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AfDB believes in women - Dr Adesina



National Pg 6

Oxfam supports Shinyanga sisal farmers



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Women with disabilities in leadership posts



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Dr Syedna Mufaddal Saifuddin (2nd-L), Spiritual head of the world Dawoodi Bohra Community, is welcomed by Dar es Salaam regional Sheikh Alhad Mussa Salum (2nd-R) on arrival at Dar es Salaam's Julius Nyerere International Airport yesterday to mark Nabi Miladun and celebrate his own birthday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Minister tasks PCCB to work on co-op fraud

"The major problem with the Saccos is failure to properly keep books of accounts, while members fail to pay back in time loans advanced to them. There are also delays in submitting members' deductions"

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

AGRICULTURE minister Japhet Hasunga has tasked the Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) to investigate embezzlement of 124.05bn/- unveiled in the 2018/2019 cooperative unions audit report. Hasunga said here yesterday that the government had directed the Cooperative Audit and Supervision Corporation (COASCO) to audit all registered cooperative unions for the 2018/2019 financial year. There are 11,410 registered cooperatives and of that number active cooperatives are 6,463 and 2,844 are inactive ones, while those that cannot be traced are 2,103 units. The minister said that until June 30th 2019, COASCO had audited 4,313 cooperatives, equivalent to 102.63 percent of the government target to audit 4,300

cooperatives. "I am handing over to PCCB the list of cooperatives with an adverse opinion report. We have discovered gross embezzlement of public funds and we are going to deal with the cooperative boards." The missing monies should be traced and returned to members, the minister intoned. He stated that out of the 4,423 audited cooperatives, 303 cooperatives (6.87 percent) received a clean opinion, 2,378 cooperatives (53.89 percent) received doubtful opinion and 879 cooperatives (19.32 percent) received adverse opinion reports. Out of 38 secondary cooperatives, four received clean opinion reports, 22 received doubtful opinion reports and

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'More women start projects in commercial agro-industry'

By Guardian Reporter

MORE women are venturing into commercial agriculture, on the basis of data from the key sector lender—the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TAB).

In an interview aired by on a televised programme, TAB Managing Director Japhet Justine (pictured) revealed that 30 per cent of the bank's 1.7 million customers are women engaged in commercial agriculture and agro-based sub-sectors like livestock keeping and fishing.

Women have traditionally engaged in agriculture but mostly at subsistence level

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Dividends: Four institutions write cheques for 2.75 billion/-

By Guardian Reporter

ONE day after President John Magufuli issued a 60-day ultimatum to boards of director and managements of parastatals and other institutions to pay dividends, four entities have written cheques to the Treasury, totaling 2.75bn/-.

A statement released by the Ministry of Finance and Planning yesterday said the institutions made the payments on Monday, one day after the Head of State warned that after two months elapse, boards of directors of entities that have not paid will be dissolved.

The institutions that wrote the cheques include the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC) that has given 1.2bn/-, the Tanzania Railways Corporation (1bn/-), Tanzania Posts Corporation (350m/-) and SELF-Microfinance (200m/-) making a total sum of 2.75bn/- in dividends received by the government.

Institutions that are 100 percent owned by the government and those in which the government has shares are required to give the state parts of their earnings as dividends and other contributions payable to the Government Consolidated Fund.

On Sunday President Magufuli received dividends and various contributions totaling 1.05tr/- from 79 companies, parastatals and other institutions out of 266 which were required to issue dividends and contributions, while 187 failed to do so.

The decision by the four institutions to give dividends has pushed up the total to 1.325trn/- while 183 institutions face the prospect of dissolution of the boards of directors and management teams.

Speaking at State House Chamwino on Sunday during a ceremony where he received dividend cheques from the 79 entities, President Magufuli said the government has invested a total of 56trn/-

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Study supports popular ways to combat NTDs

By Guardian Reporter

RESEARCH carried out in Tanzania has suggested "feasible, popular, cost-effective and time saving" ways to eliminate neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).

Conducted by scientists from Washington State University's Paul G. Allen School for Global Animal Health, the study sought to find out the level of effectiveness of treating human and animal populations at the same time.

The researchers pitched clinic camps on school grounds and embarked on treatment of roundworm infections in humans alongside dog vaccinations meant to eliminate rabies in 24

villages. Dubbed 'One Health,' researchers said it could play an important role in the World Health Organization's global campaign to vastly diminish the burden of NTDs by 2030.

Eight villages were provided clinics to treat roundworm, while eight were provided clinics to vaccinate against rabies in dogs, and eight others were provided with integrated clinics to do both at the same time.

The integrated health clinics saw 91.5 per cent of households per village receive roundworm treatment, while 82.5 per cent of households

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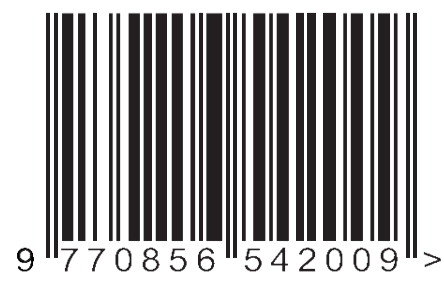
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Finance and Planning minister Dr Philip Mpango (2nd-L) receives a dummy cheque for 1.0bn/- in dividend to the government from Tanzania Railways Corporation director general Masanja Kadogosa (R) in Dodoma yesterday. Looking on are the ministry's Permanent Secretary, Doto James (L), and Treasury Registrar Athumani Mbutuka. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Minister tasks PCCB to work on co-ops' fraud

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nine received adverse opinion reports.

The apex cooperative - Shirikisho-TFC received a clean opinion report including money in the bank (1.53bn/-) that was not accounted for and not shown in its accounts reports.

As to Agricultural Marketing Cooperative Societies (AMCOS) Hasunga said out of the 2,710 societies that were audited, 15 received clean reports, 1,347 received doubtful reports, 599 received unsatisfactory reports and 749 societies received adverse opinion reports.

"The main problems with AMCOS is failure to keep books of accounts, many payments had no supporting documents, poor accounting control and officials not being professional and diligent enough," he affirmed.

On the Savings and Credit Cooperative Societies (Saccos), he said out of 1,448 Saccos that were audited, 261 received clean opinion reports, 887 received doubtful reports, 218 received unsatisfactory reports and 82 received adverse reports.

"The major problem with the Saccos is failure to properly keep books of accounts, while members fail to pay back in time loans advanced to them. There are also delays in submitting members' deductions," the minister noted.

Hasunga said during normal auditing for the year in question the money that was suspiciously expended or embezzled was 87.6bn/-, while loss

incurred due to negligence was 22.8bn/- and outright theft was 2.8bn/-.

However, during the special audit conducted by COASCO, the money that was suspiciously embezzled was put at 6.2bn/-, with loss incurred due to negligence standing at 2.6bn/- and outright theft 1.7bn/-, hence total money embezzled was 124.05bn/-.

He said a total of 682 cooperatives refused to submit books of accounts for auditing.

Speaking shortly after receiving the audit report, PCCB Director Brig. Gen John Mbugo said the bureau has the authority to deal with issues of embezzlement, calling upon all those involved to start paying back the money or legal action will be unleashed against them.

"We will conduct thorough investigations and we'll leave no stone unturned. All those involved in embezzlement should be cautioned of the consequences awaiting them," the PCCB executive underlined.

Meanwhile, the chairman of the Cooperative Union of Tanzania (CUT) Dr Titus Kamani said the cooperatives commission will offer full cooperation to ensure appropriate steps are taken against the perpetrators.

"We will conduct thorough investigations and we'll leave no stone unturned. All those involved in embezzlement should be cautioned of the consequences awaiting them"

Study supports popular ways to combat NTDs

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attended clinics where roundworm treatments were provided alone.

For rabies vaccinations, the integrated health clinics saw 86.5 per cent of households participate, compared to 90 per cent of households when rabies vaccinations were offered alone. During focus group discussions with clinic attendees, 85 percent said the integrated clinics result in "two for one" health treatments.

In addition to reducing time for those who would have to travel to two health clinics, there were significant cost savings by combining interventions for both diseases.

"Integrated health clinics cut transportation and publicity costs, lowering the cost of a deworming dose by an average of 12 US cents and the cost of a rabies vaccination by an

average of 66 US cents," says the report now published by BMC Public Health.

By positioning the clinics outside of school grounds and offering treatment to the whole community rather than just children attending primary school, the study was also able to reach thousands of people, outside of the 7 to 13-year-old age range, who would have otherwise not been vaccinated by Tanzania's National Schools Deworming Programme.

"We need novel, cost-effective and complementary control strategies to try to tackle these neglected tropical diseases," Lankester said. "This study is important because it shows a One Health approach can reduce costs and reach more people."

The Washington State University's study was funded by the Grand Challenges Award Programme of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

'More women start projects in commercial agro-industry'

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and not commercial ventures.

He said the lender does not only provide loans but invests in skills and research aimed at developing value chains for agricultural products.

As a strategic institution, the lender operates on financial terms that are different from other banks, he said.

"TADB is focused on projects: the credit applicant must say how it is going to affect the community," he stated, elaborating that the loan one takes should have a positive impact on the people around the project area.

In the case of an irrigation system, one has to show us how the farmers around the project will benefit and if it is a cattle slaughterhouse, then the

keepers around the place must benefit from the factory, he further explained.

The bank was established by the government in 2015 as a strategic policy bank with the aim of improving and developing agriculture and encouraging other financial institutions to lend more money to address barriers to agricultural growth and the well-being of farmers. It began to offer credit services in 2017.

Justine said TADB gives long and medium term loans and offers credits of up to 15 years, which allows the lender to finance large and sustainable projects.

FAO defines the term agriculture broadly, starting with crops, while fishing is an important part of

agriculture, he remarked, noting that TADB includes livestock and dairy industry, apart from forestry and its products.

"At present TADB is focused on crop agriculture, fisheries and livestock, while forests will become part of our intervention in the future."

As to changes the bank has made since its inception, the director said it was firstly the perception of agriculture as a peasant and backward activity to make it look commercially viable.

"By investing in research and exploring opportunities available in the sector, we have been able to convince other banks and financial sector stakeholders of interest in giving agriculture more importance and

allocating more funds in agricultural projects," he said.

Currently only eight out of 100 loans go to agro-based projects but TADB wishes to bring this number to 15 projects out of 100 in five years, he declared.

Until October 2019 total loans issued by the lender stood at 147.02bn/- which was an increase of 62.46bn/- from the 84.56bn/- issued as of 31 December 2018, making it a 73.86 per cent increase.

"The agricultural revolution must be linked to the industrial sector, which we are working on very well, as so far we have developed 12 factories," he added.

JPM orders probe of officials allegedly involved in issuing fake visa stickers

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT John Magufuli has directed security organs to immediately take measures against all people who allegedly imported fake visa stickers worth 1.4bn/- thus denying the government its revenues.

He wanted the Commissioner General of Immigration Services to closely probe officials who have been colluding in producing the fake visa stickers.

He issued the directive on Monday in Dodoma when commissioning the construction of the Tanzania People's Defense Force (TPDF) headquarters.

"There is a network of people who produce fake visa stickers and import them thus denying the government billions of revenues," he said.

Meanwhile, president Magufuli reminded officials from the Home Affairs Ministry to ensure they use prisoners in implementing various projects.

"I have said about this several times but it seems there are still some people including from Home Affairs ministry who are yet to understand me...It is shame to use our soldiers from TPDF in

the projects while we have prisoners to do so," he said.

On the construction of the immigration department building, President Magufuli ordered the department's commissioner and ministry to review the expenses of the project.

"I was shocked to see that a CCTV camera will cost 8bn/-, this is too expensive. So I want the officials to review the whole building expenses and ensure that it doesn't exceed 20bn/-," he said.

Deputy Minister for Home Affairs, Hamad Masauni said that the ministry has already taken ethical measures to 34 officials in the department.

Earlier, the Commissioner General of the Immigration Department, Dr Anna Makakala said the government issued 10bn/- for the construction of the department's offices in Dodoma.

"President Magufuli ordered us to construct a modern building with national and international standards. The eight floors building is expected to be completed on November 27, 2020," she said. She noted that the project's implementation has reached 20 percent.



Tanzania Agricultural Bank managing director Japhet Justine (L) fields questions from Radio One/ITV director Deogratius Rweyunga during an interview on the station's weekly 'Dakika 45' (45 Minutes) programme aired on Monday. Photo courtesy of ITV/Radio One

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in the companies which must remit returns to the government or their

leaders leave office.

The president said that it is unacceptable that parastatals with

boards of directors and chief executive officers and a host of experts who are paid handsomely, operate on losses.

He vowed that after the two months, no heads of loss-making parastatals will keep their jobs.



Tanzania Commission for AIDS (Tacaids) executive director Dr Leonard Maboko (L) makes a point during an interview with EATV/East Africa Radio presenter Samson Charles in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. He outlined the efforts the commission has been making to rein in HIV infections in various groups in the country, notably young people, ahead of the commemoration of World AIDS Day - December 1. Photo courtesy of EATV/East Africa Radio

Scientists to highlight research on epilepsy-causing tapeworms

By Marc Nkwame, Arusha

The spread of epilepsy causing tapeworms, whose infections are said to lead to among other things, death, is reported to be more acute in southern and northern parts of Tanzania and becoming a health time-bomb in Africa as a whole.

The Deputy Minister for Health, Dr Faustine Ndagulile, said here yesterday that taeniasolium, the tapeworm bacteria, is widespread in Songwe, Mbeya, Ruvuma and Manyara regions where residents are known for keeping pigs, despite that they roam about freely.

He was addressing a scientific conference under the auspices of 'Cystinet Africa' to examine taeniosis and cysticercosis infections on the continent and the way forward in pig farming so that the animals no longer continue to host and spread the deadly worms. The conference is attended by officials of the German Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF), the aid organisation Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), World Health Organization (WHO), Cysticercosis Working Group of Southern Africa (CGWESA) as well as CYSTNET Europe.

Among keynote speakers are scientists and researchers from Africa, the United States, Canada, Europe, Peru and Australia. Also, there are presenters from Africa project principal investigators from Zambia, Mozambique, Tanzania and Germany.

It was observed that Taeniasolium Cysticercosis is one among infectious zoonotic diseases of global public health concern, with its persistence being related to poverty and ignorance.

"It causes considerable health, social and economic problems in endemic countries including Tanzania," observed the National Institute of Medical Research (NIMR) director general, Prof Yunus Mgaya.

The disease not only cause epilepsy, dementia and even death among humans but it affects animal husbandry by making pork unsafe for human consumption, thus reducing

the market for pigs and related swine products. Cysticercosis is a leading preventable cause of deaths and disabilities from food-borne diseases in endemic countries, while from medical point of view, Taeniasolium-cysticercosis has been proven to be associated with occurrence of epilepsy.

Prof Andrea Winkler from Germany lauded Tanzania for adopting the 'One Health' approach, which involves joint efforts and collaboration of veterinarians, medical doctors and agricultural extension officers.

"The initiative brings medical issues concerning humans, animals and environment onto a single platform made up of the joint efforts and collaboration of veterinarians, medical doctors, agricultural extension officers, researchers and relevant governmental agencies. The idea is to find sustainable solutions for prevention, control and elimination of zoonotic diseases including taeniasolium-cysticercosis," she said.

Tanzania acknowledges enormous financial and technical support provided by Germany through BMBF in this direction, he stated. Cystinet-Africa is a network that draws members which include research institutions and universities from the three African countries and Germany.

Research projects are conducted under the Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA) and NIMR in Tanzania, the University of Zambia in Lusaka, and Eduardo Mondlane University in Maputo.

There are also two partner institutions at the Technical University of Munich in Germany.

SUA and NIMR acknowledged financial support provided by BMBF to facilitate advanced interdisciplinary research on poverty-related and neglected diseases.

The funding initiative also aims at increasing the capacity of North-South and South-South research collaborations to produce locally relevant and useful research contributing to achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 3.

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

TDB to provide more soft loans to fund SGR project

THE President of the Eastern and Southern Africa Trade and Development Bank (TDB), Dr Admassu Tadesse, has pledged to continue cooperating with Tanzania in providing soft loans for implementation of strategic development projects.

He gave the pledge in Dodoma during his meeting with the Finance and Planning Minister Dr Philip Mpango when the two discussed various issues of cooperation between TDB and Tanzanian government.

Dr Tadesse said since the country's economy is robust, the bank will continue providing loans for various projects including the construction of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR) and the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project along Rufiji River.

He said in the last few months TDB provided Tanzania with US \$ 1 billion soft loan for implementing various

priority projects and that the bank will soon provide the country with another huge loan.

Dr Mpango said TDB has been an important stakeholder in the country's development and that in addition to the US \$ 1 billion received by the government in August this year the government expects to receive another US \$ 300 million loan.

He said the monies will be channelled to the SGR project including other power generating projects across the country to enable the country increase industrial production from sufficient electric power.

Speaking at the meeting, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Energy and Minerals, Dr Hamis Mwinyimvua said he is happy TDB has shown its willingness to provide loans for the 358 MW Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project along Rufiji River.

The cost for the Julius Nyerere Hydropower Project along Rufiji River is US \$ 460.2 million out of which US \$ 407 million is for the power generating plants and US \$ 53 million for construction of 170 km power transmission lines.

He said the government aims to generate 10,000 MW by 2025 and that

the implementation of this project will assist in attaining that capacity.

The Managing Director of Tanzania Railways Corporation (TRC) Masanja Kadogosa told the TDB boss that construction of Dar es Salaam-Morogoro stretch of the SGR is 72 percent complete and thanked the bank for its readiness to provide funds for the construction of Mwanza-Isaka stretch.

Tanzania is among 31 TDB shareholders whereby up to December 31 2018 it held number 4 spot among investors in the bank with 8.33 of the shares.



Prequalification of tender for supply of goods, works and services for 2019/2020

Management and Development for Health (MDH) seeks to promote collaboration among government and academic institutions, as well as the private and non-profit sectors to advance the public health and care interests of the people of Tanzania.

MDH now invites sealed bids from Service Providers, for prequalification for the supply and installation of tents in Dar es Salaam, Kagera, Geita, Kigoma, Pwani and Tabora Regions and the provision of cleaning services to MDH Head quarters offices at Mikocheni and its surroundings for the financial year 2019/2020:

Category B: Non-Consulting Services

TENDER NO.	DESCRIPTION OF THE TENDER
MDH/PP/2019 - 20/G/05	Supply and Installation of Tents in Dar es Salaam, Kagera, Geita, Kigoma, Pwani and Tabora Regions.
MDH/PP/2019-20/NCS/24	Provision of cleaning services to MDH Offices and its surroundings.

- Interested eligible bidders may receive the application documents from MDH PMU Offices or down load pre-qualification document from MDH website through this link: www.mdh-tz.org and pay a non-refundable fee of TZS 200,000 or its equivalent in a freely convertible currency per tender. The payment shall be paid through the bank **COMPANY NAME: MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT FOR HEALTH, ACCOUNT NUMBER: 0108021459504, BANK NAME: STANDARD CHARTERED BANK TANZANIA LIMITED and BRANCH NAME: INTERNATIONAL BRANCH HOUSE**
 - The receipt **MUST** be attached to each application form submitted. Any application submitted without the receipt will be rejected. All bids in one original plus one copy properly filled in and enclosed in plain envelopes clearly marked the Tender number and details of the tender must be delivered in at MDH as per the address below, on or before **01pm local hours on December 13th, 2019.**
- The Chief Executive Officer,
Management & Development for Health (MDH),
P. O. Box 79810, Mikocheni,
Plot No. 802; Along Mwai Kibaki Road,
Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.**
- The bid document must consist of, application letters, company profile/physical address and contract, legal trading documents (TIN Certificate, VRN Certificate, complaint to the Government's Tax Regulations, current business license, companies past experience in related field, personnel capabilities in the relevant field and a copy of Memorandum and Articles of Association (MEMAT) showing the Directors names and their respective shares in the company.
 - MDH reserves the right to accept or reject any application and is not bound to give reasons for its decision.
 - Interested bidders may obtain further information through Email: mdh@mdh-tz.org

The Chief Executive Officer



PUBLIC NOTICE

Statement from Save the Children on circulating recruitment advert



Save the Children have seen the circulating advert (above) from various social media platforms claiming to hire people for data collection in villages and distribution of aid. We hereby to **inform the public that message is a FAKE INFORMATION**, Save the Children is not conducting any mentioned activity and has never done so. In advertising various issues Save the Children uses internal portal which is the Website (<https://tanzania.savethechildren.net/>) and links which will directly make people reach the information on the website.

We hereby confirm that we consider this act as fraud and we have zero tolerance towards it. Save the children reserves it right to take legal action against the perpetrators. We are also taking measures to consult legal advisors for filing a police report and we request the public not to transfer/pay any funds based on this fake advert. Save the Children as a responsible organisation would never insist on any payment upfront to be considered for any position or service. We hereby argue people not to re circulate any information demanded by the fake news advert for their own safety.



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Email: mbfl@makazibora.co.tz

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

Makazi Bora Finance Limited (MBFL) is a microfinance company registered under Companies Act, 2002 (Reg. No. 139725735) with objective of provision of housing and microenterprise financing to low and middle income communities in order to improve communities' living standards. The company has taken over the housing microfinance services that were operated by Habitat for Humanity Tanzania (HFHT), the organization that was very active in housing microfinance in the country.

In order to strengthen operations in the provision of housing and microenterprise financing, the company is intending to acquire a very competent management team to oversee day-to-day operations.

In this view, the company is inviting the motivated and qualified Tanzanians to fill in the following vacancies at its office in Dar Es Salaam.

I. GENERAL MANAGER

The General Manager (GM) shall be the Chief Executive Officer of the Company who shall report to the Board Chairperson.

(a) Key Responsibilities:

(i) Strategic Management

- o Implements and communicates the company's vision, mission, and overall strategy and direction.
- o Responsible for all aspects of start-up and day-to-day operations of the company, including staffing, budgeting, outreach and business development.
- o Develops an annual work plan to measure success against short and long term goals, with targeted Key Performance Indicators to be approved by the board of directors.
- o Oversees a high-performing credit portfolio in line with the company's growth-phase business plan and long-term sustainability.
- o Develops a deep understanding of local market policy developments and competitors.
- o Maintains awareness of both the external and internal competitive landscape, opportunities for expansion, customers, markets, new industry developments and standards.
- o Liaises with strategic partners to raise funds, build infrastructure and delivery channels, and cultivate local strategic relationships.
- o Oversees risk management and full compliance with all legal requirements affecting the company's business and operations.

(ii) Staff /Team Development

- o Recruits and mentors a strong team of self-starters that reflect the culture and values of the company
- o Motivates staff and maintains a positive, transparent, mission-oriented and results-driven environment.
- o Cultivates a positive environment of learning and professional development for all staff members.
- o Recognizes problems, seeks appropriate input, and develops solutions to resolve personnel problems in a positive, gender aware and culturally sensitive manner.

(iii) Innovation

- o Identifies important areas for market innovations and develops solutions that address meaningful issues for customers.
- o Creates a work environment that encourages feedback, creative thinking and innovation.

(iv) Board Relationship and Representation

- o In compliance with company Board Charter, serves as a member of the board and reports to the board, delivering on the company's mission and strategy in line with shareholder expectations.
- o Pro-actively recommends changes or improvements to the overall direction, policies and strategy of the organization; solicits advice and seeks guidance, when appropriate, from the board.
- o Implements board policy and directives efficiently; reports company activities and financial position to the board in a timely manner.
- o Oversees the relationships that the company maintains with regulators, investors, banks, lawyers, auditors, Government and any other external party.
- o Develops networks and builds alliances externally that further the commitments and strategic vision.

(b) Knowledge, Skills and Abilities:

- o Proven leadership and good people skills; entrepreneurial spirit.
- o Ability to work effectively in environment of economic, ethnic, gender and religious diversity.
- o Proven ability to work under pressure and ability to embrace and manage change at all times.
- o Strong familiarity with local economy and political environment.
- o Natural communicator and relationship-builder, with excellent written and verbal skills in both English and Kiswahili.

(c) Qualifications and Experience:

- o University Degree in Business Administration, Management, Finance, Economics or similar.
- o Management experience in financial services delivery, banking, microfinance, or relevant business sector in the Tanzanian context required.
- o Experience in a start-up environment strongly preferred.
- o At least 8 years of experience in financial services industry and 4 years in senior management or similar position from financial services industry.

2. FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

The Finance and Administration Manager (FAM) shall be responsible for financial and administration matters of the organization. He/She shall report to the General Manager.

(i) Key Responsibilities

- Support the development and implementation of the company strategic and business plan through allocation of financial resources to ensure proper management of financial resources and assets of the company.
- Manage the utilization of company finances according to established policies, plans and procedures. Assist in carrying out financial planning using projection models and other financial tools and disseminate the information to various stakeholders within and without the organization.
- Monitor performance against financial plans and provide relevant and timely information to the Board, Senior Management peers, Departments, branches and other stakeholders.
- Provide accurate and timely periodic financial reports and other reports to the various stakeholders as per policy or on need basis; prepare reports for management, directors, auditors, regulators, government agencies and departments including for tax compliance purposes.
- Coordinate with the external auditors to ensure timely and expeditious facilitation external auditing requirement and statutory reporting of financial performance.
- Manage the preparation of financial proposals and related supporting documentation for donor funding, external financiers, commercial financing, regulatory and government authorities, external auditors, and financial consultants as needed.
- Implement policies and procedures to guide the management of the investment portfolios in the company.
- Ensure reliability and integrity of financial and operating information systems
- Budget preparation and consolidation of annual projections
- Manage balance between risk and return by maintaining a positive spread between the interest rates on earning assets and the interest cost of funds
- Manage all payments, and collection & company of revenue
- Manage all capital expenditure and procurement for the institution
- Oversee funding requirements and liquidity management of the institution

- Safeguard cash balances and oversee inter branch transfers
- Ensure proper custody of security, deeds and other important documents
- Ensure that the organization does not suffer financial loss through fraud and error by ensuring that assets are safeguarded and by closely maintaining and monitoring efficient and adequate internal control systems
- Supervise the running of the finance department to ensure adherence to institution's policies, procedures and regulations.
- Ensure compliance with laid down conditions and terms pertaining to loan agreements with external financiers.

(ii) Qualifications and Experience

- o Bachelor's degree in Commerce (Accounting option) or Finance/Business Administration/Economics or related field.
- Training in microfinance or banking field will be an added advantage
- Must be a CPA (T) or ACCA final stage in related accounting, finance or audit field
- Thorough knowledge of financial services/Micro finance industry policies and regulatory requirements as relates to MFI institutions.
- Have 3 -years relevant work experience preferably in a similar position in a financial environment.

3. CREDIT MANAGER

Reporting to the General Manager, the Credit Manager (CM) will be part of the management team of the company, and will be responsible for credit operations within the microfinance operations.

(i) Key Responsibilities

- o Cultivating a corporate credit culture which drives growth of the loan portfolio, delivers high customer satisfaction, follows customer protection principles, and enables the company to meet its mission of improving livelihoods for low-income micro-entrepreneurs
- o Providing leadership and clear focus for the company employees engaged in delivery of credit products and services
- o Developing strategies (staffing, product, process, marketing, etc.) to enable portfolio growth and client outreach in existing and new regions.
- o Ensuring strong portfolio quality for group and individual loans, balanced alongside the need to reach the unbanked or financially excluded with unconventional methodologies
- o Implementing and continuously updating processes and methodologies for core credit products to ensure they remain client attractive and market focused, coordinating with the Business Development Department to incorporate research findings as needed.
- o Identifying staffing needs and actively participating in the recruitment process for credit staff
- o Building credit staff competency, providing coaching, designing courses and conducting training where required.
- o Working directly with staff in order to ensure strong quality of credit operations, and implementation of credit policies and procedures.
- o Participating in the evaluation process credit officers.

(ii) Qualifications and Experience

- o Bachelor's degree in Business Administration or related fields, MBA/ MA Economics. Housing microfinance qualification is an added advantage
- o 5 years of relevant experience, in banking/microfinance and credit (retail development focused)
- o Strong credit analysis skills and experience
- o Experienced in development of credit growth strategies, policies and procedures at a senior level in similar environments
- o Exposure to microfinance desired; experience with group lending is beneficial
- o Proficiency with Microsoft Excel, Word, and Power Point.

(iii) Critical Competencies:

- o Strategy Development - Develops strategic outreach and growth plans; Coordinates strategies; Communicates changes and progress; Completes strategic planning process on time and within budget; Manages team activities
- o Teamwork - Balances team and individual responsibilities; Contributes to building a positive team spirit; Able to build morale and group commitments to goals and objectives.
- o Managing People - Makes self-available to staff; Provides regular performance feedback; Develops subordinates' skills and encourages growth; Fosters quality focus in others; Improves processes, products and services; continually works to improve supervisory skills.
- o Business Acumen - Understands business implications of decisions; Displays orientation to profitability; Demonstrates knowledge of market and competition; Aligns work with strategic goals. Understands the need of housing finance and housing value chain
- o Innovation - Displays original thinking and creativity; Meets challenges with resourcefulness; Generates suggestions for improving work; Develops innovative approaches and ideas; Presents ideas and information in a manner that gets others' attention.

4. BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER

The Business Development Manager (BDM) shall ensure the company maintains competitive business environment in order to enhance growth of services to the target group. He/She shall ensure credit and other products are able to respond quickly to market changes and - most importantly - meet the needs of our clients and target market (low income entrepreneurs and housing seekers).

(i) Key Responsibilities

- Lead, monitor and research market trends analyses for appropriate decision making and interventions
- Identify and develop opportunities for housing and relevant microenterprise loans
- Management of key customer relationships and networks
- Preparing and managing a demand driven sales forecast and other resource requirement for the area including budgets
- Develop and implement sales plans to deliver on the set mix and business target
- Championing products review and development
- Monitoring, analyzing and reporting of sales performances and taking appropriate action.
- Implementation of brand building and marketing activities
- Developing, advising on training curriculum for customers, agents and partners in product knowledge, motivating and evaluating staff to achieve highest levels of performance
- Determining and coordinating of sales reporting and communication requirements

(ii) Qualifications and Experience

- o Bachelor's degree in Business Administration/ Commerce and management in specialization in marketing and sales, economics or related areas. Professional qualification in sales will be an added advantage
- 5 years' minimum experience in sales and Marketing in the Banking/microfinance institution industry
- Supervisory experience of minimum 2 years

MODE OF APPLICATION

Interested candidates should send their applications to the undersigned by **5th December, 2019**:

The Microfinance Consultant,
Makazi Bora Finance Limited,
P. O. Box 31451, Dar Es Salaam
Email: mbfl@makazibora.co.tz

Only Short listed candidates will be contacted for interview.

SADC calls upon member states to fight against rape, other forms of sexual abuse

By Guardian Reporter

THE Southern African Development Community (SADC) has called upon member countries to fight against rape and other forms of sexual abuse to fully achieve Goal 16 of the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

The SDG 16 specifically calls for the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development.

"As we commemorate this year's 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence, we must actively reflect on addressing the root causes of the vice, which include imbalance in power and control dynamics between men and women as well as the deep-rooted cultural and social norms in societies that perpetuate gender inequality," said SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Tax in a statement on the 2019 commemoration of 16 days of activism against GBV.

The theme of this year's campaign which runs from the 25th of November to the 10th of December is "Orange the World: Generation Equality Stands against Rape".

It is drawn from the United Nations Secretary-General's UNiTE by 2030 to End Violence against Women Campaign, which is mobilising the global community to raise voice against

rape in our communities.

The Secretary General noted that member states need long term investment in education programmes to promote behaviour change and advance substantive gender equality by ensuring women's full and effective participation in political, economic and social life.

She said countries must also ensure accessible and responsive justice and security institutions, to fully implement laws that protect the rights of women and girls.

"Our community members must also understand that rape or any form of GBV is a crime punishable by law, and that it has no place in the modern society. We must enlist active community involvement to create and sustain a safe and supportive environment that protects women and girls," she said.

Dr Tax added that rape or any form of sexual assault constitutes one of the most severe human rights violations inflicted particularly on women, and girls.

She said the negative effects of rape are well documented as rape continues to traumatise women and girls, resulting in life-long repercussions on the victim's health and well-being.

"The consequences of rape can last

a lifetime and span generations, with serious adverse effects on health, education, employment, crime, and the economic well-being of individuals, families, communities and societies, thus, resulting in adverse effects on economic growth and development," said Dr Tax in a statement.

In conflict situations, she said, rape continues to be used as weapons of war, often characterised by, among others, intimidation and other forms of GBV on family members and women human rights defenders.

She noted that SADC recognises the need to address all forms of GBV hence introduction of the SADC Protocol on Gender and Development, Regional Strategy and Framework of Action for Addressing GBV (2018-2030) and the Regional Strategy on Women, Peace and Security (2018 - 2022), all intended to harmonise and coordinate the regional response to GBV and to help member states to effectively respond to GBV.

Dr Tax said countries must go beyond policies, frameworks and strategies that have been put in place by complementing them with enforcement, training, research, information-sharing, appropriate budgets, and behaviour change interventions in the communities.



Ntanda legislator Cecil Mwambe of the opposition Chadema briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday on his intention to contest the party's national chairmanship, now occupied by Hai legislator Freeman Mbowe, in the forthcoming elections. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

The African Development Bank believes in women - Dr Adesina

By Guardian Reporter

PRESIDENT of the African Development Bank Group (AfDB) Dr Akinwumi Adesina has underscored the need for investment on women insisting the world is poorer because women are excluded and treated unfairly in terms of labour market participation, unequal wages and exclusion from markets and financial resources.

Dr Adesina made the remarks on Monday when speaking at the opening of the Global Gender Summit in Rwanda. The summit has for the first time been held in Africa.

"We must focus on how to fast track economic, social and political opportunities for women, and girls. A smarter world must invest in women and girls. Women are the best investments any society can make. When they earn, they spend 90 percent of their income on their households, including their husbands," he noted adding that smart banks will lend to women because they pay back their loans by an overwhelming 90 percent.

He added that despite women being the best loan payers, there is a US \$1.5 trillion financing gap for women-led small and medium sized enterprises.

In Africa, 70 percent of women are

excluded financially. The continent has a US \$ 42 billion financing gap between men and women. And women, who are the majority of farmers in Africa, face financing gap of close to US \$ 16 billion.

Dr Adesina said AfDB has launched the Affirmative Finance Action for Women in Africa (AFAWA), to mobilise US \$ 3 billion of new lending by banks and financial institutions for women in Africa.

"The African Development Bank believes in women. Women are bankable," he said noting that smart nations invest in women.

Studies show that equal and full participation of women can add an additional US \$ 28 trillion to global wealth by 2025, an increase of 26 percent in global annual GDP.

He said: "As multilateral development banks, we owe it to the world to not only shine the light on the challenges facing women; we must develop and launch transformative programmes to tackle them, decisively".

He insisted on countries to drive policy dialogue to tackle legal, regulatory and institutional environments that constrain opportunities for women and ensure gender equality in projects.

"We must fight against gender-based violence and expand voice

for women to participate more actively in communities, as leaders, in project design, implementation and monitoring," said the bank President.

He called upon efforts to end all forms of child marriage and gender based violence.

"Men should marry their age mates. We cannot sacrifice the future of our girls: let our girls be, stay in school, thrive and excel. They are the best assets", said Dr Adesina.

The bank President noted that for way too long, women have suffered from the subtraction side, subtracted from education, subtracted from access to legal rights to land and property, subtracted from access to finance, subtracted from leadership positions in board rooms, subtracted from political processes.

He said: "Women don't make wars, the egos of men lead to wars. But women and their children bear the brunt of wars and conflicts. A world led by women will not have wars. Life bearers will not become life takers."

Dr Adesina gave the example of Rwanda where 50 percent of its ministerial positions are filled by women. She said Ethiopia has 61 percent of its parliamentarians being women - the highest in the world. In Ethiopia, four of the seven Supreme Court justices are women.



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Oxfam supports farmers to make cattle fattening feed from sisal residues

By Felister Peter

SISAL farmers in Kishapu District, Shinyanga Region can now process fattening cattle feed from the crop residues, thanks to Oxfam Tanzania for supporting the villagers as the fattened animals can fetch better market prices.

"We had no idea that sisal wastes can make the best livestock feed that adds weight to cattle. We are grateful to Oxfam Tanzania experts for helping us as most of us can now process the feed out of sisal remaining", said Hellen Samson, a sisal grower from Migunga village in Mwataga ward.

Samson said since she began processing the animal feed in June 2019, she has been able to produce enough for her cattle as well as selling to fellow livestock keepers in the village.

"We prepare the animal feed by mixing sisal wastes with corn husks, sunflower and rice. As part of a trial, I am giving the fattening feed to four out of 12 cattle, and I am seeing the difference", she said adding that animals ate the food twice a week.

She noted that after harvesting and processing sisal from her three acres farm, she was able to get two sacks of dried sisal wastes. She said a sack of dried sisal residue is sold at 5,000/-.

"I can now make 20 sacks of cattle fattening feed per month," said Samson insisting to have shifted from cultivation of traditional crops such as maize and cotton.

Oxfam Tanzania is implementing the projects in partnership with the Relief to Development Society (REDESO). There are more than 3,500 farmers in the sisal value chain in Kishapu and over 950 in Meatu district.

REDESO field officer, Erica kalutha said they engaged experts from Sokoine University of Agriculture (SUA). She said that first trial results

have showed that the feed can add between 10 and 15 kilogrammes to cattle within three months. She said the animal feed was tested to nearly 90 cattle in the district.

Kalutha noted that villagers giving the food to their cattle are likely to fetch better market prices since fattened cattle are sold at between 800,000/- and 1m/- which is high compared to a normal market price of 300,000 per cow.

Oxfam Tanzania programmes manager for Lake Zone, Bonaventure Kagayo said that almost 96 percent of sisal is yet to be properly exploited.

He said the organisation is working with SUA to conduct an evaluation of concentrations in sisal wastes to identify the types of products that can be made out of it apart from animal feed and manure.

Kagayo said villagers have changed their mindset towards agriculture with most of them engaging in commercial cultivation of the cash crop.

"More villagers especially women are engaging in sisal cultivation and entrepreneurship activities. They can even negotiate prices in accordance with production cost," he noted.

Tanzania is one of the major exporters of quality sisal fibre in East Africa with its products been sold in Saudi Arabia, Nigeria, Egypt, India, China, Morocco, Libya, German Spain, Kenya and Japan, according to the Tanzania Sisal Board (TSB).

Statistics from TSB indicates that Tanzania exports between 75 and 80 percent of its produced sisal fibre.

Tanzania's sisal fibre exports doubled in six years between 2012 and 2017 from 15,541 tonnes to 25,471 tonnes with earnings rising similarly from \$ 21.08 million to \$ 41.1 million as a result of improvement in the international sisal market due to rise in utilization of sisal especially in construction activities.



A section of Dar es Salaam's Ubungo Interchange, which is still undergoing construction at the Morogoro Road/Mandela Road/Sam Nujoma Road intersection, as captured on Monday. Photo: John Badi

By Guardian Reporter

YOUTH in the country have been advised to make career choices pertinent to their skills to not only have the upper hand in the job market but also enjoy what they do.

Emerson Education Principal, Faizan Majid Hussein, said yesterday that at the moment the country faces a serious challenge when it comes to matching skills with an individual graduate's academic certificates.

Speaking during a Career and Skills Development orientation session for secondary school leavers, Hussein noted there is a huge gap between academic qualifications and the needed skills to execute tasks.

"We have noted that the main

Education stakeholders gives advice to the youth to make right career choices

challenge is secondary school students from the ordinary level do not get the proper guidance in terms of prospective career choices as they move on to higher levels of education, this has had a negative spillover effect in the job market.

The event which was held in Dar es Salaam targeted students who recently completed their National Form Four (IV) and Form Six (VI) examinations and are waiting to pursue further studies.

Organised by Emerson Education in

collaboration with Sahara Ventures, the event aimed at assisting the students in making informed career choices at a time when they are idle at home.

Sahara Ventures Chief Operations Officer, Musa Kamata, challenged the youth to not only make the right career choices but also to keep themselves up to date with technological advances that are compatible with their line of work.

"These has been a challenge since my days as a young adult after finishing school, I really never knew what I

wanted to be. But that should no longer be the case at this time and age, a lot has changed," he said.

One of the students who participated in the session, Louis Matemba, observed that the session has been helpful because now he understands why some people seem to have good jobs but are still unhappy. "Making the right career choices, I have come to realize, leads to job satisfaction which in turn leads to optimal results at the work place because one would love what they are doing," he said.



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT- PHASE II

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

RENDERING

NCB No. MOEVT/ALSD.II/G.IB FOR THE SUPPLY OF HOSTEL MATTRESSES FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CENTRES IN MAKUNDUCHI UNGUJA AND DAYA PEMBA

- This Specific Procurement Notice follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business issue No. AfDB22-815/12 of 19th January 2012.
- The Government of United Republic of Tanzania has received financing from the African Development Fund toward the cost of the Alternative Learning and Skills Development – Phase II. It is intended that part of the counterpart funding to this loan will be applied to cover payments under the contract for Supply of Mattresses for Skills Development Centres in Makunduchi Unguja and Daya Pemba.
- The Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Zanzibar now invites sealed bids from prospective eligible bidders for the Supply of Mattresses for Skills Development Centres in Makunduchi Unguja and Daya Pemba as summarized here below.

Lot No.	Description of Goods to be Supplied	Quantity	Final (Project Site) Destination as specified in BDS
1	Supply of Mattresses for Skills Development Centre in Makunduchi Unguja.	Various	(CIP) Makunduchi Skills Development Centre in Unguja
2	Supply of Mattresses for Skills Development Centre in Daya Pemba.	Various	(CIP) Daya Skills Development Centre in Pemba

Bid Security: The Bidder shall furnish a bid security in the amount of Tanzania Shillings Four Million Only (TZS. 4,000,000/=) per Lot or its equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency of eligible countries.

- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of the Secretary Ministerial Tender Board, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Room No 17, Mazizini, Along Airport Road, P.O Box 394 - Zanzibar, Tel/Fax: +255 24 2232827 / 2234267 / 2239311. Email: alternativelearning@zanlink.com / pmu@moez.go.tz during office hours 07:30 – 15:30hrs local time, Monday to Fridays inclusive, except on public holidays.
- Complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Fifty Thousand Tanzania Shillings (TZS.50,000/=) or its equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. All payments must be made to: - Account No: 0403977000, of Alternative Learning and Skills Dev. at The People's Bank of Zanzibar Ltd.
- The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of the African Development Bank's Standard Bidding Document: Procurement of Goods.
- Bids must be delivered to the above office on or before 10.30HRS on the 18th December 2019 and must be accompanied by a security of amount indicated under item 3 above.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 11.30HRS on the 18th December 2019 at the offices of the Secretary Ministerial Tender Board, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Room No 17, Mazizini, Along Airport Road, P.O Box 394 Zanzibar.

THE PRINCIPAL SECRETARY
MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND VOCATIONAL TRAINING
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UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT- PHASE II

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

RENDERING

NCB No. MOEVT/ALSD.II/G.4A FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE IN DAYA PEMBA

- This Specific Procurement Notice follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business issue No. AfDB22-815/12 of 19th January 2012.
- The Government of United Republic of Tanzania has received financing from the African Development Fund toward the cost of the Alternative Learning and Skills Development – Phase II. It is intended that part of the counterpart funding to this loan will be applied to cover payments under the contract for the Supply and Installation of Training Equipment for Skills Development Centre in Daya Pemba.
- The Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Zanzibar now invites sealed bids from prospective eligible bidders for the Supply and Installation of Training Equipment for Skills Development Centre in Daya Pemba as summarized here below.

Lot No.	Description of Goods to be Supplied	Quantity	Final (Project Site) Destination as specified in BDS
3	Motor Vehicle Workshop Equipment	Various	(CIP) Daya Skills Development Centre in Pemba
4	Front Office Operations Equipment	Various	(CIP) Daya Skills Development Centre in Pemba
5	Fisheries Equipment	Various	(CIP) Daya Skills Development Centre in Pemba

Bid Security: The Bidder shall furnish a bid security in the amount of Tanzania Shillings Twelve Million Only (TZS. 10,000,000/=) per Lot or its equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency of eligible countries.

- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of the Secretary Ministerial Tender Board, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Room No 17, Mazizini, Along Airport Road, P.O Box 394 - Zanzibar, Tel/Fax: +255 24 2232827 / 2234267 / 2239311. Email: alternativelearning@zanlink.com / pmu@moez.go.tz during office hours 07:30 – 15:30hrs local time, Monday to Fridays inclusive, except on public holidays.
- Complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Fifty Thousand Tanzania Shillings (TZS.50,000/=) or its equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. All payments must be made to: - Account No: 021103000686, of Alternative Learning and Skills Dev. at The People's Bank of Zanzibar Ltd.
- The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of the African Development Bank's Standard Bidding Document: Procurement of Goods.
- Bids must be delivered to the above office on or before 11.00HRS on the 18th December 2019 and must be accompanied by a security of amount indicated under item 3 above.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 12.00HRS on the 18th December 2019 at the offices of the Secretary Ministerial Tender Board, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Room No 17, Mazizini, Along Airport Road, P.O Box 394 Zanzibar.

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'Women with disabilities play big role in advancing country's development'

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

WOMEN with disabilities in the country have urged the government to give them more leadership opportunities to enable the group contribute in development agenda and be able to influence changes in their communities.

Speaking recently in Dar es Salaam during the three-day training workshop to women with disabilities, the secretary of the Tanzania Federation of Disabled People's Organisation (SHIVYAWATA) Regina Mbaji said that it is high time for the society to trust the group and recognise that women with disabilities can contribute immensely in the country's development.

"Leaders are supposed to get rid of wrong beliefs that persons with disabilities are unable to render any service in the community...this should be addressed to create an inclusive society," she said.

The training was organised and supported by ADD International. It focused on empowering them with methodologies to demand for their rights.

According to her, women with disabilities are given limited opportunity to contest for leadership positions which denies them chance to participate fully in development activities in their society.

She requested the government to give them opportunities of selecting the leaders they want who will be able to speak up on challenges facing them.

Mbaji said: "We need to be given opportunities to choose the leader we want who will help us to speak about the challenges we are facing in order to eliminate wrong perception they have on us."

According to Mbaji, it is the high time now for the country to recognise and to value the contribution of women with disabilities because they are also able to influence changes in the society.

Meanwhile, Gertrude Mongella, former secretary general of the fourth world conference on women of the United Nations (UN) said women with disabilities should not feel disappointed, but should be firm and demand for their rights.

She said as the world is marking 25 years after the Beijing conference, there are lots of achievements that have been reached in the fight for rights of women with disabilities.

"Currently, we are happy to witness that women with disabilities are now able to speak about their rights, unlike in the past time," she added.

Mongella explained that the Beijing conference has also helped to awaken the society to understand the impact of violence to special groups in the community.

"Through that, several laws have been enacted to end violence, also enrollment for girls in the schools at both primary and secondary levels has increased," she noted.

The Beijing conference which took place in 1995 sets strategic objectives and actions for the advancement of women and the achievement of gender equality in 12 critical areas of concern.

She further said that the government is supposed to recognise the importance of women with disabilities by giving them more education opportunities.

ADD international executive director Rose Tesha said the training was designed to equip women with skills to execute their roles in the society.

"Also, to furnish them with details about the available policies and laws on gender issues, as well as international conventions," she added.

Tesha further said that women with disabilities are appealing for the government to include them in the whole process of policy formulation in order to include and state possible solutions towards the challenges facing them.



Hawa Sululu (2nd-L), a Form One student at Kilwa Girls Secondary School, receiving sanitary pads from Wentworth Africa Foundation officials Sauda Simba (L) and Neema Ndikumwami (R) at the weekend. The items are a donation by the foundation and WAMA Foundation under the 'Keep a Girl in School' programme. Second right is WAMA deputy secretary general Saidi Juma. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Moshi

FARMERS engaging in rice, maize and onions farming in northern regions of Kilimanjaro, Arusha and Manyara have commended efforts by a fertiliser company—Yara Tanzania for promoting soil health testing, saying it has increased crops yields.

Speaking separately to journalists who visited them to have firsthand information on how they benefitted from using Yara fertilisers and soil health testing, the farmers said the company's presence has positively affected them economically through increased produce.

"We have highly benefited from the education we got from Yara Tanzania, they have educated us a lot on soil health testing and now the benefits are vivid," said Jonathan Mjema who has been cultivating paddy for over 20 years.

Farmers praise YARA after soil health testing education

Mjema said that soil health test enables a farmer to understand a type of a soil and which crop is suitable in that particular area.

"Soil health test helps us (farmers) understand what kind of crop to cultivate in our areas of production, this practice has helped us transform our farming practices from traditional to modern," he said.

Ikunda Joseph, a farmer who involved in paddy and onions farming asked YARA Tanzania to further its efforts in collaboration with other stakeholders in a bid to help more farmers go modern and embark on agro economy so as to achieve middle income objective set

by the government to be achieved by 2025.

"We thank Yara in the way at which they have widened their scope of service in this sector with the objective of improving conditions of farmers, we urge them to work in collaboration with the government and other stakeholders in making sure that they reach out to as many farmers as possible and support them so as they can fully realise the potential of agriculture in transforming their standards of living," he said.

Aikael Laswai who has been in maize farming for the past 10 years admitted to have benefited from Yara fertilisers

and other extension services including health soil testing.

"Our agricultural activities have been simplified ever since we started using farm inputs supplied by Yara, now we can afford costs of living including paying for health services, education for our children and building houses following increase in crop production," said Laswai.

YARA Tanzania has been working closely with the fifth phase government and other stakeholders in transforming the sector and has a greater impact in the growth and development of sector estimated to employ 80 percent of the population.



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT- PHASE II

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

RETENDERING

NCB No. MOEVT/ALSD.II/G.1A FOR THE SUPPLY OF HOSTEL BEDS FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CENTRES IN MAKUNDUCHI UNGUJA AND DAYA PEMBA

- This Specific Procurement Notice follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business issue No. AfDB22-815/12 of 19th January 2012.
- The Government of United Republic of Tanzania has received financing from the African Development Fund toward the cost of the Alternative Learning and Skills Development – Phase II. It is intended that part of the counterpart funding to this loan will be applied to cover payments under the contract for Supply of Hostel Beds for Skills Development Centres in Makunduchi Unguja and Daya Pemba.
- The Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Zanzibar now invites sealed bids from prospective eligible bidders for the Supply of Hostel Beds for Skills Development Centres in Makunduchi Unguja and Daya Pemba as summarized here below.

Lot No.	Description of Goods to be Supplied	Quantity	Final (Project Site) Destination as specified in BDS
1	Supply of Hostel Beds for Skills Development Centre in Makunduchi Unguja.	Various	(CIP) Makunduchi Skills Development Centre in Unguja
2	Supply of Hostel Beds for Skills Development Centre in Daya Pemba.	Various	(CIP) Daya Skills Development Centre in Pemba

Bid Security: The Bidder shall furnish a bid security in the amount of **Tanzania Shillings Four Million Only (TZS. 4,000,000/=)** per Lot or its equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency of eligible countries.

- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of the Secretary Ministerial Tender Board, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Room No 17, Mazizini, Along Airport Road, P.O Box 394 - Zanzibar, Tel/Fax: +255 24 2232827 / 2234267 / 2239311 Email: alternativelearning@zanlink.com / pmu@moez.go.tz during office hours 07:30 – 15:30hrs local time, Monday to Fridays inclusive, except on public holidays.
- Complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Fifty Thousand Tanzania Shillings (TZS.50,000/=)** or its equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. All payments must be made to: - **Account No: 0403977000**, of Alternative Learning and Skills Dev. at The People's Bank of Zanzibar Ltd.
- The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of the African Development Bank's Standard Bidding Document: Procurement of Goods.
- Bids must be delivered to the above office on or before 10.30HRS on the 18th December 2019 and must be accompanied by a security of amount indicated under item 3 above.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 11.00HRS on the 18th December 2019 at the offices of the Secretary Ministerial Tender Board, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Room No 17, Mazizini, Along Airport Road, P.O Box 394 Zanzibar.

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UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

ALTERNATIVE LEARNING AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT PROJECT- PHASE II

INVITATION FOR BIDS (IFB)

RETENDERING

NCB No. MOEVT/ALSD.II/G.3A FOR THE SUPPLY AND INSTALLATION OF TRAINING EQUIPMENT FOR SKILLS DEVELOPMENT CENTRE IN MAKUNDUCHI UNGUJA

- This Specific Procurement Notice follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project that appeared in Development Business issue No. AfDB22-815/12 of 19th January 2012.
- The Government of United Republic of Tanzania has received financing from the African Development Fund toward the cost of the Alternative Learning and Skills Development – Phase II. It is intended that part of the counterpart funding to this loan will be applied to cover payments under the contract for the Supply and Installation of Training Equipment for Skills Development Centre in Makunduchi Unguja.
- The Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Zanzibar now invites sealed bids from prospective eligible bidders for the Supply and Installation of Training Equipment for Skills Development Centre in Makunduchi Unguja as summarized here below.

Lot No.	Description of Goods to be Supplied	Quantity	Final (Project Site) Destination as specified in BDS
1	Agro- Mechanic Equipments	Various	(CIP) Makunduchi Skills Development Centre in Unguja
2	Crop Farming Equipment	Various	(CIP) Makunduchi Skills Development Centre in Unguja
4	Livestock Keeping Equipment	Various	(CIP) Makunduchi Skills Development Centre in Unguja
5	Fisheries Equipment	Various	(CIP) Makunduchi Skills Development Centre in Unguja

Bid Security: The Bidder shall furnish a bid security in the amount of **Tanzania Shillings Twelve Million Only (TZS. 10,000,000/=)** per Lot or its equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency of eligible countries.

- Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information from and inspect the bidding documents at the office of the Secretary Ministerial Tender Board, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Room No 17, Mazizini, Along Airport Road, P.O Box 394 - Zanzibar, Tel/Fax: +255 24 2232827 / 2234267 / 2239311 Email: alternativelearning@zanlink.com / pmu@moez.go.tz during office hours 07:30 – 15:30hrs local time, Monday to Fridays inclusive, except on public holidays.
- Complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested bidders on the submission of written application to the above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **Fifty Thousand Tanzania Shillings (TZS.50,000/=)** or its equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency. All payments must be made to: - **Account No: 021103000686**, of Alternative Learning and Skills Dev. at The People's Bank of Zanzibar Ltd.
- The provisions in the Instructions to Bidders and General Conditions of Contract are the provisions of the African Development Bank's Standard Bidding Document: Procurement of Goods.
- Bids must be delivered to the above office on or before 11.00HRS on the 18th December 2019 and must be accompanied by a security of amount indicated under item 3 above.
- Bids will be opened in the presence of bidders' representatives who choose to attend at 11.45HRS on the 18th December 2019 at the offices of the Secretary Ministerial Tender Board, Ministry of Education and Vocational Training, Room No 17, Mazizini, Along Airport Road, P.O Box 394 Zanzibar.

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Paying shifted residents to give way to TPDF quarters sets good example

RESIDENTS of Kikombo area within the wider city agglomeration in Dodoma have something to smile about following an order by President John Magufuli that the Dodoma city director pay them decent compensation for land taken over to build new Army headquarters.

Amounts meant for compensation that the president mentioned were surprising by any standards, not as price of a plot of land but the depth of consideration shown.

Ordinarily governments take away people's land at throw-away prices because they don't compensate for the plot, only immovable structures.

While the building of the Army headquarters was only being given an initial push, there is a housing scheme for camp soldiers already completed in the vicinity.

There were meanwhile issues that Chief of Defence Forces General Venance Mabeyo raised with the president, relating to a rather faulty contract signed between the city and the construction firm.

For instance, soldiers resident there are supposed to be deducted from army allowances to foot the costs, but that is unworkable as it would then be a private house.

There is little doubt that the Dodoma city authorities will start paying the relocated residents as directed, starting December 1, unless explicit cause not to do so can be brought up beforehand.

Reports from Dodoma said that, amid applause from TPDF personnel and others who attended the event, the president directed the city director to bear the burden of paying a total

of 3.399bn/- to the 1,500 families who were moved.

The president sort of angled this compensation burden to the city authorities as it is the city that will benefit from TPDF's relocation to the capital, where they will be a dynamic element in enhancing productivity on the basis of the demand for goods and services once they shift.

Similarly, the president urged those set to receive compensation to put the money to good use by buying land elsewhere and proceed to build modern houses.

On the basis of the president's other remarks, there could be a few complications down the road but since municipal and other administrators know precisely where the sentiments of the president are inclined, this will not get out of hand.

The president asked the Dodoma regional and district authorities to oversee the process of identifying residents entitled for compensation. That is habitually where the games start, with fake names and eligible people sidelined, with previous governments leaving all such claims to be resolved in courts.

The president rightly cautioned that residents ought to follow up their payments personally rather than use middlemen. As often happens, a mafia of sorts builds around such funds and the poor holders of customary land title deeds or such other documents are ignored.

This becomes costly indeed to the hapless residents, who are usually without the resources to pursue long court cases, which is precisely why and how the president's advice comes in very handy.

Efforts to woo investors could be paying off, but we must do more

ANY truly successful society or community enjoys a decent standard of living, the catalysts behind the situation including decent investment in factories and basic infrastructure, and engaging in gainful economic and other activities possibly generating a surplus partly for investment in science and technology.

That should normally be part of the future any country and any nations seriously about developing itself in dignity would aspire for - and meaningful investment is decisive.

If a country is able attract investments from both within and outside its borders, it stands a good chance of realising development strides. The bottom line is that a blend of investment opportunities and sound investment policies is what we badly need.

Does Tanzania have these? That is an issue of fundamental importance question which we have no option but to keep seeking honest answers to.

Granted, we might be having good investment policies but of even greater relevance is that we have to corroborate all our pronouncements with concrete action leading to concrete achievements.

Amid perennial or even merely intermittent power supply disruptions or fragile transport infrastructure and communication networks, making steady progress would be hard indeed. For instance, investment in heavy industry needs robust railway services - and that's it.

The all-important German-era Central railway for years lay without the rehabilitation it badly needed to operate meaningfully. With that, attracting serious foreign investors into this country was always very tricky business.

But the situation has improved massively in recent years, and interventions by the government explain a substantial portion of the headway made in turning things around.

We hope to have electricity in abundance, complete with a surplus for export, under the huge Julius Nyerere Hydro-Power project on Rufiji River is completed in a few years' time.

The aged Central Railway is being 'substituted' - and soon comes a standard gauge railway, hopefully to run up to neighbouring Rwanda.

As for corruption, we have all heard the President repeatedly declare that his administration is in no mood to tolerate or entertain, much less acquiesce in, the vice.

Ambassador Elly Mtango told journalists during his time as Tanzania Investment Centre board chairman several years ago that attracting investments into the country was the responsibility of every institution and every individual in the country.

He went on to challenge even the media to be good marketers of investment opportunities available in the country so as to speed up the country's economic growth.

He was absolutely right, and indeed all other African countries are working tirelessly to attract foreign investors - and there is no way Tanzanians can afford to relax.

Then there was the issue of corruption in high places - in the corridors of power. The 'ten per cent' tag was always putting off serious investors - of course, while letting in crooks who would connive with dishonest elements in the public service in their evil deals.

Proof? Well, many parastatals were said to have been sold to genuine and fake or ghost investors for a song. This notwithstanding, ten years ago Tanzania was named among the top ten countries in Africa in Green Investment, but it was later dropped from the list.

Indications are that we are making a gradual comeback. We need to back whatever is helping us out, while clearing any stumbling blocks. And in this, we need to stand together - as one nation and as one army.



It's time to negotiate for a better future for Africa's energy sector

By João Marques

GO to Amazon.com to purchase NJ Ayuk's most recent book, 'Billions at Play: The Future of African Oil and Gas' - which you absolutely should do.

You will notice that besides his previous book, 'Big Barrels: African Oil and Gas and the Quest for Success, which I had the pleasure to co-author, most of the oil-related books suggested by Amazon have titles like 'Cursed Wells', 'Curse of the Black Gold', 'Oil and Insurgency' and the like.

All these are all actual titles of books available on Amazon if you search for 'African Petroleum'.

This is hardly surprising. For the better part of the last half century, oil and gas has been portrayed over and over again as the source of all evil across Africa, responsible for instability, power struggles, poverty, death, pollution, corruption, etc.

If this portrait really were the mirror of the truth, then African nations would be better off just leaving their oil and gas underground - but it isn't the whole truth.

When Ayuk and I started working on Big Barrels back in 2017, when the oil price crisis was at its highest, we started out with a simple idea. It was a simple but very strong and compelling idea - that maybe this portrait that seemed so prevalent for so long might not tell the whole story, or even the bigger part of the story.

So, we tried to look at it differently. If you read Big Barrels, you know what I mean. Throughout eight chapters we extensively document the best efforts made across the continent to develop, manage and monetise oil and gas resources.

The success stories we uncovered focused on local content, on policy making, on environmental protection, on the structuring of a national oil company, on contract drafting, on civil society involvement, on capital resource management and use, etc.

We looked around and saw that the story being told was not really telling what reality showed. It focused on the scandals, the negatives, the drama, and overlooked all the development, jobs and capital the industry was bringing.

It focused on the defeats and never on the victories. It was a different way to look at a story that had been told from a consistently negative angle for decades. It told a story of hope and optimism about an industry that had the promise to change African economies for the better.

Two years later, Ayuk is at it again, and this time he amped the game. Billions at Play does not tell the story of what good examples we had in the past any more, but it tells us how to shape the future for the better by making use of the resources we have.

Few have Ayuk's industry experience and scope of vision, fewer have tried to promote that vision, and none has been as loud about it.

Ayuk takes 20-plus years of experience as a successful lawyer in the African oil and gas industry, throughout which he was witness and participant in the shaping of some of the continent's most important energy deals.

He drafts out a comprehensive map of what leaders, companies, deal-makers and citizens need to do to turn their oil and gas wealth into jobs, economic growth, power generation and better living conditions.

I do not intend to summarise here the extensive amount of knowledge and experience that Ayuk shares throughout the 250-plus pages of skillfully written and, at times, quite entertaining prose. But certain issues covered seem fundamental to me to highlight.

First, Ayuk argues that the solutions for Africa's problems must come from within. Cooperation for development with supranational and international partners is great, and needs to be fostered, but only locally-developed solutions that combine in-depth knowledge of the challenges faced as well as the idiosyncrasies of the local culture and population can hope to succeed.

The book gives plenty of examples of programmes that failed because they were designed abroad with insufficient knowledge of the situation on the ground, and of programmes that succeeded because they were developed by Africans to fix African problems.

This idea is not only conceptually important, as it empowers Africans, but it also represents a call to action for African leaders. The solutions for their country's problems are in reach if they choose to make use of them.

From here the book focuses on enhancing oil and gas production to foster economic development by improving the business environment by simplifying red tape, streamlining the negotiation and licensing procedures, and promoting regular bidding rounds.

Other ways are implementing transparency measures and establishing a strong legal framework

and attractive contract terms - all as fundamental parts of attracting foreign investment that can help develop the industry.

Ayuk covers each of these issues extensively, showing how different countries have found solutions that match the needs of their own markets and take advantage of the specificities of their own resources.

This is from the cross-border development agreements between Senegal and Mauritania to South Sudan's recent historic production sharing agreement that shows leadership and commitment in the aftermath of a deadly conflict with Sudan.

Beyond attracting foreign investment, Ayuk takes a close look at Nigeria's marginal field development campaign, that offered local exploration and production companies the opportunity to develop assets that were too small for the majors.

That developed into profitable fields, contributing to the economy and gaining a new status amongst oil and gas producers. Angola's attempt to mimic these efforts is a clear demonstration of how African nations can learn from each other.

By enhancing production and streamlining resource management, African countries can finally have the capital to invest in industrialisation and in the diversification of their economies, a goal that informs most of the lines of action suggested in Ayuk's book.

And how should we power these industries and economies? The book tells us that the answer lies in the abundant, accessible and affordable natural gas reserves that dot the continent. Equatorial Guinea has already stepped up its game and is positioning itself to become West Africa's gas hub.

Natural gas can power industries, produce electricity that will light the homes of hundreds of millions of people, feed a growing and profitable petrochemical industry across the continent and serve as an export to foreign markets, besides the fact that natural gas is the cleanest source of energy of all hydrocarbons, serving an environmental purpose in itself.

Unbundling national utilities and privatising the power generation sector is another pillar in this path. Ayuk goes on, showcasing the need to integrate women in the oil and gas industry - how can we continue to snub half of the continent's workforce?

There is also the need to attract American companies that will partner

and share knowledge to develop the industry, the need to invest in innovation and infrastructure, focus on education, improve Africans' negotiation skills and make use of the stand African nations have gained in OPEC and other international platforms.

They are all fundamental, for they inform a pathway to constructive and wise management and development of the continent's resources to foster growth and improve people's lives.

No other book has told the story this way, and no other has presented such a definitive analysis of the challenges and proposed concrete solutions for all of them.

This can be a surprising book and it is a fundamental read for anyone involved in the African energy sector, from CEOs to political leaders, professionals and everyone that wants to better understand the inlays of the industry that has the biggest potential for change in the continent.

For me, there is one topic that is always striking above all others: intra-African trade, which remains dismal when compared to other regions.

The continent has been shipping off its wealth abroad for decades. As the book exposes, African nations have had their backs turned on each other for so long that they have failed to see what they could achieve if they worked together and promoted synergies and integration.

Ayuk proposes solutions to bring them together, by promoting an integrated energy market that can power economic development.

In sum, this book lays out the path for a better future for Africa through the use of its energy resources in a way that hadn't quite been done before. It is a refreshing new narrative to overcome the traditional fatalist approach to the sector.

* João Gaspar Marques is an Energy analyst and editor doubling as a seasoned Africa specialist with in-the-field reporting experience from Africa's petroleum hotspots. Now based in Lisbon, he writes regularly for numerous international publications and websites on issues of energy, policy and economics. In recent years he has published oil and gas industry reports on Tanzania, Gabon, Angola, Uganda, Madagascar, São Tomé and Príncipe, and South Africa, covering the full spectrum of Africa's petroleum markets from frontier exploration to trading and petrochemicals.

• An African Energy Chamber dispatch filed from Johannesburg.

Morocco tourism gains momentum with boost in infrastructure, security

By Hugo Bourhis

THE crème de la crème (that is, the best of the best) of Hollywood was in Marrakech, Morocco, for the wedding of British movie star Idris Elba in April this year. Elba tied the knot with his Canadian model girlfriend, former Miss Vancouver Sabrina Dhowre, at the Ksar Char-Bagh hotel, an exquisite Alhambra-style hotel.

Kenyan-Mexican Oscar winner Lupita Nyong'o, American actress Jessica Alba, soccer star Cristiano Ronaldo of Portugal and others have all embraced the glamour of the rose-coloured city of Marrakech and its plethora of tourist attractions, including the vibrant Jemaa el-Fnaa square and the picturesque Majorelle Garden.

Morocco draws tourists from the far corners of the world. They may be seen strolling along the Corniche in Casablanca - an oceanfront boardwalk lined with restaurants, nightclubs, theatres and hotels - or dining at one of the small cafés in the quiet city of Azemmour. The latter is a short day trip or overnight jaunt from the big city.

Adil El Fakir, director of the Moroccan National Tourist Office (ONMT), says that over 12 million tourists visited Morocco last year, of whom 2.4 million headed for Marrakech.

Morocco's tourist attractions include the spectacular beaches of Essaouira, an Atlantic coastal town included on the World Heritage List of UNESCO since 2001, and the country's mountains, particularly the Atlas and the Rif.

"Tourism is a terrific land-use tool - and our territory is rich in its activi-



ties, its landscape, its heritage, its culture and its gastronomy," declares Mohamed Benamour, a former president of the Morocco Tourism Federation.

The country is also a cultural hub, reflecting the diversity of its inhabitants' national origins: sub-Saharan Africa, Europe and the Middle East. This crossroads attracts fashion designers, artists, filmmakers and other cultural tourists. In 2017, for example, a museum on the international luxury fashion house Yves Saint Laurent opened in Morocco.

"Marrakech taught me colour. Before Marrakech, everything was black," Saint Laurent once noted.

Over 50 Hollywood motion pictures have been shot in the country, includ-

ing Alfred Hitchcock's *The Man Who Knew Too Much*; Lawrence of Arabia, directed by David Lean; Orson Welles' *Othello*; Jesus of Nazareth, directed by the late Franco Zeffirelli; and the latest James Bond movie, *Spectre*.

The country is also becoming a major hub for international conferences thanks to its proximity to Europe, the Middle East, the Americas and the rest of Africa. The country recently hosted the United Nations Climate Change Conference, which brought about 20,000 participants to Marrakech.

Last year, the Global Forum for Migration and Development and

the conference on the adoption of the Global Compact for Migration were held in Marrakech and attracted representatives from most UN member-states and nongovernmental organisations.

In March the city hosted the Conference of African Ministers of Finance, Planning and Economic Development on "fiscal policy, trade and the private sector in the digital era: a strategy for Africa", which was organised by the UN Economic Commission for Africa.

This year, UNESCO's first International Forum on Artificial Intelligence in Africa and the Africa Youth Leadership Sum-

mit, among other events, will take place in Marrakech. These international conferences shine a spotlight on the country while contributing to its economy.

The effects of climate change are being felt in Africa; countries, organisations and individuals, including young people, are taking actions to tackle these effects.

Tourism revenues account for 11 per cent of total GDP, according to the tourism ministry. Industries in the sector, such as air and land transport as well as food service and hospitality generate significant employment opportunities for young people. Morocco was the most visited country in Africa in 2016, with 10.3 million tourist arrivals.

Despite the potentials in the tourism sector, climate change effects threaten to put a damper. In 2015, for example, Morocco's economic growth nosedived to 1.5 per cent owing to drought, according to the World Bank.

To address the situation, the country is constructing the world's largest desalination plant, which turns seawater into drinking water, in Agadir, near the Atlantic coast.

The country has also set ambitious goals that focus on, among other things, generating 52 per cent of its electricity needs from renewables by 2030 and improving coastal zone management.

Regulatory reforms introduced in 2010 are meanwhile bringing Morocco closer to its goal of becoming one of the world's 20 leading tourist destinations by 2020.

The country's ten-year plan, dubbed Vision 2020, is aimed at creating eight new tourist destinations and 470,000 new jobs while doubling tourist receipts.

That goal is within reach, it seems. Morocco has set its sights on a good slice of the 1.4 billion

global tourists travelling abroad every year, many of whom are Chinese.

Following Moroccan King Mohammed VI's visit to Beijing in 2016, the number of Chinese arrivals in Morocco skyrocketed to 180,000 last year, up from 42,000 in 2016. Morocco hopes to reach the 500,000 mark by this coming year, according to the Moroccan National Tourist Office, a wing of ONMT.

Massive investments in infrastructure such as new airport terminals, roads and railways as well as the relaxed visa requirements for citizens of some countries including China are two of the factors explaining Morocco's success.

Thanks to the new airport terminal in Casablanca that was opened earlier this year, the airport can now handle up to 14 million passengers a year - up from 7 million. Another newly built terminal in the Rabat-Salé Airport can now handle 4 million passengers a year - up from 1.5 million.

Investments in airport infrastructure have had a domino impact on the broader economy. For example, the Rabat airport expansion is transforming the neighbouring city of Kenitra into a fast-growing industrial hub, attracting international companies such as Groupe PSA, the French company that manufactures Peugeot and Citroën.

"The economic growth of Kenitra has exceeded our expectations," says Moulay Hafid Elalamy, minister for industry, investment, trade and the digital economy.

With the improvement of infrastructure and the enhancement of safety and security, Morocco is on its way to becoming a premier destination for an increasing number of tourists.

Africa Renewal

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S/N	JINA	MAHALI	TAREHE
1	FRANK BROWN SWEBE	PLOT NO. 2440 WAZO MADALA NYAKASANGWE KINONDONI AREA DSM	16/12/2019 SAA 4:00 ASUBUHI
2	GIFT PETER GWAHELA T/A GWAHELA GLOBAL LOGISTICS	PLOT NO.3,BLOCK 'W' MAGOMENI AREA,DSM	16/12/2019 SAA 7:00 MCHANA
3	RUVUMA CONTRACTORS LTD	PLOT NO. 350/2 BLOCK 40, HANANASIF KINONDONI AREA,DSM	16/12/2019 SAA 9:00 MCHANA
4	SHALOM ENGINEERING LTD	PLOT 314 BLOCK "A" PART 1 TABATA AREA DSM	19/12/2019 SAA 4:00 ASUBUHI
5	PRIDE INSURANCE BROKERS LTD	LAND NO. ILA/11/SSH25/1 SHARIFU SHAMBA AREA, ILALA. DSM	19/12/2019 SAA 6:00 MCHANA
6	PAUL ANDREW MAGANGA	PLOT NO. 267 BLOCK 40, KISOTA AREA KIGAMBONI. DSM	21/12/2019 SAA 4:00 ASUBUHI
7	DIACANE LIMITED	PLOT NO. 105 BLOCK 1, KISOTA AREA KIGAMBONI,DSM	21/12/2019 SAA 6:00 MCHANA
8	SOLOHAGA COMPANY LIMITED	PLOT NO.91 YOMBO VITUKA AREA, TEMEKE,DSM	29/12/2019 SAA 4:00 ASUBUHI
9	SOLOHAGA COMPANY LIMITED	NYUMBA ILIYOPO MTAU WA BANE BANE, TABATA KISUKULU,DSM	29/12/2019 SAA 4:00 ASUBUHI
10	SOLOHAGA COMPANY LIMITED	FARM 3000, FARM 3001, FARM 3002 KIBESA MAGOWE AREA, KINONDONI,DSM	29/12/2019 SAA 9:00 MCHANA
11	LUSINGU LUBERO MVUNGI	PLOT 1706 OYSTERBAY MSASANI AREA DSM	30/12/2019 SAA 4:00 ASUBUHI
12	IBRAHIM MAJEBELLE MAYENGA	PLOT 2077 BLOCK "D" CHANGANYIKENI AREA DSM	30/12/2019 SAA 8:00 MCHANA
13	JUNACO (T) LIMITED	PLOT NO. 42/1 REGENT ESTATE AREA DSM	03/01/2020 SAA 4:00 ASUBUHI
14	JUNACO (T) LIMITED	PLOT NO. 43/1 KAWA BEACH AREA DSM	03/01/2020 SAA 6:00 MCHANA
15	JUNACO (T) LIMITED	PLOT NO. 28, BLOCK 9 CHANG'OMBE AREA DSM	03/01/2020 SAA 9:00 MCHANA
16	D&M SYSTEMS LIMITED	PLOT 45/46/47/48 BLOCK "F" MAKAMBAGO NJOMBE	13/01/2020 SAA 4:00 ASUBUHI
17	AFRICA STEPHENE MBENA	LEGAL MORTGAGE PLOT 324 BLOCK "B" KILIMANJARO AREA MOROGORO.	17/01/2020 SAA 4:00 ASUBUHI
18	JOHN MWANJABALA	PLOT 747 BLOCK "H" BOMANG'OMBE URBAN AREA MOSHI	29/01/2020 SAA 4:00 ASUBUHI

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- 2) Endapo mteja atashindwa kumaliza 75% ya salio lililobaki ndani ya siku 14 hatarudishiwa kiasi alicholipa mwanzo na mnada utarudiwa tena.
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INVITATION FOR TENDER

DCB Commercial Bank Plc is a bank dedicated to finance poverty alleviation programmes and uplifting the standard of living of the majority of low and medium income people.

The Head Office of the bank is located Magomeni Mwembechai. The bank has eight branches located at Magomeni Mwembechai, Uhuru Street (Uhuru Branch), Tabata (Tabata Dampo), Temeke (Opp.Temeke primary court), Ukonga, Chanika (Buyuni area), Mabibo External and Dodoma (LAPF Building).

The bank invites sealed bids from eligible interested bidders (Applicants) to tender for supply of goods and provision of services for 2020 financial year.

The scope of supply will involve categorized individual lots as follows:

Lot No.	Description
Lot 1	Supply of consumables stationery
Lot 2	Supply of printed stationeries
Lot 3	Provision of cleaning and hygiene services
Lot 4	Provision of air condition services and electrical maintenance
Lot 5	Provision of advertising agency services,
Lot 6	Provision of Fire alarm System Service and Refilling Fire Extinguishers
Lot 7	Provision of Valuation services
Lot 8	Supply of promotion materials
Lot 9	Provision of fumigation services
Lot 10	Provision of Travelling Agent Services
Lot 11	Provision of Catering services
Lot 12	Supply of drinking water
Lot 13	Provision of office vehicle maintenance services
Lot 14	Supply of computer and accessories
Lot 15	Provision of Legal services
Lot 16	Provision of Generator Maintenance Services
Lot 17	Provision of Un-Interrupted Power Supplies (UPS) Maintenance Service
Lot 18	Provision of Background Check Service
Lot 19	Supply of Kitchen and general Office Supplies
Lot 20	Provision of Tax Consultant Services
Lot 21	Repair, Rehabilitation and maintenance of office building
Lot 22	Provision of Social Media Management services
Lot 23	Provision of Media Management & Communication services

The bank will use Open Tendering method to identify potential firms/companies to be engaged in the procurement of goods and provision of services.

Tender documents/instructions are obtained from the bank upon payment of a non-refundable fee of TZS. 100,000/= paid by bankers cheque or cash at the DCB Commercial Bank Plc Magomeni Branch and submission of an official letter for tender document request. No payment will be made by the bank to any applicant in preparing, submitting, discussing or otherwise relating to this tender.

For further information, including tender documents and enquiries please contact:

Managing Director
DCB Commercial Bank Plc
P.O.Box 19798,
Dar es salaam
DCB House, Magomeni Mwembechai, Morogoro Road.
Tel: 022-2172201
Fax: 022-2172199
E-mail: info@dcb.co.tz

Tenders will close at 10:00 am (1000hrs) on Wednesday, 11th December 2019 (Time will be communicated on tender Document/Instruction)

DCB Commercial Bank Plc is not bound to give reasons for the acceptance or rejection of any tender and does not bind itself to accept the lowest tender or any tender whatsoever.

AfDB sees technology and innovation ending land sector corruption in Africa

ABIDJAN

AFRICAN countries must act faster to purge corruption in the land sector by harnessing technology and innovation, African Development Bank (AfDB) Senior Vice President Charles Boamah urged here on Monday.

Boamah, who was addressing policymakers and stakeholders at a conference on Land Policy in Africa, also called for the deployment of more financial and human resources to land policy development, "especially in rural areas and among the most vulnerable, including women".

The five-day (November 25 to 29) biennial conference, organised by the African Land Policy Centre (ALPC), provides a central platform for African stakeholders to network and deepen their commitment to land policy development, implementation and monitoring, through access to knowledge and evidence-based policymaking.

ALPC, formerly called the Land Policy Initiative (LPI), is a joint programme of the tripartite consortium consisting of the African Union Commission (AUC), AfDB and the United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (UNECA).

Its purpose is to enable the use of land to lend impetus to the process of African development. The programme is governed by a Steering Committee that meets periodically, while a joint secretariat implements day to day activities. The secretariat is assisted by an African Task-force on Land.

After having developed the Framework and Guidelines on land policy in Africa and having received the mandate from the AU to use it in support of national and regional land policy



Senior Vice President Charles Boamah

processes, the ALPC is now moving towards assisting AU member-states in developing or reviewing their land policies as well as in implementing and evaluating these policies.

Building on this momentum, the ALPC, the Government of Germany

(through BMZ and GIZ) and the World Bank seek to strengthen capacities for land governance in African countries in line with broader strategies for development, peace and security and environmental sustainability.

This year's ongoing dialogue, hosted by AfDB, is on the theme: 'Winning the Fight against corruption in the Land sector: Sustainable pathways for Africa's transformation'.

According to Transparency In-

ternational, globally, one in five persons has paid a bribe for a land service. In Africa, every second, a client of a land administration service has paid a bribe.

"This corruption takes many forms - bribery or illicit land transactions are just one example," Boamah noted, adding: "Land developers and speculators specifically target countries with weak governance systems. Local powerful elites are also more likely to manipulate such systems to serve narrow ends not to benefit the public."

AfDB is committed to working with its partners to improve governance in land administration as part of a strategy to boost agricultural production. Two of its key initiatives - the Transformation of African Agricultural Technologies (TAAT) and Connect Africa - have demonstrated innovation in this area.

Boamah said agriculture remains the backbone of many African economies but noted that sound land policy and administration are needed to bring it in line with 21st-century practice.

The TAAT programme has worked with 30 seed companies to produce 27,000 tonnes of drought-resistant maize seeds. By the end of last year, more than 1.6 million farmers had planted these seeds.

The Connect Africa initiative, which is a \$55 billion global partnership meant to bridge major gaps in ICT infrastructure across the continent, is allowing farmers to use digital technology to access prices and services like mobile banking.

Ivorian Justice minister Sansan Kambille called on African states to prioritise land tenure security as a development objective, saying: "Without land tenure security, and the various implications, no development can be sustaina-

ble. It is a collective responsibility which we must pursue to leave a worthy legacy for future generations."

The minister said the Ivorian government was keen to see workable outcomes from the Abidjan meetings for adoption into its own land administration system.

Sacko Correia, the AU's Commissioner for Agriculture and Rural Economy, said in her welcome remarks that corruption in the land sector had undermined cohesiveness and led to conflicts on the continent.

"For us to win the fight against corruption, we must ensure that land is equitably distributed and accessed by all, most especially by women, youth and other vulnerable groups," she said, adding that women contribute significantly to agriculture production in Africa but enjoy less with respect to rights to land.

She called on African governments to ensure that land management processes are transparent, accountable, efficient and responsive to the new challenges of climate change, natural disasters and environmental degradation.

Stephen Karingi, Director of Private Sector Development and Finance at UNECA, said effective land governance stood to help reduce the cost of doing business in Africa and contribute immensely to the AU's Agenda 2063 master plan for transforming the continent into the global powerhouse of the future.

This year's theme is aligned to the AU's declaration of 2018 as Africa's Anti-Corruption Year. The continental body identifies corruption as a key factor hampering efforts to promote governance, socio-economic transformation, peace and security.

Agencies

Science and policy must remain partners in mercury challenge

GENEVA

IT has been more than two years since the Minamata Convention on Mercury entered into force. The global treaty protects humans and the environment from the toxic metal, but countries are still stuck on how to measure the agreement's effectiveness.

As delegations discuss Minamata this week in Geneva, the decisions they make will be critical to the health of humans and the environment for generations to come.

The Minamata Convention on Mercury came into force in August 2017 with 128 signatories; 115 of those countries have since become parties to the agreement.

Minamata is the world's youngest environmental treaty and it is among the most promising. Science has informed international policymaking on mercury since negotiations around the treaty began in 2005.

As the treaty takes hold, it is important that national delegations continue to listen to the science - and scientists - as they approach agreement on how to measure Minamata's effectiveness.

Mercury is a pollutant that has long been known to cause neurological problems. Recent studies have shown effects on behavior, development, renal and immune function, and reproduction. Science has also clearly determined that the main exposure route for humans is through eating fish.

This puts communities that derive most of their protein from seafood at great risk. Island nations around the globe and First Nations cultures in the Arctic all sit in the direct line of fire of the mercury menace. But the challenges don't stop there. Mercury pollution is a universal threat.

Unlike other treaties that focus only on pollutant sources or waste disposal, Minamata contains measures for addressing the full life cycle of mercury including its use in mining and industry, its integration into products, all the way to its disposal. Just as important as controlling the use, handling and disposal of mercury, countries also need to determine if the treaty is working.

Minamata contains articles that require that measures be taken to assess the effects of the treaty on reducing mercury in the environment. This is



the "effectiveness evaluation" of the agreement. Not all parties to the treaty agree on how that will be accomplished, but the treaty does specifically require monitoring of mercury levels in fish, sea turtles, birds, and marine mammals.

Of particular importance are the fish and marine mammals that are commonly consumed by people - these are the main vectors to human exposure.

In order to determine whether levels in the environment are changing for the better as a result of Minamata's mandated controls, measurements of concentrations have to be determined before and after controls are put in place. Where do countries begin to get

those data?

Fortunately, there is information currently being compiled from peer reviewed scientific papers (the Global Biotic Mercury Synthesis). Findings from that project reveal places where mercury is elevated beyond levels considered healthy for humans or wildlife, as well as areas with no data.

However, at present, no global mercury monitoring network actually exists for biota, creating a major challenge for protecting people around the world.

At this week's Third meeting of the Conference of Parties (COP3),

it will be important for delegations to consider the methods by which effectiveness baselines are created. Should mercury concentrations be measured in the environment through air or water?

Should they be measured in the biota through fish, sea turtles, marine mammals or birds? Or should countries measure all of these? And what about concentrations in humans? Should those be measured and, if so, which populations should be assessed?

The answers to all of these questions will help parties determine whether in ten years the Minamata Convention has done a

good job in reducing environmental mercury. Those answers will require scientific understanding of how mercury moves through the biosphere and whether, for example, the concentrations in the air and water can be related to concentrations in fish, other biota and, ultimately, in humans.

For this essential purpose, science and policymaking must continue to work together on Minamata.

There are only a few scientists among the delegates making decisions about these matters in Geneva this week. Therefore, at COP3 it will be important for the

science to be communicated to the non-scientists at the table in order for the best and most "effective" policy decisions to be made.

There is much work to be done, but the partnership between science and policy has been strong. As we approach this important phase in the life of the treaty, the exchange of information on the science of mercury fate in the environment is more critical than ever to help the Minamata Convention achieve its global promise.

Farming together, refugees and their hosts reap benefits

By Carlinda Lopes

WHEN Neema Amoya first arrived in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, she struggled to make ends meet. Alone with her five children, she fled South Sudan's conflict in 2017, for safety in Biringi settlement, in northern Congo's Ituri province.

"When I arrived, it was hard to survive, especially with the children. Sometimes there wasn't enough food," says Neema who relied solely on a monthly cash handout of US \$13 from UNHCR, the UN Refugee Agency, and its sister agency, the World Food Programme.

But today, in a small market in Biringi, Neema can enjoy the fruits of her labour, made possible through a farming initiative she joined in February 2017.

The UNHCR-supported project has brought together refugees and Congolese, who till the land together, growing eggplants, spinach, onions, tomatoes and cabbage. The group harvests the fresh produce and sells it at the local market, sharing the profits amongst themselves.

Neema used to farm back home in South Sudan and is happy to get back to it.

"This project has allowed us to become independent," she said adding "We earn some money, which means we can survive without relying on handouts."

Through the programme, she and her fellow farmers have received agricultural tools, quality seeds and learnt specialized techniques for growing vegetables.

"Since I started working in the fields, I live very well. Now I can buy things like salt, spices and soap."



Neema (centre) sells cabbages on market day, grown on land she works with a farming cooperative comprising both host and refugee farmers.

says Neema as she arranges her vegetables at the market. "It is important because it means I can complete my family duties. I am very thankful for this opportunity."

"More importantly, refugees have access to safe, nutritious food and a way to earn a living and better their lives and future," said Marc Barhonyi,

a UNHCR field assistant based in Aru. Barhonyi adds that the initiative, which has been welcomed by local authorities, is also enhancing relations between refugees and the local community.

Guillaume Mageu, a local chief, was the first community leader in Biringi to offer land to refugees when the set-

tlement was opened in 2016. The gesture has served as a crucial example for other local leaders to follow.

"I am happy to see refugees cultivate our land to earn a living and to put food on the table," says Guillaume. "So when I come here and see the harvest has been so good, it brings me joy because a refugee

should not suffer in this country that hosts them."

To date, over 100 hectares have been cultivated with successful results - nearly 300 families involved in farming activities in Biringi harvested more than seven tonnes of vegetables in the first half of the year.

"If additional funding is available, a

lot more land can be put to good use", he said.

However due to limited funding some 2,300 hectares of farmland available for refugees and their Congolese counterparts remain underutilized.

"If additional funding is available, a lot more land can be put to good use," says UNHCR's Barhonyi, adding that so far, only 20 per cent of South Sudanese refugee families have benefited from such income generating activities.

About 100,000 South Sudanese refugees are hosted in DR Congo, many of whom live in areas that have been ravaged by years of conflict and food insecurity.

The initiative is part of UNHCR's strategy to empower South Sudanese refugees in DR Congo, through direct financial support and by maintaining peaceful coexistence in the settlements where refugees live alongside Congolese.

Initiatives like the farming project that bring refugees and their host communities together are part of a wider approach to address displacement and enhance the socio-economic inclusion and self-reliance of refugees.

Their involvement in local commerce and how these benefits the host communities will be among the areas of focus at the Global Refugee Forum, a high-level meeting that will be held in Geneva in December.

States, the private sector and other stakeholders will announce high-impact contributions that will give refugees like Neema a chance to use and further develop their skills and contribute to economic growth in their host communities.

GSMA and Unicef mark CRC Day championing rights of children

By Guardian Reporter

AS part of celebrations to mark the 30th anniversary of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) the GSMA and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) has launched the 'mPower Youth Initiative' to showcase how mobile technology can help in advancing the rights of children.

One of the case studies is an initiative by Tigo Tanzania which provides technical expertise throughout the development of the platform, and also ensures that birth registrars are equipped with the training and devices required to successfully and accurately register the birth of a child.

Tigo Tanzania built its service in collaboration with UNICEF Tanzania and Tanzania's Registration, Insolvency and Trusteeship Agency (RITA), in order to address Tanzania's low birth registration rate through innovation and partnership.

"Mobile operators around the world, including Tigo Tanzania, are showing that mobile technology has tremendous power to enable the fundamental rights of a child," said Mats Granryd, GSMA Director General.

Granryd said: "Thirty years ago when the convention was first adopted, there were 7 million mobile users globally, today there are 5.2 billion.

The mobile industry continues to build on its commitment to protection and internet safety; we have a significant role to play in ensuring that every child has a voice, and can participate and thrive in their communities."

Simon Karikari, Tigo managing director said: "Tigo understands the power of mobile technology to improve lives which is why we embraced the opportunity to collaborate with UNICEF and RITA on this initiative. We are committed

to making sure that every child birth in Tanzania does not go unaccounted for because identity is a basic right for every child".

He said Tigo is proud of the impact Digital Birth Registration has already had in communities across Tanzania especially in areas which are hard to reach.

Wivina Belmonte, Principal Advisor, Private Sector Engagement, UNICEF said the Convention on the Rights of the Child is relevant as it was three decades ago.

"We need to ensure that children are safe when exploring new technology. And we must see that the freedoms and opportunities technology can deliver are available to every child. UNICEF calls on the mobile industry to demonstrate how technology can be used to reduce inequality and unleash the potential of all girls and boys", said Belmonte.

She added: "Without a birth certificate, a child cannot be registered at school under Tanzanian law".

In 2014, over 80 per cent of under-five children in Tanzania were not registered, despite a law that requires parents to register their child within 90 days of birth.

Through this partnership, which received funding from the Government of Canada, the challenge of low birth registration rates has been dramatically reversed. The mobile birth registration service records each child's details and passes them on to the government body that issues birth certificates.

As of October 2019, over 3.6 million Tanzanian children were registered using the mobile-enabled service, which is live in thirteen regions of the country.

Across the regions, the overall level of registration and certification has increased from less than 10 per cent in 2012, to over 80 per cent in 2019.

TFS pays 24.69bn/- in dividend to govt

By Guardian Correspondent

THE Tanzania Forests Services Agency (TFS) has issued a 24.89bn/- dividend to the government, the money collected by the agency in the 2018/2019 financial year.

Speaking to The Guardian in Dodoma soon after handing over the cheque, TFS Conservation Commissioner Prof Dos Santos Silayo said that together with the chairman of TFS Advisory Board, Brig Gen Mkeremy presented the dummy cheque to President Magufuli at the event of

receiving dividends, and other contributions from Parastatal organisations at Chamwino State House in Dodoma.


Prof Silayo said the contribution comes from TFS collection for the 2018/2019 financial year whereas TFS planned to contribute 18.39bn/- in accordance with the Public Finance Act No. 6 of 2001 and amendment thereof of 2015, but was able to contribute 24.89bn/- which is more by 6.5bn/-

Prof Silayo thanked all TFS staff, the Natural Resources and Tourism, Minister Dr Hamisi Kigwangalla, TFS Advisory Board under Brig Gen Mkeremy

and all board members, who enabled the collection of the monies and handing part of its revenue to the government.

He also called on all workers to continue working diligently so that TFS continues to be the best example in sustainable management of nation's resources.

This is the second time for TFS to pay dividend to the government. In the previous financial year TFS paid 22.41bn/- as dividend to the government.



JOB ANNOUNCEMENT

Project Officer - CBNRM

The WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature), an international conservation organization, is seeking for a competent and highly motivated Project Officer –CBNRM to be based in Masasi.

Major Task: Under the supervision of the Ruvuma Landscape Coordinator, The Project Officer will perform other activities under the general concept of CBNRM (Community Based Natural Resources Management) in the Ruvuma Landscape. The job holder will work to advise, implement, promote and supervise all activities related to Wildlife Management (including supporting the Wildlife Management Areas in the landscape) to implement various activities such as awareness raising among communities on natural resource conservation, capacity development, Monitoring and Evaluation,

Major duties and responsibilities:

- Interact and work with Local Government, local partners, WMAs' authorities and the, general communities in the Implementation of the various activities according to the approved work plan and budget;
- Oversee administration of funds, equipment and overall supervision of day to day activities in the Ruvuma Landscape on the Wildlife Management Areas components in general
- Prepare work plans and budgets for the WWF component in collaboration with Ruvuma Landscape Coordinator, Community Based Wildlife Management Lead (CBWML), Wildlife Species Expert and other program coordinators (Energy, Fresh water and Forest) and TCO based staff.
- Timely prepare Field, quarterly and semi-annual technical reports and submit the same to the WWF-Ruvuma Landscape Coordinator and CBWML;
- Promote meaningful participation of community stakeholder in all stages of planning and implementation of the Ruvuma Landscape wildlife programs, in collaboration with local leaders, Government Officials and the private sector to ensure long-term sustainability and success of the project;

Required Qualifications and skills: A BSc degree in Natural Resources Management, Wildlife or Rural Development from recognized University. An MSc would be an advantage. Proven experience in dealing with projects/programmes on natural resources management, land use planning, use mobile applications in data collection, good understanding of policy and legislations, etc. Knowledge in project management with not less than 3 years of practical experience. Proven competence in report writing skills and community mobilization skills as well as proposal development for fundraising

Additional information, for a detailed job description, visit http://wwf.panda.org/who_we_are/jobs/ and apply with your CV and a cover letter addressed to People & Culture Manager, through: hresources@wwftz.org by 11th December 2019, 1700pm.

Kindly note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

WWF is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to having a diverse workforce.

Namibia's SWAPO battling the elements

BY LIESL LOUW-VAUDRAN

OF all the former liberation movements in Southern Africa, which include those in South Africa, Zimbabwe and Mozambique, the South West Africa People's Organisation (SWAPO) has probably been the most successful at winning elections. In the 2014 polls, the party got 80% and President Hage Geingob got 86.7% of the votes. Many of his peers in the region, especially in South Africa, can only dream of such figures.

On 27 November, Namibians are again going to vote in legislative and presidential elections. Just over 1.3 million voters are registered. And although SWAPO is likely to win again, and Geingob to get a second term, it will certainly not be with such an overwhelming margin.

One of the reasons for this will be the impact of devastating drought in Namibia that saw agricultural production shrinking and one out of five Namibians becoming dependent on food aid. Stronger opposition, especially from independent candidate Panduleni Itula, is also expected to reduce Geingob's margin.

This year has been the driest in 90 years and Windhoek received the lowest rainfall since 1891. Opposition parties blame the government for not doing enough to mitigate the crisis and help those in need.

Namibia's GDP growth, which has been over 5% a year for decades, plummeted in 2016 due to falling commodity prices, coupled with the drought, and the country is now in a recession. Reliance for export earnings on mineral resources such as diamonds and uranium has clearly shown its limits. This is not good for an election year.

Since independence in 1992, Namibia has taken important steps to improve the livelihoods of ordinary people. According to Institute for Security Studies (ISS) research, poverty levels



Namibia's drought and recession will make it hard for SWAPO to win elections with the usual high margins. File photo

have more than halved from 50% in 1993 to around 20%. By 2040 Namibia was expected to rank among the top 10 per capita earners in Africa.

Yet it is one of the most unequal countries in the world and the government has lagged behind in providing basic services and infrastructure to its citizens. Access to electricity and sanitation are of the lowest among the upper-middle-income countries in Af-

rica. Namibia also continues to depend heavily on food imports - over 60% of cereals are imported, mainly from South Africa.

The report found that boosting agricultural production could help reduce poverty significantly in the decades to come. This year - due to the drought that also hit much of the rest of Southern

Africa - agricultural production was expected to be reduced by more than 50% compared to the last season's harvest.

Given the nature of Namibia as one of the driest countries on Earth, with limited agricultural land, the ISS study suggests improving agricultural yields on land already in use, as well as

improving the average calorie intake of citizens. Namibia has already experimented with innovative mechanisms such as aquaponics in this regard.

During the election campaign, these issues have been high on the list of Geingob and SWAPO's opponents. Land redistribution and reducing inequality has become a rallying platform for parties such as the Landless People's Movement, which registered as a political party in 2016, led by the former deputy minister of land Bernardus Swartbooi.

The recent revelations around a US\$10 million scandal involving fishing quotas to Iceland also didn't come at a good time for the ruling party. The ministers of justice and of fisheries were forced to resign earlier this month over their involvement in the allocation of fishing licences in 2014 to an Icelandic company, also involving Angola. Among the fears linked to climate change is the dwindling of fish resources along the coasts of countries like Namibia.

Itula, one of Geingob's most outspoken opponents in this year's elections, blamed the president of having 'looters' in his cabinet and vowed to fight corruption were he elected. He received support from two of the major opposition parties, the Namibian Economic Freedom Fighters and the Republican Party, and is said to have strong support among the youth.

Itula also made headlines in the past few weeks when he challenged the use of electronic voting machines in the elections. He says they will lead to fraud and unfair elections because not everyone understands the system. He insists that a manual vote be held in parallel.

A Namibian court, however, on Monday 25 November dis-

missed the case brought by Itula and other opposition leaders. The electronic voting system was used with relative success in 2014 and the electoral commission had been confident that the court wouldn't decide in Itula's favour.

Several of the nine other presidential candidates - of which one is a woman, for the first time in Namibia's history - said the economic decline and poverty levels were a direct result of the government's mismanagement of the economy. SWAPO, however, says it is doing what it can to improve the lives of citizens and to fight the effects of the drought.

In May 2019 Geingob announced a state of emergency and appealed to the international community to help those suffering from the drought. This was extended in October for another six months to March 2020.

So far, out of an initial budget of N\$570 million (US\$38.6m), government has spent N\$131m (US\$8.8m) towards drought relief. It has received an extra N\$129m (US\$8.7m) in donations to help farmers and families affected by the prevailing dry spell.

But the effects of climate change are not likely to ease up - neither in Namibia nor the rest of the region where up to 11 million people need food aid, according to the United Nations World Food Programme. The organisation called the situation in Southern Africa an 'existential emergency'.

SWAPO might win this week's elections but it will have to make greater strides to fight corruption and ensure better services so that people can withstand these major shocks.

Liesl Louw-Vaudran, Senior Researcher, ISS Pretoria

South Africa blocks arms sales to Saudi, UAE in inspection row

JOHANNESBURG

SOUTH Africa is blocking arms sales to countries including Saudi Arabia and the UAE in an inspections dispute, endangering billions of dollars of business and thousands of jobs in its struggling defence sector, according to industry officials.

The dispute centres on a clause in export documents that requires foreign customers to pledge not to transfer weapons to third parties and to allow South African officials to inspect their facilities to verify compliance, according to the four officials as well as letters obtained by Reuters.

Officials at major South African defence groups Denel and Rheinmetall Denel Munition (RDM) said the dispute was holding up their exports, as did a third big defence company which asked not to be named.

RDM said some of its exports to the Middle East had not been approved since March.

Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, which account for at least a third of South Africa's arms exports and are engaged in a war in Yemen, have rejected the inspections which they consider a violation of their sovereignty, the sources said.

Oman and Algeria have also refused inspections and seen their imports from South Africa blocked, the industry officials added.

Government officials in Saudi Arabia, the UAE, Oman and Algeria did not respond to emails and phone calls from Reuters seeking comment, nor did their embassies in South Africa.

Asked about the inspection clause issue, Ezra Jele, South Africa's director for conventional arms control in the defence ministry, said that authorities considered criteria including human rights, regional conflict, risk of diversion, UN Security Council resolutions and national interest when evaluating applications for export permits. He did not comment on specific cases.

The Aerospace, Maritime and Defence Industries Association of South Africa (AMD) says the dispute could threaten the sector's survival.

"We've got one clause that's disabling us from exporting 25 billion rand (US\$1.7 billion) worth of value today,

right now," Simphiwe Hamilton, the head of the AMD, told Reuters.

The industry body estimates the export blocks put an additional 50 to 60 billion rand in future business at risk and could cause the loss of up to 9,000 jobs at defence firms and supporting industries.

YEMENI CONFLICT

Since democratic rule was established in 1994, South Africa has sought to reform its defence industry - once a pillar of the racist apartheid regime - by making export approvals subject to human rights considerations.

Saudi Arabia is leading an alliance of Arab states, including the UAE, to try to restore the government of Yemeni President Abd-Rabbu Mansour Hadi, who was ousted from the capital Sanaa by the Iran-aligned Houthis in 2015.

In February, Amnesty International accused the UAE of diverting arms supplied by Western and other states to militias accused of war crimes in Yemen.

In the same month, a CNN investigation said Saudi Arabia and the UAE had transferred American weapons to Yemeni fighters, breaking the terms of their arms sales with the United States.

The UAE did not respond to the Amnesty allegations. The Saudi military coalition did not respond to CNN's allegations, but a senior UAE official denied it violated end-user agreements.

The South African defence industry has become increasingly reliant on exports, which have grown more than 12-fold since 1990 as domestic defence spending has declined.

Exports now make up the bulk of revenues for major defence companies including Denel, Paramount Group, Hensoldt South Africa and RDM, which is a joint venture between Denel and German industrial giant Rheinmetall.

Saudi Arabia and the UAE alone represented a third of South Africa's 4.7 billion rand of authorised arms exports in 2018, according to data compiled by the National Conventional Arms Control Committee (NCACC), a group of ministers and deputy ministers that approves the exports.

ENCROACHING ON SOVEREIGNTY

Requiring buyers not to transfer



Fighters of the UAE-trained Security Belt Force ride atop a tank in Yemen's southern coastal town of Shuqrah, east of the city of Aden, on August 27, 2019. (PHOTO / AFP)

weapons to third parties is common practice in the international arms trade, stipulated in export documents known as end-user certificates. Requiring inspections, though uncommon, is not unheard of.

Germany, for instance, requires them for small arms sales to certain countries. The industry officials told Reuters that South Africa had long included a clause in its end-user certificates requiring on-site visits, though it was rarely acted upon.

Clients regularly amended or deleted the clause, which was included in an annex, and the NCACC still granted export permits, they said.

But in 2017, arms control officials moved the clause to the front page of the certificates, and some countries refused to

sign them, according to the officials.

The clause requires customers to grant "access and permission to South African Government Authority's representative(s)" to verify they are in compliance with South Africa's defence export regulations.

"This is what's making some of these countries uncomfortable," Hamilton said. "You are encroaching on their sovereignty, and they cannot allow that." An NCACC official, who was not authorised to speak publicly, would not comment on the reason for the new format, and industry officials said they had not been told.

Matters did not come to a head until this year because arms contracts are often signed years before the anticipated

delivery date, the company officials said.

JOB LOSSES ON 'MASSIVE SCALE'

Some companies have already indicated that they will need to cut more than 500 employees if they can't export their products soon, trade union Solidarity said.

On July 3, Solidarity and other unions wrote to Public Enterprises Minister Pravin Gordhan stating that failure to resolve the impasse would lead to "job losses on a massive and irreversible scale".

"Customers in the UAE have already begun firing trials with China, India as well as Serbia with the intention to replace RDM as a preferred supplier of ammunition," said the letter seen by Reuters.

Three weeks later, Norbert Schulze, RDM's CEO at the time, wrote to the NCACC urging it to take action.

In his Aug. 5 response, also seen by Reuters, NCACC chairman Jackson Mthembu said the body would not grant an exception.

"The NCACC is aware of the possible loss of jobs occasioned by the inability to export in the time being. However, as your organisation would appreciate, compliance with regulations sometimes produces negative impact," he wrote.

The government is encouraging defence companies to avoid an over-reliance on the Gulf, the NCACC official told Reuters. But building up business in new markets would take time.

"It's not like selling Coca-Cola. It can take 5-7 years to go into new markets," one defence company official said. "I don't think the politicians are aware how serious this is."

BORROWING

Trade & Development Bank chief hints about Tanzania getting loan

By Guardian Reporter, Dodoma

TRADE and Development Bank President, Dr Admassu Tadesse has hinted that the regional financier will soon release another multi-billion shillings concessional loan to Tanzania to finance its ongoing mega infrastructure projects.

Dr Tadesse said in the new capital on Tuesday evening after meeting with Minister for Finance and Economic Planning, Dr Philip Mpango that the Nairobi based regional bank (formerly known as PTA Bank), has confidence in President John Magufuli's administration hence a new round of loan is on its way.

"Tanzania's economy continues to perform better which encourages us to support the growth trajectory with funding targeting major infrastructure projects," Dr Tadesse noted. TDB gave the country a US\$1 billion soft loan earlier this year to back construction of the ongoing standard gauge railway from Dar es Salaam to Mwanza which is already approaching Dodoma.

He said the funding will also help im-

plement a hydro-electric power project along River Ruhudji in Njombe region. "We will soon release more funding to Tanzania because we are encouraged by the progress being made," he added.

Speaking after his meeting with the TDB President, Dr Mpango said the regional financier has been a good development partner for the country thanks to its soft loans. "In addition to the US\$1 billion that we received in August this year, we expect to get another US\$300 million," Dr Mpango said.

He said the new loan will finance construction work of SGR along the Central Railway Line but also finance the Njombe and other power projects as the country gears towards becoming energy self sufficient. Permanent Secretary at Ministry of Energy, Dr Hamis Mwinyimvua said the TDB's loan will help bridge the gap of US\$460.2 million Ruhudji power project with capacity of 358 megawatts. "Of the amount, US\$407 million will be spent on buying and installing generation equipment while US\$53 million will go towards construction of 170 kilometres of trans-



Finance and Economic Planning minister, Dr Philip Mpango (2nd R) welcome Trade and Development Bank President Dr Admassu Tadesse when the letter arrived in Dodoma earlier this week for talks on the financing of the government's mega infrastructure projects. Right is Treasury Permanent Secretary, Dotto James. Photo courtesy of Finance Ministry.

mission lines," Dr Mwinyimvua stated while stressing that the government's target is to generate 10,000MW of power

by 2025. Tanzania Railways Limited's CEO, Masanja Kadogosa said construction work of the Dar es Salaam to Moro-

goro SGR line has reached 72 percent. He thanked TDB for showing willingness to provide funding to cover construction

of the SGR line from Mwanza to Isaka. Tanzania is one of the 31 TDB shareholders with 8.33 percent of shares.

INVESTMENT

IFC eyes Kenya, Tanzania clinics in Sh11.5bn investment plan

NAIROBI

AAR Healthcare businesses are among those targeted by the International Finance Corporation (IFC) in its five-year investment plan, which will see it buy significant stakes in health facilities in Kenya and Tanzania.

IFC, through its recently formed Hospital Holdings Investment (HHI), said it had joined hands with private investors to raise Sh11.5 billion to complete the buyouts. "HHI is expected to grow services in East and Southern Africa from one hospital and 35 clinics to five hospitals and 52 clinics, serving up to 1.8 million patients annually over the next five years," the IFC said. "This will be achieved both by building new facilities and acquiring existing health care assets."

IFC's chief operating officer, Stephanie von Friedeburg, said private investment in the health sector in Africa was a key strategy for competitiveness and access to quality and affordable healthcare. "Access to quality and affordable healthcare is essential for building the human capital that economies need to promote growth," said Ms Friedeburg on the sidelines of the Investment for Africa Forum in Cairo.

Last year, HHI filed its interest with Tanzania's Fair Competition Commission to acquire a majority stake in AAR Healthcare (T) Limited which operates eight clinics, supplying consultation, laboratory, pharmacy and basic radiology two services. In August this year, HHI also filed its intention to increase its stake in AAR Healthcare Holdings (Kenya) to 54.237 percent with the Competition Authority of Kenya.

IFC's foray into private healthcare has also attracted funding from the European development finance organisations -- Swedfund, Proparco, Finnfund and IFU, Danish Investment Fund for Developing countries. IFC is the largest multilateral investor in health care in developing countries, with invest-



IFC's chief operating officer, Stephanie von Friedeburg, speaks at a past event.

ments in over 200 projects in the past two decades totalling Sh430 billion.

The statement said IFC had since mobi-

lised Sh4.32 billion from other investors for the HHI project. The fund, which also counts Pfizer, African Development Bank and Euro-

pean Investment Bank as its backers, has investments in healthcare provider AAR Group.

PROSECUTION

Mozambique steps up its case against Credit Suisse

MAPUTO

The Mozambique government has amended its case against the bank Credit Suisse, declaring that the bank should bear full responsibility for paying what have become known as Mozambique's "hidden debts", reports Monday's issue of the independent newsheet "Carta de Mocambique."

The term refers to the loans for over two billion US dollars that three fraudulent, security-related companies, Proindicus, Ematum (Mozambique Tuna Company) and MAM (Mozambique Asset Management) obtained from Credit Suisse and VTB of Russia, on the basis of illicit loan guarantees issued by the government of the day, under the then President, Armando Guebuza.

mando Guebuza.

Mozambique is taking action in the London courts against the Abu Dhabi-based group Prinvest, which became the sole contractor for the three companies, against Credit Suisse and against the former Credit Suisse bankers Andrew Pearse, Detelvina Subeva and Surjan Singh who were closely involved in arranging the loans.

Pearse, Subeva and Singh confessed to a New York court that they had taken bribes from Prinvest sales executive Jean Boustani. Pearse and Singh were key prosecution witnesses in the trial of Boustani, which ended on Friday.

Mozambique is represented in the London

case by Joe Smouha (of Essex Court Chambers) and Scott Ralston and Ryan Ferro (of 3VB). They are being instructed by Keith Oliver, of Peters and Peters LLP, a leading British law firm which the Attorney-General's Office (PGR) has chosen to represent the Mozambican state.

The new prosecution argument, deposited with the court on 19 August, and now made public, directly accuses Credit Suisse, demanding that it be held responsible for the entire debt. That would mean annulling the loan of 622 million dollars to Proindicus. In addition Credit Suisse should pay part of the 540 million dollar loans to MAM and the 850 million bond issue to Ematum.

The Mozambican case is that the loans to the three companies were just a scheme to extract bribes and kickbacks of about 200 million dollars. This argument clearly borrows heavily from the investigation by the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) into Boustani and his co-conspirators.

The lawyers hired by the PGR argued that "the entire debt was no more than a vehicle for the enrichment of the accused at the cost of the Republic of Mozambique." As for the loan guarantees signed by the then Minister of Finance, Manuel Chang, the lawyers pointed out that Chang had no power to sign the guarantees. Hence they were illegal and unconstitutional, in terms of Mozambican law.

COLLABORATION

S. Korean land mapping, designing firms hunt for consumers in Tanzania

By Beatrice Philemon

TWELVE South Korean digital technology land mapping and designing companies are in the country showcasing their products to lure local customers.

The Korean geospatial information technology companies will be in the country for two days during which they will go on a road-show to show their advanced technology land mapping physical features data collection mechanisms.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday, the Korean Ministry of Land, Infrastructure and Transport's Deputy Director, Jeryong Ryu said their interest is also to partner with local peers in delivering geospatial technology services.

"We are in Tanzania to share our latest technologies and experiences with government agencies so that we can work together to digitize their work similar to what we have done in our country which leads to rapid growth of the spatial information sector," Ryu said.

He said the meeting and road-show will allow Korean companies get an opportunity to showcase the advanced technologies relating to spatial information technology which can enable Tanzania's mapping and feature data collection system to be digitized.

"Digitization will help staff to complete their work in less time, have a proper data on land demarcation and other issues and provide services to the public on time," he noted.

On his part, South Korean Ambassador to Tanzania, Tae-Ick Cho said currently South Korea is notable globally as far as information technology is concerned. "Right now we are competing with major industrialized economies in the world because we have trained our people in advanced modern technologies who are also innovative," said Cho.

He advised the government and private sector to invest heavily in information technology saying training of human resources remains an important aspect if innovation is to prosper and contribute to growth of the economy.

"I hope the advanced technologies that South Korean companies bring to Tanzania will be useful and enable the country succeed economically," Cho noted while pledging further support if need arises in the IT industry.

Speaking at the meeting, Project Coordinator for the Land Data Infrastructure project at Ministry of Lands, Housing and Human Settlements Development, Dr Eric Mwaikambo said the advanced technology that Korean companies have introduced will help the government and its institutions to digitize all land related activities to speed up development.

Elaborating on the current status of Tanzania National Spatial Data Infrastructure (NSDI), Dr Mwaikambo noted that efforts to develop the NSDI started in 2003 but that the main challenge being faced is lack of financial resources and formal mandate to coordinate NSDI development activities.

"So far as the Ministry, we are pushing for NSDI policy budget, land policy to be effected," he noted saying that although no formal NSDI exists, there are several Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) components in place already including a new geodetic control network for Tanzania.

APPRECIATION

Mbeya RC describes NMB as good corporate citizen for his region

By Guardian Reporter, Mbeya

DONATIONS of desks, hospital beds and corrugated iron sheets to public schools and health facilities in Mbeya region by NMB Bank Plc will go a long way to assisting government efforts improve education and health services.

Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Albert Chamamila said here yesterday after

receiving the donation valued at over 15m/- that NMB is a good and responsible corporate citizen that is doing good work in the southern highlands region.

"I call upon other banks, public and private companies to follow suit on this exemplary behaviour by NMB management and staff. We still have a lot of challenges facing education and health sectors which the state alone cannot solve,"

Chamamila said.

Earlier briefing the Regional Commissioner on the state of public health facilities in the region, acting Regional Medical Officer, Dr Ismail Macha said the donation came at the most appropriate time when Mbeya is facing numerous challenges in delivery quality health services.

"In addition to thanking NMB for

this support, I also request the bank's management not to forget us in future because we are still in need," Dr Macha said while noting the hospital beds and other medical equipment will be better utilised to meet intended use.

Speaking at the same event, acting NMB Southern Highlands Zone Manager, Hamadan Silliah said the dona-

tion targets Mbeya Referral Hospital, Idunda Health Center and Mwakibete Secondary School.

"We know and understand the challenges which public health and education facilities are facing in providing services to the majority of our people hence the decision to support such areas," Silliah who is also Mbalizi Road's NMB Branch Manager

noted.

The donation comprised of 156 pieces of iron sheets, 53 desks, seven beds including two for the labour wards, mattresses and bed sheets. The country's largest commercial banks by physical branch network, profitability and number of customers has allocated 1bn/- for investment in community projects this year with



Mbeya regional commissioner, Albert Chamamila (L) shakes hands with NMB's acting Southern Highlands Zone manager, Hamadan Silliah yesterday at a ceremony to receive a donation of desks, roofing sheets and hospital beds from the bank in support of public health and education facilities in the region.

ADVICE

IMF wants South Africa to create investment-friendly environment

PRETORIA

THE International Monetary Fund (IMF) wants government to create an environment that is conducive for investment and implement much-needed structural reforms to boost the ailing economy, National Treasury said on Monday following a visit by the lender.

The IMF visited South Africa from 6 - 21 November to discuss economic and financial developments as part of its bi-annual surveillance function.

"The IMF recommends that South Africa creates an environment conducive for private sector investment and take a decisive approach to implement structural reforms in order to boost economic growth," said a statement.

According to Treasury, the global lender also highlighted the major challenges facing the economy, which include weak growth, a deteriorating fiscal situation and difficulties in the operations of state owned enterprise.

In October, Treasury down-

graded growth forecast to just 0.5% for this year, down from the 1.5% projection made in the February, as the economy battles high unemployment and a rising public service wage bill.

The country's loss-making public entities also continue to put pressure on the public purse, with government constantly extending bailouts and guarantees to support the companies.

The impact of continued support has been flagged by ratings agencies who have called for urgent reforms to address the current economic malaise.

Treasury said the proposal raised by the IMF were in line with areas that government was working on to stimulate growth, improve the overall fiscal position and address inefficiencies in SOEs.

They pointed at interventions which have been undertaken since previous IMF visit in May, which include the approval of the Integrated Re-

sources Plan, simplified visa regime and the scrapping of a requirement for unabridged birth certificate for children entering the country. The cumbersome regulation was widely blamed for low tourist numbers to the country.

"Nevertheless, economic growth continues to deteriorate. The country's largest economic risk is Eskom. Government has announced a comprehensive set of structural reforms to support the energy sector and more specifically, Eskom."

The country's weak economic position had seen some senior business leaders suggest that government may have to approach the IMF for assistance, but such a thought was dismissed by several top officials, including the Governor of the Reserve Bank Lesetja Kganyago.

Last week, ratings agency Standard and Poor's changed its outlook on South Africa's sovereign credit rating to negative, citing low GDP growth, rising fiscal deficits and a growing debt burden.

ON-RECORD

Retail subscription for Aramco share sale reaches US\$5.8 billion

RIYADH

SAUDI Aramco raised 21.77 billion Saudi riyals for its initial public offering from retail investors, according to lead manager Samba Capital.

Retail investors have subscribed for 680,254,540 of the shares, the bank said. They were offered at 32 riyals per share, which was the top end of the energy company's 30-32 riyal price range. Subscription for the retail tranche will close on November 28.

Saudi Aramco, the world's largest oil exporting company, has offered 0.5 per cent of the company's shares to retail subscribers. A total of 1.5 per cent of the company, or about three billion shares, are being offered to retail and institutional investors through Saudi Aramco's debut stock market listing on the domestic

Tadawul exchange.

The price range suggests an indicative valuation of between \$1.6tn and \$1.7tn for the company once its shares are floated, an exercise which could take place next month. Aramco is the largest integrated oil and gas company in the world, producing one in every eight barrels of crude. In 2018, the company produced 13.6 million barrels per day of oil equivalent, including 10.3 million bpd of crude.

The Aramco IPO is central to Riyadh's ambitions to transform the kingdom's economy.

Funds from the share float are also expected to boost spending on Vision 2030 projects such as the \$500bn futuristic economic free zone Neom and the Red Sea Project, a mega-tourism attraction. The country is aiming to open up its tourism and entertainment sector.

PIONEERING

Ghana, Uganda to pilot GSMA-backed connectivity solutions

ACCRA

OVER a period of 18 months, Vodafone Ghana and MTN Uganda will work with Fairwaves Inc., iSat Africa and NuRAN to test new mobile internet connectivity solutions for unconnected rural communities in Africa.

This project is an initiative of the GSMA through its Connected Society Innovation Fund for Rural Connectivity that awarded grants of up to £330,000 to Fairwaves Inc., iSat Africa and NuRAN. According to the GSMA, the goal is to deploy mobile broadband networks in rural areas. These will provide low-cost mobile internet coverage through commercially sustainable models that can be scaled and replicated in similar environments across the region.

The consortium will deliver solutions in six months and the remaining 12 months will be assigned to the host mobile operator to integrate the sites in their network, and for GSMA to monitor and evaluate the performance of the project.

"This collaboration is ground-breaking in its aims to connect unconnected communities in rural locations and deliver a range of essential digital services," said Akinwale Goodluck, Head of Sub-Saharan Africa, GSMA.

"The challenge is not only bringing mobile internet coverage to rural areas, which can be twice as expensive as in urban areas and with smaller revenue opportunities but to do so in a way that ensures long-term commercial sustainability. Innovation and partnership is essential to addressing this challenge, and the Innovation Fund, in association with the mobile ecosystem and government partners, is playing a key role in identifying new ways of using mobile technology to connect the unconnected."

Gordian Kyomukama, chief technical officer at MTN Uganda said: "... through partnerships, we can change lives by improving digital access, driving financial inclusion, empowering and enabling SMEs,



GSMA's Head of Sub-Saharan Africa, Akinwale Goodluck.

creating jobs and broad community development, all using the power of connectivity."

Patricia Obo-Nai, chief executive officer, Vodafone Ghana, added that the initiative will extend mobile connectivity and access to communities within parts of northern Ghana. "More than ever before, mobile communication has become the preferred means of staying connected with family as well as businesses.

This initiative is in line with our objective to leave no one behind as we drive the digital transformation agenda in this ever-changing technological environment," Obo-Nai said.

Aside from support from telcos, the consortium has received backing from regulators in both Ghana and Uganda, including the provision of land, as well as tax and duty exemptions for imported equipment.



The price range suggests an indicative valuation of between \$1.6tn and \$1.7tn for the company once its shares are floated, an exercise which could take place next month

HIGHLIGHTS

Hurdles African startups face in attracting capital

NAIROBI

THE inaugural Jack Ma Foundation led Africa Netpreneur Initiative grant award took place in Accra, Ghana, on November 16, 2019 with a total of \$1.0 million shared between ten entrepreneurs who pitched their businesses before four judges.

The grand prize of \$250,000 (Sh25.4 million) went to Nigeria's Temie Giwa-Tubosun who is the founder and CEO of LifeBank, a social impact venture whose core business is the distribution of critical medical supplies to hospitals in Nigeria.

Egypt's Nawah-Scientific, a private bio-medical research centre

founded by Dr Omar Shoukry Sakr, which offers analytical services online and on demand, won the first runner-up grant of \$150,000 (Sh15.3 million). Christelle Kwizera's Water Access Rwanda, a business venture looking to plug in the deficit of accessibility and affordability of safe water in Rwanda, took the second

runner up position with a grant award of \$100,000 (Sh10.2 million). As the firms received their awards for the impact they have made in the society, it emerged during the event that African startups face a set of hurdles in attracting funds to boost their businesses and for expansion.

According to financial data and

software company PitchBook, which tracks and aggregates data on deals across the globe, out of an estimated 530 transactions which took place in Africa in 2018 and whose ticket size was disclosed, 222 were below \$1.0 million in size.

Of note is that 81.5 per cent of these 222 transactions were be-

low \$250,000 in size, an indication of the concentration of small ticket size deals within the continent. With investors keen on ploughing capital into companies with established track records, however, deals of this size tend to attract very little appetite for investment.

"At less than \$1.0 million, you

are likely looking at companies which are in the pre-seed stage. In other markets where the private capital ecosystem is well developed, these businesses would typically be funded by angel investors," says Eva Warigia, Executive Director at the East Africa Private Equity and Venture Capital Association (EAVCA).

WORLD

With testimony over, work begins on key impeachment report

WASHINGTON

THE witnesses have spoken, the politics are largely settled. Now impeachment investigators will make the case for public opinion.

On Monday, hundreds of pages from Democratic Chairman Adam Schiff's intelligence committee were being compiled into an exhaustive report that will begin to outline whether President Donald Trump engaged in "treason, bribery or other high crimes and misdemeanors" by withholding US\$400 million in aid as he pushed Ukraine to investigate Democratic rival Joe Biden. The report may come as soon as next week.

There are rising political stakes for all sides. Americans remain deeply split over the impeachment question, despite hours of sometimes riveting testimony, and the country's polarization now seems to foreshadow an outcome: Democrats are poised to vote to impeach the president while Republicans stand firmly with Trump.

Sending the case on to the Judiciary Committee, which is ready to start its own round of hearings in December, provides yet another chance to sway public opinion before a House vote ex-

pected by Christmas and a Senate trial in 2020.

"The evidence of wrongdoing and misconduct by the President that we have gathered to date is clear and hardly in dispute," Schiff told colleagues in a letter Monday. "What is left to us now is to decide whether this behavior is compatible with the office of the Presidency, and whether the Constitutional process of impeachment is warranted."

Republicans are not necessarily disputing the evidence, but insist the president did nothing wrong. While Trump lawyer Rudy Giuliani pursued the political investigations with Ukraine in what witnesses described as an irregular foreign policy channel, Republicans argue it's not clear the president directly intervened to withhold the money to Ukraine. Besides, they say, the military aid for the Eastern European ally countering Russian aggression was eventually released.

Trump gave Giuliani a vote of confidence Monday.

"Rudy is the best mayor in the history of New York. In my opinion, the strongest mayor, the best mayor," Trump told reporters in the Oval Office.



President Donald Trump

However, in a setback for the administration, a federal judge late Monday ordered former White House counsel Donald McGahn to appear before Congress. The president has tried to keep top aides from testifying, which Democrats say amounts to obstruction of Congress and potential grounds for impeachment. The administration will appeal the ruling.

Some Republicans, led by Sen. Lindsey Graham, prefer to keep digging into unfounded claims that Ukraine was involved in 2016 election interference, a theory that contradicts the findings of U.S. intelligence. They also see reason to scrutinize the work of Biden's son, Hunter Biden, for a gas company in Ukraine.

"The whole Ukraine issue, particularly the way the House of Representatives is doing it, is a joke," Graham tweeted Monday. "We're less than a year away from the 2020 election. If you don't like Trump - vote against him."

When Congress resumes next week, Schiff is expected to send the report, compiled from 17 closed-door depositions and five public sessions, to the House Judiciary Committee, where Chairman Jerrold Nadler will soon begin hearings that are expected to result in articles of impeachment against Trump.

Rather than gather additional testimony, Nadler's panel is likely to drill down into the questions surrounding impeachment and whether

Trump's actions toward Ukraine meet the bar.

For many Democrats, Trump already proved the case when he released a rough transcript of a July call in which he asked Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy for a "favor" - the investigations of Biden and the Democrats.

"The unusual fact about this inquiry is that the most explosive evidence is the first evidence we got: It was the President's transcript," said Rep. Peter Welch, D-Vt. "All the other evidence is confirming it and showing how elaborate and sustained the effort was to put the squeeze on Ukraine to get the Biden investigations."

Republicans are just as insistent the end result will not remove Trump from office.

"The only prediction I can make is that I can't imagine a scenario under which 67 members of the Senate would remove the president from office in the middle of a presidential election," Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell said during an event Monday in Kentucky.

Even as investigators race to compile the report, Democrats aren't ruling out more testimony.

The Intelligence Committee still could hear from John Bolton, the president's former national security adviser, who left the White House after saying he didn't want to be involved in whatever "drug deal" Giuliani was cooking up, according to testimony from a top aide, Fiona Hill.

Schiff said Sunday he's also in discussions with counsel for Lev Parnas, the Giuliani associate who was arrested with business partner Igor Fruman on campaign finance charges.

Bolton has so far declined an invitation to testify. The panel has issued a subpoena to Parnas for documents about the matter.

"We are open to the possibility that further evidence will come to light," Schiff said. If other witnesses agree to testify, he said, "We are prepared to hear from them."

One witness Schiff does not expect to hear from is the still anonymous government whistleblower whose complaint about Trump's phone call with Ukraine sparked the impeachment probe.

Schiff said over the weekend that the panel initially wanted to hear from the person, but Trump's attacks have put the person's life in danger. The committee is now trying to protect the whistleblower from retaliation.

Agencies

Netanyahu not obliged to step aside after indictment - Attorney general

JERUSALEM

ISRAELI Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu does not have to step aside after being indicted for alleged corruption, the country's attorney general ruled on Monday, a reprieve for the conservative leader as he fights for his political survival.

The bribery, fraud and breach of trust charges filed against Netanyahu on Thursday - the first criminal indictment of a sitting Israeli premier - prompted calls for his departure from the center-left opposition and a watchdog group, as well as stirring up leadership challenges from within his Likud party.

Israeli law does not require Netanyahu to step down at this stage. He denies wrongdoing and has vowed to stay in power - even though his position is already in doubt after he

and rival Benny Gantz failed to get a majority in two elections this year.

Attorney General Avichai Mandelblit on Monday convened his senior staff to discuss if Netanyahu should be declared temporarily unfit for office, a status that would require he resign or take a leave of absence, the Justice Ministry said.

Citing, among other considerations, the fact the Netanyahu heads a caretaker government, Mandelblit found that "the issue of temporary unfitness for office should be left in the public-political realm (as) there is no place for an attorney general's decision at this time," the ministry said in a statement.

Israeli commentators interpreted "public-political realm" as a reference to party or national elections, as well as potential petitions to the Supreme Court to order Netanyahu



Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu

to step aside.

One such petition, by the Movement for Quality Government in Israel, was filed with the court and dismissed on Sunday.

After both Netanyahu and Gantz failed to form a coalition government, Israel is in a three-week period during which lawmakers can

choose a new candidate from their ranks to form a government.

Whether Netanyahu qualifies may come down to him holding onto the leadership of Likud.

A challenger within the party, Gideon Saar, said on Sunday that, at his behest, Likud would hold a leadership election. He voiced hope

it would take place within the three-week period allotted to find a new nominee within. A Likud spokesman did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

A poll of Likud supporters aired on Israel's Channel 13 TV found that 53 percent would re-elect Netanyahu as party head against 40 percent for Saar. Senior Likud members serving as cabinet ministers have largely rallied behind Netanyahu.

He said Likud was still in talks with Gantz's Blue and White party on forming a broad "national unity" coalition.

Previous such talks had stalled amid disagreement, including over the order in which Netanyahu and Gantz might serve in top office as part of a proposed rotating premiership.

Agencies

Zelensky, Putin discuss gas talks, handover of Ukrainian ships

KIEV

Ukrainian President Vladimir Zelensky on Monday had a telephone conversation with his Russian counterpart, Vladimir Putin, to discuss progress at the gas talks and the issue of the return of equipment from Ukraine's warships, the press service of the Ukrainian presidential office reported.

"The Ukrainian head of state noted the importance of the recent return of Ukrainian ships from Russia. At the same time, Vladimir Zelensky (pictured) said it is important to return all the weapons, equipment

and documents from these ships," the press service said.

Apart from that, according to the press service, the two presidents also touched upon the topic of trilateral gas talks between Ukraine, Russia and the European Union.

A source in the European Union institutions in Brussels told TASS earlier in the day that a next trilateral ministerial meeting is planned to be held in the first week on December to discuss a new contract for the transit of Russian gas via Ukraine to the European Union after January 1, 2020. These talks will be preceded by an expert meeting on November 29.



Kerch Strait incident

On November 25, 2018, three Ukrainian warships en route from Odessa to Mariupol illegally crossed Russia's state border, entered Russia's territorial waters in the Kerch Strait and started performing dangerous maneuvers. Despite the repeated warnings and demands to stop, the Ukrainian vessels continued their way, forcing Russia to use weapons.

All the three Ukrainian ships were detained in the

Black Sea, along with 24 Ukrainian sailors who were later charged with violating the border. On September 7, 2019, Moscow and Kiev carried out a "35 for 35" exchange of detainees, which included the 24 Ukrainian sailors detained in the Kerch Strait.

The three Ukrainian vessels - the Yany Kapu tugboat and small armored artillery boats Berdyansk and Nikopol - were handed over to Ukraine in the Black Sea on November 18. Agencies



Customers experienced 5G mobile phones in a 5G business hall in Hangzhou. (File photo)

'China open to world in development of 5G industry'

CHINA'S 5G construction is an open and level playing field for global companies, and trade protectionism will only harm the industry's development, Minister of Industry and Information Technology Miao Wei said at the World 5G Convention on Thursday, November 21.

According to Miao, there are 113,000 5G base stations operating in China, and about 870,000 users have signed up for 5G services. By the end of this year, the total number of 5G base stations is expected to reach 130,000.

China is one of the first countries to have entered the 5G commercial era, with three major network operators introducing the first 5G data plans in the country on October 31.

"Openness and cooperation are still the global consensus in developing telecommunications," Miao said. China is insisting on the openness of the market, and it welcomes global companies to participate in 5G construction in China. "No market shares are predetermined in China's 5G development," Miao said.

International and Chinese companies have been working together in China's 5G sector in terms of research, developing applications and setting industry standards. The Finnish company Nokia, Swedish company Ericsson and the US company Qualcomm have all participated under the IMT-2020 group to contribute to industry standards.

Eric Xu, rotating chairman of Huawei, said during the World 5G Convention that the 5G base stations and 5G core networks are independent from each other, and any arguments that the two are inseparable are "ill-intended".

China can deliver the world's best 5G based on its spectrum resources, base stations and government support. While the rest of the world can also reap the fruit of its 5G development with increasing demand for 5G networks, semiconductors and devices, Xu said.

Global Times

Soyuz-2.1v rocket puts Russian military satellite into orbit - defence ministry

MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S Soyuz-2.1v carrier rocket has successfully put into the designated orbit a Russian defense ministry's satellite into orbit, a ministry source told TASS yesterday.

"A Soyuz-2.1v rocket successfully put into the designated orbit a spacecraft for the Russian Defense Ministry within the scheduled timeframe," the source said. The launch and the orbiting proceeded smoothly. The ground-based facilities of Russia's Aerospace Defense Forces have already established contact with the spacecraft and assumed control of it. All systems of the satellite work in normal regime.

The Soyuz-2.1v carrier rocket with a military satellite was launched from the Plesetsk spaceport in Russia's northern Arkhangelsk region at 20:52 Moscow time on November 25.

"The spacecraft, created on the basis of the unified multifunctional space platform, has been put into the designated orbit, from which the condition of Russian satellites can be monitored. Optical equipment of the spacecraft also allows making images of the Earth's surface," the Russian defense ministry said.

It was the second Soyuz-2.1v rocket launch from Plesetsk in 2019. The previous one took place on July 10, 2019.

Agencies

UN chief calls for end to violence against women

UNITED NATIONS

UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has called for an end to violence against women and girls.

"I call on governments, the private sector, civil society and people everywhere to take a firm stand against sexual violence and misogyny," he said on Monday in a video message for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. "We must show greater solidarity with survivors, advocates and women's rights defenders. And we must promote women's rights and equal opportunities. Together, we can - and must - end rape and sexual assault of all kinds," he said.

Xinhua

Foreign Ministers from Arab countries warn Israel against annexing Palestinian territories

CAIRO

ARAB foreign ministers have jointly rejected a recent U.S. decision recognizing the Israeli settlements in occupied Palestinian, and warned Israel against annexing the Jordan Valley and parts of the occupied West Bank.

Following a meeting at the Cairo-based Arab League, the Arab foreign ministers on Monday said in a joint resolution that the U.S. decision is void, illegal, baseless and violates the UN Charter and relevant UN resolutions.

On Nov. 18, U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced that the U.S. government will no longer consider Israel's West Bank settlements "inconsistent" with the international law, a move

that may further dim the future of the Israeli-Palestinian peace talks.

Pompeo (pictured) said at a press conference that the decision, which reversed the Barrack Obama administration's position on the issue, had been made based on the "reality on the ground."

After Pompeo's statements, the Palestinian Authority asked the Arab League to hold an emergency ministerial-level meeting to discuss and defy the U.S. position on Israeli settlements. Meanwhile, Arab ministers warned that the U.S. move poses a real threat to regional and international security, peace and stability.

They also said the U.S. decision is meant to legalize and support Israel's



settlement, "which may undermine the Arab peace initiative."

The foreign ministers warned against "exploiting the illegal cover provided

by unilateral U.S. decisions to encourage the Israeli government to ratify legislations aimed at annexing the Jordan Valley and parts of the occupied West Bank, intensifying settlement and Judaizing the occupied city of Jerusalem."

In September, Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu pledged to annex the Palestinian Jordan Valley and key parts of the occupied West Bank if re-elected. The ministers called for mobilizing Arab efforts and working with international partners to hold Israel accountable for its illegal settlement policy and practices.

The resolution adopted by the ministers urged Arab efforts to approach the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court and demand an investigation

into the crime of Israeli settlement in accordance with the Rome Statute.

After the meeting, Palestinian Foreign Minister Riyad al-Maliki told a news conference that the Palestinian Authority would formally request Arab support for a meeting of the state parties to the Geneva Convention to hold Israel accountable for its actions against the Palestinians.

According to the Geneva Convention, al-Maliki said, the signatory countries are obliged to deal with violations against the people under occupation.

The U.S. decision to legalize the settlements "is part of a war" the U.S. government declared against the Palestinian people, he said, adding the recent U.S. decision is the ninth anti-Palestine

move taken by the United States since 2017.

The Palestinian minister noted that the resolution adopted Monday by the Arab foreign ministers establishes a collective action led by Secretary General of the Arab League Ahmed Aboul-Gheit to face and foil the U.S. decision.

During the ministerial meeting, Aboul-Gheit described the U.S. decision on Israeli settlement as a "very negative and regrettable shift in the American position."

"What the U.S. government has done after three years of unilateral moves and tremendous pressure on the Palestinians is ending its role as a peace mediator or reference," he said.

Xinhua



Former US secretary of state Henry Kissinger

US, China need to restrain trade conflict - Kissinger

THERE is a huge difference between the current US-China trade tussle and the Cold War confrontations, former US secretary of state Henry Kissinger said at a session at the New Economy Forum held in Beijing, where he expressed hopes for success in the China-US ongoing trade negotiations.

Compared with past conflicts the world witnessed, Kissinger said, "In our period, we do not yet have this degree of rivalry ... but we also don't have formal negotiations to reduce the political conflict."

"China is a major economic country, and so are we... and so we are bound to step on each other's toes," said the renowned US statesman, toning down concerns over the possibility of a trade-war-ignited cold war, or even a hot war.

"So a discussion of our mutual purposes and an attempt to limit the impact of conflict seems to me essential ... and if conflict is permitted to run unconstrained, the outcome could be even worse (than past conflicts)".

Kissinger flew covertly to Beijing in July 1971 and helped open up a new leaf in the China-US bilateral relationship based on engagement and cooperation.

China, by its sheer magnitude, is about to become a major factor in the international system, Kissinger said, casting his mind back to his original concept of the relationship between China and the US.

Kissinger also voiced hope for success in the ongoing trade talks between the two countries.

"Trade negotiations, which I hope will succeed and whose success I support, can only be a small beginning to a political discussion that I hope will take place by the year's end," he said.

The world's two largest economies have been locked in a trade war for 16 months. Despite substantial progress having been made in the latest round of trade talks in October, some still hold a cautious attitude toward whether the two could finally reach a substantial "phase-one deal".

Gao Feng, spokesperson for the Ministry of Commerce (MOFCOM), said at a regular press briefing on Thursday, November 21, that China and US trade negotiators will continue to maintain close communications.

"China is willing to make joint efforts with the US based on equivalence and mutual respect to properly handle each other's core concerns in an effort to achieve a phase-one trade deal," Gao said.

Henry Paulson, former US treasury secretary, said at the same forum that "it's a tough time in terms of the challenges we are facing in the global economy... and this forum is focused on the fastest-growing parts of the economy and the newest technologies."

Although traditional economic models have been challenged and can't work as well as they used to, "terrific opportunities" also exist along with the complex challenges, Paulson said.

Moves to undercut ties between the US and China would weaken the US' leadership and its leading role in the finance sector, according to Paulson.

In the first 10 months of this year, China's exports to the US stood at 2.39 trillion yuan (\$340 billion), sliding 6.8 percent, data from the General Administration of Customs showed.

Referring to the US, Wei Jianguo, former vice minister of commerce, said on Thursday that "unlike certain countries, China is not aggressive and doesn't put its interests ahead of other countries, because it doesn't conform to the current global development trend."

Referring to the US, Wei Jianguo, former vice minister of commerce, said on Thursday that "unlike certain countries, China is not aggressive and doesn't put its interests ahead of other countries, because it doesn't conform to the current global development trend."

Global Times

Denmark to provide 11 mln USD to strengthen EU action in Africa

COPENHAGEN

THE Danish government has pledged to provide 75 million Danish Kroner (around 11 million U.S. dollars) to strengthen European Union (EU) action in Africa, a press release from the Foreign Ministry has said.

The Danish contribution, according to the statement released on Monday, will be provided to the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) under the EU's External Investment Plan and will be used to promote growth and employment in Africa, as well as address climate challenges and migration.

"The Fund is a good tool in fighting the climate challenge, and thus also the root causes of migration," said Rasmus Prehn, Minister for Development Cooperation, in the press release.

In addition to the financial contribution to the EFSD, a Danish expert will also be seconded to assist the European Commission in implementing the External Investment Plan. The EFSD, established by the EU in 2017, is one of the EU financial instruments that promote a proactive development aid policy.

Xinhua

AN unprecedented amount of 69,550 unaccompanied migrant children were held in U.S. government custody between October 1, 2018 and September 30, 2019, up 42 percent year on year, according to data from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS).

Most of the migrant children in detention suffered from inhumane treatment, exposing America's flagrant disregard for the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) and willful violations of human rights.

November 20 of this year marks the 30th anniversary of the adoption of the UNCRC, the first legally binding international convention on protecting the rights of children.

Ironically, the U.S., which claims itself to be a defender of human rights, is the only country in the world that has not ratified the

treaty.

On June 2, 2018, an independent expert report on human rights and international solidarity, in accordance with the resolution 35/3 of the UN Human Rights Council, pointed out that the U.S., driven by populism, slandered and smeared the immigrants with racist and xenophobic expressions and forced apart the migrant children and their parents, seriously endangering the life, dignity, liberty and other human rights of immigrants.

The use of immigration detention and family separation as a deterrent runs counter to human rights standards and principles, according to Ravina Shamdasani, the spokesperson for the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, warning that the U.S. should immediately halt this practice of separating families.

The U.S., which flouts the UN-

US tramples on human rights at will

CRC, has kept a poor record on human rights for a long time. In April last year, the U.S. started to pursue a so-called "zero tolerance" immigration policy, causing at least 2,000 children to be separated from their parents.

As a grave violation of the human rights of the migrants, such practice was strongly condemned by the international community.

Between 2014 and 2018, a total of 4,556 sexual abuse complaints were reported to the Office of Refugee Resettlement—an agency within DHHS in charge of caring for unaccompanied migrant minors, 178 cases of which involved alleged sexual abuse by adult caregivers at U.S. facilities, according to DHHS documents released in February, 2019.

In June, 2019, an illegal child detention center in Texas, the U.S. invited criticism for its harsh conditions. For several weeks, the children there weren't able to take a shower or wash their hands with soap. They suffered from flu and other diseases and were treated inhumanely.

"So far this year, at least 35,000 asylum seekers have been pushed back to Mexican border areas to wait for their hearings," said Michelle Bachelet, the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights in September, adding that the cases of family separation, denial of access to services and humanitarian assistance, and excessive use of force against migrants are also noted.

To her astonishment, many children were detained in U.S. centers for a long time because of identity issues, which she believes seriously violated the human rights of the migrant children.

Protecting children's rights is protecting the future of human beings, said Audrey Azoulay, Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), at a conference that celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

When countries around the world are stepping up efforts to protect children's rights, the U.S. infringes on children's rights at will, which seems all the more despicable.

The U.S. is always making a

great fuss over human rights, pointing fingers at other countries and criticizing them for violations of human rights based on distorted facts. Never has it asked what contribution itself has made to the cause of human rights in the world.

On the one hand, the U.S. withdrew from the UN Human Rights Council, refused to participate in the UN Global Compact for Migration or ratify important human rights instruments in international law such as the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

It has not only evaded interna-

tional rules but also caused many tragedies such as the forced separation of migrant children from their parents.

On the other hand, under the guise of human rights, the U.S. tries to stir up troubles and sow discord in an attempt to interfere in other countries' internal affairs and create chaos in the international arena.

America's poor record on human rights revealed its hypocrisy and ruthlessness. For the U.S., the international law is nothing more than an excuse, a Russian lawmaker pointed out, adding that the international law is legitimate to them only when the U.S. intends to seize territories of other countries, overthrow other legitimate governments, or plunder other people's resources; otherwise, the country can abandon the international law at any time.

People's Daily

S. African govt urged not to extend another bailout to debt-ridden national carrier

CAPE TOWN

SOUTH Africa's opposition Democratic Alliance (DA) on Monday urged the government not to extend another bailout to debt-ridden South African Airways (SAA) hit hard by strikes.

The time has come for the government to "seriously consider" SAA's future as the airline has put South Africa's already "ailing economy under further distress," the DA said in a statement after SAA encountered another wave of strikes.

SAA lost over an estimated 50 million rands (about 3.4 million U.S. dollars) per day during the strikes.



The DA feared that taxpayers would be forced to pay the price for SAA's "dismal mismanagement" in the form of a bailout, said Ghaleb Cachalia, DA spokesperson on public enterprises.

"The DA is of the strong view that the airline must be placed under business rescue, in order to mitigate any

further loss of revenue and to ensure that the entity is stabilized," Cachalia (pictured) said.

Without business rescue, the only viable option would be the partial or full privatization of the national carrier, Cachalia added.

Cash-strapped SAA has relied on government bailouts for continued operation. Over the past 13 years, the flag carrier has incurred over 28 billion rands (about 1.9 billion U.S. dollars) in cumulative losses.

On Friday, the carrier reached an agreement with trade unions to end a seven-day strike, in exchange for a 5.9-percent pay rise for workers.

Xinhua



US Ambassador to China Terry Branstad

China summons US ambassador over Hong Kong-related bill

BEIJING

CHINESE Vice-Foreign Minister Zheng Zuguang on Monday summoned US Ambassador to China Terry Branstad to lodge stern representations and strong protest against the US House of Representatives and Senate's passage of the so-called Hong Kong Human Rights and Democracy Act of 2019.

China urges the United States to correct its mistake immediately, and stop meddling in Hong Kong affairs and China's other internal affairs, Zheng said.

China strongly urges the United States to correct its mistake immediately, and stop meddling in Hong Kong affairs and China's other internal affairs, Zheng said. Reiterating that Hong Kong is part of China and Hong Kong affairs are purely China's internal affairs, Zheng said the aforementioned act blatantly interferes in China's internal affairs. He accused the US Congress of neglecting facts and truth, conniving at and supporting anti-China rabble rousers' violent crimes.

"It is in serious violation of international law and basic norms governing international relations. China strongly condemns and firmly opposes it," said Zheng.

China has unwavering determination to safeguard national sovereignty, security and development interests, to implement the "one country, two systems" principle, and to oppose any external forces to interfere in Hong Kong affairs, he said.

"Any attempts to put Hong Kong in chaos and destroy Hong Kong's stability and prosperity are doomed to fail," said Zheng.

China strongly urges the United States to grasp the situation, immediately correct its mistake, prevent the act from becoming law and stop any words and deeds that interfere in Hong Kong affairs and China's other internal affairs, Zheng said.

"Otherwise, the United States has to bear all the consequences that arise," Zheng added.

Xinhua

Briton who drove truck in which 39 Vietnamese died admits plot

LONDON

A BRITISH man admitted on Monday plotting to assist unlawful immigration after 39 Vietnamese migrants were found dead in the back of a truck he was driving.

The driver, Maurice Robinson, also pleaded guilty to acquiring criminal property but was not asked to enter a plea on 41 other charges including 39 counts of manslaughter in a case which has shone a light on the illicit human smuggling trade.

Robinson, 25, from the British province of Northern Ireland, was addressing a London court hearing from prison a month after the 39 bodies were found in the truck on an industrial estate in Grays, about 32 km east of London.

Thirty-one of the victims were men or boys, and eight were women. The oldest was 44 and three were aged under 18, including two 15-year-old boys. Most were from Nghe An and Ha Tinh provinces in north-central Vietnam, where poor job prospects and other factors fuel migration.

Many impoverished people from Asia, the Middle East and Africa make perilous journeys to Western Europe



in hopes of a better life, often after paying huge sums to criminal gangs.

Prosecutor William Emlyn Jones told Monday's hearing at London's Old Bailey criminal court that it was likely to be a large and complex case.

Robinson admitted to having conspired with others between May 1, 2018, and Oct 24 this year to commit an offence of assisting unlawful immigration, and to acquiring cash which he knew or suspected came from

criminal conduct. No trial date was set, and Robinson is next due in court on Dec 13.

Another man from Northern Ireland, 23-year-old Christopher Kennedy, appeared at a separate hearing on Monday, charged with conspiring to arrange the travel of people with a view to their exploitation, and conspiracy to break immigration laws.

His case was also adjourned to the Old Bailey until Dec 13.

A third suspect, Eamon Harrison, 22, also from Northern Ireland, has also been charged with 39 counts of manslaughter and human trafficking and immigration offences. He was arrested in the Irish Republic and the British authorities have started proceedings to extradite him.

Police in Vietnam have arrested 10 people in connection with the deaths.

British police said late on Monday it made a further arrest in its probe.

A 36-year-old man was arrested in East London on "suspicion of manslaughter, conspiracy to traffic people and conspiracy to assist unlawful immigration" in connection with the death of the Vietnamese migrants, Essex Police said, adding he remains in custody for further questioning.

Agencies

Germany mulls general ban on smoking advertising

BERLIN

POLITICIANS of Germany's governing conservative union CDU/CSU have intensified calls for a general ban on advertising of smoking products.

"Whether filter or e-cigarette, products containing nicotine should not be allowed to be advertised. Neither in the cinema nor on posters," German minister for agriculture and food Julia Kloeckner said on Monday.

Kloeckner called for a ban on smoking advertisements in cinema show-

ings admissible for adolescents by 2021 and a ban on billboard advertising for nicotine products by 2022. However, a general advertising ban is also met with resistance within the governing parties. Joachim Pfeiffer, CDU/CSU economic policy spokesman, said that an advertising ban on tobacco products as well as e-cigarettes would be against the German constitution, adding that "tobacco advertising is already severely restricted."

The German Smoking Tobacco Association (VdR) emphasized that "economic advertising is protected by

freedom of expression," adding that a general ban on advertising in addition to the already "massively" intervening government would be a demand "unworthy of discussion." Germany is the only country in the European Union that still allows tobacco companies to advertise their products on posters and in cinemas despite having made a commitment to the World Health Organization (WHO) in 2005 to issue a "comprehensive ban on all forms of tobacco advertising" by 2010 at the latest.

Xinhua

Russia's new envoy to UK not ruling out tit-for-tat measures amid visa spat

LONDON

RUSSIA'S new Ambassador to the United Kingdom Andrei Kelin has not ruled out tit-for-tat measures against British journalists in response to London's failure to issue visas to Russian media representatives.

The diplomat, who started fulfilling his duties on November 22, told Russian reporters: "We will work to ensure that Russian journalists in the United Kingdom have normal work conditions and in the event of some steps, which we consider as unfair, we will take tit-for-tat measures



against British journalists in Moscow, including from leading media and information giants. We take this action in case with other countries and we will be doing so in regard to the UK."

The ambassador has described the current situation as outrageous. "No doubt, the situation with journalists is outrageous since Russian media representatives continue working in the UK in challenging conditions," he noted.

"This is linked to constant pressure exerted on them by local authorities." Lately, both RT TV channel and Sputnik news agency have come under pressure de-

spite working under British licence. The UK's media regulator Ofcom launched a case against RT, slapping a huge fine for allegedly breaching impartiality rules, which was deemed by a London court as unfair, Kelin said.

A source told TASS last week that the UK had failed to issue visas to some Russian journalists this year without explaining the reasons. The British diplomatic mission in Moscow declined to comment, saying that 99% of applicants in Russia received British visas between July 1, 2018, and June 30, 2019.

Agencies



Boston Celtics' Carsen Edwards has the ball knocked away from him by Sacramento Kings' Trevor Ariza during the second quarter of an NBA basketball game Monday, Nov. 25, 2019, in Boston. (AP Photo)

Celtics hold off Kings 103-102 despite Hield's 41 points

BOSTON

MARCUS Smart had the ball bounce right for him and the Boston Celtics this time.

Jaylen Brown scored 24 points, Jayson Tatum had 20 and the Celtics held off the Sacramento Kings 103-102 despite a career-high 41 points from Buddy Hield on Monday night.

Smart had 17 points, including two key baskets, and seven assists. Enes Kanter added 13 points and nine rebounds for the Celtics, who had lost the final two games of a 2-3 trip to the West.

Smart sandwiched his baskets around a 3-pointer by Bogdan Bogdanovic, the second a spinning shot with 31 seconds to go that pushed the Celtics ahead 103-102. The first bounced off the front of the rim and fell in – a similar look to one that went the other way as time expired when the teams met in Sacramento.

"Yeah, it was a good feeling," he said, smiling, of the friendly roll. "When I shot it, I saw it on the front of the rim again and I was like: 'Not again, I've got to get it this time.' It felt good to see the ball finally go in. It's just ironic it happened to bounce like that again this time."

In the team's first meeting on Nov. 17 – a 100-99 Kings victory that snapped Boston's 10-game winning streak – Smart drove and had his shot roll off the front as time expired.

Harrison Barnes added 20 points for the Kings, who had won seven of 10. Hield was 15 of 26 from the floor and went 11 for 21 on 3-point attempts.

"They're (defenders) locked into Buddy, and to win in this league it takes a team. So we're going to keep looking for him, but we need everyone to step up and make plays, and I thought we did it tonight," Kings coach Luke Walton said. "We didn't score the last one, but we gave ourselves a chance."

Boston picked up the victory despite missing three starters. Kemba Walker was sidelined with a neck strain after a scary collision with a teammate last week. Gordon Hayward has a fractured hand and Daniel Theis was sick.

"It's one game. We've just got to find ways to win. We'll welcome Kemba back when he's healthy. Let him rest up," Brown said. "We're just holding it down for him and Gordon until they make their return. It's great to find ways to win, even with injuries. We've got to continue to do that, and I'm looking forward to it."

Hield hit his 11th 3-pointer to cut Sacramento's deficit to 97-96. Brown countered with a short jumper in the lane before Cory Joseph tied it with a 3 in front of Boston's bench with 1:06 to play.

With Boston clinging to its 103-102 edge, Tatum airballed a long shot from the right corner, and Hield grabbed the rebound with 5.7 seconds left.

Bogdanovic's long jumper bounced off the rim, and the ball was tipped out of bounds in a battle for the rebound as the horn sounded.

Hield scored 21 points in the third quarter, going 8 for 11 from the floor, including 5 of 8 from beyond the arc, and the teams entered the fourth tied at 75. Brown had nine in the quarter.

"In the third quarter, I felt good," he said. "I just came in locked in. All it takes is one to go in, and it started trickling down the lineup."

But, at the start of the fourth, Hield headed to the locker room and a trainer was stretching both of Brown's legs while he was

on his back at the side of the bench.

Both returned midway into the final quarter.

Meanwhile, in Milwaukee, Giannis Antetokounmpo had one of the most dominant games of his career and the Milwaukee Bucks needed every bit of it.

Antetokounmpo scored a season-high 50 points and grabbed 14 rebounds for his 17th consecutive double-double to help the Bucks rally in the second half for their eighth straight victory, 122-118 over the Utah Jazz on Monday night.

"We threw everything at him. We threw everybody at him. We threw double-teams and he made plays out of the post," said Jazz guard Mike Conley. "He got to the free throw line. When he started making the long-range shot, that really makes it tough. I was proud of the way we defended. We tried rebounding and tried to box him out, and he was too tall, too long."

Milwaukee led 120-113 with 1:24 left, but Bojan Bogdanovic countered with a 3-pointer and Donovan Mitchell followed with a layup to make 120-118 with 43 seconds left. The Bucks missed on their next possession, but Brook Lopez blocked Mitchell's driving layup attempt with 4.4 seconds remaining.

Wesley Matthews added 19 points and Eric Bledsoe 13 for the Bucks, whose last loss was at Utah on Nov. 8.

Bogdanovic had 24 points and Mitchell 20 for the Jazz, who were 21 of 45 on 3-pointers.

Antetokounmpo's streak of double-doubles is the longest to begin a season since Bill Walton opened with 34 straight in 1976-77. Antetokounmpo, who had 32 points in the second half, played 38½ minutes and did not commit a turnover.

"I'm impressed, I'm not going to lie to you," said Antetokounmpo, the reigning MVP. "Great game and all that. My second 50-point game of my career. Doing it with zero turnovers and all that, that's great. I see that they made 21 3s, and as a team we were still able to be in the game and still win the game. At the end of the day, all that matters is a win."

Milwaukee trailed 57-48 at the half, going just 3 of 17 from 3-point range, but pulled even with a 10-0 run midway through the third quarter. Antetokounmpo's 3-pointer from the top of the key tied it at 74 with 5:28 left in the period.

"The third quarter stood out, where we played well on both ends," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said. "(We) had enough stops. More importantly, against a good team, we were able to make some shots. I was really pleased with the third quarter."

The Jazz used a 10-0 run early in the second quarter to go in front 35-25. Milwaukee missed seven consecutive shots during that span, including 0 for 5 from beyond the arc.

Utah was aided by a six-point swing midway through the second quarter. Bledsoe's short pull-up jumper from the right baseline was negated when he was called for an offensive foul for jumping back into Bogdanovic. The Bucks challenged, but the call was upheld, and Budenholzer then was called for a technical. Bogdanovic made the free throw and then drilled a 3-pointer on the ensuing possession to put Utah up 39-29.

"We pride ourselves on being a team that's going to play late (in the postseason)," Mitchell said. "But we've got to grind and get to that point. We could have got them tonight, but Giannis got 50. He's the MVP for a reason."

AP

Will Africa's Ballon D'or drought ever end?

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

AS the countdown to the 2019 FIFA Ballon d'or prize-giving ceremony continues, the debate over which internationally acclaimed star deserves to succeed playmaker Luka Modric as the globe's undisputed best player for this year has distinctly intensified a couple of notches as well.

Indeed, as ever, the 'usual suspects' such as the devastatingly deadly Cristiano Ronaldo and his longtime bête noire Lionel Messi, have found themselves on the shortlist for the coveted gong this time around too, following another customarily brilliant and outstanding year for both colossuses who bestride the global stage as the two most glittering stars of world football for many a year now.

Indeed, like them or loathe them, it is unquestionably true that Messi and 'CR 7' deserve to be lavished with praise as both football attackers par excellence continue to vie gamely for football's most exalted individual honors in spite of the generally acknowledged fact that both iconic football heroes are now firmly in the twilight of their peerless careers.

Now, since we are talking about matters Ballon d'or, that last point allows me to segue nicely into the subject of African representation on the shortlist for the FIFA Ballon d'or prize, an issue which shall constitute the main crux of this piece today.

Encouragingly, this year sees a bumper harvest of a quintet of magnificent African football players whose inclusion on the shortlist has raised hopes among some quarters on the continent that an immensely



Riyad Mahrez

classy African star could yet walk away with the FIFA Ballon d'or prize come December 2nd, 2019, which is D-Day for when all will be revealed.

Indeed, the quintet of the shortlisted, and prominent African exponents of football are as follows: the Gunners' attacking lynchpin, Pierre Emerick-Aubameyang, Manchester City's ever-threatening forward Riyad Mahrez, Koulibaly, the stellar defender who has carved out a name for himself in Serie A, the Home of Great Defenders, and lastly but definitely not the least, Liverpool's perennially dangerous attacking double-act of Sadio Mane and his 'partner in crime', Mohamed Salah.

It is disheartening to note, though, that the case for one of Messrs Salah, Mane, et al carting home the coveted FIFA Ballon d'or gong is

discouragingly not supported by history.

Indeed, there has only ever been one African winner of the enormously prized FIFA Ballon d'or accolade in the annals of the beautiful game and that winner was the Liberian football legend-turned-statesman, George Weah.

Doubtlessly, 1995 was a supremely glorious twelve-month time-span in which Weah, then a highly touted new AC Milan signing upended the established order of international football to win the CAF African Player of the Year award, the European Player of the Year crown and finally, the grandest individual honor of them all, the FIFA Ballon d'or prize to boot.

It was without question a staggering and unprecedented football achievement which

sealed Weah's pride of place in the pantheon of unforgettable African football greats.

Despite the magnitude of Weah's accomplishment in 1995, the million dollar question hovering in the air is: why has no other illustrious African football star ever won the FIFA Ballon d'or award since 1995 when Weah memorably broke new ground for continental football.

It is not as if there has been a dire shortage of prospective African candidates to win the FIFA Ballon d'or accolade since 1995 to the present-day.

One can rapidly recollect the now-retired Samuel Eto'o terrorizing La Liga defenses in his pomp and also the legendarily effective Ivorian marksman, Didier Drogba, who almost single-handedly helped Chelsea to win their first-ever UEFA Champions League trophy around the 2012-2013 season even to the extent of admirably converting the last spot-kick of a penalty shootout which handed victory and cup glory to the Blues.

This then returns us to the present moment where five African football players extraordinaire will be fervently hoping that the football gods will ultimately tilt the scales in their favour.

However, in the big picture, the powers-that-be in world football swiftly need to engage in a whole lot of soul-searching over whether there could be sinister reasons that could help to explain why to date George Weah remains the only African winner of the FIFA Ballon d'or award in the long and storied history of the august individual accolade itself.

Moroccan rapper gets year in prison for critical video

FES, Morocco

MOROCCAN rapper Gnawi knew the police would come when he and two friends released an unusually outspoken video exposing their country's problems with migration and drugs and expressing frustration with the king.

And sure enough, they did. Gnawi, a former military serviceman whose real name is Mohamed Mounir, was handed a one-year prison sentence Monday by a judge for insulting the police in a case that his supporters say is a backlash against growing public anger at authorities and over a lack of economic opportunity.

Moroccan authorities have said Gnawi's arrest was prompted by an earlier video in which he insulted the police, a crime punishable by up to two years in prison.

The video he released with rappers Lz3er and Weld L'Griya featured the song "3acha cha3b" ("Long Live the People"). Released Oct. 29, it immediately went viral, and now has more than 15.5 million hits on YouTube.

The five-minute video rages against the powers-that-be and criticizes the country's widening economic gap, a message aimed at the country's

disillusioned younger generation.

One passage of the song reflects on the Hirak protest movement in Morocco's impoverished Rif mountain region. Another section profiles a mother whose sons died attempting to migrate to Europe, while another paints a picture of a young generation ruined by hashish and hard drugs.

Most shockingly to many Moroccans, the song also directly criticizes Morocco's king and his adviser, a criminal offense.

"We didn't do this project to point fingers or create controversy," Lz3er told The Associated Press. "We voiced what the majority of Moroccans feel but fear to say ... and it naturally upset those who do not want change."

Morocco, a kingdom long known for its stability in the Arab world, adopted constitutional reforms in response to the 2011 Arab Spring protests against corruption and abuse of power and in favor of expanding free speech. But the country is still struggling with poverty, corruption and unemployment. Freedom of expression is guaranteed in the constitution, but with limits.

The 31-year-old Lz3er, whose real name is Yahya Smlali, said he was followed after the song's release and

that "All Morocco knows that Gnawi is arrested because of the '3acha cha3b' song."

Morocco's political rap is grounded in poetry and has a rhythm and meter distinct from American rap. The language's guttural syllables demand fury in delivery, and rap is a welcome outlet for political passions.

"All of us are in the 'see and be quiet' mode. But I do this because I don't want to see and be quiet. That's why people respond to my music," Lz3er said in an interview at his house in Fes. The city is prized by tourists for its beauty and royal sites; locals know it as Morocco's capital of crime.

Lz3er and Weld L'Griya grew up in a world of crime. Both school dropouts, they got their education on the streets from those who turned to prostitution for lack of other opportunity and from young men who slept on the street in cardboard boxes and turned to drugs as an escape.

"We are stuck in a caste system and our rap mirrors exactly that," Lz3er said.

But for government spokesman Hassan Abyaba, the rap song doesn't reflect Morocco's reality.

"Songs of all kinds must respect the citizens, the constancy of

the nation and the principles and values that are part of the Moroccans' education," he told a news conference last week.

The Minister of Human Rights, Mustapha Ramid, dubbed the song "provocative and offensive."

A small group of supporters gathered in front of Salé court to demand Gnawi's release.

"The state is always oppressing us," said protester Youssef Montaser. "The police don't guarantee our rights, they wrong us."

Politically engaged rappers are often arrested for "offenses that have nothing to do with music or their artistic production," said linguistics expert Zineb Harrouchi. Opposition rapper Mouad Belrhouate, better known as El 7aqed or "the resentful one," has been arrested three times for his music critical of Morocco's social ills and ruling elite.

A political refugee in Belgium since 2015, he told the AP: "Though I love my country very much, it suffocated me. I was always followed, watched. I felt in prison outside of prison, and yet I dream of the day I return to my neighborhood, my little bunker in my neighborhood in Casablanca."

AP



Amani Isaya from Arusha's Orkeswa Secondary School shows off a trophy the school's volleyball team won in the U-19 category of volleyball competition in the international schools' sports weekend in Moshi, Kilimanjaro yesterday. Orkeswa Secondary School became the shining stars taking home 15 trophies for different games that they participated in. PHOTO: GUARDIAN CORRESPONDENT

Achraf Hakimi: Dortmund's goal-scoring 'weapon' for under-fire Favre

DORTMUND, Germany

BORUSSIA Dortmund hope goal-scoring defender Achraf Hakimi will again be their Champions League "weapon" to shoot down Barcelona on Wednesday and relieve pressure on under-fire coach Lucien Favre.

With two group games left, a last 16 place is still firmly in the hands of the Germans, who sit a point behind pool leaders Barcelona, thanks to Hakimi's two goals in a stunning 3-2 home win over Inter Milan three weeks ago.

However, dreadful Bundesliga results in the meantime leave Favre needing a good performance in Barcelona to safeguard his job, putting the onus on Madrid-born Hakimi and his team-mates to turn things around at Barcelona's Camp Nou.

Hakimi, who joined on loan from Real Madrid in July 2018, has been a regular starter under Favre at Dortmund. He has scored nine goals and set up 10 more in 47 matches as either a full-back on either flank or even up front as a winger.

He has scored four of Dortmund's five Champions League goals, dazzling by scoring twice out of position on the left wing in October's 2-0 win at Slavia Prague, where club captain Marco Reus described him as "a weapon" in Dortmund's attacking armour.

"He's incredibly fast. From that point of view, he's always a weapon," said Reus.

Having proved his versatility in Prague, Hakimi celebrated his 21st birthday with another two goals - this time from full-back - in the come-back win over Inter as Dortmund came from two goals down.

"Hats off" - "Hakimi was everywhere," said Favre.

"Hats off to him: he scored twice, but the others fed (passes into him) well too."

Hakimi is relishing the freedom in the second of his two seasons on loan from Real, where he made barely a dozen appearances.

"Sometimes you have to have experiences like this to get where you want to be," he told Spanish newspa-

per AS.

"That meant coming to Germany and I have to say it's been great.

"I'm a better player and am getting regular football.

"That confidence is what allows you to express yourself and play with freedom. I'm now a different Achraf."

The Morocco international is at his best using his pace and strength to power through defenders.

Much like the team around him, Hakimi has creased to smooth in his defensive game. He is too often caught out of position when opponents counter attack.

Since the high of the home win over Inter, the wheels have threatened to come off Dortmund's season. - Impact off bench -

A 4-0 thrashing at Bayern Munich a fortnight ago was followed by a woeful display last Friday at home to Bundesliga bottom side Paderborn, as Dortmund had to come from three goals down to salvage a 3-3 draw.

"We go to Barcelona with Lucien Favre and expect a much better performance," sports director Michael Zorc said tersely on Saturday.

The Dortmund squad were jeered and whistled, amid cries of "shame on you!" at Sunday's annual general meeting.

With Dortmund trailing 3-0 at home, Hakimi was one of Favre's three half-time changes against Paderborn.

He made an immediate impact by setting up England winger Jadon Sancho, who pulled one back before further goals by Axel Witsel, then Reus just before the final whistle, salvaged a point.

An ashen-face Reus apologised to Dortmund fans for a "shit" performance and at Sunday's AGM, club CEO Hans-Joachim Watzke quoted Martin Luther to urge the glum-faced squad to buck up their ideas.

"As even Luther said, 'no happy fart can come out of a despondent backside' - that should be the motto for the upcoming games," said Watzke.

Now it's up to Hakimi and his team-mates to bring a breath of fresh air in Barcelona to Dortmund's stale season.

AFP

Balotelli targeted with more racism - by his club president

MILAN

MARIO Balotelli was the subject of a racist remark by the president of his club on Monday in the latest discriminatory incident of a Serie A season marred by derogatory chants and other offensive behavior.

Balotelli has struggled since returning to the Italian league with Brescia, his hometown club, and was dropped from the weekend's match following a dispute with coach Fabio Grosso.

Asked about Balotelli before a league meeting on Monday, Brescia president Massimo Cellino said: "He's black, what can I say, he's working on clearing himself but he's having a lot of difficulty."

Brescia later attempted to downplay Cellino's comment, saying in a statement that it was merely "a quip" that was "clearly misunderstood." The club added that Cellino was "attempting to downplay the excessive media coverage by protecting (Balotelli)."

Upon exiting the league meeting, Cel-

lino added, "Who's calling me a racist? ... I don't have to excuse myself from something that I don't believe in."

Balotelli experienced racism at the beginning of his career in Italy, where he rose to prominence with Inter Milan, and he was also the target of racist chants this month during a match at Hellas Verona.

The game in Verona was suspended for several minutes and Balotelli threatened to leave the field after angrily kicking a ball into the stands.

Derogatory chants have also been aimed at Romelu Lukaku, Franck Kessie, Dalbert Henrique, Miralem Pjanic, Ronaldo Vieira and Kalidou Koulibaly in Serie A. All the players targeted - except for Pjanic, who is Bosnian - are black.

Balotelli rejoined Serie A after three years in the French league. With two goals in seven matches, Balotelli has not been able to help Brescia climb out of last place.

AP

Messi and Ronaldo are 'monsters', says Dybala

TURIN, Italy

LIONEL Messi and Cristiano Ronaldo are "monsters" who are convinced they are the best player on the pitch in every game, according to Argentina and Juventus forward Paulo Dybala.

The duo are among the greatest players of all time and have won a combined 10 Ballon d'Or trophies since 2008.

Dybala has played alongside Ronaldo at Serie A champions Juve since the Portugal international's move from Real Madrid ahead of the 2018-19 campaign and has teamed up with Barcelona superstar Messi for Argentina over the last four years.

Having seen both players at close quarters, the 26-year-old believes they share a lot of similarities.

"Outside the pitch they are two very quiet people, but inside they are two monsters," he told Spanish newspaper El Pais.

"I heard Luis Scola [Argentinian basketball player] said both Leo and Cristiano enter the field convinced that they are the best and that is why they are the best. And I am sure that is so.

"My friends used to tell me: 'You have the best in the national team and now they bring you the best one at your club'. I replied: 'It is an advantage for me.'"

"I can study them every day. Who doesn't want to play with the best? We are talking about two phenomenal players; two players who are one or two steps above the rest.

"They are at the top on a football level and also at a mental level. It is not easy to keep going and score 40 goals every year. It is crazy.

"In the history of football, great players have played at great teams and have not achieved what they did. They have been good for each other."

(Agencies)

Ancelotti's future in spotlight as troubled Napoli visit Liverpool

MILAN

NAPOLI head for Liverpool on Wednesday for a Champions League clash which could prove crucial to coach Carlo Ancelotti's future at the troubled Italian club.

The three-time Champions League winning coach's second season at the Stadio San Paolo has proved to be a complicated one, after leading them to second in Serie A in his first year.

His team's fortunes have waned after the high of opening their Champions League campaign with a 2-0 win over reigning European champions Liverpool, with dressing room unrest amid friction between the players and club management.

Napoli president Aurelio De Laurentiis ordered the team to be confined to a week-long training camp earlier this month after a 2-1 league defeat to rivals Roma saw them slip to seventh in Serie A.

But as Ancelotti voiced his disagreement with the lockdown, the players all returned home after a 1-1 draw against Salzburg three days later, which stalled their bid to reach the Champions League last 16.

"The relationship between the president and I is excellent and nothing changes," Ancelotti had insisted, after saying he disagreed with the 'ritiro' or training camp.

Film mogul De Laurentiis threatened to sell the entire squad and take legal action against the players after the dressing room revolt.

And the sanctions began to fall this week amid reports Monday the players would receive hefty fines for breaking the lockdown.

Gazzetta Dello Sport reported that players' salaries for the month of November - apart from those out injured at the time - will be cut by a quarter.

Brazilian Allan, who had an argument with Edoardo De Laurentiis, son of the Napoli president, will see his salary slashed by half, or 200,000 euros (\$220,000).

In total, players' salaries will be cut by 2.5 million



Carlo Ancelotti

euros (\$2.7 million).

- Media blackout -

The club have also imposed a media silence with Ancelotti and the players refusing to speak after Saturday's 1-1 draw against AC Milan extended their winless run to six games in all competitions, and left them 15 points behind Serie A leaders Juventus, out of the European places.

However, under UEFA rules Ancelotti will be obliged to speak during a news conference at Anfield on the eve of the match,

with Napoli confirming that he will be present. "We are not satisfied with the performance and the ranking, but it is also true that we deserved more points and more luck in various games," Ancelotti said earlier this month.

"The situation must be considered with a cool head."

Ex-Juventus coach Massimiliano Allegri, meanwhile, was seen in the stands at San Siro on Saturday, fuelling speculation he could be waiting in the wings.

Time for Arsenal to sack Emery and follow Tottenham's lead

By Mark Ogden, Senior Writer, ESPN FC

If any under-pressure manager could have brushed off the sacking of Mauricio Pochettino at Tottenham as posing no threat to his own position, Arsenal's Unai Emery was probably the one feeling least concerned by the prospect of the Argentine taking his job.

Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, Zinedine Zidane and Thomas Tuchel will all have to accept the reality of Pochettino's name being mentioned in relation to their own jobs at Manchester United, Real Madrid and Paris Saint-Germain respectively every time their team suffers a setback, but it is virtually impossible to imagine Pochettino being lined up by Arsenal to replace the struggling Emery.

Terry Neill left Spurs to take charge of Arsenal in 1976, while George Graham managed Tottenham for 2½ years at the end of the 1990s having guided Arsenal to league titles in 1989 and 1991 but, such is the antipathy between the two North London rivals, Pochettino to Arsenal belongs in the realms of fantasy.

But right now, Arsenal don't appear to be a club blessed with the audacity, vision or self-confidence to turn the football world upside down by taking advantage of Pochettino's availability. Some clubs and owners think big and bold, but Emery's appointment as Arsene Wenger's successor in 2018 tells you everything you need to know about the safe and conservative approach adopted by the Gunners under the ownership of Stan Kroenke.

Emery was lucky to land one of the biggest jobs in the game when he took charge of Arsenal last year. His success in winning three Europa Leagues with Sevilla was rewarded with the Paris Saint-Germain job in 2016 but, having failed to deliver any kind of upward momentum at the Parc des Princes, his exit at the end of the 2017-18 season was as a coach who left little or no mark on the club where he had spent two years in charge.

The same is happening at Arsenal where, if you had just come back from an 18-month holiday without access to news or social media, you would see virtually no difference from the club he inherited from Wenger. Arsenal continue to be breathtaking to watch going forward when it all clicks, but they still can't defend, are a soft touch away from home and the midfield remains as devoid of top quality as it has been for almost a decade.

Emery has also been unimpressive in his dealings with Mesut Ozil and Granit Xhaka. With Ozil, he reluctantly handed the German midfielder a first-team reprieve at the end of October having overlooked him for all but two games in the opening 10 weeks of the season. And having allowed the players to decide between themselves that Xhaka should become captain in the summer, rather than make the decision himself, Emery then appeared to dance to the tune of the club's supporters by dropping the midfielder and stripping him of the captaincy following his reaction to being booed by the fans during the 2-2 draw at home to Crystal Palace last month. Xhaka has not played since and Arsenal's winless run in the Premier League now stretches back to Oct. 6.

Wherever you look, there are only negatives where Emery is concerned, which is perhaps why the Arsenal board took the unusual step earlier this month of issuing their public backing, alongside a demand for improved results, due to the growing tension around the Emirates. Yet while Emery may be immune from



Unai Emery

Pochettino's sacking to a large extent, how Arsenal react to events at Spurs will give a clear indication as to where they see themselves heading as a club.

In many ways, Tottenham's decision to sack the manager who took them to the Champions League final last season has upped the ante on Arsenal. Until recently, Arsenal were the big, ambitious powerhouse in North London, but they have been overtaken on and off the pitch by Spurs.

To take such a ruthless decision as sacking

Pochettino tells you that Spurs will not settle for their current state of affairs. Appointing Jose Mourinho as Pochettino's successor underlines the determination to win big at Tottenham. Arsenal, on the other hand, seem to be drifting along with no obvious sense of where they want to be.

Yet if the Arsenal hierarchy want to be the major force in London again, perhaps they have to take a leaf out of Tottenham's book by refusing to settle for stagnation. They currently sit one point, and two places, above

Spurs in the Premier League table, but few would argue that Arsenal look to be a better long-term bet than their local rivals. And if Emery was being judged by the same standards as Pochettino was at Tottenham, he would probably no longer be in a job.

With a trip to Norwich, a home game against Brighton and a London derby at West Ham next up for Emery's team, anything less than six points will only increase the pressure on the Arsenal board to be as demanding as Tottenham's.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

**Anceletti's future in spotlight
as troubled Napoli visit Liverpool**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Kenya's senior women football team, Harambee Starlets, celebrate with a trophy after the completion of this year's Senior Women Challenge Cup, which climaxed in Dar es Salaam on Monday. Harambee Starlets emerged as champions, cruising to 2-0 victory over Mainland Tanzania women team, Kilimanjaro Queens, in the final of the competition, which is organized by Council of East and Central Africa Football Associations (CECAFA). PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Seychelles name final squad for COSAFA U-20 Championships

JOHANNESBURG

SEYCHELLES' national U-20 soccer team's head coach, Cliff Nolin, has named his squad for the 2019 COSAFA Men's U-20 Championships to be staged in Lusaka, Zambia from December 4-14.

The islanders are hoping to make a big impression at the tournament to signal their potential form the future, with Nolin picking a selection he believes can take them far in the competition.

Seychelles have been drawn in Group C and open their campaign against the Angola on December 4, which is also the first match in the tournament.

Their second match is against Eswatini four days later, before they round out their pool play against Mozambique on December 9.

Only the top team in each pool advances to the semi-finals, along with the best-placed runners-up.

Seychelles skipped the last two Under-20 tournaments so are appearing for the first time since 2016.

Their first appearance in the COSAFA Men's Under-20 Championships came all the way back in 2000 when losses to Zambia (0-3) and Namibia (1-3) saw them ousted in the opening round.

They returned in 2004, but three heavy losses meant a first-round exit, while the following year they lost all four games in a five-team group.

Three more defeats followed in 2007, but the next year they claimed a first ever win with a 4-2 success over Namibia.

That proved a brief glimmer of hope as they side lost both matches in a shortened pool in 2011, and all three matches in 2013 and 2016.

Seychelles squad:

Basset Mathiew, Mollie Brandon, Pauline Rino, Havelock Hedley, Mathiot Junihno, Motte Dean, Radeconde Harim, Samira Daniel, Camille Thiery, Esther Stan, Pleureuse Gino, Franchette Brandon, Jupiter Dylan, Riaz Justin, Henriette Ryan, Udylan Joubert, Warren Jeanne, Kelvin Cupidon, Kelsun Brutus, Josip Ravignia.



Sadney Urikhob. PHOTO: COURTESY OF YANGA

Yanga deny Sadney Urikhob's absence

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

REPORTS that Young Africans (Yanga) strikers, Sadney Urikhob, has refused to turn up to work and has gone AWOL have been dismissed by the Vodacom Premier League club.

Sadney's absence from Yanga's recent matches relates to lack of match fitness and is not either a breach of discipline or payment related issue, the Jangwani Street club have confirmed.

Various reports emerged claiming the Namibian striker had failed to show up for team trainings in a bid to force through a move away from the club in December due to frustration at not being played in recent matches.

Urikhob last played for Yanga in a Vodacom Premier League match against Mbao FC in Mwanza last month.

Yanga edged Mbao FC 1-0, with Urikhob netting the all-important goal for

the domestic soccer big guns.

He started both matches against Egypt's Pyramids FC in the CAF Confederation Cup Group Stage playoffs and has since missed two league matches.

However, Yanga information officer, Hassan Bumbuli, has explained the striker has been training with the club and his playing time is a matter of the technical bench decision.

"Sadney is with us, you can even see him in the latest training photo in our social media updates," Bumbuli noted.

"He was part of the travelling squad in Mtwara but was not selected in the match day squad due to lack of match fitness. When we returned from Mtwara, he played in the friendly match against Coastal Union during the international break."

"He did not play against JKT Tanzania because the coach thought he is not yet ready in terms of fitness."

"People are questioning his absence because he has not played in recent matches but there is no truth in the AWOL reports. He is with team and took part in yesterday's training session," continued Bumbuli.

Urikhob, who appears to have nomad career that has seen him play in Namibia, South Africa, Thailand, Indonesia and now in Tanzania, has played eight matches since his transfer to Yanga in July and scored two goals so far.

Yanga returned to training on Sunday to prepare for Friday's Vodacom Premier League game against Alliance FC in Mwanza.

Mkwasa had the opportunity to work with squad players, whilst five from Zanzibar, who had earlier gone to Zanzibar Heroes' camp, are expected to report today.

Striker Juma Mahadhi and fullback Paul Godfrey did not participate in the training due to injury.

AT, NSC set to meet domestic races organizers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

ATHLETICS Tanzania (AT) and National Sports Council (NSC) are set to host a meeting with domestic races' organizers at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam on Friday.

Tullo Chambo, AT information officer, said the meeting is aimed at finding ways to improve race events in the country and solve challenges which have been occurring during races.

He said there are many challenges which occur during races hence AT and NSC have sought to host the meeting to face them.

"Of late there have been a lot of challenges which happen during races, AT and the National Sports Council thought it wise to have a talk with races organizers to see on how we can tackle the challenges and improve race events in the country," he said.

Chambo also said AT will as well use the meeting to come up with a calendar of race events for next year.

He called upon all races organizers and athletics stakeholders to attend the meeting which he described as very important to the growth of the sport in the country.

The meeting has come at a good time as in recent past there have been cases of athletes, who emerged as winners in their categories, not getting their cash prizes from races organizers.

Notable races in the country include Rocky City Marathon, Kilimanjaro Marathon, Dar Rotary Marathon, Heart Half Marathon, Kilimanjaro Stage Run Marathon, Ngorongoro Half Marathon and others.

England's Root won't blame batting woes on captaincy

LONDON

JOE Root says it would be easy to use the England captaincy as an excuse for his batting woes but the 28-year-old is confident he can get things back on track by continuing to work hard.

Root underwhelmed with the bat in England's defeat by New Zealand in the first test at Mount Maunganui on Monday, scoring two runs in the first innings and 11 in the second as the tourists were trounced by an innings and 65 runs.

Root, who was named full-time test captain in 2017 and averages 47.35 in tests, scored the last of his 16 centuries in the longest format against West Indies in February.

"I've had a rough time in terms of scores," Root told reporters. "I'm working hard. You have to go through a bit of a dip. The fact I'm captain, it's an easy excuse to use."

"I'm going to have to keep trusting my game ... I must not overthink things and just try to find that rhythm which allows me to get my innings off and running."

Root had said before the start of the New Zealand series that England's batsmen would try to be more patient and stay at the crease longer. While that approach did not pay off at Bay Oval he said it would take time

Flexibles by David Chikoko



EATV **DADAZ** **TODAY @11:00**

WEDNESDAY DADAZ

10:59 Jikani Na Jane
11:00 DADAZ (live)
15:00 FUNGUKA
16:30 #HASHTAG
17:00 SSELECT
17:55 Kurova
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:30 MUADALA
20:00 EPL REVIEW
21:30 Mid Week Movie

DADAZ This daytime talk show gives women a platform to discuss social and political issues that affect our society from a feminine perspective.

east africa RADIO

05:00 EA Breakfast
09:00 Supamix
12:00 Kipenga Xtra
13:00 Planet Bongo
16:00 EA Drive
20:00 Kipenga
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM DAR ES SALAAM