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TANZANIA

WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH, 2020

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## Eleven youths in custody over 'impersonation, cyber offences'

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

POLICE in Mbeya region are holding 11 people for allegedly using names of several celebrities and a District Commissioner to defraud unsuspecting citizens.

Regional Police Commander (RPC) Ulrich Matei told reporters here yesterday that the suspects aged between 20 and 25 opened and operated social media accounts using other people's names and used the same to post non-existent youth empowerment projects and low interest loans.

According to the RPC, the suspects—including two simcards registration agents—then asked their victims to send between 20,000 and 30,000 in registration fees "which many people did."

He named the suspects as Alfred Kidunga, George Engeja, Eliud Mahenge, Philipo Alananga, Gasto Sanga, John Michael, Emily Kaleba, Daud Sanga, Junior

**The suspects were arrested on February 21 and 22 and all pleaded guilty during interrogation**

Kawanga, Kasto Tweve, and Alfa Kayoka all of them residents of Mbalizi town.

Commander Matei said that the youths opened social media accounts with names of celebrities like Kisarawe District Commissioner Jokate Mwegelo, Wema Sepetu, Jackie Wolper, Aunt Ezekiel and Kajala Masanja.

"The accounts were advertising that the leaders and celebrities offer soft loans, help young people to get employment as well as connecting up-coming artists to big opportunities - which was not true," he said.

The suspects were arrested on February 21 and 22 and all pleaded guilty during interrogation.

"We also found the agents who were selling the sim-cards with an amount 600,000/- collected from the illegal business," he stated.

He urged people who are in any way

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**TAKING NO CHANCES...** President John Magufuli welcomes the Chief Advisor of the opposition Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo), Maalim Seif Shariff Hamad (L), to State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday - in unique style, considering the global threat of coronavirus. The president also similarly hosted NCCR-Mageuzi national chairman James Mbatia and his Civic United Front counterpart, Prof Ibrahim Lipumba. Photo: State House.

## Rains damage highway, cut capital city from Morogoro

By Guardian Correspondent,

Mbeya

THOUSANDS of people seeking to reach Dodoma from Morogoro must go all the way to Iringa after a downpour swept away a section of the road connecting the municipality and the capital.

A statement released yesterday by the Tanzania National Roads Agency (Tanroads) said that the damaged section starts

**Morogoro Regional Commissioner Loata ole Sanare said extensive damage occurred on Monday evening as heavy rainfall pounded the region**

at Kiyegeya (also known as Magubike) in Kilosa District, Morogoro Region.

"Due to the damage, Tanroads wishes to advise travellers to use the Morogoro-Iringa-Dodoma route as repair works continue," reads the statement.

Business travellers and public servants face a major hassle since movement between Dar es Salaam and Dodoma via Morogoro has increased in the recent past as the government started shifting to the

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## Minister wants list of fast growing trees for charcoal

By Guardian Reporter, Morogoro

A STUDY on short duration trees to be used in making charcoal has been directed by the Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Dr Hamisi Kigwangalla, upon the Tanzania Forestry Research Institute (TAFORI).

Speaking during the launch of the TAFORI board of directors here, Dr Kigwangalla (pictured) said that excessive use of charcoal has highly affected the



country's indigenous forests and

nature.

This comes as a shift from the sustained call by national leaders for the public to shift from charcoal—known for fuelling deforestation—to clean sources of energy such as gas.

The minister said that most forests have been decimated by, among others, the high demand for charcoal, and this situation puts some tree species on the verge of extinction.

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# Chadema reserved on JPM talks with leaders of 3 other opposition parties

By Guardian Reporter

THE main opposition party, Chadema, yesterday declined to say whether they were invited to a meeting with President John Magufuli or not as representatives from three other parties met the Head of State.

Asked by this paper if the party received an invitation from State House or not, Secretary General John Mnyika was unwilling to speak on the subject.

"I do not wish to comment on the matter at this moment," he said.

**Mbatia called upon all politicians in the country to work for the interest of the country**

The need for clarification arose from reports that President John Magufuli yesterday held separate discussions with three opposition leaders.

Their discussions were meant to explore matters relating to peace and security in the country, on the basis

of a statement issued by the Directorate of Presidential Communications at the State House.

The statement said the president conferred with ACT-Wazalendo second ranking leader Seif Shariff Hamad, CUF national chairman Prof Ibrahim Lipumba and NCCR-Mageuzi national chairman James Mbatia.

"After the meeting, Hamad said he and the president talked about how to maintain peace and security for the good of all

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## Minister wants list of fast-growing trees for charcoal

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charcoal demand have left the land empty...People are fond of cutting down natural forests without replanting them. It is now your obligation, you the researchers now need to come up with alternative ways to serve the population by coming up with rapidly growing trees for charcoal burning," he said.

He said that Tanzania has been blessed with plenty of resources including forests that cover 48.1 million hectares, equivalent to 55 percent of the country's land surface.

A forest reserves inventory, the National Forestry Resources Monitoring and Assessment (Naforma), indicates that deforestation in Tanzania is high whereas 372,000 to 582,000 hectares of forests is lost annually on average.

The primary drivers of forest loss include cropland expansion, charcoal making, firewood harvesting, clearing for pasture and urban expansion, it asserts.

Dr Kingwagalla urged the public to build the culture of using research findings for sustainable utilization of forest resources.

"Natural and indigenous forests are the major sources of quality timber, as 98 percent of hard wood come

from the forests. So we need to ensure that they are well protected to benefit present and future generations," he said.

He further directed the board to continue improving laboratories to ensure that more researches are conducted and produce solutions to existing problems.

Earlier, Tafari board chairman Dr Felician Kilahama said that the institution has recorded a number of successes in the past ten years, and intends to continue investing efforts to ensure that more solution-based researches are conducted to save the country's forests.

He urged the minister to work on Tafari's outstanding request of being assigned a director general as it has been operating on a virtual caretaker basis since 2012.

"We are facing staff shortage. Our call is for the government to hire more experts and researchers in the area of forest and bee development," he specified.

Indigenous forests are absolutely essential in treating various human ailments, through the use of their barks, roots and leaves. This cushions treatment costs for the poor particularly those in the rural areas, he added.



President John Magufuli and NCCR-Mageuzi national chairman James Mbatia (L) pictured at State House in Dar es Salaam yesterday exchanging greetings in style, chiefly as a precaution in the wake of coronavirus outbreaks in various parts of the world. Photo: State House

## Rains damage highway, cut capital city from Morogoro

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emerging capital.

"Tanroads regrets the inconvenience caused as we do everything possible so that transportation can resume," it said.

Morogoro Regional Commissioner Loata ole Sanare said extensive damage occurred on Monday evening as heavy rain-

fall pounded the region.

The heavy rains from mountains in the region and neighbouring Iringa cause strong floods that destroy infrastructure in Morogoro each rainy season.

Last November, the government appealed to the African Development Bank (AfDB) for a soft

loan for the construction of a 224-km four-lane highway from Dodoma to Morogoro Municipality.

The Minister for Finance and Planning Dr Philip Mpango made the appeal during talks with the AfDB Executive Director for the East African region, Amos Cheptoo, in Dodoma.

Since Dodoma was

now the country's formal capital, it deserved to have a reliable road network with minimal danger of road collisions, Treasury had stated at the time.

The Morogoro-Dodoma road is important because it connects the commercial capital, Dar es Salaam, also the main port, with landlocked

countries farther inland.

Traffic volumes on the existing Dar es Salaam - Morogoro road currently exceed the road's design capacity, resulting in severe congestion. Associated long travel times and road safety issues further hamper socio-economic development in the

central corridor.

The upgrade works on the 270-kilometre stretch involves transforming it to a four-lane highway between Dar es Salaam and Morogoro, itself part of the central corridor project linking Dar es Salaam, Kigali, Bujumbura and Kampala, as well as a number of bridges.



National Economic Empowerment Council (NEEC) executive secretary Dr Beng'i Issa (C) displays a copy of a training manual in Moshi municipality on Monday after launching a Probono Entrepreneurship Programme meant to arm secondary school students and teachers with entrepreneurship skills. She is with Action for Justice in Society executive Director Virginia Silayo (L) and Probono Country Director Eliet Senkoro. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Chadema reserved on JPM talks with leaders of other opposition parties

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Tanzanians," the statement noted.

The former CUF secretary general, who has joined the Zitto Kabwe-led party, expressed his appreciation for the president's effort to meet and discuss issues of national interest with leaders from various sections of the society.

"Prof Lipumba said he commended President Magufuli for his recent promise that this year's General Election will be free and fair," the State House similarly af-

firmed.

Prof Lipumba used the occasion to call on Tanzanians to be patriotic and uphold good governance, intoning that his party was ready to take part in the October polls, it further stated.

For his part, Mbatia who is Vunjo MP said he was impressed by the pledge by the president that the country will hold free and fair elections, it elaborated.

"Mbatia called upon political leaders to work for the good of the country as opposed to private interests," the State House statement emphasized.

Earlier this year, President Magufuli assured foreign envoys that the next general election will be peaceful, free, fair and transparent, affirming that the government will facilitate international agencies and observers to come and monitor the polls procedure.

The notable omission from the list of leaders who met the president was Chadema national chairman Freeman Mbowe, as neither himself nor any close associate was present for the discussions.

Chadema withdrew from nationwide civic elections held late November in protest against the

muzzling of competitive politics countrywide.

Mbowe had assured the country three weeks earlier that his party would not boycott the civic polls even with challenges associated with the process.

But the party leadership made a U-turn and withdrew after its candidates confronted massive impediments while pursuing nominations of candidates for the civic polls.

A massive lockout of opposition candidates across the country saw many ruling party candidates sail through unopposed.

## Eleven youths in custody over 'impersonation, cyber fraud'

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being affected by cyber frauds to report such incidents to the police for investigation.

For his part, Mbeya regional cyber fraud

investigator Ally Challu said that the suspects were also using female sounds to conduct their criminal pursuits.

"Our call to the public is to be careful when registering sim-cards to avoid

their National ID numbers being used to register other people. Sometimes the agents claim network problems and thus compel customers to repeat the confirmation exercise," he added.

## Tea prospects look favourable for 2020

KIGALI

After three years of grappling with declining prices on international market

and low productivity due to unfavourable weather conditions, tea businesses could see a rebound in 2020.

The average price of Rwanda tea reduced from \$3.21 per kilogramme in 2017 to \$2.93 a kilogramme in 2018, before further dropping to \$2.79 per kilo in 2019 on the international market.

The drop in international market prices between 2018 and 2019 saw tea exports revenue decrease by almost 5 per cent from \$90.4 million in 2018 to \$86.3 million in 2019.

Surrender Jhijaria, the senior manager at Pfunda Tea Company in Western Province, told Doing Business last week that over the last three years, companies like his grappled with low production owing to unstable weather conditions.

"The last two to three years the weather has been erratic, and that has led to production going down a little bit," he said during an interview last week in Rubavu district.

Pfunda tea factory is one of the oldest tea factories having begun its operations in 1965.

The average price of Rwanda tea reduced from \$3.21 per kilogramme in 2017 to \$2.93 a kilogramme in 2018, before further dropping to \$2.79 per kilo in 2019 on the international market. File.

According to Jhijaria, their production has reduced for the past three years at the rate of between 1 per cent and 2 per cent, but they say they expect the production to go up this year.

"We expect to make some 2.6 million kilogrammes this year from 2.5 million that we made last year," he said, adding that they have a potential of making 4 million kilogrammes per annum in the medium term. Thushara Pindiya, the Director of Nyabihu Tea Factory which owns a 1,043.54-ha tea estate in the Western Province, told Business Times that they have also experienced the effects of the reduced prices.

"However, we are optimistic that this year we could get some good productivity if weather is fa-

avourable," he noted.

Last year, the company sold 1.5 million kilos of tea with Pindiya saying that they anticipate to sell 1.8 million kilos and 2 million kilos this year and 2020, respectively.

Rwanda projects to generate \$102 million (about Rwf95.7 billion) from tea exports in the 2019/2020 financial year, up from \$83 million (about Rwf78 billion) it earned in the previous year, according to the National Agriculture Export Board (NAEB).

For that to be realised, farmers suggest getting more incentives to deal with weather conditions and acquiring fertiliser at affordable rates.

"The biggest challenge we are facing is unpredictable weather conditions. In 2018, we lost 40 hectares of our plantations because of a flood that was caused by Sebeya River," Jonathan Nsengimana, one of the local farmers told this paper.

At the same time, he added, fertilizer is expensive.

Nsengimana is a financial manager of one of the largest farmer cooperatives in the Western Province.





Zlatan Milišić (L), the newly arrived UN Resident Coordinator in Tanzania, presents his credentials to Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation minister Prof Palamagamba Kabudi in Dar es Salaam yesterday.. Photo: Foreign Affairs ministry

By Guardian Reporter

THE new United Nations resident coordinator in Tanzania, Zlatan Milišić, yesterday presented his credentials to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Prof Palamagamba Kabudi

Milišić assumed the position early last month after having spent 27 years with the UN. He is the representative of the UN Secretary-General in Tanzania and is responsible for coordinating the work of the UN Tanzania Country Team which consists of 23 UN agencies.

Milišić is the leader of the United Nations Country Management Team which consists of heads and representatives of all 23 UN agencies operating in Tanzania whereby he oversees the design and delivery of the UN Development Assistance Plan (UNDAP II) 2016-2021.

Developed in partnership with the government of Tanzania, UNDAP II is the UN's key instrument to respond to Tanzania's national development priorities and to support

## New UN resident coordinator presents credentials

the country's attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the Africa Agenda 2063.

A statement released yesterday by the UN Information Centre in Dar es Salaam said prior to his appointment in Tanzania, Milišić was the Representative and Country Director of the World Food Programme (WFP) in Afghanistan where he led implementation of WFP's consolidated Country Strategic Plan, oversaw the UN Humanitarian Air Service and coordinated the food security and agriculture cluster.

"His responsibilities in Afghanistan all aimed to save lives and protect livelihoods and health of populations affected by conflict and recurring natural disasters, to facilitate broader humanitarian access and activities in the country, linking them to sustainable development," reads the statement.

Before that, he held various leadership and technical positions with WFP, including Deputy Director in WFP's Policy and Programme Division (2013-2018); Country Director in Mali (2012-2013) and Libya (2011-2012); Deputy Regional Director for the North Africa, Middle East and Central Asia (2009-2011); Representative/Country Director in Tajikistan and Kyrgyzstan (2007-2009); Emergency Coordinator in Lebanon (2006); Representative/Country Director in Somalia (2005-2006) and Burundi (2003-2005); Chief of Interagency Affairs Branch (2003) and Emergency Programme Adviser in Rome HQ (2000-2002); Emergency Coordinator in southern Sudan based in Nairobi, (1998-2000); Regional Emergency Officer in the Great Lakes Region (1997), Information/Communications Officer in Rwanda (1995-1996).

Before joining WFP, Milišić worked with UNHCR in his home country, Bosnia and Herzegovina (1992-1993) on the design, implementation and monitoring of humanitarian activities. Prior to that, Milišić was a Lawyer at a Legal Firm in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, from 1990 to 1992, when he became a legal advisor and analyst at the War Crimes Commission of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in Sarajevo, for a brief period before joining the UNHCR.

A national of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Milišić was born in 1967, in Sarajevo (then Yugoslavia), where he obtained in 1990 a University degree in law (BA), at the University of Sarajevo.

He also obtained a Master's Degree in International Politics and Security Studies at the Bradford University in the UK, in 1994. Milišić speaks English and French.

## Noise pollution, self-medication fuel hearing loss incidents - MNH

By Henry Mwangonde

TANZANIANS have been called upon to go for regular screening of the ear to get timely and effective interventions as figures show sharp increase of hearing losses among adults in sub-Saharan Africa caused by among others noise pollution and unregulated medical drug usage.

Dr Edwin Liyombo the head of otorhinolaryngology department at MNH made the remarks yesterday during the commemoration of the International Day of Hearing at the Muhimbili National Hospital's Mloganzila branch.

The specialist said though there are no available data for Tanzania on the matter, unaddressed hearing loss poses an annual global cost of \$750 billion.

He said interventions to prevent, identify and address hearing loss are cost effective and can bring great benefit to individuals.

"People with hearing loss benefit from early identification, use of hearing aids and other sensitive devices," he said.

According to Dr Liyombo it is estimated that there are 466 million people globally with hearing impairments with estimates showing that there will be 900 million people with hearing complications by 2050.

The day which is commemorated globally each year on 3rd March is celebrated this year with the theme: "Hearing for life: Do not let hearing loss limit you"

It is estimated that for African countries in the sub-Saharan region, over 500 million people have hearing challenges which is almost 10-percent of the global population.

As part of the commemorations, MNH organized a week long free hearing screening exercise for Tanzanians at its Mloganzila hospital.

MNH conducted the first ever cochlear implant surgery to five children in June 2017 year making Tanzania the second country in East and central Africa to conduct such surgeries after Kenya.

Data shows that on every 1000 births worldwide two are deaf and dumb while in Tanzania out of the 1.2 to 1.4 children born every year 200 have hearing complications.

The hospital also announced a plan to carry out a screening process to children below one year as an intervention initiative as it is believed that if carried at a tender age cochlear implant are very useful and performs better.

It was expected then that the services would improve quality of services and save the government billions of money that was used to ferry patients outside the country. Every year the government was setting aside 1.2bn/- to support Tanzanians patients to seek the service elsewhere but from now patients will have to get the services at the hospital by either contributing a little or use their Health Insurance Card.

## Installation of prepaid water meters starts in urban Moshi

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

MOSHI Urban Water Supply and Sanitation Authority (MUWSA) has started to implement the directive from the Minister for Water, Prof Makame Mbarawa, for the installation of prepaid water meters in residential areas and government institutions.

The Ag MUWSA Manager Eng Aron Joseph said the exercise continues in various areas in the district.

"Yes, we have already started implementing the Minister's directive installing prepaid water meters for our new customers as well as old ones, as we aim to reign in faulty debtors who continue to instill losses to the authority," he said.

According to Joseph, public institution that had their premises installed with prepaid water meters included the Police, Prisons and Moshi Police College.

He said as of the three public institutions in Kilimanjaro Region are owed more than 2.3bn/- and prepaid meters will solve the problem of bills accumulation that have been hindering smooth running of the Authority.

He said they will soon start installing water prepaid meters at the house of every police officer instead of using only one meter which was also used by the police headquarters hence increasing water usage many fold hence the main cause of bills accumulation.

Aron said already MUWSA has procured 97 prepaid meters that will be installed at public institutions offices, adding that the exercise is aimed to solve that challenge.

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**TCRA ICT AWARDS 2020**

The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) is calling on all TCRA Licensed Service Providers to participate in the first TCRA ICT Awards 2020.

**The Main Purpose:** To identify, recognize and reward our stakeholders who have demonstrated outstanding performance in the promotion of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) thus contributes to improving the quality life of the citizens through the increased digital industrialization of the economy.

**How to Get Winners:** All licensees are required to submit participation forms online. Nominees in their respective categories will be published online. Users of ICT goods and services will vote either through online portal or Short Messages Services (SMS).

**Where to Get Details:** All the Awards categories, Guidelines, Selection criteria and how to vote are available through [www.ictawards.tcra.go.tz](http://www.ictawards.tcra.go.tz)

**Important Timeline**

- Submission of participation forms starts from **1st February to 15th March, 2020**.
- Public voting of nominees takes place from **1st to 30th April, 2020**.
- Public announcement of winners in their respective categories will be made on **15th May, 2020** as part of the World International Telecommunications Day (ITU).

**For Inquiries:** Call hotline number **0800 008272** (Toll Free) or

**Email Address:** [ictawards@tcra.go.tz](mailto:ictawards@tcra.go.tz)

**"IMPROVE LIFE THROUGH ICT FOR INDUSTRIAL DIGITAL ECONOMY"**





Elizabeth Mushi (L), an official with the Kilimanjaro Women Information Exchange and Community Organisation, elaborates on widows' rights at a meeting held yesterday at Manushi Ndoos in Kilimanjaro Region. Photo: Godfrey Mushi

## SADC meeting endorses nine recommendations on energy

By Guardian Reporter

THE CHAIRMAN of the meeting held last week of experts and commissioners on energy issues from Southern African Development Community, (SADC) countries, Adam Zuberi has said they have unanimously endorsed nine recommendations on the subject.

Zuberi (pictured), who is Commissioner of Oil and Gas in the Tanzania's Ministry of Energy, said the four-day meeting held in Dar es Salaam the endorsed recommendations will be handed over to respective Permanent Secretaries and later submitted to the meeting of SADC ministers for energy slated for May this year for decision.

Closing the meeting, Zuberi mentioned some of the recommendations that included the establishing the grand plan for better use of natural gas in SADC countries.

"A consultant has already begun work on the plan but also we decided that each country to mobilize other countries to sign for the establishment of Centre for Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency in SADC countries (SADC-SACREE) so that its implementation starts," said Zuberi.

Other recommendations include the implementation of energy projects among the countries and setting up a policy for integrating women in economic



issues, the recommendation that has already found a consultant.

He also said the issue of joint mobilization and implementation of the better use of renewable energy was also discussed in length in the meeting whereby member countries expressed the importance of environmental protection.

The meeting also discussed the implementation of the master plan for better use of natural gas in SADC countries and revision to the Regional Infrastructure Development Master Plan (RIDMP) that comes to conclusion in 2027.

It is recalled that the 39th SADC Summit Meeting held in Dar es Salaam in August 17 and 18 this year selected President John Magufuli as its Chairman following the end of the tenure of the Namibian President Hage Geingob.

Hence in its 40th Summit to be held in Mozambique Tanzania will pass the SADC reins to its President, Filipe Nyusi.

## 'Growth of internet across Tanzania still far below global index'

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

TANZANIA ranks 86th out of the 100 countries listed in the 2020 global 'Inclusive Internet Index,' which benchmarks countries on availability, affordability, relevance and the readiness of their people to use it.

The Inclusive Internet Index ('Tripple I' or '3i' report reveals that Tanzania with 49.5 percent digital penetration was in the 86th position out of the 100 ranked countries despite the internet usage speeding towards the 50 percent mark.

However, the country was ranked in the Second spot after Uganda when listed among low income countries, with Rwanda taking the third position and Burundi tagging last on the 10th slot. If it is of any consolation,

Tanzania's internet usage is also way ahead of Ethiopia, Mozambique, Burkina-Faso, Malawi, Madagascar and Liberia when classified within the ten low income states' bracket. Kenya is on the other hand being ranked among lower-middle income countries, where it takes the 8th position.

This (2020 report) is the fourth installment of the Inclusive Internet Index (3i), which is produced annually since 2017 by The Economist Intelligence Unit and commissioned by the popular social online platform, Facebook, which also owns 'WhatsApp' smartphone-based communication platform.

The 2020 Value of the Internet Survey accompanies the 2020 Inclusive Internet Index, and according to Sabu Mathai the Senior Consultant for the Economist

Intelligence Unit in charge of Public Policy, the study helps to inform some of its indicators.

"This year, the survey results provide additional insight into how thousands of individuals from around the world use the Internet, with a particular focus on engagement in the digital economy," reads part of the statement emailed by Mathai.

"The results of this year's index and survey demonstrate that even as Internet access increases globally, the pace of growth is slowing, particularly in lower-income countries where expansion is needed most," explained the statement.

Tanzania's nearly 50 percent Internet Penetration and Usage was found to be mostly propelled by mobile data consumption via mostly smartphones and tablets

as computer-based, web browsing was seen to be rapidly dwindling.

With 86 percent, Sweden tops the bill when it comes to global Internet penetration and usage, followed by (2) New-Zealand, (3) the United States and (4) Australia. Others in top-ten listing include, (5) Denmark; (6) South-Korea; (7) Canada; (8) United Kingdom; (9) France and (10) Spain.

Apparently it was observed that more than half the world is connected, but the remaining segment, comprised largely of women and those in the poorest places continues to be difficult to be reached. Experts were on view that bridging the access gap between genders is a particularly urgent goal albeit a frustratingly distant one to achieve.



### Invitation for Tender (IFT)

1. Marie Stopes Tanzania (MST) is a registered Non-Governmental Organization providing Integrated Reproductive and HIV health services country wide. Established in 1989 under Marie Stopes International, MST operates 11 health facilities and 59 outreach teams.

2. MST under projects fund invite sealed tenders from eligible bidders to provide the below mentioned tender. MST is encouraging all interested bidders to participate.

3.

Tender No	Tender Description
IFT/MST/05/2020	Consultancy Service for the Provision of Architectural, Engineering and Quantity Surveying Services For the Renovation of MST Makambako Clinic.

4. Interested and eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including respective e-mail address to tenders@mst.or.tz Attn: Procurement Lead. Bidders will be responsible for following up to ensure that MST has received the notification.

5. Within 48 hours of receiving the bidder's confirmation of receipt of IFT and intention to bid, bid documents in English language will be sent to interested bidders by e-mail. Interested bidders will be responsible for confirming receipt of bid documents within 24 hours after receipt of bid document(s). MST will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing, preparation or submission of the bid documents.

6. Bidders must submit bid in a sealed envelope by hand, post or email by 20th March 2020; Time 1200 HRS to: The Country Director, Marie Stopes Tanzania, Plot no. 421/422 Mwenge, Kijitonyama Area, P.O. Box 7072, Dar es Salaam, marked "Tender number IFT/MST/05/2020 Consultancy Service for the Provision of Architectural, Engineering and Quantity Surveying Services for the renovation of MST Makambako Clinic." *Email submission should be two hours before deadline.* Late submission of the bid will not be considered during evaluation.

**Country Director**  
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To boost copy sales and develop relationships with agents and vendors in the sales channel in the assigned area to meet your set sales targets.

##### Main Responsibilities:

The successful candidates will be responsible for the following key results:

- Work with the agents and vendors in making sure that the business grows and The Guardian Limited publications are available and visible and sold at the set retail prices with optimal return levels.
- Develop and grow more channels of distribution.
- Monitor indicators relating to market arrivals, circulation sales and returns indicators and make appropriate reports to Circulation Supervisor.
- Identify and build rapport with existing and potential customers by communicating the benefits of Selling The Guardian and Nipashe.
- Monitor newspaper distribution and sale trends in particular areas, prepare weekly sales plans and update supervisor on a regular basis.
- Monitor daily performance of TGL brands in your particular areas of operation in comparison to our rival publications and make reports that guide growth strategies.
- Open up new markets in particular areas of operation that will in turn translate into higher sales.
- Attend customer complaints that in one's particular area of operation so as to maintain good customer relations and protect the company's interests.
- Liaise with supervisor in credit control and debt management within particular area of operation.
- Submit daily and weekly reports on progress on activities, including meeting set sales targets.
- Manage debt collection and credit control within one's respective area operation.
- Demonstrate ability to work under minimum supervision.

##### Minimum Qualifications and Experience:

- University Degree in Business Administration/Sales & Marketing or equivalent.
- At least 2 year's relevant working experience.
- Excellent communication skills, computer knowledge, and familiarity with a wide range of newspapers brands.

##### MODE OF APPLICATION:

Apply online via HRO email address: [vacancy@guardian.co.tz](mailto:vacancy@guardian.co.tz) by March 13, 2020

NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

The Guardian Limited is an equal opportunity employer.



# EU calls for dialogue on conservation

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

AS the world celebrates Wildlife Day, the European Union (EU) has welcomed stakeholder participation to discuss how to improve wildlife conservation in Tanzania.

According to the statement availed to media yesterday in Dar es Salaam, the EU is still committed to support wildlife conservation activities in Tanzania by strengthening the wildlife authority's capacity in managing wildlife, combat poaching and promote community participation in conservation.

Themed; World Wildlife Day in this year, the day is about commitment to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES).

"The EU is a key supporter of the CITES and under the framework of this Convention, it has supported the adoption of far-reaching measures to tackle illegal trade and to reduce the demand for illegal wildlife products," Emilio Rossetti, head of political, press and information section for European Union said.

Since 2001, the EU has been the main financial supporter of the MIKE (Monitoring the Illegal Killing of Elephants) and MIKES programme (Minimizing the Illegal Killing of Elephants and other Endangered Species), with a contribution to the CITES Secretariat of 24 million Euro covering 71 sites in Africa and Asia.

"Greater emphasis is now being put on enforcement actions covering other endangered species in addition to elephants," he said. The MIKES site in Tanzania is along the Katavi-Rukwa-Lwafi ecosystem where the main activities include provision of technical, operational and material support for the strengthening of law enforcement capacity and adaptive management systems.

"It includes provision of patrol vehicles, installation of radio communication system network and maintenance of ranger posts. Discussion and planning is under way to also provide support under the MIKES in Selous Game Reserve and its nearby wildlife corridors," he detailed.

Apart from that, the head said that EU supports other wildlife management interventions in Tanzania under the 11th European Development Fund (EDF) including a Cross-Regional Wildlife Conservation programme for Eastern and Southern African and the Indian Ocean.

The Programme is implementing eleven projects through civil society organisations, focusing on community involvement in wildlife conservation and improved management of shared ecosystems. One project implemented by the United Nations Office for Drugs and Crimes (UNODC) involves government stakeholders with a focus on law enforcement and enhanced anti-trafficking efforts.

The whole programme has a financial window of 30 Million Euro (approx. 74.3 bn/-) with the overall aim to strengthen Trans-frontier Conservation.

He explained that as part of this regional programme, three projects are being implemented in Tanzania, including the Greater Kilimanjaro initiatives to enhance community participation in sustainable conservation of the trans-frontier ecosystem and wildlife implemented by Oikos.

Strengthening Community Support for Law Enforcement and Anti-Poaching Efforts in the Greater Kilimanjaro Trans Frontier Conservation Area (TFCA) - implemented by IFAW Initiative for Conservation of Mara-Serengeti Trans-boundary Ecosystem - implemented by Vi-Agroforestry)

"It is our hope that by the end of these projects all stakeholders will have the capacity to ensure sustainable management of their wildlife ecosystems, and that the already good collaboration between countries in combating cross-border wildlife crimes is strengthened even further," he said.

Strengthening Community Support for Law Enforcement and

## People living with HIV/Aids ask for presidential appointments

By Correspondent James

Kandoyo

THE National Council of People Living with HIV (NACOPHA) has called upon President John Magufuli to consider appointing them in various positions to increase their participation in the decision-making organs.

NACOPHA Chairperson Leticia Chamungu told The Guardian in an interview on the sidelines of the Zero Discrimination Day Commemorations to People Living with HIV held on Monday this week in Dar es Salaam that the group is currently not well represented in various organs of governance.

Currently, the proportion of seats held by women in national parliaments in Tanzania is 36.90 percent as of 2019. Its highest value over the past 22 years was 37.20 percent in 2018, while its lowest value was 16.40 percent in 1999.

She said according to the country's constitution, the president has a mandate to appoint ten members of parliaments (special seats) calling him to add them in the list.

"Once we are part of the decision making organ, we can be at a position to discuss issues related with policy changes that can eliminate stigma to people living with HIV," she said.

The chairperson said stigma was still a big challenge in the community where the mostly affected are those residing in the rural areas compared to those in urban.

Citing the neighbouring country, she said if Kenya has MPs representing those living with HIV, why not in Tanzania, the chairperson questioned.

"Once people living with HIV becomes part of the parliament they can provide a clear reflection or pictures on particular issues or challenges in reality, contrary to how things are now," she noted.

According to her, if president Magufuli appointed some MPs from the disabled group, hopefully, he can do so to the people living with HIV.

The Strategic Intervention Adviser at UNAIDS Kate Spring said discrimination and gender inequality remain a huge barrier for women and girls in all aspects of their lives and have a significant impact on the AIDS response.

She said "Every week more than 300 adolescent girls and young women between the ages of 15 and 24 years are becoming infected with HIV. That is more than double the number of new infections in boys and men of the same age".



Tanchoice meat factory managing director Rashid Abdullah (L) briefs Coast regional commissioner Evarist Ndikilo (2nd-L) during a tour they made yesterday to a 1.1bn/- Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority (Dawasa) project meant to supply water to the factory. Others are Coast regional administrative secretary Theresia Mbandu (2nd-R) and Dawasa CEO Cyprian Luhemeja (3rd-L). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Spring said the struggle to beat AIDS is inseparable from the struggle for women's rights and from the struggle against all forms of discrimination. "AIDS can be beaten if we address the social and economic injustice that fuels it and respond to the real needs of women and girls and people living with and vulnerable to HIV," she advised.

The adviser said stigma and discrimination hampers effective HIV programming and was a violation of human rights and therefore must not go unchallenged.

According to her, everyone can be part of the transformation and stand up for fair, equal and just societies, to beat AIDS and gender inequality. The monitoring and evaluation officer from NACOPHA Mathew Haoga said awareness to the community was very important to eliminate all forms of discrimination. He listed the targeted groups in the awareness campaign as politicians, health providers, owners of media, Civil Society Organisation (CSO's) as well as development partners.

"One of big challenges hampering our efforts in the fight against stigma is fund resources. Currently, 90 percent of the fund comes from donors," he said.

Expressing the government concern, the Deputy Minister in the Prime Minister office's responsible for the disabled Stela Ikupa said stakeholder's efforts are crucial in the fight against stigma.

She called on the employers to be on the frontline in the fight against stigma to people living with HIV at work places.

## Kairuki praises Shinyanga for setting aside land for factories

By Guardian Correspondent, Kahama

MINISTER of State in Prime Minister's Office (Investment) Angela Kairuki has lauded Shinyanga Region for setting aside 23,289.25 hectares for new industries, three of which will create over six thousand jobs.

She said here yesterday after inspecting the investment tract that allocating land for new industries makes smooth the process of investment and the implementation of the national industrialisation agenda. But, she added, land set aside for industries should be used for that purpose only.

"This is a good step in implementing the government's resolve to make Tanzania a middle-income industrial country by 2025. We congratulate you on this good move you have taken. Setting aside land in this manner creates conducive and enabling environment for attracting investments," she told the leaders.

She called on members of the business community to cooperate with regional leaders, to invest in the land set aside for small, medium and big industries.

"Take advantage of this opportunity and invest in land set aside for you," she said.

Shinyanga Regional Commissioner Zainab Taleck, said land was free, explaining that occupants "will only pay title charges."

She reported that some 809,400,000/- would be spent on building roads and provision of water and electricity in order to attract investors in industries.

## Government says airport expansion in Mtwara seeing massive progress

By Guardian Reporter

THE Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications, Elius Mwakalinga, has expressed his satisfaction on the expansion work to the Mtwara Airport undertaken by M/S Beijing Construction Engineering Group Company Ltd and costing 50.3b/-.

Speaking during his inspection tour of the project which is 31 percent complete, Mwakalinga said its completion will open up many investment opportunities in the region and scale up its social and economic development.

He said the contractor was doing a good job and what remains is placing various surfaces of the runway including the cement-tar mixture.

He said the airport was first constructed in 1952/53 and does not go in tandem with the country's economic growth, hence the government has decided to upgrade it to handle bigger aircraft both domestic and foreign.

For his part, the Mtwara Region TANROADS Manager Eng Dotto Chacha said the airport's expansion work also incorporates its access roads including car parking area.

"WE expect the work will meet international standards by increasing its grade from Code 3C at present to Code 4E and will involve the construction of a perimeter fence, standby power generator, fire equipment as well as runway lights for night landing and takeoff of planes," he explained.

Meanwhile Mwakalinga inspected construction work on the 50 km Mtwara-Nanyamba-Tandahimba-Newala-Masasi road and part of Mtwara-Mnivata road whose work is 75 percent.

Earlier, while on his way to Mtwara, Mwakalinga inspected the Sisi kwa Sisi weighbridge in Ruvuma Region and called upon the staff thereof to be an example to be emulated by other workers by working diligently.



**UNHCR**  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: No. RFP/2020/SUP/004 FOR EXTENSION OF KIBONDO AIRSTRIP**

**1. Background:**  
The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sub Office, Kibondo, invites reputable qualified and Eligible Firms/Contractors to submit firm offers for Extension of Airstrip in Kibondo.

**2. Eligibility:**  
Firms/Contractors duly registered with relevant government authorities, with sound financial basis, relevant experience, reputed clientele and with knowledge of how to meet UNHCR's requirements are invited to participate in the bidding process.

The tender documents can be collected from the following UNHCR Offices:

UNHCR Representation Office Tanzania Plot 1658 Masaki, Rufiji Street P.O Box 2666 - <b>Dar es Salaam, Tanzania</b>	UNHCR Field Office Kasulu Kimobwa (Mlimani Area) P.O. Box 332 - Kasulu, <b>Kigoma</b>
UNHCR Sub- Office Kibondo Kabigwa (Near TANESCO) P.O. Box 49 <b>Kibondo</b>	UNHCR Field Unit Mwanza Mwanza Airport P.O. Box 2273 - <b>Mwanza</b>


The tender documents can also be accessed and downloaded in the following link below:  
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1E-q29oRqir8Y9ve8MCze2MyfJgEXwQV>

**CRUCIAL DATES FOR THIS INVITATION TO BID**

<b>MANDATORY</b> site visit at Kibondo Airstrip	Wednesday 11th March 2020 from 10:00 hrs
Deadline for receiving requests for clarification	Monday 16th March 2020 at 17:00 hrs EAT
Deadline for submission of offers	Monday 06th April 2020 at 17:00 hrs, EAT

\*Please Note that the site visit is MANDATORY

UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.



**UNHCR**  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees  
Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL: No. RFP/2020/KIB/SUP/001 FOR THE PROVISION OF MATERIAL AND ROOFING OF THIRTEEN (13) CLASSROOMS IN THE DISTRICT OF KIBONDO AND KAKONKO**

**1. Background:**  
The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Sub Office, Kibondo, invites reputable qualified and Eligible Firms/Contractors to submit firm offers for The Provision of Material and Roofing of Thirteen(13) Classrooms in the district of Kibondo and Kakonko.

**2. Eligibility:**  
Firms/Contractors duly registered with relevant government authorities, with sound financial basis, relevant experience, reputed clientele and with knowledge of how to meet UNHCR's requirements are invited to participate in the bidding process.

The tender documents can be collected from the following UNHCR Offices:

UNHCR Representation Office Tanzania Plot 1658 Masaki, Rufiji Street P.O Box 2666 - <b>Dar es Salaam, Tanzania</b>	UNHCR Field Office Kasulu Kimobwa (Mlimani Area) P.O. Box 332 - Kasulu, <b>Kigoma</b>
UNHCR Sub- Office Kibondo Kabigwa (Near TANESCO) P.O. Box 49 <b>Kibondo</b>	UNHCR Field Unit Mwanza Mwanza Airport P.O. Box 2273 - <b>Mwanza</b>

**CRUCIAL DATES FOR THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL**

<b>MANDATORY</b> site visit at Kibondo Schools	Thursday 05th March 2020 from 10:00 to 13:00 hrs
<b>MANDATORY</b> site visit at Kakonko Schools	Friday 06th March 2020 from 10:00 to 13:00 hrs
Deadline for receiving requests for clarification	Tuesday 10th March 2020 at 17:00 hrs EAT
Deadline for submission of offers	Thursday 26th March 2020 at 13:00 hrs, EAT

\*Please Note that the site visit is MANDATORY

UNHCR tenders are free of charge, no fees are charged to collect the tenders.





REVOLUTIONARY GOVERNMENT OF ZANZIBAR  
MINISTRY OF HEALTH

P.O.BOX 236  
MNAZIMMOJA-ZANZIBAR  
Email: afyasmz@zanlink.com

Tel +255-21-2233454  
Fax: +255-24-2231987

**Tender No: SMZ/HOI/G/ICB/2019/2020/06**

**For**

**SUPPLY OF ESSENTIAL MEDICINES, MEDICAL EQUIPMENT, OPHTHALMOLOGICAL PREPARATIONS, BLOOD TRANSFUSION REAGENTS AND RAPID TEST FOR HEPATITIS FOR MINISTRY OF HEALTH ZANZIBAR**

**Invitation for Tenders**

**Date: 03/03/2020**

- This Invitation for Tenders follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project which appeared in Zanzibar Leo ISSN 5489 dated 22/01/2020
- The Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar has set aside funds for the operation of the Ministry of health Zanzibar during the financial year 2019-2020. It is intended that part of the proceeds of the fund will be used to cover eligible payments under the framework contract for the Supply essential medicine, standard medical equipment for health facilities, orthopedic workshop ,physiotherapy , special equipment for Mnazi mmoja Hospital ,I CU equipment for Wete Hospital, Automatic X-ray film processor and printer, dental materials, supplies for blood transfusion services, ophthalmological preparation and Rapid test for Hepatitis B&C for Ministry of Health Zanzibar.
- The Ministry of Health Zanzibar now invites sealed tenders from eligible National qualified bidders registered by Zanzibar Public Procurement Regulatory Authority (ZPPRA) as supplier to Supply of below Lots

LOT NUMBER	DESCRIPTION OF LOT
LOT 1	ESSENTIAL MEDICINES
LOT 2	STANDARD MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR HEALTH FACILITIES
LOT 3	STANDARD MEDICAL EQUIPMENT FOR HOSPITALS
LOT 4	ORTHOPEDIC WORKSHOP
LOT 5	PHYSIOTHERAPY SUPPLIES
LOT 6	SPECIAL EQUIPMENT FOR MNAZI MMOJA HOSPITAL
LOT 7	ICU EQUIPMENT FOR WETE HOSPITAL
LOT 8	AUTOMATIC X-RAY FILM PROCESSORS AND PRINTER
LOT 9	DENTAL MATERIALS
LOT 10	SUPPLIES FOR BLOOD TRANSFUSION SERVICES
LOT 11	OPHTHAMOLOGICAL PREPARATIONS
LOT 12	RAPID TEST FOR HEPATITIS-B&C

- Tendering will be conducted through the International competitive bidding procedures specified in the Public Procurement (Goods, Works and Disposal of Public Assets by Tender) Regulations, 2006 – Government Notice No. 62 and are open to all Tenderers as defined in the Regulations.
- Interested eligible Tenderers may obtain further information from and inspect the Tendering Documents at the office of the **Procurement Management Unit (PMU), Ministry of Health P.O.BOX 236 Makumbusho Road Mnazi Mmoja Zanzibar** from 8:00am up to 3:30pm local time, on Monday to Friday inclusive except on public holidays.
- A complete set of Tendering Document(s) in English language and additional sets may be purchased by interested Tenderers on the submission of a written application to the address given under paragraph 5 above and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of **100,000/=**. Payment should be by Cash, to the Peoples Bank of Zanzibar (PBZ) account number **0707968000**
- All Tenders must be accompanied by a Tender security in an acceptable form in the amount of 2.5% of contract price or freely convertible currencies.
- All tenders in one original with two copies, properly filled in, and enclosed in plain envelopes must be delivered to the address below PMU office at Ministry of health Zanzibar at or before **2:00pm 11/03/2020**. Tenders will be opened promptly thereafter in public and in the presence of Tenderers' representatives who choose to attend in the opening at the Ministry of health at conference room.
- Late Tenders, Portion of Tenders, Electronic Tenders, Tenders not received, Tenders not opened and not read out in public at the tender opening ceremony shall not be accepted for evaluation irrespective of the circumstances.

215654102

## DPP calls on criminal justice forum to devise strategies to combat crime

By Guardian Reporter

THE Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP) Biswalo Mganga has called upon the committees of the Forum for Criminal Justice from district to regional level in the country to ensure they draw up strategies against crime at all times especially during the election campaigns period for people to live in peace.

He said it would be better for the committees to prepare strategies to deal with petty issues earlier instead of waiting for the DPP office to come to start taking steps.

The DPP was speaking at the launching of the Forum for Criminal Justice for Tabora Region during his inspection tour of bribery and fraud cases.

He said it would be better for the Forum to assist the society appreciate the importance of living peacefully and stop taking the law in their own hands.

He also said there are people with wrong perceptions, who say the government has no money and that is

why is fining criminals to get money for running its activities.

He said this perception is misleading because even developed countries have the procedure of fining offenders who plead guilty to their offences, and added that even the Holy Books say that whoever is found guilty should pay twice the value of the thing he stole.

For his part, Tabora Regional Commissioner Aggrey Mwanri said the government will ensure it put an enabling environment to see the Forum assists in crime reduction including the killing of old people.

While unveiling the Forum for Criminal Justice at the national level in Singida Region at the weekend Biswalo Mganga explained that such launching should also be done in other regions to help in the fight against crime in the regions to reduce congestion in remand prisons.

Speaking at the Singida's Forum launch the DPP said according to the Prosecution Act (No 27 of 2008) Section 59(B) (II) and the country's Con-

stitution, the DPP is the one with powers in coordinating investigations of all criminal cases in the country even though he can also delegate such power to other state organs.

He said his office is determined to eradicate crime through the establishing of the forums for criminal justice in each region in the country to act as a solution to the problem.

He said recognizing the enormity of the problem the Fifth Phase Government of President John Magufuli made great changes by creating the National Prosecution Office published in Government Gazette 49 on February 13, 2018 which he said was different with the past when the office of the DPP was under the office of the Attorney General (AG).

He called on all members in the Forum to work together and diligently to ensure the issue of criminal justice is well dealt with and they are required to send proposals to the Regional Commissioner on what is to be done by making follow ups on criminal activities in their areas.



TBL's Safari Lager brand manager Pamela Kikuli cuts a ribbon in Dar es Salaam on Monday to launch 'Kizibo Pesa' promotion, under which consumers can get instant discount on beer purchases. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Mpina returns 68 impounded boats to owners

By Guardian Correspondent, Simiyu

LIVESTOCK and Fisheries minister Luhaga Mpina has returned 68 boats to former owners that had been impounded over illegal fishing in Lake Victoria after their owners confessed to their offences and promised they will not commit the offence again.

The minister reached the decision after the fishermen from Nyamikoma fish market in Busega District in Simiyu Region referred their issue to the government asking for forgiveness and return of their vessels to continue with the sustainable fishing activities.

One of the fishermen Ally Bogoye, after confessing the offence before the minister and Busega District CCM Secretary said as of now they are working together with the government to protect fisheries resources and that is why there has been a substantial increase of Nile perch as well as other types of fish.

The Nyamikoma Village chairman Kulwa Lilaga had asked for the boats to be auctioned to their owners to avoid their deterioration whilst in government seizure.

Following these requests Mpina agreed to their pleas and directed the Director of Fisheries to ensure that all fishermen whose vessels were impounded are given their vessels back without any conditions.

Mpina asked the fishermen to write letters to confess their offences and promise not to again engage themselves in illegal fishing activities.

On the issue of fish markets, the minister assured the fishermen that the government is in final stages of expanding the markets' cold chains so that even the wananchi in villages can get raw fresh fish.

He said the aim of the government to control illegal fishing activities was of good intention and did not aim to victimize anyone and that is why the wananchi are enjoying the fruits of the operation against illegal fishing.

He also accepted the request from the fishermen for the improvement of the Nyamikoma fish market that will be included in the 2020/2021 government budget for a modern fish market to be constructed in the area.

Busega District CCM Secretary Burhan Rutta thanked minister Mpina for coming to the fish market just a few days after the Simiyu Region CCM secretary visit.

## Torrential rain renders scores without shelter

By Guardian Reporter, Moshi

TORRENTIAL rains that started falling on Monday evening in northern regions, Kilimanjaro Region in particular, have rendered 39 households homeless in Sanya Juu village in KIA Ward, Hai District.

The Palestina hamlet in Sanya Juu Station village was particularly extensively affected after a heavy downpour with driving winds that blew away roofs off houses and five houses were demolished.

Speaking with this paper yesterday by phone the chairman of Palestina hamlet Moses Mbaayo said the downpour that began March 2 at around 6.00 pm, also caused injury to a five-year-old child after being hit by a heavy object.

According to Mbaayo the child was rushed to KCM Referral Hospital for treat-

ment. Recently Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) gave a forecast that rains for this year's normal rainy season beginning March to May would be of average or above average.

The rains were predicted for the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, many areas of Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions, eastern parts of Geita Region as well as Shinyanga, Mwanza, Simiyu and Mara Regions.

Other regions which TMA predicted seasonal rains of average and below average were Kagera, Western parts of Geita Region, Kigoma north, Dar es Salaam, Coast Regions and Morogoro regions.

The ongoing off season reasons in areas receiving two rainy seasons a year, those in northern coastal areas are expected to continue and overlap with the 2020 rainy season.



**The rains were predicted for the islands of Zanzibar and Pemba, many areas of Arusha, Manyara and Kilimanjaro regions, eastern parts of**





Tanzania Private Sector Foundation chairperson Angelina Ngalula (C) makes remarks at a press briefing in Dar es Salaam yesterday on the three-day tour a delegation of members of the Tanzanian business community is expected to make to the Democratic Republic of Congo soon, chiefly to "sell" goods made in Tanzania. With her are outgoing TPSF executive director Godfrey Simbeye (L) and Tanzania Saccos for Women Entrepreneurs representative Anna Matinde. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## TPSF-led trade delegation set to leave for DR Congo

By Guardian Reporter

A DELEGATION is set to leave for the Democratic Republic of Congo this Friday to explore trade and investment opportunities in a three-day tour, Tanzania Private Sector Foundation Chairperson, Angelina Ngalula, announced in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

She did not give the number of delegates because, she said, a final list had not been finalized, but said the response had been impressive.

"Tanzania is producing quality goods that have a ready market in DRC. But Tanzania has many economic opportunities. We want these things to be known to our colleagues in the DRC. Tanzania currently chairs the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) Business Council, meaning we have the duty to encourage and promote business among ourselves. This is the background behind this tour," she explained.

Ngalula thanked Tanzanian Embassy in Kinshasa for identifying areas of focus. She praised government workers for timely cooperation and

blessing the tour, explaining that the transportation infrastructure was excellent, hence the importance of taking advantage of this fact to promote trade between Tanzania and her neighbours. "TPSF recognizes the immense focused efforts of the government in building this enabling infrastructure and we thank the government for this great job," she said.

The Chairman of Tanzania Food Processors Association, Suzy Laiser said processors would use the visit to enlarge the geographical market area for their products.

"We have been in the processing field for a long time. So we are taking with us products we believe will impress Congolese customers so that we can cement trade that will benefit our two countries," she said.

The TPSF Executive Director, Godfrey Simbeye, called on prospective delegates to quickly finalise preparations for the trip and called upon delegates to make the most of the Congolese trip.

"DRC imports products from many countries that are produced in Tanzania. They will be happy to buy products from us because it is advantageous to them," he explained.

## Mweka, UK varsity to collaborate on Master's programme

By Correspondent James Lanka, Moshi

THE College of African Wildlife Management-Mweka (CAWM-Mweka) will start offering master's degree in wildlife ecology this year.

Speaking during a special symposium held at the college to mark World Wildlife Day yesterday at CAWM-Mweka campus, Rector of the college, Prof Jafari Kideghesho explained that, his college will collaborate with the Manchester University to offer the unique course.

He said the move aims at protecting and conserving the endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora in Tanzania and the rest of the World.

Presenting his paper on the World Wildlife Day with the theme: 'Sustaining all Life on Earth: the relevancy of curricula'

Prof Kideghesho explained that, his college which is the Centre of Excellency in Wildlife Conservation and Tourism in Africa curricula is competence-based and responsive for sustainable protection and conservation of the world's wild animals and plants.

However, the CAWM-Mweka rector also explained to the participants of the special symposium from various institutions including researchers, academicians, conservationists, Wildlife management experts, tourism stakeholders and other stakeholders that, his college has also introduced new Geographical Information System (GIS) in their training, a move to improve student's ability to ease the information they need on time for sustainable Conservation, anti-poaching and tourism, thanks to the new Usaid funded project.

The participants of the special symposium were from Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI), Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA), and Rafiki Wildlife Foundation, among many others.

For his part, the Tanzania head of the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Elisante Ombeni explained that, proper management of hunting using professional hunters is vital for the tourism in conservation and sustainable rural livelihood.

Conservator, Beatrice Kessy from TANAPA explained that, her institution has introduced Support for Community Initiated Projects (SCIP), and the Tanapa Income Generating Projects (TIGP) aiming at involving communities surrounding national parks to participate actively in the wildlife conservation after benefiting directly or indirectly with

the wildlife conservation and tourism.

"In the SCIP projects TANAPA supports education and water projects to villages surrounding our national parks by constructing modern classrooms, teacher's houses, modern toilets, dormitories, and water projects, among many others, while in TIGP projects, we are empowering villages in groups or individually with socio-economic activities for sustainable income generating projects for sustainable livelihood," she explained.

The Managing Director of non-governmental organisation dealing with protection and conservation of Wild animals and plants, Rafiki Wildlife Rev Clement Mtwiga recommended the role played by the government of Tanzania in the inclusion of private sectors in the wildlife protection and conservation.

(NBAA)  
THE NATIONAL BOARD OF ACCOUNTANTS AND AUDITORS  
TANZANIA



**PUBLIC NOTICE**

**UPGRADE OF GRADUATE ACCOUNTANTS (GAs) TO ASSOCIATE CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS (ACPAs)**

The National Board of Accountants and Auditors (NBAA) wishes to remind all Graduate Accountants (GAs) that, for those who have already completed three years' practical work experience and have not applied for the upgrade to Associate Certified Public Accountants (ACPA) or Associate Certified Public Accountant in Public Practice (ACPA-PP) to apply immediately.

We wish also to remind all Graduate Accountants (GAs) to submit to the Board the practical experience logbook(s) for each year, for the period of three years. The logbooks and application forms for upgrading can be downloaded from the NBAA's website [www.nbaa.go.tz](http://www.nbaa.go.tz)

For those who are already Associate Certified Public Accountants or Fellow Associate Certified Public Accountants, we request them to encourage GAs at their workplaces to apply for upgrade.

All enquiries should be addressed to:

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR,  
AUDIT HOUSE, 8TH FLOOR,  
4 'BARABARA YA UKAGUZI'  
P.O. BOX 1271  
41104 TAMBUKARELI  
DODOMA

TEL: +255 26 2963318-9  
E-MAIL: [info@nbaa.go.tz](mailto:info@nbaa.go.tz)  
WEBSITE: [www.nbaa.go.tz](http://www.nbaa.go.tz)

215653201



**Embassy of the United States of America**

**EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

**House Manager**

The U.S. Embassy is seeking for an individual for the position of House Manager for a senior level diplomat.

**BASIC FUNCTION OF POSITION:**

Incumbent will be responsible for overall management of the official residence and supervision of staff employed therein.

A copy of the complete position description listing all duties and responsibilities is available at:

<https://tz.usembassy.gov/embassy/jobs/ore/>

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# The Guardian

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WEDNESDAY 4 MARCH 2020

Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## The planet is our common home, so let old, young people take action together

CARE for our 'Common Home' (Stewardship of Creation)... The earth and all life on it are part of God's creation. We are called to respect this gift. We are responsible for taking care of the world we live in and for sharing all the wonders and resources the earth gives us. It is the new appeal from Pope Francis addressed to "every person living on this planet" for an inclusive dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet.

There is a youth crisis in the lack of formal skilled employment opportunities across Africa. Youth unemployment across Africa is high, at 30.6 per cent in North Africa according to data, the second-highest rate of a region globally, HYPERLINK "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Youth\_in\_Africa" \l "cite\_note-10" whilst in HYPERLINK "https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sub-Saharan\_Africa" \o "Sub-Saharan Africa" sub-Saharan Africa the rate is declining.

An international conference in Nairobi, Kenya last year on Laudato Si' (English: Praise Be to You) is the second encyclical of Pope Francis. The encyclical has the subtitle "on care for our common home". The 2015 environmental encyclical by Pope Francis - ended with young people of different faiths being challenged to take concrete action against the degradation of humanity's "common home".

The Laudato Si' was a wake-up call to young people whose actions should help protect the environment.

Africa youth are the next generation of persons taking responsibility for the well-being of our human family. Youth are 50 per cent of the world.

In October 2018, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its stark special report on the impacts of global warming of 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels, warning that the effects on the climate will be catastrophic if

the threshold outlined in the Paris Agreement goal is crossed.

In May 2019, the intergovernmental science-policy platform on biodiversity and ecosystem services (IPBES) confirmed the accelerating loss of biodiversity, noting that up to one million animals and plant species are at risk of extinction due to human activity.

Indeed one million is a terrifying number. That is the reason why scientists describe this crisis as the sixth mass extinction event, one that is solely driven by one species: humans.

It is critical young people turn words into action and make a solemn commitment to better the world in which they live.

By being witnesses through their way of life they will lead by example through the daily choices they make, be it food, heating, air-conditioning, light, or means of transport.

The concern for the poor and an emphasis on the social dimension of the ecological crisis is clearly should be a challenge in Africa. The human environment and the natural environment deteriorate together; we cannot adequately combat environmental degradation unless we attend to causes related to human and social degradation. In fact, the deterioration of the environment and of society affects the most vulnerable people on the planet. Both everyday experience and scientific research show that the gravest effects of all attacks on the environment are suffered by the poorest.

If we truly desire to develop ecology capable of curing the damage Africa has done, no branch of sciences, no form of wisdom can be left out: That includes religion and the language particular to it. Africa ought to call upon the young people to embrace each other in the care of our common home in spite of differences in faith convictions.

## Data collection has crucial role across communities and nations

WE live in a rapidly changing world, and every nation is endeavoring to adapt to these changes. However, without appropriate planning based on high quality data, tremendous resources and effort will be wasted.

Education is an important factor that can help improve a country's situation, with constant adjustments to uncertain educational contexts, new societal demands, new student and teacher profiles, new teaching and learning methods, and the communications and digital revolution.

Data are therefore needed to provide a better understanding of the educational contexts in order to make the system more innovative and effective in identifying trends and possibilities.

Governments around the world are giving priority to data in their efforts to improve the services they provide to their citizens and to determine how best to adjust their policies to take advantage of new possibilities.

Data are essential to provide a better understanding of the educational contexts in order to make the system more innovative and effective in identifying trends and possibilities. Data are very useful in the formulation of education and training policies and strategies to determine the objectives and targets. Clear, relevant and sustainable choices cannot be made without reliable, relevant data.

Data are also important in the implementation of those policies. They make it possible to ensure that progress is being made toward the predefined objectives and can be used to identify and implement corrective measures to ensure that the policy objectives are achieved.

High-quality data are essential to measure progress over a given period and to verify the achievement of the results and objectives.

Thus, at all key stages in the process, analyses and decisions must be based on

data to be relevant and beneficial. Effective management of African education systems requires an education monitoring information system (EMIS) supplied with relevant, high-quality data on a timely basis.

Despite the major challenges facing African countries, the future is promising. Many countries have an EMIS, although urgent measures must be taken to improve the collection and processing of data.

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Data (singular datum) are individual units of information. A datum describes a single quality or quantity of some object or phenomenon. In analytical processes, data are represented by variables. Data is employed in scientific research, businesses management.

In the same vein, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) has called for collaboration among partners for the production of data to respond to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) indicators framework. According to a report 40 per cent of the data are from traditional sources, we need therefore to tap the remaining 60 per cent from non state organ.

### The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO  
CIRCULATION MANAGER : EMMANUEL LYMO

### Newsdesk

General Line: 0745 700710  
News Editor: LUSEKELO PHILEMON  
0757 154767  
E-mail: guardian@guardian.co.tz

### Advertising

Cel: + 255 686 101335 E-mails: Advertise@guardian.co.tz  
Website: lppmedia.com, epaper.lppmedia.com

## PRECAUTION ON CORONA VIRUS

How to say **Hi** ...



... and **goodbye** without using hands.

## Time to mend our relationship with food

By Agnes Kalibata

OUR food systems must change to achieve the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Food is more than what we eat.

It's more than what satisfies our hunger. It's more than what nourishes our bodies and our brains. It's more than a cultural centerpiece or even an Instagram picture. Food is water, land, culture, labor, technology, economics, and policies.

In a word, food is everything. Today, our relationship with food is strained. The way we produce, process and consume food - what experts call "food systems" - is a paradox.

Over the last 50 years, our ability to produce food has gone up by nearly 300 percent thanks to our incredible ability to innovate. Despite this progress, the number of people going to bed hungry each night has increased to 820 million over the last three years. Yet, we waste 35 per cent of all the food we produce equivalent to a loss of US\$936 billion annually.

Additionally, we are not eating well. About 2 billion people are obese or have food related diseases. Fruits and vegetables account for only 11 per cent of global food production, despite recommendations that they should make up around half of



Dr Agnes Kalibata (R) addresses the media ahead of the opening of the AGRF conference in 2019

our diet. As a result, for every dollar spent on food, society pays back double that in health, environmental, and economic costs. Surprisingly, these costs - which amount to \$5.7 trillion per year globally - equal those related to issues such as obesity, diabetes, and malnutrition.

Climate change is challenging our food systems even further with droughts, floods, and massive fires around the world. For example, in East Africa and across the Middle East and South Asia, locust are destroying crops in biblical proportions. A swarm covering one square kilometer is eating as much food in a day as 35,000 people.

Our current food system is part of the problem. Today's agricultural supply chain, from farm to fork, accounts for around 27 per cent of greenhouse gas

(GHG) emissions.

The food systems of today must change to achieve the ambitious goals and targets we have set for ourselves in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. This transformation will require an unprecedented degree of cooperation if we are to succeed.

That is why this week, on behalf of the UN Secretary General António Guterres, I joined Prime Minister Erna Solberg of Norway and President Nana Akufo-Addo of Ghana in the Arctic archipelago of Svalbard, Norway. We announced the Arctic Call to Action on Food Security and Climate Change along with 17 SDG Advocates from communities around the world, recognizing the importance of agricultural biodiversity and transforming food systems for the future of

our nutrition, health, and resilience to climate change.

I know that rethinking food is 'complicated'. We know many approaches and recommendations that seem to provide benefit. But 'knowing' something does not mean that things change. So what really is the problem that we must solve?

UN Secretary-General Guterres has announced that he will host a Food Systems Summit in 2021 to raise food system transformation to the highest level, affirming its centrality to the achievement of the majority of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Summit will raise global ambition, increase our understanding of the problems we must solve, and set a course to radically change the way we produce, process, and consume food.

We need to harness all innovative ideas and develop deeper partnerships to make this happen. As the Summit's Special Envoy, I will steward a global conversation to define the food systems we want for our future. This will be done by learning from each other, particularly smallholder farmers, indigenous peoples, and those who deal with food systems every day.

I am determined that this will not be 'just another conference,' particularly because we have come to a crossroads and we are running out of time.

I look to the Summit as an opportunity to fast-track and commit to ambitious ways of coming through on the SDGs by bringing global consensus on what our future food systems should be, given the challenges; agreeing and aligning on the dramatic shifts that we know must happen; and delivering an ambitious and game-changing action plan for this decade of action. Only then shall we eliminate hunger, commit to more inclusive and healthier food systems, and safeguard the health of our planet.

Every one of us has a role to play. Often, we think other people have to change, or that our individual contribution is too small to matter. But really, everything and everyone must change; change the way we produce, the way we shop, the way we eat, and more.

Let us make use of our great creativity and human spirit, and listen to everyone, not just those who agree with the popular point of view. Make sure your voice is heard!

**Agnes Kalibata is the UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the 2021 Food Systems Summit. Since 2015 she has served as President of AGRF**

## Now that coronavirus is here... good personal hygiene could make a lot of difference

By Special Correspondent

THE confirmation last Thursday that an Italian who entered the country four days earlier had tested positive to Coronavirus - officially known as COVID-19 - has finally put to rest any debate as to whether or not the disease can find its way into Nigeria. And with that reality, several positive triggers have been initiated by the federal government through the Nigeria Centre for Disease Control (NCDC). The Lagos and Ogun State governments have also formed a united front to ensure the virus does not spread beyond the index case. While we commend the authorities in the two states and Abuja for the manner the index case has been handled thus far, we enjoin critical stakeholders in the health sector to brace up for the challenges ahead.

Coronavirus, which originated from Wuhan city in China last December, has so far killed 2911 persons, infected over 84,000 and has spread to 48 countries, with Nigeria becoming the first sub-Saharan African country, and the third African nation to be affected. The disease, with yet a preventive vaccine, has also sent shock tremors to the global economy as trillions of dollars had been wiped off due to crashing stock markets.

Although the level of awareness on some of the risk factors is now high across the country, more can still be done, especially in dispelling baseless rumours, discouraging unhelpful practices and rolling out a comprehensive awareness campaign in major indigenous languages.

Other efforts should include campaigns on preventive measures such as good personal hygiene like washing hands with soap and water, maintaining a safe distance from someone sneezing and coughing, avoiding the touching of eyes, nose and mouth and generally observing other simple routines. These could make a difference between life and death.

It is noteworthy that the Nigerian authorities are already putting in measures to ensure the outbreak does not snowball into another public health crisis for a nation battling myriads of challenges, including insecurity, poverty, and the obvious Lassa fever epidemic that has claimed scores of lives in recent weeks. The index case has been quarantined and placed on immediate treatment while the 28 persons who had contact with the Italian have also been placed under surveillance. Further contact tracing is being done through the Turkish airline on which he flew in from Milan as well as the hotel he stayed in Lagos and Abeokuta where he spent two days. Nigerians have also started making their contributions to preventing the spread with the use of sanitisers and face masks.

Meanwhile, the Joint External Evaluation (JEE) of the International Health Regulations placed Nigeria's capacity to prevent, detect, and respond to public health threats at 46 per cent in 2019. This is an improvement on 39 per cent in 2017. Both the Minister of Health, Dr Osagie Ehanire and the NCDC Director General, Dr Chikwe Ihekweazu had assured that Nigeria has the capacity to curtail

the spread, especially with reference to how the country managed the Ebola Virus Disease outbreak in 2014. But the present coronavirus outbreak has a faster potential to spread, and has so far not been contained even in the countries with best of health facilities. Besides, although Nigeria defeated Ebola, it was at the expense of eight productive lives, and some \$180 million dollars - an amount far bigger than the country's entire health sector budget for a full year.

With the virus already in the country, the nation needs the political will to prioritise interventions, and this includes beefing up airports, land and sea borders, investing in public awareness on basic hygiene health, and ensuring all contacts with confirmed case or cases are tracked and placed under surveillance. Should the coronavirus outbreak snowball beyond Lagos and Ogun to states that do not have the capacity to deal with such emergencies, the bragging right of being the first to contain Ebola in 2014 among affected nations will no longer matter much. And with our health security still weak, all the gains made in other sectors may come to nothing if coronavirus becomes a full-fledged epidemic.

A nation is only as strong as its weakest link.

Quote

Campaigns on preventive measures such as good personal hygiene like washing hands with soap and water, maintaining a safe distance from someone sneezing and coughing, avoiding the touching of eyes, nose and mouth - could make a difference between life and death.



# 11 myths about COVID-19

SINCE the COVID-19 virus is a new virus that is still being studied, some of the information below may change as we learn more about the virus. At the time of writing, several important questions remain unanswered.

**Myth 1: Most people who contract COVID-19 will get very sick or die**

Around eight out of every 10 people who become infected with COVID-19 only have mild disease and recover. Around 1 in 20 get so sick that they may require hospitalisation. Only around 1 in 50 people diagnosed with COVID-19 have died (if you factor in people who have not been diagnosed the death rate is probably under 1 in 100). This makes COVID-19 much less deadly than other recent viral outbreaks such as SARS (8%) and MERS (>30%) - In the technical jargon, COVID-19 has a lower case fatality rate than SARS and MERS. As we learn more about COVID-19 in the coming weeks and months some of the above numbers may change, but probably not too dramatically.

**Myth 2: Since COVID-19 is less deadly than SARS, it will kill fewer people**

COVID-19 has already killed more people than SARS - even though SARS was more deadly. This is because COVID-19 is more infectious and has infected more people. The fact that it infects so many people means that the death toll can be high, even though the risk of any specific individual diagnosed with the virus dying of COVID-19 is relatively low.

**Myth 3: You can stay safe by avoiding Chinese people**

Though the COVID-19 outbreak started in China, there are now significant outbreaks in a range of countries, including Italy, Iran, Japan and South Korea. So far there is no evidence that any race or nationality is more likely to contract or transmit the virus. While recent travel to China is still an indicator that someone is at an increased risk of having been infected with COVID-19, this will become less and less so over time. If, for example, there is a substantial outbreak in South Africa, chances are that most people contracting and transmitting the virus will not only be people of Chinese descent.

**Myth 4: Only older men need to worry**



about COVID-19.

It is true that older people, and men in particular, are at higher risk of dying of COVID-19, but everyone is at risk, except it seems children under 10. Those suffering from pre-existing conditions like high blood pressure, asthma, diabetes and heart disease, are more likely to get sick. It seems plausible that people living with HIV who are not on antiretroviral treatment or who have low CD4 counts may also be at higher risk of getting seriously ill or dying of COVID-19. However, there is no international data on this yet.

**Myth 5: All I need to protect myself from COVID-19 is a mask**

Probably the most important things you can do to protect yourself is to regularly wash your hands and to touch your face as little as possible when you are in public. The general rule is that masks are better at preventing someone with a viral infection from transmitting the virus than it is at preventing a healthy person from contracting the virus. As such, masks are recommended for infected people, or people who may be infected, who are in public places and not recommended for most healthy people. The exceptions to this are healthcare workers and other people who care for infected persons. The World Health Organization (WHO) advises people to only wear masks if they're healthy and looking after someone who contracted the virus or when you are coughing and sneezing. It's important to note that the efficacy of these masks also depend on which mask you buy, and if

**COVID-19 (Coronavirus Disease 2019) has fuelled fear and panic among many people across the globe - often based on misperceptions and unfortunately often against people of Asian descent. Here we try to dispel some myths and answer some common questions based on the available scientific evidence.**

you are using/wearing it correctly.

**Myth 6: People with COVID-19 are easy to identify**

One of the most challenging things about COVID-19 is that it can infect anyone and is relatively hard to diagnose. The symptoms are generic and hard to distinguish from other illnesses, such as a cough, chest infection or flu. Reported symptoms include fever, coughing and shortness of breath. Some people also show only very mild symptoms - but can nevertheless transmit the virus. This makes the spread of COVID-19 extremely hard to prevent.

**Myth 7: Government is hiding South Africa's real COVID-19 numbers**

There is no evidence that government is hiding any figures relating to COVID-19 in South Africa. That said, as in all countries, there may be cases of COVID-19 that have not been diagnosed - this is especially so since symptoms are similar to that of many other upper respiratory infections and most people only have mild illness. For this reason, if there is a COVID-19 outbreak in South Africa, the official figures - like everywhere - will almost certainly be an underestimate. However, using official figures and other things we know about the virus and its spread, epidemiologists should be able to come up with reliable estimates of the actual number of cases (diagnosed plus undiagnosed).

**Myth 8: People who cough in the coming weeks probably have COVID-19**

Although COVID-19 symptoms include coughing, the first sign of a cough does not necessarily mean someone has COVID-19. Coughing is a symptom of many commonly occurring conditions in South Africa, including the common cold, flu, and tuberculosis. Thus, unless things change really drastically, most people you come across with a cough will NOT be infected with COVID-19, but with something much more familiar to us.

**Myth 9: There is a secret cure for COVID-19**

A number of different antiviral medicines are currently being tested against COVID-19, but nothing has been shown to work yet. Some of them may turn out to be effective. It is not yet known for certain. For now the treatment of COVID-19 mainly involves managing symptoms and keeping patients alive (for example through breathing support).

There is no evidence that any vitamins, supplements, or other remedies can prevent COVID-19 disease or help treat it once someone is infected.

**Myth 10: My pet is at risk from COVID-19**

According to the WHO your pet is safe. There is currently no evidence that pets can be infected with the COVID-19 virus. The WHO nevertheless advises that people wash their hands with soap and water whenever they've touched their pets since it can help protect you against common infections that can pass between pets and humans.

**Myth 11: I should avoid Chinese food until COVID-19 is forgotten**

There is no reason for people in South Africa to stop eating Chinese food. In fact, if you want to help counter some of the irrational responses to Chinese food and Chinese businesses you might consider specifically supporting Chinese businesses as is being done in the #willeatwithyou campaign.

For more information see this excellent Q&A prepared by the UK's National Health Service. (If South Africa's National Institutes for Communicable Diseases produces something similar we will post a link to that here as well. **AGENCIES**)



## Chinese president stresses COVID-19 scientific research

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping has stressed advancing a coordinated scientific research on novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) to provide support for winning the battle against the epidemic.

Xi (pictured), also general secretary of the Communist Party of China (CPC) Central Committee and chairman of the Central Military Commission, made the remarks on Monday during his visit to the Academy of Military Medical Sciences and the School of Medicine at Tsinghua University in Beijing.

During his visit, Xi learned about the progress of research and application of the vaccines, anti-bodies, medicines and fast testing kits.

On behalf of the CPC Central Committee, Xi extended sincere gratitude and greetings to frontline science and technology personnel.

**SCIENCE AS MOST POWERFUL WEAPON**

"Science and technology are the most powerful weapon in humanity's battle against diseases," Xi said.

"Mankind can not defeat a major disaster or epidemic without scientific development and technological innovation." Xi said the COVID-19 research must be taken as a major and pressing task, calling for accelerating its progress and overcoming major difficulties in epidemic prevention and control at an earlier date.

On Monday afternoon, Xi first went to the Academy of Military Medical Sciences, where he heard a report on the academy's COVID-19 scientific research and inspected a contingency medicine research lab for major epidemic outbreaks.

Xi stressed the pivotal role of science and technology in curing more patients, reducing mortality and eventually defeating the epidemic. Since the COVID-19 outbreak, the academy's contingency scientific research efforts have delivered positive results, he said.

Xi urged prompt efforts to develop safe and effective vaccines, drugs and testing kits to help fight the virus. He also called for more core technologies with own intellectual property rights and strong products after the tough battle against the coronavirus.

While inspecting the School of Medicine at Tsinghua University, Xi noted coordination between the frontline battle against the epidemic and scientific research and material production.

He called for accelerating the development of new-type testing kits, antibody medicines, vaccines, and diagnosis and treatment

plans. Xi also required efforts to reinforce the national surveillance network for major epidemics, improve the legal and regulatory system, promote the research of cutting-edge technologies and cultivate top-notch professionals to raise the country's ability to respond to major public health emergencies.

**SAVING LIVES MOST PRESSING TASK**

Chairing a symposium at Tsinghua University, Xi heard reports and gave an important speech.

He noted the progress made by the country's scientific and technological front in just over a month, saying it has provided forceful support to epidemic prevention and control.

At the moment, winning the people's war against the epidemic still requires hard work, Xi said, stressing more efforts to seek solutions through science. "Saving the lives of more patients is the most pressing and important task," he continued.

Xi stressed linking the research on medicines and medical equipment with clinical treatment as well as giving priority to the clinical application of scientific research achievements.

Treatment should combine traditional Chinese medicine and Western medicine, more effective drugs be applied and new treatment methods explored to prevent patients with mild symptoms from becoming severely ill, he said.

Advanced treatments using convalescent plasma, stem cells and monoclonal antibodies should also be applied to treat severe and critically ill patients, he added. On vaccine, Xi said it is vital to epidemic prevention and control, with its safety the top priority.

He called for speeding up the vaccine research and development while closely tracking the progress of related research overseas.

Xi urged early clinical trial and application of vaccines, as well as linking research and development with industrial-chain production. He also required building a national reserve system for vaccines.

Xi stressed the importance of coordinating research on virus source tracing and transmission routes and evaluating whether some suspected animals are intermediate hosts.

Xi pointed out that new technologies, including artificial intelligence and big data, should be applied to epidemiological investigation and virus source tracing to figure out where the virus comes from and how it will develop.

Xi also underscored psychological intervention to help patients recover.

Xinhua

## Tracking down Wuhan's new confirmed COVID-19 cases

WUHAN

DESPITE a raft of strict measures to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus, hundreds of daily new confirmed cases are still reported in Wuhan, the epicenter of the outbreak, which was put on lockdown in late January.

The Chinese mainland reported 202 new confirmed cases of novel coronavirus infection on Sunday, down from 573 the previous day, the National Health Commission said Monday.

196 of the 202 new cases in China were reported in Hubei Province, while 193 of the 196 cases in Hubei were in Wuhan, the provincial capital.

On Friday and Saturday, Hubei reported 423 and 570 new coronavirus cases, respectively. Where are Wuhan's new COVID-19 cases from then?

About 80 to 90 percent of the newly confirmed infections in Wuhan were previously suspected cases," said Liang Wannian, head of the Chinese expert panel on outbreak response and disposal. "These cases are all under our control," Liang said.

Some new infections are also related to close contacts of the confirmed cases. The China-World Health Organization (WHO) joint expert team said about 1 to 5 percent of close contacts have later been confirmed to have the disease.

As the nucleic acid tests have been expanded to close contacts, some infected people showing no symptoms have been found, said an administrative worker in a quarantine spot in Wuhan.

On Feb. 22, Wuhan said it has conducted nucleic acid tests for all backlogged patients, including those confirmed or suspected to be infected with the virus, close contacts of confirmed cases, and patients with fever.

A total of 40 nucleic acid testing institutions in the city can test an average of 14,000 samples per day, with its daily testing capacity reaching 20,000 samples, said the city's epidemic prevention

and control headquarters.

Meanwhile, a considerable number of the recent new cases are asymptomatic infected patients found in special places such as the detention centers, as the city has launched a "blanket search" to leave no coronavirus patient unattended, according to the Wuhan Center for Disease Control and Prevention.

**PROMISING BUT STILL GRIM**

"The number of newly confirmed infections in Wuhan on Sunday hit a new low of 193, and the number of suspected cases has also slipped," said Chen Erzhen who leads a Shanghai medical team to assist Hubei, calling it a "promising change."

Wuhan now has over 5,000 spare beds in 16 temporary hospitals, which were converted from gyms, exhibition centers and other facilities to cope with a shortage of beds amid the outbreak, Ma Xiaowei, director of the National Health Commission, told a press conference Friday.

According to Ma, the daily number of patients discharged from makeshift COVID-19 hospitals, designed for patients with mild symptoms, has greatly exceeded the number of new cases.

The city has so far built 16 public-facility-turned temporary hospitals with more than 13,000 beds, having treated a total of 12,000 patients, or one in every four patients of the novel coronavirus in Wuhan, according to the official.

"About seven quarantine spots in Qiaokou District have been switched into rehabilitation places and the number is expected to grow as more patients recover," said Luo Jun, head of a quarantine spot in the district. As of midnight March 1, 7,250 confirmed COVID-19 cases had been reported in Qiaokou, ranking third among the 13 districts in Wuhan.

More than 40,000 medics from across the country have joined the treatment of COVID-19 patients in the hardest-hit province of Hubei.



**Zhang Jun (C), China's permanent representative to the UN and the UN Security Council's president this month, speaks during a briefing at the UN headquarters in New York, the United States, on Monday. (Xinhua)**

As of Sunday, Hubei had reported 67,103 COVID-19 cases and 2,803 deaths. A total of 33,757 coronavirus patients in Hubei have been cured and discharged from hospitals and 26,901 are still receiving treatment in hospitals.

Despite some promising changes, the epidemic situation remains grim and complicated, with great uncertainty and pressure, Liang Wannian said. "We can't be blindly optimistic," Liang said, adding that Hubei Province and Wuhan are still "the centers of the epidemic."

According to Zhou Jiaxi, a researcher of the Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, the situation in Wuhan is "fluid," though "the growth of COVID-19 cases is subsiding undoubtedly." "While the rise has been halted, the overall battle is far from over," Zhou said.

Grid-based management in Wuhan has been running at full speed since Feb. 11, when the city's headquarters for epidemic prevention and control required all residential areas to imple-

ment closed-off management.

Wuhan has 8,700 grid-based community workers. Each worker takes care of 300 to 500 households, according to Luo Ping, deputy secretary of the Commission for Political and Legal Affairs of the Communist Party of China Municipal Committee of Wuhan.

Last week, the Hubei provincial headquarters for COVID-19 control stressed all cities, prefectures and counties in the province should continue to implement stringent restrictions on outbound transport channels to resolutely prevent the spread of the virus within and beyond the province.

"We must not relax our efforts in implementing strict prevention and control, administering medical treatment, carrying out combing and admission, ensuring prevention at special venues, providing material support and maintaining overall social stability," said the CPC Hubei Committee.

Xinhua



## Strengthening local journalism: Word of advice for newsrooms

By Damian Radcliffe

ONLY 13 per cent of Americans trust the media "a great deal", and 28 per cent "a fair amount", a Gallup poll found last year - as 69 per cent of Democrats, 15 per cent of Republicans and 36 per cent of independents saying they "trust media".

In an election year that type of political polarisation may only increase. Yet, evidence - such as Poynter's 2018 Media Trust Survey and a recent Knight Foundation-Gallup report - suggests higher levels of trust in local journalism.

However, that still amounts to fewer than half of Americans (45 per cent) saying that they trust reporting from local news organisations "a great deal" or "quite a lot", (compared to 31 per cent for national news outlets), which shows that there is work to be done.

With that in mind, here are ten recommendations for local news organisations everywhere to build trust, tackle bias and make news pay.

Growing up, it seemed like there was a reporter (and a separate photographer) at every public event I went to. Of course, that probably wasn't the case, but with newsroom employment declining by 25 per cent in the US since 2008, today's children are unlikely to grow up with the same perception.

Nonetheless, opportunities to engage with audiences are greater than ever.

One recommendation relates to the need to be visible - online and in real life. Journalists need to explore means for face-to-face interaction through open editorial meetings as well as opportunities provided by social media, like Facebook Live and Reddit-style Q&As (known as AMAs or Ask Me Anything).

Podcasting, meanwhile, provides an opportunity for newsrooms to put a voice to a byline by previewing content being published tomorrow or explaining what is in the paper - and why.

Two: Allow audiences to peek behind the curtain. In the past, we took trust in our profession for granted. Now we have to earn it. The most obvious way to do this is to explain what we do.

How are stories put together? How do we decide what goes on the front page, which quotes to use and which ones to cut?

Podcasts are a great format to share



"the story behind the story". And tools like Instagram Stories can be similarly effective by going behind the scenes and showing reporters out and about, doing their job.

Promoting news literacy is essential if we are to create an audience that understands the work that goes into - and is therefore willing to pay for - the news.

Three: Explain your terms. Research suggests that audiences do not necessarily understand how journalism is produced, or the terms journalists use to describe it.

A Reuters/Ipsos survey last year found that 60 per cent of respondents believed that reporters get paid by their sources "sometimes" or "very often".

Joy Mayer, Director of the Trusting News project, told me that when journalists talk about "anonymous sources" many people assume the journalist doesn't know who the source is either.

Not only do journalists need to share their process, they also need to take care with the terms and labels they use, as these are seldom understood outside the newsroom.

There is also the need to tackle bias. We live in a society where our media and politics are more polarized and partisan than in recent memory. Moreover, as CNN's Brian Stelter suggests, current media business models further fuel this polarization.

The "them versus us" culture is less pronounced at a local level. However, as Knight's research indicates, "that trust is more fragile than previously understood - and vulnerable to the same perceptions of partisan bias that threaten confidence in the national media".

Four: Cede some control to your audience. Historically, journalists determined the news that audiences received. However, this needs to change if trust is to be rebuilt.

Hearken CEO Jennifer Brandel and Mónica Guzmán, cofounder and editor of The Evergrey, argue in a story for Nieman Lab that journalists should ask: "What can we help the public understand or do today?"

"We won't start with our ideas," they suggest, "we'll start with the information gaps the public demonstrates it has, and focus our efforts squarely on filling those gaps".

Getting audiences to submit questions, and listening to their needs, can result in stories that journalists might not otherwise have produced.

Five: Talk to different people. White, older, more-educated Americans are more likely to have

spoken with local journalists than other demographics, according to the Pew Research Centre. It reports that most Americans (79 per cent of them) have never spoken to a local journalist.

This matters - because local journalists are often the only journalists people ever meet. As a result, they are a proxy for the wider industry, and the frontline of combating the "fake news" narrative.

Visibility - which includes the range of people you talk to for your stories - matters, not just at a local level but for perceptions of the wider journalism industry too.

Six: Have a more representative newsroom. Journalism has a class problem. We also need more women, people of colour and a wider spectrum of political beliefs and educational backgrounds in newsrooms.

Newsroom demographics - and world views - must more closely align to the public. Without this, it's too easy to (often rightly) accuse newsrooms of bias and of being out of touch.

So, we need to make it pay. According to the Reuters Institute, only 16 per cent among digital news consumers in the US pay for news - through subscrip-

tions, memberships or donations. "Most Americans", (71 per cent) according to the Pew Research Centre, "think their local news media are doing just fine financially".

The financial reality is different, and more than 1,800 local papers have closed since 2004. Over 1,300 communities lack original local reporting, while other areas are at risk of joining this list. Avoiding this is essential for the future prosperity of local journalism and the information needs of local communities.

Seven: Be relentlessly local. At a time of content proliferation, with audiences having access to more media than ever before (much of it for free), there's a business imperative to be both distinctive and meaningful.

Unless you offer content of value, people will not pay for it. Less than two-thirds (61 per cent) of respondents told Knight/Gallup researchers that local news organisations do an "excellent" or "good" job covering what is going on in their areas.

Eight: Make it work for mobile. Similarly, with audiences increasingly likely to consume local and other news online and via smartphones, newsrooms need to improve their digital offer. Too often, the user experience is poor.

News organisations at all levels - especially local - need to improve the look and feel of their websites and online content so that it is less cluttered, which means fewer distracting advertisements, and easier to use.

Nine: Don't be shy about showing impact. One of the most striking statistics from the Knight/Gallup study revealed that "Americans are not fully persuaded that local news is holding powerful people and institutions accountable."

Sixty per cent of respondents felt that local news only does a "fair" or "poor" job of accountability reporting. Nearly two-thirds indicated a desire for greater coverage of subjects like drug addiction, the environment and planned public works.

Local newsrooms need to take

heed of this. They not only need to do a better job, they also need to do a better job of highlighting their impact and successes.

Ten: Offer a broad story mix. Although watchdog reporting is a cornerstone of journalism, too much of it can be overwhelming for audiences. Avoiding the news is a very real concern, and the combative, often depressing, nature of the news turns many people off.

Alongside the need for the media to act as a check on those in power, audiences want local news outlets to be a "good neighbour". Lighter, community-orientated stories matter, as do stories that report on potential solutions to problems.

"You need your pit bulls and you need your poodles," my friend Kevin Anderson once told me, when reflecting on the mix of skills, personnel and content needed in local newsrooms.

Now, what about looking ahead? Typically, as shown in research from Pew and Knight/Gallup, Americans believe that local news media outlets do a good job, in terms of being accurate, useful, trustworthy and caring.

This is a valuable foundation to build on - and not least because research suggests that without a vibrant local news industry, fewer people run for office and citizens become less engaged with elections.

Moreover, positive effects such as the link between consumption of local news and civic engagement, the local media's ability to act as a check on those in power, create an informed citizenry or foster a sense of community, also risk being lost.

It is noteworthy and widely acknowledged that local journalism may be more trusted than the national media, but this is not to suggest that it can afford to rest on its laurels.

**A piece by the International Journalists' Network (IJNet), a project of the Washington-based International Centre for Journalists (ICJ).**  
**Damian Radcliffe is a Carolyn S. Chambers Professor in Journalism and a Professor of Practice at the University of Oregon in the US.**

## Why poaching has decreased dramatically in Mozambique's Niassa Reserve

MOZAMBIQUE'S far northern Niassa National Reserve, one of the great wilderness areas of Africa, was also until recently an elephant killing field where poachers operated with virtual impunity. Now, the poaching has been dramatically curbed and the ivory trade disrupted. The Global Initiative Against Transnational Organised Crime reports.

From 2009 to 2014, Mozambique lost nearly half its elephants to poaching: the elephant population declined from an estimated 20,000 to 10,300. The majority of this loss occurred in the Niassa National Reserve in northern Mozambique, where the population fell from an estimated 12,000 in 2011 to about 4,440 animals in 2014.

Despite the significantly lower density of elephants in Niassa, the poaching continued into 2017 and early 2018. However, in May 2019, Mozambique's National Administration of Conservation Areas (ANAC) announced that it had been a year since a poached elephant had last been found in the reserve. Later in 2019, ANAC released the results of the 2018 national elephant census, revealing a stabilisation of the national population, with an estimated 9,122 animals, although losses are still occurring in key populations in the west and south-west.

Niassa Reserve, at 42,300km<sup>2</sup>, slightly larger than Switzerland, is one of Africa's few remaining remote wilderness areas where large elephant, lion and wild dog populations still roam. This started changing in 2009 when the rampant elephant poaching underway in Tanzania shifted south across the Rovuma River into the northern part of the Niassa Reserve and affected the whole reserve by 2013-2014.

By 2014, the poaching had also become increasingly professionalised, carried out by specialised gangs using high-calibre hunting rifles.

By late 2014, northern Mozambique, and the port of Pemba in particular, had become a significant hub for ivory

trafficking. Ivory was trafficked from Uganda, and possibly further west, overland and by dhow down the coast from Tanzania to northern Mozambique and then to Asia.

By 2016, ivory stockpiles in Mozambique were being raided, and poaching of the Niassa Reserve elephants continued, even though the low density of elephants made them hard to find. Before 2014, most ivory from elephants poached in northern Mozambique was moved into Tanzania and exited the African continent from East Africa; but with the shift of trafficking to Pemba and Nacala in northern Mozambique, ivory stolen from stockpiles and poached in the Niassa Reserve began moving directly from Mozambique.

The first actions that contributed to the later reduction in poaching started in 2017 and 2018.

A key event was the July 2017 arrest and repatriation to Tanzania of a major ivory trafficker who had been operating in northern Mozambique with impunity since 2013. The arrest and transfer were the result of a three-year investigation involving a multi-agency collaboration between ANAC, the National Criminal Investigation Service of the Police, and the Attorney General's Office, with NGO and donor support.

In 2014, this trafficker had been operating five poaching gangs in the Niassa Reserve. Just two of the gangs had together supplied him with 825kg that year alone. There is also evidence tying him to the theft of 867 pieces of ivory from a stockpile in northern Mozambique in late 2016. He was well known for maintaining a local network of bribery payments to maintain his anonymity and security - making his arrest and repatriation even more notable.

Following this arrest, and based on information gained from interrogations, a further six ivory traffickers operating on the eastern side of the Niassa Reserve were arrested and convicted in court in the province of Cabo Delgado



**During the poaching crisis Mozambique lost almost 10,000 elephants - including this one from the Niassa National Reserve - in just five years. A combined effort of law enforcement and park management has helped bring poaching in the reserve down to nothing today. File photo**

in northern Mozambique. At the same time, higher-level networks trafficking ivory from the ports of northern Mozambique were being exposed, and in some cases dismantled and individuals arrested.

Recent fieldwork in Pemba, Mozambique, by a Global Initiative team found no indication of ivory being trafficked through that port. Other sources in the area have indicated that the local ivory trade has ceased because the perceived threat of arrest and conviction is high. The same sources suggested that local ivory traders are holding small stockpiles from the past, but are too afraid to move or sell them.

In early 2018, changes were also made on the ground in the Niassa Reserve. Key partners - ANAC, the police, the Wildlife Conservation Society (ANAC's co-management partner for the reserve), the Niassa Conservation Alliance and other operators - began to implement a coordinated anti-poaching strategy. This included deploying a

specialised rapid-response police unit, appointing a senior police liaison officer to coordinate all police forces with reserve scouts, better equipping the scouts, making a light aircraft available year-round, and chartering a helicopter during the 2018 and 2019 wet seasons.

Improvements in communications were also made through investment in a radio network and regular meetings between the partners. In addition, the partnership cleared out illegal mining and fishing camps in the reserve. Finally, a significant proportion of the elephant population was collared and tracked in order to focus protection activities. In the first 12 months that the police rapid-response unit operated in the reserve, they arrested 46 people, of whom 26 were convicted.

A final key component of the reduction in elephant poaching in Niassa Reserve has been high-level political support. In November 2018, Mozambique's president, Filipe

Nyusi, visited the reserve and participated in a widely publicised elephant-collaring operation. He used this opportunity to emphasise the need to restore the rule of law, while also reducing resource conflicts with local people.

It is unlikely that the decline in elephant poaching in the Niassa Reserve is purely the result of effective anti-poaching operations and increased sentencing. Our recent fieldwork ascertained that while ivory from the Niassa Reserve was not for sale, live pangolins are, and local sources confirm that pangolin scales and lion bones originating from the reserve still transit Pemba and can be sourced if wanted.

It is not surprising that anti-poaching operations alone in an area the size of the Niassa Reserve have not stopped illegal wildlife trade across the board. Further, there is evidence that sentence length alone is not a good deterrent, but rather the likelihood of being caught and a sanction occurring have a higher impact on deterrence. This may be exacerbated in Mozambique where prison overcrowding means that prisoners are fairly regularly released early to make space for new offenders.

Therefore, while effective anti-poaching operations and effective sentencing are key components of improving the rule of law in and around protected areas, there may be several other key factors that are critical to reducing organised high-value poaching. In this instance, key specific factors include:

- The 2017 arrest of northern Mozambique's most notorious ivory trafficker, who was the key link between poaching and stockpile thefts in northern Mozambique and the Pemba ivory traffickers;

- The immediate follow-on arrests of lower-level ivory traffickers;

- Disruption of the corrupt protection of ivory traffickers and poachers, which has, in turn, broken the general perception of impunity;

- The increased perception of the likelihood of arrest and conviction for ivory trafficking resulting from the recent crackdown;

- Reduced demand for ivory from traffickers in Pemba, which had become a major centre for transnational ivory trafficking;

- Cooperation between trusted individuals in key government law enforcement agencies (ANAC, the National Criminal Investigation Service and the Attorney General's Office), to overcome information leakage from local law-enforcement agencies;

- Direct operational support from donors and NGO partners for these cooperating law-enforcement activities;

- The work of international law-enforcement agencies to dismantle the ivory-trafficking networks operating from northern Mozambique; and

- High-level political support.

At the same time, the wider context of the breakdown of the rule of law in northern Mozambique due to ongoing violence, and other ongoing illicit trades in the region, must be borne in mind. The specific successes described here should be attributed to improved rule of law that focused on a specific product - ivory. This has overcome a culture of impunity and created a feeling of vulnerability in the criminal networks dealing with that product.

**Agencies**



# Trade in services matters for development and inclusiveness in Africa

By Ambassador Amina Mohamed

THE rise of the services economy around the world represents a profound transformation that offers significant opportunities for countries' sustainable development strategies.

Globally, services now comprise the largest share of economic activity and employment, accounting for almost two-thirds of global GDP.

In Africa, services have grown and now account for over 50 per cent of GDP, including for almost 60 per cent of GDP in East Africa.

For African countries that are not resource-rich, in particular, services have contributed for the greater part of annual GDP growth since 2000, com-

pared to manufacturing and agriculture.

The rise of services is also occurring in the sphere of international trade and investment. Services are increasingly tradable as a result of technological advances and now represent the fastest growing component of world trade, as well as account for the largest share of global foreign direct investment.

Services trade is important from a development perspective for various reasons. A range of services - from finance to telecommunications or logistics - are essential to facilitate all other economic activities, and are therefore critical to economies' overall competitiveness and growth.

Access to affordable and efficient services, through trade

and investment, benefits all other economic sectors and improves export performance in manufacturing and agriculture.

Services also offer increasing opportunities for exports and diversification.

While Africa still only accounts for a small share of total world services trade, the region's exports grew by 10 per cent in 2018. Services exports of least-developed countries (LDCs), the majority of which are African countries, increased by 15 per cent in 2018, though their share of world services trade remains minute.

In the case of Kenya, several services sectors, such as tourism, aviation, finance and ICT, have flourished and boosted the country's exports and economic growth. Other Indus-

tries including, the cut flowers industry have done extremely well as a result of efficient logistics services.

By its very nature, services trade can be instrumental in efforts to promote inclusiveness by providing increased opportunities to women and micro, small and medium-sized enterprises (MSMEs).

Globally, the services sector employs more women than other sectors and hosts large numbers of MSMEs. A dynamic and expanding services sector, encouraged by growing trade and investment, contributes to the empowerment of women and enhances economic and social inclusion.

Finally, services are an essential part of regional integration efforts, as recognized by governments in the context of the

African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA). Strengthening economic relationships in Africa - including by facilitating the development of agriculture and industrialization - requires a strong services sector in the region.

In Kenya, for example, suppliers and distributors of telecom, transport and financial services play a fundamental role in facilitating broader trade integration in East Africa. Services enable landlocked countries overcome geographical constraints and effectively access regional and global markets for their products.

At the regional level, trade agreements, in particular the AfCFTA, are indispensable in supporting the sector's expansion and growth.

They will ensure that all

countries benefit from such expansion of economic activity by creating new trade opportunities and fostering transparency and predictability through clear and mutually advantageous rules. A key test for the AfCFTA would be whether it promotes inclusive growth and sustainable development of all African countries and not just a few.

At the multilateral level, engagement on services has the potential to complement regional efforts and help advance national objectives, while contributing to building a climate conducive for the advancement of African negotiating interests in agriculture and other areas. WTO Members took a notable step in promoting the further integration of LDCs in the trading sys-

tem by adopting, in 2011, the services waiver, which allows these economies to receive preferential access for their services exports. But to increase the participation of developing countries, including African countries, the capacity constraints faced by them need to be taken into account.

Trade obligations on services are best complemented by the international community's efforts, in the context of Aid for Trade, to help build domestic services capacity and support governments' regulatory and trade facilitative efforts.

Paying due attention to both aspects will be key to ensuring that services trade helps fulfil development aspirations of many developing countries.

IPS

## Brewer inaugurates Kizibo Pesa promotion campaign

By Guardian Correspondent

TANZANIA Breweries Limited (TBL) has launched a campaign named 'Kizibo Pesa' where a crown of Safari Lager beer 500ml becomes a currency and consumers stand a chance to get instant reward of 200/- discount on their next purchase of the beer.

Speaking at a press conference held on Monday in Dar es Salaam, Safari Lager's Brand Manager, Pamela Kikuli, told reporters that "over the years, TBL has been awarded with multiple golden trophies across our brands portfolio.

"We figured it is important to celebrate these milestones with a golden

trophy to show appreciation to all our loyal consumers.

"We want to reward them first through our Safari Lager brand by offering a 200 discount on their next purchase of Safari 500mls."

She added: "The consumer will be able to purchase a Safari Lager beer of 500ml and check under the crown (kizibo), if it's imprinted with Tshs 200, then the customer will be awarded with the discount.

"Each consumer will have a 50% probability of winning by just drinking Safari Lager, the most rewarding beer brand in Tanzania."

The country wide campaign, which will run for 2 months (March -May, 2020), will enable all Safari

Lager consumers with Kizibo Pesa crowns to request for their discounts at any authorized Kizibo Pesa points of consumption(bars).

"By exchanging ten golden-plated crowns, the consumer will be able to enjoy a free cold beer for the ultimate refreshment", Pamela explained.

According to Pamela, friends can collect 200 crowns of Safari Lager 500mls to redeem a full crate of Safari Lager beers.

"The Kizibo Pesa crowns are worth cash, friends can enjoy the beer, collect and exchange 200 total Kizibo Pesa crowns to redeem a full case of Safari Lager 500ml," she concluded.



## Motorbike taxi ban sees Lagos grind to a halt

LAGOS

EVEN before a sudden controversial ban on motorcycle taxis and tricycles in Nigeria's commercial capital, Lagos, crippling traffic jams were a daily ordeal for its more than 20 million inhabitants.

Now just a week on, getting around the city has become even more difficult. There are endless queues at bus stops and crowds of tired and exasperated pedestrians, assaulted by acrid exhaust fumes and the cacophony of drivers stuck in traffic jams honking their car horns.

"Monday, when the ban started, I spent seven hours on the road. Tuesday I spent almost nine hours in traffic jams," says Ayobayo Babade, a real estate agent.

He tries to remain upbeat. "Now I bring my laptop and I work in the taxi," he smiles.

## One decade left to end hunger: Growth in hope on small farms

By Gilbert F. Hounbo

EXTREME weather events are becoming the new normal, posing an existential threat to our food systems.

As a new decade dawns, it seems that the world is truly at a tipping point: Australia scorched by fire; cropland ravaged by floods in Europe; locusts swarming East Africa's farms; and a record 45 million people facing food crisis in southern Africa.

Extreme weather events are becoming the new normal, posing an existential threat to our food systems - and by extension, to ourselves. Every day 820 million people go hungry, and the wealth gap is widening. It is the poorest and most marginalized that are most often left behind. On our current trajectory, we will not reach the first two Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to end extreme poverty and hunger by 2030.

But there is hope. And that hope lies in the rural small-scale farmers who generate income and food for the world's poorest people.

We know, of course, that agriculture is affected by climatic conditions, and also that agricultural practices have an impact on the climate. But the global importance of investing in small farms is often overlooked.

Half the world's food calories are produced by small-scale farmers on just 30 per cent of the world's agricultural land. These farmers have a strong personal incentive to get the most from their land and from their own labour. They also tend to grow a wider range of crop varieties that are adapted to local conditions.

Greater agricultural diversity makes cropping systems less vulnerable to epidemics caused by pests and diseases, it improves soil fertility, and strengthens resilience to floods and droughts. Climate-smart practices reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance carbon sequestration; they can recharge the water tables and prevent landslides and dust storms. In short, they protect the natural capital that is the foundation of life, livelihoods and economies in rural areas.



### EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Maendeleo Bank Plc commenced operations in September 2013 as a Regional Bank with its Headquarters at Luther House, Sokoine Drive - Dar es Salaam. It is the first bank in Tanzania to be registered in Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange (DSE) from its inception through Enterprise Growth Market (EGM) window. The bank has been awarded as 'the best listed bank in the Country' for the year 2018 by DSE.

In its efforts to expand and strengthen its operations, the Bank wishes to recruit self-motivated, result oriented and suitably qualified candidates to fill the positions available in its staff complements as here-below:

#### 1. HEAD OF RETAIL BANKING (One position)

**Job Summary:** Reporting to the Managing Director, the Jobholder will be responsible for driving retail banking business within the Bank.

- 1. Overall Purpose Of the Job:**
- To drive retail banking business within the Bank.
  - To keep introducing competitive and innovative retail banking products and services, these includes, digital related products, liabilities, assets and other related products and services.
  - Building retail and business banking asset book and creating related revenue pools by strengthening /renewing the existing products.
  - To formulate a coordinated distribution strategy of the bank (conventional and digital) and propose to the Board - EXCOM through Managing Director/Management Committee.
  - To formulate a coordinated retail banking strategy where all the employees, branches and sales team work in one direction to increase customer base, balance sheet and revenue, hence increasing the profitability of the bank.

#### 2. Key Responsibilities:

- To stay abreast of retail banking industry trends, role players and opportunities and challenges to ensure that the business is well positioned to provide competitive and value adding products and services
- Provide strategic leadership and comprehensive business management of the bank including business generation, meet client expectations and customer relationships in line with strategic objective of the bank.
- Plan, organize and coordinate day to day Retail Banking activities to ensure the business maintain competitive advantage, reduce cost and improve profitability.
- To maintain and be accountable for asset quantity and quality of retail loan book.
- Work closely with all other business units to leverage to cross sell and achieve operational efficiencies.
- Run the sales management process for all retail - conventional and digital products.
- Drive a culture of proactive compliance and risk management within the retail banking team and the function as a whole.
- Prepare annual budget for retail banking and review as it may be required from time to time.
- Build retail asset portfolio aligned to bank's strategy setting up of retail credit sales and management team in collaboration with Head of Credit, an ideal platform to attain business objectives.
- Respond to customers' inquiry and handle customers' claims on time as appropriate.
- To participate in recruitment, training and management of staff who are under Retail Banking Department.
- Any other related duties as assigned by Superior from time to time.

#### 3. Supervisory Responsibilities:

Manage all Branch Managers, Business Development Manager and subordinate employees under the Retail Department. Responsibilities include, growing retail business, training employees; planning, appraising performances; disciplining employees; addressing complaints and resolving problems.

#### 4. Minimum Qualifications and Experience Required:

The position carries a Competitive salary and packages commensurate to qualifications and experience of the successful candidates.

Holder of Bachelor Degree in Finance or Business related Degree. Possession of Professional Banking Certification / Master's Degree in Business related subject studies would

be an added advantage. Other qualities required are:

- At least 8 years' experience in the retail banking and lending or related activities of which 3 years' experience is on a Senior Management level
- In depth understanding of full range of Retail, Local business and an overview of Corporate
- Have flair in providing faster turnaround enabling quick decision making
- Diligent on Regulatory and other compliances, including formulation and adherence to process and procedures
- Time management and organizational skills
- Ability to work well under pressure.

#### 2. MANAGER BANCASSURANCE (One position)

**Job Summary:** Reporting to Head of Finance, the Job holder will be responsible for managing, developing and growing insurance portfolio on daily basis. H/She will be responsible with business growth, excellent customer service, operational compliance, staff development and performance management.

#### Key Accountabilities

- To provide leadership and comprehensively manage the activities of the Bancassurance within the bank including business generation, management and grow insurance business by meeting the set targets from time to time.
- Plan, organize and coordinate day to day running of the department.
- Respond to customer enquiries and handle customer claims;
- Key contact person to Tanzania Insurance Regulatory Authority (TIRA) and Bank of Tanzania and responsible for providing all necessary regulatory reports and compliance;
- Accomplish departmental objectives by establishing plans, budgets, and results measurements; Allocating resources; reviewing progress; making mid-course corrections.
- Developing and maintaining good working relationships with clients, primarily Insurance Companies and other players.
- Review financial statements, sales and activity reports, and other performance data to measure productivity and goal achievement and to determine areas needing cost reduction and program improvement.
- Any other related duties as assigned by Superior from time to time.

#### Minimum Qualifications and Experience Required:

Holder of Bachelor Degree/Advanced Diploma in Insurance from any recognized University. Possession of Insurance professional certification will be an added advantage. Experience in Bancassurance relationship is highly encouraged. Other qualities required are:

- At least 8 years' experience in the insurance industry with extensive knowledge of sales and marketing.
- Sound knowledge of the Insurance products and services and TIRA regulations;
- High levels of professionalism, honest with impeccable integrity (high ethical standards);
- Good management ability with capacity to grow, support and develop talent within the agency;
- Demonstrable business acumen and excellent communication, social and presentation skills.

#### Remuneration:

The above positions carry Competitive remuneration package commensurate to qualifications and experience of the successful candidates.

#### Mode of Application:

Applications addressed to the Managing Director enclosing detailed curriculum vitae, full contacts (address and telephone numbers) and three referees should be sent through E-mail: [hr@maendeleobank.co.tz](mailto:hr@maendeleobank.co.tz) latest by **20th March 2020 before 16.00 hours.**

'Maendeleo Bank Plc is equal employer'



# Shrouded in silence: The death of a schoolboy in South Africa

Johannesburg, South Africa

**T**HIRTEEN-YEAR-OLD Enock Mpianzi lay in bed, restless with excitement. The next day - Wednesday, January 15 - would be his first as a high school student.

It would also be his first time attending a sleepaway camp - two nights in the bush with his classmates as part of orientation into Parktown Boys' High School, a prestigious school in the formerly white-only northern suburbs of Johannesburg.

"Tomorrow is going to be a great day," he told his parents, Congolese immigrants who had arrived in South Africa in 2001, and his three older brothers.

The next day, Enock, 197 other pupils and seven teachers headed to the Nyati Bush and River Break lodge, a nature lodge and campground some 70 kilometres (44 miles) northwest of Johannesburg.

## By sunset, Enock was dead.

He had reportedly drowned during a rafting activity. But it took until Thursday for the school to realise he was missing and until Friday for his swollen, lifeless body to emerge from the Crocodile River.

## A nation in shock

On February 1, as Enock's burgundy coffin was lowered into the ground at Johannesburg's West Park Cemetery, there were still questions about the circumstances surrounding his death.

After a preliminary investigation, the results of which were released at the end of January, the department of education said the trip was "an unauthorised activity" that had not been approved by district authorities. The provincial Education Minister Panyaza Lesufi suspended the principal of Parktown Boys', and a forensic investigation was launched to look into Enock's death. The results of the forensic investigation were due to be released last week but have been delayed, reportedly to allow for consultation with the Mpianzi family.

Enock's funeral service that day was attended by his family, friends, a government representative and a member of the opposition Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF) party. It was also streamed live by South Africa's state broadcaster to a nation shocked by the schoolboy's death.

Although Parktown Boys' held a separate memorial service for Enock earlier that week, Enock's mother, Anto Mpianzi, told Al Jazeera the school "did not even bother to attend his funeral".

"We are shocked and still looking for answers because nobody from the school is talking to us," she said, speaking in French, her words translated by Enock's oldest brother, Yves, at her brother-in-law's house in the suburb of Malvern a day after the funeral.

On February 20, Ian Levitt, a lawyer for the family, told local media the school had not reached out to the Mpianzis "in any meaningful manner" since the loss of their son.

## Desegregated, but not equal

Founded in 1923, Parktown Boys' is one of the oldest schools in Johannesburg, and among the best-performing high schools on the continent.

Although not as elite as the country's private schools - fees for which can range from 130,000 rands (\$8,500) to 300,000 rands (\$19,400) a year - Parktown Boys' is a former "Model-C" school. These partially government-funded schools were reserved for white children under apartheid and, nearly 30 years after South African schools were desegregated, they continue to enjoy the legacy of their past privilege.

Under apartheid, schools for white



**Enock Mpianzi, centre, with his mother and brother at Parktown Boys' High School the day he left for camp. File photo**

children were better-equipped and funded than those for non-white children, with schools for black children being particularly disadvantaged. Today, historically black schools and those in historically black areas continue to be under-resourced.

Parktown Boys' - the main building of which is a heritage site - has a 4.6 million rands (\$300,000) sport centre, facilities for water polo, hockey, rugby, and golf, a broad range of extracurricular activities, and funding from its alumni.

The fees are 55,000 rands (about \$3,580) a year in a country where the average worker reportedly earns less than 7,000 rands (\$450) a month.

For Enock's family, that is a significant sum. His father, Guy-Itamba Mpianzi, does not have a regular job, although he has occasionally worked selling cars, and Anto is unemployed. They scraped together the money to send him to school and often have to rely on extended family and friends for financial support. They borrowed 870 rands (\$58) to cover the cost of sending Enock to the camp.

But, Enock's brother, Yves, told the mourners at his funeral: "To us, sending someone like Enock to school was not a wild card."

As his other brothers - Mordecai and Shadrack - stood, eyes downcast, by his side with Enock's coffin in front of them, Yves continued: "Neither was it a game that we were playing with his life, for him to be later packed and shown back to us as a body that had no more life in it."

Enock was, Yves told the crowd, the sheltered "egg that we were very protective of".

"We sent Enock to that particular school, Parktown Boys', so that he could be a better person in society. But why are the people that we entrusted his life with betraying us, showing us that they are unable to do exactly that?"

## Commodifying opportunity

Enock, who dreamed of matriculating at Parktown Boys' High School and of becoming a lawyer one day, had many hopes for his future.

In December, he had listed them in a letter to God.

A little over a month later, his cousin, Debora Kodiemoka, read that letter aloud at his funeral:

"Things I don't want to happen: I don't want to get shot. I don't want to be stabbed.

I don't want to be robbed. I don't want to get killed. I don't want to be defeated by peer pressure, such as killing, stealing, smoking and drinking. What I want for God to do for me: I would like for God to help me pay for my school fees. To help me in both my academics and sports. To help me make good friends next year. To help me pass grade 8 to grade 12. To help me become good at subjects that I'm struggling with. I want for God to give my mother a job. For God to give us a safe place to live in Jo'burg. For God to bless my mom to be there on my wedding day. For my mother to be there to hold her grandchildren. And please God, buy me a Playstation 4."

Mbuyiseni Ndlozi from the opposition EFF party - which has offered the family free legal assistance as they seek answers about Enock's death - also addressed mourners at the funeral.

"[Enock] went to this school because they believed it is a better school. Because we still live in a country where there are better schools," Ndlozi said. "And these schools are found in white communities. These schools are under white management. These schools are expensive to enter. They are commodified."

Decades after apartheid ended, racial and economic realities still limit access to education, as the majority of low-income earners who live in the vicinity of ill-equipped schools are black, while the best schools tend to be in expensive suburbs which remain largely white.

"A life worth less than a life jacket" At the house in Malvern the day after the funeral, Anto told Al Jazeera that the family wanted the best for Enock.

"He was really excited," she explained, "because he had never been to a camp before and we were so certain that the school would take care of him."

"What has happened now is very painful."

Initial reports in South African media suggested that Enock had died because his parents could not afford a life jacket for him. What

these reports did not mention was that the school had not requested that parents pay for or provide life jackets, as a letter the school sent to parents before the trip later revealed.

The news of Enock's death spawned a public outcry against Parktown Boys', with many accusing it of negligence. In the week after the drowning, some protesters gathered outside the school, carrying placards with slogans like "A black child's life is worth less than the price of a life jacket".

In the month since the funeral, the school has maintained its silence while Lesufi, the minister of education for the Gauteng province, of which Johannesburg is a part, said the findings of the still unreleased forensic report revealed "lots and lots of wrongdoing by those that have been given the mandate to take care of our children".

The Mpianzi family, meanwhile, has largely stopped talking to the media and has called for criminal charges to be filed against those responsible.

## 'All we want is the truth'

The Mpianzis have a flat in Yeoville, an inner-city area that is home to many migrant families - mostly from across sub-Saharan Africa - who moved to South Africa after apartheid ended in search of a better life.

It is barely 4km (2.5 miles) east of the leafy, historically white, middle-class suburb of Parktown. But, while Parktown hosts a number of historic mansions and heritage sites, Yeoville - once a hub for art and entertainment - has seen better days.

Since Enock's death, his family has spent more time at the home of his uncle, Sebastian Kodiemoka, in Malvern, a working-to-middle-class suburb 6km (3.8 miles) east of Yeoville.

The Malvern house was a hub of activity in the days after Enock's funeral, with mourners, neighbours, family and friends going in and out.

"This is home for all," Sebastian told Al Jazeera, sitting on a garden chair inside a sparsely furnished room. "I asked [Enock's family] to come and stay with me here because it is bigger and more comfortable than the flat in Yeoville."

Sebastian expressed the family's need for closure and for justice. "All we want is the truth from the school and the government," he said.

## 'Negligence'

For Anto, the last day she saw her son alive started with joy and anticipation.

Although the details of what happened that day remain sketchy, media reports - including an anonymous testimony from a pupil who was on the trip - paint a picture that many believe points to negligence.

Among the details that have emerged - trickling out in statements from the school and camp, addresses by the provincial minister of education, media reports, and rare student testimonies - are some of the following: that Enock and fellow grade eight pupils were instructed to build a makeshift raft and use it to cross the Crocodile River; that the raft (sometimes called a "stretcher") had to be built using thin bamboo sticks and shoelaces; that while

making their way across the river, the raft capsized; that when the boys screamed for help, there were no teachers nearby; that the pupils were not wearing life jackets; and that after the other boys made it to safety and informed teachers that Enock was missing, the teachers dismissed their concerns.

Enock was reportedly carried away by the river's strong current. The pupil, who spoke anonymously to a local radio station, said the raft capsized soon after they got into the water; that the boys struggled to grip onto the bamboo sticks as they came loose, and that he saw Enock struggling to swim.

The school and the camp each made statements in the wake of the accident. The school provided a basic timeline and some details about what happened, while Nyati lodge said it had not received a list of pupils' names from Parktown Boys' before the camp started, and that no roll call was done on the day Enock died, which is why it took hours to realise he was missing.

Al Jazeera attempted to contact Parktown Boys' and Nyati lodge several times during the reporting for this article. No one at the school was available to comment, while calls to the camp went unanswered.

## 'Culture of silence'

Speaking at the memorial service that was held at Parktown Boys' on January 28, provincial Education Minister Lesufi urged pupils to speak out and to not feel pressured into silence.

"No child under our leadership ... will be attacked, traumatised and not be allowed to speak purely because there is a code of conduct that says 'boys are boys' and 'boys are men, and they must not cry,'" he said.

"I urge you, where you see wrong, say it; I will protect you."

Days before, the pupil who spoke to the media anonymously said the school's principal had instructed students who were at the camp not to talk to anyone about the incident.

It is not the first time there have been suggestions that there is an entrenched "culture of silence" at Parktown Boys'. In 2018, the school's assistant water polo coach Collan Rex was convicted of 144 charges of sexual abuse and 14 counts of assault involving 23 pupils in a trial that shone a light on an unofficial code of silence at the school.

"The Mpianzi incident raises questions on the continued use of initiation and of toxic masculinity inherent in many schools," Fara-naaz Veriava, head of education at Section 27, a South African NGO, told Al Jazeera.

"The culture of silence surrounding incidents such as the Mpianzi case further exacerbates the wrongs inherent in the classist and unequal atmosphere at the formerly white schools, and alienates pupils," she said.

"A dream lost" For many, Enock's story has served to highlight that while, in theory, all South Africans now have access to all schools, poorer black pupils may face a less direct - but still

potentially deadly - form of discrimination.

Explaining the opening up of former Model-C schools in a newspaper column in January, columnist Eusebius McKaiser wrote that black people "were so excited by the aesthetic of black and white kids going to former Model-C schools in the 1990s, the image of and yearning for an integrated post-racial middle-class to come, that [they] didn't want to or refused to [depending on how kind you want to be in your self-examination] ask tough questions about the institutional values, cultural norms and practices of these schools".

Pierre de Vos, a professor of constitutional law at the University of Cape Town, believes schools can do much more to create an educational climate that does not turn difference into discrimination.

"Indirect racial discrimination occurs when measures that seem to have nothing to do with race disproportionately impact on people of a specific race," de Vos explained.

"A failure to understand that not all pupils are the same and not all come from the same economic circumstances inevitably leads to unfairness. If schools do not respect difference and diversity and do not take pro-active steps to deal with difference, unfair discrimination inevitably arises."

Author Malaika Wa Azania - referencing her 2015 book, *Memoirs of a Born Free: Reflections on the Rainbow Nation* - has publicly stated: "The reality is that attending these [former white] schools puts black children at a better position to access institutions of higher learning of quality. Had I never gone to a former Model C school, I was never going to walk the corridors of Rhodes University."

But attending a prestigious school did not save Enock, the EFF's Ndlozi told mourners.

"Many kids wake up every day to cross dangerous rivers just to go and ask for education ... But in proper schools, these things don't happen. In proper schools in suburban areas of the country, there is better care. So how did Enock, in a school declared to be better, have to be a casualty in a river," he asked.

## For those in Enock's family and community, the loss is palpable.

"His parents had a dream for their son," Jean Bwasa, a Mpianzi family friend and educator, said at Enock's funeral. "His father said Enock desired to study in a good school, a 'good school,' Bwasa gestured to emphasise the words. "He lived up to his promise to give his boy the opportunity to be the best ... the opportunity to be among the best, the opportunity - if only to give him the chance - to be the best he could be. And Parktown was his dream school."

Enock - Bwasa said - is now "a dream lost for his family".

"His own dream was ended on 15 January, 2020, by a system that failed to make sure that safety was crucial - not only for Enock but for any of the children on that trip, any of the children in South Africa, any of the children on the continent."

Agencies

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD =063=

In this puzzle you have no clues, only a list of words that all fit into the grid. The Guardian have given you a head start.

WORD FIT

CROSSWORD

3 Letter word: ZOO, ORE, AGE, ONE, EVE, RED, GET  
4 Letter word: KNEE, MAAR, NIDE, NEVE,  
5 Letter word: MONEY, EIDER, KENYA, CYBER, CMDRE  
HONED  
6 Letter word: MWANZA, ERSATZ, NONAGE, GROOVE  
7 Letter word: OVER-EGG, EDITORS  
8 Letter word: ZANZIBAR, NYAMIWEZI

Clues: Across  
1. Device for separating cream (7)  
2. The membrane of the middle ear (7)  
3. Trailing plant (5)  
4. Proceed in an irregular course (7)  
5. Eighth letter of the Greek alphabet (5)  
6. Something remains after the main part has gone (7) 8. Waterbird (4)  
11. Hinged panels fixed in a window that can be closed for security (7)  
13. Tell a story (7) 071555321  
15. Extraordinary (7)  
22. Fibres used in sewing (7)  
23. Enure (5)  
24. Institute legal proceeding against a person (3) 25. Person who settles in a new country (7)

Down:  
1. Obscene expression of anger (5)  
2. The membrane of the middle ear (7)  
3. Trailing plant (5)  
4. Proceed in an irregular course (7)  
5. Eighth letter of the Greek alphabet (5)  
6. Something remains after the main part has gone (7) 8. Waterbird (4)  
11. Hinged panels fixed in a window that can be closed for security (7)  
13. Tell a story (7) 071555321  
15. Extraordinary (7)  
22. Fibres used in sewing (7)  
23. Enure (5)  
24. Institute legal proceeding against a person (3) 25. Person who settles in a new country (7)



**Enock Mpianzi's mother Anto and father Guy-Itamba with mourners at their son's funeral. File photo**



## BUSINESS

## WARNING

## Sadc seen running out of time to cut roaming costs

## GABORONE

The Communications Regulators' Association of Southern Africa (CRASA) is reported to have requested a deadline extension on its mandate to oversee the reduction of mobile roaming charges across the Southern Africa Development Community (SADC) by 2018.

CRASA was handed the mandate by SADC member countries and local media have reported that the organisation has requested an extension after having advertised its proposal for experienced companies to develop a roaming cost model.

Bridget Linzie, Head of Electronic Communications at CRASA says the organisation will only be able to provide a detailed update on its management of the project after it obtains approval to do so from the office of SADC Executive Secretary, Dr Stergomena Lawrence Tax.

Linzie did not specify how long this would take. "Since information to the public can come only from the Executive Secretary office, according to our operational procedures, kindly allow time for response from CRASA." Companies interested in the contract to develop the cost model had until 30 November 2017 to submit their proposals to CRASA.

"Affordable roaming enables significant regional economic activity by assisting to unlock new opportunities through ease in connecting the travellers to people and business. In addition, the lowering of International Mobile Roaming cost

reduces the cost of doing business across the SADC border, allowing for free flow and reduced barriers to regional trading. Further, as trading capital freely flows throughout the region, investment in trade increases and allowing for financial integration," explained the Association in its call for proposals.

The SADC roaming project will be implemented in three phases, according to CRASA. While few SADC operators have moved to reduce roaming charges over the years, Swazi MTN recently reduced its South African roaming rates in a move the company described as an effort to align itself with objectives of the SADC initiative.

Swazi MTN's roaming prices to South Africa costs 64% less, while data charges were slashed by 51% and SMS prices by 26%. Peter Zimri, councillor at South African regulator ICASA expressed the regulator's support for reduced roaming costs in the region during the SADC ICT Ministers' meeting held in Durban last year.

"For us as South Africa, achieving low roaming charging for calls is important not only for attracting visitors to our country but it's also important for cross-border trade," said Zimri. Thirteen regulatory institutions in the SADC region are active members of CRASA and originate from Angola, Botswana, Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Lesotho, Malawi, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, South Africa, Swaziland, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

## CAUTION

## Half of beaches in world stand to vanish by 2100, warn researchers

## BRUSSELS

Climate change and sea level rise are currently on track to wipe out half the world's sandy beaches by 2100, researchers warned Monday.

Even if humanity sharply reduces the fossil fuel pollution that drives global warming, more than a third of the planet's sandy shorelines could disappear by then, crippling coastal tourism in countries large and small, they reported in the journal *Nature Climate Change*.

"Apart from tourism, sandy beaches often act as the first line of defence from coastal storms and flooding, and without them impacts of extreme weather events will probably be higher," lead author Michalis Vousdoukas, a researcher at the European Commission's Joint Research Centre, said. "We have to prepare."

Meet Thailand's secret weapon in climate change battle

Rising sea levels, unchecked development, groundwater extraction, and rapid urban population growth has left millions vulnerable to natural disasters – and scientists warn the city itself may not survive the century. But Bangkok has a secret weap...

Some countries, such as the United States, are already planning extensive defence systems, but in most nations such massive engineering schemes will be unfeasible, unaffordable or both. Australia could be hit hardest, according to the findings, with nearly 15,000 kilometres (more than 9,000 miles) of white-beach coastline washed away over the next 80 years, followed by Canada, Chile and the United States.

The 10 countries that stand to lose the most sandy shoreline also include Mexico, China, Russia, Argentina,

India and Brazil. Sandy beaches occupy more than a third of the global coastline, often in highly populated areas.

But new construction, sea level rise, storm surge from hurricanes or typhoons, and reduced sediment from dammed rivers are all eroding these shorelines, threatening livelihoods and infrastructure. To assess how quickly and by how much beaches might disappear, Vousdoukas and colleagues plotted trend lines across three decades of satellite imagery dating back to 1984.

From there, they projected future erosion under two climate change scenarios. The "worst case" RCP8.5 pathway assumes carbon emissions will continue unabated, or that Earth itself will begin to boost atmospheric greenhouse gas concentrations – from, for example, permafrost – independent of human action.

'A landmark advance'

A less dire scenario, called RCP4.5, would see humanity cap global warming at about three degrees Celsius, which is still far more than the "well below 2C" limit called for in the 2015 Paris Agreement. Under RCP8.5, the world will lose 49.5 percent of its sandy beaches by 2100 – nearly 132,000 kilometres of coastline. Even by mid-century, the loss would be more than 40,000 kilometres.

The increasingly likely RCP4.5 outlook would still see 95,000 kilometres of coastline shorn of its sand by 2100, most of it within the next 30 years. The UN's science advisory group, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, projected in a major report last September a sea level rise of a half metre by 2100 under the more optimistic scenario, and 84cm under RCP8.5.

## LUCRATIVE

## Hyped demand for 'Kuchi' chicken in Zanzibar pushing prices to record high

By Francis Kajubi

**A**BNORMAL demand for traditionally bred 'Kuchi' chicken mainly by tourists' hotels in Zanzibar has pushed prices of the birds to record levels.

Practical Permaculture Institute Zanzibar's Operations Manager, Musa William said last week that the organic bred super size chicken are selling at up to 450,000/- each for one weighing no more than two kilograms.

William said poultry farmers in the Spice Islands are quickly turning to 'Kuchi' chicken keeping which is earning them super profits compared to hybrid and normal size local birds.

Organically raised poultry and crops are on high demand in Zanzibar because the islands have many tourists who understand the benefits of consuming organic foods.

"People from the Mainland who want to benefit from this market simply need to get regulatory approvals from veterinary officials exploit this opportunity," he said.

He urged the two governments to harmonize regulations governing movement of veterinary products within the united republic so that 'Kuchi' chicken farmers and dealers in Dodoma, Singida, Shinyanga and Mwanza regions can access the isles market.

According to him, about 170 'Kuchi' birds which hens and roosters are currently being raised at PPIZ organic farm that where fruits and vegetables



High selling 'Kuchi' chickens as found at the PPIZ farm in Unguja, where they are commercially raised for sale to tourist hotels. Photo: Francis Kajubi

are also planted.

Backing William's observations, PPIZ's Manager for Permaculture Designing, Said Mwishame said the institute has also been keeping layers for eggs production alongside organic broilers for meat

production.

"At PPIZ we teach entrepreneurs who are willing to venture into raising chicken in an organic way without the use of chemicals. Both layers and broilers are treated traditionally," Mwishame said while

stressing that their growth is free range.

She named some of the layers as Rhode Island Red which originated from the Americas and are for dual purposes which means they can be raised for both eggs and meat.

"We keep 256 layers here at PPIZ which have capacity to lay 13 trays of eggs a day.

We have been selling the eggs and meat to seven tourist hotels here in Unguja," she added noting that prices for between 7,000/- and 15,000/-



Women tailors go about their work at night in Coast Region, thanks to the Solar Mtaji Programme. File photo.

## Company goes empowering women, youths through solar electrification

By Beatrice Philemon

A little known company is helping women and youths raise their incomes through Solar Mtaji Program being implemented in Coast and Dar es Salaam regions.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Sepon Limited's Public Relations Manager, Frank Swai said the company has been providing solar equipment loans to marginalized groups which in turn

use electric power generated to earn cash from consumers.

"Under Solar Mtaji Programme, we don't give people cash but provide working tools in terms of installing the solar power systems at business premises as well as provide free training on how to run their businesses professionally," Swai said.

Swai said the project main goal is to help people to improve their standard

of living through income generation using solar power which enables them to charge clients' mobile phones, conduct tailoring activities, sell cold drinks and irrigate farms which also creates employment for youths.

"This project also allows marginalized group such as women, youths and the disabled have alternative means to tame poverty in their families while avoiding dependence on

men," he added.

According to him, so far the company has already installed solar phone charging system, video centres, tailoring marts, water pumping system for irrigation, rural ICT centres and related services in the two regions where small businesses such as photocopy shops, barber shops and juicer making shops have been established.

"As Sepon we are very glad

to see what we have achieved in areas where we operate because right now women with disabilities have managed to improve their living standards," Swai noted while stressing that solar powered outlets are changing lives of thousands of people who live in off-grid areas. The project which has already reached over 1,000 youths and women in the two regions targets to double the number by 2021.



## COMPETITIVENESS

# Vodacom invests 171.4bn/- in upgrading of network infrastructure



Vodacom's acting Network Director, Andrew Lupembe, briefs military commanders at a past event. File photo.

By Guardian Reporter

**I**N a bid to improve its voice and data services in the market, Vodacom Tanzania Plc has invested over 171.4bn/- in state of the art technology including infrastructure development countrywide to give its customers unrivalled network speed, connectivity and reliability.

In addition, the modernised infrastructure also allows M-Pesa subscribers to transact anywhere in the country at their convenience including shopping, school fees, utilities and municipal payments.

Vodacom's acting Network Director, Andrew Lupembe said in Dar es Salaam recently that the investment in its infrastructure expansion over the years has boosted efficiency and raised quality of service through SupaNetwork. "The unrivalled quality

and speed offered by Vodacom's SupaNetwork is a result of huge investment made to its communication infrastructure. Our customer base of more than 14.8 million people are able to access voice and data services seamlessly wherever they are in the country," said Lupembe.

He pointed out that Vodacom Tanzania prides itself as offering the best services in the market currently with an unrivalled 4G download speed of up to 27 mbps, almost twice as fast as its next competitor.

"The company has achieved 90 percent population coverage over the years reaching urban and rural areas with its voice, data and mobile money services," Lupembe argued pointing out that despite the high quality services, the cost of data which is sometimes perceived to be expensive, remains

competitive in the market.

"Since the capacity to take data on 4G phones is higher than older phones, users should switch off automatic updates and some programs that are running in the background when using their handsets in order to save on unnecessary data usage," he counselled.

The Vodacom Network Director further noted that 99.97 percent of subscribers who use data bundles are better off as cost per megabyte is much lower compared to those who use out of bundle rate who account for only 0.03 percent of subscribers.

"So, in other words if you are spending a lot of time on line then do so through a data bundle," Lupembe advised while stressing that the improved network infrastructure also allows customers to experience our network capacity.

## EMPOWERMENT

## Kenyan women entrepreneurs to receive Sh1bn under US plan

NAIROBI

American enterprise agency, US African Development Foundation (USADF) will provide up to Sh1 billion in seed funding to Kenyan business women to grow their ventures.

The initiative, under the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE), is in support of White House-led Women's Global Development and Prosperity Initiative (W-GDP). AWE was created in 2019 and launched in 26 countries around the world to support W-GDP, which aims to economically empower 50 million women in the developing world by 2025.

USADF is partnering with US Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) to provide access to capital, markets, technical assistance, and mentorship. Ivanka Trump, President Donald Trump's advisor, said W-GDP is the first ever "whole-of-government approach" to women's economic empowerment, developed "intentionally" to inspire collaboration on best programs and partnership.

"I am proud to see the State Department and US Africa Development Foundation partner together to expand the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) in support of W-GDP," Ms Ivanka said "W-GDP is focused on scaling programs that will have maximum impact for women and communities around the world."

Through an inclusive learning community and mentoring opportunities, women from around the world will explore "the fundamentals of business", including creating business plans and raising capital, with the goal of building a better future for their families and communities across Africa and around the world. In 2020, to help achieve W-GDP's goals, ECA announced that AWE was expanding globally, doubling the number of countries to reach more women.

Other African countries that will benefit include Ghana, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. In 2019, women social entrepreneurs and women-led enterprises constituted approximately 66 percent of USADF's total investees. AWE supports Pillar 2 of W-GDP by providing women with the knowledge, skills, and networks needed to create sustainable businesses and enterprises.



**I am proud to see the State Department and US Africa Development Foundation partner together to expand the Academy for Women Entrepreneurs (AWE) in support of W-GDP," Ms Ivanka said**

## SANITARY

## NAEB improves packing house to ensure safety of horticulture exports

KIGALI

National Agricultural Export Development Board (NAEB) has unveiled its newly upgraded packing house that will help the quality and safety of Rwandan produce to meet international market requirements.

The event was officiated by the CEO of NAEB, Amb. William Bill Kayonga and Ton Negenman, First Secretary at the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in Rwanda. A packing house is a facility where fresh horticulture produce such as fruits and vegetables, are received, sorted and packed before being taken to the market.

The facility is currently handling 50 to 100 tonnes of fruits and vegetables per week for export purposes. Negenman said that it enables the private sector and a number of exporting companies to get their produce on international markets.

"At this moment, exporters making use of this packing house are exporting French beans, avocados, and chili. You can see them in the packing house, and they are ending up in supermarkets in The Netherlands, they are procured by Dutch consumers," he said.

NAEB Horticulture packing house was initially established in 2017 with the \$500,000 (about Rwf460 million) support of a World Bank project to facilitate and support the horticulture sector and preparing it for export opportunities.

From August to December 2019, the facility was upgraded with the €300,000 (about Rwf305 million) grant from HortInvest, a project funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, which promotes horticulture value chain development in Rwanda. The upgrade increased its capacity from three cold rooms to four and enhanced its cooling efficiency and handling capacity up from 516 m3 to 700 m3.

It is already contributing tremendously to the agricultural export volumes and between 45-50 percent of the fresh produce exported is packed there. It is the only Hazard Analysis Critical Control Point (HACCP) certified public packing house for handling fresh fruits and vegetables in Rwanda.

HACCP is a management system in which food safety is addressed through the analysis and control of biological,

chemical, and physical hazards. HACCP certification demonstrates to consumers that food being produced or traded meets safety standards.

"It is really to provide an environment for this food that is being packed for export, and as fresh food can be able to reach the market still fresh and not contaminated," said NAEB's CEO, Kayonga.

Impact on horticulture exports Vianney Kabera, Chairperson of

Horticulture Exporters Association of Rwanda said that before the facility was put into use, "most of the exporters were exporting from their own houses, offices, under the tree shades, and it was very alarming."

"We would harvest the produce and would have to export it that very day. We had no cooling systems in place, we had no tables where we would work from, and we had no protective gears. So, everything was in a shamble," he said.

"This facility has given us quite a number of opportunities in the market, especially that even our clients abroad have got the total confidence that they are buying our produce without quality concerns," he said.

Kabera said that the facility along with other factors including logistics, cargo flights mainly by RwandaAir contributed to the growth of Rwanda's horticultural exports. "We used to collect little produce because we did not have the means

to take care of it. But, when we got where to keep it safely for up to three days, the farmers and the produce they generate increased, which also drove up our exports.

"We started when we were three exporters, but now we are 30 exporters. We used to export 10 tonnes per week, but we are now exporting up to 100 tonnes," he said. Kabera said that exports still have some challenges they are facing.



Workers engage in sorting, grading and packing French beans at the horticulture packing house at National Agricultural Export Development Board.

## Pessimism

## Zim gets a fuel price breather - but they're still battling 'endless queues'

HARARE

Zimbabwean motorists are paying slightly more for petrol and much less for diesel, according to price changes announced by Zimbabwe Energy Regulatory Authority. The changes took effect on Friday.

The price of petrol per litre is up 12 cents to Z\$18.40 in the local currency, while that of diesel per litre will be Z\$2.27 lower at Z\$17.28.

In US dollar terms, the overall price of fuel is lower. According to ZERA, the latest price changes were the result of lower fuel prices on the international market.

The Free On Board (FOB) price of diesel to Zimbabwe was down to US\$0.4610 from US\$0.6308, while that of petrol was down to US\$0.4936 from US\$0.5517. Market watchers said fuel prices in the southern African country are probably the lowest in the region, given

the fall of the Zimbabwe dollar on the parallel market.

While the Zimbabwe dollar official exchange rate was Z\$18.46 to the US dollar on Friday, in the parallel market it had raced to 31 to the US dollar. This, market watchers say, puts the effective price per litre of petrol at US\$0.60.

"Most foreign currency trades are taking place on the parallel market rather than the official market, so the real feel of the exchange

rate is 31, not 18. "Likewise, the effective fuel price is that where you use the parallel market exchange rate. Government or someone is subsidising fuel and it is not sustainable. That's why we have these shortages and endless queues. "We are probably importing half or less of our requirements," said Harare-based analyst, Walter Mandeya of Trigrams Investment.



DECELERATION

# China factory output falls by fastest rate on record since 2004

BEIJING

Extended factory shutdowns in China to prevent the spread of the coronavirus led to production falling at the fastest rate on record, new purchasing managers' data shows.

The Caixin China General Manufacturing PMI index – a composite score measuring the health of the world's second largest economy's manufacturing sector – dropped to 40.3 in February, from 51.1 in January, signalling a "renewed decline in the health of the sector". A score above 50 indicates expansion and below 50 marks contraction.

The reading was at "the lowest level since the survey launched in early 2004", according to Zhengsheng Zhong, chairman and chief economist at CEBM Group. Both the supply and

demand side of the sector were "weak", Mr Zhong said, with output levels and new orders hitting record lows. A backlog of goods has developed as supply chains have become "stagnant", which has also caused problems with delivery times.

Despite this, the survey indicated that business confidence is improving. The gauge for future output expectations hit a five-year high as the government engaged in more proactive macroeconomic policies and targeted support towards small and medium-sized businesses.

"The economy will be able to see a significant rebound when the epidemic is gradually contained and companies accelerate the resumption of business," Mr Zhong said. Global growth could fall by 0.5 per cent this year to 2.4 per cent as a result of the coronavirus,

Caixin China General Manufacturing PMI  
sa, >50 = improvement since previous month



Sources: Caixin, IHS Markit.

A graph depicting decline in Chinese industrial outputs since 2004.

the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development said in a report on Monday, on the assumption that the epidemic peaks in the first quarter.

China's economy could decelerate below 5 per cent this year before recovering to rise above 6 per cent in 2021, the Paris-based organisation said. It said an adverse impact on confidence, financial markets, the travel sector and disruption to supply contributed to downward revisions for growth in all G20 economies, with those most strongly connected to China – Australia, Japan and South Korea – being hardest hit.

London-based Capital Economics said it expects China's GDP to drop by 2 per cent in the first quarter, but said the limited shutdowns in other countries means the impact should not be as severe. If more cases spring up in other countries that can't be traced, "it's possible that authorities may simply conclude the horse has bolted and there is little point in imposing widespread restrictions," chief economist Neil Shearing said in a note.

"At the benign end of the spectrum, in which most of the disruption is contained to China, we think the global economy may grow by about 2.5 per cent this year. That would be the weakest pace of expansion since 2009. At the other end of the spectrum, it's possible that the global economy could shrink by 0.5 per cent this year – matching the scale of the contraction experienced during the 2008-09 global financial crisis," Mr Shearing said.

INVESTMENT

## Strong royal impetus to development of economic activities in Medina of Fes

RABAT

The king of Morocco launched on Monday at the R'cif Place in Fez, the program to enhance economic activities and improve the living standards in the Medina of Fez (2020-2024), a new generation program aimed at safeguarding and perpetuating traditional trades and promoting the living conditions of citizens.

The program, worth US\$70 million, testifies to the King's constant willingness to preserve the architectural and historical character of the Medina of Fez and to promote the influence of this thousand-year-old city, inscribed in 1981 on the World Heritage list by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

It also illustrates the sovereign's high concern for the ancient Medinas of the various cities of the Kingdom in order to strengthen their tourist and cultural attractiveness, promote their civilizational and human heritage, and preserve their vocation as a place to live, work, create wealth and develop the social economy.

This new program, which concerns 1,197 sites, provides for the restoration and rehabilitation of the historical heritage of the Medina of Fez, the requalification and upgrading of urban areas, the strengthening of the tourist and economic attractiveness of this City-Museum, the development of local social facilities and the renovation of dangerously run-down housing.

Subsequently, King Mohammed VI chaired the signing ceremony of the partnership and financing agreement relating to the program to enhance economic activities and improve the living environment in the Medina of Fez.

It was signed by minister of the Interior, Abdelouafi Lafiaf, minister of Endowments and Islamic Affairs, Ahmed Toufiq, minister of National Education, Vocational Training, Higher Education and Scientific Research, Said Amzazi, and minister of National Planning, Urbanism, Housing and Urban Policy, Nouzha Bouchareb.

It was also inked by minister of Tourism, Handicrafts, Air Transport and Social Economy, Nadia Fettah Alaoui, minister of Culture, Youth and Sports, government spokesperson, El Hassan Abyaba, the Wali of the Fez-Meknes Region, governor of the

prefecture of Fez, Said Zniber, president of the Regional Council of Fez-Meknes, Mohand Laenser, and director general of the Agency for the Development and Rehabilitation of the Medina of Fez (ADER), Fouad Serrhini.

Later on, the King visited the restoration site of Foundouq Khrachfyine, a project that is part of the complementary program to enhance the Medina of Fez whose partnership and financing agreement was signed under the chairmanship of the King in May 2018 in Rabat.

Worth US\$ 625 thousand, the Foundouq Khrachfyine restoration project should, at the end of the work, contribute to the safeguarding and preservation of the historical heritage, the promotion of craft trades in the Foundouq and the improvement of working conditions for craftsmen.

Endowed with a budget of US\$60.7 million, the complementary program for the enhancement of the Medina of Fez involves the restoration of 11 historical monuments and emblematic sites, 10 places of worship (mosques and Koranic schools) and 40 places of well-being (Hammam, fountains and sanitary facilities), the rehabilitation of 39 places of crafts and traditional trade, the improvement of the urban landscape and the built environment (17 sites) and the rehabilitation of Dar Al Makina.

Regarding this program's progress, 18 projects have already been completed, 17 are under way, 38 are being launched and 45 will be launched before the end of the current year. Within the framework of the reinforcement of the tourist attractiveness of the Medina of Fez and the improvement of the living conditions of its inhabitants, a program of development of car parks, rehabilitation of public spaces and installation of an information system is being carried out.

This program, which requires an investment of about US\$41.7 million is aimed at improving accessibility to the old medina mainly through the development of eight car parks (Bin Lamdou, Bab Guissa, Bab Jdid, Bab Hamra, AinAzliten, OuedZhou, Bab Boujloud, SidiBounafae), the paving of the streets, alleys, squares, and the installation of information kiosks for the service of the inhabitants, visitors and tourists.



### ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

MONDAY 02 March	TUESDAY 03 March	WEDNESDAY 04 March	THURSDAY 05 March	FRIDAY 06 March	SATURDAY 07 March	SUNDAY 08 March	
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 Habari 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Soap: Isidingo the need 09:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Jagina rpt 11:30 Igizo rpt: Mtego 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jungu kuu rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Mjue Zaidi 13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt 14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Aibu yako rpt 18:15 Mapishi 18:45 Kesho leo 19:00 Aya ya Jamii 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 22:00 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTW	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 Habari 6:40 Kumekucha Michezo 8:00 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 09:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Jagina rpt 11:30 Igizo rpt: Mtego 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jungu kuu rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Mjue Zaidi 13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt 14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:10 Aibu yako rpt 18:15 Mapishi 18:45 Kesho leo 19:00 Aya ya Jamii 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:05 Dakika 45 22:00 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 02:00 DWTW	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:30 HABARI 8:00 Kumekucha Michezo 8:55 Habari za saa 9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo 9:30 Isidingo 09:55 Habari za saa 10:00 Watoto wetu 10:30 Korean drama: The great Queen Seondok 10:55 Habari za saa 11:00 Korean drama: The great Queen Seondok 11:20 Uchumi na biashara rpt 11:55 Habari za saa 12:00 Al Jazeera 12:30 Jarida la wanawake rpt 12:55 Habari za saa 13:00 Dakika 45 13:55 Habari za saa 14:00 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:55 Habari za saa 15:00 Meza huru 16:30 Watoto Wetu 17:00 The Base 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt 19:00 Igizo rpt: Dhoruba 19:30 Ijue Sheria 19:30 Isidingo 20:00 Habari 21:00 Aibu Yako! Hata wewe? 21:10 Kipindi Maalum: Uongozi 21:40 Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco 22:15 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 23:00 Habari 23:30 The Base 00:30 Al Jazeera 2:00 DWTW	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt 10:45 Usafiri wako rpt 11:15 Shamba lulu rpt 11:45 Mapishi rpt 12:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt 12:40 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:40 Igizo rpt: Dhoruba 15:15 Igizo: Mkaguzi 16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe 16:20 Igizo: Mtego 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Igizo: Dhoruba 19:00 Art and lifestyle 19:25 Jungu Kuu 20:00 Habari 21:00 Shangweka 21:30 Kesho leo rpt 22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja 22:15 Hawavumi lakini wamo 23:00 Isidingo rpt 01:30 DWTW	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi 6:00 HABARI 6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 9:00 Watoto wetu 10:00 Mjue Zaidi rpt 10:45 Usafiri wako rpt 11:15 Shamba lulu rpt 11:45 Mapishi rpt 12:00 Chetu ni chetu rpt 12:40 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost 14:40 Igizo rpt: Dhoruba 15:15 Igizo: Mkaguzi 16:00 Igizo rpt: Mizengwe 16:20 Igizo: Mtego 17:00 Shamsam za Pwani 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Igizo: Dhoruba 19:00 Art and lifestyle 19:25 Jungu Kuu 20:00 Habari 21:00 Shangweka 21:30 Kesho leo rpt 22:00 Kipindi maalum: Insta Moja 22:15 Hawavumi lakini wamo 23:00 Isidingo rpt 01:30 DWTW	6:40 Kumekucha 7:00 Habari 8:00 Al Jazeera 09:00 Watoto Wetu 10:00 Isidingo 11:40 Igizo: Mizengwe rpt 12:00 Bongo Movie rpt: 14:00 Tamasha la Michezo 15:00 Mwangaza 16:00 The Great queen Seondok 16:45 ITV Top 10 17:30 Kipindi cha kikristo 18:00 Jiji Letu 18:15 Mapishi 18:30 Matukio ya wiki 19:30 Igizo: Mtego 20:00 Habari 21:05 Kipindi Maalum: Biko 21:10 Mizengwe 21:30 Mjue Zaidi 22:15 Bongo Movie: 23:45 ITV Top 10 00:30 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	6:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Special pgm rpt: Sauti za Busara 16:30 Tanzania Yetu rpt 17:00 EcoAfrica rpt 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 The Décor rpt 19:30 Shamba lulu 20:00 Series: The Secret 20:45 The Monday Agenda 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Kipima Joto 00:00 Al Jazeera	17:00 Innovation rpt 17:30 Meza Huru 19:00 Sports Gazette 19:30 Chetu ni chetu 20:00 Series: The Secret 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 21:30 Capital Prime News 22:00 Dakika 45: 22:45 The Décor 23:15 Al Jazeera  Thurs 05 March 06:00 Al Jazeera 07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio) 09:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio) 13:00 Telenovela rpt: (Dónde está Elisa?) Where is Elisa? 14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio) 16:00 Series rpt: The Secret 16:30 Business edition rpt 17:00 In good shape 17:30 Meza huru 19:00 Turning the spotlight 19:30 Tanzania yetu 20:00 Series: The Secret 20:45 Telenovela: (Dónde está Elisa?) 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King Mohammed VI of Morocco.



## WORLD

## Amid growing cases, WHO says COVID-19 containment feasible with right measures

BEIJING

AS more countries confirmed their first cases of COVID-19 on Monday and the caseload has continued to spike in worst-hit regions, the World Health Organization (WHO) urged global actions to contain the epidemic with right measures.

On Monday, Indonesia reported its first confirmed cases. The two Indonesian nationals contacted a Japanese citizen who had traveled in Indonesia and was tested positive in Malaysia.

Portugal confirmed its first case, a 60-year-old doctor who had traveled to Italy, while a 33-year-old male who had returned from Spain awaits a counter-examination.

Senegal also reported its first confirmed case, a French national who returned to the capital Dakar from Paris with Air Senegal's flight, marking the second confirmed case in sub-Saharan Africa after one was detected in Nigeria.

In addition, Tunisia, Saudi Arabia, Jordan, Morocco and Latvia reported first confirmed cases in their respective countries on Monday, with all of them linked to travel to either Italy or Iran.

The containment of COVID-19 is still feasible and must remain the top priority for all countries right now, though there is no one-size-fits-all approach, WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus said Monday.

The WHO is advising that all countries take actions on the "first case, first cluster, first evidence of community transmission" of the infectious disease caused by the new virus introduced to humans for the first time.

Tedros also deplored the stigmatization during the outbreak, saying it is "more dangerous than coronavirus itself." The spread of COVID-19 in South Korea, Italy, Iran and Japan has become the greatest concern, the WHO chief noted.

South Korea, where the world's second-largest outbreak is located, confirmed 477 more cases on Tuesday, taking its total to 4,812.

And the death toll rose to 29. Its education ministry ordered all preschools, primary and secondary schools nationwide to postpone their March openings by two more weeks to March 23.

As of Monday, the number of confirmed cases in Japan has risen to more than 960, with over 700 of them stem-



South Korean army soldiers wearing protective suits spray disinfectant in Daegu, South Korea, on Monday. (Xinhua)

ming from the virus-hit Diamond Princess cruise ship quarantined in the port city of Yokohama.

Nearly all prefectures in Japan began shutting their schools in an effort to prevent further spread of the epidemic. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe on Monday said that the government will quickly draw up legislation to prepare for a worst-case scenario in containing the spread of the outbreak, adding that the measures would include a declaration of a state of emergency.

In Iran, the outbreak has affected 1,501 people, and killed 66 including Mohammad Mir Mohammadi, a member of Iran's Expediency Council, health authorities said Monday.

Ali Rabiee, spokesman for the Iranian government, said there are still two weeks of tough days regarding the virus outbreak in the country.

The Middle East country received on Monday medical supplies from the WHO, including medicines, test kits, gloves, surgical masks and respirators. And a six-member team of doctors, epidemiologists and laboratory specialists also arrived in Tehran. Italy reported on Monday a total of 1,835 confirmed cases and 52 deaths.

The Italian Ministry of Health published a breakdown of cases by region, showing that the highest number of 1,254 occurred in Lombardy, where the first Italian cases emerged and where 10 towns have been put on lockdown.

Since the start of the outbreak in northern Italy,

there has been a clear sign of cross-border dissemination in Europe. The European Center for Disease Prevention Control on Monday leveled up its risk assessment of COVID-19 infection for people in Europe to "moderate to high" from "low to moderate."

The European Union, meanwhile, refused to close borders between its member states, while more than 20 European countries have reported the new virus cases.

The Netherlands confirmed eight new cases on Monday, bringing its total number to 18, and nearly all new confirmed cases are linked to travel to northern Italy or family contacts of a previous patient, said the National Institute for Public Health and the Environment.

France reported the third death on Monday, and 191 confirmed cases have been reported so far in 12 regions. In its northern department of Oise, the southeastern department of Haute-Savoie near Italian border, and the western region of Brittany, where the main clusters had been detected, schools are closed until further notice and residents are recommended to limit their journeys.

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday chaired a meeting of the government's COBRA emergency committee as Britain confirmed four new cases earlier in the day, bringing its total to 40.

Ministers agreed to a four-stage "battle plan," which lays out in detail the measures that could be used if and when they are needed.

"There now seems little doubt that coronavirus will present a significant challenge for our country. But we are well prepared," said Johnson.

The number of cases in the United States has climbed to at least 91, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Four more deaths were reported on Monday, bringing the death toll to six in the country, all of which occurred in the northwestern state of Washington.

The UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs has released 15 million U.S. dollars, designated for the WHO and the UN Children's Fund, to aid global efforts to control the epidemic.

The International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group also said in a joint statement on Monday that they stand ready to help member countries to address the epidemic and its economic challenge. By 1500 GMT on Monday, data from the WHO showed that 89,527 cases have been confirmed in 67 countries, and death cases have increased to 3,056.

Xinhua

## EU states call for speedy 2030 climate plan - letter

COPENHAGEN

TWELVE EU states are calling for the European Commission to speed the process of setting a new 2030 climate target to serve as an ambitious example at the next global climate summit, according to a letter to the Commission seen by Reuters.

The European Commission wants to toughen the EU's 2030 climate target this year, to mandate a 50 percent or 55 percent cut in greenhouse gas emissions from 1990 levels, rather than the current

minimum of 40 percent.

But according to a letter signed by a dozen EU states the commission needs to present a climate target plan well before the UN climate summit in November to make time for EU members to agree on a final reduction target.

"If the fact that the EU goes in front is going to have an effect, then it not only needs to be before the summit, but also well in advance," Dan Joergensen, Denmark's climate minister and initiator of the letter, told Reuters.

Parties to the Paris Agreement

on climate change are meeting at the COP26 summit in Glasgow in November, where they must commit to tougher targets of reducing emissions.

Under the Paris Agreement, each country made a pledge to curb domestic emissions. But the combined efforts of countries' current pledges would still put the world on track for around 3 degrees Celsius of warming by the end of the century, far above the level scientists say would avoid the most devastating impacts of climate change.

The letter, addressed to EU's climate chief, Frans Timmermans, says discussions between member countries on EU's final 2030 target need to begin in June by the latest.

That requires the Commission, the European Union's governing body, to have made its own recommendation and plan before that.

"We therefore encourage the European Commission to present the 2030 Climate Target Plan as soon as possible and by June 2020 at the latest in order to advance discussions in a timely manner," the letter stated.

The document, which was sent to the EU Commission early Tuesday, said a united European bloc could create "momentum" needed for the world's nations to sharpen their climate ambitions.

Joergensen deemed it possible to finish negotiations if the plan was ready by June, but even that could pose a challenge.

"Right now we are in a situation where we fear we will not make it in time because the Commission's timeline does not suggest a proposal before September," he said.

Agencies

## Moderate Democrats close ranks as Buttigieg endorse Biden

DALLAS

FORMER rivals Pete Buttigieg and Amy Klobuchar endorsed Joe Biden's presidential candidacy on Monday on the eve of Super Tuesday voting, as moderate Democrats rallied around the former vice president to strengthen his challenge to front-runner Bernie Sanders.

Buttigieg threw his support to Biden at an emotional appearance at a Dallas restaurant, while Klobuchar delivered a barnstorm of a speech at a rally, reminiscent of the types politicians give at their party conventions when anointing their presidential nominees.

"Joe Biden has dedicated his life to fighting for people," Klobuchar said, before introducing Biden

at the rally in Dallas on Monday night.

"Not for the rich and powerful, but for the mom, for the farmer, for the dreamer, for the veteran. He can bring our country together."

Buttigieg, the former mayor of South Bend, Indiana, and the first openly gay presidential candidate, said earlier in Dallas that he was "delighted to endorse and support Joe Biden."

"He is somebody of such extraordinary grace and kindness and empathy."

Biden, 77, in turn, told reporters that Buttigieg, 38, "reminds me of my son Beau," who died in 2015, adding: "To me, it is the highest compliment you can give any man or woman."



Former US Representative Beto O'Rourke, another former candidate for the Democratic nomination, also endorsed Biden, appearing to cheers as a surprise guest at the rally in Dallas.

Biden is fresh off a resounding

victory in Saturday's South Carolina primary and is aiming for a strong showing on Super Tuesday against Sanders, a self-described democratic socialist, who many centrist Democrats fear cannot win against Republican President Donald Trump in November.

But Biden still faces a challenge from billionaire former New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg among voters hoping the party will nominate a moderate to face Trump.

Bloomberg, a late entrant to the race, will make his ballot-box debut when 14 states vote on Super Tuesday. He is betting the US\$500 million of his own money he has poured into his campaign will allow him to make up for not competing in the first nominating contests in Iowa, New Hampshire,

Nevada and South Carolina.

He said on Monday the most likely scenario was that no Democratic candidate would win a majority of delegates and that picking the nominee could come down to "horse trading" at the Democratic convention in Milwaukee in July.

Asked at a Fox News town hall if a contested convention lay in his path to the nomination, Bloomberg said: "That is the way that it would work I would guess."

The Super Tuesday contests offer the biggest one-day haul of the 1,991 delegates needed to win the party's nomination at its national convention in July, with about 1,357 delegates, or nearly one-third of the total number, up for grabs.

Agencies

## Netanyahu ahead in election, but still lacking governing majority

JERUSALEM



PRIME Minister Benjamin Netanyahu led yesterday in a cliffhanger election in Israel, but was still short of a governing majority in a third national ballot in less than a year, exit polls showed.

Netanyahu (pictured), head of the right-wing Likud party, claimed victory in Monday's vote over his main challenger, former armed forces chief Benny Gantz of the centrist Blue and White, after exit polls projected his party had come out on top.

But with nearly three-quarters of the votes counted, Netanyahu appeared three seats short of a majority in Israel's parliament, a gap signaling there may be deadlock yet again.

A win for Netanyahu, 70, after inconclusive ballots in April and September, would be testimony to the political durability of Israel's longest-serving leader, who fought the latest campaign under the shadow of a looming corruption trial.

It would also pave the way for Netanyahu to make good on his pledge to annex, after the election, Jewish settlements in the occupied West Bank, and the region's Jordan Valley, under a peace plan presented by US President Donald Trump.

Palestinians have rejected the proposal, saying it was killing their dream of establishing a viable state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, territory Israel captured in the 1967 Middle East war.

With about 72 percent of votes counted, Likud led Blue and White by 35 seats to 32. Together with right-wing and religious parties, Netanyahu could build a 58-seat coalition, short of a majority in the 120-seat parliament.

Unless things shift as the remaining votes are tallied, another round of complicated political negotiations awaits.

In the previous election, in September, Blue and White edged past Likud, taking 33 seats to its rival's 32, but Gantz, like Netanyahu, was unable to put together a ruling coalition.

The mostly Arab Joint List party again emerged as the third-largest party, apparently growing to 17 seats from 13 in the last election.

During an acrimonious campaign which focused more on character than on policy, right-wing and religious parties had pledged to join a Likud-led government.

Agencies

## Ethiopia, home to one of Africa's busiest international airline hubs, intensifies coronavirus prevention efforts

ADDIS ABABA

THE Ethiopian government has disclosed the formation of a national ministerial committee that envisaged closely monitoring ongoing efforts to contain a potential COVID-19 outbreak in Ethiopia.

According to a statement issued by the Ethiopian Prime Minister's Office (PMO), the decision to assemble the high-level ministerial committee was made by the Ethiopian Council of Ministers in its latest meeting held over the weekend.

It is composed of six Ethiopian ministers to closely monitor the ongoing COVID-19 prevention efforts in the East African country.

The move also came as Ethiopia, Africa's second populous nation with an estimated population of over 107 million, intensified its efforts to contain possible COVID-19 outbreak in partnership with the World Health Organization (WHO), with particular emphasis on the country's four international airports and 21 land border crossing points.

Noting that Ethiopian health authorities are tightening up surveillance, diagnosis, epidemic response coordination and public health education to swiftly detect cases and limit widespread infections, the WHO on Tuesday stressed that Ethiopia is among 13 African countries that it considers as top priority for COVID-19 preparedness.

"We are working hard day and night with the government to improve the critical measures needed to ensure that the country is ready to effectively respond to an outbreak of COVID-19. We have shipped in equipment for infection prevention and control and are supporting the training of health officials," Boureima Sambo Hama, WHO representative to Ethiopia, has said.

According to the WHO, Ethiopia, home to one of Africa's busiest international airline hubs, is bolstering preparedness to contain a potential outbreak of COVID-19.

Zewdu Assefa, head of Emergency Response Center at the Addis Ababa-based Ethiopian Public Health Institute, has said that strengthening epidemic response coordination, enhancing surveillance through screenings at the country's international airports and land borders are some major measures of the country's preparedness efforts.

Xinhua

## China's actions make the world safer, says WHO chief

CHINA is not only protecting the lives and health of its own people, but also showing a strong sense of responsibility for global public health security, said Chinese President Xi Jinping on a phone call with his French counterpart Emmanuel Macron recently.

China is a responsible country. It has the confidence, capacity and determination to win this battle against the epidemic by the unity of its people, its institutional strength in concentrating resources for major undertakings, as well as its strong material and technological capacities and rich experience.

By taking powerful measures of epidemic prevention and control, China

has successfully avoided further spread of the novel coronavirus in the rest of the world.

The timely epidemic information released by China was a major contribution made by the country. Since the onset of the epidemic, Chinese scientists have raced against the clock and achieved quick identification of the pathogens, and shared the sequencing with the World Health Organization (WHO).

They published the whole genome sequence in open knowledge bases, providing free access for global scientific researchers, which has won valuable time for the international community to prepare diagnostic tools to

test cases and take further steps.

Besides, the country pays high attention to the epidemic development in other countries. Through bilateral and multilateral mechanisms, it has maintained close communication and strengthened cooperation with various countries to make all-out efforts to combat the epidemic.

China's efforts effectively curbed the wider spread of the epidemic. In the country, prevention and control policies were implemented synchronously, no matter in remote villages or urban communities. Besides, both modern technologies and conventional methods were applied to better suit different situations. These policies

have all been strictly implemented at various levels, from central government to primary-level communities.

Thanks to these efforts, positive results in epidemic prevention and control have been achieved in recent days. The epicenter Hubei province is seeing a declining number of new confirmed cases, and that outside the province has been falling for 15 consecutive days. Such performance is noteworthy as it was achieved when enterprises across the country were gradually resuming production.

China requested all travel agencies and online tour operators across the country to suspend group tours and flight & hotel packages, forcefully cut-

ting the spread of the virus and panic to the rest of the world.

This was a hard choice for China, especially when more and more Chinese are joining outbound trips during the Spring Festival holiday these years. Over 7 million overseas trips were made by Chinese tourists during the 7-day holiday last year.

China's measures have been fully recognized and highly commended by WHO and many countries. Compared with Hubei province and its capital Wuhan, the rest of the world is safer, said WHO Director General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, adding that China has offered a "window of opportunity" for the world, and the

actions of the country are making the world safer.

Macron expressed his high appreciation for China's timely and vigorous efforts, as well as its high degree of openness and transparency. And UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson also gave high evaluation on China's comprehensive and effective efforts and timely sharing of information to curb the global spread of the virus.

China is on the frontline of the battle against the epidemic, and to curb epidemics calls for international cooperation, especially at this critical moment. That is why the WHO has reiterated the importance of avoiding overreaction.

People's Daily





Zhao Yong, Party chief of Longzhu village, Wenchuan county of Sichuan province and his fellow villagers deliver vegetables to a medical staff in Wuhan, Feb. 5. The man, together with 12 of his fellow villagers, have donated vegetables to 12 major hospitals in the city. (People's Daily)

## Plain citizens leave touching stories of fighting epidemic

THE fight against the novel coronavirus involves everyone.

When medical personnel and community staff are working day and night on the front line to eliminate the virus, millions of plain citizens are also contributing their own efforts to the combat in which loss is never allowed.

Zhao Yong, Party chief of Longzhu village in Wenchuan county, southwest China's Sichuan province, is one of the many who contributed power to the fight against the epidemic.

On Feb. 5, the 40-year-old man arrived in Wuhan, the epicenter, after a long ride by truck together with 12 fellow villagers, with 100 tons of vegetables to be donated to major hospitals in the city.

Zhao told People's Daily that the donation was in reward for the assistance his hometown Wenchuan received from across the country after it was hit by the 8.0-magnitude earthquake in 2008.

When they were unloading the vegetables at the Second Hospital of Wuhan Iron and Steel Corporation, the last station of their trip, some cabbages rolled off a truck. Seeing this, the tough guy almost burst into tears, as these vegetables were the best ones they picked, and they had prepared for days before going to Wuhan.

Wakanda is a coffeehouse in Wuhan which could have suspended business due to the epidemic, but the shop is still operating, as some medical personnel from the Hubei Provincial Hospital of Traditional Chinese Medicine are its loyal customers.

The employees of the coffeehouse decided to keep operating amid the epidemic, so that the medics can enjoy the coffee after a tiring day of fighting against the virus.

Iranian Sina Karami is among the baristas at the coffeehouse serving drinks for the medics. He had twice received notices from the Embassy of Iran in China that said his country had dispatched charter flights to take Iranians home.

His colleagues also tried to persuade him to go home for safety concerns. However, the Iranian insisted

on staying in Wuhan, saying he wanted to make coffee with his colleagues for the "angels in white".

On Feb. 12, Yuan Chuanwei, an executive of a precision machinery company in Xiangcheng district, Suzhou, east China's Jiangsu province, sent a batch of disinfection equipment to Hubei. It was the second order the man received from one of his customers two weeks ago.

The order was completed by Yuan alone as all the five workers were not able to come back due to transportation regulation during the epidemic. For the past two weeks, he had lived and worked non-stop in the workshop, and could rest only when the machine was on automatic operation. "The past two weeks was tiring, but it was better than seeing lives taken by the epidemic," Yuan said.

On the night of Feb. 16, Jiang Xiangbei had a video call with her wife who had just got off work from a tiring day in Taoyuan community, Jiang'an district of Wuhan. Zhang's 16-month-old son was babbling on the call.

Zhang's wife, who works for Hubei Airports Group Company Co., Ltd., had just been transferred to the community a week ago to join the latter's efforts to fight the epidemic. As the woman lives in quarantined staff quarters, Zhang must shoulder the responsibility to taking care of the child alone.

"Although we raise the baby together, this time I'm on my own," said Zhang, disclosing that he is now getting better and better at "baby-sitting".

"Now I can change his diaper in just 20 seconds, and I even figured out how to quickly put him into sleep," Zhang noted.

After the Spring Festival holiday, Zhang started working from home, which means the man has to handle his work and take care of his son at the same time.

"Now I know better what family is after experiencing the hard time. The epidemic will be over, and we must show up powerfully in our lives," said Zhang, who is feeling happiness in the busy days.

People's Daily



**Although we raise the baby together, this time I'm on my own," said Zhang, disclosing that he is now getting better and better at "baby-sitting"**

# Battle against epidemic tests human civilisation

THE sudden outbreak of the novel coronavirus pneumonia epidemic has triggered a war for the world to safeguard its shared destiny. The international community is battling to eliminate the virus, and also protecting human civilization.

It's been recognized that the epidemic is not only a test for human beings' ability in science and health protection, but also one for human civilization - whether it is strong enough to shelter everyone in the world at this critical moment.

The world must accept unimaginable challenges and step over numerous obstacles

to defeat a virus about which human knows little. It calls for unremitting efforts to find cures, but obviously, to refute fallacies and establish rationality amid panic is also urgent.

It's alarming that misinformation is being widely spread; conspiracy theories are polluting social media; and discrimination are targeting at Asians.

To indulge panic and discrimination amid the epidemic, or to illuminate the light of human civilization for mutual respect, equality, openness and inclusiveness - that is a choice concerning the destiny that all humans share. Obviously, the answer is clear.

The United Nations (UN) and

the World Health Organization (WHO) called for solidarity, rather than stigma; national leaders urged calmness and opposed exclusiveness; people around the world also voiced their support for the Chinese. Such warm practices by the international society are glowing with humanity.

What the world is doing today well explains the Chinese saying that delicious soup is made by combining different ingredients, and the secret for close relations lies in mutual support.

It's easy to clarify and break down individual rumors, conspiracy theories, and discriminatory remarks and practices

surrounding the epidemic. After all, fallacies are vulnerable in front of scientific verification; all conspiracy theories have prominent flaws; and all discriminatory practices are intolerable by human civilization.

However, it is not an easy task to eliminate those, and that's why it's very important for the world and society to encourage the spirit of science and civilization when global civilizations are facing severe challenges surrounding the epidemic.

Governments, international organizations, social institutions and public figures should all play a positive role in this

regard. The wise will never be fooled. The key to cut down the spread of false and harmful information is to expand dissemination of scientific and effective information.

While responding to the epidemic, the Chinese government has established an authoritative mechanism to releases information at different levels and high frequency, which has effectively stabilized public sentiment and shared epidemic information with the world. It has won worldwide recognition.

The WHO said that China released information about the epidemic in a timely manner, quickly identified the corona-

virus and shared the genome sequence of the virus with openness and transparency. The country has taken decisive, forceful and effective measures to control the spread of the virus, acting in a highly responsible manner for the lives and health of the Chinese people, and greatly supporting global public health security, the organization added.

The responsible practices of China have minimized panic and discrimination, reflecting the spirit of human civilization.

Every country and individual must respond to the test of civilization in the epidemic, and the victory belongs to human beings and human civilization.

"We have a choice. Can we come together to face a common and dangerous enemy? Or will we allow fear, suspicion and irrationality to distract and divide us?" The question raised by WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus at the 56th Munich Security Conference is worth pondering.

Civilizations shall defeat the unknown and fear with science and rationality, and treat each other in the spirit of mutual respect, equality, openness and inclusiveness, which is the significance of building a community with a shared future for mankind.

People's Daily

## Russian medium and heavy rockets to be used to deliver cargo to the Moon

MOSCOW

BESIDE super-heavy rockets, medium-and heavy-class launch vehicles would be used to deliver cargo to the Moon, says Energia Rocket and Space Corporation CEO Nikolay Sevastyanov.

According to the CEO, the Oryol crewed spacecraft would be launched using super-heavy rockets. The lunar takeoff and landing complex and lunar orbital station modules would also require super-heavy launch vehicles. "Other cargo, such as scientific



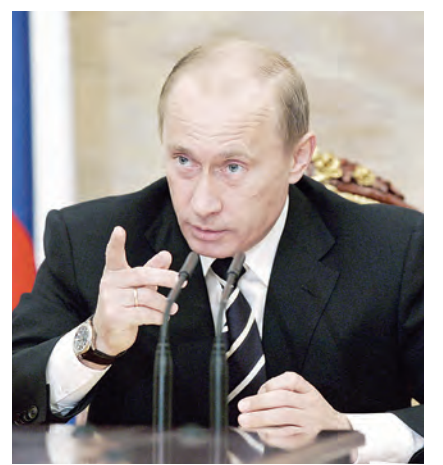
equipment and fuel, could be delivered by middle-and heavy-class rockets with lower carrying capacity," Sevastyanov said.

He disclosed that the upcoming Soyuz-5 rocket, currently in development by Energia Corporation, could be used in the lunar station program. It could deliver equipment of smaller mass,

such as scientific probes, to the lunar orbit.

Besides, the technology implemented in Soyuz-5 would also be used for development of the super-heavy vehicle. For example, this Soyuz-5's first stage would become the super-heavy's booster. The super-heavy rocket would have six boosters, while the central module would use the 400-ton RD-181 engine.

Heavy launch vehicles, such as Proton-M and Angara-A5, have carrying capacity of 20 to 50 tons. Middle-class rockets, such as Soyuz-5, can deliver approximately 20 tons of cargo.



## Putin urges protestors to obey rules as rallies can descend into chaos and riots

MOSCOW

ALL protestors who take part in street rallies must obey the rules of public demonstrations, or else the situation may deteriorate into riots and violence in the streets, Russian President Vladimir Putin told TASS in an interview for the project entitled "20 Questions with Vladimir Putin".

"There are certain rules for everybody to adhere to," he said, adding that he was referring to both the supporters and opponents of the authorities. "This is the law. And it must be obeyed. Otherwise, the country's stability will break down.

Do we want to see cars torched in our streets? If there is no response, arson is bound to occur. Shop windows will be smashed to pieces and people will be harmed."

He stressed that the law allowed critics to express their point of view by means of public demonstrations, for which permission had to be obtained first.

Replying to a remark by TASS reporter Andrei Vandenok that the authorities might deny requests to greenlight protests, Putin said in that case permission would have to be requested anyway.

"Just get permission. The same procedure exists elsewhere (in other countries). Permission is requested and obtained there, too," Putin said. When asked about likely prison terms for those joining unauthorized street rallies, Putin said that in some countries they were not very long, but in Sweden, for instance, they might range five to ten years.

"We don't have anything like this," the president pointed out.

In the summer of 2019, Moscow experienced several mass street protests by those disgruntled with the Moscow City Duma election campaign. Some demonstrations were not authorized. Individuals participating in them were taken into custody and faced criminal prosecution.

Agencies

## Pope tests negative for virus, Germany reports 31 new cases

VATICAN CITY

POPE Francis, who canceled a Lent retreat for the first time in his papacy because he is suffering from a cold, has tested negative for coronavirus, the Italian newspaper Il Messaggero reported yesterday.

Vatican spokesman Matteo Bruni said he had no immediate comment on the report. The 83-year-old Roman Catholic leader, who had part of one lung removed because of an illness decades ago, also canceled most audiences last week.

Francis was to have taken part in the week-long retreat with senior Vatican officials that began on Sunday night at a Church residence south of Rome.

But in a surprise announcement hours earlier, he said he would be following it from his residence in a Vatican guest house.

He has been taken ill at a time when Italy is battling a surging outbreak of the potentially deadly coronavirus.

The death toll in Italy jumped to 52 on Monday from 34 the day before and the total number of confirmed cases in Europe's worst affected country climbed past the 2,000 mark.

### EU raises COVID-19 risk level, insists not to close borders

The risk for people in Europe to be infected with the COVID-19 was leveled up by the European Center for Disease Prevention Control (ECDC) on Monday, but the European Union (EU) insisted not to close the borders between its member states.

According to the daily ECDC risk assessment, the risk associated with COVID-19 infection for people in the EU/EEA (European Economic Area) and the UK is currently considered "moderate to high". In its previous assessment published on Feb. 23, the assessment was "low to moderate".

"In other words the virus continues



Pope Francis coughs during the Angelus noon prayer he recited from the window of his studio overlooking St. Peter's Square, at the Vatican, on Sunday. AP

to spread," European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen said at a press conference in Brussels.

The ECDC has made the assessment on a daily basis for more than a week, since the COVID-19 outbreak was reported in Italy, where a total of 1,835 people have so far tested positive for the coronavirus.

There have been 52 deaths, while another 149 patients have recovered in the country, according to Angelo Borrelli, Italy's Civil Protection Department chief and Extraordinary Commissioner for the coronavirus emergency.

He said at a briefing late on Monday that over 23,300 coronavirus tests have been carried out since the epidemic first broke out on Feb 21 among Italians who had no links to China or any other parts of the world with ongoing coronavirus outbreaks.

Since the start of the outbreak in northern Italy, there has been a clear sign of dissemination crossing borders.

The number of confirmed coronavirus cases in Germany rose to 188 on Tuesday, up from 157 on Monday afternoon, the Robert Koch Institute (RKI) said.

Thirteen of Germany's 16 federal states have now reported cases of the novel coronavirus, with the western state of North Rhine-Westphalia being most affected, according to the RKI.

Despite the alarming situation, German Health Minister Jens Spahn did not consider it necessary to close German borders and stressed that the cancellation of major events or the closure of companies was generally not advisable.

France confirmed 191 cases with three deaths on Monday. The cases of infection increased by 61 compared to Sunday. British Prime Minister Boris Johnson on Monday chaired a meeting of the government's COBRA emergency committee as Britain confirmed four new COVID-19 cases, bringing its total number of infections to 40. The emergency COBRA meeting finalized and signed off a battle plan containing a detailed set of countermeasures.

Johnson said the COVID-19 outbreak is likely to become more significant in the coming days or weeks, but he urged people across Britain to go about their business as usual. At the moment, the situation is at the containment stage.

Agencies

## EU, UK start post-Brexit negotiations

BRUSSELS / LONDON

THE European Union (EU) and Britain started the negotiations for a new partnership here on Monday.

The talks began with a bilateral meeting between the chief negotiators, the EU's Michel Barnier and the UK's David Frost, according to the audiovisual service website of the European Commission.

With around 100 British officials participating, the first round of negotiations will cover 11 areas including trade in goods and services, energy and transport, as the agenda showed

on the UK government's website.

"We approach these negotiations in a constructive spirit. We want to agree an ambitious and fair partnership. We will respect our prior joint commitments," said Barnier on Twitter.

The first round of negotiations is set to last until Thursday.

Britain on Monday unveiled its mandate for trade talks with the United States, with Prime Minister Boris Johnson vowing to drive a hard bargain in negotiations that are set to test the two allies' "special relationship".

After leaving the EU in January, Johnson wants to pursue a trade deal with Washington to try not only to

champion Britain's new independence, but also to put pressure on the bloc in separate talks on a future relationship.

As a negotiating team heads to Brussels to start those discussions, the government set out its mandate for talks with the United States, warning that London would walk away if its demands are not met.

Britain said it wanted to achieve "huge gains" by removing barriers to trade, but that its much-loved National Health Service (NHS) would not be on the table in talks, and that its food standards would be maintained.

"We have the best negotiators in the

business and of course, we're going to drive a hard bargain to boost British industry," Johnson said. "Most importantly, this transatlantic trade deal will reflect the unique closeness of our two great nations."

Jeff Emerson, spokesman for the US Trade Representative's Office, said Washington was reviewing Britain's negotiating objectives and was looking forward to starting talks.

"The United States remains committed to negotiating an ambitious trade agreement with the United Kingdom that is good for both countries," he said.

Agencies





Tigo Tanzania Managing Director, Simon Karikari, applauds spectators during the Tigo Kilil Half Marathon 2020 held in Moshi last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

## Heat stun Bucks 105-89, holding Antetokounmpo to 13 points

MIAMI

THE Miami Heat stand alone, the first team to beat the Milwaukee Bucks twice this season.

Jae Crowder and Jimmy Butler each scored 18 points, Goran Dragic added 15 and the Heat beat the Bucks 105-89 on Wednesday night – moving to 2-0 against the NBA's best team.

Bam Adebayo had 14 points and 13 rebounds for the Heat, who improved to 39-22 and matched their win total from last season with 21 games remaining. Kendrick Nunn had 13 points and Kelly Olynyk added 11 for Miami.

"Collective effort," Crowder said. "All hands on deck."

It was a season low in points for the Bucks, set for the second straight day after Milwaukee managed only 93 in a win Sunday at Charlotte. The difference was from the 3-point line: Miami was 18 for 37, Milwaukee was 7 for 34.

"Not saying we can hold great offensive teams like this regularly under 90 ... but we have it in us to do it more consistently," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said.

Milwaukee has faced 21 of the 29 other NBA teams more than once this season. Most of those clubs have had minimal, or no, success: Chicago and Orlando went 0-4; Atlanta, Cleveland, New York and Charlotte are 0-3. The Heat clinched the season series, and Boston – which would have to sweep its last two matchups with the Bucks – is the only other Eastern Conference team with a chance to do that.

"Tough game," Bucks coach Mike Budenholzer said. "The physicality, the defensive activity from both teams was very good. Credit to Miami, they played very well on both ends, shot the ball well, they made tough shots. It wasn't our night."

Brook Lopez led the Bucks (52-9) with 21 points. Giannis Antetokounmpo matched a season low with 13 points on 6-for-18 shooting, and grabbed 15 rebounds.

"The Heat, they're a team that plays hard," Antetokounmpo said. "It's not just hard for me, it's hard for everybody. They just move the ball so much, they move their bodies, they just play hard."

George Hill left with 4:33 remaining, after taking a knee to the midsection and remaining down for a couple minutes. He was in obvious distress as he took a seat near the Milwaukee bench and did not return.

Hill finished with 12 points in 24 minutes. The Bucks were down 15 when he departed and emptied the bench not long afterward, conceding the ending.

Khris Middleton also scored 12 and Donte DiVincenzo scored 11 for the Bucks.

Miami led by one at the half, then pushed the lead to 12 late in the third and took an 81-70 lead into the final 12 minutes – after Dragic beat the buzzer with a quarter-ending 3-pointer for the third consecutive game, this one as time expired. He also made a beat-the-clock 3 to end the first half against Brooklyn on Saturday and another with 2 seconds left in the half against Dallas on Friday.

And the late lead didn't get wasted, which had been a big problem for Miami in recent games – leading to losses against Cleveland,

Atlanta and Minnesota in the last couple weeks.

"We take away from this that we can compete at the highest level," Butler said. "But we know that we have to play this way every day from here on out."

Meanwhile, in Miami, the NBA has told players to avoid high-fiving fans and strangers and avoid taking any item for autographs, the league's latest response in its ongoing monitoring of the coronavirus crisis that has spread to most corners of the planet.

The league, in a memo sent to teams on Sunday and obtained Monday by The Associated Press, offered 10 recommendations to players with hopes of decreasing risks of getting the virus – among them, not taking items such as pens, markers, balls and jerseys from autograph seekers.

The NBA also told teams that it is consulting "with infectious disease experts, including the Centers for Disease Control" and infectious disease researchers at Columbia University in New York.

"We are also in regular communication with each other, NBA teams including team physicians and athletic trainers, other professional sports leagues, and of course, many of you," the league wrote in its memo to teams, their physicians and athletic training staffs. ESPN first reported on the contents of the memo.

Some players are already heeding the advice.

"Corona," Bobby Portis of the New York Knicks said as he offered some fist-bump greetings on Monday night before his team faced the Houston Rockets.

Jimmy Butler of the Miami Heat said he wasn't necessarily worried or thinking about avoiding high-fives.

"I don't think about any of that," Butler said. "I'm still going to be who I am. We're still going to be who we are."

Portland guard CJ McCollum said in a tweet on Saturday that he is taking the matter seriously, saying he is "officially taking a break from signing autographs until further notice."

"You just have to be careful," McCollum said Monday night in Orlando. "Obviously it's affecting people, especially people who are displaying weaker immune systems and people over 60. You've got to check yourself and wash your hands, try to reduce contact with outsiders and outside germs."

McCollum has tweeted or retweeted several virus-related posts in the last couple days.

"The coronavirus remains a situation with the potential to change rapidly – the NBA and the Players Association will continue to work with leading experts and team physicians to provide up-to-date information and recommended practices that should be followed to prevent the spread of the coronavirus," the league said in the memo.

Many of the tips offered by the NBA fell under common-sense level of best practices when it comes to illness prevention: avoiding contact with people who are sick, staying home when feeling ill, cleaning and disinfecting frequently touched objects and surfaces. The league also suggested players make sure they "are up to date with all routine vaccinations, including the flu vaccine."

## Olympic preparations quicken in pace

By Correspondent Lloyd Elipokea

WITH the quadrennial, multi-sports event that is the Olympic Games set to commence in late July, this year, it is distinctly heartening to see many of our sportsmen and sportswomen going hither and thither all in a bid to be sufficiently prepared for what will doubtlessly be the sternest test of their sporting careers.

For instance, the crème de la crème of our domestic boxers were just recently competing in boxing's Olympic Qualifiers while a couple of weeks ago, it was reported that arguably our lone medal hope at the forthcoming games, Alphonse Simbu, had travelled to the town of Iten in Kenya so as to intensify his preparations for the Olympic Games which will take place in the technologically advanced capital of Japan, Tokyo this year.

Nevertheless, even though our sportsmen seem to be eagerly beavering away to prepare for a pre-eminent sporting championship that has at times been dubbed "The Greatest Show on Earth", one still cannot help but feel that we would have been on sounder footing had those preparations commenced much earlier.

Admittedly, Dear Reader, this writer has revisited this same old ground several times in the past.

However, there is an ill-kept secret in global sports why this humble corner of the Guardian's sports pages has time and again sounded the alarm about the frustratingly slow pace of our Olympic preparations as a country.

Indeed, the shoddily-concealed



Tanga Cement PLC Managing Director, Reinhardt Swart, hands over drinking water to a section of athletes that took part in this year's Kilimanjaro Marathon in Moshi last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

secret earlier alluded to is the enormous prestige of the Olympic Games as not just a unique sporting spectacle but as a veritable and crowd-pulling global event of immense significance.

This, then, explains why every four years, this writer bellows from the rooftops about the importance, nay, the very necessity of us engaging in early preparations that is, if we are really serious about winning a modest haul of medals at the prestigious Games.

In an effort to ensure that early preparations for the Olympics becomes the established norm on the domestic sporting patch, this writer would like to suggest that perhaps a special depart-

ment should be created in the Ministry of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports which shall be charged with the weighty task of overseeing Olympic preps well in advance instead of leaving things to the last-minute as we customarily do here in the country.

This special department would work in concert with the Tanzania Olympic Committee (TOC) on various critical issues related to our readiness for future Olympic Games.

Issues like funding for athletes specializing in different sporting disciplines to where Team Tanzania can set up a training camp for the Games a few years prior to the commencement of the Olympics themselves.

This writer would like to rapidly emphasize that this proposed special department in the Ministry of Sports would only be reserved for matters Olympic Games and not any other sporting championship such as the AFCON finals, the All Africa Games and what have you.

As a postscript to this commentary, this writer would like to heap enormous praise on the national women football team, fondly dubbed the Twiga Stars, for admirably finishing second in the Invitational UNAF tournament on the traditionally competitive North African football scene.

You go Twiga Stars, go!



Some runners from DCB Commercial Bank Plc celebrate as they compete in the 21km event of this year's Kilimanjaro Marathon, which took place in Moshi last weekend. PHOTO: COURTESY OF DCB COMMERCIAL BANK

## A hot summer ahead for boxing's heavyweight division

By TIM DAHLBERG

BOXING's heavyweight division will be heating up even further this summer, highlighted by a third fight between Tyson Fury and Deontay Wilder and Anthony Joshua defending his belts against Kubrat Pulev in London.

Joshua and Pulev will go first, meeting June 20 in the first boxing bouts at Tottenham Hotspur Stadium. Joshua, who reclaimed his piece of the heavyweight title in December against Andy Ruiz Jr., will be fighting at home in England for the first time in two years.

The date for Fury and Wilder is more fluid, though promoter Bob Arum said he is looking at July 18 at the MGM Grand hotel in Las Vegas. That's where Fury stopped Wilder in the seventh round last month of their title rematch in a dominating performance that cemented his status on top of the heavyweight division.

"Nothing is set in stone but that's certainly the date we're talking about," Arum said Monday. "We have to meet with the Wilder camp and everybody else and zero in on it, but right now that's the date we're looking at."

Promoter Eddie Hearn announced the Joshua-Pulev fight on Monday, with Joshua meeting the once-beaten Bulgarian before what is expected to be 70,000 fans at the new stadium.

"A spectacular stadium has been built in north London and I'm honored to bring the boxing community from all over the world to witness us make history with the stadium's first heavyweight world title fight," Joshua said. "The belts go back up in the air and nothing will stop me from being victorious."

Joshua will defend his piece of the heavyweight title against Pulev, whose only loss was to former champion Wladimir Klitsch-

ko nearly 5 1-2 six years ago. It will be the second try at a world title by Pulev, who has won eight straight since being stopped by Klitschko.

Arum, who promotes Pulev as well as Fury, said the two fights could lead to a heavyweight unification fight by the end of the year.

"What we're trying to do is by the end of the year in some manner, shape or form, have a unified heavyweight champion," Arum said. "One champion for the entire division. It would certainly help the image of boxing."

Fury, who is unbeaten in 31 fights, staked his claim to being the best heavyweight around when he knocked down Wilder twice before stopping him in the seventh round in Las Vegas. The fight was a rematch of their first meeting in December 2018 that ended in a draw.

Wilder had 30 days under the

contract between the two boxers to formally ask for a third fight with Fury. Wilder blamed the weight of a costume he wore into the ring for taking away his legs in that fight and said his corner should have never thrown in the towel in the seventh round to end the bout.

Wilder told The Associated Press last week that he had no intention of delaying a third fight and wanted it as soon as possible.

"I'm a warrior and I'm ready to go again, but we're going to change a lot of things in camp," Wilder said.

Arum said the economics of a third fight make sense, even if some in boxing believe the second fight under-performed in pay-per-view sales. The fight drew a record heavyweight title gate of \$17.9 million and Arum said he believes the pay-per-view sales will hit 1.1 million when all are tallied up. AP



## Mari's assured debut gives Arsenal hope for the future

PORTSMOUTH, ENGLAND

HAVING experienced the white heat of a Flamengo-Fluminense derby and the frenzied expectation of the Copa Libertadores knockout rounds, Pablo Mari would not have been unduly worried by the prospect of a trip to Fratton Park, but he could have picked a less intimidating venue for his Arsenal debut all the same.

If Arsenal's progress to the FA Cup quarterfinals, courtesy of a 2-0 win, was comfortable enough in the end, the early stages were anything but. Portsmouth's players showed a readiness to get physical from the off, with Arsenal's young forward line coming in for some particularly rough treatment, and there were only 17 minutes on the clock when Lucas Torreira had to be carried from the field on a stretcher after his ankle buckled when he was caught by a robust challenge from Pompey centre-back James Bolton. The Uruguay midfielder left the stadium with his ankle in a brace and will now be assessed by the club's doctors.

There were fleeting echoes of the kind of roughhouse tactics that Arsenal would routinely face on away trips during the more fragile periods of the Arsene Wenger era. As Torreira lay on the pitch in agony receiving treatment from Arsenal's medical staff, a sizeable proportion of the home crowd cruelly chorused: "You're going home in a f---ing ambulance!" Even Tony Pulis, former manager of Arsenal's long-term betes noires Stoke City, was in attendance, albeit as a pundit on BBC radio rather than a glowering presence in the opposition dugout.

Mari, who has signed on loan from Flamengo until the end of the season, is likely to face sterner tests than that presented by League One promotion-chasers Portsmouth, whose manager, Kenny Jackett, made six changes to his starting XI, but the tall Spanish centre-back played an active role in helping Arsenal to withstand the hosts' early aggression.

Playing to the left of David Luiz, he consummately shut down livewire Portsmouth striker Ellis Harrison and won an important share of headers, most notably when bravely clearing a dangerous cross from Marcus Harness after the winger had smuggled his way past Sokratis Papastathopoulos on Arsenal's right flank in the early stages. But it was with the ball at his feet that Mari really caught the eye. Befitting a player who spent three years on the books at Manchester City, where he is likely to have come to the attention of his new manager Mikel Arteta, he looked smooth in possession and regularly sought to break the lines with penetrating passes into the feet of the visitors' attacking players.

"I think he looked comfortable," Arteta said. "He's very vocal, he's very comfortable on the ball and he's always commanding the back

four. He looked like he'd played here for months."

Mari is the first left-footed centre-back to have signed for Arsenal since Thomas Vermaelen arrived from Ajax in 2009, and he therefore gives the team passing angles from the back that they have not possessed for some time. In a mirror image of Luiz, the 26-year-old regularly hit long, high diagonal passes out to the right flank, with one such delivery presenting Reiss Nelson with an opportunity to wriggle to the byline on the right and put in a cross that Gabriel Martinelli headed over the bar.

Nelson had made a quiet start to the game prior to that moment, but the 20-year-old came to life late in the first half and ended up delivering the crosses from which Sokratis and Eddie Nketiah scored the goals, either side of half-time, that put Arsenal in the hat for the last eight.

Nketiah has scored three goals in six games since being recalled from his loan spell at Leeds United, and increasingly has the look of a viable alternative to Alexandre Lacazette, whose past three Arsenal goals were spread across a period of more than two months. Nelson, meanwhile, showed the kind of incisiveness against Portsmouth that is often glaringly absent from the game of record signing Nicolas Pepe.

Arsenal should not really need alternatives in attacking positions, given the firepower at Arteta's disposal, but as last Thursday's calamitous Europa League exit against Olympiakos demonstrated, for all their ability, Lacazette, Pepe, Mesut Ozil and even Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang cannot always be relied upon to finish the job. Arteta left all four out of his starting XI at Fratton Park, with Joe Willock joining Nketiah, Nelson and Martinelli in a very fresh-faced front four, and the manner in which they refused to be cowed by Portsmouth's physicality put a smile on the manager's face.

"The kids responded really well," he said. "It's risky to play them in these competitions, but it's worth that risk."

Arsenal's Europa League elimination was the first black mark of Arteta's reign, cutting off as it did the club's most likely pathway to Champions League qualification, but he retains credit in the bank. Liverpool's surprise defeat at Watford on Saturday, which prevented Jurgen Klopp's side from emulating Wenger's 2003-04 Invincibles, unexpectedly gave Arsenal's fans something to smile about and there were joyful chants of "49, 49, undefeated!" from the away end as the clock ticked down against Portsmouth.

Arsenal will not want to keep harking back to that achievement forever, and the scars of Olympiakos are likely to take some time to heal, but in Mari's assured debut and the effervescence of Arteta's young players, there were hints of better days ahead.

(Agencies)

## Klopp on coronavirus ending Prem: Don't be silly

LONDON

LIVERPOOL manager Jurgen Klopp has ridiculed suggestions the Premier League title could become null and void through the coronavirus outbreak affect the end of the season in England.

The Telegraph had reported Liverpool, who are 22 points clear at the top of the table, may not be crowned champions if the campaign is curtailed by the coronavirus.

However, speaking ahead of the FA Cup fifth-round clash with Chelsea on Tuesday, Klopp said: "I don't think our fans are paranoid. I can't believe that Liverpool fans are bothered about it and I actually speak to Liverpool fans."

"If you want to ask me how much sense it would make, who would play in the Champions League next season, it would be really interesting."

"It's a nice story, but when I saw it for the first time, I thought: 'Wow! Really, somebody thinks something like that?' Liverpool fans are not silly enough to believe these things."

Liverpool's youngest-ever starting XI beat Shrewsbury 1-0 in a fourth-round replay and while Klopp said he is likely to use some of the same players, he will also look to many of his first choice against Chelsea.

"It's not about loyalty," he said. "These boys are our boys, and they did what they did."

"If we win the FA Cup in the end, they would be involved in our celebrations. If they will play tomorrow night, I don't know, we will see that, for sure not all of them."

"From the Shrewsbury team for sure there will be boys in the squad, and who will start then, we will see."

"It's a different situation than it was in the last round. If you see the team who played at Shrewsbury, that was actually an FA Cup team for us in that moment, which we thought would make sense."

"We couldn't get the result we wanted, that's why we had to play a second time, but it will not be exactly the team who played the second time against Shrewsbury."

(Agencies)

# Coronavirus casts potential cloud over Euro 2020 with 100 days to go

PARIS

THIS Wednesday marks 100 days to go until the start of Euro 2020, but as preparations are fine-tuned for the first European Championship to be played across the continent, the coronavirus outbreak could pose a potentially serious threat to the tournament itself.

The decision to stage the second 24-team Euros in 12 different cities in 12 different nations, from as far apart as Baku to Dublin and Glasgow to Rome, was certainly an ambitious move.

UEFA say all venues and transport links are ready, that demand for tickets is through the roof, and there are no obvious security worries. Except for the coronavirus outbreak, with its unknown potential consequences, which could cast a shadow over the entire event.

Most matches in Italy's Serie A were called off at the weekend with the country the hardest hit by the outbreak in Europe, with 52 deaths and more than 2,000 cases as of Monday.

Meanwhile, neighbouring Switzerland -- with 24 confirmed cases -- on Monday announced the postponement of all games in its top two divisions until the end of March.

"The health of persons is much more important than any football game," insisted FIFA president Gianni Infantino at the weekend.

"I think we all hope that this can be contained, but of course we will take advice, but it's got to be health first, sport second," Football Association of Wales chief executive Jonathan Ford told the UK's Press Association. Wales are due to play Italy in Rome at the Euros.

The coronavirus crisis was raised at an executive committee meeting of European football's governing body in Amsterdam on Monday, but UEFA is remaining calm over the possible repercussions for Euro 2020.

"UEFA is in touch with the relevant international and local authorities



This Wednesday marks 100 days to go until the start of Euro 2020 (AFP Photo)

regarding the Coronavirus and its development," it told AFP.

"For the moment, there is no need to change anything in the planned timetable. The issue will be kept under constant scrutiny."

The opening match is due to take place in Rome on Friday, June 12, with Italy facing Turkey.

UEFA says it has received more than 28 million requests for match tickets, a figure it says is more than double the number for Euro 2016.

However, if the outbreak continues to spread, some fans may think twice about travelling to games, even if everything is ready to welcome them. Of the 12 ven-

ues, only the Puskas Arena in Budapest has been newly built, the stadium in the Hungarian capital officially opening in November. Wembley in London will be the venue for the semi-finals and final.

**How the favourites are shaping up -**

On the field, the carrot of playing in the final on home turf is dangling over England, with Gareth Southgate's side among the tournament favourites.

They were hugely impressive in qualifying, but since then injuries and a loss of form to key players have raised some doubts.

Harry Kane and Marcus Rashford could miss the rest of the season with

their clubs due to long-term hamstring and back injuries respectively, while Raheem Sterling has yet to score in 2020.

Southgate, who will attend the draw for the next UEFA Nations League in Amsterdam on Tuesday, also has a big call to make in goal with Everton's Jordan Pickford struggling for form.

One of the few leading nations who will not host matches, World Cup holders France also have problems, with Chelsea

midfielder N'Golo Kante's season notably ravaged by injuries.

France are in the same group as Germany, who are hoping to bounce back

from their 2018 World Cup disaster with a squad that has been considerably freshened up.

While Spain look to rediscover the form that allowed them to win back to back Euros in 2008 and 2012, holders Portugal will hope to get one last song out of the 35-year-old Cristiano Ronaldo.

Meanwhile, Belgium and a rejuvenated Netherlands -- who will play group games in Amsterdam -- may fancy their chances of going all the way.

Of the 24 qualifying spots, the last four will be decided by the Nations League play-offs later this month.

AFP

## Liverpool learn difference between 'Incredible' and 'Invincible'

BY MARK OGDEN, SENIOR WRITER, ESPN FC

THEY have an all-gold version of the Premier League trophy inside the Arsenal boardroom at the Emirates Stadium, and for good reason. It isn't easy to go through a full league season without suffering a defeat. Having done so during the 2003-04 campaign, Arsene Wenger's "Invincibles" were awarded the unique gold replica of the champions' trophy to mark their achievement.

Until Watford pulled off their stunning 3-0 victory over runaway leaders Liverpool at Vicarage Road on Saturday, it had seemed that the Premier League would have to forge another golden version of their trophy and send it up to Anfield for Jurgen Klopp and his players. But while Liverpool are still on course to break all kinds of records this season -- most points, most wins, biggest winning margin and earliest title triumph are all still in play -- they will not join Arsenal as champions who have won the Premier League without suffering a defeat.

Liverpool may yet win the argument as the best team ever to win the Premier League, but however that debate plays out, Arsenal will continue to hold the proud distinction of being the only side to be invincible over a 38-game season. And with Watford ending Liverpool's long unbeaten run Saturday, it is perhaps an appropriate time to give Wenger's "Invincibles" due credit for their achievement.

The passage of time has not diminished Arsenal's feat, but such has been Liverpool's dominance this season that the manner of the Gunners' triumph has led to some revisionism over the true quality of their success. It has been argued that the number of draws (12) points to Liverpool being a better, more destructive team than Wenger's side and that Arsenal were happy to settle for a point in games where Liverpool would push for the win.

Already this season, Liverpool have won 13 league games by a single goal,



Liverpool boss Jurgen Klopp will surely win the Premier League, but he wasn't able to match Arsene Wenger's achievement with Arsenal. (Agencies)

with eight of those victories coming with decisive goals in the final 20 minutes. Liverpool have pushed for the three points, while Arsenal were known for holding onto what they had. During their 12 draws back in 2003-04, Arsenal did not score a goal after the hour mark in any of them, meaning they didn't possess the risk factor that has proven so crucial for Liverpool this season. But they did not lose, and that pragmatism is why they have a golden trophy that none of the other great Premier League champions have been able to win.

The problem with comparing teams from different eras is that those playing in the present day tend to be held in higher regard simply because time can make memories fade. It's been 16 years since Arsenal played out their

"Invincible" season and the Premier League has since witnessed the emergence of the great Chelsea and Manchester City teams, plus Manchester United's 2008 Champions League winners and the Liverpool side that is now on course to add the Premier League title to last year's European success.

Arsenal have not won a title since 2004, and their failure to build on the legacy of the "Invincibles" has, perhaps, led to that team dropping down the rankings when it comes to debates about the best teams of the Premier League era. But when Wenger's team is matched up against any of its rivals, it is difficult to argue that they fall short in any area.

Jens Lehmann may not have possessed the same global status as Peter Schmeichel, Edwin van der Sar, Petr Cech or Alisson

Becker, but he was still a huge presence in goal for Arsenal and a keeper of genuine class. At the back, Lauren, Sol Campbell, Kolo Toure and Ashley Cole were a formidable unit that conceded just 26 goals all season. They had Patrick Vieira at his absolute peak in midfield alongside the underrated Gilberto Silva, with Freddie Ljungberg and Robert Pires, who struck 18 goals between them, completing a world-class midfield. Then, up front, Arsenal had Dennis Bergkamp sitting just behind Thierry Henry in one of the most potent forward pairings in Premier League history. The squad also contained the likes of Martin Keown, Edu, Ray Parlour, Sylvain Wiltord and Jose Antonio Reyes -- all players capable of slotting in whenever a first-team regular was absent.

It was a team that could blow teams away with pace and power, but also one that would never be beaten in a physical encounter, as proved during the 0-0 draw at Manchester United in September 2003, which resulted in players from both sides clashing on the pitch following Ruud van Nistelrooy's stoppage-time penalty miss.

Arsenal may not have won as many games as the current Liverpool team or banked as many points as Pep Guardiola's Manchester City have managed over the past two seasons, but we should not forget their greatness. And Watford have given us the opportunity to remind the footballing world that Arsenal's ability to go through a season unbeaten should not be forgotten.

That gold trophy is unique for a reason.



# SPORT

Coronavirus casts potential cloud over Euro 2020 with 100 days to go

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

## Azam FC sets sight on Simba clash

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

AZAM FC management has said the side is intact and focused on this evening's Vodacom Premier League match against Simba SC which will take place at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Abdulkarim Amin, Azam FC Chief Executive Officer, in an interview monitored on one of the local radio stations in the city yesterday, said the club is well prepared for this evening game against the league leaders.

He was responding to a question whether Azam FC's decision to part ways with one of the outfit's longest serving members of technical panel Iddi Cheche will not affect the team's preparations for today's game.

Amin, who is popularly known as Popat, said firing Cheche, who was an assistant coach, is normal in football life and insisted this will not affect the team. "The management of the club has decided to fire Cheche who was an assistant coach, somehow it's a blow as it has come as a surprise but I'm sure it will not affect our preparation for the game against Simba SC and other league games, ending a contract with a coach is, in football, not new, life has to go on," he said.

Azam FC is under the tutelage of Aristica Cioaba and they are currently placed second in the league table with 48 points from 24 games.

Amin said Cheche had been replaced by Azam FC Under 20 coach, Burundian Vivier Bahati.

The current assistant coach and Cioaba have been tasked with seeing to it the squad quickly rediscover its winning formula and start collecting maximum points to remain in title contention.

Simba who are currently leading the league table with 65 points from 25 games said they are looking forward to collecting maximum points in today's game.

Simba's head coach Sven Vannbroeck said his side's purpose is to win today's game.

"After our last game, we are now focusing on the next game as our mission is to collect maximum points," he said.

Azam had on Monday evening announced the firing of Cheche while the squad's information officer, Jaffary Maganga, will be assigned a new duty.

Information from the club said the two who had been with the club for more than a decade were relieved of their duties due to the club's dismal run of results in the Vodacom Premier League.

Azam FC is one of soccer outfits in the East Africa Region to have a Confederation of African Football (CAF)-recognized stadium.

The club also boasts of the best squad, which currently sit on the second position in the league.

The team's recent performance nevertheless has not been that impressive.

The team is this season's Azam Sports Federation Cup (ASFC) defending champions and the team has reached the competition's quarterfinals after edging First Division League (FDL) side Ihefu FC 4-5 in post-match penalties of the round of 16.

It is said Azam FC top management met to evaluate the side's performance in both league and ASFC games and the leadership agreed that the results have not been good enough this season.

The management disclosed the coach and the information officer to go separate ways for the best interest of the club.

On the same monitored interview, Cheche, who disclosed that he did not have a contract with Azam FC and was also not informed of the decision, thanked the management of the team.

"My next destination will be known soon, but I really thank Azam FC for all the years we have been together," he said.

Meanwhile, Azam FC has thanked Cheche and Iddi for their immense contribution to the team.

The club said Cheche, as assistant coach to the then interim head coach Abdul Mingange, won two trophies, Mapinduzi Cup and ASFC.

Cheche had also helped Azam FC U-20 team lift four trophies.

## Simba SC, Azam FC set for top of the table clash



Azam FC defender, Yakubu Mohamed (R), blocks Simba forward, Meddie Kagere, in a recent Mainland Premier League clash, played in Dar es Salaam.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

**S**IMBA SC and Azam FC will meet in a crunch Vodacom Premier League title clash at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam today.

Simba, the league's defending champions, extended their unbeaten run in the league to five matches with a 2-0 victory at home to KMC FC in the city on Sunday.

The defending champions have claimed 30 points out of possible 33 in their last 11 games this season to open up a 17-point gap at the top of the log.

While Simba are looking to extend their unbeaten run in all competitions to seven games, they can expect to face stern opposition from Azam FC, with head coach Aristica Cioaba determined to ensure his side does not suffer a third defeat to

Simba, popularly known as 'Simbazi Reds', this season.

Azam have wobbled a bit after a good January showing. They are still sitting in second place, but they have allowed Simba to go out of sight in the title race.

They have also seen Namungo FC gain ground in the ultimate quest for a second place slot.

Azam FC lost an opportunity to increase their lead over Namungo to five points when they lost 1-0 to the latter in Lindi. Now Azam FC needs to beat Simba to keep their grasp on the second spot.

In head-to-head stats, Simba and Azam FC have met in 21 league matches since 2008. Simba have eight wins compared

to six for Azam FC, while seven matches have ended in draw.

There will be eight other matches in the day. Mtibwa Sugar will be in pursuit of a second league win in a row as they host a Namungo FC, fresh off victory over Lipuli FC on Saturday.

In Singida, Coastal Union seek to bounce back from a 2-0 defeat to Mwadui FC when the former take on hosts Singida United at the Liti Stadium.

The Coastal side are looking to continue their rise up the table as they chase for a top four finish.

Lipuli FC hosts Ndanda FC at Samora Stadium, looking to end a run of four straight defeats.

Unfortunately for coach

Nzeyimana Mailo's men, Ndanda have found form and have only tasted defeat once in their last eight matches to climb out of the automatic relegation spots.

Shinyanga will see an interesting encounter when Mwadui FC hosts Polisi Tanzania at Kambarage Stadium with both teams coming into this off the back of back to back victories.

Biashara United versus Prisons should be an interesting contest between two teams who will be hoping to end up in the top eight battle rather than a relegation scrap.

Francis Baraza's men should have the edge over Prisons given the former are in good form and are boasting of home advantage.

They have won their past seven home matches and only lost one of their previous 11 league games.

VPL Wednesday matches:

Singida United vs Coastal Union (Liti Stadium, Singida), Mwadui FC vs Polisi Tanzania (Kambarage Stadium, Shinyanga), Biashara Utd vs Prisons (Karume Stadium, Mara), Ruvu Shooting vs Alliance (Mabatini venue, Coast Region), Mtibwa Sugar vs Namungo FC (Gairo Stadium, Morogoro), Lipuli FC vs Ndanda FC (Samora Stadium, Iringa), KMC FC vs JKT Tanzania (Uhuru, Dar es Salaam), Azam FC vs Simba (National Stadium, Dar es Salaam)

## TPC in need of support for athletes' participation in Paralympics qualifiers

EATV

TONIGHT @ 7:00

WEDNESDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE  
12:00 Weekend Movie (r)  
13:30 Kali Za Wana  
14:00 Planet Bongo (r)  
14:30 Bongo Hits  
15:00 Funguka  
15:30 Nirvana (r)  
16:00 Skonga (r)  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 5SELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 eNewz  
18:30 Music/Soap  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:45 MJADALA  
20:00 DADAZ (r)  
21:00 Kibiashara Zaidi

EATV SAA 1

Coverage of the days current events accompanied by Interviews with prominent people on diverse topics ranging from national to social interests.



Tanzania Paralympic Committee (TPC) secretary general, Tuma Dandi.

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA Paralympic Committee (TPC) is looking for monetary support to process visas for domestic athletes set to compete at the Dubai Championships which will be used as qualifiers for the Tokyo Paralympics.

Tanzania will send two athletes and one coach to Dubai for the games which are slated for mid this month.

Tuma Dandi, TPC secretary general, said the committee needs \$450 (almost 1m/-) to process visas for two athletes and coach.

He said they are only remained with one week to process the visas as the

athletes and coach are supposed to depart for Dubai on Tuesday next week.

Dandi said the team accommodation and air tickets are paid by German-based Agitos Foundation.

"We are asking individuals of good will, companies, service providers and non-government organizations to help us with \$450 (\$150 for each visa) which is almost 1m/-, the money will be used to process visas for our athletes to travel to Dubai for the Games which will be used as qualifiers for Tokyo Paralympics," he said.

Dandi said in an effort to look for financial support to process the visas, TPC has written many organi-

zations which include the National Sports Council (NSC) for financial support.

"We will make a follow up to the NSC tomorrow (today), we are desperately in need of the money so as we can process the visas of our athletes," he disclosed.

"If they (athletes) fail to travel to Dubai for the qualifications, Agitos Foundation will require us to give them back their money and we may also not be considered for future funding," he said.

He mentioned athletes expected to make the trip as Ignatius Mtwewe and Suda Njopeka, who will be headed by coach, Taratibu Machaku.

east africa  
RADIO

06:00 Supa Breakfast  
10:00 MAMAMIA  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

88.1FM  
DAR ES SALAAM