



National Pg 3 Ultimatum for manufacturers of outlawed bags



National Pg 4 Women's equality and emancipation



National Pg 6 Digital safe spaces important for girls



Page 13



Huge relief as road link to Dodoma is reopened

By Guardian Reporter

ROAD transport between Morogoro and Dodoma regions resumed yesterday after authorities opened for traffic a temporary bridge at Kiyegeya in Kilosa District, Morogoro Region where floodwaters destroyed infrastructure last week.

The Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications said in a statement yesterday that traffic began to flow with priority given to upcountry passenger vehicles. Private cars and lorries carrying

TURN TO PAGE 2

VP, UN heads of mission praise Tanzania on post-Beijing scores



Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan cuts a ribbon in Busega, Simiyu Region, at the weekend to signal the opening of NMB Bank Plc's 225th branch in Tanzania. The others include Finance and Planning deputy minister Dr Ashatu Kijaji (3rd-R), Busega legislator Raphael Chegeni (L), NMB acting Managing Director Ruth Zaipuna (2nd-L) and Simiyu regional commissioner Anthony Mtaka (R). Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporters

AS one of countries where women have held powerful positions in public life and in the private sector in Africa, Tanzania stands out as a champion of women's rights but with a lot more to do, several speakers said at the International Women's Day commemoration yesterday.

TURN TO PAGE 2

She added that the government has reviewed the local government financial Act which now directs local government to set aside money for youth

Yanga thrash Simba in premier soccer league

A 44th-minute goal by midfielder Bernard Morrison steered Yanga to a 1-0 win over archrivals Simba in a pulsating and well-attended Vodacom Premier League derby at the National Stadium in Dar es Salaam yesterday. He lifted the ball over

Simba defenders and straight into the net, as keeper Aishi Manula fought in vain to punch the free kick away. The first phase encounter between the two sides - at the same venue on January 14 - ended in a 2-2 draw.

UAE evacuates Arab nationals from China, evacuees to receive medical care at Emirates Humanitarian City



ABU DHABI, 4th March, 2020 (WAM) -- The United Arab Emirates has coordinated the evacuation of Arab nationals from Wuhan City in China. The evacuees will be received at the newly established Emirates Humanitarian City in the UAE, and will undergo medical testing and monitoring to ensure their health and safety.

The move follows the directives of President His Highness Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan and His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi and Deputy Supreme Commander of the UAE Armed Forces, to establish a healthcare facility that will provide the individuals hailing from neighbouring Arab countries with the necessary monitoring and preventative medical care following their evacuation from the epicentre of the COVID-19 outbreak - China's Wuhan City.

A special aircraft carrying some 215 individuals from Wuhan was equipped with HEPA cabin air filtration systems, medical supplies and equipment necessary to carry out the evacuation procedure, along with medical response teams and cabin crew trained to carry out the evacuation.

The Emirates Humanitarian City has been set up as per the highest of standards to facilitate high-quality care for individuals admitted, ensuring their privacy and dignity are maintained throughout their stay.

Individuals will undergo a 14-day quarantine period during which they will undertake the necessary medical and laboratory tests, and be monitored to ensure their health and safety.

The UAE Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the UAE Embassy in China have coordinated with the embassies of the countries concerned to organise the evacuation process as part of the UAE's continuous efforts to enhance cooperation with the Chinese government to contain the spread of the virus.

MNH raises alarm as glaucoma cases soar

By Henry Mwangonde

Muhimbili National Hospital (MNH) administrators are raising alarm following a sharp increase in cases of glaucoma—an eye disease caused by excessive alcohol use and self-medication—at the top referral facility.

The MNH has received more than 1,000 patients annually in the past few years who sought help

Another eye specialist at MNH Judith Mwende called upon drivers to conduct eye tests before driving

as the disease was in its late stages, meaning that most people do not

consult regularly for eye checkups.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam at a free eye screening exercise on Saturday to mark the World Glaucoma Day, MNH ophthalmologist Dr Catherine Makunda said that smoking and diabetes can also ignite glaucoma symptoms.

Dr Makunda said MNH receives 20 to 25 patients

TURN TO PAGE 2

Zanzibar unveils its Vision 2020-2050 blue economy

By Guardian Reporter, Zanzibar

ZANZIBAR'S new Vision 2020-2050 which is designed to tap into the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth has kicked off with construction of three new

ports and purchase of modern boats.

President Ali Mohamed Shein told the 10th Zanzibar Business Forum here yesterday that three new ports have been lined up for construction, namely at the Mpagaduri passenger terminal area, oil and gas terminal at Mangapwani and fishery spot at Malindi.

The recently revamped Zanzibar Fishing Company (ZAFICO) is tasked with modernizing fishing by deploying equipment that can operate in deep sea, plus conducting sale of the catch.

A new fishing boat has been procured with another under construction, meanwhile as



TURN TO PAGE 2

TCRA ICT AWARDS

TUZO ZA TEHAMA ZA TCRA ZA MWAKA 2020

Zimebaki siku 7 tu kuwasilisha fomu za ushiriki mtandaoni

Mwisho wa uwasilishaji fomu ni Machi 15, 2020

Kila mwenye leseni ya TCRA analazimika kushiriki Tuma fomu yako ya ushiriki mtandaoni sasa

Mawasiliano Zaidi: Piga simu ya bila malipo namba 0800 008272 au tuma barua pepe kupitia ictawards@tcra.go.tz tovuti ya www.ictawards.tcra.go.tz

"Boresha Maisha Kupitia Tehama kwa Uchumi wa Viwanda Kidijitali"

MNH raises alarm as glaucoma cases soar

FROM PAGE 1

each week, a sign that the prevalence of the disease was increasing.

"Today we are conducting glaucoma screening as a way of commemorating the international day but the trend calls for regular eye screening camps. There are signs that the disease is increasing," she stated.

The specialist asserted that another challenge was that glaucoma patients face discrimination, pushing many of them out of treatment at an early stage.

While the MNH consultant talked of stigma and patients opting to wear glasses rather than open up, other sources affirmed that costs have to do with the problem as such people fail to obtain resources from relatives owing to the drunkenness stigma, etc.

Glaucoma damages the optic nerve, the health of which is vital for good vision. This damage has to do with abnormally high pressure in the eye, said to be the leading causes of blindness for people over the age of 60.

Another eye specialist at MNH, Dr Judith Mwendé called upon prospective and practicing drivers to

conduct regular eye tests or before taking up driving.

Nashron Daniel, as representative of Salama Pharmaceuticals which facilitated the screening exercise, said the company distributed the drugs for free as part of commemorations for the international day.

Experts say that to eliminate glaucoma blindness there are several issues that need to be addressed. Glaucoma usually gives no warning until it is advanced, while the damage it causes to vision is ongoing and could become irreversible. Fortunately, for many patients treatment can halt the damage, implying that the earlier the diagnosis the better the chances of reversal.

To raise awareness on glaucoma, a series of engaging worldwide activities involving patients, eye-care providers, health officials and the general public were organised globally for sight preservation.

The goal was to alert everyone to have regular eye (and optic nerve) checks in order to detect glaucoma as early as possible, the specialist added.

VP, UN heads of mission praise Tanzania on post-Beijing scores

FROM PAGE 1

At the national commemoration which took place in Bariadi, Simiyu Region, speakers led by guest of honour Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan hailed the country's record of not only giving women opportunities to lead in socioeconomic activities locally but spearheading the women's rights movement globally.

The VP who graced the occasion said there are various achievements that the government has attained in implementing the Beijing Conference resolutions, including free education which has increased enrolment from 8m schoolchildren in 2015 to 10m in 2018.

Other achievements include women financial empowerment through poverty reduction initiatives, she said.

"There are small scale loans through municipal councils aimed at empowering women financially, but am not happy with the way the loans are offered. I thus call upon authorities to take a closer look at this matter," the VP directed.

The government has reviewed the Local Government Finances Act which now directs local governments to set aside money for youth and women empowerment.

On the same issue the VP said the government has been working with the banks to offer low interest loans to entrepreneurs to empower them financially.

She directed the Postal Bank which has been merged with the defunct Tanzania Women's Bank to open a special desk for women.

"The government has been running the Tanzania Social Action Fund (TASAF) which helps to improve poor households," she stated.

Getrude Mongella, former Speaker of the Pan African Parliament who was also President of the Beijing Conference in 1995 said the day was for remembering women who have made great contributions in empowering Tanzanian women.

Delegates during those days went to Beijing to tell the world that the systems existing at the time were faulty and there was need for change, not to fight men.

"A revolution has begun. There is no going back as I sit back and see the kind of women sitting here. It was not like that 25 or so years back, so my plea is that let us not draw back the successes that we have achieved in all these all years," said Mongella.

Canadian High Commissioner Pamela O'Donnell said through time women in Tanzania are slowly climbing the development ladder. This calls for continuity of the efforts to raise them, she emphasized.



Tanzania SACCOS for Women Entrepreneurs chairperson Anna Matinde (3rd-L) shows the Comoros' Deputy Ambassador to Tanzania, Bacar Salim (2nd-L), one of the items produced by the agency's members ahead of an exhibition to be held in Moroni next month. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Zanzibar unveils its Vision 2020-2050 blue economy

FROM PAGE 1

an improved fish market is being built, all of which are similarly designed to attract more tourists, he stated.

President Shein affirmed that implementation of the blue economy vision will be overseen by the Zanzibar Planning Commission.

"This vision has borrowed on best practices that have worked in

other countries such as Mauritius, Seychelles and South Africa," he declared.

Along with procuring the modern fishing boat Sehewa I, Sehewa II is under construction, with other boats expected to be ordered later, so as to change the fishery subsector in the Isles.

Along with the sustainable use of our ocean resources, this vision seeks to promote renewable

energy and exploration of oil and natural gas," he further noted.

Other areas of focus in the plan include strengthening research in agriculture to improve production, eradicating non-communicable diseases (NCDs) and investing in human resources to enable Zanzibar achieve middle income aspirations.

President Shein affirmed that Boosting Inclusive Growth in

Zanzibar (BIGZ) is set to replace the World Bank-funded Zanzibar Urban Services Project (ZUSP) when the latter comes to an end.

Speaking earlier, the Isles Trade and Industry Minister Amina Salum Ali expressed optimism that the new development vision will change fortunes of the archipelago as Zanzibar is endowed with huge potential in the blue economy. It is surrounded by the sea and enjoys

peace and tranquility, the minister underlined.

The Zanzibar Vision 2020-2050 replaces the Vision 2020 which comes to an end this year. The World Bank defines blue economy as the sustainable use of ocean resources for economic growth, improved livelihoods and jobs while preserving the health of the ocean ecosystem.



STILL GOING STRONG: This vintage car was spotted at Naabi Hill Gate as it took part in a recent rally deep inside the Serengeti National Park. It was said to be a 1928-model Bentley, which means it could be 92 years old and therefore the oldest vehicle to take part in a rally in Tanzania. Driven by Keith Ashworth, it was part of 'Southern Cross Safari 2020'. Photo: Correspondent Marc Nkwame

Women make the majority of the world's population therefore their voice is vital in decision making, she said, elaborating that as the world celebrate the 25 years of the Beijing Conference countries need to fashion out strategies on how to involve more women in decision making.

United Nations Women Organisation (UN Women) country representative Hodan Addou said the presence of powerful women at the event was a sign that the Beijing Conference agenda was a home grown initiative.

She said the day should remind all women of the tasks ahead and the need to address issues that hinder women from achieving their goals.

Such efforts include addressing challenges that bar women from engaging in social engagements like removing barriers to careers, finding new economic strategies and private sector models that allow women's involvement more fruitfully, she asserted.

"Lessons learnt in the last three decades show that there are still issues to be done. With all these achievements let's not sit back, this should be a new moment of taking off for better change," she emphasized.

UN Resident Coordinator Zlatan Milicic, said the day calls for recognizing and appreciating the role that women play in development.

He said the Beijing Conference was an important platform that remains relevant to recognizing women involvement and

participation in development.

"We have only ten years to reach the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), therefore we have all the time and space to mobilize resources to ensure no one is left behind," he said.

The theme for this year's International Women's Day is, "I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights."

Meanwhile, national chairman of the main opposition party Chadema Freeman Mbowe yesterday challenged women in the country to stop complaining but wake up, change mind sets and grab the available opportunities for their development.

Addressing a forum to commemorate the International Women's Day in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Mbowe urged women to lead the race to enable the opposition win this year's presidential election. The forum was organized by Chadema Women Wing (Bawacha).

He encouraged them to be confident and not hesitate to vie for leadership positions in the forthcoming elections so as to bring out their personal best to serve the public.

"Do not feel inferior; do not stay to chase only special seats opportunities. You have to vie and compete because you have the ability. Women have legal rights to vie for any leadership positions from grassroots to the national level but what is needed is for them to decide and be ready to contest," he said.

The party's national leader also demanded that some key laws be reviewed and amended in the forthcoming parlia-

mentary session to enable the country's election to be free and fair.

He further condemned tribalism which has started to rise in the country.

"There is a group of few people who wants to plunge this country into tribalism. This behavior should not be entertained," the Chadema leader intoned.

For her part, Bawacha chairperson Halima Mdee said that reports show that Tanzania is still doing poorly in addressing the incomes gender gap and gender-based violence.

The Global Gender Gap Report 2020 shows that Tanzania is among countries which have failed to address the gender gap, thus leaving a majority of the women living vulnerable lives.

Mdee said that in the report, Tanzania emerged 111 out of 153 countries in the area of women in leadership positions. The country is still backward in supporting women access their rights in land ownership and economic empowerment, she further asserted.

"To commemorate the International Women's Day, we also announce the official launch of our policy line which is aimed to support women and girls to enable them live to achieve their dreams," she declared.

Rather from preaching political issues alone, Bawacha will also help its members in efforts to get out of poverty by providing training and awareness to promote individual and household income growth, she added.

Huge relief as road link to Dodoma is reopened

FROM PAGE 1

perishable goods and animals followed, it said.

By the time authorities allowed the vehicles to cross, there was snarl-up on both sides as those heading to Morogoro and Dodoma were waiting as an interim facility was being arranged.

After the downpour swept away a bridge and cut off communication between the capital and the nearest regional centre, it was advised that motorists use the prohibitively long Morogoro-Iringa-Dodoma route.

Some motorists chose to switch off their vehicles and wait for the temporary bridge to open, with the queue of vehicles waiting to cross stretching as far as 20 kilometres.

"So far so good, as vehicles are crossing smoothly. We even have towing equipment for any damaged cars," minister Isack Kamwelwe intoned.

The restoration of the damaged road section was done by having a culvert to replace the one swept away by floodwaters, with the work nearing completion.

Permanent Secretary Elius Mwakalinga said his team was assessing major roads to identify damaged areas that require major repairs.

Morogoro Regional Commissioner Loata ole Sanare said he was relieved after traffic started flowing as the presence of vehicles and people on both sides for days and nights reminded authorities to focus on the matter first.

Heavy rains from mountains in the region and neighbouring Iringa cause strong floods that damage infrastructure in Morogoro each rainy season.

Last November, the government appealed to the African Development Bank (AfDB) for a soft loan for the construction of a 224-km four-lane highway from Dodoma to Morogoro.

Treasury minister Dr Philip Mpango made the appeal in talks with Amos Cheptoo, AfDB Executive Director for the East African region, in Dodoma.

The Morogoro-Dodoma road is important as it connects the commercial capital Dar es Salaam, which is also the main port, with landlocked countries farther inland.

Traffic volumes on the existing Dar es Salaam - Morogoro road currently exceed the road's design capacity, resulting in congestion and snarls in traffic.

Associated long travel times and road safety issues further hamper socioeconomic development in the central corridor, ministry experts affirm.



Tanzania Posts Corporation members of staff take part in International Women's Day celebrations at Mnazi Mmoja grounds in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Jumanne Juma

Do not use your NIDA ID cards to register another's Sim-card - govt

By Guardian Reporter, Iringa

THE government has banned Tanzanians from using other people's National Identification Numbers (NIN) to biometrically register a SIM card since it is an offence under the law.

The National Identification Authority (NIDA) is responsible for issuance of the national identification numbers (NIN).

This was explained by deputy minister for Transport and Communications, Eng Atashasta Nditwe when speaking to reporters in Iringa region shortly after a public rally at Idodi and Isoliweya villages.

The Minister also inaugurated a communication tower for Idodi, Kihesa and Ihimbo wards in Kilolo district and Iringa municipality. Nditwe said it is prohibited for citizens to use his NIN to register another person's SIM card even if she happens to be a wife as it is an offence under the Tanzania Communications Regulatory Authority (TCRA) laws and regulations.

He elaborated that there is a habit for some people using their national identification numbers to biometrically register SIM cards over reasons that they are yet to be issued with NIN. He said the government has already issued NIN to many people countrywide.

He said the government extended the deadline for the disconnection of unregistered SIM cards so that those with SIM cards complete their registration as the government saw the

importance of mobile communication in their daily economic and social activities.

"It must be understood that only NIN are used to register SIM cards biometrically and that card is issued to only one person, and if there is a crime that has been committed and your line has been used in that crime, we shall disconnect that line and you will never register it again, so please go to your mobile provider(s) to verify the SIM cards numbers you had registered under your NIN," said the Deputy Minister.

TCRA head for southern highlands zone, Eng Asajile John said they are collaborating with mobile operators to biometrically register using NIN and up to now 81 per cent of all SIM cards numbers have been registered and those remaining continue to do so as the exercise is sustainable for those needing new lines.

He called upon the wananchi to abide by the laws and Regulations governing mobile telephone communication to ensure they use their phones for their economic, political and social activities, and steer away from their unlawful use.

"During December 2019 there were 25 million bank accounts in the mobile lines and during the same period over 248 million transactions were effected valued at 9.5tr/- all of which show the importance of the mobile communications sector in driving the country's economy to the middle level income," explained Eng. Asajile.

30-day ultimatum to manufacturers, distributors of outlawed carrier bags

By Guardian Reporter

MANUFACTURERS, distributors and sellers of tubing plastic bags have only 30 days to stop producing the products before the government slaps them with penalties in accordance with the law.

The government - through the Plastics Carrier Bags Regulations 2019 outlawed the importation, manufacturing, sale, storage, supply and use of plastic carrier bags (regardless

of their thickness) effective June 1, 2019.

The regulations - published under the Government Notice No. 394 of 2019 on May 17, 2019 - impose a fine of up to 1bn/- or a two-year jail term or both to someone who manufactures or imports the prohibited products.

Likewise, possession and usage can land one into serious trouble with authorities whereby he/she may be compelled to pay up to 200,000/- or imprisonment

of up to seven days, or both.

The National Environmental Management Council (NEMC) however decided to go slow on some wrapping materials, with tubing plastic bags being offered a leeway to remain in the market.

Unfortunately, that goodwill gesture by the government - designed to protect businesses that deal in products whose nature demand plastic wrapping - has been largely abused by

some unscrupulous manufacturers who harbor profiteering motives.

Some manufacturers are currently manufacturing/importing tubing plastic bags of abnormal sizes to the extent that they were being used as carrier bags and thus competing with the legally-accepted alternative carrier bags.

The NEMC director general, Dr Samuel Gwamaka, said in Dar es Salaam at the weekend that the environmental watchdog will exer-

cise no further leniency on those who will be found to have contravened with law 30 days from now.

"The fact that these tubing plastic bags are found in large quantities and that their use has been skewed from wrappings to carrier bags defeats the very logic behind banning single-use plastic carrier bags in the country," said Dr Gwamaka.

He said the tubing plastics were not only harmful to the environment but that they were also creating

an unfair competition for the legally-accepted alternative carrier bags.

NEMC and Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), said Dr Gwamaka, will conduct a nationwide inspection that will result into the slapping of fines and initiation of legal proceedings against manufacturers and distributors who will have been found to be going against the law.

He said it was the government's goodwill gesture to retain the tubing plastics in

the market, noting however that with the new turn of events, it (the government) was left with no option but to enforce the law.

NEMC is optimistic that by striking a complete ban on tubing plastics, it will be playing an increasingly important role in identifying phony manufacturers. It will also go a long way to protecting genuine manufacturers, protecting jobs and guarding consumers against health effects of substandard products.

NOTES OF VACANCY

The office is in need **Office Secretary (Female)**

Qualification:

University/College of graduated with fluency in Arabic, English and Swahili Languages.

Experience not less than 2 years in routine office work.

All application should be sent to the following email: tryndapply2020@gmail.com

UAP INSURANCE TANZANIA LIMITED



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

ABOUT UAP INSURANCE TANZANIA

UAP Insurance Tanzania is a member of the UAP Old Mutual Group in East Africa, which is a subsidiary of Old Mutual Limited (OML) in Africa. UAP made its entry into the Tanzania market in 2013 after the acquisition of a majority 60% shareholding in Century Insurance Company. We are proud of our contribution in the growth of the Insurance Industry and we actively put our customers, their needs and ambitions at the forefront of everything we do to help them realize their financial goals.

UAP Tanzania also plays a role in impacting the community it operates in through various social responsibility initiatives. Our Headquarters is in Dar es Salaam with branches in Arusha, Mwanza, Mbeya, Dodoma, Kahama, Morogoro, Tegeta, Mtwara and Zanzibar.

The company would like to fill the following positions:

1. BRANCH MANAGER (1 POST)

Reporting to Business Development Manager- Branch Business, the incumbent will be responsible for developing and growing the business by driving a good relationship between Clients, Agents Brokers and Banks in region in a manner that ensures achievement of set business targets.

2. Senior Underwriter (2 Posts)

Reporting to Underwriting Manager, the incumbent will be responsible for ensuring the company business is professionally written to an acceptable standard within the underwriting guidelines and arranged reinsurance program

For a full job description, interested candidates are requested to visit our careers page through <http://careers.uapoldmutual.com/index.php> by 18th March 2020 .

Only shortlisted candidates will be considered.

CONQUER YOUR TERRAIN

START SOMETHING GREAT TODAY

GO GOODYEAR

BUY GOODYEAR TYRES GET FREE FUEL VOUCHER

With Two Passenger Tyres
TZS 20,000
Fuel Voucher

With Two SUV or 4X4 Tyres
TZS 40,000
Fuel Voucher

*Terms and Conditions apply

AutoXpress Kariakoo Tel: +255 782 399 231 | AutoXpress Masaki Tel: +255 752 672 907
AutoXpress Vingunguti Tel: +255 786 865 435 | AutoXpress Mwanza Tel: +255 622 264 928 | AutoXpress Arusha Tel: +255 748 041 033

autoXpress



Eutropia Vegula (L), Stanbic Bank Tanzania's Head of Human Capital, cuts a ribbon to inaugurate the bank's Nursing Room in Dar es Salaam on Friday. The facility is expected to create supportive conditions for nursing mothers while away from their babies. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Company to honour top-performing Form Four students in Ilala District

By Guardian Reporter

ZOLA Electric Tanzania, formerly Mpower, pledged to award solar gadgets to best performing students in this year's national Form Four examination from Ilala district in Dar es Salaam region through an on-going company's campaign—'Bukua na Ushinde'.

The company's managing director, Yusuph Nassoro, said over the weekend in Dar es Salaam, that the strategy was aimed at stimulating the motivation of students in schools to study hard and pass their exams especially those from areas with electricity challenges.

He said the move supports the community and the government towards improving the country's education sector. "Our company believes that education is the key to life and education can be accelerated, that is why we have come up with a plan to motivate students in schools, especially in areas facing power challenges", said Nassoro.

He said students who will enter the top 10 in the nation's Form Four examination will be awarded solar power accessories and three successful students who will enter top 3, their families will be connected to free so-

lar along with access to modern energy-efficient devices from ZOLA.

Apart from education, the solar power firm vowed to continue supporting other sectors in the community including health.

Ilala Municipal Mayor, Omari Kumbilamoto, commended Zola's initiatives aimed at improving education sector by providing incentives to students. "This support will help transform education as it will make students study hard, hence scale up performance in the district" he said.

He urged students to continue taking advantage of the various opportunities to achieve success and realize their dreams.

He ended up calling on other enterprises to support social services that are focused on bringing change in line with developing businesses that stimulate employment and self-employment, as ZOLA electric company.

Zola Electric, formerly known as Mpower, designs and delivers the most trusted power solutions that enable clean, affordable and reliable electricity anywhere. The company started operations in Tanzania in 2012, now emerged as number one champion amongst other renewable companies with market share of 48 per cent.

Dutch Embassy on International Women's Day: World has seen women's equality, emancipation

By Correspondent Crispin Gerald

THE Dutch embassy in Tanzania yesterday joined Tanzania women to recognise and celebrate the efforts of unsung heroes as part of the celebration for International Women's Day (IWD).

'Unsung heroes' are people from different walks of life, who raise their voices and fight for gender equality but their songs are not well known in the society. These unsung heroes have col-

lectively continued tackling the unfinished business of empowering all women and girls in their societies.

Speaking during the celebration in Dar es Salaam which was organised by Netherlands embassy in Tanzania and Hivos, the deputy ambassador of the Netherlands to Tanzania Lianne Houben said the world has witnessed a significant change and attitudinal shift in both women's and society's thoughts about women's equality

and emancipation.

In Tanzania, there is tremendous progress that has been made back in 25 years since the Beijing conference, some included the decision by High Court that lifted the legal marriage age for young girls from 14/15 to 18 years.

"But also female genital mutilation (FGM) in Tanzania is currently considered as a criminal offence, but the enrollment of girls in primary schools has increased and almost surpassing

that of boys," she said. The issue of gender equality forms the core of Dutch human right's policy agenda. Worldwide, the Netherlands strives to promote the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls and to improve the preconditions for the economic participation of women.

She added that, in Tanzania, the embassy has actively supported projects aimed at preventing gender based violence (GBV), by challenging social norms and values

as well as promoting reforms in policy. This year, the celebration of International Women's Day is particularly important, as we celebrate also the 25-year anniversary since the adoption of the Beijing platform for action, and the 20th anniversary of the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, on women, peace, and security.

For her part, executive director for Wildaf Anna Kulaya said the celebration highlighted the existing scenario of women equality in

the country whereby we observed that women are still far from the leadership positions from the ground level to national level.

Themed; 'Each for Equal' the event offered opportunities to stakeholder to brainstorm on the appropriate mechanism to employ in order to ensure 50 to 50 equality is achieved.

Kulaya who is also the chair lady for all the women led NGOs, said they need to see the society that respects the dignity of women, re-

spect and work to protect women instead of entertaining violence to women.

"I hope men will develop a positive attitude towards women and start to believe in their qualities. That will help women to get opportunity to earn a good income.

"I think raising awareness among local leaders is the key to success; they are the ones who can convince people to change their habits," said Joyce Lazaro farmer and miner.



JOB OPPORTUNITY

Morogoro International School invites the suitable qualified Tanzania Citizens to fill the following posts for academic year 2020/21. Job start date is August 2020.

MOROGORO INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL –British/Cambridge International Education (CIE) Curriculum.

IGCSE & A-Level

- Science Teacher up to A Level.
- ICT Teacher.
- Physical Education Teacher.
- Primary School class teachers.
- Head of Boarding, Matron/Patron
- Business study Teacher
- Geography Teacher
- History Teacher
- Art/Music Teacher
- School Driver

Qualifications/ Experience.

- Fluent speaker of English.
- Degree in Education.
- Professional knowledge and 3 years Experience of Teaching Cambridge International Examination Syllabus is required. An ability to offer more than one subject is an added advantage.

To apply send full CV, copies of relevant certificates with covering letter to headofadmin@mis.co.tz

Application deadline: 30th April 2020.

NOTE: Registration of new students is now taking place.

Website: www.mis.co.tz



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Provision of Tax Consultancy Services to Plan International Tanzania
RFP No. PIT/CO/38/FY20

1. Plan International Tanzania is an International humanitarian child-centered development organization without religious, political or government affiliation. Plan's mission is to achieve lasting improvements in the quality of life of deprived children in developing countries through a process that unites people across cultures and adds meaning to their lives.
2. Plan International Tanzania is therefore issuing this request for bids to consultants with good qualification, experience and track records for provision of tax consultancy services.
3. Interested eligible bidders must confirm their intention to bid indicating all relevant contact information including an email address to tenders@plan-international.org Attn: Head of Procurement and Logistics. Bidding documents in the English language will be sent to interested bidders by email. Plan Tanzania will not be held responsible for any costs related to printing of the bid documents.
4. Bidders are requested to submit Technical and Financial Proposals each enclosed in a separate envelope and marked "Technical Proposal" and "Financial Proposal" respectively. The two envelopes shall then be enclosed in a single envelope.
5. Bidders must submit the proposals in a sealed envelope by hand or post to: The Country Director, Plan International Tanzania, Plot no. 496 Mikocheni Light Industrial Area, P.O. Box 3517, Dar es Salaam before 5PM Tuesday 24th March 2020, marked the above RFP number. Not to be opened before 5PM Tuesday 24th March 2020. Electronic and Late bids will be rejected.

Country Director
Plan International Tanzania
Central Technologies House
Plot No. 96 Mikocheni Light Industrial Area
New Bagamoyo Road - Next to TBC1&NECTA
P O Box 3517
Dar es Salaam



CELEBRATING WOMEN'S ACHIEVEMENTS



CRDB Bank Group CEO, Abdulmajid Nsekela giving an opening remark during the Bank's International Women's Day celebration event at the Bank's head-quarters, Friday last week.



Greetings: The Bank took time to raise awareness of Corona Virus as it was celebrating International Women's Day



CRDB Bank Group CEO, Abdulmajid Nsekela introducing some of the Bank's women leaders, from right is the Director of Corporate Affairs, Tully Mwambapa, Head of Customer Experience, Yolanda Uriyo and Head of Strategy, Jessica Nyachiro. 46% of CRDB Bank employees are women.



CRDB Bank's Kariakoo branch manager, Diana Mtalo sharing her career story with other women staff. As a mother and a leader at a workplace, Diana calls for future women leaders to show initiatives, take risks and always challenge themselves to do better.



From right - CRDB Bank Group CEO, Abdulmajid Nsekela, Chief Commercial Officer, Dr. Joseph Witts, Director of Human Resource, Siophoro Kishimbo and Chief Financial Officer, Fredrick Nshekanabo, carrying posters with messages that emphasize gender equality.



CRDB Bank staff following closely on the Bank's CEO speech as he emphasizes on Bank's commitment to empower women to leadership positions within the Bank. The Bank currently has a total of 284 women leaders at the level of managers, heads and directors.



CRDB Bank Director of Corporate Affairs, Tully Mwambapa celebrate along with other women leaders, after the Bank's CEO (R) pledge TZS 1 Million for fundraising campaign to support purchase of sanitary pads for students



Smiles on the faces of all women knowing that there is a bigger chance of building the gender-equal workplaces.

Govt to empower women, persons with disabilities

By Guardian Reporter

STELLA Ikupa, deputy Minister of State in Prime Minister's Office responsible for the Disabled, has said the government will continue creating an enabling environment to ensure participation of women and people with disabilities in economic activities.

Ikupa made the remarks over the weekend in Dar es Salaam when speaking at the launch of the mentorship programme for women and girls with disabilities engineered by a local organisation—Her Ability Foundation (HAF) that works with girls in higher learning institutions.

The event was organised on the sideline of the International Women's Day (IWD) celebrations themed—'I am Generation Equality: Realising Women's Rights', which is aligned with UN Women's new multigenerational campaign—'Generation Equality'.

Under the programme, successful women with disabilities will mentor and give guidance to girls with disabilities in higher learning institutions to inspire them to fulfill their desired life dreams.

"Women participation in economic activities is crucial, we have the best policies that ensure inclusive participation of women and people with disabilities in the country's development", said

the deputy minister noting the government has also improved learning environment for people disabilities at both, schools and colleges.

Ikupa noted that although unemployment is global challenge, the government is working to create an environment that will enable graduates to employ themselves.

She insisted that living with disabilities shouldn't be a factor barring them from contesting for political posts or participate in economic activities. She encouraged youth with disabilities to make sure they achieve their education goals to grab available job opportunities in the various economic sectors.

Founder of Her Ability Foundation, Dr Victoria Lihuru said: "We are here today to celebrate the IWD as well as the launch of the mentorship programme for women and girls with disabilities. We want girls to know that it is possible for them to become who they want in future despite their physical disabilities".

Lihuru said the foundation's initiative among other things includes to identify, empower, link, support, and advocate for the rights of people with disabilities in colleges.

She said there are a good number of successful women with disabilities who will inspire college girls to do much better in their studies.



CFAO Motors Tanzania Ltd managing director Marius Prinsloo (R) presents a vehicle ignition key to Asas Group of Companies representative Faraj Abril during the inauguration of new model Mercedes Benz in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. Left is Torsten Bauerheim, head of sales and customer service at Mercedes Benz Truck Africa. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Digital safe spaces important for young girls, says Kisarawe DC

By Getrude Mbagu

KISARAWA district commissioner Jokate Mwegelo has challenged young girls in the country to utilise fully the emerging opportunities in the digital space technologies to improve their lives and transform communities.

Mwegelo who is among the most promising young leader encouraged youth to invest in smart ideas that will transform their lives and the country at large.

Speaking during the 'Women in data science conference' in Dar es Salaam yesterday Mwegelo wanted the group to study and work hard and be confident to pursuing their dreams.

Organised by Tanzania Data Lab (dLab), the conference brought together women and other stakeholders in the data science to discuss and share more expertise in the field with a push of helping more youth pursue their dreams through use of tech-

nology. The event also saw the official launch of 'tech women database' which is aimed to register and recognise the contribution of women in the development of science and technology.

The district commissioner urged them to make well use of the technology by establishing online businesses or companies that will help them earn extra incomes and thus fight unemployment crisis.

"Development of science and

technology has made things so easy for us, it has brought a number of opportunities of which most of them are yet to be fully utilized, I encourage you to search, read and innovate more ideas that could take you far, do not fear of falling down, every journey has its ups and downs," Mwegelo told the gathering.

According to her, the country has thousands of young people who have ideas that are aiming at changing the nation into smart

one by transforming the old ways of doing things and bring technological solutions but most of them fear to expose them to the public thinking that they can be rejected.

"Tanzania just like many other African countries, mobile phone users has rocketed to around 65 percent penetration and over 11.3 million internet users. This is an opportunity to the youths who want to build smart solutions to tap into that market and develop the economic and social growth

of the country," she added.

She noted that the availability of mobile phones in particular is therefore a potentially valuable tool to improve the livelihood of the very poor.

For her part, Mahadia Tunga, co-founder of Tanzania Data Lab said that the organization among other things, works to expose young people into digital technology, enable them enrich their potentials by social development and engage them in entrepre-

neurship, sciences and technologies.

She said that the launched 'tech women database' will also scale up career growth, create female data champions and encourage more to join the field.

"We believe that without data there is no visibility and without visibility there is no priority as data can shade light in hidden issues which can lead to changes in laws, policies, budget and decisions," Mahadia added.

Lake Tanganyika fishermen advised to form groups to access to loans

By Guardian Correspondent, Kalambo

LAKE Tanganyika fishermen in Kalambo district, Rukwa region have been advised to form groups that would assist them access loans to buy modern fishing gear and desist from illegal fishing activities.

The call was given by the district executive director (DED) Msongela Palela during his inspection tour of the international fish market built at Kasanga village on the lake's southern shores. He said Lake Tanganyika shore within Kalambo district has a total of 1,000 fishermen out of who 700 own fishing gear and conduct fishing activities daily.

Palela said the main challenge facing the fishermen is lack of quality fishing gear legally permitted, the situation that makes many fishermen being caught for illegal fishing.

He said the situation is contributed by lack of capital to purchase legal fishing gear hence the solution for them is to form groups to qualify for loans to purchase legal fishing gear.

The DED said as of now they own that modern international fish market after the government responded to their pleas therefore they have to use it well by taking care of it as it was lined up for inauguration within the next few days.

One of the fishermen, Skeva Sinyangwe thanked the government for its efforts in solving wananchi problems including the fish market, as in the past they used to send their products to neighbouring Zambia and Congo DRC that had many challenges that hindered their economic progress.



PUBLIC NOTICE

FRAUDULENT

USE OF THE AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT BANK GROUP'S (AfDB) NAME

It has come to our attention that individuals and various agents are purporting to be in a position to help in doing business with the African Development Bank Group with fraudulent intentions, including the of soliciting funds as compensation. Such misrepresentations are usually, but not exclusively, in the form of fraudulent email using fake emails accounts.

The African Development Bank Group takes this violation of the Bank's corporate value of integrity seriously and is committed to working with the appropriate authorities to fight illegal schemes of this nature.

We, the African Development Bank Group, hereby confirm that we:

- **PUBLISH** all genuine corporate procurement requests exclusively on the Bank's website at www.afdb.org/en/about-us/corporate-procurement. If a procurement request has not been advertised at that website, it does not exist;
- **NEVER** request payments from service providers, suppliers, consultants, job seekers, etc. in order to be awarded a contract to provide goods or services, or in exchange for employment;
- **DO NOT USE** email addresses from third parties such as Gmail, Yahoo Mail, etc.
- **ADVERTISE** all vacant positions on our website: www.afdb.org/jobseekers. If a vacancy has not been advertised at that website, it does not exist.

We therefore, advise all individuals and business entities wishing to do business with the Bank to:

- **ONLY** respond to advertisements regarding public procurement on the Bank's corporate website;
- **NEVER** give or send any money to anyone in order to get a job or service contract, or to do any business with the Bank.
- **REPORT** all fraudulent activity to the relevant national authorities of the United Republic of Tanzania, and also inform the Bank using the following email address: security@afdb.org.



2030 WRG Tanzania - Country Coordinator

Local Term Appointment (One Hundred and Fifty (150) days, Renewable)
Location: Dar Es Salaam, Tanzania

Hosted by the World Bank, the 2030 Water Resources Group (2030 WRG – www.2030wrg.org) is a public-private-civil society partnership that supports governments and private sector to accelerate reforms with the aim to ensuring sustainable water resources management for the long-term development and economic growth of their countries. 2030 WRG supports this platform to develop, test and scale up innovations (focusing on financing and governance) in water resources management and development. Results from this work are mapped to three key outcomes – increased financing for irrigation efficiency, reduced water abstractions and improved effectiveness and resiliency of institutions that manage water basins.

2030 WRG Tanzania - Country Coordinator position is based in the Tanzania Country Office with the following responsibilities:

- Ensuring a functional Multi Stakeholder Platform for Tanzania with key deliverables being: planning and reporting documents (work plan and progress reports); MSP meetings at national level; MSP meeting recommendations or decisions widely shared; and MSP governance arrangements documented and widely shared;
- Stakeholder Management with key deliverables being: a membership database or a basic customer relationship management system that records current and potential partner details and tracks meetings held with them, their interests and participation in the MSP.

Selection Criteria and Electronic Applications:

- The successful candidate should hold a relevant Degree, with minimum 8 years' experience developing and managing programmes in the field of water resources or water services management in the public, private or civil society sectors;

- Experience working with and managing key water stakeholders (public, private and civil society; and managing/negotiating their diverse interests) in Tanzania with international experience being an added advantage;
- Either a specialist experience and networks in any one of the 2030 WRG Tanzania key areas of work (basin water resources management, corporate water stewardship, private sector smallholder irrigation financing, public private partnerships); or
- Generalist or cross disciplinary water management experience and networks plus exposure to more than one of the 2030 WRG areas of work (basin water resources management, corporate water stewardship, private sector irrigation financing, public private partnerships);
- Solid experience in programme management demonstrated through any of the following: translating ideas into solid actionable concept notes; work planning; budget management; contract management; team management; and results reporting, excellent English written, oral and presentation communication skills for diverse audiences; and fluency in Swahili.

Electronic Applications:

For the full position description, complete selection criteria and required competencies, candidates are requested to send an email to ndikumwami@worldbank.org and msingili@worldbank.org. The World Bank is committed to achieving diversity of gender, race, nationality, culture and educational background. Individuals with disabilities are equally encouraged to apply.

Only short-listed candidates will be contacted.

Closing date is March 15th, 2020.



Tanzania Breweries Limited managing director Philip Redman (R) pictured in Dar es Salaam at the weekend presenting a lorry to Happyness Joseph (C), manager of Arusha-based Arusha-based Fresa Investment Ltd, after her company emerged top in the distribution of TBL products for last year. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

E-registration of private security firms kicks off in Dodoma Region

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

ELECTRONIC registration of private security companies in the Private Sector Governance Portal (PSGP) has kicked off in Dodoma Region in a move aimed at improving the sector as well as providing high-quality and reliable services.

Speaking over the weekend here during the official launch of the exercise, Senior Assistant Commissioner of Police, Narcis Missama said that Dodoma is the second region to carry out the electronic registration after Dar es Salaam.

The launch was attended by directors of 60 private security companies in Dodoma region. Missama said the new system under which the security firm must register; PSGP involves the

database with all important details such as competence of the companies' security officers as well as details of all important stakeholders in the sector.

The system, according to Missama, will ease the availability of security officers' information as everyone will have an identity card (ID) with special numbers, given by the police force.

"So, it is important for security officers to register in the on-going registration exercise, because those who are unregistered will not be able to have a job in any private security company in the country," he said, adding that all unregistered companies will be banned from operating after December 31, this year.

The electronic registration is being carried out by a technology developed by an IT consulting firm—Data-

Vision International.

Director of projects, Data Vision International, Macmillan George said the system has been collectively developed by stakeholders—private security firms and the police force to ensure that people get better and reliable services.

He said the system will also help the government to ensure that the sector grows and the public benefit from the industry, which plays a key role in the country's socio-economic development.

George said that after Dodoma, the exercise will be introduced in other upcountry regions.

During the meeting, directors from 60 private security firms in Dodoma agreed to meet regularly to address challenges facing the sector.

'High feed prices for poultry, pigs obstacle to sector's development'

By Guardian Correspondent

THE government has called upon stakeholders of poultry and pig keeping to sit together in order to remove the challenges over feed prices.

Speaking when closing a meeting of poultry and pig keepers in Dar es Salaam at the weekend, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Livestock and Fisheries, Prof Elisante Ole Gabriel said the high feed prices has been a major hindrance to the development of the sector.

He said the government is waiting for decisions that will be reached in the appraisal of the entire value chain of the livestock from the production of the feed, their keeping up to the consumers so as to maintain costs that will bring benefits to both sides.

"The government will be close to the stakeholders from your meeting so that the solution is found on the issue of livestock feed in order to increase production," Prof Ole Gabriel he said.

He added: "Many young people have taken up poultry and pigs keeping but when you ask what their challenges are, they will all say it's the high prices of the livestock feed.

Citing statistics, Prof Ole Gabriel said until yesterday there were 79.2 million poultry and over two million pigs in the country.

The chairman of the association of chicken feed producers Harro Bhagat said the rise in the chicken/pigs feed was due to the high cost of the raw materials such as maize and soya beans. Citing examples he said last year the maize was bought at 400/- per kg, but just a few months the price rose rapidly to 900/- per kg.

"The government is supposed to look into the issue so that we get friendly prices when buying maize and it should permit us to import soya beans due to low production of the crop in the country," he said.

Bhagat further said another obstacle the face is the cumbersome procedure to get quality certificate from Tanzania Bureau of Standards (TBS), the situation that wastes a lot of time to start production.

A representative from pigs keepers Doreen Maro said on their side they are facing the problem of lack of modern abattoirs including quality seeds and appealed to the government to look into the possibility of building modern abattoirs in order to realize profits from the activities.



Position: Manager, Field Operations

Position Overview:

The Field Operations Manager is responsible for Room to Read Tanzania's field operations in all the geographic area (Districts). The Field Operations Manager is primarily responsible for ensuring the timely and effective implementation of programs operations in the field, including implementation, spending, hiring, local procurement, inventory management, distribution and logistical support. The position is required to take initiative for project planning and management, improving work approaches, collaboration, partnerships, selection of projects sites, and ensuring adequate staff to work at the field level. S/he will work to strengthen coordination and collaboration within teams and across all Country Office program teams, maintaining and ensuring constructive communication, building team morale within individual teams and contributing to a positive working environment. S/he will report to the Program Operations Director. The Field Operations Manager directly manages and supervises the Literacy Program Officers, Senior School Infrastructure Associate, and Girls' Education Program Officers.

Location: Tanga

Role and Responsibilities: Management and Coordination

- Ensures efficient and effective coordination across all elements of the Literacy Program, including School Infrastructure and Girls' Education Program.
- Supervises and oversees the work of the field staff and is responsible for optimizing their productivity through effective management and leadership techniques (i.e., coaching/advising).
- Ensures staff are consistently complying and adhering to policies, procedures and guidelines articulated in the Country Office handbooks, and facilitates the dissemination of information to all staff members to promote transparency.
- Supports staff through consultation with Country Office level technical team to regularly assess staff capacity building needs.
- Ensures the performance management process is well-planned and conducted in a timely for all field staff. This includes setting performance goals, conducting progress check-ins, providing feedback, conducting year-end appraisals, and making recommendations for staff development and career advancement.
- Collaborates with Human Resources to handle recruitment and training of staff according to need and all other HR initiatives.
- Leads and facilitates field staff one on one, bi-weekly or monthly staff meetings to review progress against plans, find solutions to problems, share lessons learned, exchange expertise across programs, and to motivate, feedback and encourage teamwork.
- Ensures that field staff are aware of and understand the programs' goals and objectives, working approaches and methodology, and have all necessary information related to annual plans, targets, and implementation calendars.
- Supervises fund disbursement, reviews and approves the field monthly financial expenses in accordance with financial and purchasing policy and procedures.
- Perform other tasks as assigned by the Program Operations Director or Country Director.

Program Implementation and Monitoring

- Leads, coordinates and reports the implementation and achievement of the CO's program targets in the region, while ensuring high impact for children, quality and cost-effectiveness in accordance with the strategy, policies and guidelines of Room to Read.
- Conducts regular field visits to monitor and verify the programs' progress and impact, understand the challenges and needs of stakeholders (e.g., Room to Read staff, Social Mobilizers, Field Facilitators, communities, children, etc...), and the appropriate Room to Read solutions.
- Oversees the implementation of the global Family & Community Engagement ("F&CE") strategy in the region, including coordinating site selection activities, ensuring schools are advancing along the F&CE strategy continuum, as appropriate, and supervising the regular support provided to schools by field staff.
- Identifies training needs, coordinate development and delivery of technical training to field staff.

Planning, Reporting and Documentation

- Develops the field office annual and long-term plans, and budgets appropriately to meet the goals and objectives of the Room to Read Country Office.
- Coordinates the timely completion of annual planning.
- Prepares monthly and quarterly implementation updates and budget forecasting.
- Develops quarterly report for distributing to partners, if

applicable.

- Facilitates development/ completion of donor reports and quality pictures as required.
- Facilitate documentation of best practices and lessons learned.

External Coordination and Networking

- Attends to donor affairs including hosting donor and project site journey's advisisits in collaboration with programs staff including providing feedback for the same.
- Meets regularly with local government representatives, NGO partners, school administrators and parent groups.
- Promotes and protects the reputation of Room to Read in external settings, ensuring that the organization's experience and expertise is well communicated and consistently presented, and that we are looked upon as a professional Education organization.
- Liaises with NGO Partner and Government Agencies, especially at provincial and district education levels. This includes periodic meetings with partners to exchange information and updating programs' work progresses.

School Infrastructure

- Supports the School Infrastructure Senior Program Associate to create and review designs periodically for the repair and renovation of existing rooms, and internal designs for child-friendly furniture and classroom layouts in collaboration with the Program Operations Director's office and the Literacy program team. teams.
- In collaboration with the Literacy Director; Programs Operations Director; Country Director; and Regional and Global Office staff, annually reviews and improves the School Infrastructure program design, including community engagement strategies, community orientation agendas, and community-based construction trainings.

Qualifications:

Required:

- Master's Degree in Education Administration, Social Science, Project Management, or equivalent experience
- Minimum of 5 years' related work experience, with experience in leadership and management roles
- Strong planning, budgeting/financial management, administrative, supervisory, coaching and program development skills
- Good knowledge and understanding of education issues, including teaching methodologies and community involvement in schools
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills
- Ability to stay in the field and travel to designated project sites
- Computer literate (MS Word, Excel, PowerPoint)
- Workshop/training and facilitation skills
- Prior success working closely and building relationships with diverse groups of people
- Proven track record of achieving results
- Ability to juggle multiple priorities simultaneously and take initiative

Preferred:

- Prior experience working with schools, teachers, administrators and government officials
- Prior experience in a fast-paced, growth-oriented global or regional organization
- Report writing experience
- Effectiveness in working or volunteering in a non-profit organization that is focused on maintaining high quality work and low overhead
- A valid driving license would also be preferred though not a must.

Application Procedure:

Please visit our website at www.roomtoread.org and click on the "careers" link under about us tab. This will take you to Room to Read's Career Portal. Click on the See Current Vacancies to find this vacancy, select the vacancy you are interested and click apply to begin the online application process. If you do not hear from Room to Read within one month of the closing date, please accept that your application was unsuccessful.

Please note that late applications will not be considered and correspondence will be limited to short-listed candidates only.

Room to Read is proud to be an equal opportunity employer committed to identifying and developing the skills and leadership of people from diverse backgrounds. Women are encouraged to apply.

CLOSING DATE: 15th March, 2020.

215658301



VACANCIES

The Eastern and Southern African Management Institute (ESAMI) seeks the services of a suitably qualified person to fill the following positions, at its Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania.

1. Maintenance Officer

Duties and Responsibilities

The Maintenance Officer shall be responsible for undertaking a wide range of maintenance activities related to the maintenance of the Institute's buildings, equipment, facilities and upkeep of the estates;

- Ensuring effective and efficient operation of the Institutes equipment such as Boiler, generator, water pump, laundry machines, fire equipment's;
- Handling electrical and plumbing works;
- Carrying our maintenance and repairs to structural, mechanical and electrical systems, boilers, heating and ventilation systems, buildings;
- Developing and carrying out preventive and maintenance schedules and undertaking routine inspections of the buildings, fixtures, fittings;
- Monitoring utilities consumption and ensure the efficient use of the Institutes resources;
- Diagnose any faults in buildings, boiler and machines and report any defects and suggested improvements;
- Coordinate and carryout emergency and regular repairs of buildings and equipment;
- Ensure all relevant health and safety regulations are complied with;
- Preparation of maintenance budgets;
- Ensure the Institute Boreholes are in good running condition

Qualifications

A minimum of a Diploma in mechanical engineering or equivalent qualification with five (5) years' experience in maintenance related duties in a reputable organization.

Competence and Skills

- Demonstrated knowledge of mechanical, plumbing, heating, ventilation and electrical systems;
- Demonstrated knowledge and understanding of utilities and ability to safely operate electricity, gas, water systems, plant and equipment;
- Electrical and mechanical skills;
- Knowledge of fire and safety regulations;
- Planning and organizational skills;
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience on boiler operation;
- Demonstrated knowledge and experience of Borehole functions;

2. Library Assistant

The Library Assistant shall provide technical support services for the day to day running of the Library and Documentation center.

Duties and Responsibilities

- Data entry into the online catalogue;
- Sorting material according to classification or catalogue numbers and arranging materials for shelving and other processes;
- Handling circulation desk operations including check in/out of materials;
- Creating and maintaining databases;
- Developing, processing and managing collections including delivery and collection of materials to and from faculty offices;
- Updating library records;
- Communicating library policies and procedures;
- Monitoring the use of library facilities by users;
- Attending to Library users appropriately;

Qualifications and experience

A Diploma in Library studies and Information Technology or equivalent qualification with five (5) years relevant experience.

Competence and Skills

- Ability to use technology in enhancing the overall effectiveness of the Library, including web based methods of improving technological access to information;
- Good overall knowledge of archiving and filing information as well as maintaining databases and reference information;
- Capable of evaluating resources and finding the best ones for addressing different questions or issues;
- Ability to professionally search databases, internet resources, and catalogs to find needed information;
- Ability to communicate well with library staff as well as customers;
- Deep knowledge of books so as to be able to advise readers as to which good books for their reading level and interests;
- Ability to present information clearly;
- Strong level of customer service skills;
- Ability to adapt to new tools, systems and situations as they arise for information technology is constantly evolving and shifting;
- Team player

Mode of Application

Applications together with detailed CV, copies of certificates and testimonials, and three (3) referees should be addressed and emailed to:

The Director General
ESAMI
P.O. BOX 3030
Arusha
Tanzania
Email: esamicommunication@esami-africa.org

Closing Date – Applications should be received within two (2) months from the date of the Advertisement.

215658301

The Guardian

www.ippmedia.com

MONDAY 9 MARCH 2020

Taking A New Look
At The News
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

The Guardian Limited Key Contacts

MANAGING EDITOR: WALLACE MAUGGO
CIRCULATION MANAGER : EMMANUEL LYMO

Newsdesk

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

Advertising

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

We surely need to calculate the economic costs of discrimination

DISCRIMINATION is the act of making an unfavourable distinction for a being based on the group, class, or category to which they are perceived to belong. Discrimination can be justified or prejudicial. Serious criminals may be discriminated against by sending them to jail while other groups may be unjustly discriminated against through bias and prejudice.

People may discriminate on age, caste, criminal record, height, disability, family status, gender identity, gender expression, generation, genetic characteristics, marital status, nationality, color, race and ethnicity, religion, sex and sex characteristics, sexual orientation, social class, species, as well as other categories.

Discrimination consists of treatment of an individual or group, based on their actual or perceived membership in a certain group or social category, in a way that is worse than the way people are usually treated. It involves the group's initial reaction or interaction going on to influence the individual's actual behavior towards the group leader or the group, restricting members of one group from opportunities or privileges that are available to another group. Discriminatory traditions, policies, ideas, practices and laws exist in many countries.

A report by UNICEF, Plan International and UN Women has highlighted remarkable gains in education saying more girls are going to school and staying in school than ever before.

Released ahead of the 64th session of the Commission on the Status of Women, the report said the number of out-of-school girls has dropped by 79 million in the last two decades. It said girls became more likely to be in secondary schools than boys in just the last decade.

The report, 'A New Era for Girls: Taking stock on 25 years of progress' was issued in the context of the Generation

Equality campaign to mark the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

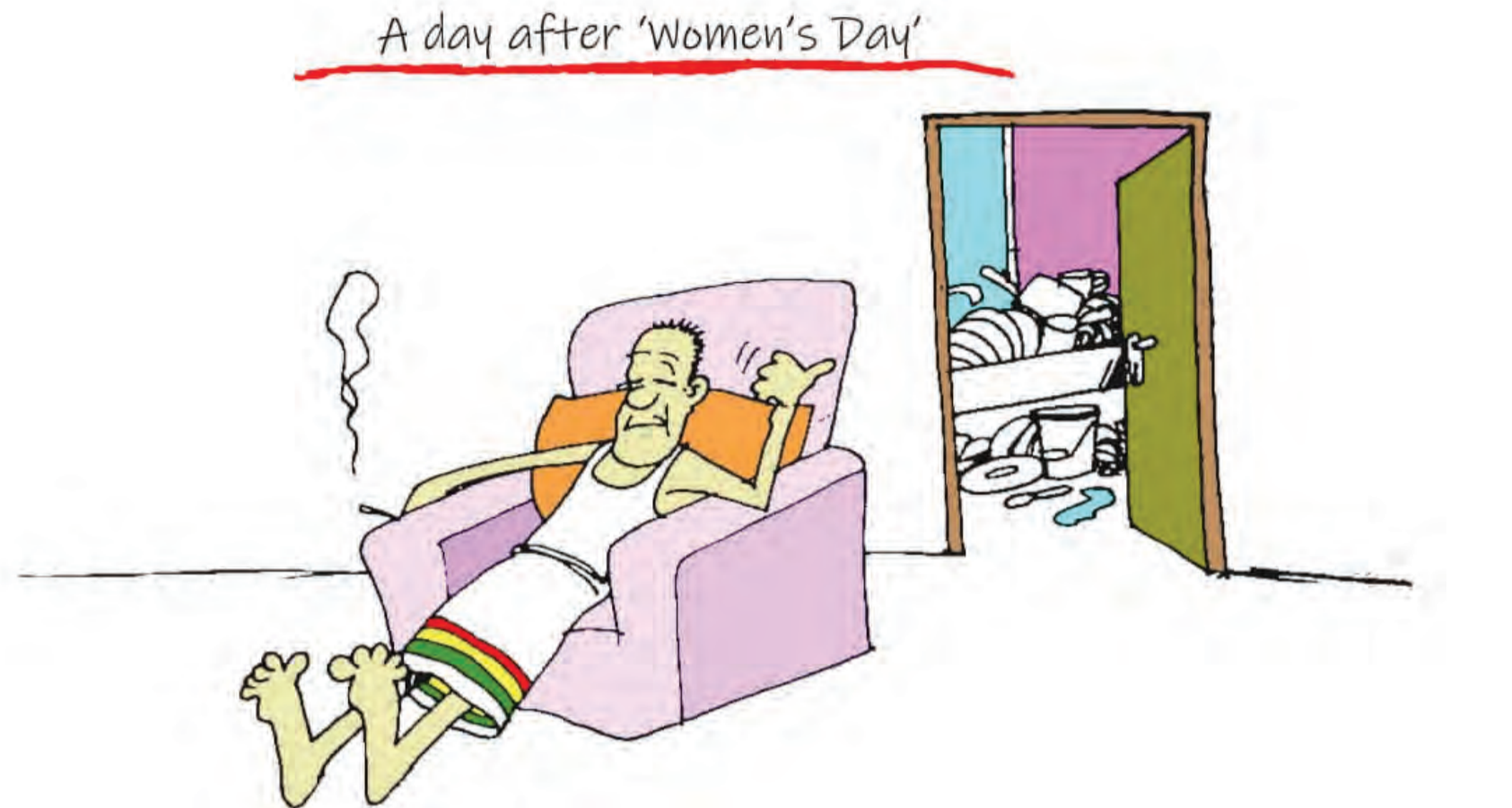
According to the report access to education is not enough hence the need to change people's behaviours and attitudes towards girls. True equality will only come when all girls are safe from violence, free to exercise their rights, and are able to enjoy equal opportunities in life. Therefore African governments should account for their commitment to the historic Beijing Declaration.

Adolescent girls suffer heightened discrimination as a result of their age and gender and yet continue to be side-lined in their communities and in decision-making spaces, largely invisible in government policy. Empowering adolescent girls yields a triple societal benefit. If we fail to grasp this and to end the discrimination girls continue to face the world over, we will stand little chance of achieving the gender equality ambitions set out in Agenda 2030.

According to the report, violence against women and girls is still common. In 2016, for example, women and girls accounted for 70 per cent of detected trafficking victims globally, most for sexual exploitation. It said an astonishing 1 in every 20 girls aged 15-19 - around 13 million - has experienced rape in their lifetimes, one of the most violent forms of sexual abuse women and girls can suffer.

Girls today are at a startling risk of violence in every space - online and in the classroom, home and community - leading to physical, psychological and social consequences.

The report notes that harmful practices such as child marriage and female genital mutilation (FGM) continue to disrupt and damage the lives and potential of millions of girls globally. Each year, 12 million girls are married in childhood, and 4 million are at risk of FGM. Globally, girls aged 15-19 are as likely to justify wife-beating as boys of the same age.



The IMF Article IV visitation team and the economy

By Obadiah Malafia and Emmanuel Okogba

LAST month the boys from Washington were in Nigeria under the framework of the IMF Article IV Visitation exercise. Under the statutes of the Fund, the Article IV team is authorised to carry out economic and surveillance activities in member countries. They normally meet with key government functionaries and with functionaries of key agencies such as the Central Bank, Ministry of Finance, FIRS and with bankers and other captains of industry for the purpose of undertaking a fair and objective assessment of the health of the economy.

In their summary report for this year, the IMF team noted that macroeconomic growth in Nigeria remains precarious, while inflation is rising and external vulnerabilities are worsening. While welcoming the recent fiscal consolidation and the tightening of monetary policy they pointed out that major policy adjustments are still very much needed. Led by Amine Mati, Senior Resident Representative and Mission Chief for Nigeria, the Fund's team noted that "the pace of economic recovery remains slow, as declining real incomes and weak investment continue to weigh on economic activity. Inflation - driven by higher food prices - has risen, marking the end of the disinflationary trend seen in 2019. External vulnerabilities are increasing, reflecting a higher current account deficit and declining reserves that remain highly vulnerable to capital flow reversals".

The IMF visiting team, however, lauded the fact that the exchange rate has remained relatively stable. But they expressed concern about the high fiscal deficits in the context of weakening non-oil revenue, which have encouraged CBN interventions and fiscal overdrafts. As a result of these developments, the Fund has announced that they are cutting back on their growth forecast for 2020; revising it downwards to 2.0 percent from an earlier figure of 2.5 percent. They predict that inflation is likely to increase while terms of trade and capital outflows will make our external position more vulnerable. They are, therefore, recommending measures to boost revenue through implementation of the Finance Bill and the Deep Offshore Basin Act, while taking bold steps to enhance budget execution and implementing structural reforms,



particularly in the areas of Doing Business, power sector reforms, governance and public sector management.

The mission looked askance at the motley of CBN intervention funds as being inimical to prudent public financial management. They advocate, instead, securitisation of longer-term government instruments to mop up excess liquidity, while implementing a more flexible exchange rate regime. They demanded removal of the restrictions on access to foreign exchange for the 42 categories of imported goods. They equally raised issues with banking system vulnerabilities. While welcoming some of the measures taken to reduce legacy non-performing loans; they called for introduction of risk-based minimum capital requirements so as to boost bank resilience. The IMF team also took strong exceptions to the continuing border closure which they believe is harming the economies of our neighbours. They urge all parties involved to work out a solution that is fair and equitable.

I am not altogether surprised that inflation is reported to have risen to 12.13 per cent in January 2020, up from 11.98 per cent recorded in December 2019. The IMF Article 4 team are not entirely wrong in blaming the current development on food shortages on the border closure. But these things need to be placed in proper perspective. The border closure was bound to trigger certain temporary price shocks. But these are inevitable, until when local producers respond to new opportunities. Such events naturally have time-lags. This

explains partly the rise in prices.

Ordinarily, January is still within the harvest season, so we should not be expecting food shortages. But the factor of rural banditry must be taken into account. Farmers in the rural communities have come under heavy assaults by herdsmen militias and other rural bandits. Fear and uncertainty have been dampeners on agrarian production, hence the phenomenon of shortages and scarcity that translates into higher inflation pressures. Another factor that perhaps the Fund team did not mention is, of course, the 50 per cent hike in the VAT tax.

This issue needs to be scrutinised against the backdrop of the much-talked-about progress in local food production in the country. The talk of increases of food production is more hype than reality. There is no doubt that some of the so-called intervention funds by CBN have had some positive impacts on the rice sector. Local production has risen significantly. But we are not yet anywhere near self-sufficiency in local rice production as is being claimed.

The reality is also the fact that nobody has actually done a cost-benefit analysis of the CBN intervention funds. There is anecdotal evidence that the costs far outweigh the benefits and impacts. Whatever improvements that have been registered have been undermined by the herdsmen militias and rural bandits that are succeeding in destroying the agrarian bread basket of the country, which is the Middle Belt.

On the border issue, I am of the view that the Fund has no

business interfering in matters of national security. The border closure decision has more to do with national security than international economics. So far, the border closure has significantly reduced the mindless killings going on across our country.

We are aware that the decision to close our borders has angered several European powers who have been using our neighbours to dump all their goods on our shores. I strongly urge that we do not back down. We should continue on this path until we have cast-iron guarantees that our neighbours will not be used to engage in trade dumping or smuggling of weapons that are injurious to our country.

On the restriction placed on the 42 items, I think the Fund is wrong. Why should we continue to import things that we can easily produce locally?

We must say no to such nonsense. Remember also that the CBN never "banned" these items as such. The new guidelines merely specify that anybody that wants to import such items cannot come to the official forex window for them.

On the excess use of CBN overdrafts and intervention funds, I am inclined to agree with the IMF. The rule in terms of global best practices is that such overdraft facilities must be kept to a minimum.

Across the world, central banks do from time to time provide overdraft facilities to government. What is essential is that they are kept to a minimum and that they are operated with a high level of transparency. My main concern is that the way we are going about things these days leaves a lot of unanswered questions.

Where are all the trillions of so-called "intervention funds" coming from? Who is evaluating their impact? How are we sure that we are not just printing money for dubious pork-barrel expenditure? I would, therefore, urge that we keep such overdrafts within the bounds of reason and we must be transparent about them. We must also carefully weigh the implications for inflation and long-term exchange rate stability.

Going forward, I believe what we need in Nigeria is, first and foremost, to secure the peace of the commonwealth. It would bolster business confidence while reversing capital flight and financial hemorrhaging.

It would also bolster the real sector. The CBN should also be moderate in its use of intervention funds. I am also disappointed that we do not really have mechanisms to stabilize prices of agricultural products through the use of agricultural silos.

The idea is to store farm produce during the peak harvest seasons and to gradually release them into the market during times of scarcity. We also badly need to reform the public sector while building an eco-system that allows innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship to flourish.

Migrants play a truly crucial role in growth of the global economy

UNDENIABLY, migrants play a crucial role in the global economy. Helping meet critical needs for various skills and labour, destination countries rely on migrants to fill gaps in the labour market, to open up new markets and present new opportunities.

In other words, a migrant worker is a person who either migrates within their home country or outside it to pursue work. Migrant workers usually do not have the intention to stay permanently in the country or region in which they work.

Migrant workers who work outside their home country are also called foreign workers. They may also be called expatriates or guest workers, especially when they have been sent for or invited to work in the host country before leaving the home country.

The International Labour Organisation estimated in 2014 there were 232 million international migrants worldwide who were outside their home country for at least 12 months and approximately half of them were estimated to be economically active (i.e. being employed or seeking employment). Some countries have millions of migrant workers. Some migrant workers may be illegal immigrants. Some may be slaves.

It is against this backdrop that the Southern African Development Community (SADC) recently deliberated on how to put in place a system that facilitates and regulates labour movements within the bloc.

This issue took centre stage during the official opening of the meeting of SADC ministers responsible for employment and the labour sector generally which kicked off in Dar es Salaam

this month.

The meeting which was preceded by a meeting of permanent secretaries and experts jotted down some proposals on what should be done to bring about a harmonious labour migration environment. The meeting was tasked to prepare policy and guideline proposals to widen the scope for employment and labour migration within the economic block.

Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan who officiated the meeting said the growth of technology has brought both positive and negative impacts, with an increase in job migration which calls for proper mechanisms for regulation.

Indeed SADC ought to come up with a strategy to facilitate movements of persons residing in member countries, how they will move and work within SADC. But also being ensured of their social benefits.

According to a report unemployment rate in the SADC region stands between nine and 11 per cent by official estimates, above the global level of 5.1 per cent, while across the world around 200 million people are jobless. In Tanzania, the 2018 National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) data shows that the unemployment rate in Tanzania stood at 9.7 per cent.

Since the adoption of the region's labour protocol in 2014 only one member state has ratified it. The launch of the graduates' internship programme by Tanzania was a sign of the commitment that the country has on job creation and promotion of the sector.

International Labour Organization (ILO) 2011 statistical report affirms that employment levels and labour productivity in the SADC region are generally low.

NIC Bank Tanzania Managing Director extols women's role in socio-economic development



Margaret Karume, MD NIC Bank Tanzania

By Staff Writer

INTERNATIONAL Women's Day (IWD) is celebrated across the world annually on the 8th day of March to highlight women's issues through different themes. This year's theme is, "I am Generation Equality: Realizing Women's Rights".

The theme is aligned with UN Women's new multigenerational campaign, Generation Equality, which marks the 25th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.

Adopted in 1995 at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing, China, the Beijing Platform for Action is recognized as the most progressive roadmap for

the empowerment of women and girls everywhere.

NIC Bank Tanzania's Managing Director, Margaret Karume, said in a recent interview with The Guardian newspaper on IWD that women play a crucial role in contributing to the country's socio-economic development.

She said women are true drivers of economic growth and social inclusion, adding that in countries and companies that promote gender equality, progress is much more rapid and far-reaching.

"Women's participation in the workforce and in income-generation boosts economic growth and has a huge impact on soci-

ety as a whole," then MD said.

She explained that NIC Bank Tanzania recognizes the significant role its female employees and customers play in its growth, adding that the bank has never hesitated in rewarding its top women performers

NIC Bank's decision to recognize women should be hailed because, despite the emerging global consensus that some progress is being made in honouring women, many women and girls in some communities and even countries continue to be undervalued. They work more than men but earn less and have fewer choices, while also experiencing discrimination in various social and economic strata.

According to the United Nations, legal restrictions have prevented 2.7 billion women from accessing the same choice of jobs as men. Further, the UN adds, "there is a significant threat of roll-back in hard-won feminist gains".

Despite the challenges, Karume quips: "As women, we are on a positive journey

NIC Bank Tanzania, according to the MD has lined up various interactive activities to mark IWD whose aim is to celebrate women's role in socio-economic development. Among the activities will be staff events, customer activations and a panel discussion that will bring female and male speakers from various spectrums of life under one roof.

NIC Bank Tanzania's activities will have two main objectives: to recognize, appreciate and support women in various industries and promote gender diversity at workplaces and in their areas of duties.

The climax of the celebrations, Karume, said, was a visit to Dar es Salaam's CCBRT (Comprehensive Community Based Rehabilitation in Tanzania) Disability Hospital by the bank's female employees. They commiserated with patients and staff at the facility and extended support as part of a cause towards helping women from rural poor communities.

"To this end, we have contributed an assortment of personal and health care



NIC BANK Managing Director Margaret Karume together with CCBRT Hospital Managing Director Brenda Msangi during hands over of various medical equipment as part of making International Women's Day in Dar Es Salaam.

and there is a lot more to do but crucially, as IWD celebrations across the continent

have shown, we are well on our way up and we are proud of who we are and of our commitment to gender diversity."

She advised all the young men and women to work smart, as the world today presents numerous opportunities and officially, there is no discrimination. She said men and women both have equal opportunities in life. If women back in 1909 protested against unfair working conditions and as a result pioneered a positive change in conversation on which we Women of today ride and benefit. Women in the current generation should also endeavour to make their workplace environments and their society much better than we found it for the sake of future generations.

items to the noble cause of ensuring that CCBRT's female patients are adequately catered for," said the MD.

Apart from that particular support, there are various other gifts that the bank's employees will extend to female patients to celebrate IWD. The generous gesture effectively conforms to the bank's vision that seeks to keep the medical facility growing with the communities in which it operates, which translates into extending a helping hand to individuals who are less fortunate.

IWD is marked globally to celebrate women's social, economic, cultural and political achievements throughout history and across nations as well as serve as a reminder on the importance of accelerating the realization of gender parity.



NIC BANK STAFF visited CCBRT Hospital as a prelude to International Women's Day to donate personal healthcare items such as bathsoap, toilet paper, insecticide, sanitary towels, bags of sugar, Khangas to the Hospital

Climate-smart agriculture vital in transforming agricultural systems to effectively support development and food security

By Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

AS farmers involved in agriculture, livestock, fisheries and forestry across the country continue battling against the effects of climate change, some researchers and agricultural experts advised them to opt climate smart agriculture (CSA) for increased crop productivity.

The CSA helps to guide actions needed to transform and reorient agricultural systems to effectively support development and ensure food security in a changing climate.

They said the main threat of climate change to Tanzania's food security and economic growth is the decreasing availability of water and the increasing uncertainty in meeting agricultural needs.

They were speaking at a climate smart agriculture (CSA) alliance evaluation feedback meeting organized by the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, in Dar es Salaam under building capacity for resilient food security project.

The objectives of the meeting was to share the findings of the CSA evaluation exercise undertaken by Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Tanzania Climate Smart Agriculture Alliance, and Ministry of Agriculture, to deliberate on the recommendations on formation and operations of CSA Alliances and to develop draft guidelines for formation and institutionalization of CSA alliances at district and other levels.

Principal agricultural officer in the Ministry of agriculture, Environment Management Unit, Evelyn Kagoma said that the changing climate has resulted in rainfall patterns shift from bimodal to unimodal, a situation that has reduced crop production.

She said that changing climate has also resulted in increased incidence of food and nutrition insecurity



Prof. Henry Mahoo (C red shirt), chairperson of the Tanzania Climate Smart Agriculture Alliances (TCSAA) steering committee, makes presentation during group work on recommendations for formation, operationalisation, sustainability and linkages of district climate smart agriculture Alliance. Photo: Correspondent Gerald Kitabu

due to extreme weather events like droughts and floods.

"Shortage of pastures for livestock, disappearance of many indigenous food crop varieties, increased incidences of diseases and pests for crops and changes in agro-diversity and general decline in agricultural

productivity are a result of climate change," she said.

Catherine Njuguna from IITA said that when it comes to climate smart agriculture, the farmers have to be very conscious about issues of soil and

soil conservation.

Commenting on CSA, Njuguna called on stakeholders come together and have CSA champions saying climate change is real and one of the severely impacted sectors is agriculture because

in Africa agriculture is normally rain fed.

"Definitely before we can do anything else, before any development can take place, we must first be able to feed ourselves which means agriculture should be given priority," she said.

The chairperson for Tanzania Climate Smart Agriculture Alliances (TCSAA) steering committee, Prof. Henry Mahoo said farmers need reliable information and one of the ways to get information is from agricultural researchers.

The Sokoine University don, said the farmers also need adequate farm inputs which are delivered on time so that they can cope up with rains and planting seasons for increased production.

"When crop diseases happen, the farmers should be able to get solution on how to address these challenges. In recent years, the farmers have been facing several challenges for example, sometimes the farmers would buy seeds but when they plant, they don't germinate, the farmers have also bought pesticides but do not work out very well. These need both reliable and accurate information and input to support agriculture," he said.

According to Kagoma, in response to climate change the country has undertaken various efforts towards addressing climate change in accordance with its national context. For example, the country has put in place the National Climate Change Strategy (2012) that aims to enhance Tanzania's adaptive capacity to climate change.

There is also the Agriculture Climate Resilient Plan (2014-2019) that identifies and responds to the most urgent impacts posed by climate variability and climate change on the crop subsector.

Also in the list are Agriculture

Programme (2015 - 2025) that aims to accelerate uptake of CSA in the country to increase productivity and climate resilience in the agriculture sector (crop, livestock and fisheries) but also in reduction of greenhouse gases emissions.

"Development of the CSA guidelines is a step towards achieving the global and national goals of sustainable agriculture production in a changing climate," she said.

The building capacity for resilient food security project is a three year project, 2017-2020 funded by USAID. It aims at addressing capacity gaps to effectively respond to challenges faced by agriculture sector as a result of changes in climatic conditions. It is coordinated by MOA, MANLF, PORALG, TMA and USDA and the Location being Kongwa district in Dodoma, Mvomero district in Morogoro, Kilolo district in Iringa, Uyui district in Tabora, Ruangwa district in Lindi, Unguja and Pemba.

Earlier on, commenting on the achievements registered at district climate smart agriculture Alliance (District CSA Alliance), a representative from Kilosa district, Morogoro region said that the farmers have acquired education and now they are aware on the climate change adaptation mechanisms.

"We have been equipped with knowledge and skills on different technologies such as conservation agriculture, we have increased household income, learnt about environmental conservation and the district CSA Alliance is now recognized by the district council," he said.

Climate smart agriculture aims to tackle three main objectives namely sustainably increasing agricultural productivity and incomes; adapting and building resilience to climate change.

Muhammad Hosni Mubarak (1928-2020)

ON Tuesday February 25th, Former Egyptian President, Muhammad Hosni El Sayed Mubarak, passed on at a military hospital in Cairo following a prolonged illness aged 91 years.

He ruled from 14th October 1981 to 11th February 2011 making him the fourth and longest serving President of Egypt in modern times.

Mubarak was Vice-President to Anwar Sadat when the latter was assassinated in a military parade on October 6th 1981 to mark the 1973 October war in which the Egyptian armed forces distinguished themselves creditably against the Israeli Defence Forces.

Before joining politics, Mubarak had a distinguished career in the Egyptian air force as a fighter pilot where he rose to become its commander. He was credited with being one of the masterminds behind the sterling performances of the Egyptian air force during the initial aerial engagements in the 1973 war with Israel in which the Egyptians scored direct hits at Israeli targets.

This earned him recognition and President Anwar Sadat appointed him Vice-President in April 1975. From this position, he became one of the key officials who took part in the discussions and engagements leading to the historic signing of the 1977 Camp David peace accords with Israel brokered by the United States of America.

Mubarak took over from Anwar Sadat as President when Egypt was in a state of turmoil. There was significant and influential body of opinion in the country that were in great opposition to the peace treaty with Israel. Indeed, the assassination of Anwar Sadat by Lt. Slambouli was a clear indication that some elements within the Egyptian military harboured these feelings. In the Arab world, Egypt was isolated having had its membership of the Arab league suspended.

It was to the benefit of Egypt that Mubarak who was an intimate insider to the contemporary developments in the country was at the helm during those trying times. It also helped greatly for Egypt that Mubarak was a calm personality not given to fiery rhetoric and flamboyance. He preferred the quiet, consensus building approach to mending the broken political and social



bridges in Egyptian society and in rapprochement with the Arab world on contentious issues. Thus, Egypt was readmitted into the Arab League in 1989.

Mubarak's time as President of Egypt was also marked by great developmental strides in industrialization, infrastructure, education, health and housing. Overall Egypt also recorded a remarkable boom in economic activities making it one of the emerging markets in the global economy.

He also helped steered Egypt delicately as a key player through some of the momentous events that took place in the Middle-East like the invasion of Kuwait by Iraq, the Gulf war and the ever tense relations between Israel and the Palestinians.

However, the remarkable developments which took place in Egypt under Mubarak came with a price. The most visible and significant in this regard was in the alienation of Egyptian youth as the country witnessed a massive population growth. Mubarak's response to this was to become more authoritarian in trying to address manifestations of restiveness among the classes of Egyptians who felt left out by the uneven economic development taking place in the country.

It was thus no surprise that when the riots erupted in neighbouring Tunisia over similar economic challenges as in Egypt signalling the beginning of the Arab spring, Mubarak's Egypt was inevitably caught in the path of the storm leading to the Egyptian revolution which swept off Mubarak in 2011.

For us in Africa, Mubarak will be remembered for the positive roles he played in helping to strengthen the African Union. During his time Egypt as one of the major countries on the African continent also sought greater cooperation with individual African countries across all areas. This is espe-

cially so with Nigeria there has been an increase in the number of visits and engagements with Egypt covering areas of mutual interests.

While recognising his short comings as a human, for all the positive things he did in his lifetime, we must however pray that Allah grant the soul of Muhammad Hosni El Sayed Mubarak peaceful repose in Aljanna firdaus, Ameen.

Egypt's Presidency has declared three days of mourning for the former President.

It furthermore mourned him in a statement that said: "The Presidency of the Republic deeply mourns former President Muhammad Hosni Mubarak for serving his nation as a leader and hero of the October 1973 War which regained for the Arab nation its dignity and pride." The statement offered the Presidency's condolences to Mubarak's family. Egypt's Armed Forces also issued a statement mourning the former President as "one of its sons and a leader of the glorious October 193 War". The statement offered condolences to Mubarak's family, and the officers and members of the of the Armed Forces, concluding with a prayer for his soul.

Mubarak served as Egypt's president from October 1981 until he stepped down in February 2011 following the 18-day uprising, termed as Egypt's Arab Spring, which started on 25 January 2011.

His 30-year rule was one of peace and economic prosperity, but was criticised for human rights breaches.

Once out of office, Mubarak stood trial for a number of charges that ranged from corruption to killing protestors during the February 2011 uprising. He was acquitted of all charges, however, except one which involved misappropriation of public funds.

Mubarak leaves behind his wife Suzanne, two businessmen sons: Alaa, 59; and Gamal, 56; and three grandchildren.

On Egyptian social media, many young Egyptians have posted opinions of Mubarak as the origin of problems battering Egypt today. The majority of comments by young and old, however, have widely mourned him as a national hero who respectfully stepped out of office rather than let his country contract civil war.

The Guardian Limited

JOB VACANCY

The Guardian Limited, publisher of leading Tanzania newspapers, The Guardian and Nipashe, is looking for motivated and experienced people to fill the position of:

CIRCULATION FIELD OFFICER - DAR ES SALAAM

Job Purpose:

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

Main Responsibilities:

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

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

Minimum Qualifications and Experience:

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

MODE OF APPLICATION:

Apply online via HRO email address: vacancy@guardian.co.tz by March 13, 2020

NB: Only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

The Guardian Limited is an equal opportunity employer.

INTERVIEW

Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited to make major investment within three years to support the development of Tanzanian LPG market



Benoit ARAMAN- Managing Director, Oryx Gas Tanzania

A market leader for Liquefied Petroleum Gas (LPG) distribution in Tanzania, Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited (“OGTL”, an Oryx Energies Company) is planning to make major investments in Tanzania to support government efforts in promoting the use of LPG as a clean and environmentally friendly fuel for cooking and for commercial/industrial activities.

These future investments will be done in the form of additional quantities of gas cylinders, development of new infrastructures and upgrade of existing gas plants and depots.

can successfully address a large part of the Tanzania’s energy market combination which is about only 5%. That’s why with our long-term serving experience and the engagement between Public and Private sectors’ trust to the industry, we have continued investing in infrastructure, gas cylinders and consumer activation” he said.

Benoit said OGTL is currently operating 8 LPG depots and filling plants in the country which allow the company together with its distribution channels to widely cover the country in LPG supply and distribution, including remote rural areas.

He further said he praises the government for the effort it is doing in shifting the country economy to the benefit of a growing middle class.

He further stated that current investment by the Government in infrastructure is critically beneficial to the country and added that one good example is the Dar es salaam port which is positioned as one of the Eastern African main port, on which investments have been done and it now needs additional modern, efficient equipment including properly skilled manpower to mitigate the



Oryx LPG cylinders

the purchase of the physical products on the open market through its trading arm (Addax Energy) to their storage, blending, distribution and on-site management where is much required, Oryx Energies aims to respond to the energy needs of consumers and businesses across sub-Saharan Africa, by providing a reliable and quality products and services, including fuels, LPG and lubricants supported by its efficient logistics and strong distribution networks, including its own retail service stations

Oryx Energies being a professional and reliable business partner is anchored in fully-integrated downstream model that enables the company to control the full value chain from sourcing products on the open market through trading arm to their strategic storage and distribution up to end consumers.

With efficient logistics and strong distribution networks, including its own retail service stations and the specialized bunkering service to respond to the needs of clients off-shore, Oryx Energies offers a wide range of products and services such as fuels, LPG and own-brand lubricants.

Since 1989, Oryx Energies has developed a number of bulk storage terminals across East and West Africa, including Dar es Salaam (Tanzania), Calabar (Nigeria), Freetown (Sierra Leone), Cotonou (Benin) and Dakar (Senegal). These facilities support the

company’s goal in providing a reliable supply of oil products and services to coastal nations and the landlocked countries beyond.

Oryx Energies is one of Africa’s largest and longest-established independent providers of oil and gas products and services, the company source, supply, store and distribute oil and gas products needed by consumers, businesses and maritime operations across sub-Saharan Africa.

A Swiss group of companies, majority-owned by private investment group AOG, Oryx Energies is today present in over 20 sub-Saharan countries, and has been responding to the evolving energy needs of the region for over 30 years.

“Oryx Energies is one of Africa’s largest and longest-established independent providers of oil and gas products and services, the company source, supply, store and distribute oil and gas products needed by consumers, businesses and maritime operations across sub-Saharan Africa.



Oryx Gas Tanzania’s Managing Director, Benoit ARAMAN, said in a recent interview with The Guardian newspaper that Oryx Gas Tanzania Limited (OGTL) looks the Tanzania energy sector as a critically strategic one where with a lot of needs to be done to provide Tanzanians accessible, safe, reliable, efficient and affordable energies such as LPG that is suitable for power, domestic, commercial and industrial uses.

“Oryx Gas Tanzania is convinced that LPG, which is about only 5% in penetration rate,

current congestion whilst supporting the growth of the country.

With a presence in Tanzania for more than 20 years and the level of past, current and future anticipated investments, Oryx Energies asserts its long term commitment to the country and its strong belief in its development.

Constructed one of the region’s most extensive and integrated downstream platforms, mastering the value chain from



Can anything come out of Sierra Leone?

By Andrew Keill

HOW many of us enjoy being cynical, on occasion? Well I do sometimes. Some of us are cynicism addicts, often addicted to asking cynical questions about our country like the one Nathanael asked about Jesus: Can anything good come out of Nazareth? Can anything good come out of Sierra Leone? The era in which we live is defined by cynical questions, particularly if you read too many social media news articles about our country. Our age delights in discovering scandals and ulterior motives, and the secret double lives of famous people. And there's nothing better than a scandal involving a major political figure. The media throws out this cynicism and we scarf it down until we're sick at our stomachs and depressed.

In a way, we can argue that depressed Sierra Leone is like Nazareth of old. Nazareth was a very small village. It fact according to archeological conclusions it boasted no more than 150 residents.

Jesus' hometown was located in the region of Galilee, which was a particularly mischievous hotbed for radicals such as Judas of Galilee who led an armed uprising against the same Roman census that forced Joseph and Mary to travel to Bethlehem.

Fake messiahs would organize protests that were quickly and brutally repressed by the Roman soldiers. Rome wasn't big on the whole "freedom of speech" thing. Would this Jesus son of Joseph be another fake messiah? Would he try to start something that would get Philip and Nathanael in trouble with the Roman authorities or even killed? What good could come out of Nazareth?

Well, before you answer the question "Can anything good come out of Sierra Leone", let me answer in the affirmative "Yes". Despite the negativity we spew out we have had some good news over the past few weeks. Let me give you my take on a few:

The Government of Sierra Leone through the Ministry of Information and Communication (MIC) paid the total sum of Le 24.4m to two female sports Journalists working for the Sierra Leone Broadcasting Cooperation (SLBC) as compensation for the ordeal they went through after they were attacked and mercilessly beaten by Presidential Guards at a Football match in September 2019.

Following the event and a huge public outcry, a committee made up of members representing SWASAL, SLAJ, WIMSAL, MIC and other Civil Society Organisations was set up to investigate the incident and further recommend actions to the Government of Sierra Leone.

Also in December 2019, the President H.E Bio, during a cocktail dinner with the press, apologised on his guards' behalf and promised to compensate the journalists for properties they lost and their medical expenditure.

Kudos to the Minister of Information and the government. For the government to do such a thing is unheard of in recent memory. How one hopes that other cases of brutality by our forces would always be handled in the same way. Also the matter of the President hobnobbing with the press and showing off his lighthearted side is a good thing. Something good can come



Sierra Leone's president Julius Maada Bio

out of Nazareth!

Superintendent Salieu Suliaman Turay, Officer-in Charge of the Makeni Correctional Centre said the University of Makeni (Unimak) confirmed that they are currently conducting examinations for inmates at the center.

He said that in August 2019 Unimak and the Sierra Leone Correctional Service (SLCS) signed an MOU which enabled Unimak to commence certificate courses for Correctional Facility, adding that the causes included information Technology, Development Studies, Psychosocial Counselling and Entrepreneurship each of the courses lasts for six (6) months and at the end of their exams graduation ceremony will be held. Congratulations to Superintendent Turay and Unimak. Something good can come out of Nazareth!

The Minister of Trade and Industry Dr. Edward Hinga Sandi got the cement companies to reduce the cost of clearing cement by 30% at the Queen Elizabeth II Quay, disclosing that a total of 2.5 million bags of cement was in the country awaiting distribution. Dr. Sandi said that the reason for the increase in the cost of building materials was due to new taxes imposed on manufacturers and importers of cement, but that as a ministry they were able to engage the private sector on the recent increase on the cost of cement per bag, which was due to some technical challenge faced by the Leocem Cement Factory and Dangote. He further disclosed that Leocem Cement Factory was having problems with both their grinding machines and electricity, while Dangote had problems with shipment.

Government he reiterated is really concerned about the increased cost in the price of cement and other goods, adding that Leocem Factory will now sell 50kg of 32.5 grade cement at Le60,000, the 42.5 grade cement at Le63,000 and that Dangote which is bringing cement in bulk and doing the packaging in Sierra Leone are to sell at Le57,000. The Minister also revealed that plans are currently underway for the removal of the Service Destination Inspection Fee which he said is making life for importers very uncomfortable.

I do not know whether all went as planned but it is good that the Trade Minister, unlike other Ministers got off his high horse to dialogue with stakeholders on these issues and initiate decisive action for the benefit of Sierra Leoneans. Something good can come out of Nazareth!

The new Minister of Basic and Senior Secondary Education MBSSE, Dr. David Moinina Sengh in a move to have effective work done in that Ministry and to control corruption relocated 20 Deputy Directors of Education to various Districts all over the country.

Some Deputy Directors are now Officers in Charges (OIC) in various areas in the provinces. Dr Sengh's innovative and consultative style of management also out to be commended in various areas of his work. Something good can come out of Nazareth!

Vice-President Jalloh has officiated over the ground-breaking ceremony of the construction of phases two (2) and three (3) of the ECOWAS logistics depot as well as handing over of the project sites to the contractor, SOGEFEL, at the Kaffu Bullom Chiefdom in Lungi.

The phase 2&3 of the ECOWAS logistics base of which the ECOWAS Commission has allocated a budget of Eight Million, Four Hundred and Twelve Thousand, Nine Hundred and Seventy Nine USD (\$8,412,979) will provide support to ECOWAS peace keeping operations to effectively combat violent extremism and terrorist activities in the West African sub-region. Thanks Dr. Jalloh. Something good can come out of Nazareth!

Sierra Leone played host to one of the world's largest rallies the Budapest-Bamako-Freetown Rally. The event was an opportunity to showcase the country and help sell our culture and tourism potentials to 700 Tourists from over 80 countries.

The event started the 31st of February 2020 in one of Europe's most beautiful cities Budapest. By all indications, the event was a success and the peripatetic Minister, Memunata Pratt was very much on hand with her team. Many thanks for the recent efforts she has been making to promote tourism. Something good can come out of Nazareth!

Having connected 1,170 new localities in 2019, the well-established telecommunications company Orange SL has gained widespread recognition for effective service delivery, is better positioned to continue giving its numerous customers.

Thank you Orange for improving communications in the hinterland. Something good can come out of Nazareth!

Veteran journalist Umaru Fofana raised some concern about two destitute deportees who, in a mix up were wrongly sent to Sierra Leone.

They had been in prison here and later sent to a hotel and

when they could not pay their bills were thrown out. Thanks to Umaru's concern aired out, an anonymous donor forked out \$2,500 to assist them pay their bills and they are now back in the hotel whilst attempts are being made to address their plight. Thank you Umaru. Something good can come out of Nazareth!

As a postscript to the story, it is worth noting what happened to Nathanael's life.

"Come and see," said Nathanael's friend Philip. Come and see. Three words that would change Nathanael's life. Three words that shatter cynicism. "Come and see" is something that children say a lot. "Come and see, Daddy," it kills whatever cynical thoughts you might have had in your head.

Can we also say "Come and see" as relates to Sierra Leone's problems? Can we at least once in a while give honour and praise where they are due. Can the government do a lot more of these "do good feeds" so that they can proudly say "Come and see"? or will they also wallow in negativity and see every single critic as someone who wants Rome to burn?

Nathanael said to him, "Can anything good come out of Nazareth?". Philip said to him, "Come and see." Let us hope for the day when Sierra Leoneans will say to their Ministers, Can anything good come out of Sierra Leone? and Government Ministers will say to them, "Come and see."

Ponder my thoughts.

Sierra Leone officially the Republic of Sierra Leone, informally Salone, is a country on the southwest coast of West Africa. It is bordered by Liberia to the southeast and Guinea to the northeast. Sierra Leone has a tropical climate, with a diverse environment ranging from savanna to rainforests, and a total area of 71,740 km² (27,699 sq mi) and a population of 7,075,641 as of the 2015 census. The capital and largest city is Freetown, and the country is divided into five administrative regions, which are further subdivided into sixteen districts.

Sierra Leone was a British Crown Colony from 1808 to April 27, 1961 when it achieved independence, but periods of political turbulence have marked its recent history. On 19 April 1971, Siaka Stevens' government abolished Sierra Leone's parliamentary government system and declared Sierra Leone a presidential republic, creating a one party state from 1978 to 1985.

The current multiparty democratic constitution of Sierra Leone was adopted in 1991 by the government of President Joseph Saidu Momoh, just as the rebel group Revolutionary United Front, led by former imprisoned Sierra Leone army officer Foday Sankoh, launched a brutal civil war.

On April 29, 1992, the military overthrew President Momoh, and Sierra Leone was under Military rule from 1992 to 1996. Sierra Leone returned to a democratically elected government when the military Junta under Brigadier General Julius Maada Bio handed the presidency to Ahmad Tejan Kabbah of the SLPP after his victory in the 1996 Sierra Leone presidential election. However, on May 25, 1997, the military overthrew President Kabbah.

In February 1998, a coalition of West African Ecowas armed forces led by Nigeria reinstated President Kabbah, and executed the leaders of the coup after a trial by military court. In January 2002, President Ahmad Tejan Kabbah announced the ending of the civil war with the help and support of Ecowas, the British government, the African Union, and the United Nations. Sierra Leone has had an uninterrupted democratic government from 1998 to present.

Sixteen ethnic groups inhabit Sierra Leone, each with its own language and customs. The two

largest and most influential are the Temne and Mende. The Temne are predominantly found in the northwest of the country, and the Mende in the southeast. Comprising a small minority, about 2 pc, are the Krio people, who are descendants of freed African-American and West Indian slaves. Although English is the official language, used in schools and government administration, Krio, an English-based creole, is the most widely spoken language across Sierra Leone. Spoken by 98 pc of the population, Krio unites all the ethnic groups in the country, especially in their trade and social interaction.

Sierra Leone is a Muslim-majority country 77 pc, with an influential Christian minority at 22pc. Sierra Leone is regarded as one of the most religiously tolerant states in the world. Muslims and Christians collaborate and interact with each other very peacefully, and religious violence is very rare. The major Christian and Muslim holidays are officially public holidays in the country, including Christmas, Easter, Eid al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha.

Sierra Leone has relied on mining, especially of diamonds, for its economic base. It is also among the largest producers of titanium and bauxite, is a major producer of gold, and has one of the world's largest deposits of rutile. Sierra Leone is home to the third-largest natural harbour in the world. Despite this natural wealth, 53 pc of its population lived in poverty in 2011.[16] Sierra Leone is a member of many international organisations, including the United Nations, the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Mano River Union, the Commonwealth of Nations, the African Development Bank and the Organisation of Islamic Cooperation.

History

Archaeological finds show that Sierra Leone has been inhabited continuously for at least 2,500 years.[18] populated successively by societies who migrated from other parts of Africa. The people adopted the use of iron by the 9th century and by 1000 AD agriculture was being practised along the coast.[20] The climate changed considerably and boundaries among different ecological zones changed as well, affecting migration and conquest.

Sierra Leone's dense tropical rainforest and swampy environment was considered impenetrable; it was also host to the tsetse fly, which carried a disease fatal to horses and the zebu cattle used by the Mande people.

This environmental factor protected its people from conquests by the Mande and other African empires.

This also reduced the Islamic influence of the Mali Empire but Islam, introduced by Susu traders, merchants and migrants from the north and east, became widely adopted in the 18th century.

European trading

European contacts within Sierra Leone were among the first in West Africa in the 15th century. In 1462, Portuguese explorer Pedro de Sintra mapped the hills surrounding what is now Freetown Harbour, naming the shaped formation Serra da Leoa or "Serra Leoa" (Portuguese for Lioness Mountains).

The Spanish rendering of this geographic formation is Sierra Leona, which later was adapted and, misspelled, became the country's current name. Although according to the professor C. Magbaily Fyle this could have been a misinterpretation of historians: according to him, there has been evidence of travellers calling the region Serra Lya or well before 1462, the year when Sintra first arrived. This would imply that the identity of the person who named Sierra Leone still remains unclear.

Soon after Sintra's expedition, Portuguese traders arrived at the

harbour.

By 1495 they had built a fortified trading post on the coast. The Dutch and French also set up trade here, and each nation used Sierra Leone as a trading point for slaves brought by African traders from interior areas undergoing tribal wars and conflicts over territory.

In 1562, the English initiated the Triangle Trade when admiral Sir John Hawkins of the Royal Navy transported 300 enslaved Africans - acquired "by the sword and partly by other means" - to the Spanish colony of Santo Domingo on Hispaniola in the Caribbean Sea area of the West Indies islands, where he sold them.

Early colonies

Following the American Revolutionary War, the British evacuated thousands of freed African-American slaves and resettled them in Canadian and Caribbean colonies and London, which gave them new lives. In 1787 the British Crown founded a settlement in Sierra Leone in what was called the "Province of Freedom". It intended to resettle some of the "Black Poor of London", mostly African-Americans freed by the British during the war.

About 400 blacks and 60 whites reached Sierra Leone on 15 May 1787. The group also included some West Indians of African descent from London. After they established Granville Town, most of the first group of colonists died, owing to disease and warfare with the indigenous African peoples (Temne), who resisted their encroachment. The 64 remaining colonists established a second Granville Town.

Following the Revolution, more than 3,000 Black Loyalists had also been settled in Nova Scotia, where they were finally granted land. They founded Birchtown, Nova Scotia, but faced harsh winters and racial discrimination from nearby Shelburne, Nova Scotia.

Thomas Peters pressed British authorities for relief and more aid; together with British abolitionist John Clarkson, the Sierra Leone Company was established to relocate Black Loyalists who wanted to take their chances in West Africa.

In 1792 nearly 1200 persons from Nova Scotia crossed the Atlantic to build the second (and only permanent) Colony of Sierra Leone and the settlement of Freetown on 11 March 1792. In Sierra Leone they were called the Nova Scotian Settlers, the Nova Scotians, or the Settlers.

The Settlers built Freetown in the styles they knew from their lives in the American South; they also continued American fashion and American manners. In addition, many continued to practice Methodism in Freetown.

Black settlers in Sierra Leone enjoyed much more autonomy in that they were more politically engaged. Black immigrants elected different levels of political representatives, 'tithingmen', who represented each dozen settlers, and 'hundreders' who represented larger amounts.

This sort of representation was not available in Nova Scotia.[31] The initial process of society-building in Freetown, however, was a harsh struggle.

The Crown did not supply enough basic supplies and provisions, and the Settlers were continually threatened by illegal slave trading and the risk of re-enslavement.

In the 1790s, the Settlers, including adult women, voted for the first time in elections.[33] The Sierra Leone Company, controlled by London investors, refused to allow the settlers to take freehold of the land. In 1799 some of the settlers revolted.

The Crown subdued the revolt by bringing in forces of more than 500 Jamaican Maroons, whom they transported from Cudjoe's Town (Trelawny Town) via Nova Scotia in 1800. Led by Colonel Montague James, the Maroons helped the colonial forces to put down the revolt, and in the process they secured the best houses and farms.

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD =065=

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

3 Letter word: SEE, LEI, DOT, MAP, OUT, ICE
4 Letter word: IRIS, REED, OOSE, DERO, HOLE, ROOD, ARMS, HOLE
5 Letter word: OILER, HORAS, SKILL, IDLER, BALAS, ABODE, ADOBE, ASTER, SHINY, NGAIO
6 Letter word: ENABLE, SHUT UP, GOUGES,
7 Letter word: SLOSHES, NOONDAY, ROAD HOG,
8 Letter word: ENDANGER, YARD SALE, SCRAMBLE

WORD FIT CROSSWORD

Clues: Across
1. Islamic law (6)
7. Metal band on prisoner (7)
8. Totally different (8)
9. Restore (5)
11. Standard dialect (5)
12. Metric unit of area (3)
14. Fourth Populous country (9)
16. Mountain top (4)
17. Wanderer (5)
20. River in central Argentina (5)
21. Crazy (3)
23. Hold data (5)
24. Efforts (9)

Down:
1. Wholesaler (10)
2. Land animal that breeds in water(9)
3. In place of something (7)
4. Complete and utter (5)
5. Tilt, distort (4)
6. Small screen (10)
7. Stressed, tense (8)
10. Wrestling hold (6)
13. Second largest Port in Tanzania (5)
15. Founder of ZAPU party (5)
18. Adult female horse (4)
19. Second largest city of Yemen (4)
22. Digit of human foot (3)

Comments: 0/09 13/7/09

BUSINESS

GROWTH

Netflix sees Africa spy drama likely to unlock the continent's growth

JOHANNESBURG

Netflix sees the opening of new crime-drama series *Queen Sono* as the first of many original African TV series that will win the US giant a bigger slice of a market still dominated by satellite TV.

The tale of a South African secret agent seeking to uncover the truth behind the death of her freedom-fighter mother will be followed by a Zambian animation series, a Cape Town-set mystery-thriller and an as-yet-untitled Nigerian production. They've all been commissioned by Dorothy Ghattuba, a Kenyan producer hired by Netflix last year to seek out content from the continent of more than one billion people.

"We are diving all in when it comes to Africa - we are not just dipping our toes," Ghattuba said in an interview in Johannesburg ahead of a glitzy premiere to mark the launch of *Queen Sono* a week ago. "Africans like to see themselves on screen, and Africa has a big population that wants to see their stories represented."

While Netflix already provides financing for locally produced content in other parts of the world, it's been slower to target Africa. The continent is only just getting the internet speeds and affordable data prices needed to convince viewers to switch from traditional television at a rate that makes the investment viable. Revenue generated by African subscription video-on-demand services was \$183 million last year, yet is expected to increase sevenfold to more than \$1 billion by 2025, according to a report by Digital TV Research.

Netflix, Apple and More Drop out of SXSW Due to Coronavirus Concerns

Netflix is among the major brands that have announced that they will not be attending SXSW because of the coronavirus. Netflix's chief rival is Showmax, owned by South African pay-TV giant MultiChoice Group, while Amazon.com has a small presence in the region, the report shows. Disney+ is expected to launch in Africa in 2022.

The potential market for series starring African characters was hinted at by

the success of the movie *Black Panther*, made by Walt Disney's Marvel Studios, which broke box office records across the continent after its release two years ago, according to entertainment news site Deadline.

Showmax already produces as many as 5,000 hours of local African content every year, which it uses to attract customers, and is available as a standalone product or as a benefit of subscribing to MultiChoice's premium TV packages.

"The volume of local content watched over the last eight months is up something like 40%, so we've seen a real impact," said Niclas Ekdahl, chief executive officer of MultiChoice's Connected Video division, which oversees Showmax.

Showmax has the further advantage of showing sporting content, which it can access via the extensive broadcasting rights held by sister service DSTV. Streaming of last year's rugby world cup final - which South Africa won - was a major success, Ekdahl said, and the company is "experimenting and trying out new things and figuring out how African consumers interact with sports online," he said.

Netflix began the path toward producing African content by making a version of its core service available on the continent in 2016, before building a commissioning team led by Ghattuba. Born and raised in Kenya, she studied at Andrews University in Michigan and lived in Canada before starting her own production company in Nairobi.

"We are not allocating a specific budget to the continent - we look at stories, and we provide the financing that a certain production needs to tell the best story," she said. For example, *Queen Sono* was shot in 35 locations including in Zanzibar, Nigeria, and South Africa, which required substantial financing.

The more operators that are producing local content, the better, Ghattuba said, in reference to competition from Showmax and others. "As you create more platforms, the industry grows - and that is what is important. And we are ready to tell more good stories, with kick-ass characters."

Barrick stockpiling supplies as mining industry globally braces for coronavirus

TORONTO

Barrick Gold said on Friday it would stockpile key commodities due to the coronavirus, drawing on its experience from Ebola outbreaks to prepare for the possibility the outbreak could shutter its mines.

It was the latest defensive step by the mining industry, which is bracing for a prolonged drop in commodity prices and worried the contagion could fuel a rare simultaneous drop in both supply and demand for the minerals used to power the global economy.

Barrick, the world's second-largest gold miner with operations across the globe, did not specify which "key commodities" it was stockpiling. No employees or contractors at Barrick or peers have tested positive for coronavirus. Across the industry, miners have said they are encouraging employees to wash their hands more frequently, stockpiling masks and cleaning supplies, and restricting access to mine sites, steps in line with advice from the World Health Organization and other medical officials.

Globally, there have been over 98,000 cases of coronavirus and more than 3,300 deaths, according to a Reuters tally. Barrick has put emergency medical procedures and facilities in place and is screening employees, contractors and visitors at each site. The company has not yet restricted employee travel.

South Africa, one of the world's larg-

est diamond and gold producers, reported its first case of the disease earlier this week. While Chinese copper smelters in the past month have declared force majeure on deliveries of the red metal to customers, some factories in the country have begun to resume operations, fuelling hope the virus may be slightly abating inside the world's second-largest economy.

"The rest of the world is now the problem," said Jefferies mining analyst Christopher LaFemina, who expects prices for gold, copper and other metals to bottom in the second quarter. "For China, the demand trajectory is upward."

The number of new infections outside China now exceeds new cases in China, with Italy, South Korea and Iran seeing worrying spreads of the virus. Freeport-McMoRan, which runs Indonesia's Grasberg mine, the world's largest gold mine and second-largest copper mine, said it has no reported cases of the virus despite a rising number of cases in the country.

Lithium producers SQM, Albemarle, Lithium Americas and Livent, which operate in South America, said so far operations have not been affected. Attendance was down about 10% at this week's Prospectors and Developers Association of Canada mining conference in Toronto, where Chile's mining minister gave out masks with copper woven into the fabric. Copper has natural antimicrobial properties.

IWD2020

Vice President dares women to utilise bank's WAFI loans

By Guardian Reporter, Simiyu

WOMEN have been urged to exploit tailor made loan scheme dubbed, WAFI by CRDB Bank Plc to grow and expand their businesses and improve families' living standards.

Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan said here yesterday during International Women's Day, after visiting a CRDB's pavilion during the climax of the IWD2020 that Women's Access to Finance (WAFI) loans are an important vehicle towards economic empowerment of women hence the group should utilise the same to the maximum.

VP Samia commended CRDB's management for coming up with the tailor made loan scheme targeting women who have been marginalised for many years hence need such initiatives. "I urge women to seize this opportunity and get WAFI loans to address the challenge of capital access being faced by many women entrepreneurs," the VP said.

She also requested the bank's management to improve and streamline some of the conditions and requirements needed so that many women borrowers can easily access such funds to boost their businesses.

Briefing the VP on the bank's WAFI loans dedicated to women, CRDB's Lake Zone Manager, Lusing Sitta said so far over 500bn/- has been disbursed as loans to women entrepreneurs countrywide.

"We are happy that the response of women seeking to get these loans has



Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan listens to CRDB Bank Plc Lake Zone manager Lusing Sitta (L) when she visited the bank's pavilion at an exhibition to mark International Women's Day held in Simiyu yesterday. Photo courtesy of CRDB.

been impressive because our aim is to raise the status of women through improvement of their businesses to compete in the market," Sitta said.

He said the bank has several other tailor made products targeting women in the market such as Malkia Account and insurance coverage

dubbed Lady Jubilee. "Malkia account is specifically designed to allow women save for a specific purpose such as financing their advanced education, increase their business capital and own property," Sitta noted while revealing that over 25,000 women have since joined the account.

End last week, CRDB's Managing Director, Abdulmajid Nsekela pledged to uphold gender equality and tolerance saying women have proven as competent as men in holding any managerial positions. Addressing the bank's female staff to mark the IWD2020, Nsekela said CRDB is an equal opportu-

nity employer that outlaws gender biases.

"To put it in practice, 46 percent of our staff are women and the target is to have half the employees female within the next few years," he pledged noting that 284 women occupy various managerial positions at the country's Tier 1 bank.

EXPANSION

NMB Bank Plc establishes branch in Simiyu, promises agriculture greater support

By Guardian Reporter, Busega



NMB Bank Plc acting Managing Director, Ruth Zaipuna, speaks at a past event.

EXTENDING its physical branch network in the market to Busega district of Simiyu region, NMB Bank Plc has pledged to continue investing heavily in agriculture and livestock sectors.

Speaking during the launch of the new branch during the past weekend, NMB's acting Managing Director, Ruth Zaipuna said the 225th physical branch is another milestone in extending better services and affordable loans to support economic growth.

Zaipuna said the bank will continue opening new branches in the rural areas aimed at reaching the majority of the people who remain unbanked in line with government's financial inclusion policy. She mentioned some of the products that will benefit individuals and small, medium and large businesses in Busega as soft loans; agro-input credit to farmers as well as financial literacy training.

"Through NMB Foundation, the bank also provides financial management education to farmers through their Amcos, but also all kinds of insurance and online payment solutions," Zaipuna noted while pointing out that apart from opening more branches, the bank's costumers, through NMB's mobile can also open accounts through their mobile phones.

"This mobile service platform is convenient especially to rural based people who have no access to our physical branches," the acting NMB CEO added while also reiterating that through its corporate social responsibility, the Dar es Salaam based lender has allocated over

1bn/- to finance community projects with Simiyu region having received over 200m/- to implement education and health projects.

Speaking at the same ceremony, Deputy Minister of Finance and Planning, Dr Ashatu Kijaji ordered Bank of Tanzania to meet with banks and financial institutions to determine how to reduce loan interest rates.

Dr Kijaji said the government through BoT has already reduced interest rates on banks and financial institutions from 16 percent in 2016 to seven percent hence the relief should immediately go down to consumers.

"Commercial banks and financial institutions have continued to charge interest rates between 17 and 20 percent despite the BoT interest rates reduction from 16 percent in 2016 to seven percent," she wondered while tasking the central bank to reign in runaway interest rates.

Addressing the public during the launch, Vice President, Samia Suluhu Hassan said a stable financial sector is an important segment for rapid economic growth hence called on banks and financial institutions to strengthen their operations.

"As government, I can assure you that we will continue to create a better business environment for the private sector to flourish," the VP promised while congratulating NMB Bank for sustained growth and profitability which has enabled Treasury to earn over 586bn/- through various taxes and levies.

IWD2020

Minister Kairuki salutes Absa on workplace gender equality

By Guardian Reporter

EFFORTS by Absa Bank Tanzania Limited to seal the gender gap within its rank and file have earned management an approval from Minister for State in the Prime Minister's Office (Investment), Angela Kairuki.

Kairuki said in Dar es Salaam over the weekend during an Absa Bank Tanzania women empowerment forum organized to mark International Women's Day that efforts are needed by both the public and private sector to address gender inequality existing in the society.

"I would like to use this opportunity to urge other banks and companies to borrow a leaf from this initiative so that we are able to address the gender gap, especially in the corporate world in our country, in Africa and the world at large," she said.

Kairuki who launched 'Red Skirts' programme designed to inspire, empower and develop women leaders at Absa Bank Tanzania, said the move is an important step towards addressing corporate boardroom inequality.

ties.

"It is important to note the fact that we need more women in boardrooms is not just mere rhetoric because despite commendable progress made during the past 25 years since the Beijing Conference, women are still lacking in top managerial positions," she added.

Briefing Kairuki on the event, Absa Bank Tanzania's Managing Director, Abdi Mohamed said it is aimed at highlighting the universality of gender equality. "The equality campaign is bringing together people from both genders, race, religion and nation to drive actions that will create global equality," Mohamed said.

He elaborated that the status of women at Absa is solid and unshaken as there are four Tanzanian women directors currently from none in 2006. "We meet every year to review progress made but also meet to celebrate perfection and reflect on progress," added Mohamed. In all, the bank has a total of 485 of which 233 or 48 percent are female while of the bank's 15 branch managers, 8 women.



Angela Kairuki (L), Minister for State Prime Minister's Office (Investment), cuts a ribbon to launch Absa Bank-Tanzania Limited's 'Red Skirts' programme designed to inspire, empower and develop women leaders at the bank. Others are ABT managing director, Abdi Mohamed (R) and legal and compliance director Irene Giattas. Photo courtesy of ABT

IWD2020

NIC Bank CEO touts gender equality to mark International Women's Day

By Guardian Reporter

GENDER equality and community support are some of the milestones embraced by NIC Bank Tanzania Limited which marked International Women's Day by cheering up patients at CCBRT Hospital in Dar es Salaam.

NIC's Managing Director, Margaret Karume said the bank is an equal employment institution where both men and women feel valued. Karume said as the world marked IWD yesterday, there is still need to accelerate gender equality.

The NIC chief who handed over an assortment of goods to CCBRT CEO, Brenda Msangi said the bank has always provide a helping hand in areas such as education, health and the environment to support government efforts in improving services.

"Our banks magic smiles will have been portrayed to patients at CCBRT Hospital today as we celebrate International Women's Day



NIC Bank CEO Margaret Karume (3rd L) and CCBRT CEO Brenda Msangi (5th L) in a souvenir photo with staff of their institutions after donating various items in Dar es Salaam at the weekend. File photo.

by supporting the community we live which is one of our key strategy," she said noting that supporting women is investing in community success.

"When you support a woman, you actually not only support her as an individual but rather support the whole community and the nation at large," Karume added. She stressed that gender equality demands the empowerment of all, with a focus on identifying and redressing power imbalances and giving everyone more autonomy to manage their lives.

"When women are empowered, families benefit and communities benefit which then has spill over effect on future generations and the overall improvement of the nation," she stressed while pledging that NIC Bank will continue to support marginalised groups in the community.

This year's IWD theme is #Each4Equal drawn from a notion of 'Collective individualism: Equality is not a women's issue, it's a business issue.' Gender equality is essential for economies and communities to thrive. It's not a one day conversation that ends with IWD but a continuous conversation.

ASSURANCE

Aspen: no immediate impact of India's decision to curb drug exports

CAPE TOWN

The deputy chief executive of South Africa's Aspen Pharmacare said on Friday the drugmaker sees no immediate impact of India's decision this week to restrict the export of 26 pharmaceutical ingredients due to the coronavirus outbreak.

An important supplier of generic drugs to the world, Indian drugmakers rely on China, the source of the virus outbreak, for almost 70% of the active pharmaceutical ingredients (APIs) for their medicines. Industry experts say they are likely to face shortages if the epidemic drags on.

"Certainly no immediate impact and we have only a very low exposure to any of those chemicals on that list," deputy CEO and financial director Gus Attridge told Reuters in a telephone interview after presenting the firm's first-half results, which were published on Thursday.

"Just in South Africa we might not get stock (of paracetamol). But we do have decent stocks around API and supply to be able to weather that type of storm," CEO Stephen Saad told analysts at the presentation in Cape Town. "Of course if this lasts for a year and there are no supplies... we're going to see issues."

The drugmaker, which is 170 years old and has a presence in about 56 countries, said the virus had resulted in its Chinese commercial team being largely inactive since February and this would impact the second half results of its 2020 financial year.

Aspen expects an impact on its anaesthetics and thrombosis portfolios, which account for 30% of its commercial pharma business. In China, patients are deferring elective surgeries such as hip replacements and cataract extraction to avoid being exposed to the virus, Attridge said. But sales there will be sustained by procedures such as haemodialysis, which cannot be deferred.

"There is some literature around that sedation is helpful for treating the virus itself so there may be some application growing in the anaesthesia space but we don't see evidence of that right now," Attridge told Reuters.

Aspen is, however, seeing a spike in demand for medicines such as antibiotics and headache tablets in Australia as people try to fill their medicine cabinets at home with products they think might be helpful if they get the virus, Attridge said. "Those are flying off the shelves. Pharmacies in Australia are having their biggest sales days in history and stock is being depleted," he added.

CREATIVITY

Egypt's Nubians tame crocodiles for selfie-snapping tourists

CAIRO

Deep in the Nubia, a region along the Nile in southern Egypt, a baby crocodile sits on Mamdouh Hassan's shoulder to wow tourists.

The reptiles are a source of income for Egypt's Nubian minority, with visitors paying to marvel at the tamed creatures. But beyond bringing in tourist dollars, crocodiles play an important role in the culture of the ethnic group with a history dating to Pharaonic times and its own unique language.

The Nubians traditionally

lived along the banks of the Nile in southern Egypt with roots extending into northern Sudan. In Gharb Soheil, a Nubian village near Aswan, mummified crocodile heads still adorn the doors of the traditional blue and white domed homes.

Crocodiles represent an important physical totem of blessings in Nubian belief. In Gharb Soheil a stuffed crocodile on the door shows that the homeowner keeps the large reptiles as pets. Outside his humble home in the village, Hassan gently rubbed the back of Francesca

-- a 1.5-metre (five-foot)-long,

15-year-old crocodile. "I have raised her since she was born," the 45-year-old said lovingly of his pride and joy. "She lives on fish, meat and chicken."

- Pet crocodiles -

During the reign of president Gamal Abdel Nasser, the construction of the Aswan High Dam created a reservoir over traditional Nubian lands. When Lake Nasser began filling in 1964, 44 Nubian villages were flooded.

While the Nile's crocodiles benefited from the new habitat, Nasser never fulfilled his promise

to adequately compensate Nubians with new land. Instead, about 50,000 Nubians were displaced to villages north of the dam, on the west bank of the Nile near Kom Ombo and Aswan -- a narrow strip of land with limited space for agriculture.

Ever since, Nubians have demanded the return of their lands and have maintained their culture by modernising their traditions. Keeping crocodiles became a way to supplement incomes and promote their heritage. Hassan learnt to domesticate crocodiles from his father.

"My father was one of the first people in the Nubian village who really pioneered the idea of bringing in crocodiles as pets to lure tourists," he told AFP. In the 20 years since, he has developed a keen sense for where and when wild crocodile eggs will hatch.

Female crocodiles lay their eggs along the banks of Lake Nasser where Hassan watches for the baby reptiles to emerge before carrying them home. "The crocodile's aggressive nature is tempered by growing up in the home with us and being cared for," he said.



Tourists taking selfies with a crock.

IWD2020

How Adnoc LNG women are changing mindsets in the oil and gas sector

ABU DHABI

When Fatema Al Nuaimi graduated with a degree in chemical engineering and joined Abu Dhabi National Oil Company in the late 1990s, she thought she was set for a career in marketing. “[They] sold me the idea that being in marketing is a good idea,” says Ms Al Nuaimi, who is the first female chief executive at Adnoc LNG. It was 1999 and Ms Al Nuaimi, who was among the second batch of female chemical engineer graduates from UAE University, previously known as Al Ain University, was keen to prove herself. To secure her role, she spent a month dropping off her resume to 14 Adnoc subsidiaries along the Abu Dhabi Corniche, receiving perplexed looks and some hiring managers even asking

her why anyone would recruit a woman. “I heard it from one guy, and I’m still looking for him today,” laughs Ms Nuaimi. When she eventually landed a marketing role with the company, her chemical engineering knowledge helped her decipher the jargon associated with the industry – something she says she really enjoyed. At the request of her then line manager, she later moved from the marketing department to engineering, at a time when women were not used to spending time on site and there were no protective overalls for them to wear. “The first time I went on site, they thought I was a shareholder. They told me I was the first female to step into Bab or Habshan [oilfields] since somebody from Total visited,” Ms Al Nuaimi says. She recalls the custom-made overalls that were eventually introduced



Adnoc LNG chief executive Fatema Al Nuaimi says female engineers must get first-hand experience on site when joining the energy sector.

for female engineers, a jacket reaching the knee with a headscarf and a helmet. “To get it accepted within the community they had an Islamic sheikh in the court

[to approve it as] a proper Islamic outfit,” she says. Today, Adnoc operates an onshore field, Rumaita, which is managed by an all-women engineering team. Ms Al Nuaimi who now

oversees the operations of Adnoc’s LNG facilities plant at Das Island as one of two female chief executives Adnoc appointed in 2018, says it is “very important” that women are presented to the community as role models. “We have to understand that change does not happen overnight and when the change is also touching the community, it takes longer,” she says. Ms Al Nuaimi, who often speaks to young female Emirati students specialising in Stem (science technology engineering maths) subjects, says she urges women with a technical background to seize the opportunity to “exercise” what they have learnt. “This is an industry where all the value is really on-site and not at the headquarters,” she says. “You need to live it and touch it to be better equipped for the future.” Women make up 22 per cent of the global oil and gas industry workforce,

despite comprising a 48 per cent share of the overall workforce, according to the International Energy Agency. Katie Mehnert, who left the energy industry in 2014 to start Pink Petro, a social community for women working in the sector, says the global female share of management roles in the energy sector is even lower “anywhere from 13 to 18 per cent depending on what country you’re in”. With women in the UAE making up 70 per cent of the country’s university graduates, 46.6 per cent of the workforce and 10 per cent of private sector companies’ leadership, according to statistics from the Ministry of Finance, it is key that Adnoc taps into this talent. The company, which employs 700 women across its sites reached the target of 15 per cent female representation at the senior management level

by the end of 2019. Women comprise 12 per cent of the company’s workforce – a number the state oil company says is more than double the average in the region. Looking at the UAE’s energy industry as a whole, women make up 20 per cent of the support and lower professional levels, a figure that drops to 7 to 8 per cent at managerial level, according to the 2020 compensation report from global consultancy Mercer. Rob Thissen, energy industry leader for the Middle East at Mercer says the industry is looking to hire more females, “so being more attractive to women is top of the agenda for companies in the industry, both globally and regionally. Adnoc and Enoc are actively working on this”. Tayba Al Hashemi, chief executive at Adnoc subsidiary Al Yasat Petroleum, an Adnoc joint venture with China National

Petroleum Corporation, was drawn to the energy sector despite a passion for history during her childhood. “We were the third batch, we were only six girls in chemical engineering,” she says of her time at UAE University. Ms Al Nuaimi says the growing interest from women in the energy sector has now made the university reconsider which courses are offered to male students. “I think [there were] 12 in my class and today the dean of that college told me that they wanted to close the male section because they had 100 [female chemical engineers],” she says. However, the industry still struggles to persuade Stem talent to join the workforce. Only 44 per cent of Stem millennials and Generation Zs are interested in pursuing a career in the oil and gas industry, compared to 77 per cent in the technology sector, 58 per cent in life sciences and pharmaceuticals and 57 per cent in health care.

PLEDGE

G20 commits to take action to prevent global slowdown amid coronavirus outbreak

RIYADH

Financial policymakers from the world’s 20 largest economies pledged “to take further actions” to support the global economy amid fears the coronavirus outbreak is hampering growth. The Group of 20 finance ministers and central bank governors said it was ready to roll out fiscal and monetary measures to bolster the response to the virus, as ratings agency Moody’s Investors Service revised its growth forecasts for all G20 economies amid the health crisis. “We are ready to take further actions, including fiscal and monetary measures, as appropriate, to aid in the response to the virus, support the economy during this phase and maintain the resilience of the financial system,” the G20 said in a joint statement in Riyadh on Saturday. The group added that it “welcomed” the measures already put in place by some countries to support economic activity and the steps taken by international organisations such as the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank Group to help member countries respond to the virus. Earlier this month the IMF allocated \$50 billion (Dh183.6bn) in emergency funding to poor and middle-income countries while the World Bank set up an initial fund of \$12bn to help member-countries cope. The latest G20 comments come at the end of a week that saw the Covid-19 virus spread to more than 70 countries, with over 100,000 cases and about 3,400 deaths. The Federal Reserve issued an emergency rate cut to calm investors while oil prices fell 9.44 per cent to settle at \$45.27 per barrel on Friday and stock markets continued to slide as investors panicked over the effect of the coronavirus on the global economy. Moody’s revised the baseline growth forecasts for G20 economies to 2.1 per cent on Friday, 0.3 percentage point lower than the previous baseline, while China’s 2020 growth forecast was also reduced to 4.8 per cent from the previous estimate of 5.2 per cent. The US economy is expected to grow 1.5 per cent, down from the previous estimate of 1.7 per cent, Moody’s said. Weak demand will

translate into generally subdued commodity prices and oil prices will remain volatile, the ratings agency said. “Several plausible developments could lead to a far more negative scenario than our baseline forecast,” said Moody’s Vice President Madhavi Bokil. “A sustained pullback in consumption, coupled with extended closures of businesses, would hurt earnings, drive layoffs and weigh on sentiment. Such conditions could ultimately feed self-sustaining recessionary dynamics.” S&P Global Ratings said earlier this month that the industries most impacted by the outbreak will be those reliant on consumer discretionary spending, such as travel and high-end retail, with cross-border supply chains, such as cars, electronics and chemicals, particularly exposed from a credit perspective, with increased pressure on revenue and earnings. Resumption of normal economic activity will depend on how long it takes to contain the global spread of the virus, Moody’s said, with the response from fiscal authorities, central banks and international institutions likely to be strong and targeted. The latest G20 statement stressed the need for global cooperation “to mitigate risks to the global economy from unexpected shocks.” “To this end, we are working closely with the IMF, the WBG, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development and the Financial Stability Board, and support strong coordination with the World Health Organisation, in particular with a view to sharing information, assessing needs and devising policy options that countries can implement in response to Covid-19 outbreak,” it said. The group said it is committed “to use all available policy tools to achieve strong, sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth, and safeguard against downside risks.” On Friday the International Institute of Finance said global growth in 2020 could “conceivably” approach 1 per cent, down from 2.6 per cent last year, due to the economic fallout from the coronavirus outbreak. The estimate would be the weakest growth since the 2008 global financial crisis, according to the global association of the financial industry.



ISIDINGO MONDAY - FRIDAY STARTING 7:30 PM

MONDAY 09 March	WEDNESDAY 11 March	FRIDAY 13 March	SATURDAY 14 March	SUNDAY 15 March
5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi	5:30 Uwanja wa Mazoezi
6:00 Habari	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI	6:00 HABARI
6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha	6:40 Kumekucha
7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI	7:30 HABARI
8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo	8:00 Kumekucha Michezo
8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa	8:55 Habari za saa
9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo	9:00 Kumekucha Kishindo
9:30 Soap: Isidingo the need	9:30 Soap: Isidingo the need	9:30 Soap: Isidingo the need	9:30 Soap: Isidingo the need	9:30 Soap: Isidingo the need
9:55 Habari za saa	9:55 Habari za saa	9:55 Habari za saa	9:55 Habari za saa	9:55 Habari za saa
10:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Watoto wetu	10:00 Watoto wetu
10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa	10:55 Habari za saa
11:00 Jagina rpt	11:00 Korean drama: The great Queen Seondok	11:00 Korean drama: The great Queen Seondok	11:00 Korean drama: The great Queen Seondok	11:00 Korean drama: The great Queen Seondok
11:30 Igizo rpt: Mtego	11:30 Igizo rpt: Mtego	11:30 Igizo rpt: Mtego	11:30 Igizo rpt: Mtego	11:30 Igizo rpt: Mtego
11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa	11:55 Habari za saa
12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera	12:00 Al Jazeera
12:30 Jungu kuu rpt	12:30 Jungu kuu rpt	12:30 Jungu kuu rpt	12:30 Jungu kuu rpt	12:30 Jungu kuu rpt
12:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa	12:55 Habari za saa
13:00 Mjue Zaidi	13:00 Mjue Zaidi	13:00 Mjue Zaidi	13:00 Mjue Zaidi	13:00 Mjue Zaidi
13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt	13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt	13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt	13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt	13:45 Art and Lifestyle rpt
13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa	13:55 Habari za saa
14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt	14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt	14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt	14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt	14:00 Art and Lifestyle rpt
14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost	14:10 Telenovela rpt: Elena's Ghost
14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa	14:55 Habari za saa
15:00 Meza huru	15:00 Meza huru	15:00 Meza huru	15:00 Meza huru	15:00 Meza huru
16:30 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu	16:30 Watoto Wetu
17:00 The Base	17:00 The Base	17:00 The Base	17:00 The Base	17:00 The Base
18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu	18:00 Jiji Letu
18:10 Aibu yako rpt	18:10 Aibu yako rpt	18:10 Aibu yako rpt	18:10 Aibu yako rpt	18:10 Aibu yako rpt
18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi	18:15 Mapishi
18:45 Kesho leo	18:45 Kesho leo	18:45 Kesho leo	18:45 Kesho leo	18:45 Kesho leo
19:00 Afya ya Jamii	19:00 Afya ya Jamii	19:00 Afya ya Jamii	19:00 Afya ya Jamii	19:00 Afya ya Jamii
19:30 Isidingo	19:30 Isidingo	19:30 Isidingo	19:30 Isidingo	19:30 Isidingo
20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari	20:00 Habari
21:05 Dakika 45	21:05 Dakika 45	21:05 Dakika 45	21:05 Dakika 45	21:05 Dakika 45
22:00 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost	22:00 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost	22:00 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost	22:00 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost	22:00 Telenovela: Elena's Ghost
23:00 Habari	23:00 Habari	23:00 Habari	23:00 Habari	23:00 Habari
23:30 The Base	23:30 The Base	23:30 The Base	23:30 The Base	23:30 The Base
00:30 Al Jazeera	00:30 Al Jazeera	00:30 Al Jazeera	00:30 Al Jazeera	00:30 Al Jazeera
02:00 DWTW	02:00 DWTW	02:00 DWTW	02:00 DWTW	02:00 DWTW



A press conference takes place at the end of the G20 Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, last month. File photo

Countries switch to anti-virus mode as global caseload tops 100,000

BEIJING

AS the number of COVID-19 cases worldwide has surpassed 100,000, the World Health Organization (WHO) on Saturday called for joint global efforts to effectively halt the spread of the epidemic.

While more countries are following the WHO guideline and have switched to an anti-virus mode, China, which has made remarkable headway in its fight against the outbreak, is sharing its experience with the world and conducting active international cooperation amid a hike in global caseload.

RIISING CASELOAD

By 1500 GMT on Saturday, data from the WHO showed that a total of 103,168 cases have been reported in 95 countries, areas or territories, with 22,355 being outside China.

Among the four countries or areas reporting their first cases in the previous 24 hours, the case in Moldova involves a woman who returned to the country on Saturday by plane from Italy.

Malta confirmed its first case in a 12-year-old girl who visited northern Italy in late February and early March with her family.

Besides, the Maldives reported its first two cases in employees of its Kuredu Island Resort, whereas the transmission type of the first case in the Holy See, jurisdiction of the Bishop of Rome, is still under investigation. Among some of the worst-hit countries, South Korea reported a total of 7,134 cases with 50 deaths on Saturday, up by 367.

The country has raised its four-tier virus alert to the highest level, and designated Daegu, the epicenter of the viral outbreak in the country, and its neighboring county to the south, Cheongdo, as "special care zones."

Japan has reported 463 local cases by Saturday, in addition to 696 cases

linked to the Diamond Princess cruise ship that was previously quarantined near Tokyo.

The Japanese government has announced that tests for COVID-19 will be covered under Japan's national health insurance system starting from Friday, and that it is planning to implement a special law valid until February 2022 to make better provisions to combat the outbreak and declare a state of emergency if necessary.

Iran on Saturday reported a total of 5,823 cases with 145 deaths. The country has already shut down schools until April, while the authorities have advised people to avoid inter-city trips.

By Saturday, Italy has confirmed 5,061 cases with 233 deaths. The government on Sunday decided to keep in quarantine the entire Lombardy region and a number of northern provinces, and close theaters, cinemas and museums across the country.

STRENGTHENING MEASURES

The WHO has recommended that affected countries immediately activate the highest level of national response management protocols, as well as prioritize case finding, testing and isolation, contact tracing, and the quarantine of close contacts.

"Allowing uncontrolled spread should not be a choice of any government, as it will harm not only the citizens of that country but affect other countries as well," the WHO said Saturday in a statement.

Amid the organization's warnings, many countries have rolled out control and prevention measures to tackle the challenge.

As Egypt reported a dramatic increase of 33 new cases on Saturday, the Suez Canal Economic Zone announced the postponement of an international economic and investment forum previously scheduled for March 21-22.

Japan has reported 463 local cases by Saturday, in addition to 696 cases



A view of the City of London, in London, Britain, March 4, 2020. The impact of coronavirus on British economy could "prove large but will ultimately be temporary", Mark Carney, governor of Bank of England (BoE) said Tuesday. (Xinhua)

The Palestinian Health Ministry announced Friday a series of strict measures to be taken in the city of Bethlehem and the West Bank as a whole, including the closure of churches, mosques, schools and universities. It has reported a total 19 cases by Saturday.

According to real-time data maintained by the Center for Systems Science and Engineering at Johns Hopkins University, the caseload in the United States has topped 420 with 17 deaths as of Saturday night.

The U.S. states of Washington, Florida, California, Hawaii, Maryland, Indiana and New York have all declared a state of emergency. Stanford University and the University of Washington have canceled on-campus classes.

Besides, the U.S. government has announced a plan to bring the Grand Princess cruise ship in connection with the first reported death of COVID-19 in California to a non-commercial port and keep the infected passengers in quarantine at a U.S. military base.

During a meeting on Friday, health ministers of the 27 European Union (EU) member states agreed to develop a coordinated approach to prevention and protection of people at risk, and establish coherent containment measures, including evidence-based advice concerning travel to and from risky areas.

SHARING EXPERIENCE

To find the best way to contain a further spread of COVID-19, many countries have turned their eyes to China's anti-epidemic experience.

Chile announced earlier this week that it will send experts to China. "China's situation is extraordinarily important, because the measures they have applied -- mainly measures of public health, community awareness and controlling contact -- are working," said Chilean Health Minister Jaime Manalich.

Chilean Health Minister Jaime Manalich.

Bruce Aylward, team leader of the China-WHO joint mission on COVID-19, told The New York Times that China's counterattack can be replicated but requires speed, money, imagination and political courage.

Charles Powell, a member of Britain's House of Lords and chairman of the Said Business School at Oxford University, said other countries have tried to imitate China's response on a much smaller scale. "One is seeing how the Italian government is trying to isolate two parts of the country and whether it will work. I think people respect China's reaction," he said.

In its latest move to push for global cooperation on fighting the outbreak, China announced on Saturday its decision to donate 20 million dollars to the WHO.

Last week, Chinese health authorities held a video conference with experts from Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Armenia, Turkmenistan and the secretariat of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization to share China's experience.

According to China's EU mission, two video conferences on COVID-19 have been held between officials and experts from China and the EU, with the first on Feb. 12 and the second on Feb. 26.

Since a team of five Chinese health experts arrived at the Iranian capital of Tehran on Feb. 29, they have been learning the epidemic situation on the ground, exchanging experience with the Iranian side, and promoting bilateral cooperation on medicine and health.

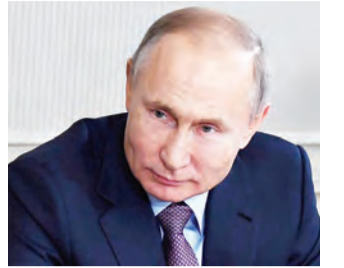
It sets "an excellent example of 'peer to peer' experience sharing," said Maria van Kerkhove, technical lead for the WHO's Health Emergencies Program, adding the WHO is looking forward to seeing more direct interaction of that kind.

Xinhua

Putin states need to limit number of presidential terms for power alternation in Russia

MOSCOW

The limited number of presidential terms is a more preferable option for Russia to guarantee power alternation, Russian President Vladimir Putin said yesterday.



The Russian president made this statement in an interview for the documentary project: "After A Flight over the Abyss." A fragment of the interview was shown on the Vesti Nedely (News of the Week) program on the Rossiya-1 TV Channel yesterday.

"Today we are considering amendments to the Constitution. Very many diverse proposals are being made, including the proposal to remove the number of terms, for which the president may be elected. But still, to my mind, it is better to have a limited number of terms for electing the president to guarantee power alternation (this is important for such a country as ours)," Putin said.

There is nothing extraordinary in the unlimited number of presidential terms, Putin said.

"In many countries, there is no limitation for the terms of electing the president. In the West, in the [United] States, this [rule] was cancelled quite recently from the historical perspective," the Russian president said. Agencies

Malaysia palace denies 'royal coup' in appointing new PM

KUALA LUMPUR

MALAYSIA'S palace yesterday denied allegations of a "royal coup" in appointing the country's prime minister after veteran leader Mahathir Mohamad resigned, saying the king used his discretionary powers prescribed in the constitution.

The palace was responding to an editorial in the UK daily Guardian this week that said Malaysia's king, Sultan Abdullah Sultan Ahmad Shah, had overturned a democratic election result by naming Muhyiddin Yassin as prime minister despite the opposite camp claiming a majority.

Muhyiddin was sworn in last Sunday as the head of a government formed with the support of a corruption-tarnished party that was defeated in the last general election in 2018 by a multi-ethnic group.

The palace said it went beyond its "call of obligation" by meeting all lawmakers and the leaders of various political parties before the king arrived at his decision that Muhyiddin was the person likely to command a majority in parliament.

"It was only after this rigorous and open process of consultation, fully in accordance with the Federal Constitution, that His Majesty exercised his discretion under the Federal Constitution to appoint a new Prime Minister," the palace, Istana Negara, said in a statement.

"Hence, by no means can this process be regarded as a "royal coup" as questionably asserted by the Guardian..."

Muhyiddin is expected to unveil his cabinet early next week.

He has postponed the start of parliamentary proceedings by two months amid opposition efforts, spearheaded by the 94-year-old Mahathir, to challenge his government with a confidence vote.

Mahathir's unexpected resignation as prime minister on Feb 24, after his coalition collapsed amid a power battle, had plunged the Southeast Asian country into political turmoil. Agencies

'Steps being implemented to care for medics across China'

BEIJING

MEASURES rolled out by the central authorities to strengthen the protection of medical workers in the fight against COVID-19 are being implemented across China, a health official said yesterday.

A circular issued by a central leading group on the prevention and control of COVID-19 in late February listed measures in 10 aspects including salary and benefits, work-related injury insurance, daily needs, rotating shifts and mental health services for medics.

Over 20 province-level regions have issued documents to specify the implementation of the measures, said Duan Yong, an official with the National Health Commission, at a press conference in Beijing.

Duan said more efforts will be made to push forward the implementation of the measures and the establishment of long-term mechanisms for the protection of medical professionals across the country.

Hubei to get 28,000 female medical workers

Total 28,000 female medical workers have been sent to the central Chinese province of Hubei including its capital Wuhan to help fight COVID-19 to date, accounting for two-thirds of the total number,



In this Jan 24, 2020 photo, medical workers write names on each other's protective suits for recognition in Zhongnan Hospital of Wuhan University in Wuhan, central China's Hubei province. (XINHUA)

another NHC official said Sunday.

Till date, China has sent 346 medical teams with 42,600 medical staff to Hubei, including 19,000 intensive care medical staff and medical personnel specializing in respiratory, infectious and psychological illnesses, among other fields, Guo Yanhong said at a press conference in Beijing.

She noted that a team of academicians from across the country have also been sent to carry out consultations for severe and critical patients.

"Frontline female medics have played a vital role in treating COVID-19 patients," she said. Xinhua



Prime minister, Muhyiddin Yassin, right, signing a document on his first day at the Prime Minister's Office in Putrajaya. (File photo)

Here's what US has contributed to global efforts amid epidemic

THE public health emergency of the novel coronavirus pneumonia exactly exposed the unhealthy mentality of certain country in handling international relations and cooperation.

The U.S. government was recently reported to have delayed a foreign aid fund it promised and announced to reduce financial support to the World Health Organization (WHO) when the world is at a critical moment in the combat against the epidemic.

Such practice further explained the role of the U.S. in international relations.

U.S. Secretary of State Mike Pompeo announced recently on so-

cial media that Washington would offer up to \$100 million to China and other countries affected by the coronavirus to combat its spread, saying "This commitment demonstrates strong U.S. leadership in response to the outbreak."

However, when asked about the implementation of the fund at a news conference held on Feb.10 in Washington, James Richardson, director of the Office of U.S. Foreign Assistance Resources at the State Department, said the \$100 million was just an upper limit.

Except for some assigned projects to help Laos, he didn't disclose further details about the fund.

Any constructive international

cooperation shall be welcomed in this global public health challenge, including the assistance promised by the U.S. for Southeast Asian countries such as Laos.

However, people would question that the implementation of the assistance obviously doesn't match what Washington has promised. What's more, the delayed aid is also not convincing enough to back the "strong leadership" claimed by the U.S. government.

From announcing a high-profile aid plan to being vague about concrete action, what on earth is the intention of the U.S. government?

When this question is still confusing the world, it is followed by

a 2021 budget proposal that says the White House seeks to halve U.S. funding for the WHO which is leading the fight against the coronavirus outbreak at this critical moment.

Washington explained that to offer direct aid funding to designated countries is a better way to deal with public health emergencies. However, this explanation further confused the world - if the U.S. believes direct aid is more effective, then what is it doing to make its promised \$100-million aid effective?

What it has done is clear. The country was the first to announce a travel ban against China, which clearly violated the WHO's recom-

mendation. Some U.S. politicians even took the lead in spreading conspiracy theories and used the epidemic to discredit China.

Such dark mentality and dangerous practices go against not only the U.S. claim of "strong leadership", but also the bottom line of human civilization.

It's interesting that when most American health experts and citizens hope to work with the world to defeat the epidemic, Washington is politicizing the matter and running counter to the voice of the masses.

In recent years, America, the leading country in the world, has shown decreasing enthusiasm for inter-

national cooperation and reduced support for global multilateral systems, which is the biggest concern of the international society over the country's diplomacy.

The arbitrary practices of the U.S. are constantly worsening the negative impacts on global governance, which is further indicated by the remarks and practices of the U.S. amid the current epidemic.

Countries are interconnected in today's world where one who tries to blow out other's oil lamp will get his beard on fire. As a result, to strengthen cooperation remains the only right choice to cope with challenges.

People's Daily



Customers learn about Tesla's Model 3 at a Tesla Store on West Nanjing Road, Shanghai, Jan. 7, 2020. Photo by Wang Gang, People's Daily Online

Enterprises in Shanghai Lingang new area resume production amid epidemic control

MACHINES at Tesla's gigafactory in Lingang new area of Shanghai Pilot Free Trade Zone started humming again on Feb.10, after silence in the previous half a month amid the novel coronavirus epidemic.

Before entering the factory every morning, nearly 2,000 employees of the carmaker who arrive by shuttle buses or private cars must have their body temperatures checked.

The gigafactory which plans to build 500,000 Tesla models each year is a miracle in the automobile industry, as it was built in only some 10 months.

On Jan. 7, the factory delivered its first batch of Model 3 sedans. According to an employee at a Tesla Store in China, customers will have to wait for months before their orders are delivered.

However, the American automotive company had to postpone its date of production resumption which was scheduled at Jan. 31 because of the epidemic, despite its plan of capacity expansion and quicker delivery of products.

Epidemic prevention remains vital while the resumption of work is also urgent. Pledging to help enterprises overcome difficulties, the Lingang area administrative committee has sent its employees to enterprises above designated size to help the latter enhance epidemic prevention and guarantee smooth resumption of work.

Sun Xiaohu is a staff member of the high-tech industry and scientific and technological innovation department of the Lingang new area administrative committee.

After being appointed as a coordinator for Tesla on Feb.5, Sun immediately got in touch with the company and worked for epidemic control and risk prevention plans.

"Tesla has taken a slew of measures to prevent and control the epidemic. For instance, it has placed disinfection cabinets every 200 meters and separated employees at factory cafeterias.

Besides, it also prohibits the gatherings of three employees and above during off hours," Sun said.

However, there were still problems that couldn't be solved by enterprises alone, such as the huge demand for masks and thermometers of the factory when it resumed work.

Thanks to the assistance offered by the management committee, 10,000 pieces of masks and two infrared thermometers were allocated to Tesla before it resumed production.

What's more, Tesla was also facing the severe challenge of guaranteeing accommodation safety for its employees who come from different parts of the country.

Most of them live in rented houses, and some with their roommates. Such problem was also bothering other enterprises in the new area, posing risks for personnel management.

To solve it, the management committee unveiled 16 guidelines to control epidemic and support enterprises' development. Besides, the committee also requisitioned 5 apartment buildings that have not yet been put into use.

Over 100 employees who used to share apartments and 500 newly-recruited employees of Tesla have moved into the buildings.

Tesla's resumption of work was followed by its upstream and downstream enterprises, which has reassured many who had placed orders for Tesla models.

So far, about 800 enterprises in the Lingang new area have gradually restarted production, and 77 out of the 78 enterprises with a value of over 100 million yuan (\$14.23 million) have set their engines rolling.

The implementation of key investment projects has also been accelerated. On Feb. 13 alone, 12 such projects were inked, with total investment of more than 20 billion yuan.

People's Daily

What's more, Tesla was also facing the severe challenge of guaranteeing accommodation safety for its employees who come from different parts of the country

Russian military delegation expected to visit Ankara next week

ANKARA

TURKISH National Defense Minister Hulusi Akar has said that a Russian military delegation will arrive in Ankara next week to discuss joint patrols in Syria's Idlib.

"On March 15, we will begin joint patrols of the M4 motorway. We started working on the principles of a safe corridor, which will be set up along the highway. A Russian

military delegation will arrive in Ankara at the beginning of next week," Anadolu Agency quotes him as saying.

Russian President Vladimir Putin and his Turkish counterpart Recep Tayyip Erdogan agreed on a ceasefire and a number of other steps aimed at stabilizing the situation in Syria's Idlib province at the talks in Moscow held on March 5.

The agreements reached by them

stipulate that hostilities in Idlib will be terminated along the entire line of contact after the ceasefire comes into force on March 6.

On March 15, Russia and Turkey will begin joint patrols of the area along the M4 highway where a security corridor will be set up. Moscow and Ankara reaffirmed their commitment to preserving Syria's sovereignty and agreed to continue the war on terror.

Agencies

Saudi Arabia 'detains 3 senior royals, including king's brother'

DUBAI

SAUDI Arabia has detained three senior Saudi princes including Prince Ahmed bin Abdulaziz, the younger brother of King Salman, and Prince Mohammed bin Nayef, the king's nephew, for allegedly planning a coup, sources with knowledge of the matter said.

Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, King Salman's son and de facto ruler of the country, which is the world's top oil exporter and a key US ally, has moved to consolidate power since ousting Mohammed bin Nayef as heir to the throne in a 2017 palace coup.

Later that year, he arrested several royals and other prominent Saudis, holding them for months at Riyadh's Ritz Carlton hotel, in an anti-corruption campaign that caused shockwaves at home and abroad. Four sources told Reuters that Prince Ahmed and Mohammed bin Nayef were detained in the latest operation.

Two sources, including a regional source, said Mohammed bin Nayef and his half-brother, Nawaf, were detained while at a private desert camp on Friday.

Crown Prince Mohammed, who is also referred to as MbS, "accused them (the princes) of conducting contacts with foreign powers, including the Americans and others, to carry out a coup d'etat," the regional source said.

"With these arrests, MbS consolidated his full grip on power. It's over with this purge," the source added, indicating that no rivals remain to challenge his succession to the throne.

Another source said the princes were accused of "treason".

The Saudi government media office did not respond to a Reuters request for comment on the detentions, which were first reported by The Wall Street Journal.

The regional source said King Salman had approved the latest detentions. "The king signed off on the arrests," the source said, adding that the king is in a mental and physically sound state.

The king met British Foreign Secretary Dominic Raab on Thursday in the Saudi capital Riyadh. Both King Salman and the crown prince attended a cabinet meeting on Tuesday.

Crown Prince Mohammed, 34, has fueled resentment among some prominent branches of the ruling family by tightening his grip on power. Some critics have questioned his ability to lead after the 2018 murder of a prominent journalist by Saudi agents and the largest-ever attack on Saudi oil infrastructure last year, sources have said.

They said royals seeking to change the line of succession view Prince Ahmed, King Salman's only surviving full brother, as a possible choice who would have support of family members, the security apparatus, and some Western powers.

Saudi authorities have not commented on issues of succession or criticism of the crown prince's leadership. Prince Mohammed is popular among Saudi youth and also has staunch supporters within the royal Al Saud family, which numbers around 10,000 members.

Agencies

Bernie Sanders needs Michigan win in US presidential race, but Joe Biden looking strong with key voting blocs

DETROIT

For Bernie Sanders to remain competitive with Joe Biden in the battle for the Democratic presidential nomination, he'll have to repeat what he did four years ago: Win the Michigan primary.

This time around, that probably will be harder.

Ahead of Tuesday's vote, Biden is showing strength with the same kinds of voters that Sanders, a U.S. senator from Vermont, relied upon in his surprise defeat of front-runner Hillary Clinton in the state in 2016.

Sanders goes into Michigan badly in need of a win after former Vice President Biden seized control of the race on Super Tuesday this week, winning a bevy of Southern states as well as Massachusetts, Minnesota and Texas and causing rivals Michael Bloomberg and Elizabeth Warren to drop out.

Michigan is the most competitive of the six states that hold nominating contests on Tuesday. It offers the largest number of the minimum 1,991 delegates a candidate needs to secure the nomination outright: 125. And it's a critical moment for Sanders to try to recapture momentum before the contest shifts to Florida and Illinois the following week.

In addition to Michigan, Washington state, Mississippi, Missouri and Idaho will be holding primary elections on Tuesday. North Dakota will hold caucuses.

A Sanders loss in Michigan could give Biden an insurmountable lead as the state-by-state nominating process moves into friendly territory for the man best remembered as No. 2 in President Barack Obama's historic administration.

The state also greatly matters for Nov. 3 general election. It flipped Republican in 2016, voting for now-President Donald Trump over Clinton by just over 10,000 votes.

"Michigan is your got-to-win state," said Adam Hollier, an African-American state senator from Detroit who is backing Biden.

Biden parlayed his popularity with black voters into huge gains on Super Tuesday, winning 70% of African-American voters in Alabama and Virginia and 60% in North Carolina and Texas, according to exit polls from Edison Research.

They will be crucial in Michigan, where they comprise almost 14% of the population. Some areas of Detroit are 80% African-American.

"When you look at what he did all across the South, those same demographics are going to be at play in Detroit," Hollier said.

Sanders canceled plans to cam-



Democratic presidential hopeful Bernie Sanders

aign in Mississippi this weekend, focusing instead on Michigan.

UNION LABELS

Sanders may have better luck with union voters in manufacturing-heavy Michigan. He won the state's white working-class voters in 2016, and they remain a reliable part of his base.

Richard Cassel, 28, lost his job as an auto engineer in Detroit last month. That same week, he walked into a Sanders campaign office and volunteered to work the phones.

"For me, Biden is just more of the same. The middle class is working professionals, and everyone else is slowly drowning," Cassel said.

But Biden has long-standing ties to labor unions and routinely talks about how the middle-class and union members built the nation.

The powerful United Auto Workers Union has yet to endorse any candidate, but its spokesman, Brian Rothenberg, said it supports the idea of universal healthcare. Sanders has made a government-run healthcare system, Medicare for All, the heart of his campaign.

"The high cost of healthcare is one of the impacts when you're bargaining, so universal healthcare would actually give you a better ability to bargain at the table," Rothenberg said.

Not all of Sanders' positions play well with the state's unions, though. In particular, he has called for the closure of a 66-year-old crude oil pipeline that runs below portions of the Great Lakes, as part of his sweeping plan to swiftly end the U.S. fossil fuel economy to fight climate change.

"It's going to cost (Sanders) a lot of

support in our union," said Terry Gilligan, business manager of Detroit Pipefitters Local 636.

And two Michigan chapters of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union endorsed Biden on Friday.

Sanders is running ads in Michigan criticizing Biden over his past support for global trade deals such as the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). Biden, in turn, argues that he was a key player in the 2009 auto industry bailout that rescued jobs in the state.

RURAL RUN

In 2016, Sanders performed surprisingly well in the wealthy suburbs outside Detroit and blew Clinton away in rural counties. But there is evidence he won't do that again this time. On Super Tuesday, Biden consistently beat Sanders in suburbs outside of cities including Charlotte, North Carolina, and Houston.

And in rural regions of Minnesota, a Midwestern state like Michigan with a largely white population, Biden smashed Sanders, 43% to 19%, according to exit polls.

This weekend, Biden's campaign will deploy former presidential candidate Amy Klobuchar, a senator from Minnesota, to stump in Grand Rapids - an area that Sanders won in 2016.

Dawn Bryant, 40, a General Motors Co factory worker who was laid off earlier this year, said she was torn between Sanders and Biden.

"I'm divided. I'm not sure. I'm going to keep watching and weighing my options on both of the candidates," she said. "It's a tough, tough call."

Agencies

All Tibetan-inhabited areas in Sichuan out of poverty

THE last 16 impoverished counties in Tibetan-inhabited areas in southwest China's Sichuan province have been removed from the country's list of impoverished counties, the Sichuan Provincial People's Government announced on Feb.18.

The 16 counties include Heishui county, Rangtang county and Aba county in Aba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, and Yajiang county, Luhuo county, and Seda county in Garze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture. So far, all the 32 counties in the Tibetan areas in Sichuan have shaken off poverty, including Muli county in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture.

People of Tibetan ethnic minority group live in two pre-

fectures in Sichuan province, namely, the Aba Tibetan and Qiang Autonomous Prefecture, and the Garze Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture, and in Muli county, Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture.

By the end of 2013, there were 2,063 poverty-stricken villages and 360,000 impoverished people in Tibetan-inhabited areas in Sichuan, and the incidence of poverty stood at 20.1 percent.

As of the end of 2019, all the 32 poor counties and 2,063 poor villages had shaken off poverty, and the poor population and poverty incidence of the Tibetan areas had been reduced to 2,400 and 0.1 percent, respectively.

In recent years, Sichuan province has intensified efforts to formulate favorable policies

and provide strong support and guidance for industrial development and poverty alleviation in Tibetan-inhabited areas, concentrating superior forces for poverty alleviation in impoverished Tibetan-inhabited areas.

In 2013, Sichuan province focused its efforts on the implementation of six projects for improving people's livelihood, with capital projects targeting poverty-stricken counties in Tibetan areas and favorable policies prioritizing support for such industries as education, health, transportation, and water conservancy.

In 2017, the province issued guidelines on four major tasks for poverty alleviation, including enhancing support for poverty alleviation, accelerating

construction of industrial parks, and implementing the project for promoting the role of talents in revitalization of rural areas, further intensifying support and assistance for severely impoverished areas.

Sichuan has accumulatively allocated 10.76 billion yuan (about \$1.53 billion) as special government funds for poverty alleviation and integrated around 28.69 billion yuan of government funds concerning agriculture and rural areas to help with the task of alleviating poverty in Tibetan-inhabited areas.

The province pays high attention to improving the lives of Tibetan people. The province has earnestly implemented a strict responsibility system to address school dropout rates and ensure

attendance, and created five innovative systems to make sure that all school-age children from poor families receive compulsory education.

The five innovative systems include comparing information of household registration system and student status management system on a regular basis, implementing centralized management for identity cards of students enrolled in compulsory education, and compensating overage students for the school education they have missed.

Besides, the province has promoted expansion and quality improvement of free education by continuously implementing 15-year free education in regions inhabited by ethnic minorities and three-year free vocational

education after nine-year free compulsory education in Tibetan-inhabited areas.

It has made efforts to speed up standardization of medical and health institutions throughout the province. So far, health centers in towns and clinics in villages of impoverished counties of Sichuan province have all met relevant standards.

In addition, the individual contributions of Sichuan's poor population to the basic medical insurance schemes for urban and rural citizens are fully paid by government, while the proportion of medical expenses paid by poor households for medical treatment in their counties has been kept within 5 percent.

Sichuan has also worked with

various forces around the country to form concerted efforts to help its Tibetan-inhabited areas overcome poverty.

Under the province's efforts to give stronger support to targeted poor areas and encourage the eastern region to help in the alleviation of poverty in the western region, 34 counties in 8 cities from Guangdong and Zhejiang provinces have partnered with 32 impoverished counties in Sichuan's Tibetan-inhabited areas.

The province also communicated with the 5 units of the central government helping lift targeted Tibetan-inhabited areas out of poverty, and helped expand and innovate poverty alleviation ideas for 9 counties in these areas. **People's Daily**



A Barcelona fan wears a face mask in an attempt to protect themselves from the coronavirus uses his mobile prior a Spanish La Liga soccer match between Barcelona and Real Sociedad at the Camp Nou stadium in Barcelona, Spain, Saturday, March 7, 2020. (AP Photo)

Virus causes canceled events, empty stadiums worldwide

DÜSSELDORF, Germany

THE escalating virus outbreak brought more disruption to the sporting world on Saturday, with games canceled or played without spectators and news of possible quarantine for some athletes.

Saturday's game between Strasbourg and Paris Saint-Germain in the French soccer league was postponed the day before, while players from Liverpool and Bournemouth were the first in the English Premier League to go without pre-game handshakes.

The Barcelona marathon was postponed from March 15 to Oct. 25. Organizers offered the estimated 17,000 runners, about half of them from abroad, the choice of running the rescheduled race or reserving a place for March 2021.

British sporting events could soon be held without spectators, with a meeting between sports bodies, broadcasters and the government set to take place on Monday. A full slate of Serie A soccer games in Italy, which has Europe's largest number of virus cases, will be played Sunday in empty stadiums.

Some fans wore face masks to Liverpool's game, and to Barcelona's win over Real Sociedad in Spain. In Germany the substitutes' benches were disinfected ahead of Wolfsburg's Bundesliga game against Leipzig. Time is running out to decide whether African Cup of Nations qualifiers will go ahead as planned this month.

In the world of cricket, England's squad was handed "immunity packs" including hand sanitizer, sterilizing wipes and nasal sprays during its tour of Sri Lanka. Fist bumps replaced handshakes at a warm-up match. Australian player Marcus Labuschagne used hand sanitizer as his team lost to South Africa in a one-day international on Saturday.

In a rare case of an elite athlete being directly affected by the outbreak, the women's Six Nations rugby game between Scotland and France on Saturday was postponed after a Scottish player was diagnosed with the virus. The Scotstoun leisure complex in Glasgow, where the game was due to be played, was closed.

The Russian national women's football team is facing quarantine after playing a game in Germany amid the escalating COVID-19 outbreak.

Team doctor Eduard Bezuglov told Russian news agency RIA Novosti on Friday that the players' clubs had been given recommendations based on a decree from Moscow mayor Sergei Sobyenin.

The city has ordered anyone returning from countries with virus outbreaks, including Germany, to isolate themselves for

14 days.

"I'm sure they will all follow the recommendations. After all, you don't joke with these things. Looking after the players' health is the main thing right now," Bezuglov told RIA Novosti.

Russia beat Kosovo 5-0 in a European Championship qualifier played in the German city of Wiesbaden on Friday because Russia doesn't recognize Kosovo as a state.

Around the world, more countries are canceling sporting events or holding them without spectators.

The start of the inaugural African basketball league in Senegal this week was postponed and at least two African countries, Morocco and Tunisia, have banned either all or visiting fans from attending soccer games in continental club competitions.

A European Tour golf event in Kenya scheduled to start March 12 was postponed indefinitely after the Kenyan government decided to stop all gatherings involving international visitors for at least a month.

The governing body of African soccer has some big decisions to make with upcoming events, including the African Nations Championship in Cameroon next month. That's Africa's second-biggest soccer tournament. Cameroon has confirmed its first case of the virus.

All of the nine African countries with confirmed cases are also due to host qualifying games for the 2021 African Cup of Nations, Africa's biggest soccer event, at the end of this month. The Confederation of African Football said Saturday it had asked a team of medical experts to monitor the situation.

"We are not extremely worried but remain vigilant with regards to future matches and tournaments," CAF said. It added: "If the situation requires and in agreement with the countries concerned, matches behind closed doors, postponements or even cancellations are envisaged."

Saudi Arabia announced there would be no spectators for competitions starting Saturday. The kingdom has five confirmed cases and has restricted other gatherings, including halting all pilgrimages in Mecca, Islam's holiest site.

The Central Asian nation of Kyrgyzstan has not reported any virus cases but is canceling all "mass sports events" as a precaution "until the situation stabilizes," the State Agency for Youth, Fitness and Sports said in a statement.

Central Asian governments have been wary of the virus spreading. The Asian weightlifting championships, a key Olympic qualifier, were called off Friday. They had been due to be hosted by Uzbekistan next month.

AP

Absa Bank Tanzania set to sponsor celebrated golfer

By Guardian Reporter

ABSA Bank Tanzania has said it has fully sponsored local golf celebrity, Victor Mbunda, on his mission as Tanzania's flag-bearer in the coming Kenya Open Championship.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Absa Bank Tanzania Managing Director, Abdi Mohamed, said the bank was happy with Mbunda's ambition that has prompted the bank to support him.

"We always aim to bring possibilities into life and, knowing that Mbunda is the current number one golfer in Tanzania, it is our willingness to be part of his success story by facilitating him into this tournament," he said.

He said the bank is always proud to be associated with sports so as to inspire Tanzanian youths, as Mbunda does, into showing they are capable of brushing shoulders with world-class sportsmen.

Kenya Open is an annual golf tournament founded in 1967. It has been an event on Europe-based Challenge Tour schedule since 1991, before being affixed onto the European Tour in 2019.

The tournament's past champions include Seve Ballesteros, Ian Woosnam, Ken Brown, Christy O'Connor Jr and Trevor Immelman.

"Mbunda is a symbol of ambitions. Absa Bank Tanzania respects the ambitions of our customers as well as those of our nation at large," the bank's official disclosed.



Absa Bank Tanzania Managing Director, Abdi Mohamed (C), hands over a box containing some golf gears and travelling documents to Tanzania's renowned golfer, Victor Mbunda, on the player's mission as Tanzania's flag-bearer in the coming Kenya Open Golf Championship to be staged at Karen Country Club in Nairobi, Kenya on date to be disclosed soon. Mbunda's participation is full sponsored by Absa Bank Tanzania. Looking on (R) is Absa Bank Tanzania's Head of Marketing and Corporate Relations, Aron Luhanga, and veteran golfers, Martin Warioba (second left) and Marian Mugo. The brief occasion was held in Dar es Salaam last weekend. (Photo: Correspondent)

"As a way of putting in action the noble aim of our 'Africanacity' maxim, we feel obliged to give Mbunda support, and we believe he won't let us down," he said.

Earlier, Absa Bank Tanzania Head of Marketing and Corporate Relations, Aron Luhanga, said Mbunda would be fully sponsored by the institution.

"We have provided him with a return ticket to Nairobi, allowances as well as golf gears,"

he said. Luhanga urged Tanzanians to play down the misguided notion that golf was reserved for the affluent.

He disclosed the sport is like any other sports and is open to people from all walks of life, whether they are driven by the urge to keep fit or are out to make money.

Mbunda, flanked by veteran golfers Martin Warioba and Marian Mugo, thanked Absa

Bank Tanzania for giving him a helping hand, and promised not to let them down.

"I am willing to be brand ambassador for Absa Bank Tanzania in the tournament as well as in other future golf contests. You have showed the way," he said.

The four-day regional classic is scheduled to take place at the Karen Country Club in Nairobi, Kenya on date to be disclosed soon.

NBA now tells teams to plan for empty arenas; LeBron says no way

NEW YORK

THE NBA wants its teams to prepare to play games without fans if necessary because of the coronavirus crisis, but LeBron James already says he won't play basketball in an empty arena.

The league circulated a memo to its teams Friday telling them to prepare in case it becomes necessary to play games without fans or media, as sports leagues in Europe have already done. The memo detailed potential actions that teams might need to take "if it were to become necessary to play a game with only essential staff present."

But when James was asked about that possibility after he scored 37 points in his Los Angeles Lakers' 113-103 win over the league-leading Milwaukee Bucks on Friday night, the NBA's leading active scorer was definitive.

"We play games without the fans? Nah, that's impossible," James said. "I ain't playing if I ain't got the fans in the crowd. That's who I play for. I play for my teammates, and I play for the fans. That's what it's all about. So if I show up to an arena and there ain't no fans in there, I ain't playing. They can do what they want to do."

The memo, obtained by The Associated Press, says teams should identify which team and arena people would be necessary to conduct games, and be able to communicate quickly with non-essential staff, as well as ticket holders and corporate partners.

Teams should also be prepared "for the possibility of implementing temperature checks on players, team staff, referees, and anyone else who is essential to conducting such a game in the team's arena."

Contents of the memo were first reported by The Athletic.

The letter also says teams should plan for scenarios in which media could attend games under revised media policies.

The league had already sent a memo to teams this week offering 10 recommendations to players with hopes of decreasing risks of getting the virus – among them, not taking items such as pens, markers, balls and jerseys from autograph seekers.

An NCAA Division III men's basketball tournament game on the campus of Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland, was played in an empty gym Friday in what was believed to be the first U.S. sports event held without fans because of the coronavirus, though an NCAA COVID-19 advisory panel said it is "not recommending cancellation or public spacing of athletic and related events scheduled to occur in public spaces across the United States."

Meanwhile, in San Francisco, Eric Paschall scored 23 points, including a pair of free throws with 51.7 seconds remaining, and the Golden State Warriors beat the Philadelphia 76ers 118-114 on Saturday night to snap a 10-game home losing streak.

Playing once again without Stephen Curry, the Warriors trailed most of the game and were down by eight entering the fourth quarter.

Curry, who returned from a 58-game absence to play Thursday night,

was diagnosed with the flu and was held out. The Warriors termed it a seasonal flu and said that Curry has begun treatment. The team also said that Curry is not at specific risk for COVID-19 or coronavirus.

"I know his young son was sick for a couple days so probably got it from his son," Golden State coach Steve Kerr said. "Our doctors checked him out and it is the basic flu."

Philadelphia was missing stars Joel Embiid and Ben Simmons, while Golden State also was without Draymond Green.

Damian Lee's three-point play put Golden State ahead 113-111. Tobias Harris answered with a go-ahead 3-pointer, but was called for a three-second violation on Philadelphia's next possession following Lee's missed 3-pointer.

After Paschall made his

two free throws, the Sixers missed three consecutive shots, including a 32-foot jumper by Shake Milton. Mychal Mulder then made two free throws and Philadelphia got the ball back, but Furkan Korkmaz stepped out-of-bounds.

"It took until the fourth quarter to really get much traction defensively," Kerr said. "Philadelphia did a good job beating us inside for the first three quarters ... but our guys hung in there and kept the game close. And then fourth quarter really turned up the defense and we got a lot of great individual performances, too."

Lee finished with 24 points and six rebounds to help the Warriors avoid being swept by the Sixers in the season series. Marquese Chriss added 13 points, 10 rebounds and eight assists.

Golden State won at Chase Center for the first time since Jan. 18.

"We were just making the right play for each other," Chriss said. "We were playing unselfish, we were cutting without the ball."

Harris scored 24 points and Al Horford had 22 points and 10 rebounds for Philadelphia. The Sixers fell a half-game behind the Indiana Pacers for fifth place in the East.

"The closeout period, the fourth quarter, defensively we were poor," Sixers coach Brett Brown said. "When you look at bottom-line stuff, giving up almost 60 points in the paint, it's tough to win (in) any situation if you're giving up that many points in the paint and at the rim."

AP



LeBron James

AP



Brazilian football legend Ronaldinho (C) and his brother Roberto (R) arrive at Asuncion's Palace of Justice after being found using fake passports to enter the country (AFP Photo)

Judge in Asuncion orders Brazil football icon Ronaldinho held

ASUNCION

BRAZILIAN football legend Ronaldinho was behind bars on Saturday after being arrested for entering Paraguay on a fake passport, a judge in Asuncion confirmed Saturday.

The two-time world player of the year and his brother Roberto, who was detained with him, had spent the night in the headquarters of the Specialized Police Group in the capital city.

The pair appeared Saturday morning before Judge Clara Ruiz Diaz at the Palace of Justice.

Prosecutor Osmar Legal said Ronaldinho -- his full name is Ronaldo de Assis Moreira -- and his brother were being charged with using false official documents, and he requested that they be held in preventive detention.

The judge agreed. "They committed a serious act that threatens the state," she said, and ordered them held.

A lawyer for the brothers, Tarek Tuma, called the judge's decision "irrational (and) arbitrary" and demanded that the judge recuse herself.

- Visitors and fast food -

Ronaldinho was the star of Brazil's 2002 world championship team; he played professionally for teams including Paris Saint-Germain, AC Milan and Barcelona, and was considered one of the greatest players of all time.

He spent Friday night in an administrative office in police headquarters that had been converted to serve as a cell, said Commissioner Blas Vera.

Ronaldinho, winner of the pres-

tigious Ballon d'Or prize in 2005, was allowed visitors -- one brought him blankets and bedding -- and was even permitted to order a late dinner from a fast-food chain.

The incident began on Wednesday when the brothers arrived at the Asuncion international airport, coming from Brazil, and showed their passports to immigration police, who did not immediately spot the problem.

But hours later, when the passports were determined to be fake, investigators raided the room Ronaldinho was staying in and seized the brothers' identity cards and passports.

Ronaldinho said the documents had been given him by people who had invited him to attend conferences sponsored by charities working with disadvantaged children.

The soccer legend was also scheduled to open a casino belonging to a Brazilian businessman.

Brazilian authorities revoked Ronaldinho's passport in late 2018 after he failed to pay a \$2.5 million fine for building a pier in a protected lake, Brazilian media reported.

A representative of Ronaldinho, Wilmondes Sousa Lira, who is Brazilian, was charged with producing and using false documents as well as criminal association and was ordered held in the Tacumbu prison.

Two Paraguayan women, Maria Isabel Gayoso and Esperanza Apolonia Caballero, were charged with abuse of identity documents and criminal association.

Prosecutors said they had provided the fake documents to the Brazilians. They were placed under house arrest.

AFP

Ahly avenge horror loss to Sundowns by reaching semi-finals

JOHANNESBURG

AL Ahly of Egypt avenged a humiliating loss to Mamelodi Sundowns of South Africa last season by drawing 1-1 in Pretoria on Saturday to win a CAF Champions League quarter-final.

Record eight-time African champions Ahly led 2-0 after the first leg last weekend and qualified 3-1 on aggregate for a semi-finals showdown with Wydad Casablanca of Morocco.

At the same stage last season, Sundowns crushed Ahly 5-0 in Pretoria to inflict the heaviest defeat on them since a six-goal loss in the 1942 Egyptian Cup final.

Wydad scraped through 2-1 overall after losing 1-0 at Etoile Sahel of Tunisia, for whom leading Champions League scorer Karim Aribi notched his 11th of the season.

Raja Casablanca reached the semi-finals after a 15-year absence despite losing 1-0 away to TP Mazembe of the Democratic Republic of Congo as they won the first leg 2-0 at home.

On Friday, Zamalek of Egypt knocked out defending champions Esperance of Tunisia, falling 1-0 in Tunis to an early penalty but going through 3-2 on aggregate.

The two-leg semi-finals during May will pit Cairo and Casablanca clubs against each other with Raja facing Zamalek and Wydad tackling Ahly.

AFP

Liverpool bounce back, Arsenal close gap on top four

LONDON

LIVERPOOL moved to within nine points of claiming the Premier League title by coming from behind to beat Bournemouth 2-1 as Tottenham and Wolves missed the chance to put pressure on Chelsea for a top-four finish.

Sheffield United were the big winners in the race for a place in the Champions League next season with a 1-0 win over Norwich to move up to sixth, while Arsenal moved to within five points of the top four by beating West Ham 1-0.

Liverpool had suffered three defeats in four games in all competitions, including their first in the Premier League for 45 matches at Watford last weekend.

Callum Wilson's controversial early opener threatened another major upset. But all of Liverpool's setbacks of late have come away from Anfield and they set an English top-flight record for 22 consecutive home league wins as two quickfire goals from Mohamed Salah and Sadio Mane turned the game around.

The runaway league leaders still needed a miraculous goal-line clearance from James Milner to deny Ryan Fraser an equaliser, but defeat keeps Bournemouth marooned in the bottom three.

"There's nothing good in losing football games but it makes you aware of how special it is to win football games. That's what we had in the last 10 days or two weeks when we lost games," said Liverpool manager Jurgen Klopp.

"I was absolutely happy about the result, the three points and the performance because I knew it would be tricky for different reasons."

- Top four race tightens -
The spread of the coronavirus



Arsenal's Lacazette finished from close range after being teed up by a header from team-mate Mesut Ozil in the second half. (Agencies)

could have a big impact on the Reds' title celebrations in the weeks to come with the possibility of games being played behind closed doors.

But the abandonment of the normal pre-match ritual of handshakes was the only disruption to the Premier League calendar this weekend.

Despite the coronavirus risk there was no halt to players celebrating wildly with each other and Arsenal players piled on top of Alexandre Lacazette after a long VAR review of the Frenchman's winner at the Emirates.

Mesut Ozil was originally flagged offside as he latched onto Pierre-Emerick Aubameyang's deflected shot and headed down for Lacazette to sweep home.

But the goal was finally given after a delay of several minutes to move Arsenal to within five points of the top four.

"They deserved more because of the chances they created. This is football, sometimes you don't get what you deserve," said Lacazette.

Spurs halted a run of four straight defeats in all competitions with a 1-1 draw at Burnley to stay a point ahead of their north London rivals despite Jose Mourinho following through on his threat to rest players ahead of Tuesday's trip to Leipzig in the Champions League.

Tottenham got off to the worst possible start at Turf Moor when Chris Wood bundled home after Hugo Lloris spilled Jay Rodriguez's shot.

However, Mourinho introduced Giovanni Lo Celso and Lucas Moura at the break with club record Tanguy Ndombele hooked.

The visitors got an immediate reward when Dele Alli stroked home from the penalty spot after Ben Mee chopped down Erik Lamela and Mourinho was scathing of Ndombele's contribution.

"He is a player with a great talent and he has to know that he has to do much better," said Mourinho. "I cannot keep giving him opportunities to play."

Wolves missed the chance to move into the top four as a disappointing 0-0 draw at home to Brighton left them still two points adrift of Chelsea in fifth.

Sheffield United moved

above Manchester United and Tottenham to further their dreams of Champions League football next season thanks to captain Billy Sharp's winner to beat bottom-of-the-table Norwich 1-0.

"The wheels haven't fallen off again today," said Blades boss Chris Wilder. "They show no signs of (doing so) at the moment."

Roy Hodgson celebrated his new contract as Crystal Palace boss with a 1-0 win over Watford as the Eagles moved into the top half of the table.

Newcastle also secured the guarantee their survival courtesy of Allan Saint-Maximin's strike to beat 10-man Southampton 1-0.

AFP

Barcelona confidence unaffected by fan frustration, says Setien

BARCELONA

QUIQUE Setien insisted Barcelona have not lost their confidence, despite needing a dubious late penalty, converted by Lionel Messi, to scrape past Real Sociedad 1-0 on Saturday inside a frustrated Camp Nou.

Messi's 24th goal of the season, and fifth in four games, was enough to save Barca, despite a drab display that threatened to bring more disappointment following last weekend's loss against Real Madrid.

As tension grew inside Camp Nou, some of the home fans whistled to express their dissatisfaction, which Jordi Alba then seemed to confront when celebrating a late goal, ruled out for offside, by putting his fingers in his ears.

"We have not lost confidence in what we are doing," said Setien. "The fans sometimes don't expect the opposition to restrict you but you have to take into account that Real Sociedad are a great team."

On his own reaction, Alba said: "I respect the fans but the fans have to respect me. Nobody likes to be whistled, and even less after 15 minutes at 0-0."

Madrid drop to second in the table but can restore their one-point advantage at the top by winning away at struggling Real Betis on Sunday night.

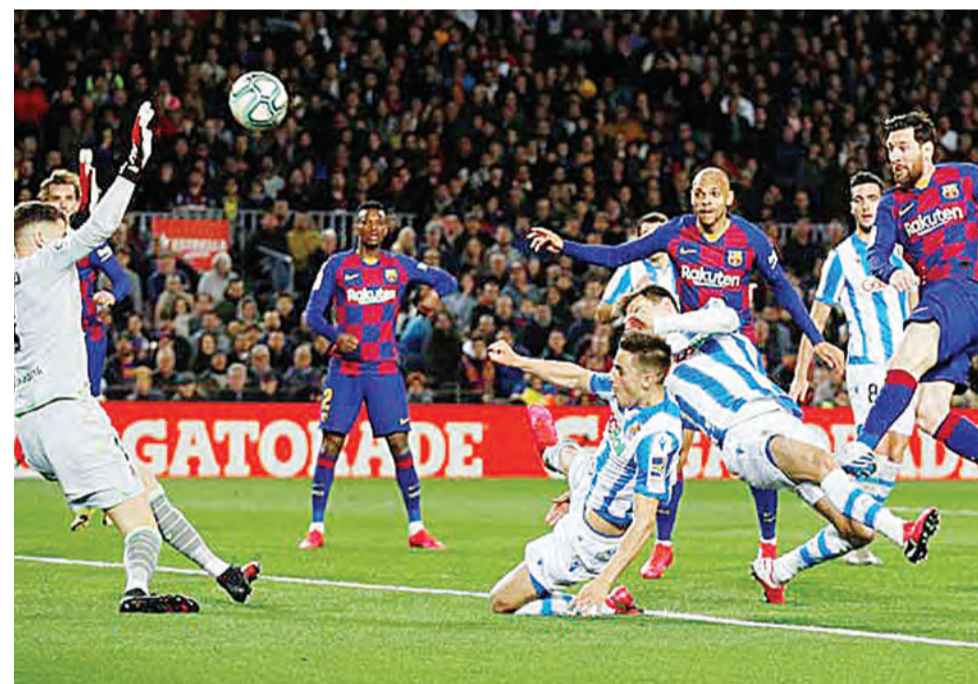
Their Clasico victory at the Santiago Bernabeu put the pressure back on Barcelona, whose response was hardly resounding, with Setien's side ultimately reliant on VAR to spot a handball in the 81st minute from Robin Le Normand.

The lack of appeal and the chunk of play that passed before VAR intervened made the decision all the more surprising and La Real's players were still shaking their heads at the final whistle.

Yet the win was all-important for the Catalans at the end of another week dominated by headlines surrounding problems off the pitch.

Setien said he had apologised to the squad after his assistant Eder Sarabia was recorded launching into a number of foul-mouthed rants against his own players during the game against Madrid, even if there were chants in support of Sarabia before kick-off.

"When the club is in a moment



Barcelona's Lionel Messi shoots at goal. Reuters

of weakness, these kinds of things come out," said Gerard Pique. "It's normal for an assistant coach, with the adrenaline high, to express himself. We see it as normal."

- Braithwaite causes trouble -

Barcelona created a handful of openings during the first half and Martin Braithwaite, making his first start, was at the heart of most of them, with his willingness to run in behind offering a good alternative in attack.

Twice Messi sent Braithwaite free early on but his lung-busting runs ended in tame shots. When he did hit one into the net, he was pulled back for offside.

Messi created a chance of his own by hunting the ball down in the corner before retrieving a chipped Sergio Busquets pass, only to scuff the finish.

The chances came more frequently in the second half as Barca turned the screw. Messi slid one past the post and then sliced

another over from Antoine Griezmann's cushioned header.

Ivan Rakitic's drive was parried, Pique's header too straight and Alba's ball across the face of goal just too far ahead of the diving Rakitic.

As chances went begging, La Real sensed an opportunity. Nacho Monreal flashed wide and Alexander Isak hammered over.

But just as the tension was growing, Barcelona were leant a helping hand,

with VAR reviewing a handball from Le Normand and referee Juan Martinez Munuera persuaded to point to the spot. Messi made no mistake.

Atletico Madrid will hope for a tighter contest against Liverpool in the Champions League on Wednesday than their frantic 2-2 draw earlier on Saturday against Sevilla.

Joao Felix looked as sharp at the Wanda Metropolitano as he has done all season and completed a four-minute comeback for Atletico after Alvaro Morata's penalty cancelled out Luuk de Jong's opener for Sevilla.

But Lucas Ocampos levelled with another penalty at the end of a pulsating first half, again with the help of VAR after a foul by Kieran Trippier.

The draw will be more gratefully received by Sevilla, who sit third in La Liga and two points ahead of Atletico, who stay fifth after missing an opportunity to close the gap.

Fourth-placed Getafe had Mauro Arambarri sent off late on as they drew 0-0 at home to relegation battlers Celta Vigo.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Liverpool bounce back, Arsenal close gap on top four

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19

5 EATV MONDAY

TONIGHT @ 9:00

UJENZI

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
14:00 Wanawake Live (r)
14:30 Bongo Hills
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Copa Coca-Cola (r)
16:00 Akili & Me (r)
16:30 #HASTAG
17:00 SSELEKT
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNews
18:30 Music/Soap
19:00 EATV SAA 1
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 UJENZI
21:30 5SPORTS LIVE
22:30 Bongo Hills

TONIGHT on EATV
Find out how using glass blocks from Canghui Traders Limited can improve your home decor

And Tanfix Quality Choice has an innovative solution for wall fungus

It's all on Ujenzi at 9PM

eastafrica 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

Hatton survives carnage for two-shot lead at Arnold Palmer Invitational

FLORIDA

TYRRELL Hatton survived brutal conditions to eke out a two-stroke lead over former champions Rory McIlroy and Marc Leishman in the third round at the Arnold Palmer Invitational in Florida on Saturday.

On a day when a proverbial U.S. Open broke out and Brooks Koepka shot the highest score of his PGA Tour career, Hatton managed an excellent one-over-par 73 at Bay Hill in Orlando.

Boosted by an unlikely 30-foot birdie at the par-four 18th, the Englishman in search of his first PGA Tour title posted a six-under 210 total with one round left.

"You could be made to look pretty silly at times without hitting too bad a shot," Hatton told reporters.

Northern Irishman McIlroy (73), who bogeyed the last after firing his second shot into rocks, and Australian Leishman (72) were equal second on four-under.

South African Christiaan Bezuidenhout, South Korean Im Sung-jae, New Zealander Danny Lee and American Harris English were three strokes behind.

South Korean Sung Kang, who shared the halfway lead with Hatton, triple-bogeyed the final hole after pulling his drive out-of-bounds. He previously had also tripled the 11th hole, shot 78 and fell five behind.

Kang was not the only player to run up a big number on a day of carnage as strong winds, rock-hard greens and thick rough conspired to prevent anyone from breaking 70 at the event for the first time in 40 years.

"It felt like a U.S. Open out there. It's a nice change from the norm," said world number one McIlroy, referring to the major championship which is often the toughest test of the year.

Leishman could hardly believe he had not broken par. "I added my score up and did a double-take," he said. "It added up to 72 (but) felt like a 65. Par was a great score. I like it when you have to play really well to shoot even par."

Of the leading eight players, only McIlroy, Leishman and Bezuidenhout avoided a double-bogey or worse on a day when a few bogeys were pretty much unavoidable.

Even Hatton had a double, at the par-four ninth, while Lee doubled the last, and only then by sinking a 20-foot putt.

McIlroy predicted it would be a similarly stern test on Sunday, when the winds again are forecast to blow.

"Tomorrow it's all about keeping the big numbers off your card and playing as conservatively as possible," he said.

"I'm pretty confident in my game."

American Koepka, the man McIlroy recently displaced as world number one, shot 81, which was nevertheless better than three others.

Max Homa was the only player to break par, shooting a 70 that included a double-bogey at the last. He trailed Hatton by seven shots.

"It's nice to have a two-shot lead but today proved that there are doubles and triples just around the corner, so that two-shot lead can go extremely quickly," said Hatton. **REUTERS**

Dar junior tennis players shine in ITF tourney



Female tennis players, who form Tanzania's national junior tennis team, are presented with a trophy following their triumph in the ITF/CAT East Africa junior tournament which was held in Uganda last week. Standing (R) is one of the competition's officials. PHOTO: COURTESY OF NICHOLAS LERINGA

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S national junior tennis team has won the U-12 girls event of the International Tennis Federation (ITF)/Confederation of African Tennis (CAT) East Africa junior tournament which was held in Uganda last week.

The competition took place at Lugogo Tennis Club from Tuesday to Saturday and it involved six countries, Burundi, Seychelles, Kenya, Ethiopia, Tanzania and hosts

Uganda.

Moshi-based tennis coach, Charles Laizer, who was one of the Tanzania team's coaches, said the championship was used as qualifying tournament for Africa Junior Championship which will be held in Morocco in September.

He pointed out the team, which was headed by coach Salum Mvita, made their way back to Dar es Salaam yesterday night.

He said Tanzania was represented by boys and girls' U-12 teams, but the girls' team so far

performed well whereas the boys' team ended last.

The coach mentioned the girls who competed in the Uganda tournament as Natasha Singo, Eunice Kimario and Irene Swai.

Laizer said the girls collected 14 points from five games played. They won 3-0 against Uganda, Seychelles, Kenya and Burundi respectively and lost 2-1 to Ethiopia.

"The girls team played very well and we are happy for them, they have emerged as champions and earned direct qualification for the Africa Junior Cham-

ampionship (AJTC) finals which will be held in Morocco in September, we are happy for them," he said.

He named teams which competed in boys' event as Uganda, Burundi, Tanzania, Kenya, Seychelles and Ethiopia.

Tanzania, he disclosed, was represented by Hillary Ndosu, Ali Hamisi and Japheth Pancras in the boys' team.

The boys' team lost 3-0 to Uganda, Ethiopia, Kenya and Sudan respectively.

They thereafter regrouped to post 2-1 victory over Burundi

and then hammered Seychelles 3-0.

Laizer stopped short of commenting on boys' performance at the event, saying he is not well placed to comment on the team.

"The players who did well at the championship are girls from Moshi where I train, I know how prepared they were, but for the boys I don't know, I think coach Mvita can comment well on the team performance," he said.

Mvita yesterday could not be reached on his mobile phone as he was travelling from Uganda.

Former national junior tennis team's head coach, Nicholas Leringa, who is now coaching Seychelles national junior team, attributed the Tanzania girls' performance at the Uganda event to preparations and hard work.

He said the girls were at their best during the championships, but for Tanzania boys, he said they were not well prepared.

"All girls who represented Tanzania at the event are from Moshi, Laizer is the head coach there, all praises should go to him," he added.

"The team played very well and no wonder they emerged top in the girls' category...it was good seeing the Tanzania girls play well," he disclosed.

"For the boys' team, I cannot comment much, Mvita is the one who can comment, but it is not surprising to see the boys perform badly at the zonal championships," he said.



Visual artist Athuman Hamis, popularly known as Ochu winner of an art competition known as 'Jiachie na Kili Canvas 2020', greets Minister for Natural Resources and Tourism, Hamis Kigwangalla, at the just ended Kilimanjaro Marathon in Moshi. PHOTO: COURTESY OF TANZANIA BREWERIES LIMITED

Boxers set to start preps for Olympic Qualifiers

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

TANZANIA'S national amateur boxers' non-residential camp is set to start in Dar es Salaam on Wednesday to prepare for the France Championships, which will be used as qualification for the 2020 Olympics.

Open Boxing Federation of Tanzania (OBFT) secretary general Lukelo Wililo said four boxers making the squad are expected to camp at the National Indoor Stadium to prepare for the France Championships which will be held in May.

He said the four are the ones who represented the country in Africa Championship in Senegal last month.

He mentioned the pugilists as Yusuf Changalawe, Haruna Swanga, Boniface Mligwa and Alex Isendi.

Wililo said Changalawe and Isendi are the ones who will

represent the country in the France Championships while Swanga and Mligwa will be the former's sparring partners.

Isendi and Changalawe, as disclosed by Wililo, were selected to compete in France due to their impressive performance in Senegal.

Wililo added OBFT believes that if well prepared they can qualify for 2020 Olympics which is expected to take place in Tokyo from July 24-August 6.

The OBFT official said the two pugilists will be under head coach David Yomba Yomba.

"The non-residential camp starts at the National Indoor Stadium on Wednesday, the boxers who will compete in France are two and they will have other two sparring partners," he noted.

"We are confident that if well prepared our boxers can qualify for Tokyo Olympics," he said.

He also said after the National Indoor Stadium's non-residential training, the boxers will enter into residential camp.

He, nevertheless, stopped short of saying when and where will the camp be, pointing out that discussions with other stakeholders, aiming at accessing the camp's backing, are in progress.

"The France Championships is the last qualifying event, the federation wants our boxers to have good preparations," he noted.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

WHERE DID YOU GET T-SHIRT?



FROM MY ex!