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National Pg 2
Morogoro's strategic projects in limelight



National Pg 3
Performance of Dodoma grape farmers



National Pg 4
Facilitation of scrap metal business



National Pg 5
Marking International Day of Peace



Key events slated for October 2020

LONDON

EACH month Graphic News publishes a World Agenda of forthcoming events that will shape the world in the month ahead. Events in October include the General Election in Tanzania, the US vice-presidential debate between Mike Pence and Kamala Harris, Russia's mass vaccination campaign against coronavirus, a referendum on replacing Chile's dictatorship-era constitution, and the 30th anniversary of Germany's reunification.

Oct 1, Russia: A mass vaccination campaign against coronavirus is set to begin, with Moscow declaring that trials have been completed and doctors and teachers will be the first to receive the vaccine.

Oct 3, Germany: The reunification of East and West was formally completed 30 years ago. The anniversary coincides with the imminent expiry of the "Solidarity" tax, introduced to raise money for infrastructure projects in the former communist East Germany.

Oct 3, Italy: The first hearing in the trial of interior minister Matteo Salvini (pictured) opens in Sicily. The right-wing politician was charged after



In Russia a mass vaccination campaign against coronavirus is set to begin

refusing to allow a ship carrying African migrants to land on the Italian island of Lampedusa in August 2019.

Oct 7, US: Vice President Mike Pence, President Donald Trump's running mate in the 2020 election, debates Kamala Harris, presidential contender Joe Biden's running mate, in Salt Lake City, Utah. Pence's challenge will be to deflect Harris's known firepower.

Oct 18, Bolivia: Bolivians vote in a presidential election, a re-run of last year's ballot which plunged the Andean country into turmoil. Supporters of ousted president Evo Morales, who is barred from standing again, have paralysed the nation with their street blockades.

Oct 18, Iran: The UN arms embargo against Iran is set to expire. Ahead of the deadline, the US administration has authorised new sanctions and claims that the embargo has been restored - a move its European allies dispute.

Oct 25, Chile: Voters take part in a referendum on replacing Chile's dictatorship-era constitution - for many a symbol of entrenched social and economic inequality. Constitutional change was a key demand of social protests across the country in 2019.

Oct 28, Tanzania: Voting in Tanzania's multiparty General Election, with ruling CCM candidate Dr John Magufuli seeking re-election as President for

Over 7,000 Burundi refugees ready to go home voluntarily

By Guardian Reporter, Arusha



Students march at Zanzibar's Mao Zedong Stadium yesterday to mark the 56th anniversary of Zanzibar's Free Education Day, an event graced by Zanzibar President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein. The placard they are carrying bears words saluting him for overseeing efforts to the dream of free education come true. Photo: Zanzibar State House

OVER 7,000 Burundian refugees have signed up to go back home under the voluntary repatriation arrangement, the government had declared.

Home Affairs minister George Simbachawene said here yesterday that the government is currently working on logistics to take them back home in collaboration with the government of Burundi and other stakeholders.

Speaking at the launch of a consultative symposium for a book on Tanzania's contribution in hosting refugees and asylum seekers since pre-independence days, he said 90,000 Burundian refugees have already been returned home under the voluntary repatriation arrangement.

Tanzania has been home to refugees since colonial times, but more came after independence, from troubled neighbouring countries and fewer as freedom fighters from southern African countries.

As for the Burundian refugees, the minister asserted that the country is now peaceful and the refugees are free to go back home, but only those who sign up voluntarily will be repatriated.

The first batch of 590 refugees left for Burundi in October last year, as part of a program for the mass repatriation of those who fled political violence in the neighbouring country five years ago.

More than 400,000 Burundians crossed the border due to a surge of political violence in 2015 as the late Pierre Nkurunziza ran for a third term in office, with opponents seeing this move as breaching the constitution.

The UN refugee agency, UNHCR, said up to 182,000 Burundians have been

PCCB hints at 'loan sharks' complaints

By Polycarp Marchira, Dodoma

THE Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau (PCCB) yesterday said that it receives over 100 complaints per day from all over the country relating to acts of those lending money at high interest rates.

Brig. Gen John Mbungu, the PCCB director general said the complaints include those complaining such loans and "hardcore debtors of farmers' money."

PCCB works on such complaints to ensure the maintenance of public safety, their monies and properties, he said, urging whistle blowers to continue reporting instances of suspected



PCCB conducts its activities in accordance with the Prevention of Combating Corruption Act, No 11 of 2007

corruption at their specific localities.

He refuted assertions that the bureau falsely charges people with corruption and money laundering to nationalize their wealth, including money in bank accounts.

"Reports have been circulating in social media that we sometimes forge cases against people and then confiscate the suspects' money from their bank accounts. The reports that are not true at all," he said.

PCCB conducts its activities in accordance with the Prevention of Combating Corruption Act, No 11 of 2007.

"I would like to say that when PCCB receives a tip on bribery, it makes investigations to get evidence of the crime. After such evidence is obtained, the file is submitted to the Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP)," he stated.

The file is submitted to the DPP for review of the evidence collected and if he

TURN TO PAGE 2

TLS in conditional support for axed advocate Karume

By Correspondent James Kandoya

THE Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) has said it is ready to support its member Fatma Karume who was yesterday removed from the roll of advocates, if she appeals with strong legal grounds.

TLS President Dr Rugemeleza Nshala (pictured) told The Guardian that the bar



association of Tanzania Mainland was aware of the verdict but was waiting for the written judgment for perusal and Karume's decision on whether to appeal.

A short statement by the powerful Advocates Committee issued after deliberations that took place at the High Court said it found the lawyer guilty of gross misconduct and decided that she be removed permanently from the roll of advocates.

The Advocates Act sets out the Advocates Committee as made up of three individuals - a High Court judge, the Attorney General and a practicing

TURN TO PAGE 2



UNHCR urged the two governments to ensure that refugee return to Burundi remains voluntary and not under pressure

living in three camps located in Kigoma Region, while the issue of return has been contentious.

The governments of Tanzania and Burundi insist that peace has returned to Burundi and citizens are free to go back home, while UNHCR maintains a more cautious approach.

After Tanzania and Burundi signed the bilateral voluntary repatriation agreement in August last year, UNHCR urged the two governments to ensure that refugee return to Burundi remains voluntary and not under pressure.

"Recently, we have noted mounting pressure on Burundian refugees and asylum-seekers to return home - despite assurances from the authorities that all returns will be voluntary and free from intimidation, and no refugee will be forcibly returned," the agency said in a statement in October last year.

"We continue to call upon both governments to uphold refugees' freedom of choice with regard to return, and to ensure that returns are made in safety and dignity, with UNHCR having access on both sides of the border to carry out its protection mandate, including monitoring returnees in Burundi," the agency emphasized.



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Chadema presidential candidate Tundu Lissu addresses a campaign rally at Kamachumu village in Muleba District, Kagera Region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

ERB hails engineering standards for strategic projects in Morogoro

By Guardian Correspondent, Morogoro

THE Engineers Registration Board (ERB) has expressed satisfaction with the construction work of modern strategic infrastructure projects in Morogoro Region, saying they have carried out the required engineering standards and quality in value for money.

The remarks were given by the ERB Registrar, Patrick Barozi when inspecting strategic projects, including the modern market for the Morogoro municipality, the modern abattoir at Nguru Hills Ranch and irrigation infrastructures at Mbigiri Sugar Cane Farm of Mkulazi sugar factory.

He said inspection of the projects implemented by engineers is an important duty by the ERB, but also the exercise is an opportunity for the engineers still in training to study and exchange experience and challenges with engineers at the projects.

Barozi appealed to the country's universities to increase enrolment of students in fields with shortage of experts to avoid spending a lot of money hiring foreign experts.

The supervisor of the Morogoro market project, Eng Juma Gwisu said the construction of the market was 99 per cent complete and the work

remaining will be to allocate stalls for the traders.

More than 2,000 traders are expected to benefit in doing business in the modern market that has cost more than 17bn/-.

For his part, the construction manager of Nguru Hills Ranch Eng Grayson Bamba said the ranch's abattoir project is in the final stages of completion of major refurbishment that will enable the production of meat that will be sold in international markets thereby providing many employment opportunities for those in the livestock sector.

"About 100 cattle and 200 goats and sheep will be slaughtered every day at the ranch when fully completed and 80 percent of meat will be earmarked for export and only 20 percent will be sold locally," Bamba said.

Irrigation Manager of Mbigiri Sugar cane farm at Mkulazi sugar factory Eng Juvenal Matumaini said the completion of the dam for irrigation at the factory will enable the start of sugar production at the factory and be able to employ more than 3,600 jobs when fully operational.

The Mkulazi sugar factory owned jointly by NSSF and the Prisons department is in the final stages of completion and is expected to produce over 50,000 tonnes of sugar per year.

TLS in conditional support for axed advocate Karume

FROM PAGE 1

advocate nominated by the council of the law society.

"If she has a strong case against the decision to deregister her we will support her," the TLS president said.

Dr Nshala noted that if Karume

appeals, the case will be heard afresh by a three-judge bench at the High Court.

The removal of the fiery lawyer from the bar came two days after being fired by the law firm she has been working with.

On Monday, IMMMA Advocates

parted ways with its long-serving partner Karume because of her political activism.

Karume posted on Twitter a letter addressed to her and signed by IMMMA Advocates managing partner Sadock Magai, which informed her of the firm's decision to sever all

relations with her. However, the letter did not explain the reason behind the decision.

Magai was quoted by a section of the media saying that the law firm was not happy with the way Karume was involving herself in political activism, especially on social media platforms,

insisting that such conduct brought the firm into disrepute, and adversely affected its business relationship with its clients.

This is not the first time Karume has been in trouble. Last year, she was suspended from practice for alleged professional misconduct and

referred to the Advocates disciplinary committee for a 'professional misconduct matter.'

The former TLS president is the daughter of retired Zanzibar President Amani Abeid Karume and granddaughter of Ieiss founding President Abeid Amaan Karume.

Tanzanians counseled to maintain peace for viable development

By Correspondent James Kandoya

TANZANIANS have been urged to promote and make peace a priority in their daily lives, a move which would strengthen unity and thus stimulate development in the country.

Kibaha District Council's Education officer for primary schools, Sipora Mtenga made the call on Tuesday this week at commemoration of the International Day of Peace held at Waliul ASR Education Centre in the Coast Region.

The International Day of Peace is observed on 21 September every year and this year's theme is "Shaping Peace Together".

"We need to join our efforts and work towards 'shaping peace together' for the future of our generation. Our country is politically stable therefore this must be maintained," she said.

According to her, educating and reminding young people and the public in general on the importance of promoting peace is vital for the country's development.

Mtenga added that everyone must play his or her part to ensure that the peace and security that has existed for decades continue to shine.

For his part, managing director of the World Islamic Propagation and Humanitarian Services (WIPAHS) Hajji Saheeb hinted on note that the country's peace should be protected and maintained for sustainable development.

He also called on the public to choose leaders who can promote the country's peace adding that the respective organs should ensure that this year's General Election is conducted peacefully.

"Our country has been cited as among the best peaceful nations, we therefore need leaders who can ensure that the peace we have will last forever," he said.

Fat-hiya Mohamed, a form four student said: "We have learned and get to know the international day of peace and its significances."

She said during the day, her school also participated in the community responsibility duties such as awareness and humanitarian services to the people in need.

In his message to mark the International Day of Peace observed annually on 21 September, the UN Secretary General António Guterres said even amid the upheaval of the Covid-19 pandemic, people everywhere must continue to make peace a priority.

He described the deadly virus as a "common enemy" that is causing immense suffering, destroying livelihoods and exacerbating already formidable peace and security challenges.

"In these days of physical distancing, we may not be able to stand next to one another. But we must still stand together for peace. And, together, I know we can and will – build a more just, sustainable and equitable world," he said.

The UN General Assembly established the International Day in 1981, and two decades later unanimously designated it as a period of non-violence and ceasefire.

This year, the focus is on "Shaping Peace Together. In that spirit, and to mark our 75th anniversary, the United Nations is bringing people together for a global conversation about shaping our future and forging peace in trying times," Guterres said.



We need to join our efforts and work towards 'shaping peace together' for the future of our generation. Our country is politically stable therefore this must be maintained



Confederation of Tanzania Industries (CTI) managing director Leodeger Tenga (L) briefs journalists at the launch of President's Manufacturer of the Year Awards (PMAVA) competition in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Others are ALAF Ltd marketing officer Theresia Mmasy (C) and the Confederation's director of services and membership Neema Mhando. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msaia

PCCB hints at 'loan sharks' complaints

FROM PAGE 1

is satisfied with the evidence, the case is referred to the court.

Speaking on the coming general election, Brig Gen Mbungu said PCCB was executing its duties as

per the National Elections Act (No 1 of 1985) and Act No 6 of 2010 on election expenses, urging the public not to get involved in bribery during elections.

"Let me remind the public that PCCB will follow the law to the letter and

ensure that anyone who defies the norms is dealt with in accordance with the law," he cautioned, welcoming any reports of violation of the law to follow it up.

PCCB has been carrying out public education on the effects of corruption

in view of the general election and the importance of electing leaders with integrity.

"PCCB is well prepared to ensure that the coming polls are free of bribery activities and other vices," he added.

Wildlife corridors play vital ecological roles in enhancing biodiversity, study reveals

By Felister Peter, Manyara

LOSS of wildlife corridors in most of the national parks and wildlife management areas (WMAs) is one of the major challenges in biodiversity conservation contributing in decline of the animal population.

There are many reasons contributing to the loss of wild animals' migration corridors including unplanned land use, agricultural expansion and population increase which in most cases results in human-wildlife conflicts.

At the Burunge WMA in Babati District, Manyara Region which is bisected by the Arusha-Babati-Singida-Dodoma highway, the human-wildlife conflicts are mostly reported at the Kakoi, Engadosh and Sangaive villages which are adjacent to the protected area.

Burunge occupies the wildlife corridor between Tarangire and Manyara national parks.

Researcher with Tarangire Lion Project Dr Bernard Kissui said that human encroachment contributes to increased man-made barriers which affect wild animal's safe passages, thus resulting in human-animal conflicts. He added that a good number of animals have been killed along the Arusha-Babati-Singida-Dodoma highway, stressing the need to end the animal's road kill.

So far a total of 380 animals have been killed by motor vehicles at the Kwakuchinja wildlife corridor, he stated.

According to him, the mostly hit animals are mammals, reptilia and variety types of birds.

Dr Kissui suggested for construction of highway crossing structures, installation of warning sign posts, reduce speed limits, road bumps and increased public education and awareness as part of strategies for reducing the impacts of road kill.

He said they are also assessing the ecological potential of the Kwakuchinja corridor and Burunge WMA by installing cameras across the specific area. He said the exercise will provide baseline data for the long-term monitoring of wildlife populations and evaluate ecological conservation successes.

The loss of wildlife migratory corridors in the Tarangire-Manyara Ecosystem (TME) has resulted in frequent animal invasion, said Benson Mwahise, the Burunge WMA Secretary.

"We had two incidences this year, in July, 2020 elephants invaded one of the

villages and killed one person. We had another incident where a hyena attacked and killed a child and injured some of the villagers", said the Secretary when briefing journalists who were on a field trip under the auspices of the Journalist Environmental Association of Tanzania (JET) and USAID's project—Promoting Tanzania's Environment, Conservation and Tourism (PROTECT).

Sangaive Village Chairman, Marian Mberere said that apart from attacking people, the wild animals have been destroying villagers' farms whereas over 500 acres of various crops were damaged in the past agricultural season.

He added that authorities have been compensating the villagers at between 50,000/- and 100,000/- per acre.

One of the villagers, Basilia Monjare called upon responsible authorities to ensure timely payment of compensation. She said her farms were destroyed by the big animals in the past years, but she has not been compensated.

Official data from the Burunge WMA indicates that there were a total of 2,902 reported incidents of crop damage by wildlife in between 2013 and 2019.

During the period, most of the incidents occurred at Sangaive village (869), Endadosh (604), Kakoi (306), Gijedabung (224), Mwikantsi 9384, Sarame (162) and Minjingu which had recorded 96 incidents.

Speaking recently during a virtual breakfast debate on biodiversity conservation, Dr Stephen Nindi, Director General of the National Land Use Planning Commission (NLUPC) said the government is working with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism to enhance the use of village land use guidelines to reduce the human-wildlife conflicts in communities surrounding national parks and WMAs.

The village land use plan guidelines prepared by NLUPC are meant to address sectoral land management statutory requirements and engage civil society organizations (CSOs) and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in protection of biodiversity ecosystem as well as improvement of human conditions to control destruction of biodiversity.

Dr Nindi said the guidelines have already started being used in villages surrounding the Serengeti, Manyara and Tarangire National Parks. Plans are to reach more villages across all the 21 national parks under the Tanzania National Parks (TANAPA), he said.



CCM Central Committee member and Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa lays a wreath at tower of MV Nyerere memorial in Ukara island yesterday. Photo: PMO

Magufuli is a trustworthy leader, says Premier Majaliwa

By Guardian Reporter

MEMBER of the ruling party (CCM) Central Committee and Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa has said the party's presidential candidate John Magufuli is a leader who should be trusted because he has the ability to lead.

"Magufuli possesses leadership qualities; the issue of leading the country is not a joke. Many have emerged but on polling day you must be careful, give your vote to the person whose history you well know. Magufuli had been a cabinet minister for 20 years. He led sensitive ministries and managed them well to attain development," Majaliwa said.

Majaliwa gave the remarks on Tuesday this week when speaking at different times at election campaign rallies in Lubuga and Ilungu wards in Magu District, Mwanza Region as he was introducing his party's candidates.

Majaliwa who completed his campaign tour in Mara Region, went to Mwanza Region seeking

votes for his party's presidential candidate.

He used the occasion to introduce CCM parliamentary candidate for Magu constituency, Kiswaga Destery and candidates for the councillorship. "Tanzania had been denied development because there were a few corrupt people who adversely affected people at the low level of the society. We want a leader who can fight corruption, and Magufuli is the one we want," he said.

In regard to strengthening the health sector, Majaliwa said treatment policy for pregnant women, children and elders is free.

"We have provided Magu District with 10.8bn/- for that purpose. We have health insurance and we want to improve it to become national. As for now we have the Bill for Health Insurance, and we plan to incorporate workers and ordinary citizens in the scheme," he added.

Speaking about the development of health services in Magu District, Majaliwa said 1.4bn/- was provided to the district for the construction

of three health centres out of which 500m/- was Kahangara Health Centre, 500m/- Lugeye Health Centre while Kabila Health Centre was allocated 400m/-.

On funds provided for drugs, reagents and other medical equipment Majaliwa said 10.1bn/- was provided for the procurement of the items, adding that the district has been receiving 108m/- from the Central government every month.

On road construction, he said 10bn/- was provided through TARURA and TANROADS for the construction, repair of roads, including problematic sections thereof, bridges for Magu District Council roads including the construction, at tarmac level of the 5.7km road costing 2.7bn/- that has already been completed.

He mentioned other completed roads as including the 0.4km Kisesa-Bujora road at tarmac level costing 360m/-, 16.24 Usagara-Kisesa road also at tarmac level, and refurbishment of the 70km Magu-Ngudu-Hungumalwa road.



Maua Mazuri seedlings company expert Steven Tumaini (R) explains a point to NMB Bank officers during Small and Medium enterprises business club forum in Moshi municipality, Kilimanjaro Region yesterday. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Plans in pipeline to improve performance of grape farmers

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

GRAPES growers and bulk wine producers in Dodoma region may soon start benefiting effectively from their activities following plans by the regional commissioner to improve performance of the key sub sector.

For years, grapes growers and bulk wine producers have failed to reap the fruits of their work due to lack of capital and technology, among other things.

In his special tour to grapes farmers and small scale wine processors in the municipality recently, the Regional Commissioner, Dr Bilinith Mahenge expressed the need for constructive plans to improve performance of the crop.

According to him, the plan include to start rolling out special capital loans towards small scale grapes farmers to enable them venturing into larger plantations.

"We are encouraging grapes farmers to team up in special cultivation groups so that we can easily assist them with loans," Dr Mahenge said after meeting farmers at Mpunguzi.

However, he expressed plans to assist owners of small scale wine processing factories to expand their production in terms of capital and technology.

"Dodoma is the only region in the country which has been endowed

with conducive environment for the cultivation of grapes. This is a rare economic opportunity which must be used effectively," he added.

According to Dodoma districts agriculture officer Gorge Mhina, there are 2,107 grapes farmers in Dodoma districts cultivating a total of 1264 hectares, whereby the districts production level stands at 7945 tonnes per year.

Available statistics show that the country's demand for grapes stands at 5.10 million tonnes per year, but the capacity by local grapes producers is between 10,670 and 10,810 tonnes per year.

According to Dodoma District Business Council Officer, Ringo Iringo there has been an increasing demand of grapes wine and bulk wine juice in South Africa and Kenya.

He explained that despite presence of at least 815 hectares of grapes farms in Dodoma region, the farmers are yet to provide for the increasing demand due to several challenges.

Ringo explained that, in 2015 the country produce 10,810 tonnes of grapes whereby the following year, 2016 the production stood at 10,670 tonnes. "For stance, during last year Kenya purchased a total of 4.50 tonnes of bulk wine juice from Dodoma whereby Rwanda bought at least 30 tonnes of grapes," he added.

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

Govt warns embezzlers of UKAID sponsored eye treatment project

THE government will not hesitate to take action against any regional or district medical officer who will fail to manage funds earmarked for the 'Improve the Eyes Project.'

The caution was given here yesterday by the director of health services, nutrition and community development in the President's Office, Regional Administration and Local Government (PO-RALG), Dr

Ntuli Kapologwe at the launching of the 'Improve the Eyes Project' implemented by Sightsavers, a Non-Governmental Organisation under sponsorship of UK Aid for International Development (UKAID).

Dr Kapologwe said the project will cost 6bn/- hence there should be close management of funds to attain the targets.

He said if there will be a district or regional medical officer who will fail to manage project's funds will have to explain themselves.

"We must treat the project like our own child and the target set should be attained, we shall not tolerate funds embezzlement by anybody, as the money has been provided for Tanzanians who are the sole

beneficiaries," he added.

He said: "Every single cent provided for the project must reach those targeted, the citizens, we at PO-RALG and the Health ministry will be making a close follow up to see whether we get the value for the many in the implementation of the project."

The Ministry of Health's assistant director of non-communicable

diseases Dr James Kiologwe said one percent of Tanzanians are faced with eye problems that lead to blindness.

However, he said 75 per cent of causes of blindness were preventable and the ministry prides itself to work together with stakeholders to ensure that number of receive treatment so that they should not become blind.

Earlier, Sightsavers' project officer,

evaluation and follow-up Neema Kalole said the project will cost 6bn/- and was expected to examine and provide optical services to over 150,000 people, out of whom about 13,500 who will be found to have eye cataracts will undergo surgery.

"The project will cover five out of nine districts of Morogoro Region and all nine districts of Singida Region.

CRAFT project adding value to the agriculture sector in Tanzania

By Guardian Reporter

AGRICULTURE is one of the economic drivers in Tanzania with the country benefiting from a diverse production base that includes livestock, staple food crops and a variety of cash crops. While the sector's GDP has more than tripled in the last 10 years, farmers and private sector actors still face considerable challenges.

Declining export revenues; land acquisition hurdles; and smallholder farmers struggling to access economically viable technology, adequate storage facilities, markets and credit have affected private investment.

The Climate Resilient Agribusiness for Tomorrow (CRAFT) project through its Climate Innovation and Investment Facility (CIIF) aims to leverage co-investments from private sector actors while promoting climate-smart solutions and innovations in targeted agricultural value chains.

The project works with, and through the private sector to promote climate-smart agriculture-related innovations at farming systems and value chain level.

Rogimwa Agro-Company Ltd, headquartered in Mbeya Region, is one of the private sector actors that the CRAFT project is partnering with in the common bean value chain. Through the partnership, Rogimwa will support 6,000 farmers to increase their productivity and incomes while guaranteeing a sustainable supply of good quality farm produce to Rogimwa.

With the grant funds received from

the CRAFT project, Rogimwa has embarked on training its farmers on climate smart practices such as post-harvest handling.

The company has also set up aggregation points equipped with tarpaulins, moisture meters, weighing scales and solar driers to support farmers in drying their produce so that they produce higher quality beans and attract a better price.

"The CRAFT project has empowered a number of businesses to take advantage of the opportunities available in the agriculture sector. With the additional funds from the project we have been able to invest in solar driers and quality seed to sell to our farmers.

Once our farmers put the good agronomic practices they have learnt from our demonstration gardens into practice, they will be able to get a better yield and increase their income," Aloyce Kamuzora, the Marketing Manager Rogimwa said.

The CRAFT project is supporting Tanzanian businesses and cooperatives working in the sunflower, potato, common bean and sorghum value chains. The project is implemented in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda with funding from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Netherlands.

SNV Netherlands Development Organisation is implementing the project in partnership with Wageningen University and Research (WUR), CGIAR's research programme on climate change, agriculture and Food Security (CAAFS), Agriterra and Rabo partnerships.



Chalnze primary school assistant headteacher Aufemia Ngweta, (L) thanks NBC Bank Samora branch manager Zubeider Haroun (R) for the donation of 75 bags of cement to the school at Chalnze in Coast region. The donation will improve facilities at the school particularly building a toilet for students with special needs. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

Hasunga praises local production of trailers

By Guardian Reporter

Agriculture minister, Japhet Hasunga has said that local production of tractor trailers was a positive step in promoting the agriculture sector and the national industrialisation agenda.

Hasunga was speaking yesterday in Dar es Salaam at the signing of an agreement between the CRDB Bank and three companies distributing agricultural tools to farmers.

"That trailers are now produced

locally by our youths is but a great thing. It is a move that promotes the agriculture sector, it promotes our industrialisation drive, it creates jobs for the youths. I praise this effort and all of you involved in this arrangement," the minister said, adding that the sector was contributing an estimated 28 percent to the gross domestic product (GDP).

The Managing Director of the Agricom Africa Limited, Angelina Ngulula, said her company used to

import costly trailers. She said local production of trailers saved her company from the importation high costs.

She praised the government for creating an environment that was friendly to doing business.

"The government has created an environment that attracts people to invest in different sectors of the economy. We are going to use all the opportunities availed to the private sector to make due contribution to our

nation," she pledged.

She said her company would start building warehouses to save crops from post-harvest waste.

Mwidi Mwidini, who got a tractor on loan, praised the joint move between the bank and distributors of farm tools, saying farmers were getting tractors on very friendly loan terms.

Tanzania is struggling to mechanise farming and increase the numbers of smallholders using tractors in farming instead hoes in the coming years.



Bongo Flava artist Mwasiti Almas entertains breastfeeding mothers who participated at the 'Mother Meet Up' event held in Bukoba town, Kagera Region under the USAID Tulonge Afya project. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Reporter

DISTRICT councils should facilitate scrap metal business because traders, councils and industries are beneficiaries of that legal and local business, the National Environment Management Council (NEMC) Director General Samuel Gwamaka appealed in Dar es Salaam yesterday.

Lawful but organised scrap metal, Dr Gwamaka said, would mint money for enterprising traders, boost revenue for district councils and guarantee raw materials for local industries. "Lawful scrap metal will flourish by facilitation of keen district councils. Robust scrap metal business means more revenue to councils and traders. But such robust

District councils should facilitate scrap metal business, says NEMC

business means steady supply of raw materials to our industries," he said, adding that some industries had been dependent on imports for a long time.

Recycling scrap metal would be a right step in supporting the national industrialisation agenda champion by the government led by President John Magufuli, he said.

Dr Gwamaka said if scrap metal trade would be keenly overseen by councils, industries would be spared of

headaches of importing raw materials and production would also increase steadily for the good of the nation.

"I appeal to councils to take keen interest in recycling solid waste and put in place elaborate systems for collection of garbage. Garbage should be separated where it is generated for the benefit of everyone. This is what the law says; this is the task of councils," he explained.

He explained that if councils

assumed their role scrap metal would be a blessing to the three parties and unscrupulous traders who buy metal from vandals be tamed by the law.

"Criminals vandalising installations and those buying illegal scrap metal from vandals, are risking very heavy punishment under the law," he cautioned.

He said criminals vandalised bridges, electricity cables and water supply infrastructure.

Kagera reduces under-five child malnutrition by two per cent

By Guardian Correspondent, Bukoba

STATISTICS on child malnutrition for children under-five years in Kagera Region declined to 39 percent in 2019 from 41 percent in the past five years following increased awareness on positive attitude towards upbringing of children and the six months exclusive breastfeeding for infants.

The declined malnutrition rate for children under five years is attributed to the efforts and impetus by both, the government and stakeholders in the health sector in promoting better health maternal education for children from birth up to five years.

The government has been working with development partners including 'USAID Tulonge Afya' project in Kagera Region through the NAWeza platform.

Speaking during an event—'Mother Meet up' which was held yesterday at the Bijampora hall at Kemondo in Bukoba District, the Regional Coordinator of Health Awareness and Education, Nelson Rumbeli said that implementation of the NAWeza platform has largely contributed in the decrease of under-five malnutrition.

The event was organised by the government in collaboration with USAID Tulonge Afya' health project through the NAWeza platform.

According to Rumbeli, the government through the Ministry of State in the President's Office Regional Administration and Local Government (PMO-RALG) signed agreements with regional commissioners, and local leaders at ward and village level with the aim of addressing nutritional issues since it was a major concern not only in Kagera Region but in several other regions across the country.

He added that the number of maternal deaths during childbirth last year was 80 in the Kagera Region, and that it has now dropped by 45 percent.

He attributed the successes to increased number of health facilities offering quality services as well as construction of new hospitals and adequate availability of drugs in dispensaries, health centres and hospitals.

"More mothers are now attending clinic during pregnancy; the education we are providing to them has helped mothers to understand the importance

of antenatal care," said Rumbeli.

Benson Rweyemamu, USAID Tulonge Afya District Project Coordinator said they have been implementing the project in Kagera Region through the Tanzania development and Aids Prevention (TADPEA).

The 'Mother Meet Up' event, according to Rweyemamu provides opportunities for mothers with children under 6 months to discuss and share experiences on the upbringing of the children from birth to 5 years.

He said the aim is to make them good ambassadors in their communities.

The key issues discussed during the activity include exclusive breastfeeding for a period of 6 months from birth, follow-up treatment by health professionals when they feel the baby is having health problems, sleeping on a treated mosquito net and the use of modern reproductive health methods.

Rweyemamu added that the "Mother Meet up events" is held every six months and the target audience is mothers with children under six months. In today's event the guests are from seven wards of Bukoba council which are Maruku, Kemondo, Kanyangereko, Katerero, Karabagaine, Nyakato and Katoro.

Project Manager, USAID Tulonge Afya in Lake Zone regions, Sihiana Mkanda said the project will be implemented in 12 regions within five years with the support from USAID.

In Lake Zone regions, the project is being implemented in Mwanza, Geita, Kagera, Mara, Shinyanga and Kigoma regions.

He said that in the Lake Zone regions the project is implemented in 12 districts while in Kagera Region it is implemented in Muleba and Bukoba rural districts.

The two districts were chosen due to the fact that they had serious health challenges, he noted.

One of the mothers who participated in the event, Shemsa Nasoro said that she has learned many things including the benefits of breastfeeding a baby for six months exclusively as well as the importance of taking children to professional health attendants as soon as they become ill.

She said they were also educated on the benefits of using modern reproductive health methods.

Country's maternal mortality rate drops in five years - Kagera RMO

By Guardian Correspondent, Bukoba

CHILD and maternal mortality rate has gone down in the country from 80 five years ago to 45 this year after the government built new health centres and increased its budget for essential drugs, medical equipment and health experts.

Speaking at the breastfeeding education festival held at Kemondo Ward in Bukoba District, Kagera Region, Kagera Regional Medical Officer Nelson Rumbeli said in order to ensure mortality rate were reduced the government provided a total of 5.9bn/- in the last five years to improve the health sector.

"The money was used to refurbish the available health centres so that every woman experiencing obstructed labour should receive appropriate services in time aimed to save the lives of both mother and child," said

Rumbeli.

He said other efforts taken include the involvement of various stakeholders in educating the community, especially to women over the upbringing of children under five years of age.

He said in the last five years the rate of malnutrition in Kagera Region dropped from 45 to 39 percent due to the government's drive in dealing with the problem.

"Due to the high malnutrition rate, the Minister of State in the President's Office (Regional Administration and Local Government) Selemu Jafo signed agreements with Regional Commissioners, local leaders at village and ward levels to deal with malnutrition issues," he said.

The Coordinator of USAID Tulong Afya Project in Bukoba District, Benson Rweyemamu said the aim of the project was to transform people from negative to positive habits and urging them to

always seek proper medical services whenever they think their children have health problems.

The USAID Tulong Afya Project Manager for the West and Lake Zone regions, Sihiana Mkanda said they were involved in six regions - Mwanza, Kagera, Geita, Mara, Shinyanga and Kigoma and in these regions they were working in 13 districts with big health challenges.

He said the project had earlier targeted five main health areas including HIV/Aids, malaria, maternity health and mother and child care, but when implemented, they discovered that there were challenges emanating from local customs and traditions that contribute to negative habits towards health issues.

Mkanda said that they also decided to educate the community in order to change their mindsets against modern reproductive health methods.



Arusha regional administrative secretary Richard Kwitega (C) with NCBA Tanzania Ltd Chief Executive Officer Margaret Karume (R) and the bank's commercial and digital services director Gift Shoko shortly after the walk that coincided with the inauguration of two new branches at Clock Tower and Sokoine in Arusha city centre over the weekend. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

By Guardian Correspondent, Dodoma

THE Federal government of Germany has promised to continue expanding support for the country's education sector so as to ensure that children receive quality education.

Head of development cooperation at the German embassy in the country, Dr Katrin Bornemann made the pledge yesterday here during the joint meeting between representatives from the embassy and the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology.

Bornemann said that Germany and Tanzania have maintained steady relationship and have been cooperating to bring changes in the education sector which includes expanding infrastructures and improving the learning environment so as to ensure smooth learning and teaching.

Dr Leonard Akwilapo, the ministry

Germany pledges continued support for the country's education sector

Permanent Secretary expressed gratitude to the Germany government for its continued support in various sectors in the country.

He said that the two sides have agreed to strengthen relation and collaboration in technical and higher education so as to ensure that Tanzanian children get the required skills and knowledge and contribute in the country's development.

Dr Akwilapo said that for the country to attain its development goals of becoming an industrial economy there is a need for concerted efforts to prepare human resources that possess competencies required by the market.

"We are currently implementing various projects which need competent

human resources, for example the construction of the Standard Gauge Railway (SGR), modern bridges, roads, all these need quality experts. So investing in education is very important. We have discussed and agreed to ensure that our youth go and receive more training in Germany," he said.

On strengthening primary education, Dr Akwilapo said they have also agreed to work together to improve teachers' skills specifically training them on new teaching methods, including the provision of teaching materials.

Germany through its Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), has been providing scholarships for lecturers from the University of Dar es Salaam.

By Marc Nkwame, Arusha

THE government has involved three other organisations in a special mission to write and publish a book documenting the 50 years of refugees in the country.

The state, in association with local and international humanitarian agencies as well as the academia, including DIGNITY Kwanza, through the Local Engagement Refugee Research Network (LERRN) have kick-started the project, will coordinate a process that will involve various actors and result in the publication of the book documenting the history of Tanzania on hosting refugees.

Speaking in Arusha during the National Consultative Forum (NCF) the Director of the National Community Solutions' oriented, Non-profit organisation of Dignity-Kwanza Janemary Ruhundura stated that there is the importance of compiling a special book now that Tanzania marks more than 60 years of hosting refugees on the country's soil.

The NCF which was officially opened by the Home Affairs Minister, George Simbachawene, was also a platform for the launch of writing of a special book on refugees which will later be published by 'Mkuki na Nyota,' this year. "Tanzania has been a major refugee-hosting state since 1959. Over the past six decades, Tanzania has hosted significant numbers of refugees from wars of national liberation,

Tanzania starting process to write book on refugees

conflicts and instabilities mainly from neighbouring states, but also from farther afield especially from the Southern African countries then under colonial and apartheid regimes," Ruhundura pointed out.

In another development, the World Food Programme (WFP) has been issuing provisions to over 230,000 refugees in Tanzania, at an average of 20,000 metric tonnes per year.

According to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, (UNHCR) representative in Tanzania, Antonio Jose Kanhandula, last year, the WFP had spent nearly US \$ 9 million in this refugees' food provision course.

It was stated during the meeting that Tanzania has demonstrated unprecedented innovation and leadership, while also experiencing challenges and voicing legitimate concerns about the relationship between refugee-hosting states and the wider international community.

Tanzania is a signatory, of the 1969 OAU Refugee Convention, whose 50 years milestone was celebrated last year and to which the country participates in the on-going discussions, within the East African Community, on a common regional refugee management policy.

The process will have different stages

starting with the High-Level National Consultative Forum (NCF).

The NCF was organised to bring together different actors in Tanzania to reflect on Tanzania's history of hosting refugees and define the agenda for the book to be published in a later date to document that history. The NCF was initially planned to take place in October 2019 during Nyerere week.

The date was chosen to, among other things, celebrate the life of the late Mwalimu Nyerere and his leadership in refugee protection in Tanzania and Africa in general. Arusha was chosen as a way to commemorate and build on 40 years since the Arusha Conference of 1979 where the Late Mwalimu Nyerere called for greater solidarity for collective action to respond to the needs and to find solutions that addressed the needs of not only of the refugees but also of host populations and states.

Despite the changes in the dates, Mwalimu Nyerere's Legacy continues to live 20 years after his demise. For that reason, the NCF will highlight his iconic role in setting the tone for the refugee response model that has been the basis of the country's continuous generosity to individuals seeking refuge in Tanzania.



RE- ADVERTISED

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST - PREQUALIFICATION OF CONTRACTORS FOR PROVISION OF VARIOUS GOODS AND OR SERVICES TO BE PROCURED BY GEITA GOLD MINING LIMITED (GGML), TANZANIA

I. INTRODUCTION

Geita Gold Mining Limited ("The Company") an AngloGold Ashanti's ("AGA") asset is located in north western Tanzania, in the Lake Victoria goldfields of the Geita region, about 5km from Geita town.

The Company is in the process of procuring various services and is, therefore, inviting interested eligible service providers to submit Expression of Interest for the provision of various goods and or services for any of the below listed services.

Scope of work: Provision of Various Services

Reference Number	Description of Services
GGME0949	Supply, Installation and Commissioning of Fuel and Lubes Container Facility
GGME0947	Provision of Upgrade on Fuel Management System

I. INFORMATION REQUIRED

PRE-QUALIFICATION REQUIREMENTS	20%
COMMERCIAL	
Company Profile	2.5%
Copy of registration/Incorporation Certificate	2.5%
Copy of Valid Tax Clearance Certificate (TCC)	2.5%
Copy of TIN Certificate of Firm/company and VRN	2.5%
Copy of Current Business Permit/Trade license.	2.5%
Company Shareholding Structure	2.5%
List of Directors	2.5%
Compliance with the Mining (Local Content) Regulations, 2018 by having Local Content plan - Approved by mining Commission and details of capability of the contractor to hire local resources and procure local goods	2.5%
FINANCIAL POSITION & TERMS OF TRADE	
Audited & certified financial statements (2018-2019)	6.7%
At least 2 references from the applicant's bankers regarding supplier's credit position	6.7%
Confirmation of Credit for a period not less than 30 days	6.7%
SAFETY AND ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS	
OSHA Compliance Certificate	2.5%
Environment Compliance Certificate	2.5%
Workers Compensation Fund Certificate/ any proof of compliance	2.5%
Safety and Environmental Policies	2.5%
PAST EXPERIENCE	
At least 3 Names of the applicant's clients, value and duration of the contracts entered into with the clients in the past two years (must be listed)	2.5%
Signed contracts/LPOs (proof of the above)	2.5%
Acceptance certificates/completion certificates (proof of the above)	2.5%
Provide at least 3 recommendation letters from different clients	2.5%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA	
Working knowledge of general Lubricant, Diesel and Hydrocarbon Management	10%
Prior experience on supply of Lube, Fuel and Hydrocarbon related components, facilities and or Instrumentation	10%
List of clients and Type of suppliers	5%
Relevant Authorities including TRA, ERB, CRB, BRELA or/and any Professional bodies dealership	3%
Prior experience on supply, fabrication, repair or maintenance of Fuel, Lubricant related Equipments, components or instrumentation	5%
Evidence of ability to undertake and complete projects within time and budget	2%
Local Company or JV with evidence of the JV support of external resources	3%
Financial capability to handle this project without posing a Risk of Project execution.	2%
TECHNICAL CRITERIA	
Working knowledge of general Diesel and Hydrocarbon Management	10%
Prior experience on supply of Fuel or Hydrocarbon related system components, facilities and or Instrumentation Installation and system management	10%
List of clients and Type of projects that was completed	5%
Relevant Authorities including TRA, ERB, CRB, BRELA or/and any Professional bodies dealership	3%
Evidence on the Knowledge and skill on the installation, management and support services related to Fuel/Lube management Automation	5%
Evidence of ability to undertake and complete projects within time and budget	2%
Local Company or JV with evidence of the JV support of external resources	3%
Financial capability to handle this project without posing a Risk of Project execution.	2%

Interested bidders must submit their expression Letters of Interest ("LOI") by quoting the NAME AND REFERENCE NUMBER of the service they intend to express interest on together with supporting information to GGML, which states the full name, address, telephone and e-mail address of the bidder, name of the principal contact, and signed by an authorized representative. The LOI must outline a statement of firm capability to provide the relevant Services, including similar contracts undertaken over the past three years. All LOIs and support documentation must be received by the GGML Office via e-mail at geita.eoi@anglogoldashanti.com not later than **0830 A.M 07 October 2020** (the "LOI" Submission Deadline"). EOI submissions should not exceed 10MB per email. In case the size of the email exceeds 10MB, please split the submissions into more than one email.



NATIONAL ENVIRONMENT MANAGEMENT COUNCIL – NEMC



LIST OF ENVIRONMENTAL EXPERTS CERTIFIED AND REGISTERED BY THE COUNCIL IN THE YEAR 2020

Published pursuant to the Provisions of Regulation 31 of the Environmental (Registration of Environmental Experts) Regulations, 2005 (GN No. 348/2005)

WHEREAS Regulation 31 of the Environmental (Registration of Environmental Experts) Regulations, 2005 directs the Registrar of Environmental Experts to publish each year in the Gazette and the media the list of names of person and firms certified and registered as environmental experts, NOW THEREFORE, the Registrar of Environmental Experts do hereby publish the notice to the general public a list of individual persons and firms of experts duly certified and registered by the National Environment Management Council as Environmental Experts who are entitled to undertake Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) and Environmental Audit (EA) of development projects in Tanzania mainland.

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The public is reminded that no person or firm shall conduct an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) or Environmental Audit (EA) or carry any activity relating to the conduct of an Environmental Impact Study or Environmental Audit as provided for under the Environmental Management Act CAP 191, unless that person or firm is duly certified and registered in accordance with the Environmental (Registration of Environmental Experts) Regulations, 2005.

It should also be noted that, foreign environmental experts or firm of experts may be certified by the Council to prepare SPECIFIC Environmental Impact Assessment or Environmental Audit studies if such an expert or firm meets the conditions stipulated in the Environmental (Registration of Environmental Experts) Regulations, 2005. (GN. No.348/2005)

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

Sustainable shipping is essential for a sustainable planet

MARITIME transport (or ocean transport) and fluvial transport, or more generally waterborne transport, is the transport of people (passengers) or goods (cargo) via waterways. Freight transport by sea has been widely used throughout recorded history. The advent of aviation has diminished the importance of sea travel for passengers, though it is still popular for short trips and pleasure cruises. Transport by water is cheaper than transport by air, despite fluctuating exchange rates and a fee placed on top of freight charges for carrier companies known as the currency adjustment factor (CAF).

Maritime transport can be realised over any distance by boat, ship, sailboat or barge, over oceans and lakes, through canals or along rivers. Shipping may be for commerce, recreation, or for military purposes. While extensive inland shipping is less critical today, the major waterways of the world including many canals are still very important and are integral parts of worldwide economies. Virtually any material can be moved by water; however, water transport becomes impractical when material delivery is time-critical such as various types of perishable produce. Still, water transport is highly cost effective with regular schedulable cargoes, such as trans-oceanic shipping of consumer products - and especially for heavy loads or bulk cargos, such as coal, coke, ores, or grains. Arguably, the industrial revolution took place best where cheap water transport by canal, navigations, or shipping by all types of watercraft on natural waterways supported cost effective bulk transport.

Containerization revolutionized maritime transport starting in the 1970s. "General cargo" includes goods packaged in boxes, cases, pallets, and barrels. When a cargo is carried in more than one mode, it is intermodal or co-modal.

A nation's shipping fleet (merchant

navy, merchant marine, merchant fleet) consists of the ships operated by civilian crews to transport passengers or cargo from one place to another. Merchant shipping also includes water transport over the river and canal systems connecting inland destinations, large and small.

The theme for this year is "Sustainable shipping for a sustainable planet," which provides an excellent opportunity to raise awareness of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and to showcase the work that the International Maritime Organization (IMO) and its member states are undertaking to achieve the targets. The theme will provide opportunities for leaders from various sectors, including shipping, to both reflect on the work done and the urgent steps they further plan towards a sustainable future.

The shipping industry, with the support of the IMO regulatory framework, has already started the transition towards this sustainable future. IMO has adopted and will continue to develop measures to cut greenhouse gas emissions, reduce the sulphur content of ships' fuel oil, implement the Ballast Water Management Convention, protect the polar regions, reduce marine litter, improve the efficiency of shipping through the electronic exchange of information, meet the challenges of the digitalization of shipping and enhance the participation of women in the maritime community.

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the professionalism and sacrifice of the two million seafarers who serve on the world's merchant fleet. Shipping has continued to transport more than 80 per cent of world trade, including vital medical supplies, food and other basic goods that are critical for the COVID-19 response and recovery - but hundreds of thousands of seafarers face a humanitarian crisis as they have been stranded at sea, unable to get off the ships they operate with contracts extended by many months.

Global conservation priorities to protect vertebrate endemics is indeed crucial

EARTH is undergoing unprecedented urban growth, with urban areas forecasted to increase by 120 million ha from 2000 to 2030, impacting natural habitat. Wildlife traditionally refers to undomesticated animal species, but has come to include all organisms that grow or live wild in an area without being introduced by humans. Wildlife can be found in all ecosystems.

Deserts, forests, rainforests, plains, grasslands, and other areas, including the most developed urban areas, all have distinct forms of wildlife. While the term in popular culture usually refers to animals that are untouched by human factors, most scientists agree that much wildlife is affected by human activities.

Tanzania contains some 20 per cent of the species of Africa's large mammal population, found across its reserves, conservation areas, marine parks, and 17 national parks, spread over an area of more than 42,000 square kilometres and forming approximately 38 per cent of the country's territory. Wildlife resources of Tanzania are described as "without parallel in Africa" and "the prime game viewing country". Serengeti National Park, is the country's second largest national park located in northern Tanzania and is famous for its extensive migratory herds of wildebeests and zebra while also having the reputation as one of the great natural wonders of the world. The Ngorongoro Conservation Area, established in 1959, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and inhabited by the Maasai people. Its Ngorongoro Crater is the largest intact caldera in the world.

The national parks are also part of the wetlands of Tanzania. The wild animals tend to be closer to the wetlands, particularly the water loving species such as the hippopotamus, waterbuck,

common warthog, elephant, crocodile, sitatunga as well as water birds such as flamingoes and ducks.

Humans have historically tended to separate civilization from wildlife in a number of ways, including the legal, social, and moral senses. Some animals, however, have adapted to suburban environments. This includes such animals as domesticated cats and dogs. Some religions declare certain animals to be sacred, and in modern times, concern for the natural environment has provoked activists to protest against the exploitation of wildlife for human benefit or entertainment.

The global wildlife population decreased by 52 pc between 1970 and 2014, according to a World Wildlife Fund report.

Between 1970 and 2016, global populations of vertebrates - birds, fish, mammals, amphibians and reptiles - declined by an average of 68 per cent.

The figure is according to the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) reminding us, every two years, of the dramatic scale of biodiversity loss. In September, this year the organization published an update of its 'Living Planet Index' (LPI), on the occasion of the thirteenth edition of its report on the state of biodiversity.

According to a new report, animal populations have declined by such a staggering amount, that only an overhaul of the world's economic systems could possibly reverse the damage.

Nearly 21,000 monitored populations of mammals, fish, birds, reptiles and amphibians, encompassing almost 4,400 species around the world, have declined. Species in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as global freshwater habitats, were disproportionately impacted, declining, on average, 94 per cent and 84 per cent, respectively.

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As COVID-19 gets more people working from home, cyber criminals zoom in

By Sharron McPherson

CCOVID-19 has dramatically changed the world of work, probably forever. But with increasing numbers of people working from home, so has their vulnerability to cybercrime.

At the end of August, Elon Musk updated the world on his newest venture Neuralink - a "Fitbit" or implant for the brain designed to facilitate brain-to-machine and, eventually, brain-to-brain interfaces. Science fiction is becoming science fact in our lifetime.

And while these extreme scenarios are still some way off, anyone who has had the challenge of working from home while trying to home-school children during the lockdown would likely agree that if such a brain-to-machine interface was available today, they would gladly connect themselves (and their children) and be done with it.

The truth is, our relationship with technology is always advancing and the Covid-19 pandemic has accelerated the velocity of change to "warp speed". One of the side effects of this has been a sudden case of "work-from-home" whiplash, as the traditionally distinct worlds of office and home have collided.

There have been headaches aplenty in the past few months as a result, but humans are nothing if not adaptable and we are all growing increasingly comfortable with this collision. In part, perhaps, this is because we were already heading in that direction before the pandemic struck.

Work and 'the office' part ways

While Covid-19 has precipitated new work-from-home (WFH) models, our ideas of work and office were already evolving before the coronavirus pandemic.

Notions of "work" and "office" have been undergoing change since these ideas evolved during the Second and Third Industrial Revolutions. They were once distinct concepts - the former a verb (labouring), the latter a noun (the place you went to do your labour). Over time, however, we began to use them interchangeably: you could say you were "going to work" or "going to the office", and it would mean the same thing.

In more recent times, we've been trying to untangle the two while simultaneously dealing with an evolving notion of work itself. Not just as the result of the advent of mobile technology and the ebbing stature of



manufacturing. Work, especially of the white-collar type, is performed by more diverse employees than ever before. At the same time, change was being driven by ecological and social factors such as people wanting more balance between work and their personal lives.

The pandemic has undoubtedly sped things up and the results of the "experiment" are mixed. Early results indicate that the number of working hours and productivity have increased. But so too have the number of individual meetings and hours spent staring at a computer screen. By April, Zoom usage had jumped to 300 million meeting participants a day, up from a "mere" 10 million a day in December, with Microsoft Teams also noting exponential spikes in users.

It is likely that we will never completely go back to what existed before. Estimates vary per country and context, but the International Labour Organisation thinks that about 27% of jobs in high-income countries could be performed from home in the future, compared with 12% in low-income countries and 10% in lower-middle-income countries. Polls suggest that increased WFH will become a feature of the immediate post-Covid world.

Protecting employees and data in the WFH world

A significant downside of this rapid - and likely permanent - shift to remote working has been the rise in cybercrime. Spotting a window of opportunity as work moved beyond the radius of a controlled environment of the office,

to homes where employees literally had to fall back on their own relatively unprotected devices, cybercriminals pounced.

Interpol has reported a marked rise in the duping of users with links to fake Covid-related sites and phishing messages about Covid-19. The World Economic Forum (WEF) described Covid-19 as "a boon for cybercriminals and fraudsters".

Traditionally it's been banking and financial services that have been the primary target of cybercriminals, in part because they are already far advanced on their journey to digital transformation. It's estimated that cybercrime costs the financial sector approximately R2.2-billion every year. And it's widely believed that this number is a conservative, underreported one.

But now, other data-rich sectors may be at risk as well. Consider the education sector, where Covid-19 has injected momentum into the move to online teaching and blended learning. Hackers are already targeting educational systems and databases and, in many instances, are preventing students from accessing online learning materials.

The health sector is also an increasing target. Since the start of the pandemic, the WHO has seen a dramatic increase in the number of cyberattacks directed at its staff, and email scams targeting the public at large.

Greater digitisation means that most private- and public-sector organisations (government included) will have to invest more in securing

access to information and data. Additionally, companies will have to invest in making certain that employees working from home are educated in cybersecurity measures such as home Wi-Fi security issues, how to avoid phishing scams, increasing password protections and securing access to physical devices. Likewise, students who are increasingly being forced to learn online will require educating and protection from cybercriminals.

This effort will also need reinforcement through the legal system. In South Africa, for example, the Cybercrime Bill is winding its way through the system and will hopefully provide stronger enforcement mechanisms to prevent and prosecute these crimes.

A tall order

Of course, in South Africa, where millions of South Africans can't access the internet - or even a stable supply of electricity - the issue of cybercrime may seem a distant concern. We are a complex country with deeply rooted inequalities that will continue to exacerbate the impact of the pandemic on both employers and employees.

If anything, Covid-19 has revealed the need to address the societal ills that impact our ability to overcome the technological challenges we're facing, at the same time as we attempt to evolve and embrace the changing notions of work and office.

This is a tall order and it will require courage, tenacity and capability - from all of us. The country will need to work together to rise to this challenge.

7 times you can stay afloat as a solopreneur

THE process of starting and running a business or venture single handedly is no joke. It requires zeal, well defined goals and a tough skin. Sadly not everyone can adapt these rare qualities. Solo entrepreneurship is not for the faint hearted but well these qualities can be learnt but just anyone.

The thought of becoming a solopreneur can be very exciting and scary as well. The ideas of being your own boss, setting your own schedule, freedom to pursue your dreams etc. But actually being a solopreneur can be tough. It requires enormous grit and the ability to handle the many setbacks that may come along the way. This is important before you put your first foot forward...

Embrace Setbacks

To succeed, you have to be able to go from failure to failure with no loss of enthusiasm. The most successful people welcome failure. Even when something does not go according to plan, learn from each setback, fine-tune and keep going. Like Thomas Edison once said, "I have not failed, I've just found 10,000 ways that won't work". Some people take a shorter time to achieve their goals while others take a longer time, but it doesn't matter, because at the end of the day, you would still have made it. Henry-Ford

Look at the bigger picture

Remember what first got you started on being a solopreneur? Create a vision board, and take the time to visualize your goals once a day. More often than not, we lose sight of our dreams when we are deep in the trenches. Often, there is some other motivating factor other than money - it may be wanting to solve a particular problem, meet a particular need, helping a particular group of people. Re-

mind yourself of why you are doing what you are doing to keep yourself motivated.

Stay in touch with your family and friends

Family and friends are the greatest source of support in the toughest times. Make time to stay in touch with them even if you may be busy. Having a meal together once a week, enjoying a board game together, will ease your stress hormones and give you the much needed energy replenishment to allow you to push ahead. Your family and friends may not fully understand what you are doing but will help you remember the simpler joys in life.

Breath

Sometimes, the best way forward is to first take one step back. Taking a break once in a while helps you maintain perspective and allows you to refocus on what is important. Pushing forward on little to no rest may lead to burnout, and that does not work in the long run. Pace yourself well, and your body will also thank you for it.

Celebrate the minor milestones

Enjoy the little successes along the way. When your site reaches its first 1000 subscribers, celebrate. Celebrating each milestone along the way will give you something to remember and look back on when you encounter a setback. Get your spouse a small bottle of perfume, or an air purifier for your bedroom. Take good care of yourself and never beat yourself up too hard for whatever reason.

"Twenty years from now, you will be more disappointed by the things that you didn't do than by the ones you did do, so throw off the bowlines, sail away from safe harbor, catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore, Dream, Discover." - Mark Twain



Have fun in what you do

Always have an upbeat attitude to your business. See what you are doing for others and how it benefits them in more ways than one. Embrace a light-hearted perspective to your business and its infectious quality would influence your customers as well.

As social mammals, we humans tend to get affected and be put down by failures or criticism from others when in fact, a positive attitude helps you balance the negativity generated and put you back on your feet in no time. Convert that negative energy into positive energy; a critical comment can always be converted into positive, constructive feedback.

Have a plan

As a solopreneur, there could be many things fighting for your attention and it can be easy to get distracted. Always have a plan and blueprint for what you what to achieve. Lay out the major milestones clearly and hold yourself accountable each step along the way. Whenever you get sidetracked, always come back to your plan to remind yourself of the next steps you should be taking.

Being a solopreneur is hard, but it can be very worthwhile and fulfilling. Staying motivated along the way is key just as much as consistency is.



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As Russia announces coronavirus vaccine, media discover the meaning of skepticism

By Graham Dockery

AS Russia rolls out its new coronavirus inoculation ahead of complete clinical tests, the western media has suddenly come full circle on vaccines. Russia, it seems, could cure cancer and the media would find a way to blame President Vladimir Putin.

Putin announced the breakthrough on August 11, telling reporters that the country's Health ministry had approved world's first vaccine against Covid-19 vaccine and that his own daughter has taken the jab.

Doctors and teachers will be the first to receive the shot, with a general rollout expected in January 2021.

The vaccine is still undergoing testing, though Russian scientists said that they have had decades of experience fighting similar viruses. It has passed the first two trial phases - on monkeys and humans, yet the third and final placebo test was still pending, and will be conducted alongside the voluntary rollout of the vaccine.

Armed with that fact, the Western media set about ringing the alarm. The New York Times accused the Kremlin of "cutting corners on testing to score propaganda points", and warned of the dangers of new and partially tested drugs.

The Guardian (UK) too warned of this rushed effort, but added that "vaccines may only be partially effective," even after rigorous testing. Likewise, the Washington Post cautioned that "shots could be harmful or give people a false sense of security about their immunity".

Across multiple outlets, the messaging was the same. The Russian vaccine is not to be trusted, is little more than propaganda fodder, and could even be a nefarious Kremlin plot to goad the West into pushing out its own, untested, vaccine ahead of schedule.

It's undoubtedly true that the race to a vaccine is a matter of national pride for Russia. Even the drug's name - Sputnik V - references the first satellite launched into space, a massive space-race propaganda coup for the Soviet Union.

Likewise, the papers have a point when they raise concerns about the efficacy of vaccines. As the Guardian pointed out, even the most thoroughly tested shots may be at best ineffective or at worst come with horrible side-effects.

Yet, before the Russian breakthrough, these same outlets were bona fide vaccine evangelists. "Vaccinations save lives, protect our children and are one of our greatest public health achievements," read an op-ed in the NYT last March. The writers, among them the US Surgeon General, rubished fears of side-effects and urged the public to unite behind government inoculation drives.

"Mistrust of a coronavirus vaccine could



imperil widespread immunity," the paper wrote in July.

To be fair, the latter article raised concerns about the speedy development of vaccines - this time bashing President Donald Trump and his 'Operation Warp Speed' research project instead of Putin.

However, just two months earlier, the Times described the (Western) effort to roll out a vaccine "in record time" as a sign of "hope" amid the pandemic.

Much the same for the Guardian, whose journalists mocked "the white, middle-class

Pinterest moms" who believe conspiracy theories about vaccines and a month earlier featured experts who declared that even an imperfect vaccine would be "considered a success".

Just like the Oxford professor who lamented the fact that a successful British vaccine might lead to a dangerous rise in national pride, it seems that the Western media couldn't stand to see a Russian-made jab turn the tide against the coronavirus.

Imagine that? Putin's Russia - the election-meddling, spy-poisoning, Trump-ena-

bling thorn in the side of the liberal order - delivering the life-saving shot that rids the world of the dreaded plague?

Needless to say, there'd be a lot of words swallowed on Fleet Street and Eighth Avenue.

Of course, these are early days. Any potential vaccine is always going to be a gamble and, as trials continue alongside its limited deployment, the effectiveness of Sputnik V has yet to be proven.

The Russian effort may in the end come to naught and, if it does, at least the power-

ful and influential commentators in London and New York will have something to gloat about - pandemic be damned.

Graham Dockery is an Irish journalist, commentator and writer with RT, Russia's state-run international television network. Previously based in Amsterdam, he wrote for Dutch-News and a scatter of local and national newspapers. The statements, views and opinions expressed in this piece are, however, solely those of the author and do not necessarily represent those of RT.

Geophysical and drilling contractors, AEC to discuss exploration in Africa

JOHANNESBURG

THE oil and gas industry globally is going through a period of transition, during which it is re-adjusting itself to operate in a post-Covid-19 environment with oil prices likely to stabilise between within the US\$35-50 barrels per day range.

Despite these challenges, drilling activity in Africa according to African Energy Chamber (AEC) projections is expected to drop next year only slightly from projected 2020 levels.

A total of 800 wells are expected to be drilled this year, with the number expected to drop only slightly below 800 next year. These numbers, however, represent a drop of over 25 per cent compared to last year.

Similarly, capital expenditure is also expected to fall by over 25 per cent between last year and next year. An estimated USD 28 billion is expected to be spent on upstream capital expenditure projects next year, with over USD 10 billion of that dedicated to field development projects.

This continues to present significant opportunities for companies involved in the upstream value chain like drilling and geophysical contractors.

"Those service providers able to adapt to the new market conditions by implementing effective cost control solutions and streamlining processes, especially with the help of technology, will thrive and grow at the expense of those companies that are slow to adapt to the new market realities," says AEC senior vice president Verner Ayukeyba.

"The AEC's position in Angola has not changed: we continue to see opportunities there and believe it's important to shine a light on these and bring industry players from across the globe to exploit these as we face this challenging situation together, and overcome," says Sergio Pugliese, the AEC's Angola president.

He elaborates: "Angola's oil and gas industry is a well-developed one, but



it's absolutely clear that we will need to always innovate and collaborate in order to remain relevant for the years to come.

"Our key role at the AEC is to be the voice of the African energy industry and this is a prime example of how we do that. It's a unique chance to make connections and hear more about the landscape of the African energy sector."

Accordingly, a webinar is lined up for next Tuesday (September 29) at

which International Association of Geophysical Contractors (IAGC) and International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC) representatives on the panel will talk about emerging industry trends, technological developments in the industry.

They will also address new standards and regulations affecting their members and possible changes in legislation that are likely to affect their members and the industry.

Also on the panel will be experi-

enced professionals who will enrich the discussions with on-the-ground experiences on how they are steering their companies to take advantage of existing opportunities in the African oil and gas sector and the plans they have going forward.

As many African countries continue to bend over backwards to encourage exploration and drilling, especially of new licensees, what other concessions are companies looking for in taking up new exploration activity?

For instance, Nigeria is currently going through a marginal field bidding round expected to lead to the award of numerous licences during the incoming year. What incentives need to be availed to the new license holders to enable them to deploy exploration capital in the quickest and most effective manner possible?

Finally, the webinar will also examine how Africa currently compares to other oil and gas producing regions and what African countries need to do

to develop and grow their competitive edge vis-à-vis other oil and gas-producing regions globally in a post-Covid-19 environment.

Verner Ayukeyba, the AEC's senior vice president, will moderate the webinar. Panelists include IADC (Nigeria chapter) chairman Chuks Enwereji; Ocean Deep Drilling ESV Nigeria Limited (ODENL) managing director Chijoke Akwukwuma; and IAGC consultant Ross Compton.

• African Energy Chamber

Gangs still drive Mombasa's narco-city image

BY DUNCAN E OMONDI GUMBA

CRIMINAL gangs in Mombasa, Kenya's second largest city, continue to operate with impunity despite having a law passed against them and being banned twice within a decade - in 2010 and 2016. Their violent activities are likely to intensify as Kenya faces hard economic times due to the effects of COVID-19, and as the country heads towards its 2022 general elections.

It's impossible to say exactly how many groups exist as sources report different numbers. In 2018, 43 gangs were identified as operating in Mombasa by the National Crime Research Centre (NCRC) in the Ministry of Interior. According to Francis Auma, rapid response officer at the human rights non-profit MUHURI, the number of criminal groups had increased to about 60.

Mombasa County Commissioner Gilbert Kitiyo was reported in the media as saying that Mombasa police had arrested about 1 000 members of armed gangs and identified 132 criminal groups this year. The growth and highly fragmented nature of the groups make it hard for law enforcement to combat the phenomenon.

Despite being banned twice in a decade, Kenya's criminal gangs continue to operate with impunity.

The gangs have been linked to a spate of attacks and other criminal activities, and have become the foot soldiers in Mombasa's drug trade, keeping the city's narco image alive. They provide grassroots reach for drug lords in the top tier, as well as businessmen and politicians in the second tier.

France 24 TV's investigative report in October 2019 showed how the city has become a major drug trafficking hub and route for heroin and cocaine coming from Asia and Latin America to Europe and Dubai. The report attributes this to Kenya's porous 500 km coastline, which allows traffickers to smuggle narcotics into the country using small boats and yachts. The French news channel estimated the trade to be worth about €100 million.

Investigative journalist Andrew Kasuku reports that the trade continues despite high-profile convictions of drug lords, for example the Akasha brothers, in the United States. He says the lower tiers collaborate to keep the criminal networks alive, with businessmen and politicians using the gangs to control the ground.

Two nationwide bans on gangs show the ineffectiveness of Kenya's response to these groups. The first ban in 2010 followed the enactment of Section 22(1) of the Prevention of Violent Crimes Act, 2010. Little was done to implement this law. In 2016 the Ministry of Interior imposed a second countrywide ban on criminal groups to outlaw their involvement in drug trafficking and other crimes, including electoral violence.

Gangs provide grassroots reach for top tier drug lords, and businessmen and politicians in the second tier.

Despite the double ban, more localised gangs have emerged and continue to operate openly in three of Mombasa's six sub-counties. These are Likoni sub-county (Timbwani and Mtongwe wards), Mvita sub-county (Old Town and Majengo wards) and Kisauni sub-county (Mjambere and Mtopanga wards).

In a 2019 media report, regional police commander at the time Marcus Ochola pointed out possible links between drug cartels and gang attacks. He cited two Mombasa county politicians who funded two criminal gangs in Kisauni and Likoni with proceeds from drug trafficking.



Kitiyo described three types of actors behind these groups: gang patrons and their paymasters; unscrupulous businessmen who buy valuables stolen from residents; and politicians who hire group members for personal protection. These people ensure that gang members are quickly released from police custody when they're arrested.

Most of the gangs 'operate in small groups and often go underground when pursued by authorities,' Sauti ya Pwani FM station operations manager Stambuli Abdillahi Nassir told the ENACT organised crime project. They are well organised with a hierarchy of leaders who rise through the ranks

after years of experience and loyal gang membership.

Kenya's porous 500 km coastline allows traffickers to smuggle drugs using small boats and yachts

The latest NCRC crime and violence report in Mombasa county says gangs with more experienced members, such as 40 Brothers, have military capacity. The report claims they carry firearms and are led by former public and private security officers.

'Most reformed group members prefer to talk off the record in fear of reprisals,' Nassir said of the times he has tried to interview them. This makes it difficult for the general public and law enforcement agencies to understand them and put a stop to

their operations.

Nassir says the gangs protect the drug trade, and children as young as 13 are used as conduits. 'The unga [heroin] comes from Afghanistan. If the teachers speak about the use of children in transporting drugs, they are threatened and beaten by the gangs.' This protection of operations, mainly by the Wakali Kwanza gang in Kisauni, is crucial to drug trafficking in Mombasa.

Members as young as seven gather intelligence while older gangsters, mostly teenagers, armed with knives and machetes, carry out attacks in different locations. They take drugs themselves in order to gain 'courage and confidence' to engage in petty theft, bag snatching, and pick-pocketing, as well as sexual assault.

'These criminal activities enable them

to maintain their drug addiction, which makes them more feared than robbers,' says Mathias Shipeta, head of rapid response at HAKI Africa, another local non-profit organisation.

With the jailing of the Akasha brothers who controlled Mombasa's drug business, Kenya together with countries such as the United States, may have disrupted the top tier of the trade for now. However, more needs to be done to stop the gangs who are also deeply involved and could graduate to fill the vacuum that's been left. This includes a combination of better policing, providing alternative livelihoods and vocational training to former gang members, and improving the economic prospects for young people in Mombasa.

Kenya may have disrupted the top tier of the drug trade but lower-level criminal groups remain active. File photo

WHO: Number of new weekly coronavirus cases at record high

By Special Correspondent

THE weekly number of new recorded coronavirus infections worldwide was last week at its highest level to date, the World Health Organization has announced, as deaths from Covid-19 in Europe increased by more than a quarter week on week.

Almost 1 million people have now died from the coronavirus since it emerged in China at the beginning of the year.

With a new seven-day high of just short of 2 million new cases being recorded by the WHO, the latest tally represents a 6% increase over the previous week as well as "the highest number of reported cases in a single week since the beginning of the epidemic", the UN health agency said. That figure is skewed by the fact testing has become much more widespread globally over recent months.

The latest rise in infections, amid a resurgence in cases that has sent countries including the UK and across Europe scrambling to reintroduce restrictions, comes despite a global decrease in the weekly number of deaths from the virus.

However the figures showed that deaths from the disease in Europe increased by 27% in the last week, with more than 4,000 recorded.

France, Russia, Spain and Britain reported

the highest number of new cases in Europe in the past week, while Hungary and Denmark reported the highest relative increase in deaths. According to the WHO, almost 31 million have now been infected by the virus worldwide. The largest concentration of recorded infections continues to be centred in the Americas - which is responsible for almost half of all infections - as the US approaches the grim milestone of 200,000 deaths.

Nearly all regions of the world experienced a rise in new cases last week, the WHO said, with infections increasing by 11% and 10% respectively in Europe and the Americas. Only Africa went against the upward trend, reporting a 12% drop in new cases from a week earlier. The figures, released by the WHO late on Monday, have underlined the huge difficulties countries are facing in attempting to bring the spread of the virus under control without an effective and widely available vaccine.

Last week, about 37,700 new deaths linked to the virus were recorded worldwide, marking a decline of 10% compared with the previous week. The decline was driven by the Americas, long the hardest-hit region, where new deaths were 22% lower than a week earlier, and by Africa where new deaths dropped 16%.

But the Americas still account for half of all



reported cases and 55% of deaths in the world. The clear drop in new deaths in the region was driven mainly by decreases in Colombia, Mexico, Ecuador and Bolivia.

The US, the world's worst-hit country, and Brazil, the second-worst, continued to report the highest number of deaths, each reporting more than 5,000 new deaths in the past week.

Britain continues to have the highest number of cumulative deaths in Europe, at nearly 42,000 since the beginning of the pandemic.

AU's ten year action plan on child labour moves toward implementation

ADDIS ABABA

THE African Union (AU) is initiating discussions with stakeholders on the implementation of African Union's Ten Year Action Plan to Eradicate Child Labour, Forced Labour, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery (2020-2030) adopted during the AU Summit held in February 2020.

The initiative resonates well with the International Labour Organization (ILO) convention 182 on Worst Forms of Child Labour which is reaching its universal ratification.

When children are trapped in slavery, forced labour and trafficking, forced to participate in armed conflict, and all types of illicit activities, or in hazardous work, we must act urgently to protect their rights and restore their childhood as worst forms of child labour are unacceptable and an affront to our common values.

The AU ten year plan is implemented in juxtaposition with the ILO Convention 182, an instrument that emphasises the subset of worst forms of child labour requiring immediate action, while listing other

forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances; and the use, procurement or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in relevant international treaties.

The move to implement the strategic pillars of the ten year plan provides a big push toward eradicating the issue as it establishes a clear legal framework. Countries in Africa

still need to enforce and ensure effective implementation through labour inspection and other means and provide decent work for adults and young people of legal working age.

The ten year Regional Action Plan, adopted by Africa heads of states during the African Union Summit in February 2020 and Ministers of Labour and Social Development in December 2019, is a comprehensive action plan for achieving SDG target 8.7 which calls on all, to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and

human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of all forms of child labour as an essential step to achieving decent work for all, full and productive employment and inclusive and sustained economic growth.

Through the action plan, African leaders recognise the magnitude of the challenge they face and set the ground for positive policy experiences in a number of African countries that will help to guide efforts in the region moving forward.

The AU is committed to accelerating the achievement of

SDG 8.7 in line with its policy frameworks and legal instruments, and to using its political and convening capacities to drive greater coordination of implementation efforts across the continent.

In a bid to create a continental consensus on child labour, the AU working with partners has a plan to intensify continent-wide consultations with its stakeholders and social partners in Africa on the implementation of the Ten Year Plan, identifying areas of collaboration in order to build stronger partnerships and scaling up

action against child labour. The Ten Year plan aims to assist stakeholders across the continent in scaling up efforts in this regard. It targets the elimination of these forms of exploitation among both adults and children.

According to the latest ILO global estimates, about 152 million children, 64 million girls and 88 million boys, are in child labour worldwide.

A total of 72.1 million African children are still involved in child labour, including 31.5 million children engaged in hazardous work.

Money laundering: The next step to fight it

By Correspondent Joe Beda

TANZANIANS have been grappling with the idea of the term money laundering for almost four decades now. Former Prime Minister, Edward Sokoine, used the term more than any other politician in the country then but now more and more people are conversant with it.

Though, in a country that most people speaks Swahili language, it is important to know that its Swahili translation just got into dictionary as late as in the 1990's.

Thanks to the Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2006, the public grew interested in the subject; helped by the growing interest of the media which immensely reported about it. But, between 2016 and 2020, money laundering fame has increased to its highest because of the number of people; famous and not so famous, who have been taken to court by state authorities.

Though the Act was made in 2006, and amended several times since then, the truth is that for most part, it is still the same law that was passed 14 years ago.

For a normal newspapers reader in Tanzania, it is easy to

get the impression that the Anti Money Laundering offence only caters for the powerful and rich only. It is not something that can have an effect on normal people or like the average person is immune to the offence.

This is so wrong. The truth is far from that notion.

Like all other offences, the law caters for everyone. Anyone, of any race, colour, economic status etc can be prosecuted. This is to say, it is imperative for every citizen to make sure he understands what entail the money laundering offence and how to stay out of trouble.

The first thing to know, for each and every one of us who hasn't been to law school is; what really is money laundering?

Legally speaking, money laundering is the act of someone to acquire or help someone to acquire money or property through illegal means and then put the proceeds in legal business or money circulation. To simplify, one can make money through drugs or arms trade and use the money to buy a hotel or a piece of land.

Legal experts says that there are three ways in which ill-got

ten money or properties can be laundered in three ways or phases; placement, hiding and getting it into normal money circulation.

When the lawyers are talking about placement, it means by putting the money in one's bank account or through various mobile phones accounts like M Pesa, Airtel Money, Tigo Pesa etc.

In the hiding phase, the offender divides the money in small amounts which makes it difficult to suspect, giving it to different people in different areas and many other ways; in order to hide his real amount.

The last phase is getting the money into the money circulation through buying of properties, investments, shares etc so that to 'clean' the dirty money.

Why money laundering is for everyone?

Chapter 423 of the Anti Money Laundering Act of 2006, Section 3 and 12 clearly stipulate the types of the offences under the act and the penalties for the offenders.

By law, penalties for the offences under the act are fines not exceeding Tsh 100 million or amount of money equal to the current value of the laundered



Effects of Money Laundering

According to this year's Accountability Report: Efficiency, Corruption and Embezzlement in the Public Sector which was done by the WAJIBU Institute of Public Accountability, every African country lose about one billion USD (Over 2.3 trillion Tsh) per year because of the illicit financial flow caused by money laundering.

The accountability report is released every year by the institution for the sole purpose of doing a critical analysis of issues raised by Controller and Auditor Report (CAG) which is presented to the parliament annually.

The amount, 2.3 trillion is a lot of money for a poor country like Tanzania which has a lot of challenges which includes health, education and infrastructure. If that amount were put to good use, it would help a lot in driving out poverty in many households in the country.

The latest findings of the CAG report indicates two challenges that are persisting with regards to the proper functioning of the Anti Money Laundering Law. The challenges are lack of strategic plan to implement the 2006 and the lack of coordination and management among key players on the issue in economic institutions.

The lack of strategic plan is critical because it gives flexibility to the law with regards to unseen changes in both local and global context, considering that the crime has a global outlook.

KAMPALA

THE Ugandan government has released a new school calendar which will spill over into next year after President Yoweri Museveni bowed to pressure on Sunday to reopen education institutions.

Alex Kakooza, the Ministry of Education Permanent Secretary, confirmed yesterday that schools will start on October 15 for second term and close in mid-December. Third term will begin in mid-January and end in April.

"We are just trying to reopen. We cannot guarantee that children will not get sick. But education is a shared responsibility. All

of us are expected to join hands and see how it works. Ensure that you wash hands regularly, don't touch in the soft parts because the virus might be here for three years," Kakooza said.

Earlier, parents Daily Monitor spoke to were skeptical on whether they will send their children to school when the term opens. They demanded to know from government the new school roadmap for the remaining academic year and wondered how Covid-19 cases will be managed once children report to school.

The parents' puzzle is that the President's communication on Sunday did not indicate whether the term will be a continuation

of first term, when it will close and the subsequent terms to complete the academic year. It was also silent on the tuition fees parents had already paid in the uncompleted first term and Covid-19 case management if they arose once children are at school.

Some parents with candidates have started sending their children who will not be reporting to school soon to their villages.

"It is tricky for me as a parent. What happens when schools are closed again? Will they refund our fees or they will tell us to forego the money as they told us in first term?" Ayebare Doreen, a

parent, said.

However, Kakooza said the ministry cannot guarantee anything because their budget is limited but appealed to the public to support government as they experiment the phased reopening.

James Jjuuko, a head teacher at Kisugu Primary School and Kampala Primary School Head teachers Association chairperson, appealed for government support.

He said to maintain social distancing in a school set up, they will require more teachers who they don't have now.

"This is an added cost. We are going to have 15 children in

every classroom. My Primary Seven class has 110 candidates. It means I need eight classrooms for only one class and eight teachers. These teachers need allowances for travel and housing. You need a secretary, a bursar, cleaner, cooks, guards and bursars. The children will be few and their fees cannot pay for all these demands. It is worse in private schools," Jjuuko said.

The chairperson National Private Schools Association, John Bosco Mujumba, said while they appreciate the parents' concerns, there is no guarantee that the virus is going away soon.

He called upon government to relieve parents by paying the Uganda National Examinations Board (Uneb) fees to enable every learner sit the examinations. Uneb charges Shs34, 000 for every Primary Seven candidate, Shs164, 000 for Senior Four students and Shs186,000 for Senior Six candidates.

"Uneb will be asking us to pay for our children. Parents don't have money. Some lost jobs and have been at home. Children in private schools are also government children. The government should intervene. It will be difficult asking children to pay for

these exams when they don't have the money," Mujumba said.

Filbert Baguma, the Uganda National Teachers' Union secretary, said government has not sensitised the parents on what to expect when schools reopen, which is likely to scare them away from sending their children to school.

President Museveni warned business owners on Sunday that those who fail to follow the standard operating procedures and their clients will contract the virus. He added that such a trend will scare away people and automatically paralyse business.

Circular economy: Moving Africa towards environmental sustainability

BY REQUIER WAIT

FOR Africa, the impact of COVID-19 has made thinking about the future more important than ever. Recent analysis by the African Futures and Innovation team at the Institute for Security Studies forecasts that the pandemic is set to undo several years of development progress on the continent. At the same time, COVID-19 has raised questions about how prepared we are for future disasters, especially those linked to climate change.

Although we cannot predict the future, current societal, environmental and economic trends can be used to anticipate scenarios and decide what action is needed now to achieve our desired outcomes. For Africa, an important question is how to recover from COVID-19 while enhancing environmental sustainability.

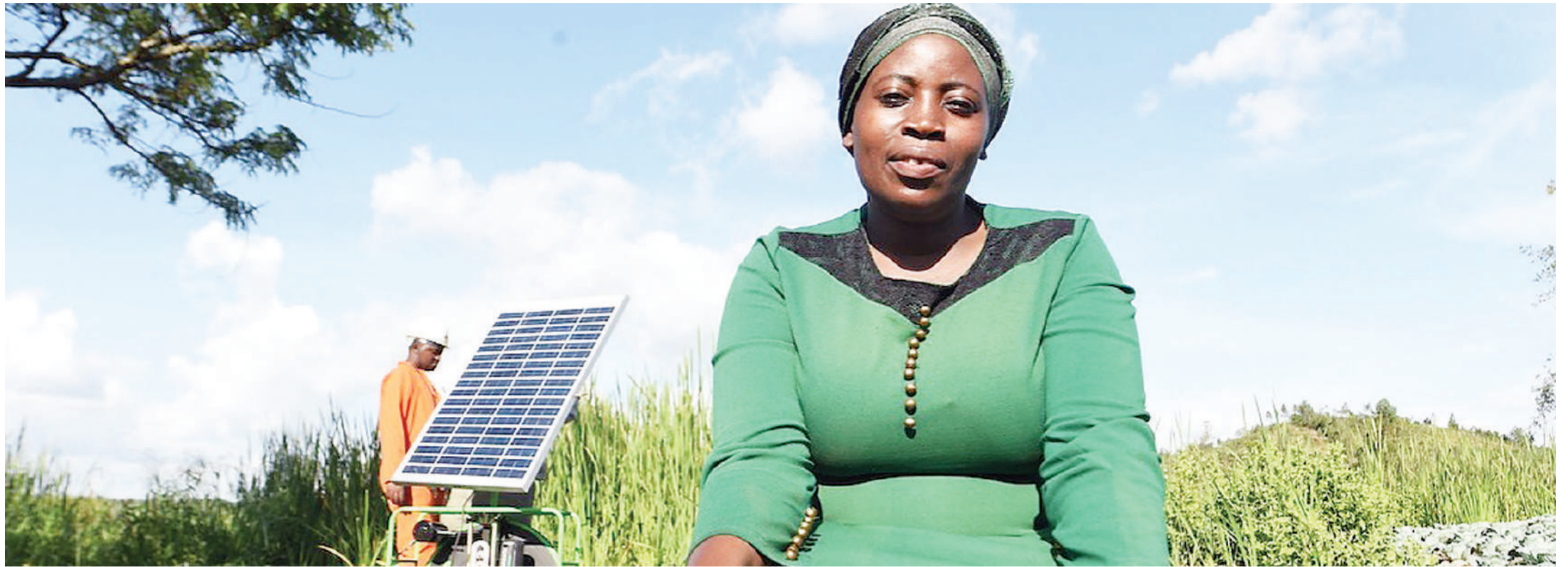
The concept of a circular economy is a good starting point. A circular economy presents a shift away from the current linear take-make-waste extractive systems by designing waste out of the process. Products and materials are recycled, helping to conserve the environment and the planet's finite resources.

A number of avenues can be followed to shift towards a more sustainable and circular economy. Electricity, agriculture, urban infrastructure including transportation, plastics, manufacturing and textiles are a few examples that present economic opportunities in a circular economy.

The circular economy is a shift away from our current linear take-make-waste extractive systems

Many existing initiatives are aimed at moving to the circular economy in Africa. For instance, the Switch Africa Green Programme promotes the use of biogas technology, E-waste management, organic agriculture, green manufacturing and eco-industrial parks. Partner countries include Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Mauritius, South Africa and Uganda.

In Ghana, a Waste Recovery Plat-



form connects stakeholders and facilitates partnerships to administer waste management data and reduce policy implementation gaps. As an example of initiatives on the funding side, the African Development Bank is establishing the Africa Circular Economy Facility to support circular economy practices in member countries.

Greater use of renewable energy can help move away from carbon-intensive power sources to create low-carbon economies. Modelling by BP estimates that Africa's electricity demand will more than triple by 2050, and renewables are expected to have the largest share of the generation mix at 67%.

The fusion of agriculture and solar energy generation could boost sustainable development. For example elevated solar photovoltaic panels are used to shelter crops planted beneath, referred to as agrophotovoltaic or APV projects. This can increase yields while conserving the land space used for solar panels in confined urban spaces.

Africa faces economic and climate change related risks, and the circular economy can help reduce both. File photo

The AFDB is establishing the Africa Circular Economy Facility to support circular economy practices

Small-scale farmers could use this approach while offering the potential of mini-grids and electricity access for rural communities. Overall, the adoption of more sustainable farming practices together with a reduction in food waste could not only help conserve water, but also sustain the productivity of agricultural land.

With Africa's growing population and rapid urbanisation, urban planners should design systems for resilient and resource-efficient cities. Circular systems can help reduce rising levels of municipal waste, with better management having positive impacts for the environment, health and urban economies. For example, designing economic activities around the recovery of resources, reuse and recycling could help create jobs for rising urban populations.

The United Nations Industrial Development Organization identifies both

challenges and opportunities from the circular economy. For Africa, the risk is that circular economy practices in high-income countries could reduce the demand for natural resource imports from the continent. Adopting circular economy standards may also prove difficult from an import regulation point of view.

Yet, with growing populations in much of Asia, if not in Europe and North America, there will be greater demand for food, inputs, water and energy. Planning for and investing in circular economy systems today could help Africa meet this rising need while also curtailing resource depletion and climate change.

The fusion of agriculture and solar energy generation could boost sustainable development

In preparing for future disasters, a recent study on the ecology and economics for pandemic prevention highlights the importance of investing in the protection of tropical forests. These forest boundaries are a launch-

pad for zoonotic viruses, like COVID-19 and Ebola, which jump from animals to humans.

When the clearing of forests results in more than 25% of the forest cover being lost, the likelihood of contact between wildlife, humans and their livestock increases. Protecting tropical forests could help curb the spread of zoonotic viruses. And the cost of investments to prevent future pandemics could be far lower than the cost of managing them.

The Congo Basin - which is the second largest tropical rainforest in the world - lost approximately 16.6 million hectares of forest between 2000 and 2014, according to a study by the University of Maryland. Industrial logging, demand for wood fuel and agriculture place this forest under increasing pressure.

Protecting this resource with circular economy practices could go a long way to combating future pandemics while at the same time sustaining a forest that helps lower global carbon emissions. Here the example of combining solar energy and agriculture could be one way to reduce the demand for wood fuel while increasing sustainability.

A circular economy can support Africa's economic development, enhance sustainability and help curb future health problems. It requires collaboration between government, business and consumers. It may not be a silver bullet for development but can certainly make Africa more resilient to future threats.

Agencies

Xi charts course for world to meet challenges amid COVID-19

BEIJING

CHINESE President Xi Jinping on Tuesday charted a course for the world to confront the COVID-19 crisis and meet more challenges in the future while addressing the general debate of the 75th session of the United Nations (UN) General Assembly.

The general debate was held virtually for the first time in the world body's 75-year-long history due to the coronavirus pandemic.

ENHANCE SOLIDARITY

Noting that COVID-19 has ravaged the world and kept resurging, Xi said countries should put people and life first and enhance solidarity.

"COVID-19 reminds us that we are living in an interconnected global village with a common stake," he said.

"This is why we should embrace the vision of a community with a shared future in which everyone is bound

together," Xi said, calling on countries to see each other as members of the same big family, pursue win-win cooperation, rise above ideological disputes and not to fall into the trap of "clash of civilizations."

"We should respect a country's independent choice of development path and model," he said.

No country can gain from others' difficulties or maintain stability by taking advantages of others' troubles, Xi said.

He added that any attempt of politicizing the pandemic or stigmatization must be rejected, saying countries should show concern for and accommodate the need of developing countries, especially African countries.

Xi's remarks once again show that solidarity and cooperation is the most powerful weapon in the face of COVID-19, said Ruan Zongze, executive vice president of the China Institute of International Studies.

PURSUING BALANCED DEVELOPMENT

In his statement, Xi said the economic globalization is



Chinese President Xi Jinping addresses the general debate of the 75th session of the United Nations General Assembly via video on Tuesday. Xinhua

an indisputable reality and a historical trend.

"The world will never return to isolation, and no one can sever the ties between countries," he said.

Xi called for full and balanced development that delivers benefit to people from all countries, sectors and backgrounds in an equitable way.

He also called on countries to pursue open and inclusive development, remain committed to building an open world economy, and uphold the multilateral trading regime with the World Trade Organization as the cornerstone.

"We should say no to unilateralism and protectionism, and work to ensure the stable and smooth functioning of global industrial and supply chains," said the president.

The pandemic reminds the world the humankind should launch a green revolution and move faster to create a green way of development and life, Xi said.

He called on countries to pursue innovative, coordinated, green and open development for all, seize the historic opportunities presented by the new round of scientific and technological revolution and industrial transformation, and achieve a green recovery of the world economy in the post-COVID era.

China will scale up its Intended Nationally Determined Contributions by adopting more vigorous policies and measures, said Xi, adding that China aims to have CO2 emissions peak before 2030 and achieve carbon neutrality before 2060.

"China's commitment to promoting an open world economy represents the historical trend of globalization and the general direction of world development, which speaks volumes about China's sense of responsibility as a major country," said Gao Fei, a professor at China Foreign Affairs University.

STAY TRUE TO MULTILATERALISM

COVID-19 is not only a major test of the governance capacity of countries but also a test of the global governance system.

"We should stay true to multilateralism and safeguard the international system with the UN at its core," said Xi.

He said global governance should be based on the principle of extensive consultation, joint cooperation and shared benefits so as to ensure that all countries enjoy equal rights and opportunities and follow the same rules.

The global governance system should adapt itself to evolving global political and economic dynamics, meet global challenges and embrace the underlying trend of peace, development and win-win cooperation, said Xi.

Competition between countries should be positive and healthy in nature, and should not breach the moral standard, Xi said. He called on major countries to provide more global public goods, take up their due responsibilities and live up to people's expectations.

"We have no intention to fight either a Cold War or a hot war with any country," said Xi, adding that China will continue to narrow differences and resolve disputes with others through dialogue and negotiation.

In contrast, the act of certain countries seeking to provoke conflicts goes against the trend of history, Ruan said.

Instead of shying away from problems facing humanity, China is actively promoting a new type of better and balanced globalization, and contributing a "China plan" to achieving sustainable development for all UN member states, he said.

Xinhua

THE GUARDIAN SIMPLE WORD FIT // THE GUARDIAN CROSSWORD --00 138 00--

WORD-FIT puzzle grid with clues: 3 letters: BUA, KAA, BEN, TRY, ONE, AIL, DUE, ADD; 4 letters: ROBE, NOUN, MAST, LEER, DELE; 5 letters: ROGUE, ABEAM, AGENT, THANA, BEMBA, ENEMY, YOUNG, ASIDE, STAIN; 6 letters: GRABBY, LUGGER, HOMAGE, BOTTLE; 7 letters: TAMALE; 8 letters: GRABBLE, KATANGA, ONESELF.

CROSSWORD puzzle grid with clues: Across: 1 First President of Kenya; 5 Tripoli is her Capital; 8 behave uncontrollably and disruptively; 9 a fertile spot in a desert; 11 set the value of a tax; 13 assert to be the case; 16 progress through life; 17 the sixth month of the year; 19 United Nations University; 21 indicating the point in space or time at which a journey starts; 22 someone who does surprise attack on people; 24 a derogatory term for a white man crush with a sharp blow from a flat object; 26 matt. Down: 1 highest mountain in Africa; 2 mountain where Moses saw the promised land from afar; 3 gather; 4 tempt sexually; 5 a defeat in sport; 7 a friendly form of address in India; 10 the religion of the Muslims; 12 direct vehicles in a correct side; 14 listlessness and dissatisfaction arising from boredom; 15 a brass musical instrument; 18 give property to; 20 Union of European Football Associations; 23 mouse.

SOLUTIONS for the word fit and crossword puzzles.

Additional crossword clues and solutions.



Thursday 24 September 2020

Interbank forex exchange slowdown in first half of 2020

By Francis Kajubi

INTER Bank Foreign Exchange Marketing decreased from US\$126.4 million last year to only US\$41.4 million this year, Bank of Tanzania has said.

In its Monthly Economic Review for August, BoT said the falling volumes were a result of a number of factors although agricultural commodities and tourism performed positively into the IFEM during the period.

The central bank said that though commodity exports and tourists visits contributed significantly to the IFEM during the period, export proceeds from gold and cross-border trade also played a role.

"The Bank of Tanzania participated in the market by selling US\$28.2 million, accounting for 68.1 percent of total transactions," the report stated adding that non-traditional exports improved to US\$4.88 billion during the period from US\$3.68 billion in the corresponding period in 2019, mostly driven by minerals particularly gold and horticultural products.

Export of gold accounted for 56 percent of non-traditional exports, and grew by 52.8 percent to US\$2.729 billion, on account of volume price effects at the world market. According to the report, exports of traditional



Bank of Tanzania governor, Professor Florens Luoga.

goods namely cotton, sisal, cashew nuts, coffee, tea, tobacco and cloves doubled to US\$1.02 billion in the same period from US\$503.3 million in 2019. The increase was manifested by exports of cashew nuts, cotton, cloves and sisal.

"The shilling remained stable against the US dollar, trading at an average of 2,308.96/- per dollar from 2,300.42/- traded last year. On annual basis, the shilling marginal depreciation is translated to 0.4 per US dollar of the US\$2,300.42 in July 2019," the BoT report stated.

Meanwhile, the central bank said headline inflation fell to 3.2 percent in the quarter ending June 2020 compared to 3.6 percent in registered in the preceding quarter and 3.5 percent in the corresponding quarter in 2019.

The BoT attributed the reduction to a slowdown in prices of some non-food items, particularly petroleum products. Consumer price index inflation remained subdued and below the country's medium-term target of five percent.

The report further clarified that in the East African Community region, twelve-month headline inflation averaged 5.8 percent compared with 2.1 percent in the corresponding quarter in 2019.

SBL's Kilimo Viwanda scholarship beneficiaries reach 70

By The Banker Reporter

THE annual 'Kilimo Viwanda' Serengeti Breweries Limited Scholarship Program will now benefit 70 students countrywide from 40 who got funding last year thanks to the brewer's decision to increase recipients.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam during the launch of this year's scholarships, SBL's Managing Director, Mark Ocitti said that under this year's 'Kilimo Viwanda' Scholarship program, the brewer's aim is to support government efforts in building capacity of local farmers through training of experts in agriculture.

Ocitti explained that SBL has set aside 120m/- which will be shared every year among the 70 beneficiaries who are students from farming communities across the country with economically struggling backgrounds.

"In implementing this program, we are partnering with four local colleges which are offering agriculture courses to the beneficiaries. We believe this program will go a long way in strengthening the existing pool of skilled agriculture personnel in the country which is necessary to help smallholder farmers increase their productivity and ultimately their incomes," Ocitti said.

He pointed out that with their partner colleges: Coast based Kaole Wazazi College of Agriculture, Kilacha Agriculture and Livestock Training Centre in Kilimanjaro, Saint Maria Goretti College of Agriculture in Iringa and Igabiro Training Institute of Agriculture in Kagera region, they hope to help state efforts to commercialise agriculture.

The SBL chief further noted that farmers need extension services because many of them lack adequate knowledge on good farm management skills such as correct land preparation, timely planting, pest and diseases and their control, timely weed control, knowledge on nutrient deficiency symptoms, hence need expert advice.

In a vote of thanks, Kilacha Agriculture and Live-



Serengeti Breweries Limited's managing director, Mark Ocitti briefs journalists in Dar es Salaam mid this week on this year's 'Kilimo-Viwanda' Scholarship Program. He is accompanied by Kilacha Agriculture and Livestock Training Centre's rector, Benito Mwenda. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

stock Training Centre's Principal, Benito Mwenda said the role of skilled agriculture personnel such as extension officers is key in transforming the country's agricultural sector from its current subsistence production into large scale commercial production.

"Agricultural extension officers are important in our agriculture and what SBL has done is commendable. Adoption of good agricultural practices and intensive provision of extension services to farmers have consistently demonstrated high rates of return in various countries," Mwenda stated.

Since its establishment in 2002, SBL's

business has grown its portfolio of brands year on year and gained further momentum after acquisition by EABL/Diageo in 2010 which has seen increased investment in international quality standards and new brands.

SBL Brands have been receiving multiple international awards and include Serengeti Premium Lager, Serengeti Lite, Pilsner Lager, Pilsner King, Tusker Lager, Tusker Lite, Kibo Gold, Guinness stout and Senator. The company is also home to world's renowned spirits such as Johnnie Walker Whisky, Smirnoff Vodka, Gordon's Gin, Captain Morgan Rum and Baileys Irish Cream.

Visa and She Leads Africa partnership will empower female entrepreneurs

NAIROBI

VISA announces its partnership with She Leads Africa, a platform that connects female entrepreneurs with the right information and tools that they need to create thriving businesses in their communities.

This partnership forms part of Visa's 'Where you Shop Matters' initiative which was launched in June. It is an initiative that aims to champion and enable entrepreneurs across Africa while encouraging consumers to support small businesses by shopping local.

Women are the backbone of African economies, and according to The Global Entrepreneurship Monitor Women's Entrepreneurship Report 2018/2019, the highest rates the total entrepreneurial activity for women are found in Sub-Saharan Africa (21.8%). Although women are involved in entrepreneurial activity, women in Sub-Saharan Africa tend to face a much higher likelihood of business discontinuation than men.

Through the She Leads Africa Spotlight series, Visa will provide a platform for successful female entrepreneurs, with incredible stories, who will share their business journeys, especially by transitioning to digital channels, in a bid to inspire and help upcoming entrepreneurs spread across Africa. The partnership also includes a This is how I did it series which features digital marketing experts that will provide women with the tools to advance their digital businesses.

Visa's initiative is helping to support small businesses through the Visa Small Business Hub, a merchant platform providing tools and information on how to start, run and grow small businesses. The platform also features leading merchants who embody the passion and highlights the entrepreneurship journey of small businesses across the continent.

Corine Mbiaketcha, Visa General Manager for East Africa shares, "our partnership with She Leads Africa, will enable us to engage over 700,000 female entrepreneurs across Africa through digital channels and direct engagements with female owned businesses." She also expresses Visa's commitment towards supporting female entrepreneurs, especially with the current economic realities, and the need for more collaborations within the ecosystem to drive economic recovery.

Afua Osei, Co-Founder of She Leads Africa shares, "we are so grateful for the opportunity to collaborate with Visa to support the incredible women in our community with learning and growth opportunities. Our community is passionate and committed to making an impact with their businesses and partnering with Visa enables us to share resources that will help them take it to the next level."

SA Bitcoin trading firm under investigations

JOHANNESBURG

IN another twist, the South African Bitcoin trading company under investigation by the Financial Services Conduct Authority (FSCA) and on the radar of other international financial regulatory entities has had its entire transaction history exposed on the dark web.

Mirror Trading International (MTI) is a South African Bitcoin trading company, which has been under the microscope since January this year for being a "get-rich-quick" scheme. In July MTI's broker, FXChoice, issued a statement saying it had blocked the company's trading account because "our research leads to the realisation that MTI is a multi-level marketing pool that claims high returns from trading forex for their members using artificial intelligence software.

Additionally, MTI uses a very aggressive multi-level

marketing campaign with high rewards to get new investors into the pool. Due to this new information, we blocked MTI's account on 10 June. This was when the last trade was closed. We requested additional documents from MTI to confirm the source of their funds. We are still waiting."

On 7 July, Texas State Securities Board issued a cease and desist order against the company for operating a multi-level marketing or pyramid scheme. Around the same time, the Canadian authority Autorité des Marchés Financiers (AMF) added MTI to its warning list of websites and companies that solicit investors illegally.

Then on 18 August, the South African Financial Services Conduct Authority (FSCA) issued a statement saying it was investigating MTI as it did not have the requisite financial service provider licence, but the "FSCA has a much greater concern about the activities of the com-

pany. MTI claims to have more than R2.9bn (at current conversion rates) in clients' funds in trading accounts, but we have not been able to conclusively confirm that the funds exist."

According to a report by MyBroadband, a hacking group calling itself Anonymous ZA exposed the vulnerability of the platform by accessing investor information through its member's portal mymticlub.com without needing to hack the system.

"Using this weakness, it was able to glean detailed information about MTI's system and see the full names, usernames, e-mail addresses, Bitcoin balances, and earnings linked to every account. Anonymous ZA then published an anonymised copy of the data, which was current as of 14 September 2020, on a dark web site called MTIleaks," MyBroadband reported.

"[The] MTI database shows the company has handled

over 22,984 Bitcoin in member deposits, amounting to over R4bn." The data shows that members have withdrawn nearly 15,653 Bitcoin (close to R2.9bn), which means the scheme should still have at least 7,331 Bitcoin (over R1.3bn) of members' capital in its accounts.

"However, the data also shows that the scheme has allocated almost 9,916 Bitcoin (over R1.8bn) to members in interest and bonuses." This means that MTI must have a minimum of 17,247 Bitcoin (over R3.1bn) to cover the remaining deposits and earnings of all members who have not yet been withdrawn from the scheme," the report said.

When initially asked by MyBroadband whether the company had enough liquidity to cover its obligations, MTI CEO Johann Steynberg did not respond. In a subsequent statement, MTI declined to comment.

Temeke DC commends NMB for customer sensitisation on financial services

By The Banker Reporter

SENSITIZATION of customers on the basics of financial services is an important investment because it enables one to use banking products such as loans productively.

Temেকে District Commissioner, Godwin Gondwe said in Dar es Salaam last week while officiating at an NMB Bank Plc sponsored meeting of the district's civil servants that the bank has been an important ally of the state.

Gondwe said NMB's investments in financial basics sensitization and community service investments are important both to individuals and the government. "Since my days as Handeni District Commissioner, NMB has been a trusted partner to the government through its support to community services. You are truly investing in people's hearts," Gondwe said.

He paid tribute to the bank's management and board of directors for continuing to perform well hence dominating the market as the most profitable bank. "You have supported government efforts to improve education and health services which is an investment that remains for a long time in the hearts of students," he added.

The Temেকে DC however urged the bank's leadership to continue supporting his district saying following the government's decision to



NMB's Head of Consumer Banking, Omary Mtiga speaks during a breakfast meeting which the bank hosted for Temeke Municipal Council's heads of departments and sections last week. Centre is Temেকে DC, Godwin Gondwe. Photo courtesy of NMB.

provide free education for all up to secondary level has overwhelmed existing facilities hence needs more investments. "We still face challenges with classroom shortages, desks and other facilities to ensure that pupils and students have better learning environments," Gondwe noted. Briefing the DC at the breakfast meeting, NMB's Head of Retail Banking, Omary Mtiga said the bank's corporate social

responsibility plan is backed by one percent of net profit made annually. Mtiga said so far this year, over 900m/- of the allocated over 1bn/- has been spent on various community initiatives.

He called upon Temেকে Municipality's heads of departments and sections to make better use of the financial literacy training to access the bank's services and products naming some of them as Bancassurance,

mortgage loans, NMB Digital and NMB Mobile services. "We also have on offer pre-paid cards, credit cards, individual loans, agribusiness loans and many more, so come talk to us," he added.

The bank's Dar es Salaam and Zanzibar Zone Manager, Donatus Richard presented to DC Gondwe 20 chairs and a similar number of tables worth 5m/- for use by teachers at Twiga Primary School in the district.



Sohaila Ouffata, director of platform at BMW i Ventures.

Angel investors can be a lifeline for struggling SMEs, Sharjah summit hears

ABU DHABI

ANGEL investors and government-led investment funds can provide a financial lifeline to small and medium-sized enterprises that might otherwise have gone out of business during the Covid-19 pandemic, according to the head of the World Business Angels Investment Forum.

Instead of injecting money through bailouts, governments should set up "smart investment funds in cooperation with angel investors" to provide financing for struggling SMEs, Baybars Altuntas, executive chairman of the Istanbul-based organisation, said.

"Governments can develop an accreditation system for qualified angel investors and invite entrepreneurs to pitch their ideas before them," he said during an online panel discussion at the Mena Innovation Technology Transfer (MITT) Summit on Tuesday. SMEs, the lifeblood of most national economies, have experienced outsized risk during the pandemic.

An analysis on a sample of 17 countries by the International Monetary Fund suggests that SME bankruptcies could rise to 12 per cent in 2020 - from four per cent before the pandemic hit - in the absence of policy support. More than a quarter of such businesses temporarily closed their doors in the first five months of the year due to lost cashflow amid the Covid-19 pandemic, according to a survey by Facebook, the World Bank and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development.

Organised by the Sharjah Research Technology and Innovation Park, the

first edition of the MITT Summit convened more than 70 speakers and 5,000 participants. Participants include global investors, government and private sector representatives and other stakeholders. Industry experts appealed to policymakers to expedite the process of digital inclusion to deal with the economic fallout from the virus.

"Digital inclusion comes way before financial, educational or health inclusion. There are nearly 2 billion unbanked people, we don't know how they are accessing online education or health services," said Mr Altuntas.

Despite acute economic strain, the pandemic has also created opportunities for entrepreneurs, start-ups and creative thinkers, according to speakers at the summit.

"The Covid-19 pandemic has shown that our societies are not as resilient as we thought," Sohaila Ouffata, director of platform at BMW i Ventures, said.

Covid-19 has changed mobility patterns but at the same time, more money and technologies have been pooled into the transformation of the urban environment, she said.

"This is an opportunity in itself ... we are seeing smart city ecosystem trends picking up fast," said Ms Ouffata, who predicted that shared mobility services will be badly hit but that it could spur innovation in the used car market.

"In countries like the US, where unemployment rates are rising above the roof, many people cannot afford to buy new cars ... they will prefer used cars. This will lead to new business models around used car ownership in such markets," Ms Ouffata said.



Confederation of Tanzania Industries executive director, Leodegar Tenga speaking in Dar es Salaam mid this week. Photo courtesy of CTI.

CTI lures manufacturers to join PMAYA awards

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MANUFACTURERS have been invited to submit their applications to take part in this year's Presidents Manufactures of the Year Awards which will be held in November this year.

Confederation of Tanzania Industries Executive Director, Leodegar Tenga said in Dar es Salaam this week that this year's awards have an objective of recognizing companies engaged in production of quality goods and services which feed the local market.

Tenga said the awards help local manufacturers to be recognized, catapulting growth of their businesses hence increasing

their brands visibility for products and services.

"We are asking all companies engaged in production of goods and services in the country from different sectors in all categories of large, medium and small industries to participate," Tenga said adding that the prestigious event will be hosted by CTI patron, President John Pombe Magufuli whose government is focusing on industrialization of the economy.

The CTI chief executive stated that the annual competition is one of the best avenues for manufacturers to improve on the quality of their products and services and showcase to the public. "The focus now is to have many medium sized industries, this can be achieved if we encourage and support small scale companies join the race and offer job opportunities to many people," he said. The PMAYA awards are being for the 15th year and manufacturers have until mid October to submit their entries.

The PMAYA competition is an annual event that is organized by CTI to award out-

standing industries of the preceding year. These awards were first presented in 2005 when CTI organised the first competition among its members countrywide.

PMAYA aims to recognize and appreciate the industrial sector's important role in Tanzania's economic development process. For the past 13 years now, CTI has been staging this most prestigious members' event covering all sectors of production and services.



We are asking all companies engaged in production of goods and services in the country from different sectors in all categories of large, medium and small industries to participate

MARKETTRENDS

Treasury raises debt target by Sh29.7bn on tax shortfall

NAIROBI

THE Treasury has raised domestic borrowing goal for the current financial year, which started in July, by Sh29.72 billion on fears of a deeper shortfall in tax receipts than earlier projected.

Treasury secretary Ukur Yatani said in a gazette notice last Friday the Treasury would target Sh524.69 billion fresh debt from domestic investors, 6.0 per cent more than the Sh494.98 billion it had estimated at the beginning of the financial year in July.

This came after tax collections by the Kenya Revenue Authority (KRA) fell 15.03 per cent, or Sh33.27 billion, in the first two months of this fiscal year to Sh188.08 billion on prolonged knock-on effects of the Covid-19 containment measures on economic activity.

Mr Yatani has this month cut total tax collection forecast for this financial year ending June 2021 by Sh91.2 billion to Sh1.42 trillion compared with his earlier estimates of Sh1.51 trillion in June because of "persistent adverse effects of the Covid-19 pandemic" on economic activity. This will raise the budget deficit, largely bridged through borrowing, to 8.4 per cent from 7.5 per cent he had budgeted in June, according to the draft 2020 Budget Review and Outlook Paper.

"A rise in the government's borrowing requirements to finance the deficit will intensify financing risks arising from a high share of short-term Treasury bills and maturing external debt," analysts at global credit rating agency Moody's wrote in a September report on Kenya last week. "Given the flattening of the yield curve, we expect the government to continue to rely more on longer-term debt issuance rather than Treasury bills."

The upward revision will push total domestic debt goal to nearly Sh786.65 billion from an earlier estimates of Sh756.93 billion, taking into account projected rollover of maturing debt. The Treasury plans to roll over Sh261.96 billion this financial year, 17.69 per cent growth over Sh222.58 billion redemptions in the year ended June 2020. Net domestic borrowing in July-August period amounted to Sh121.67 billion, 80.13 per cent higher than the same period a year earlier.

Digitization as banking industry's better way going forward

By Dr Joe Masawe

IT wasn't so long ago that knowing the name of a bank teller at the window was commonplace. The rise of mobile technology and the comfort most users have with digital banking has changed the way banking is done currently.

The use of digital technology in banking, or digital banking, has recently expanded rapidly, especially after the introduction of mobile phones. Digital banking can be defined as the process where products and services are delivered electronically and involve high levels of process automation through desktops, mobile phones or electronic cards used over Point of Sale (PoS) machines or Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs).

Digital banking has several advantages. It helps banks improve interaction with customers and deliver their needs more quickly, more efficiently, and more ac-

curately. It provides agility by speeding up both external and internal processes and has higher transactions security and low delivery costs.

According to Mackenzie Global Institute (MGI), widespread use of digital finance systems could boost annual gross domestic product of all emerging economies by \$3.7 trillion by 2025. This would come from reduction in face to face costs via digitization, reduction of counterparty risk and bridging information asymmetry gaps, by using big data and block chain technology to produce credit scores that allow lenders to offer for example, unsecured credit.

The think tank outlines further that, raised productivity of financial and non-financial businesses and governments due to digitization could account for almost 66 percent of the increase in GDP, while the rest will come from increased financial inclusion and more productive and



flexible hours of work arising from digitization.

In Tanzania, digital banking has expanded rapidly mostly through the use mobile phone technology, but also through the expansion of internet banking and use of ATMs. The use of digital technology has enabled banks to record major success in broadening their services to those who were prior to the use of digitization,

unbanked.

According to Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT) Reports, Tanzania has recorded significant growth in the level of financial inclusion in the last decade by almost halving the level of financial exclusion between 2009 and 2017. The level of the financially excluded population narrowed down to 28 percent in 2017, from 55 percent in 2009.

The banking sector continues to expand its efforts in ensuring that financial transactions of its customers become more and more digitized so as to take full advantage of the efficiency associated with digital technology. Currently, Tanzania Bankers Association, an umbrella organization of all banks and financial institutions operating in Tanzania, in collaboration with VISA are running a campaign dubbed "Be smart, go cashless" to promote the use of electronic cards issued by banks to pay for goods and services at PoS like supermarkets, filling stations, hotels, restaurants etc. need to be praised.

Electronic card payments provide consumers with a safe payment solution wherever they are, while at the same

time, giving businesses a safe and cost effective way to accept payments. Recent data shows that out of 150,000 registered businesses only 20,000 accept electronic card payments, implying that the potential for growth of electronic card payments is huge.

The campaign also aims at discouraging merchants from surcharging electronic card payments at PoS given that its benefits accrue to both the seller as well as the buyer. It is a partnership which provides a win-win situation for both sides.

It is important therefore for both consumers, as well as businesses of all categories to embrace this new technology which is rapidly enhancing efficiency, improving security, reducing face to face cost, reducing counterparty risk and bridging information asymmetry gaps. Let us "BE SMART and GO CASHLESS."

NB:
Dr Joe Masawe (pictured) is Head of Research and Policy at Tanzania Bankers Association.

How Microsoft is reshaping financial services

JOHANNESBURG

DEMAND for Microsoft Teams shot up during lockdown, with the company reporting 44 million daily users in May - a 40% increase in demand over a period of months.

What's driving this growth is the massive shift to remote work and education. It's now become clear that the lockdown, far from being a temporary blip in the way we interact, is likely to become a permanent part of the way we do business.

But a far more profound change is underway in the financial services sector, says Amr Kamel, Microsoft general manager for Africa. "Microsoft Teams is a vital tool for millions of businesses around the world, something that has been accelerated by the Covid lockdown, but this is just part of the transformation we are involved in implementing in the financial services sector.

"For every organisation right now, these are unprecedented times. Businesses of all sizes and entire industries will need to adjust to disruption and change, and the coming months will be pivotal for many. Many things may never be the same [when lockdown is lifted]. But one constant is the power of technology to help people and organisations adapt, reinvent and transform.

"Technology will be a key ally in rebooting enterprises," Kamel calls it the "reimagine" mindset. It is astonishing how many businesses are adapting to online delivery and cloud technology, and nowhere is this more evident than in financial services.

Three phases
Kamel says there are three phases required for any coherent response to the pandemic: response, recovery and reimagining. "I think we are already through the response phase, and now well into recovery," he says. Those businesses that survived this far will now be confronted with reimagining the way they do business in the future, and this goes far beyond remote meetings and online delivery - though these are



Amr Kamel (R), Microsoft general manager for Africa exchanging signed documents with Ade Ayeyemi - CEO, Ecobank Group.

a critical component in future survival.

"This pandemic has taught us that no business is 100% resilient, and those fortified by digital technology are more resilient and more capable of transforming when faced with structural changes in the marketplace," says Kamel. Banks are paring back their bricks and mortar branches across the country, placing greater reliance on electronic delivery to service customers.

That trend was already in place before the lockdown but accelerated at unprecedented rates in the last few months. The traditional banking model is being challenged by largely digital banks, which have the advantage of starting a banking operation from scratch based on back office systems that can be scaled with ease. Traditional banks' legacy systems will have to be overhauled to stay in this race and enrich the customer experience.

Unlike most other types of business, banks are under intense scrutiny from regulators at a time when many customers are under severe financial distress. This puts regulatory compliance and risk management front and centre of the banks' supervisory obligations. Microsoft partnered with Standard Bank to allow the bank to scale its business on demand and roll out innovations as these are ready for launch.

Integration
One of the problems banks have faced when

introducing new customer offerings in the past is the ability to integrate these into often clunky legacy systems. The partnership with Standard Bank involved migrating the bank's customer experience to SAP Cloud Platform on Microsoft Azure, which is a cloud computing service for building, testing, deploying, and managing applications and services through Microsoft-managed data centres.

"Standard Bank South Africa is moving its core SAP Cloud Platform services to Microsoft Azure to improve the experience customers have with the bank while enabling it to introduce new solutions to market more efficiently," says Kamel. "By moving workloads to the cloud, Standard Bank will be able to access a range of features that it can deploy instantly and scale according to demand. This will result in cost reductions, improved system performance, and access to innovation."

June 2020 saw Standard Bank Group host its 10th annual Africa Investors Conference as a virtual event, using a specially enhanced Microsoft Teams platform to host more than 2 500 meetings over a period of five days. This is more than double the total number of meetings hosted by the bank in 2019, all made possible by the new virtual platform introduced by Microsoft.

The number of investors registered for the conference increased by 78% and African corporate participation increased by 17%.

BANKING & FINANCE

BoE plays down negative interest rates to offset virus threat to UK economy

LONDON

THE Bank of England played down the roll-out of negative interest rates to offset the damaging effects of Covid-19 and urged pundits not to read too much into the possibility of such a move, according to governor Andrew Bailey.

While Mr Bailey said the bank had "looked hard" at interest rate cuts and they are in the monetary policy toolbox, he stressed that last week's policy statement was not a hint the BoE would implement negative rates.

Instead, any investigations in this area are more exploratory to see whether such a move can be implemented rather than a firm signal that they are coming, Mr Bailey told a webinar for the British Chambers of Commerce.

"It doesn't imply anything about the possibility of us using negative instruments," he said. "We have looked hard at the question of what the scope is to cut interest rates further and particularly negative rates."

The BoE held interest rates at a record low of 0.1 per cent last week, as Mr Bailey said it did not intend to tighten monetary policy until economic conditions improve. The UK regulator also left the size of its bond-buying programme unchanged at £745 billion (\$966bn).

Mr Bailey said escalating Covid-19 coronavirus cases were "very unfortunate" and did "reinforce the downside risks" for the UK economy, and said the BoE would do everything it could to support the economy. His comments came shortly after the government urged people to work from home again if possible, reversing its drive to get employees back into workplaces.

The pound recouped losses after slipping to two-month lows against the dollar on Tuesday, recovering as much as 0.08 per cent to \$1.2826 against the dollar at 8.40am in London after sliding as low as \$1.2714 earlier in the day, its lowest level since July 23.

"The UK government has told the public to work from home if possible and this has increased the virus fear among investors," said Naeem Aslam, chief market analyst at London's Avatrade.

"What worries the investors most is if these targeted lockdowns remain ineffective and are then replaced by stronger measures, such as the national lockdowns we saw back in March this year.

Sukuk market to lag 2019 performance on lower corporate issuance

ABU DHABI

THE Islamic bond market has seen some improvement in recent months but its overall performance in 2020 will remain weaker than last year, pulled back by a lack of issuance from corporate borrowers and central banks, the global head of Islamic Finance at S&P Global Ratings said.

"More recently, we have observed that there's a window of opportunity that opened in the market, with investors' risk appetite improving again," Mohamed Damak told S&P's Islamic finance conference held online on Tuesday. "Yet overall, I think the market will be down compared to 2019."

Although sovereigns, banks and multilateral lenders may issue more sukuk in foreign currencies, corporate borrowers have remained on the sidelines as they try to hold onto cash and reduce capital expenditure to ride out the economic downturn triggered by Covid-19, Mr Damak said. "Central

banks are not issuing either as they are injecting money into the system rather than taking it out," he added.

The ratings agency in July said sukuk issuance volumes had fallen 27 per cent on an annual basis in the first six months of this year. It expects overall issuance of Islamic bonds to reach around \$100 billion (Dh367bn) for 2020, which will be about 40 per cent lower than the \$162bn recorded in 2019.

The \$2.4 trillion Sharia-compliant finance industry, which grew an annual 11.4 per cent in 2019, will also struggle to maintain the pace of growth in 2020, as core markets grapple with the impact of Covid-19 on their economies, he said.

"The macro picture has shifted with economies going into deep negative territories in core Islamic finance [markets], with the exception of Indonesia," Mr Damak said. "Central banks have asked banks and financial institutions to support their corporate customers [and at the same time] opened up their [own] liquidity taps ... and that has changed the picture



Global head of Islamic Finance at S&P Global Ratings, Mohamed Damak.

completely [for the industry]."

Governments and central banks have poured more than \$1tn into the global economy in monetary and fiscal packages to support financial markets and minimise the impact of the pandemic. Nine months after the outbreak, the global economy is showing green shoots of recovery, but the infection rate is still on the rise in Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas. However, despite economic

headwinds, the long term prospects for the global Islamic finance market are still bright.

Leveraging the sukuk market's alignment to environment, social and corporate governance (ESG) standards and the development of FinTech could provide catalysts for growth in the post Covid-19 world, Mr Damak said. Fellow panellists Ali Adnan Ibrahim, global head sustainability at Al Baraka Banking Group and Abdul Kadir

Hussain, head of fixed income and asset management at Arqaam Capital, agreed.

Sukuk will increase in attractiveness as an investment through standardisation and could satisfy the greater demand for social and green financing instruments, they said. "The current environment is creating a unique opportunity for the Islamic finance industry to transform itself," Mr Damak said.

Abdulla Al Awar, chief executive of Dubai Islamic Economy Development Centre, a body tasked with developing Dubai as a global hub of the Islamic economy, said there is huge potential for the growth of the sukuk market in the emirate.

In June, the Islamic Development Bank listed its \$1.5bn sukuk on Nasdaq Dubai, and a month later ports operator DP World listed an instrument of the same size, indicating the potential for further growth of the sector.

DIEDC, which is developing a unified legal framework for the standardisation of Islamic finance in cooperation with IDB, is making progress on putting together a code that will create a "reference point for all jurisdictions." "We are not reinventing the wheel" he said, adding that the intention is to take Islamic finance standards and develop them into something that can be "adopted by different markets and jurisdictions."



Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin

Beijing slams US leader's attack on China at UN forum

BEIJING

CHINA resolutely opposes the United States utilizing the podium of the United Nations to disregard facts, make lies, act out of ulterior political motives and blame and stigmatize China on a groundless basis, Foreign Ministry spokesman Wang Wenbin said yesterday.

"Facts have proven once again that unilateralism and bullying practices are the most serious threats facing the world," Wang said at a press briefing in response to US leader's remarks about China at the general debate of the 75th session of the UN General Assembly on Tuesday.

"Lies can in no way replace truth. China's COVID-19 response efforts are clearly recorded, and people will make fair judgments," said Wang, adding China reported the epidemic, identified the pathogen and shared its genome sequence with the world all at the earliest possible time.

Wang said after confirming the human-to-human transmission of the novel coronavirus, China immediately made the resolute decision to shut all exit routes from Wuhan, and imposed the most stringent controls on the exit routes from Wuhan and Hubei Province.

Furthermore, China's customs authorities promptly halted, in accordance with the law, overseas travel by Chinese people belonging to four groups, namely confirmed cases, suspected cases, close contacts with the former two and people with a fever,

he added.

Wang pointed out when China closed the exit channels from Wuhan on Jan 23, only nine confirmed cases were identified outside China, of which only one was in the United States.

On Jan 31, the United States suspended direct flights to and from China. When the United States closed its borders to all Chinese citizens on Feb 2, only a dozen confirmed cases were reported in the United States, he said.

"China's COVID-19 response efforts have been open and transparent with a clear timeline. The facts and figures are an open book for all to see," said the spokesperson.

It is "utterly futile" for the United States to level groundless accusations against China concerning the pandemic in an attempt to shift blame for its mishandling of the virus onto others, Wang said.

The United States' arbitrary attacks on and withdrawal from the World Health Organization have jeopardized global anti-epidemic cooperation, which will bring harm to people around the world and see the American people incur a heavy cost, he added.

"It is imperative for the United States to cease its political manipulations and put an end to labeling or politicizing the virus, and join the rest of the international community in this common fight, rather than scapegoat or smear others," said Wang.

Xinhua

UN 75th anniversary: Victory for justice and victory for the people

Remarks by H.E. Xi Jinping President of the People's Republic of China At the High-level Meeting to Commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the United Nations

Mr. President, Colleagues,

Seventy-five years ago, the people of the world, with strenuous struggle and tremendous sacrifice, won the great victory in the World Anti-Fascist War. It was indeed a victory for justice and a victory for the people.

Through the first half of the last century, mankind had suffered the scourge of two devastating wars that brought untold sufferings to the world. It was against such a backdrop that the United Nations (UN) came into being. Over the ensuing 75 years, this Organization has traveled an extraordinary journey. A new chapter has thus opened for peace and development in the world.

The 75 years since the founding of the UN has seen dramatic progress in human society. We have experienced significant and across-the-board progress in science and technology and in industrial revolution. We are now embracing a new round of even more extensive and substantial scientific and technological revolution and industrial transformation. Globally, social productivity has been unprecedentedly unleashed and boosted. Mankind has never been so powerfully capable to overcome the difficulties we face and change the world we live in.

The 75 years since the founding of the UN has witnessed profound changes in the international situation. A great many developing countries have gained national liberation and independence. Over a billion people have walked out of poverty. And a population of several billion have embarked on a path toward modernization. These achievements have considerably strengthened the force for peace and development in the world and transformed the international landscape in a most far-reaching way.

The 75 years since the founding of the UN has been a period of rapid development of multilateralism. Problems facing the world are big and many, and global challenges are on the increase. They should and can only be resolved through dialogue and cooperation. International affairs ought to be addressed through consultation among us all. The understanding that we are all in the same boat is now a popular consensus in the global community.

After the storm comes the rainbow. The UN has stood one test after another and emerged with renewed vigor



Chinese President Xi Jinping addresses a high-level meeting to commemorate the 75th anniversary of the United Nations via video on Monday. (Photo/Xinhua)

and vitality. The UN embodies the aspiration of the over seven billion people for a better life, and the UN Charter remains an important guarantee for world peace and development.

Mr. President, Major changes unseen in a century are taking place in our world. The sudden attack of COVID-19 is a grave test for the entire world. Mankind has entered a new era of interconnectedness, with countries sharing intertwined interests and their future closely linked together. Global threats and global challenges require strong, global responses.

In the face of new realities and challenges, we must do some serious thinking. What kind of UN is needed for the world? How should the Organization play its role in the post-COVID era? Let me share some of my thoughts with you.

First, the UN must stand firm for justice. Mutual respect and equality among all countries, big or small, represents the progress of our times and is the foremost principle of the UN Charter. No country has the right to dominate global affairs, control the destiny of others, or keep advantages in development all to itself. Even less should one be allowed to do whatever it likes and be the hegemon, bully or boss of the world. Unilateralism is a dead end. All need to follow the approach of extensive consultation, joint contribution and shared benefits. All need to come together to uphold universal security, share the fruits of development, and jointly decide on the future of the world. It is imperative that the representation and voice of

developing countries be increased so that the UN could be more balanced in reflecting the interests and wishes of the majority of countries in the world.

Second, the UN must uphold the rule of law. The purposes and principles of the UN Charter are the fundamental guidelines for handling international relations. They constitute a cornerstone of stable international order and must be unwaveringly kept and upheld. Relations among countries and coordination of their interests must only be based on rules and institutions; they must not be lorded over by those who wave a strong fist at others. Big countries should lead by example in advocating and upholding the international rule of law and in honoring their commitments. There must be no practice of exceptionalism or double standards. Nor should international law be distorted and used as a pretext to undermine other countries' legitimate rights and interests or world peace and stability.

Third, the UN must promote cooperation. To promote cooperation among countries is a founding mission of the UN and an important purpose spelt out in the UN Charter. Cold War mentality, ideological lines or zero-sum game are no solution to a country's own problem, still less an answer to mankind's common challenges. What we need to do is to replace conflict with dialogue, coercion with consultation and zero-sum with win-win. We need to pursue the common interests of all as we each work to safeguard our own interests. We need to expand the converging interests of all and build a big global family of harmony and cooperation.

Fourth, the UN must focus on real action. To put into practice the principle of multilateralism, we must act, not just talk. There must be a cure, not just a therapy. The UN should aim at problem solving and move toward tangible outcomes as it advances security, development and human rights in parallel. In particular, as the UN advances its 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, priority should be given to addressing non-traditional security challenges such as public health; the issue of development should be highlighted in the global macro framework; and there should be a greater emphasis on the promotion and protection of the rights to subsistence and development.

China was the first to sign on the Charter of the United Nations. It is a founding member of the UN and the only developing country that takes a permanent seat on the Security Council. China will continue to be a true follower of multilateralism. It will stay actively engaged in reforming and developing the global governance system. It will firmly uphold the UN-centered international system, firmly uphold the international order underpinned by international law, and firmly defend the UN's central role in international affairs.

Mr. President,

The world now stands at a new historical starting point. Let us renew our firm commitment to multilateralism, work to promote a community with a shared future for mankind, and rally behind the banner of the UN to pursue greater unity and progress.

I thank you.

Russia resumes air service with Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, South Korea

MOSCOW

RUSSIA resumes passenger air service with Belarus, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, and South Korea and lift the entry ban for these country's nationals on a reciprocal basis, the government's press service said on Sunday citing a corresponding government resolution.

"Citizens of these states and holders of residence permits can enter Russia via airport checkpoints. Russians, in turn, can fly to any of these states unimpeded," it said.

Flights to these countries will be performed once a week. Air service with Kazakhstan (Nur-Sultan), with Kyrgyzstan (Bishkek), and with Belarus (Minsk) will be resumed from September 21. Air service with South Korea (Seoul) will be resumed from September 27. It was decided to resume air service with these nations after a meeting of Russia's anti-coronavirus crisis center on September 18.

Russia suspended regular air service with foreign countries in late March in a bid to curb the spread of the novel coronavirus infection. It was allowed to perform only the so-called repatriation flights to take Russian nationals from foreign countries. Air service with the United Kingdom, Tanzania, and Turkey was resumed from August 1. Flights between Russia and Switzerland were resumed on August 15. Agencies



Biden earns Cindy McCain's endorsement as Trump holds rally in Pittsburgh

WASHINGTON

CINDY McCain, the widow of Senator John McCain, became the latest prominent Republican voice to back Democratic presidential nominee Joe Biden in his bid to wrest the White House from President Donald Trump in November.

"My husband John lived by a code: country first," McCain wrote in a Twitter post on Tuesday. "We are Republicans, yes, but Americans foremost. There's only one candidate in this race who stands up for our values as a nation, and that is @JoeBiden."

Biden, who forged a long friendship with John McCain despite their ideological differences, had broken the news earlier during a virtual

fundraiser, telling supporters that Cindy McCain (pictured) decided to endorse him after The Atlantic magazine reported that Trump had called U.S. soldiers who died in combat "losers" and "suckers."

Trump has denied making the comments. The president and McCain had a history of animosity, after Trump disparaged McCain's military service and years spent as a prisoner of war in Vietnam during the 2016 presidential campaign. Cindy McCain appeared in a video on Biden's behalf at the Democratic National Convention in August.

Trump reacted to the news early on Wednesday with more insults, saying he hardly knew Cindy McCain.

"Joe Biden was John McCain's lapdog," he wrote.



"Never a fan of John. Cindy can have Sleepy Joe!"

John McCain, who represented Arizona in the U.S. Senate for more than three decades and was the 2008 Republican presidential nominee, died of brain cancer in 2018. In August, more than 100 former McCain staffers announced their support for Biden. Recent state polls give Biden a lead in Arizona, which voted for Trump in 2016.

Trump held a campaign rally in the battleground state of Pennsylvania on Tuesday, as the death of liberal U.S. Supreme Court Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg on Friday continued to reshape the presidential contest.

Trump said earlier on Tuesday he would reveal his pick on Saturday in the hopes of scheduling a Senate confirmation vote ahead of the Nov. 3 election, despite fierce criticism from Biden and congressional Democrats. Replacing Ginsburg would cement a 6-3 conservative majority on the high court.

"We're going to pick an incredible woman," Trump said at the rally, where he also mocked Biden for wearing a mask at campaign events.

Biden has slammed Trump's

handling of the coronavirus pandemic, which has killed more than 200,000 people in the United States, more than any other country. Trump has said his management of the crisis saved lives.

Biden will return to the campaign trail on Wednesday with his first trip as the Democratic nominee to North Carolina, another key state.

A Reuters/Ipsos poll released on Tuesday showed Trump and Biden even in the state that Trump won in 2016.

Voters in about a half-dozen states have already begun casting early in-person ballots, and election experts expect a surge of early and mail-in voting this year as people try to reduce their risk of exposure to the coronavirus.

Agencies

THOUGH some U.S. politicians are trying everything to contain the country's development and hinder the exchanges between China and the U.S., China still chooses to stand on the right side of history, responding with calmness, composure and confidence.

China, facing the world and future, is determined to walk along the road of peaceful development and will resolutely safeguard world peace and promote common development just like Chinese President Xi Jinping said in his New Year speech this year that "Human history, like a river, runs forever, witnessing both peaceful moments and great disturbances. We are not afraid of storms and dangers and barriers."

The powerful strength gathered by China when the country

China's has consistent policy stance on developing China-US relations

is sailing in rains and storms demonstrates the country's resolution and determination to safeguard its national sovereignty, security, and development interests, with its core national interests as the inviolable bottom line, as well as to protect international justice and equity.

The current difficulties in China-U.S. relations are completely created by the U.S. side. The latter aims to contain China's development, and is even doing everything possible to achieve its goal. For some time, some American politicians have been continuously fabricating stories to slander China and tried to escalate their provocation against China, from

smearing the Communist Party of China (CPC) and China's political system to suppressing Chinese enterprises in the name of the so-called national security, and from arbitrarily imposing restrictions on Chinese news organizations and personnel conducting regular news reporting in the U.S and expelling Chinese journalists, to interrogating, harassing, and even detaining Chinese students in the U.S. What they did to undermine China-U.S. relations goes against history.

Charles W. Freeman, former U.S. senior diplomat and former U.S. President Richard Nixon's translator, remarked that the U.S. seems determined to retain its

supremacy - not by correcting its own deficiencies - but by tripping up and immobilizing China. By maintaining hegemony with hegemonic acts, the U.S. is the largest destroyer of today's international order. It is standing on the opposite side of history and the international society.

It's an international consensus that in the era of globalization, countries shall seek win-win results with strategic mutual trust, rather than containing each other with strategic threats. Mutual respect and trust help countries create common opportunities and development, while bullying and hegemony only leads to isolation. It's ridiculous that some U.S.

politicians are ceaselessly putting on awkward shows on the wrong side of history, imagining to change China with lies and intimidation. However, they don't know that their practices are not able at all to achieve their goals.

It's not the first day for the U.S. to deal with China, so it knows that the latter has never compromised to external pressure. Seventy years ago, when the U.S. moved its military to the bank of the Yalu River, China made a historic decision to safeguard its homeland and protect justice despite it was still a backward and poor country then. Thirty some years ago, the U.S. initiated a large-scale sanction on China and

the U.S. Congress adopted over 20 bills that interfered in China's domestic affairs. However, China made no compromise on matters of principle, proving that "China is magnanimous and is not upset by trifles like that."

China has reiterated its stance publicly on U.S. hegemonic acts and made necessary countermeasures. The country has no intention to challenge, replace or confront with the U.S., but it will not hurt its own core interests, either.

China's policy stance on developing China-U.S. relations has been consistent and maintains a high degree of stability and continuity. China is always ready to

work with the U.S. in the spirit of non-conflict, non-confrontation, mutual respect and win-win cooperation, and will always exercise maximum restraint and never make troubles.

Both history and reality proves that as long as China follows the path of socialism with Chinese characteristics and takes control of the future of the country and nation, it will never be overwhelmed by any external force. China is not afraid of extreme pressure, willing to negotiate, and dares to respond to wars. The world has witnessed the solidarity and indestructible power generated by the 1.4 billion Chinese people in the COVID-19 epidemic, which fully proves that China fears no obstacle and will always grow in tribulations.

SPORT



National Sports Council (NSC) Chairman, Leodegar Tenga (R), congratulates former Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Technical Director, Sunday Kayuni, after the latter had launched his book, titled 'Kocha wa Soka' (Soccer Coach), in Dar es Salaam early this week. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

Soccer players set to benefit from Sunday Kayuni's book

By Florida Raymond, TUDARCO

FOOTBALL stakeholders in Tanzania have been asked to support former Tanzania Football Federation (TFF) Technical Director, Sunday Kayuni, by buying his book, titled 'Kocha wa Soka' (Soccer Coach), to understand important issues about the sport in the country.

Speaking in Dar es Salaam on Tuesday, National Sports Council (NSC) Chairman, Leodegar Tenga, said the book has covered a wide range of issues related to a soccer coach's qualifications, the sport's philosophy and the coach's training methods.

Tenga said the book would be meaningful when its theories are put to practice.

"I will buy 10 books, I will send two of them to the council to educate our youths in regions," he noted.

"I will also send three books to TFF officials for reading, one each for president, secretary general and Technical Director."

He said he hopes the federation will buy the books and hand them to coaches for education, an approach which will, in turn, improve soccer in Tanzania.

Kayuni noted he has fulfilled his responsibilities, adding that other sports stakeholders are ought to come forward and write books for promotion of sports in the country.

He said it was his long-term commitment to write the book with the aim of educating coaches as well as all football stakeholders.

"The writing journey started in 1998 and I later sent it to the council, but I do not remember where I put the appreciation page," he disclosed.

"Recently various people, including Tenga and others, called me and demanded that I should write again."

He added that he has been forced to do so because, currently, football is an employment, not a mere hobby as it was the case in the past.

He was adamant he has targeted to see to it new coaches get education through his book.

Molinga now joins Zambia giants Zesco United

By Correspondent Adam Fungamwango

FORMER Yanga forward, Congolese David Molinga, has joined Zambia's soccer big guns Zesco United, whilst the club's head coach, George Lwandamina, has left the outfit.

Lwandamina, a soft spoken tactician,

is also former Yanga's head coach, taking charge of the outfit's technical bench in the 2018/19 Premier League season.

Information by various media outlets and websites in Zambia quoted Zesco United's Chief Executive Officer, Richard Mulenga, confirming the reports.

Molinga has been roped in by Zesco United after the muscular forward had parted ways with Yanga at the end of last year.

He was one of 16 players that were released by Yanga, given the club had gone for a massive overhaul.

Yanga dropped some of the players for poor performance whilst others failed to reach agreement with the outfit on signing fees.

Mulenga, nevertheless, did not state the duration of Molinga's stay at Zesco United.

Molinga had scored 11 goals for Yanga in the previous season.

He was recruited by Yanga when the outfit was under the tutelage of Congolese tactician, Mwyni Zahera, and the player was heavily criticized by a section of the team's members and fans during the early stages.

The player then proved the fans wrong, netting goals time and again and, by the time the Premier League came to conclusion, he was Yanga's top scorer.

He will join former Yanga midfielder Thabani Kamusoko that had played for the club from 2015 to 2019 when he left the club and joined Zesco United.

Mulenga pointed out Zesco United thanks Lwandamina for serving the side at the time he was at the outfit, adding the side wishes the coach all the best.

Lwandamina joined Zesco United in 2018 after he had left Yanga. He had also coached the Zambian club prior to heading to Yanga.



David Molinga

Chama delights and other observations from VPL

By Correspondent Michael Mwebe

TANZANIA'S 2020/21 Vodacom Premier League (VPL) season's round three matches are in the books after four days of actions which started on Friday with two games and concluded on Monday.

Six outfits remain unbeaten after the third round of matches while five others are yet to taste victory as the league table is taking shape.

The Guardian assesses six observations from the third round of actions.

1. Is the old KMC FC coming back?

Last season KMC FC finished two points above the relegation zone in their second season in the Vodacom Premier League.

In this campaign it is three games played, three wins- one of them on the road.

If soccer followers had mentioned this at the beginning of the season they would probably have been met by ridicules.

But that is how good KMC FC are looking, with the cherry on top of the log for three consecutive rounds.

After suffering the second season syndrome, are the good times coming back to the side, nicknamed 'Kino Boys'? So far so good.

2. The goal drought continues

Forty four goals were scored in 10 matches of the English Premier League during the weekend.

In comparison, only 41 goals have been scored in 27 games of the 2020/21 Vodacom Premier League campaign so far. Yes, the two leagues are in completely different lanes but it is still a concern.

Goals are not the ultimate yardstick for a good competition.

There is a case to be made for the contribution of defenders, but anyone who is following the VPL will know that scoring skills are sorely lacking.

So far the league has not seen a hat-trick hero, no single penalty awarded



Simba SC midfielder, Larry Bwalya (R), gets the better of Biashara United defenders in a Vodacom Premier League clash, which took place in Dar es Salaam on Sunday. Simba SC won 4-0. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA

and more damning is that after three rounds of matches there are still four clubs yet to find the back of the net.

3. Silky Chama and Miquissone wow fans

Simba SC cruised to a comfortable 4-0 home victory over Biashara United on Sunday.

Clatous Chama and Luis Miquissone were involved in all four goals.

Chama grabbed two goals and a cheeky backheel assist. The best player in the league last season is showing he is still the best player in the league this campaign with two goals and three assists so far.

He showed composure and great decision making in the final third in a thrilling and dominant display by the defending league champions.

It was a sensational showing for Luis Miquissone, the Mozambican attacking midfielder turning provider on four occasions during Biashara's thumping.

4. Azam FC, Yanga, Simba SC powered by foreigners

Rwandan defensive midfielder Ally Niyonzima scored the all important goal for Azam FC against Mbeya City FC when he connected a header from a corner kick taken by Zimbabwean midfielder Never

Tigere.

Another title contender, Yanga managed a hard-fought victory over Kagera Sugar after two foreigners combined well for the decisive strike of the match.

Congolese import Tuisila Kisinda's low cross was connected home by his compatriot Mukoko Tonombe in the second half.

Zimbabwean striker Prince Dube and Zambian international Obrey Chirwa scored and assisted Azam FC's goals in the previous two rounds.

Ghanaian internationals, Michael Sarpong and Lamine Moro, were on the score sheet for Yanga in the two opening rounds.

This means all of Yanga and Azam FC's goals have been scored by foreigners so far this season.

5. Testing times for Namungo FC

Namungo FC continued their worrying start to the 2020/21 VPL season at the weekend with a second successive 1-0 defeat, following up a home defeat against Polisi Tanzania.

Having failed to find the back of the net only once in four competitive games this season, this can raise huge concerns about the squad and their capabilities in their second top flight season.

It marks a worrying trend for a side that will represent Tanzania in the CAF Confederation Cup in November.

It is clear that coach Thierry Hitimana will have to find a way of quickly re-organising his side.

SportPesa Jackpot winner targests to start business



SportPesa's Director of Administration and Compliance, Tarimba Abbas (L), hands over a dummy cheque of 288,974,720/- to Lilian Laizer, a Morogoro resident that won the company's game known as 'Jackpot', in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Lilian was presented with the cash after placing right bets on 13 soccer games played in various leagues in the world. Looking on are Lilian's spouse, Lowasa Molele, and their child. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Guardian Reporter

SPORTS betting firm, SportPesa Tanzania, yesterday handed over cash prize amounting to 288,974,720/- Morogoro resident, Lilian Ngitoria Laizer, who won the firm's betting game known as 'Jackpot'.

Lilian got 267,800,060/- after the tax deductions totalling 53,559,612/-, as per the government regulations.

SportPesa's Director of Administration and Compliance, Tarimba Abbas, noted that Lilian was presented with the cash once she placed right bets on 13 soccer matches which took place in various leagues in the world.

"I congratulate Lilian for this win, she has been one of our five winners to have laid their hands on huge cash prize," he stated.

"I advise Lilian to spend the cash in development projects."

Abbas pointed out SportPesa lives determined to change Tanzanians' lives by giving them chance to win huge cash prize.

The SportPesa Jackpot game's cash prize, he insisted, is for that matter has not less than 200m/-.

He noted: "We are happy to boost Tanzanians' earnings via various games that we conduct, people can bet on soccer matches and get cash."

"We have gone as far as handing over cash prizes to people who manage to place right bets on 10, 11 and 12 soccer matches

via Jackpot Bonus and continue boosting Tanzanians' earnings." He requested Tanzanians that meet criteria to participate in betting in an effort to try to get cash prize.

Lilian pointed out she will use her cash to start a business which will boost her income.

She said she is an avid fan of English Premier League side Arsenal and Tanzania's Simba SC, adding that her husband helped her bet in only one match to complete the 13 matches as per the procedures.

"I'm selling kitenge attire, I do not have much capital for my business, I was merely doing it to get money that will meet my needs," she disclosed.

She disclosed she will do research to know a business she will delve in, whilst

thinking of building a house and support her family.

"I did not believe it once I got the news I have won the huge cash prize through betting with SportPesa, but when I was assured of the win, I was extremely happy and waited for the handover ceremony," she disclosed.

She noted she has been betting with SportPesa on many occasions and she believed there was a day she was set to emerge as winner, the same way other people did.

Sports face 'devastating' impact of six more months of empty stadiums

LONDON

SPORTS clubs and associations in England are bracing themselves for six more months without paying spectators after plans for a fans' return in October were scrapped on Tuesday.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson told the House of Commons the government could not go ahead with the planned reopening of venues on a socially distanced basis from October 1 due to a sharp rise in coronavirus infections. He suggested the measures would remain in place for "perhaps six months", making it almost certain the sports sector will need some financial support from the government to prevent an unprecedented loss of professional and grassroots clubs from the landscape.

It is a devastating blow to sporting organisations, many of whom rely heavily on match-day revenue for survival, and there have already been calls from governing bodies for emergency funding.

Sports governing bodies held an emergency meeting with the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport Oliver Dowden to discuss the impact of the decision.

Professional sport, including the Premier League and Test cricket, has largely been played behind closed doors since it returned following the coronavirus shutdown earlier this year. The English Football League has estimated its clubs will lose a collective £200 million (\$255 million) without fans in stadiums for the whole of the 2020/21 season.

The Premier League warned of the "devastating impact" the continued absence of supporters was having

on its clubs and communities.

"Last season, Premier League clubs suffered £700 million in losses and at present, our national game is losing more than £100 million per month," it said in a statement.

"This is starting to have a devastating impact on clubs and their communities."

- Government aid -

The Rugby Football Union has called for government aid, estimating a loss of more than £100 million from a lack of crowds at Twickenham for autumn internationals and Six Nations games alone.

"From the outset we have been clear that an autumn without crowds would leave us with little choice but to approach the government for financial help," said chief executive Bill Sweeney.

"Unfortunately, we are now in that position. Without support we are in danger of clubs at the heart of communities across England, as well as players and volunteers, disappearing forever." The Jockey Club also called for direct government support, saying the lack of paying spectators threatened the survival of sports organisations and the livelihoods they supported. English cricket recently revealed it had lost £100 million as a result of the pandemic and that could double with further disruption next year.

"The impact of having to stage cricket behind closed doors again next year would be severe," said a statement from the England and Wales Cricket Board.

Culture Secretary Oliver Dowden said the government would "work together" with sports representatives on limiting the damage caused by the virus.

AFP

Man City want to win everything this season: De Bruyne

LONDON

KEVIN De Bruyne says Manchester City want to reassert their superiority by winning all four major trophies this season.

City finished last season with a whimper as they ended 18 points behind Premier League champions Liverpool and suffered a shock Champions League quarter-final defeat against Lyon.

They were also beaten in the FA Cup semi-finals by Arsenal with the League Cup final win against Aston Villa a rare highlight for Pep Guardiola's side.

But City are determined to make amends this term and Belgian midfielder De Bruyne insists fresh goals have been set, including a clean sweep of the Premier League, Champions League, FA Cup and League Cup.

"I think the motivation doesn't change if you win or you lose," De Bruyne said after impressing in City's 3-1 win at Wolves on Monday.

"When you start a new season there are new aspirations, you want to win the most as possible and we want to win everything."

"For us, all four (trophies) is in the mind, that's the mentality. It is obviously very hard but we went into Monday knowing that it was going to be a very hard game."

Long balls' had put me off Prem move - Silva

LONDON

CHELSEA defender Thiago Silva said the Premier League's "long-ball football" put him off moving to England until the latter stages of his career.

The centre-back, who turned 36 on Tuesday, joined Chelsea on a free transfer this summer after eight years at Paris Saint-Germain and will make his debut against Barnsley in Wednesday night's EFL Cup third round clash.

Silva has enjoyed a glittering career which has included seven consecutive Ligue 1 titles following a three-year spell with AC Milan, where he also won Serie A, while amassing 88 international caps for Brazil.

And when asked whether he had ever come close to playing in the Premier League before this season, Silva replied: "If I were to say 'yes' to you on that, I would be lying. I've never really seen myself in the Premier League previously. That was because I saw it as a difficult style of football, personally. I didn't have any desire to play in the Premier League."

"My impression of the football play-

ing was that one with long ball, high balls and long shots. At the time, I couldn't really see myself playing in that championship. But over time, the championship has developed tremendously. There is a lot more technical quality. A lot of teams play with the ball on the ground, full-backs attacking in the area. Obviously each team has their own idea, their own strengths, but previously I have seen it being characterised by long balls and that didn't really appeal to me."

"Obviously I know how to play that way but my preference was to play football with the ball on the ground. I knew my quality. But little by little, the Premier League football really won me over."

"Anyone who knows me can confirm that. Now, at 36, I am arriving to play in the best championship in the world. Usually, the Premier League is the championship which brings young players into play so I'm coming here as an older player and I see that is because Chelsea and [head coach] Frank Lampard want a player with my experience."

(Agencies)

Man Utd reach League Cup last 16 as coronavirus causes chaos

LONDON

MANCHESTER United moved into the League Cup fourth round with a 3-0 win at Luton, while West Ham boss David Moyes and two of his players contracted the coronavirus ahead of their 5-1 victory against Hull as the pandemic caused chaos on Tuesday.

Moyes, Josh Cullen and Issa Diop all left the London Stadium after learning of the tests before kick-off and will self-isolate, with the trio said to be asymptomatic.

West Ham were not the only Premier League club affected by the virus as Tottenham's tie at Leyton Orient was postponed after their fourth tier opponents suffered a Covid-19 outbreak.

West Ham's match went ahead as planned despite the virus tests, with assistant manager Alan Irvine taking charge of the Hammers.

"At 20 past six we suddenly got some information from our doctor and head physio to say there were three positive tests, the manager and the two players," Irvine said.

"We'd had contact insofar as we were in the same area of the stadium as David."

"We were shocked by the news. We've had so many tests and not had any positive. But we've been very particular about protocol right from the start."

Sebastian Haller and Andriy Yarmolenko both struck twice for West Ham after Robert Snodgrass opened the scoring.

West Ham will play Fleetwood or Everton in the last 16.

The news of the virus striking at football's heart came after British Prime Minister Boris Johnson dealt a major blow to the sport's financial future on Tuesday.

Johnson said fans would not be allowed back into stadiums in October as originally planned due to a spike in virus cases, measures that will remain in place for "perhaps six months".

At Kenilworth Road, United bounced back from a dismal 3-1 home defeat against Crystal Palace in their Premier League opener on Saturday.

In United's first meeting with Championship side Luton since 1992, boss Ole Gunnar Solskjaer made 10 changes, giving full debuts to goalkeeper Dean Henderson and close-season signing Donny Van De Beek.



Manchester United's Dean Henderson in action during their Carabao Cup Third Round match against Luton Town on Tuesday. (Agencies)

United went ahead in the 44th minute when George Moncur fouled Brandon Williams and Juan Mata dispatched the penalty.

Henderson is hoping to replace the error-prone David De Gea after an impressive loan at Sheffield United last season.

He preserved United's advantage with his only save of the match in the final minutes, keeping out Tom Lockyer's header at the far post.

Marcus Rashford came off the bench to net in the 88th minute before fellow substitute Mason Greenwood's stoppage-time goal put a flattering gloss on the scoreline.

"Going through is the big thing. There are some positives, the keeper does

his job and we scored some nice goals towards the end," said Solskjaer, whose side will travel to Brighton or Preston in the fourth round.

Henderson tweeted: "I dreamt about this my whole life. Unbelievable feeling to make my debut for the club I love."

- 'Bad for football' -

Tottenham's clash with Orient has yet to be rearranged amid reports Jose Mourinho's men could be given a bye into the last 16, where they would face Chelsea or Barnsley.

Orient had revealed the positive cases on Monday after Tottenham paid for their opponents' testing, but the match was not called off until two hours before kick-off.

"If I was doing this again I would not do the testing - this is an incentive not to test and that is bad for football and bad for health and safety," Orient chairman Nigel Travis told the BBC.

West Bromwich Albion crashed out against second tier Brentford, losing 5-4 on penalties after a 1-1 draw at the Hawthorns.

Grady Diangana was the only Albion player to miss in the shoot-out and Christian Norgaard netted Brentford's winner to earn a tie against Fulham or Sheffield Wednesday.

Newport reached the competition's last 16 for the first time in their history as the fourth tier side beat Championship club Watford 3-1.

AFP

Fans warned as Bayern head to virus risk zone for Super Cup

BERLIN

BAYERN Munich can lift yet more silverware when they face Sevilla on Thursday for the UEFA Super Cup, but travelling German fans have been warned to think again before flying to Budapest and head coach Hansi Flick has questioned whether the match should go ahead amid the coronavirus pandemic.

The Champions League winners head to Hungary on a 22-match winning streak, stretching back to February, which has seen them sweep up Champions League, Bundesliga and German Cup titles.

Bayern opened the new Bundesliga season last Friday with an 8-0 hammering of Schalke with Germany winger Leroy Sane scoring on his Munich debut and declaring the "whole team showed how hungry we are".

Their appetite for more silverware can be sated with two trophies up for grabs in the coming week as they also face Dortmund for the German Super Cup on September 30.

However Covid-19 has cast a shadow over Thursday's showdown as Budapest has been declared a risk zone by the German government due to a high infection rate.

"Think again" - Flick admits he "does not quite understand" why UEFA insist on the match still taking place there, "but we are not the ones who make the decision".

On Tuesday, Markus Soeder, state premier of Bavaria, announced tighter rules, "which particularly affect the Super Cup" for travelling Bayern fans.

"Everyone should think again about whether it is sensible to travel," added Soeder.

Supporters must either be tested for Covid-19 before and after the trip to Budapest or quarantine for two weeks.

"This is how we want to prevent there being a possible risk of infection," explained Soeder.

Only 500 Sevilla and 1300 Bayern fans are expected to watch the match at Budapest's Puskas Arena.

Both clubs have set up test centres in their respective cities in a bid to reduce the risk of Thursday's match becoming a 'super spreader' event.

On Monday, Soeder had already expressed doubt whether the game in Budapest should go ahead.

- 'Football's Ischgl' -

"We must be very, very careful that we don't risk a new form of football-Ischgl," said the politician, referring to the now notorious Austrian ski resort where thousands of holidaymakers were infected with the virus at the beginning of the epidemic in Europe.

German daily Bild asked Tuesday "Will the Super Cup become the Super Spreader Cup?"

Bayern's senior bosses, including chairman Karl-Heinz Rummenigge, were heavily criticised for ignoring social distancing and sitting in a close group



A Sevilla FC fan is tested for COVID-19 outside the Sanchez Pizjuan stadium in Seville ahead of Thursday's UEFA Super Cup match in Budapest. (Agencies)

to watch Friday's demolition of Schalke in Munich.

Rummenigge has promised to do better in Budapest, pledging "we all agree that the picture (of the group) was not exemplary - we must and will change this for the next game".

Bayern's star striker Robert Lewandowski, who netted a penalty and set up two more goals on Friday, trained for just 12 minutes on Tuesday to allow him to get over an ankle knock.

Sevilla come into the match short of match fitness having been given the first two weekends of La Liga off after winning the Europa League.

Ibrahim Amadou, Roque Mesa, Alex Vidal and Joris Gnagnon, who are all expected to leave the club, did not train in Julien Lopetegui's final session on Tuesday.

Sevilla have re-signed Ivan Rakitic, who is likely to start against Bayern, having been part of Barcelona's 8-2 humiliation

at the hands of the Germans in August, albeit watching from the bench.

Sevilla have won the Europa League five times in the last 14 years but have only once gone on to win the Super Cup, which was the first attempt in 2006.

This is the first time since 2013 - when they beat Borussia Dortmund in that season's Champions League final - that Bayern will contest the Super Cup.

AFP

Gwiji by David Chikoko



SPORT

Man Utd reach League Cup last 16 as coronavirus causes chaos

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Basketball players for a Regional Basketball Association (RBA) League side embrace each other after one of their club's duels in the tournament played in the city recently.

Mlimani Athletics Club lauds young runners

By Seth Denis, TUDARCO

DAR ES SALAAM'S Mlimani Athletics Club secretary general, Rabia Haliamoyo, has said despite the fact that the city fared poorly in this season's National Championships, it has produced promising athletes.

The National Championships, which attracted athletes from 28 regions, took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium early this month.

Rabia noted that she is proud Mlimani Athletics Club produced gifted athletes, some of whom represented Coast Region and Kigoma in the showpiece.

She added that the young athletes dream of turning into famous runners in Tanzania but athletics' failure to garner support in the country is the runners' biggest drawback.

She pointed out athletics is seemingly forgotten, adding there are extremely few domestic competitions.

Promising athletes, therefore, lack platform for gaining experience and confidence.

Rabia disclosed Elias Richard is one of Mlimani Athletics Club's runners that took part in this season's National Championships.

Richard represented Coast Region in the showpiece and won a medal.

The official stated the club's other athlete Rashid Hussein represented Kigoma in the championships and he, too, laid his hands on medal.

The feat, as disclosed by Rabia, proves that the Dar es Salaam club is working hard to produce competent athletes.

Dar es Salaam was one of the worst performing regions in the National Championships.

Dar es Salaam's regional athletics team's coach Iddi Muhunzi said it was great shame for the region, because it is big and has no problems when it comes to getting support from sports stakeholders.

He added that Athletics Tanzania's leaders should closely cooperate with coaches to develop the sport.



Athletes compete in men's 1500m race final of the 2020 National Championships, which took place at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam last weekend. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT JUMANNE JUMA



Gwambina FC players listen to their coach's instructions when they attended training at Uhuru Stadium in Dar es Salaam recently. PHOTO: COURTESY OF GWAMBINA FC

Gwambina FC seeks to stun Simba SC in VPL

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

OFFICIALS of Vodacom Premier League (VPL) debutants, Mwanza's Gwambina FC, have declared that their outfit is ready to take on defending champions, Simba SC, in the league's duel slated for Saturday at Benjamin Mkapa Stadium in Dar es Salaam.

Gwambina FC head coach, Fulgence Novatus, said they are preparing well for their game against Simba SC as their aim is to collect the desired points.

The coach said they expect a tough game against Simba but they are preparing well for the match.

He said his lads respect Simba but they are not under pressure ahead of the match.

"We need to just play our game and make sure that we collect maximum points. We are facing a big side with a huge fol-

lowing, but we know what we need to do," Novatus noted.

"We are preparing for our game against Simba SC, they are a good side with good players but we will be ready to face them on Saturday, it won't be an easy match but we will be ready for them," he said.

He said after their 1-0 defeat in the hands of Ruvu Shooting, he has been working on the shortfalls he saw in his club during the game.

"During our game against Ruvu Shooting, there were some mistakes which we committed but now I'm working on them, aiming at rectifying the mistakes before facing Simba," he said.

Gwambina FC's skipper Jacob Massawe is reported in the media to have said his squad is prepared to face Simba.

He said they watched Simba play Biashara United and they are confident of recording good results on Saturday.

Simba SC Information Officer Haji Manara said his charges are in confident mood following their 4-0 win over Biashara United last Sunday.

He noted he believes that they can win their next game against Gwambina FC on Saturday.

"We want to maintain our winning run, we know that it is a huge task but we are ready for it," he said.

In another development, Simba SC head coach, Sven Vandebroek, has said his players are still eager for posting another comprehensive victory after commanding the 4-0 thrashing of Biashara United, reports Correspondent Faustine Feliciane.

Simba SC will host Gwambina FC in Dar es Salaam tomorrow in the fourth round of this season's domestic top flight.

Vandebroek noted his players have what it takes to give Simba a big win in the Saturday duel, insisting it is something

they all expect to achieve.

"We have prepared well, we give each of our match prominence, I know Gwambina will be eager to prove their worth and make the game tough but I trust my squad," he disclosed.

He noted each of his players has chance to play in the game depending on their fitness levels, noting his team selection will depend on the opponents.

The coach pointed out Simba assessed Gwambina FC to know their game approach, thus, the former are preparing to take on the latter.

Midfielder Clatous Chama netted a brace, Meddie Kagere and Chris Mugalu recorded one goal apiece for Simba in the game against Biashara United.

Simba have collected seven points in three matches they have taken part in, holding the second spot in the table below tournament leaders Azam FC.

RBA League play offs tip off in Dar

By Nassir Nchimbi, TUDARCO

DAR ES SALAAM Regional Basketball Association (RBA) League's regular season has come to an end, with eight squads advancing to the quarterfinals.

The last eight stage of the show-down will have participating squads battling it out in best of three games' duels, seeking to progress to the last four.

The league's organizers stated all of the last eight stage's games will take place at the Bandari basketball courts in the city. The finals will take place early next month.

The end off of the regular season means that the playoffs are underway. National Service (JKT) Club enjoys the driver's seat in the league's standing.

JKT Club is expected to go toe-to-toe with Ukonga Kings, who are placed eighth in the league's standing, in a game that the former are perceived as favourites.

Another clash will see number two seed, Army Basketball Club (ABC), lock horns with number seven seed, Vijana Basketball Club 'City Bulls'.

Two clashes are set to take place today. Kurasini Heats, placed third in the regular season, will take on Savio Basketball Club at Bandari courts at 1800pm East African Time.

The match is set to keep enthusiastic basketball lovers in the city on the edges of their seats.

A mouthwatering duel pitting Pazi Basketball Club against Oilers Basketball Club will then take place at the courts at 2000pm.

The sides finished fifth and sixth respectively after the completion of the regular season.

During the regular season various players emerged as top performers.

Enrico Augustino of ABC became the regular season's top scorer with 344 points, while Vijana Basketball Club's Jonas Mushi ended second with 317 points.

Diamond Trust Bank basketball outfit's playmaker, Alex Mbwana, led the assist chart while JKT Club's Jimmy Brown protected the paint during the regular season, helping his club occupy the top spot.

The league leaders produced another masterclass, as their player, Baraka Sadick, led the three-point scoring chart with a total of 38 three-pointers he made throughout the season.

Vijana Basketball Club's Haji Mbeugendo ended as the best rebounder of the regular season with a total of 153 rebounds.

Flexibles by David Chikoko

SO MANY PEOPLE THESE DAYS ARE TOO JUDGEMENTAL



I CAN TELL JUST BY LOOKING AT THEM



Diamond Trust Bank basketball outfit's playmaker, Alex Mbwana, led the assist chart while JKT Club's Jimmy Brown protected the paint during the regular season, helping his club occupy the top spot.

MORNING @ 11:00

DADAZ

EATV THURSDAY

11:00 DADAZ LIVE
12:00 MPYA
12:30 Bongo Hits
13:00 Msozi Kilaani (r)
13:30 Kaji Za Wana
14:00 Ujuzi (r)
14:30 DK10 Za Maangamizi
15:00 Funguka
15:30 Wagonga Ulimba (r)
16:00 Ubongo Kids (r)
16:30 #HSHTAG
17:00 SSelekt
17:55 Kurasa
18:00 eNewz
18:30 Music/Soap
19:30 EATV SAA I
19:45 MJADALA
20:00 DADAZ (r)
21:00 Kibiashara Zaidi

DADAZ A show that explores social and political issues from a feminine perspective.

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