



**National Pg 3**  
Call for protection of black rhinos

**National Pg 4**  
Tanzania for Berlin tourism fair

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China donates medical equipment

**BUSINESS** Financial inclusion roll-out triggers mobile transactions of over 3trn/-

Halotel introduces 10,000/- Royal bundle with 75pc price reduction for data, voice

Uganda adds biometric ID to crime-fighting arsenal



Prisons wardens escort Chinese national Yang Feng Glan out of Dar es Salaam's Kisutu Resident Magistrate's Court yesterday moments after she and her two Tanzanians co-accused were convicted of three ivory trafficking offences and sentenced to imprisonment. Photo: Correspondent Miraji Msala

# 'Ivory Queen' to spend 17 years in jail

Dubbed the 'Ivory Queen' by the media, the Chinese woman has been found guilty for her role in trafficking tusks from 430 elephants, according to prosecution witnesses

By Guardian Reporter

THE Kisutu Resident Magistrate's court yesterday sentenced Chinese national Yang Fenlan and two Tanzanians to 17 years in prison after convicting them of three ivory trafficking offences.

In a sentence handed down at the court in Dar es Salaam yesterday Senior Resident Magistrate Huruma Shaidi said the 69-year-old woman and

one Tanzanian could have their jail terms cut to 15 years if they pay 27bn/- each in fines for damages caused by those offences.

Dubbed the 'Ivory Queen' by the media, the lady has been found guilty for her role in trafficking tusks from an estimated 430 elephants, according to the prosecution.

Prosecution lawyers demonstrated before the

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## Germany grants EAC 80bn/- for health, education

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE government of Germany has committed a grant of over 80bn/- (euros 31.5 million) to support health, education and economic integration in the East African Community (EAC).

EAC Secretary General Libérat Mfumukeko and the German Ambassador to Tanzania Dr Detlef Wächter, jointly signed the grant agreements in Arusha yesterday.

Germany's commitment includes US \$ 14.5 million (EUR 13 million) for the continuation of the joint financial cooperation programme, the Regional Network of Reference Laboratories for Communicable Diseases and EUR three million for the technical cooperation programme, for Pandemic Preparedness in the EAC Region.

The funds are intended to support EAC efforts in fighting communicable diseases and

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## Medical varsities to harmonise their curriculum, competences

By Henry Mwangonde

THREE medical universities have joined forces to harmonise the curriculum for health education in the country so that graduates have common competences and qualities.

The project also seeks to make a curriculum that unifies Tanzanian medical graduates in relation to clinical research competences.

Currently there is no single curriculum endorsed by the Tanzania Commission for Universities (TCU) to facilitate the provision of health education, which brings about differences in teaching and practical programs, hence affecting the competences of same level graduates from various medical colleges because each institution has its own program.

Under a five-year programme, Transforming

Health Professionals' Education in Tanzania (THET), the new curriculum will see the establishment of an exit examination different from professional exams conducted by the various medical council, aimed at testing the competences of the graduates before they enter the job market.

"We want to have a competence-based curriculum which will also help us to produce the best professionals to help in improving the sector by at least having a benchmark for the must-knows for a graduate medical student in Tanzania," said Dr Doreen Mloka, the director of Continuing Education and Professional Development at the Muhimbili University of Health and Allied Sciences (MUHAS).

The programme is funded by Forgarty International Centre through the National

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## Ministry fails cashewnut payments deadline again

By Felister Peter

THE government has yet again failed to beat the February 15 deadline for the verification and payment of all cashewnut farmers as thousands of them have not been reached.

Speaking in Parliament early this month, Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa directed the Ministry of Agriculture that the verification and payment of cashew nut farmers should be concluded by February 15th.

The Premier had earlier set February 5 as the deadline after the government missed the initial one set by President John Magufuli, for January 31.

Agriculture Minister Japhet Hasunga said in an interview with The Guardian yesterday that a total of 12,378 cashew nut farmers with more than 1,500

kilos are yet to be verified. Hasunga said the government has so far paid 504bn/- in total, out of the verified cashew worth 546.2bn/-.

"We are done with verification of those with less than 1,500 kilos. To date, we have paid 411,961 cashew growers," he said, noting that verification teams are working to reach every farmer.

On collections, the minister said they have so far collected 222,160 tons of cashew nuts. The country's cashew nut production projection for the 2018/2019 season was 240,000 tons of raw cashews.

"The government is determined to buy all the cashew nut crop. I am currently touring Mtwara, Lindi and Coast regions to observe the progress of

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# VP counsels on responsible use of the internet, social media

By Polycarp Machira, Dodoma

THE Vice President Samia Suluhu Hassan has appealed to Tanzanians, especially in the rural areas to use the social media and internet responsibly in presenting their problems to leaders for action.

In a statement read on her behalf by the minister for Works, Transport and Communication, Isaac Kamwerwe, she noted that there has been in the recent past poor use of social media and internet services in the country, adding that use of technology is important for the development of any nation.

She was to officiate at the opening of a two days conference organised by Oxfam Tanzania to deliberate on the success use of social media to pass information on poverty alleviation among the rural population.

Samia observed that there is need to adopt good use of technology as the nation moves towards middle income economy. She said, "The use of internet has grown tremendously in the country following arrival of affordable smart phones but with a lot of challenges on wrong usage".

The VP said statistics from the Tanzania Communications Regulations Authority (TCRA) shows that by September 2018 there were about 23 million internet users in the country, being 45 per cent of the national population compared 7.5 million in 2012.

"I urge the public to use internet, especially social media for more important issues like learning new skills, sharing information as well as

reporting to leaders at different levels," she added.

Samia thanked Oxfam for the dedication to help end poverty among Tanzanians, calling other stakeholders to follow suit but also sensitise the community they work with on the better use of social media.

She promised that the government and other partners will continue working closely with the organisation to uplift people's lives, saying the government is a big partner in the war against poverty.

During the meeting, minister Kamwerwe on behalf of the VP

*"I urge the public to use internet, especially social media for more important issues like learning new skills, sharing information as well as reporting to leaders at different levels"*

launched a website and mobile phone programme established by Oxfam to help provide information on land, education, women rights, gender, among others to rural based population.

"I am glad that through the programme small scale farmers will get information that they need for their agricultural production," said the minister.

He also applauded Oxfam for the great work it has done since it came to the country in 1960, and has since been working in different district councils notably, Shinyanga District, Kishapu, Mbogwe and Hanang.



Industry and Trade minister Joseph Kakunda (L) is briefed during a visit to quarry sites near Tanga Region's world-acclaimed Amboni caves, which are said to be in danger of being damaged owing to excavation-related explosions in the area. Photo: Correspondent Bonface Gideon.

## Ministry fails cashewnut payments deadline again

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the verification exercise," he said.

Earlier, President John Magufuli had directed that all cashew nut consignments brought up for purchasing must be verified - and the farmers involved paid their sale proceeds in full - by or before January 31st.

The government extended the deadline for verification and payment of cashew nuts farmers from February

5th to February 15th.

The verification exercise was introduced after the government suspected that some unscrupulous traders had bought the cashew nut in 'Kangomba' system where the crop is sold while still growing.

The premier told the National Assembly that cashew nut payments were being conducted in accordance with the law governing the Cereals and Other Produce Board of Tanzania

(CPB).

He said grade one nuts were bought at an indicative price of 3,300/- per kilo while those below grade one quality fetched 2,600/- per kg, noting that internationally, second grade cashew nuts are bought at 80 per cent of the grade one price.

In November last year, President Magufuli directed that the government purchase all cashew nut stocks from farmers at a flat price of 3,300/-

per kilogram, with funds from the Tanzania Agricultural Development Bank (TADB).

The decision was taken after the government issued a four-day ultimatum to traders to buy cashew nuts at acceptable prices.

Cashew farmers had rejected prices offered by dealers, based on even lower indicative prices given by the Cashewnut Board of Tanzania (CBT) which was henceforth disbanded.



Natural Resources and Tourism ministry permanent secretary Dr Adolf Mkenda speaks at a press briefing in Arusha at the weekend on the international tourism exhibition to be held in Berlin from March 6 to 10. Right is Germany's Ambassador to Tanzania, Dr Detlef Waechter. The PS is expected to lead Tanzania's delegation to the event. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

## Germany grants EAC 80bn/- for health, education

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strengthening its capacities in dealing with pandemics.

US \$ 10.7 million (EUR 9.5 million) was committed to continuation of the technical cooperation programme, Support to the EAC Integration Process.

It focuses on beefing up EAC efforts in increasing intra-regional trade through value addition in productive sectors, better market access, improved customs processes and harmonized standards, the EAC said in a statement.

The US \$ 1.1 million (EUR 1 million) will be spent on the ongoing programme for the strengthening of regional quality infrastructure that focuses on reliable quality control mechanisms

and services for products in selected products that are traded in the EAC region and exported abroad.

A total of US \$ 5.5 million (EUR 5 million) is dedicated for the continuation of the EAC Scholarship Programme which supports East African master's degree students, implemented in cooperation with the Inter-University Council of East Africa (IUCEA).

The German ambassador underlined that Germany remains a strong supporter of the EAC and the organisation's efforts to enhance regional integration in its different facets.

"Strengthening economic

integration, supporting the EAC in addressing key health and education challenges are at the core of our joint cooperation. Regarding our health cooperation, we believe it is vital to support the secretariat and the EAC Partner States to be better positioned when it comes to epidemics and pandemics," he said.

The current Ebola crisis in neighbouring Democratic Republic of Congo dramatically highlights the necessity for regional cooperation.

"On Germany's commitment in the education sector, the envoy went on saying that European experience shows that "regional integration is futile if we leave the youth and younger

generation behind."

East African students who will benefit from this scholarship programme will not only have improved job perspectives through this programme but they themselves will become envoys for the East African Community. "We need this younger generation to carry the EAC's vision forward," the secretary general underlined.

EAC and Germany marked 20 years of development cooperation in October last year, and with the new commitments signed yesterday, Germany's funding for technical and financial cooperation with the EAC has crossed the USD 350 million mark, he added.

## 'Ivory Queen' to spend 17 years in jail

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court that Yang was responsible for the trafficking of 860 tusks between 2000 and 2014, where the total haul represented the slaughter of dozens of herds of elephants.

The prosecution said at the hearing that during the period, the convicts shipped out of the country 706 pieces of ivory weighing 1,889 grammes, then valued at 5.4bn/- without a licence from the Director for Wildlife.

The Tanzanians who were found guilty alongside the Chinese lady are Salvius Matambo and Philemon Manase, with the prosecution telling the court that the three were involved in ivory trade worth 13bn/-.

"The prosecution proved the case against the accused persons beyond reasonable doubt," Shaidi said in his summation.

Lawyers representing the three convicts declared intention to lodge an appeal against the conviction.

Originally from Beijing, the convict reportedly first visited Tanzania in the 1970s. Using a Chinese restaurant as a cover, she set up an international supply chain for ivory, transporting it more than 5,000 miles to her home base.

China has a huge market for illegally acquired ivory, despite authorities recently bringing in a ban on the merchandise.

Working with her Tanzanian

accomplices, Yang is said to have buried tusks belonging to hundreds of animals in the gardens of two homes she had acquired.

Once the valuable materials had been measured and priced, they would be shipped out of the country and sold, witnesses said at the hearing.

The prolific operation, according to witnesses, was tied to using death threats to keep a grip over people, enabling her to continue running an international smuggling ring.

Following a high-speed car chase in 2015, Yang was arrested and charged with smuggling ivory worth 13bn/- between 2000 and 2014.

When she was arrested in 2015 she was vice president of the China-Africa Business Council of Tanzania. Her arrest was hailed a breakthrough in the international smuggling battle.

While it is not unusual for people to be detained for smuggling ivory, it is rare for those people to be the masterminds of the businesses. In most cases, those who get arrested and convicted are simply foot soldiers working lower down the chain.

Poaching has seen the population of African elephants fall by 110,000 over the past decade to just 415,000 animals, according to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

The slaughter was being fuelled especially by demand in Asia, where ivory is used for medicinal purposes as well as jewellery and ornamentation.

## Medical varsities to harmonise their curriculum, competences

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Institute for Health (NIH) of the United States and will be implemented in three universities, namely MUHAS, the Kilimanjaro Christian Medical University College (KCMco) and the Catholic University of Health and Allied Sciences (CUHAS) at Bugando Referral Hospital, Mwanza.

Cooperating foreign institutions have injected \$3million into the project

for all the five years, she said.

Dr Mloka said one year will be for gathering views from stakeholders from the public and the private medical professionals on what should be included in the new curriculum before coming up with the draft.

Prof Ephata Kaaya, the former MUHAS Chancellor and team leader for the project said the programme is focused on establishing a core common competence for graduates.



Tanzania Trade Development Authority (TanTrade) director general Edwin Rutageruka addresses entrepreneurs on ways to land marketing opportunities in and outside the country. This was at a workshop held in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Correspondent Getrude Mpezya

## Stakeholders underscore need for efforts to ensure Selous black rhinos stay ever safe from poachers

By Felister Peter

STAKEHOLDERS have called for collective efforts with the government in promoting the identification and protection of black rhinos located in the Selous Game Reserve in Tanzania.

Tanzania had about 10,000 black rhinos towards the end of 1960s, but their population started to diminish in early 1970s because of poaching.

In Tanzania, black rhinos are available at Mkomazi, Serengeti, Maswa and Grumeti national reserves.

Senior researcher from the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) Dr Alex Lobora said that the government has had three national rhino management plans since 1993.

Dr Lobora said the plans had been upgraded every five years through monitoring its implementation. He said that currently TAWIRI is preparing a national strategic strategy 2019-2024 for ensuring that black rhinos continue to survive in the country and to continue promoting tourism.

He was speaking during a technical and coordination meeting in Morogoro yesterday, which was organised by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) Tanzania and brought together stakeholders from the Tanzania Wildlife Management Authority (TAWA), Frankfurt Zoological Society (FZS) and TAWIRI.

"In the existing rhino strategic and management plan we have set ten strategies, these strategies have come from stakeholders and have focused on

the challenges that rhinos face in their habitat," he said.

Ruvuma landscape coordinator for World Wildlife Fund for Nature (WWF) Tanzania, James Nshare said that the main purpose of the meeting was to generate the best rhino tracking methodology and a joint action plan for rhino protection.

"WWF works with stakeholders in the government and other partners to ensure that rhino conservation is improved and well-coordinated at Selous Game Reserve," insisted Nshare.

Senior researcher from the Tanzania Wildlife Research Institute (TAWIRI) Dr Edward Kohi said that plans are to change the methodology to aerial survey for rhino tracking and in future build rhino sanctuaries for the animals to be kept in the same place as well as to ease tracking and protection.

Selous Game Reserve ecologist and rhinos coordinator from TAWA, Singira Parsais said that poaching is the main challenge that affects their performance, and the vast area with thick Miombo woodland forest made rhino tracking process difficult and failure to recognise their number and protection too.

According to TAWIRI the main driving force for rhino poaching is the increased demand for rhino horns from illegal wildlife trade and this lead to the amendment of National Wildlife Act of 2009 and the national rhino plan to be revised and setting of strict rules and regulations.

## Dr Shein promises to tarmac road leading to Uzi Island

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein yesterday pledged to tarmac road leading to Uzi island, which is located in the south of Zanzibar's main island Unguja.

Dr Shein made the pledge during his official tour in Central District, Unguja South Region. During the tour, the Zanzibar leader laid a foundation

stone at Ng'ambwa primary school in the Uzi Island. "My government will ensure people of Uzi get all services including reliable transport, education and improving water supply," Dr Shein said when addressing a public rally in the Indian Ocean island.

He said that the move is part of his government's efforts to bring development closer to people as well as resolving transport woes for people

living in the islands. He also revealed the Zanzibar government will seek loan from the African Development Bank (AfDB) for executing giant water project in Uzi Island.

Dr Shein also said that the government is to build Ng'ambwa Secondary School and fitted with all the necessary facilities. The idea, he said is meant to improve education in the island, which has a population of

more than 5,000 people.

Uzi Island is an island in the south of Zanzibar, connected by causeway to the main island of Unguja. It is located immediately to the south of the main island's Unguja Ukuu ruins. The island contains the small town of Uzi, and is six kilometres (3.7 miles), making it the second largest of the smaller islands which surrounds Unguja (after Tumbatu in the north).

## Dar residents assured of compensation

By Guardian Reporter

DAR ES SALAAM City Council has assured residents living along Msimbazi river valley that all their recommendations and rights including compensation

will be considered and adhered to as the authority prepares to commence the implementation of a major project to improve the river valley.

Funded by the World Bank (WB) and the UK's Department for International Development (DFID) at a tune of \$120 million, the project aims at transforming Mzimbazi valley into a land of opportunities.

Speaking to this paper yesterday, the urban planner from the city's department of urban planning, Environment and Transportation Grace Mbena said that all citizens should have nothing to worry as they will be compensated as per stakeholders and residents' recommendations.

"The project has been engaging local dwellers in all its stages in collaboration with other key stakeholders who have been providing recommendations on how to compensate them and how they are going to benefit from the project."

a number of discussions and sessions had been held towards reaching a mutual agreement," she said.

She said that the project involves widening of Mzimbazi valley, widening and upgrading Jangwani bridge as well panting traditional trees at Pugu hills to prevent soil erosion.

"An area of 57 hectares will be allocated to construct apartments and in this, residents will be given priority in renting or buying

them at affordable prices," she added.

Mbena further said that at least 142 hectares will be also allocated for construction car park, sport grounds as well as trees and flower gardens to making the city more attractive.

"All procedures have been finalised but we are now waiting for the approval and release of the funds from ministry of Finance to accomplish the plan, in the exercise, Dar es Salaam

Rapid Bus Transit depot at Jangwani will be relocated," Mbena said.

She added that the major purpose of the project is to stop the uncontrolled urbanisation process that is making the river valley and basin unsafe and unhealthy for human activities replacing it with planned and coordinated process of development that will improve the quality of urban development, ecosystem and living standards.

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## Tanzania to take part in Berlin tourism fair

By Guardian Reporter

A delegation of more than 160 representatives of the Tanzanian tourism sector and industry are expected to take part at this year's Internationale Tourismus-Börse (ITB Berlin).

The world's leading travel trade show is expected to open its doors in the German's capital Berlin from 6 to 10 March, this year.

The ITB Berlin is the foremost business platforms for global touristic offers. It is estimated that more than 10,000 exhibitors from 180 countries will be present and over 160,000 visitors are expected to visit the ITB.

On the occasion of the upcoming ITB Berlin, German ambassador, Dr Detlef Wächter hosted a reception in cooperation with the Elewana Arusha Coffee Lodge to bid farewell to the Tanzanian delegation of tourism experts and executives travelling to Berlin. The reception was attended by Dr. Adolf Mkenda, Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Tourism, who will head the Tanzanian delegation. Ambassador Dr. Wächter stressed

the long standing cooperation between Germany and Tanzania: "We have been strong partners in the tourism sector for a long time. Our cooperation is highlighted every year by the visit of an important Tanzanian delegation to the ITB Berlin, the world's largest tourism trade show. Tourism contributes significantly to Tanzania's prospering economy.

The ITB is the most important platform to access the German as well as the European tourism market."



Kibaha district commissioner Assumpter Mshama (L. with specs) cuts a ribbon on Monday when receiving 50 chairs and desks donated by NMB Bank for use by Kilangalanga Secondary School and Uhuru Primary School. With her are NMB (east zone) public relations officer Anneth Kwayu (to her right), followed by NMB Kibaha branch manager Hosea Lyatuu and Kilangalanga Secondary School headmaster Albert Mabiki. Photo: Guardian Correspondent



### POSITION ANNOUNCEMENT

### ASSISTANT PROJECT MANAGER

IITA-TZ-19 - R4D-001 -NRS-DSM

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IITA is looking for a suitably qualified person to fill the position Assistant Project Manager for the "Strengthening Capacity to Implement Priority Actions for Achieving Resilient Food Security in Tanzania" project. He or She will work directly under the Project's Coordinator and support the project's senior team members and collaborate with the project's implementing team and local partners from the Ministry of Agriculture (Tanzania mainland) and the Ministry of Agriculture, Natural Resources Livestock and Fisheries, Zanzibar.

**Duty Station:** The position will be based at the IITA Regional Hub for Eastern Africa in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

#### Job requirements:

- The candidate should have a MSc. in Project Management, Agriculture or Related field
- At least five years' experience in project Finance and Administration
- Must be able to work independently with minimal supervision, but also participate as a team member in accomplishment of duties
- Good knowledge of Accounting and Financial Analysis and report writing
- Excellent written and oral communications skills, good judgment and high level of respect for confidentiality
- Ability to work in a multi – cultural environment
- Ability and willing to work under pressure
- Experience in managing project accounts for internal & donor reporting especially on USAID funded projects

#### Responsibilities

- Keep records of deadlines for submission of work plans, and technical and financial reports and follow up with project implementing team to ensure these are prepared and submitted in a timely manner.
- Work closely with the Finance and Accounting teams at the Hub and HQ to monitor spending of projects funds and in preparations and submission of financial reports
- Assist in compiling and reviewing financial reports for submission to donors while complying with donor reporting templates and schedules.
- Assist the project Coordinator and senior managers in monitoring closely the project execution and provide feedback and recommendations to the Coordinator and senior managers
- Develop and maintain an efficient financial monitoring, filing system and databases for print and electronic files/documents on program activities and projects.
- Follow up with Finance team at the hub to ensure that project payments are executed in a timely manner.
- Follow up with the Program Accountant at the HQ to ensure that project reports are done in a timely manner and expenditures reflect approved project budget line items.
- Continuous monitoring of program activities and support preparation of annual reports and progress updates as requested.
- Provide communication support between the project and all its partners
- Work closely with administration team to coordinate and support the team members in project-related travels and events including workshops, trainings and meetings
- Prepare and store meeting minutes, documents and reports as appropriate
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Applicants are requested to please indicate the reference number for the position as indicated on the heading of the announcement in your application as well as on the subject of your email if sending by email. If sending by post or hand delivery, please indicate the reference number on your application as well as on the left hand side of your envelope. **Please note that any applications without the reference number indicated will be automatically disqualified.**

**Closing date: Closing date is on 28th February 2019 .**  
**Please note that only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.**

215071401

## Prime Minister orders market at Nduta refugee camp closed

By Guardian Reporter

THE government has closed open market at Nduta refugees' camp in Kibondo District, Kigoma Region in efforts to control refugees from going outside the campsite.

Prime Minister Kassim Majaliwa said the market which is both for the residents and refugees was a source of increased crime in the area.

Premier Mjajiwa announced closure of the market yesterday during his meeting with civil servants in Kibondo District.

"Refugees were taking advantage of the market to go outside the camp and sometimes engage in crime", he said adding Kibondo has of recent recorded an increased number of children kidnapping.

He urged the district authority to come up with a plan which will allow people to sell their variety of goods inside Nduta refugee camp.

He however called upon those working at the refugee camps to execute their duties accordingly.

The Nduta refugee camp was opened in October 2015, as an emergency

measure to relocate 40,000 Burundian refugees from Nyarugusu refugee camp.

Burundian refugees were hosted in Mtendeli refugee camp because Nduta could not accommodate more 50,000 persons.

The voluntary repatriation of Burundian refugees began in September 2017

Meanwhile, the PM also inspected a water project at Muhange area and laid a foundation stone for the construction of headquarters building worth 4.5bn/- at Kakonko District.



### JOB VACANCY

### ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT – TRAFFIC

CONTRACT LENGTH: 12 MONTHS

WWF (World Wide Fund for Nature) Tanzania - an international conservation organization in alliance with TRAFFIC - the international wildlife trade monitoring network - is seeking a detailed-oriented Administrative Assistant to work in TRAFFIC's office in Dar es Salaam.

#### 1. BACKGROUND:

TRAFFIC, the wildlife trade monitoring network, works to ensure that trade in wild animals and plants is not a threat to the conservation of nature. It actively monitors and investigates wildlife trade and provides information to diverse audiences worldwide as a basis for effective conservation policies and programmes. The East Africa office of TRAFFIC has staff in Arusha and Dar es Salaam, with activities in Kenya, Tanzania, Uganda and Ethiopia.

#### 2. OVERALL RESPONSIBILITIES:

Working under the supervision of TRAFFIC's Finance and Accounting Officer, the Administrative Assistant will be responsible for:

- Supporting financial procedures, such as procurements, and payments including organizing financial records and files;
- Managing correspondence into and from the office, including checking mail, electronic mailing systems, and making periodic back-ups of computer files;
- Answering, and following up where relevant, all incoming telephone calls and enquiries;
- Supporting international travel and meeting arrangements for East Africa staff; and,
- Organizing meetings and workshops – this includes handling the all meeting logistics (travel, accommodation, financial support, invitations, etc) for national and international meetings of upwards of 100 participants.

#### 3. SKILLS, KNOWLEDGE AND ABILITIES:

- High school diploma. Post secondary courses in finance and/or event management preferred;
- Previous administrative experience preferred;
- Fluency in spoken and written English;
- Familiarity with standard word processing, spread-sheet, and presentation software;
- Well organized; and
- Friendly and team-oriented

Additional information, including Terms of Reference, can be obtained through the web address: [http://wwf.panda.org/who\\_we\\_are/jobs/](http://wwf.panda.org/who_we_are/jobs/) Applications must include a **cover letter**, along with a complete **CV** with full contact details of **three referees** and should be addressed to the Human Resources Manager, via email to: [hresources@wwftz.org](mailto:hresources@wwftz.org) by **midnight Tanzania time, Friday March 1st 2019.**

We thank all applicants for their interest in this position but only shortlisted candidates will be contacted.

The interviews will take place over Skype or in person in Dar es Salaam.

215071301



Visiting Malaysian dentist Dr Rajamani speaks at an event in Dar es Salaam yesterday on how stem cell supplements benefit the human body. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# Majaliwa urges youth in Kigoma to venture into palm tree farming

By Guardian Reporter

PRIME Minister Kassim Majaliwa yesterday urged youth in Kigoma Region to establish palm tree farms because the crop is one of the country's edible oil top priority. The premier made the call while speaking at Nyakitondo village in Kibondo District, Kigoma Region as part of three-day official tour in the country's western region. He said that government was

determined to revive palm tree farming in efforts to reduce importation of edible oil. "This will also help to save foreign exchange for importating edible oil," he said, adding that it's high time for the youth to explore the business opportunities available in the palm oil value chain. "So, I encourage the youth to plant palm trees. If someone plants palm tree when he's in Standard Five, after three years he/she start

getting income from the crop. This is an area that you (youth) need to venture into it," he said. Majaliwa described the crop as one of the important cornerstone in relieving people from the poverty trap as it easy for youth to get start-up capital to run other businesses of their choice. He, however, explained that the government is determined to make Tanzania one of the leading nations in East Africa in palm oil

production. The premier also advised people to join with Community Health Fund (CHF), which assures them and their families to get access to medical treatment once they fall sick. Meanwhile, the PM visited Nduta Refugee Camp in Kibondo District and inspected Kassim Majaliwa Primary School and thereafter maternity ward at Nduta hospital.

# Chinese Embassy donates medical equipment to Murieti health centre

By Guardian Correspondent, Arusha

THE Chinese embassy in Tanzania through the 'China Goldcard Smart Group Co Ltd' has donated medical equipment worth 61m/- to Murieti health centre in Arusha city. The equipment included sleeping therapy, special bed and lamps for the operating room.

Speaking during the handing over ceremony at Muriet health centre, Arusha Regional Commissioner, Mrisho Gambo commended the Chinese embassy for the support which will improve provision of medical services at the hospital. "I recently met with China ambassador to Tanzania and asked him to support our health centre. He told me to submit a list of medical equipment worth US \$ 30,000, and here they are," said the RC.

RC Gambo said the health centre is among the big centres in Arusha serving more than 100,000 people from Muriet ward and nearby areas of Terati, Sinoni, Sokone One and Olasiti. He said the embassy is willing to continue extending support to the centre in future.

Representing Arusha City director, Dr Simoni Chacha said the health centre has so far received medical equipment worth 91m/- for various stakeholders. He said the Muriet health centre is among the 17 state-owned health centres serving the residents of Arusha. Dr Chacha noted that a number of medical equipment to fully offer quality services. He said the medical equipment include an X-Ray machine, eye testing machines and equipment for the dental department. He mentioned the challenges facing the centre as lack of improved roads linking the hospital buildings, water and electricity services. He said the Muriet health centre also lacks an ambulance. On behalf of the Chinese ambassador to Tanzania, Vice President of the China Goldcard Smart Group Co Ltd, Qiu Liang said: "We will continue to extend our support to the government of Tanzania in various sectors".

# 'Foods rich in nutrients help boost immune system'

By Guardian Reporter

AS Tanzanians move towards the middle-income economy, medical, nutrition and demographic professionals are calling on Tanzanians to cultivate quickly a culture of obtaining nutrients from foods and supplements to boost immune system in order to fight effectively infectious and non-infectious diseases.

The Tanzania Demographic and Health Survey 2010, says adult and maternal mortality rates are key indicators of health status of a population, adding that "in Tanzania they are national development indicators estimated from the population census." It is against this background, in joint presentation in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Dr Walter Kweka and Dr Hawa Kawawa, urged Tanzanians to develop quickly a culture of using nutrients and supplements to help their bodies multiply stem cells that improve the body's defence system and fight diseases.

Dr Kweka, a consultant doctor, said because Tanzanians are fast moving towards modernity, there must be widespread use of plant products, nutrients and supplements to improve body immunity and suppress dangers likely to emerge from cancers, chronic diseases, sedentary lifestyle and obesity.

"To start with we recommend our people to use stemregen because we have evidence of its effectiveness in other countries. The Tanzania Food and Drugs Authority (TFDA) have cleared stemregen for importation and use in Tanzania because it has proved to be effective in the USA and Malaysia," he said. He said the supplement

has been effective in fighting chronic diseases, sexual impotence, backache, and bone-ache, diabetes, hypertension (BP) and is constantly used to fight the spread of cancer and the side effects of medicines used in treating cancer. The supplement was developed in America decades back. Dr Kawawa said health stakeholders are pushing to see Tanzanians individually and collectively value the logic in the doctrine which says prevention is better than cure in order to reduce child and adult deaths and reduce public health bill. At the moment, she said, Stemregen is available in limited quantities in Kiomboi Pharmacy, in Buguruni, Dar es

Salaam but more quantities will be imported based on the local demand and that stakeholders want to see poor Tanzanians afford to buy the supplement. "Collectively as stakeholders we are closely watching use of the supplement. We want poor Tanzanians to access Stemregen because numerically they constitute the largest group Tanzanians with chronic diseases and health conditions," she said. According to the TDHS, deaths have been slightly going down. Records in the latest survey, 2010 TDHS, show that in every 1000 people there were 826 female deaths and 796 male deaths and 893 female deaths and 807 male deaths in 2004-05 TDHS.



## PUBLIC NOTECE

### LEARNING AND ACTION PLATFORM (LEAP) FOR COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AGAINST ILLEGAL WILDLIFE TRADE (IWT)

The illegal wildlife trade (IWT) threatens the survival of many iconic species and negatively impacts on the livelihoods of those who live alongside them.

Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF) is a collective civil society-based initiative to improve natural resource management and conservation in Tanzania by addressing fundamental issues of governance. On 8 th and 11 th February 2019 TNRF signed an agreement for three years project (2018-2021), funding from International Institute of Environment and Development (IIED) for implementing a pilot project titled "Learning and Action Platform (LeAP) for Community Engagement Against Illegal Wildlife Trade (IWT)" with grant total of £ 53,944. The pilot project aims at Developing and sharing best practice in involving communities in tackling wildlife crime. The project will conduct a baseline for the project to build evidence, strengthening voices and dialogue in illegal wildlife trade focusing on the lessons to be collected from Northern and Southern Circuit.

For further communication, contacts: Director, TNRF Box 15605 Arusha, info@tnrf.org



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Tarehe 14 /02/2019

## TANGAZO LA ZABUNI YA HUDUMA ZA USAFI WA MAJENGO YA WIZARA YA AFYA NA UTUNZAJI WA BUSTANI

IFB No: SMZ/HO/NC/2018/2019/10

- Serikali ya mapinduzi ya Zanzibar kupitia Wizara ya Afya imetenga fedha kwa ajili ya Kufanya mchakato wa kutafuta kampuni ya kufanya usafi wa Majengo Matatu pamoja na utunzaji wa Bustani, Fedha hizo zitatumika ikiwa ni malipo halali kwa mkataba wa kazi hiyo .
- Wizara ya Afya inatangaza zabuni kutoka kwa wazabuni wote wenye kufanya kazi usafi wa majengo pamoja na usafi wa bustani kwa Kampuni iliyo kubalika kisheria kuleta maombi yao zabuni ya kwa ajili huduma ya usafi wa majengo matatu na utunzaji wa Bustani iliyo mbele ya Majengo ya Wizara .
- Mtoa huduma atalazimika kufanya mambo yafuatayo-
  - Kufanya usafi majengo yote matatu (3) ya wizara afisi ,vyoo kumbi za mikutano zote pamoja na maeneo yote yalio zunguka majengo hayo ikiwemo bustani.
  - Kununua vifaa vyote (ikiwemo sabuni,dawa zote za kusafishia "detagent zilikizo salama).
  - Usafi utakuwa ni wamasaa kumi na moja (11) ambao utanza saa 12:00 asubuhi hadi saa 10 jioni kwa siku za kazi .Aidha hakuna msafishaji yeyote atakae ruhuswa, kuondoka katika jengo kabla ya muda wa kazi kumalizika.
  - Kuhakikisha kwamba wasafishaji wanakuja na nyenzo za usalama na sare safi zitakazo leta muonekano mzuri kwa wizara.
  - Kuzoa taka zote zilizopatikana wakati wa kufyagia na kuzipeleka katika maeneo maalum yaliotengwa kwa ajili ya kukushanya taka.
  - Kuyaweka majengo haya katika hali ya usafi na kuvutia na kutofanya jambo lolote kwa nia ya kuharibu majengo hayo pamoja na Bustani yake.
  - Kwa eneo la bustani kufyeka majani ambayo yanakera na hayahitajiki katika eneo hilo la bustani kwa ajili ya kuondosha wadudu kama panya ,Nyoka pamoja na wadudu wengine hatari .
  - Kuhakikisha kwamba Kampuni hatuingia mkataba wa kazi hiyo ya kufanya usafi wa majengo ya Wizara kwa kumpa mtu mwengine au kampuni nyengine.
  - Kutofanya shughuli yeyote ndani au nje ya eneo la majengo hayo ambayo inaweza kuleta athari.
  - Kufanya kwa gharama zake, matengenezo ya uharibu wowote utakaofanywa kwa makusudi au kwa uzembe wakati mkataba huu unaendelea.
  - Kujuilisha wizara juu ya athari yoyote itakayotokea au inayoelkea kutokea katika majengo hayo.
  - Kuhakikisha kuwa anafanya kazi kwa mujibu wa maelekezo na sharia za nchi ikiwemo kutotoa siri za afisi.
- Zabuni itakua halali kisheria kwa muda wa siku tisiini (90) Baada ya utunguzi wa zabuni na ikiwa na dhama ya zabuni isiyopungua asilimia 2.5% ya bei ya zabuni ,ziwasilishwe kwa Katibu mkuu Wizara ya Afya Zanzibar P.O. BOX 236 Ofisi ya katibu wa Bodi ya Zabuni juu kabla ya muda wa utunguzi wa zabuni hiyo.
- Sifa zitakazotumika katika kutathmini zabuni,mzabuni atatakiwa kutimiza sifa zote za awali ilikuendelea katika hatua ya pili ya tathmini.
 

**Sifa za awali**

  - Kampuni lazima iwe imesajiliwa na mamlaka ya Ununuzi na uondowaji wa mali za serikali,na kuwasilisha vitu vifuatavyo:-
  - Kampuni iwe ina leseni ya kufanya biashara husika.
  - Kampuni iwasilishe "profile" ya Kampuni yake.
  - Kampuni iwasilishe mpango kazi na "Methodology"
  - Kampuni iwasilishe ratiba yake ya kazi
  - Kampuni iwasilishe orodha ya wafanyakazi wake na kazi zao
  - Kampuni iwasilishe Maelezo binafisi "curriculum vitae" ya kila mfanyakazi
  - Kampuni itatakiwa kuwasilisha mikataba iliyowahi kuingia na taasisi nyengine.
  - Kampuni iwasilishe muakilishi wa kampuni ("Power of attorney")
  - Kumbukumbu ya mashitaka "litigation History

Vigezo vifuatavyo vitatumika katika kutathmin hatua ya pili ya zabuni

| S/N          | VIGEZO  | ALAMA      |
|--------------|---|------------|
| A            | Uzoefu wa kampuni katika kazi husika.         | 40%        |
| B            | Kukubalika kwa mpango kazi na " Methodology " | 30%.       |
| C            | Sifa za wafanyakazi na ujuzi wao              | 20%        |
| D            | Sifa za jumla                                 | 10%        |
| <b>JUMLA</b> |   | <b>100</b> |

6. Siku ya mwisho ya kuwasilisha zabuni hiyo si zaidi ya Alkhamis ya tarehe 21st Machi, 2019 saa nane 8:00 mchana. Zabuni zitafunguliwa muda huo na mbele ya wazabuni kwa atakae penda kushiriki katika ufunguzi huo katika chumba cha mikutano cha Wizara ya Afya.Bahasha ya zabuni iandikwe" Zabuni ya Usafi wa majengo na utunzaji wa Bustani" No:SMZ/HO/NC/2018/2019/10 isifunguliwe kabla ya saa nane mchana siku ya Alkhamis tarehe 21st Machi, 2019.

KATIBU MKUU  
WIZARA YA AFYA  
ZANZIBAR

# Use responsibly all donated facilities, education officer counsels managers

By Correspondent Michael Sikapundwa,

Iringa

SCHOOL managements in Iringa Region have been urged to use responsibly teaching and learning facilities which had been donated by different partners.

Iringa Regional Education Officer, Majuto Njanga made the call over the weekend when speaking soon after receiving five classrooms, administration block and girls hostel built by Ruaha National Park (RUNAPA).

The buildings have been built at Idodi Secondary School as part of RUNAPAs' corporate social responsibility (CSR).

He encouraged school managements and other players to ensure the supported items be used as intended, hence scale up education in the schools and not otherwise.

Njanga called for an effective use of the educational infrastructure such as buildings, furniture, ICT equipment

which stakeholders offered to the schools.

According to him, having better teaching and learning environment encourage students to learn and at the end of the day improving classroom's performance.

He also encouraged parents to play their role in spearheading education to their children for better exams results.

"There should be a win-win situation in this. Teachers have their own role to play and parents too," the education officer said, commending RUNAPA for the support they have been making to education sector in Iringa and the country at large.

The official encouraged local communities around the national park to also play an active role in conserving the sanctuary and wildlife from greedy people who are engaging in poaching—a challenge that threatens the survival of some of the wild animals in the country.



With the rear view effectively hindered by his luggage, this Dar es Salaam resident was clearly at risk of ending in trouble as he moved precariously along the VETA section of the city's busy Chang'ombe Road yesterday. Photo: John Badi

# Improvement shown in education sector impresses Zanzibar President

By Guardian Reporter

ZANZIBAR President Dr Ali Mohamed Shein has expressed his satisfaction on the improvement of education services provision in the Indian Ocean archipelago.

He said that education provided in Zanzibar is now the same level with what is being provided in other coun-

tries across the globe.

Dr Shein made the remarks over the weekend when speaking soon after launching a building at Kijini Secondary School in Matemwe area of Unguja North Region.

The building has been built by an investor-'Andbeyond' who has built a tourist hotel worth 148m/-.

The Isles' leader said that education

has improved from the grassroots level-kindergarten to university level.

"Our universities provide similar education that is provided in other countries. This has been making more foreigners to flock into Zanzibar as they look for education," he said, encouraging Zanzibaris to support the government's endeavours by encouraging children to go to school for positive

results—in terms of socio-economic development.

According to Dr Shein, in 1948, Zanzibar had very few primary and secondary schools, whereby in Unguja North Region there was only Mkwajuni school.

"This made poor Zanzibaris unable to get education as at that time, education was offered on classes basis and

economic background.

"But, the government has been resolving all those challenges and right now we're building nine storey building schools in different places of Unguja and Pemba," he said.

The idea, he said: "Is to ensure that the government has enough experts in different fields to develop this nation as well as helping their parents."

For her part, Zanzibar Education minister, Riziki Pembe Juma commended the investor who has built the school building, saying the support is key in scaling up education in Isles.

She urged patents to wisely use the opportunity offered by the government, particularly in improving education sector in the archipelago.

By Guardian Correspondent, Mbeya

THE government has vowed to support avocado farmers as the crop is one of the country's strategic crops that need to be heavily invested for better outputs.

Finance and Planning Minister, Dr Philip Mpango made the remarks when speaking soon after arriving here for official visit.

Mpango was accompanied by Angela Kairuki, Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office (PMO) responsible for investment and executive director of the Tanzania Investment Centre (TIC), Godfrey Mwambe

The ministers' visit is part of the government move to meet with farmers and investors and resolve some of the challenges fac-

## State vows to support avocado farmers

ing the agriculture sector.

Dr Mpango described avocado as one of the key crops in driving the country's industrialisation agenda.

He said that more investments are needed in the farming sub-sector, for avocado farmers to benefit from their sweat.

The investments is needed in construction of modern warehouses, better farming tools as well as looking for reliable markets for crops.

Dr Mpango described avocado as among the government's strategic crops that need

to be heavily invested for better outputs.

Mbeya Regional Commissioner, Albert Chalamila said that apart from avocado farming, the region has more crops that need to be heavily cultivated.

According to Chalamila, Mbeya is one of the southern highlands' regions which are the country's bread basket.

He said every district in the region has its own major crop, citing Rungwe which leads in producing avocado, but it also produces other crops such as potatoes, banana, coffee, and tea. "All these crops need hefty invest-

ment," the RC said.

He further said that Mbeya is one of the regions that produce the best pyrethrum in the country. The RC said that pyrethrum in Mbeya is produced in four wards of Mbeya Rural District.

For his part, TIC's executive director assured avocado farmers that the government will make sure that all challenges facing them are resolved.

"Our aim is to ensure that Tanzania remains a leading country for avocado production in Africa and the world at large."

## Government advised to provide tax relief for radio equipment

By Guardian Correspondent,

Tanga

THE government has been called upon to provide tax relief for radio equipment to enable community radios afford it and thus improve access to information for them.

Prosper Kwigize, board chairperson for the Network of Community Media in Tanzania (TADIO) made the call in Tanga recently during the commemoration of the World Radio Day.

He said most community radios were not profit oriented a situation that saw them fail to afford the said equipment owing to the tax.

Kwigize used the platform to also request upon the government through its TCRA to operate under a fair ground in terms of allocation of frequency saying stakeholders had raised concern over the cumbersome process in accessing the same.

In an immediate rejoinder, Juliana Shonza who is Deputy Minister of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports promised to take aboard all issues while calling upon the chair to handover a list of all radio stations, which were still facing challenges in accessing the frequency to enable her, communicate with TCRA for action.

Shonza used the opportunity to call upon media stakeholders to be impartial in their reporting and to ensure that they shun away from hate speech to promote peace.

Speaking earlier during the day, UNESCO head of office and representative Tirso Dos Santos cautioned that the world may have

been advanced in technology but radio journalists should remember that there was no way that facebook and twitter could surpass the role of the radio simply because the latter did reach the majority.

He called upon the need for radio journalist to ensure that what is aired is not only detailed but also inclusive.

The World Radio Day was commemorated in Tanga under the organization of UNESCO and TADIO where it brought together community media practitioners, mainstream media organizations as well as government officials.

UNESCO's General Conference proclaimed the World Radio Day during its 36th session in November 2011 where the General Assembly of the United Nations approved it during its 67th Session in December 2012.

The objective of the World Radio Day is to celebrate radio as a medium and strengthen international cooperation among broadcasters.

The theme for this year's WRD was Dialogue, Tolerance and Peace.

In Tanzania, UNESCO through funding from the Swiss Development Corporation (SDC) supports 25 community radios and the community media network, TADIO.

The support is meant to ensure that people in Tanzania, especially the poor, women and girls, have the capacity to make informed decisions on issues that affect their daily lives based on access to relevant, culturally appropriate, gender responsive accurate information and knowledge

**MASETO AUCTIONEER & DEBT COLLECTOR LTD**  
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Ref: DSM/FNB/Vol.1/2019 20177 Date: 20/02/2019

## PUBLIC NOTICE

**MASETO AUCTIONEER AND DEBT COLLECTOR LTD**, on behalf of First National Bank (T) we are inviting an enclosed bid from any suitors of a residential apartment situated at PLOT NO. 63/27 APARTMENT NO 1804; 18th FLOOR OF THE UHURU HEIGHT BUILDING UPANGA AREA. THE APARTMENT HAS THE FOLLOWING FITURS;

- 4 BEDROOMS, ONE IS A MASTER BEDROOM, TWO ARE SELF CONTAINED ROOMS AND ONE ROOM USES A PUBLIC TOILET. ALL ROOMS HAVE THEIR MODERN MAT
- LIVING ROOM WITH FLAT SCREEN, A KITCHEN WITH REFREGILATOR AND OTHER KITCHEN FURNITURES
- LAUNDRY PLACE WITH A LAUNDRY MACHINE
- THREE CAR PACKING SPACE AT THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE BUILDING
- THE HOUSE IS AT FEW METRES FROM SERENA HOTEL AND THE CITY CENTER ALONG BIBI TITI AND ALLY HASSAN MWINYI ROAD

ANY INTERESTED BIDDER IS INVITED TO SUBMIT HIS OR HER CLOSED BID AND THE PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD UNDER COMPETITIVE BID.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION YOU MAY CONTACT US VIA CONTACTS INDICATED ABOVE.**

**FSSP**  
Field Support Services Project

### CONSULTANCY POSITION

#### PUBLIC FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT TECHNICAL SPECIALIST

#### TO SUPPORT GLOBAL AFFAIRS CANADA

PricewaterhouseCoopers Limited (PwC) invites eligible candidates to indicate their interest to provide consultancy services as **Public Financial Management (PFM) Technical Specialist** to support Global Affairs Canada under the Field Support Services Project (FSSP) Tanzania.

The Public Financial Management Technical Specialist will provide PFM-related strategic advice and technical support related to Canada's policies, strategies and programming in Tanzania.

**Candidates will be evaluated based on the following key qualifications and experience:**

- Master's degree in a relevant field such as public administration (including accounting or auditing), economics, business administration, accounting, development economics, macroeconomics or public finance
- Minimum of five (5) years of experience in public policy, economic policy, or public financial management, at least three (3) years of which should have been gained in Tanzania
- Minimum of five (5) years of experience in international development policy and programs, preferably in a bilateral or multilateral development institution
- Minimum of five (5) years of experience with public sector accounting, financial management, and budget reviews
- Knowledge of public sector policy priorities and processes in Tanzania, including planning, management and budgeting of public sector resources

In addition to the key qualifications above, the incumbent should also demonstrate the following skills and competencies:

- Advanced professional proficiency in English;
- General professional proficiency in Kiswahili;

Training or experience in gender-responsive, gender-based, and/or gender-sensitive public financial management would be a strong asset.

Interested candidates should obtain a detailed description of these services by sending request email to [procurement@fssptz.org](mailto:procurement@fssptz.org) specifying in the requests as follows: "Consultancy position for Public Financial Management Technical Specialist."

Requests for further information will be received up to three working days prior to the last submission date, 8 March, 2019.

Any request received later than that may not be responded to.

FSSP Manager

# Vodacom Tanzania launches self-service awareness drive

By Guardian Reporter

In a bid to improve customer experience in the digital age, Vodacom Tanzania PLC has launched "Naweza na Vodacom" a campaign aiming to educate subscribers on the various self-service channels available to their customers. The programme was launched at Vodacom's headquarters today and it intends to solve challenges related to daily use of the network by providing convenient and efficient self-service methods. "Naweza na Vodacom" will sensitize Vodacom customers on the new approaches to customer services, in which Vodacom subscribers have the power and access to self-service channels that can provide customer with the information and assistance, without requiring any interaction with the customer service help desk or a live customer service representative. The customer can perform services by utilizing digital platforms like social

media, websites and mobile applications such as 'My Vodacom' and M-Pesa app to access information and perform specific tasks. Subscribers will be able to tackle challenging situations such as reversing money sent in error through M-Pesa transaction and can also recover blocked or forgotten M-Pesa passwords. In addition, subscribers have the ability to interact and access computerized and pre-recorded voice information (IVR). Speaking at the launch, Vodacom Tanzania's Director of Customer service, Harriet Lwakatare said, "we are conscious of the time our customers spend solving their problems and now we have tailored our services to meet their needs in an instantaneous manner. Our primary goal is to ensure that our subscribers receive necessary support as soon as they request it." She added that Vodacom as Tanzania's leading digital network is focused on using

technology to overcome any stumbling blocks that their customers face. Tanzania Communication Regulatory Authority (TCRA) statistics highlights that the telecommunication sector has more than 42 million users/subscribers. Telco's now have to prioritize and ensure that their whole client base get effective services. "Vodacom as the current market leader with 13 million subscribers, is on the forefront, innovating solutions for their growing customer base through the introduction of different channels such as IVR, My Vodacom app and social media. I urge our customers to join us in this digital revolution happening all over the world and embrace the changes coming with it. These services are both exciting and also new in the country as they offer our clients with the best opportunity for them to solve all arising problems instantly. It is certain that with Vodacom, the future is exciting," added Harriet Lwakatare.



Health, Community Development, Gender, Elderly and Children deputy minister Dr Faustine Ndugulile (L) has a first-hand account yesterday of preparation of food for children taken care of at Kurasini National Home Children in Dar es Salaam. Right is centre's matron, Beatrice Mguniro. Photo: Guardian Correspondent

# UN envoy says Chinese technical assistance critical in Africa's agriculture development

KAMPALA

TECHNICAL assistance from China is critical in fast-tracking Africa's agricultural development, a top UN envoy here for the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has said. Antonio Querido, FAO Uganda country representative, told Xinhua in a recent interview that Africa can draw lessons on how China was able to develop the agriculture sector in efforts to push forward the country's economic development. Querido said China through a tripartite agreement with FAO and some member countries has over the years been sending technical experts to Africa through the South-South Cooperation (SSC) Program. He said the experts, specializing in different fields in agriculture share practical experiences with the farmers in gardens on how to boost production. "We strongly believe that we can further this SSC and indeed we are working on the third phase of the SSC, with China bringing their technical know-how, their technical expertise to help support the local farmers here in Uganda and through Africa," Querido said. Some countries like Uganda have already had the first and second phase of the cooperation where the technicians introduced high-yielding and drought varieties like the Chinese foxtail millet. At the end of the second phase in 2017, Christopher Kibazanga, Uganda's

minister of state for agriculture said the technicians trained and improved farmers' knowledge, skills and capacity in horticulture, cereals, aquaculture, livestock, and cross cutting issues using modern technologies. Ministry of agriculture figures show that about 3,000 farmers were trained in cereals, horticulture, aquaculture and livestock in Uganda's five hubs of Kabale, Budaka, Mbarara, Amuria and Wakiso. **INVESTMENT** Agriculture is the major economic activity in many African countries with over 70 percent of the continent's population deriving its livelihood from the sector, according to the World Bank. The global financial institution argues

**“We strongly believe that we can further this SSC and indeed we are working on the third phase of the SSC, with China bringing their technical know-how, their technical expertise to help support the local farmers here in Uganda and through Africa”**

that agriculture growth is critical in reducing poverty on the continent. Experts argue that Africa needs to take advantage of the massive Chinese investment on the continent's transport and energy infrastructure to stimulate production. Fred Muhumuza, an economist told Xinhua in a recent interview that there is need to focus on agro-processing since a large part of the population derives its livelihood from agriculture. Querido said there is need to invest more in agriculture since it is the backbone of most of the African economies. "We look at expertise from South to South Cooperation in a way that can support this process and help the nations to really boost their investment in agriculture," he said. Some Chinese investors have already started investing in the sector. In Uganda for instance, there is a 220 million U.S. dollar Kehong China-Uganda Agricultural Industrial Park. Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni described the industrial park as critical in transforming the country's economy. When fully operational, Kehong China-Uganda Agricultural Industrial Park is expected to produce about 600,000 tons of agro-products annually to meet the domestic and regional market demands. It will also create 25,000 jobs and avail opportunities of training for the local people, according to the managers of the park.



Acacia Mining plc is Tanzania's largest gold miner and one of the largest producers of gold in Africa. We have three producing mines, all located in Northwest Tanzania: Bulyanhulu, Buzwagi, and North Mara and a portfolio of exploration projects in Tanzania, Kenya, Burkina Faso and Mali. Acacia is listed on the Main Market of the London Stock Exchange and on the Dar es Salaam Stock Exchange.

## SECTION LEADER – MAINTENANCE PLANNING

Acacia Mining seeks to employ a Section Leader – Maintenance Planning based at North Mara Mine in Tanzania. This role reports to the Asset Reliability Manager and the role holder will be accountable to provide technical support and governance within the Asset Reliability Department and North Mara for Maintenance Planning. The role will be the catalyst for compliance to systems, processes and standards relating to Asset Management, CMMS system and Work Management protocols. The role will specifically ensure Acacia Maintenance Planning systems and processes are embedded in the operation and form the way we do business.

This is a permanent role, with the work roster being six weeks on and three weeks off.

### CORE ACCOUNTABILITIES

- **Safety:**
  - Visibly support and drive Acacia Safety Policies and Standards,
  - Visibly integrate safe work practices into Planning activities,
  - Ensure compliance to all regulatory health, safety and environmental policies and procedures,
  - Ensure that safety standards, FLRA, and Safe Working Procedures are adhered to in full to ensure Zero Lost Time Injury (LTI) Frequency Rate, and
  - Ensure Zero Fatality and Zero Medical Treatment Injury (MTI) in the Section.
- **Leadership effectiveness:**
  - Ensure Acacia Work Management Protocols are utilized to ensure equipment availability and reliability.
  - Effective leadership for the Maintenance Planning Section.
  - Effective Maintenance Planning Strategy and ensure the Strategy is implemented.
  - Risk Management System.
  - Operational Strategies & Systems.
  - Ensure clear objectives are set, agreed and adhered to by Team Members.
  - Conduct performance monitoring and reviews of Team Members.
  - Ensure that Team Members have Development Plans and that they achieve the milestones on the plan, and
  - Ensure less experienced Team Members are trained effectively.
- **Provide General Support/ Governance:**
  - Ensure all statutory/regulatory maintenance activities are managed within CMMS (Pronto) system,
  - Ensure Acacia Work Management Protocols are adhered to and reports are published weekly and monthly,
  - Prepare Quarterly forum work management presentation reviewing Acacia business, and
  - Ensure facilitation of maintenance planning meeting structure as per the Acacia Work Management Procedure/ Work Management.
- **Maintenance Planning Improvement Strategy:**
  - Improve the Work Management process implementation on Site,
  - Ensure Work Management reporting system is established as per central model,
  - Improve high level shutdown planning process – synergies with OEM's and resources, and
  - Ensure Rotables are managed as per the Acacia Ratable Management process.
- **Projects:**
  - Support and implement the Acacia Maintenance Optimization Project – (AMOP),
  - Implementation of Rylson8 as CMMS strategy management, and
  - Implement the Acacia Work Management roll out strategy.

### ROLE REQUIREMENTS

#### Qualification Requirements:

- Degree in Electrical Engineering/ Mechanical Engineering/ Asset Management
- **Knowledge in:**
  - Asset Management – including reliability, asset integrity, spare part management
  - Maintenance Management,
  - Mining and Minerals Processing,
  - Project Management and Scheduling,
  - Risk Management, and
  - Change Management.

#### Experience Requirements:

- 10 years' experience in the Mining Industry/ Operational/ Support Roles,
- 10 years' experience in Maintenance Planning Roles, and
- 5 years' experience in Senior Leadership Role.

#### Skills / Knowledge Requirements:

- Maintenance Planning and Scheduling principles,
- Data integrity and reporting,
- Business Writing,
- Project Management,
- Coaching,
- Managing Social Process in Meetings,
- Managing culture of stakeholders,
- Presentation Skills,
- Influencing,
- Systems design and implementation,
- Computer skills – Microsoft Office suite, excel, word, outlook,
- Business Improvement (BI) tools & processes, and
- Effective Communication.

The role will attract a competitive salary package, which will include excellent benefits.

Applicants are invited to submit their CV's/Resume's (indicating the role title in the subject) via e-mail to: [jobs@acaciamining.com](mailto:jobs@acaciamining.com)

Acacia Mining has a strong commitment to environmental, health and safety management and offers equal employment opportunities to qualified men and women.

If you are not contacted by Acacia Mining within thirty (30) days after the closing date, you should consider your application as unsuccessful. Short listed candidates may be subjected to any of the following: security clearance; competency assessment; physical capability assessment, reference checking.

Please forward applications before **01 March 2019**.

# The Guardian

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Taking A New Look  
At The News  
ESTABLISHED IN 1995

## Social justice affects poverty eradication

**T**HE United Nations' World Day of Social Justice is annually observed on February 20 to encourage people to look at how social justice affects poverty eradication. It also focuses on the goal of achieving full employment and support for social integration.

Social justice is a concept of fair and just relations between the individual and society. This is measured by the explicit and tacit terms for the distribution of wealth, opportunities for personal activity, and social privileges. In Western as well as in older Asian cultures, the concept of social justice has often referred to the process of ensuring that individuals fulfill their societal roles and receive what was their due from society. In the current global grassroots movements for social justice, the emphasis has been on the breaking of barriers for social mobility, the creation of safety nets and economic justice.

Social justice assigns rights and duties in the institutions of society, which enables people to receive the basic benefits and burdens of cooperation. The relevant institutions often include taxation, social insurance, public health, public school, public services, labor law and regulation of markets, to ensure fair distribution of wealth, and equal opportunity.

Interpretations that relate justice to a reciprocal relationship to society are mediated by differences in cultural traditions, some of which emphasise the individual responsibility toward society and others the equilibrium between access to power and its responsible use. Hence, social justice is invoked today while reinterpreting historical figures such as Bartolomé de las Casas, in philosophical debates about differences among human beings, in efforts for gender, racial and social equality, for advocating justice for

migrants, prisoners, the environment, and the physically and developmentally disabled.

While the concept of social justice can be traced through the theology of Augustine of Hippo and the philosophy of Thomas Paine, the term "social justice" became used explicitly from the 1840s. A Jesuit priest named Luigi Taparelli is typically credited with coining the term, and it spread during the revolutions of 1848 with the work of Antonio Rosmini-Serbat.

However, recent research has proved that the use of the expression "social justice" is older (even before the 19th century). In the late industrial revolution, progressive American legal scholars began to use the term more, particularly Louis Brandeis and Roscoe Pound.

From the early 20th century it was also embedded in international law and institutions; the preamble to establish the International Labour Organisation recalled that "universal and lasting peace can be established only if it is based upon social justice." In the later 20th century, social justice was made central to the philosophy of the social contract, primarily by John Rawls in *A Theory of Justice* (1971). In 1993, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action treats social justice as a purpose of human rights education.

Some authors such as Friedrich Hayek criticize the concept of social justice, arguing the lack of objective, accepted moral standard; and that while there is a legal definition of what is just and equitable "there is no test of what is socially unjust", and further that social justice is often used for the reallocation of resources based on an arbitrary standard which may in fact be inequitable or unjust. The different concepts of justice, as discussed in ancient Western philosophy, were typically centered upon the community.

## Promoting awareness of linguistic, cultural diversity plays a vital role

**I**NTERNATIONAL Mother Language Day is a worldwide annual observance held on 21 February to promote awareness of linguistic and cultural diversity and promote multilingualism. First announced by UNESCO on 17 November 1999, it was formally recognised by the United Nations General Assembly in a resolution establishing 2008 as the International Year of Languages. The idea to celebrate International Mother Language Day was the initiative of Bangladesh. In Bangladesh the 21 February is the anniversary of the day when Bangladeshis fought for recognition for the Bangla language. International Mother Language Day has been observed annually since 2000 to promote peace and multilingualism around the world and to protect all mother languages. It is observed on February 21 to recognise the 1952 Bengali Language Movement in Bangladesh.

The day was proclaimed by the General Conference of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in November 1999. In its resolution, the United Nations General Assembly called on its member states "to promote the preservation and protection of all languages used by people of the world" on 16 May 2009. In the resolution, the General Assembly proclaimed 2008 as the International Year of Languages to promote unity in diversity and international understanding through multilingualism and multiculturalism. The resolution was suggested by Rafiqul Islam, a Bengali living in Vancouver, Canada.

He wrote a letter to Kofi Annan on 9 January 1998 asking him to take a step for saving the world's languages from extinction by declaring an International Mother Language Day. Rafiq proposed the date as 21 February to commemorate the 1952 killings in Dhaka during the Language Movement.

Languages are the most powerful instruments of preserving and developing our tangible and intangible heritage. All moves to promote the dissemination of mother tongues will serve not only to encourage linguistic diversity and multilingual education but also to develop fuller awareness of linguistic and cultural traditions throughout the world and to inspire solidarity based on understanding, tolerance and dialogue.

Tanzania is a multilingual country with 150 ethnic languages spoken within its borders. The current sociolinguistic situation in Tanzania necessitates the continued use of Kiswahili as a unifying language. The majority of urban children now actually acquire it as their first language. It is also the language most frequently used in government offices, as well as in everyday activities countrywide. Despite the adoption of one of Africa's largest languages as an official language, the government has constantly insisted that English should remain the only medium of instruction at post-primary level, because of its tremendous power and prestige in the global market. The government's stance reveals a limited understanding of what a system for promoting bilingualism and biliteracy in education should involve.

Certainly at the time when the country became independent and Swahili was first proclaimed a national language, it was proclaimed as such in opposition to English. The original intention was eventually to replace the language of the former colonial rulers, English, with Swahili. Comments by responsible African writers support this original intention. For example, Professor Ali Mazrui in an article published as recently as 1967 commented on the comparatively mild and smooth conclusion of British colonial rule and contrasted this with the anti-British language policy in Tanganyika after independence.

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By Ehi Braimah

## The cost of postponing elections

**I**woke this morning and my wife told me the elections had been postponed. I replied her by saying that must be another piece of fake news because we have too many misleading and false stories in circulation these days. After I checked several news outlets, it turned out my wife was right.

And I asked myself a very simple question: what's going on here? Clearly, the postponement looked like a joke taken too far, the kind of stunt you pull on April Fool's Day. To start with, the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has put our lives on hold even if the electoral umpire had good grounds to postpone the elections - the same announcement at the eleventh hour could have been made last week; at least one week before the elections. It is now evident that INEC was not prepared to conduct these elections or they were just deceiving Nigerians and other stakeholders.

Unfortunately, what INEC has done has become a familiar pattern; an egregious culture of impunity at all levels and we are supposed to just accept what has happened as normal and move on with our lives. But it is not that simple. The economy has been practically shut down because of the elections - movements are usually restricted. This is actually strange in the age of information technology and social media opportunities; so many degree programmes are now run online without students seeing the four walls of a classroom. We can now also run virtual meetings without the participants physically coming together.

February 23 is a special day in the Rotary calendar because that was the day in 1905 that Rotary, a global humanitarian service organisation, was founded by Paul Harris, a Chicago attorney. The Rotary family worldwide marks the day with different activities. Here in District 9110 Nigeria, a public lecture had been planned for February 23 - venue booked; chairman, guest speaker, discussants confirmed and invitation cards printed. When we received news of the postponement, the planning committee of the event immediately reached out to all our guests to confirm a new date that was not agreeable to some of them for obvious reasons. In fact, our guest speaker and chair of the occasion have scheduled trips outside Nigeria but we had to appeal to them to accommodate the new date. Please begin to count the cost of the postponement - economic activities that are grounded at a time the economy is coming out of recession; lost time, anger, frustration, disappointment and so on. Next Saturday, we are required to just vote and sit at home; no economic activity will take place. Each time the economy is shut down, commercial activities cannot take place and the country bleeds.

I have friends who travelled so they could vote where they registered and you can imagine their sense of frustration and negative reactions to the postponement. The same thing can be said of election

monitors/observers and journalists on assignment around the country and wedding ceremonies and other events shifted from February 16 to February 23 because of the elections. I have checked with family and friends in different places, it is the same story of woes and disappointment everywhere. What will be the impact of the postponement on the elections now scheduled for February 23? Your guess is as good as mine.

I watched Prof Mahmood Yakubu, INEC chair, on television announcing the postponement of the elections and I was not impressed. I could tell from his body language that he was not sure whether he was doing the right thing - he did not appear convinced; he looked disengaged, distracted and worried. The INEC chair said the postponement was a very difficult but inevitable decision for them to take but the last minute decision is very suspicious. Prof Yakubu, the postponement at the time it was announced damages the credibility of the entire electoral process and makes us look very bad on the world stage.

How do you plan for an election that has a cycle of four years and issues of postponement would arise in this day and age? I thought it would be different this time because Prof Yakubu and his colleagues ought to know the implications of the postponement in a country where we are highly suspicious of each other. This is the same man who said many times over that there would be no postponement because INEC was fully ready to conduct the elections. So, what do we believe? As a friend noted, this is Nigeria and anything can happen.

This is precisely why we should begin to ask ourselves very hard questions about building strong institutions that can stand the test of time and protect the integrity of our democracy as well as the future of our children. The good news is that Nigerians - both at home and abroad - are becoming more aware of the roles we all have to play in the task of building a better country. The stakes in this election and in every subsequent election would be high because of the increased awareness - we need redemption to change the culture of engagement that would lead to progress and a better society.

It has never happened before in the history of this country that you will find several young presidential aspirants seeking to make a difference in the way the affairs of this country is run; it's a new culture taking root and I can predict that in the foreseeable future, the scale will tilt in favour of these 'angry young men and women' with winning mind-sets who are determined to chart a new course for Nigeria. More of their tribe would change the narrative that 'politics is a dirty game'; instead of staying away from politics, this new generation who live on ideas day and night would go into politics and take control of the destiny of our country because the world runs on ideas. Their mandate would be to tackle key issues such as unemployment, poverty and a

stagnating economy.

Their number one goal, in my view, would be to dismantle the so-called 'vested interests' holding the rest of us captive and this characteristic was demonstrated by some of the young presidential aspirants during their campaigns and media interviews - you could feel their energy, sense of purpose and vision for a better Nigeria. The answer to Nigeria's numerous problems will come from Nigerians - and that would be very soon. It might take some time to build a critical mass required but it will surely happen. May God bless Nigeria.

The director-general of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Muda Yusuf, estimated financial losses from the election delay at some \$1.5 billion. "The cost to the economy of the postponement of the election is horrendous," he was quoted as saying in the Sunday Vanguard newspaper.

In the vein, Nigerians on Sunday counted the cost of the last-minute postponement of presidential elections, with predictions the delay could lose the country billions of dollars.

The streets of Lagos, the country's sprawling commercial hub of more than 20 million people, were empty following disappointment and anger at the last-minute decision.

Some 84 million people were registered to vote for a new president and parliament on Saturday until the Independent National Electoral Commission announced a one-week delay.

The two main candidates - President Muhammadu Buhari and Atiku Abubakar - both called for calm, as INEC prepared to address logistical issues that hampered their preparations.

Despite the billions of dollars earned in oil revenue, most Nigerians live in poverty and travelling to their home towns and villages to vote is a financial sacrifice for many.

Most businesses shut down on Friday to allow employees to leave before movement restrictions were imposed throughout Saturday. Airports and land borders were also closed.

Analysts predicted that fewer people would make the trip again next week, which would make turn-out low.

The director-general of the Lagos Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Muda Yusuf, estimated financial losses from the election delay at some \$1.5 billion. "The cost to the economy of the postponement of the election is horrendous," he was quoted as saying in the Sunday Vanguard newspaper.

"The economy was on partial shutdown the day before (Friday), and total shut-down on Saturday for the elections," he added.

Economist Bismark Rewane, however, said the most important cost was to Nigeria's reputation. "Investors' confidence will be eroded," he said.

In the long term, when indirect costs were taken into account, the delay might

cost the equivalent of 2.0 to 2.5 percent of gross domestic product.

In currency terms, he assessed the possible cost of the delay at "about \$9 billion to \$10 billion".

Social media was used meanwhile to organise collections for street vendors who had bought perishable items to sell to voters that often wait in long lines.

The amount ultimately raised was unlikely to make much difference to tens of millions of people who live on less than \$1.90 a day.

INEC announced the delay at 2:45 am on Saturday, just over five hours before the nearly 120,000 polling units were due open across the country.

Yakubu said a combination of factors, including last-minute legal challenges to candidacies, bad weather and sabotage hampered the distribution of election materials. Ballot boxes and other items, including voter card readers, were destroyed in three fires at three separate INEC offices in central and southeastern states in the last two weeks.

He explained that organising elections in Africa's most populous nation of some 190 million people was an "enormous undertaking" and "operational challenges" were expected.

The election body took "full responsibility", he said but denied there had been any political interference.

The election is the sixth to be held in the 20 years since Nigeria returned to civilian rule after decades of military government.

But the delay is also not a first: in 2011, the date of general elections was pushed back twice, and notably even after voting had started.

Yakubu's predecessor as INEC chairman made the "emergency" decision after it emerged that many polling units had no election materials.

Violence that erupted after the election, which was won by Goodluck Jonathan, of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP), killed more than 1,000 across the country.

In 2015, a six-week delay was announced one week before the scheduled vote. INEC said it acted on military advice because of fighting against Boko Haram in the northeast.

A leading Nigerian civil society group, the Socio-Economic Rights and Accountability Project, on Sunday blamed successive governments for the repeated election delays.

It said there was an "increasing tendency to postpone elections... over the years" and that it would look at taking legal action against those responsible.

There have been calls online for Yakubu to resign as INEC chairman but SERAP deputy director Kolawole Oluwadare said that was a "blatant attempt by politicians to scapegoat the electoral commission" rather than the root causes.

In 2011, leading human rights lawyer Femi Falana said of that year's delay: "It is frustrating and disappointing. This is evidence of the collapse of state institutions."



# Vigilante groups in Uganda strive to protect endangered Shea nut tree

PADER, Uganda

**I**N northern Uganda, the Shea tree is cherished by the people of the land. Its usefulness varies from cultural to medicinal and the nuts are said to have the best quality of Shea butter that can be used for cosmetics.

After a two decade long rebellion in the region in 2006, youths most of them unemployed, resorted to cutting the tree because it produces the best charcoal. Best charcoal means more income.

A study conducted by Makerere University, Uganda's top university showed that in 2008, fallow land in northern Uganda had 20 Shea nut trees per 2.4 acre without any juveniles (saplings) but by 2017, their number had dropped to between 10-15 Shea nut trees.

The Ugandan government considers the Shea nut tree as one of the 35 endangered tree species in the country.

To put a halt to this, villagers in Pajule in the remote Pader district formed a vigilante group to protect the revered tree.

Patrick Janani Luwum, the head of the group, locally known as Obolokume told Xinhua in a recent interview that they meet every two weeks and members discuss matters regarding environmental conservation.

"We meet here often and talk about the dangers of indiscriminate cutting of trees for charcoal," Luwum said, noting that they have over 80 members.

The group's efforts have started paying off.

"The recent incident has been a shock to us because a local leader was involved (in cutting Shea trees). Everyone wants to know what will happen to him because he has to be held ac-

countable," Luwum said.

The local leader was last month arrested by police after he allegedly cut 32 Shea nut trees for charcoal. The arrest followed a tip off from one of the members of the vigilante group.

In most cases, culprits involved in cutting Shea nut trees are fined heavily and made to offer two animals for sacrifice as Acholi culture dictates.

Elsewhere in northern Uganda, there is an increase in the number of local environmental activists.

In Gulu district, there is a campaign by a pressure group dubbed 'Our tree, we need answers', which uses the name and shame strategy on social media to expose dubious leaders involved in commercial charcoal production.

Trucks loaded with charcoal have also been impounded by police whenever the group exposes their registration number on social media.

Arthur Owor, director at African Centre for Research, which formed the pressure group, told Xinhua in a recent interview that they have been coordinating with different vigilante groups in Nwoya, Pader and Omoro districts through outreach activities where people are sensitized about the value of protecting the environment.

Owor said there is a committee that is developing guidelines that will inform the eight districts in the region on how to regulate charcoal production.

"We need a clear regulatory framework that is in line with legislation from parliament if we are to protect our trees," Owor said.

## PLANTING FOR THE FUTURE

In Pajule, the vigilante group distributes the Shea nut tree seedlings and other species to different households. The group also uses festive days to



plant the trees as part of the restoration program.

James Okumu, one of the members of the group said they have planted more than 1,000 Shea nut trees in the last three years especially in areas where they have

been massively cut.

"We are looking out for our future generation and not immediate gains. We don't mind whether Shea nut trees take 50 years to bear fruits," Okumu said.

The group through arts, mu-

sic and drama also sensitizes the community about the importance of conserving the environment.

The group also encourages locals to grow Shea nut trees and *Afzelia africana*, and plans to open up a demonstration farm for such

endangered tree species.

Villagers have also been sensitized to dig trenches around Shea trees as fire barriers during the dry season when there is bush fires.

Xinhua

By Martin Hart-Landsberg in Hong Kong

**C**HINA'S growth rate remains impressive, even if on the decline. The country's continuing economic gains owe much to the Chinese state's still considerable ability to direct the activity of critical economic enterprises and sectors such as finance, commitment to policies of economic expansion, and flexibility in economic strategy.

It appears that China's leaders view their recently adopted One Belt, One Road Initiative as key to the country's future economic vitality. But there are reasons to believe that this strategy is seriously flawed - with working people, including in China, destined to pay a high price for its shortcomings.

China grew rapidly over the 1980s, 1990s and 2000s, with production and investment increasingly powered by the country's growing integration into regional cross-border production networks.

By 2002 China had become the world's biggest recipient of foreign direct investment and by 2009 it had overtaken Germany to become the world's biggest exporter. Not surprisingly, the Great Recession and the decline in world trade that followed represented a major challenge to the country's export-oriented growth strategy.

The government's response was to counter the effects of declining external demand with a major investment programme financed by massive money creation and low interest rates. Investment as a share of GDP rose to an all-time high of 48 percent in December 2011 and remains at over 44 percent of GDP.

But, despite the government's efforts, growth steadily declined - from 10.6 per cent in 2010 to 6.7 per cent in 2016, before registering an increase of 6.9 per cent in 2017. Later predictions were for a further decline last year. Beginning in 2012, the Chinese government began promoting the idea of a "new normal" - centred around a target rate of growth of 6.5 per cent. The government claimed that the benefits of this new normal growth rate would include greater stability and a more domestically-oriented growth process that would benefit Chinese workers.

However, in contrast to its rhetoric, the state continued to pursue a high growth rate by promoting a massive state-supported construction boom tied to policy of expanded urbanisation. New roads, railways, airports, shopping centres and apartment complexes were built.

As might be expected, such a big construction push has left the country with excess facilities and infrastructure, highlighted by a growing number of ghost

# Could China's One Belt, One Road Initiative truly be seriously flawed?



Chinese President Xi Jinping speaks on the final day of the One Belt, One Road

towns.

Six skyscrapers overlooking a huge, man-made lake once seemed like a dazzling illustration of a city's ambition, the transformation of desert on the edge of Ordos in Inner Mongolia into a gleaming residential and commercial complex to help secure its future prosperity.

At noon on a cold winter's day the reality seemed rather different. Only a handful of people could be seen entering or exiting the buildings, with hardly a trace of activity in the 42-storey skyscrapers.

The complex opened five years ago, but just three of its buildings have been sold to the city government and another is occupied by its developer, a bank and an energy company. The remaining two are empty - gates blocked and dust piled on the ground.

Ordos, however, was just one project in China's rush to urbanise. The nation used more cement in the three years from 2011 to 2013 than the United States used in the entire 20th century. Other mostly empty ghost towns can be found across China, including the Yujiapu financial district in Tianjin, the Chenggong district in Kunming

in Yunnan and Yingkou in Liaoning province. This building boom was financed by a rapid increase in debt, creating repayment concerns. Corporate debt in particular soared, but local government and household debt also grew substantially.

The boom also caused several industries to dramatically increase their scale of production, creating serious overcapacity problems. As researcher Xin Zhang points out: Over the past decade, scholars and government officials have held a stable consensus that nine traditional industries in China are most severely exposed to the excess capacity problem: steel, cement, plate glass, electrolytic aluminium, coal, ship-building, solar energy, wind energy and petrochemical. All of these nine sectors are related to energy, infrastructural construction and real estate development, reflecting the nature of a heavily investment-driven economy for China.

Not surprisingly, this situation has also led to a significant decline in economy-wide rates of return. According to Xin Zhang, despite strong overall growth performance, the capital return rate of the Chinese economy

has started to be on a sharp decline recently.

Although the results vary by different estimation methods, research in and outside China points out a recent downward trend. For example, two economists show that all through the 1980s and the first half of the 1990s, the capital return rate of the Chinese economy had been relatively stable at about 0.22, much higher than the US counterpart.

However, since the mid-1990s, the capital return rate experienced more ups and downs, until the dramatic drop to about 0.14 in 2013. Since then, the return to capital within Chinese economy has decreased even further, creating the phenomenon of a "capital glut".

In other words, it was becoming increasingly unlikely that the Chinese state could stabilise growth pursuing its existing strategy. In fact, it appears that many wealthy Chinese have decided that their best play is to move their money out of the country.

A China Economic Review article highlights this development: Since 2015, the spectre of capital flight has been haunting the Chinese economy. In that year, faced with the threat of a devaluation of its currency and an aggressive anti-corruption campaign, investors and savers began moving their wealth out of China.

The outflow was so large that the central bank was forced to spend more than \$1 trillion of its foreign exchange reserves to defend the exchange rate. The Chinese government was eventually able to dam up the flow of capital out of its borders by imposing strict capital controls, and the country's balance of payments, exchange rate and foreign currency reserves have all stabilised.

But even the largest dam cannot stop the rain; it can only keep water from flowing further downstream. There are now several signs that the conditions that originally led to the first massive wave of capital flight have returned. The strength of China's capital controls might soon be put to the test.

Chinese leaders were not blind to the mounting economic difficulties. Limits to domestic construction were apparent, as was the danger that unused buildings and factories coupled with excess capacity in key industries could easily trigger widespread defaults on the part of borrowers and threaten the stability of the financial sector.

Growing labour activism on the part of workers struggling with low salaries and dangerous working conditions added to their concern.

However, despite earlier voiced support for the notion of a "new normal" growth tied to slower but more worker-friendly and domestically-oriented economic activity, the party leadership appears to have chosen a new strategy, one that seeks to maintain the existing growth process by expanding it beyond China's national borders - its One Belt and One Road Initiative.

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# Tanzania, Uganda top EA's project funding needs this year

By Allan Olingo

**T**ANZANIA and Uganda's oil and pipeline projects will top this year's infrastructure transactions in the region, with the two countries seeking over \$7 billion funding for the projects, a new report shows.

According to Debtwire's Africa Project Finance Trend update for 2019, the oil and infrastructure sectors are the most likely to attract interest from investors and financiers this year.

Tanzania is expected to top the infrastructure transactions with the \$3.5 billion joint East Africa Crude Oil Pipeline project.

Stanbic Bank Uganda, the lead arranger for a \$2.5 billion loan, said that it expects the deal to be concluded in June 2019.

The balance of \$1 billion is expected to come from shareholders in the form of equity.

## Financial deal

In November 2018, Uganda announced that it expected to have a conclusive financial deal for the joint pipeline with Tanzania by mid-2019, paving the way for its construction after months of delays that have seen Kampala revise its oil production timelines.

Last week, Energy Minister Irene Muloni hinted that production is likely to start in 2022, a slight delay from the revised date of 2021.

Uganda discovered crude reserves more than 10 years ago, but production has been repeatedly delayed by disagreements with field operators over taxes and development strategy. A lack of infrastructure such as a pipeline and a refinery have also held up output.

"We are now looking at 2022, for our first production from the Kingfisher and Tilenga blocks," Ms Muloni told Reuters on the sidelines of the Petrotech conference in New Delhi, India, on Wednesday.

China's CNOOC and France's Total

and Tullow Oil have stakes in the two areas. CNOOC is the operator of Kingfisher block while Total leads the exploration in Tilenga.

"We are preparing for production. We have to build a pipeline for exports and a refinery to add value. So unless those two projects are done we cannot start production," said Ms Muloni.

In April 2018, Uganda signed a deal with a consortium, including a subsidiary of General Electric, to build and operate a 60,000 barrel per day refinery that will cost between \$3 billion and \$4 billion. The refinery is expected to be operational by 2023.

Ms Muloni said Uganda will announce its next exploration licensing round in May.

A final investment decision for the refinery will be taken by September 2020 and the project is expected to be completed in three years' time, she said.

The crude export pipeline through Tanzania, with a capacity to transport 260,000 barrels a day, will be built by 2022, the minister said.

## Ownership

Emmanuel Simon Gilbert, head of downstream operations at the Tanzania Development Corp, said the country expects to take a 15-25 per cent stake in the planned pipeline.

Uganda will also take a stake in the project with the majority share being held by Total, adding that the inter-governmental agreement between the two countries has to be signed before moving to the next stage of the project.

"Ugandan oil is heavy and you need to install heaters along the way at four or five different locations ... so it is a bit challenging," he said.

Kampala is waiting for the final investment decision between the governments and the oil partners to determine when the funds will be made available, the terms of the financing, and when the project execution will commence, with a projected timeline of between 30 and 36 months.



President John Magufuli interacts with his Ugandan counterpart, President Yoweri Museveni. (File photo)

The pipeline is also attracting interest from Chinese financial institutions.

Uganda is also expected to conclude financing for its \$4 billion refinery this year, after increasing its shareholding in the regional project to 19.5 per cent.

Total SA has taken up a 10 per cent stake, while Tanzania and Kenya have taken up eight per cent and 2.5 per cent respectively.

"In Uganda, we are expecting a major oil downstream transaction to approach the market in 2019," say analysts at Debtwire.

Meanwhile, Tanzanian oil and

gas companies have indicated that they will invest around the Uganda-Tanzania pipeline project, especially in Tanga municipality, which is the final destination of the pipeline.

The Tanga Municipal City Council has allocated 2,000 hectares to potential investors, and the Tanzania Ports Authority has acquired 500 hectares.

Other interested companies are Tanzania and Italia Petroleum Products Refinery, Tanzania Petroleum Development Corporation, GBP Tanzania Ltd, Mihan Gas, Simba Oil, and Ngorongoro

Petroleum.

Tanzania's Energy Minister Medard Kalemuni announced recently that the government had earmarked land for the construction of five giant storage tanks for crude in Tanga.

## Other investments

Beyond the oil and gas sector, Tanzania expects to conclude the \$3.5 billion financing deal for the construction of 1,057 kilometres of railway, being the second phase of the 2,561km standard gauge railway project.

Uganda too will, in the first

quarter of this year, issue a request for proposals for \$1.5 billion financing of the 95km the Kampala-Jinja highway project is to be built under a public-private partnership with the Ugandan government injecting \$400 million.

Kenya is expected to table a road brownfield project to upgrade more than 100km between Nairobi and Magadi, south of the capital, for \$500 million, as it also expects some progress on the second Nyali bridge project in Mombasa.

**AGENCIES**

# Experience from urban areas in Kenya in tapping potential of secondary cities

By Ben Leo

**C**ONSUMER-FOCUSED companies in Africa typically limit their focus to a handful of national capitals or major cities. This approach is understandable, given that these urban centres are dynamic economic and population hubs. Outside of these first-tier cities, actionable information becomes scarcer - and yet there are significant opportunities, particularly for companies looking to claim first-mover advantage for their specific product or service.

Rural markets should never be overlooked for this reason, but there is another critical opportunity: the fast-growing consumer potential of Africa's secondary cities.

What defines a secondary city varies by study but a good ballpark description is a city with a population that is 10 to 50 per cent of the nation's biggest city - often falling in the bracket of 500,000 to 3 million inhabitants today - and one which is largely unknown outside its country's borders.

For example, everyone is familiar with Lagos, but how many people aware of Aba - in the southeast of Nigeria? This commercial centre is home to one of Africa's top 50 concentrations of moneyed ABCI consumers, with the disposable income to purchase premium products.

As of 2017, there were 2,400 burgeoning second-tier or intermediate cities worldwide, with nearly two-thirds in Africa and Asia.

Why this matters for business is that these urban centres, not their more famous counterparts, are expanding massively in population and economic production, increasingly absorbing the urbanising masses who desire a better quality of life than they could potentially find in their capitals.

In fact, worldwide, many second-tier cities are outperforming primary urban hubs in GDP growth, with sociologist Saskia Sassen insisting that secondary cities "can be a global platform for companies' global expansion".

The big question for businesses is how to tap this potential. Secondary cities have their own problems to overcome, such as infrastructure limitations in the face of rapid growth. However, from an onlooker's perspective, the greatest



barrier is a lack of market information about them.

Fortunately, advances in digital data analysis are helping to overcome this obstacle, producing area-specific, relevant insights that penetrate much deeper than often unreliable commentary on consumer trends found at a national level.

As an example of how this approach works, Fraym set out to identify consumers with the most purchasing power in Kenya - and specifically outside Nairobi, the obvious centre for consumer activity in the country.

By weaving together satellite imagery with multiple data sources (including surveys, mobile data and remote sensing data) and then applying machine

learning algorithms to these layers of information, it was possible to find a significant number of top-tier consumers in Kisumu, Eldoret, Mombasa and Nakuru.

Further building on this insight, Eldoret, which is the capital of Uasin Gishu county and one of the largest cities in the country, stands out with a Consumer Class that is 210,000 strong.

The geospatial core of the analysis means that findings can be probed further, zooming in all the way to a neighbourhood level to identify consumer hotspots for an area as small as 1 square km. This opens the door to evaluating specific site locations for their proxim-

ity to potential customers.

Using Fraym's Kenyan example again, it was possible to assess Eldoret's Zion Mall as an appealing retail location based on drive times. Our findings? About 180,000 ABCI consumers reside within a 15-minute drive of the mall, making it a highly desirable location for companies selling higher-end goods to more affluent Kenyans.

The point is that even as African markets become ever-more competitive and crowded, with a data-centred expansion strategy, it is possible to push into new markets while minimising risk.

Companies often focus their attention on national capitals and

other dominant cities, leaving promising, unsaturated markets in secondary cities and elsewhere untapped.

By embracing the computing power of today's cloud-based digital technologies, organisations can pinpoint target consumers at the national, sub-national and local level to effectively expand their footprint - and ensure that they have a presence in place at the exact moment potential translates into actual demand.

**• Ben Leo is CEO of Fraym, a geospatial data company that delivers hyper-local insights for 50-plus African**

**countries. Their platform helps fast-growing companies, development organisations and government agencies answer high-priority questions about where to focus and how to reach specific populations. The firm's leadership has focused on the African continent for decades, holding senior positions in The White House, the African Development Bank, the Centre for Global Development, and the ONE Campaign. From offices in Lagos, Nairobi and Washington, D.C., Fraym is committed to empowering African businesses and communities through precise, localised data.**





## BUSINESS

## WARNING

## Cryptocurrencies are speculative magic beans, this South Africa finance professor believes

## CAPE TOWN

Investing in cryptocurrencies is probably the biggest financial risk South African investors can take at the moment, says professor Co-Pierre Georg. Georg lectures in finance at the University of Cape Town and is director of the university's Financial Innovation Lab.

Cryptocurrencies are electronic currencies that are transferred directly from person to person, without going through a bank. Thousands of computers across the world keep track of cryptocurrency ownership and payments.

Cryptocurrencies can be created by highly powered computers solving a series of riddles, which requires a considerable amount of computing power. The value of cryptocurrencies is determined by demand - which means the buying or selling of it on the internet can lead to massive fluctuations in values.

Georg said the risks of cryptocurrencies for investors currently far outweighs the benefits. "Market prices are manipulated and it is completely unclear in which way regulation will evolve in the coming years," Georg told Business Insider South Africa.

He said that additional regulatory scrutiny, in particular in China and the US, will lead to substantial price pressure and the failure of many, even large cryptocurrencies like Ethereum and Bitcoin. "Rather than putting their money in speculative magic beans, consumers should learn more about the technology behind it."

The South African Reserve Bank recently released a consultation paper to start the regulation of cryptocurrencies in South Africa. The authorities want to force financial providers to provide the identities of people holding cryptocurrency.

Using cryptocurrencies for illicit trade

Justine Olowande Daramola, a lecturer at the Cape Peninsula University of Technology's department of information technology, said the ability of cryptocurrencies to hide the identities of individuals involved in transactions makes it attractive to criminals.

"Since it is possible for two entities to transfer cryptocurrency to one another under a secure, authenticated, and anonymous framework that does not involve a third party, it is extremely difficult for police to trace such transactions in order to establish a basis for illegality or otherwise," Daramola told Business Insider South Africa.

"Anecdotal evidence points to the fact that cryptocurrencies have been used to perpetuate trans-border money laundering, funding of terrorist operations, and growth of illicit drug transactions through the Darknet."

She said a well-known case is the Silk Road, which is an online black market for selling illicit drugs. Daramola, however, believes the security of cryptocurrencies will improve as soon as regulatory laws come into effect which better equip countries and legal entities to combat illegal activity.

## TECH SAVVY

## Financial inclusion roll-out triggers mobile transactions of over 3trn/-

By Guardian Reporter

GOVERNMENT'S financial inclusion agenda which is being championed by mobile money platforms witnessed a surge in real time transactions which reached over 80 million valued at over 3trn/-.

In a recent report, Financial Sector Deepening Trust (FSDT) said the latest development comes at a time when instant or real-time payments are poised to become part of daily life in the not-too-distant future.

The report stated that across the world financial institutions are putting significant efforts into bringing affordable and safe instant payments systems to the market noting that in Tanzania, such systems are accessible through six mobile money issuers and over 37 commercial banks.

"Benefits of instant payment systems like in many countries worldwide, despite the success of digital financial services, the current payment system in Tanzania presents considerable challenges across the market," noted the FSDT.

The FSDT touts the revolutionary nature of instant payment system, noting its potential to provide a fast, integrated and cost-efficient clearing and settlement platform which could not only reduce costs but also increase commercial opportunities and address unmet market demands.

The report further noted that service providers face many challenges from the current interoperability model utilised in the country, including dependency on bilateral agreements, high investments needed, maintenance and transaction costs and poor liquidity management but also scalability and interchanging.

Over a decade ago, the evolution of digital financial services made an unprecedented impact on financial inclusion, providing broad distribution channels and inclusive access for millions of people around the world,



FSDT Executive Secretary, Sosthenes Kewe speaks at a past event. File photo.

reducing cash dependency, introducing new and more seamless services in the market and facilitating domestic and international money transfers, the report noted.

For all stakeholders across the financial sector in Tanzania, the

opportunities presented by an instant payment system will no doubt improve the speed and scope of the financial services which are currently offered, it added.

The FSDT report also noted that instant payment systems also

revolutionise policies and product development to realise innovative, allowing Fintechs and start-ups to build on top of the current rails as customer value is enhanced hence allowing financial service providers to focus on their strengths.

"For customers, the introduction of the real-time payments will allow transactions at any time, irrespective of provider, helping to make payments more affordable and faster, thus encouraging greater use of electronic payments," the report added.

Since 2016, many countries across the world and the African region are seeing the overriding benefits of leapfrogging longstanding barriers in pursuit of greater financial inclusion and economic growth.

"Using technology to change the landscape of the financial sector instant payment systems are transforming the financial landscape across the world, offering both short term and long-term economic benefits, expounds the FSDT on the virtues of real-time payment system," the report stressed.

Governments and banking institutions are under increasing pressure from consumers and businesses to provide real-time payment services to maximise the opportunities offered by digital financial services and achieve competitive advantage in the fast pace of change within the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the report pointed out.

For the Bank of Tanzania, the overseer of the country's monetary policy, current system presents many regulatory challenges in terms of oversight due to limited visibility of transactions, calling for integration of the payment system.

"An integrated instant payment system could support improved efficiencies in governance, safety, consumer protection and risk management for both payment service providers and end-users, as well as enhanced tax collection processes," the FSDT report concluded.

## PROMOTION

## Halotel introduces 10,000/- Royal bundle with 75pc price reduction for data, voice

By Beatrice Philemon

IN a rare feat, Halotel Tanzania has announced a 75 percent price reduction for its new 10,000/- Royal bundle for both voice and data involving local and international calls.

Addressing journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday, Halotel's Deputy Managing Director, Nguyen Van Tung said the Royal bundle service promotion period has no time limited hence urged subscribers to make the most use of it. Tung also announced the introduction of a Tomato bundle services which mainly is targeting domestic users.

"We have decided to introduce Halotel Royal Tomato bundles because one of Halotel's goals this year is to have universal communication for all people at affordable rates," Tung said while pointing out that as part of the company's business strategy, the focus is on providing the best data and voice services.

The Halotel DMD further noted that with the Royal Bundle, subscribers will also be able to get unlimited internet access while the Tomato bundle will allow them to be connected to new business opportunities with free five minutes calls to fellow Halotel subscribers.

"We hope that these products will allow Tanzanians improve their lives, get update of their businesses and partners but also access more information by connecting themselves with the world," Tung added.

Among other things, the Royal bundle is designed in such a way that with only 10,000/- one will be able to make unlimited domestic and international phone calls to India, China, Canada and the US as well as receive unlimited



Halotel Deputy Managing Director, Nguyen Van Tung and Head of Communication Department, Mhina Semwenda brandishing a bottle of Champaign during a news conference to introduce Royal and Tomato communication bundles in Dar es Salaam yesterday. Photo: Selemani Mpochi.

internet and short text messages each month but also get automatic connection when the bundle expires.

"When design our products, we put special emphasis on quality and affordability because we want our clients to enjoy seamless

communication services without being distracted," Tung stressed.

In a nutshell, the Royal bundle gives subscribers 520 minutes of voice calls across networks per month, two gigabytes of data and 500 text messages.

On the other hand, the Tomato bundle, will subscribers make free phone calls to any Halotel number for five minutes upon being registered at a cost of 8,000/- each with half of the money used by the client as airtime to cover a month.

"Since launching our services in 2015, our company has witnessed rapid growth with current coverage of 94 percent of Tanzanian population of which four million have already subscribed with us," Tung concluded.

## CYBER-SECURITY

## Uganda adds biometric ID to crime-fighting arsenal

KAMPALA

Uganda's police force has implemented Gemalto's Cogent Automated Biometric Identification System (CABIS) and LiveScan technology solutions. Although not the first in Africa, it is the first CABIS deployment in East Africa said Rita Badaoui, Marketing Manager-CISMEDIA at Gemalto.

"This is a state of art, CABIS system will be intensively used by UPF in their daily operations," said Badaoui. It provides most recent tools and technologies in terms of biometrics solutions that will allow UPF to effectively fight crime and solve criminal cases and identify criminals upon request."

CABIS is a multi-biometric tool that is scalable and customisable to perform a range of tasks that include processing, editing, searching, retrieving, and storing fingerprint, palm print, face and iris images.

All data is then digitally stored by authorities to improve their ability to identify suspects. Badaoui says system will be fully operated by the local police force, but Gemalto will offer its expertise towards ongoing support and maintenance.

Gemalto is working with ISSUL as a local partner to assist in the installation, project support and maintenance of the technology. Badaoui would not comment on the cost of the project but said the deployment is not in any way connected to the Border Management System (BMS) that Gemalto supplied to Uganda earlier this year.

TRAP

# External debt continues to spiral upwards

By Guardian Reporter

The country's external debt stock rose by \$119.3 million between November and December last year, Bank of Tanzania (BoT) has reported.

In its Monthly Economic Review for January, BoT said the external debt which comprises of both public and private sectors, peaked to \$21,045.8 million as of December 2018.

The amount is also higher by \$1,865.6 million year on year compared to that of December 2017. "The increase in both periods was on account of new disbursements and appreciation of the US dollar against other currencies in which the debt is denominated," the Central Bank said in the MER.

Breaking down the debt, BoT stated that central government debt which accounted for 75.9 per cent of the total external debt stock, increased by \$189.1 million during the period.

In terms of creditor category, much of the external debt is owed to multilateral institutions and commercial banks. The Central Bank further stated that regarding use of disbursed funds, much of it was invested in transport and telecommunication, energy and social welfare plus education sectors.

External debt disbursed in December 2018 amounted to \$183.2 million, all of which was received by the central government.

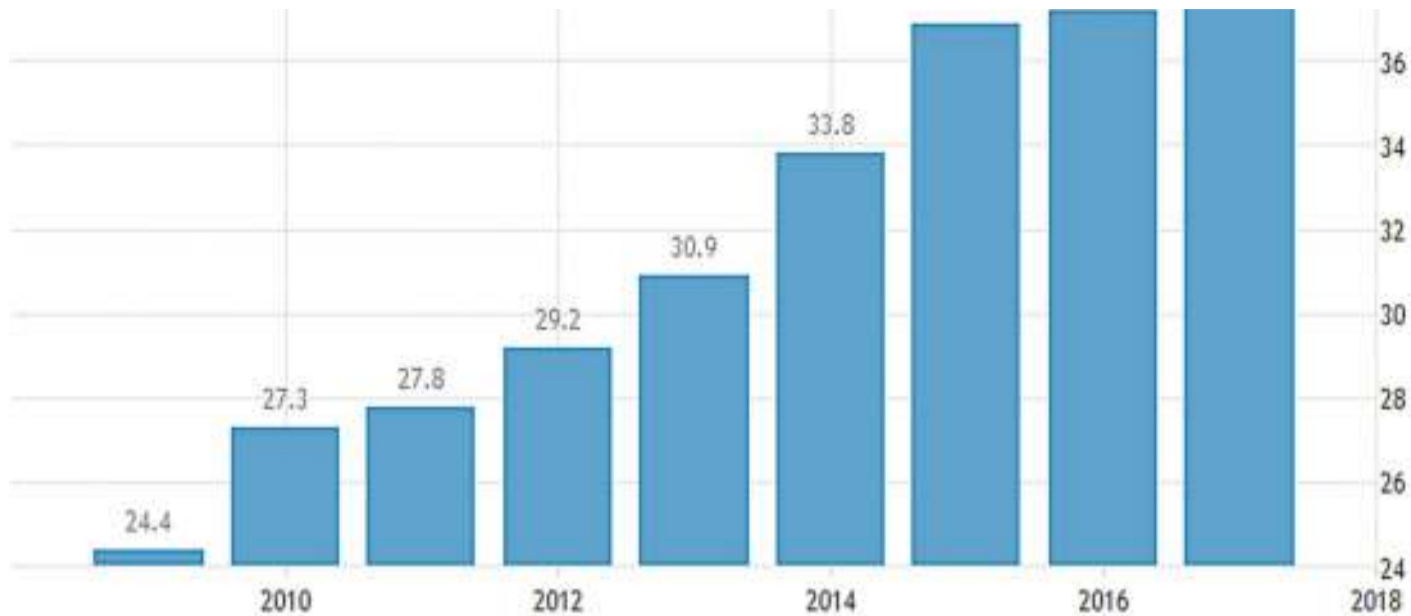
For the year ending December 2018, external debt disbursed amounted to \$1,753.9 million, of which the public got \$1,528.8

million while the balance went to the private sector.

The MER indicated the government used \$150.3 million to service its debt in December 2018 of which \$108.3 million was principal repayment and the balance was interest charge.

According to BoT, external debt service in the year ending December 2018 amounted to \$1,071.3 million, of which the principal repayment was \$769.6 million with the balance being interest payments.

On the other hand, the domestic debt stock for the period was 14,631.4bn/- which depicted an increase of 204.6bn/- and 1,220.2bn/- from the levels recorded at the end of the preceding month and the corresponding period in 2017, respectively.



Graphic presentation of the country's debt to gross domestic product by 2018.



A natural gas drilling rig offshore Mtwara region. File photo.

HARMONIZATION

## SADC moves to exploit natural gas across the region

WINDHOEK

The SADC interstate natural gas committee is set to meet in March this year to approve and review the Terms of Reference (TORs) master plan for development of natural gas reserves within the region.

The regional inter-state natural gas committee, which was launched in 2017 at the SADC summit in South Africa, has been pushing the promotion of natural gas in the regional energy mix ever since its establishment.

The committee, which is currently in the process of developing TORs for the development of the regional gas master plan and mobilising resources from the prospective cooperating partners, is hoping to conclude the plan by March this year when it meets at a venue yet to be announced.

The SADC Secretariat in June last year began a journey to extract natural gas across the region. Southern Africa is believed to be sitting on natural gas reserves of about 600 trillion cubic feet and this could reduce heavy reliance on biomass energy once fully exploited.

The reserves remain largely untapped due to lack of capital, feasibility studies and plans to extract the gas. Only South Africa and Mozambique have so far begun exploiting some of the natural gas reserves in those countries.

Speaking at the 37th SADC Summit in Pretoria in 2017, the

then South African President Jacob Zuma said the discovery and exploitation of natural gas in the region should constitute the backbone of SADC's regional economic integration. He urged the region to develop the natural gas reserves as soon as possible to accelerate the region's development.

In an interview this week, SADC senior public relations officer and spokesperson, Barbra Lopi, said the committee secretariat is working day and night to make sure the mission of the committee is accomplished.

"The SADC Inter-State Committee has continued to make progress such as developing the terms of reference (TORs) for the committee which have approved by the Committee of Ministers responsible for Energy," Lopi said.

"The plan is to convene the first meeting in 2019/2020. The member states have the prerogative to nominate representatives. So far the secretariat received names from the Ministries and Departments for Energy, Energy Regulators, national oil companies and some national power utilities," she added.

"The Secretariat is currently developing TORs for the development of the Regional Gas Master Plan and mobilising resources from the prospective cooperating partners. The master plan will propose some projects to be undertaken as pilot projects and others in a short, medium and long term," Lopi said.

The plan is to convene the meetings of the Inter-State Gas Committee during 2019/2020 financial year. However, the member states, through Energy Subcommittees, met in December 2018 to discuss among other issues the development of the Regional Gas Master Plan and held a consultative workshop with the private sector on 'SADC Regional natural gas resources for Industrial Growth and Sustainable Development' in Windhoek, Namibia on 11 December 2018.

"In addition, another extraordinary meeting of senior energy officials to operationalise the committee and approve the TORs for development of the gas master plan is scheduled for March 2019," Lopi added.

The SADC inter regional natural gas committee has a big task ahead, as according to the SADC Energy Monitor, the contribution of gas to the regional energy mix is still very minimal, accounting for a mere 1.3 percent of the total power generation mix, despite the fact that Southern Africa has some of the largest deposits of gas in the world.

The east coast of the SADC region has emerged in the past few years as one of the brightest spots on the global energy landscape, with large natural gas finds in Mozambique and Tanzania. Exploration has taken place in other SADC member states although the exact amounts of reserves are unknown.

OPTIMISM

## Moody's likely to upgrade Mozambique's ratings if country enters IMF program

MAPUTO

Moody's rating agency said on Monday that it would likely upgrade Mozambique's ratings if, "after the completion of the current restructuring," the country entered an IMF program.

"Moody's would likely upgrade Mozambique's ratings if, after the completion of the current restructuring, it entered an IMF program that provided credible financial backing and increased the likelihood of reforms that improved government and policy effectiveness, thereby limiting future default risk for creditors," Moody's says.

In the report accompanying

the explanation of the decision to maintain the country's rating at Caa3 (default) but improve the Economy's Evolution Outlook from Negative to Stable, Moody's says the restructuring of the US\$727.5 million sovereign debt and the adoption of an IMF financial program would "would involve improved prospects for debt sustainability, as measured by the Fund."

"Today's decision [Friday, February 15] primarily reflects Moody's expectation that in the restructuring of Mozambique's sole outstanding international bond currently under negotiation, bondholders will likely incur losses as defined by the agency consistent

with a Caa3 rating, reads the accompanying note disclosure of the decision.

"The stable outlook reflects Moody's assessment that the risks around the eventual losses on the 2023 bond currently in default are broadly balanced, either side of a 20% to 35% range consistent with a Caa3 rating."

"Even if the restructuring negotiations are derailed, the ultimate loss would likely remain within the 20%-35% range," Moody's estimates. On the other hand, "if investors were to reject the current terms, it is unlikely investors would countenance significantly larger losses than 35% in a subsequent negotiation," Moody's notes.

PLEA

## Ease up on tobacco tax, farmers plead with Mboweni

JOHANNESBURG

The Black Tobacco Farmers Association has pleaded with Finance Minister Tito Mboweni not to announce an increase in taxes on cigarettes, saying jobs on tobacco farms depend on it.

Mboweni will table his first Budget speech in the National Assembly on Wednesday afternoon. Sin taxes on products including alcohol and tobacco have long been a target of the Budget to increase revenue collections.

Many business formations and economy think tanks have asked that Mboweni not increase corporate taxes, as companies are battling an under-performing economy.

Illicit trade first

The letter from the Black Tobacco Farmers Association said the illicit cigarette trade placed more than 10 000 jobs at risk and

cost the fiscus R25m in lost taxes daily. The letter said the current incapacity by the SA Revenue Service (SARS) to effectively tackle the illicit trade of cigarettes was an affront to all efforts aimed at protecting farms from a threat of job losses.

"Illicit trade, as well as an impending threat to increase excise taxes yet again, poses a risk to the entire tobacco value chain, especially emerging farmer programmes that have developed small scale tobacco farmers and improved their livelihoods," the letter said.

Association chair Ntando Sibisi said more excise duties would do nothing but cause tobacco trade to grow even more. "We just want to add our voice and request the Minister ahead of him tabling his budget that we would like to see a SARS that will take tackling the illicit trade of cigarettes more se-

riously before excise taxes are increased further," Sibisi said.

Sibisi said, under the current economic conditions, an excise increase would drive more consumers to go for cheaper non-tax paying cigarettes.

"Illicit trade is partly caused by high excise taxes and is killing any progress that we have made over the years to create jobs and maintain jobs that have uplifted our communities. The future of tobacco farming, which provides a sustainable income for thousands of families, rests upon whether our concerns are taken seriously," said Sibisi.

As demand for the sector is in rapid decline, the BTFAs main objectives include protecting and prioritising the interests of Emerging Black Tobacco Farmers and ensuring their continued development and sustainability.

DETERMINATION

The US cannot crush us, says Huawei founder Ren Zhengfei



Ren Zhengfei, founder and chief executive of Huawei Technologies.

BEIJING

The founder of beleaguered Huawei, China's largest tech company, said there is "no way the US can crush" the firm, even as it remains embroiled in a string of criminal allegations from Washington.

Ren Zhengfei told the BBC the arrest of his daughter Meng Wanzhou, Huawei's chief financial officer, while she was transiting in Canada on her way to Mexico, was politically motivated, in his first international television interview since her detention in December.

The US is pursuing criminal charges against Huawei and Ms Meng, including money laundering, bank fraud, stealing trade secrets and violating US trade sanctions against Iran. Ms Meng and Huawei deny any wrongdoing.

"Firstly, I object to what the US has done," Mr Ren

told the BBC. "This kind of politically motivated act is not acceptable...The US likes to sanction others, whenever there's an issue, they'll use such combative methods. We object to this. But now that we've gone down this path, we'll let the courts settle it."

Last week, US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo issued a threat to the country's allies urging them not to use Huawei technology as it would make it more difficult for Washington to "partner alongside them."

Australia, New Zealand and the US have already banned or blocked Huawei from supplying equipment for their planned 5G (ultra-fast) mobile broadband networks, while Canada is reviewing whether Huawei's products present a serious threat to security.

The UK's National Cyber Security Centre has stated that any risk posed by using Huawei technology in UK telecoms projects can be managed. Vodafone, EE and Three are

among UK mobile companies that are working with Huawei to develop 5G networks.

Many of the UK's mobile companies, including Vodafone, EE and Three, are working with Huawei to develop 5G networks. A government review is due in the spring that is supposed to determine whether they can use Huawei technology.

During his interview with the BBC, Mr Ren dismissed suggestions that the company faces rising pressure from the US and other global governments. "There's no way the US can crush us," he said. "The world cannot leave us, because we are more advanced. Even if they persuade more countries not to use us temporarily, we can always scale things down a bit."

He also said the "East will still shine", even if "the lights go out" in the West. "And if the North goes dark, there is still the South. America doesn't represent the world. America

only represents a portion of the world." However, he said the potential loss of business could have a significant impact.

Even if the UK instigates a ban on using Huawei technology following the Spring review, Mr Ren said Huawei would continue to invest in the UK. "We still trust in the UK, and we hope that the UK will trust us even more," he said.

"We will invest even more in the UK. Because if the US doesn't trust us, we will shift our investment from the US to the UK on an even bigger scale."

According to the company's 2017 annual report, Huawei derived 50 per cent of its revenue from China, which was followed by Europe, the Middle East and Africa as one unit (27 per cent), Asia Pacific in third place (12.3 per cent), the Americas in fourth (6.5 per cent) and other markets accounting for 3.5 per cent of total sales.

RELIEF

EU's big food producers look to Middle East to reduce hard Brexit exposure

DUBAI

EU countries are looking to markets like the UAE and Middle East to reduce their exposure to a hard Brexit, a senior Irish food board figure has said.

The prospect of a hard Brexit - in which the UK would give up full access to the single market and the customs union in its exit from the European Union - has led many of the country's trading partners to look elsewhere for opportunities, said Michael Hussey, senior manager with Bord Bia, the food board of Ireland.

"We are seeing a lot more companies interested in this market in particular because they are trying to diversify away from the UK market especially if there's a hard Brexit," said Mr Hussey during the Gulf food exhibition in Dubai.

"There are 60,000 tonnes of cheddar cheese that goes into the UK from Ireland every year. If there is a hard Brexit there and a tariff is imposed, the prices will be prohibitive."

He said that Ireland currently ships 40 per cent of its global food exports to the UK, which meant that a hard Brexit and the import tariffs that would come with that would have serious implications for his home country.

But Mr Hussey said Ireland, which is

Europe's 10th largest agri-food exporter, has become less dependent on trade deals with the UK in recent years.

"The possibility of a hard Brexit has really concentrated the minds in Ireland. However, this was a process that had to happen," said Mr Hussey, who previously had been Bord Bia's regional manager for the Middle East.

"15 years ago Ireland had 55 per cent of its exports being sent to the UK. "Now we have managed to get that figure down to 40 per cent." He said there had been a host of Irish companies who had expressed interest in doing more business with the UAE. "The Middle East is a key market for us, especially the UAE and Saudi Arabia," he said.

Coffee and dates on show at the Saudi pavilions of the Gulf food exhibition at the Dubai World Trade Centre. Reem Mohammed/The National "This market imports 90 per cent of its food so it makes it a key market for us."

Singapore was another country that was at Gulf food as an opportunity to target the UAE and GCC markets. Nael Islam, Enterprise Singapore's regional group director for the Mena region, said that his country's cosmopolitan population, which was renowned for fusing different kinds of Asian cuisine with other dishes, made it a perfect fit for the multicultural UAE market.



Coffee and dates on show at the Saudi pavilions of the Gulf food exhibition at the Dubai World Trade Centre.



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Table with columns for days of the week (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday) and corresponding TV show schedules with times and titles.





WORLD



This map shows the Silk Road Economic Belt and the 21st Century Maritime Silk Road, collectively known as the Belt and Road Initiative. (XINHUA)

BRI driving world growth, connectivity, analysts say

BEIJING

THE Belt and Road Initiative is expected to strengthen connectivity, boost economies and raise people's living standards in countries and regions that are involved in the initiative, analysts from different countries said.

The initiative, first proposed by President Xi Jinping in 2013, aims to build stronger links among nations across the globe.

Fabienne Bossuyt, assistant professor at Ghent University in Belgium, said the influence of the initiative will be clear in the field of connectivity in Central Asia and Europe, especially in the Balkans and in central and eastern parts of Europe.

In Central Asia, the BRI's influence also is strong in local transport infrastructure. For one, China is investing in the improvement of local roads, which is having direct economic effects and helping to increase living standards, she said.

In his new book *The New Silk Roads: The Present and Future of the World*, Oxford University historian Peter Frankopan said that China has taken many steps in preparation for a more open view of the world. It has invested in many infrastructure projects, despite criticism that some haven't yet performed well financially.

"These projects, for the large part, do have the capability to raise living standards, to boost economies, to do the kinds of things that large-scale international development does," he said.

Global trade credit insurance company Euler Hermes said in a recent research report that trade in merchandise between China and other countries involved in the initiative will add US\$117 billion to global trade and contribute 0.3 percentage point to global trade growth this year. It would also add 0.1 percentage point to global GDP, it said.

The report said China's exports to BRI partners may increase by US\$56 billion in 2019, with top export destinations including South Korea, members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and Russia.

BRI countries' exports to China are set to grow by US\$61 billion in 2019, driven by stronger trade integration with China, and South Korea is looking like a primary beneficiary, it said.

The BRI will also increase China's investments overseas, and markets that have benefitted the most are mainly

those located in Asia and Europe, with Pakistan, Malaysia and Russia being major beneficiaries, it said.

Mahamoud Islam, senior economist for Asia at Euler Hermes, said the biggest opportunities will be in ASEAN and Eastern European markets, which have countries large enough to attract lots of interest by investors.

Economic growth in those markets is generally stronger than in other regions, and the business environment is also relatively better, which would add to investor interest, he said.

Still, the initiative's implementation will not be easy since it still needs to address challenges such as financing capabilities and legal and regulatory issues, he added.

Bossuyt said that she expects great potential in the connectivity between China and Europe under the BRI.

The strongest added value of cooperation between China and the European Union would be in the combination of their comparative advantages: the EU's focus on soft infrastructure such as education and China's focus on hard infrastructure such as means of transportation, she said.

The initiative also is expected to provide great economic momentum in the Asia-Pacific region, she said.

Amitendu Palit, senior research fellow and research lead on trade and economic policy at the Institute of South Asian Studies in the National University of Singapore, said that given the scope and the number of countries involved, the BRI has the potential to establish a new global economic center of gravity in the region with its huge cross-border physical and digital infrastructure projects.

"The BRI proposes a multicountry connectivity plan with various infrastructure projects already underway," he said. He added that other connectivity initiatives in this region should work to complement rather than compete against the BRI.

Frankopan said it has been worth the effort to explain that it is worth writing books about BRI and explaining to the world about this initiative and what does it mean for other countries. "Particularly in places like India, Pakistan, Iran, Russia and so on."

He said that the US seems to be positioning itself in its relationship with Africa and with Asia purely to oppose China's initiative. "The United States is highly critical of it, but they don't turn up with any alternatives."

Xinhua

Huawei founder says CFO arrest was politically motivated



This undated file photo shows Huawei founder Ren Zhengfei speaking at the company's headquarters in Shenzhen on March 5, 2016. (XINHUA)

HUAWEI founder Ren Zhengfei said on Monday that the arrest of his daughter, Huawei Chief Financial Officer Meng Wanzhou, was politically motivated.

Canada arrested Meng on Dec 1 at the request of the United States. Meng was charged with bank and

wire fraud to violate American sanctions against Iran. "Firstly, I object to what the US has done. This kind of politically motivated act is not acceptable," Ren told the BBC in an interview.

Commenting on the spying concerns, the Huawei founder reiterated that the company will "never under-

take" any spying activities.

Ren also said the company could downgrade to weather attempts by the United States calling for its allies not to use Huawei's technology.

"The world cannot leave us because we are more advanced. Even if they (US) persuade more countries not to use us temporarily, we can always scale things down a bit", he added.

In comments on a potential ban in the United Kingdom, Ren said it would not make the company withdraw its UK investments, adding that it will shift its investments to the UK from the US if US actions against Huawei continue.

"We will invest even more in the UK. Because if the US doesn't trust us, then we will shift our investment from the US to the UK on an even bigger scale," Ren said.

Reuters reported earlier on Monday that British security officials do not support a full ban of Huawei from national telecoms networks despite US allegations against the Chinese firm.

Xinhua



US deputy attorney general to step down in March

WASHINGTON

ROD Rosenstein, the US deputy attorney general who appointed a special counsel to investigate possible ties between Russia and President Donald Trump's campaign, is expected to step down by mid-March, a Justice Department official said on Monday.

Rosenstein had been expected to depart shortly after new Attorney General William Barr assumed office. Barr was confirmed for the role by the US Senate last week.

The Justice official said Rosenstein's departure was not related to renewed allegations that he considered wearing a wire in meetings with Trump and using the 25th amendment of the US Constitution to remove the president from office.

Rosenstein, the No 2 official at the Justice Department, in May 2017 named Special Counsel Robert Mueller to investigate ties between Trump's 2016 presidential election campaign and Moscow. The investigation continues. A registered Republican, Rosenstein made the decision because his then-boss, former Attorney General Jeff Sessions, a Trump supporter during the 2016 campaign, had recused himself from the issue.

Last September, the New York Times reported Rosenstein in 2017 had suggested secretly recording Trump and recruiting Cabinet members to oust the president using the provisions of the Constitution's 25th Amendment.

In an interview broadcast on Sunday with CBS News "60 Minutes," former acting FBI Director Andrew McCabe confirmed the Times account that Rosenstein considered wearing a wire in meetings with Trump.

Rosenstein said both the Times story and McCabe's account were "inaccurate and factually incorrect," which a Justice Department spokeswoman reiterated after the "60 Minutes" interview.

Earlier on Monday Trump accused both McCabe and Rosenstein of planning a "very illegal act," which he described in a tweet as "illegal and treasonous."

Agencies

US states sue Trump administration in showdown over border wall funds

WASHINGTON

A COALITION of 16 U.S. states led by California sued President Donald Trump and top members of his administration on Monday to block his decision to declare a national emergency to obtain funds for building a wall along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The lawsuit filed in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California came after Trump invoked emergency powers on Friday to help build the wall that was his signature 2016 campaign promise.

Trump's order would allow him to spend on the wall money that Congress appropriated for other purposes. Congress declined to fulfill his request for \$5.7 billion to help build the wall this year.

"Today, on Presidents Day, we take President Trump to court to block his misuse of presidential power," California Attorney General Xavier Becerra said in a statement.

"We're suing President Trump to stop him from unilaterally robbing taxpayer funds lawfully set aside by Congress for the people of our states. For most of us, the office of the presidency is not a place for theater," added Becerra, a Democrat.

The White House declined to comment on the filing.



President Donald Trump

In a budget deal passed by Congress to avert a second government shutdown, nearly \$1.4 billion was allocated toward border fencing. Trump's emergency order would give him an additional \$6.7 billion beyond what lawmakers authorized.

Three Texas landowners and an environmental group filed the first lawsuit against Trump's move on Friday, saying it violated the Constitution and would infringe on their property rights.

The legal challenges could slow Trump's efforts to build the wall, which he says is needed to curb illegal immi-

gration and drug trafficking. The lawsuits could end up at the conservative-leaning U.S. Supreme Court.

Colorado, Connecticut, Delaware, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Maryland, Minnesota, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Virginia, and Michigan joined California in the lawsuit.

The states said Trump's order would cause them to lose millions of dollars in federal funding for national guard units dealing with counter-drug activities and redirection of funds from authorized military construction projects would damage their economies.

In television interviews on Sunday and Monday, Becerra said the lawsuit would use Trump's own words against him as evidence that there was no national emergency to declare.

Trump said on Friday he did not need to make the emergency declaration but wanted to speed the process of building the wall. That comment could undercut the government's legal argument.

"By the president's own admission, an emergency declaration is not necessary," the states said in the lawsuit. "The federal government's own data prove there is no national emergency at the southern border that warrants construction of a wall."

Agencies

Senior Russian senator to meet with Venezuelan deputy foreign minister

MOSCOW

RUSSIAN Federation Council (the upper house of parliament) Foreign Affairs Committee Chairman Konstantin Kosachev plans to meet with Venezuelan Deputy Foreign Minister Ivan Gil on February 22, the Federation Council's press service said.

"We will discuss the current situation in Venezuela, bilateral relations in these crisis conditions and ways to support the foundations of international law using parliamentary tools," Kosachev (pictured) told TASS.



Crisis in Venezuela On January 23, Juan Guaido, Ven-

ezuelan opposition leader and parliament speaker, whose appointment to that position had been cancelled by the country's Supreme Court, declared himself interim president at a rally in the country's capital of Caracas.

Several countries, including the United States, Lima Group members (excluding Mexico), Australia, Albania, Georgia and Israel, as well as the Organization of American States, recognized him. Maduro, in turn, blasted the move as a coup staged by Washington and said he was severing diplo-

matic ties with the US.

In contrast, Russia, Belarus, Bolivia, Iran, Cuba, Nicaragua, El Salvador, Syria and Turkey voiced support for Maduro, while China called for resolving all differences peacefully and warned against foreign interference. The United Nations secretary general, in turn, called for dialogue to resolve the crisis.

On February 4, most of the European Union member states recognized Guaido as Venezuela's interim president.

Agencies

US, DPRK consider exchanging liaison officers - report

WASHINGTON

THE United States discussed exchanging liaison officers with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK), U.S. media reported on Monday.

Washington and Pyongyang were seriously considering exchanging liaison officers, an incremental step toward building formal diplomatic relations, according to a CNN report citing two

high-level diplomatic sources.

The sources said that if this plan were to move forward, there would be several U.S. liaison officers sent to set up an office in Pyongyang, led by a senior foreign service officer who speaks Korean. U.S. State Secretary Mike Pompeo said in an interview last week that a U.S. work team would travel to Asia to prepare for the upcoming summit between President Donald Trump and top leader of the DPRK Kim Jong

Un in Hanoi at the end of February.

Stephen Biegun, U.S. special representative for DPRK affairs, said last month that the U.S. side expected to hold working-level negotiations with DPRK in advance of the summit with the intention of achieving a set of concrete deliverables, reiterating that sanctions against the DPRK would not be removed until denuclearization is complete.

Trump announced on Feb. 8 that his

second meeting with Kim would take place in Hanoi on Feb. 27-28. He met with Kim for the first time in Singapore on June 2018, reaching several consensus, which have led to the improvement of U.S.-DPRK relations.

However, differences on such key issues as the roadmap of denuclearization, U.S. lifting sanctions and whether to issue a war-ending declaration, still haunt the two sides and hinder negotiations.

Agencies

China's efforts on ivory ban yield results, receive global applause

NAIROBI

CHINA'S efforts to ban ivory trade have received worldwide acclaim as the effects of its strict measures are starting to be felt.

A nationwide prohibition has drastically brought down sales and demand for ivory since 2017 in China, once the world's largest ivory market, garnering appreciation from international organizations and conservationists.

"On behalf of the government of Kenya and the 32-member Coalition (African Elephant Coalition), I express our collective gratitude to China for closing its domestic ivory market," the Kenya Wildlife Service tweeted on Saturday, quoting Najib Balala, cabinet secretary of the Ministry of Tourism and Wild Life of Kenya.

According to data released by China's General Administration

of Customs, in 2018, China's customs seized 25,671 endangered species and their products, including ivory items weighing 800 kg in total.

"China has set an example for the world in wildlife protection and shown the determination of a responsible stakeholder on the global stage," said Dr. Sun Quan-hui, a science officer of World Animal Protection, a United Nations general consultative organi-

zation.

During a survey in 2018, only 12 percent of respondents claim to have purchased ivory in the past six months compared to 26 percent of respondents who reported doing so in a similar 2017 pre-ban survey, a 54 percent decline, according to a report released by TRAFFIC, a wildlife trade monitoring network, and the World Wildlife Fund (WWF) in September 2018.

"We are encouraged by the decline in both trade and consumer demand since the ban went into effect, but there's still work needed to address the persistent demand and lack of awareness among consumers in some parts of the country," said Jan Vertefeuille, a senior director for advocacy at the WWF.

Last month, as part of a three-year initiative, China partnered with WildAid and the WWF and

launched a new round of public

campaign to inform travelers that purchasing ivory products is driving certain species towards extinction and smuggling ivory could result in a life sentence, so as to improve public awareness of wildlife protection.

China has been intensifying its efforts in wildlife protection over the years. On Dec. 31, 2016, China declared it would enforce a complete stop to its domestic ivory

Xinhua



The initiative, first proposed by President Xi Jinping in 2013, aims to build stronger links among nations across the globe.



Caster Semenya

## Semenya releases list of experts for battle with IAAF at CAS

LAUSANNE, SWITZERLAND

CASTER Semenya has released a list of experts she will call in her appeal hearing at the Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) this week in her fight against regulations aimed at lowering the testosterone levels of hyperandrogenic athletes like her.

The South African 800-metres double Olympic champion on Monday expressed her disappointment after the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) revealed the names of their five witnesses for the proceedings in Lausanne.

She called it a breach of confidentiality rules ahead of a five-day appeal that could have far reaching consequences for sport. The IAAF deny any wrongdoing.

She will call on a range of experts from various fields, and used the announcement of their names, through her lawyers, to reiterate her stance on the IAAF's proposed regulations.

"The IAAF regulations do not empower anyone," the statement said. "Rather, they represent yet another flawed and hurtful attempt to police the sex of female athletes."

"Ms Semenya's courage and perseverance in her fight to run free is an inspiration to young athletes in her home country of South Africa and around the globe."

The IAAF regulations stipulate that women with elevated testosterone take medication to reduce their level before being allowed to compete, but only in the middle-distance events of between 400- and 1500-metres where it is claimed the advantage is most felt.

IAAF President Sebastian Coe told reporters on Monday that the regulations are aimed at leveling the field between hyperandrogenic athletes and those with normal levels of testosterone.

The IAAF's previous attempts to regulate testosterone in female athletes fell foul of a CAS ruling in 2015 following an appeal on behalf of Indian Dutee Chand, who had been banned from competing because of her high levels.

CAS claimed in their judgment that the IAAF had not provided sufficient evidence that hyperandrogenic athletes gained a significant advantage due to their testosterone count.

A verdict could take up to a month, according to CAS.

The experts who will testify in support of Semenya are listed as:

- Prof Veronica Gomez-Lobo, Obstetrics and Gynecology at Georgetown University and the Director of the DSD (Differences of Sexual Development) Clinic at the Children's National Health System in Washington, DC.

- Dr Alun Williams, Director of the Sports Genomics Laboratory at Manchester Metropolitan University.

- Professor Eric Vilain, specialist in gender-based and endocrine genetics, including DSD, who has consulted to the International Olympic Committee (IOC).

- Professor Roger Pielke Jr, director of the Sports Governance Center at the University of Colorado.

- Professor Dankmar Böhning, Chair in Medical Statistics at the University of Southampton.

- Professor Richard Holt, expert in Diabetes and Endocrinology at the University of Southampton.

- Professor Anthony C Hackney, University of North Carolina, with joint appointments in the Department of Exercise and Sport Science and the Department of Nutrition School of Public Health.

- Dr Lih-Mei Liao, clinical and health psychologist in the United Kingdom who has worked extensively with women diagnosed with a range of DSD conditions.

- Dr Payoshni Mitra, teaches Sport Sociology at Birkbeck College, University of London and works closely with athletes with hyperandrogenism and DSD from the Southern Hemisphere.

- Ashley LaBrie, Executive Director of AthletesCAN, an independent organization that represents the interests of all national team athletes in Canada.

REUTERS



Exim Bank Head of Marketing and Communication, Stanley Kafu (C), presents the Rotary Golf Tournament's trophy to Michael Rotich (3rd R), after the latter had emerged as the overall winner of the competition, which took place in Arusha over the weekend. Exim Bank sponsored the competition. PHOTO: COURTESY OF EXIM BANK

## Box Office: 'Alita: Battle Angel' wins dismal Presidents Day weekend

LOS ANGELES

FOX's sci-fi adventure "Alita: Battle Angel" dominated in North America, but its opening weekend win isn't leaving the box office with much to celebrate. Tracking services estimate that this will be one of the lowest grossing Presidents Day weekends in years. "Alita," the cyberpunk CGI spectacle, earned \$27 million when it debuted in 3,790 locations and \$33 million over the four-day frame. Since opening on Thursday, the movie has generated \$41 million at the domestic market.

It came in slightly ahead of expectations heading into the weekend, but "Alita: Battle Angel" still has a lengthy uphill battle to become profitable. Directed by Robert Rodriguez and produced by James Cameron, the Japanese manga adaptation cost over \$170 million to produce – and that's not including the tens of millions spent in marketing.

With that said, it looks like the studio made the right decision pushing back "Alita's" release date. Fox originally intended to drop the movie in December, where it would have competed with a lineup that included "Aquaman," "Mary Poppins Returns," and "Bumblebee."

By doing so, "Alita" avoided getting steamrolled by a "Mortal Engines," Universal's sci-fi epic that flopped in spectacular fashion when it debuted right around that time. In its first weekend, "Alita" has already passed the entire domestic haul of "Mortal Engines," the \$100 million movie that stalled out with \$15 million in North America.

Another promising sign? Unlike critics, audiences seem to be enjoying "Alita: Battle Angel." Moviegoers branded the blockbuster with a promising A- CinemaScore, suggesting that positive word of mouth could lead to a long life in theaters. "Alita" certainly didn't set any



Cast member Rosa Salazar poses at the premiere for the movie "Alita: Battle Angel" in Los Angeles, California, U.S., February 5, 2019. REUTERS

new President's Day weekend records, but it did benefit from its new release date that saw most kids out of school over the holiday. The movie will now bank on international markets to get "Alita" out of the red.

The movie is resonating overseas, where it pulled in \$56 million this weekend when it opened in most major foreign markets. That takes its international bounty to \$94 million. It opens in China and Japan on Feb. 22.

"Alita: Battle Angel" just barely fended off Warner Bros.' "The Lego Movie 2: The Second Part." Last weekend's champ dropped to the No. 2 spot, adding another \$21.2 million for a domestic haul of \$62.6 million.

The animated sequel based on the popular kids toys has hefty competition on the horizon. Next weekend sees the release of "How to Train Your Dragon: The Hidden World" and Disney's "Captain Marvel" not far behind. All three

titles are targeting younger audiences.

In third place is Warner Bros. and New Line's "Isn't It Romantic." The satirical take on a romantic comedy benefited from opening ahead of Valentine's Day, with \$14.2 million during its first four days of release. Rebel Wilson and Liam Hemsworth star in the flick about a woman whose life begins to play out like a PG-13 romantic comedy (the horror!) after getting hit on the head.

Fellow new release "Happy Death Day 2U" didn't fare as well from the holiday. Universal and Blumhouse's slasher sequel launched in fifth place with \$9.8 million over the weekend. Its \$11.4 million bounty since opening on Wednesday is almost half of what tracking services estimated heading into the weekend.

It's also a steep decline from the predecessor, "Happy Death Day," which bowed with \$26 million. The good news, at least, is the movie

only cost \$9 million so it won't take much for "Happy Death Day 2U" to end up in the black.

Paramount's gender-bending remake, "What Men Want" came in fourth place, bringing in \$10.8 million during its second outing.

On the indie front, MGM's "Fighting With My Family" brought in \$131,625 over the three-day frame and is expected to make \$163,584 through Monday. It generated the best screen average of the weekend with \$40,896 per location. The Dwayne Johnson-produced WWE drama expands nationwide next weekend.

To nobody's surprise, ticket sales are down almost 60 percent from last year when "Black Panther" delivered a record-breaking \$202 million debut. The rest of February will make for tough comparisons since Marvel's more inclusive take on the superhero genre generated a massive \$700 million during its long run in multiplexes.

REUTERS

## India urged to boycott Pakistan in World Cup after Kashmir attack

NEW DELHI

INDIAN cricket fans, angered by an attack claimed by Pakistan-based militants on Indian forces in disputed Kashmir, have urged India to boycott a World Cup match against Pakistan this summer.

The Cricket Club of India, among the country's oldest clubs, also joined calls for the national team to stay away from the June 16 match in Britain, as Indians accused Pakistan of not doing enough to stop militants from operating on its soil.

Pakistan has denied any involvement in the suicide attack on a military convoy that killed 40 paramilitary police last week, the bloodiest loss by Indian security

forces in decades.

"Let's boycott Pakistan in @ICC Cricket World Cup! Let's stand together against the terrorism they are sponsoring," cricket fan Ishan Datta said in a tweet.

The International Cricket Council (ICC) governs world cricket.

Another Indian cricket supporter said India's cricket body, one of the world's richest, should use its influence to force Pakistan out of the ICC.

"Either India will be part of World Cup 2019 or Pakistan. You have enough funds to pull this off," the supporter tweeted.

India and Pakistan have not hosted a cricket series between their countries since 2013 due to political tensions.

However, the national teams have faced each other in tournaments such as the 2017 Champions Trophy and 2018 Asia Cup held in neutral venues.

Reuters could not immediately reach Amitabh Choudhary, the acting secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), which manages Indian cricket, for a comment on the calls for a boycott.

PICTURES REMOVED  
The Cricket Club of India (CCI) said it supported a boycott of Pakistan at the World Cup in June.

"Though CCI is a sporting association, nation comes first, even before sports," Suresh Bafna, its secretary, told Reuters partner ANI.

In CCI's Mumbai office, a cloth

had been placed over a portrait of former Pakistan captain and current Prime Minister Imran Khan, ANI and other media reported.

Photographs of Pakistani cricketers were removed from inside a cricket stadium in the northern Indian state of Punjab, which borders Pakistan, Indian media reported.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, who faces an election that must be held by May, has promised a strong response. Pakistan has recalled its ambassador to India for consultations amid escalating tensions.

Coverage of the Pakistan Super League (PSL) Twenty20 competition has been blacked out in India. REUTERS

## Tennis player Djokovic, gymnast Biles win top Laureus awards

MONACO

WORLD number one tennis player Novak Djokovic crowned a winning return to the courts after surgery with the Laureus sportsman of the year award on Monday, while American gymnast Simone Biles won the sportswoman of the year prize.

Serbian Djokovic, who 12 months ago had elbow surgery, won Wimbledon and the U.S. Open in 2018, before lifting this year's Australian Open crown, to add to his tally of Grand Slam singles titles and reclaim top spot in the rankings.

With his record seventh crown at Melbourne Park, Djokovic

moved ahead of Pete Sampras into third on the men's all-time list of Grand Slam title winners (15), just two behind Rafa Nadal. Roger Federer is still out in front with 20.

"I did think about leaving tennis," Djokovic said on Monday. "I did not find myself in a good balance. It took me several months to find that purpose and meaning again. This award reflects and symbolises this journey."

"Reflecting on the journey it seems like a fairytale story."

Multiple Olympic champion Biles in November became the all-time leading world gymnastics championship gold medal

winner with a record 14 golds.

With 20 overall medals at the worlds, Biles, who has also won four Olympic golds, tied Russia's Svetlana Khorkina for the most by a female gymnast in world championships competition. Her all-around world title was her fourth, also a record.

The comeback of the year award was handed to U.S. golfer Tiger Woods, who silenced even his harshest critics when he earned what some consider to be one of the greatest victories of his career at last year's Tour Championship season finale.

REUTERS

## Sarri's Chelsea future depends on mercy of Abramovich

LONDON

IT is a long way back now for Maurizio Sarri as Chelsea manager. The players appear to have stopped listening a while ago, but now that the supporters have lost patience with him, this chastening FA Cup defeat against Manchester United could be the final straw.

A manager can limp on for only so long when the players aren't winning games for him, especially at a club like Chelsea.

But when the supporters vent their fury - the Chelsea fans chanted "F--- Sarri-ball" and "You don't know what you're doing" during United's 2-0 victory - you are suddenly relying on the goodwill and faith of the directors or the owner to keep you in a job, and that kind of unwavering support has never been much of a thing during the Roman Abramovich era at Stamford Bridge.

Chelsea have employed 11 different managers since Abramovich bought the club in the summer of 2003 - Jose Mourinho and Guus Hiddink have twice been given the managerial reins - and none of them has come through the other side after results have started to go bad.

This FA Cup exit against United, during which Ole Gunnar Solskjaer once again strengthened his claim to become the visitors' permanent manager, was Chelsea's fifth defeat in 10 games. Sarri's team has conceded 14 goals without scoring during those five defeats, which tells you a lot about the fighting spirit of the group of players he is trying to motivate.

Five defeats without scoring a goal is an indictment of the players, but the manager will always carry the can, and Sarri is hardly blameless when you consider his self-defeating refusal to compromise on his 4-3-3 game plan. It isn't working, and hasn't worked for weeks now, and the Chelsea fans have had enough of it.

Sarri remains defiant, however. "I am worried about the results, not about the fans," he said after the game. "Of course I can understand the situation, I can understand the fans because the result wasn't good, but I am worried about our results at the moment.

"It's really very easy [to turn the situation around]. If we are able to win three or four matches in a row, it will be very easy."

But has he ever experienced such direct condemnation from his own supporters?

"No, but for everything, there is a first time," Sarri replied.

Sarri has now reached the stage where he is at the mercy of Abramovich and Marina Granovskaia, the Russian-Canadian executive who has run the club on a day-to-day basis since Abramovich's failure to renew his UK visa last year.

Abramovich wasn't at Stamford Bridge for this game. He hasn't been to

a Chelsea game all season, an absence that only serves to fuel suggestions that the Russian oligarch is losing interest in the club. If that is the case, Sarri might just be the beneficiary in the sense that Abramovich has other things occupying his thoughts.

A lack of an available alternative is another element that may work in Sarri's favour. But that was something that appeared to be keeping Mourinho in a job at United earlier this season until the Portuguese was sacked in December and surprisingly replaced by Solskjaer, who has transformed United during his two months in charge.

The sight of a club legend breathing new life into his club was clearly noticed by the Chelsea fans who, after taunting Sarri, began to chant the name of Frank Lampard, the Stamford Bridge great who is making his way in management with Derby County.

Gianfranco Zola, another former Chelsea player who is revered by the supporters, is now on Sarri's coaching team and the Italian could yet prove to be the emergency option if Abramovich or Granovskaia calls time on Sarri, who claimed his players played "confusing football" in the second half against United.

Confusion is at the root of the problem for the 60-year-old and his team, though. The players are clearly not on the same page as Sarri - results are proving that to be the case - but he is doing little or nothing to change things.

He continues to persist with the leaden-footed Jorginho and Mateo Kovacic in the heart of midfield and is struggling to find an alternative to the out-of-form full-backs, Cesar Azpilicueta and Marcos Alonso. Eden Hazard has lost his form and sharpness, while Callum Hudson-Odoi, the highly rated homegrown teenager, continues to be overlooked.

Hudson-Odoi was left on the bench as Chelsea chased the game against United, with Sarri failing to buy himself the patience of the fans by giving the 18-year-old an opportunity to prove his worth in an underperforming team.

Sarri's advocates will say that he does not have the players to make his system work. That may be the case, but top coaches find a way, and he is showing himself to be incapable of doing so.

The good news - there is some, at least - is that Swedish outfit Malmö are the next opponents, at Stamford Bridge in the Europa League on Thursday, so Sarri has the opportunity to stem the tide before Chelsea face Manchester City at Wembley in the Carabao Cup final on Sunday.

But after the 6-0 loss in the Premier League at the Etihad less than 10 days ago, the rematch against Pep Guardiola's team threatens to be the stuff of nightmares.

Sarri's Chelsea nightmare might be over by then, though. After this latest defeat, he really is living a day-to-day existence now. (AGENCIES)

## European football leaders say FIFA competition plans 'unacceptable'

BERN

EUROPEAN soccer clubs, leagues and governing body UEFA have reiterated their opposition to FIFA's plans for two new competitions, labelling them "unacceptable" in their current form.

Following a meeting of UEFA's Professional Football Strategy Council (PFSC), they said they were "adamant" that new competitions must be discussed only as part of talks on the international match calendar from 2024 onwards.

FIFA president Gianni Infantino has proposed the creation of a new 24-team Club World Cup, held every four years, and a global version of UEFA's Nations League. He wants the tournaments to start in 2021.

The FIFA President said his plans, first put forward at a FIFA Council meeting in Bogota last March, were backed by an investment consortium willing to put in \$25 billion over a 12-year cycle in return for 49 percent ownership of the competitions.

UEFA has said throughout that it needs more information, particularly on the identity of the investors.

"UEFA, ECA (the European Club Association) and European Leagues were adamant that the current proposals are unacceptable as they stand," they said following a meeting of the PFSC on

Monday at UEFA's lakeside headquarters.

"They were of the unequivocal view that any decision on potential new competitions can only be made as part of an agreed framework for the international match calendar post-2024."

Referring to the investors, they added that "all related sporting and commercial matters must be fully disclosed and discussed amongst professional football stakeholders beforehand."

FIFA could not immediately be reached for comment.

The PFSC includes elected representatives from UEFA, the ECA, which represents 232 European clubs, the European Leagues organisation and the world players' union FIFPro.

The international match calendar, which is drawn up by world governing body FIFA, co-ordinates fixtures around the globe, allocating dates for international matches and tournaments to avoid clashes with domestic competitions.

FIFA's plans would need changes to the current calendar which runs until 2024 and allows for eight to 10 internationals per year in addition to major tournaments such as the World Cup, European Championship and Copa America.

REUTERS

# United dump holders Chelsea out of Cup to pile pressure on Sarri

LONDON

MANCHESTER United's Ander Herrera and Paul Pogba headed first-half goals to claim a 2-0 win that dumped FA Cup holders Chelsea out of the competition and secured a place in the quarter-finals in an intense tie at Stamford Bridge on Monday.

Spaniard Herrera finished off a fine move with a precise header from Pogba's cross just past the half-hour and United's French midfielder scored himself when he nodded powerfully home from a Marcus Rashford delivery before the break.

It was a measure of revenge for United, resurgent under interim coach Ole Gunnar Solskjaer, who lost to Chelsea in last May's Wembley final under their former boss Jose Mourinho.

"It is a beautiful win," France midfielder Pogba, who had been sidelined under Mourinho, told the BBC.

"Today was a great performance from the team, all of them... The team helped me get to my best. I give everything for them. They help me score goals and get assists. We are enjoying playing together."

After the game United were drawn to face Wolverhampton Wanderers at Molineux in the quarter-finals.

"An away tie again after Arsenal and Chelsea... We'll have to do it the hard way. Wolves are a tough team to play against," Solskjaer said.

"The performance tonight was fantastic, our tactics worked. We asked our midfielders to press higher and get into the box and it worked. The defending in the second half was fantastic."

The fifth round defeat piled more pressure on Chelsea coach Maurizio Sarri, whose side were hammered 6-0 last week in the Premier League by United's neighbours Manchester City. Chants of "sacked in the morning" broke out in the second half.

DOUBLE SAVE



Manchester United's Paul Pogba scores their second goal against Chelsea during their FA Cup Fifth Round match at Stamford Bridge in London, Britain on Monday. REUTERS

United's Sergio Romero had pulled off a fine double save in the 11th minute from a spinning David Luiz free kick headed for the top corner followed by a stinging shot from Pedro.

Three minutes later Arrizabalaga had to fly to his left to keep out a Herrera strike. The lively Rashford also kept the Chelsea keeper under constant pressure.

Chelsea's fragile defence was split with crosses from either flank. Pogba supplied the first in the 31st minute after a fast move down the left and Herrera ghosted into the box to nod the ball down past stranded goalkeeper Kepa Arrizabalaga.

Until that moment a lively game had been evenly poised, with a host of

chances at either end.

Chelsea's hopes were crushed just before halftime in a speedy United counter down the right, with Marcus Rashford crossing for Pogba to head powerfully home between defenders Cesar Azpilicueta and Antonio Rudiger.

United were able to drop back and defend after the break, making occasional forays up the pitch but always confident of keeping an increasingly toothless Chelsea attack at bay.

The home side's best chance of the half came in the 63rd minute when Eden Hazard, reportedly a target for Real Madrid, jinked his way through, only for the Belgian's shot to be expertly diverted by United defender Victor Lindelof.

The home fans jeered Sarri's like-for-like substitutions. The Italian has been criticised for stubbornly sticking to his tactics and failing to change games.

United, on the other hand, looked like a team on a mission, playing for their coach and each other and brimming with the confidence that comes from turning an ailing season around.

Their only reverse since Norwegian Solskjaer took over was last week's Champions League home defeat by Paris St Germain.

The contrast was reflected in the boos from some Chelsea supporters at the final whistle, while a jubilant Solskjaer celebrated with his players in front of the travelling fans.

REUTERS

## Sarri feels the heat as Chelsea fans turn on Italian coach

LONDON

AS Chelsea laboured to yet another defeat with a 2-0 FA Cup fifth-round elimination by Manchester United on Monday, howls of frustration broke out from the home supporters tired of coach Maurizio Sarri's familiar tactics.

Chelsea's loss of form has been so steep since their early-season promise that some supporters began to chant about their own coach facing being "sacked in the morning" just seven months after the Italian arrived at Stamford Bridge.

Others resorted to expletives to voice their mounting disapproval of "Sarri-ball," as his style has been dubbed.

"I am worried about the results, not about the fans," the Italian told reporters. "Of course I can understand the fans because the result was not good."

The shortcomings of Sarri's Chelsea were once again laid bare, this time by a resurgent United who have won 11 times in 13 games under caretaker manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer.

While Paul Pogba created the visitors' first goal for Ander Herrera and scored the second himself, with both coming from headers, Jorginho - the central midfielder Sarri brought with him to London from Napoli last year - struggled to leave a mark.

Pogba's midfield partner Herrera got himself on the scoresheet with a precise finish after a fine build-up, a stark contrast to Mateo Kovacic who was invisible for Chelsea.

RARE THREATS

United's defence snuffed out the rare threats from Chelsea's Eden Hazard and Gonzalo Higuain, while the hosts - still smarting from a 6-0 Premier League humiliation by Manchester City a week earlier - looked brittle at the back whenever the powerful running of Marcus Rashford put them to the test.

But most alarming for Chelsea fans is the lack of flexibility displayed by Sarri when under pressure to turn around his team's fortunes.

Loud boos rang out when he decided to make the familiar substitution of Kovacic by Ross Barkley and the discontent was louder still when Sarri, with Chelsea chasing a goal to get back into the game, opted to bring on fresh legs in defence as Davide Zappacosta replaced Cesar



Maurizio Sarri

Azpilicueta.

Sarri said the solution lay in his players finding greater aggression and determination on the pitch.

"It's really very easy," he said. "If we are able to win three or four matches in a row it will be very easy."

Chelsea have three important fixtures coming up - the second leg of their Europa League tie against Malmö of Sweden on Thursday, the League Cup

final versus Manchester City on Sunday and next Wednesday's Premier League visit of Tottenham Hotspur.

But Sarri, whose sixth-placed team are a point behind United in fourth, said he was not feeling the pressure even at a club which has seen a dozen managers come and go in the 15 years since it was bought by Russian oligarch Roman Abramovich. "I was really very worried when I was in league two in Italy," he

said. "Not now."

Meanwhile, Manchester United must build on their 2-0 win over defending champions Chelsea in the fifth round of the FA Cup and go all the way to the final, caretaker manager Ole Gunnar Solskjaer has said.

United have had to play two tough away games at fellow Premier League top-four contenders, Arsenal and Chelsea, to reach the quarter-finals, and now play another top flight side in Wolverhampton Wanderers in the next round.

"We want to get to the final," Solskjaer told reporters after the win at Stamford Bridge.

"It'll be a tough away game against Wolves, but it seems like both we and our fans love the away games. It didn't feel like an away game with that support behind the goal.

"We lost the final to Chelsea last year. My last game (as a player) was a loss to Chelsea in the FA Cup final. Last time we beat them in the cup was 20 years ago, apparently."

Fourth-placed United will shift their focus back to the league and the race for the top four this weekend when they host title contenders Liverpool, with both Arsenal and Chelsea a point below them in the standings.

"We play Liverpool next week, but Chelsea, Arsenal and us will fight for that fourth position... three good teams fighting for that one position. But this was about getting through to the next round," Solskjaer added.

REUTERS

Gwiji by David Chikoko



# Simba clobber African Lyon

## SPORT

United dump holders  
Chelsea out of Cup to pile  
pressure on Sarri

COMPREHENSIVE REPORT, PAGE 19



Simba Sports Club

By Guardian Reporter

**S**IMBA have maintained their winning ways in the 2018/19 Mainland Premier League, commanding an emphatic 3-0 win over African Lyon in Arusha yesterday.

Much as Simba won the match, they are still placed third in the league's log, trailing league leaders Yanga and second-placed Azam FC.

Simba have taken part in 17 matches, collecting 42 points from 13 wins, three draws and a loss.

The league's defending champions are trailing Azam FC by eight points.

Both teams' players struggled to control the ball on a bumpy pitch in the game and they had to, from time to time, opt for long balls.

African Lyon's head coach

Suleiman Jabir, opted to go for a packed midfield in an effort to contain Simba and the approach looked to have somewhat paid off, as Simba struggled to get the better of their opponents' midfield.

African Lyon went close on the fourth minute as a left foot effort by striker Stephano Mwasika from within Simba's area went off target.

African Lyon wasted an opportunity on the 12th minute as the team's strikers failed to make the most of a free kick

taken from deep within the squad's half.

The hosts kept on pressing for the opener as fullback Khalfan Mbaruku tested the visitors' keeper Aishi Manula with a left foot shot from outside the area on the 23rd minute, the goalie however saved the effort.

The visitors won a penalty on the 26th minute as one of the hosts' defenders was deemed to have blocked a cross by defender, Paschal Wawa, with his hand within the area.

Striker John Bocco made

no mistake from the spot, slamming the ball past keeper Deogras Kiseembo to notch the opener for Simba.

Simba were 2-0 up on the 44th minute as Adam Salamba slammed the ball in from within African Lyon box following failure by Kiseembo to hold onto an effort by Bocco from outside the box.

The opening stanza ended with Simba leading by the two goals.

Simba started the remaining stanza impressively as Bocco

made it 3-0 for the squad on the 46th minute, slotting home off Rashid Juma's inviting cross from the left side.

African Lyon gave their all during the remaining minutes, pushing upfront from time to time, Simba defended well and frustrated the former's moves.

African Lyon are still positioned at the bottom of the table. They have played 27 matches, won four, conceded defeat in 14 and managed draw in the rest of the matches to collect 22 points.

**EATV** **DADAZ** **TODAY @11:00**

**WEDNESDAY DADAZ**

10:59 Jikoni Na Jane  
11:00 DADAZ (live)  
15:00 FUNGUKA  
16:30 #HASHTAG  
17:00 SSELEKT  
17:55 Kurasa  
18:00 #Newz  
18:30 Music  
19:00 EATV SAA 1  
19:30 MJADALA  
21:30 Mid Week Movie

**DADAZ** This daytime talk show gives women a platform to discuss social and political issues that affect our society from a feminine perspective.

**eastafrica RADIO**

05:00 EA Breakfast  
09:00 Supamix  
12:00 Kipenga Xtra  
13:00 Planet Bongo  
16:00 EA Drive  
20:00 Kipenga  
21:00 The Cruise

**88.1FM**  
DAR ES SALAAM

## Prisons, Mbeya City FC clash in derby

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

MAINLAND Premier League rivals, Tanzania Prisons and Mbeya City FC, will today clash at the Sokoine Stadium in what promises to be a fight for honours.

The duel is more of pride for the teams as both Mbeya City FC, placed 15th in the 20-team league with 30 points, and Prisons that occupies the 16th position with 29 points have extremely slim chances of winning the 2018/19 league.

This is one of the biggest matches that attract many football lovers from the Southern Highlands of the country and the nation at large.

Tanzania Prisons' head coach, Adolf Rishard, said his charges are ready for the encounter. He disclosed they want three points apart from claiming the bragging rights of the derby.

"It is going to be a tough and difficult game considering the history of the two sides. It is a game that will bring new things as both teams will be looking for nothing but a win, but my side is well prepared for the match," he said.

The coach, who has a few months in his role, is confident of posting victory considering that his side has not conceded defeat in the previous four games in the league.

The team was struggling in the first phase of the league, but it has now recovered its lost form.

Mbeya City FC head coach Ramadhan Nsanzurwimo claimed pressure is on their rivals as they will be eager to revenge for a loss they suffered in the first phase match between the two sides. The first phase match ended with Mbeya City FC winning 2-1.

He added his charges are ready for the encounter as they know it is important to the side.

"We are aware that it will be a difficult game, but, we are well prepared for the encounter as our aim is to collect three points," he said.

In other matches, which will also take place today, Mbao FC, placed sixth with 36 points from 26 games, will host league leaders, Yanga, in what promises to be an entertaining match.

Yanga, who have collected 58 points from 24 games, will go into the game with bitter memories of last weekend's results in which they lost 1-0 to their age old rivals, Simba.

Kinondoni Municipal Council (KMC) FC, placed fifth with 37 points from 26 matches, host Mtibwa Sugar that currently sit on the 14th position with 29 points from 23 matches.

In another game, penned for tomorrow, Ndanda FC that occupies the 18th position with 29 points from 25 games, will host Singida United, placed 15th with 29 points from 24 matches.

## Tanzania Chess League scheduled for next month



A section of chess players attend the launch of the Tanzania Chess League at the New Africa Hotel in Dar es Salaam on Saturday. PHOTO: CORRESPONDENT

By Correspondent Joseph Mchekadona

THE Tanzania Chess League involving 10 teams is expected to start in Dar es Salaam next month, organizers have disclosed.

Ahmed Mlawa, the secretary of the Tanzania Chess League committee,

said the championship, which is recognized by the International Chess Federation (FIDE), has been slated for March 10-June 16.

He said the league's draw was held at the New Africa Hotel in the city on Sunday, with more than 40 players attending and 70 others

registering online.

Mlawa said the tournament is sponsored by eight companies, which will also field teams.

He said the league gears towards providing beneficial structure whereby chess players in the country may compete, learn, share ideas and

promote the sport in a friendly manner.

Mlawa mentioned the teams, which will compete in the league, as Specialized Engineer, Ahead African Solution, Lake Group, Bakertilly, Kama Steel, HS Computers, New Africa Hotel and Flushnet.

He disclosed other

teams, My World Pre School and Rising Star Academy, which is supported by Don Bosco, will compete but the two are not sponsors.

He said there will be trophies, medals and cash prize to be presented to the best performers.

"The Tanzania Chess League is under our

mother body Tanzania Chess Association (TCA). The aim is to see to it that many people are playing the game," he noted.

"Each of the teams will have five players plus reserves, it will be eight rounds' tournament," he said.

## Flexibles by David Chikoko

IS IT YANGA AND SIMBA  
OR IS IT SIMBA AND YANGA?



LADIES  
FIRST!