



National Pg 3
Dar, Windhoek to cement relations



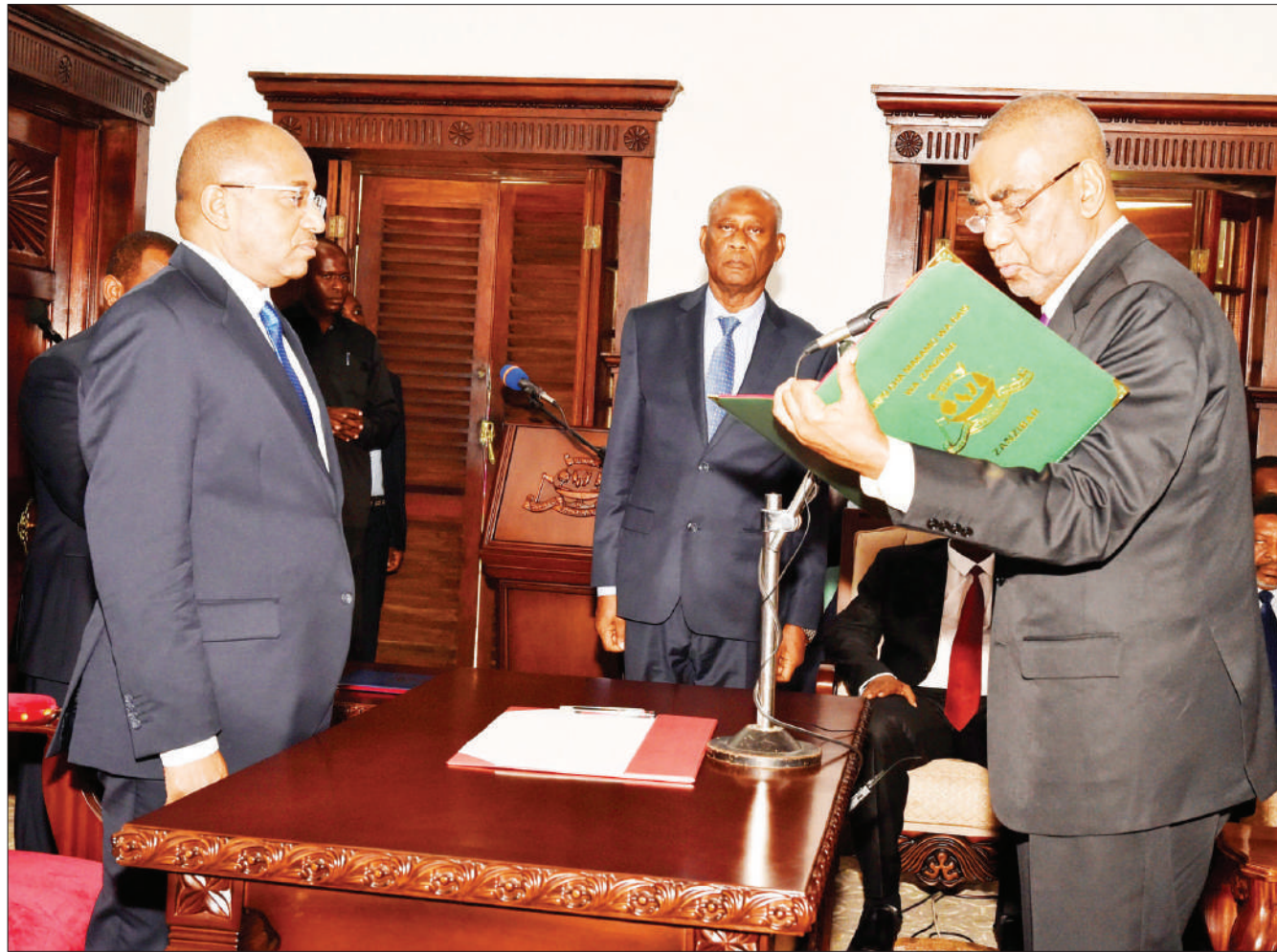
National Pg 4
Police arrest 4 over illegal ivory possession



Features Pg 10
Bank marks completion of programme




Page 13



Zanzibar President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi pictured yesterday swearing in Alliance for Change and Transparency (ACT-Wazalendo) national Chairman Seif Sharif Hamad (R), who was the opposition party's Zanzibar presidential candidate in late October's General Election, as Zanzibar's First Vice President. Photo: Zanzibar State House

Mwinyi, Seif unite in GNU, urge Zanzibar reconciliation

By Henry Mwangonde

ACT-Wazalendo chairman Seif Sharif Hamad has called for national reconciliation aimed at uniting Zanzibaris to end divisions and heal wounds arising from the general election in October.

Maalim Seif was speaking after taking oath of office before President Dr Hussein Ali Mwinyi as First Vice President in a Government of National Unity (GNU) framework which he said was aimed at bringing the people of Zanzibar together for the common goal of building one nation.

Addressing the president, he said

"one reason for reaching the decision to join the GNU was the trust we have for you personally, your actions which have convinced us that you have a genuine aim and goodwill to take Zanzibar out of the political standoff and move forward."

President Mwinyi appointed the ACT-Wazalendo leader and Isles key opposition leader as First Vice President on Sunday, the second time for Maalim Seif to hold the position, after a gap of five years following the first term (2010-2015) in the wake of the 2010 referendum where Zanzibaris endorsed the GNU format.

Hamad said the decision to join the GNU

TURN TO PAGE 2

ANNUAL INFLATION

Page 3



POWER AGREEMENTS

Page 4



BEEF BREEDS

Page 6



Treasury gets \$300m budget support loans

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

TANZANIA and the Republic of Korea yesterday signed a framework arrangement for concessional loans amounting to \$300million (684.6bn/-)

The loan will be sourced from the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF), a Korean government agency, and it will help the government finance five major strategic projects.

Dotto James, the Treasury Permanent Secretary and Cho Tae-ick, the Korean Ambassador signed the accord, where upon the PS, who is also the government Paymaster General, stated the government's commitment on uses of the loan funds.

He named the projects as the construction of two substations for Kigoma - Nyakanazi power transmission line (northwest grid) billed at \$ 45 million, equivalent to 102.9bn/-.

"This project creates a reliable power source to the north - west zone, reducing operational and

maintenance costs of electricity in replacing diesel generators by connecting the area to the national grid. It will reduce greenhouse gas emission by decommissioning diesel generators," he stated.

The loan is part of Government Budget Support (GBS) for \$ 40 million, equivalent to 91.4bn/- to fill the budgetary gap caused by the COVID - 19 pandemic, he said.

The programme aims at improving the budgetary capacity of the public health system by enhancing government capacity to respond more effectively to the negative impacts caused by COVID - 19.pandemic, he said.

Others targeted projects include improvement of sewerage services in the capital city, a \$70 million (160bn/-) project that is highly needed given the vastly larger numbers of civil servants and others now shifting to Dodoma.

The loan will also be used in improving Land

TURN TO PAGE 2



PM: Build classes, not take end of year leave

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa (pictured) has instructed regional administrative secretaries to cancel this year's Christmas and New Year leave for top regional and district officials and instead they should supervise the construction of classrooms and school desks for schools that are in need, and the task that should be completed by February 28.

"I will personally follow up the issue to ensure all pupils picked from the first and second selection are in class by March 1, 2021. Funds for the classrooms and desks should come from your own financial sources," he stated.

The premier gave the directive on Monday in an address to regional commissioners and permanent secretaries in the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology as well as in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Governments).

The meeting was conducted via video conference at his Mlimwa office in the capital and received reports for preparations to receive Form I students for the 2021 intake.

Majaliwa directed PO-RALG to ensure the task is completed in time and asked the responsible officials to ensure construction work on classrooms and making desks is carried on day and night.

Gerald Mweri, the Deputy Permanent Secretary for PO-RALG earlier specified modalities of joining Form I in 2021, where 970 pupils will be enrolled in special schools, 1,059 in technical colleges, 1,280 in boarding schools and 803,326 in day schools.

Katavi Regional Commissioner Juma Homera said all pupils who passed examinations will get Form I places as the region had filled a gap of 42 classrooms, while the region proceeds to build seven new schools with 26 classrooms.

He said the region has plans to send all pupils

TURN TO PAGE 2

Pro-Kabila, pro-Tshisekedi camps in pitched battle at Parliament

KINSHASA

Two days after Félix Tshisekedi's speech announcing the end of the coalition, the standoff continues in the National Assembly between, on the one hand, the office of the chamber of parliament and the deputies of Cape Town for change (CACH), and on the other hand, the supporters of President Felix Tshisekedi and those of former leader Joseph Kabila.

It all started on Monday, December 7 when pro-Tshisekedi parliamentarians ransacked the working room of the National Assembly to protest against the holding of the plenary by Jeanine Mabunda (a pro-Kabila) and all her staff. According to the CACH deputies, there was no question for Mabunda to lead the work of the plenary while the deputies initiated a petition aiming at its deadline.

Faced with this cacophony, the Speaker of the

National Assembly suspended the work of her institution because of the disorders noted on Monday. But Mabunda changed his mind and called on the deputies "for a communication".

It is then under high tension that the plenary was prepared. Within the very walls of the People's Palace, a battle pits Kabila's supporters against those of Tshisekedi.

The new Head of State, who announced the appointment of an informant to seek a new majority in his favour, met with Prime Minister Sylvestre Ilunga (pro-Kabila). Nothing filtered out from this meeting but some sources indicate that Mr Tshisekedi demanded the resignation of the Prime Minister.

Now, no one knows how Sylvestre Ilunga will react. But already, Patrick Nkanga, one of the Prime Minister's advisors, stressed that "the resignation of the Prime Minister is not on the agenda".



9 770856 542009 >

PM: Build classes, not take end of year leave

FROM PAGE 1

failing Std VII examinations to community development schools to obtain life skills for self-reliance.

Lindi Regional Commissioner Godfrey Zambi said the region had a shortage of 400 classrooms,

but it has completed the construction of 380 classrooms. The region will ensure that by January 30 the construction of the remaining classrooms will have been completed, ready to accommodate all Form I pupils picked in the first selection.

SADC and Mozambique: A quiet change in approach?

GABORONE

On Friday 27 November 2020, the Southern African Development Community (SADC) hosted an Extraordinary Organ Troika Summit in Gaborone, Botswana. According to the SADC press release, "The SADC Organ on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation, in short, the Organ, is the body whose overall objective is to promote peace and security in the region in line with Article 2 of the SADC Protocol on Politics, Defence and Security Cooperation."

As is the norm, at the conclusion of such "close-door" meetings, a communique is released. As most analysts and political commentators know, the value of a communique is that it allows a slight peek into the meeting room. It is only a slight peek into the deliberations in the meeting room, as none of the decisions taken in the meeting are revealed in great detail. At best, the communique corroborates certain public opinions, without much real evidence. This practice often leads to undue speculation, resulting in unsubstantiated conclusions being reached by the public who had no direct access to the "closed-door" meeting.

Therefore, in relation to occurrences of insecurity in the SADC region, one would assume the insecurity in northern Mozambique would have featured prominently in the Organ meeting, and the way forward shared to some degree in the communique. However, this was not the case, although there was an interesting change in the tone of the language used by the SADC regional leaders in setting out the way forward to finding a solution to the prevailing insecurity. Let us unpack some of the more important decisions that may not have been fully articulated:

Country Representation
While all in attendance were Heads of State, except for Tanzania which had its Vice President attending, Mozambique had their Minister of Defence representing President Filipe Nyusi. From the outset, it can be assumed that issues and decisions taken regarding Mozambique would not have had the necessary political gravitas, as the Minister would have had to consult with his President before agreeing to certain discussions and decisions taken. This situation does not bode well for a meeting specifically called to discuss the very worrying incidents of instability in northern Mozambique, which may spill over into the rest of the region and therefore may necessitate a regional response.

As the current Chairperson of SADC, President Nyusi should have attended the meeting and not delegated a subordinate in his place. It may have been prudent for the other SADC leaders in attendance to reach out to Nyusi to convince him to attend, or to postpone the meeting until his schedule permitted him to attend. The situation in northern Mozambique requires urgent action and his attendance may have expedited the formulation of a sufficient regional response to the growing insecurity in the country.

SADC's failure to call Mozambique to action

If we analyse the decisions agreed to at recent SADC meetings pertaining to the insecurity in northern Mozambique, it appears as if the process to put decisions

into effect, has stalled.

In May, during an Extraordinary Organ troika meeting, the communique stated:

"The Extraordinary Organ Troika Summit plus Mozambique reiterated SADC's position that condemns all acts of terrorism and armed attacks, wherever they occur, as contained in the SADC Declaration on Terrorism and the AU Convention on the Prevention and Combating of Terrorism."

"The Extraordinary Organ Troika Summit plus Mozambique committed and urged SADC Member States to support the Government of Mozambique in fighting against the terrorists and armed groups in some districts of Cabo Delgado."

In June 2020, at the conclusion of the 22nd Ministerial Committee of the Organ (MCO) Meeting, Lt General (Rtd) Dr Sibusiso B. Moyo, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade of Zimbabwe and Chairperson of the MCO, presented the key outcomes of the meeting and stated:

"The MCO commended the Chairperson of the Organ, H.E. Emmerson Dambudzo Mnangagwa, President of the Republic of Zimbabwe, for convening the Extraordinary Summit to discuss the security situation in the Republic of Mozambique, and reiterated SADC Region's solidarity with the Republic of Mozambique and commitment to collectively address terrorism in the Region."

In August 2020, the 40th SADC Summit Communique stated:

"Summit welcomed the decision by the Government of the Republic of Mozambique to bring to the attention of SADC the violent attacks situation in the country, and commended the country for its continued efforts towards combating terrorism and violent attacks."

"Summit expressed SADC solidarity and commitment to support Mozambique in addressing the terrorism and violent attacks, and condemned all acts of terrorism and armed attacks."

On 27 November 2020, at the Extraordinary Organ Troika Summit, the communique stated:

"The Extraordinary Organ Troika Summit noted with concern, the acts of terrorism in the region, particularly in Cabo Delgado province of the Republic of Mozambique, and expressed continued SADC solidarity with Mozambique."

"The Extraordinary Organ Troika Summit directed the finalization of a comprehensive regional response and support to the Republic of Mozambique to be considered urgently by the Summit."

Change in SADC's tone

It is clear the wording throughout all the meetings has been measured and articulated with a more diplomatic tone. However, if we read closely between the lines, paragraph 6 of the communique may signal the start of a change in tone and approach from the SADC regional leaders. It is the first instance, the Heads of State are literally directing the finalisation of a comprehensive regional response and support plan to be provided to Mozambique, which is to be discussed urgently at a Heads of State Summit meeting. This change in language could be diplomatic speech from the regional leaders, expressing frustration that they can no longer wait for Mozambique to lead the effort in finding a solution to the insecurity.



President John Magufuli pays his last respects at Chinangali in Dodoma Region yesterday to Ethics Secretariat commissioner Judge (rtd) Harold Nsekela, who died on Sunday aged 76. Photo: State House

FROM PAGE 1

was not reached easily, noting that it was a period of arguments and differing views by party members. It reached a point where they all agreed to give Dr Mwinyi the benefit of doubt on the basis of what he has demonstrated so far, he elaborated.

"We decided to join this GNU by putting Zanzibar first despite all the negatives that emerged during the election," he said.

In his remarks, Dr Mwinyi said the nomination and appointment of the opposition leader was a sign of the trust that people have in him. At the same time his nod to the appointment marks the beginning of a reconciliation journey in the Isles, he declared.

Mwinyi, Seif unite in GNU, urge Z'bar reconciliation

"I am a believer in national unity, reconciliation and co-existence, and I am sure it is through this format that we will bring social justice and assure Zanzibaris peace forever," he stated.

Dr Mwinyi called upon the two parties to build trusting in one another to ensure the healing process succeeds, saying that blaming one another and trying to sabotage the other party would only lead to a falling out.

The appointment of opposition

figures to the government is in accordance with provisions of Article 9 (3) of the Zanzibar Constitution amendment of 2010. It asserts that the structure of the Revolutionary Government of Zanzibar will be of national unity, and the performance of its functions shall be carried out in a manner that ensures the development of unity and democracy.

The nomination came just hours after the ACT-Wazalendo

central committee agreed to take part in the Isles government in the GNU framework, to end weeks of uncertainty following the disputed election results in the October 28 polls.

ACT-Wazalendo rejected the results which indicated that the opposition candidate obtained 19-percent of the vote and four seats in the House of Representatives, saying the results were rigged in favour of the ruling party.



Finance and Planning ministry permanent secretary Doto James (L) exchanges 684.6 billion/- soft loan agreement documents with South Korea's Ambassador to Tanzania, Cho Tae-ick, in Dodoma city yesterday. The money is for the construction of two electricity sub-stations. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Treasury gets \$300m budget support loans

FROM PAGE 1

Data Infrastructure (LDI) at \$ 65 million, (148.6bn/-) a project aiming to strengthen and improve the surveying and mapping infrastructure, to build sustainable capacity to prepare basic maps as well as speeding up and reducing land survey

costs.

The money will further be spent on the construction of the New Selander Bridge at \$ 32.6 million, equivalent to 74.5bn/- as a supplementary loan, he said, expressing gratitude for "this valuable contribution under the framework arrangement."

Korea and Tanzania have

an outstanding relationship that is growing as reflected by the increase in the number of bilateral development projects, ongoing and those in the pipeline, he stated, highlighting that so far Tanzania had benefited from EDCF support mainly in energy, water, transport infrastructure and education.

Ambassador Cho expressed his country's commitment to continuing supporting Tanzania in the implementation of its flagship projects. Korea was satisfied that Tanzania is doing well in socio-economic development and wish to extend continued support to this country's development, the envoy added.



Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania CEO Sanjay Rughani (2nd-L) leafs through a copy of The Guardian during his familiarisation tour of The Guardian Ltd offices in Dar es Salaam yesterday. He is with The Guardian Ltd acting managing director Srinivas Chintaluri (L), The Guardian managing Editor Wallace Mauggo (R) and SCB's head of corporate affairs, brand and marketing, Juanita Mramba (3rd-L), and The Guardian Ltd print manager Balasubramaniyan Venkadachalam. Photo: Selemani Mpochi

Govt to support mining opportunities through information on weather

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE government is considering providing site-specific weather information and customised the solution to miners across the country in an attempt to support efficiency and safety in all mining activities.

Eng Aron Kisaka announced yesterday on behalf of the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Works and Transport that the government had invested in the procurement of sophisticated machinery which can provide over 80 per cent accurate forecast data.

"There has been a lot of accidents and sometimes casualties in the mining activities owing to insufficient weather information. We believe timely information will help miners and responsible authorities to plan ahead in an event of disasters," he said.

He said the weather information is vital in reducing such accidents and that the government is committed to protecting the people.

Eng Kisaka made the remarks yesterday during a mining stakeholders' workshop organized by the Tanzania Meteorological Authority (TMA) to deliberate the implementation of the TMA Act No 2 of 2019.

Themed "Use of Meteorological products and service for sustainable mining and sustainable industrialization in Tanzania", the PS representative noted that the new initiative will improve productivity, efficiency and safety.

He said there has been complaints from stakeholders on the accuracy of the forecast data issued by the authority, but

insisted the data provided is 80 per cent accurate.

Dr Agnes Kijazi, TMA Director-General said at the workshop that better use of climate information will lead to positive results in the mining industry.

"This is an opportunity for the authority to build capacity among mining industry stakeholders on benefits and opportunities that come with better use of meteorological products and services," she said.

She said the authority is working to reduce the wave of destruction that comes as a result of weather-related events.

Mineral sector grew from 3.4 per cent to 5.2 per cent between 2015 and 2019 contributing some 527bn/- in the national basket in 2019. The sector also contributes 2.7 billion US dollars in foreign currency.

According to TMA Acting Board of Directors Chairman, Robert Sunday, the mining sector is growing relatively well and therefore it needs better weather information to continuously contribute to the national GDP.

"There are more than 332438 people employed in the sector and we want to ensure the safety of all these people during the activities at the mines," he said.

Federation of Miners Association in Tanzania (FEMATA) representative Harouna Kinega there has been event of weather-related accidents that are beyond wind and rains.

"We need information on hurricane and earthquakes to be able to mine in a much more safety environment," he said thanking the government for inviting stakeholders to take part in the process.

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

'Annual inflation rate decreased to 3 per cent in November 2020'

THE annual headline inflation rate for November 2020 has decreased to 3.0 per cent from 3.1 per cent as it was recorded in October, 2020, the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) said yesterday.

Releasing the statistics yesterday, the acting director of Population Census and Social Statistics, Ruth Davison said, "The decrease of the headline inflation explains that, the speed of price change for commodities for the year ended November, 2020 has decreased compared to the speed that was recorded for the year ended October, 2020."

She said the overall index went up to 119.84 in November, 2020 from 116.39 recorded in November 2019. Food and non-alcoholic beverages inflation rate for the month of November, 2020 has increased to 2.8 per cent from

3.4 per cent that was recorded in October, 2020.

At the same time the annual inflation rate for food consumed at home and away from home for the month of November, 2020 has also decreased to 3.7 per cent from 4.4 per cent recorded in October, 2020.

The 12-month index change for non-food products in November, 2020 has increased to 3.2 per cent from 3.0 per cent that was recorded in October, 2020.

The acting director added that the annual inflation rate excluding food and energy for the month of November, 2020 has slightly increased to 2.5 per cent from 2.4 per cent that was recorded in October, 2020.

On the monthly change of

consumer price index from October, 2020 to November, 2020, she said the national consumer price index has increased by 0.3 per cent from October, 2020 to November, 2020 compared to a decrease of 0.1 per cent recorded from September, 2020 to October, 2020.

"The annual headline inflation rates over the period of November, 2019 to November, 2020 have shown a stable trend that range between 3.0 per cent in November, 2020 and 3.8 per cent in November, 2020" said Ruth.

The overall index has increased to 119.84 in November, 2020 from 119.43 recorded in October, 2020. The increase of the overall index is mainly attributed to price increase

of non-food items.

Some of the non-food items that contributed to such increase include, dental services in private hospitals by 1.5 percent, petrol (1.2) passenger transport by air (1.5) and charcoal (1.9).

In comparison with other East African countries of Kenya and Uganda, she said the annual inflation rate in Kenya for the year ended November, 2020 has increased to 5.46 per cent to 4.84 percent for the year ended October, 2020.

For Uganda the annual headline inflation rate for the year ended November, 2020 has decreased at 3.7 per cent from 4.5 per cent recorded for the year ended October, 2020.

Dar, Windhoek agree to strengthen livestock and fishing sectoral links

By Guardian Reporter

IN efforts to develop economic diplomacy, Tanzania has agreed with Namibia to strengthen the livestock and fisheries sectors.

The agreement was reached yesterday in Dar es Salaam between the Minister for Foreign Affairs and East African Cooperation Prof Palamagamba Kabudi and his Namibian counterpart Netumbo Nditwah who also doubles as the country's Deputy Prime Minister.

"We have agreed to strengthen cooperation in deep sea fishing as well as mobilizing stakeholders from Tanzania and Namibia private sectors to invest in this area. In regard to livestock and beef exports, Namibia has made giant strides as they now export the products to as far as Europe and Asia," said Prof. Kabudi.

Prof. Kabudi said they also agreed to mobilise stakeholders in the private sectors

from Namibia to come to Tanzania to invest in abattoirs and meat processing factories to enable export of the said products.

Among others, yesterday's meeting reviewed the agreement reached two years ago in which the two countries agreed to use the existing opportunities among them to develop the investment sector in fisheries, agriculture and livestock for the wide interests of both sides.

For his part, Namibia's Minister for

Foreign Affairs Netumbo Nditwah said they agreed to strengthen the two sectors - fishing and livestock and farming in general by ensuring better environment for investment as well as internal trade among AU Member States.

He said Namibia will continue working closely with Tanzania to ensure the beefing up the economies of the two countries and Africa in general by adhering to the AU's principles of trade and investment.

ROYAL DANISH EMBASSY, US.EMBASSY DSM, EMBASSY OF FINLAND & BRITISH HIGH COMMISSION DAR ES SALAAM

PUBLIC AUCTION:

UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE under instructions received from Royal Danish Embassy, US Embassy Dsm, Embassy of Finland and British High Commission. We shall sell Household /Office furniture's, Vehicles & Generator by public auction on Saturday December 12, 2020 commencing at 10:00 am. The auction will take place at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street.

Furniture and Appliances Bidding Start at 10:00am; Sofa set, Sofa bed, China base, Hutch, Chest drawer, Dressers, Coffee table, Dining table, Chairs, Book case, Office desk, Chairs, Bed, Mattress, Fridge double door, Upright Freezer, Commercial Display Freezer, Washer, Dryer, Electric cooker, A/c split units, TV Sets, and etc

Vehicle & Generator Bidding Start at 12:00 hrs.


Unit	Make	Model	Year	Duty	
1	Toyota Rav4	Saloon	1A2 Petrol Engine	2000	Not paid
1	Ford Figo	Saloon	4 Cylinder Petrol Eng.	2012	Not paid
1	Land Rover	Station Wagon	Freelander 2 Petrol Engine	2012	Not paid
1	Honda	Motorcycle	XL 125 Petrol Engine	2010	Not paid
3	Generator	30KVA Silence	Perkins Diesel Engine	-	Not paid

All items may be inspected at Golden Resort Sinza, Lion Street from December 10 to 11, 2020 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.

AUCTION CONDITIONS:

- The winning bidder for Furniture has to make full payment to cashier immediately. For Vehicle & Generator winning bidder must pay 25% to cashier immediately and the final payment in full within 4 working days by December 18th, 2020 at 4:00pm. For payments not made within 5 working days, the Vehicle or Generator will be offered to the next highest bidder and the advance payment will be forfeited.
- Payments via CRDB Bank VISA and Master Cards will be accepted.
- All items are sold on "as is" basis with no guarantee.
- Duty and all taxes are the responsibility of the buyer.
- Bidder will remove the items after all payments and duties
- All persons entering the premises must obtain a Bid Number at the entrance.

For further information contact:
UNIVERSAL AUCTION CENTRE,
(PLOT NO. 5 "E" LION STREET SINZA) DAR ES SALAAM
CELL NO: 0754 284 926, 0759 284 926 E-mail: universalauction@hotmail.com
Insta: universalauctioncentre



GLOBAL HEALTH SUPPLY CHAIN PROGRAM
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE - TANZANIA

Terms of Reference

Job title: Strategic Communications Writer and Editor
Location: Dar es Salaam, Tanzania, and remote
Purpose: Develop and create written project material and provide copy-editing on key project material produced by staff
Duration: 20-60 days for period January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021

- Background**
The Global Health Supply Chain Program – Technical Assistance – Tanzania (GHSC-TA-TZ) project, supported by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), provides expert technical assistance to Tanzania to strengthen country supply chain systems across all health elements, e.g., malaria, family planning (FP), HIV/AIDS, tuberculosis (TB) and maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH). In coordination with in-country and development partners, GHSC-TA-TZ assists Government of Tanzania health programs by providing strategic planning and implementation assistance; improving the delivery of health commodities to service sites; providing capacity building support to broaden stakeholders understanding and engagement of the supply chain system; and strengthening enabling environments to improve supply chain performance.
- Objective(s)**
 - Support project staff technical leads in writing and copy-editing project materials and deliverables.
- Tasks/Activities**
 - Write success stories, technical reports, and other project materials for publication.
 - Review, copyedit, and proofread project produced reports, manuals, guidelines, and other project workplan deliverables before publication.
- Timeframe**
 - January 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021, approximately 20-60 days total.
- Deliverables**
 - Detail timesheet approved by project staff.
 - Completed written material.
 - Completed copyedited and proofread materials.
- Place of Performance**
Dar es Salaam and remotely
- Travel schedule** N/A
- Knowledge and Experience**
 - 5+ years' experience as a copywriter, content strategist, strategic writer, or similar role
 - Excellent communication skills (both verbal and written).
 - In-depth knowledge with developing knowledge management material for USAID funded projects. Experience working with public health projects is highly desirable.
 - Excellent project management and organizational skills

If you are interested in applying this position please send your resume, cover letter to ghsc.recruitmentz@gmail.com. And kindly include title you are applying for in the subject line.
While we thank all applicants for their interest, only those selected for interview will be contacted. Deadline for submission shall be on December 22nd, 2020. GHSC - TA - TZ is an equal opportunity employer.

"We have agreed to strengthen cooperation in deep sea fishing as well as mobilizing stakeholders from Tanzania and Namibia private sectors to invest in this area."

Police arrest four people over possession of ivory

By Guardian Correspondent, Babati

POLICE in Manyara Region have detained four people for being in possession of a piece of elephant tusk weighing 1.42 kilograms.

Speaking to reporters here yesterday the Regional Police Commander Paul Kasabango confirmed the incident that happened on December 6, this year at Sanu village, Sanu Ward in Mbulu District.

RPC Kasabango said they received intelligence reports on some people trying to sell a piece of ivory.

"We set a trap and we managed to arrest four people who were in a process of selling the trophy," he said.

He mentioned the names of the suspects as Gobre Haniti (18), and Safari Hamisi, both farmers from Haisary village, Lagoos Selestini (34) and Paul Gidion (30) both farmers from Mwanga in Singida Region.

He said the value of the ivory could not be immediately established, and that investigations were continuing after which the suspects will be taken to court.

Meanwhile, RPC Kasabango said the police in the region have been well mobilised to beef up security during the coming Christmas and New Year holidays to ensure peace and tranquility prevails.

He also used the occasion to appeal to drivers of motor vehicles to be careful and should observe traffic regulations.



We set a trap and we managed to arrest four people who were in a process of selling the trophy



Kinondoni district commissioner Daniel Chongolo (2nd-R) cuts the ribbon to launch a Vodacom shop along Dar es Salaam's Haile Selassie Road yesterday. Others are Kinondoni district administrative secretary Stella Msofe (2nd-L), Vodacom Dar es Salaam and Coast Zone head of sales Brigita Stephen (R) and shop in-charge Emmanuel Makaki. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



World Food Programme
Programme Alimentaire Mondial
Programa Mundial de Alimentos
برنامج الأغذية العالمي

SAVING LIVES
CHANGING LIVES

SALE OF USED VEHICLES, OFFICE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT

The office of the United Nations World Food Programme in Dar es Salaam has a list of used Vehicle, Office furniture and equipment for sale on "as-is-where-is" basis to the highest bidder. Prospective buyers will be responsible for payment of duty, VAT and other related charges as established under Government rules and regulations. Only bids with precise prices will be accepted. WFP reserves the right to reject any or all bids. Bids should be quoted in Tanzanian Shillings. The items can be viewed at the following places and on the indicated dates and time.

Viewing Sites	Date	Time
WFP Dar es Salaam Country Office	09.12.2020-11.12.2020	0900hrs-1300 hrs
WFP Dodoma, Isaka, Kibondo, Kasulu & Kigoma office	09.12.2020-11.12.2020	0900hrs-1300 hrs

Sealed bids should be addressed to the WFP Representative & Country Director, P.O. Box 77778, Plot No. 113 Mwindu Lane Street, Kinondoni, Dar es Salaam and marked "BID FOR PURCHASE OF USED VEHICLES, OFFICE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT NO. 01/2020" and should reach the UNWFP Dar es Salaam Office before Friday 18.12.2020 at 13.30hrs. Successful bidders will be required to pay and will collect the unit they have purchased within 7 working days after being notified of their successful bid. A successful bidder will be notified starting from 29.12.2020

USED VEHICLES, OFFICE FURNITURE AND EQUIPMENT WITH DETAILS FOR DISPOSAL VIA SALES

LOT	REG. NUMBER	TYPE	CHASSIS NUMBER	STATUS	LOCATION
1	T257CD223	TOYOTA LAND CRUISER LC 76	JTEEB71J307027664	GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
2	T257CD218	TOYOTA PRADO KD150R-GKFEY	JTEBH9FJX0K126646	GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
3	T257CD217	TOYOTA LAND CRUISER LC 76	JTEEB71J307020164	GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
4	00248410	PROJECTOR HP		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
5	00248735	PROJECTOR HP		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
6	00329318	PRINTER - HP		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
7	00248729	PRINTER - HP		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
8	00885475	PHOTO COPIER - KYOCERA KM1620		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
9	00169935	DESKTOP COMPUTER - HP		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
10	00329348	PRINTER COLOUR HP		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
11	00471522	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
12	00694247	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
13	00694246	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
14	00471350	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
15	00471559	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
16	00169877	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
17	00694248	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
18	00329867	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
19	00214755	LAPTOP HP		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
20	00003549	PHOTOCOPIER MACHINE - KM 1620		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
21	00885815	DRILLING MACHINE / TOOL BASE		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
22	00885816	DRILLING MACHINE / TOOL BASE		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
23	00329903	METAL CONTAINER		BROKEN	DAR RS SALAAM
24	00329075	MOTORCYCLE HONDA XL 125		GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
25	00885475	PHOTO COPIER - KYOCERA KM1620		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
26	00885476	PHOTOCOPIER KYOCERA		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
27	00885490	PIGEON HOLE		GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
28	00885487	AIR COMPRESSOR		NOT WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
29	00885493	OFFICE TABLE		GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
30	00248976	ROUND TABLE		GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
	00885560			GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
	00885561	SOFA BLACK LEATHER 3 PCS		GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
	00885562			GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
31	00169512	FRIDGE LG		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
32	00885564	FRIDGE LG		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
33	00694245	DEEP FREEZER SMALL		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
34	00885563	DEEP FREEZER WESTPOINT		WORKING	DAR RS SALAAM
35	N/A	ALUMINIUM DOOR 1 PC		GOOD	DAR RS SALAAM
36	00375415	KYOCERA MITA TASK ALFA 180		WORKING	DODOMA
37	00248684	PRINTER HP		NOT WORKING	DODOMA
38	00471325	PRINTER HP LASERJET ENTERPRISE M 605		NOT WORKING	DODOMA
39	00248912	PRINTER COLOUR HP		NOT WORKING	KASULU
40	00169951	MONITOR HP		WORKING	KASULU
41	00248430	MONITOR HP		WORKING	KASULU
42	00169787	UPS		NOT WORKING	KASULU
43	00471259	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	KASULU
44	00471264	MONITOR - HP		WORKING	KASULU
45	00885167	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	KASULU
46	00694766	STABILIZER		NOT WORKING	ISAKA
47	00471260	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	KIBONDO
48	00885032	GENERATOR SET PERKINS 240KVA		NOT WORKING	DODOMA
49	00015950	GENERATOR (JOHN DEERE 250 KVA) ENG. 6081		NOT WORKING	DODOMA
50	00694741	MILLING MACHINE ALCAN BLANCH		NOT WORKING	ISAKA
51	00694312	CONTAINER - METAL		BROKEN	ISAKA
52	00375783	SOFA		GOOD	KIBONDO
53	00248477	BOOK SHELF		GOOD	KIGOMA
54	00471568	LAPTOP HP ELITEBOOK 850 G2		WORKING	KIGOMA
55	00471631	MONITOR HP		WORKING	KIGOMA
56	20001646	LAPTOP DELL LATITUDE 7280		WORKING	KIGOMA
57	00694050	LAPTOP HP		WORKING	KIGOMA
58	20001659	MONITOR DELLE2216H 21.5"		WORKING	KIGOMA
59	00694033	MONITOR-24 INCH HP		WORKING	KIGOMA

National grid set to benefit, as Tanesco signs power purchase pacts with six small producers

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Electric Supply Company (TANESCO) has signed power purchase agreements with six small scale independent producers that will add-up some 19.16 megawatts into the national grid.

Speaking here shortly before the signing the pact, TANESCO's strategic planning senior manager Costa Rubagumya said the firms have been given a grace period of 18 months to start production.

"Today's pact is part of the company's efforts to improve the supply of electricity in the country," he said, adding that TANESCO is open to investors wishing to venture into supplying power to the state utility firm.

He said the national power company is working under the guidance of the Energy and Water Regulatory Authority (EWURA) and it is currently screening other investors who plans to supply electricity to the company.

EWURA's guidelines, however, allows small scale, independent power producers, to invest in the production of renewable energy which includes hydro, solar, wind or biomass for specific areas.

Rubagumya told reporters the new power investors and their capacities includes Nishati Lutheran Investment that

implements the 0.36 megawatts

Ijangala Hydropower Project at Ijangala waterfalls in Makete and Madope Hydro Co. Ltd that implements the 1.7 megawatts MADope hydropower project on Madope river in Ludewa.

Others are Luponde Hydro Ltd of the Luponde Hydropower Project (0.9 megawatts) on Luhololo river in Njombe and the Lung'ali Natural Resources Co. Ltd which implements the 1.2 megawatts Maguta Hydropower project on

Lukosi river falls in Kilolo.

It also includes NextGen Solawazi Ltd which is working on the 5.0 megawatts Kigoma hydropower project at Kigoma special economic zone and SSI Energy Tanzania Ltd that is implementing a 10 megawatts Kahama Solar power project in Kahama.

He said these projects have met conditions set by EWURA, stating that the government agreed that some independent power producers be allowed to generate and sell power specifically on projects that seek to increase power voltage, areas without the national grid as well as in areas where there is high energy losses.

Eng Rubagumya said the new agreement being signed have also adopted a phase-in which Tanesco will periodically review the pricing especially when production cost has lowered to ensure the energy sold is relatively cheap and affordable

SSI Energy Tanzania Ltd Director General Nicholas Richardson noted that the new agreement will help people in Kahama access the energy but also reduce power interruptions that slow business development. "This is a good thing for the people in Kahama," he said thanking Tanesco and the government for endorsing the investors.



He said the national power company is working under the guidance of the Energy and Water Regulatory Authority (EWURA) and it is currently screening other investors who plans to supply electricity to the company

Zanzibar anti-graft agency instructed to probe ZAWA purchase of water pumps

By Guardian Correspondent,

Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR Second Vice President Hemed Suleiman Abdalla has given two weeks to Zanzibar Anti-Corruption and Economic Crimes Authority (ZAECA) to make investigations on seven water pumps recently purchased by Zanzibar Water Authority (ZAWA).

Abdalla issued the instructions early this week during his impromptu visit at ZAWA headquarters at Kinanzini in Zanzibar, saying the aim of the investigations was to find out whether there was any element of corruption in the purchase.

He said the government would not tolerate seeing ZAWA, a sensitive institution that is concerned with people's lives is

immersed in negligence that can put the lives of people in danger including loss of government revenue.

He said from now on any public official of any public institution who fail to be accountable would be the end of his employment.

He said the situation of accountability in ZAWA was not good due to negligence that cause

poor water supply service to the people as well as plummeting revenues for the government.

Mussa Ramadhani Haji, ZAWA managing director said as for now clean and safe water supply in Unguja and Pemba was 80 per cent according to consumption.

He said at other times the supply drops to 75 per cent due to some wells experiencing power problems including frequent breakdowns of water pumps due to being operated for longer periods.

He said in tackling challenges within water distribution services, ZAWA experts have embarked on research starting from Nungwi area in North Zanzibar Region to identify the causes for the challenges.

He said initially they have discovered the existence of many illegal water connections.



He said initially they have discovered the existence of many illegal water connections



Dar es Salaam Water and Sanitation Authority technicians replace a water pipe at Mdaula in Coast Region yesterday to ensure better supply of tap water at Ubena, Mwidu, Visakazi villages as well as a nearby Army camp. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

TARURA spends 7.4bn/- on 7.7km tarmac roads in Mpanda - report

By Guardian Correspondent, Katavi

TANZANIA Rural and Urban Roads Agency (TARURA), through its Urban Local Government Strengthening Programme (ULGSP), has spent 7.4bn/- to implement construction of a total 7.7kms of tarmac roads in Mpanda Municipality.

This was revealed early this week by Henry Mtawa, TARURA's Acting Coordinator for Katavi Region, during inspection of various projects implemented by TARURA in the region since the agency's establishment.

"Construction work on this project begun in 2017 and was completed in 2019 and has improved the town's road infrastructure, as of now residents conduct their activities during the night following installation of street lights," he said.

He said the project also solved water flooding in some areas of the town especially during rainy seasons following the installation of drainage system.

Juma Phinias, a Mpanda resident said in the past the roads were dusty especially

in dry seasons and muddy during rainy seasons, but as for now these challenges have been solved.

TARURA has also completed construction of the much-needed bridge along Mkumbo Road in Mpanda Town that joins Nsemula Ward with Kashaulili that cost 163m/-.

TARURA in Katavi Region continues to service the region's 2,474.84-km road network in all the five districts including bridges construction to enable residents conduct their economic activities with ease.



Construction work on this project begun in 2017 and was completed in 2019 and has improved the town's road infrastructure

2,000 farmers drilled on palm oil processing by sticking to expert advice

By Correspondent Felix Andrew

MORE than 2,000 farmers, processors, distributors, and sellers of palm oil in Kigoma Region have attended the training on production, processing, and preserving the oil by adhering to standards and quality packing.

Winding up the training in Kigoma yesterday, Director of Quality Control at Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS) Lazaro Msasalaga said that quality edible oil should adhere to the agricultural, processing, and health procedures.

Msasalaga said most of the local palm oil producers have been using tradition method which does not adhere to quality and safety of the edible oil hence affect the health of consumers.

For his part, the Acting Head of TBS West Zone Rodney Alananga asked processors to follow procedures in certifying the quality of their product since doing so would enable them to secure local and foreign markets and protect the health of consumers.

Meanwhile, the TBS Training and Research Manager, Hamis Sudi, closing similar training in Katavi said that the government recognizes the contribution of in supporting the economy of the country.

He said the bureau would continue to provide such training countrywide to ensure that producers produce edible oil according to stipulated National standards.

Sudi said that apart from the training, TBS has been providing certification services for SMEs for three years free of charge to enable them to grow and meet required standards in market-related issues.

"I urge SMEs to use this important opportunity which the government has provided so as to increase your productivity. Festo Kapela, the Trade Officer from the Ministry of Industry and Trade, said that more than 50 percent of edible oil used in the country is imported hence compels the government to spend a lot of foreign currencies.

"East African countries depend much on imported edible oil, it could be an opportunity for local palm oil processing factories to improve their products and see how they increase their income through it," Kapela said.

The training which involved 15 centers in Kigoma region is a continuation of similar ones which started in August this year in Katavi and Rukwa regions.



East African countries depend much on imported edible oil, it could be an opportunity for local palm oil processing factories to improve their products and see how they increase their income through it

TPB BANK PLC

59 ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE



H.E. Dr. John Pombe Magufuli



H.E. Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi



H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan

Board of Directors, Management and Staff of TPB Bank Plc wishes to join the President and Vice President of the United Republic of Tanzania H.E. Dr. John Pombe Magufuli and H.E. Samia Suluhu Hassan, Zanzibar President H.E. Dr. Hussein Ali Mwinyi, and all Tanzanians to commemorate 59th anniversary of Tanzania independence.

Let's protect our Peace, Unity and Solidarity for the prosperity of our Nation.



Villagers close to Horohoro border post forced to fetch water from the Kenyan side

By Correspondent George Sembony, Mkinga

VILLAGERS living near the Tanzania-Kenya border post of Horohoro have no access to clean and safe water despite the completion of a 360m/- water infrastructure project in the area.

The situation has been pushing them to cross the border and fetch water in unreliable sources.

Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Water, Anthony Sanga acknowledged the challenge when he visited the water project recently.

The facility was earlier built by the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) and later renovated by the Tanga Urban Water and Sanitation Authority (Tanga-UWASA) and the Rural Water and Sanitation Authority (RUWASA) at a tune of over 360m/-.

Sanga said that the dam faces design problems which include lack of spill off thus forcing the water to create its own spillway when it is full. It has been losing water despite having a good water treatment and distribution network as well as water points.

To address the situation, the PS directed the ministry's experts to immediately assess the project and come up with a solution within two weeks to enable the government to improve the dam within this month to reduce water woes in the area.

"Make sure that you immediately conduct an assessment of the project for the ministry to make an emergency decision and see what to do within two weeks, this project has poor design and should be addressed," the PS told the experts.

He said that the government will not tolerate seeing its people struggling to get water while it has allocated enough funds

to address the challenges.

According to him, the government has invested heavily in water pumping, treatment, and distribution networks, so implementers have to ensure that the funds are used properly to bring expected outcomes.

Earlier, the Mkinga Constituency Legislator, Dunstan Kitandula told the PS that the dam was the only dependable water source for over 5,000 villagers living in the border area.

Kitandula appealed to the government to make sure that the problem comes to an end to stimulate development at the border village.

The newly elected councilor for Horohoro Ward, Merieyer Miliya called on the government to take appropriate decision to expand the dam so as to satisfy the needs of the border area population.

Recently, the Tanga Regional Commissioner, Martine Shigella underscored the need for expanding the sources of water at Horohoro Border town, saying it would be in line with the region's plan to make it a business hub.

He said that the region plans to make Horohoro a major business hub so as to attract investors and businessmen from across the country and neighbouring countries.

Shigella directed the Tanga Regional Rural Water Supply Authority (RUWASA) to use Pay for Result Funds (PFR) to expand a Horohoro water dam to tap more water in readiness for an expected increase in the population of the border centre.

"This is a regional strategic area so a reliable water supply is essential to serve an expected increase in the number of people at the fast-developing town," Shigella said.



Dr Charles Mwamaja (2nd-L), Commissioner of Finance Development in the Finance and Planning ministry, presents to NMB Bank Plc acting chief finance officer Benedicto Baragomwa a National Board of Accountants and Auditors trophy in Dar es Salaam at the weekend after the bank emerged outstanding in the NBA's Best Presented Financial Statements awards for 2019 for the third year running. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Zanzibar youth urged to support fight against corruption

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR'S Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration, Local Governments and Special Forces) Masoud Ali Mohamed has called on the youth to dedicate themselves in the fight against corruption and humiliation.

Mohammed gave the remarks during the commemoration of World Humanitarian Day at Kendwa in Zanzibar South Region.

He said it would be better for the youth

to support government efforts in that war which hinders national development.

He added that the youth should understand they have great responsibility in developing the concept of devotion to spur development as well as eradicating challenges facing the country.

"The youth should understand that there is a new task for you whenever you devote yourselves in regard to the entire issue on the war against corruption, abuse of power, embezzlement and denial of human rights instead of just seeing that the commemoration was all

about singing and other activities," he said.

Mwanaidi Mohammed Ali, the Director of Zanzibar Community Development Department said in marking the event, international organisations continue working together with the government and other institutions in pushing for development.

Christine Musisi, UNDP Country Representative said the organisations value the contribution by the youth in various sectors including the health sector.



Kongwa district executive director Dr Omary Mkulo addresses Tanzania Social Action Fund (Tasaf) review supervisors at a one-day seminar held yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Ibrahim Joseph

Plan international in new drive to empower CSOs top officials with skills in management

By Guardian Reporter

PLAN International Tanzania has embarked on a new drive to empower top officials and board members of civil society organisations (CSOs) with essential management skills and knowledge to enable them to operate smoothly hence bring positive impacts to the community.

In an interview, Plan International director of programmes, Peter Mwakabwale said that recently the organisation organised a meeting in Morogoro Region and attracted several directors and board members from seven CSOs that they are working with.

"We held a meeting in Morogoro recently and the main objective was to train members of the NGOs and support them to strengthen

their operations. Our aim is to enable the organisations to implement their duties and projects well," he said.

According to Mwakabwale, Plan International works closely with the government and other CSOs in the country to implement various projects that affect communities.

According to him, some of the organisations have been failing to implement their projects well due to lack of essential skills and knowledge.

"We realised that some of the boards in the CSOs also do not know their responsibilities well as well as boundaries, they sometimes over-act and interfere the duties of organisation's director something that causes internal conflicts," he said.

He said that the meeting brought together chairpersons and board members of seven organisations

and executive directors to educate and remind them of their duties.

"The boards of the CSOs were not aware that fundraising and resource mobilization is one of their key duties, they were leaving the responsibility to the director, most of them also are unaware if they are there to support the organization's director to enable him/her fulfill duties smoothly, the board should also ensure that they meet four times per year and discuss important things to improve the organisation," he said.

Mwakabwale further said that Plan International also found that some of the chairpersons of the NGOs board are signatories, something which thwarts daily operations of the corporations.

"We expect that after that fruitful meeting, we are going to have effective boards that adhere

to their ethics to ensure that they bring positive impacts in the organisations and community they are serving," he added.

Plan International Tanzania is a child-centered organisation that advances children's rights and promotes equality for girls.

The organization's key priorities include child protection; adolescent sexual and reproductive health and rights; inclusive, quality education; water, sanitation, and hygiene; youth economic empowerment, and responding to emergencies.

It works with communities, the government, and other development partners to support vulnerable children, adolescent girls, and their families to access health care, education, clean water, sanitation, protection to help improve their livelihoods and protection of their well-being.

Institute working on trials meant to ensure improved local cattle breeds in place

By Correspondent Valentine Oforo, Dodoma

THE Tanzania Livestock Research Institute (TALIRI) is executing a robust programme to improve productivity of cattle breeds through strategic crossbreeding.

Trends shows that the beef industry in Tanzania is mainly constrained by low genetic potential of existing stock, inadequate infrastructure and marketing systems, prevalence of animal diseases, weak livestock farmers organisations and inadequate technical support services, among others.

TALIRI's acting Director General, Dr Jonas Kizima, said the programme based on upgrading the Boran cattle using Beef Master Semen up to 75 per cent.

"Growth rate at specific ages is an important criterion for selection of females and males in this programme. Considerable attention is given to body weights at 36 and 72 weeks of age," he explained.

He explained the focus is also to improve livelihoods among the livestock farmers by heightening incomes and food security through breeding suitable beef cattle that fit pastoral and agro-pastoral production environments.

Along with that, Dr Kizima stated over the need for wider efforts to tackle challenges and capitalizing opportunities in beef industry. "There are several strategies and options that need to be embraced so as to have a bouncing and mushrooming livestock industry that is bound to contribute more to the household and national economies. Briefly, orientation of physical, financial and intellectual resources has to do with increase in levels of investment that is over and above the current levels," he observed.

He itemized some of the strategies as review of taxes, tariffs and policies so as to create a more conducive climates for investment and growth of production and agro-processing ventures and local, national and regional levels.

"There's a need also to encourage investment in feed resource development through paddocking, and irrigation. This has to consider land demarcation and granting of land occupation rights to investors, both small, medium and large scale," he observed.

According to him, other needed efforts must venture on establishment of an enabling and supportive environment for joint village land use planning, and for the protection of rangelands, investment in livestock breed improvement as well as pastures and forages improvement for beef production.

"The current and past effort foreseen in the livestock industry in Tanzania are part of a broader processes of agricultural transformation that aimed at improving productivity and increasing incomes at household and national levels," he unveiled.

The livestock industry in Tanzania plays important socio-economic roles that include contributing to building a strong national economy, household food supplies and incomes, employment opportunities as well as nurturing natural resources.

The country has a total area of 945,000km², whereby 62,000km² of the surface area is covered in water, and 60 million hectares is rangelands that is suitable for livestock production.

The available rangeland resources and varied forage and fodder resources are suitable for grazing to the available 33.4 million cattle; 21.3 million goats and 5.65 million sheep, more than 1.85 million pigs, 47.4 million indigenous poultry and other non-conventional species such as donkeys and rabbits.

As per the 2012/13 National Panel Survey, 50 per cent of all households keep livestock (4.6 million households), 62 per cent of which are rural and 23 per cent urban, with ownership patterns dominated by chickens (86pc households), goats (48pc), cattle (35pc), pigs (9pc) and other livestock 10 per cent.

Five Dar technicians win best roofing skills award

By Guardian Reporter

FIVE technicians have been awarded the best roofing skills award in the competition organised by ALAF Tanzania.

The award, presented over the weekend in Dar es Salaam was designed to recognise the positive contribution of construction technicians, who played a key role in the construction industry.

Speaking at the awarding ceremony, the marketing manager for ALAF Tanzania Isamba Kisaka said the award is aimed at motivating the technicians in their daily roles and thus stimulate efficiency and excellence in the industry.

"This is part of our effort to recognise the technicians and encourage them to increase efficiency, produce more quality work and thus gain more trust from the public, this is a special programme which was designed to increase more knowledge, stimulate talents, and enhance professional standards to develop the industry," he said.

Kisaka explained that through

the programme ALAF is planning to use the platform to encourage citizens to make use of locally produced construction products in order to boost the internal market.

"We are also planning to engage the technicians in the new era of technology in order to promote the digital shift in the construction sector, which will help to improve service to customers," he said.



It also offers pre-painted roofing sheets made from coils sourced from our sister company, Safal Steel in South Africa

He added that, through the programme, technicians will undergo training in the class and practice to assist them to perform their duties professionally.

Kisaka said ALAF is committed to delivering value for money to its customers, by offering not just products, but also quality roofing and building solutions.

ALAF Limited Tanzania is part of SAFAL groups of Companies, a leading producer of steel roofing and related products in the country.

The company graduated to use Aluminum-Zinc steel coating technology in 2010, thus manufacturing roof sheeting that offers a much longer service life than traditional zinc-coated (so-called "galvanized") steel.

"Today ALAF offers a wide range of Roofing products, Pipes & Hollow sections; Aluminium-Zinc coated steel coil, Cold-rolled products, structural Steel, and Engineering products. It also offers pre-painted roofing sheets made from coils sourced from our sister company, Safal Steel in South Africa."



An entrepreneur (L) taking part in the exhibition of products made in Tanzania now under way at Dar es Salaam's Mwalimu Nyerere International Trade Fair grounds briefs newly appointed Industry and Trade minister Godfrey Mwambe (2nd-R) at one of the pavilions at the weekend. Right is Tanzania Trade Development Authority (Tantrade) director general Edwin Rutageruka. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

Sustainable forest management: Agribusiness programme hailed

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

BENEFICIARIES of Lindi and Mtwara Agri-business Support Programme (LIMAS) have commended the programme development partners for boosting capacity building. The LIMAS programme is implemented in collaboration with local governments and with funding from the Finnish and Tanzania government.

Acting Executive Director for Liwale district James Milanzi said conserving forests through LIMAS Programme has made a significant contribution and impact to the livelihood of the villagers.

He said it has supported helped the district council, capacitated the villagers through CBFM where the villagers are increasingly participating fully in forest conservation and management. Citing an example of Mtawatawa village, Milanzi said that sustainable forest conservation has improved health, water, infrastructure, and education in several villages.

"The project has created employment, created more awareness, and provided education on forest conservation, management, and good governance," he said.

The chairman of the Village Natural Resource Committee Juma Mohammed said despite the achievements, there are still some people who are conducting illegal timber harvesting and charcoal production.

Citing an example, he said since the commencement of the project the village natural resource committee (VNRCs) has impounded more than 1,000 timbers that were harvested illegally.

The village Chairman Omary Shante said first of all the villagers received training on the project and forest conservation and management then that is when they ventured into the project on forest conservation.

"We formed a committee that convened three times every month and then the patrol team meets every after three days to patrol the forest and ensure it is in order.

Acting village Executive Officer



The project has created employment, created more awareness, and provided education on forest conservation, management, and good governance

Benadetha Kitangita said the achievement registered within a short period of four years is a result of the collective responsibility of the village, district, and development partners.

Policy and Dialogue Officer from Tanzanian Community Forest Conservation Network (MJUMITA) Elida Fundi called on the government to put in place good policies and laws so that the whole country could benefit from sustainably managed forests through CBFM.

Once villagers see projects that generate profit and especially when they see basic social services they can be willing to cooperate to conserve and manage their forests well than ever before, she explained.

She said the Community-Based Forest Management (CBFM) approach when integrated with forest-based enterprises can provide incentives for communities to manage the forests on the village land sustainably and at the same time enhance rural development.

They were speaking during a working visit of the natural forest conservationists and reporters in the district through support from the SDC funded Conserving Forests through Sustainable forest-based Enterprises Support in Tanzania (CoForEST). The project also means to transform the economics and governance of forest product value chains and contribute to climate change



VACANCIES ANNOUNCEMENT

Air Tanzania Company Limited (ATCL) is implementing its five years Corporate Strategic Plan (2017/2018-2020-2021) which includes the network expansion in local, regional and international destinations. Therefore, applications are invited from qualified Tanzanians to fill the following positions in Commercial and Business Development and Operations and Technical Services Departments.

1. PILOT IN-COMMAND (20 posts)

1.1. Minimum Entry Qualifications and Working Experience:

- i. Must have a minimum of 4000 flying hours;
- ii. Must have an Airline Transport Pilot License (ATPL), Multi Engine and Instrument Rating;
- iii. Must have 1000 hours as a Pilot in Command; and
- iv. An experience of handling a minimum of 18 tons equipment or above with a good performance.

1.2. Duties and Responsibilities

To exercise final authority and responsibility of safety and security of the aircraft, passengers, crew and cargo through all phases of the flight as per ATCL Operational Manuals and Procedures;
To ensure that all Operational Procedures and SOPs are complied with by all crew members and ground personnel;
To ensure standards and quality of services and comfort to customers during the flight; and
To advise the management on cost reduction procedures during operations of flights

2. CO-PILOT (FIRST OFFICER) (20 POSTS)

2.1. Minimum Entry Qualifications and Working Experience:

- i. Must have a Commercial Pilot License (CPL), Multi Engine and Instrument Rating;
- ii. Possession of Airline Transport Pilot License (ATPL) and/or experience in handling multi-crew equipment will be an added advantage

2.2. Duties and Responsibilities

To assist the Pilot in Command to ensure safe and efficient conduct of a flight as per ATCL Manuals and procedures
To perform routine works as assigned/delegated by the Pilot in Command
To carry our flight in accordance to Standard Operation Procedures as allocated to him by the Commander
To participate in the Commander's crew briefing and prepare OFP and when necessary file the ATS Flight Plan with the appropriate authority

3. POSITION: TRAFFIC LIAISON OFFICER (4 POSTS)

3.1. Minimum Entry Qualifications and Working Experience:

- i. Bachelor Degree/Diploma or relevant Certificate from a recognized training institution or its equivalent qualification;
- ii. Proven relevant working experience of not less than 2 years as a Traffic Liaison Officer and/or Airport Ground Operations
- iii. Must be computer literate
- iv. Background in Air Transport Management and possession of IATA/UFTAA Diploma or any airline certification will be an added advantage
- v. Experience in delivering service in highly demanding consumer environment

3.2. Duties and Responsibilities

Supervise and ensure efficient and effective check in and boarding of passengers in compliance with carriers' policy/procedures and customer expectations.
Supervise baggage handling and prepare weekly baggage handling report. Liaise with the GHA to ensure lost baggage is communicated, traced, and delivered to affected passenger.
To ensure conformity with all regulatory requirements, organization standards and local procedures as well as requirements of customer airlines
Effective communication internally and externally to enable effective planning control and reporting.
To ensure a safe & secure working environment in compliance with relevant legislative/industry requirements.
Audit, review and report on service delivery to monitor compliance on SLAS's availed to GHA.
Administrative processes to ensure integrity and accuracy manual and computerized data processing.
Strict control of excess baggage collection and remittance Record all flight movements as per company requirement Any other duties as may be assigned by your supervisor

4. POSITION: SALES AND RESERVATION (2 POSTS)

4.1. Minimum Entry Qualification and Working Experience:

- i. Bachelor Degree/ Diploma or relevant Certificate from a recognized university or its equivalent qualification;
- ii. Proven relevant working experience of not less than 2 years in Sales and Reservation
- iii. Must be computer literate
- iv. Background in Air Transport Management and possession of IATA/UFTAA Diploma will be an added advantage.

4.2. Duties and Responsibilities:

To provide necessary information to the customers; To sell products and services to the customers;
To coordinate the payments and refund to customers; To assist customers when making reservations;
To make bookings for groups and corporate passengers;
To check availability of flights status with the view of confirming seats to customers. To perform flight briefing;
To retrieve passenger contacts at time of long delays and inform them well in advance before the reporting time;
To make a special note for passengers requiring special services; and To handle customers complaints

5. POSITION: AIRCRAFT LOADER CUM CLEANER (2 POSTS)

5.1. Minimum Entry And Qualifications

- i. Must have a minimum of Ordinary Secondary Education Certificate
- ii. Must have Office Cleaning Certificate from VETA or any recognized training institution OR Basic Certificate in mechanics or other technical related certificates
- iii. Previous working experience in an airline is an added advantage

5.2. Duties and Responsibilities.

To physically handle cargo, Mail and baggage (offload/load) to support the needs of the business.
To ensure efficient and secure handling to comply with ATCL standards.
To observe/adopt safe working practices & ensure safe work environment in compliance with relevant legislative/industry requirements.
To maintain required levels of certification to ensure safe and effective handling of cargo/baggage.
To handle general cleaning of line, hangar and workshop facilities under supervision
To clean Aircraft and aircraft components under supervision.
To assist in positioning working and safety gears to facilitate maintenance activities.
Performs any other duties as may be assigned by die supervisor

6. REMUNERATION:

Attractive remuneration and Fringe Benefits as per ATCL Scale and Incentive Scheme. Five (5) years contract (renewable) upon success for the position of Traffic Liaison Officer, Sales and Reservation and Aircraft Loader.

7. MODE OF APPLICATION FOR ALL APPLICANTS:

Interested applicants must submit a duly signed letter for consideration of the application attached with the following:

- i. A curriculum vitae (CV),
- ii. Certified copies of all certificates (including secondary school), other relevant certificates, Applicants who have studied outside Tanzania should have their certificates approved by relevant authorities Tanzania Commission for University (TCU) or National Examination Council- NECTA)
- iii. Two recent passport size photographs
- iv. Copy of birth certificate, passport or Citizen Identity Card
- v. Name and address of at least two reputable referees;
- vi. Applicant's reliable contact address, email address and telephone number.

Note: Misrepresentation of qualifications or any other information on application shall warrant legal consequences

8. 7. CLOSING DATES:

Applicants should consider the following closing dates for each post as follows:
Within Fourteen (14) days from the first date of this announcement

The application letters should be directed to the following address: -

**Managing Director and CEO,
Air Tanzania Company Limited,
P.O. Box 543, DAR ES SALAAM.
DATE ISSUED: 9.12.2020**

WEDNESDAY 9 DECEMBER 2020

**Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995**

Time for serious thought as we mark a truly important day for our country

UNLIKE the way a human being grows up, reaching 59 years isn't a sign of having aged somewhat but really a mark of approaching maturity. This is being seen in a number of areas, as it was in the course of the 58th year of independence that Tanzania was announced to be a lower middle income economy, a fairly respectful status in the community of nations, and we have steadily received visitors from abroad looking at investment opportunities. And it is not the only area where the country is visibly coming of age.

There is also visible growth of institutions and a sense of cohesion, overcoming divisions of party loyalties, often the cover of weaknesses in national consciousness and seeking refuge for negative sentiments on society and institutions. The reason these divisions are being overcome is a proactive state which has conducted massive campaigns against rot and indulgence in the ranks of government and the public sector at large, working with private interests and own aggrandizement against the interests of the state. This error curbed, the public understood when other avenues of wrongdoing or contempt were shut.

It is the popularity of the fifth phase government in meeting expectations of the public in an all-round manner, despite a few gaps here and there, that has enabled a smooth transition from a visibly tense election moment to recomposing the government. While opposition parties were crying on top of their voices that what was going on wasn't acceptable, they saw for themselves that the public was not at all disturbed by their massive of representative seats both in the Mainland and in Zanzibar. Their sense of disenchantment was just a part of disenchantment of a

broad section of society that was enjoying earlier.

In its wider environment, the 59 years of independence are characterized by greater respect for the country in its dealings with foreign countries, what we could just dream at the time of independence or conduct ourselves resolutely at a great cost. Foreign Minister Prof. Palamagamba Kabudi was explaining recently how first phase President Julius Nyerere refused aid from Germany (at that time West Germany) and later Britain in relation to ties with East Germany in the wake of the Union in April 1964. Then there was UDI (Unilateral Declaration of Independence) by Rhodesian settlers and the UK did nothing about it.

The fifth phase was the turning point in elevating the sense of nation above subservience to colonial and post-colonial interests, as earlier it was a matter of an African government directly obeying dictates of former colonial powers. After countries solidified somewhat, foreign interests took up purchasing loyalty of leaders, and that is what President John Magufuli sorted out, without having need to nationalize foreign economic entities as in the first phase. This move altered plenty of old parliamentary and party habits, etc.

As the country marks Independence Day while still unveiling the incoming government in Zanzibar and incoming Union cabinet, a sense of realism is being felt across the board. Old style opposition is more or less out of the legislature, while the fusion of the old Civic United Front group in Zanzibar and the fledgling ACT-Wazalendo on the Mainland, has helped to leverage positive influence on the Isles opposition. Unlike 2010, this is a governmental role based on accepting reality, not a new peace accord.

As investors express greater interest, we really need to deepen our markets

JUST how Tanzania is attractive to foreign investors was on the forefront at the end of last week when a delegation of Austrian firms was in the country, especially to map out changing the capital city economy to industries and top of the game character of services. That is vital so that Dodoma becomes the real capital city and draws out not just the government and key regulatory organizations but diplomatic missions and the higher end of business executives. As a fact, climatically Westerners favor Dodoma to Dar es Salaam, with its less humid atmosphere, in which case it can rapidly become a major metropolis.

This is what comes up in the wake of what transpired when the delegation comprising 13 Austrian companies was in Dodoma, examining investment opportunities in transportation, agribusiness, education, health and construction. Regional Commissioner Dr Binilith Mahenge said in the wake of the discussions that the potential investors were presented with available opportunities and going by their reaction, they were enthralled by the scope of choice. That was likely, but the issue is the scale and breadth of what they can put on the ground, and expectations of how rapidly their businesses can grow.

The RC said the delegation members were there to survey investment opportunities, in which case regional officials had an opportunity to present to them what the region has to offer and they were impressed. There was considerable expectation that tangible ventures and job

opportunities will come out of the visit and discussions, as the delegation expressed their companies' readiness to put their efforts to invest in several potential areas which promises to bring positive impacts to Dodoma city. It is sort of new growth pole in the country's economy, and astute investors can see opportunities opening up before them.

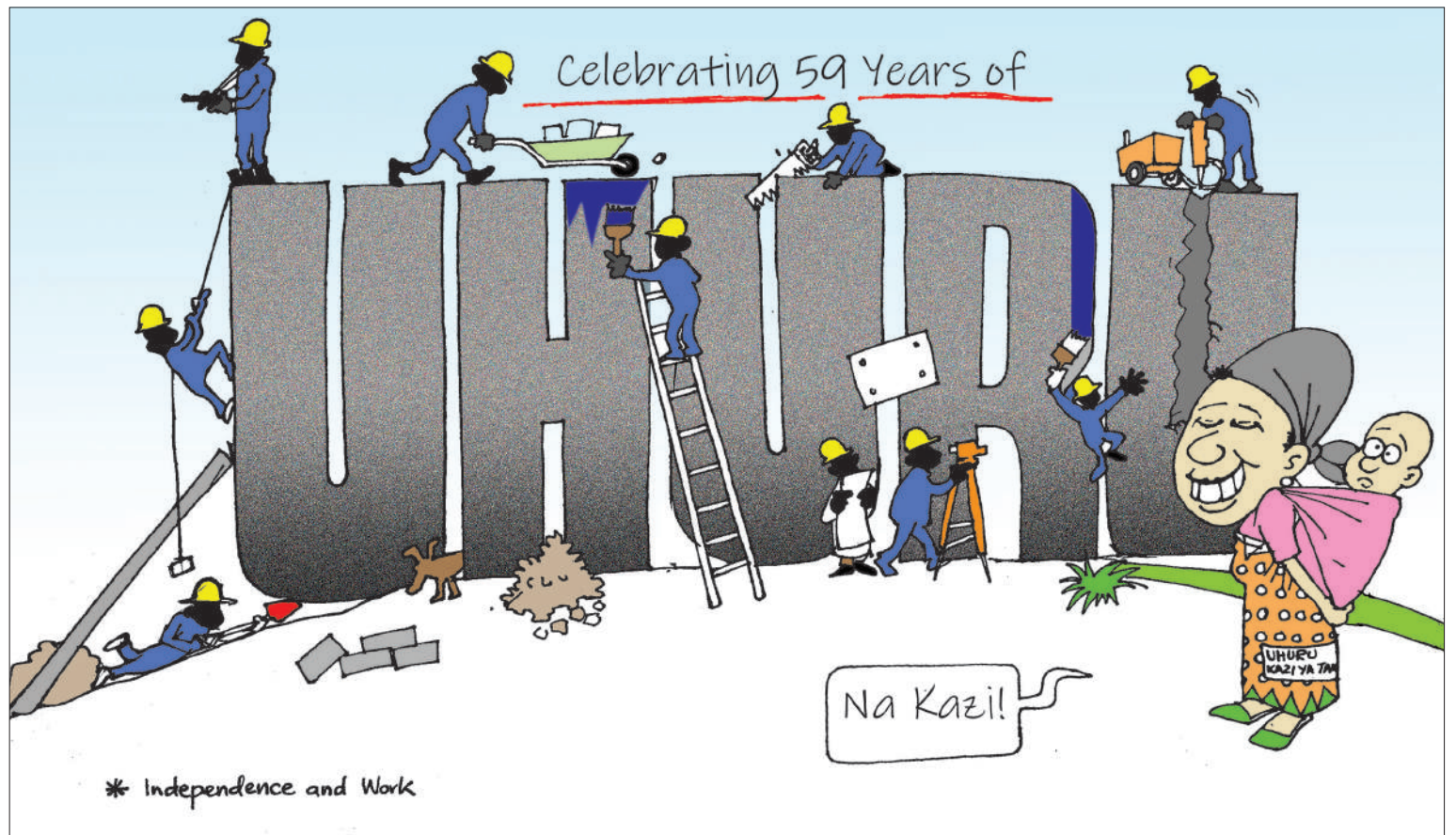
That said, it matters considerably what they can actually expect especially as regards market uptake of the products and services they are prepared to put into the businesses they start. On the basis of Dr Mahenge's remarks, the company executives indicated a keen interest to invest in infrastructure networks. They are also focused on social services and technology, like hospitals, pharmaceutical and medical equipment. Automotive industry, edible oils, livestock and leather sector, food processing, real estate, tourism and leisure also came up.

The key impression that regional officials came off with is that the delegation noticed that Dodoma has just a few hospitals, which makes the Benjamin Mkapa Hospital a unique facility in the capital, without a comparable health centre or high level facility, which implies likelihood of a major private hospital and a pharmaceutical venture to cut supply chain costs and ensure rapid expansion. There was also plenty of interest in gas-powered trains as this mode of transportation is cheaper compared to current fuel-operated vehicles, and they are also environmentally friendlier. All this requires scale, abundant users of facilities.

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts
Managing Editor: WALLACE MAUGGO
Circulation Manager: EMMANUEL LYIMO

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

Advertising
Mobile: 0782253676
E-mails: advertise@guardian.co.tz
Website: www.ippmedia.com
epaper.ippmedia.com



By Special Correspondent

THE country's anti-corruption drive is real and more convicts are now being jailed to deter would-be offenders.

The number of people, including public figures, being arrested for graft has significantly increased over the years.

Interestingly, the drive has since gone a gear up with more bigwigs being found guilty and locked up for criminal abuse of office and other corruption-related charges.

All along the police were the only investigating arm with arresting powers, but recently, the Zimbabwe Anti-Corruption Commission (ZACC) was bestowed with the same powers, leveraging the anti-graft war.

Another important unit, the Special Anti-Corruption Unit (SACU), was also set up to assist in effectively investigating and prosecuting corruption cases.

SACU collaborates with the police, ZACC and at times, with the National Prosecuting Authority (NPA) to ensure no stone is left unturned in the quest to curb corruption.

The Zimbabwe Republic Police (ZRP) also set up its own specialised unit, the Police Anti-Corruption Unit (PACU) while the Judiciary introduced special anti-corruption courts to exclusively preside over graft cases.

All these efforts are being undertaken in the spirit of intensifying the war and ensuring that all the corrupt elements are brought to book and dealt with in terms of the law.

The fight against corruption is a priority issue for the Second Republic and all relevant institutions are playing their own roles to create a corrupt-free environment.

The fight has started bearing fruit, with the latest conviction being that of Zimbabwe Mineral Development Corporation (ZMDC) acting general manager Luke Akino who was jailed for two years last weekend for corruptly awarding a \$168 000 consultancy services contract to his acquaintance.

Prosecutor Mr Michael Reza called for a custodial sentence arguing that a non-custodial one would trivialise the matter. The prosecutor argued that corruption was a serious offence, which was now highly-prevalent.

"The court must send a clear message that corruption does not pay. The State prays for a seven-year jail term of which two years should be suspended on condition of good behaviour and the accused serve five years effective in prison," said Mr Reza. However, the court slapped

Zimbabwe corruption crackdown: Is it era or political theatre?



Akino with an effective two-year jail term.

Such a conviction and sentence speaks to the country's seriousness in fighting corruption.

Players in the criminal justice system who participated in the investigation, prosecution and adjudication, played ball, setting an example of how the corrupt elements must be treated.

Former principal director of State Residences Douglas Tapfuma was mid this year jailed for an effective four years and had six vehicles forfeited to the State after he was convicted on three charges of criminal abuse of office. The court declared the forfeiture of six cars -- a Toyota Hiace, Toyota Altezza, BMW 318i, Nissan Tiida and two Honda Fit vehicles -- out of the eight cars he imported.

In passing sentence, the magistrate made it clear that corrupt practices required deterrent punishment.

During his tenure, Tapfuma imported eight vehicles using bills of entry exclusively reserved for bringing into the country the President's personal goods and for the Government. By doing this, he avoided paying duty.

Former PetroZim Line (Pvt) Limited general manager Cathrine Katsande was in August this year jailed for an effective 60 months for fraudulently awarding to a local company, tenders for the supply of equipment worth US\$2 million during her tenure.

She was convicted of six counts of fraud.

Harare magistrate, Mr Lazini Ncube, initially sentenced her to 90 months' imprisonment before suspending 30 months.

Mr Ncube also fined the company that was awarded the tenders, Keltrade (Pvt) Limited \$53 000 for the same offences.

In September this year, former Midlands Provincial Affairs Minister Jason Machaya was jailed for an effective two-and-a-half years after being convicted on abuse of office charges involving the illegal allocation of 17 799 commercial and residential stands on State land in Gokwe.

Machaya personally received 1 791 stands back from the developers and entities he had allocated the State land to and had already sold 1 185 to individuals, pocketing US\$900 000.

He was sentenced together with former Midlands Provincial physical planner Chisayinyerwa Chibururu.

Former Energy and Power Development Minister Samuel Undenge who was in 2018 convicted of abuse of office was in June this year committed to prison for two-and-a-half years.

Undenge was found guilty of prejudicing the Zimbabwe Power Company (ZPC) of \$12 650 when he hand-picked a public relations company owned by politician Psychology Maziwisa and former ZBC news anchor Oscar Pambuka to do work for ZPC without going to tender. He appealed the decision in 2018 but this year, the High Court rejected his appeal.

The court found out that his sentence was not excessive and did not induce any sense of shock. In July last year, President Mnangagwa appointed a new commission, headed by renowned judicial officer Justice Loice Matanda-Moyo, to effectively and efficiently investigate all corruption cases.

Being a new broom, ZACC truly swept clean. Ten days after the swearing-in ceremony, the newly-constituted commission hit the ground running, arresting ex-Minister for Environment, Tourism and

Hospitality Industry Prisca Mupfumira on corruption allegations involving US\$95 million.

Mupfumira became ZACC's first big catch on July 25. She is now out on bail.

Other prominent figures arrested by the newly constituted ZACC included former Vice President Phelekezela Mphoko who was accused of criminal abuse of office.

Another arrest that confirmed ZACC's seriousness in the fight against corruption was that of Marry Mubaiwa, the estranged wife of Vice President Constantino Chiwenga, for externalising US\$1 033 000.

She was also charged with money laundering involving US\$990 000 and fraud. Using the tainted money, Mubaiwa is said to have bought two houses and furniture in South Africa, and three top-of-the-range vehicles.

This year, former Health and Child Welfare Minister Obadiah Moyo was arrested for corruption. Over 10 Harare councillors and directors were also arrested including ex-Mayor Gomba over illegal land sales.

Mayor Jacob Mafume, who replaced Gomba, was also arrested as the fight against corruption have shown that corruption is a major ingredient in retarding economic growth and development. It has been shown that corruption is negatively linked to the level of investment a country can have. The more corruption there is, the less investment and the less economic growth.

Conscious of the devastating effects of corruption, the New Dispensation has identified the scourge as its number one enemy in the quest for an upper middle income economy by 2030.

Free trade deal could boost African manufacturing

BY KOUASSI YEBOUA AND REQUIER WAIT

INDUSTRIALISATION has become one of the most talked about issues among African policy-makers. A vibrant manufacturing sector is crucial to transforming economies on the continent, achieving sustained growth, creating more jobs and achieving prosperity for all.

Yet Africa's experience with industrialisation has been disappointing. Trade liberalisation and appropriate complementary policies could turn things around. The African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) presents an opportunity for economic growth and transformation across the continent. To get there though, several major hurdles in implementing the new deal will need to be overcome.

After independence, most African countries tried to industrialise through state-led import substitution policies. These endeavours failed due to poor leadership, a lack of commitment, mismanagement, commodity price busts and an absence of clear industrial development planning.

Research by Bruton shows the extent to which these efforts were implemented on an ad hoc basis, lacking a clear economic rationale. Subsequent structural adjustment programmes seem to have further dampened the ideal of industrialisation in many African countries. They encouraged states to focus on what they already had an 'advantage' in - often commodities.

There is considerable room to grow intra-African manufactured exports if trade is further liberalised.

Today Africa is less industrialised than it was in the 1970s. The share of the manufacturing sector in Africa's GDP is currently 11%, down from 15% in the 1970s. Africa's contribution to global manufacturing output declined from 3% in the 1970s to less than 2% in 2013. The share of manufacturing in Africa's total exports fell from 26% in 1995 to 19% in 2014. In other words, African countries are deindustrialising while still poor.

Almost without exception, those countries that have sustained rapid economic growth over time, including the Asian Tigers and China, did so on the basis of a strong manufacturing sector. It seems unlikely that African countries could achieve inclusive and sustainable structural change without industrialisation.

Given Africa's significant agricultural potential, agro-processing could be a start to achieving a vibrant manufacturing sector. However, the continent's exports to developed countries face more pronounced tariff regimes in processed agricultural products, with higher tariffs on processed commodities than on raw materials. This 'tariff escalation' discourages countries from moving up the value chain.

In 2014, manufactured products accounted for only 15% of Africa's exports to outside the continent compared to 42% for intra-African exports. Evidence suggests that there is considerable room to grow intra-African manufactured exports if trade is further liberalised.

The AfCFTA aims to boost intra-African trade by reducing tariff and non-tariff barriers. Its full implementation will help mitigate the constraint of tariff escalation, encouraging countries to focus on more value-added products, and hence diversify exports away from commodities.

Technical barriers to trade, such as corruption and cumbersome custom systems must be removed.

Implementation starts in January 2021 and if fully realised, the deal will help firms overcome the constraint of narrow domestic markets and facilitate economies of scale, diversification and more value add. AfCFTA covers all African countries, with an estimated combined GDP of US\$2.5 trillion and a population of about 1.3 billion.

The trade deal will help attract foreign direct investment, especially in the manufacturing sector, as the large market can increase profit margins for external investors. By establishing a subsidiary on the continent rather than exporting from outside Africa, the unified African market can be accessed more easily and at lower costs.

The AfCFTA offers an opportunity to boost industrialisation across Africa. It offers numerous manufacturing opportunities such as agro-processing, clothing, car assembling, machinery and equipment, among others.

However, its implementation will undoubtedly pose serious challenges. Regional economic communities such as the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) and the Southern African Development Community aren't functioning as they should. Intra-regional trade in ECOWAS is officially reported to be only 8-13% of total ECOWAS trade, and Nigeria recently closed its land border with Benin.

African governments and policymakers must do everything in their power to make the free trade area work. Technical barriers to trade, such as corruption and inefficient and cumbersome custom systems, have to be addressed.

Ethiopia is aligning its trade and industrial policies by developing economic zones and industrial hubs.

The AfCFTA will probably be hampered by Africa's huge infrastructure deficit and low quality of trade logistics. African countries should actively invest in both areas. Also, trade liberalisation often creates winners and losers, especially when it takes place between countries with different levels of development. This could undermine the free trade area if compensatory measures aren't taken for equitable distribution of gains.

Even fully implemented, the trade deal may not lead to the level of industrialisation expected unless appropriate complementary policies are put in place. Industrial parks and special economic zones are a good platform to exploit these opportunities.

Lessons can be learnt from Ethiopia which is doing well in aligning its trade and industrial policies through developing economic zones and industrial hubs. The country is focusing on investments and production in manufacturing export sectors such as textiles and



apparel, leather products, pharmaceuticals and agro-processing.

African countries should also invest in human capital, improve business regulations and enhance access to credit for

export-oriented manufacturing firms. Such supportive policies, along with the effective implementation of the AfCFTA, can boost industrialisation and development on the continent.

The future of Africa will depend on its ability to use the industrialisation opportunity presented by the free trade area. Leaders now need to show the political will and commitment to en-

sure that technical trade barriers are removed and that industrial policies are in place and coordinated at both national and regional levels.

AGENCIES



TANZANIA COMMUNICATIONS REGULATORY AUTHORITY
ISO: 9001:2015 (CERTIFIED)





Board of Directors, Management and Staff of The Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) would like to congratulate His Excellency The President of the United Republic of Tanzania, **Dr. JOHN POMBE JOSEPH MAGUFULI** and all Tanzanians in commemorating 59 years of Independence for Tanzania Mainland.

"Use Communication for Development"



Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority,
Mawasiliano Towers,
20 Sam Nujoma Road,
P.O. Box 474,
14414 Dar es salaam.
Email: dg@tcra.go.tz




59th Independence Anniversary

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff of **National Housing Corporation (NHC)** join His Excellency The President of the United Republic of Tanzania, **Dr. JOHN POMBE MAGUFULI** and all Tanzanians in commemorating 59 years of independence of Tanganyika



Father of Nation
The United Republic of Tanzania
The late Julius Kambarage Nyerere



Second phase President
The United Republic of Tanzania
H.E. Ali Hassan Mwinyi



Third phase President
The United Republic of Tanzania
The late H.E. Benjamin William Mkapa



Fourth phase President
The United Republic of Tanzania
H.E. Dr. Jakaya Mrisho Kikwete



Fifth phase President
The United Republic of Tanzania
H.E. Dr. John Pombe Magufuli

We at National Housing Corporation join hands with the government in ensuring that we provide decent accomodation for all Tanzanians for the good of our nation's development.

"Provision of decent accomodation is a catalyst for economic growth and poverty reduction"

P.O.Box 2977 Dar Es Salaam | Tel: +255 222105002-6 | Email: dg@nhc.co.tz | Website: www.nhc.co.tz

Standard Chartered Bank completes 3.5bn/- 'Seeing is Believing' programme in Singida

By Guardian Correspondent

STANDARD Chartered Bank Tanzania and Sightsavers have marked the completion of the fourth phase of the bank's 'Seeing is Believing' programme in Singida.

The Singida leg has come to an end following implementation that began in 2016, with the project meant to eradicate avoidable blindness in the region.

The bank contributed USD 1.5 million to the project, the money going towards contributing to sustainable provision of eye care services in all districts in the region.

The main objectives focused on strengthening eye health systems to deliver quality eye health services, increase access of eye health services the districts as well as increasing support and commitment to eye health from the local and central governments.

'Seeing is Believing' has recorded remarkable achievements for both children and adults in Singida Region. It involved a special school health project that involved screening pupils across the region.

A total of 1,059 teachers were trained on eye health and vision screening. The project reached 483 out of 529 primary schools, which is an equivalent of 91 per cent of primary schools in the region.

A total of 203,248 pupils were screened, out of whom 10,665 were dispensed with spectacles and 8,465 were treated for various eye health conditions.

Alongside the children, adults in the region also benefited from the project. 106,990 adults were screened and 8,638 underwent cataract operations, while 6,154 received spectacles and 81,366 received treatment for an array of eye health conditions.

The project also covered the aspect of the construction of eye care and health facilities, which resulted in the construction of five eye health clinics - in Manyoni, Iramba, Singida, Ikungi and Mkalama districts - which have been built in collaboration with the government.

Speaking at the handover event ceremony held in Singida municipality, Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania CEO Sanjay Rughani said that the bank was "delighted to have played a critical role in supporting the Singida community through the 'Seeing is Believing' programme."

He also acknowledged Sightsavers



Singida regional commissioner Dr Rehema Nchimbi (2nd-L) holds a set of reports on the 'Seeing is Believing' project's achievements and sustainability plans. With her are Standard Chartered Bank Tanzania CEO Sanjay Rughani (L) and Singida regional administrative secretary Dr Angelina Lutambi (2nd-R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

for implementing the programme "so well that it has resulted in positive impact across Singida Region".

Rughani also applauded the government's efforts and collaboration towards eradicating avoidable blindness in Tanzania.

He said the government's collaboration, through the Local Authority offices in Singida Region, in partnership with the Ministry of Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children, had resulted in a timely completion of the construction of the five eye health clinics in the region.

CEO Rughani expressed optimism that the close collaboration with the government in the implementation of the 'Seeing is Believing' programme would go a long way in ensuring the sustainability of the programme.

He elaborated: "While the 'Seeing is Believing' programme has come to

an end, I am happy to know that there is a sustainability plan to ensure that more efforts are directed towards eradicating avoidable blindness in Singida Region. "I am pleased to know that the region will also generate revenue from the provision of eye care services through the sale of spectacles. The funds will be re-invested to order consumables and spectacles before they run out of stock."

"In further ensuring sustainability of the programme, 323 health staff at the district level have undergone various types of training on eye care and health."

"Additionally, state-of-the-art technology including eye care and health equipment costing over 350 million/- has been delivered to various hospitals in the region and this will definitely help ensure the sustainability of the project."

The programme has also created extensive awareness on importance of eye care and health. This awareness has been made possible through village-level sensitisation forums as well as through radio-facilitated awareness.

Sightsavers Country Director Godwin Kabalika

meanwhile applauded the bank for funding - and the government for supporting - the 'Seeing is Believing' programme, "which has improved lives for many people in Singida Region and elsewhere in Tanzania". He said that the four-year journey in implementing the programme had not only benefited the residents of the Singida region but also the direct project implementers "who have learnt from a process which will lead to more seamless execution of future programmes."

The World Report on Vision shows that globally more than 2.2 billion people have impaired vision, while the problem could have been avoided or has yet to be dealt with for at least 1 billion people.

As usual, this burden is not borne equally: it weighs especially heavily on people from low- and middle-income countries, women, older persons and people from ethnic minorities.

"It is for this reason that Sightsavers is dedicated towards promoting eye health," said Kabalika, adding: "While the 'Seeing is Believing' programme has come to an end, we believe that the people of Singida Region will continue to access eye health ser-

vices from the various eye health clinics built at the district level as well as the regional hospital."

"I would like to urge everyone to go for eye screening periodically to improve your eye health and overall wellbeing," he noted.

The bank has promised to build on its 'Seeing is Believing' legacy by mobilising support for the Vision Catalyst Fund and by supporting people with visual impairment through the 'Futuremakers' initiative, the bank's new global initiative meant to tackle inequality and promote economic inclusion.

Seeing is Believing (SiB) is an ambitious, internationally recognised partnership between Standard Chartered and the International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness focusing on tackling avoidable blindness and visual impairment.

Avoidable blindness and visual impairment are key health issues across our footprint, impacting access to education and employment opportunities with long-term implications for livelihoods and economic growth.

Since 2003, SiB has funded projects implemented by international eye health organisations providing access to affordable and quality eye health services to people in low- and middle-income countries.

SiB began in 2003, when Standard Chartered committed to raise enough money for 28,000 sight-restoring surgeries - one for every member of staff at the time - to celebrate its 150th anniversary.

SiB has evolved from supporting cataract surgeries into a global multi-stakeholder partnership that supports comprehensive eye care, strengthens eye health systems and fosters the development of new technologies across Asia, Africa, the Middle East and South America.

The bank celebrated 15 years of SiB and announced that, thanks to bank matching, the USD100 million fundraising target had been reached two years ahead of schedule. SiB has reached 219.7 million people through 237 projects across 38 countries low- and middle-income countries. It has changed the lives of millions of individuals and families, making it easier for many to return to education and work. As a result, this has boosted local economies and strengthened communities.

China helps chart way forward for 'restoring' world after COVID-19 pandemic

By He Yin

CHINESE President Xi Jinping has successfully attended three major multilateral diplomatic events from Nov. 17 to 22, namely the 12th BRICS Summit, the 27th Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Economic Leaders' Meeting and the 15th G20 Leaders' Summit, and delivered speeches.

The world is caught between a pandemic of the century and momentous changes never seen in the last one hundred years, the global economy has been put into deep recession, and the globe is entering a period of turbulence and revolution.

It is against such a background that Xi put forward China's solutions to global challenges on multilateral stages and sent reassuring messages to the world.

It is generally believed by the international community that Xi's remarks and the initiatives proposed by China have provided inspiration for the world to shake off the current crisis and charted the way forward for restoring the world after the COVID-19 pandemic.

It remains an urgent task confronting the entire world to defeat the virus with solidarity and cooperation.

Xi has comprehensively and systematically expounded on China's ideas about and prop-

ositions on international anti-epidemic cooperation.

He proposed that countries adhere to people-centered development and put people's lives and health first.

Xi stressed that unity and cooperation are the most potent weapon to conquer the epidemic, and encouraged countries to overcome division with unity, replace bias with reason, and pool the maximum global synergy to beat the virus.

The Chinese leader also called on countries to actively support the World Health Organization (WHO)'s crucial leadership role in combating the virus, step up international coordination and response as well as telemedicine, share experience on how to control COVID-19 and achieve economic recovery with digital technologies, establish a global mechanism on the mutual recognition of health certificates, and build a global firewall against the pandemic.

China's propositions and initiatives have added impetus to international anti-epidemic cooperation and infused confidence to mankind's fight against the virus.

These propositions and initiatives have once again fully demonstrated the Chinese leader's sincere wish to pursue common health for mankind and secure stability for the world, embodied China's firm will to join hands with



other countries to overcome the current difficulties, and won high praise and positive responses from various parties.

Cooperation is necessary today more than ever to face the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, said Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, King of Saudi Arabia, which holds the rotating presidency of the G20.

German Chancellor Angela Merkel believes that this (COVID-19) is a global challenge that can only be overcome through global joint efforts, calling on countries to support the COVID-19 Vaccine Global Access Facility (COVAX) and enhance the role of the WHO.

The common tasks facing all countries are how to coordinate epidemic prevention and control and economic development, how to keep a balance among the efforts to fight the epidemic, stabilize the economy, and protect people's livelihood, and how to advance the cause of global poverty reduc-

tion. By referring to China's successful practice of coordinating epidemic prevention and control and economic and social development as well as taking the lead in resuming work and production and restoring economic growth, Xi has proposed a package of plans for boosting the recovery of world economy.

Xi said countries need to stand firm for building an open world economy and uphold the multilateral trading system with the World Trade Organization (WTO) at its core, proactively seize the opportunities of the times, cultivate new growth drivers through scientific and technological innovation and digital transformation, and bring about common development of higher quality and stronger resilience.

Xi also called on the international community to place the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Develop-

ment at the heart of international development cooperation, and make poverty eradication a primary goal.

He stressed the necessity to implement the Paris Agreement in good faith, stick to the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities, and provide more help to developing countries, particularly the small island developing states.

Highlighting adherence to open, innovative, inclusive and green development, China's proposals fully exhibited the country's sense of responsibility as a major country that seeks to explore new drivers for world economy, open up space for international economic cooperation, and the well-being of people in all countries.

Through China's proposals and plans, the world has become more aware of China's high-quality development momentum, and can better understand the trend of the times.

In the face of severe challenges such as the virus, China, a country with a population of 1.4 billion, has always maintained its strategic focus, and pooled resources and concentrated on managing its own affairs well.

China has achieved major strategic achievements in epidemic prevention and control, and secured positive results in balancing epidemic prevention and control and economic and social development.

In the first three quarters of this year, China's GDP grew by 0.7 percent, on course to register positive growth for the whole year. The economic performance has greatly boosted people's confidence in

overcoming the epidemic and restoring economic growth.

As China enters a new stage of development, pursues the vision of innovative, coordinated, green, open and inclusive development, and builds a new development pattern whereby domestic and foreign markets can boost each other, with the domestic market as the mainstay, the country will be more vigorous in integrating into the global market and will take greater initiative in deepening international cooperation.

In so doing, China will create more opportunities and space for global recovery and growth.

China is playing an increasingly important role in the Asia-Pacific region and even the world, as pointed out by Sergei Lousianin, a professor at the Moscow State Institute of International Relations (MGIMO University). When the wind is strong and the tides are high, human beings are put to a tougher test of wisdom, will and ability than ever.

"On the basis of mutual respect, equality and mutual benefit, China stands ready to pursue peaceful coexistence and common development with all countries. We may bridge differences through dialogue, resolve disputes through negotiation, and make a joint effort for world peace and development," Xi noted.

As long as countries keep pace and work as a team to break the waves, they will surely dispel the haze of the epidemic through cooperation and navigate steadily toward a brighter future.

People's Daily

Activists want gender laws codified, consolidated to curb GBV cases in Z'bar

By Guardian Reporter

HUMAN rights activists in Zanzibar have suggested the need for gender laws to be codified and consolidated for effective application and implementation of the vice, and easily address gender-based violence, which have refused to go down in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

They made the call over the weekend when speaking at the symposium on the 16 Days of Activism against Gender-Based Violence—an international campaign to challenge violence against women and girls. The meeting which brought on board a number of activists from across Zanzibar was organized by Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA Zanzibar).

They said that Zanzibar adopted several strategies in overcoming GBV. Such initiatives include undergoing criminal and civil justice reforms, which resulted in the amendment and enactment of substantive and procedural laws. Some address GBV and other gender-related challenges including disability; rights; and child rights.

However, despite all notable legal reforms, the social and legal protection of vulnerable groups (women, children, and disabled) seems to remain fragile. This situation is partly attributed to the absence of codified laws on GBV-related issues such as school pregnancies, child marriages, rape, abandonment of women and children, and denial of widow inheritance rights.

According to a lecturer from the State University of Zanzibar (SUZA), Dr Sikujua Omar Hamdani, there are many factors that fuel GBV such as the culture of secrecy, weak law-enforcement mechanism, non-existence of codified GBV Laws, lesser punishment to the offenders, lack of governing principles on a time limit in investigating cases.

"There is an issue of women and children with disabilities have

not been completely addressed in laws," said Dr Sikujua when presenting a paper on the matter.

She suggested the need for gender laws to be codified, taking into accounts that gender laws are scattered in various laws and there is no specific Gender law that includes all gender issues.

"The enactment of one gender laws is important to cutter out the gender violation and control the abuses and violations," she said.

Additionally, the legal expert said that the existing provisions under various laws are not sufficient enough to cutter out the Gender-Based Violence in Zanzibar.

For instance, she said that the existing provisions do not include the women, and disabled. It appears that the laws related to Gender are mostly the Children's Act No.6 of 2011, Penal Act No. 6 of 2018, in which the laws do not cover all Gender issues.

"This method is encouraging as it will lead us to the enactment of a new law/Act which is "Gender-Based Violence Act."

Dr Sikujua also said consolidation is another alternative to putting together all provisions of law based on gender issues. For example, the provisions of the GBV can be defined or elaborated together or explained together so as to follow one law.

"This method will help to remove the conflict of laws and confusion on application and understanding of the provisions of the all consolidated law. This process involves the collection of various laws and putting them together under one code," she said.

She however said: "Having laws alone will not help in addressing GBV, but there is a need for other issues such as addressing the culture of secrecy to be addressed."

One of the Zanzibar-based activists, Aisha About also suggested the need for Zanzibar to have one law that deals with gender-related issues.

She wondered why Zanzibar

with 90 percent of the population being Muslims, but GBV cases refused to fade away. She also suggested the need for Education Act, No. 6 of 1982 to focus more on how children can get a better education.

According to Aisha, section 20 (4) examines "where a girl student is found to be pregnant or a male student found to impregnate a female student while still at school before finishing the level of education as mentioned under (3) above shall be expelled at school".

"Under this section, the issue to be taken into consideration is the question is why the student should be expelled from primary education which is his or her basic or a fundamental rights and constitutional rights.

Therefore, the provision is against the Zanzibar Constitution of 1984. However, this provision was developed under section 4(1&2) of the Spinster Act No. 4 2005, that a student shall be reinstated again at school in the coming year or the coming periods when a female student fit to resume again her studies, however this situation the basic or fundamental right already been infringing."

Mussa Khamis from Zanzibar Police headquarters also suggested collective efforts to end GBV cases: "to me I see the battle against GBV is not a one-man show—the government alone cannot win this war. It requires all of us to chip in and address the vice."

GBV officer from Tamwa-Zanzibar, Zaina Salum Abdallah also called on all key players—institutions such as police and the office of Director of Public Prosecutors (DPP) to work as one team in fighting against GBV.

Salma Haji Saadat, a chairperson of the Association of Women with Disabilities in Zanzibar suggested the need for parents to play a big role in nurturing children so that they can be the best citizen in the future; hence contribute to the Isles' development.

"Let's be close to your children



children and this could be one of the factors that fuel GBV in the country. So, it's high time, we (parents) play our role to the welfare of our children."

Salma also suggested the need for Zanzibar to hold a national dialogue on child welfare, where people will be able to extensively discuss parenting issues to curtail GBV cases.

Salma Amir Lusangi, policy analyst and advocacy manager at the Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA-Zanzibar) once quoted as saying that between January 2019 and August 2020, a total of 761 GBV and child abuse cases were reported at various police stations in the Isles.

Those cases, she said were of various kinds of gender based violence and child abuse whereby over 649 children were physically and sexually abused while 147 were sodomized.

and understand them in every step of their development...don't leave them alone for whatever reason," she said

The activist said: "Some parents have been giving their children smart phones and other gadgets, something that ended spoiling their



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

At the heart of Pact is the promise of a better tomorrow. The promise of a healthy life. Of a decent livelihood. Of sustainable natural resources that benefit communities. Now more than ever in its 42-year history, Pact is helping millions of people who are poor and marginalized discover and build their own solutions and take ownership over their future.

Pact enables systemic solutions that allow those who are poor and marginalized to earn a dignified living, be healthy, and take part in the benefits that nature provides. Pact accomplishes this by strengthening local capacity, forging effective governance systems, and transforming markets into a force for development.

Pact Tanzania is looking for an enthusiastic, creative, energetic individual to fill the following vacant positions for the Achieve Project:

Position:	Social Welfare Workforce Advisor (1 position)
Project:	ACHIEVE Tanzania project
Position Location:	Dodoma
Contract Duration:	One Year (Renewable)
Position:	Comprehensive Council Social Welfare Operational Planning and Budgeting (CCSWOP) Advisor (1 position)
Project:	ACHIEVE Tanzania project
Position Location:	Dodoma
Contract Duration:	One Year (Renewable)
Position:	Systems Strengthening Program Officer (2 positions)
Project:	ACHIEVE Tanzania project
Position Location:	Dodoma
Contract Duration:	One Year (Renewable)
Position:	Social Welfare Workforce Coach (4 positions)
Project:	ACHIEVE Tanzania project
Position Location:	Dodoma or other priority region in Tanzania
Contract Duration:	One Year (Renewable)

Detailed Position Job Descriptions and How to Apply:

If you believe you are the ideal person we are looking for, please submit your application online describing why you are the right candidate for this position and a curriculum vitae detailing your experience and three (3) professional referees from previous and current place of employment. Please send the application online through <https://www.pactworld.org/country/tanzania/careers> as only the applications sent online will be reviewed.

The closing date for applications will be Tuesday 15th December 2020.

Qualified women are strongly encouraged to apply.

Pact is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate in its selection and employment practices on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, political affiliation, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, marital status, disability, genetic information, age, citizenship status, genetic information, matriculation, family responsibilities, personal appearance, credit information, tobacco use (except in the workplace), membership in an employee organization, or other protected classifications or non-merit factors.

Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

To learn more about Pact Tanzania visit: <http://www.pactworld.org/country/tanzania>

THE UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA
MINISTRY OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT

Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority

59

ANNIVERSARY OF INDEPENDENCE

H.E. President
Dr John Pombe Magufuli

The Chairman of the Board of Directors, Management and Staff of **Tanzania Civil Aviation Authority** joins with H.E. President Dr John Pombe Magufuli and all Tanzanians to celebrate 59th anniversary of our national independence day.

"Let's restore our peace, unity and solidarity"

OUR MISSION

To ensure safety, security and regularity of civil aviation in Tanzania by providing effective oversight and efficient air navigation services while maintaining quality, protecting the environment and safeguarding the interest of consumers and public.

OUR VISION

The civil aviation in Tanzania to be amongst the safest, most orderly and sustainable in the world.

OUR MOTTO

Aviation Safety and Efficiency. Our Commitment. In Partnership

OUR VALUES

Integrity, Professionalism, Efficiency, Quality, People Centredness

CONTACT US AT:

Aviation House, Nyerere/ Kitunda road Junction,
Banana Ukonga Area
P.O. Box 2819, Dar es Salaam
Fax: +255 22 284 4304/ 284 4300, Tel: +255 22 219 8100

Choice and opportunity for farmers will transform Africa faster

NAIROBI

‘A hungry man is not a free man. He cannot focus on anything else but securing his next meal.’ So proclaimed the late Kofi Annan.

In 2003, Kofi Annan and a like-minded group of African leaders recognized hunger as a complex crisis on the continent.

They saw the eradication of hunger as not just an end in itself - but the first step towards sustainable development and progress, requiring the transformation of African agriculture.

In order to address this, three momentous events occurred at that time. In 2003, the Comprehensive African Agriculture Development Programme (CAADP) was launched to provide a policy framework for the transformation of African agriculture.

We need African solutions to African problems. When an African farmer has access to better technology and finance, they see improved productivity, food security and income. Most of the big mistakes in development have happened when external actors have foisted their ideas and ideologies on the continent.

In 2006, the Alliance for a Green Revolution in Africa (AGRA), the organization I lead, was established to turn these ideas into reality. We are founded on the belief that the only way to do this is at scale - and yet with a focus on the farmer.

And the Africa Fertilizer conference was held, to increase access to crop nourishment - identified as the weakest link in the farming chain.

These measures have reaped rewards.

Across Africa, we have directly reached millions of farmers with increased access to technology, investment in research, financial support or training.

Significant investment was put into access to inputs - especially improved seeds, and soil health management technologies.

For instance, we have helped establish over 110 African seed companies, with some 700,000 tonnes of seed now available to 20 million farmers. Countries like Ghana and Mali had no seed suppliers, and now have an average of six each.

Across our programme countries, a network of 30,000 agripreneurs now serve farmers.

Healthy soil is fundamental to a productive global food system. However, many small-



holder farmers do not have means to prevent or address soil degradation problems. As the world commemorates the World Soil Day, we are encouraged that our soil fertility management techniques are helping reverse decades of soil depletion wherever we work.

We have taken the lead in providing evidence to governments on the value and challenges of subsidies being used in agriculture. We advocate for national policies that benefit smallholder farmers. We support upgraded storage facilities, better market information systems, stronger farmers' associations, and more credit for farmers and suppliers.

There is still much to do, however. There are approximately 45 million farmers on the continent - African governments and investors must reach all of them if we are to see an end to poverty and hunger.

There are also new challenges. Climate change has the potential to reverse the continent's hard won gains.

Desertification threatens productive lands.

Locusts, armyworm and diseases like the Maize Lethal Necrosis wipe out the livelihoods of hundreds of thousands. Currently, COVID-19 is pushing tens of millions more into malnutrition, while farmers see their choices diminished.

As a proud African, I share Kofi Annan's optimism and conviction. Africa will prevail, it can eliminate poverty.

I know that a major way of making this happen is through smallholder farmers. I have personally seen smallholders change at scale in Rwanda when government puts its weight behind transformative programs.

As a catalyst for change, AGRA is on track. The eleven countries we support have all advanced in the last ten years through hard work and investment. With ten years to go to meet the Sustainable Development Goals, it is important now to reflect on progress, and positioning for future gains.

Inclusive agriculture transformation is not a quick fix. It requires a long-term focus. We

estimate US \$25-35 billion a year of investment is needed to transform the continent's agriculture, while an unparalleled coalition for change is required.

Ultimately, we need African solutions to African problems. When an African farmer has access to better technology and finance, they see improved productivity, food security and income.

Most of the big mistakes in development have happened when external actors have foisted their ideas and ideologies on the continent. This is why AGRA focuses on its unique position as an African institution.

African farmers deserve the same opportunities enjoyed by farmers in Europe and North America. They do not want to be stuck with 40-year-old seed varieties. When given the chance, we have seen adoption rates of 90% of new seeds in countries like Nigeria and Burkina Faso.

On a recent visit to Kiambu in Kenya, women farmers explained to me how they are

happy to spend more on seeds that mature in half the time, increasing yields.

In these difficult times, there has never been a greater need for agricultural transformation. Through COVID-19, our farmers have shown great resilience, and AGRA has been on hand to support this.

To achieve Kofi Annan's vision, we certainly need further support and investment for farmers. We must also learn as we go forward and be humble.

Our focus must always be on the needs, capabilities and choices of smallholder farmers themselves - this must be our 'North Star' objective, for agriculture is nothing without the farmer.

AGENCIES

Americans yearn for normalcy after divisive 2020 elections

WASHINGTON

DRIVE from New York City, down to Washington D.C. and through America's rural landscape reveals a cavernous gap in living standards.

New York draws an economic class that is exponentially better off than many rural Americans, and the suburbs of Washington D.C. over the past few years have seen an explosion of newly constructed homes whose starting price sits at around 800,000 U.S. dollars.

That's a sharp contrast with rural areas nationwide, where jobs are scarce, and where once idyllic small towns now look like rural ghettos.

DEEP-SEATED POLARIZATIONS

The stark political divisions, compounded by a raging COVID-19 pandemic during the 2020 elections, between urban Americans - many of them liberal - and rural Americans - many of them conservative, were not there overnight, but run deep for years, even decades. "The rising polarization has unfolded slowly over the last 40 years," Brookings Institution Senior Fellow Darrell West told Xinhua.

In different ways, each president going back to Ronald Reagan and Bill Clinton increased partisan antipathy and made it more difficult to work across party lines, said West, "Trump elevated polarization to new heights, but the trend developed long before him."

"The loss of jobs and the challenges of providing sufficient economic opportunities to many Americans is a major problem in our current political divisions," West said. "People feel like they are not doing well and jobs are going abroad and this makes them angry and feel like the system is rigged against them."

MEDIA-FANNED FLAMES

Liberal and conservative divisions were further intensified with the advent of social media.

West said digital technology "makes national divisions worse because it enables extremism and polarization and creates echo chambers of like-minded individuals."

Clay Ramsay, a researcher at the Center for International and Security Studies at the University of Maryland, told Xinhua that social media platforms have a business interest in keeping people on digital devices for hours.

Companies have found that letting each click offer new links that go farther in the same direction is effective for retaining users, Ramsay said.

"So the algorithm itself nudges people toward extreme views, and then toward fact-free, conspiratorial notions," he said.

Meanwhile, right-wing and left-wing politicians have utilized cyberspace more effectively than others. "The algorithms complement these politicians' tactics," Ramsay said.

Critics charged conservative media with providing a cheering squad for President Trump, while the president's supporters said liberal me-



Supporters of U.S. President Donald Trump rally on the steps of Pennsylvania State Capitol building in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, the United States, on Nov. 5, 2020. Photo: Xinhua

dia reporters become unhinged and hysterical at the mere mentioning of his name.

West said coverage is "more polarized than in the past and that makes it harder for people to distinguish fake from real news."

LONG WAY AHEAD

Polarization is deep-seated in U.S. society, but experts said it may subside somewhat.

Sally Radcliff, a retired health professional in rural New

Jersey, said she left a major city because of high crime rates to move to a more rural area of New Jersey.

She is a big Trump supporter, as are many of her neighbors, who proudly displayed Trump signs in their yards during the campaign. In Washington D.C. and New York City, Trump signs are a rarity, and draw visceral reactions from locals.

But once the dust cleared, the elections showed that Americans desired normalcy above all else, and yearn for more economic opportunities in rural areas and low-income parts of inner cities.

"In order to reduce polarization, leaders have to address

the root causes of voter dissatisfaction," West said.

At the same time, divisions between conservatives and liberals are not as intense as they might seem. "Survey research suggests that around a third of Americans don't identify with either label, and hold varying views on various issues," Ramsay said.

Xinhua

APPLAUSE

NIT head lauds World Bank support as institute marks international aviation week

By Guardian Reporter

AS National Institute of Transport joins other stakeholders to mark 'World aviation week,' its head has paid tribute to World Bank and Treasury for the support to create a centre of excellence in transport and logistics.

NIT Rector, Professor Zacharia Mganilwa told reporters in Dar es Salaam yesterday that in marking the global aviation week, the institute's priority is to maintain highest standard of aviation safety and security in the country.

"As we are marking the world aviation week, we thank the World Bank for supporting the Centre of Excellence in Aviation and Transport Operations project being implemented by NIT," Prof Mganilwa said adding that the government is also playing a key role in the exercise.

He also said that as part of the support from World Bank's East Africa Skills for Transformation and Region-

al Integration Project (EASTRIP), NIT is supposed to produce 4,500 aviation graduates in five years time.

"We are planning to go beyond the goal, because already, just in the past two years of project implementation, the institute has produced 2,700 graduates," he noted while adding that by the end of five years, the 16 institutes from Kenya and Ethiopia, NIT will at least double its capacity to enrol 20,000 students on annual basis in both long and short term training programs in the targeted disciplines.

"We have received US\$21.25 million (almost 50bn/-) as financial support from the World Bank towards the procurement of three aircrafts for practical training of pilots, construction of buildings such as students hostels, staff residences and aviation training infrastructure," he said.

The NIT Rector said that the country is currently facing shortage of pilots and aircraft engineers hence through the EASTRIP, the nation will speed up increasing such numbers.



NIT rector Prof Zacharia Mganilwa speaks in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo courtesy of NIT

"In line with the programme, the institute will also procure the state-of-the-art cabin crew mock ups, aircraft engineering system trainers which we expect to arrive at the Institute mid next year," he said.

Speaking on the NIT Institute to commence offering the four courses which have been approved by International Air Transport Association, Prof Mganilwa said, "We are in final touches of starting to offer the four IATA approved courses including Airline Market-

ing, Airline Customer Service, Airport Operations Fundamentals and Global Distribution Systems Fares and Ticketing-Amadeus."

NIT signed a memorandum of understanding with IATA to start the courses in April this year and Prof Mganilwa said it's a major milestone in the history of the country's aviation.

"Offering IATA courses at NIT is providing an opportunity for Tanzanians seeking to study the courses at an affordable cost to join easily."

RECOGNITION

EPZA root for goods made in Tanzania for their high quality

By Guardian Reporter

TANZANIANS have been urged to buy locally made goods which have superior quality compared to imported substitutes many of which are substandard and enter the market through smuggling.

Export and Processing Zones Authority's Director of Investment Promotion and Facilitation, James Maziku made the remarks in Dar es Salaam yesterday when commenting on the ongoing Industrial Products Exhibitions being held at

Julius Nyerere Grounds in Dar es Salaam this week.

"When we continue buying imported goods with poor quality is sabotaging government's efforts to put in place an enabling environment to attract more investments in the industrial sector," Maziku said.

He said on behalf of the government, EPZA has been in the frontline to ensure that the doing business environment in the country is attractive to both local and foreign investors so that they can establish more industries and create jobs.

He added that industries under EPZA have been producing goods that meet both local and international standards hence need consumers support. Maziku said through the Export Processing Zones, 80 percent of goods produced by the industries are for exports while 20 percent is for the domestic market.

The EPZA Director emphasized that the 20 percent of goods sold in the local market have the same quality as those meant for exports. "It is with this backdrop that continuing

buying imported goods that have poor quality is killing local industries and reducing its contribution to economic growth," he warned.

He said for industries under EPZA and dealing with agriculture production, a reliable market for farmers has been created which has also increased their income as well as contribution of the sector to the economy.

Seconding her boss, EPZA Investment Promotion Manager, Grace Lemunge said the authority used the industrial



James Maziku Export and Processing Zones Authority's Director of Investment Promotion and Facilitation

products fair to urge consumers buy local to support domestic industries which also employ Tanzanians.

"Currently over 43 percent of industries

under EPZA are owned by local investors largely because of the government's efforts to improve the business and investment environment in the country," Lemunge said.



Zantel's Mobile financial services specialist, Nayrat Zahor, speaks to Ezyepesa agents on different matters that need to be adhered to in provision of the mobile money platform's service. This was at a forum held in Dar es Salaam on Monday. Photo courtesy of Zantel.

ECO-FRIENDLY

Renewable energy adds over a quarter of peak power demand

JOHANNESBURG

RENEWABLE energy procured from private generators as part of the Department of Energy's Renewable Energy Independent Power Producer Procurement (Reipp) programme contributed more than a quarter of the peak-time electricity South Africans consumed during the first half of 2020.

This is according to a report on the performance of renewable en-

ergy projects compiled by energy regulator Nersa. This news comes as the availability of Eskom's fleet deteriorated to just over 60% in the last week of November, according to the latest data published by Eskom. This is partly the result of an increase in plant taken offline for maintenance, but unplanned outages remain very high.

In the week ending November 29, 18.48% of Eskom's generation capacity was unavailable due to

maintenance and 18.08% due to unplanned breakages. The average availability factor for the year to date is 65.65%, which is considerably lower than the almost 67% in 2019.

The norm is 80% availability, with 10% taken out of service for planned maintenance and 10% for unplanned maintenance. It indicates that the country could suffer Stage 2 load shedding for most of this period.

While electricity demand in the first half of the year was distorted by the Covid-19 lockdown, renewable energy clearly helps Eskom to limit the use of expensive open-cycle gas turbines or keep it from instituting load shedding during the morning and evening peaks.

According to Nersa, 68 of the contracted I12 projects were in commercial use with a combined generation capacity of 4 283MW. The regulator expects a further nine

projects to be in operation by the end of the year, which will increase the total capacity to 5 048MW.

Nersa reports that non-Reipp renewable projects, aimed at own use or generation for a specific client, adds a further 823MW to the country's renewable capacity. It has also approved the registration of small-scale embedded projects with a combined capacity of 72MW. This is mostly solar photovoltaic energy.

Nersa says the increase in renewable generation has resulted in the geographical diversification of power generation.

The dependence on coal in the northern parts of the country has been diluted, with renewables spread through the Eastern, Western and Northern Cape, closer to the demand. This means that electricity losses associated with long-distance transmission can be reduced.

INCENTIVE

Bank teams up with Dar shopping mall to lower goods prices as end of year beckons

By Guardian Reporter

NCBA Bank Tanzania is rewarding its Visa debit and credit card holders who use them to make payments of goods at GSM retail outlets during the end of year festive season with a 10 percent price reduction.

Speaking at the launch of the five-week 'Go shopping with discounts' promotion in Dar es Salaam yesterday, NCBA Bank's Head of Retail, Julius Konyani said that the promotion is part of the bank's culture of appreciation to customers who have supported its business since the start of the year.

"Customers will get the 10 discount whenever they spend a minimum of 150,000/- at GSM shopping malls using NCBA Bank Visa debit and credit cards," he said. NCBA Bank's Head of Marketing and Communications, Caroline Mbaga added that the promotion is aimed at increasing usage of digital means of payment.

"NCBA Bank is the market leader in digital financial systems. Now we are encouraging more people to embrace digital payments as a safe, secure and convenient solution," Mbaga said while noting that the Dar es Salaam based bank has been a pioneer in introduction of Visa cards in the market.

In remarks at the same event, GSM Retail's Marketing Officer, Fatma Farah elaborated that the festive season offer from NCBA Bank applies to all of its brands being sold at Msasani, Mlimani City, Aura Mall and Pugu Road in Dar es Salaam but also malls in Dodoma and Arusha cities.

"I invite all shoppers and especially NCBA customers to take advantage of the 10 percent discount and shop with us at GSM outlets where brands such as Max, Babyshop, Splash, Shoe Express, Courtefiel and Home Box are on offer," Farah said while emphasizing that GSM has both local and imported goods on offer.

INCENTIVE

CTI chief touts SMEs growth to contribute to industrialisation

By Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

CONFEDERATION of Tanzania Industries has pledged to continue searching for financial opportunities to benefit small and medium size enterprises (SMEs) and small industries so that they can widen their businesses.

CTI Executive Director, Leodgar Tenga made the pledge while opening a one day seminar for SMEs in Dar es Salaam aimed at equipping them with tools to access funding. Tenga said Tanzania has successfully entered lower middle income economic status but there is still work to graduate and industrial economy hence small businesses need to grow and contribute to economy.

He said SMEs are the base of any big

economy and big industries because even the big businesses started like small businesses. "To stimulate an industrial economy, we must focus on facilitating growth of small businesses by ensuring that there is a conducive environment for them to access financing through loans," he said.

The CTI chief further noted that SMEs and small industries constitute 97 percent of all manufacturing industries in the country as such there is need to continue creating a favourable environment for them to flourish and contribute to rapid economic growth of the nation.

"That's the reason CTI created a forum like this for small business owners to meet financial experts who counsel them on how to access funds from different financial institution



One-day seminar organised by Confederation of Tanzania Industries on access to finance for small and medium size enterprises in progress in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Photo: Correspondent Joseph Mwendapole

in the market as they also get linked to them in the process," Tenga added.

He said the confederation has also created a special desk to address challenges facing any

member including SMEs which get clarification from experts on various issues adding that capital is not all about money but also capacity building needed to manage businesses to grow.

Tenga also pointed out that members are also assisted with identifying markets for their produce both local and international. "We continue feeding them with market information

because there are regular policy changes in some countries so it is important for small business owners to be aware before engaging with their partners into such jurisdictions," he added.

PROMOTION

Multichoice Tanzania CEO promises festive goodies to consumers

By Guardian Reporter

CONSUMERS have been promised a mixture of mouth watering programs featuring both local and foreign characters during the end of year festive season.

Multichoice Tanzania's Managing Director, Jacqueline Woiso, said the company pay television brand, DStv is overflowing with excitement and an abundance of premium content this time around saying consumers are invited to connect with families and friends on a festive delight of shows and sport to suit everyone.

"DStv keeps all customers at the heart of everything we do by keeping custom-



Multichoice Tanzania Limited's managing director, Jacqueline Woiso.

ers engaged with amazing content and high anticipation of what lies ahead is key. It is with this in mind that the brand has altered its CI to reflect the hearts of customers, to showcase the vibrancy of the brand while highlighting that it is indeed a local homegrown brand that nourishes and encourages local stories," Woiso said.

She said the company wants everyone to be part of the DStv family and celebrate micro-moments together hence will provide a range of entertaining local and international content.

"We've got those exciting moments, on the edge of your seat moments when your heart races watching Premier League football on SuperSport. Let's not forget how important those bonding moments are over the festive break where grandparents and family get to spend quality time with the kiddies watching shows like PJ Masks on Disney Jr," she added.

Local popular shows and films such as Karma, Slay Queen, Kitimtim will continue beaming on Maisha Magic Bongo. "Watch it with family and friends, even your neighbours, to make a moment of your festive viewing," Woiso noted.

CENSURE

SportPesa re-entry bid flops

NAIROBI

THE return of SportPesa has been met by another major setback after the Betting Board followed through with its threat to cancel the licence of a new company that the firm had plotted to use to re-enter the market.

The Betting Control and Licensing Board (BCLB) accused Milestone Games Limited, which is the new front for SportPesa, of obtaining its licence under one set of owners, only to later transfer its shareholding to another entity, thereby circumventing the board's due diligence requirements on betting company ownership.

Owners of Milestone appeared before the board on Thursday to defend themselves against the accusations, but the board in its ruling said it was not satisfied and went ahead to cancel its licence. This means that SportPesa will now have to cease its operations just days after its return. The SportPesa trademark was owned by Pevans East Africa.

In the decision seen by the Nation, BCLB chairman Cyrus Maina said that when Milestone applied for its bookmaker's licence, its shareholders were Nob Five Limited (9,950 shares) and Wilson Ngatia Karungaru (50 shares). At the time, Nob Five was owned by John Munene Nderitu (250 shares), Jackline Nyambura Kungu (500 shares) and Joseph Mwendu Mutua (250 shares).

As a requirement for licensing, Milestone paid Sh200,000 on September 17, 2020 for due diligence investigations on its directors at the time, an act that was done and the board was satisfied that they were indeed fit and proper to hold a bookmaker's licence.

James Muigai Ngengi was the addressee in correspondence between Milestone and the regulator. But immediately it got the licence, a new company, Selenium Limited, emerged on its shareholders roll.

Selenium Limited is owned by Ronald Karauri, the SportPesa chief executive, alongside Francis Waweru Kiarie, another Pevans shareholder.

This allowed owners of the SportPesa brand to beat the board's due diligence requirements and get back in the game.

"Having considered the foregoing, the Board was not satisfied with the explanations proffered by your company and accordingly arrived at the decision to cancel your company's bookmakers off-the course license number 0000205 dated 6th October 2020," BCLB ruled.

MARKETING

Telco opens end of year smartphone campaign with amazing prizes

By Guardian Reporter

SUBSCRIBERS of Tigo Tanzania Limited stand a chance to win a brand new motorcycle and latest smart television set through and end of year smartphone campaign.

Tigo Devices Manager, Mkombo Myonga said that the promotion was developed to make 2020 end of year season a memorable one for its customers. "Tigo as a brand always has the interest of its customers at heart, and with that in mind, we decided to come up with this smartphone promotion to brighten their festive season," Myonga said.

He said the end of year device promotion is an extension of the recently launched 'Jaza tukujaze tena' campaign which is a six-weeks promotion targeting existing and new customers who will either buy the ITEL T20 or Tecno Kitochi 4G Smart and get free data of up to 30 gigabytes for a whole year, win a motorcycle or a smart TV.

"It is also our tradition to offer our customers the best smartphone deals

during the festive season, therefore, appeal to all our customers including those travelling upcountry for family reunions to take part in this promotion so that they can win these prizes and give them to family members as gifts," he added.

Backing Myonga's arguments, TECNO Public Relation Manager, Eric Mkomoye urged customers to exploit opportunities being presented by the six week promotion saying they stand a chance to win prizes that will improve their lives.

"Our mission is to make our consumer experience smart life, as a smartphone brand we wish all Tanzanians enjoy smart life and that's why we have partnered with Tigo to bring affordable devices like Kitochi and T20, both of them are 4G enabled devices with good features for consumers to enjoy festive season," Mkomoye said.

"We urge all our customers to join Tigo's smartphone family for the best digital lifestyle experience through this promotion," he added.



Our mission is to make our consumer experience smart life, as a smartphone brand we wish all Tanzanians enjoy smart life and that's why we have partnered with Tigo to bring affordable devices like Kitochi and T20, both of them are 4G enabled devices with good features for consumers to enjoy festive season



National Board of Accountants and Auditors Board vice chairperson Dr Neema Kiure (L) presents the Best Presented Financial Statements third winner award in banking category to Absa Bank Tanzania's financial controller Bernard Tesha during the NBAA annual gala dinner held in Dar es Salaam over the weekend. Photo courtesy of Absa.

DIVERSIFICATION

World Economic Forum's annual meeting shifts to Singapore in coming year

DAVOS

THE World Economic Forum will convene a Special Annual Meeting 2021 in Singapore from 13-16 May.

The event will return to its usual home in the Swiss mountain resort of Davos-Klosters in 2022, the organisation said in a statement on Monday. A Davos Agenda event will take place online next year between 25-29 January.

The in-person meeting in Singapore will focus on addressing some of the pressing challenges presented to the global economy as a result of Covid-19. "A global leadership summit is

of crucial importance to address how we can recover together," said Klaus Schwab, founder and executive chairman of the World Economic Forum.

"The Special Annual Meeting 2021 will be a place for leaders from business, government and civil society to meet in person for the first time since the start of the global pandemic. Public-private cooperation is needed more than ever to rebuild trust and address the fault lines that emerged in 2020."

The event is usually held in Davos in late January but has been postponed as a result of the pandemic,

which has infected more than 67.5 million people and caused more than 1.5 million deaths globally, according to Worldometer.

The change in location reflects the forum's priority of safeguarding the health and safety of participants and the host community, the Forum said. Ahead of the Special Annual Meeting 2021, the Forum will also host a Global Technology Governance Summit in Tokyo from 6-7 April next year, which will discuss the responsible design and deployment of emerging technologies through public-private cooperation.

DEADLOCK

Boris Johnson to head to Brussels for crisis Brexit talks with EU

LONDON

UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson will head to Brussels for urgent talks with European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen, amid growing fears on both sides that Brexit trade talks will fail. The two spoke on Monday evening and agreed to meet after they concluded a deal remained far off, despite frantic attempts by their negotiators to break the deadlock as time runs out.

The move is a sign that eight months of negotiations have gone as far as they can and, if there is to be a deal, political leaders will now need to step in and broker a compromise. Equally, it suggests both sides still think they have time before the ultimate deadline at the end of the year and aim to use it to extract last-minute concessions.

The two teams are still far apart, with "significant differences" on the three key issues of fisheries, rules for fair competition, and the governance of any deal, they said in a joint statement on Monday evening. Disagreements on those subjects have dogged the negotiations since they began eight months ago. The British side gave a bleak view of the state of play, warning the negotiations may be headed for failure.

A senior British official said there had been no tangible progress since the atmosphere soured last week and there is every chance they will not reach an agreement. The Europeans were also pessimistic, with Irish Foreign Minister Simon Coveney warning of mounting frustration with the British approach.

Coveney said some countries are becoming "resigned" to the

idea of Britain crashing out of the EU single market and customs union with no trade deal in place, and the mood in the bloc is starting to shift toward contingency planning.

"Without political intervention from the very top, i.e. from the prime minister and the president, then I think people are increasingly pessimistic that the negotiating teams can get this concluded successfully," he told RTE.

Separately, Johnson signaled on Monday he is prepared to back down on his threat to break international law by unilaterally ripping up parts of the Brexit divorce deal he signed with the EU – a move Coveney welcomed.

While EU officials said chief negotiator Michel Barnier believes Wednesday to be the cut-off point for reaching a deal, some diplomats raised the pros-



British PM Boris Johnson, left, greets Ursula von der Leyen, president of the European Commission, on the steps of number 10 Downing Street in London.

pect of a discussion at a summit of the bloc's 27 leaders that starts on Thursday.

Johnson may also want to talk to German Chancellor Angela Merkel and French President Emmanuel Macron, officials said. Both the

European and UK parliaments need to ratify any accord before Britain's transition period ends on Dec. 31 and they are already facing a scramble to get that work done in time.

SLOWDOWN



Fatih Birol, executive director of the International Energy Agency says governments need to prioritise energy efficiency.

Energy efficiency in 2020 falls to slowest rate in a decade, IEA says

PARIS

PROGRESS towards energy efficiency globally slumped to the slowest rate in a decade due to the coronavirus pandemic, according to the International Energy Agency (IEA). "Overall, investment in energy efficiency worldwide is on course to fall by 9 per cent in 2020," the Paris-based agency said in a report released this week.

"Global primary energy intensity, a key indicator of how efficiently the world's economic activity uses energy, is expected to improve by less than 1 per cent this year (2 per cent in 2019), the weakest rate since 2010," the IEA said. "This is well below the level of progress needed to achieve the world's shared goals for addressing climate change, reducing air pollution and increasing access to energy."

Investment in new energy-efficient buildings, equipment and vehicles are expected to have declined this year as the global economy contracted as a result of the pandemic, which disrupted global trade, travel and tourism and led to lockdowns. The purchase of new cars that are more efficient than new models fell, the agency said. In tandem, the new and more efficient homes and buildings is expected to have declined, the IEA said.

"In industry and commercial buildings, lower energy prices have extended payback periods for key efficiency measures by as much as 40 per cent, reducing their attractiveness compared with other investments," the IEA said.

Technical efficiency improvements in some markets have also been delayed as lockdowns and physical distancing curtailed building contractors' physical access

to premises. Smart meter installations were 80 per cent to 90 per cent lower at the height of lockdowns in India and the UK but had returned to 2019 levels by the third quarter of 2020, the IEA said.

Economic uncertainty may delay additional investment in the construction sector, with future growth projections for energy-efficient material being 6 per cent weaker than pre-pandemic projections, it said. The IEA also said government stimulus packages, intended to cushion the impact of the pandemic and help economies recover, will "heavily influence future efficiency trends."

"We welcome plans by governments to boost spending on energy efficiency in response to the economic crisis, but what we have seen so far is uneven and far from enough," said IEA executive director Fatih Birol.

"Energy efficiency should be at the top of to-do lists for governments pursuing a sustainable recovery – it is a jobs machine, it gets economic activity going, it saves consumers money, it modernises vital infrastructure and it reduces emissions."

Europe accounts for 86 per cent of global public stimulus announcements for efficiency, with the remaining 14 per cent split between the Asia-Pacific region and North America.

The IEA has tracked \$66 billion of funding for energy efficiency-related measures announced as part of government stimulus packages to the end of October with a large share (\$26bn) allocated to the buildings sector.

Around \$20bn has also been earmarked to accelerate the shift to electric vehicles, including for new vehicle charging infrastructure.



ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM



ITV PGM SCHEDULE

SATURDAY 05 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:00	Habari
8:00	Al Jazeera
9:00	Watoto wetu
10:00	Shika Bamba 5
10:30	Mjue Zaidi rpt
11:15	Chetu ni chetu rpt
12:15	Korean drama rpt: Hwarang
13:45	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
16:00	Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
16:20	Igizo: Mtego
17:00	Shamsham za Pwani
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Korean drama: Hwarang
19:00	Jungu Kuu
19:30	Shika Bamba
20:00	Habari
21:00	Art and lifestyle
21:30	ITV TOP 10
22:10	Isidingo rpt
00:30	DWTV

SUNDAY 06 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:00	Habari
8:00	Al Jazeera
09:00	Watoto Wetu
10:00	Isidingo
11:40	Igizo: Mizengwe rpt
12:00	Movie rpt: Chuntama
14:00	Tamasha la Michezo
15:30	Mwangaza
16:30	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
21:00	Kipindi maalum: Biko
21:05	Mizengwe
21:25	Kipindi maalum: Cheza pesa
21:30	Mjue Zaidi
22:14	Bongo Movie: Bado natafuta
00:05	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin

MONDAY 07 Dec

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
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	ITV Top 10 rpt
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera News
12:30	Mtego rpt
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Mjue Zaidi
13:45	Art and Lifestyle rpt
13:55	Habari za saa
14:10	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
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	Afya ya Jamii

19:30	Isidingo
20:00	Habari
21:05	Dakika 45
22:15	Telenovela: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
23:00	Habari
23:30	The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
02:00	DWTV

TUESDAY 08 Dec

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 rpt
10:30	Jungu kuu rpt
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	The Base rpt
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Kesho leo rpt
13:30	Shika Bamba rpt
13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin

WEDNESDAY 09 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Isidingo
10:00	Movie: Inside
12:30	Jarida la wanawake rpt
13:00	Dakika 45
14:00	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Movie: Wonder girl
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Korean drama rpt: Hwarang
19:00	Uhuru day special
19:30	Isidingo
20:00	Habari
21:00	Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
21:30	Kipindi Maalum: Wanawake na uhuru
22:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
23:00	Habari
23:30	The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
2:00	DWTV

THURSDAY 10 Dec

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
10:00	Movie: Inside
12:30	Jarida la wanawake rpt
13:00	Dakika 45
14:00	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
14:55	Habari za saa
15:00	Movie: Wonder girl
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Korean drama rpt: Hwarang
19:00	Uhuru day special
19:30	Isidingo
20:00	Habari
21:00	Kipindi Maalum: Tanesco
21:30	Kipindi Maalum: Wanawake na uhuru
22:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
23:00	Habari
23:30	The Base
00:30	Al Jazeera
2:00	DWTV

8:55	Habari za saa
9:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Isidingo
9:55	Habari za saa
10:00	Watoto
10:30	Shamba lulu rpt
10:55	Habari za saa
11:00	The Base rpt
11:55	Habari za saa
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Wanawake na uhuru rpt
12:55	Habari za saa
13:00	Arts & lifestyle rpt
13:30	Tanzania yetu
13:55	Habari za saa
14:00	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
15:00	Meza huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Mapishi
18:30	Jagina
19:00	Usafiri wako
19:30	Isidingo
20:00	Habari
21:00	Malumbano ya hoja
23:30	The Base
00:30	DWTV

FRIDAY 11 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:30	HABARI
8:00	Kumekucha Michezo
09:00	Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30	Isidingo
10:00	Watoto wetu
10:30	Usafiri wako rpt
11:00	The Base
12:00	Al Jazeera
12:30	Kipindi Maalum rpt: Tanesco
13:00	Jagina rpt
13:30	Rock City marathon rpt
14:15	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
15:00	Meza huru
16:30	Watoto Wetu
17:00	The Base
17:30	Ibada ya kiislamu
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Mizengwe rpt
18:30	Utalii
19:00	Shamba lulu
19:30	Isidingo
20:00	Habari
21:05	Kipima Joto
23:00	Habari
23:30	The Base
00:30	DWTV

SATURDAY 12 Dec

5:30	Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00	HABARI
6:40	Kumekucha
7:00	Habari
8:00	Al Jazeera
9:00	Watoto wetu
10:00	Shika Bamba 5
10:30	Mjue Zaidi rpt
11:15	Chetu ni chetu rpt
12:15	Korean drama rpt: Hwarang
13:45	Telenovela rpt: (Piel Salvaje) Wild Skin
16:00	Igizo rpt: Mizengwe
16:20	Igizo: Mtego
17:00	Shamsham za Pwani
18:00	Jiji Letu
18:15	Korean drama: Hwarang
19:00	Jungu Kuu
19:30	Shika Bamba
20:00	Habari
21:00	Art and lifestyle
21:30	ITV TOP 10
22:10	Isidingo rpt

00:30	DWTV
16:00	Series rpt: Itohan
16:30	Tanzania Yetu rpt
17:00	Eco@Africa rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	The Décor rpt
19:30	Shamba lulu
20:00	Series: Itohan
20:45	The Monday Agenda
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Kipima Joto
00:00	Al Jazeera

CAPITAL

Sat 05 Dec	08:00 Al Jazeera
09:00 Rev rpt	09:00 Movie: Ghetto fabulous
09:30 Turning the Spotlight rpt	10:00 Culinary delight rpt
10:00 Innovation rpt	10:30 Out n'about rpt
11:00 Sports Gazette rpt	12:00 Usafiri wako rpt
12:30 Eco@Africa rpt	13:00 Business edition rpt
13:30 Korean Drama rpt: The slave hunter	14:30 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
17:15 Tanzania Yetu rpt	17:45 Bundesliga kick off
18:15 Capchat rpt	19:15 Mizengwe
19:30 The Decor	20:00 Korean Drama: The Slave hunter
21:00 Out n' About	21:30 Movie: Edge of darkness
23:00 Series rpt: Godwin	01:00 Al Jazeera

Sun 06 Dec

08:00	Al Jazeera
09:00	In good shape
10:00	Capchat rpt
11:00	Sports Gazette rpt
11:30	Korean Drama rpt: The Slave hunter
12:00	Jagina rpt
12:30	Bundesliga Kick Off rpt
13:00	In good shape rpt
13:30	Series rpt: Itohan
15:15	Aibu yako
15:30	Rev rpt
16:00	Dakika 45 rpt
16:45	Mizengwe rpt
17:00	The Decor rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Turning the Spotlight rpt
19:30	Cookery pgm: Culinary Delights
20:00	Korean Drama: The Slingshot
21:00	Shift
21:15	Capchat live
22:15	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
00:00	Al Jazeera

Mon 07 Dec

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
00:00	Al Jazeera

Tues 08 Dec	06:00 Al Jazeera
07:00 Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)	08:00 Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00 Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death	14:00 Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00 Series rpt: Itohan	16:30 Capchat rpt
17:30 Meza huru	19:00 Innovation
19:30 Jagina rpt	19:30 Series: Itohan
20:00 Telenovela: Lover her to death	20:45 Capital Prime
21:30 Turning the spotlight rpt	22:30 Eco@Africa
23:00 Al Jazeera	

Wed 09 Dec

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Al Jazeera
09:00	Movie: Ghetto fabulous
10:30	Movie: Gen
12:00	Movie: Diamond dog
13:30	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:15	Movie: Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Series rpt: Itohan
16:30	Culinary delight rpt
17:00	Innovation rpt
17:30	Meza huru
19:00	Sports Gazette
19:30	Chetu ni chetu
20:00	Series: Itohan
20:45	Telenovela: Lover her to death
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:45	Dakika 45:
23:15	The Décor
	Al Jazeera

Thurs 03 Dec

06:00	Al Jazeera
07:00	Morning Jam (Via Capital Radio)
09:00	Lete Raha (Via Capital Radio)
13:00	Telenovela rpt: Lover her to death
14:00	Club 101 (via Capital Radio)
16:00	Series rpt: Itohan
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: Itohan
20:45	Telenovela: Lover her to death
21:30	Capital Prime News
22:00	Capchat rpt
23:0	

WORLD

British grandma 1st in world to get Pfizer vaccine outside trial

LONDON

MARGARET Keenan, a 90-year-old grandmother from Northern Ireland, became the first person in the world yesterday to receive the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine shot outside of a trial as Britain began vaccinating its population.

An early riser, Keenan received the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine at her local hospital in Coventry, central England, on Tuesday morning at 06:31 GMT, a week before she turns 91.

A video showed Keenan being pushed in a wheelchair out of the ward while nursing staff clad in protective gear lined the corridor to applaud and cheer, in an echo of moving video clips released through the year when COVID-19 survivors finally left hospital.

Britain is the first Western country to start immunizing its general population in what has been hailed as a decisive watershed in defeating the coronavirus.

"I feel so privileged to be the first person

vaccinated against COVID-19," said Keenan, as she received the shot from a nurse originally from the Philippines in front of a photographer and TV crew.

"It's the best early birthday present I could wish for because it means I can finally look forward to spending time with my family and friends in the New Year after being on my own for most of the year."

Keenan, known as Maggie to her friends, is a former jewelry shop assistant who only retired four years ago. She has a daughter, a son and four grandchildren.

Video footage showed her wearing a light blue mask, a grey cardigan along with a blue t-shirt with a penguin in snow and the message "Merry Christmas" as she received the shot in her left arm from nurse May Parsons.

"We will beat this together"

Parsons, one of many thousands of people from around the world employed in Britain's National Health Service (NHS), where she has worked for 24 years, said the last few months



Margaret Keenan receives the Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 vaccine, administered by nurse May Parsons at University Hospital, Coventry, England, yesterday. AP

had been tough, but there was now light at the end of the tunnel.

Britain is the worst-hit European country from COVID-19, with over 61,000 deaths. Prime Minister Boris Johnson hopes to turn the tide against the disease by rolling out the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine before the United States or European Union.

The mass inoculation will fuel hope the world may be turning a corner in the fight against a pandemic that has crushed economies and killed more than 1.5 million, although ultra-cold storage and tricky logistics will limit its use for now.

"Thank you to our NHS, to all of the scientists who worked so hard to develop this vaccine, to all the volunteers - and to everyone who has been following the rules to protect others," Johnson said on Twitter.

"We will beat this together."

British Health Secretary Matt Hancock and Stephen Powis, medical director for NHS England, said they both found it very emotional watching the vaccine programme rollout.

The BBC said the second patient to receive the job in Britain was a man named William Shakespeare from Warwickshire.

Britain has ordered 40 million doses of the Pfizer/BioNTech shot. As each person requires two doses, that is enough to vaccinate 20 million people in the country of 67 million.

About 800,000 doses are expected to be available within the first week, with care home residents and carers, the over-80s and some health service workers the top priority to get them.

AU leaders itching to start free-trade pact

NAIROBI

AFRICAN Union leaders have resolved to press ahead with the start of a continent-wide free-trade agreement next month.

In a virtual meeting on Saturday, the bloc's heads of state and government underscored the urgency for member states to begin trading activities under the African Continental Free Trade Area, or AfCFTA, on Jan 1.

The free-trade area, which is one of the flagship projects of Agenda 2063, Africa's master plan for transforming the continent into an economic powerhouse, will create a single continental market for goods and services, with the free movement of business people and investments.

Fifty-four countries have signed the agreement ushering in the pact. Thirty-four of them have deposited their instruments of ratification. Additionally, 41 countries and customs unions have submitted their tariff offers, including the East African Community and the Economic Community of West African States.

At the virtual meeting, African Union Chair President Cyril Ramaphosa said the start of the free-trade area will mark the clearest affirmation yet that Africa is determined to take charge of its own destiny.

Ramaphosa (pictured), who is also South Africa's president, said the success of the venture will rest on harnessing the energies of African's citizens.



Ramaphosa said the agreement will boost intra-African trade, promote industrialization and competitiveness, contribute to job creation, and unleash regional value chains that will facilitate the continent's meaningful integration into the global economy.

Empowerment of women

This is in addition to improving the prospects of Afri-

ca as an attractive investment destination, helping advance the empowerment of African women by improving their access to trade opportunities, and expanding the productive capacity of the participating countries.

"To support this, we must strengthen women's participation in the continental economy by ensuring there is greater public procurement earmarked for women-owned businesses," he said. "We must ensure that there is sufficient support given to women-owned small, medium and micro enterprises and cooperatives in both local and regional economies."

Moussa Faki Mahamat, the chairperson of the AU Commission, said implementation of the free-trade area will en-

able the fulfillment of a dream advanced by the founding fathers of the Organization of African Unity who always wanted to see an African common market.

Wamkele Mene, secretary-general of the AfCFTA, said that for the project to ensure shared growth across the continent, women, the young and those running small and medium-sized enterprises have to be at the heart of its implementation.

"In this regard, we shall partner with the United Nations Development Programme to ensure that the free-trade area contributes to the achievement of sustainable development goals," Mene said. He also said that integration will be difficult.

Agencies

China condemns US political bullying over Hong Kong

BEIJING / HONG KONG

CHINA yesterday strongly condemned the so-called sanctions imposed by the Department of State of the United States on Chinese senior legislators of the National People's Congress Standing Committee (NPCSC), calling the move "hysterical political bullying."

The so-called sanctions by the US Department of State came after its opposition to the Law on Safeguarding National Security in the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR) adopted by the NPCSC and the NPCSC decision on the qualification of HKSAR Legislative Council members.

The move totally violates international law and the basic

norms governing international relations, said a statement by the Hong Kong and Macao Affairs Office of the State Council.

The HKSAR government also strongly condemned the so-called "sanctions" imposed by the US against 14 Vice Chairmen of the NPCSC.

In a statement issued on Tuesday afternoon, the HKSAR government urged the US to immediately stop interfering in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of China (PRC) under the geopolitically-motivated pretext of human rights or democracy.

"The US government has clearly ignored the constitutional order of the HKSAR and the facts relevant to the NPCSC's decisions. The so-called

'sanctions' arbitrarily imposed by the US government smacks of political manipulation and double standards," the spokesman was quoted as saying in the statement.

"It is also blatant interference in the internal affairs of the PRC, violating international law and basic norms governing international relations," he said.

"The acts of the US Government are resented by the people of Hong Kong and the whole nation. We strongly condemn such irresponsible acts and urge the US Government to immediately stop interfering in our nation's affairs," he added.

He said the National People's Congress (NPC) is the highest organ of state power in the PRC and the NPCSC is its permanent

body. The NPC and its standing committee have the constitutional power and duty to enact national law and apply it to Hong Kong in accordance with the Basic Law, and to monitor the implementation of the Basic Law, the spokesman said.

He added that the NPCSC also has the authority to interpret the Basic Law and to handle any constitutional problems arising from the implementation of the Basic Law.

"National security is a matter of utmost importance to any state, and laws governing national security are matters for the sovereign state, regardless of whether it is a unitary or federal system of government," the spokesman said.

"Enforcement of national se-

curity is likewise under the purview of the central authorities," he added.

The spokesman said the NPCSC decision to adopt the National Security Law for Hong Kong in June was timely and reasonable in light of the escalating violence and social chaos in the SAR from June last year to early this year.

As for the NPCSC's decision on November 11 on the qualification of members of the Legislative Council (LegCo) of the HKSAR, the spokesman pointed out that Article 104 of the Basic Law clearly stipulates that LegCo members "must, in accordance with law, swear to uphold the Basic Law of the HKSAR of the PRC and swear allegiance to the HKSAR of the PRC." *Xinhua*

Venezuelan leader thanks Putin for Russian observers' participation in polls

RIO-DE-JANEIRO

VENEZUELAN President Nicolas Maduro thanked Russian leader Vladimir Putin for the participation of Russian observers in Sunday's parliamentary elections in the Bolivarian Republic.

"Mr. Ambassador, I ask you to convey our gratitude to President Vladimir Putin for his interest in the democratic process in Venezuela," the president told a meeting with a Russian delegation of observers broadcast on his YouTube account.

The Venezuelan leader also highlighted that the Russian Foreign Ministry's statement was "an example of respect for people's sovereignty." "It shows how the country can be a power through others' respect," Maduro (pictured) noted, stressing the importance of building a multipolar world.

A high-level Russian delegation arrived in Caracas to monitor the parliamentary elections in Venezuela on Sunday. It consisted of members of Russia's lower and upper houses, the State Duma and the Federation Council, as well as Russian Foreign Ministry's Ambassador at Large for monitoring elections in foreign countries Vladimir Churov.

Parliamentary polls were held in Venezuela on Sunday to elect 227 lawmakers of the unicameral National Assembly. With 82% of ballots counted, the Great Patriotic Pole coalition led by the presidential United Socialist Party of Venezuela is winning 67.6% of votes.

The Democratic Alliance of the moderate opposition is second with 17.95% of ballots. A large number of opponents of the current government, who are currently controlling the parliament, including opposition leader Juan Guaido, refused to take part in the polls.

They had voiced doubt over the election results before they were announced.

Agencies

UK, EU in last-ditch effort to reach deal

LONDON

NEGOTIATORS from the United Kingdom and the European Union got back around the table in Brussels on Monday to seek compromise in a handful of areas standing in the way of a trade agreement.

British Foreign Office Minister James Cleverly said on the BBC's Breakfast programme the talks would continue "for as long as we have available time, or until we get an agreement", but many assessments were stark.

The talks between the two hugely interdependent trading partners, which have dragged on since the UK left the bloc on Jan 31, could conclude with a free-trade deal that allows them to continue frictionless and tariff-free trading. But they could end in failure, with London and Brussels trading under World Trade Organization terms, a situation business groups say will lead to higher prices and delays.

The Republic of Ireland's leader, Taoiseach Micheal Martin, told Ireland's broadcaster RTE the talks were on a "knife edge".

He said: "My gut instinct is that it is 50-50 right now. I don't think one can be overly optimistic about a resolution emerging." While the talks have continued, the two sides have traded as if the UK was still a member of the bloc, an arrangement that will end on Dec 31.

With the clock ticking down, experts have varied wildly in their assessment of whether a deal is imminent, or doomed.

Fishing rights

The BBC reported on Monday that, after a weekend of tense talks, EU sources said agreement on fishing rights, one of the main areas of contention, was close.

Downing Street sources responded by saying it was not. The EU's chief negotiator, Michel Barnier, agreed with Number 10, telling ambassadors from the EU's 27 member states on Monday "divergences" remained and fishing was one of them. The Guardian newspaper described his assessment as "very gloomy".

British Prime Minister Boris Johnson and European Commission President Ursula von der Leyen vowed to talk on the phone on Monday evening to try to push a deal over the line. Cabinet Office Minister Michael Gove went to Brussels for a face-to-face meeting with European Commission Vice-President Maros Sefcovic.

In addition to the deadlock on fishing rights, the two sides have been at loggerheads on how any future deal should be policed, and how a so-called level playing field can be guaranteed for businesses on both sides.

Agencies

THE World Internet Conference - Internet Development Forum concluded on Nov. 24. Compared with previous sessions, the two-day event this year made major innovations, and the activities were also compact and well-designed.

The event, themed "Digital Empowerment for a Better Future: Building a Community with a Shared Future in Cyberspace," offered a place for guests to hold in-depth and extensive communication over a series of hotspot issues, such as digital economy and science-based prevention and control measures in response to COVID-19, science & technology and innovation-driven development, Belt and Road cooperation on cyberspace, youth and digital future, industrial internet, and artificial intelligence. New consensuses were reached

World Internet Conference - Internet Development Forum concludes



Apollo, an autopilot solution of Chinese tech firm Baidu, is exhibited at the 2020 Light of Internet Expo.

in many fields.

The event demonstrated Chinese schemes, wisdom and responsibility in internet development and governance from multiple dimensions.

The conference achieved fruitful results. The Light of Internet Expo, held between Nov. 22 and 24, attracted over 130 renowned enterprises and organizations. It showcased a series of new technologies, products, applications and outcomes of artificial intelligence, cloud computing, big data, block chain and 5G.

The Release Ceremony for World Leading Internet Scientific and Technological Achievements was held dur-

ing the conference, at which 15 leading achievements were launched, demonstrating the creative contribution made by the practitioners in the internet industry.

In addition, the World Internet Development Report 2020 and China Internet Development Report 2020 were released, showcasing the new practices, trends and progress of the world and China's internet industry.

The Global Internet Competition of "Straight to Wuzhen" kicked off on Nov. 24, joined by over 1,000 projects from 15 countries and regions. Ten projects made it into the final, covering multiple fields including integrated circuit, life science, information security, flexible manufacturing and smart fishing.

People's Daily

Biden 'to name retired general Austin first Black defence chief'

BY BLOOMBERG

PRESIDENT-ELECT Joe Biden plans to nominate retired Army General Lloyd Austin as defense secretary, according to three people familiar with the decision, making him the first African American to lead the Pentagon.

Austin has already had a career punctuated by firsts -- including as the first Black general to command US forces in the Middle East.

The choice of Austin came as Biden was under pressure from African American lawmakers and organizations to deliver on his pledge to produce the most diverse cabinet in US history. Biden's transition office declined to comment on his decision on Monday night in advance of an announcement.

In addition to winning Senate confirmation, Austin would need Congress to waive a law requiring military officers to be retired for seven years before serving as defense secretary. Lawmakers have said they would be reluctant to provide another exemption after having done one for retired Marine Corps General

Jim Mattis, President Donald Trump's first defense secretary.

Michele Flournoy, a former Pentagon official who would have been the first female defense secretary, was an early favorite for the post, but Biden considered Austin and former Homeland Security Secretary Jeh Johnson, who is also Black, at the urging of Representative James Clyburn of South Carolina, a close Biden supporter, according to one of the people. Biden's choice of Austin was reported earlier Monday by Politico.

Biden and Vice President-elect Kamala Harris are to take part in a virtual meeting with civil rights leaders on Tuesday.

Austin, 67, was the head of US Central Command from 2013 to 2016 under President Barack Obama, replacing Mattis in that key military role overseeing troops in a region including Iraq, Iran, Syria and Saudi Arabia.



Retired Army General Lloyd Austin

critics complained that Austin rarely answered questions or shared his thoughts publicly. Austin's role overseeing the military campaign to defeat Islamic State terrorists put him on the hot seat for a US\$500 million effort to train and equip forces in Syria. Under congressional grilling, Austin acknowledged that at one point only "four or five" Syrian rebels trained by the United States were actually in Syria.

Republicans and Democrats criticized the results of the program, which was meant to produce a force of 5,400 by December 2015.

Resistance in Congress to Austin's nomination is likely to stem in large part from doubts about undermining the restriction on putting a recent military retiree in a job intended to ensure civilian control of the military.

"After four years of chaotic civilian-military dynamics and military

politicization, I see no upside to placing a retired general officer at the top of an institution that desperately needs a civilian-military reset," Loren DeJonge Schulman, a defense analyst, said on Twitter on Nov 26. "We need strong military leadership and strong civilian leadership. They are distinct."

Raytheon Board

Senators are also expected to press Austin, who serves on the board of Raytheon Technologies Corp, one of the Pentagon's top contractors, to recuse himself from decisions involving the company and any other defense firms he may have worked for as owner of Austin Strategy Group LLC, which he founded in 2016.

Austin is a native of Thomasville, Georgia, and attended the US Military Academy at West Point. He also holds a master's degree in education from Auburn University and a master's degree in business management from Webster University.

Agencies



Kremlin hopes economic situation in Russia in 2021 will be better than 2020

MOSCOW

RUSSIA will not be able to completely free itself from the negative impact of the global crisis, but the country's authorities expect that in 2021 it will be possible to avoid a decline in the national economy similar to the current one, presidential spokesman Dmitry Peskov told reporters.

According to analytical commentary by the National Credit Ratings (NCR) agency, published on Tuesday, transition in Russia to a strategy to reduce the budget deficit in 2021 could lead to a delay in the recovery of the national economy. Commenting on this data, Peskov (pictured) noted that the Russian government has different forecasts.

"Of course, unfortunately, we will not be able to free ourselves from the negative impact of the global crisis, but in general there are expectations that next year the decline will not be the same as this year," Peskov said.

"Although this [year], we have managed to minimize it, and in general we passed [the pandemic] with the least negative effect compared to a number of other countries," he added.

According to him, "the current level of [government] debt and reserves is just one of the factors that ensure macroeconomic stability."

Agencies

THE last 9 impoverished counties of China, all in southwest province of Guizhou, have eliminated absolute poverty, the provincial government announced Monday.

So far, all 66 impoverished counties in the province, which had the highest number of impoverished people in China, have shaken off poverty.

This also means that China has removed all its 832 impoverished counties nationwide from the poverty list.DSX

Since 2012, the province has lifted a total of 9.23 million people out of poverty, or over one million each year, ranking the first in the country.

To ensure on-time poverty eradication, the Communist Party of China Guizhou Provincial Committee, as well as the provincial government made early and detailed plans and cracked the hard nuts in trans-

China removes all 832 impoverished counties from poverty list



Villagers harvest oranges in Dahe village, Datun township, Qixingguan district, Bijie, southwest China's Guizhou province, Nov. 18. The quality of the oranges in the village has been gradually lifted over the recent years, which effectively contributed to the rise of income of local residents. (File photo)

portation, water supply, electricity, education, health care and communication in impoverished regions.

Compulsory education, basic

medical care, and housing have been generally guaranteed.

This year, the province enhanced its poverty alleviation efforts in the

9 counties that were still in poverty, as well 3 counties (districts) that each had over 10,000 impoverished people, which further promoted the province's eradication of absolute poverty.

Though Guizhou has eliminated poverty in all counties, the province will keep consolidating its poverty reduction efforts. It will dock its poverty alleviation efforts with rural revitalization and improve the mechanisms to prevent any return to poverty, so as to ensure that the poverty reduction results can withstand the test of history and the people.

In 2014, the State Council Leading Group Office of Poverty Alleviation and Development identified 832 counties in 22 provinces, autonomous regions and municipalities as

impoverished.

They have been gradually lifted out of poverty two years later. Since the end of last year, some provinces have removed all remaining counties from poverty list.

Last December, Tibet autonomous region announced that all of its impoverished counties had shaken off poverty, followed by Chongqing, Heilongjiang, Shaanxi, Henan, Hainan, Hebei, Shanxi, Inner Mongolia autonomous region and Hunan that claimed so in February and March this year.

They were later joined by Jilin, Qinghai, Jiangxi, Anhui, and Hubei. This month, Xinjiang Uygur autonomous county, Yunnan, Ningxia, Sichuan, Guangxi, Gansu and Guizhou announced that they had removed all remaining counties from poverty list.

People's Daily

New Zealand PM apologizes as mosque attack inquiry finds faults

WELLINGTON

NEW ZEALAND security agencies were "almost exclusively" focused on the perceived threat of Islamist terrorism before a white supremacist gunman killed 51 Muslim worshippers last year, a report into the country's worst massacre found.

The Royal Commission of Inquiry also criticised police for failing to enforce proper checks when granting a firearms license to Australian gunman Brenton Tarrant, who released a racist manifesto shortly before the attack and streamed the shootings live on Facebook.

But despite the shortcomings, the report found no failings within government agencies that would have prevented the attack at two mosques in Christchurch on March 15, 2019.

"The commission made no findings that these issues would have stopped the attack. But these were both failings and for that I apologize," Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern said after the report was released.

Tarrant was sentenced to life in prison without parole in August for the attack, which left dozens injured.

Ardern received global praise for her compassionate



New Zealand Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern speaks during a press conference in Wellington yesterday as she apologizes after a judicial review exposed failures by police and intelligence services ahead of last year's Christchurch mosques terror attack where 51 Muslim worshippers died. (AFP)

response to the attack and for swiftly banning the sale of the high-capacity semi-automatic weapons Tarrant used. She also launched a global movement against online extremism.

However, authorities were criticised for ignoring repeated warnings from the Muslim community that hate crimes against them were escalating.

The 800-page report said there was an "inappropriate concentration of resources" on the threat of Islamist extremist terrorism.

Submissions to the commission by various Muslim organizations described how they felt they were targeted by security agencies while threats against them were not taken seriously. "We find it concerning that

the Commissioners found systemic failures and an inappropriate concentration of resources towards Islamic terrorism, and yet state that these would not have made a difference to the terrorist being detected prior to the event," the Islamic Women's Council said in a statement.

The report said there was no plausible way Tarrant's plans could have been detected "except by chance."

Gamal Fouda, the Imam of Al Noor mosque targeted by the shooter, said the report showed "institutional prejudice and unconscious bias" exists in government agencies.

Hate crimes

The government accepted all 44 recommendations in the

report, including establishing a new national intelligence and security agency, and appointing a minister to coordinate the government's response.

It said it would create an ethnic community ministry and a graduate programme for ethnic communities to support the country's diverse population.

The government would also tighten firearm licensing laws, strengthen counter-terrorism laws, and make changes so police can better record and respond to hate crime.

The report found that despite having no history in New Zealand, Tarrant's application for a firearms license was approved by the police.

It recommended mandatory reporting of firearm injuries by health professionals, after it was revealed Tarrant was treated by doctors in the months leading up to the attack after accidentally shooting himself.

Social isolation The report described Tarrant as "socially isolated" with few childhood friends but an avid internet user and online gamer.

Before arriving in New Zealand in August 2017, he travelled extensively, visiting dozens of countries between 2014 and 2017, mostly alone.

Agencies

Chinese envoy calls for political stability, improved security in DRC

UNITED NATIONS

A Chinese envoy on Monday called for political stability and improved security situation in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC).

China follows closely the recent developments in the internal relations of the DRC's governing coalition, said Dai Bing, China's deputy permanent representative to the United Nations.

DRC President Felix Tshisekedi on Sunday announced the end of the ruling coalition and his intention to form a new one. If a new coalition is not possible, he would dissolve parliament and call for fresh elections, he said.

"We call on all parties in the DRC to respect the spirit of the Constitution, put the interests of the country and the people first, properly address their differences through dialogue and consultation, and spare no effort to preserve the hard-won political stability and unity," Dai told the Security Council.

The DRC should not relapse into crisis. The international community should respect the DRC's sovereignty,



independence and territorial integrity, and positively contribute to its political stability, he said.

Dai (pictured) also stressed the need to improve the security situation in the DRC. The past three months have witnessed exacerbated armed conflicts and inter-communal violence in North Kivu and South Kivu, causing heavy civilian casualties, he said.

The UN peacekeeping mission in the DRC, MONUSCO, and its force intervention brigade play an indispensable role in stabilizing the situation. China supports the renewal of MONUSCO's mandate by one year, he said.

China welcomes the DRC government's engagement in

the strategy for the phased drawdown of MONUSCO, and agrees that MONUSCO's drawdown and exit should be predicated on the security situation and the responsive capacity of the DRC's security institutions, said Dai.

China supports the region-specific arrangements that take into account the evolving situation and conflict dynamics in different provinces, and calls on MONUSCO to coordinate and collaborate with the DRC government, UN Country Team and international financial institutions to ensure an orderly, responsible and sustainable implementation of the drawdown strategy so as to avoid creating a security vacuum, he said.

Xinhua

Uganda's economy shows signs of mild recovery amid COVID-19, risks remain

KAMPALA

A series of financial reports indicate that Uganda's economy is on a recovery trend, despite that the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic will drag on till 2021.

The east African country's economy, hit hard by COVID-19, will contract up to 1 percent in 2020, down from 7.5 percent growth in 2019, according to the latest analysis by the World Bank.

Since the country registered its first COVID-19 case on March 21, the government has implemented several measures, including a lockdown, which have disrupted trade activities and production.

The pandemic led to a fall in household incomes as a result of

widespread firm closures and job losses within industry and services, the World Bank said in Uganda Economic Update published on Dec. 2.

Despite this grim picture, there was a mild recovery of economic activity in the quarter to September, with an estimated growth of 2 percent from a sharp contraction of 6 percent in the quarter to June, the Bank of Uganda (BOU) said in its September 2020 monetary policy statement.

The country's simultaneous fiscal, monetary and financial stimulus measures have been effective in

avoiding the most negative economic consequences of the COVID-19 shock, the central bank said.

The easing of the lockdown, the stability of the exchange rate, as well as a slight improvement in both foreign and domestic demand are supporting economic growth recovery, the BOU added.

The Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) in October stayed around the 50-mark threshold for the fourth consecutive month. Readings above 50.0 signal an improvement in business conditions while those below 50.0 show deteriora-

tion.

The PMI rose to 55.8 in October from 54.5 in September, according to a report by the country's finance ministry.

"This gives an indication of further recovery in economic activity, from the downturn caused by the COVID-19 pandemic," the ministry said in its monthly economic report for October.

The Business Tendency Index, which measures business sentiments, rose to 51.68 in October from 50.80 in September, above the 50.0 threshold for the second successive month.

Risks to the country's financial sector have also been reduced due to decisive and macro-prudential policies of the BOU, according to the central bank's quarterly financial report for the months leading up to September 2020.

These measures contributed to a continuous growth of the inflow of offshore investors into the domestic financial markets, which enhanced the availability of funding for banks and supported the Ugandan shilling's stability.

Offshore investors' total assets in the banking system rose to 1.6 trillion

shillings (438.4 million U.S. dollars) in September from 1.4 trillion shillings (383.6 million dollars) at the end of May. This reversed the trend of outflows seen in March and April at the height of uncertainty and risk aversion in global financial markets.

Although Uganda's economy is on a recovery trajectory, its outlook is uncertain, largely because of the unpredictable course of the virus and the wide range of shocks hitting the economy.

The BOU warned that the surging COVID-19 cases will have a negative impact on

the growth momentum of gross domestic product in the 12-24 months ahead.

The country is likely to experience sluggish external demand, subdued consumer expenditure, weak performance of the service sector and commercial banks' cautious lending among others.

Uganda registers an average of 2,000 COVID-19 cases per week, a figure much higher than what was recorded in months before September when cases started to surge, according to the health ministry.

So far, the country has more than 23,000 cumulative cases and over 200 deaths since the onset of the pandemic.

Xinhua

SPORT



Elias Maguri

Maguri cherishes taking on Simba in CAF Champions League first round

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

TANZANIAN forward, Elias Maguri, who plies his trade at Zimbabwe football club, FC Platinum, has stated he is looking forward to facing Tanzania's Simba when the teams lock horns in the first leg of the 2020/21 CAF Champions League first round, slated for later this month in Harare.

The FC Platinum made it to the first round of the tournament after knocking Mozambique's Costa Do Sol out of the tournament's preliminary round.

The two teams' first leg clash, which took place in Mozambique, ended with FC Platinum notching 2-1 victory over the Mozambicans.

The FC Platinum went on to command 2-0 victory over Costa Do Sol in the second leg of the round to post a 4-1 aggregate victory, which earned them progression to the first round.

Maguri, the former Stand United, Simba SC and Singida United star, said he will only be in friendly terms with Simba's players once the clash between the outfit and his current side is over.

The muscular forward stated he will focus on helping FC Platinum cruise to victory over Simba, given he is seeking to fully exploit his potential and make his living.

"If I score against Simba, I will not be happy because they are my home country's squad and I know my family and friends will too be hurt but that will not stop me from punishing them, I think the FC Platinum's technical bench will be monitoring Simba and know what kind of a team they are," he said.

"Personally, I recognize them as one of the biggest and best clubs in the East Africa

region and that is why they managed to knock Nigeria's Plateau United out of the preliminary round. We have to be careful against them so that we can move forward," Maguri stated.

Simba got the better of Plateau United via a 1-0 aggregate victory. The Tanzanian outfit edged the Nigerian opponents 1-0 in the first leg in Jos, the two teams were later locked to a 0-0 draw in the second leg.

Maguri could be a useful weapon for FC Platinum, which is coached by Norman Mapeza, due to the forward's good understanding of Simba's weaknesses and strengths.

The first leg game between FC Platinum and Simba is expected to be played in Harare between December 22-23, whereas the second leg will take place in Dar es Salaam between January 5-6, 2021.

In another development, Simba SC's head coach, Sven Vandenbroeck, has urged his players to play with caution in search of good results in the 2020/21 Vodacom Premier League.

Simba are set to resume their campaign in the domestic top flight with a tie against Kilimanjaro's Polisi Tanzania in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday.

Vandenbroeck pointed out that his players have to give their all in an effort to garner good results while taking precautions, given they are to play several other matches.

He disclosed: "After the match against Plateau United, we will mid this week have a league match, in any case the players must play with caution."

"The goal in our league matches is to maintain the momentum we ended up with in the last game to reduce the points' gap we have with our opponents."

"We know we have to defend our title, that will not be possible if we fail to win," he stated.

The Vodacom Premier League standing has Simba placed third with 23 points after playing 11 matches.

Yanga are at the top of the domestic top flight's table after collecting 34 points from 14 matches.

TTF gearing up for future Olympic Games

By Correspondent Nassir Nchimbi

TANZANIA Taekwondo Federation (TTF) is gearing up for a long-term strategy for seeing to it the sport's domestic players qualify for the Olympics in future.

The federation disclosed it has set out to train martial artists ahead of the 2024 Olympic Games, which will take place in France, and 2028 Olympics which will take place in United States.

According to the federation, the martial arts training will take place in public primary schools across the country, aiming at sailing through to the future next two Olympics.

Ramoudh Ally, TTF president, stated recently that the federation now targets young artists in order to groom green martial artists and empower them for future international Taekwondo competitions.

"We are in talks with the World Taekwondo Federation (WTF) as well as the Korea's Embassy in Tanzania so that they may provide us with Taekwondo experts who will train our coaches towards that

objective, including initiating exchange products," he said.

Tanzania, according to Ally, has already started preparing a Taekwondo team for the 2024 Olympic Games to be held in Paris, France and the players are expected to be groomed right from primary schools.

The TTF is also launching new standardized Taekwondo syllabus which is replacing all the old manuals.

This new benchmark is in line with the World Taekwondo Federation's latest requirements.

Later there will be the 2028 Olympics in Los Angeles, United States, where again Tanzania wants to send a Taekwondo team, which means the participants need to be young athletes aged nine, who will be 17 years old by then.

Last year, a Paralympic Taekwondo player from Arusha flew to Rabat, Morocco, to participate in the Africa Taekwondo tournament, which served as Para Taekwondo Olympic qualification tournament for Tokyo Olympics that will take place from July 23 to August 8 in 2021.

SPORTS

How Kagera Sugar have turned their season around



Kagera Sugar's forward Yusuph Mhlu jubilates after scoring for the outfit in a recent Vodacom Premier League match, which took place in Bukoba.

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

KAGERA Sugar's performance in the side's 1-0 away victory to Tanzania Prisons in a Vodacom Premier League's tie in Rukwa on Saturday afternoon was arguably the former's best of the season so far.

Forward Hassan Mwaterema's goal ensured the outfit, headed by coach Mecky Mexime, got their first win of the season, in their sixth attempt.

The results meant that Kagera Sugar extended their unbeaten run to four games in all competitions. It is just one defeat in the last six games.

The club had a dismal run in the opening eight matches of the season. Five points in eight games, with five losses in that run, coach Mexime looked out of his depth, and every match looked like they were just waiting to be beaten.

So how have Kagera Sugar turned their season around? Here are five key reasons for it. Hassan Mwaterema keeping fit and scoring goals

Every team needs a goals corer to survive, and Kagera Sugar have an experienced player in Mwaterema.

The well travelled striker, who was previously on the books of JKT Tanzania and Coastal Union, is in the form of his life, scoring three goals in the last three games.

The reinstatement of keeper Benedicto Tinocco

Mexime's decision to drop the out of form goalkeeper, Ramadhan Chalamanda, and bringing back Benedicto Tinocco into the starting line up has certainly helped Kagera Sugar.

After the embarrassing 2-1 home loss against then bottom-placed Mbeya City

FC, Mexime opted to drop first choice goalkeeper Chalamanda.

Tinocco, who was the club's last season's first choice goalkeeper, started in the 2-1 home victory against Mtibwa Sugar and has since kept his place.

The keeper has been fantastic as evidenced by his long ball which was tucked in the net by Mwaterema for the winner against Prisons.

An improved defence has seen Kagera Sugar lose only one game in the process while keeping four clean sheets in a row.

New signings improving

New signings who were too quickly written off early in the campaign are actually proving their potential and are increasingly playing a part in the team's change of fortune.

Vitalis Mayanga, who was a long term target and finally joined from relegated Ndanda FC, is finding his feet, while central defender, Ally Abdulkarim Senso, looks more comfortable in defence.

Sadat Nanguo, another new signing from Ruvu Shooting, is also getting playing time, which should restore his confidence.

Learning from defeat

Even with one of the worst starts in the league, nobody expected Kagera Sugar will lose to Mbeya City FC who had not won any game.

The visitors had lost their six previous games earning them the tag of the worst performing team.

Mbeya City FC's poor form ultimately cost head coach, Amri Said, his job. The worst anybody could imagine was a draw but Kagera Sugar lost 2-1 to Mbeya City FC the dismay of the former's home

fans. The home club was in pure and utter despair.

Always the character is so important when an outfit faces this type of defeat. One has to stand up and start to win games. And that is exactly what Kagera Sugar did.

The defeat left Mexime's side, which began the season with ambitions to improve their eighth-place finish in the 2019/20 season, in 16th place after eight matches.

But while it felt like a low point, it was actually Kagera Sugar's turning point.

Their only defeat since then came against defending champions Simba and Kagera Sugar are unbeaten in four league matches. Before the game, they picked up five points in eight matches.

Since the Mbeya City FC loss, Kagera Sugar have amassed 13 points in just six games to move from relegation zone to ninth place. They have proved more can be gained from a defeat than a victory.

Pragmatic approach

Coach Mexime was under fire and many people were calling for him to be sacked. The team have turned things around and such clubs like Dodoma Jiji FC and JKT Tanzania who started brightly are actually looking up to Kagera Sugar and Mexime.

Kagera Sugar are still well behind in the Premier League's top four but now they are at least in the top half of the table and within striking distance of fourth placed Ruvu Shooting.

Mexime was really getting a lot of heat early in the season but he kept his cool and only made a few tweaks rather than opting for wholesale changes. Now the team are in a position to make this season worthwhile for their fans.

VZ Club's coach counsels Zanzibar outfits

By Correspondent Ismail Tano

ZANZIBAR'S KVZ Football Club's head coach, Sheha Khamis, has said that in order for Zanzibar to make its presence felt in CAF club tournaments, the Isles' sides must have competent professional players, as it was the case in the past.

Khamis made the statement after the KVZ were knocked out of the preliminary round of this season's CAF Confederation Cup by Sudan's Al Amal Atbara.

The Isles' team suffered a 4-0 aggregate loss to Al Amal Atbara.

Khamis, the former Zanzibar's national team 'Zanzibar Heroes' player, who also turned out for Malindi, stated during his heyday, the Isles' clubs had several good players from Mainland Tanzania and outside the country, an aspect which strengthened the teams.

"Currently, Zanzibar's soccer sides which take part in either CAF Champions League or CAF Confederation Cup are solely consisting of Zanzibar players, the sides cannot compete at all," he said.

He added: "We need to get competent foreign players for the competitions, in the past we had good foreign professionals, if we want to achieve success, we have to deploy the approach, Zanzibar has never reached the semi-finals of this tournament (in recent years) but the teams were, in the past, good and had good foreign players."

Khamis noted KVZ's loss in the second leg was caused by below par performance showcased by the squad's midfielders.

"The midfielders let us down, we also conceded goals cheaply," he said.

He said even though they had set out to



Zanzibar's KVZ Football Club's head coach, Sheha Khamis.

record victory, what happened was God's plan.

He noted: "We had planned to win but it was not easy, the discipline was hardly there."

Real Madrid and Zidane brace for crucial European night

MADRID

REAL Madrid value success in the Champions League above all else, but the 13-time champions head into Wednesday's game against Borussia Mönchengladbach with their qualification hopes hanging by a thread.

Should they suffer a humiliating group stage exit, ending their remarkable run as the only team to ever avoid elimination at this phase, coach Zinedine Zidane's future will be at risk.

A win for either side in the Spanish capital will guarantee them passage through to the last 16 from Group B.

If Madrid draw and Shakhtar win or draw with Inter Milan in the other group match, the Spanish giants will be out.

Reports in the Spanish capital have linked Madrid with former Tottenham coach Mauricio Pochettino, currently without a club, should they part ways with Zidane, while Real Madrid Castilla coach Raul Gonzalez, a prolific striker for the club in the past, has been touted as a 'plan B'.

The Frenchman's predecessor Santiago Solari was sacked after the humiliating last-16 exit against Ajax in the Champions League in 2019, paving the way for him to return just 10 months after his sudden departure.

Last season's elimination at the same phase by Manchester City was mitigated by the team's strong domestic performance, as they ground their way to the Spanish title, but another early failure in Europe may prove to be the final straw for trigger-happy president Florentino Perez.

"Zizou is a magnificent coach, a good friend and will do everything possible to have Madrid in the best position possible," said former Madrid goalkeeper Iker Casillas, defending the coach against the mounting speculation over his future.

"You cannot live in the past, but he has earned the right to lead Madrid."

- Ramos returns -

Inter look to Lukaku for Champions League survival

MILAN

INTER Milan are counting on prolific striker Romelu Lukaku to power the former three-time winners into the Champions League last 16 today in a must-win clash against Shakhtar Donetsk.

The Belgian scored a double in a 3-2 win over Borussia Mönchengladbach last time out to keep the Italian giants alive in the continental competition whose knockout rounds they have not reached since the 2011-2012 season.

Bottom of Group B, Inter need to win at the San Siro and for Gladbach and Real Madrid not to draw their match.

"I've never played so well in my life," said Lukaku after bagging four goals in as many European games this season.

In total, the Belgian has scored 12 goals in 13 games this season, including the opener at the weekend in a 3-1 Serie A win over Bologna.

For 27-year-old Lukaku it is the first time in his career that he has scored more than seven goals in his first 10 league games of the season. Lukaku has come into his own since joining Antonio Conte's side from Manchester United in 2019 for 80 million euros (\$89 million).

In his first season Lukaku scored 34 goals in all competitions, matching the performance of Brazilian Ronaldo in his debut season for Inter in 1997-1998.

The Belgian's high energy levels and sharp play at Inter are in contrast to United where he spent two seasons, scoring 42 goals in 96 appearances, but just 15 goals in his final season.

He was never far from fan criticism, over his weight and professionalism, as he fell down the pecking order once Ole Gunnar Solskjær replaced Jose Mourinho.

But Lukaku has found a rich vein of form at Inter alongside Argen-

tinero Lautaro Martinez and former United teammate Alexis Sanchez. Conte had been a long-time admirer of Lukaku, who started his career at Anderlecht, and tried to sign him for Chelsea before the Belgian's move from Everton to United.

His move to Italy at the same time as Conte, was also eased by the presence of his brother Jordan Lukaku, 25, who played as a defender for Lazio.

Inter finished second in Serie A last season, one point behind Juventus, although Lukaku's own goal in the Europa League final handed Sevilla victory.

"Rough diamond" - Inter have scored 26 goals from their first 10 matches, their best haul at this stage since the 2009/2010 campaign when they won an unprecedented treble under Mourinho.

"Romelu can still get better," predicted Conte whose side are second in Serie A, five points behind city rivals AC Milan.

"I described him as a rough diamond when he arrived. I felt that by putting in the work, he could become one of the best strikers in the world.

"He's like an American football player. He's on the right track because he's a humble player who works hard for the team and has everything in his locker - physical qualities and also the running ability to make a mark on an open pitch.

"I'm happy with him, the team, with Lautaro and with Sanchez, who could become even more decisive and score a few more goals given the qualities he possesses.

"However, he previously barely played at all for two years while at Manchester United, now he's playing a lot of games and can also be a decisive player when coming off the bench."

AFP

Arsenal's biggest problem is hard to pinpoint

By Leander Schaerlaeckens

IT'S December. Arsenal Football Club, owner of 13 English titles and the only undefeated season in Premier League history, purveyors of the highest average ticket prices in the world, a club with the third-most all-time appearances in the Deloitte Football Money League top-10 all-time, has fallen to 15th place.

After Sunday's 2-0 loss in the North London Derby to hated rivals Tottenham Hotspur, the Gunners now sit 14 spots behind the league-leading Spurs. That is to say, Arsenal is as close to the ninth-placed team in the second-tier Championship - Blackburn Rovers - as it is to first place in the Premier League. It is already eight points out of the Champions League places, but just seven above the relegation zone.

The club that once embodied flowing, attacking soccer has a goal difference of minus-four. It's one of just four teams in the league that averages less than a goal a game. It has scored once in its last four games and only twice in its last seven.

Then again, only four teams have conceded fewer goals. Still, it has six defeats already, and for years, Arsenal would only lose around six league games in an entire season.

The collapse is breathtaking. Because Arsenal was a club that always seemed to do things the right way.

Historically, the Gunners were dogmatic about playing attacking soccer, and could be relied upon to develop their own players. Then, when it became economically necessary, Arsenal saved up its money and was one of Europe's first juggernauts to upgrade its homey but dated ground for a cash-printing mega-stadium.

The club slowly slipped from winning three titles and five silver medals from the 1997-98 season through 2004-05 to being a perennial third- or fourth-placed team. And then it slipped further still, missing the Champions League for the first time in 21 years. This is the fourth consecutive Champions League campaign without Arsenal - which had survived the group stage 17 straight years - taking part in it.

Fingers were pointed.

First it was the stadium's fault, for cannibalizing the transfer budget. But as the Emirates Stadium opened and revenues grew, so did the return of the big-ticket acquisitions. Arsenal has paid 30 million euros or more for 10 different players and at least 50 million for four of them.

Then it was the fault of long-time manager Arsene Wenger, the architect of all those titles and Champions League berths. But things didn't get better under his successor Unai Emery, once Wenger was finally pushed into retirement. Once the club was managed by Mikel Arteta, the ballyhooed apprentice of Pep Guardiola, some promising flashes shone through, until he oversaw the ongoing face-plant toward rock bottom.

A popular culprit has been the club's American absentee owner Stan Kroenke, who cannot seem to bestir himself to do anything past the bare minimum for the umpteenth team in his portfolio of sports investments. Still, it isn't like the club hasn't had plenty of money to spend.

Lately, straws are being grasped at.

Earlier in the week of the North London Derby, Arteta argued that the trick to mending his misfiring attack was to have more crosses - a hopelessly archaic notion. "It's maths, pure maths," Arteta declared, giving his growing body of



Mikel Arteta is overseeing the latest period of Arsenal's free fall the last few years. (Agencies)

critics a handy rallying cry.

In the mirthless contest against Tottenham, Arsenal sent in 44 crosses. It was the most of any Premier League team this season and the most the club has compiled in a single game under Arteta's year-long reign. It still didn't score a goal. The Gunners had 69 percent of possession and 11 shots to Tottenham's six. But then only two of those on target.

"They did everything I asked them to do," Arteta said after the game. "If you look at all the stats, they are in our favor."

"I don't know what else we can do," he added. "If we can't score goals we cannot improve our situation."

A manager who has run out of ideas for how to score goals, in a sport where scoring goals is the whole thing, does not sound like he is long for his job.

Certainly, equal credit for Sunday's result should go to Spurs manager Jose Mourinho, who has resuscitated his battered reputation. But the thing that redeems Arteta is that it isn't at all obvious what the problem is. Or, by

inference, that he is the problem.

There is so much else that ails his club, like an oddly constructed squad, the abidingly bizarre situation surrounding its highest-paid player, Mesut Ozil, who has yet to make an appearance this season, an apparent problem with mentality, to plain old bad luck.

Arsenal continues to spiral ever downward from the lofty perch it occupied just a decade ago, when it reached three straight Champions League quarterfinals. It continues, as an entire club, to be less than the sum of its parts. A club that can't even get the simple PR stuff right anymore, laying off dozens of employees, including the long-time mascot, the same week it dropped a 50 million euro transfer fee on midfielder Thomas Partey.

But for all the diagnoses, a cure has not yet been found.

Leander Schaerlaeckens is a Yahoo Sports soccer columnist and a sports communication lecturer at Marist College. Follow him on Twitter @LeanderAlphabet.

Filling Haaland's boots spurs on prolific Zambian star Patson Daka

By Andy SCOTT

IT IS impossible to talk to Patson Daka of Red Bull Salzburg without mentioning Erling Braut Haaland, but the prolific striker from Zambia doesn't mind the comparisons, and his own record speaks for itself.

"They bring positive energy to me. It is also a great motivation and inspiration for me because it shows I am moving in the right direction," Daka, 22, tells AFP.

"He did great things in this club and he is a good friend to me. We helped each other to become better every time in training and in games, so for me it is a responsibility that I embrace, that I love and enjoy, and I take no offence from that comparison."

Haaland scored 28 times in 22 games last season for Salzburg before joining Borussia Dortmund.

The Norwegian scored eight in the Champions League group stage, but that was not enough to fire the Austrians into the last 16.

Today they are hoping to take that extra step, although in order to do they must beat Atletico Madrid.

Perhaps Daka, the first Zambian to score a Champions League goal, can be the man to take them there.

In many ways he was eclipsed by Haaland, who came and went from Mozart's home city in the space of a year.

Daka helped Salzburg win the UEFA Youth League in 2017, the same year he starred for his country at the Under-20 World Cup.

But last season was not just Haaland's coming of age, it was also when Daka really took off, scoring 27 goals. He then had 12 in 11 games this season before what he calls "a bad muscle strain" slowed his progress.

- Spotted by Kanoute -

Like Haaland, Daka is the son of a footballer. He jokes that the game was such a part of his life growing up that "maybe at the hospital when I was born I had a football".

In joining Salzburg he has followed



Zambia's Patson Daka has scored 39 goals for Salzburg since the start of last season. (Agencies)

in the footsteps of other African stars like Senegal's Sadio Mane and Naby Keita of Guinea, and catching the eye of one of the greatest African players of the 21st century helped him make it to Europe.

Former Mali striker Fredi Kanoute, now an agent, spotted Daka in 2015, when he played for Zambia in the African Under-17 and Under-20 championships.

"That was when Kanoute was talking to my manager at that time, who was the owner of Kafue Celtic where I was playing," Daka says. "That is how the sporting director contacted me and told me Kanoute had called. I was like: 'Which Kanoute?! Are we talking about the same Kanoute that I know?'"

Through Kanoute, Daka ended up having a trial at French club Lille, coached by ex-Zambia boss Herve Renard.

It was unsuccessful, as were trials at Espanyol and in Portugal, but eventually - while away in camp with the Zambian national team - the chance came to go to Austria.

Gwiji by David Chikoko



AFP

SPORT

**Arsenal's biggest problem
is hard to pinpoint**

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

Junior tennis players set for Jubilee Tyres tournament next week

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THIS year's edition of the Jubilee Tyres junior tennis tournament will be held at Arusha Gymkhana Club (AGC) courts next weekend, organizers have disclosed.

Goodluck Mollle, one of the tournament's organizers, said the three-day event is scheduled to take place from December 18-20 at the venue and they expect more than 60 juniors to compete in it.

He said invitations have been sent to all tennis clubs in the country and the response has been good.

He mentioned some of the clubs, which have been invited, as AICC and Players Club both based in Arusha, Simiyu, Kilimanjaro's Rafiki Foundation, Morogoro, Dar es Salaam's Kijitonyama and Dar es Salaam Gymkhana Club (DGC), and hosts TGT and AGC.

Mollle thanked Jubilee Tyres Limited for sponsoring the tournament annually.

He disclosed players will compete in age categories of U-6, U-8, U-10, U-12, U-14, U-16 and U-18.

"We are pleased to inform you that Arusha Gymkhana Club will host a junior tennis tournament for both boys and girls from December 18-20 and the event has been sponsored by Jubilee Tyres LTD," he stated.

"We really thank Jubilee Tyres for sponsoring this tournament annually, this tournament is vital in development of tennis in the country," he said.

He said winners in each age category will be awarded by the sponsors.



Some of Tanzania's cricket legends pose for picture with Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) officials at the association's Annual General Assembly (AGA), which took place in Dar es Salaam last weekend. The TCA honoured the legends for their contribution to the sport's development in the country. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TCA

TCA honours cricket legends

By Guardian Reporter

THE Tanzania Cricket Association (TCA) hosted its Annual General Assembly (AGA) in Dar es Salaam on Sunday, with the body's members turning up at the meeting which took place at a restaurant located at the city center.

The event being first of its kind in the TCA history, was also streamed live for the sport's stakeholders on the association's social media account. The TCA information officer, Atif Salim, said the association's financial report for this year and development reports were presented to the members and all of the members appreciated the work done by the TCA's new management.

The TCA leadership has now completed one year term since the association's election took place in the city in November last year.

Salim stated the AGA was followed by the 2020 TCA Awards' gala, which was also an event of its kind broadcasted live.

He disclosed the awards aimed at honouring the work done by the TCA Development team's officials, who showed great success, especially in seeing to it the initiative, which previously had five centers across the country, expands to 17 centers.

Salim disclosed the event's theme, however, was bringing back domestic cricket legends and introduce them to the current generation of cricketers. The TCA official stated not all invited veterans could make it but the few, who did, were all smiles and appreciated TCA's effort to remember them and their contribution to the game in Tanzania.

He disclosed: "We are in a process of opening a veterans club soon so that the work done by these legends for the game in Tanzania is preserved and revisited for the coming generations." In another development, Tembo Warriors Club got off to an impressive start in the inaugural TCA Super League, walloping Serengeti Giants by 133 runs in a duel, which took place in the city last weekend.

The national cricket governing body has organized the 50-over format event, which has brought together four clubs, with a view to boosting promotion of the sport at the domestic level.

The tournament, moreover, serves as part of the pathway for capped and uncapped players to stake claim in the senior national squad for international tournaments in 2021.

Tembo Warriors went in to bat first and were skittled for 241 runs in 48.1 overs. Opening batsman, Ivan Ismail, and middle order batsman, Vishal Patel, had impressive innings, ending with 56 runs and 45 runs respectively for the squad.

Issa Kikasi, slotted in at number three, also had good knocks, posting 22 runs which included two fours and a six. Serengeti Giants' Issa Safari had the most wickets during the outfit's turn with the ball, in which he had a five-wicket haul and gave away 28 runs in 7.1 overs. Kelvin Anjelo also had notable contribution, ending with two wickets and leaking 46 runs in 10 overs. Serengeti Giants, in response, lost steam in the chase as they were skittled for 108 runs in 29.2 overs.

They showcased desire to get off to a good start in the chase, given youthful all-rounder, Salmi-ni Yusuph, scored 28 runs which included three fours. Yusuph's exploits, however, ended as the only performance worth noticing, with Seif Khalifa and skipper Zafar Khan chipping in with 19 runs apiece.

Simba SC now turns guns on Polisi Tanzania in 2020/21 VPL

By Correspondent Michael Mwebi

AFTER sealing progression to the first round of this season's CAF Champions League last weekend, Simba will now turn their attention to their Vodacom Premier League match against Polisi Tanzania.

Simba booked their place in the first round of the CAF Champions League after beating Plateau United of Nigeria 1-0 on aggregate in the preliminary stage.

Before facing Zimbabwe's FC Platinum in the first round of the CAF Champions League, Simba SC head coach Sven Vandebroek, the club's fans and players have to put the continental campaign aside and focus on the league at the moment with the task in hand today against Polisi Tanzania at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

It is another chance for the third-placed Simba to make use of the games in hand they have.

The back-to-back Vodacom Premier League champions have played three less games than log leaders, Yanga, and a victory for the former against Polisi Tanzania today would move them to within a point of second-placed Azam FC.

Vandebroek will have forwards Meddie Kagere and Chris Mugalu back for selection after they missed several league matches due to injuries.

Meanwhile, Polisi Tanzania saw their unbeaten streak in the league extended to five matches when they were held to a 1-1 draw at home by Coastal Union on November 29.



Polisi Tanzania's forward, Sixtus Sabilo (R), dribbles past Simba's midfielder, Sharaaf Shiboub, when the squads locked horns in a 2019/20 Vodacom Premier League match, which took place in Dar es Salaam early this year.

The law enforcers have claimed 10 points from as many six matches this season.

Former Simba SC players, Marcel Boniventure and Rashid Juma, will be the main actors for Polisi Tanzania, who are on 20 points at sixth place after playing 13 games this season.

At the back, Polisi's coach Malale Hamsini will hope midfielder, Pato Nkonyani, Iddy Moby and Mohamed will keep things tight.

In head-to-head stats, Simba SC and Polisi Tanzania have met in six previous top-flight matches. Simba have claimed four wins, while two matches have been drawn.

Last season, Simba did a league double over Polisi Tanzania by claiming 2-1 victory in the first leg in February, this year, thanks to goals netted by Ibrahim Ajibu and captain John Bocco.

They also won the reverse fixture in July courtesy of a brace by Bocco.

Chinese firm supports Arusha soccer academy

By Correspondent Marc Nkwame, Arusha

OPERATING from Sinoni, Arusha, the youth-oriented Nyota Football Academy will now enjoy full financial and equipment support from China's Geely Group, which intends to boost soccer development here through its newly established Tanzanian arm of Keeway Motor Company.

Keeway Motor Company has, to start with, pledged a full year support to the Arusha academy to the tune of 10m/- plus sporting gear.

"Keeway Motor Company is going to stand as main supporter to Nyota Academy and all teams under the institution," Lydia Kaguru, the Arusha Branch Manager for Keeway Motor Company, stated. She disclosed that the firm seems to be more interested

in soccer development worldwide.

Having opened up shop in Tanzania on November 20 last year, Keeway Motor is a Chinese firm which deals with manufacturing and supplying of high-end motorcycles and accessories.

The company, which was established in 1985 with presence in 88 countries worldwide, already has offices in Arusha, Mbeya and Mtwara.

According to the firm's Manager, Kaguru, Keeway Motor Company will be injecting an annual grant of 10m/- to Nyota Academy effective from the coming year. Keeway Motor Company will also provide the Nyota Academy teams with sporting gear and equipment as well as supporting the clubs with ventures outside Arusha.

Nyota Football Academy Manager, Thobias Julius, said the boost from Kee-

way Motor Company will help solve some few problems facing the center's club, which is currently playing in the Regional Third Division League, with three matches left before completing the first round.

Arusha Regional Football Association (ARFA)'s Secretary General, Emmanuel Anthony, said the one-year contract between the company and Nyota Academy was a welcome development but he implored Keeway Motor Company to support other clubs because Arusha has many other teams.

Nyota Academy, based in Sinoni, runs the soccer training institution as well as two teams, the youth team participating in the ongoing East Africa Chipukizi Cup and a senior team which is one of the competitors in the Regional Third Division League.

EATV
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

TONIGHT @ 7:00

EATV SAA 1
Coverage of the days current events accompanied by interviews with prominent people on diverse topics ranging from national to social interests.

eastafrika 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

Flexibles by David Chikoko

