacts are identified and monitored and if cases are quickly removed into treatment units. The sooner you are treated, the higher your chances of surviving Ebola. And the more survivors there are, the more the community will trust response workers.

Mosoka Fallah, Deputy Director General at National Public Health Institute of Liberia and Visiting Scientist, Harvard Medical School.

Adults owe teen climate activists the earth, it's the least we can do

By Leonie Joubert

LAST Friday's dinner party is still curdling at the back of my brain. On my left: an older man, a retiree, who is bubble-wrapped in wealth and groomed by years of being at the top of the pecking order.

He was holding court with his usual flair, instructing the room that all this stuff about a climate crisis and environmental what-what is just a bunch of subjective nonsense.

To my right: an 11-year-old who hasn't quite found his voice in adult circles yet, but is so gripped by the urgency of our unravelling climate, that he recently wrote a series of books for his peers. He wanted to hand these out at school, but the principal thought he'd "better not".

The gulf between these two - their knowledge of the science, the willingness to confront what lies ahead, their sense of civic responsibility and the urgency of our need to respond - was unbridgeable.

You can't fill a cavern of wilful ignorance in an educated adult over a plate of hors d'oeuvres. And how do you ask someone, who is so convinced of his rightness, that he should at least edit himself a bit so that he doesn't invalidate the experience of a youngster who has to face the kind of existential uncertainty that no pre-teen has ever had to confront in the history of our species?

Young Leo (the poetry of our accidentally shared name isn't lost on me) talks frankly with his parents about how he knows he probably won't have children one day, that he may not live to a "naturally" old age, and that no one really knows what kind of skills he's going to need as an adult.

His grasp of the science of climate change, and the existential urgency of it are far beyond what I see in many adults. And he's only had a few years to get his still-forming brain around these staggeringly complex issues, let alone the implications of what it means for his very existence as a life form.

I wrote recently about my own rather startling coming undone, after years of working at the coalface of climate activism. As a 46-year-old, I thought I at least

had some of the life skills we need to deal with this kind of toil and emotional overwhelm, as we square up with the idea that we've most likely lost the battle of avoiding climate collapse. Turns out, I don't.

Few of us adults do. The reality of facing an extinction level event in our lifetimes is just too big.

How does a teen or pre-teen cope with all of this, then? That's before they've even had to feel the wash of hormones that their changing bodies are going to throw at them through normal adolescent experience. Remember those bewildering first bouts of the blues?

The angst of trying to find sure footing amongst your fickle peers? The first stirrings of attraction for who, you didn't quite know? Now throw the terrifying adult questions of life and death into that mix.

If I'm coming undone at the thought of what the next 30 years hold for me and my generation because of climate collapse, what are Leo and his peers going to feel? They've got 80 years of this lying ahead of them.

Another case in point: when a handful of Cape Town school children took to the streets in March this year, as part of the global schools' climate strike action, some adults called in to local radio station Cape Talk to moan about how the strike was logging up the Friday afternoon traffic.

"Oh, and I hope they used clean transport to get to the strike," one caller sneered by text message.

This caller was, at best, churlish: no one's going to be able to get to a city centre protest using clean transport, because we live in a world where clean transport doesn't exist.

our fault as voting adults, not the kids' fault. At worst, I thought the guy sounded like an entitled ass, choosing to ignore his own complicity in handing these children a climate that is about to slip into an unstable state that is quite outside the world in which our modern civilisation was allowed to evolve and thrive for the past few thousand years.

Leo needs the adults around him to help him find the skills - the emotional ones, as well as the practical how-to-grow-my-own-food kind of skills. He doesn't need to be fobbed off by the very



people he's supposed to be learning the ways of the world from.

We have stolen from the young

Think of it this way: take a glass of water and fill it until the water is about a finger's width from the lip. Imagine the glass is our atmosphere, and the space inside that glass is the capacity of the atmosphere to hold all our industrial-era carbon emissions.

The water in the glass represents all the emissions that we've been dumping into the atmosphere over the past 200-plus years. The space that's left is what our future 'carbon budget' is about. Most of those emissions already in the glass were put there in the past 50 years - in the years since you and I were born.

Now shake that glass just a bit. The water that slops out - that's what we're already seeing, in terms of the extreme weather events that signal how unstable our climate is becoming. The messy spillage that's slopping out over your hand right now - that's what caused bats to fall dead from trees during a heatwave in Australia

recently, and entire schools of freshwater fish to float belly up in their rivers. It's what drove the two record-breaking cyclones that destroyed 90% of Beira and surrounds in Mozambique in March and April this year.

It's what left Cape Town nearly waterless during the summer of 2018, and starved herds of animals across southern Africa through the three-year-long drought.

It's what's driving the wildfires through parts of Greece, California, Knysna, off-the-charts tornado seasons in the United States, and razed some Caribbean island communities in a hurricane alley which is going to become so volatile that it may not be worth rebuilding there.

The finger's width of space left in the glass: that's how much space we have left that's supposed to take up all our future emissions. Once the water reaches the lip and spills over, that's when we tip over into a completely new climate regime. When that happens, it's a future of famine, forced migration, war, crashed economies,

and widespread death by unnatural causes. That's the future we're handing Leo and his peers.

The concentration of greenhouse gasses in the atmosphere is now at 415 parts per million, higher than they have been in three-million years. Modern humans have only been around for about 200,000 years. Modern industrial capitalists for 200 or so years. Most of the emissions filling that glass were poured into it in the past 50 or so, in the time that most of us adults have been alive.

Leo has only been alive for 11 years. Think about that.

The United Nations now says we have precisely 12 years in which to bring global emissions down to zero. Twelve years to turn off the tap, so we don't slip across this threshold, but we're headed for massive overshoot, because our emissions are still rising year on year.

Your and my middle-class comfort is built on the back of having been able to use up that space in the glass,

free. And we're now handing that nearly-full glass on to Leo, with all the damage that's coming with it.

Us adults need to climb down from our perches of high privilege. None of us has the right or moral position to shut down the voices and actions of people like Leo, or whatever form of protest they choose to take, as they figure out how to confront a monster that makes the threat of World War II look like a kindergarten pantomime.

We are the trees that create the forest floor where youngsters can grow.

I had a dream recently. Okay, admittedly, it was actually a psilocybin-induced dream-state, and it may sound a bit sentimental to a sober reader, but bear with me. Because the memory of it is what's keeping me at my desk after a 14 hour work day, writing another piece that won't put bread on the table but will give me purpose tomorrow morning when I start another long day of wordsmithery.

It happened a few months ago. I'd had a frustrating few weeks, doing a tough training programme alongside a group of 20-somethings. Through most of our group sessions, it seemed as though I didn't exist for them.

I wasn't just that I was excluded from their conversation - it's always going to be hard to find common ground on other sides of the generational divide. More than that: I felt invisible. Some of them didn't even make eye contact with me in most of our group interactions.

And then, the dream-state: in it, I was a gnarled old oak tree, broad-beamed and crooked, covered in a hide of rough bark, and throwing a wide, green canopy overhead. The youngsters from the course were milling about the bole of the tree.

They didn't notice the tree at all, its shade, the cool air from the water-soft breath that its leaves gave out, the grass growing in the soil that was kept rich and damp by the tree's microclimate. Those few that did notice the tree, just saw the barkly trunk and saw how rough it was to the touch, how it would tear their skin if they weren't careful.



Natural Resources and Tourism minister Dr Hamisi Kigwangalla (R) and Geita Gold Mine managing director Richard Jordinson visibly upbeat moods at the flagging off of this year's Geita Gold Mine Kilimanjaro Challenge campaign in Kilimanjaro Region on Sunday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Cross-border tour by EAC team shows preparedness and response in times of diseases dreadfully low

By Guardian Reporter

THE East African Community (EAC) Secretariat has concluded a three-day cross-border Field Simulation Exercise, conducted on the Kenya - Tanzania border at Namanga One Stop Border Post (OSBP), with critical results and lessons for pandemic preparedness and response.

Over 250 participants from both countries, besides those from Burundi, Rwanda, South Sudan and Uganda took part in the exercise.

The exercise was conducted based on a scenario of an outbreak of a disease that impacts both human and animal lives and their livelihoods, including agriculture, tourism, security, trade and the economy as a whole.

The exercise created an opportunity in which participants were able to identify strengths and weaknesses and facilitate practical corrective actions at all levels.

During the simulation exercise, community members in Kenya and Tanzania participated in events based on an evolving scenario designed to evoke real responses. "Prevention and responding to epidemics is not a sole responsibility of the health sector but rather requires a collective effort from various sectors including the community" said Ummu Ally Mwalimu, the Tanzanian Minister for Health, Gender Community Development, Elderly and Children while officiating opening ceremony on Tuesday morning.

As part of the scenario, early warning, infections and deaths in animals and human beings prompted the reporting and activation of national and regional preparedness and response mechanisms. The involvement of human health, animal health and other sectors reinforced

the importance of the One Health approach and of appropriate risk and crisis communication, as well as cross-border collaboration.

Speaking on the official opening, the Cabinet Secretary for East African Affairs and Regional Development from Kenya, Adan Abdallah Mohammed observed that with the looming Ebola epidemic in the neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo, it was important for the two Partner States to collaborate and share experience when responding to cross-border outbreaks.

All Ministers while jointly officiating at opening of the exercise commended the partners for their support. Through imaginary scenarios under real conditions and public involvement, regional and national-level experts were able to test processes in place and identify opportunities for improvement of existing plans. Community members in both countries were able to see first-hand the importance of their involvement in emergency preparedness and response.

The Field Simulation Exercise was facilitated by the World Health Organisation with support from Deutsche Gesellschaft for Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) of the Germany government and other partners.

The simulation exercise participants worked diligently to avoid disruption of operations at the border and at other sites where activities took place. People working at and traversing the OSBP carried on with their regular activities, while actors posing as ill people tested plans in place to identify and isolate people with certain symptoms at the border.

Other activities tested plans associated with transport of animals, readiness of airport response, and EAC coordination and advisory strategies.

By Guardian Reporter

Palm oil processor based in Morogoro declared Micro-entrepreneur of the Year

ABOUT 18 winners of the 3rd Citi Micro-entrepreneurship Awards (CMA) collectively have taken home USD 37,500 in an event that was described by the Bank of Tanzania Deputy Governor, Dr. Bernard Kibesse as pertinent in fostering financial inclusion agenda in Tanzania.

The winners in the programme funded by Citi Foundation, through Citibank Tanzania, and organised by Tanzania Association of Microfinance Institutions (TAMFI) were announced on Friday 14th June 2019 at Hyatt Regency, The Kilimanjaro, in Dar es Salaam.

An innovative Morogoro based palm oil processor, who also owns a "power plant" and recycles waste from his operations into charcoal, Farouq Hassan Khalifa won the topmost prize (Citi Micro-entrepreneur of the

Year Award) taking home USD 7500. Sido-small Industries Development Organization gave him his first loan amounting to 500,000/-.

The second winner, Saida Zera Msuya, an upcoming industrialist in the textile business, took home USD 6000. A loan from SIDO in Morogoro propelled her to her business success.

The third winner, Mathias Stephano Milinga took home USD 4000. He is based in Kigamboni, Dar es Salaam. His cleaning and sanitation outlet recycles sewage into biogas and purifies water for irrigation and fish keeping.

Amisa Yassin Taboba from Kigoma was declared the Woman Micro-entrepreneur of the year and she

took home, US 2000.

The best Youth Micro-entrepreneur of the year was awarded to Asha Alfred Kasililwa from Yombo Vituka. She won USD 2000, while Halima Ally Semella, was announced as the Woman with a disability Micro-entrepreneur of the year, and got a similar amount.

Other ten micro entrepreneurs won USD 1000, each, while the loan officer of the year Allen Yotham Mhizze of Sido won USD 1500. Tujijenge Tanzania was declared the best Microfinance Institution of the year and won USD 2500.

About 250 business owners who started off as micro-entrepreneurs from across Tanzania participated

in the business competition. The awards program aims at recognizing the extraordinary contributions that individual micro-entrepreneurs have made to the economic stability of their families as well as their communities.

"The core objective of the CMA program is to shine the spotlight on how Citi supports economic growth in communities and around the world by supporting small businesses and the entrepreneurial ideas of low-income people, including youth, and to highlight how we are making a positive impact in the lives of beneficiaries, their families, and communities," Noted Citibank Tanzania CEO Joseph Carasso.

Project empowers women on land-related issues

By Correspondent Mashaka Mgeta, Morogoro

IMPLEMENTATION of the Land Tenure Support Program (LTSP) in three districts based in Morogoro region has helped to highlight the right of women to own land, which previously was not considered by the communities.

The LTSP that implemented under the Ministry of Land, Housing and Human Settlements Development which started in 2016 and expected to end this year. Was aimed to conduct land survey and help people to access Customary Certificates of Rights of Occupancy (CCROs) in the respective districts.

In implementing the project, the government conducted land surveys and awarded customary certificates of rights of occupancy (CCROs) to the villagers and community groups.

Reports availed from the Ulanga, Mahenge and Kilombero district councils indicated that, before the implementation of LTSP, many women didn't own land as individuals but in the name of their husbands. A small women group in Nkongo village is an exception.

It has also come to light that at least one family stood out in promoting the rights of women to own land as they shared equally between men and women, land they had inherited from their forefathers.

The spokesman for the family, Peter Mtehenega, explained that because of recognizing the importance of women's rights, he led their family to achieve that point.

"There are five of us in the family; two men and three women and each of us has got one hectare from the five that we have inherited," he said.

CCROs enhance peace and prosperity

Residents of the Majiji village in Ulanga district have admitted that LTSP has gone a long way towards resolving conflicts and now people live in peace. Farmers and pastoralists alike have conducted their activities without interference and, as such, they are working to improve the economy at family level. The acquisition of CCROs means that villagers can now use their land for income generation activities.

"Before the land assessment and implementation of the project, fighting broke out between the villagers especially during preparation of farms. They used knives and hoes to kill or injure others. There was no peace and people could not work on their farms," explains Majiji Village Executive Officer, Gothald Mitti.

"But after the completion of LTSP, we

are enjoying peace of mind and we can concentrate on our agricultural activities," he added.

Fear of land fee

Malinyi District Livestock Officer, Frank Johnson revealed that there were some villagers who are reluctant to collect their CCROs for fear that they would be required to pay a high fee for their land.

"When they hear the government announcing that people should pay their land fee, many villagers think that the document (CCRO) would be used to recalculate the fee and thus be required to pay more than what they are supposed to," he disclosed.

Pastoralists happy with LTSP

The Secretary of the Pastoral Group in Nakafulu village in Ulanga district, Singu Manjale, reveals that land survey and subsequent acquisition of CCROs has helped to resolve conflict between them (pastoralists) and farmers.

The herders in the village said to have 35 households with a total of 1,225 cattle; excluding livestock like goats and sheep have been allocated an area of 70.5 hectares which is only about six percent of actual need for cattle grazing.

According to records available in the village government office, the area was allocated to pastoralists when there were only seven pastoralist families. In the long run they invited others from outside the respective village and this led to an increased number of livestock.

"Also we have another problem; the area we have been allocated lacks necessary infrastructure like dips and ponds where animals can drink water. I think land use plans should address these issues," explains Manjale.

Another problem facing the pastoralists is that farmers cultivate their farms close to the area allocated to pastoralists, but within the boundaries set in the land use plans. However livestock is attracted to the farms and thus destroy crops.

"When crops are grown near our area, it's easy for our livestock to get into farms and destroy crops because cattle don't recognize boundaries in their movement especially when they lack supervision," he says and suggests that farmers should be allocated land far away from the area allocated for pastoralists.

Refusal of pastoralists

Things are not rosy for pastoralists in some parts of the districts. The Land Surveyor at Malinyi District, Steven Zayumba, for

example, explained that there are six villages that have not yet completed setting up land use management plans, while four others namely Minazi, Ziwa Kuu, Ipera and Njiwa have refused to allocate land for pastoralists because they don't want to live with them.

According to the census conducted through parcing of livestock from 2016 to 2018, the district has 130,048 cattle while the area allocated for livestock covers 13,500 hectares. Standards require that one hectare of land be allocated for cattle per year. The size of the land set for livestock in Malinyi District is enough for only 10 percent of the actual needs.

On his part, Livestock Officer for Malinyi District, Frank Johnson, suggests that the challenges facing pastoralists in the country can be solved by recognizing some of them as investors and offering places on national ranches.

"We have vast ranches that are underutilized; it would be good for pastoralists who meet the criteria to be given the status of investors and offered part of our ranches," he says.

Need for literacy in land laws

In the course of implementing LTSP, it came to light that many villagers had little knowledge of existing land laws. The situation made them lose their land to conman because they made wrong decisions or did not follow the right procedures as required by law.

Yet it is not just land laws that community members need to know. "Villagers also need to get basic knowledge on other laws related to land. They need to know something about laws related to forests and water, among others," says Jamal Juma, Program Manager from Tanzania Land Alliance (TALA).

He was responding to a question posed by Magdalema Moyo, a resident of Idunda village in Ulanga District, who wanted to know why the village government prohibited her from using two trees that had fallen down on her small farm.

"According to the laws...even if you have planted a tree, cutting it without informing the chairman of your village is a criminal offense...and if authorities find you in the forest area without their consent, you will be punished and fined not more than 50,000 shillings," he explained.

Despite the challenges as highlighted by different stakeholder, the Program Manager of TALA, Jamal says a general analysis shows the success in an implementation of LTSP. He advised all parties that implement LTSP to find ways to help communities to overcome the identified challenges by, among other things, reaching more potential beneficiaries.



Tanzania Land Alliance programme manager Jamal Juma addresses land tenure stakeholders in Ulanga District, Morogoro Region, late last week. Photo: Correspondent Mashaka Mgeta

First exclusive online network for women entrepreneurs in agribusiness is launched

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

MORE than 400 women have signed up to Africa's first online platform for female agribusiness, launched yesterday at a trade fair in Nairobi, Kenya

The #VALUE4HERConnect network will help bring women entrepreneurs in agriculture together in a virtual community and serve as an important business resource for members.

The network, which was launched at the AWAN-Afrika's 1st continental conference and #VALUE4HER B2B fair, is part of a program led by the Technical Centre for Agricultural and Rural Cooperation (CTA) to empower women in agriculture.

Despite accounting for 40% of the agricultural workforce worldwide, women's participation in agribusiness is often limited to low-profit production.

"While women are key players in agriculture, they often face challenges at the business end", said Sabdiyo Dido Bashuna, Senior Programme Coordinator, Value Chains and Agribusiness at CTA.

"With #VALUE4HERConnect, they now have access to buyers, to market information and intelligence, investment and capacity building opportunities, which will ultimately help them to form strategic partnerships towards accessing global markets for increased incomes."

The platform includes a Women2Women Community forum, allowing women to interact,

trade and share information, and market information such as country profiles, trade policies and market entry requirements.

The network also provides information on financing and opportunities for training.

The AWAN-Afrika's 1st continental conference and #VALUE4HER B2B fair was organised by the African Women Agribusiness Network (AWAN), with CTA and the Africa Women Innovation and Entrepreneurship Forum (AWIEF), under the theme of "Enhancing women inclusion in agribusiness".

During the two-day event, women agribusinesses from 21 African countries gathered for masterclasses, hackathons and pitching opportunities to showcase their businesses and try to secure regional and global business deals.

"Today, we have this opportunity to accelerate the manufacture and intra-African trade of value-added products, moving from commodity-based economies and exports to economic diversification and high-value exports", said Beatrice Gakuba, Executive Director of AWAN.

"The demand is high", she added, echoing African women entrepreneurs.

Irene Ochem, founder and CEO of AWIEF, added: "We are pleased once again to partner with CTA and AWAN: #VALUE4HERConnect will make the difference in how women grow and scale their businesses. The platform bridges the gap in information and data. We connect women to intra-African opportunities, to finance and to markets."

Threat of new designer drugs for Southern Africa

BY RICHARD CHELIN AND MARTIN EWI

DESIGNER drugs are among the fastest-growing and most versatile substances in the global illicit drugs economy. Known as 'new psychoactive substances', these synthetic drugs are developed to mimic the effects of established illicit drugs, such as cannabis, cocaine, ecstasy and LSD.

The relatively low cost of synthetic drugs compared with traditional drugs - and the general belief that they are legal because there are no specific laws regulating them - have made designer drugs particularly attractive to young people worldwide.

The global proliferation of these substances has increased Africa's vulnerability to drug abuse, with 18 countries on the continent reporting on the presence of designer drugs in 2017, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Although few Southern African countries have identified and reported the use of these substances, indications are that young people in the region are increasingly using them.

Last year, a range of incidents in South Africa resulted in the deaths and hospitalisation of several people after they consumed unknown drug concoctions. This provided a glimpse of the risks posed by these psychoactive substances. They are believed to be more dangerous than 'traditional', so-called organic drugs, like cocaine and heroin. (The difference between synthetic and organic drugs is that the latter is extracted from plants and animals, while the former is produced chemically in labs.)

Studies have linked designer drugs with conditions such as a sudden increase in body temperature and heart rate, coma, damage to internal organs, vomiting, confusion leading to aggres-

sion and violence. Other symptoms include paranoia, convulsion, psychosis, seizures and death.

Controlling the manufacture and spread of synthetic drugs is difficult. At a conference in late 2018, delegates from the three Southern Africa countries most affected by new psychoactive substances (Mauritius, Seychelles and South Africa) heard that in Europe, where there is a strict and highly advanced monitoring system, 'New drugs are detected on a weekly basis, and the overall availability of new psychoactive substances continues to grow.'

It is estimated that around 730 new psychoactive substances were identified globally in 2016. By the end of 2018, UNODC reported that this number had grown to 888. The market is highly dynamic and complex due to the diversity of these drugs, multipurpose production laboratories and constant innovations in the mixture, packaging and naming of the substances. The drugs also vary from place to place and from producer to producer, making tracking and monitoring a major challenge.

The sheer size of the market value - estimated at €1.2 to €2.5 billion annually - has been influenced by key characteristics of these psychoactive substances. Chief among them is their versatility, which has contributed to innovative methods of concealment. Because of their comparatively low prices, the drugs are particularly appealing to people from lower income brackets. Conditions such as limited disposable income therefore make the drugs even more attractive.

The most frequently reported semi-synthetic drug in Southern Africa is nyaope, also known as whoonga - a cocktail of heroin, cannabis and antiretroviral drugs. One former drug addict, speaking on condition of ano-



The global growth in psychoactive substances, and their low cost, is a risk for countries in the region.

nymity, told researchers from the ENACT project that a dose of this highly toxic mixture costs between R15 and R25 (under US\$2).

Speakers at the Southern Africa conference stressed the role that the Internet plays in the distribution and sale of synthetic drugs, which contributes to the growing challenge. A large number of transactions occur online, most often through the Dark Web - or specifically on what has been described

as 'hidden web cryptomarkets,' where cryptocurrencies such as Bitcoin and Litecoin are widely used to prevent transactions from being traced.

Delegates heard that the untrammelled use of cyberspace has enabled universal distribution and trafficking of synthetic substances. Cyberspace provides anonymity, and the Internet offers a platform for buyers and sellers to meet, and facilitates door-to-door delivery of

drugs. This is a growing trend and there is every indication it could get worse if steps aren't taken to mitigate the situation.

Governments could adapt their existing drug laws to deal with new psychoactive substances. In Ireland for example, a specific act prohibits the import, export and sale of any addictive or harmful psychoactive substances for human consumption. Other steps include a greater investment in

prevention and treatment, and using research to develop better policing and drug control methods. Training police in new trends is key, as is information sharing among neighbouring countries.

Although the threat of synthetic drugs is relatively new to Southern Africa, it is becoming a notable risk for several countries in the region. Early action can prevent the problem growing.

ISS

Chameleon's attitude knows how to blend with nature unlike man

By Simon Abah

WATCH the chameleon; it knows how to blend with the environment. Watch the man; he doesn't know how to blend with the environment. Man unlike the chameleon doesn't understand his political, technological, social, legal, economic, educational and internal environment.

The chameleon can change its colour from green, to yellow, pink, red, orange, brown, black, etc., when the need arises, when we were young; many times we almost harvested chameleons together with okra on our farms during harvest. You never knew they were there. They blended quite well with the colour of the plants.

This lady was promoted to a manager in her office and her colleagues at work began to give her the Gallic shrug, only because she asked for help in carrying out her job responsibilities and revealed her vulnerabilities to them. They make sneering remarks that she isn't competent to lead them and might have got the position some other way. "How can she not know anything, be promoted and ask us for help on how to work? They ridicule behind her back.

I told her that the major mistake she made was not applying the chameleon philosophy. She needed to have studied her organizational culture beforehand, is her environment one that supports openness and empowers people to lead or an environment of competition where smugness and deviousness are part of the job descriptions of all staffers? No organization survives when the latter is the in-built culture.

Knowing the prevailing culture would have guided her by the book on the way to relate with her colleagues. She could then decide to become 'Athena' and be open to share worries, ask for collaboration or act like a 'Queen Bee' and hide all fears, give marching orders, master everything alone and become miss-know-it-all, nothing wrong in fakery in this circumstance.

Even love can be faked until one feels it. You don't have to love your boss to work with and for him but you must work with him and it is better to fake loving him so you can work with him with ease, caveat though is that you might love him eventually. So tread carefully, but there is nothing wrong in loving so long as it is love the right way.

I see some poor people acting foolishly and insecurely in the presence of the rich. It angers me. To be born poor is no crime and to be born into a rich home is only a privilege and not an achievement. Some are luckier in life than others. When the poor find themselves in the presence of the rich, they need to behave like the chameleon. Act like the rich, but not by trying to outspend the rich in buying activities for they cannot but by carrying self as crowned heads, as proud as the cockcomb.

Royalty makes a man. Poor people who carry themselves



royally end up being royals in achievement. This plumber was owed NGNI, 200 balance for job done for the rich in his hotel and was asked to return the next day for it. But he chose to substitute the money for alcohol, before the owner of the hotel and me he drank six bottles of beer, the monetary equivalent of his balance and the rich man took judicial notice. He did this in one hour. How very poor in spirit can some poor people be?

I see some rich people acting stupidly when they visit the homes of poor people, on exceptional occasion when they venture to, after the passing away to eternal glory of someone they knew or at marriage ceremonies. When water and food are offered as is customary to guests, they shun it. What is even worse is that they do not reject it tactfully.

You can see the, "this food is beneath me appearance on their faces."

They fear typhoid, dysentery and other sickness associated with water and food from poor people. They forget the chameleon philosophy and refuse to drink water offered and eat the food presented merrily, they need to eat and act like they enjoy it even though the rapidity of serving to the mouth may belie the impression, and after which they should go home and take some antibiotics. How very poor in spirit can some rich people be? What is nonplusing is that some of the rich who just stumbled into richness yesterday, those who were very poor yesterday act out the disdainful script to the poor more than some of those born into wealth?

The poor scarcely forgive wrong that bothers on discrimination on their status. The chameleon philosophy can help the rich be in the good books of the poor, that is if the rich care, they should because they are lonelier in the real sense than the poor and need the company of the poor more than the company of rich people. Rich people massage the ego of rich people, they walk on eggshells - they do not tell truth to each other. They go to battle without firing their guns. But most poor people do not have anything to lose; they say it as it is, they shoot from the hip. When the rich find themselves in the company of the poor, they

should act poor.

I am no moral guardian.

Just one time in his marriage and without warning, this man behaved like our ancestors. Our forebears had rules they worked with and they seemed to live longer. Wives in their monthly curse do not cook their food; they didn't also share any physical intimacy with them on those days. They had separate rooms from their wives and their wives tasted every dish presented to them, even sipped water offered.

"Love overcomes all things and husbands should love their wives and take them into confidence in everything." He played this lovely script to the latter, after marriage and never ducked out. Then one day, the chameleon in him took charge. His wife served dinner and he asked her dotingly for the very first time to taste it before he could venture to eat. She lovingly avoided tasting the food and hubby got suspicious.

"Taste the food as is customary," but she would hear none of it, after all that has never been the practice these many years.

"Eat a portion of the food you served right now," he barked. Then she dared him, "if you don't want to eat then forget about it, when you are hungry you will eat." And she left the room. He called in officers of the law and madam became frightened.

These officers became his guest for the night and the food was offered to one of the dogs and moments later, the dog began to bark, wanting to run out of hell, seeking help for it was in trouble, and died. The man is yet to recover from the shock. Surprisingly he asked that legal action should not be taken. They both have grown up children in public service and he wouldn't want the bad attitude of their mother to come to public light and embarrass the children but they went their separate ways.

But for the chameleon philosophy which he applied, just once since he married he would have taken the place of the dead dog.

Had he died, no-one might have known the cause of his death: for there is nothing like a royal inquiry in Nigeria, no coroner's inquest and autopsy is a waste of time for many people. The only available option is to find out using 'Juju.'

Delhi govt proposal of free travel for women triggers controversy

NEW DELHI

CONTROVERSY is brewing in India following a recent proposal by Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) that it would begin providing free travel for women in a bid to safeguard "women safety" and to promote "women empowerment".

E. Sreedharan, who was the brain behind constructing the Delhi Metro nearly two decades ago, has written to Prime Minister Narendra Modi to discourage the idea, saying it will lead to "bankruptcy" of the transport facility.

Better known as "Metro Man" in India, Sreedharan (pictured) urged the PM not to allow free travel to women, otherwise other sections of society like the handicapped, the students and the senior citizens would too make similar demands, which would end up making losses to Delhi Metro.

He wrote in his letter that when the Delhi Metro service was started in 2002, it was decided that "everybody would have to buy tickets" to ride the transport system and no exception would be made.

The decision was welcomed by the then Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, who himself bought ticket for his first ride in December 2002, he added.

"The DMRC is a joint venture of the Delhi government and the Government of India, and one shareholder cannot take an unilateral decision to give concession to one section of the community and push the Delhi Metro in to 'inefficiency and bankruptcy'," he mentioned in his letter.

Countering Sreedharan's arguments, Delhi's Deputy Chief Minister Manish Sisodia on Saturday said that the Delhi Metro was running at just over its 60 percent capacity, and that the Delhi government's idea would lead to an increase in its usage by travelers which, in turn, would increase Delhi Metro's incomes.

He also alleged that traveling in Delhi Metro had become expensive, as fares had gone up manifold, and that the poor could no more afford its fares.

"I have written to Sreedharan and told him that Delhi Metro is running in losses. It has a carrying capacity of four million passengers every day, but presently it is carrying only 2.5 million passengers a day," Manish Sisodia said.



"By offering free travel to women, its ridership will increase and fares will come down. If the Delhi government is paying for the women commuters, Delhi Metro should be happy with it," Sisodia added.

On June 3, Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal had announced the decision, saying it would be "optional" for the women.

"Those who wish to buy tickets are free to do so, and need not take the subsidy. But women who cannot afford buying tickets will benefit from the move. The women who can afford tickets can do so and forgo subsidy so others could benefit," he had told a press conference.

Kejriwal had also claimed that public transport was considered the safest mode of travel for women, and keeping their safety in mind, the rule of free travel will be implemented in all Delhi Transport Corporation (DTC) buses, besides Delhi Metro, in the next three months.

According to sources on the Delhi government, officials have been ordered to prepare a detailed report for the implementation of the Delhi government's proposal.

Once the report is ready, a proposal will be made in the state's cabinet to get it nod. It's estimated that once implemented, it would cost the Delhi government around 700 crore Indian Rupees (around 100 million U.S. dollars) per annum.

The Delhi government is still mulling over the idea and collecting feedback from the public. It had proposed to bear all expenses by buying coupons and then offering them for free to women.

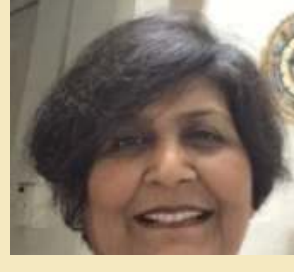
The idea has already attracted criticism from various political parties amidst allegations that the idea was "politically motivated" as Delhi Assembly elections are approaching in the next six-seven months. **Xinhua**



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Empowerment funds disburse record 3.1trn/- to over 5m entrepreneurs

By Smart Money Reporter, Dodoma

IN a rare feat, public empowerment funds had disbursed a record 3.1trn/- to over five million entrepreneurs by February this year, National Economic Empowerment Council has said.

NEEC Executive Secretary, Beng'i Issa said in Dodoma last week during the 4th National Economic Empowerment Forum that the disbursement helped change lives of millions of entrepreneurs and their families.

"This investment has been made to empower ordinary entrepreneurs so that they can take part in the government's industrialization agenda as the country heads towards middle income status," Issa said.

She further noted that the various public empowerment funds which include the Presidential Trust Fund and those and district councils directly invested 12trn/- in the community through grants and project financing.

The empowerment funds are divided into five major groups with 13 of them disbursing loans while nine work in partnership with banks to guarantee entrepreneurs get concessional loans. "Those disbursing



National Economic Empowerment Council's Executive Secretary, Beng'i Issa (2nd L) and the council's Board Chairman, Dr Festus Limbu (R) following up a presentation at the 4th National Economic Empowerment Forum held in Dodoma last week. Others are NEEC board members. Photo courtesy of NEEC.

grants are 17 while those four inject cash in commercial banks aimed at increasing liquidity," said the NEEC Executive Director saying three are involved in projects targeting grass root communities. The numbers of such empowerment funds have since increased from 19 to 46 this year.

Speaking at the same forum, UNDP's Head of Programs, Amon Manyama called on all stakeholders to play a role in implementing the National Empowerment Policy so that the national economy can develop rapidly.

"Let us also assist Tanzanians acquire modern innovative technologies even if it means sending some of them abroad to acquire such knowledge and skills," Manyama noted.

A leading economist, Professor Samuel Wangwe commended NEEC and other stakeholders for the success made so far in economically empowering the public.

"It is important that as a national, we have our own plans and strategies to grow the economic rapidly, tame poverty and improve growth," Prof Wangwe who was a facilitator, said. This year's slogan for the forum was 'Empower Tanzanians to build an industrialized economy.'



Tigo acting Head of Mobile Financial Services Angelica Pasha (R) hands over a dummy cheque worth 3.5m/- to TigoPesa agent Suleiman Hussein in Dar es Salaam over the weekend after emerged one of the two big winners of the firm's 'Wakala cash in promotion' from Coast Zone. Photo: Guardian Correspondent.

KRA demands Sh8.5 billion from SportPesa and Betin

NAIROBI

THE Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) is demanding Sh8.59 billion from Safaricom as withholding tax arrears due from two major betting firms -- SportPesa and Betin Kenya -- in a fresh row pitting the State agency against the betting industry.

The KRA manager for debt enforcement, Asha Salim, has written to Safaricom CEO Bob Collymore declaring the telecommunications firm a withholding tax collecting agent for SportPesa and Betin and demanding immediate payment of the sum.

KRA is demanding that Safaricom pays Sh5.29 billion withholding tax arrears due from Gamcode Limited, trading as Betin, and a further Sh3.29 billion due from Pevans East Africa, which trades as SportPesa. The taxman has given Safaricom a Central Bank of Kenya account to immediately pay the money marked as withholding tax.

"I hereby declare you to be an agent of the above taxpayer (SportPesa) and require you to pay the sum of Sh3,296,532,012 being tax due by the said taxpayer," directs Ms Salim in the demand notice for SportPesa tax.

Telcos such as Safaricom and Airtel usually offer a platform for customers of betting firms to deposit money in their electronic wallets for gambling and make withdrawals on winnings. The telcos in return earn transaction fees.

The row puts at risk Betin and SportPesa's business licenses. Interior Secretary Fred Matiangi has already declared that all licenses of betting firms will be suspended in

two weeks until they prove payment of all tax arrears.

KRA has directed that Safaricom pays the demanded tax arrears in full from any amount that it may be holding on account of SportPesa and Betin. It warns that the notice shall remain in force until the full figure is recovered in case of partial payment.

"Subsection 13 of section 42 provides that, if without reasonable cause you fail to comply with this notice, you shall be personally liable for the amounts specified herein," Ms Salim's notice concludes.

Both Betin and SportPesa have sued KRA, fighting off the alleged tax arrears. They want the court to declare the claim notices as "unlawful, in bad faith, illegal, null and void" saying KRA is not handling their tax objections within the law.

KRA declined to comment on the matter, citing duty of confidentiality to taxpayers. "The KRA is bound by law not to reveal tax affairs of an individual or company. The information is treated as confidential under section 6(1) and (2) of the Tax Procedures Act and Section 125 of the Income Tax Act and the same are held as such," KRA said in an emailed response.

It added that the Tax Procedures Act compels it to release information only for purposes of investigation to an authorised investigation entity. Safaricom also declined to comment on the matter citing the ongoing court case.

SportPesa's auditors, PricewaterhouseCoopers, had last year written to KRA explaining in a 17-page letter that the tax assessment was based on a wrong definition of winnings.

Expert urges lean diets, exercise to curb NCDs on Global Wellness Day

By Beatrice Philemon

THE public has been advised to eat lean diets possibly dominated by vegetables and fruits while also taking regular exercise to avoid suffering from non-communicable diseases (NCDs) which include diabetes and high blood pressure.

ImpactAfya Limited's Managing Director, Bhakti Shah said in Dar es Salaam last week during the Global Wellness Day that NCDs are now common because of people's life styles which involves eating junky foods and avoiding exercising.

"The majority of Tanzanians take their health for granted hence face high risk of getting non-communicable diseases because they don't invest in maintain their good health," Shah said pointing out that during the Global Wellness Day, people in the whole world take time to focus of a healthy living pattern.

Shah who teamed up with Hyatt Regence Kilimanjaro Hotel said to showcase a number of activities including exhibition of healthy lifestyles and products under the slogan, 'One day can change your whole life,' she noted.

She told dozens of Dar es Salaam residents who attended the event that people should eat natural foods other than finished products because of ingredients such as chemicals



ImpactAfya Limited's Managing Director, Bhakti Shah (seated) talking to an unidentified participants who attended the Global Wellness Day commemoration in Dar es Salaam last week. Photo: Beatrice Bonge.

which are added at factories.

Shah also advised people to drink more water regularly because less water in the body might cause dehydration,

exhaustion, attention deficiency and memory failures. "The more water you drink and less carbonated drinks you consume, the healthier one becomes," the ImpactAfya Manag-

ing Director stated.

She also counseled consumers to avoid regular drinking of minerals water packed in plastic bottles because such containers are made of petroleum waste which causes innumerable damage to human health and the environment.

Apart from exhibitions and counselling, the day was also marked with gentle Yoga meditation, fitness stretching and testing of some sample healthy foods and drinks. According to her, an hour's walk everyday makes one feel happier and relieved because the brain secretes endorphin while one is in motion. "You can keep fit by walking daily because it also makes your muscles stronger, burns belly fat while reducing the level of cholesterol," she pointed out.

Commenting on the joint event, an official of Hyatt Regence Kilimanjaro Hotel, Maria Rutaiwa said they decided to stage the GWD to remind the public and encourage awareness on the need to eat and live a healthy life.

"As this year's slogan states, 'One day can change your life,' is a day set aside to inspire and remind the public that investment in better lifestyles is good for health," Rutaiwa said noting that investing in wellness is not a luxury but rather a necessity.

The GWD was first celebrated in Turkey in 2012, and has now been accepted worldwide with a record 130 countries marking it last year.



Mozambican President Nyusi cuts a ribbon to launch the 100 Chinese donated buses in Maputo.

Mozambican President Nyusi receives 100 Chinese buses

MAPUTO

MOZAMBICAN President Filipe Nyusi on Friday received a grant of 100 buses from the Chinese government to strengthen passenger transport in various parts of the country.

The buses, of the Yutong brand, can carry 90 passengers, seated and standing, and are equipped with state-of-the-art technology. The buses come with spare parts and accessories and a training course for Mozambican drivers and mechanics.

Addressing a crowd in the Maputo neighbourhood of Magoanine, where the ceremony was held, Nyusi said these buses are part of "Plan 1000", launched by the government in May 2018, which envisages acquiring 1,000 buses to be distributed across the country in the current five year period.

"The 100 we are receiving today was an offer from the Chinese government", he said. "In receiving these vehi-

cles, we are once again appealing to the passengers, and to all those who use these buses, to treat them well so that they last a long time."

The Chinese ambassador, Su Jiang, said the donation is the result of "the excellent relations of friendship and cooperation" between the two countries. "We know that improving the conditions of public transport is a priority for the Mozambican government", he said. "In recent years, to honour the government's programme and the unceasing effort of the Mozambican government, China has donated 152 buses to Mozambique."

"Today we see that Yutong buses are serving the public on the streets and avenues of Maputo, Matola, Beira and elsewhere", said the ambassador.

Transport Minister Carlos Mesquita said the new buses "represent some of the structural measures that the transport sector has been undertaking in close coordination with the municipal councils, with private operators and with other partners, seeking to ensure greater efficiency, comfort and safety in urban passenger transport in all the cities and towns of the country".

According to Mesquita, "Plan 1000" will make it possible to meet 90 per cent of the demand for passenger transport in the Greater Maputo Metropolitan Area, equivalent to 550,000 passengers a day. This compares with the capacity of only 60,000 passengers a day in 2015, at the start of the current government's term of office.

Banned deformity-causing Chinese fertility pill sold secretly

NAIROBI

A CHINESE-MADE fertility pill that was banned from the Kenyan market 10 years ago due to multiple negative side effects on women and babies is being sold secretly in some parts of the country, the Business Daily has established.

The once-a-month pill popularly known as Sofia is being sold in herbal clinics behind the back of the sector's regulator, the Kenya Pharmacy and Poisons Board (PPB). The pill is easy to buy online and from 'herbal clinics' and also from unscrupulous dealers who deliver purchases on order across the country.

Their relative affordability, at about Sh200 per tablet, and the one-time-use per month, has made the pills attractive to women keen on family planning.

The illegal pills, sold under the guise that they are herbal to mean they are made from natural ingredients, have been reported to cause negative side-effects on women and children of breastfeeding mothers. Women on the pill experience varying side effects with the most common ones being nausea, tender breasts, palpitations, "heavy" legs, tiredness and a feeling of false pregnancy.

A past analysis of the pill at the National

Quality Control Laboratory (NQCL) that led to the banning of the drug found it to have abnormally high levels of the hormones levonorgestrel and quinetrol, the active ingredients in conventional contraceptive pills. The pills were found to have over 40 times the recommended levonorgestrel and quinetrol hormones.

The tests also indicated that some pills contained as much as 3000mcg of estradiol, 100 times more than the recommended dosage. The recommended daily pill contains 30mcg. The results found varying amounts of the active ingredients with some pills being of no value.

"Excess estradiol which is an analogue of oestrogen poses a risk of blood clots and heart disease," said Dr Jill Mutua, a senior pharmacist. "Babies born to these women or babies breastfeeding while their mothers are on the pills are exposed to excess oestrogen and carry a risk of developing secondary sexual features."

Cases of children born with enlarged breasts and abnormally developed uterus of children below three years have been recorded. Other complications in breastfeeding children were swollen feet, knock-knees, painful muscles and slurred speech.

A user of the pill who spoke to the Business Daily said she missed her menses for months after discontinuing its usage and only visited a gynaecologist when she started developing health complications. She had an abnormally thickened endometrium, which poses a high risk of endometrial cancer.

"Consumption is vast and some of the women I have attended to in the past suffered blood clots while others are now infertile; the effects vary," said Dr Njoki Fernandes, a gynaecologist and wellness consultant.

"There is no literature regarding this drug, and so when faced by a patient it is hard to know where to begin. All we know is that for a single dose to be effective for a whole month, then it must have high doses of the hormones and that is very dangerous to the health of the woman," said Dr Fernandes, also Chief Health Adviser at Minet Kenya.

It was not immediately clear how the pills still get through into the country, but it is believed that laxity by officers at the points of entry have fueled their proliferation. Women falling prey to the dealers are also unable to verify the composition of the pill since information on the pack is in Chinese language, which is contrary to the Laws of Kenya, Cap 244.



Chinese-made fertility pill, Sofia sachets.

Local entrepreneurs invited to compete in Viettel Advanced Solution Track 2019

By Smart Money Reporter

LOCAL start-ups looking to conquer the world of innovation technologies are invited to join Viettel Advanced Solution Track 2019 which comes with mentorship, a US boot camp and a US \$50,000 cash prize.

Halotel Managing Director, Nguyen Van Son said in Dar es Salaam last week that successful start-ups will also qualify for Viet Challenge finals to be held in the US and sign a business cooperation contract with Viettel, the Vietnam based holding company of Halotel Tanzania.

The VAS Track 2019 competition whose key message is 'Creating a new reality,' will open a fair playing field for domestic and international start-ups to find breakthrough solutions combining telecommunications strengths to create products or services of international repute capable of solving current and future life challenges.

"The competition is opened for all individuals, groups, organizations or businesses, regardless of country or region. Just having a creative idea or finished product or solution can participate in the competition and have the opportunity to receive very valuable prizes," Son said.

He further pointed out that after passing the preliminary round, the teams are allowed to participate in the final round of the competition in Laos with all costs covered by Viettel. "In addition to the final cash prize, the three best teams also won tickets to the Viet Challenge finals, the Vietnamese startup competition in the US," the Halotel CEO added.

Besides, the exam teams also enjoy exclusive benefits: signing business cooperation contracts with Viettel and enjoying profit sharing of up to 75 percent, he disclosed. "During the finals in the US, teams also will receive a one to one mentoring program from professors at Harvard, MIT, Boston University and leading experts in Silicon Valley," Son explained.

The successful candidates will also attend the presentation skills training week; visit Boston entrepreneurship ecosystem but also approaching and work with reputable investors in the US to seek their investments.

At the final round of the competition in the United States, the jury members will constitute famous professionals in creative industries like CEO of Mark Cuban Companies, Director of Koch Disruptive Technologies - the start-up investment fund of US-based Koch Industries.



Halotel Managing Director Nguyen van Son.

Thirty of the world's best chief executives in 2019

NEW YORK

IT'S not a popularity contest; you can make a standout chief executive and still face widespread criticism. Facebook's Mark Zuckerberg and Alphabet's Larry Page, for example, made the annual list of top 30 CEOs compiled by Barron's.

Some of the leaders with top track records of revenue growth, earnings and shareholder returns are new this year. About a third of the names typically rotate and the rest - think Jeff Bezos, Warren Buffett, Jamie Dimon, Larry Fink, Bob Iger and Satya Nadella - come back year after year.

Female newcomers include Mary Dillon of Ulta Beauty, praised for leading the cosmetic chain to nearly double the S&P 500's yearly return since taking over in 2013; Marilyn Hewson of Lockheed Martin for what was termed her savvy direction; and Lisa Su of Advanced Micro Devices for giving Intel a run for its money.

More fresh faces making the roster were Bank of America's Brian Moynihan for turning a loss-maker into the second most profitable bank behind JPMorgan Chase & Co, and Costco Wholesale's Craig Jelinek for expert merchandising and raising minimum pay for workers.

Steve Easterbrook was cited for speeding up drive-through service at McDonald's while also ramping up same-store sales and the stock price. Stephen Schwarzman, who founded Blackstone Group in 1985, was also new to the list as profits keep piling up for the private equity giant.

CEOs to fall off the list this year include: Bernard Arnault of LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton SE; James Gorman of Morgan Stanley; Jensen Huang of Nvidia; Hubert Joly of Best Buy (He became executive chairman in June); Phebe Novakovic of General Dynamics; Aditya Puri of HDFC Bank; Robert Sands Constellation Brands (He became executive chair in March); Frederick Smith of FedEx; Carlos Tavares of Groupe PSA; James Whitehurst of Red Hat (International Business Machines is buying Red Hat) and Andrew Wilson of Electronic Arts.

Oil giant 'here to stay', considering partnering the govt in exploration



Total Tanzania Country Chairman Tarik Moufaddal greets guests at a dinner gala to mark the company's 50th anniversary in Tanzania held in Dar es Salaam last month. File photo.

By Smart Money Reporter

TOTAL Tanzania Limited which until now has mainly invested in downstream petroleum business and lubricants will now invest in upstream business as the giant energy company pledges to stay longer in the domestic market.

In his speech to mark 50 years of Total Tanzania operations last month, the company's President for Marketing and Services, Stanislas Mittelmann said as part of its growth, expansion and commitment to back government's industrialization agenda, Total targets to invest in oil exploration in addition to taking part in the multibillion dollars East African Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP).

"In response to President Magufuli's call to boost investment in Tanzania, Total is the leading partner in the East African Crude Oil Pipeline project EACOP. Total has also invested over US\$200 million, in the last three years," Mittelmann said.

He further pointed out that through its recent acquisition of Gapco Tanzania Limited, the energy giant's investment in the country tripled with oil marketing and service network reaching 100 petro-stations and the launch of a multi-million dollar blending plant in Dar es Salaam earlier this year.

"The introduction of Total innovations and high-tech knowhow to Tanzania lubricants industry which will serve the domestic market and east African region at large," he added noting that over the past decades of presence in the country, Total has demonstrated its commitment by continuing to invest heavily in infrastructure and innovation.

"And the result is evidenced by our steady growth and diversification of our downstream operations and more specifically in the importation, marketing and distribution of petroleum products through our network of service stations and general trade," the Vice President noted.

The company has also worked in partnership with regulators and other companies to upgrade the petroleum industry's standards through collaboration with Energy and Water Utilities Regulatory Authority and Tanzania Bureau of Standards.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa assured Total of the government's

full support as it seeks to increase its investments in the country to include upstream petroleum business which involves exploration.

"While the government congratulates Total Tanzania for operating in the local market for the past 50 years, we would like to see your company extend its investments especially lighting to rural areas where the government has so far managed to supply power to 49 percent," Majaliwa said at a gala dinner to mark the anniversary.

The French energy conglomerate which deals mainly in oil and gas, also undertakes solar energy investments especially for rural areas. Majaliwa commended the company for its role in East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline (EACOP) project which involves construction of an over 4,000 kilometres pipeline from Lake Albert in Uganda to Tanga Port.

"The government is so excited with Total's dedicated ambitions in the construction of the Hoima Chongoleani oil pipeline which is a massive investment," the Prime Minister noted while stressing that Total has also been in the forefront in paying taxes, creating jobs and supporting community services as part of its corporate social responsibility.

He assured Total and other investors that Tanzania is a safe and conducive place to invest and leap handsomely in profits. "My duty is to make sure that things go well for businesses hence if any investor is facing hurdles, please report to me," the PM added.

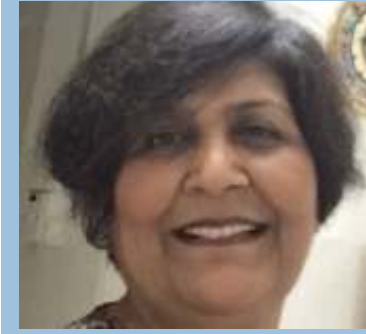
Total Tanzania's Country Chairman, Tarik Moufaddal said unlike other oil marketing companies which are scaling down operations in the domestic market, his company is expanding through further investment in lubricants blending and upstream petroleum business.

"Our commitment and the government's infallible support strengthen our resolve to confidently step into the future," said Moufaddal. Total has been operating in Tanzania since 1969 with its operations in the marketing, supply and service of petroleum, lubricants and solar products.

During the 50 years of Total presence in Tanzania, it did not only do business alone, but also, contributed much to development through community service investment as part of its corporate social responsibility.

Are we paying for sickness or wellness?

CORPORATE WELLNESS



By Bhakti Shah, MPH

I recently came across an article titled "Insurers blame doctors for their losses." 12 out of 21 medical insurers (57%) in Kenya sank into losses due to rising claims, fraud and high cost of drugs. The medical insurance firms claim that doctors are to be blamed for over prescribing, unnecessary procedures and diagnostics. Invariably such losses are passed on to the consumers.

Protecting your company through the purchase of various forms of insurance is a risk-management necessity. But the coverage on its own, without efficient management can prove to be expensive. There are a few bigger picture issues that can be considered to lessen the likelihood of expensive payouts. These issues tend to fall under the broad category of employee wellness. A properly designed, consistent employee wellness program, which is regularly reviewed and measured, can help lower, or at least control medical insurance costs.

Employee Wellness Programs typically focus on the following:

1. Health screenings to identify medical risks - to be conducted with employee consent.
2. Disease management to support people with existing chronic conditions
3. Lifestyle management to encourage healthier behavior - for example, exercise, diet or smoking cessation.
4. Employee Assistance Program - a voluntary and confidential way to connect employees to third

party professionals to help manage mental and emotional health issues.

While Employee Wellness Programs call for an upfront investment, they can lower costs over the long term by discouraging lifestyle choices that tend to lead to absenteeism, poor productivity and performance.

With the high prevalence of non-communicable diseases nationally, we have a ticking time bomb with huge health risks amongst the employee population with risk factors such as:

- Heart diseases
- Diabetes
- Asthma
- High blood pressure
- Overweight and obesity
- Tobacco consumption
- Alcohol addiction
- Lack of sufficient physical activity
- Lack of adequate nutrition
- Stress and stress related disorders
- Depression, anxiety and other mental disorders

Of recent, we are seeing the trend where insurance companies are beginning to offer wellness coverage as a "free of charge" value add service entailing basic screenings and/or periodic health talks and fitness activities to their corporate clients. A question we have to ask is if this is sufficient to address the above risks adequately? Is the impact measured? Isn't it time to invest in and insist on consistent, comprehensive wellness programs?

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

Bhakti Shah, MPH is the Founder and Managing Director of Impactafya Ltd, collaborating with Workplace Options and Mayo Clinic, USA to provide Corporate Wellness and EAP Solutions in East Africa. Bhakti is also the Advisor for the Africa Business Portal and the Past President of the American Chamber of Commerce in Tanzania.

Website: www.impactafya.com | Facebook, Instagram & Twitter: @impactafya

VIEW FROM THE TOP



AfCFTA: Calls grow to bridge information gap

KIGALI

AWARENESS among citizens and traders about the African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) agreement and ways to make the most of the deal may not be at ideal levels to have maximum benefit when it takes effect.

The framework is set to officially be launched during the African Union Summit in Niamey, Niger in July. The agreement is ready for implementation having received 52 signatories and 24 ratifications. It required 22 ratifications in order to be

enter into effect. The AfCFTA operationalisation will make the bloc the largest free trade area in the world.

However, experts say that the impact of the development will be among other things dependent on the level of awareness about the opportunities it presents, ways to be compliant with requirements, existing markets, goods on demand and profit margins, among others. The increase of information, they said, would among other things likely see businesses adjust their models and approaches to target multiple markets.

Several producers and exporters who spoke to The New Times said they were aware of the existence of the agreement but were not sure of aspects such as its operationalisation, standard requirements, most preferential markets for them, and existing opportunities.

Vestine Umutoni, a producer and exporter of handicrafts and African themed clothes, said that she is aware of the agreement and the benefits it holds but is not sure on how best she and her partners could position themselves to make the most of it. "What we know is that

we will be able to trade across the African continent without being taxed to enter a majority of the markets. However, we need information on the status of markets, goods in demand, level of competition, standards requirements, among others," she said.

Private Sector Federation said that, going forward, a lot needs to be done to ensure that traders have adequate information. Stephen Ruzibiza, the Chief Executive of PSF, said that there has been progress in raising awareness but more can be done.

"True, some section of the traders are yet to know the details of the agreement. However, information is out there. People know programmes like local sourcing where we encourage companies, say hotels, to buy from local, instead of importing from outside the continent. This is not to say that, we are there yet. No, a lot needs to be done and so shall be done," he said.

Other stakeholders and business experts say that now that the agreement has been ratified by the minimum required number of countries, it's time to ensure that traders make the

most of the opportunity to drive up intra-African trade.

Speaking over the weekend at the Eisenhower Fellowship meet, Emery Rubagenga, a Rwandan businessman with stakes in multiple ventures and a Board Member of Young Presidents' Organisation, said relevant stakeholders ought to drive up awareness about the opportunities presented AfCFTA.

The AfCFTA could use trade information portals to show opportunities of goods on demand in various African countries, standard

requirements as well as existing value chains in those markets. Other interventions necessary for the success of the trade agreement also include payment systems to facilitate trade settlement in local currencies, which would be a vital boost to intra-regional trade.

Sandra Uwera, the Chief Executive of the COMESA Business Council, said that the operationalisation of the pact will, among other things, see firms adjust their business models to target more than one country as most firms currently do.

WORLD

Former rival backs Johnson to be next UK Prime Minister

LONDON

BORIS Johnson got a boost in his bid to replace British Prime Minister Theresa May yesterday when one of his former rivals backed him and said he was almost certain to win the contest.

Health Secretary Matt Hancock, who dropped out of the race on Friday after winning 20 votes in the first ballot of Conservative lawmakers, said Johnson was the best candidate to lead the party.

"Boris has run a disciplined campaign and is almost certainly going to be our next prime minister," Hancock said in an article in *The Times* newspaper. "My view is that we need to start coming together sooner rather than later."

The *Times* said Hancock was a strong contender to be Britain's next finance minister if Johnson wins the race to replace May.

The Brexit crisis could deepen under a new British leader as Johnson, the face of the official campaign to

leave the European Union in the 2016 referendum, has promised to lead the United Kingdom out of the EU with or without a deal.

The British parliament has indicated it will try to stop a no-deal Brexit, which investors warn could rattle markets and shock the world economy, while the EU has said it will not renegotiate the Withdrawal Agreement that May agreed.

Johnson, the favorite to replace May, won the support of 114 Conservative Party lawmakers in the first round of the leadership contest. A total of 313 lawmakers voted.

His closest rivals were: Jeremy Hunt, the foreign minister, who won 43 votes; Michael Gove, environment minister, with 37 votes and Dominic Raab, former Brexit minister, on 27 votes.

"Boris is the front-runner," Gove told BBC radio. "But we need to make sure that he is tested." Johnson has so far kept a low profile during the leadership race and did not take part in a



Britain's then Foreign Minister Boris Johnson

candidates' debate on Sunday.

BREXIT CRISIS?

The second round of voting will be today with the result due around 1700 GMT. Any candidate with 32 votes or fewer is eliminated. If all candidates have more than 32 votes, the one with the fewest is eliminated.

If Johnson does win the top job and does go for a no-deal Brexit, a constitutional crisis could be on the horizon if parliament tries to block such a departure.

Raab has said parliament could be suspended if necessary, a possibility he refused to rule out on Sunday in a debate with other contenders.

But the speaker of the House of Commons, John Bercow, said it was fantasy to think that the lower house of parliament could be pushed aside.

"It's a joke!" Bercow told French newspaper *Le*

Figaro. "The idea that the British parliament can be pushed aside when such a crucial decision is to be made is fantasy."

But Bercow, whose comments were reported in French, cautioned that the default outcome if no agreement had been ratified and no extension is negotiated was that Britain would leave without a deal to smooth the transition.

READ MORE: Rivals plot to stop Boris Johnson from winning power in UK

"In other words: we will not be able to prevent a hard Brexit," Bercow said.

The current deadline to leave the EU is Oct 31.

The likelihood of a no-deal exit has jumped in the past month, according to economists in a Reuters poll.

British companies look set to cut their investment by the most in 10 years in 2019 as the Brexit crisis drags on, a survey showed.

Agencies

Iran says it will break uranium stockpile limit in 10 days

TEHRAN, Iran

IRAN will break the uranium stockpile limit set by Tehran's nuclear deal with world powers in the next 10 days, the spokesman for the country's atomic agency said yesterday while also warning that Iran has the need for uranium enriched up to 20%, just a step away from weapons-grade levels.

The announcement indicated Iran's determination to break from the landmark 2015 accord, which has steadily unraveled since the Trump administration pulled America out of the deal last year and re-imposed tough economic sanctions on Iran, sending its economy into freefall.

The spokesman for Iran's nuclear agency, Behrouz Kamalvandi, made the announcement during a press conference with local journalists at Iran's Arak heavy water facility that was carried live on Iranian state television.

The Atomic Energy Organization of Iran (AEOI) announced yesterday that Tehran has in-

creased the speed of low-grade uranium enrichment four times since it announced it would stop complying with parts of nuclear deal last month.

"We will cross (limit of) 300 kg (for the production of low-grade enriched uranium) by June 27," Kamalvandi told reporters yesterday. The pace of enrichment will even be faster after that, he said.

Under the 2015 nuclear deal, Iran accepted to stockpile low-grade enriched uranium by 300 kg.

The development comes in the wake of suspected attacks on oil tankers last week in the region, attacks that Washington has blamed on Iran, and also as tensions have spiked between Iran and the United States, a year after US President Donald Trump unilaterally withdrew America from the nuclear deal.

Kamalvandi acknowledged that the country already quadrupled its production of low-enriched uranium and said Tehran would increase uranium enrichment levels "based on the country's needs."



Behrouz Kamalvandi spokesman for Iran's nuclear agency

That increase could be to any level, from 3.67% which is the current limit set by the nuclear deal.

Iran's needs 5% enrichment for its nuclear power plant in southern Iranian port of Bushehr and it also needs 20% enrichment for a Tehran research reactor, the spokesman said.

When uranium is mined, it typi-

cally has about 140 atoms of this unwanted isotope for every atom of U-235. Refining it to a purity of 3.67%, the level now allowed by the nuclear deal, means removing 114 unwanted atoms of U-238 for every atom of U-235.

Boosting its purity to 20% means removing 22 more unwanted isotopes per atom of U-235, while

going from there to 90% purity means removing just four more per atom of U-235, he noted. Ninety percent is considered weapons-grade material.

That means going from 20% to 90% is a relatively quicker process, something that worries nuclear nonproliferation experts.

Agencies

US attacks can't stop company from moving forward - Huawei CEO

HENZHEN

THE attacks from the United States cannot stop Huawei from moving forward, Huawei founder and CEO Ren Zhengfei said here yesterday.

Ren estimated that the company's revenues could drop to around 100 billion U.S. dollars this year and the next, but he expected a revival

in 2021.

He said the major goal for human society is to create wealth and help more people to shake off poverty. Only through collaboration and development can humans' needs be met, he said.

Ren made the remarks when having a dialogue with U.S. futurist George Gilder and Nicholas Negroponte, co-founder of Massachusetts



Institute of Technology's Media Lab,

at Huawei's headquarters in Shenzhen. Huawei to invest US\$100b on more efficient network

China's tech giant Huawei will invest US\$100 billion in the next five years to make network infrastructure more efficient and reliable, Huawei founder and CEO Ren Zhengfei said Monday.

Despite the financial blows the company is bearing, Ren said there

was no plan to reduce research spending and promised to make more contributions to theoretical science in the future.

Ren made the remark when having a dialogue with US futurist George Gilder and Nicholas Negroponte, co-founder of Massachusetts Institute of Technology's Media Lab, at Huawei's headquarters in Shenzhen.

Xinhua

Xi urges joint efforts to open up new prospects for Asian security, development

DUSHANBE

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Saturday urged Asian countries and their partners to join hands in opening up new prospects for Asian security and development under new circumstances.

Addressing the fifth summit of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) held in Tajikistan, Xi called on CICA members to build an Asia featuring mutual respect

and trust, security and stability, development and prosperity, openness and inclusiveness, as well as cooperation and innovation.

China will steadfastly pursue a peaceful development path, stick to opening up and all-win approaches, uphold multilateralism, and work together with all sides to create a better future for Asia and the world, said the Chinese president.

Hosted by Tajik President Emomali Rahmon, the CICA summit was attended

by leaders or representatives of Afghanistan, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Qatar, Russia, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Uzbekistan and other member countries, as well as representatives of observer states and relevant international and regional organizations.

Participants exchanged views on the theme "Shared Vision for a Secure and More Prosperous CICA Region," held in-depth discussion on international

and regional issues of common concerns, jointly planned for Asia's long-lasting peace and shared prosperity, and reached extensive consensus.

In his address, Xi hailed the CICA's positive contributions to promoting peace and development in Asia since its establishment 27 years ago, saying that the mechanism has been committed to increasing mutual trust and collaboration among member countries and safeguarding regional security and stability.

Xi recalled that on the 2014 CICA Shanghai summit, he put forward a new vision of common, comprehensive, cooperative and sustainable security, and proposed exploring a new security and development path that fits Asian features and the common interests of relevant countries, which received positive responses from various parties.

China stands ready to work with all sides to deepen cooperation in various

fields and push forward the CICA process onto new stages, he said.

Calling Asia one of the most dynamic and most promising regions in the world, Xi said Asian countries also face common challenges including insufficient political mutual trust, imbalanced economic development, and outstanding security and governance issues, and thus there is a long way to go to realize long-lasting peace and shared prosperity. *Xinhua*

People's Daily

Belt and Road construction brings benefits to Kyrgyz people

By Liu Zhonghua

In recent years, China-Kyrgyzstan cooperation under the framework of the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has yielded fruitful outcomes.

The road network rehabilitation project in Bishkek is an example of infrastructure cooperation between the two countries. The project, contracted by China Road and Bridge Corporation (CRBC), aims to improve the road network of the Kyrgyz capital.

Many roads in the city are in need of repair as they are bumpy and narrow. Currently, Chinese and Kyrgyz builders are reconstructing the Repin Street, in the west of Bishkek.

To improve road conditions in Bishkek and deliver the benefits of China-Kyrgyzstan cooperation to local people is a common concern of Chinese President Xi Jinping and Kyrgyz leaders.

The Bishkek road network reconstruction project started in October 2016, covering 49 streets and 10 bridges with a total length of 95.4 kilometers. To date, 47 roads have been constructed and restored. The wide and flat roads have given the city a facelift.

El Moke is an engineer of the project graduating from Harbin Engineering University in northeast China. He has participated in the construction of 7 roads under the project.

The project is the largest road network renovation project in Kyrgyzstan, he introduced. Thanks to the project, a car trip from the suburb to downtown Bishkek takes only 20 minutes, compared with 40 minutes in the past.

Kyrgyzstan is rich in water resources, but due to a lack of capital and technology, only 500 of the more than 1,800 villages in the country had the access to centralized water supply.

In addition, the vast rural areas and city outskirts did not have conditions for centralized water supply, and the concentrations of heavy metals and microorganisms were excessive, posing severe challenges to rural water safety.

To tackle the issue, the Chinese Academy of Sciences (CAS) and the Kyrgyz National Academy of Sciences co-established the Research Center for Ecology and Environment of Central Asia (RCECA) in Bishkek in 2014.

Chen Xi, deputy director of Xinjiang Institute of Ecology and Geography under the CAS and director of RCECA, said the center has helped to conduct Kyrgyzstan's first systematic study on drinking water safety in nearly 30 years after the country's independence, striving to develop the best and most suitable implementation plan for water purification technologies.

Last August, RCECA established the first drinking water safety technology demonstration site in Bishkek.

"Now we have clean and safe water to drink. I think it tastes better than mineral water," said a female resident from a village 10 kilometers from Bishkek, giving a thumb up to the project while fetching water from a tap. "With the technologies, we don't have to worry about having no safe drinking water," she added.

"My fellow villagers are happier as we now have a convenient access to clean water," said the head of the village. Besides fetching water every day, the man likes to visit the demonstration site when he's free.

"The equipment is a treasure of our village. Though it doesn't need to be supervised because it is self-cleaning and has a self-contained sewage system, I still like to come and see it," the man said.

Thanks to the Datka-Kemin power transmission and transformation project jointly undertaken by China and Kyrgyzstan, the central Asian country has established an independent power grid system, met the electricity consumption demand of residents in its northern part, and acquired the capability to export electricity to neighboring countries.

Kyrgyzstan was one of the first countries to support and participate in BRI. Kyrgyz President Sooronbay Jeenbekov and Chinese President Xi Jinping agreed to strengthen the alignment of the BRI with Kyrgyzstan's 2040 National Sustainable Development Strategy when they met in Beijing this April.

From the Datka-Kemin power transmission and transformation project, to the China-Kyrgyzstan-Uzbekistan highway, and the RCECA, China-Kyrgyzstan cooperation on Belt and Road has not only benefited the local people, but also the other countries in the region.

"The improvement of infrastructure has enabled us to better achieve connectivity with neighboring countries, improved the efficiency of personnel exchanges, accelerated the circulation of goods, and allowed our country to take a greater part in Belt and Road construction and gain more from it," said a coordinator of the Bishkek road reconstruction project.

Libya's Sarraj calls for elections in 2019 to end war

CAIRO

THE head of Libya's UN-supported government on Sunday proposed holding nationwide elections to end the war in the North African country, as the forces of the rival military commander Khalifa Haftar continue their two-month-long battle to take the capital, Tripoli.

Prime Minister Fayez al-Sarraj (pictured) told a news conference in Tripoli, the seat of his administration, that he is proposing a "Libyan forum" aimed at finding a peaceful solution to the conflict. The talks would draw up a roadmap for parliamentary and presidential elections to be held before the end of 2019.

There are fears that the battle for Tripoli could ignite a civil war on the scale of the violence after the 2011 uprising that toppled and killed longtime dictator Muammar Gaddafi.

Libya is divided between the weak government of al-Sarraj in the west, and Field Marshal Khalifa Haftar, whose self-styled Libyan National Army holds the east and much of the south.

Haftar opened a military offensive on the capital in early April, advancing on the city's southern outskirts and clashing with militias loosely affiliated with the UN-recognized



government.

Haftar has presented himself as a strong hand who can restore stability. In recent years, his campaign against Islamic militants across Libya has won him growing international support from world leaders who say they are concerned the North African country has turned into a haven for armed groups, and

a major conduit for migrants bound for Europe. His opponents view him as an aspiring autocrat and fear a return to one-man rule.

Al-Sarraj said all Libyans who "call for a peaceful and democratic solution" would take part in his proposed talks. There would be "no place for those who seek tyranny and dictatorship," he added, while

calling on the UN to support the forum and to oversee elections. He did not say whether Haftar or his representatives would be included.

The two sides last held talks in the United Arab Emirates in February.

Al-Sarraj also demanded an international probe into alleged "war crimes and crimes against humanity," since Haftar launched his of-

fensive. The fighting for Tripoli has killed over 650 people, including combatants and civilians, according to the World Health Organization.

The UN mission to Libya in a brief statement welcomed al-Sarraj's initiative, describing it as "constructive proposal to advance the political process towards ending Libya's long state of conflict."

A spokesman for Haftar did not immediately answer phone calls and messages seeking comment.

Haftar's forces meanwhile pursued Islamic State militants in the country's south, killing more than a dozen militants over the past three days, officials said on Sunday.

The officials said that LNA forces began its attack on a militant hideout in the mountainous area of Haruj earlier this week. The officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to brief the media.

The Islamic State group acknowledged the ongoing LNA attack and claimed to have killed and wounded dozens of LNA troops.

The group was driven from Sirte in 2016 and from Derna, another stronghold, earlier this year. However, the extremists have found refuge in the vast deserts of central and southern Libya, where they continue to stage attacks.

Agencies

Triple suicide attack kills at least 30 in northeast Nigeria

MAIDUGURI

AT least 30 people have been killed in a triple suicide attack in northeast Nigerian state of Borno, state emergency officials said yesterday, in the biggest mass killing this year by suicide bombers.

No group has yet claimed responsibility for the attack.

The Boko Haram group and its Islamic State splinter group have often carried out attacks targeting civilians and the military in Borno state. Their attacks have claimed hundreds of thousands of lives and displaced millions of people.

"Yesterday around 8pm (1900 GMT) it was reported that there was a very loud explosion in (the village of) Konduga. On reaching the scene of the incident we found there was a lot of casualties. In fact the death toll was over 30 and the injured over 42," an emergency service official told Reuters.

The military did not respond to a request for comment.

Earlier the village head, Bulama Kalli, said three suicide bombers had taken part in the attack, targeting a place where villagers had gathered to watch a soccer match on a large screen. Most of those killed have now been buried while several survivors are still in hospital in Maiduguri, Kalli said.

Boko Haram regards soccer - often watched by Nigerians while drinking beer - as un-Islamic and the ultimate demonstration of corrupting Western influence.

Konduga is located some 25km (15 miles) from Maiduguri, the state capital of Borno state.

The Nigerian government says the Boko Haram insurgency, and the rival Islamic State West Africa Province group, have been largely defeated, but they continue to launch attacks on civilian and military targets.

Notre Dame Cathedral celebrates first mass since devastating fire

PARIS

THE Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris hosted its first Mass on Saturday, exactly two months after a devastating blaze that shocked the world, with priests and worshippers wearing hard hats to protect themselves

against possible falling debris. Dressed in a white robe and helmet, Archbishop of Paris Michel Aupetit led the service, which was attended by just about 30 people half of them clergy.

The mass started at 6 pm in the Chapel of the Virgin on

the east side of the cathedral, which is confirmed to be safe. Aupetit was joined by the rector of Notre-Dame, Patrick Chauvet, other clergy, volunteers, people working on the restoration as well as a handful of lay worshippers.

Other worshippers could

watch the Mass live on a Catholic TV station. The video showed some burned wood still in the church but a famous statue of the Virgin and Child appeared intact behind wooden construction planks.

The annual Dedication Mass commemorated the cathedral's

consecration as a place of worship.

"This cathedral is a place of worship, it is its very own and unique purpose," Aupetit said.

One French priest called the service "a true happiness, full of hope."

"We will rebuild this cathed-

dral. It will take time of course a lot of money, lot of time, lot of work but we will succeed," Father Pierre Vivares told The Associated Press outside the cathedral. "Today it's a small but a true victory against the disaster we have had."

Agencies

Sudan's Bashir appears in public for first time since ouster

KHARTOUM

SUDAN'S former President Omar al-Bashir appeared in public for the first time since his ouster two months ago, as he was led to a prosecutor's office Sunday in a corruption investigation.

The deposed strongman has been held under arrest in the capital, Khartoum, since the military removed him from power in April amid mass protests against his 30-year rule.

The military has since been locked in a tense standoff with the protest movement demanding civilian rule, even as it has promised reforms and held on-again, off-again talks with opposition leaders.

A judicial official with the prosecutor's office said al-Bashir was questioned over accusations that include money laundering and the possession of large amounts of foreign currency.

He said the probe partly related to millions of dollars' worth of cash in US dollars, euros and Sudanese pounds that were found in al-Bashir's home a week after his ouster.

A spokesman with the military's media office confirmed that this is the first time the former president was taken out from his prison in Khartoum.

Both officials spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to talk about ongoing investigations.

On Sunday, al-Bashir was led from prison to a Toyota Land Cruiser, wearing a traditional white robe and turban.

The official SUNA news agency quoted a police spokesman as



Sudan's ousted president Omar al-Bashir is escorted into a vehicle as he returns to prison following his appearance before prosecutors over charges of corruption and illegal possession of foreign currency, in Khartoum the capital of Sudan on Sunday. (AP)

saying al-Bashir's defense lawyers attended the questioning and he returned to prison afterward.

Al-Bashir has the right to appeal within a week, SUNA reported.

In May, al-Bashir was charged with involvement in killing protesters and incitement to kill protesters during the popular uprising that started in December, initially over price increases of basic goods and a failing economy, but which later turned into calls for his ouster. The military toppled him on April 11.

Al-Bashir is also wanted by the International Criminal Court over charges of war crimes and genocide linked to the Darfur conflict in the 2000s, but the military has said it would not extradite him to The Hague. He was the only sitting head of state for whom an international arrest warrant has

been issued.

Meanwhile, the deputy head of Sudan's ruling military council pushed back Sunday against demands from protest leaders concerning the composition of a transitional legislative body.

Gen. Mohammed Hamdan Dagalo said a legislative body formed with a majority from protest movement leaders, who seek civilian rule, is a problem because it is not formed by elections. He said that "our problem is a non-elected legislative body which would root out all of us."

This would suggest a reversal to previous deals between the military and protest leaders, which included a three-year transition period, a Cabinet appointed by the protester leaders, and a legislative body with a civilian majority.

Dagalo also said those respon-

sible for the bloody break-up of the protesters' sit-in outside the military's headquarters in Khartoum on June 3 would be given the death sentence.

"We are working hard to take those who did this to the gallows," he said.

The ruling generals have said several military officers are in custody for alleged "deviation" from the action plan set by their leaders to clear a problematic area, known as Colombia, near the sit-in area.

Protest organizers say more than 100 people were killed and hundreds were wounded during the razing of the camp and the subsequent clampdown by the security forces. The military-backed authorities say 61 people died, including three members of the security forces.

Agencies

ROK, US top diplomats talk over phone ahead of Trump's visit

SEOUL

THE top diplomats of the Republic of Korea (ROK) and the United States held phone talks ahead of US President Donald Trump's visit to Seoul later this month, Seoul's foreign ministry said yesterday.

During her visit to Russia on Sunday night (Moscow time), ROK Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha talked on the phone with US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo about Trump's visit to Seoul and the situation on the Korean Peninsula, the ministry said in a statement.

Trump was scheduled to visit Seoul on the sidelines of the Group of 20 (G20) summit in Osaka, Japan on June 28-29.

During the 15-minute dialogue, Kang and Pompeo shared the view that Trump's trip to ROK will be a crucial opportunity to



This combo photo shows US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo (left) and the Republic of Korea's Foreign Minister Kang Kyung-wha. (AFP)

discuss ways on the complete denuclearization of the peninsula and the settlement of permanent peace.

Trump's Seoul visit would come since the denuclearization talks between the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the United States have been stalled after the second summit between top DPRK leader Kim Jong-un and Trump, which ended with no agreement

in late February in the Vietnamese capital of Hanoi.

Kang and Pompeo agreed to continue close consultations on the peninsula issues, sharing the need for consultations on situations in the Middle East, including the recent attack on two oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman.

The ROK foreign minister has been in Moscow for talks with her Russian counterpart Sergey Lavrov yesterday. **Agencies**

Istanbul candidates face off in first Turkish debate in 17 years

By Bloomberg

THE top two candidates to be Istanbul's mayor faced off in the nation's first televised election debate in 17 years on Sunday, trading charges over the outcome of an earlier vote and offering different approaches to economic growth.

Binali Yildirim, the candidate of the ruling Justice and Development Party, or AKP, and Ekrem Imamoglu, of the Republican People's Party, or CHP, debated for about three hours ahead of the June 23 rerun of a vote ordered by an election

body.

The opposition candidate Imamoglu won the March 31 election, ending a quarter century of rule over Turkey's biggest city by President Recep Tayyip Erdogan's party and its predecessor. But the AKP challenged the outcome, and in a controversial ruling last month, the High Election Board wiped out the earlier result and ordered a new vote.

Both Imamoglu, 49, and Yildirim, 63, are looking to capture support from the 1.7 million registered voters who didn't cast ballots in March. The fresh elec-

tion is a "fight for democracy," Imamoglu said. "It's a fight for democracy against those who violated our rights and the rights of 16 million people." He vowed to run a "clean administration."

Yildirim, the former prime minister, said the AKP didn't want a new vote. "The election wouldn't have been renewed had the CHP not resisted to re-counting of all ballot papers," he said.

The candidates squabbled over election night when Yildirim - Erdogan's ally - claimed victory before final results were posted. **Agencies**

Expert: Financial opening-up, reforms to move forward despite trade war

By Wang Jiamei in Shanghai and Shen Weiduo in Beijing

CHINESE securities regulators launched on Thursday a NASDAQ-style sci-tech innovation board, a breakthrough that experts said is aimed at promoting the country's technological power and supporting efforts by domestic companies in research and innovation amid the US suppression of China's technological

development.

The timely launch also highlights China's resolve to further develop and invest in core technologies - a sign that its technological strength will not be shaken by the ongoing US-China trade war, expert noted.

The new board is known by its English name - STAR Market - in the hope that it will become a rising star in the country's financial markets. The STAR Market

will try a registration-based IPO system and will allow companies that have yet to make a profit to get listed, as in the case of NASDAQ.

To show the importance the central government attaches to the new tech board, Vice Premier Liu He attended the launch on Thursday morning at the Lujiazui Forum in Shanghai, with Yi Huiman, chairman of the China Securities Regulatory

Commission (CSRC), Secretary of the Shanghai Municipal Committee of the Communist Party of China Li Qiang and Shanghai Mayor Ying Yong.

In his keynote speech, Liu stressed that the two priorities for the new board are registration-based IPO reform, with information disclosure at its center, and enhancing the rule of law by raising penalties for violations and strengthening su-

pervision and law enforcement.

Yi cited two reasons for the launch of the STAR Market and the piloted registration-based listing system.

The first is to support the development and growth of science and technology companies with development potential and high market acceptance. The second is to use the board as a test for reforms.

The securities regulator will

implement pilot reforms in issuance and listing, sponsorship underwriting, market-based pricing, trading and delisting, and will pass on the experience to other boards.

Yi also announced plans for a series of reforms, including revisions to Qualified Foreign Institutional Investors (QFII) and Renminbi Qualified Foreign Institutional Investors (RQFII) rules, opening-up of the futures

market, opening-up of the exchange bond market, and the issuance of yuan-denominated bonds, namely "panda bonds" by overseas institutions.

Huang Hongyuan, chairman of the Shanghai Stock Exchange, told the forum on Thursday that so far, 122 companies have applied for listing on the board, which is expected to see the first batch of companies in the next two months. **People's Daily**

India now retain upper hand in World Cup rivalry with Pakistan



Madonna

Sarfaraz refuses to blame senior men for Pakistan's troubles

MANCHESTER, England

PAKISTAN captain Sarfaraz Ahmed refused to put the blame for his team's defeat to India and poor World Cup on the senior players, saying all his squad needed to step up their game.

India's comprehensive victory at Old Trafford left Pakistan in ninth place after just one win from five matches and needing a huge turnaround in form to have any chance of making the semi-finals.

Pakistan were outclassed with India making 336 for five and apart from a 104-run second-wicket partnership between Fakhar Zaman and Babar Azam, Pakistan never looked like mounting a real challenge.

"It definitely is very disappointing. It is hard. We were going really well, especially if you talk about our batting. I thought, when we lost the first wicket, Imam and Fakhar, they made a good partnership," Sarfaraz said. "Our manager just said stay on the wicket and just try to hit fours and sixes. Unfortunately, we lost too many wickets, and that's why we lost the match," he added, referring to a slump which saw four wickets fall in three overs.

After the match, some in the Pakistan media questioned whether Sarfaraz got the support he needed from his senior players.

The 38-year-old all-rounder Shoaib Malik, dismissed for a duck on Sunday, has yet to hit double figures in his three World Cup innings and has bowled just eight overs of his spin in the tournament – with just a solitary over against India.

Mohamed Hafeez, like Shoaib a former Pakistan captain, also failed to deliver in the crunch match, making just nine as the

middle order collapsed.

However, Sarfaraz said the whole team had to share the responsibility for the loss.

"I don't think you can talk about only the senior players. I think you have to talk about the whole team. I think the whole team is not performing well in all three departments, not fielding, not bowling, and not batting," he said.

The decision to ask India to bat failed to deliver the anticipated early breakthroughs but the skipper defended his choice, pointing the finger at his bowlers, whose length was often too short.

"I think we won a good toss. I think we didn't capitalize on that – when we saw the pitch, there was a little bit of moisture on the pitch, we (wanted to use) the conditions. I think we didn't hit the right areas," he added.

Meanwhile, Pakistan must win all four of their remaining group games to have any chance of reaching the World Cup semi-finals, all-rounder Imad Wasim has said after his team's defeat by arch-rivals India on Sunday.

India, who won by 89 runs via the Duckworth-Lewis method, have seven points and occupy third place in the standings behind Australia and New Zealand, while Pakistan are second-bottom with three points from five games.

"This was a really, really disappointing result for us," said Wasim, who came in at number seven and struck an unbeaten 46 off 39 deliveries.

"When we came back on after the rain there was very little we could do, but we know we have four matches left and if we win those, we still have a chance.

REUTERS



India's Rohit Sharma celebrates with his teammates during the 2019 Cricket World Cup group stage against Pakistan at Old Trafford in Manchester. (Agencies)

MANCHESTER, England

NOISY India and Pakistan cricket fans brought a taste of the subcontinent to Manchester on Sunday, their enthusiasm undimmed in a rain-hit, stop-start World Cup match between the regional rivals that drew a massive global audience.

Organisers received nearly 800,000 applications for tickets at the 23,000-capacity stadium in the northern English city to watch the former champions who play each other only in global tournaments because of their soured political relations.

Another one billion watched it on television.

The Old Trafford cricket ground had a festive feel with fans from both sides wearing replica jerseys, colourful headgear and sounding hooters as they began trooping in.

Pakistan have never beaten India in a World Cup but Sarfaraz Ahmed's men received encouragement from Prime Minister Imran Khan, the former cricketer who led the country to their maiden World Cup trophy in 1992.

"Today, given the intensity of the match, both teams will come under great mental pressure and the power of the mind will decide the outcome of the match today," Khan said in one of his tweets.

India handled the pressure better and extended their unblemished World Cup record with a comprehensive 89-run victory via the Duckworth-Lewis method.

"All the outside talk and all that will keep happening," India opener Rohit Sharma, whose 140 earned him the man-of-the-match award, told reporters.

"For us, it's just to focus on the job at hand and make sure we get the job done at the end of the day."

The nuclear-armed neighbours have gone to war three times since independence in the mid-20th century – and another conflict nearly erupted earlier this year, heightening the tensions around the action on the field.

FLYING IN

The match drew fans from across the world, including Ankur Bajpayee, a 39-year-old telecom executive who took a 16-hour flight from Johannesburg just to attend a match he hopes would not be a washout.

"I landed here last night and going back tomorrow," he told Reuters before the start of the match.

"I've prayed for three things – the match should happen, India should win this match and they should win the tournament. I'm sure all three wishes will be fulfilled."

Bajpayee will return home with two of them fulfilled.

Pakistan supporter Hassan Ghani had flown in from his home in Los Angeles for the match he said he simply could not miss.

"The games against India are always the biggest games, the rivalry is so huge,

the patriotism always comes out and the atmosphere is always great," he said.

"BIGGEST RIVALRY"

Scores of Pakistani supporters wore the green team shirt and draped themselves in national flag, while their Indian counterparts wore turbans and colourful wigs as they filed in.

"It's India-Pakistan, it's the biggest rivalry in sports," India fan Jay Tailor, who came from Luton in southern England, told Reuters.

"As much as they may say it's just another game, the players are going to be nervous. With one billion people watching the game, of course there will be an element of nerves. It's not just another game."

Outside the stadium, Hussain was busy selling jerseys, scarves and hooters to fans from both teams.

"I've been here for just over an hour and have already exhausted my first lot," the 24-year-old Pakistani, who now lives in the English city of Birmingham, said with a smile. "My hats are selling the most, because of the chance of rain."

Players from both sides looked unaffected by the raucous build-up in both countries and often exchanged smiles.

REUTERS

Happy Rohit drives calm India to another triumph over Pakistan

MANCHESTER, England

SO for all the hype, when it came to the crunch, the clash between the cricketing giants of the subcontinent played against a backdrop of political tension, ended with a comfortable, incident-free, win for India over Pakistan.

India won the rain-affected game by 89 runs under the Duckworth-Lewis method, but that scoreline does little to emphasize the ease with which Virat Kohli's team won in a match they dominated with bat and ball.

There was no tension between the fans in the capacity crowd at Old Trafford, no sign of animosity between the players and, somewhat disappointingly, none of the positive tension that a close contest would bring.

India opener Rohit Sharma, whose superb 140 proved decisive, was unsurprised by the sense of normality in a game which, to those on the outside, often appears ripe for needle.



Rohit Sharma

"Whenever we have played against each other it has always been like that. I don't know what it seems like from the outside but we were playing a game against another opposition," he told reporters after the victory, which maintained India's unbeaten start, four games into the group stage.

"For us it doesn't matter, we are here on a mission and our focus is to make sure that we accomplish that mission. All the outside talk will keep happening but for us it is just to focus on the job at hand and make sure we get that job done," he added.

The job was done in some style, with Rohit leading the way with his 14 fours and three sixes in a 113 ball knock that exuded quality.

His 136 run opening partnership with KL Rahul and then 98-run effort with Kohli set the tone for an Indian performance that was professional in all three departments.

"Rohit's knock was outstanding but to get to 330 you need a team effort and that is exactly what happened," said Kohli.

"Rohit is such a good ODI player, when he gets to 70 he is unstoppable. It allows me to come in and play in a certain role, the guys are playing their roles nicely."

FATHER'S DAY

A second century from three innings in this

tournament, shows the level at which Rohit is playing at and he looked well capable of going on for a fourth career ODI double century before he got himself out with an ill-chosen scoop shot.

And on Father's Day in England, the 32-year-old credited his positive frame of mind to the arrival of his daughter Samaira in December.

"I think it's just the space I am in right now. It's a very good phase in my life. Having a daughter, a newly born daughter in my life actually has put me in a good space," he said.

"So, yeah, I think I'm enjoying my cricket coming off a great IPL (Indian Premier League) campaign and then starting off here. We always know how important it is to start well."

The win extends India's domination of their rivals in World Cup contests to 7-0 and Pakistan captain Sarfaraz Ahmed conceded Kohli's side handled the expectations better.

"If you talk about World Cup matches (with India), definitely, we're not winning the World Cup matches. I think it's a special game, those teams who handle (pressure) well... that's why India win today and previously as well," he said.

REUTERS

Sarri returns to Italy to coach Juventus

MILAN

SERIE A champions Juventus appointed Maurizio Sarri as their new coach on Sunday, hoping that his ambitious possession-based game would extend their dominance of Italian football and bring them European silverware.

British media reported Juventus agreed a compensation fee with Chelsea in excess of 5 million pounds (\$6.30 million) for Sarri, who joins the Italian giants on a three-year contract.

Sarri was at Chelsea for just one season, where he won the Europa League – the first major trophy of his career – and led them to a third-placed finish in the Premier League.

On paper it was a commendable feat, but it was a rocky campaign for the former Napoli boss whose team never seemed to fully adapt to his so-called “Sarri-ball” system.

“In talks we had following the Europa League final, Maurizio made it clear how strongly he desired to return to his native country, explaining that his reasons for wanting to return to work in Italy were significant,” Chelsea director Marina Granovskaia said in a statement.

“He also believed it important to be nearer his family, and for the well-being of his elderly parents he felt he needed to live closer to them at this point.”

The chain-smoking 60-year-old coach replaced the phlegmatic Massimiliano Allegri who won five successive Serie A titles in as many seasons in charge – extending Juve’s run to eight in a row – plus the Coppa Italia four times. He also led them to two Champions League finals.

NAPOLI CONNECTION

The move is likely to infuriate supporters at Napoli, where Sarri spent three seasons and turned them into the team most likely to threaten Juve’s dominance.

Napoli finished as runners-up twice and third place once under Sarri’s leadership and achieved a club record 91 points in the 2017-18 when they came

agonisingly close to snatching the title – even beating Juve 1-0 in Turin towards the end of the season.

Juventus seemed to lack a recognisable playing style under Allegri, a pragmatic coach who last season fielded 38 different lineups in 38 league matches.

That will not be the case under Sarri, who turned Napoli into the most eye-catching Serie A side with their complex passing movements.

His style, however, makes huge demands of the players and Sarri was also criticised at Napoli over his failure to rest players, something which could prove a problem at Juventus who have more strength-in-depth and will be battling on two fronts.

He will also have to find a way of incorporating Cristiano Ronaldo into his team. The 34-year-old, with two years of his Juventus contract still to run, is still lethal in small bursts but not able to maintain such a high tempo over 90 minutes.

A former bank employee, Sarri never played football professionally and made his Serie A coaching debut at the age of 55 with Empoli after winning promotion with them in 2014.

Known as “Mr 33”, because he reputedly thought up 33 different plans for setpieces, Sarri quickly innovated at Napoli by using a drone to film training sessions from above.

FILE PHOTO: Soccer Football - Europa League Final - Chelsea v Arsenal - Baku Olympic Stadium, Baku, Azerbaijan - May 29, 2019 Chelsea manager Maurizio Sarri celebrates after winning the Europa League REUTERS/Amr Abdallah Dalsh/File Photo

Sarri began coaching amateur teams back in the 1990s, managing to combine his hobby with a banking career that took him to the United Kingdom, Germany, Switzerland and Luxembourg.

He coached 16 different sides in the lower division of the Italian league before finally reaching Serie A with Empoli. (\$1 = 0.7943 pounds)

REUTERS

PSG consider Neymar sale as Al-Khelaifi sends warning to players

PARIS

PARIS St Germain are prepared to sell striker Neymar, French media reports said, as chairman Nasser Al-Khelaifi warned that irresponsible behaviour from players won’t be tolerated anymore.

The Brazil international joined the Ligue 1 side from Barcelona for a world record 222 million euros (\$248.91 million) in August 2017.

However, he missed large parts of the 2018-19 campaign through injury and suspension and made just 17 league appearances, scoring 15 goals.

PSG will consider selling the 27-year-old in the forthcoming transfer window if they receive a substantial offer, a report in L’Equipe said on Sunday.

Neymar is said to be unsettled at the club and to have told relatives that he was having difficulties in France even before he was accused of raping a woman in a Paris hotel in May. The player has denied any wrongdoing.

The report comes on the back of strong comments from chairman and CEO Al-Khelaifi about the attitude of squad members.

“Players will have to be more

responsible than before,” he told France Football.

“It must be completely different. They will have to do more and work harder. They are not there for their own amusement.

“If they do not agree, the doors are open – Ciao! I do not want star behaviour anymore.”

His words come after a disappointing season for Thomas Tuchel’s side who, despite clinching the league title, were knocked out of the Champions League at the last 16 stage by Manchester United. They also failed to win either of France’s major domestic cup competitions.

On Friday, the club announced the return of Leonardo as sporting director, with the Brazilian replacing Antero Henrique in the role six years after his departure.

“I realised changes were essential,” Al-Khelaifi said.

“Otherwise, we were going nowhere. Leonardo will have absolute sporting power.

“Leo is my guy - incredible. He has my total confidence. His natural authority will be good for everybody – especially the players.” (\$1 = 0.8919 euros)

REUTERS

Low turnouts suggest Copa America struggling to excite fans

SALVADOR, Brazil

THE Copa America’s official song is titled “A Continent Vibrates” but if the strikingly low attendances at some matches are anything to go by, many in South America, especially in the host nation Brazil, seem wholly unenthused by the tournament.

The latest disappointment for organisers was Paraguay’s thrilling 2-2 draw with Qatar on Sunday being played out at the iconic 74,000-capacity Maracana in Rio de Janeiro in front of vast swathes of empty yellow and blue seats.

Only 19,000 people turned up, despite 4,000 children being given free tickets by the local organising committee in order to swell the crowd.

The disappointing turnout continued a worrying trend for tour-

namer organisers CONMEBOL after only 13,000 people made it into the Arena Gremio for Peru’s goalless draw with Venezuela on Saturday in Porto Alegre.

Even fans of hosts Brazil, famous for their passion for the national team, seem apathetic, as their 3-0 win over Bolivia in the opening game at the 66,000-capacity Morumbi stadium was far from a sell-out, with only 46,000 attending.

CONMEBOL president Alejandro Dominguez admitted he was concerned about the low numbers but defended Brazil’s organisation.

“Of course, it’s worrying because you want lots of people to see the best players in the world in action, because South American players are the best in the world,” Dominguez told reporters on Sunday.

REUTERS

Profiles on teams for 2019 African Cup of Nations

SENEGAL

African Cup of Nations record: Previous appearances in finals: (14) 1965, 1968, 1986, 1990, 1992, 1994, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2012, 2015, 2017

Best performance: Runners-up 2002
Drawn in Group C with Algeria, Kenya and Tanzania.

Coach: Aliou Cisse
He captained Senegal at the 2002 World Cup in Japan and South Korea, where they beat holders France in the opening game and reached the quarter final.

His club career took in spells at Lille and Paris St Germain before playing in the English Premier League with Birmingham City and Portsmouth.

He coached Senegal’s under-23 team at the 2012 Olympic Games in London and then took over the senior side in 2015 and will be

coaching at a second successive Cup of Nations finals.

The 43-year-old also qualified Senegal for the last World Cup finals in Russia.

Key player: Sadio Mane. Age: 27. Winger.

Mane competes at a third Cup of Nations finals, hoping to put behind him the disappointment of the previous two, where Senegal were heavily fancied but flopped.

He became Africa’s most expensive footballer when he cost Liverpool 34 million pounds (\$42.81 million) from Southampton in mid-2016 and has gone onto become a Champions League winner with the Merseysiders.

He made his international debut in 2012 and now has 60 caps and represented Senegal at the 2012 Olympics and 2018 World Cup finals.

FIFA world ranking June 2019: 22
How they qualified: Top place in Group A, ahead of Madagascar, Equatorial Guinea and Sudan

Squad

Goalkeepers: Abdoulaye Diallo (Stade Rennes), Alfred Gomis (SPAL), Edouard Mendy (Stade Reims)

Defenders: Saliou Ciss (Valenciennes) Pape Abou Cisse (Olympiakos), Lamine Gassama (Goztepepor), Kalidou Koulibaly (Napoli), Moussa Wague (Barcelona), Youssef Sabaly (Girondins Bordeaux), Salif Sane (Schalke 04)

Midfielders: Krepin Diatta (Club Bruges), Idrissa Gana Gueye (Everton), Cheikhou Kouyate (Crystal Palace), Alfred Ndiaye (Villarreal), Badou Ndiaye (Galatasaray), Henri Saivet (Bursaspor), Sada Thioub (Nimes)

Forwards: Keita Balde (Inter Milan), Mbaye Diagne (Galatasaray), Moussa Konate (Amiens), Sadio Mane (Liverpool), Mbaye Niang, Ismaila Sarr (both Stade Rennes)

(\$1 = 0.7943 pounds)



Sadio Mane



Victor Wanyama

Kenya

Africa Cup of Nations record: Previous appearances in finals: (5) 1972, 1988, 1990, 1992, 2004

Best performance: Group Phase
Drawn in Group C with Algeria, Senegal and Tanzania

Coach: Sebastien Migne
The 46-year-old came from France to work as an assistant to Claude le Roy with the Democratic Republic of Congo squad at the 2013 Cup of Nations finals.

Migne then got a chance to run the under-20 side before going out on his own across the Congo river to become national coach of the Congo Republic in 2017.

He was named Kenya coach last May.

Key player: Victor Wanyama. Age: 27. Midfielder

In a country with a bevy of Olympic gold medallists, Wanyama cuts a popular figure with his profile from the Premier League, which is keenly followed in Kenya.

He had an injury hampered season at Tottenham Hotspur and was an unused substitute for this year’s Champions League final against Liverpool. Wanyama, who was previously at Celtic and Southampton, left Kenya as a teenager to play at Beerschot in Belgium.

FIFA world ranking June 2019: 105

How they qualified: Second placed team in Group F, behind Ghana but ahead of Ethiopia and Sierra Leone.

Squad:

Goalkeepers: Patrick Matasi (St. George), John Oyemba (Kariobangi

Sharks), Faruk Shikalo (Bandari FC) Defenders: Musa Mohammed (Nkana FC), Bernard Ochieng (Vihiga United) Joseph Okumu (Real Monarchs), Aboud Omar (Sepsi OSK), Joash Onyango, Philemon Otieno (Gor Mahia, Kenya), Eric Ouma (Vasalund), David Owino (Zesco United)

Midfielders: Ismail Gonzalez (Las Palmas), Eric Johanna (Brommapojkarna), Francis Kahata (Gor Mahia), Dennis Odhiambo (Sofapaka), Johanna Omollo (Cercle Bruges), Ayub Timbe (Beijing Renhe), Victor Wanyama (Tottenham Hotspur), Paul Were (AFC Leopards)

Forwards: John Avire (Sofapaka), Masoud Juma (unattached), Ovella Ochieng (Vasalund), Michael Olunga (Kashiwa Reysol).

Guinea:

African Cup of Nations record:

Previous appearances in finals: (11) 1970, 1974, 1976, 1980, 1994, 1998, 2004, 2006, 2008, 2012, 2015

Best performance: Runners-up 1976

Drawn in Group B with Burundi, Madagascar and Nigeria
Coach: Paul Put
The 63-year-old was coach of Gambia for four years from 2007 and then in 2012 took over Burkina Faso, leading them all the way to the 2013 Cup of Nations final, where they lost 1-0 to Nigeria in Johannesburg, and then narrowly close to a place at the 2014 World Cup finals.

Put worked as national coach of Jordan and Kenya after that before taking the Guinea job in March 2018.

Sentenced to two years in jail in his native Belgium for match-fixing during his days in charge of Lierse, he avoided prison on appeal.

Key player: Naby Keita. Age: 24. Midfielder.

A high injury picked up in the closing stage of the season meant Keita missed out on the Champions League final with Liverpool and Guinea are gambling on his being ready in time for their opening game against Madagascar on Saturday.

He has the potential to be a talismanic influence for the team and will be regarded with some trepidation by opponents.

Keita was 17 when he moved to France first and then played in Austria and the Bundesliga before Liverpool spent a club record of almost 50 million pounds (\$62.95 million) to sign him.

FIFA world ranking June 2019: 71
How they qualified: Top-placed team in Group H, ahead of the Ivory Coast, Central African Republic and Rwanda.



Riyad Mahrez

Algeria
Africa Cup of Nations record: Previous appearances in finals: (17) 1968, 1980, 1982, 1984, 1986, 1988, 1990, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, 2004, 2010, 2013, 2015, 2017.

Best performance: Winners 1990
Drawn in Group C with Kenya, Senegal and Tanzania.

Coach: Djamel Belmadi
The 43-year-old French-born midfielder was on the books of Paris St Germain, Olympique Marseille, Manchester City and Southampton during his playing career and captained Algeria at the 2004 Cup of Nations finals.

His managerial career began at club level in Qatar and he took charge of their national team for a year but was fired after Qatar finished bottom of their group at the 2015 Asian Cup finals in Australia.

Algeria handed him a four-year contract last July.

Key player: Riyad Mahrez. Age: 28. Winger
The 2016 African Footballer of the Year was born in France but his father hailed from Algeria and he was invited to play for the north Africans at the 2014 World Cup in Brazil, making a rather inauspicious start to his international career.

He has since participated at the last two Nations Cup finals but made more of an impact at club level, a key player in Leicester’s shock 2016 Premier League triumph.

Two more league titles have followed with Manchester City, despite his not being a regular in Pepe Guardiola’s team.

FIFA world ranking June 2019: 68
How they qualified: Top placed team in Group D, ahead of Benin, the Gambia and Togo.

Squad:
Goalkeepers: Azzedine Doukha (Al Raed), Rais Mbolhi (Al Itifaq), Alexandre Oukidja (Metz)

Defenders: Youcef Atal (Nice), Djamel Benlamri (Al Shabab), Rami Bensabaini (Stade Rennes), Mohamed Fares (SPAL), Rafik Halliche (Moreirens), Aissa Mandi (Real Betis), Mehdi Tahrat (Lens), Mehdi Zeffane (Stade Rennes)

Midfielders: Mehdi Abeid (Dijon), Ismail Benacer (Empoli), Hicham Boudaoui (Paradou), Andy Delort (Montpellier), Sofiane Feghouli (Galatasaray), Adlene Guedioura (Nottingham Forest), Riyad Mahrez (Manchester City)

Forwards: Youcef Belaili (Esperance), Yacine Brahimi (FC Porto), Baghdad Bounedjah (Al Sadd), Adam Ounas (Napoli), Islam Slimani (Fenerbahce).

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Profiles on teams for 2019

African Cup of Nations

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Winners of the first draw of the Tigo grand promotion dubbed Soka la Afrika Rehema Liku (L), Geoffrey Mutta (2nd L) and Kalaghe Rashid in jovial mood shortly after they received air tickets from the firm's Value Added Service Specialist Ikunda Ngowi (2nd R) in Dar es Salaam yesterday and getting a chance to witness the African Cup of Nations in Egypt. Photo: John Badi

Two beach volleyball players in action in Cape Verde today

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadoni

TWO Tanzanian beach volleyball players will be in action today at the ongoing African beach games at Santa Maria Beach in Cape Verde.

This is the first time that beach games recognized by the Association of African Olympic Committees (Anoca) are being held in Africa.

The two players are Hellen Richard and Yasinta Remmy.

The games, which has attracted more than 1000 athletes from 42 African countries, will be used as qualification for world beach games which will be held later this year in the United States of America.

The country is represented by the two athletes and coach Alfred Seleyi and speaking when the team was flagged off, the chairman of volleyball association, Major General (rt'd) Patrick Mlowezi, asked the two to work hard for the nation.

He said Tanzanians are expecting them to perform well at the games.

"You are going to Cape Verde as representatives of all Tanzanians. I am asking you to work hard for the nation. The country expects you to bring medals home," he said.

Mlowezi also thanked Tanzania Olympics Committee (TOC) for sponsoring the team to the games.

Coach Seleyi said he is hopeful that the players will perform well at the event.

"We have been training well and I am sure the team will perform well. My players have told me that they are ready for the games as they want to make history by being in the group of athletes winning medals at the inaugural African beach games and qualify for the world games," he said.

Meanwhile, on Saturday last week, Major General Mlowezi disclosed that due to circumstances beyond their control, the country has failed to send its athletes to the World Beach Volleyball which is taking place in Thailand.

He failed short of disclosing the reasons why the team, which has been in camp for more than four weeks, failed to travel to the games.

The country was to be represented by three junior athletes - Jonia Jovin, Janeth Ajili and Kuruthum Jumane.

"The three players have been camping for more than four weeks. The aim of the camp was to prepare them for the World Cup beach volleyball in Thailand, but it is with regret that I announce that the team did not travel to the games...am asking the players who were to compete at the Thailand games not to lose hope because there is always next time," he said



Senior national football team, Taifa Stars.

Taifa Stars force 1-1 draw in final warm-up match to Afcon 2019

By Guardian Reporter and Agencies

TANZANIA national soccer team (Taifa Stars) played to a 1-1 draw against Zimbabwe in their final warm-up match to Afcon 2019 behind the closed doors of El Sekka El Hadid Stadium in Cairo on Sunday night.

Zimbabwe (The Warriors) got their goal from Knox Mutizwa in the first half while Taifa Stars grabbed the equaliser in the second period through substitute Mbwana Samatta.

Coach Emmanuel Amunike rested a couple of first eleven squad and started by Metacha Mhata Vincent Phillipo, Gadiel Michael, Ally Mtoni, Erasto Nyoni and Mohammed Hussein, Frank Domayo, Yahya Zayd, Adi Yussuf, Rashid Mandawa and Thomas Ulimwengu.

Substitutes: Aishi Manula, Aron Kalambo, Mudathir Yahya, Kelvin Yondani, Himid Mao, Simon Msvu, Feisal Salum, Mbwana Samatta, John Bocco and Farid Mussa.

Taifa Stars will kick off the AFCON 2019 tournament by facing Senegal on June 23.

Following is the factbox: Profile on Taifa Stars for 2019 African Cup of Nations

African Cup of Nations record:

Previous appearances in finals: (1) 1980

Best performance: Group Phase Drawn in Group C with Algeria, Kenya and Senegal.

Coach: Emmanuel Amunike

Amunike sat on the bench for the duration of the 1994 Cup of Nations finals before Nigeria coach Clemens Westerhof thrust him into the starting line-up for the final against Zambia.

He took five minutes to open the scoring and netted a second to hand them the title.

It was the start of a playing career that took in spells at Sporting Lisbon and Barcelona and also saw him win Olympic gold. As a coach, Amunike, now 48, won the under-17 World Cup with Nigeria in 2015 and was recruited by Tanzania last August.

Key player: Mbwana Samatta. Age: 26. Forward.

Samatta's tally of 23 goals was a major factor as Racing Genk won the league title in Belgium this season.

It earned for the captain of the Tanzania national team the 'Ebony Boot', handed out annually to the best African in the Belgian league.

Samatta has already won the Confederation of African Football's award for the best

African-based footballer, achieved in 2016 after his goals helped TP Mazembe Englebert of the Democratic Republic of Congo win the Champions League.

FIFA world ranking June 2019: 131

How they qualified: Second placed team in Group L, behind Uganda but ahead of Lesotho and the Cape Verde Islands.

Squad:

Goalkeepers: Aron Kalambo (Tanzania Prisons), Aishi Manula (Simba), Metacha Mhata (Mbao)

Defenders: Mohammed Hussein (Simba), Gadiel Michael (Young Africans), Aggrey Morris (Azam), Ally Mtoni (Lipuli), Erasto Nyoni (Simba), Vincent Phillipo (Mbao), Hassan Ramadan (Nkana), Kelvin Yondani (Young Africans)

Midfielders: Frank Domayo (Azam), Himid Mao (Petrojet), Farid Mussa (Tenerife), Feisal Salum (Young Africans), Mudathir Yahya (Azam), Yahya Zayd (Ismailia)

Forwards: John Bocco (Simba), Rashid Mandawa (Botswana Defence Force XI), Simon Msvu (Difaa El Jadida), Adi Yussuf (Blackpool), Mbwana Samatta (Racing Genk), Thomas Ulimwengu (JS Saoura)

(Other profiles on Page 19)

Simba top striker Kagere renews contract

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

WHILE the future of Simba Sports Club strikers John Bocco and Emmanuel Okwi remains uncertain, coach Patrick Aussems can sleep a lot easier after the Msimbazi Street side completed the contract extension of Meddie Kagere.

Simba have announced that they have extended the contract of the league top scorer by two years which will him keep at the den to 2021.

Kagere's extension follows in the footsteps of goalkeeper Aishi Manula and defender Erasto Nyoni, who played a vital role in Simba historic CAF Champions League quarter final success as well as retaining the league title and were each rewarded with a two-year new deal last week.

Before he left for holidays, Aussems said renewing the contracts of key players and adding a few new faces to boost the squad was high on his agenda ahead of next season CAF Champions League and domestic campaign.

Kagere's new deal has erased any doubt about his future. It was reported that Egyptian's giants Zamalek were interested in him and had agreed personal terms with his Rwandan agent Patrick Gakumba in a deal estimated to be in the region of \$600,000.

Last weekend, there were further reports that Zamalek had sent an official to negotiate with Simba.

The Rwandan international joined Simba from Gor Mahia last year and went on to play 53 competitive games for club. He scored a record breaking 34 goals in all competitions.

Together with Bocco and Okwi they formed a terrific trio partnership that registered a combined 69 goals across all completions.

With Kagere services now assured, the club still has to resolve contract saga involving Bocco, who is reported to have entered an agreement with South African based side, Polokwane, while also agreeing a contract extension with Simba.

Despite Simba announcing they have resolved the issues with Polokwane the South Africans have threatened to take the matter to FIFA alleging Bocco's breach of contract.

On their part, Simba have accused Polokwane of player tapping by signing Bocco without notifying them as required by FIFA.

If Simba aren't careful, in Emmanuel Okwi they face losing a player who has been equally as important.

As much as Kagere has hogged most of the headlines since his arrival, Okwi is hardly winding down at Simba.

The Uganda Cranes striker has had a role in 25 goals in 39 appearances last season and though the club might probably allow him to do whatever he likes after six incredible years of service, they will clearly try to tempt him to stick around just a little bit longer in case a better replacement is hard to get.



TONIGHT @21:00

TUESDAY

11:00 DADAZ [live]
13:30 Kall Za Wana
14:00 Dakika 10 Za Maangamizi
15:00 FUNGUEA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA I
19:30 MJADALA
21:00 Nirvana
21:30 Wakilisha
22:00 Grace Na Asili Yangu
22:30 Bongo Hits

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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

Flexibles by David Chikoko

